

Ottawa as its centre. It includes, roughly speaking, the Counties of Carleton and Russell in Ontario, and the southern portion of the County of Ottawa in Quebec, and lies between 45° and 46° north latitude. The northern portion of this district is covered by what may be termed the first range of the Laurentian Hills, one of which, known as King's Mountain, has an elevation of 1,125 feet above sea level, and rises about 900 feet above the large alluvial plain lying between it and the Ottawa River. These hills are covered with a great variety of deciduous and evergreen trees, and among them are numerous mountain lakes, varying in size from mere ponds to lakes of five miles and upwards in length (e.g., Meach Lake). Flowing from the north through this range of hills the rapid river Gatineau empties, opposite the city, into the Ottawa, which flows from the west across the centre of the district, widening above the city with a southward sweep into a broad and beautiful sheet of water known as Lake Des Chenes, and again narrowing at the city where, falling over a limestone ridge, it forms the well-known Chaudiere Falls. Below these its course is straighter and narrower, and about twenty miles down it receives from the north the waters of another rapid stream, the Du Lievre. South of the Ottawa is a somewhat undulating tract of country, drained principally by the Rideau, which joins the Ottawa at the city. It is rather a sluggish stream in its upper reaches, through being dammed back at various points for canal purposes, and thus affords several excellent resorts for marsh birds. Much good farming land, with occasional hardwood ridges, is to be found in this part of the district, as well as swamps overgrown with tamarack, cedar, and other cone-bearing trees. The largest of these swamps is a peat-bog in Gloucester Township, known as the Mer Bleue, which covers several thousand acres of land, carpeted to a great depth with sphagnum moss, and producing immense quantities of berries of many kinds, notably cranberries and blueberries."

Thus it will be seen that we have here all the conditions conducive to making habitats for all kinds of birds. Only *Limicola*, the shore-birds, find conditions here less and less congenial, as the floods of the Ottawa in May and early June cover all the available sand banks with water, and in August and the following months they are given no rest by the hordes of boys and men who make a practice of going up and down the river in boats armed with all kinds of shooting irons, blazing away at every living thing. This is done all summer, especially on Saturdays and Sundays, so that even breeding birds and fledglings are wantonly slaughtered, so much so, that certain localities that would otherwise teem with bird-life, as Kettle