

I found impressive. Thirty-three early illustrations add to the interest and attractiveness of the book.

For each observation, the name of the current Nebraska county is provided in upper case letters: "shouting" in modern computer parlance and to me a bit annoying. Unlike Robert E. Stewart's North Dakota book, Ducey does not provide a map showing the location of each county, forcing the reader to provide himself with a Nebraska state map before reading very far.

Before listing the shortcomings of Chapter 5, the last half of the book, I chose to use Myron Swenk's historical articles in *Nebraska Bird Review* (in the late 1930s) as a veracity check. I was not too surprised to find that Swenk had, in the late 1930s, provided more detail and better documentation than Ducey. If one takes the Lewis and Clark expedition as an example, Swenk used a not excessive seven pages, including a map showing the progress day by day, consulted original, primary sources, and gave more detail about extant diaries of several members of the expedition. As a further check, I compared the four-plus pages of Nebraska citations in Gollop's Eskimo Curlew monograph with Ducey's account, which again was less complete.

Chapter 5, a List of Species, occupies 110 pages; it lists excavated faunal remains from various forts and

Indian camps, and is a useful compilation that leads the reader to original sources. Sadly, Ducey fails to place the verbatim accounts of each species in the explorer's words, indicated by quotation marks or a different font. As a result, one can rarely differentiate fact from Ducey's speculation, extrapolation, and "best guesses." His terminology and presentation are inconsistent, especially concerning whether an individual species is a migrant or a resident, and whether or not there is specific evidence of breeding. His use of "migratory species" is a less satisfactory term than "migrant." Far too often, the term "potential breeder" is used without evidence of dates or localities for eggs or young. Clearly, a conventional publishing house would have provided the outside editorial assistance that this book lacks. The index is incomplete.

In spite of my caveats, especially the idiosyncratic presentation of the species list, anyone interested in the history of ornithology in Nebraska will find much of interest in this inexpensive book.

C. STUART HOUSTON

863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0J8
Canada

MISCELLANEOUS

The Emperor of Nature: Charles-Lucien Bonaparte and his World

Patricia Tyson Stroud. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia. 371 pp., illus. U.S. \$34.95.

Patricia Tyson Stroud deserves the highest commendation for this superb biography. She has dug deeply into a virtual treasure trove of European and American archival sources, including unpublished letters in the possession of the Bonaparte family. She has unearthed numerous illustrations of people and places. She details the exceedingly complicated relationships, intrigues, and political machinations within this royal family. The first chapter of this book reads like an opera plot.

Charles-Lucien Bonaparte, the nephew of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte, enjoyed the wealth and prestige accorded royalty, but, as will be seen, suffered as much inconvenience as benefit. When Charles-Lucien was only seven, his parents chartered an American ship to take them to the United States with their retinue of 46, including 30 servants. They put in to a port in British-held Sardinia in a storm, were taken captive, sent to England and kept under virtual house arrest for four years until Charles-Lucien's uncle, the Emperor Napoleon, was defeated, exiled, and sent to Elba. Since Charles-Lucien's uncle Joseph, the former King of Spain and of Naples, had no sons, he wished to marry

two of his daughters to sons of two of his brothers, in the hopes of reviving the Napoleonic succession. Thus Charles-Lucien was married to a first cousin, Zenaide, whom he had not previously met. They spent their honeymoon visiting natural history museums in Frankfurt, Munich, and Milan.

Charles-Lucien arrived in the United States in September 1823 as a brash 20-year-old naturalist, "spirited, dashing, mettlesome and fiery." The young couple settled not far from Philadelphia near Joseph Bonaparte, the bride's father and the groom's uncle. Two of their children were born in the United States (but they had another ten, the last born in 1843). In Philadelphia, Charles-Lucien joined the American Philosophical Society and the Academy of Natural Sciences. Later dubbed by T. S. Palmer as "the father of descriptive ornithology in America," Charles-Lucien Bonaparte "laid the foundations for the study of nomenclature," as Witmer Stone put it. Through intensive study of the descriptions in and those made after publication of Alexander Wilson's nine-volume, 1814-1819 *American Ornithology*, Charles-Lucien published five instalments of "*Observations on the nomenclature of Wilson's Ornithology*," calling attention to the errors and omissions in Wilson. This gained him the enmity of George

Ord, who had edited the final two volumes after Wilson's death in 1813. On the other hand, Charles-Lucien became friends with John James Audubon and Thomas Say. Say appreciated his skills and gave him access to skins of new bird species, including the Burrowing Owl, collected on Say's expedition to the Rocky Mountains in 1819-1820. William Cooper, secretary of the Lyceum of Natural History in New York, the forerunner of the New York Academy of Sciences, became a close friend and published Charles-Lucien's summary of the Genera of North American Birds in the *Annals of the Lyceum*. After Charles-Lucien returned to Europe early in 1828, Cooper edited and saw through the press the third and fourth volumes of Charles-Lucien's major American work, which appropriated Wilson's title, *American Ornithology*, but carried a more accurate subtitle, *Natural History of Birds Inhabiting the United States*.

Once back in Italy, Charles-Lucien masterminded annual scientific congresses from 1839 to 1847 at Pisa, Turin, Florence, Padua, Lucca, Milan, Naples, Genoa, and Venice, even though each was a political powder-keg. The Naples conference was in fact a precursor to the Italian revolution. He turned his attention away from birds and wrote *Iconography of Italian Fauna*, in thirty parts (1832-1841), and a *Manual of Fishes* (1840). He became a deputy in the Roman parliament in 1848 and vice-president of the constituent assembly in 1849, taking much time away from his work in scientific classification.

Because of his involvement with the republican movement, the royalist turncoat Charles-Lucien was forced to flee Italy in July 1849. A "man without a country," exiled from Italy (though Zenaide stayed) and denied permission to stay in France, he sought sanctuary in England. Resolving to commence work on the great project he had contemplated for 20 years, he travelled to Holland. Without access to his notes and books, which were in Rome, he relied on the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie in Leiden. There the great collection as well as the hospitality and guidance of Temminck and Schlegel supported and inspired his work, and there began his last great work, *Conspectus Generum Avium*, which was intended to include all

known species of birds. During his researches he visited collections in Holland and Germany and corresponded with the leading naturalists throughout the world. Volume 2 of the work was never completed, and the portions produced have an extremely complex and uncertain publishing history, yet the work is (apart from Linnaeus' *Systema Naturae*) the greatest single-author source for new species and genera of birds.

In 1850, the French authorities allowed him to move to Paris and six months later, in February 1851, restored his French citizenship. Charles-Lucien died in Paris, apparently of heart failure, on 29 July 1857.

There is far more detail about political intrigues and machinations in this book than one would encounter in a biography of any other naturalist. Sadly, Stroud is not an ornithologist and hence is not in a position to evaluate, criticize or understand Bonaparte's brilliance as a taxonomist and nomenclaturalist. The inclusion of new taxa first named by Bonaparte would have made a valuable addition (Peters' *Birds of the World* includes 141 bird genera and 181 bird species described by Bonaparte and held by Peters to be valid). A further list of new fish and other organisms named by Bonaparte would add greatly to these numbers. Bonaparte, in demonstrating his erudition in Latin, composed some monstrously difficult names, and was criticized by many then and since for his practice of naming new genera and new species without sufficient grounds. In addition, nineteen avian species and one avian genus were named FOR Bonaparte by others. However, he did name the dove, *Zenaida*, for his pretty wife.

This book will be of interest to all ornithologists with a historical bent, and to anyone interested in royalty in general or the Bonaparte family in particular. It belongs in every university and college library.

C. STUART HOUSTON

863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0J8
Canada

ALAN P. PETERSON

P.O. Box 1999, Walla Walla, Washington 99362 USA

John Keast Lord: Materials for a Life

By Donald B. Baker. 2002. Backhuys Publishers, Leiden, The Netherlands. 65 pp. Euro 22.

John Keast Lord, a veterinary surgeon, was one "of many-sided men of action so characteristic of the Victorian age." He was the naturalist on the British North American Boundary Commission from 1858 to 1862*. He arrived at Esquimalt in 12 July 1858, visited Victoria, Nanaimo, and Beaver Cove on Vancouver

Island, and then moved east from the mouth of the Fraser River to Sumas Prairie. In 1859 he collected specimens near and east of present Chilliwack. In 1860, he led a risky journey from Stockton, California, overland to Walla Walla and then Kettle Falls on the Columbia River, to deliver needed mules and bullocks. By April 1862, the 49th parallel had been cleared and completed to the Rocky Mountains; Lord sailed from Victoria back to his native England.