some of the fragments, which must have formed part of as large specimens as the larger of them, are conspicuously septate.

The eight fragments are pieces of the anterior end of the coil of large casts of the septate portion of the shell, which not only give clear evidence of septation, but also show the outline of a transverse section of the coil, with the emargination caused by the contact furrow on the dorsum.

The species indicated by these specimens may be provisionally named and described as follows:—

## STEPHEOCERAS NICOLENSE, SP. NOV.

Shell very large, with rounded whorls, and a wide and open umbilicus. Whorls nearly circular in transverse section anteriorly but concavely emarginate on the dorsum by a well defined longitudinal furrow of contact. They increase rather slowly in thickness, the earlier ones being quite slender, but they ultimately become robust and strongly convex. Their number appears to be about five or six, but only four are visible in the largest specimen known to the writer, the earlier whorls being either not preserved or covered with the matrix.

Umbilicus occupying considerably more than one half of the entire diameter, fully one half of each of the inner whorls being exposed.

Test unknown; surface of the cast everywhere strongly and regularly ribbed, the ribs being straight, transverse, and much narrower than the concave grooves between them. On the outer whorl each rib trifurcates from a low and obscurely defined tubercle on the umbilical margin. As thus divided, the three ribs in each set pass uninterruptedly over the venter, and reunite at a corresponding tubercle on the umbilical margin of the opposite side.

Body chamber, and finer details of the sutural line unknown.

## HOW THE ENGLISH SPARROW IS ADAPTING ITSELF TO NEW CONDITIONS OF LIFE.

## By NORMAN CRIDDLE, TREESBANK, MAN.

The English, or House Sparrow, was introduced into the United States in the early fifties of last century and into eastern Canada in 1854. Probably but few colonies were started in the Dominion, but in the United States small lots were liberated in many of the larger cities, both on the coast and inland. As a result of those early introductions, House Sparrows are now to be found in nearly every portion of the continent. It is uncertain when the first individuals invaded Manitoba. They