

**LOONS—Family Gavliidae.**

Loons may be likened to gigantic Grebes, from which they differ externally, chiefly in the full webbed feet, instead of the individual lobed toes of the Grebe and the more pointed spear-like bill. Their nests are placed near the margin of some inland lake. Like the Grebes, they have small wings, and must first get their impetus from the water in order to rise, but they vie with them in diving, and disappear at a flash of a gain. The expression "Crazy as a Loon" is not a fanciful one, being formed from the early morning and evening antics of the bird, when two or more of them will race over the top of the water uttering their demoniacal laughter.

5—(11) **RED-THROATED LOON—*Gavia stellata*—(Young)** A common spring and autumn visitor to the waters of Ontario, breeding in the far north and retiring southward as its haunts freeze up. It is the smallest of the Loon family, being 25 inches in length. In summer the back, head and neck are grey, the latter being striped with white. A large chestnut patch adorns the front of the lower part of the neck. In winter the back is spotted with white. They have two eggs of a greenish brown spotted with black. Size 2.00 x 1.75. Made in Nov., 1862. See 228.

**LONG WINGED SWIMMERS—ORDER II.—LONGIPENNES.****GULLS AND TERNS—Family Laridae.**

Gulls are web-footed birds, having a slight hook to the end of the upper mandible. Their plumage is usually silver grey above and white below. They nest in large colonies on both fresh water inland and sea coast. They procure from the surface of the water their food, which consists mostly of dead fish and refuse matter. Terns are birds of similar plumage to the gulls, somewhat less robust, and their bills longer and sharply pointed.

6—(51) **HERRING GULL—*Larus argentatus*—(Young)**—The Herring Gull is twenty-four inches in length. It is a very common resident, frequenting the Great Lakes at all seasons, but most abundant in winter, and breeds regularly on many of the lakes and marshes of the interior. They lay three eggs of a greyish color, marked with brown, and, in rare cases, unspotted bluish-white eggs are found. Size 2.8 x 1.7. See 231.

7—(60) **BONAPARTE'S GULL—*Larus philadelphia*—(Young)**—A common spring and autumn visitor to the Great Lakes. Occasionally seen during the summer months, but the bulk go north and west of Ontario to breed. They nest in great numbers on the marshes of Manitoba. The nests, of sticks and grass, are placed on the higher parts of the marsh, and three or four eggs are laid during the latter part of June. Eggs are greyish to greenish brown, and are marked with dark brown and lilac. Size 1.90 x 1.30.

8—(60) **BONAPARTE'S GULL—*Larus philadelphia*—(Young)**—Made Nov. 10, 1863. See 232, 346.

9—(77) **BLACK TERN—*Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis*—(Adult)**—This tern is common in summer in some of the large marshes of Ontario, but is not generally distributed; breeds where it occurs. It is ten inches in length; a dainty, graceful bird; very active. They capture many insects in the air; breed in large colonies, making a nest of decayed reeds and grasses, or often laying their eggs upon rafts of decayed vegetation which are floating on the water. They lay three eggs of a brownish or greenish color, very heavily blotched with blackish brown. Size of eggs 1.35 x .95. Made June 13, 1845. See 234, 342.