

in the early part of the season. Two years ago, a boy who resides a few miles south of this town, told me that the summer before, he had found the eggs of this bird on the bare ground, where a log had been removed, in a piece of swampy land. In 1865, when I came to reside in North Wallace, a neighbour found a nest of the Whip-poor-will, containing two eggs, in the month of August; this seems to indicate that it hatches more than once in the season, as it is well known that the eggs are generally found in the early part of June. The latter nest was on a piece of rising ground close by a pine and cedar swamp, and the eggs were of a bluish white color mottled with brownish black. The peculiar notes of this bird are probably the voice of the male, and its noisy repetition is generally heard at the time when the female is selecting her nesting place, and during incubation. After the young are hatched, the time and attention of the male is occupied in assisting to supply their wants, and his twilight notes gradually cease as the young become more voracious, until about the middle of July, when he becomes silent, except when the first eggs have been removed and his mate is again nesting. It makes no regular nest; the two eggs are deposited on some dry leaves, or fine rotten wood, near swampy woods, where amid the dense foliage, and gloomy shade, perched lengthwise on a low branch, or mossy log, the male passes the hours of sunlight in silence and inactivity, but as the shadows of evening gather over the woodlands, it commences its low, soft flight in pursuit of night-flying insects, or in some dark retreat, "begins its evening hymn." *The Winter Wren*—A query regarding the nest of this bird, is also made. I do not know it by that name, but there is a Wren quite common in the wild swampy woods of Central Ontario, whose thrilling notes are very pleasant, especially when heard in the early spring mornings, before the snow and ice have disappeared from the gloomy places, where the little creature takes up its summer residence. Its general appearance is similar to that of the House Wren, but it is rather smaller and darker in color. It sometimes utters notes like the red squirrel, and again like the chirp of the cricket, but louder. It forms a nest like that of a mouse, generally in the under part of the turned up root of a fallen tree, sometimes in the side of an old moss-covered log, or rather stump; the outside is formed of moss, and the inside is lined with fine dry grass, feathers, and hair. Its eggs are white with reddish spots scattered over the

large end. It sometimes lays eight eggs. Those in my collection were taken from a nest of six in the early part of June 1879. *Sitta Canadensis* is rather a *rara avis* in those districts where my ornithological researches have been pursued. It appears to prefer the deep evergreen woods to the hardwood timber lands. I have not seen its nest or eggs, but am informed that they differ little from those of the white-bellied species. I have often seen the nest and eggs of the latter and can furnish a sketch if desired. *Parus Hudsonicus* does not visit this latitude, and the Pine Grosbeak is only a rare winter visitor. Of owls I have not seen a nest or egg of any of the species, some of them, however frequent our woods, and doubtless nest here. Mr. Vennor's article on the nest of the Sparrow Owl, is the only article on the subject that I have ever seen. It is a very rare bird here. The Woodpeckers mentioned do no visit this region. The nest of a Crossbill, containing young, has been seen in a neighbouring township, in the month of March, and another species, the Shore Lark also nests in March and April.

WM. L. KELLS.

Listowel, Ont., March 15th, 1882.

Pine Grosbeak (*P. Canadensis*). I collected an adult female in the immediate vicinity of this city, about the beginning of August, 1879; this was the only one I have observed during summer. Mr. J. H. Carnall informs me that he found them quite abundant in September, on Nielaux mountain, Tobique river; he also found several old nests, which he assures me were made by these birds. Some years they are abundant, then, for two or three successive winters, we see nothing of them. During the winters of 1876 and 1878 they were very abundant, visiting the suburbs of the city, feeding on the berries of the mountain ash. Can you give a reason for the peculiar movements of this bird? Hudson Bay Tit, (*Parus Hudsonicus*). This Titmouse is undoubtedly a resident with us, and breeds in this Province. I collected a specimen on the 20th of May, and have observed them here during summer. Mr. Banks noticed a pair in June, carrying material for nest-building. Two nests of this species were discovered near Stewiacke, N.S., by Mr. Bailey of the Nuttall Ornithological Club. Red-bellied Nuthatch, (*Sitta Canadensis*). Have found this bird nesting near St. John. They are more abundant some seasons than others.

HAROLD GILBERT.

St. John, N.B., March 13, 1882.