

A study of a series of the Nicobar Megapode induces Dr Oberholser¹ to recognize two races, *Megapodius nicobariensis abbotti* (p. 400) from Little Nicobar being described as new. It occurs also on Great Nicobar, while the typical form is restricted to the middle and northern islands of the group.

Dr. Abbott's second collection from Simalur Island, Sumatra, consists of 38 species, which are listed by Dr. Oberholser,² *Hypotaenidia striata reliqua* (p. 476) being the only novelty.

None of the recent papers from the National Museum 'Proceedings' are dated except with the year, which is likely to cause much trouble in the future. If it was impracticable during war times to print the date on the separates, it surely could have been added with a rubber stamp before they were mailed. So much time is wasted today in ascertaining the actual dates of publication of old works that it is disheartening to find one of our leading scientific institutions reverting to this careless practice.—W. S.

Captain S. A. White's Explorations in Australia.³— Captain White, who has contributed so many valuable articles to 'The Emu' and other Australian scientific journals, has also published two little booklets, reprinted from 'The Register' and illustrated by many half-tones from photographs, which have just come to our attention.

One is entitled 'The Gawler Range. An Ornithological Expedition' and the other 'Ooldea on the East-West Railway, On the Flooded Murray River and Other Sketches.'⁴ They are most interesting accounts of travel in the wilds of the Australian continent and are replete with observations on bird life.—W. S.

Bangs and Penard's 'Critical Bird Notes.'⁵— In the process of their studies of the Lafresnaye Collection of birds recently presented by the Boston Society of Natural History to the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Messrs. Bangs and Penard have discovered the necessity for various changes in names, recognition of new races, etc., which are presented in the present paper in advance of their general report on the Lafresnaye collection. The new forms described are: *Herpetotheres cachinnans queribundus* (p. 23), Pernambuco, Brazil; *Eupsittula astec vicinalis* (p. 24), Tamaulipas, Mexico; *Synallaxis brachyurus chapmani* (p. 25), Jimenez; Colombia; *Dendrocincla lafresnaye christiani* (p. 25), Pavas, Colombia,

¹ The Races of the Nicobar Megapode, *Megapodius nicobariensis* Blyth. By Harry C. Oberholser. *Ibid.*, pp. 399-402.

² Notes on Dr. W. L. Abbott's Second Collection of Birds from Simalur Island, Western Sumatra. By Harry C. Oberholser. *Ibid.*, pp. 473-498.

³ The Gawler Ranges. An Ornithological Expedition. By Capt. S. A. White. Adelaide. 1913. pp. 1-58.

⁴ Ooldea, on the East-West Railway, On the Flooded Murray River and Other Sketches. By Capt. S. A. White. Reprinted from *The Register*. pp. 1-58.

⁵ Some Critical Notes on Birds. By Outram Bangs and Thomas E. Penard. *Bull. Museum Comp. Zool.*, Vol. LXIII, No. 2. June, 1919. pp. 21-40.