

Among the small land birds of which there were many, most interesting were the Bicknell's thrushes and black-poll warblers, both fairly common and breeding. These birds, especially the thrushes, are very local in their distribution, and here good opportunities were afforded to note their habits. Like their cousins the hermit thrushes, the Bicknell's thrush sings most frequently in the early morning and late evening. Their song resembles that of the hermit in a general way, but is not nearly so clear and liquid. The nests are built at varying elevations among the dense spruces and are exceedingly difficult to find. The nests of former years, however, are much more in evidence. The moisture-laden atmosphere seems to cause them to swell and starts a growth of moss, which persisting from year to year preserves and renders them quite conspicuous.

Other small birds found breeding there were golden crown kinglets, winter wrens, Hudsonian chickadees, brown creepers, red-breast nuthatches, crossbills and several others.

During the migrations many birds make this a resting place, as also do storm-driven birds of a more southern range. Thus Mr. Crowell has taken examples of the Florida galinule, turkey vulture, scarlet tanager and Baltimore oriole. Many birds perish during the migrations by coming in contact with the great light one hundred feet up. Over eight hundred yellow warblers were thus destroyed upon one occasion in a single night.

Seal Island derives its name from the large numbers of seals that formerly resorted there to breed. The first industry of the place was the seal-fishery, the animals being of value for the oil which could be extracted from their carcasses. This of course was long since overdone—now only a few scattered seals are to be seen, but great sand-covered mounds back of the beach mark the spots where the useless bones were piled. At present the island is of importance as a lobster-fishing station.