

## PREFACE.

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To write a list of the Birds of a certain district is an easy matter, seemingly, but I have found it necessary to make a special study, for the past fifteen years, of the birds occurring in the vicinity of Montreal, before attempting to publish a list, which I believe to be a correct one, of the *Avifauna* of the district of Montreal.

The species contained in the list have been observed mostly at or near Montreal, but when otherwise, I have given the names of credible observers.

Considering the number of species of birds to be found in the neighbourhood of Montreal, it is not an easy matter for an individual observer, with limited time, to come across all of them, as it is necessary to be out often on the rivers and lakes, and in the marshes, swamps, fields and woods, in a district like Montreal, to obtain a correct knowledge of the birds occurring therein; for instance, I have rambled over the same places, at different times and seasons,