

correspondents send us a description of the nest; the month of its completion; the locality and tree in which it was built? From seeing the young so early in Labrador, we think that the eggs must have been laid in March or April, when the land was deeply covered with snow. The stomachs of the young birds shot at Watchbesho were filled with a species of swamp cranberry.

Have any of our correspondents discovered a Canadian nesting-place of the Wild Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratoria*) of late years?

The Northern form of Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Pediocetes phasianellus*) occurs in the valley of St. John, Upper Saguenay in winter. Has its nest been found in Canada?

The Rock Ptarmigan (*Lagopus rupestris*) is also occasionally found in winter. The species evidently nests on the north coast of the Lower St. Lawrence. We would be pleased to hear from Oologists regarding the summer locality of this bird.

The Red-breasted Snipe (*Macrorhamphus griseus*) is occasionally shot in the Province of Quebec, while on its western flight in spring. Has its nest been found in Ontario?

Jack Snipe (*Tringa maculata*) are sometimes abundant in swamps about the 20th of May. Who discovered its nest and determined its eggs in Canada?

The Solitary Sandpiper (*Rhyacophilus solitarius*) is also seen about the end of May, near creeks on the margin of forests. Has any person found its nest in Ontario?

Did any Oologist discover the Field Plover, commonly known as Bartram's Plover (*Actitis Bartramius*) breeding in Canada?

The Yellow Rail (*Porzana Novaboracensis*). This pretty little game-looking Rail breeds in our northern swamps, as they have been shot on snipe grounds behind Quebec in Autumn. They pass over the latitude of the latter city, probably north of the Laurentian mountains. Can any of our correspondents send us information as to its nest location, its form and material of construction; whether the habits of the species are similar to the other Rails? Any portion of its summer history would be of interest.—C.

MONTREAL BRANCH, ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

The ninth annual meeting of this society was held on the 16th May, at the residence of the President, H. H. Lyman, Esq. A very favorable report was presented for the past year, and the society congratulated on its

success and the interest taken by the members in this important branch of Natural Science. Eight meetings were held during the year, (there being a vacation in summer), at which six original papers were read, and many valuable observations placed on record with regard to our Montreal insect fauna. The titles of the papers are as follows: "Notes on some species of HYMENOPTERA occurring at Montreal." "On Instinct in insects." "The Pickled Fruit Fly, *Drosophila ampelophila*, Loew." "On the Genera *HEPIALUS* and *STENOPSIS* in Canada." "Notes on the CALLIMORPHAS in the Boston Museum, as compared with Montreal species." "List of LEPIDOPTERA collected in 1881, by Dr. Bell, of the Geological Survey. A valuable donation of books, from the Society in London, Ontario was also thankfully acknowledged.

The following gentlemen were elected to office for the ensuing year: H. H. Lyman, M.A., *President*, W. Couper, *Vice-President*, G. J. Bowles, *Secretary* and *Treasurer*, F. B. Canfield, J. G. Jack and E. D. Wintle, *Members of Council*.

The members had the pleasure of examining the celebrated work of Boisduval and Leconte on the DIPTERA of America, and also the beautifully executed works of Professor Townsend Glover, of Washington, U.S. on the HEMIPTERA, and on Cotton worm insects. The latter books are profusely illustrated with etched plates, and the reading matter is lithographed from the Professors manuscript in fac-simile. All of these works are, we believe, unique in Montreal.

The prospects of the coming season's collecting were also discussed, as well as the various entomological problems at present engaging the attention of the society, and the members separated with pleasant anticipations of the summer expeditions in pursuit of their "untaxed and undisputed game," by field and flood, over the mountain slopes, or through the leafy woods, and gaining at one time three important things,—health, recreation, and some insight into the mysteries and beauties of nature.

PETRIFIED NEST AND EGGS.

While examining the collection of Dr. S. Woolverton of this city, I was shown a petrified bird's nest, containing two eggs, which was found in a cave near Woodstock, Ont., several years ago. It seemed to be formed of sticks, which outside were placed longitudinally.