

Payne, at Hubert's Bay, on the south shore of the Strait. A few are sometimes obtained at Moose, by which I had an opportunity of comparing them with the smaller and more common variety.

This *Anser Canadensis* (Major?) instead of being found feeding during its autumn visit on the low marshy shores of the bay, is seen on the higher and more rocky ground on the east coast, where its principal food is berries of various kinds.

By far the most numerous of the goose tribe that visit Moose and Albany marshes in the autumn are the snow goose (*A. hyperboreus*), and the blue wavy or blue-winged goose of Edwards. Some forty-five years ago, when I was at Moose, only the blue-winged wavy was seen at Rupert's River, and no snow geese; and it is so at the present time. About equal numbers of both kinds used of old to visit Moose, and such is the case now; but half a century ago not a single blue-winged goose was to be seen at Albany River, 100 miles north of Moose, while now they are about as numerous at the former place as the snow goose, and both are more abundant at Albany than at any other part of the west shore of Hudson's Bay. As far as I can learn, no blue-winged geese are ever seen at York Factory, latitude 57° N., nor at any of the lines of flight of the snow goose further to the west.

As these two species resemble each other in form, size, and call, but not in colour; and as they often feed together, the blue-winged was for a long time considered as the young of the white wavy, an erroneous opinion, which I endeavoured to correct, after seeing a great many of both kinds of birds.¹ I showed that the young of the snow goose was of a light grey colour, slightly darker on the head and neck, while the young of Edward's blue winged-wavy,² was much darker, of a bluish-grey, approaching to black on

¹ See my little book entitled "Expedition to the Polar Seas" (1846-7), published by Boone, London.

² The term Wavy is a corruption of the Indian word "whey-whey, an imitation of the call of the goose.