

of the same species which formerly bred in large numbers on the south coast of the Gulf, where their nests were annually robbed, the gulls as a last resource took the trees to build their nests, in order to be out of the easy reach of men. Several miles further down the coast between Watsheesho and Washshecootai, the rocky islands contain many fissures, and these are occupied by the Razor-billed Auk, (*Alca torda*), a bird which makes no nest. It deposits a single egg which is laid in a crevice. When searching for the eggs of the Auk, on several occasions the parent bird was found dead alongside of its egg. In every instance a slight wound was detected on the side of the head, behind the ear. We were afterwards informed that these birds were frequently destroyed by a species of weasel which inhabit the island. As we proceed further, the harbor of Kegaska is reached, below which stands the rocky islands of Musquarro, about five miles from Washshecootai Bay. Here the collector will find the home of the common Guillemot, (*Uria ringvia*). From this point northward this bird deposits its egg on any bare cavity it can find. These rocks are visited by men from vessels sent to collect them when fresh, and a large trade is annually made in the eggs of marine birds, which are thus collected and carried to the American markets for sale. The Indians, generally arrive on the coast at the time when ducks, gulls and guillemots are nesting. On their way to the Mission Church at Mingan, all the bird-frequenting islands are visited by them, and every fresh egg found is taken away and eaten. They also collect the down from the nests of the Eider Duck, which they generally sell at the rate of sixty cents per lb. We have slept on eider-down beds on the Labrador coast, each of which was valued at from sixty to seventy dollars. The residents send boats to these islands where the eggs of ducks, gulls, guillemots are collected and tested by placing them in water. The fresh eggs are placed in barrels containing a solution of water and lime, and in the absence of the latter, ashes will answer,

and they thus keep good for winter use. The great bulk of the marine birds found breeding on the northern coast of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, are similar to those found in the North of Scotland. The true American marine birds, such as the Labrador duck, (*Camptolæmus Labradorius*), Velvet duck, (*Melanetta velvetina*), Surf Scoter, (*Palionetta perspillata*), Brant Goose, (*Bernicla brenta*), Sea Dove, (*Mergulus alle*) and the genus *Stercorarius* have not been discovered breeding on the southern coast at Labrador. Audubon says that he found nests of the Surf Scoter on the margin of lakes near the south coast, but the Indians inform us that these ducks now nest only in Northern Labrador. The Northern Phalarope (*Phalaropus hyperboreus*), in summer plumage was shot near Mingan, but the nest has not been discovered. The Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) occurs abundantly, nesting on the margin of inland lakes. The woodland birds which were found breeding near the coast were very few. Sir Gréville Smyth, who was fishing the Mingan, found a nest of the Red-tailed Hawk, (*Buteo borealis*). It contained two young ones, which could feed themselves at the end of July. The Pigeon-Hawk, (*Hypotriochius columbarius*) nests on this coast, and also on the island of Anticosti. We found the nest of the Black-poll Warbler, (*Dendroica striata*), on the third of June. It was in a low fir tree, and contained four eggs. A nest of the Black and Yellow Warbler was discovered on the 17th June. The common Yellow Warbler (*D. æstiva*) was abundant, also the Redstart, (*Setophaga ruticilla*). The White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*), and the White-crowned Sparrow (*Z. leucophrys*). Two species of Cross-bill; the Pine Finch, and the Purple Finch were noticed. The sweet song of the Fox-coloured sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*), is pleasing to the ear as we wander through the open parts of these northern forests, and it was with no little joy that we discovered the nest on the 15th of June, and authenticated its eggs for the first time. Audubon has made a