## THE OTTAWA NATURALIST.

least some water and a few bushes near by, but is also found in city lots and gardens.

When passing through large meadows or pastures, you may often hear a subdued, penetrating high wiry song, something like *ptsip*, *ptsip*, *ptsip zee-ee-ee-e* (Blanchan). The bird uttering it will be seen on a tall grass or weed stem. That is the SAVANNA SPAR-ROW. It is streaked above and below like the Song Sparrow, but *has not the blotch* on the breast; besides, it has yellow above the eye and on the bend of the wing.

Like the Song Sparrow in shape and size is also the SWAMP SPARROW, *Melospiza georgiana*. It frequents marshy places in meadows and woods, and is the darkest of our Sparrows, having darker brown and more black above, no streaks on the gray below. Its song is : *lellellellell*, etc.

When walking through lanes and fields, a sparrow-like bird will be seen to mount the fences or stumps, which, when flying away, exhibits *two outer tail feathers of pure white*. This is the VESPER SPARROW or Bay-winged Bunting, *Poocætes gramineus*. It is probably our least pretty Sparrow, gray all over, streaked with brown and black, wing near the bend rich brown. Its song, breathing the dreamy repose of the summer meadow, is not so jubilant as that of the Song Sparrow, but still pleasing, thus: *Dee dee ree-deree dee dee*, etc, or, *chewee*, *chewee*, *chewee*, *teera leera*, *leera lee*, which, though insignificant in itself, when sung as the bird's vesper song, late in the quiet summer evening, is inspiring.

Another member of the Finch family exhibiting the two outer white tail feathers in flight and having the song of the Swamp Sparrow, is the well known JUNCO or SNOWBIRD, *Junco hiemalis*. It is slaty bluish black, brownish in the females, which together with the whitish bill and white in the tail and the jerky flight near thickets, makes its identification easy.

A very pretty bird is the WHITE-THROATED SPARROW, Zonotrichia albicollis. More noticeable by its sweet song than by its bodily appearance, it is rich chestnut, streaked with black above, grayish below, throat white. From the pine and spruce woods and thickets, can be heard its sweet, somewhat plaintive whistle of from one long drawn out note to as many as ten. Some hear

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