

tion. American bird skins are sent abroad. The great European markets draw their supplies from all over the world. In London there were sold in three months from one auction room, 404,464 West Indian and Brazilian bird skins, and 356,389 East Indian birds. In Paris 100,000 African birds have been sold by one dealer in one year. One New York firm recently had a contract to supply 40,000 skins of American birds to one Paris firm. These figures tell their own story—but it is a story which might be known even without them; we may read it plainly enough in the silent hedges, once vocal with the morning songs of birds, and in the deserted fields where once bright plumage flashed in the sunlight."

As horticulturists, it is our duty to work in harmony with such a society as this, for most birds are our friends and very few are our enemies. If only our lady friends would content themselves with wearing English sparrows as decorations for their hats and bonnets, we could pass it by; but no, the useful and the beautiful birds are chosen without regard to anything but the dictates of Madam Fashion.

A careful count was made of the number of visits made by the parent Martins to their nest in a single day, and it was found to amount to three hundred and twelve, and each time bringing insects for their young! Already these insects nearly ruin our fruit crop; and who can predict the result if we are deprived of the friendly aid of the birds?

The following three objects are included in the pledges signed by the members of the Society, viz., to prevent as far as possible:

"(1) The killing of any wild bird not used for food.

"(2) The taking or destroying of the eggs or nests of any wild birds.

"(3) The wearing of the feathers of wild birds. Ostrich feathers, whether from wild or tame birds, and those of domestic fowls, are specially exempted.

"The Audubon Society aims especially to preserve those birds which are now practically without protection. Our game birds are already protected by law, and in large measure by public sentiment, and their care may be left to the sportsman. The great aim of the Society is the protection of non-game birds."

Anyone wishing to join this Society may address it at 40 Park Row, New York City; its work has our heartiest approval.

Still Wanted.—More copies of January, April, August and October numbers of year 1886.

A Stock of Sample Copies of back numbers of the *Canadian Horticulturist* sent free to any one who will distribute them with the object of enlarging the circulation of this journal and of increasing the membership of the Fruit Growers' Association.

Michigan Horticultural Society.—Mr. Garfield has sent us the local report of this interesting meeting, held 1st December last, and we hope to find room for some extracts in our February Number.

Appreciative.—Mr. Allan Chapman, Deans, writes: "The *Canadian Horticulturist* is a little book that is always welcome here. It is so plain and practical that the most unexperienced can always learn something from its pages."

Mr. A. Walker, Metcalfe: "I am much pleased with the *Canadian Horticulturist*. This is a very cold part of Ontario, and if the Vladimir cherry succeeds here we shall be very thankful to the Fruit Growers' Association."

A. J. Collins, Listowel: "I am better pleased each year with what I receive as to information and presents."