## THE OTTAWA NATURALIST.

January

the Canadian warbler; M. varia usually selects a nesting site in the "upper side" of the up-turned root and generally higher off the ground, and the eggs are usually less oblong in form than those of Canadensis. This species is not an abundant summer resident in this district, and scarcely a dozen nests of this bird have come under my observation in all my Wildwood rambles ; yet in all the low-land woods of this country some of the species may be found, and in such tracts it makes its haunts and home during the period that it remains in this province ; and here, from the early days of May, till towards the end of June, its song notes may be heard, and this period may be regarded as its nesting time ; but whether it nests more than once in the season I do not know. In all probability when the first set of eggs is taken before incubation begins, it nests again, but it may be taken as certain that in does not raise more than one brood in the season ; and considering the many enemies to whose depredations its nests are exposed, it is very probable that many of the species come and go without having increased their numbers; the cow-bird is one of its worst enemies.

## THE CANADIAN WARBLER.

On the 28th of May, when passing the "old root" of a fallen tree I discovered the newly made nest of a small bird, which at first I thought might be that of a mourning warbler, whose scolding notes I heard near by. On the 5th of June, when I thought the set of eggs would be deposited I revisited the place. On the nest sat the mother bird, and there she remained till I almost touched her with my hand, then she flushed out, making some attempts to draw off my attention; and uttered a few sharp "chips," and I saw at once that she was a Canadian warbler. The nest then contained five eggs, and incubation had begun, The nest was placed in a cavity among the rocks, only a few inches above the more level earth, and was composed of dry leaves, strips of bark, and other fine vegetable fibers, and lined with some long horse-hair. When placed side by side with that of M. varia previously described, I make this comparison of the nests and their sets of eggs, after the latter are blown. The nests -in composition and size-are very much alike ; both are rather

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