

*densis*), two species of Ptarmigan (*Lagopus Americanus*), and (*Lagopus rupestris*), both winter visitors; the former common, the latter rare. Wild Swan should not be included in the Bill as all the North American species are *rara aris* in this Province. The Canada Goose (*Bernicla Canadensis*) is a wild goose; the Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*)—a rare visitor in Quebec—and Teal (of which there are two species) deserve protection. The Black Duck (*Anas obscura*) is certainly the duck of the sportsman, because it is the most game and prolific of all the wild ducks. The Mallard, Canvas-back Duck and Pintail are not specially protected although they are sometimes abundant on Quebec waters. But as this Bill protects all the wild ducks (fish and vegetable eaters) we will not further pause to point out mistakes in regard to what constitutes aquatic game. There is a vast difference between birds (ducks) that are good food and those that are not, the latter are allowed by law to live and destroy the fry of salmon and other valuable food fishes. Why this portion of the Bill is not properly put together, we cannot understand. The laws of Ontario regarding wild ducks, merely protect those that are thoroughly game, such as Mallard, Black Duck, Wood or Summer Duck, and Gray Duck, the latter, so far, is not identified or determined. All other species are classed as sea ducks, although not game, they are protected between 1st May and 15th of August. We are as anxious as the Provincial Government to protect insectivorous birds, and would be greatly pleased to see this portion of the Bill perfect. There are birds in this section of curious nomenclature—"Grives," we know them not. "Cow buntings,"—thank Providence, there is only one species in Canada; it is a parasite: a robber among its kind, and if the Hon. framer of the Bill, knew what it was, he would not have classed it as he has. "Bobolinks," the Rice Bird; what is extraordinary is that in the Hon. Mr. Flynn's

Bill, the scientific name given to this bird is not correct, (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*,) of dear old Swainson is now converted into *Dolychonyx orizivorus* by a Quebec legislator, and to add agony farther, the Starling (commonly known as the Marsh Blackbird), our two species of Grackle and the two species of Grosbeak (one a winter, the other a summer visitor), are classed as insect eating birds. We can prove that certain species of FALCONIDE or Hawks are insectivorous; that Crows, Waxwings and Shrikes are insects destroyers, and furthermore that we have two species of Shrike in the neighbourhood of Montreal—the Loggerhead (common), and the Great Northern Shrike (rare), both of which destroy insects during certain portions of their residence with us. By the way the latter is another species to which the scientific name is given wrongly. Compare text of the Bill. (C.)

#### THE NEW GAME LAWS FOR THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

A bill to amend and consolidate the Game Laws is now before the Quebec Legislature. The principal changes are as follows:—

Moose, Caribou and Virginian Deer.—Present close season, 1st February to 1st September; proposed close season, 1st January to 1st September.

Wild Ducks and Geese.—Present close season, 1st May to 1st September, west of Three Rivers, and 15th May to 1st September east of Three Rivers; proposed close season, 1st May to 1st September throughout the Province.

Ruffed Grouse.—Present close season, 1st March to 1st September; proposed close season, 1st January to 20th August.

Canada Grouse, Ptarmigan.—Present close season, 1st March to 1st September; proposed close season, 1st February to 1st September.

Hares, snaring (this is permitted by the present Act) to be prohibited.

By the new Act, all persons who shoot are required to take out license, non-residents of the Province to pay \$20 for a license to hunt