

The next order is of curious composition—cuckoos and a kingfisher. They are so unlike that they might be put in different orders; but then, there would be so few in each. We sketch here the *syndactyle* foot of the kingfisher. "*Syn*," together, and "*daktylos*," Greek for finger. The outer and middle toe are in this case joined together for a distance.



ORDER XII₁—KINGFISHERS AND CUCKOOS (three species).

SYNDACTYLE FOOT. The belted kingfisher (very common), yellow-billed cuckoo and black billed cuckoo (rare).

The feet of the cuckoos are more like those of the woodpeckers, whose form of foot is called the *zygodactyle* or climbing foot, or the *zygodactyle* foot, from *zygon*," Greek for yoke. When grasping, two toes

are forward and two backward. We may call it the yoke-toed foot. Many perching birds are good climbers; but they have the perchers foot.



ZYGOACTYLE FOOT (Woodpecker)

ORDER XIII.—YOKE-TOED CLIMBERS (eight species)

It includes six woodpeckers, one sapsucker and one flicker (all woodpeckers except in name).

ORDER XIV.—STRONG-WINGS (four species).

(a) Whip-poor-will and night hawk, (b) chimney swift, (c) ruby-throated humming bird.

Lastly we come to the greatest order of all—the perching birds. Their foot is called the *insessorial* or perching foot. The hallux or hind toe is capable of being opposed to any of the other toes, like the thumb of the human hand, and the muscles are so arranged as to tighten the perfect grasping hold of the toes on the perch by the weight of the bird itself. Sometimes this style of foot is spoken of as the *passerine* foot from the Latin name of the order, *passeres*.



INSessorIAL FOOT.

ORDER XV.—THE PERCHERS (102 species).

The order in these provinces includes in the *song-less perchers* eight, namely, one kingbird, one phoebe, five flycatchers and one pewee. In the *song perchers* ninety-four, namely, one lark, two jays, one raven, one crow, one bobolink, one cowbird, two blackbirds, one meadow lark, two orioles, one grackle, three grosbeaks, one finch, two crossbills, one redpoll, one goldfinch, one siskin, one snowflake, one longspur, fifteen sparrows, one junco, one towhee, one bunting, two tanagers, one martin, three swallows, two waxwings, one shrike, four vireos, nineteen warblers, one ovenbird, one water-thrush, one yellow throat, one redstart, one pupit, one catbird, one wren, one creeper, two nuthatches, two chickadees, two kinglets, three thrushes, one robin, one wheatear, one bluebird.

S. That is 282 different species of birds in the Atlantic provinces.

T. Yes. But some of these are very rare visitors—some even accidental. On another occasion I will give you the names of all the more common birds, and we shall see how near your list of local birds will come to it.

S. Some birds have only three toes, have they not?

T. The most of our birds have *four* toes, a few have only *three*. And I may mention that generally speaking the toes have the following number of joints: first toe, two joints; second toe, three; third toe, four; and fourth toe, five joints. There are a few exceptions in which the joints are one, three, four, five; or two, three, four, four; or two, three, three, three, instead of the normal, two, three, four, five. And, finally, note that the bird walks on its toes. The shanks drawn in our sketches, immediately above the toes, correspond to the instep bones of the human foot. The joint above corresponds to the heel. Its backward flexure shows this much. The joint corresponding to the human knee (with the forward flexure) is always hidden among the feathers of the body. The short thigh bone in the last order, and in addition the most of the leg bone below the knee joint in the first orders, are within the general skin-covering of the body. The bare shank, as we have seen, corresponds to the human *metatarsus*, but is generally spoken of as the *tarsus*; and the first joint above is the heel.

At Trontro on the Queen's birthday, the statue of the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, founder of the school system of Ontario, was unveiled. Among the addresses delivered on the occasion was one by Dr. Th. H. Rand, D.C.L. The pedestal of the statue is granite from St. George, in New Brunswick—a province which was the first early home of Dr. Ryerson's father and mother, after the close of the American revolutionary war. Dr. Ryerson's mother was a native of New Brunswick.