broad, long and almost solid at the base; keel low, forward, slightly sloping to the base; frontal bone comparatively stout and round, only connected with the keel by weak muscles; wing almost twice as long as wide with very strong pectoral muscles for swift, systematic and sustained flight; no crop.

2. *Limicolae.*—Toes bare, lobed, or semi-palmated; legs long and slender for wading; bill long and slender (except in plover) for surface feeding or probing the mud and bog weed; sternum slight, narrow and short; frontal bone quite delicate, keel proportionately quite high covering down to a nearly solid base; wings long and narrow, well adapted for an erratic dodging flight. No crop.

3. *Gallinae.*—Toes unwebbed and unlobed; tarsus short and stout, often covered with hair or fine feathers; hind toe much longer than either *Anseres* or *Limicolae*; foot suitable for scratching, running on dry land or perching in trees; bill short and stout; sternum very narrow and long proportionately; keel very high, curving down to a solid base detached from a strip of bone on each side, seeming like the lower rib, only it is not jointed to the sternum but is part of itself; frontal bone long, narrow and pointed, attached to keel by quite a strong muscle; wings short, broad and rounded for a bullet like flight to escape enemies; quite a large crop where considerable food can be stored from time to time.

ANSERES (DUCKS AND GEESE).

Dealing with each order separately, we find them divided again into families, each showing characteristics peculiar to themselves.

In *Anseres* there are four such families, viz.:

(a) *Merginae.*—Mergansers or fish ducks: Bill long, narrow and rounded, sharply toothed for holding fish; tarsus shorter than middle toe, without nail, having a representation of three species in Manitoba.

(b) *Anatinae.*—River Ducks: Tarsus as in *Merginae*, bill broad, flattened teeth, more ridgelike; no lobe on the hind toe.