

age, and as he performs in her presence with out-spread wings and tail, he is truly a beautiful little bird.

SNOW BUNTING. *Plectrophenax nivalis*.

This is the most easily recognized of any of our *Fringillidæ* of either summer or winter. Their food consists of seeds of weeds and grasses, of which they get an abundant supply in haystacks. It is alleged by some writers that snow buntings never perch on trees, but it is not uncommon to see them resting upon trees when not feeding, and I have observed them perched upon telegraph wires. Near our house is a spring stream that stays open all winter. One day four snow buntings were observed to come and bathe in the stream. They fluttered and splashed in the water as we often see birds do in summer, and then as if to dry their plumage they fluttered into the loose snow along the stream, working their way into the drifts until nearly buried. The whole performance occupied about five minutes. To one of us it would have been five minutes too long, as the temperature was several degrees below freezing and the snow was blowing along very freely.

TREE SPARROW. *Spizella monticola*.

This species is most common along river valley roads that are ringed with thickets of bushes. Seldom more than two or three are seen in one company. They are not common in winter in this section.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO. *Junco hyemalis*.

A few individuals of this species are apt to remain with us throughout the winter. Their stay is probably regulated by the food supply. They evidently feed upon seeds taken off the ground or from low weeds.

SONG SPARROW. *Melospiza fasciata*.

It was another surprise to learn that this species also occasionally remains with us all winter. They are not rare along the southern coast in mild winters, but until the last two winters no record was known of their presence in the interior of the province. The last two winters some have stayed near here. They lived about a grist mill, and were supplied with food by the miller, who threw out foul seeds to them.