

## THE LITTLE WOOD FLY-CATCHER.

This species is smaller and less numerous than the wirwo. Its length is between three and four inches. Its colour above is brownish-black; below, yellowish-white. It constructs, in the fork of a small tree, a very neat little nest of the woolly bark of decayed trees and hair, and therein deposits two eggs of a clear white colour. This bird frequents the margins of gravel-bottomed creeks beneath the shade of high hard-wood timber. It feeds chiefly on insects and their produce, but in the dry season it preys occasionally on small fish, which it easily captures as they wriggle in the shallow water. Its notes are a monotonous "chip," which are only heard if its nest or young are approached. It arrives here in the latter part of May, and departs again in September.

## THE WAILING, OR GREAT CRESTED FLY-CATCHER.

This species is larger than the pewee, and bears much resemblance to the coloured fly-catcher of Europe. It inhabits the dry hard-wood lands, generally in the vicinity of small lakes and large streams, and is less numerous than either the pewee or wirwo species. It receives its first name from its peculiar notes, which are frequently heard on the margins of woodland districts, where it resides, and while the bird itself is concealed in the foliage of the tree-tops; and its second from the remarkable crest with which its head is adorned. In disposition it manifests some of those irritable propensities which are characteristic of its relative, the king-bird; and when the female is nesting, she is often subjected to treatment for which there seems no reason except the bad temper of her partner. Its general colour is dull greenish-grey above, and yellowish-white beneath; its length is about seven inches. It forms its nest in the hollow of a tree, and lays four or five eggs of a white colour, marked with dark lines. The nest is made of wool, fine strips of bark, and dry grass, and in it is sometimes found the cast-off skin of a snake. It arrives in Canada in May, and takes its departure again in September.

Cocoa-nut cake is being tried in France for feeding purposes. The analysis of Petermann shows that it contains twenty per cent. of nitrogenous substances.

It would be much better if horses were trained to walk fast, rather than to trot and run. A farmer needs good walking, but cares nothing for 2.40 trotting.

MESSRS. STONE & WELLINGTON of Ponthill, say: "Your paper, we think, is destined to be the leading horticultural paper of Canada, and should be in the hands of all fruit-growers and farmers."

The following were the shipments of horses from Montreal to the United States for the week ending April 22nd, 1882:—April 17th, 16 horses, \$1,804; 13 do., \$1,481.50; 4 do., \$452.50. April 18th, 10 horses, \$1,463; 10 do., \$1,286. April 19th, 2 horses, \$260; 2 do., \$365; 10 do., \$1,136; 2 do., \$225. April 20th, 8 horses, \$375; 15 do., \$2,137; 10 do., \$1,236. April 21st, 2 horses, \$250.

Few understand that many fruits may be transplanted out of the regular season. Last June, in going over the packing ground, we found a few vines of the Brighton and other grapes growing vigorously, where they had been overlooked in the trenches. Though in full leaf, we transplanted, watering the soil at the same time, and shading for one week with matting, so as to admit air freely. These vines made as vigorous growth as those planted earlier. Most fruit trees have dormant buds just below the lowest leaves. If the trees are cut back to these dormant buds, they may be planted with success very late in the season—long after the trees are fully in leaf.—E.

## CREAM.

A MAN IS VERY LIKE A TREE.

A man is very like a tree.  
For instance: Crooked limbs has he;  
He has a trunk; he grows somehow,  
And when he leaves he makes a bow;  
He can be cut; will often lean;  
Is always sappy when he's green.  
He is aboard when on the sea,  
And oft a shaving, too, is he;  
When he is frightened quite a lot,  
Like trees, he's rooted to the spot;  
If he is axed too much he'll lie,  
And often will, like trees, get "high."  
He has his lumber in the night,  
Is sadly warped and feels the blight.  
He "chirps" for stakes, though he should not,  
And has his chops, sometimes a lot;  
He gets "deadwood" on him. Is wood'd,  
Is knotty when he should be good,  
And when he dies he's sure to learn  
That he, like trees, has got to burn.

—Detroit Free Press.

What are the most unsocial things in the world? Milestones; you never see two of them together.

Why is it that, whenever you are looking for anything, you always find it in the last place you look?

SINCE I cannot govern my tongue, though with in my own teeth, how can I hope to govern the tongues of others?—Franklin.

In Colorado the people are poetical. They never use the word "die." It is too harsh. They announce the demise of a fellow-man by saying, "he turned up his toes to the daisies."

A LITTLE girl read a composition before the minister. The subject was a "cow." She wove in this complimentary sentence: "A cow is the most useful animal in the world except religion."

"PAT" junior (in answer to inquiry by Saxon tourist)—"There's five of us, yer honour, an' the baby." Saxon—"And you are the eldest?" "Pat" junior—"I am, yer honour—at present!"

"BEFORE marriage she was dear, and he was her treasure, but afterwards she became dearer and he treasurer; and yet they are not happy." Had he made her treasurer all would have been serene.

MARY, aged four years, and Constance three, attended a wedding. On her way home Constance exclaimed with delight, "I've been to a wedding, and me and Mary's married." This was told to Mary next day, when she said "No, indeed, I'm not married to Connie; and if I marry any of that family, it will be Aunt Marie Alice; but I shall wait until I grow up, and marry papa."

A NUMEROUS poet having been asked why we says "caught" instead of "catched," wrote the following, by way of reply:—

"The egg isn't hatched, it is hought;  
My trousers aren't patched, they are paught;  
John and Jane are not matched, they are mought;  
My door isn't latched, it is laught;  
The pie wasn't snatched, it was smought;  
The roof wasn't thatched, it was thaught;  
The cat never scratched, but it scaught."

THEODORE HOOK was once entertaining a party who had dined with him, by singing comic songs, when he was interrupted by the servant, who came in to say the tax-gatherer was there. The wit never turned his head, but continued playing the same accompaniment, while he improvised the following:—

"There comes Mr. Winter, collector of taxes;  
I'd advise you to pay him whatever he asks;  
Excuses won't do; he stands no kind of summary;  
Though Winter's his name, his proceedings are summary."

"When I was once in danger from a tiger," said an old East India veteran, "I tried sitting down and staring at him, as I had no weapon." "How did it work?" asked the bystander. "Perfectly. The tiger didn't even offer to touch me." "Strange! very strange! How did you account for it?" "Well, sometimes I have thought that it was because I sat down on a high branch of a very tall tree."

## CURRENT NEWS ITEMS.

LAST week, Mr. Joseph Bell, of Ashfield, sold a fine team of horses for \$420, while his neighbour, Mr Robert Watson, also sold a team for \$400.

MR. HUGH CLARK, of Chinguacousy, averaged last year twenty-eight cents a pound for the butter from his Jersey cows. He churned all winter through.

MR. SORBY, from near Guelph, the other day sold two seven months' old Berkshire hogs—one to Mr. John Sault, near Fespeler, and the other to Mr. John Newstead, near Preston—for \$30 each.

MR. WM. NIXON, of East Wawanosh, captured a wild goose on the 3rd inst., by throwing a stone at it and hitting it on the wing. It was on a pond near his farm at the time. The goose weighed, when caught, nine pounds.

THE students of the Agricultural College are making great preparations for the celebration of the Queen's birthday, and everything will be done to make the games and sports a success. They are being instructed in drill every morning by Sergt.-Major Clarke.

THE Department of the Interior have made arrangements for the surveying of 18,000 square miles of land for actual settlement during the next twelve months, and 26,000 square miles into townships. Five hundred colonization companies have applied for lands. Twenty surveying parties will be put into the field before the 1st of May. They will proceed from the elbow of the South Saskatchewan northward to the Touchwood Hills, and as far south as La Grande Coteau. It is estimated that before the close of 1883, 70,000 square miles will have been surveyed.

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