

**GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET:** One of the most common birds in woods, Yarmouth; quite common Wolfville, Truro, and Lower Norton.

**ROBIN:** Some found at Yarmouth, Liverpool and Wolfville; scarce, Truro; several seen, Summerville; very rare, Riverside.

Song Sparrows, Crows, Junco, Chickadees, Grackles and Golden-Crowned Kinglet. The latter I had the good fortune to see and hear more distinctly than ever before. Little signs of vegetation except in the tree tops; but I found alder nearly or quite ready to shed its pollen,—a record date for this place.—J. V., St. Stephen, N. B.

Crow, English Sparrow, Chickadee Blue Jay, Snow Bunting, Cedar Wax-Wing and a large grey bird with red on the head, generally seen before a rain. (Probably the Pine Grosbeak.)—A. B. K., Butternut Ridge, N. B.

Besides the foregoing the fox sparrow is reported from Riverside, N. B., seen March 7, also the Meadow Lark, from same place, seen March 11, and 12. The woodcock is reported from Lower Millstream. Careful observation should be made in both these cases, and all further information, and corroborative evidence reported. Mr. Harrison F. Lewis reports that he discovered three evening grosbeaks at Truro, March 17. Professor Harlow of Truro Normal School also saw the birds and agreed with Mr. Lewis's determination. As this bird is said to be fairly common from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains, and is rather rare in Ontario and Quebec, with no records whatever, as far as I can learn, from the Maritime Provinces, this report is of more than ordinary interest.

It is encouraging to find, even with the short notice given, a very ready response to my suggestion in the March issue of the REVIEW. I wish to thank all who have contributed. A good start has been made, it is a move in the right direction, and I think that we should continue the work for a time as a part of our nature study page. Let us at once extend the reports to the spring migration. Let all students and lovers of nature join in the work. Reports on postal cards, giving dates of first arrivals, and when seen\* in numbers as far as possible, and mail direct to me at Wolfville. We require data concerning a wide area, that we may be able to fix the time, rate, and path of migration of our various species. Interest your friends and fellow teachers, and spread the work.

Mail your reports any time from the 20th to the 25th of each month. The tabulated account will appear in the next issue of the REVIEW.

Note that many of the birds mentioned this month are only partial winter residents with us. The Robin, for example, is found sparsely scattered over a wide area during the winter, but the spring migration gives us flocks of these birds. Such birds should appear in the spring reports.

#### Other First Appearances.

In conjunction with this work we should note the first appearance of other animals. The insects are especially interesting and instructive. Cocoons and chrysalises will soon be giving out their treasures. There is nothing more inspiring to the young student than his first butterfly, and if it is the result of his own work and experiment it is highly educative.

Watch closely for Cocoons. Examine fences and buildings near cabbage and turnip fields of last summer. In sheltered nooks and crevices you will find the chrysalis of the cabbage butterfly. Collect by removing a small portion of wood with each, place in a fruit jar, in their natural position, cover with cheese cloth or cotton, and watch for butterflies. Some may yield very small flies; these are parasites of the Cabbage Butterfly. Here is good material for a lesson on parasites. Name several other animals that have parasites. Show the value of parasites in keeping pests in check. Has the Brown-tail Moth natural parasites in our country. Collect some Tent Caterpillar rings in apple-trees, etc., and keep in school in covered jars. Note that in a few weeks, at most, the young, the small caterpillars, come out. Are there many? Where have they been during the winter? If you wish to hasten the work break the ring loose, and dissolve it partly in a few drops of alcohol; the young caterpillars are then readily seen. Notice how they have passed the winter. Why did the moths place the rings near the end of the twigs?

#### Hibernating Forms.

Several hibernating forms, as the house-fly, the Mourning Cloak (*Antiopa* butterfly), and the moth of the green apple worm have begun in some parts, to make their appearance.

The house-fly deserves special notice. It is one of the great scourges of mankind. His filthy habits and rude familiarity are quite enough to