

*CRITICAL NOTE.*

BY ERNEST E. T. SETON.

A more careful consideration of the matter of avifaunal distribution, leads me to write again on the subject, and to confess that except in one or two minor points, I was very far astray.

The general statement made by me, was, that the seven Thrushes mentioned and the Eastern Bluebird, are "abundant throughout Eastern North America." This is a most erroneous generalization. The remark will apply only to the Robin, the Hermit Thrush and the Olive-backed Thrush. The Wood Thrush is a bird of the Eastern United States and though common in South Ontario, and given as not uncommon at Montreal, it is not recorded from Ottawa. There is I believe only one record from Maine and none from the Maritime Provinces. The Veery is scarcely "abundant" in the Eastern Provinces, for although a summer resident of the Maritime Provinces it is not as commonly met as are the other three species named. The Catbird though common as far north even as Ottawa is rare in the Maritime Provinces and not recorded from P. de Monts.

The Thrasher is a bird of the Eastern U.S. and not found as far north as New Brunswick, although abundant about Toronto and "becoming common" at Montreal. The Bluebird is very rare in the Maritime Provinces and even more so at P. de Monts; though common at Montreal and Ottawa and abundant in South Ontario. I have, as Mr. Chamberlain points out, omitted the Gray-cheeked Thrush. This I did because my papers were meant only for the beginner and it seemed to me undesirable to enter into varietal distinctions. As however this may prove a distinct species, I here add:

Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Turdus swainsoni aliciae*). Closely resembles the Olive-backed Thrush, differing mainly in being without any buffy tint about the head or a yellowish ring about the eye. Its history is obscure; its range is extensive, including perhaps all of British North America east of the Rocky Mountains.