

An Unusual Migration of the Canada Jay.

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BY J. H. FLEMING.

In Ontario, the Canada Jay has hitherto kept within certain well defined boundaries, which it seldom exceeds, even in winter. North of Muskoka it is a regular resident, and in winter rarely passes south of the Muskoka Lakes.

In October, 1904, a general migration of Canada Jays into the southern parts of Ontario occurred. The first reports came from Madoc, Hastings County, where they were seen by the Rev. C. J. Young, on October 7, where they remained through November. At Toronto the first were recorded at Fisherman's Island, a part of the eastern sandbar, on October 15th, by Mr. C. Pickering, and by the 17th were reported from various parts of the city going about in small flocks of from three to eight, those that escaped destruction remained about the outskirts of the city till late in November. That the Jays should first appear on the lake shore is peculiar, and unless the wide extent of marsh in Ashbridge's Bay afforded animal food not to be found in the woods, is hard to account for, though it is possible the migration followed the lake shore.

At Wellington, in Prince Edward County, a large flock was reported on October 21st, and about the same time at Belleville.

At Penetanguishene, on the Georgian Bay, Mr. A. F. Young gives the following dates, October 25th-30th, November 12th and 26th; also January 9th and 20th, 1905.

In Wellington County, at Hillsburg, on October 24th, at Puslinch Lake on the 31st and again on November 16th, by Mr. A. B. Klugh; Guelph, November 3rd and 12th, by Mr. E. J. Colgate; and at Rockwood on the 17th.

Mr. S. Hunter saw them at Millbrook, Durham County, December 31st. Two were reported at Galt, and Dr. C. K. Clarke found them in the vicinity of Kingston.

It will be seen by these few records how general the migration was, and though first noticed early in October, the movement must have continued on through November.