

Early spring and late autumn see a vast army of migrants on the move; whilst, even in winter, Hawk Owls, Snowy Owls, Shore-Larks, Snow Buntings, Crossbills, Pine Grosbeaks, several Woodpeckers, "Chickadees," Grouse, Shrikes, &c., enliven the somewhat dreary scene.

It will be well to say something of the haunts of the birds spoken of in the following paragraphs. Carberry stands at the south end of what is known as the "Big Plain," which is merely a rather unusually large stretch of unbroken prairie. South of the town, and extending almost to the Assiniboine River, lies an extensive range of desolate sand-hills, which are seldom invaded by the foot of man, and are likely long to remain in their primitive condition; they consist merely of wind-formed dunes, with hollows between which are filled with water, and form the home of many a rare bird and mammal. The sand of which the hills are formed is so pure that it can only support a very scanty covering of grass; and it is to this circumstance that we are indebted for the fact that the sand-hills, unlike the prairies, support a fairly abundant growth of trees, such as spruce, poplar and oak. Were the grass sufficiently long and dense to "carry fire," the trees would be quickly killed and burned to logs. Mr. Seton has just succeeded, after a long and exciting hunt, in killing a Moose in one of the woods on the sand-hills. Through the centre of the range of sand-hills runs Pine Creek, a sluggish stream clogged with water-lilies, and fringed with willows and bulrushes. For several miles on either side of the creek extends a huge swamp, covered thickly with trees of spruce and tamarac, where the Indian pitcher-plant, *Sarracenia purca*, grows by the acre, and all things combine to make a true naturalist's paradise. In winter, when everything is frozen hard, this swamp may be crossed with ease; but so wet and impenetrable is it in summer, that I have little hesitation in claiming that no one except Mr. Seton and myself have ever crossed it at that time of year. Of the prairies not much need be said; they are flat, covered with a fine growth of grass, and interposed with bluffs, which are gradually disappearing before the hungry fire. If prairie-fires had been by some means arrested fifty years since, Manitoba would to-day have been a densely-wooded, instead of a prairie, country. The fire, too, annually destroys the young trees that spring up. In