

abound.

The terns and guillemots were inhabiting a small, flat, grass-covered, granite-bound island known as "Noddy" some half mile away, to which a visit proved interesting. The island which contains about three acres, was literally covered with the terns, which arose in swarms as our boat drew near, and hovered overhead, uttering shrill, piercing cries as they darted down at us. Three varieties were here represented—the Arctic, common and roseate, the former being much the most numerous, while the latter were rare. No eggs were yet deposited, but I was told that in a few weeks time the fishermen would come here and gather the eggs by the bushel. It seems too bad that these birds should be thus persecuted and finally driven from their nesting ground as they have from the other adjoining islands where once they swarmed. Crows and ravens also aid in this destructive work—the birds have no friends, despite their beautiful and graceful forms and interesting ways.

On Seal Island, next visited, the gulls, guillemots and petrels were found as numerous as upon the occasion of my visit of a year ago, and all were nesting, here much protected by Mr. Crowell the lighthouse keeper. But the great attraction of this island to me and the object of my expedition hither, was the Bicknell's thrush, its nest and eggs. During the four days spent on the island three nests were collected and others in process of building were noted. These nests were placed in the dense moss and lichen covered spruces, at varying distances from the ground, sometimes close to the trunk, again well out on the limbs. In composition they are similar, consisting of moss, lichens, wool, twigs and dried grasses, quite bulky but withal compact and neat. The full complement of eggs seems to be three, light blue in color, finely speckled with brown. Several nests of the black-poll warbler in varying stages of completion were discovered, but none contained eggs at that date.

MEETING OF BOTANICAL BRANCH.

The fourth meeting of the Botanical Branch was held at the residence of Mr. J. M. Macoun. Messrs. Whyte, W. T. Macoun, Cameron, Fletcher, Attwood, Clarke and Jacombe were present. The subject presented for discussion by Mr. J. M. Macoun was "Botanical Nomenclature." After briefly explaining the points of difference between the arrangement of orders and genera by Bentham and Hooker and Engler and Prantl, the former being that used in Gray's Manual and the