

almost approaching snow was detected in the atmosphere, and birds were observed in sheltered nook apparently discussing the advisability of an early return to more southern quarters.

This cold wave passed. On the 30th the weather was again warm, and *warmer, warmest*. It continued through August up to the 15th, when the second cold spell of the summer set in. The second warm spell in August almost equalled in intensity the July weather. The 13th and 14th were perhaps the hottest days. On the 15th there was a decided change, and the days became cool and the nights even cold. Winds from the north and northwest became more prevalent.

The 29th and closing days of August, however, were again warm, and the 31st was recorded in my note book as "tremendously hot." The 1st of September was the last very warm day, when it was really too hot to travel on the sandy roads. From this date cool and even cold weather set in, and continued up to the end of the month, with frequent cold rains.

October set in wet, and the weather continued most disagreeable up to the 7th, when early snows set in. From the 7th to the 17th there were frequent falls of snow, and very cold northerly and northwesterly winds, and the whole country wore the aspect of winter. At this time many of the Indians whom I conversed with on the rivers Desert and Gatineau expressed it as their opinion that the winter had actually set in; but judging from the movements of the birds, I thought very differently. These Indians based their conclusions upon the steady and intense heat of the summer, and stated that all the fine weather of the year had probably come to us together in the months of June, July and August, and that we had nothing now to expect but an early and winter-like fall. I, however, maintained my opinion to the contrary. The autumn Hawks still lingered along the road sides and edges of clearings; the Robins showed no signs of congregating previous to their departure; the Whiskey Jacks (or Moose Birds) arrived in unusual numbers, and remained throughout the county; and there were still daily heard the songs of the Rossignol (or Song Sparrow). Further, the Beavers and Muskrats had hardly commenced to prepare their winter houses, but still continued to pursue their summer pastimes. Consequently, I again put in print my firm opinion that this was not winter, and that I still looked "for some unusually fine and beautiful autumn weather." The letter published in the WITNESS, in which I stated this, was written on the Gatineau river, near the mouth of the Pickanock, and during a heavy snow storm, and was dated 8th October. And again I was correct. The 18th, 19th, and 20th of this month were balmy Indian summer days, and although beyond these days we experienced a great deal of rainy weather, it was seasonable and just what the country required.

November set in with rains, but there was but little frost at nights. In fact the frosts had suddenly almost completely ceased. From the 5th of this month to the 21st (the date on which this article was written), the weather continued brilliant, balmy, and almost summer-like. Seldom have we experienced a finer autumn, and hardly ever as few November frosts; and as I write I have the perfect satisfaction of seeing