

Mearns on New African Birds.¹—The birds here described were obtained on the Frick, Rainey and Smithsonian African Expeditions, except one secured by Dr. W. L. Abbott in 1888. They are as follows: *Francolinus hildebrandti helleri* (p. 381) Mt. Lololokui; *Chalcopelia afra kilimensis* (p. 383) Mt. Kilimanjaro; *C. chalcospila intensa* (p. 384), Hawash River, Abyssinia; *C. c. media* (p. 385), Gardulla, Abyssinia; *Cinnyris venusta blicki* (p. 386), Lake Stephanie; *C. mediocris garguensis* (p. 387), Mt. Gargues; *C. reichenowi kikuyensis* (p. 388), Escarpment Sta.; *Chalcomitra senegalensis atra* (p. 388), Thika River; *Anthreptes collaris garguensis* (p. 389), Mt. Gargues; *Estrilda atricapilla keniensis* (p. 390), Aberdare Mts.; *Halcyon senegalensis cinereicapillus* (p. 391), Kisingo, Uganda; *H. malimbicus prenticei* (p. 392), Lake Victoria, Uganda; *Melittophagus variegatus loringi* (p. 393), Lake Albert, Uganda; *Colius striatus jebelensis* (p. 394), Gondokoro.

These forms are very fully described often with remarks upon allied races.—W. S.

Von Ihering on Brazilian Birds.²—Prof. von Ihering has been investigating the life histories, habits and structure of various groups of Brazilian birds in their bearing on the systematic arrangement of the genera. In a recent paper he takes up the cuckoos,¹ arranging them in six subfamilies, *Phænicophainæ*, *Coccyzinæ*, *Centropinæ*, *Crotophaginæ*, *Scythropinæ*, and *Cuculinæ*. Incidentally he discusses the Brazilian birds which lay their eggs in the nests of other birds.

In another paper³ he writes of the ornithological collection of the Museu Paulista and contributes some new observations on the nests and eggs of Brazilian birds, considering some 48 species. There is a fine colored plate of *Phylloscartes paulista* and *Guracava difficilis* and two other plates of nests and eggs.—W. S.

Allen's 'Birds in their Relation to Agriculture in New York State.'⁴—This little pamphlet is a veritable mine of information and its very conciseness will appeal to those who have not time to seek out their information from a number of more formidable publications, while it will undoubtedly carry home the principles of bird conservation to many who could not otherwise be reached.

¹ Descriptions of New African Birds of the Genera *Francolinus*, *Chalcopelia*, *Cinnyris*, *Chalcomitra*, *Anthreptes*, *Estrilda*, *Halcyon*, *Melittophagus*, and *Colius*. By Edgar A. Mearns. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. 48, pp. 381-394. January 19, 1915.

² *Biologia e Classificacao das Cuculidas Brasileiras*. Por Hermann von Ihering. Revista Mus. Paulista, IX, pp. 371-410. July, 1914. (In Portuguese and German.)

³ *Novas Contribuicoes para a Ornithologia do Brazil*. Por Hermann von Ihering. Revista Mus. Paulista, IX, pp. 411-488. August, 1914. (In Portuguese and German.)

⁴ *Birds in their Relation to Agriculture in New York State*. By A. A. Allen. The Cornell Reading-Courses, IV, No. 76, November 15, 1914, pp. 17-56.



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