

imperceptible to the naked eye, but as soon as a boat neared the river bank, the bird would seem to drop like a bolt, uttering piercing cries of warning to its mate.

After several unsuccessful efforts, it was finally decided that three should go in the boat, one should land and the others row the boat back to the lake, hoping thus to deceive the birds. This was done on half a dozen occasions, the utmost precaution being taken to prevent either of the birds seeing the third man in his hiding place within reachable distance of the nest, if either of the fish destroyers should return to it, but in every case these efforts were unsuccessful. No matter though the two parties rowed away from the shore, the warning cry of the bird still sounded and neither would return to the tree; but as soon as the third party would re-enter the boat and it left the shore, these birds would return to the tree, sounding a jubilant note.

An effort was finally made by two boats going together, there being three parties in one boat and two in the other. All five landed on the shore and one of the number, a noted shot on the wing, was left in hiding near the base of the tree in which the nest was. The other four returned to the boats and rowed down the river to the lake. On the way down the birds were plainly seen banging around and one of them dived and caught a fish of considerable size before the eyes of the watchers. It was then considered certain that they would return to their nest, but, instead, they flew to an adjoining tree and regaled themselves with their catch. After waiting two hours and finding that the old birds were not likely to return to the nest, the boats were rowed back, the watcher was taken on board, and in less than ten minutes after leaving the shore both hawkers were back at the nest.

The question of interest is, was the instinct of these birds sufficient to keep track of the number of persons who went into the woods and detect the absence of one on the return? Several efforts were made to illustrate their power of discernment, and in every case where the party