

largest also had feathers of this plumage all across the breast and in the tail. Most of the young which are old enough to do so hide among ferns, bushes, grass, or rocks when the old birds leave an island at the approach of an intruder, but a few enter the water and swim rapidly away for a little distance. They are good swimmers, but can be overtaken easily by a rowboat. Those which hide usually remain quiet until they believe they are discovered, when they try to run, but they are slow and clumsy runners.

Gulls were the Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*), Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*), Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*), Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus purpureus*), Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia melodia*), Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica aestiva aestiva*), and Maryland Yellow-throat (*Geothlypis trichas trichas*).

The colony of Gulls was first shown to me in June, 1912, by Mr. E. C. Allen, now of Halifax, N.S., who has given a brief account of it in his "Annotated List of Birds of Yarmouth and Vi-



THE CHALLENGE—A GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL CALLING AT LAKE GEORGE.

Photo by Howard H. Cleaves; reproduced by permission—Cut by courtesy of Dominion Parks Branch.

On the gentle slopes of the islands the nests are mere hollows in the earth, generally with some lining of sticks and dead grass or *Usnea* lichen. Nests which are placed on piles of large boulders are much more substantial, as the character of the site necessitates, and are solidly built of grass, sticks, and rubbish. In some cases I noticed that the grass was still green. In one instance only did I find a nest lined with down, and, as that was on Round Island, it was probably a Herring Gull's nest.

Other birds observed on the islands used by the

city, Southwestern Nova Scotia" (Trans. N.S. Inst. of Sci., Vol. XIV, Part 1, pp. 67-95, Jan. 5, 1916). A month later I again visited it, this time in company with Mr. Howard H. Cleaves, now of Albany, N.Y., who then made some splendid photographs of the gulls in their home, some of which were published in the 'National Geographic Magazine' for June, 1914, and some of which, by his kind permission, appear herewith. I visited the colony in July, 1913, and July, 1914, also. In those years there were not more than two-thirds