

species of Ruffed Grouse, or the Great Horned Owls ; typical specimens of all the sub-species of these birds can be taken here, in one district, except perhaps, *B. Virginianus arcticus*.—ALLAN C. BROOKS, Vernon, B.C.

THE AMERICAN GOSHAWK, *Accipiter atricapillus*.—This beautiful hawk is rare at Ottawa although occasionally seen. When seen flying it looks to be almost white. Mr. W. E. Brooks, now of Mount Forest, Ont., but who has done good ornithological work in India and British Columbia, writes under date Dec. 10th, 1897 : " I got a fine female *Accipiter atricapillus* last week which measured 24 inches, and a Snowy Owl, *Nyctea nyctea*, about a week before. Goshawks were much more common at Chilliwack, B.C., than they are here. They used to take our poultry, and sometimes pounced upon mallards I had shot, before I could pick them up ; but the Goshawk could not carry off a mallard and was easily secured as well as the duck."—J. FLETCHER.

AN ALBINO SPARROW.—An almost white variety of *Passer domesticus*, Linn., frequented one of the public squares of Montreal during the year 1897. It was a dirty white, having the feathers which characterise the ordinary male bird, of a dun color. I watched, at the close of the nesting season for additions to the flock with the same markings, but none had the slightest peculiarity. It was tamer than its less conspicuous companions. Its haunt is a busy thoroughfare for pedestrians, and it is remarkable that it did not fall a victim to some curiosity-hunter's shot. I have not seen it for some time, and fear such has been its fate.

A WINTER BOARDER.—A solitary sea-gull spent all last winter in the fields around Point aux Trembles, Montreal Island. I was never near enough to determine the species. The motor-men of the Montreal Belt Line tried in vain to shoot it. It was too wary for them and lived to join its comrades in the spring.—CHARLES STEVENSON, Montreal.