

FAMILY PELECANIDÆ. (THE PELICANS.)

Bill very long, straight grooved throughout, with a claw-like hook at the end; the broad space between the branches of the lower mandible occupied by a large membraneous sac; nostrils abortive; wings very long; tail very short; feet short and stout.

GENUS PELECANUS.

*) (125) **American White Pelican.**
(*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos.*)

An accidental visitor to the great lakes. They breed commonly in Northern Manitoba and the Western Provinces.

Order ANSERES. (The Lamellirostral Swimmers.)

Swimming birds with feet four-toed, palmate, hind toe small, elevated. Bill lamellate; no gular pouch. Legs short.

This order contains nearly all the water-fowl which are valued in domestication, or as game birds.

FAMILY ANATIDÆ. (DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS.)

Bill laminate, i.e. furnished along each cutting edge with a regular series of tooth-like processes, which correspond to certain lacinate processes of the fleshy tongue, which ends in a horny tip; bill large, thick, high at base, depressed towards the end, membraneous except at the obtuse tip, which is occupied by a horny nail. Body heavy, flattened beneath. Head high, compressed, with sloping forehead; eyes small. Tail short, except in the full plumaged males of *Dafila* and *Harelda*, both of which have the central tail feathers much prolonged. Legs and feet short, the anterior toes full webbed. Tibia feathered. All are good swimmers and, with us, more or less migratory.

SUBFAMILY MERGINÆ. (THE MERGANSERS.)

GENUS MERGANSER.

(129) **American Merganser.** (Goosander.)
(*Merganser americanus.*)

A common resident, breeding in the northern part of the Province and spending the winter on the open water of the lakes and rapid rivers near our southern boundary.

These birds are very destructive to our fisheries.