

Dr G. Gray makes six subfamilies of these birds, but he includes among them *Phalaropodinae*, which, on account of their peculiar feet and specially aquatic habits, I think better regarded as the fifth or *Natatorial* family in the order. The remaining five subfamilies are probably best placed in the following order: 1. *Totantinae*, Long-shanks; 2. *Tringinae*, Sandpipers; 3. *Scolopacinae*, Snipes and Woodcocks; 4. *Limosinae*, god-wits; 5. *Recurvirostrinae* Avocets. In the first of these subfamilies there are five species of *Totanus* and two of *Tringoides*, belonging to North America and very possibly to be found in Canada. Of the Sandpipers (*Tringinae*) thirteen species belonging to four genera are North American, of which probably not less than ten are found in Canada. Of the Snipes and Woodcocks (*Scolopacinae*) six North American species are enumerated by Gray, ranking in three genera. I have good authority for three of these being Canadian. Of *Limosinae* three species of *Numenius* and two of *Limosa* are North American, of which several certainly occur in Canada; one of each genus is in Mr. McIlwraith's Hamilton list. The small subfamily of *Recurvirostrinae* gives us one *Recurvirostra*, the American Avocet, and one *Himantopus*.

I need add nothing to what I have already said of the family *Phalaropodidae*, which, though very small, seems the true natatorial representative among *Grallatores*, and one of the natural links between the two orders. All the three species of *Phalaropus* recognised by Gray are North American, and one of them is often seen in Canada.

The purpose of this paper was to determine the true limits of the *Grallatorial* Order, and the proper series and mutual relations of its families and sub-families. I will not, however, conclude without a few words on its characters, especially those which, whilst only occasionally met with, seem to be always connected with this kind of structure, and therefore, whether occurring in true *Grallatores* or in *Grallatorial* representatives, in other orders or families, will, in doubtful cases, assist the observer, by furnishing pleasing indications of analogies, which are real, but not obvious to every eye. No *Grallatorial* character is more striking and universal than elongation of the bill, neck and legs; it is indeed one of the commonest marks of the representation of this structure in other orders and families, so that where the principle of the existence of a certain set of tendencies repeating themselves under each distinct type, and thus producing relations of analogy among forms otherwise remote, is not well understood, confusion