
MIGRATIONS OF OUR BIRDS.

It is generally known that nearly all our summer birds leave in the fall, on the approach of winter, to seek warmer regions, where their natural food can be obtained, and where the climate is more genial than our own.

But, it is a fact not generally known that, year after year, our birds return to the same locality, and the young to the place of their nativity. Such, however, is the fact, which careful observation and repeated experiment has proved.

On the approach of winter each different species collect together in flocks, and, for a week or more, keep together augmenting their number by the addition of stragglers. When the time for departure has come, the flocks ascend until they reach a southern air-current and move south, preceded and flanked by the old birds, who keep up a continual chirping or calling from all sides of the flock for the purpose, no doubt, of protection, and to inspire the younger birds with confidence.

CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN BIRDS.

ORNITHOLOGISTS have already classified seven hundred and eight different species of birds as belonging to North America, of which over three hundred are regular Canadian summer visitors, a few species only remaining with us during the winter.

Our birds may properly be divided into six Orders, as follows :
Order I.—The Birds of Prey, includes the Eagles, Falcons, Hawks, Buzzards, and Owls. Order II.—The Climbing Birds, includes the Cuckoos, Woodpeckers, Nuthatches, and Creepers. Order III.—Perching Birds. This Order embraces the greatest number of species, and includes the Robins, Sparrows, Thrushes,