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have gone? That is not so easy to answer, but that they still exist in undiminished numbers I am able to state positively, for so late as last March (1898) I saw many thousands passing over Toronto from west to east. The flight lasted from daylight to nine or ten o'clock every fine morning for about a week. I have seen this same movement every spring for years. My opinion is that the birds have gone back to the new settlements, where they can still find snake fences and pastures in which the old stumps are standing—our modern barbed wire which which has taken the place of the old stake and rider fence having deprived them of a favorite nesting place. The up-to-date fruit grower, too, no longer allows his apple trees to go untrimmed and full of holes, but cuts out the old trees and replaces them with young ones. This has removed many of the old nesting sites, and the birds have spread out over the large area of new country now being brought under cultivation. They introduced themselves to the Province of Manitoba about 1884, and have since become quite common there, having evidently followed the settlers, as they were quite unknown in that country before it was brought under general cultivation. The utility of this bird as an insect destroyer is beyond question. It eats neither grain nor fruit; occasionally in stormy weather, in early spring when insect food is hard to obtain, it will eat the berries of the sunach, but that is the only vegetable substance I have ever known it to take. The beauty of its plumage, its sprightly spring song, and even the rather melancholy farewell notes in which it bade us good-bye, as it drifted southward in the last days of October, made it a great favorite everywhere, and every lover of nature would be glad to see it return and take its old place about the farm once more.

Cat bird. Neither this nor the succeeding species belong to the Thrush family, but there is a sufficient similarity in their food habits to warrant our considering them here. They are closely allied to the famous Mocking Bird of the south, and their musical powers are not very much inferior to that splendid songster. They do not, however, so frequently exercise their power of mimicry. The peculiar mewling note uttered by the Cat bird has caused a certain amount of prejudice to exist against it, and has made it subject to persecution at the hands of most boys; but apart from this unpleasant note, the Cat bird is one of the most accomplished musicians we have, and it is more to be admired because it does not retire into solitude to pour out its joyous songs, but rather seeks the society of mankind, and in the morning and evening will sing its clear notes from the top of some tree in close proximity to the dwelling house. Its food in the early part of the season consists almost entirely of caterpillars and beetles, which it obtains generally from the branches and leaves of trees, though sometimes after rain it seeks for cut worms and other grubs from the ground. Later in the year it feeds largely upon elderberries and other small wild fruits, and does occasionally levy some slight toll from the garden; but for all the cultivated fruit it takes it has amply repaid the gardener by its efforts in the destruction of the insect tribe.

Brown Thrush or Thrasher. All that I have said of the Cat Bird applies to this species, but it is not quite so familiar and confiding in its habits. It displays a decided preference for thick shrubbery at some little distance from the house. Here it remains in seclusion for the greater part of the day, but in the early morning and evening the male bird mounts to the top of some tall tree near its haunt, and for an hour or so will sing his beautiful song, which is much louder, though less varied, than that of the Cat bird.

Wrens. This is a most interesting and useful family of very small birds. Four species of them are found in this Province in the summer. Two of them, the