

NATURE STUDY OF ANIMALS.

H. G. PERRY, Wolfville, N. S.

Bird Observations — Some Winter Birds.

RUFFED GROUSE (Partridge): While this bird must be fairly common throughout the larger part of the Maritime Provinces, but four reports mention it, Yarmouth, Truro, Wolfville, and Leamington, Cumberland Co., N. S.

SAW-WHET OWL: Quite rare at Yarmouth.

SNOWY OWL: Very rare at Yarmouth. Several other reports mentioned owls, but did not particularize.

HAIRY WOODPECKER: Very rare at Yarmouth.

DOWNY WOODPECKER: Occasional at Yarmouth, Wolfville, Summerville, Hants Co., N. S.; Lower Millstream, Kings Co., N. B.; Black Lands, Restigouche Co., N. B.; Fredericksburg, York Co., N. B.

HORNED LARK: Fairly common at Yarmouth from November 1st—March 1st; seen at Wolfville during the winter.

BLUE JAY: Wolfville; Truro, a pair seen February 22; Leamington; Riverside, Albert Co., N. B.; Lower Norton, King's Co., N. B.; Lower Millstream; Narrows, Queen's Co., N. B.; Black Lands and Fredericksburg.

CANADA JAY: Frequently seen near Yarmouth. Mr. Allen of Yarmouth writes that he has seen them carrying nest material as early as March 12. Miss Murray, Leamington, Cumberland Co., writes that none have been seen in that vicinity, though usually they are fairly common. Seen near Belmont, N. S., during December. Reported from Lower Millstream, Fredericksburg, and common at Black Lands.

AMERICAN CROW: Very common, Yarmouth, Wolfville, Truro, Leamington, Summerville; reported from Lower Norton; Lower Millstream; Narrows and Salmon Creek, Queen's-Sunbury Counties, N. B.; and Liverpool, N. S.

PINE GROSBEAK: Yarmouth, Wolfville, Leamington and Liverpool, N. S.; Lower Millstream, Black Lands and Hartland, N. B.

Mr. Allen reports that though it is usually considered a winter bird in Nova Scotia, he has found it several times in the vicinity of Yarmouth during June and July; and that Mr. H. F. Lewis saw one feeding young in Yarmouth Co., July, 1911.

ENGLISH SPARROW: Very common throughout our range. Miss Murray reports she has not

seen it at Leamington, N. S. Watch for the first nesting and report.

PURPLE FINCH: Several seen feeding, February 6, Truro; a few wintered in Wolfville; reported from Summerville.

AMERICAN CROSSBILL: Flocks occasional, Yarmouth, and Wolfville; Lower Norton, Black Lands. Search for the nests during February and March. These birds have the reputation of changing their winter haunts from year to year, on account of food conditions. Observation is needed on this point.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: Occasional, Yarmouth; several seen at Truro during the winter.

REDPOLL: Flocks quite frequent towards spring, Yarmouth.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH: A few seen near Yarmouth, Liverpool and Wolfville.

SNOWFLAKE: Very scarce, Yarmouth; twenty reported from Summerville; quite frequent, Leamington; common at Lower Norton; Lower Millstream; Narrows; Salmon Creek and Black Lands.

TREE SPARROW: Rather rare, Yarmouth; reported from Summerside and Leamington.

SONG SPARROW: A few seen, Yarmouth, Liverpool; several during February and March, Wolfville; reported from Summerville, Lower Norton and Riverside.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO: A few, Yarmouth, Wolfville, Liverpool and Truro; also a pair reported, February 17, Leamington; reported from Riverside.

CEDAR WAXWING: A flock, 40-50, November 15, several about February 20, Yarmouth; Narrows, N. B. At Yarmouth were found feeding on the berries of black alder (*Ilex*). Mr. Allen never saw it before during the winter.

MYRTLE WARBLER: Occasionally seen in flocks during winter, Yarmouth.

BROWN CREEPER: Yarmouth, usually with Kinglets, and Chickadees; one reported from Summerville.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH: Lower Norton, N. B., in flocks.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: Truro, Lower Millstream, and Black Lands, N. B.

CHICKADEE: Very common in all places mentioned in these notes.

ACADIAN CHICKADEE (formerly Hudsonian Chickadee): More common than the other Chickadee at Yarmouth; common at Wolfville, and Truro.