

species scheduled be introduced in the Federal Legislature. He gave some particulars of the measure desired.

Mr. A. H. E. Mattingley, C.M.Z.S., spoke regarding the value of birds to the community. Flocks were interfered with by liver flukes; the intermediate host of the fluke was a species of snail, and this snail was part of the dietary of Herons, Magpie-Larks (*Grallina*), and other kinds of birds. So the birds, by destroying the flukes in the snails, were valuable servants of man. Again, the Ibis was a great enemy of the grasshopper. A single Ibis would destroy 2,000 immature grasshoppers in a single day.

Mr. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., produced four catalogues of one plume sale held in London in December, 1909. They showed that 3,915 skins of Birds-of-Paradise, and hundreds of skins of Australian Rifle-Birds, Emus, &c., had been disposed of.

Mr. H. W. Wilson, hon. secretary of the Union, explained recent legislation for bird protection in New York State.

Mr. Charles Barrett said that there was urgent necessity for action. What was done must be done quickly, as some birds were rapidly nearing extinction. The plume-wearing custom was an abominable one, and there should be some law whereby women who wore the plumes of protected birds could be punished for an offence.

Mr. Tudor, in reply, said that he was absolutely sympathetic with the objects of the deputation, and would be pleased to do all in his power to help the birds, who could not help themselves. At the present time the powers of the department were doubtful, but there were provisions in the *Customs Act* Amendment Bill regarding the necessary power. He referred to Mr. Mattingley's remarkable photographs of Egrets, and the slaughter of birds in the United States. He had no sympathy with persons who decorated themselves with bird plumes; it had been said that women were beautiful enough without borrowing beauty. He deprecated the wholesale murder of birds, and assured the deputation that, not only would its request receive sympathetic consideration, but that he was at one with it.

The deputation thanked the Minister and withdrew. — The *Melbourne Herald*, 29/8/10.

Reviews.

[“A Monograph of the Petrels (Order Tubinares),” by F. Du Cane Godman, D.C.L., F.R.S., &c.]

THIS magnificent work on an exceedingly difficult class of Aves to deal with has been completed by the publication of Part V. The whole sets a high standard in Nature book work, and incidentally Dr. Du Cane Godman has erected to himself, with the assistance of friends (foremost among whom were the late Osbert Salvin and the late Dr. Bowdler Sharpe), a monument which will celebrate for all time his term of office as president of the British Ornithologists' Union. He is congratulated accordingly by his ornithological brethren in these “British dominions beyond the seas.”

Part V. opens with the puzzling Prions and the Diving-Petrels (*Pelecanoides*), peculiar to Southern seas, the latter resembling in habit the Little Auk of Northern latitudes. But the bulk of Part

V. is occupied by the Albatrosses, of which 19 species are enumerated, no fewer than 16 being figured. However, it is possible that future research may prove the Carter Albatross (*Thalassogeron carteri*), found washed ashore dead off North-West Australia by our Australian member, to be an immature bird of another species, possibly *T. chlororhynchus*, the dark bill especially pointing to a sign of immaturity.

One Albatross (*T. cautus*) breeds in Australian waters, in Bass Strait. Mr. H. Hamilton, of the Dominion Museum, has kindly furnished some remarks on the species of Albatrosses frequenting New Zealand, namely:—

DIOMEDEA EXULANS, Linn. (Wandering Albatross), Pl. 89.—A good summary of the history of this difficult species is given. It is our Antipodes Island bird, and its only known nesting-place is on that island.

DIOMEDEA REGIA, Buller (Royal Albatross), Pl. 90.—Both the figure of this and the previous species appear to me to be capable of improvement.

DIOMEDEA MELANOPHRYS, Boie (Black-eyebrowed Albatross), Pl. 97.—This very widely ranging species is well figured.

DIOMEDEA BULLERI, Rothschild (Buller Albatross), Pl. 98.—The description and figure are taken from the type specimen in the Tring Museum, obtained from the Snares.

THALASSOGERON CAUTUS, Gould (Shy Mollymawk), Pl. 99.

THALASSOGERON SALVINI, Rothschild (Salvin Albatross), Pl. 100.—Breeds on Bounty Island.

THALASSOGERON CULMINATUS, Gould (Grey-headed Albatross), Pl. 101.—Mainly in the seas to the south of New Zealand, although stragglers have been recorded from widely separated localities.

THALASSOGERON CHLORORHYNCHUS, Gm. (Yellow-nosed Albatross), Pl. 102.—The figure makes it easy to separate this from the preceding species.

PHÆBETRIA FULIGINOSA, Gm. (Sooty Albatross), Pl. 103.—This species breeds on the Auckland and the Antipodes Islands.

PHÆBETRIA CORNICOIDES, Hutton (Hutton Sooty Albatross).—The author erects this bird into a species, separating it from *fuliginosa*. It appears to have a more southern range than the darker form. The adult is described as being similar.

Messrs. Witherby and Co., 326 High Holborn, London, W.C., the enterprising publishers of books on ornithology, &c., and of this notable "Monograph" in particular, notify that the complete work can now be obtained, beautifully bound, for fifteen guineas. Those subscribers who already possess the five parts may have a handsome and suitable cover on application to the firm.

[“The Fauna of Cheshire: Vol. i.—Mammals and Birds,” by T. A. Coward, F.Z.S. Witherby and Co., London.]

THE full title of this handsome and interesting work is “The Vertebrate Fauna of Cheshire and Liverpool Bay.” The volume under notice contains nearly 500 pages, and is liberally illustrated with half-tone reproductions of photographs by Thos. Baddeley.

The book is finely printed, and is creditable alike to author and publishers. It is one of the best examples of a class of work which is becoming increasingly popular in Great Britain.

The author states in his preface that the work represents an attempt to give an historical and distributional account of the vertebrate inhabitants of Cheshire. The natural boundary of the county encloses many square miles of marsh land politically belonging to another county, and the sea area is extended beyond the actual territorial waters. The author has wisely chosen geographical rather than political boundaries. Cheshire is a maritime county in the north-west of England, comprising about 1,028 square miles; and four-fifths of the total surface is occupied by a fertile plain, of a slightly undulating character. There is a tract of high land, however, and the country is blessed with pleasant streams and small lakes or meres. Evidently a good observing ground for the ornithologist.

About two-thirds of the volume is devoted to bird-life. Two hundred and thirty-one species are said to occur, which, compared with other English counties, is poor. Of special interest are the author's remarks on bird protection. Despite the fact that the existing regulations are violated by game preservers and game-keepers, the acts and orders are fortunately contributing to an increase in the numbers of certain species. The section dealing with migration makes interesting reading, even for an Australian ornithologist. To the British student of bird-life the whole work should prove invaluable.

Bird Observers' Club.

THE June meeting of the Club was held at the residence of Mr. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., Royal Park. Dr. Chas. Ryan and Mr. Le Souëf were joint hosts, and at their invitation about 15 members assembled for dinner. At the meeting Mr. Le Souëf presided. Mr. H. W. Wilson reported that matters in connection with the Gould League of Bird Lovers were progressing favourably. The hon. secretary called attention to the action taken in England regarding bird protection and the plume trade. Messrs. Le Souëf, Mattingley, and Nicholls and Dr. Bryant took part in the discussion which followed. It was suggested that one way of checking the plume trade would be by making it an offence to wear the plumes of protected birds. Dr. Bryant said that the Game Association of Victoria was in sympathy with the bird protection movement, and that sportsmen who offended against the game laws were made to regret it if discovered. It was resolved that Messrs. A. H. E. Mattingley, A. J. Campbell, and the hon. secretary form a sub-committee to deal with the matter and consult with Major Semmens. The hon. secretary was instructed to inform the Prime Minister (Mr. Fisher) that the club supported the action being taken by the British authorities. After the formal business had been disposed of, the remainder of the evening was devoted to inspecting photographs of Australian birds exhibited by members. Nearly 200 prints were displayed, the majority by Mr. A. H. E. Mattingley. Other exhibitors were Messrs. D. Le Souëf, A. J. Camp-