

W. Cross, the writer of the article, says: "On May the 18th, 1890, a very interesting capture was made on Toronto Island, and I afterwards received the bird. It was a small bittern with all the colouring very dark and blended with rich chestnut-brown on the back. It was so unlike any other Least Bittern that I had previously seen that I put it down as a new bird, and soon identified it as Cory's Least Bittern. It is a resident of Florida and Mexico, and is supposed to have wandered here with our *Botaurus exilis* during the spring migration." This bird was a female, and Mr. Cross presented it to the Canadian Institute, where, after being mounted, it now remains. A second specimen of this interesting species was taken on May 20th, 1893, and a report of this capture by Mr. H. Brown was published in the *Auk*. The specimen was sent for examination to Mr. Wm. Brewster, a distinguished American ornithologist, who wrote regarding it: "It agrees very closely with a skin taken at Lake Flirt in 1892. The Toronto bird is a trifle darker on the back, and the chestnut of its under parts is slightly richer, but in other respects the two specimens are exactly alike. It, also, is a female." On May 26th, 1894, a third specimen was shot at Ashbridge Bay, Toronto, by a Mr. Jacobs, who flushed it with a *B. exilis* from a clump of reeds. Both birds were secured and found to be males. On comparing the three specimens it was found that the one shot in the summer of 1893 was identical with the one obtained in 1894, with the exception of the wing coverts, which are a little darker. The female shot in 1893 is black on the crown only, the back of the neck is a dark rufous-chestnut, the back is black with a decided brownish shade, not green as the other two; the remainder of the colours correspond with the exception of one or two white feathers on the legs. It is interesting to know that up to that date this Toronto specimen was the ninth known in collections. Mr. Charles Pickering captured another specimen of this species on the 15th of July, 1894, and has written the following interesting account regarding that event: "While going through Toronto marsh I had the good fortune to find a Cory's Bittern. It was a little east of the south end, and was just in the act of lighting a little behind me when I caught sight of it; I thought at first that it was a Virginian Rail, but on the second sight its long legs showed