

of carcasses of animals collected in the field showed that none had died of arsenical poisoning.—W. L. M.

**Birds against the Potato Beetle.**—Resulting from the same investigation as the previously cited paper, this account<sup>1</sup> gives some results of experimental feeding of potato beetles to the Gray Partridge. France is now experiencing the surge of a newly established pest and is interested as was the United States at a corresponding period in every agency that might reduce the invasion. The American literature on bird enemies of the potato beetle is imperfectly reviewed. Considerable attention is given to various kinds of poultry in relation to the insect, but only two wild birds of France are recorded as enemies, the "Red Partridge" and the Gray Partridge. The authors conclude: "Despite all our desire, under the circumstances, to magnify the rôle of birds, we cannot recommend that the farmer give up the sole means of safety remaining to him, namely, insecticides employed methodically and with care."—W. L. M.

**Robinson and Chasen on 'Birds of the Malay Peninsula.'**—The third volume<sup>2</sup> of this notable work has appeared and, owing to the death of the senior author, it is largely the work of Mr. Chasen, who has admirably maintained the high standard of the preceding issues. In accordance with the original plan, by which each volume is devoted to birds of a different category, the present one deals with "Sporting Birds and Birds of the Shore and Estuaries."

As the habitat or geographic arrangement of the volumes does not indicate their contents from a systematic standpoint, it may be well to state that the present volume contains accounts of fifteen Gallinaceous birds, two Bustard Quail, twelve Rails, twenty-one Pigeons, sixteen Gulls and Terns, forty-nine shore birds, twenty-six Herons, Ibises etc., five Ducks and twelve Cormorants, etc. There are twenty-five full page colored plates from paintings by Grönvold. The text, as heretofore, consists of full descriptions and measurements and a brief statement of range and habits. There are also keys for each of the groups to facilitate the identification of the species, and an introduction discussing the geography of the peninsula with a map.

We congratulate Mr. Chasen upon the way in which he has carried on this publication and are glad to know that the two remaining volumes will be prepared by him and the work completed according to the original plan.—W. S.

**Thomson's 'Birds of Cape York Peninsula.'**—This important contribution<sup>3</sup> to Australian ornithology is a report upon the results of three expeditions into this wild and extremely interesting part of the continent which covered in all about three years. The investigations were carried on under the auspices of the University of Melbourne and were primarily concerned with anthropology although much zoological work was also carried on especially with regard to geographical distribution. The author suggests, very logically, that a proper study of the Aborigines should be accompanied with a study of the general natural history so closely are the two related.

<sup>1</sup> Chappellier, A. et M. Raucourt, *Les oiseaux contre le doryphore*, op. cit., pp. 241-252, 1 table.

<sup>2</sup> *The Birds of the Malay Peninsula: A General Account of the Birds Inhabiting the Region from the Isthmus of Kra to Singapore with the Adjacent Islands.* By The Late Herbert C. Robinson and Frederick N. Chasen. Volume III: Sporting Birds; Birds of the Shore and Estuaries with Twenty-five Full-Page Plates in Colour Issued by Authority of the Federated Malay States Government. H. F. & G. Witherby, Ltd., 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. i. 1936. Pp. i-xix + 1-264. Pl. 1-25. Price 35 shillings net.

<sup>3</sup> *Birds of Cape York Peninsula: Ecological Notes, Field Observations, and Catalogue of Specimens Collected on Three Expeditions to North Queensland.* By Donald F. Thomson, D.Sc., Research Fellow, University of Melbourne. Pp. 1-82. Pl. I-XV. Price one shilling six pence. Angus and Robertson, Sydney, Australia.