

BIRD NOTES FOR APRIL.

It is very gratifying to find that those who promised to help in making our observations of birds more reliable and complete, have heartily co-operated in the work. The result is that we are able to publish this month notes on no less than fifty-one species of birds, and we trust that throughout the summer continued interest will be manifested. Let all be accurate and certain of their records, as otherwise they will be misleading.

Downy Woodpecker—Observed by Mr. Lees on the 1st.

Blue Bird—Both Mr. White and Dr. Fletcher recorded this bird on the 2nd. The blue-bird is becoming very rare at Ottawa ; it was heard at the Experimental Farm on the 5th, but has never been seen there this spring. Miss Harmer has not seen one since 1895 until this spring.

Tree Sparrow—This very pretty sparrow was quite abundant at Ottawa during the month of April. Miss Harmer recorded the arrival of this bird on the 2nd. On the 4th it was observed by Mr. Lees and Mr. White.

Meadow Lark—Was seen by Mr. H. S. Marsh on the 3rd, and by Mr. Lees on the 6th.

Cow Bird—Was seen by Mr. Lees on the 4th ; by Miss Harmer on the 5th, and by Mr. White and Mr. Macoun on the 6th.

Phoebe—Observed by Miss Harmer on the 4th.

Herring Gull—Mr. White saw four on Deschenes Lake near Aylmer on the 4th. On the 6th they were seen flying over Carling's Lake near the Experimental Farm.

Vesper Sparrow—Although Dr. Fletcher reports having seen one specimen of this bird on the 23rd of March, it is not recorded again until the 5th of April, when one was heard by Miss Harmer, but not seen by her until the 8th. Other records are lacking.

Golden-crowned Kinglet—Observed by Mr. Lees on the 6th.