

ORNITHOLOGICAL NOTES FROM KINGSTON, ONT.

Two rather important finds have been made at Kingston this spring, and we are now in a position to speak positively regarding some of the birds, we were quite certain bred here regularly. From the fact that from time to time, I came across long-eared owls—*Asio Wilsonianus*—in the early summer, I inferred that these nocturnal birds bred in the vicinity. During the winter I saw one, and this spring came across a pair in Rockwood grounds. On April 30th, a boy told me that owls were breeding at the back of Rockwood property, and I began to investigate the problem as thoroughly as possible. On May 5th, a lad informed me that he had found five white eggs in a last year's crows' nest in a pine tree. Examination proved that the bird was a long-eared owl, and the eggs were in different stages of incubation, but none far advanced. In this case the owl left the nest directly, and did not remain near by when disturbed. Three of the eggs measured were, in inches :—1.60 x 1.28 ; 1.62 x 1.32 ; 1.66 x 1.27.

On April the 28th, in the same locality, another lad found a nest of the long-eared owl containing five eggs. The owl was much disturbed, and flew but a short distance to a small pine where it snapped its beak, and in many ways showed its resentment. Next day the lad returned to the nest and found only four eggs, which are now in the possession of Mr. Edwin Beaupré. These are somewhat larger than those in my set. In this case the nest was one left by the crows last year, and is only about twelve feet from the ground, in a stunted clump of pines near the edge of the marsh.

MERGANSER AMERICANUS.—On April 10th, Mr. Edwin Beaupré, in company with Rev. C. J. Young, investigated an eagles' nest on one of the Thousand Islands, in the vicinity of Kingston. While descending the tree, Mr. Beaupré looked into a cleft and discovered three fresh duck eggs, presumably those of the *Merganser Americanus*. These he took, and as mergansers were seen near the island, and the eggs were of large size, there was little reason to doubt the correctness of the opinion. On April 18th, the cavity in the tree was again examined, and beyond four or five apparently fresh feathers, there was nothing to make one suspect that the birds had not abandoned the nest. Twelve days after.