

The Birds of Montreal and Vicinity.

PAPER VI.

Sub-order: OSCINES.

Family: CETHIADÆ. Creepers.

Sub-Family: CETHIANÆ. Typical Creepers.

Genus: CETHIA. LINNÆUS.

BROWN TREE- { *Cethia Americana*, Bonaparte. } American,
CREEPER. { " *Familiaris*, C. }
or Brown Creeper. Length 4 inches. Head, back, and wing-coverts streaked dark grayish-brown and white; upper tail coverts reddish-brown; wings and tail brown, wings edged and barred with white; under parts gray. Ends of tail feathers wedge-shaped, as with the Woodpeckers, and no doubt due to the same cause. Bill long, slender and curved, colour blackish-yellow above; legs yellow.

Sub-Family: SITINÆ, Nuthatches.

Genus: SITTA, LINNÆUS.

WHITE-BELLIED NUTHATCH (*Sitta Carolinensis*, Gmelin). White-breasted Nuthatch. Length 4 inches; girth 3½ inches tail 1½ inches. Male—Crown grayish black, running back to black band which crosses about the shoulders; back, upper tail coverts, and central tail feathers, lead gray; wings dark brown, bordered with lead gray, more especially the secondaries and tertials, which are about half gray on the outer fibrils. Tail feathers next to central ones blackish-brown, slightly tipped with white; outer tail feathers also blackish-brown but crossed near the ends by a broad band of pure white, which extends partly up to the outer edges. About the eyes, and underparts grayish white, tinged brown on hind parts; under tail coverts a mixture of brown and white; under side of tail white and gray. Bill straight and dark; legs dark.

RED-BELLIED NUTHATCH (*Sitta Canadensis*, Linnæus). Brown-bellied Nuthatch. Length 3½ inches. Crown black; back, wing and upper tail coverts, and central tail feathers, lead gray; wings, and outer tail feathers brown; those of the tail darker, with a broad white band near the tips, like the preceding species. There is also a black streak from base of bill, across each eye; otherwise about the eyes and chin is white. Under parts brownish. Bill dark above; legs yellow.

Family: PARIDÆ. Titmice, or Chickadees.

Sub-Family: PARINÆ. True Titmice.

Genus: PARUS. LINNÆUS.

BLACK-CAP TITMOUSE (*Parus atricapillus*, Linnæus). Black-capped Chickadee. Length 4½ inches. Crown, throat, and part of shoulders, black black; wing and upper tail coverts, brownish-gray; wings and tail feathers brown, bordered on outer edges with white. Sides of neck, breast and abdomen, grayish-white, tinged brown on hind parts. Bill very small, colour black; legs blackish.

Family: ALANIDÆ. Larks.

Genus: EREMOPHILA, Boie.

SHORE { *Eremophila cornuta*, Wilson } Horned Lark; Sky Lark;
LARK { " *alpestrus*, C. } *Alouette de rivage*.

Length 6½ inches. Back of head and neck, grayish-brown; wing and tail coverts reddish-brown; wings, central and outer tail feathers, brown, bordered with white; tail feathers next the centre blackish-brown. A black band crosses the crown above the eyes, and another crosses the breast. There is a black streak extending from base of bill, under the eyes, and downwards; forehead, above the eyes, sides of neck, chin, and under parts other than those mentioned, white; reddish tinge on breast. Bill and legs dark yellow.

Family: FRINGILLIDÆ. Finches, &c.

Sub-Family: Cocco THRAUSTINÆ.

Genus: PINICOLA, Vieillot.

PINE GROSBEAK { *Pinicola Canadensis*, Brisson } *Bourcruil à*
" *enulateur*, C. " *bec dur*.

Length 8½ inches; girth 7 inches. Adult male—Head,

breast and abdomen, carmine; back and upper tail coverts brown, bordered with carmine; wings and tail brown, with outer end fibrils of secondaries and tertials, white. Hind under parts dark gray. Bill black, short and large at the base. Legs black. Young male has wings and tail similar to adult. Crown and upper tail coverts darker carmine than adult. Back and under parts dark gray. Another specimen has head, upper tail coverts, and under parts light yellowish-brown. Other parts similar to above adult specimen. This last example, which is in the N. H. S. Museum, Mr. Whiteaves says was probably reared in a cage, and that the colour is very likely due to the food which has been given to the bird.

Genus: CARPODacus. Kaup.

PURPLE FINCH (*Carpodacus purpureus*, Gmelin). Hemp-bird; *Glaucur pourpré*. Length 5½ inches. Male—Head, upper tail coverts, breast and abdomen deep carmine; feathers on back, brown, bordered with dark red; wings and tail brown. Bill yellow, short, and large at base; legs yellow. Female—above brown; beneath white mottled with brown. Bill and legs as in male. This bird bears a close resemblance to the Pine Grosbeak, but is less than half the size.

Genus: CHRYSOMITRIS. Boie.

YELLOW-BIRD (*Chrysomitris tristis*, Linnæus). American Goldfinch; Thistle-bird; *Chardonneret jaune*; *Chardonneret du Canada*. Length 4 inches. Male—Crown wings, and tail, black, with ends of middle wing and inner fibrils of tail feathers, white; rest of body, except the undertail coverts which are white, bright yellow. Bill undertail coverts which are white, bright yellow. Bill undertail coverts white; rest of body grayish yellow. Bill and legs yellowish. This is a pretty bird, and is not uncommon in summer months.

PINE FINCH (*Chrysomitris pinus*, Wilson). Pine Linnet; *Linnette des pins*. Length about 4 inches. Above, a mixture of light and dark brown with greenish tinge, except the ends of wing and tail feathers, which are black, with the ends of tertials white, and outer, middle, fibrils of secondaries, and base of tail, yellow. Under parts a mixture of gray, streaked with black and brown. Bill and legs dark.

Genus: CURVIOSTRA, Scopoli.

RED CROSSBILL (*Curvirostra Americana*, Wilson). Common Crossbill. Length 5 inches. Male—Head, upper tail coverts, breast and abdomen, red; back and wing coverts brown and black; sides of neck, except a small red patch at base of lower mandible and throat, yellowish-brown; wings and tail black. Bill black above, white beneath, point of upper mandible crosses to the right of that of the lower mandible, which has a sharp ridge in centre, and then curves to the point. Legs dark. Female—Upper tail coverts, breast, and slightly on crown black, greenish-yellow; rest of body brown, darker on wings and tail. Bill similar to that of the male, but the point of upper mandible crosses to the left of the lower one—I do not know whether the direction in which the points are turned in above cases (examples in N. H. S. Museum) is constant or not no notice is taken of it in either Baird's or Coues' Works.

LESSER RED POLL (*Aegithus linaria*, Linnæus). Red-poll Linnet. Length 5 inches. Male—Upper parts brown, feathers bordered with white; crown deep carmine. Underparts gray mottled with brown on the sides of body; breast light carmine. Bill and legs yellow. Female—similar, but has little or no carmine on the breast.

Genus: PLECTROPHANES, Meyer.

SNOW BUNTING (*Plectrophanes nivalis*, Linnæus). Snowflake; *Oiseau de neige*. Length 6 inches. Male in winter plumage, in which state it mostly occurs in this neighborhood—Head and under parts white mixed with dark brown on the crown; lighter brown about the neck, sides of body and band across the breast; back brown mixed with black; primaries and central tail feathers black, lighter about edges; secondaries and lateral tail feathers white, except near the outer end of which are black. Bill yellow, short and large at base; feet black.