

thank the *Star* for the latter portion of his article, and, if when writing on "Fish and Game," he would keep his eye on the "Pot-hunter," discover, arrest and fine him, then the space appropriated by the paper would be of use to all parties concerned.—C.

#### RARE BIRDS IN CANADA.

It may not be generally known that the Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) breeds in Canada. During three years past, a few of these herons have been forming small communities in neighbouring swamps and woodlands adjacent to Missisquoi Bay. Mr. Chris. Beatty, our old sporting friend, presented us with a very good specimen on the last day of August. A sharp look-out should be kept for strange ornithological forms, as it is probable that many rare species which visit latitudes north of Montreal may be overlooked. In the month of June, several years ago, we shot a male of the Blue Bunting (*Cyanospiza parellina*) at Baie Mille Vaches, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence. Instances like this illustrates the changes that occasionally occur in the latitudinal ranges and longitudinal circles of birds. The following birds were shot by Mr. N. A. Comeau, at Godbout, Lower St. Lawrence, in latitude 49 20. Yellow-headed Blackbird, (*Xanthocephalus icterocephalus*.) The occurrence of this bird in the above latitude is to us a paradox. Mr. Comeau is an intelligent student of Natural History, and his keen eye detected this bird in the neighbourhood of his house. We are not surprised when we record the accidental appearance in Canada of birds and insects belonging to the far West and South. Insects have been discovered in Canada which have so far puzzled Entomologists. They are supposed to come here by the force of atmospheric currents, but this is mere theory. Several specimens of the Blue Bunting were shot, and a nest of this species containing four eggs was found in a stump near Mr. Comeau's house. A nest of the Hudsonian Tit (*Parus Hudsonicus*) with four eggs was also found in an old

stump in the vicinity of Godbout. This is the second nest of this species found in Canada; Audubon having found the first while travelling in Labrador. The nest is a curious structure. The bird selects an old stump or dead tree, making a cavity similar to that made by the Black-cap Tit or Downy Wood-pecker. The Hudsonian Tit has an eye to comfort for itself and progeny; it lines the interior walls of the tree with hairs from the common white Northern Hare. When the nest is properly taken out it resembles a bag generally about twelve or fifteen inches long. The youth who discovered it, obtained ten dollars for nest and eggs.—C.

#### THE GODBOUT RIVER.

Considering the scarcity of salmon in the St. Lawrence this season, the Godbout scored a fair average. Two gentlemen fished it with the following result: 53 salmon, averaging about fourteen pounds each; 15 grilse, averaging four pounds each. A large number of sea trout were caught by anglers, besides 5635 trout taken by the seine after the salmon season was over.

#### THE ST. CHARLES RIVER.

In an article on Salmon and Trout Rivers and Lakes of Quebec in our January number, we made remarks on the St. Charles, near the city of Quebec. This river, at one time worthy of being angled for Salmon and Sea Trout, was doubtless a source of pleasure to a few Quebecers who loved the sport at that time, knowing also that these luscious fishes passed their doors towards the pools near Lorette. But alas! a change has come over the waters of the St. Charles, and the delicate Salmon will not now enter its poisonous waters.

It appears that a few years ago a building was erected on its banks, near Lorette, for the manufacture of pulp or paper of some kind. A pipe leading from these premises to the river conveys the refuse and poisonous acids into the clear spring water of the river, preventing the passage of fish and destroying all that