

*erythrophthalmus*), otherwise almost unknown at Ottawa, has been seen and taken here for two or three years past, even at Buckingham, Quebec. This spring, already, it has been noted twice on Parliament Hill and at Marshall's Bay near Arnprior. Likewise the Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) seemingly is forging northward, as it has been seen the past three summers at Shirley's Bay, near Ottawa. And it is interesting to note how the Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) is becoming commoner all the time in southern Ontario and advancing a little further northward each year. If this apparent tendency in birds is a fact and will remain and increase in strength, it is certainly a state of things much to be wished for by all nature-lovers in this vicinity.

It may be of interest to ornithologists generally, that the flock of Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*), which took up their abode in Ottawa, February 7th (see OTTAWA NATURALIST, Vol. xxii, p. 263), and were not seen after the end of March, were rediscovered by Mr. H. Groh in swampy woods at the end of the dump, Patterson's Creek, on April 29th, and the next day made their appearance again at the home of Mr. Odell, corner Cartier and Somerset Streets, who had reported them first and on whose trees they stayed the greater part of the time during their first stay in the city. And then they remained in the Patterson Creek woods in ever diminishing number until May 15th, when the last two were seen by Mr. Groh. That is a remarkably long stay for this bird, which, when it comes southward into civilization at all, usually departs again to its northern haunts in March. It may also be added here, what had been forgotten in the article in the March number, that already in November an Evening Grosbeak had been seen and taken by Mr. Wm. McComber, of Bouchette, in the Gatineau Valley, Québec, who upon being asked for more information, wrote that the specimen had been alone, seemed dazed and lost and did not feed while under observation, a fact borne out by the stomach examination made by the writer.

Last spring was an unusually backward one hereabouts. March, April and the first part of May were unusually cold and wet. There were few nights in April without frost. As might be expected the birds were also late in their coming. The first migrants that come in a wave about March 21st to 27th, like the Song Sparrow, Junco, Redwings, Bronzed Grackles, Robins and Bluebirds, were, as a wave, more than a week late. And this lateness kept on during April. Some species, however, do not let any cold, etc., bring them out of their usual time, like the Crow and Killdeer, the former of which were even earlier