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DOUBLE CRESTED CORMORANT.—A beautiful bird of this species was shot near Toronto a few months since.

BAIRD'S HAWK.—A gentleman of this city recently shot a hawk of this variety a few miles from Toronto.

WHOOPIING CRANE.—A fine bird of this species (stuffed) is exhibited in the window of a shop on King Street, Toronto.

Selections from Current Literature.

EIDER DUCKS.

The greatest favourites and the most valuable of all the feathered tribes in Iceland, are the eider ducks. Their down is the lightest and softest of animal coverings, probably the worst conductor of heat, and therefore the warmest clothing that is known. The eider duck (young birds of this species have occasionally been shot in Toronto bay,) is a large and fine looking bird. The male is over two feet in length, and weighs six or seven pounds. His back, breast, and neck are white, inclining to a pale buff; the tail and the top of the head, black. On the water he is as graceful as a swan. The female is much smaller than the male, and differently mottled with both white and black. The tips of the wings are white, the tail a brownish-black. But a poor idea is given, however, of the looks of these birds by an enumeration of their colours. The down is a sort of mouse colour. These singular birds have both the character of wild and domesticated fowls. In the winter they are so wild that it is difficult to come near them; but in the breeding season—the month of June—they are tamer than barn door fowls. On the islands all round Iceland, and many parts of the main shore, they cover the land with their nests. When left to themselves, the brood of the eider duck does not exceed four; but remove the eggs daily, and she will continue to lay for weeks.—*Rambles in Iceland.*