

the author in the early part of last year. Thirty-seven gardens in all were visited, in France, Holland, Denmark, Belgium, Germany, Russia, Hungary, Austria, Switzerland, and the British Islands, and a more or less detailed account is given of each, enriched by photographic illustrations. There are a good many slips and misprints in the letterpress, but Mr. Peel has produced a very readable volume, which we are sure will be much appreciated. The Zoological Garden of Berlin is, no doubt correctly, pronounced to be the best on the Continent, although there must be some error in the statement on p. 106 that it contains "25,000 living creatures," representing 12,000 mammals and birds. Whether it is "well ahead of our London Garden" is, perhaps, a matter of opinion.

In a second edition we hope that the author will correct numerous misprints in the scientific names of the animals and other mistakes. He should also extend the sphere of his observations, and visit the gardens in the United States, at New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, not to mention those at Cairo, Pretoria, and Calcutta.

60. *Preble on the Biology of Hudson Bay.*

[A Biological Investigation of the Hudson Bay Region. By Edward A. Preble. North-American Fauna, No. 22. 8vo. Washington, 1902. 140 pp., 14 pls., 1 map.]

Since the days of the early pioneers, who sent many specimens for determination to Britain, singularly little advance has been made in our knowledge of the fauna of Hudson Bay, and the U.S. biologists have consequently found considerable difficulty in determining the status of many species through want of sufficient material for comparison. The outcome has been an expedition sent by the Biological Survey to the western shores of the Bay in 1900, in charge of Mr. E. A. Preble, who furnishes a very full account of the districts traversed, with details of the "life zones" and botany, while he has not forgotten to sketch the work of previous explorers and to add a bibliography. The Report confines itself almost entirely to the province of Keewatin, in



Canada, and provides annotated lists of the mammals, birds, and batrachians. No new species of birds were discovered.

61. *Reichenow's Report on the Progress of Ornithology.*

[Bericht über die Leistungen in der Naturgeschichte der Vögel während des Jahres 1894. Von Ant. Reichenow. Arch. f. Nat. 61<sup>te</sup> Jahrg. 2<sup>te</sup> Band, "Berlin, 1895" (published Dec. 1902).]

We do not doubt the excellence of Dr. Reichenow's report on the progress of the Science of Ornithology for the year 1894, nor the care with which it has been prepared. But we must say that its value is rendered almost nugatory by its being withheld from publication till December 1902. Events move fast now-a-days, even in ornithology, and a report on what has occurred in 1894, published eight years afterwards, is almost useless. We have been informed, however, that the fault of this long delay lies with the publishers and not with the author, consequently we have only to offer our sympathies to Dr. Reichenow on the bad treatment that his good work has met with.

62. *Ridgway on the Birds of North and Middle America.*

[The Birds of North and Middle America. By Robert Ridgway. Part II. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. no. 50, pt. 2 (1902).]

We have already noticed the first volume of this important work (see 'Ibis,' 1902, p. 515), and are glad to find the second volume succeeding it so rapidly. While the first was entirely occupied by Mr. Ridgway's account of the numerous Fringillidæ of North and Middle America, four families of nine-primaried Oscines are treated in the present instalment, namely, Tanagridæ, Icteridæ, Cœrebidæ, and Mniotiltidæ. These families are entirely restricted to the Neogean Ornis, having no single representative in the Old World. We wrote somewhat freely of Mr. Ridgway's novel style of treatment of his subject in our former notice, and will not repeat our remarks, except to say that in the present volume also subspecies are excessively numerous, and are placed, apparently, on the same level as species. Of Tanagridæ 112 species and subspecies are recognised as



coming within the limits of the work, of Icteridæ 111, of Cœrebidæ 29, and of Mniotiltidæ 181, so that the volume contains an account of 433 species and subspecies in all.

The general plan of this volume is exactly the same as that of the first; while the synonymy, descriptions of sexes and their plumages, and full list of localities appended to each species and subspecies, bear unfailing testimony to the author's wonderful industry in compiling it.

The third part of Mr. Ridgway's great work, we are informed in the Preface, is "well under way," and is by this time probably nearly ready for issue. It will continue the account of the Oscines. The whole work will occupy some eight volumes, which will appear at the rate of about two a year.

63. *Rothschild and Hartert on Birds from the Solomon Islands.*

[List of a Collection of Birds made on Ysabel Island, in the Solomon Group, by Mr. A. S. Meek. Nov. Zool. xii. p. 581.]

The authors continue their account of Mr. Meek's collections in the Solomon group, this being their third contribution on the subject. In the present paper 58 species from Ysabel Island are enumerated, amongst which *Edoliosoma erythropygium saturatius*, *Cacomantis meeki*, *Ceyx meeki*, and *Astur rufo-schistaceus* are described as new. *Nasiterna tristrami* from Kulambangra is also described as new. Other good novelties of this series (*Pitta anerythra*, *Podargus inexpectatus*, and *Pseudoptynx salomonensis*) have been already characterized in the 'Bulletin' of the B. O. C. *Pitta anerythra* and *Ceyx meeki* are figured.

64. *Seebohm and Sharpe's 'Monograph of the Thrushes.'*

[A Monograph of the Turdidæ, or Family of Thrushes. By the late Henry Seebohm. Edited and completed (after the Author's death) by R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D., F.L.S., &c. Parts XII., XIII. Imperial 4to. London: Henry Sotheran & Co., 1902. Price £3 3s.]

We have now before us the concluding double-number of



Buckley, T. E., Le Souëf, A A, and Berg,  
Ca

rios. 1903. "XXVI.—Obituary." *Ibis* 3(2), 270–272.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1474-919x.1903.tb03940.x>.

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