

In this bay, too, we saw the first Porpoises, which played under the very bows of the advancing steamer, and whose dorsal fins were to be seen in many directions, rising and then sinking beneath the water.

Among the very small birds, one of the most interesting was the Brown-headed Nuthatch, which was confined exclusively to the pine lands and was not very common there, but when one did meet with a little band of them they were most interesting. Their habits, and particularly their happy call-notes, show a strong resemblance to those of the Pigmy Nuthatch of British Columbia, and certainly these two are the noisest birds of their size I ever met. When two or three of them get chattering at once they really make enough noise for a whole flock of ordinary birds, and in the west I was once deceived by the Pigmy into thinking there must be several Red Squirrels chattering near by. After a shot the Brown-headed Nuthatches always flew and were very quiet, so that it was with difficulty that I succeeded in obtaining two or three specimens.

The pine barrens also held, in troops, a large number of warblers, mostly Pine and Palm, both of them feeding on the ground and constantly rising from the rear rank and flying over to the front. But the only other new and striking bird of the barrens was the Cockaded Woodpecker, which is black and white, some what after the pattern of our Hairy Woodpecker, only blacker. The full plumaged male, which unfortunately I did not meet, has a large red patch on each side of the head, but in all my birds this patch was white. This bird has an interesting note, something like that of the Red-bellied Woodpecker with which it associated.

Throughout all Northern Florida the most abundant bird was the Myrtle Warbler, and in the shade trees of Ste. Augustine it fairly swarmed. The Shrikes, too, were quite common, and very tame, paying only the slightest attention to the casual passer, and if alarmed soon returning to the same perch. Some of them may have been the southern variety, but the only one I shot was the same that we have in Ontario in summer.

Four birds whose notes the visitor does not soon disentangle are the Cardinal, Tufted Tit, Carolina Wren and Mocking-bird.