

# The Canadian Entomologist.

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WILLIAM E. SAUNDERS.

In this issue of our magazine we have pleasure in presenting to our readers a portrait of the Secretary of the Entomological Society of Ontario for the last fifteen years, MR. W. E. SAUNDERS, who is well known as a prominent member of the fraternity of Canadian naturalists. Mr. Saunders's home is in London, where he was born and where most of his life has been spent. His father, Dr. William Saunders, Director of the Experimental Farms of the Dominion, has always been devoted to the study of the natural sciences, and hence the son's attention was in early years directed to similar pursuits, interest in them being maintained by the making of collections in the different departments. Geology, Botany, Entomology and Ornithology all in turn provided object-lessons for study, training the mind to habits of close observation and filling the leisure of later years with delightful employment.

After a few years of miscellaneous collecting, Mr. Saunders turned his attention more exclusively to Ornithology, and as soon as the use of a gun was permitted he commenced a scientifically-arranged collection of our native birds, showing male and female in summer and winter plumage, with any variations from the types; also the nest and eggs of each species. Year by year the collection is added to, until now it numbers over 1,000 specimens. Mr. Saunders's birds are his intimate friends, and whether in his own house or on the public platform, his "Bird Talks," illustrated with specimens, show to his audience that he speaks of what he has learnt by personal experience in the fields and woods. His enthusiasm for this study is such that he counts it no hardship to walk miles into the country in time to hear some favourite songster greet the dawn. He has also been known to spend a night in the woods in the depths of winter, just to see what he missed by spending his nights in bed!

About two years ago Mr. Saunders accompanied his father on an official visit to Sable Island, a place he had long wished to go to in order