

The Rockwood Review.

best efforts soon.

Perhaps one cause as to the growing incredibility about the 2nd species of Redbird is the inattention to the subject for many years. My jottings of the earlier times of our residence here have in part been lost or burnt, but both myself and associates here have many times in conversation since referred to the incident of the "summer" Red Bird with no black plumage, coming so many times in the course of a day to regale on those elderberries, and of the striking fact of the bird and berries being the exact same hue. But I am inclined to the belief that Mr. Jas. Goldie has the preserved skins of both the species in his home museum, and I will try first chance to make minute inquiries into the matter.

Mr. McIlwraith omits to give *Turdus Rufous* in his list of Ontario Birds, which seems strange, as it is one of our choice singers, and by many thought but little inferior to the Mocking Thrush of the Southern States, and is still abundant in many districts of southern Ontario!

A few Doves came into our wheat field during this month. We see and hear them frequently.

If you were to go into a large cedar swamp $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from here about the sunset hour, you would hear the strangest inexplicable clamor of uncouth eerie sounds. There is a "heronry" over there, and now the young cranes are nearly able to fly, and the uproar and jangle that they make about or after receiving their evening meal, baffles description. Arthur was there last night, and he declared the noise was like the mixed yelping and whining of a kennel of half grown hounds or puppy dogs!

The Herons have congregated and built and reared young in the same locality from time immemorial. We have recognized them for 51 years; they move a short distance,

if some of their favorite trees blow or are cut down, but it is a very wild and inaccessible locality even yet. There are 20 or 30 nests; they go miles in every direction for food supplies.

W. YATES.

Dear Editors of the Rockwood Review:

Perhaps you could throw some light on the identity of a certain little bird that I am unable to find, either in Ross's Birds of Canada or another book of ours. I first saw it five years ago in Brockville, when it settled outside my bedroom window, and never since then till a short time ago when we discovered it hopping cheerfully about in a row of hollyhocks. It could not possibly have been more than four inches long and may have been less. It appeared to be feeding on insects. It was dark slate blue all over its back, wings, tail and crown of head, and grayish white beneath with a bright sulphur yellow spot just below the throat on the upper part of the breast, I think its bill was black and slender. It was very small and shy. Also of another little bird, evidently a warbler like the first, and just four inches long. Its color above was olive brown and soiled white beneath, the breast and throat bright golden yellow. If you could tell the birds from these descriptions I would be much obliged. Believe me,

Yours sincerely,
DOROTHY KNIGHT.

The first warbler probably either Parula or Myrtle, but description lacks several necessary particulars. 2nd undoubtedly a Warbler, but like all this family difficult to identify without minute description.