

astonished us most by its numbers, was the Lapland Bunting or Longspur (*Plectrophanes lapponicus*). The inhabitants told us they occur there every winter, and are called by them the black or dark Snow-bird, but to us they began to appear about the 17th of April. First we observed three flying over us as we were tramping the marshy shore in search of desirable species coming in our way. The Buntings were leisurely flying eastward, constantly uttering notes differing somewhat from those of the Snow Bunting (*Plectrophanes nivalis*) being harsher and in a different tone. The following Sunday, April 23rd, I was reading in the house of our host, when my assistant returned from a walk on the shore; he informed me that he noticed a flock of about two hundred birds which were strange to him, and very remarkable by their black throats. When these birds alighted on the ground, a person could walk into the midst of the flock, within six feet of many of them, but on the least noise being made, they would become alarmed, rising in a circular manner to the height of about seventy feet, and for a time disappear. We saw flocks of from six to one hundred and fifty almost daily until about the 20th of May, when they left us altogether. The specimens shot at the latter date were invariably females, but we succeeded in collecting about sixty, many of which are beautiful adult males. Why do not these birds occur at or near Hyde Park or London, while they are so abundant at Mitchell's Bay? I presume they follow the shore of lakes, therefore passing over the latter places; at all events I have not hitherto heard their notes, although collecting birds in the neighbourhood during the last seven years. I had a single specimen in my collection and looked on it as rare until this Spring. It was shot near St. Thomas, Ontario. The song of the Lapland Bunting is very similar to that of the Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*), and they were in full song after we noticed them. We collected one specimen of the Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) which is the first I have seen in this region.

JOHN A. MORDEN,

Hyde Park, Ont., July 1882.

NOTE.—We have no record of the occurrence of the Lapland Bunting in the Province of Quebec. The Snow Bunting (*P. nivalis*) is frequently accompanied in early Spring with

the Shore Lark (*Eremophila cornuta*). The latter is abundant on the Labrador coast flying in flocks in Spring. The inhabitants say they make an excellent pie.

DEAR SIR,—C. J. G. Fraser writes in July, about *Anthus ludovicianus*, and from various reasons I think the bird is the Shore Lark (*Eremophila cornuta*). The Lark is common here through the summer, while *Anthus ludovicianus* only occurs during the migrations and then sparingly. Shore Larks almost always breed on commons where cows feed, and their nests are generally placed in a small hollow on level ground. That is the single difference between C. J. G. F.'s account of *ludovicianus*, and my observations of *cornuta*. I have often seen the latter rising in flight, singing its "sweet note," until it reaches a height of "perhaps fifty feet," when suddenly closing its wings, it drops perpendicularly till within about twenty feet of the ground. Generally, however, the bird mounts much higher, often so high that, lying on my back on the ground, I have had some difficulty in following its flight; probably the distance would be about two hundred yards. Mr. Fraser was evidently a tyro in Ornithology at the time of his observations, confounding two birds which to-day he would at once recognize as distinct species. Query.—How far east have Orchard Orioles reached? They are very common in Kent County, not rare here; a small number breed, but I have not heard from further east.

Yours truly,

W. E. SAUNDERS.

London, O., July 22nd, 1882.

COLEOPTERA FOUND IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

By WILLIAM COUPER.

- BEMBIDIUM 1 paludosum, Panzer.
 2 inaequale, Say.
 3 chalconum, Dej.
 4 nigrum, Say.
 5 simplex, LeConte.
 6 lucidum, "
 7 semistriatum, Hald.
 8 rupestre, Dej.
 9 patrule, "