

NOTES ON SOME WINTER BIRDS.

By W. E. KELLS.

PINE GROSBEAKS. On New Year's day, 1902, I noted, for the first time this winter, a flock of some fifteen individuals of this species. When first seen they were flitting among the fruit and shade trees in the gardens and the streets, and occasionally feeding on the berries of the mountain ash—which, while these lasted, appeared to be their principal food. Among them, when first seen, were a few red-polls, and as the crossbills continued to be observed every day for the next seven weeks, a few red crossbills were at times seen among them. The last time the grosbeaks were noted was on the 21st of February; there was then only six in the flock. It has been stated that these birds make their appearance in Ontario every five years, but I think that it is over ten since I last noted them in this vicinity. It is probably the lack of food in their more northern haunts, rather than the severity of the weather, that causes them to migrate towards the east and the south. All the members of this species that came under my observation this season, were in the dark plumage, though a few had reddish shading on the upper parts. These visitants appear to have been noticed by all observers throughout the province.

EVENING GROSBEAKS. No specimens of this species came under my observation in this vicinity this winter, but correspondents in widely distant localities have reported their appearance, yet in rather limited numbers. Mr. A. Macalister, formerly of Guelph, writing from Harperville, Manitoba, Jan. 23rd, says: "I have seen the snowy owl a number of times, and also a flock of evening grosbeaks, the first I had ever seen." And writing from Guelph, Feb. 24th, Mr. F. Norman Keating states: "I have noted a number of evening grosbeaks, and taken one specimen, a male. Prof. Doherty also secured a fine male."

GOLDEN EAGLE CAPTURED. On Tuesday, Feb. 11th, Mr. A. Cole, of the township of Grey, west of Listowel, captured a large black or golden eagle, that had been feeding on the carcass of a horse which was exposed in the woods on lot 24, con. 13. When discovered, there were two of the species devouring portions of the dead beast, and Mr. Cole in firing at the birds wounded the larger one in one of its wings, so that it was unable to fly. The