

Wilnot claims to be charged with the duty; and it, as he complains through you and the *Globe*, there is indifference and neglect chargeable against the Canadian Government, and dilatoriness by the Imperial Commission, it must be obvious that the proper way to settle it is with the authority under which he says that he is acting, and certainly not through vague insinuations aimed at "Some one in the Department" on whom the blame of his own anticipated failure may if necessary be conveniently shifted.

This communication has been withheld hoping that Mr. Wilnot would correct the misstatements. Reluctantly and in self defence I now ask you to please do so on my behalf.

Before parting let me add that I fully endorse what you have said of the value to his country, of such a "live" Commissioner of Fisheries as Prof. Baird, and as heartily do I join with you in wishing that we had his like in Canada, to say nothing of his zealous staff of scientists and other practical workers, all supported by ample means and adequate authority. The United States Government thoroughly appreciates the federal fisheries service; and besides maintaining it on a liberal footing, has always treated the able and earnest officer at its head in a spirit of justice and generosity, worthy of the great national interest which he seeks to promote, and the vast productive industry which he labors to develop.

Your obedient Servant,

W. F. WHITCHER.

LIST OF THE BIRDS OF WESTERN ONTARIO.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 187.

126. *Asio Americanus*; Long-eared Owl. Uncommon. Occasionally several may be seen hunting a field in winter like Harriers.

127. *Asio accipitrinus*; Short-eared Owl. Rare. We have only taken four.

128. *Strix nebulosa*; Barred Owl. Common; breeds. Formerly abundant.

129. *Ulu cinerea*; Cinereous Owl. Two in possession of S. Herring, Toronto, shot near London. Very rare in winter.

130. *Nyctale Acadia*; Acadia Owl. Rather rare. Not known to breed.

131. *Scops asio*; Mottled Owl. Our most common Owl. Breeds.

132. *Bubo Virginianus*; Great Horned Owl. Common. Breeds very early.

133. *Nyctale Scandiacae*; Snowy Owl. Occasionally common in winter. More regular along

the lake-shore, especially Lake St. Clair.

134. *Furnia funerea*; Hawk Owl. Very rare. One brought in the flesh in London, 187—. [E. W. Sandys.]

135. *Falco peregrinus navius*; Duck Hawk. Very rare inland. One taken near London, 187—. Frequently seen in fall at St. Clair Flats.

136. *Falco columbarius*; Pigeon Hawk. Rare; three or four taken.

137. *Tinnunculus sparverius*; Sparrow Hawk. Our most common Hawk. Breeds.

138. *Pandion haliaetus Carolinensis*; Fish Hawk. Rare inland. More common along the lake-shore where it breeds.

139. *Elanoides forficatus*; Swallow-tailed Kite. Some years ago a pair of these birds stayed all summer about eight miles North-west of London.

140. *Circus Hudsonius*; Marsh Hawk. Rare inland. Very common along the large marshes, where it breeds.

141. *Accipiter Cooperi*; Cooper's Hawk. Rather common; breeds.

142. *Accipiter fuscus*; Sharp-shinned Hawk. Common in the fall, but only a few breed. Late in September, 1882, large numbers of these hawks were seen on Point Pelee, as many as fifty passing the house in a day. It seems they are equally abundant every year.

143. *Asio atricapillus*; Goshawk. Occurs frequently in winter and regularly at the St. Clair Flats.

144. *Buteo borealis*; Red-tailed Hawk. Common; breeds.

145. *Buteo lineatus*; Red-shouldered Hawk. The most common of our large hawks; breeds.

146. *Buteo Pennsylvanicus*; Broad-winged Hawk. Sometimes common in flocks during migrations. At other times single individuals are rather rare.

147. *Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis*; Rough-legged Hawk; Black Hawk. Common in fall at the St. Clair Flats.

148. *Aquila chrysaetos Canadensis*; Golden Eagle. Very rare. Mr. Sandys reports two—one of which was taken in the winter of '74-5 benumbed by cold, and is still alive in captivity.

149. *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*; Bald Eagle. Rather rare. A pair breeds regularly on a lake-side farm in Kent, and several pairs on Point Pelee. Seldom seen in the older districts. The pair on the Kent farm live chiefly on fish and muskrats, taking the former from the water themselves, winter and summer.

150. *Cathartes aura*; Turkey Buzzard. Reported from various points in the St. Clair marshes.

151. *Ectopistes migratoria*; Pigeon. Formerly abundant. Now rare except in the less settled districts.