

localities, all the larger song-birds. This is particularly the case in portions of the south, where strings of small birds may be seen suspended in the game-stalls. In March of last year, a well-known ornithologist reports finding in the market at Norfolk, Va., hundreds of wood-peckers and song-birds exposed for sale as food, the list of species including not only robins, meadow-larks, and blackbirds, but many kinds of sparrows and thrushes, and even warblers, vireos, and wax-wings. While some of the stalls had each from three hundred to four hundred small birds, others would have but a dozen or two. 'Nearly all the vendors were colored people, and doubtless most of the birds were captured by the same class.' This 'daily exhibition in southern markets' indicates an immense destruction of northern-breeding song-birds which resort to the southern states for a winter home," and we in Canada must not overlook the fact that many of our birds migrate to these districts, to escape our severe winter, never to return, and hence this is a subject for serious consideration by us.

The eggs of many species of terns, gulls, plovers, and other marsh and shore breeding species, are systematically taken for use as food, the egg-hunting business being prosecuted to such an extent as to prove a serious cause of decrease of the species thus persecuted, while the value as food of the eggs thus destroyed, is too trivial to be for an instant regarded as of serious importance.

Mr Sennett writes a paper in which he refers to the destruction of young birds rather than to eggs, and makes a statement which he says, for fiendish enterprise, exceeds anything that has ever come under his notice. In 1877, and also in 1878, while studying the birds about Corpus Christi Bay, Texas, he examined a low grass-flat called Pelican Island, so named on account of the numbers of brown pelicans that had for years taken it for their breeding-place, to the exclusion of all other species. Here many thousands of these great birds were tending their eggs and young, breeding in such numbers that one could step or jump from nest to nest, over nearly, if not quite, every square yard of the island. Four years later he cruised over the same course,