

the crop of 1909. It is these seeds that the last three birds feed upon; so they are now birds of the forest instead of birds of the field.

To know of the presence of the junco it is quite necessary to recognize its weak metallic call, as it searches about among the thick foliage of the evergreens. Thus we learn that climatic conditions do not entirely control the migratory movements of some of the migratory birds. If cold weather caused all the birds to go southward regardless of the food supply we would have fewer species with us this winter for there has been very cold weather.* Climatic conditions quite control the movements of the migratory insectivorous birds, for many of them are only fitted by nature to glean insects in an active condition upon the foliage of plants or while flying in the air. Of course our wood-peckers that remain through the winter are provided with strong bills which enable them to dig into bark and wood and feed upon the insect life within. Two of our wood-peckers go south in the autumn. Are their bills strong and straight for digging in hard frozen bark and wood, think you?

To me there is an unsolved problem regarding the supply of fruits of the forest trees. They do not bear fruits or seeds every year nor every other year. There does not seem to be any law in evidence controlling this state of things. Is it because the bearing of a crop of seeds so reduces the vitality of the trees that only occasionally are they able to produce seeds? This does not hold good, for at times crops of wild seeds of conifers come in successive years.

The solving and study of nature's mysteries are, to some of us, things that make up the little pleasures of this life, and lead us to know that to One, by Whom all things were made, there are no mysteries.

Obedience.

Obey and obedience are two great words. They are fundamental in church and state. They occur with remarkable frequency in the Bible. They must be written in the hearts of the people if the state is to be secure. They will get into the hearts of the people in the pedagogy of the teacher.—*Educator-Journal*.

* The weather in Southern New Brunswick and Nova Scotia has been rather mild.—EDITOR.

Hakluyt's Voyages.

BY ELEANOR ROBINSON.

The title of the book that heads this paper is more or less familiar to every reader, but the life and aims of its writer are not so well known as they deserve. For he was one of the inspirers and encouragers of those great deeds of adventure and exploration, for which his times are famous, and by which the foundation of the Colonial Empire of Britain was laid. "To Hakluyt," says the great historian, Robertson, in his *History of America*, "England is more indebted for its American possessions than to any man of that age."

Born in, or near, London, about the year 1553, and thus near of an age with Sir Walter Raleigh whose fellow-worker he was to be, Richard Hakluyt very early decided upon the chief interest and aim of his life. When a Queen's scholar at Westminster School, he was introduced by his cousin, another Richard Hakluyt, of the Middle Temple, to "certain books of Cosmography with an universal map." His cousin, seeing the boy's interest, gave him a little instruction in geography,

"Pointing with his wand to all the known Seas, Gulfs, Bays, Straights, Capes, Rivers, Empires, Kingdoms, Dukedoms and Territories; with declarations also of their special commodities and particular wants, which by the benefit of traffic and intercourse of merchants, are plentifully supplied. From the Map he brought me to the Bible, and turning to the 107 Psalm, directed me to the 23 and 24 verses, where I read, that they which go down to the sea in ships, and occupy by the great waters, they see the works of the Lord and his wonders in the deep," etc.

These words, and his cousin's discourse took such a hold upon the lad, that he instantly resolved to "by God's assistance, prosecute that knowledge and kind of literature, the doors of which whereof were so happily opened." At Oxford, accordingly, Hakluyt, while not neglecting his regular studies, which were to fit him for the church, gave all his spare time to the study of geography and navigation. In these sciences he made such progress, that when he was about twenty-four, and had taken his degree, he was chosen to give the first public lecture in geography at Oxford.

"I read," he says, "by degrees, whatsoever printed and written discoveries and voyages I found extant, whether in the Greek, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Portugal, French or English languages, and in my public lectures was the first that produced and shewed both the old and imperfectly composed, and the new and lately reformed Maps, Globes, Spheres, and other instruments of this Art."