



SONG SPARROW.

These plainly dressed "little gray birds," wearing coats of mottled black, bay, and ash, and showing white fronts, spotted with brown, occur abundantly all over the Eastern Provinces as summer residents, while a few hardy fellows linger through the winter months. Their song is familiar to every lover of the beautiful things of nature, and though not one of the great songs of our fields is so sweet in tone and so tender that one must stop to listen to the singer even if the simple melody is repeated at every few steps of a country ramble, and at every hour of the day. Simple as this melody is, it is subject to many changes, and some of the best singers—for there are individual differences—have command of as many as seven different themes, or variations of the same theme.