

was shot by a man named Leclair. I saw this specimen after it was mounted, and, judging by its bill, which is not fully developed, it is a young bird, as the bill of the adult, as seen in the specimen in the collection of this Society, has grooves, crossed about the middle by a white bar, whereas, the bill of the young is smaller, without grooves, and lacks the white bar. I believe this is the first record of the Razor-Billed Auk occurring in the district about Montreal. This species is the only one of its genus found in North America. It is common in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and breeds there on the Bird Rocks in company with the Murres, a closely allied species, and as the latter bird, in November, 1893, passed up the St. Lawrence river in remarkable numbers, it is very likely that a few of the former species were induced to follow them far inland, out of their natural habitat. The Razor-Billed Auk, *Alca torda* (Linn), belongs to the Order Pygopodes—the Diving Birds (Sub-order, Cepphi), Family Alcidæ—the Auks, Murres, etc., Genus *Alca* Linnæus. Their habitat stretches along the coasts of the North Atlantic, south, in winter, to southern New England, breeding from Eastern Maine northward. (See *Ridgway's Manual of North American Birds*.)

NOTES ON SPECIAL MIGRATIONS.

By J. B. WILLIAMS.

There are several instances of irregular migrations on record, which are worthy of notice in connection with the two described in Mr. Wintle's paper.

Their cause has been usually ascribed either to a great increase in numbers, or to a sudden scarcity of food.

The migrations of the Leming (*Mus lemmus*) in Lapland, which occur every ten or twelve years, are probably examples of the first, while the descent of Antelopes from