

crops, certainly entitles this bird to more merciful treatment than it usually receives.

The elegant Cedar-bird is also another innocent victim of unfounded prejudice. This bird rarely touches fruit of any kind, unless it contains a worm or the larvæ of some noxious insect. Its food consists principally of caterpillars, beetles, and the canker worms that infest the fruit trees.

The brilliant Oriole or Golden Robin, the gaudy Scarlet Tanager or Redbird, love to build their nests and raise their young in the trees of the orchard, because there they find their food, which consists almost exclusively of caterpillars and the larvæ of insects. Our beautiful singers, the Thrushes, destroy nearly all kinds of grubs, caterpillars, and worms, that live upon the greensward or cultivated soil. The Catbird, that charms the ear with its rich and varied notes, seldom ever tastes fruit, but feeds upon insects of various kinds. The beautiful Warblers pursue their insect-destroying labours from early morn till night; the active Flycatchers capture the winged insects; the Blue Bird, that loves to dwell near the haunts of man, feeds upon spiders and caterpillars; the Woodpeckers, Nuthatches, Titmice, Wrens, and Creepers, feed upon the larvæ of insects deposited in the bark of trees; the Swallows and Martins feed entirely upon winged insects, the Yellow-bird and the Sparrows feed upon small insects and the seeds of grass and various weeds; the food of the Meadow Lark and the cheerful Bobolink consists of the larvæ of various insects, as well as beetles, grasshoppers, cutworms, and crickets, of which they destroy immense numbers.

WINTER VISITORS.

THE past winter in Canada was remarkable in many respects, but in none more so, than in the unusual variety of rare northern birds which visited this section of Canada. During the month of January (1873), which was remarkable for the extreme cold and stormy weather which occurred, we observed small flocks