

on the 25th of December, 1854; at Woodstock, in May, 1866; at London, in 1871, about the same time of year; at West Flamboro, in 1883, on the 17th of March; and along the shores of Hamilton Bay and other points east, 1890. The usual range of this bird is Western North America, east to Lake Superior and south to Mexico.

During the year, notes have been taken on 116 species of birds which is considered fairly good, considering the few persons who made observations. The dates on which these birds were first seen will be found in the "Naturalist."

The scarcity of bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) was again noticed this year, but very few having been seen. It is a matter of great regret that this beautiful bird is disappearing so rapidly.

An increase in the number of meadow larks (*Sturnella magna*), was very apparent, several pair breeding on the Experimental Farm, where their peculiar call in early spring was heard very frequently.

On the 19th of July the Olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus borealis*) was seen at Kazabazua, P.Q., by Mr. W. E. Saunders of London, Ont. It is not often that this bird is seen in the Ottawa district. The Red-tailed hawk (*Buteo borealis*) which is also a rare bird, was seen at the same place on the 20th by Mr. F. A. Saunders.

A Fox-sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) was seen by Mr. Geo. R. White along the Aylmer road on the 4th of December, which is a late date for this sparrow to remain here.

A very interesting record was the passing up the Ottawa river of Brunnich's murre, or guillemot (*Uria lomvia*) in large numbers, on the 12th of December. The birds, in flocks of from 20 to 100, were passing Rockcliffe from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Several were shot. On Monday the 13th, one was caught alive in a field between Metcalfe and Osgoode station, which lived for two days. On examination the stomach was found empty. All of the birds obtained were in very poor condition.

Birds have been scarce about Ottawa this winter, probably due to its great severity and abundant snow-fall and the lack of