

are from 1 to 2 inches high and each bears besides the one large flower, 3 bracts just below it on the stem.

The calyx is conspicuous and adds much to the beauty of the flower being waved at the margins and of a rich brownish-red. The stamens are indefinite in number, about 36. The pistil is compound, seven-cleft.

This interesting plant is very abundant in some parts of the interior of British Columbia. I have found it in the Okanagan valley and the Hon. Senator Cornwall sent me some years ago roots from Ashcroft, and at the same time described the great beauty of the flowers as they lay close to the sandy ground in every direction around his house.

The root of *Lewisia* is eaten by the Indians and has various designations among different tribes. It is the "Bitter Root" of some writers, "Spætlum" of others.

Many years ago Dr. Kellog, of the California Academy of Sciences showed me specimens found by him in California which had instead of grass-like terete leaves much shorter spatulate leaves from a quarter to $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in diameter. This I presume is the other species mentioned by authors. J. FLETCHER

ORNITHOLOGY.

(Edited by W. T. MACOUN.)

BIRD NOTES FOR APRIL AND MAY.

- April 1. American Herring Gull—*Larus argentatus* Smithsonianus. Mr. W. A. D. Lees. On 2nd, Mr. G. R. White.
- " 3. American Merganser, Goosander—*Merganser Americanus* Mr. White.
- " 3. Pigeon Hawk—*Falco columbarius*—Mr. C. H. Young.
- " 9. Tree Swallow—*Ichthyocitta bicolor*. Mr. Young.
Other records are four days later.
- " 10. Ruby-crowned Kinglet—*Regulus calendula*. Mr. White.
- " 10. Horned Grebe—*Colymbus auritus*. Mr. White.
- " 12. Chipping Sparrow—*Spizella socialis*. Dr. Fletcher.