

The most conspicuous difference between *V. conspersa* and *V. rostrata* is, as is well known, that the spur of the former is less than 8 mm. long and comparatively stout, whereas the spur of the latter species is 10-12 mm. long and slender. The hybrid found at Chats Falls is characterized by having a spur the size and shape of which is just intermediate between those of the parent species. All other morphological characters, which it is hardly necessary to describe in detail, are also intermediate between those of *V. conspersa* and *V. rostrata* making it quite certain that the plants referred to are natural products of a spontaneous cross-fertilization between the species in question. That this really is the fact, is furthermore proven beyond doubt by the condition of the pollen as developed in its petaliferous flowers. Ninety-five to one hundred per cent of the pollen grains are imperfectly developed, shrunken, deformed and empty. Consequently they are sexually impotent and incapable of fertilizing the ovules of either the hybrid itself or of the parent plants.

What has been written must be considered as only an introduction to a more complete and detailed study of the genus *Viola* but it is hoped that enough has been said to encourage local botanists to undertake similar work in this genus within easy walking distance of their homes.

AUGUST BIRD LIFE AT PLEASANT POINT, ONT.*

By MELVILLE DALE.

During the past three summers it has been my privilege to spend part of the month of August at a little summer resort called Pleasant Point, situated on Sturgeon lake, some ten miles from Lindsay, and some seventy miles north-east of Toronto. The Lake is one of the Kawartha group and is part of the Trent Valley canal system. It is about fifteen miles long and from one to two miles wide. A dam at Bobcaygeon has raised the level of the lake to some extent, and formed a considerable area of "drowned land" at the mouth of the Scugog river. This marsh is composed of the usual growth of wild rice, bulrushes, pickerel weed, white and yellow pond lilies, etc., while many lagoons both large and small are found within its confines. In certain localities numerous stumps rise a foot or so above the water and form a favorite roosting place for the gulls, terns and herons.

*Read before the McIlwraith Ornithological Club of London.