

vocabulary besides its song, and one may often hear a veery whistling in a very human way, much as a man expresses surprise—only that the veery must indicate very much surprise indeed to rise to the pitch of excitement into which he sometimes whistles himself. He also has a low deep cluck by which the initiated may sometimes discover him in the silent wood.—F. A. SAUNDERS.

WOOD THRUSH,—*Turdus mustelinus*.—This is the largest of the thrushes proper being of the size of a robin; above it is bright tawny shading to olive on the tail, and beneath white with little or no buff shading, strongly marked on breast with large dusky spots which stand out very distinctly against the white back ground, and serve along with the size, to distinguish it easily from the other thrushes. It comes rather rarely to Ottawa, and while one or two families may often be found in summer breeding in the wood on or near the southern face of King's Mountain, and doubtless in other places, it would take a very close observer to discover many of them during the migrations, and indeed, the time of their arrival and departure cannot be at all definitely given. Their nest is in a tree, seldom more than twenty feet from the ground, and is composed of twigs, rootlets, grass, leaves and moss, with a liberal supply of clay as a foundation. The eggs are four to five in number and of a deep greenish blue colour. The wood thrush may be readily recognized either by eye or ear. Besides its song it has a distinguishing cluck and sometimes, when disturbed, a curious alarm call, consisting simply of one note uttered separately and interspersed with much twittering. This is the common New England thrush, sometimes known there as the hermit and it is to be hoped that it is really becoming commoner here, as some birds seem to be, as its song, now rarely heard, would be a welcome addition to all our bird choruses.—F. A. SAUNDERS.

BLUEBIRD,—*Sialia sialis*.—A summer resident; among the earliest of the spring arrivals appearing towards the latter part of