

bold song of the mature bird. Young Robins also essayed a feeble warble; and that sweetest recluse of the wood-land, the Hermit Thrush, now began his tenderest melody.

We seldom see flocks of birds leaving though we instantly miss them when they are gone. They are the

"Wild birds that change  
Their season in the night and wail their way  
From cloud to cloud."

How strikingly is this opinion of birds migrating in the night confirmed by the reports from lighthouse stations. At all lighthouses in the lines of migration great numbers of the winged travellers are killed by dashing at night against the lanterns. At the lighthouse of San Antonia, Cuba, five or six hundred birds have been killed by this means in a single night.

I have seen Blue Herons leave the Island. At evening, with a favorable wind, they started. They kept mounting till they must have been sufficiently elevated to see distinctly the mainland of Nova Scotia; then they bore away towards it.

About June 7th the Brants always leave here for the North. If the evening is favorable, with no adverse wind, just before sundown, the flocks become unusually restless and noisy. Then, while the summer sky glows with the setting sun, and evening sheds her calm beauty over land and sea, in one dense cloud the birds rise directly from the bay, and hovering over its waters at a great height for a few moments, with the hoarse clamor of a thousand voices, they sweep away, and are soon lost in the dimness of the northern sky.

Many birds gather into flocks before they retire and the flocks are generally observed to be unusually restless immediately before their departure. When the flocking Swallows leave their accustomed cave, when the Warblers and the Veery wander from their favorite groves, when the Savannah Sparrow whispers from trees and fences, when Robins wander wild in great restless flocks, and when Junco and the Sparrows in social companies, emulate the roving Buntings, then we know that the time draws near to say farewell to these gay friends of summer. -F. BAIN.