

THE ROBIN

Robin, Sir Robin, gay-vested knight,
Now you have come to us, summer's in sight;
You never dream of the wonders you bring—
Visions that follow the flash of your wing.
How all the beautiful by and by
Around you and after you seems to fly;
Sing on, or eat on, as pleases your mind,
Well have you earned every morsel you find.
“Aye! ha! ha! ha!” whistles Robin. “My dear,
Let us all take our own choice of good cheer.”

—*Lucy Larcom.*

Lesson 3

THE ROBIN—ITS COLOR AND SONG

1. INTRODUCTION.

The robin is more endeared to the people of Canada than any other bird. It lives amongst us and is so trustful that it builds its nest right on our window or at least in the nearest shrub or tree. Every boy and girl should study its habits, for to learn its ways, is the first step toward a warm attachment. For nature study work no bird is better adapted for observations. The smallest pupils in the school can find out some simple facts, and many can find the whole secret of its nesting and feeding habits. In spite of its tameness, familiarity and amiability, our knowledge of its songs and habits has many gaps. The observations given below are quite extensive and may be distributed amongst different classes according to their difficulty. It is worth while for pupils to keep a record book in which to note the facts they find about the bird and its habits. At the end of the season let each one incorporate these in an essay.