

if so whether it led, as I fear, to her losing her life as is so often the ultimate fate of wild animals, particularly the small and weak ones that are led to place reliance upon mankind.

As soon as domestic ties are over for the season our plovers pack up, so to speak, and make their way southward. The first matured are ready to depart quite early in July and after that date they may be heard nightly calling to each other as they move rapidly away. By the middle of August nearly all have vanished though a few belated individuals remain into September, occasionally as late as the third week.

There is a strange circumstance in connection with the autumn flights in comparison with their northward movements in spring. In the spring they come up in a leisurely manner, often pausing in their wing beats to utter their peculiar but pleasing song. At this time too their forward movements seem to be largely controlled by the tips of the wings, indeed this is quite a characteristic of the spring flight. But in autumn they have quite another type of flight; then they seem to use the whole wing and fly much more like a snipe and like that bird are remarkably rapid in their movements. The sailing motion has all gone, and instead of the somewhat slow moving bird of the breeding season we have one that for quickness can vie with many of the fastest, and but for the cries, method of alighting, and vesture, would not be recognized as the same species. It is, no doubt, this strange change of habit that has given the bird a different reputation in the south, where it is spoken of as being very shy and difficult to approach. Yet another peculiarity is the fact that in the spring they are almost without exception day fliers, having a preference for the morning, while in autumn they seldom migrate at any other time but night. This curiously enough is just the opposite to the habits of night hawks which in spring move northward in the evening or at night, and south in autumn during the afternoon.

It seems unnecessary to go extensively into the food habits of Upland Plovers. I have observed them time after time picking up locusts and have also actually seen them chase a moving stone that was thrown at them, under the impression that it also belonged to the order Orthoptera.

Some years ago owing to a controversy on the subject of food habits, relating more particularly to the capabilities of plovers being able to devour large grasshoppers, I secured a few specimens of the bird and examined them; my brother did likewise and we found them literally crammed with hoppers both large and small. The number they consume in a day must be enormous, and as they continue this diet throughout the season of their sojourn with us and do no appreciable harm their preser-