

ARTICLE XLII. NOTICE of the Occurrence of the Pine Grosbeak
and Bohemian Chatterer, near Montreal: BY
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During the severe weather at the beginning of this month I met with a large flock of Pine Grosbeaks, (*Pyrrhula enuncleator*. Selby,) and Bohemian Waxwings, or Chatterers (*Bombycilla garrula*. Flem.) on the Mountain about half a mile beyond the Priest's Farm. They were feeding in company on the berries of the Mountain Ash, and I succeeded in shooting a male and female of the Grosbeaks, but was not so fortunate as to obtain any of the Chatterers. I have, however, seen several specimens, which were shot, lately, near the "back river" by a Canadian, and now in the possession of Mr. Broome, of the Natural History Society. At first they were quite tame, and allowed me to go close to them, but after I had fired at them, they became much more difficult of approach. I found the Grosbeaks for several successive days feeding in the same place, but the Waxwings disappeared after the second day, and I saw no more of them. The red plumage of the Grosbeaks, and the pointed crests and yellow tipped tails of the Chatterers, rendered it easy to distinguish the two species from each other, even at a considerable distance. It had a pretty effect, on a bitter cold day, the Thermometer being some degrees below Zero, to see these beautiful and hardy birds, picking off the bright-red berries, the Grosbeaks clinging back downwards to the branches, like Parrots. It was also peculiarly interesting to an English Ornithologist, to behold two species deemed such rarities at home, feeding in numbers within a few yards of him. The two specimens I shot, when skinned, had a strong odour of Prussic-acid, derived from the pips of the Mountain Ash berries with which their stomachs were crammed, and their throats were full of the pulp and seeds alone, as they dexterously squeeze out the seeds and pulp, rejecting the skins, which are scattered over the snow, in great quantities under the trees where they feed. There was a considerable amount of orange-coloured fat on their bodies, showing that they thrive on the fare they had found. The last time I saw the Pine Grosbeaks, was on the 20th, when I observed the flock flying about over the place where I first met with them, and I believe they still continue in the neighbourhood. As far as I