

to seaward a different and more varied lot of fowl came under observation. The most abundant species were the eiders and scoters. The former are known to the fishermen as "sea-ducks," the three species of the latter being collectively called "coots" and differentiated by their most prominent characteristics. Thus the American scoter is known as "butter-nose coot" from the yellow and orange knob at the base of its upper mandible. The surf scoter from the white spots about its head and nape is called "patch-poll coot," while the velvet scoter is quite properly called the "white-winged coot," from its conspicuous wing patches. None of these birds were seen in a state of rest during my stay about the locality, though hundreds were seen daily, always in long wavering strings passing the outer points and ledges uniformly moving to eastward. Taking advantage of this regularity of the birds' movements, the fishermen gunners would put out in their shooting skiffs and stringing out over the water, perhaps ten or twenty boats in all, each a couple of gunshots from the other and partly concealed by the swell and waves of the sea, would intercept the flocks as they came along, often causing great destruction in their ranks.

A few "old squaws" and black guillemots, an occasional puffin, auk, loon, jaeger and a few others were also noted while on these shooting trips, well out from land.

On April 23rd the first gannets were seen. A "flight" of them commenced about 10 o'clock, a.m., and continued throughout the day, the birds passing, singly or in scattered flocks, westwardly along the shore some 100-200 yards off. These gannets have a most characteristic mode of flight—it is remarkably straightforward, the wings beating with a uniform regularity and certain deliberation that forces them into the face of storm with apparent ease. Their beaks seem constantly to point downward, the birds always on the lookout for their finny prey beneath, upon which they drop like bullets as soon as seen. For several days following, this "flight" of gannets was noted between the same hours and in the same direction and over the same waters. At the mouth of the Bay of Fundy is a rocky island known as Gannet Rock, where formerly large numbers of these birds bred and raised their young.

On the morning of April 24th during a heavy southeast storm, which piled great breakers roaring upon the beach, I noted the first "shore bird" arrival for the season. Above the thunder of the surf, while walking along the beach, I heard a soft, flute-like note—a plaintive "phe-blo," it sounded—and upon looking about discovered its origin in a little, dusky-collared, grey and white bird, scurrying about among the