

them, and the valuable specimens would be lost to science; besides are not all the objects of nature created for the happiness, pleasure, and benefit of man. The ewe has as much affection for her lamb as a wild bird for her nest and eggs, but what man considers it cruel to kill the lamb when it is yet barely old enough for food? About the end of May, 1879, I found two more nests of the golden-winged warbler in a willow swamp. One nest was pulled out of the place where it was built and apparently had been robbed by some depredating animal. The other was to all appearance a completed nest without eggs. A few days later it contained one egg. A heavy rain storm occurred on June 6th; I visited the nest next day and found it half submerged; it contained two eggs which I took. I never saw the parent birds near this nest, but no person can mistake one after once knowing them; they are so different from that of any other bird, and the four nests I have seen are all exactly similar in material, construction, and situation. I have seen the young of this species late in June following their parents and clamoring for food, but found no more of their nests until this season, although the bird is quite common here. Between the willow swamp in which the two last described nests were found and the woods is a rough field containing stumps and many briars. A friend named H. P. Attwater and I were hunting in the field one day last May; I saw a pair of these warblers, and wanting a female specimen, I fired at this one with a charge of dust shot from my five shot 22 calibre repeating gun which I use for small birds. Unaccountably I missed the bird, but while watching to ascertain if it was wounded, I concluded by its actions that it had a nest near by, but all search just there proved fruitless. I had told Mr. Attwater that the nest would appear like a large ball of yellow leaves at the root of some little bush and quite exposed. We had separated and started towards the willows. After proceeding about sixty yards, my friend called me saying he had found the nest; it was completed but contained no eggs. We both decided to shoot at no more golden-wings in that locality until this bird laid her eggs. On June 3rd, the nest contained two eggs of this warbler and two of the cowbird, these last I removed, otherwise the bird would have laid no more of her own in the nest. June 6th, I found her sitting on four eggs; she allowed me to almost catch her before leaving

the nest. How pretty she looked sunk in the deep nest; her bill and tail pointing upward. The yellow of the crown and wing markings were beautifully blended with its pure blue gray plumage. After leaving the nest she behaved similar to the female of the first nest described, except that the male did not appear. None of these nests were built with any attempt at concealment.

Yours faithfully,

Hyde Park, Ont. JOHN A. MORDEX.

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES EXHIBITION, LONDON 1883.

CONFERENCE ON JUNE 21, 1883.

The Marquis of Exeter in the chair said "the Conference would to-day be invited to give their attention to another branch of the great question of our fisheries, one which, though nearer home, and perhaps less exciting—for it involved no danger to either life or limb—was of great importance, and to many persons formed a most interesting pursuit. He alluded to the attempts which had been made to increase the value of our fisheries by artificial breeding and by importation; and they were much favoured in having the subject opened with a paper by Sir James G. Maitland, Bart., who had devoted a great deal of time and energy to fish culture."

We insert a portion of Sir James G. Maitland's paper on

"THE CULTURE OF SALMONIDÆ AND THE ACCLIMATIZATION OF FRESHWATER FISH.

The culture of Salmonidæ properly understood embraces not only their artificial propagation, but also the production of their food; the regulation of their ascent to their spawning beds and of their descent to their feeding grounds; the manner of their capture and their rapid and economic conveyance to market; just as much as the culture of corn is understood to mean not merely the sowing, but every step from the preparation of the seed bed to the marketing of the harvest.

The acclimatization of freshwater fish I will consider with special reference to the Salmonidæ, and attempt to foreshadow the results of the importation of some of the best known foreign species.

After describing the artificial propagation of Salmonidæ, the hatching house; water, its temperature, and the apparatus employed in hatching salmon, Sir J. G. Maitland says:—

"I will now consider the Hatchery as a