

Fighting for a Mate 33

many a petal flutters down. There is no doubt they are in a violent mood: for they dash about and give out curious little notes that they only utter when angry. When more blossoms have



YOUNG MISSILE-THRUSHES.

been knocked off, one seems to gain the advantage, and he follows this up with continued pecks and a shower of scratches from his sharp claws, until at last, after a (happily) short but desperate encounter, the battle is lost and won. The