

one time, were common in our immediate forests. The Moose and Virginia Deer will not remain long in proximity to civilization, and it is a fact that these species each successive season move towards higher latitudes. It is therefore probable that ere many years pass away, the hunter, in order to obtain venison, will have to travel to the extreme northern edge of the Canadian forests to find his game. There is an American cry at present against a few English gentlemen, who occasionally visit the Western regions of the United States in search of large game. They are accused of wantonly destroying Rocky Mountain Elk (?) Shooting the animals down for the mere pleasure of afterwards boasting of the circumstances. Now, we cannot comprehend the reason why an old sporting paper like *Forest and Stream*, should mislead its readers by stating that Englishmen journey so far for the sport of shooting Elk, when they can procure them in some places in Canada or Maine. An editorial in the same paper says that Moose are not abundant in the Rocky Mountains or valleys adjacent thereto. There is something wrong here, and the zoological writer in *Forest and Stream* would do well hereafter to adhere more closely to the nomenclature of the Michigan Sportsmen's Association. No true sportsman, especially an English one of means, will remain silent without demurring against a false charge of this nature, and it is evident that the object of making it, is to further the interests of Western skin hunters, who are jealous of the visits of good marksmen, who go there, not for mercenary purposes, but for pure sport. The people inhabiting the Western portions of the United States, where large game occur, should certainly make stringent laws to protect the animals, going so far as to compel every man to procure a license to hunt in the regions of the Rocky Mountains. If this is not done, the Wapiti (*C. Canadensis*), the Elk of *Forest and Stream*, will ultimately be exterminated, and the Buffalo (although not considered game) ere many years pass

away, will also be classed among extinct quadrupeds of this continent. In our own Great North-west Territories, at present, the richest sporting grounds in America, the advance of the white man will eventually produce the same changes in the *fauna* of that region which have been alluded to above. The lakes and ponds of the vast prairie lands for centuries past and the breeding-places of many species of wild water fowl, will, as man surrounds them with his habitations, be thoroughly deserted, and the birds, like the poor Indians, must find more retired places to produce their species. Such then is the Natural History view to be taken of the advance of civilization westward. Every animal of a wild nature will have to retire before it. That there is plenty of space for their removal, there is no doubt, but there is a limit to the northward progress of some quadrupeds and birds, many species of which cannot subsist in high latitudes. Then, anticipating a large annual increase to the present rural population in the North-western portions of Canada, the results which are now spoken of regarding a change in the *fauna* of that region, will certainly take place. Where will they go to be undisturbed as they were before the recent encroachment of man on their domain? This is a question of interest to the sportsman and naturalist. Any person reading Audubon's visit to Labrador, and who will take the trouble to follow his footsteps on the latter coast, as the writer has done, may see the changes which have taken place there. In fact, one reading his description on the spot where he found a species of bird breeding on that rocky shore, would pronounce the statements fictitious, as no nests of the kind are found there at this day. Man appeared and settled in the neighbourhood, and the birds have removed for safety to more secluded places.—C.

THE NIDIFICATION OF NUTHATCHES.

Eminent Ornithologists have described the nesting habits of these birds as similar to Woodpeckers, the nest being formed by