

trod upon, and then starting up, to alight again a few yards ahead. It is a most abundant species, breeding plentifully.

They seem to prefer a bush country, left free from underbrush after the fire has run through. Over this kind of ground the air would seem to be full of these birds of an evening, and their loud booming noise is heard on every hand.

Passing through these woods, I have often started the birds off their eggs, which are laid on the bare ground without any attempt of a nest, not even a hollow scraped for them to lay in; the eggs were always two in number and oval in form. The birds did not trouble themselves much as to what became of their property, making no noise and getting out of the way as quickly as possible.

*Agialitis vocifera* (Killdeer).—This bird is very numerous from early spring until well on in the autumn, I have hunted carefully over the ground where the birds were plentiful but did not succeed in finding a nest; this must be owing to the female not remaining on her eggs, but flying to meet one a long way off. They are very noisy, and all the birds within hearing will gather and add their protest to what they are pleased to consider intrusion on their haunts.

A set of five eggs was brought to me near the end of June, they were quite fresh, and of a dull, creamy-white color, spotted heavily with brown; in shape much pyriform and appear large for the size of the bird. I did not examine the nest from which they were taken, so cannot give any description of situation or material.

These birds may almost be considered nocturnal in their habits, they are certainly noisiest in the dusk of the evening, and if the night is not altogether dark, they may be heard and seen at a pretty late hour. They seem to prefer the society of man, being most abundant about the town, and a very few scattered pairs being seen far out on the prairie.

EDWARD DEACON.

Toronto, Ont.