

and a lighthouse on the northeast end, these birds occupy the other side unmolested and are seldom interfered with by gunners; yet the island is scarcely three-quarters of a mile long and even less than half a mile wide. The flight of the puffin is swift as an arrow. It has no notes that I could perceive. When in the water it is obliged to rush over the surface some feet, flapping its wings and apparently paddling vigorously before it can gain sufficient impetus to take flight. When sitting sentinel-like on some rock, previous to taking a downward plunge into the air to wing, it reminds one greatly of pictures of auks and penguins, which birds they greatly resemble in many respects. We found the breasts of this bird when made into a soup and boiled thoroughly not bad eating, though much tougher than were the auks we tried.

### SEA DOVE

*Alle nigricans.* — LINK.

THIS little fellow is very common some years in the waters about the islands and harbors all along the Labrador coast. My notes say: From October 15, until the ice sets in, I found them common everywhere in the waters of the bays and harbors, and they are generally quite tame. The people on the coast regard their arrival as a sign of cold weather; but it certainly did not prove to be the case this year, since the birds were unusually abundant and the Winter an unusually mild one. The popular and local name is pronounced as if spelled "bun-num." The birds associate with the black guillemot and possesses with it many habits in common. It dives at the flash of the gun, swims long distances under water, but is generally very tame and quite easy to approach, though quick in its movements. I have seen them killed with an oar, after a long chase in a boat. When first taking flight they half fly and half push themselves along the surface of the water, since their small wings and unequally balanced bodies make it extremely difficult for them to fly freely. I have seen one pur-