

and simplicity among all English-speaking peoples, of the common English tongue."

"(XII) That the foregoing resolution be appended with an explanatory note to the printed copies of the papers on the subject read to the Conference on Friday last by Dr. E. R. Edwards, H. M. I., and Dr. MacKay, and be included in the report of the Conference."

Birds.

The Linnet and Swallows.

J. W. BANKS.

The pine linnet (*Chrysometris pinus*) is an irregular summer resident, and rarely seen singly or in pairs. Their instinct of sociability is never overcome, even in the nesting season. They usually nest in communities, high up in the tall spruces. Their flight is wavering, similar to their near relatives, the goldfinch. The pine linnets are very erratic in their movements, failing to make their appearance some seasons where they were abundant the year before. The flocks which make up in the autumn, numbering hundreds of individuals, gather on some sunny hilltop in a dense mass. With some preconcerted signal, the whole flock will instantly rise with perfect evenness, wheel back and forth, front and rear, with wonderful precision, and then the whole flock will drop to the ground for a short breathing spell with the same level formation. This remarkable bird drill is continued for hours. They are seed eaters in the strictest sense. They have a beautiful warbling song. The pine linnet, or pine finch as it is sometimes called, arrives usually the first week in April.

The swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) is a common summer resident, arriving about the 12th of April, nearly four weeks in advance of the other members of the family. They are not gregarious, and are not depending on man for nesting places. As a rule they still retain their primitive habit of nesting in cavities in trees, or in deserted woodpeckers' nests, but will often gladly accept boxes or bird houses put up for the purpose. Their first aim on arriving in the spring is to visit their last year's nesting places, examine them inside and out, and are seemingly overjoyed at finding them intact. Four or five pure white eggs are laid. Two broods are raised in a season. Their color is lustrous steel-green; breast, pure white.

The bank swallow (*Clivicola riparia*) the smallest of the family, is an abundant summer resident in all suitable situations. Unlike the rest

of the family they have never yielded to the resources of civilization, and still persist in excavating nesting places for themselves in the face of a convenient sandbank. It is astonishing how far the birds will penetrate the firm sandy soil, usually to the extent of eighteen inches. Frequently a stone will be encountered, when the excavation will be abandoned, and a new one begun. Their eggs, five in number, are chalky white, unspotted. Two broods are raised in a season. Their color is greyish-brown; breast, white with a brown neckband. They arrive about the 6th of May.

The cliff or eave swallow (*Petrochelidon lunifrons*) is the most sociable of the family. Their musical twitterings as they fly in and out of their queer bottle-shaped nests is very pleasing. In uninhabited regions these swallows fasten their nests to the perpendicular faces of cliffs. The name of cave swallow comes from the fact of their availing themselves of the nesting sites afforded them under the eaves of houses and barns. Their eggs, usually four in number, are white, with more or less dusky spots. Two broods are raised in a season. Their distinguishing colors are glossy steel-blue patches, throat and sides of the head bright chestnut. They are common summer residents, arriving about the 7th of May.

The barn swallow (*Chelidon erythrogaster*) is a common summer resident, arriving about the 7th of May. They may be distinguished from the other members of the family by the extra length of the two outer tail feathers. Their colors are glossy steel-blue; breast, brownish-red. Their nest, composed of mud mixed with fine grass, is usually fastened to the side of a rafter on the inside of a barn or shed. Their eggs, five in number, resemble those of the eave swallow, but are smaller. Two broods are raised in a season.

About the last of May the REVIEW received a three dollar postal note from the Sackville, N. B. post office with no name attached. Will the sender kindly forward name so that the money may be properly credited.

Many number lessons are often indefinite because no special point is made prominent. Have a definite point in each lesson and emphasize it.