

in this direction can be arrived at. Some of the notes on a few of these flights may be of interest to the readers of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK. (*Accipiter velox*).

Flights of hawks are not rare in literature, but the great majority of them are irregular in occurrence and rarely seem to occur twice in the same place or in successive years. At Point Pelee, however, a flight of this species can be looked for regularly, beginning about Sept. 10th and lasting irregularly for about a week. About the middle of October another flight usually occurs, lasting several days and then gradually diminishing until cold weather sets in. The writer first saw this flight on September 9th, 1905. Sharp-shins were but normally common and we saw but one or two each day. The next morning, however, we found them everywhere on the Point: beating about the edges of the shrubberies, darting through the coverts like shadows and winging their way up and down the Point just over the tree tops, while high in the air their forms could be seen at all altitudes until they looked like mere specks in the sky. Standing in a small opening in the woods and looking out over an open field we could count from twenty-five to thirty individuals at any time of the day. During the flight there is usually a steady stream of hawks crossing from the end of the Point out towards the Ohio shore opposite, and during the height of the migration a man can stand near the end of the Point and shoot Sharp-shins almost as fast as he can load and fire. On September 18, 1906, Mr. W. E. Saunders, in company with Mr. B. H. Swales and the writer, counted, between 11.24 and 11.54 a.m., 133 Sharp-shins that left the main land for across the lake. Besides these, 74 more went out to the end of the Point and returned again, without crossing. An interesting point to observe is that this early September flight is composed almost entirely of juvenile birds in the brown plumage and it was not until October 16, 1908, that we saw any adults at all. This flight was not quite as heavy as that of the early young birds but we noted over a hundred birds daily, nearly all being adult males. At our station at the end of the Point the birds pass so close that there is no difficulty in distinguishing either plumage or sex; many of them pass within almost arm's reach.

The effect of this great increase of raptorial life on the small birds is most interesting. Up to their advent the woods are usually swarming with the small species of warblers, flycatchers, etc., but as soon as the Sharp-shins put in an appearance these disappear to almost nothing and the woods are almost lifeless. Most of the small birds seem to leave immediately and what