

numbered in the check-list, 100 represented in Canada, but 88 are unrepresented, but in addition there are 56 varieties. It is interesting to note that the birds that have to do with water are so largely represented in the Dominion—divers, swimmers, waders and shore birds, no doubt owing to the vast solitudes, with enormous sheets of water, embraced in our section of the continent, affording safe nesting retreats and ample stores of fish food for the young. On the other hand, birds of prey, crows, jays, blackbirds and kindred species find better provision for their needs in the settled districts of the continent.

On the whole the bird-lover has ample cause of satisfaction with the number of species to be found in our country. Many of them, of course, are only birds of passage, going north in spring to the extensive breeding fields in the covered rocks of Hudson's Bay, Labrador and Greenland, returning south with their broods later in the season. But not a few remain for the summer in our orchards and in the woods bordering on cultivation, to cheer us with their airy forms, bright plumage and sprightly movements. More persons take delight in birds than in any other natural objects, animate or inanimate, because of these qualities which our winged friends possess. The interest of the sportsman and the pot hunter is of another kind; but both of these classes will also rejoice to own copies of Professor Macoun's lists. There is no country lad or backwoodsman who does not possess a considerable stock of bird-lore; and no rural delight is equal to that of roaming through the forests with gun in hand in pursuit of the ruffed grouse, that gamiest of birds. One noticeable fact is that the passenger pigeon which used to migrate in millions, as late as the fifties, in the last century, going north in the spring and south in the fall, are no longer seen within our borders. It is also matter of unfeigned regret that the superb bird, the wild turkey, has become extinct in Canada.

The notes accompanying the mention of each species are of an extremely interesting character, and the fact that the common names of birds obtain the highest prominence will go to make Professor Macoun's catalogue most popular with the masses. Our readers cannot do better than each order a copy of the two parts of the catalogue already issued, which they may secure for the modest sum of twenty cents. For this trifle they will be in possession of a list of the birds to be found between Newfoundland and Labrador on the East, to British Columbia and Alaska on the West, and from the parallel of 43° on the South to Hudson's Bay and the Yukon on the North. And should they visit Ottawa they will be able to gratify their curiosity by inspecting the specimens of the birds and their eggs, of which detailed mention is made in these most readable publications.

R. C.