

hundred and fifty yards away from a neighboring forest. Another boy, who was with me, and I, immediately made an attack upon it; the Squirrel seeing that its only safety lay in reaching the other larger trees jumped to the ground and set off at full speed in that direction, we pursued and after a hard race overtook it; I then threw my hat over it and then held it fast, and taking hold of its tail, which protruded beyond the rim of my hat, held it out at arm's length by its tip, thinking it could not bite me when held in that position. I was, however, deceived, for in less time than it takes to say it, the teeth of the Squirrel had met in the fleshy part of my hand; you may well believe I did not hang on to the tail very much longer.

The Grey Squirrel, which for a long time was held to be a distinct species, is now generally classed as the same species as the Black Squirrel. Jordan, in his "Vertebrates of North America," states that the color of this species varies from almost pure white through various shades to jet black; the lighter colors prevailing north and westward and the darker ones southward. The grey variety is certainly a rare visitor in Central Canada. The late Mr. Billings states in the Canadian Naturalist that it had never been seen in the Ottawa district at all. I have seen one individual of this color which I shot a few years ago on a small tributary stream of the Rideau which empties some miles this side of Smith Falls. I have been informed by Mr. Lees (a member of this Club) that he saw one a very short distance from where he lives—about one mile from this place. In size the Grey Squirrel is about the same as his black kinsman. It is said that they do not lay up a hoard of winter provisions. They are known to feed on the *larvæ* of various species of insects, but their principal food consists of grain, nuts, etc.

The Flying Squirrel (*Sciuropterus volucella*) is the fifth and last which I have seen in this part of the country. While occupying a place in the family of squirrels, having some of the common characteristics, it differs in some important points, and is in consequence placed in another genus *Sciuropterus*, which simply means winged squirrels. It is particularly marked by an expansion of the skin extending between the fore and hind legs which, when spread out, forms a sort of parachute which enables it to make