

THE BIRDS OF OTTAWA.

BY C. W. G. EIFRIG.

(Continued from page 163).

ORDER PALUDICOLÆ—CRANES, RAILS, ETC.

RALLIDÆ—RAILS.

57. *Ralluse elegans*, King Rail. Rare accidental visitor. Mr. G. R. White identified one that had been shot at Billing's Bridge, May 7th, 1896.

58. *Rallus virginianus*, Virginia Rail. A moderately common summer resident. Breeds in large and small cat-tail marshes, like the small ones at Blueberry Point, near Aylmer. On July 13th, 1909, Mr. C. N. Robertson and the writer found the marsh along Cranberry Creek near Osgoode full of the little young ones, which are pitch black. They arrive during the first half of May, just when is hard to say, as they are retiring and secretive. They leave about September 10th.

59. *Porzana carolina*, Sora. Of the same status and habits as the preceding species, perhaps a little more numerous. On May 8th, 1906, one was found dead in New Edinburgh, having probably flown against a wire over night, and on October 29th, 1906, Mr. C. H. Young saw one along the Rideau.

60. *Coturnicops noveboracensis*, Yellow Rail. Being small, in addition to its skulking habits, and in more or less impassable haunts, it may eventually be found commoner than the now available dates warrant. There are only two, October 22nd, 1895, and October 20th, 1909, both records made by Mr. G. R. White. Accordingly, we have to put it down now as a very rare accidental visitor or breeder.

61. *Gallinula galeata*, Florida Gallinule. It is interesting to record this bird in our list, as it probably finds its northern limit of distribution for this part of Canada in the Ottawa district, where it is a rather common breeder in the marshes along the Rideau River at Osgoode and Kars. A nest with seven eggs, partly incubated, was taken there by Messrs. W. E. and F. A. Saunders, July 9th, 1890. Mr. G. R. White shot one still farther north, namely at Hurdman's Bridge, Ottawa.

62. *Fulica americana*, Coot. A moderately common summer resident in its chosen haunts, the marshes along the Ottawa. There, Mr. E. Bedard shot one May 11th, 1909, and Mr. E. White saw one as late as October 19th, 1905, at Lochaber Bay, and in the same marshes Mr. G. R. White found three nests.