

stance in the history of this bird is that it has only been recorded from two isolated and widely separated localities, viz., Southern Florida, and Toronto, Ont., and it is interesting to note that not until 1890 was it observed at Toronto, some four years after it was discovered in Florida. In 1893, another was captured here, and this year (1895) five have been secured. Quite a number have been observed, but only five taken in Florida since the type was obtained.

This fact would lead to the supposition that the species is increasing in numbers; or is it because greater interest has been taken in searching for them? The marshy location at Toronto to which the birds resort and where all the specimens recorded were taken, is only about half a mile square protected from the waters of Lake Ontario by a narrow sand bar a few yards in width, and is situated immediately adjacent to the city of Toronto, so that the bird, though evidently of retired habits, could scarcely have chosen a more frequented piece of marsh. In Florida the habitation of Cory's Bittern extends over a swampy area about 40 by 50 miles in extent. Of the specimens taken at Toronto, the majority were males, and it was found by dissection of three of this number that they feed on small bass and perch, and in one stomach there was found the larva of a dragon-fly. That they breed at Toronto seems evident from the dates at which the specimens were taken, and the manner in which several allowed themselves to be captured, indicates either their stupidity or tameness. Its nesting modes and eggs are similar to those of the other species of Least Bittern.

NOTE.—Since the above was written information has been received of several more specimens of this species being taken at Toronto, and one in the State of Michigan.

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