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May 1891.

THE
OTTAWA NATURALIST

VOLUME V. No. 2.

THE
TRANSACTIONS.

Of the

* Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club *

(Organized March, 1879. Incorporated March, 1884.)

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OTTAWA, CANADA:

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THE BIRDS OF OTTAWA.

The appended list of birds found in the neighbourhood of Ottawa has been compiled by the leaders of the Ornithological Branch of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, from the records of the Club, and embodies the work of the Branch from its establishment in the beginning of the year 1881 to the end of the year 1890.

A list was published in 1882 (TRANSACTIONS O. F. N. C., Vol. I., No. 3, p. 29), enumerating one hundred and sixty-nine species. Of these the following were afterwards struck off the list, having been inserted by mistake:—12, *Harporhynchus cinereus*; 329, *Glaucidium passerinum*, var. *Californicum*; 398, *Egialitis Wilsonius*; 609, *Podiceps cristatus*. The following substitutions were also made:—33, *Parus Hudsonicus* for 34, *P. rufescens*; 125, *Vireo gilvus* for 132, *V. pusillus*; 467, *Rallus Virginianus* for 470, *Porzana Jamaicensis*; 556, *Larus Philadelphia* for 555, *L. Franklinii*. Of these remaining, or since added to the list, it is now thought advisable to drop the following, either because of mistakes in identification, or because sufficient evidence cannot now be adduced to support the records:—*Coturniculus passerinus*, TRANSACTIONS O. F. N. C., Vol. I., No. 3, p. 30; *Ibid.*, No. 4, p. 85; *Steganopus Wilsonii*, *Ibid.*, No. 3, p. 32; *Larus atricilla*, *Ibid.*, p. 44; *Cistothorus stellaris*, *Ibid.*, Vol. II., p. 141. See also OTTAWA NATURALIST, Vol. IV., pp. 93, 162. *Buteo Swainsoni*, OTTAWA NATURALIST, Vol. II., p. 49; *Acanthis linaria rostrata*, *Ibid.*, p. 150; *Geothlypis agilis*, *Ibid.*, p. 150; *Turdus alicie*, *Ibid.*, p. 150. With these changes, the additions made to the old list since its publication bring the number recorded to two hundred and twenty-four. This number includes two species now recorded for the first time by the Club, viz.: No. 11, *Urinator lumme*, and No. 301, *Lagopus lagopus*, besides those mentioned in the Report for the year 1890, which has not yet been published.

The district covered by this list is embraced within a circle of thirty miles radius, with the City of Ottawa as its centre. It includes, roughly speaking, the Counties of Carleton and Russell, in Ontario, and the Southern portion of the County of Ottawa, in Quebec, and lies between 45° and 46° N. lat. The Northern portion of this district is covered by what may be termed the first range of the Laurentian Hills,

one of which, known as King's Mountain, has an elevation of 1,125 feet above sea level, and rises about 900 feet above the large alluvial plain lying between it and the Ottawa River. These hills are covered with a great variety of deciduous and evergreen trees, and among them are numerous mountain lakes, varying in size from mere ponds to lakes of five miles and upwards in length. Flowing from the North through this range of hills, the rapid river Gatineau empties, opposite the city, into the Ottawa, which flows from the West across the centre of the district, widening above the City, with a Southward sweep into a broad and beautiful sheet of water known as Lake Des Chenes, and again narrowing at the City where, falling over a limestone ridge, it forms the well-known Chaudiere Falls. Below these its course is straighter and narrower, and about twenty miles down it receives from the North the waters of another rapid stream, the Du Lievre. South of the Ottawa is a somewhat undulating tract of country, drained principally by the Rideau, which joins the Ottawa at the City. It is rather a sluggish stream in its upper reaches, through being dammed back at various points for canal purposes, and thus affords several excellent resorts for marsh birds. Much good farming land, with occasional hardwood ridges, is to be found in this part of the district, as well as swamps overgrown with tamarac, cedar, and other cone-bearing trees. The largest of these swamps is a peat-bog in Gloucester Township, known as the Mer Bleue, which covers several thousand acres of land, carpeted to a great depth with *sphagnum* moss, and produces immense quantities of berries of many kinds, notably cranberries and blueberries. Thus it will be seen that the district in its various parts offers attractive breeding and feeding grounds for many diverse forms of bird life, and as there are parts of it as yet little explored by the ornithologist, it may still be looked to to yield new records, as well as much valuable information, of the breeding and other habits of many species of which too little is now known.

It is too much to expect that the list has escaped the errors to which a compilation of the kind is so liable, but the compilers trust that when it shall have passed through the purifying fires of criticism, to which it is hoped it will be subjected, it will form a useful basis for future work and study, at least for our local workers.

LIST OF BIRDS OF THE OTTAWA DISTRICT.

The following abbreviations are used:—"S.," summer resident or visitant; "W.," winter resident or visitant; "R.," resident; "M.," migrant; "B.," known to breed; "a.," abundant; "c.," common; "m. c.," moderately common; "r.," rare. The numbers prefixed and the nomenclature are those of the A. O. U. Check-list.

ORDER, PYGPODES—DIVING BIRDS.

PODICIPIDÆ—GREBES.

1. *Aechmophorus occidentalis*, Western Grebe. Casual. A pair were shot at the mouth of the North Nation river previous to 1881. The skins spoiled before they could be attended to. (G. R. White.)
2. *Colymbus holboellii*, Holboell's Grebe. M. r. A young male was shot by Mr. W. F. Witcher in October, 1881, out of a flock of eight, in Campbell's Bay, about 28 miles down the Ottawa. It was also reported in 1885 and 1889.
3. *Colymbus auritus*, Horned Grebe. S. m. c. B.
6. *Podilymbus podiceps*, Pied-billed Grebe. S. c. B.

URINATORIDÆ—LOONS.

7. *Urinator imber*, Loon. S. c. B.
11. " *lumme*, Red-throated Loon. M. r. A young female was shot on the Ottawa 12th November, 1885, by Mr. T. R. Coursolles and presented to the Museum of the Geological and Natural History Survey.

ALCIDÆ—AUKS, MURRES, PUFFINS, ETC.

13. *Fratercula arctica*, Puffin. Casual. A young bird of this species was shot on the Ottawa towards the end of October, 1881. It was probably blown inland by a severe storm which took place some days before.

ORDER, LONGIPENNES—LONG-WINGED SWIMMERS.

LARIDÆ—GULLS AND TERNS.

47. *Larus marinus*, Great Black-backed Gull. Casual. One was seen May 2nd, 1885, near Kettle Island on the Ottawa, in com-

- pany with ten or twelve American Herring Gulls. (G. R. White.)
- 51a. *Larus argentatus smithsonianus*, American Herring Gull. S. m. c. B. Most common in spring and fall. Found breeding in the lakes north of Ottawa.
60. *Larus philadelphia*, Bonaparte's Gull. S. m. c. May be found to breed, as it has been seen as late as June 9th (1885.)
70. *Sterna hirundo*, Common Tern. Casual. A male shot near St. Louis dam, on the Rideau Canal, June 29th, 1885, and another on the Ottawa, August 27th, 1887.
77. *Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis*, Black Tern. Casual. Six, including both males and females, were shot 28th May, 1888, on the Ottawa, by Mr. E. White.

ORDER, STEGANOPODES—TOTIPALMATE BIRDS.

PHALACROCORACIDÆ—CORMORANTS.

120. *Phalacrocorax dilophus*, Double-crested Cormorant. Casual. A young bird of this species was shot about 1st October, 1890, at Shirley's Bay, near Britannia, on the Ottawa, by Mr. C. G. Rogers.

ORDER, ANSERES—LAMELLIROSTRAL SWIMMERS.

ANATIDÆ—DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS.

129. *Merganser americanus*, American Merganser. M. c.
130. " *serrator*, Red-breasted Merganser. M. r.
131. *Lophodytes cucullatus*, Hooded Merganser. S. a. B.
132. *Anas boschas*, Mallard. M. r.
133. " *obscura*; Black Duck. S. c. B.

NOTE.—Two ducks, a male and female, apparently hybrids between the two last named species, were shot by Mr. G. R. White on the Ottawa in 1882.

135. *Anas strepera*, Gadwall. Casual. A female was shot on the Ottawa, from a small flock, October 29th, 1885, by Mr. W. F. Witcher.
137. *Anas americana*, Baldpate. M. r.
139. " *carolinensis*, Green-winged Teal, M. m. c.

140. *Anas discors*, Blue-winged Teal. M. m.c. A few may breed.
142. *Spatula clypeata*. Shoveller. Casual. A few were shot on the Rideau in the Fall of 1882; two were seen on the Ottawa in October, 1883, (both females), and two were shot by Mr. W. P. Lett in 1886, one at Richmond and the other at Brigham's Creek.
143. *Dafila acuta*, Pintail. M. r.
144. *Aix sponsa*, Wood Duck. S. c. B.
146. *Aythya americana*, Redhead. M. a.
147. " *vallisneria*, Canvas-back. M. r.
148. " *marila nearctica*, American Scaup Duck. M. m.c.
149. " *affinis*, Lesser Scaup Duck. M. c.
150. " *collaris*, Ring-necked Duck. M. c.
151. *Glaucionetta clangula americana*, American Golden-eye. W. r. Common in migration.
153. *Charitonetta albeola*, Buffle-head. M. c.
154. *Clangula hyemalis*, Old Squaw. M. c. A pair in full breeding plumage were obtained by Mr. E. White in the Spring of 1887 from a person who had just shot them on the Rideau.
160. *Somateria dresseri*, American Eider. Casual. A young male in the plumage of the female was shot by Mr. G. R. White on the Ottawa, below the City, 9th November, 1889. A male in mature plumage, said to have been shot on the Gatineau, was seen on the By Ward market about the same time.
163. *Oidemia americana*, American Scoter. M. c.
165. " *deglandi*, White-winged Scoter. M. c.
166. " *perspicillata*, Surf Scoter. M. r.
167. *Erismatura rubida*. Ruddy Duck. M. m.c. This species appeared in large numbers in the fall of 1882, arriving early and staying late.
- 169a. *Chen hyperborea nivalis*, Greater Snow Goose. M. r. On November 1st, 1884, Mr. S. Herring, the Taxidermist of the Geological and Natural History Survey, "put up" a bird of this species from a stubble field on the Ontario side of the Ottawa, and, although he did not secure it, is quite positive as to its identity. The late Dr. Van Cortlandt shot one just above the

Chaudiere Falls about 1867, the head and wings of which were in the possession of the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society until destroyed by moths.

- 169.1. *Chen caerulescens*, Blue Goose. Casual. Two geese and a gander of this species were shot 11th October, 1886, within a few miles of the City. (G. R. White.) The bills and feet were black instead of being lake-red as in Dr. Coues's description, but the birds corresponded with it in every other particular.
172. *Branta canadensis*, Canada Goose. M. c.
173. *Branta bernicla*, Brant. Casual. One was shot by Mr. P. Thompson on a sand-bar some thirty miles down the Ottawa in the fall of 1887, and identified by comparison with Audubon's colored plate of the species.

ORDER, HERODIONES—HERONS, STORKS, IBISES, &c.

ARDEIDÆ—HERONS, BITTERNs, &c.

190. *Botaurus lentiginosus*, American Bittern. S. c. B.
191. " *exilis*, Least Bittern. S. r. B.
194. *Ardea herodias*, Great Blue Heron. S. c. B. For accounts of visits to the heronry of this species, near Thurso, see TRANSACTIONS O. F. N. C., Vol. I., No. 4, p. 81, and Vol. II., p. 141.
202. *Nycticorax nycticorax nevius*, Black-crowned Night Heron. S. m.c. B. Young of this species have been taken here in July. (G. R. White.)

ORDER, PALUDICOLÆ—CRANES, RAILS, &c.

RALLIDÆ—RAILS.

212. *Rallus virginianus*, Virginia Rail. S. m.c. B.
214. *Porzana carolina*, Sora. S. c. B. One found dead in Mr. R. B. Whyte's garden in the City, 13th July, 1889, apparently having flown against some object in the night.
219. *Gallinula galeata*, Florida Gallinule. S. c. B. A nest of this species, with seven eggs partly incubated, was taken near Kars, on the Rideau, 9th July, 1890, by Messrs. W. E. and F. A. Saunders.
221. *Fulica americana*, American Coot. S. c. B.

ORDER, LIMICOLÆ—SHORE BIRDS.

PHALAROPODIDÆ—PHALAROPES.

222. *Crymophilus fulicæ-ris*, Red Phalarope. Casual. One shot 21st October, 1886, at Cummings's Island, in the Rideau, by Mr. E. White, and another, a young one, on the Ottawa, 1st September, 1888, by Mr. G. R. White.
223. *Phalaropus lobatus*, Northern Phalarope. Casual. One was obtained by Mr. A. G. Kingston, on 10th September, 1890, which had just been shot near Burritt's Rapids on the Rideau.

SCOLOPACIDÆ—SNIPES, SANDPIPERS, &C.

228. *Philohela minor*, American Woodcock. S. m. c. B.
230. *Gallinago delicata*, Wilson's Snipe. S. m. c. B.
231. *Macrorhamphus griseus*, Dowitcher. Casual. A pair were shot May 22nd, 1890, by Mr. E. White.
234. *Tringa canutus*, Knot. M. r. A male in full breeding plumage was shot by Mr. E. White 4th June, 1890.
235. *Tringa maritima*, Purple Sandpiper. Casual. One shot on the Rideau 29th October, 1885, by Mr. W. Forbes.
239. *Tringa maculata*, Pectoral Sandpiper. M. c.
240. " *fuscicollis*, White-rumped Sandpiper. M. r. One shot in 1883, and five in 1884. Of the latter Mr. E. White got two on 8th October and one on 18th, and Mr. S. Herring two on 27th.
242. *Tringa minutilla*, Least Sandpiper. M. m. c.
- 243a. " *alpina pacifica*, Red-backed Sandpiper. M. r. One shot 2nd October, 1885.
246. *Ereunetes pusillus*, Semipalmated Sandpiper. M. m. c.
248. *Calidris arenaria*, Sanderling. M. m. c.
251. *Limosa hemastica*, Hudsonian Godwit. M. r.
154. *Totanus melanoleucus*, Greater Yellow-legs. M. c.
255. " *flavipes*, Yellow-legs. M. c.
256. " *solitarius*, Solitary Sandpiper. S. c. B.
262. *Tryngites subruficollis*, Buff-breasted Sandpiper. M. r. One shot on an island in the Ottawa, near Templeton, by Mr. E. White, 24th August, 1886.
263. *Actitis macularia*, Spotted Sandpiper. S. a. B.

CHARADRIIDÆ--PLOVERS.

270. *Charadrius squatarola*, Black-bellied Plover. M. c.
 272. " *dominicus*, American Golden Plover. M. c.
 273. *Ægialitis vocifera*, Killdeer. M. r. A few breed (G. R. White.)
 274. " *servipalmata*, Semipalmated Plover. M. r.

APHRIZIDÆ—SURF BIRDS AND TURNSTONES.

283. *Arenaria interpres*, Turnstone. M. r.

ORDER, GALLINÆ—GALLINACEOUS BIRDS.

TETRAONIDÆ—GROUSE, PARTRIDGES, &C.

298. *Dendragapus canadensis*, Canada Grouse. R. m. c. B.
 300a. *Bonasa umbellus togata*, Canadian Ruffed Grouse. R. a. B.
 301. *Lagopus lagopus*, Willow Ptarmigan. Casual. One shot on the
 Gatineau in the winter of 1885-6 is now in the collection of Mr.
 G. R. White.

ORDER, COLUMBÆ—PIGEONS.

COLUMBIDÆ—PIGEONS.

315. *Ectopistes migratorius*, Passenger Pigeon. S. r. B.

ORDER, RAPTORES—BIRDS OF PREY.

FALCONIDÆ—HAWKS, FALCONS, EAGLES, &C.

327. *Elanoides forficatus*, Swallow-tailed Kite. Casual. One was seen
 by Lt.-Col. White and Mr. G. R. White, perched on a flagstaff at
 the Rideau Rifle Range. Though not secured it was closely
 examined through a glass, and no doubt exists as to its identity.
 The date was not noted, but it was previous to 1881.
 331. *Circus hudsonius*, Marsh Hawk. S. c. B.
 332. *Accipiter velox*, Sharp-shinned Hawk. R. c. B.
 333. " *cooperi*, Cooper's Hawk. S. r.
 334. " *atricapillus*, American Goshawk. W. r.
 337. *Buteo borealis*, Red-tailed Hawk. S. r. B.
 339. " *lineatus*, Red-shouldered Hawk. S. r. This species was
 not recorded here till 24th September, 1888, when Mr. G. R.
 White shot one near the quarries on the Montreal Road.
 343. *Buteo latissimus*, Broad-winged Hawk. S. c. B.

- 347a. *Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis*, American Rough-legged Hawk. M. r.
349. *Aquila chrysaetos*, Golden Eagle. R. r. B. A female was shot 30th October, 1883, near Casselman, by Mr. J. S. Castleman, and another was seen near the same place shortly afterwards. There are other records of its occurrence in the district. It breeds in the Laurentian Hills (G. R. White.)
352. *Halicetus leucocephalus*, Bald Eagle. R. r. B. On 21st March, 1888, one was seen flying low over the Rideau Rifle Range. Several have been shot or taken alive in the Gatineau district, and its nest has been seen at Lake Wilson, near Wakefield.
- 354a. *Falco rusticolus gyrfalco*, Gyrfalcon. Casual. One was shot by Mr. E. White on the bank of the Rideau, below Cummings's Bridge, on 23rd December, 1890. One was shot here before, but not recorded as the skin was lost (G. R. White.)
356. *Falco peregrinus anatum*, Duck Hawk. M. r. One was seen flying low over the Rifle Range 28th April, 1889, by Mr. G. R. White and others, and another was seen at King's Mountain 11th July, 1890, by Messrs. W. E. and F. A. Saunders. A third was shot and wounded, but not secured, by Mr. F. A. Saunders, 22nd September, 1890.
357. *Falco columbarius*, Pigeon Hawk. M. r. One was seen in the City 19th December, 1890, eating an "English" Sparrow (W. A. D. Lees.)
360. *Falco sparverius*, American Sparrow-Hawk. S. c. B. A winter record for this species is 26th January, 1890.
364. *Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis*, American Osprey. S. m. c. B.
- BUBONIDÆ—HORNED OWLS.
366. *Asio wilsonianus*, American Long-eared Owl. S. r. One shot by Mr. F. A. Saunders near the Experimental Farm 7th July, 1890. This is the only record.
367. *Asio accipitrinus*, Short-eared Owl. R. r. A pair were shot 6th October, 1883, by Mr. G. R. White, and one was seen on 28th of same month by Mr. W. L. Scott. It has not been reported since.
368. *Syrnium nebulosum*, Barred Owl. R. m. c.

371. *Nyctala tengmalmi richardsoni*, Richardson's Owl. W. r. Shot by Mr. G. R. White January 1st and November 29th, 1884, and seen by Mr. W. A. D. Lees and others February 21st, 1889.
372. *Nyctala acadica*, Saw-whet Owl. R. m.c.
375. *Bubo virginianus*, Great Horned Owl. R. r.
376. *Nyctea nyctea*, Snowy Owl. W. r.
- 377a. *Surnia ulula caparoch*, American Hawk Owl. W. r.

ORDER, COCCYGES—CUCKOOS.

CUCULIDÆ—CUCKOOS, ANIS, &C.

387. *Coccyzus americanus*, Yellow-billed Cuckoo. S. r. B. A pair nested in Lt.-Col. White's garden in this City in 1890. The female was shot June 27th, but the male and young escaped.
388. *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*, Black-billed Cuckoo. S. c. B.

ALCEDINIDÆ—KINGFISHERS.

390. *Ceryle alcyon*, Belted Kingfisher. S. a. B.

ORDER, PICI—WOODPECKERS.

PICIDÆ—WOODPECKERS.

- 393a. *Dryobates villosus leucomelas*, Northern Hairy Woodpecker. R. c. B.
394. *Dryobates pubescens*, Downy Woodpecker. R. a. B. Most abundant in the spring migration.
400. *Picoides arcticus*, Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker. R. m.c. Probably resident in the Laurentian Hills, as it is seen here in September and October.
401. *Picoides americanus*, American Three-toed Woodpecker. R. r. One shot 5th November, 1883 (G. R. White.) Probably also resident within the district. Seen 28th and 29th September and 12th and 13th October, 1890, in company with the last, (F. A. Saunders.)
402. *Sphyrapicus varius*, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. S. c. B. Commoner in migration than at other times.
405. *Ceophloeus pileatus*, Pileated Woodpecker. R. r. B. It is not uncommon in the hills north of us, where it known as "Wood-

cock," and is occasionally sent to our game dealers braced with "Pa'tridge" (Ruffed Grouse).

406. *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*, Red-headed Woodpecker. S. c. B.
 412. *Colaptes auratus*, Flicker. S. a. B.

ORDER, MACROCHIRÆ—GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS, &c.

CAPRIMULGIDÆ—GOATSUCKERS, &c.

417. *Antrostomus vociferus*, Whippoorwill. S. c. B.
 420. *Chordeiles virginianus*, Night Hawk. S. a. B.

MICROPODIDÆ—SWIFTS.

423. *Chetura pelagica*, Chimney Swift. S. a. B. In the first week of February, 1883, a Chimney Swift came down a chimney in the house of Mr. J. F. Whiteaves, Assistant Director of the Geological and Natural History Survey. It was caught and examined by him, and remained alive for several days. A similar instance is known to have occurred in Toronto.

TROCHILIDÆ—HUMMINGBIRDS.

428. *Trochilus colubris*, Ruby-throated Hummingbird. S. c. B. A nest with two fresh eggs was taken 12th July, 1890, by Messrs. W. E. and F. A. Saunders.

ORDER, PASSERES—PERCHING BIRDS.

TYRANNIDÆ—TYRANT FLYCATCHERS.

444. *Tyrannus tyrannus*, Kingbird. S. a. B.
 452. *Myiarchus crinitus*, Crested Flycatcher. S. m. c. B.
 456. *Sayornis phæbe*, Phæbe. S. c. B.
 459. *Contopus borealis*, Olive-sided Flycatcher. S. r. A pair were shot near the City 24th May, 1883, and it has been occasionally seen since.
 461. *Contopus virens*, Wood Pewee. S. c. B.
 463. *Empidonax flaviventris*, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. S. r. B. The taking of the nest of this species is recorded in the Report of the Branch for the year 1881, but the bird is not mentioned in the old list, appended to that report. It is added as a species new

to the list by the report for 1884, one having been shot by Mr. E. White on May 26th of that year.

- 466a. *Empidonax pusillus traillii*, Traill's Flycatcher. S. m.c. This species seems to have become rather common here in the last two years. It was considered rare before.
467. *Empidonax minimus*, Least Flycatcher. S. c. B.

ALAUDIDÆ—LARKS.

474. *Otocoris alpestris*, Horned Lark. M. a. The Horned Larks of this district were, for the first time, satisfactorily determined and distinguished in the spring of 1890. This species arrived 19th April, and remained together in flocks till May 25th, when it departed. It was again present in the fall, from September 26th to October 28th.
- 474b. *Otocoris alpestris praticola*, Prairie Horned Lark. S. c. B. This sub-species arrives in the end of February or beginning of March, remains all summer to breed, and leaves about the beginning of November.

CORVIDÆ—CROWS, JAYS, MAGPIES, &C.

477. *Cyanocitta cristata*. Blue Jay. R. c. B.
484. *Perisoreus canadensis*, Canada Jay. R. c. B. This species rarely visits the immediate neighborhood of the City, though common in the hills to the north of it.
- 486a. *Corvus corax principalis*, Northern Raven. R. m.c. B.
488. " *americanus*. R. B. Abundant in summer but scarce in winter.

ICTERIDÆ—BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, &C.

494. *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*, Bobolink. S. c. B.
495. *Molothrus ater*, Cowbird. S. a. B. On 11th July, 1882, two eggs of this bird almost hatched were found in the nest of a Vireo (presumably *V. olivaceus*), no eggs of the latter being present. A similar case, with three eggs instead of two, is recorded in *The Canadian Sportsman and Naturalist* for June, 1883.
498. *Agelaius phoeniceus*, Red-winged Blackbird. S. c. B.
501. *Sturnella magna*, Meadowlark. S. m.c. B.

507. *Icterus galbula*, Baltimore Oriole. S. c. B.
509. *Scolecophagus carolinus*, Rusty Blackbird. M. a. It probably breeds sparingly.
- 511b. *Quiscalus quiscula cneus*, Bronzed Grackle. S. a. B.
- FRINGILLIDÆ—FINCHES, SPARROWS, &C.
515. *Pinicola enucleator*, Pine Grosbeak. W. Irregularly abundant. It appeared in immense numbers in the winter of 1882-3, and again in 1888-9, as did many other of our winter birds.
517. *Carpodacus purpureus*, Purple Finch. S. c. B. Abundant in migration. There are a few winter records of this species, one of which is 29th December, 1885.
521. *Loxia curvirostra minor*, American Crossbill. W. c. Summer records are as follows:—10th May, 1882; 4th August, 1887; 19th June, 1889; 3rd July, 1890.
522. *Loxia leucoptera*, White-winged Crossbill. W. c. A large flock was seen near Beechwood Cemetery in June, 1882.
- 527a. *Acanthis hornemanni exilipes*, Hoary Redpoll. W. r. Specimens of this bird, taken by Mr. W. L. Scott in the spring of 1883 were identified by Dr. Coues. It is also included in the list of arrivals for 1887 on March 19th.
528. *Acanthis linaria*, Redpoll. W. a. Summer records are 6th June, 1882; 3rd June, 1888; 22nd May, 1890.
529. *Spinus tristis*, American Goldfinch. S. a. B. It occasionally winters here in large flocks. It did so in 1888-9.
533. *Spinus pinus*, Pine Siskin. W. c. Somewhat irregular in its visits like most of our winter birds. Summer records are as follows:—10th May, 1882; 15th May and 15th August, 1884; 2nd May, 1888; 16th May, 1890.
- *Passer domesticus*, European House Sparrow. R. a. B. Introduced. An intolerable nuisance.
534. *Plectrophenax nivalis*, Snowflake. W. a.
536. *Calcarius lapponicus*, Lapland Longspur. M. c. This species was first recorded here in the spring of 1890, when, in company with Horned Larks, (*O. alpestris*), and Snowflakes, it remained in flocks till May 25th. It was again present in the fall from October 3rd to November 18th.

540. *Pooecetes gramineus*, Vesper Sparrow. S. a. B.
 542a. *Ammodramus sandwichensis savanna*, Savanna Sparrow. S. c. B.
 549. *Ammodramus caudacutus*, Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Casual. One shot in 1882 and identified by Dr. Coues. It would probably now be referred to 549b, *A. c. subvirgatus*, Dwight.
 554. *Zonotrichia leucophrys*, White-crowned Sparrow. M. c.
 558. " *albicollis*, White-throated Sparrow. S. c. B.
 559. *Spizella monticola*, Tree Sparrow. M. c.
 560. " *socialis*, Chipping Sparrow. S. c. B.
 563. " *pusilla*, Field Sparrow. S. r. In each of the years 1888, 1889 and 1890, at least one of this species has been observed several times through the summer.
 567. *Junco hyemalis*, Slate-colored Junco. S. m. c. B. Abundant in spring and fall.
 581. *Melospiza fasciata*, Song Sparrow. S. a. B.
 583. " *lincolni*, Lincoln's Sparrow. Casual. A male of this species was shot 16th May, 1884, near the East end of the City, by Mr. G. R. White.
 584. *Melospiza georgiana*, Swamp Sparrow. S. m. c. B.
 585. *Passerella iliaca*, Fox Sparrow. M. m. c.
 595. *Habia ludoviciana*, Rose-breasted Grosbeak. S. m. c. B.
 598. *Passerina cyanea*, Indigo Bunting. S. m. c. B.

TANAGRIDÆ—TANAGERS.

608. *Piranga erythromelas*, Scarlet Tanager. S. m. c. B.

HIRUNDINIDÆ—SWALLOWS.

611. *Progne subis*, Purple Martin. S. c. B.
 612. *Petrochelidon lunifrons*, Cliff Swallow. S. c. B.
 613. *Chelidon erythrogaster*, Barn Swallow. S. a. B.
 614. *Tachycineta bicolor*, Tree Swallow. S. a. B.
 616. *Clivicola riparia*, Bank Swallow. S. a. B. A set of spotted eggs of this species was taken here in 1881.

AMPELIDÆ—WAXWINGS.

618. *Ampelis garrulus*, Bohemian Waxwing. W. It is now many years since this bird has visited us in large numbers.
 619. *Ampelis cedrorum*, Cedar Waxwing. S. c. B.

LANIIDÆ—SHRIKES.

621. *Lanius borealis*, Northern Shrike. W. m.c.
 622a. “ *ludovicianus excubitorides*, White-rumped Shrike. S. r. B.
 On 22nd July, 1890, Mr. A. G. Kingston received from Capt. Veith a shrike which seemed about midway between this variety and the typical *ludovicianus*.

VIREONIDÆ—VIREOS.

624. *Vireo olivaceus*, Red-eyed Vireo. S. a. B.
 626. “ *philadelphicus*, Philadelphia Vireo. S. r. As this species is not easily distinguished from the next it may be commoner than is generally supposed.
 627. *Vireo gilvus*, Warbling Vireo. S. a. B.
 628. “ *flavifrons*, Yellow-throated Vireo. S. r.
 629. “ *solitarius*, Blue-headed Vireo. S. m.c.

MNIOTILTIDÆ—WOOD WARBLERS.

636. *Mniotilta varia*, Black and White Warbler. S. c. B, Commoner in migration than in summer.
 645. *Helminthophila ruficapilla*, Nashville Warbler. S. r. B. A nest of this species with four eggs was taken in Dow's Swamp 13th July, 1881. In 1882 the bird was noted as “quite common.”
 646. *Helminthophila celata*, Orange-crowned Warbler. Casual. A male was shot by Mr. E. White 27th September, 1885, near the Eastern end of the City.
 647. *Helminthophila peregrina*, Tennessee Warbler. M. r. One was shot on the bank of the Rideau 9th April, 1882, by Mr. G. R. White. Another was shot May 16th, 1888.
 648. *Compsothlypis americana*, Parula Warbler. M. m.c.
 650. *Dendroica tigrina*, Cape May Warbler. M. r. A pair were shot by Mr. E. White near the Rideau 24th May, 1883. Further records are 7th June, 1885; 11th May, 1887; 16th May, 1888.
 652. *Dendroica aestiva*, Yellow Warbler. S. a. B.
 654. “ *aerulescens*, Black-throated Blue Warbler. M. m.c.
 655. “ *coronata*, Myrtle Warbler. M. a. Has been seen all through the summer and probably breeds in the Mer Bleue.

657. *Dendroica maculosa*, Magnolia Warbler. M. m.c. Found at the Mer Bleue 3rd July, 1890 (W. E. Saunders).
659. *Dendroica pensylvanica*, Chestnut-sided Warbler. S. c. B.
660. " *castanea*, Bay-breasted Warbler. M. m.c.
661. " *striata*, Black-poll Warbler. M. m.c.
662. " *blackburnie*, Blackburnian Warbler. M. c. A male in full plumage was seen in Dow's Swamp June 24th, 1890 (F. A. Saunders).
667. *Dendroica virens*, Black-throated Green Warbler. S. m.c.
671. " *vigorii*, Pine Warbler. S. r.
672. " *palmarum*, Palm Warbler. S. c. B. This species was found common and breeding in the Mer Bleue 3rd July, 1890, by Messrs. W. E. and F. A. Saunders, and several of the young were shot. It was again seen there August 9th.
- 672a. *Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea*, Yellow Palm Warbler. M. r. Latest record May 6th and 8th, 1888.
674. *Seiurus aurocapillus*, Ovenbird. S. c. B.
675. " *noveboracensis*, Water Thrush. S. m.c. B.
679. *Geothlypis philadelphia*, Mourning Warbler. S. m.c. B.
681. " *trichus*, Maryland Yellow-throat. S. c. B.
685. *Sylvania pusilla*, Wilson's Warbler. S. m.c. B. Found breeding in the Mer Bleue 3rd July, 1890, by Messrs. W. E. and F. A. Saunders.
686. *Sylvania canadensis*, Canadian Warbler. S. m.c. B.
687. *Setophaga ruticilla*, American Redstart. S. c. B.

MOTACILLIDÆ—WAGTAILS.

697. *Anthus pensilvanicus*, American Pipit. M. a.

TROGLODYTIDÆ—WRENS, THRASHERS, &c.

704. *Galeoscoptes carolinensis*, Catbird. S. c. B.
705. *Harporhynchus rufus*, Brown Thrasher. S. m.c. B.
721. *Troglodytes ædon*, House Wren, S. a. B.
722. " *hiemalis*, Winter Wren. S. m.c. B.
725. *Cistothorus palustris*, Long-billed Marsh Wren. S. c. B.

CERTHIIDÆ—CREEPERS.

726. *Certhia familiaris americana*, Brown Creeper. M. c. Winter

record are 8th December, 1883, and 18th February and 5th December, 1885.

PARIDÆ—NUTHATCHES AND TITS.

727. *Sitta carolinensis*, White-breasted Nuthatch. R. c. B.
 728. " *canadensis*, Red-breasted Nuthatch. R. c. B.
 735. *Parus atricapillus*, Chickadee. R. c. B.
 744. " *hudsonicus*, Hudsonian Chickadee. W. m.c. Early fall records for this species are 31st October, 1883, and 20th October, 1889.

SYLVIIDÆ—KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS, &C.

748. *Regulus satrapa*, Golden-crowned Kinglet. M. c.
 749. " *calendula*, Ruby-crowned Kinglet. M. c.
 751. *Polioptila cærulea*, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Casual. One was shot by Mr. G. R. White previous to 1881. The skin has since been lost, but was seen at the time by Mr. W. L. Scott, who is satisfied of its identity.

TURDIDÆ—THRUSHES, BLUEBIRDS, &C.

755. *Turdus mustelinus*, Wood Thrush. S. r. B.
 756. " *fuscescens*, Wilson's Thrush. S. c. B.
 758a. " *ustulatus swainsonii*, Olive-backed Thrush. S. r.
 759b. " *conalaskhæ pallasii*, Hermit Thrush. S. c. B.
 761. *Merula migratoria*, American Robin. S. a. B. Winter records are : 20th December, 1881, 8th March, 1882, and 15th November, 1883. Mr. G. R. White has in his collection a peculiarly colored robin, a description of which is to be found in TRANSACTIONS O. F. N. C., Vol. II., p. 356.
 766. *Sialia sialis*, Bluebird. S. c. B.

—————:O:—————

EXCURSION No. 1—To KINGSMERE, Saturday, May 16. Members' tickets 50c, Non-members 60c, Children 30c.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

To the Members of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—It has been the pleasing duty of the Council—since the formation of the Club—to report its affairs in a more prosperous state each succeeding year, but at no previous period has the condition of the Club been so satisfactory, or the success achieved during any year, been equal to that which has attended it during the one just ending.

At the close of last year the membership was 232, and now—after revising the list and deducting the lapses through death, removal and resignation—it stands at 296. There were 66 new members elected during the year.

There were five general excursions held during the summer ; the first was on the 31st of May, to Butternut Grove, near Old Chelsea ; the second on the 21st of June, to Casselman ; the third on the 19th of July, to Montebello ; the fourth on the 9th of August, to Eastman's Springs, and the fifth on the 6th of September, to Kirk's Ferry, on the Gatineau River. Besides these excursions a number of the members availed themselves of the invitation given by the Montreal Natural History Society, and met the members of that body at Lachute, P.Q., on the 7th of June.

Sub-excursions were also carried on throughout the season, as usual, to different points of interest within easy reach of the City.

The winter course of meetings was arranged as formerly, and consisted of Soirées and Afternoon Lectures. The Soirées were held on alternate Thursday evenings, in the Lecture room of the Normal School building, and the papers read at them were as follows :—

1890.

Dec. 11.—Science as an Aid to Education, by Dr. McCabe.

The President's Inaugural Address, by Dr. Ells.

1891.

Jan. 15.—Report of the Zoological Branch.

Asbestos, by Dr. Ells.

“ 29.—Report of the Ornithological Branch.

The Chimney Swift, by Mr. Kingston.

- Feb. 12.—Report of the Botanical Branch.
 The Development of Cultivated Fruits from Wild Varieties,
 by Mr. John Craig.
- “ 26.—Canadian Gems, by Mr. Willimott.
- March 3.—Report of the Geological Branch.
 Additional Notes on Geology and Palæontology of Ottawa
 by Mr. Ami.
- “ 12.—Report of the Entomological Branch.
 Mineral Phosphates, by Mr. Lainsou Wills.

The Monday afternoon elementary lectures were commenced on 12th January, and continued every Monday afternoon at 4.15 up to the 9th of March, and were nine in number, as follows:—

- The Study of Natural History, by Miss M. A. Mills.
 The Geographical Distribution of Plants, by Prof. Macoun.
 The Educational Value of Botanic Gardens, by Mr. Fletcher.
 The Physiology of Plants, by Mr. W. Scott.
 The Migration of Birds, by Mr. Lees.
 The True Bugs, by Mr. Harrington.
 Two Lectures on the Chemistry of Food, by Mr. Shutt.
 Beneficial Birds, by Mr. Kingston.

The large attendance at these lectures of teachers and students of the Normal and Model Schools, especially at the afternoon lectures was very gratifying.

In addition to the courses of lectures, a series of sub-excursions to the Geological Survey Museum took place on the 2nd and 4th Saturday afternoons of each month, from November to March, at which interesting addresses were kindly given by the following officers of the Survey on the Geological and Natural History exhibits in that building: Mr. Whiteaves, Prof. Macoun, Dr. Dawson, Mr. Ami and Mr. Ferrier.

From the Treasurer's report, which will now be submitted, it will be seen that the collection of membership and other dues has been one of the features of the year's success. Many members who were in arrears have paid up, which has considerably swollen the receipts, and, after settling all claims against the Club, there will remain a comparatively large balance to be carried to the incoming year's account.

The Librarian's report shows that this important department is also in a very satisfactory condition, and that the small appropriation which was made through the judicious management of the Club's finances, for binding, has been expended in that way to the very best advantage.

The authority given to the Council at the last annual meeting, to use its own discretion as to the manner of publishing the OTTAWA NATURALIST, was promptly acted upon at the beginning of the year; the monthly number was adopted, and the Editor and his assistants deserve much credit for the satisfactory manner in which the journal has been conducted, and for its prompt issue throughout the year.

As the members have been kept well posted through the pages of the NATURALIST, on all matters of interest in connection with the work of the Club, it is not considered necessary to further enlarge this report.

In conclusion, your Council cannot too strongly emphasize the importance of, and the advantages which have accrued to the Club, by the acquisition—through the kindness of Dr. MacCabe—of the use of rooms for lecturing and library purposes in the Normal School building. When this and the other important changes and features of the year's success are taken into consideration—such as the enlarged range of the Club's operations, the addition of lady members on the Council, the successful publication of the NATURALIST in monthly parts, the great addition to the membership, the large attendance at lectures, and the increased activity in the working ranks—the twelfth year may well be considered as marking an epoch in the Club's existence.

It is considered well to state here—in order that it may be discussed at this meeting if necessary—that the International Congress of Geologists has invited the members of this Club to take part in, or send delegates to, the meeting of the Congress which is to take place on the 26th of August next, at Washington, D.C.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Council.

T. J. MACLAUGHLIN,
Secretary.



SUMMARY

— OF —

Canadian Mining Regulations.

NOTICE.

THE following is a summary of the Regulations with respect to the manner of recording claims for *Mineral Lands*, other than Coal Lands, and the conditions governing the purchase of the same.

Any person may explore vacant Dominion Lands not appropriated or reserved by Government for other purposes, and may search therein, either by surface or subterranean prospecting, for mineral deposits, with a view to obtaining a mining location for the same, but no mining location shall be granted until actual discovery has been made of the vein, lode or deposit of mineral or metal within the limits of the location of claim.

A location for mining, except for *Iron* or *Petroleum*, shall not be more than 1500 feet in length, nor more than 600 feet in breadth. A location for mining *Iron* or *Petroleum* shall not exceed 160 acres in area.

On discovering a mineral deposit any person may obtain a mining location, upon marking out his location on the ground, in accordance with the regulations in that behalf, and filing with the Agent of Dominion Lands for the district, within sixty days from discovery, an affidavit in form prescribed by Mining Regulations, and paying at the same time an office fee of five dollars, which will entitle the person so recording his claim to enter into possession of the location applied for.

At any time before the expiration of five years from the date of recording his claim, the claimant may, upon filing proof with the Local Agent that he has expended \$500.00 in actual mining operations on the claim, by paying to the Local Agent therefor \$5 per acre cash and a further sum of \$50 to cover the cost of survey, obtain a patent for said claim as provided in the said Mining Regulations.

Copies of the Regulations may be obtained upon application to the Department of the Interior.

A. M. BURGESS,

Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.

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