





The

Rockwood

Review.



A Monthly Journal devoted to  
Literature, Natural History and

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## The Rockwood Review.

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# The Rockwood Review.

VOL. 5.

KINGSTON, MAY 12, 1899.

NO. 4.

## LOCAL ITEMS.

The habits of the Chimney Swifts at Rockwood are very interesting. These birds work together in great harmony, and it is instructive to watch them carefully. Their retiring performance is a most entertaining one, and the person who happens to be on the spot at the right moment is not likely to forget the sight. The birds, some three or four hundred in number, invariably nest in the large chimney on the north-east corner of the Hospital. Just before dark a loud twittering is to be heard, and the excited birds begin a game very much like "follow the leader." Now they circle in a well defined line to the right, now quickly turn to the left, diving just clear of the chimney. After this has been kept up for about ten minutes, one dashes into the chimney followed by all of the others. It looks as if some invisible giant were emptying an immense basketful of swallows into the chimney. The last time we watched the performance, all of the swallows but one disappeared at the same time, and this disconsolate fellow after making a few rapid circles dived in after the others. From what can be learned this is the routine of these remarkable birds. They have inhabited this one particular chimney as far back as can be remembered.

Catbirds, May 5th, Crested Flycatchers, May 4th, Orioles, May 6th. The first of the migration of Warblers commenced about the 1st May.

Mr. Jas. Shannahan is seriously ill. The wife of Wm. Dehaney has been ill.

Master Arthur Davidson is suffering from an attack of the prevailing scarlet fever.

The new electric gong at the Collinsby crossing is a satisfactory method of warning unsuspecting travellers. That particular crossing is very dangerous.

The article by Mr. E. W. Saunders (copied from the Michigan Ornithologist), on the Wood Pewee, is very interesting reading to those about Rockwood, as this bird is a common one in our grounds.

It is said on good authority that it is the intention of the Medical Superintendent to have the summer houses coated with luminous paint, and to have several mantraps set in various parts of the hickory grove. He might make almost as good a catch as some of the young women about the institution think they are doing.

BIRTH.—At Woodstone Lodge, May 7th, 1899, the wife of Samuel Stephenson of a son.

The Orioles have been extremely busy since their arrival in destroying the noxious tent caterpillars. Cuckoos which arrived on May 9th, are also bitter enemies of the tent caterpillar. If for no other reason these birds should be specially protected, as the majority of birds will not touch the tents and their destructive inhabitants.

It is said that several changes will take place on the Rockwood staff of employees before long. Cupid has been unusually busy.

The Kingston Eagles, which have been successful in breeding for so many years, are again nesting in the usual spot. They repair their nest every fall and spring, and feed their young largely on a diet of young crows, in this way proving the Nemesis of these arch robbers.

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The Ladies Musical Club has finished a most successful season, and congratulations are offered. This organization has done more in a year to advance musical culture in Kingston than anything that has preceded it, and the members have learned to appreciate a higher class of music than was formerly the case. The President is a woman of broad culture, and her influence has been of the most healthy type, and she has inspired the members of the Club to work and develop in a satisfactory manner. She has been ably assisted and backed up by a coterie of accomplished women, who have done what very few are willing to do, that is pocket petty jealousies in the wish to advance the true interests of music. Musicians are notoriously quarrelsome and given to trivial bickerings it is said, and that the best musicians of Kingston can combine and work harmoniously, speaks volumes not only for their management but for the musicians themselves. Long may the Womens Musical Club flourish.

Now that Kingston has taken a decided step forward in things musical, might it not be in order to suggest to the press the advisability of attempting honest criticism in the case of local musicians. It has come to be an unwritten law that when a concert takes place, it shall be the endeavor of the reporter to write the most eulogistic notices of the performance and the musicians. "Mr. James Jerolomey sang the Death of Nelson in magnificent voice, thoroughly satisfying the large audience that he has few equals as a bass in Ontario." As a matter of fact Mr. Jerolomey sang this song with the expression and style of a steam calliope out of tune, and the audience appreciated the fact. Such a notice as the above not only encourages James to even more vile performances, but confirms him in the belief that he is a phenomenon. Here is another, "Miss Leonine Lilacs enchanted

her hearers by her piano solo Chopin's "Ta-ra de boom," Opus 19 in D. Her technique is faultless, and her future as a pianist assured. Kingston is proud of her." The truth was that Miss Leonine should have been suppressed. The press are not altogether to blame, as the local amateurs are insulted if they are not accorded fulsome flattery, so conventional has this sort of thing become. The only occasions on which anything like true criticism is attempted are those when professionals appear. There is no reason why amateurs, especially the younger ones who may improve, should not be subjected to kindly criticism, and have their faults as well as their virtues pointed out. They will appreciate it when it is done in a kindly spirit, far more than the conventional adulation which does duty after every entertainment at present.

The ice lingered in the harbor until the 21st of April.

Mr. Carl Ford added a dark necked English pheasant to the Rockwood collection. It is a very handsome bird, and a pleasing contrast in color to the Mougolians and Ring Necks. It came from New Jersey.

Miss Gaertner, the Cellist, made a most favorable impression on her recent appearance in Kingston.

Mr. Wm. Anglin was presented with a comfortable easy chair and bookrest, by the officials and employees of Rockwood at a recent date. It is hoped that he will live long to enjoy them.

Now that spring has opened, the Fire Brigade is being reorganized, and practices are held from time to time. Mr. Wm. Shea is superintendent of the Hook and Ladder department, but claims that there is too much tendency to hook the ladder, on the part of various employees, to make the position an enviable one.

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The new Lily Pond will be a beautiful spot in the course of a year or so, although rather crude at present.

Miss McLean and Miss Fanny Stoness are recent additions to the bicycle enthusiasts.

Philatelists by the dozen are now to be found at Rockwood, and discussion upon perforations, water marks, shades, and issues are a regular amusement. It requires a genius to discover the difference in value between a stamp, on which a figured head of a King has a moustache waxed, and one without the moustache waxed, and yet these differences are worth dollars—to the genius. The heaviest transaction about here involved the transfer of a boathouse for a stamp of rare issue. Both parties seem satisfied—let us hope they have reason to be.

Whip-poor-wills were heard in the grounds on April 26th.

Emil Paur is one of the greatest living conductors without doubt.

"Two of a Kind" is a decidedly poor hand with our philatelists, one claims 999, no two alike—another has specialties in "bills," (we all have these). Then there is the enthusiast who has an offer to suit the most exacting, eighty varieties for a quarter, two hundred and fifty for half a dollar, and a whole collection, with an album thrown in, for seventy-five cents. Your true enthusiast is a decided pessimist, he trusts no one, suspects everybody of dark designs when he makes an offer, and is always on the hunt for antiques. In the meanwhile those who wrote love letters half a century ago, and were foolish enough to keep the replies, are having their youth renewed by rummaging through some strange reminders of early days.

We are under a debt of gratitude to Mr. Oscar Telgmann for bringing the Paur Orchestra here. The Concert was by far the best of the kind we have had, and was a rare treat, the selections from Lohengim and the Peer Gynt Suite being exquisite. The fact that Mr. Paur did not depart from the high standard in his programme should be taken as a great compliment. The artists set our people an example well worth considering. All of the performers were seated on the stage at the hour advertised, and at eight-fifteen the concert commenced. It was extremely annoying that the first movement in second selection should have been ruined by the influx of a hundred late arrivals, who should have been rigidly excluded until a distinct intermission occurred. Nearly every entertainment is marred by the "fashionable" arrivals who seem to consider it good form to come late. There is but one cure, and if the managers of concerts would keep the laggards waiting until an intermission a cure would soon be effected. The Ladies Musical Club have solved another troublesome question, viz. the annoyance caused by the rustling of programmes. At the last concert blotting paper programmes were used, and there was no rustling.

Several pairs of Hairy Woodpeckers, or at least one pair of Nuthatches are breeding in Rockwood grounds.

One of our stamp collectors exchanged a boathouse for a stamp. The trade was an even one, as both were of about the same issue, 1857.

The elder brother of Mr. John Graham, Assistant Engineer, died recently in Montreal quite suddenly. The sympathy of the Staff is extended to Mr. Graham.

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Brown Thrashers, Veerys and White-throated Sparrows came in large numbers on April 30th, and Towhee Buntings, usually rare, were very common in Rockwood grounds on the same date.

DIED.—At Kingston, on April 28th, 1899, in his 85th year, William Anglin, formerly Bursar of Rockwood Hospital for the Insane.

The death of Mr. Anglin, while not unexpected by those who had seen him regularly since the time of the accident, came as a great surprise to most persons. Mr. Anglin was for twenty-seven years Bursar of Rockwood, and was warmly esteemed by all of the officials with whom he came in contact. He was unassuming and gentle in manner, a warm friend, and devoted to his duties. Of rugged constitution and well preserved, few suspected the great age at which he had arrived, and his mental alertness remained in evidence until the last. When he retired from the Bursarship, it was hoped that he would have enjoyed many years of well earned rest, but it was otherwise ordained. Although his funeral was private, it was largely attended by those who had a sincere regard for his memory.

Master Harold Clarke is convalescing from scarlet fever. This is his second experience with the disease.

The Veterans Fire Brigade, captained by such old heads as Geo. Coxworthy and "Billy" Woods, claim to be able to "cut circles" around the juveniles, headed by Saml. Stephenson. In a spurt against the horse reel Mr. Sam Stephenson won by a bare length.

One of our oldest and most respected employees thinks that he can arrange the "Sprocket white-wash machine" as an effective chemical fire extinguisher. He says it would "put out" anybody or anything coming in contact with it—and he knows.

Baseball is represented by no end of clubs this season, but little enthusiasm will be felt for the game as long as it is distinctly professional. Of course it is called amateur, but as a matter of fact very few of the players can claim the distinction, although their breach of amateur rules is deliberately winked at by nearly all sporting organizations. It is claimed that as many of the baseball players are artisans, they must be paid for the days they lose when playing. This is no doubt true, but it does not apply to others who accept remuneration, and in any case when men become professional they should at once admit it. There is no harm in being a professional, but it is decidedly wrong to pretend to be something else.

Quite a flutter of excitement was caused by the announcement of the new rule regarding employees who wished to marry.

Mr. Thos. McCammon is using the various lengths of hose, spoiled in the fire practices, for single tubes on the bicycles sent to his repair shop. He has almost enough to fit out the Club.

Mr. Thos. Lonergan took his annual holiday in April.

Dr. Clarke's lectures to Queen's medical students commenced on May 2nd.

Dr. Forster's aviary is looking up. He has added a Kentucky Cardinal, Piping Bullfinch and Amazonian Parrot to his collection.

Dr. Edward Watson is house surgeon at the General Hospital.

The watering carts of Kingston cannot be called a startling success. They put too much water on the streets which receive attention, and neglect the most dusty parts of the city. If it is true that some aldermen privately instruct the proprietors to draw the line at points very satisfactory to the aforesaid alderman, another kind of "dust should be kicked up."



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### SPRING COMMENTS.

The wild creatures of the bush seem to have more instinctive foreknowledge of imminent weather conditions than humanity, apart from the aid of scientific instruments, is endowed with. Instance—Monday morning of Easter week, April 3rd, although there was hard frost, was regarded auspiciously by the Robins, which were heard singing their spring carols, as distinct from their ordinary call notes of "gimp, gimp," and the meadow Lark also responded to the bright morning sunshine and calm atmosphere, by voicing at brief intervals their few melodious notes. This was a decided jog onward in the vernal prospectus, and notwithstanding that there was an ebbing rebound of the genial influences before the day had passed, the delicate portents of the morning were not fallacious, but were speedily reinforced and sustained by a marked rise in temperature, after the expiry of fifty or sixty hours, and this change was signalized by the arrival of individuals of the Heron Cranes' tribe, and by passing flocks of wild Geese, the circling flight evolutions of the hen Hawk, and the arrival of the Pewit Flycatcher, whose welcome utterances were heard in house verandahs, and farm outbuildings, at day dawn on the 6th April. Yet the ground was only partially bare of snow, and no piping of frogs had been reported of up to that date, although the batrachians were said to have been seen feebly floating in the yet ice-chilled water of the bogs and marshes. And the sap of the maple trees only moved in driblets, that were of the briefest as to duration, and somewhat tantalizing to desires of the syrup makers, who are usually gladdened by this first sweet creation of the season's sunshine.

The Beekeepers about here speak of the loss of numerous colonies of the honey-gathering insects, for which losses the length and severity of the past winter is supposed to be

accountable. And it is also asserted that of the colonies sheltered in cellars of nearly uniform temperature, the fatalities show a percentage nearly as great as in those hives wintered in the gardens or in moderately exposed situations. The opportunities for a few hours bees' sortie, in spells of genial warmth during midwinter, have been or rarer occurrence in 1899, than for a number of past winters. Yet to some of the hibernant quadrupeds the season seems not to have been unpropitious, and the somnolent groundhog was seen to come out of his dormitory about the last of February, "in good fighting trim," and fierce battles between rivals of this species were witnessed, and the unmelted snow about the spots, or scenes where these conflicts occurred, was said to be quite palpably besmirched with "ruddy gore."

The tone of voice in birds as well as accentuation, is quite eloquent and expressive, and intelligible to observers of the temper, mood and frame of mind of the utterer.

In moments of contentment and severity, the Thrush (*felivox*) notes are a rill of melody, but when the birds sanctum is intruded on, the discordant squall proclaims the birds chagrin and annoyance. And similarly on like occasions, of "bo-peeping" or interference with privacy, the Vireo warbler ceases his melodious strain, to give voice to catlike squalls of disapprobation, that differ from those of the catbird when similarly vexed, only in diminished loudness, but not in diminution of emphasis, which perhaps is the more important point.

The invectives hurled forth by a pair of Tyrant Flycatchers, when chasing a truant crow, or larcenious hawk, are an instance in point. This ceremonial is very frequently witnessed in the June or July season, and resembles the ignominious "drumming out" of an incorrigible regimental "mauvais sujet." The invective accents of the flycatcher on such an occasion, are veritable fearless.—W. YATES.

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### IN THE FOREST OF ARDEN.

Knowest thou the path that leads thither ;  
Hast thou the key of the shadowy garden ;  
Knowest thou the name of its verger and warden,  
And the frolicksome elves that troop hither  
By night in the forest of Arden ?

For he must have ears to discover  
The clue to this mystical garden,—  
The voices that waver and hover,  
And the eyes and the heart of a lover  
To enter the forest of Arden.

Here the leaves have a language enchanted,  
That only the bees in the garden,  
And the fairyfolk read, and the hannted  
Verse of Orlando still written and chanted  
In the ancient forest of Arden.

Here the high court of Summer is holden,  
As if in a triple-walled garden,  
In a splendor of verdure enfolden,  
And a solitude affluent and golden  
In the heart of the forest of Arden.

The bird lovers know the way thither,  
Free commoners they of the garden ;  
The furry small folk, and the feather,  
And the flowery people together  
Are at home in the forest of Arden.

The throstle pipes in the thicket,  
The wren's thatched house in the garden  
Hath its tiny invisible wicket,  
But all wild things are the picket  
On guard in the forest of Arden.

And he must have ears to discover  
The clue to this mystical garden,  
To the voices that whisper and hover,  
And the eyes and the heart of a lover  
To enter the forest of Arden.

K. S. McL.

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### THE NEW AMERICAN IMPERIALISM.

In connection with the Anglo-American fraternizing that has taken place, the new American imperialism or territorial expansion is of interest to Canada. This American imperialism is an outgrowth of other preceding political facts, and especially of the change in the government that has taken place since the civil war. The nominal government of the U. S. to-day consists of the Houses of Congress, the Cabinet and the President, but the real government is a power behind the throne, consisting of the Plutocracy of the U. S. With it are associated some of the blue-blooded political families belonging to the 400. The votes of the people count for practically nothing, as the acts of the nominal government are directed by the real government, which we may call the Secret Government of the U. S. This secret government has an advantage in that it is not a noisy, talking parliament, but a powerful secret union, which knows instinctively what it wants, and exerts its power with little friction, and with no fuss.

The American Plutocracy, which has risen to its present height of power since the civil war, consists of such people as the Vanderbilts, Astors, Goulds, Russell Sage, Rockefeller, the Seiters, the Armours, the Pullmans, and Andrew Carnegie. It controls personally the production and transport of the U. S., that is to say, the people's bread, meat, coal, iron and lamp-oil,—the great necessities of life, and the railroads which carry these things from the producer to the consumer. By fixing prices at so many cents more or less, they collect taxes from the American people with the same power and

certainly as the nominal government of the U. S. The profits which they take are purely taxes levied by them, and no one can escape or avoid them. The taxation of the Plutocracy is a taxation without representation, and the rate to be levied is fixed by their own calculation and sagacity. In addition to this, they impersonally and without showing their hand, direct the whole machine of the nominal or alleged American government. If these great necessities of bread, meat, and coal, iron and lamp-oil, were made departments of the Government, and the Plutocrats were appointed as responsible managers, at a fixed salary, no officials elected by the people could ever compare or compete with them for efficiency and ability.

The Bryan agitation alarmed the Secret Government of the U. S., and revealed to all observers a strange state of affairs. The whole U. S. was divided into two fairly-matched sections; the West, South and Pacific Coast was pitted against the North, the East, and the Atlantic States. And, socially, the poor element of the American people was pitted against the rich. Especially the hand of the poor mortgaged farmers of the west, was displayed outstretched menacingly against the rich mortgage holders in the eastern cities. Had war broken out, the issue would have been dubious, and it would have been impossible for the east to subjugate the west, in the same way that the north subjugated the south in the civil war.

The secret Government saw that something must be done to relieve the pressure, and after the Bryan election, as soon as they decently could do it, they raised the price of wheat, in order to quiet the western farmers. Wheat which had been somewhere near 40c. per bushel in Chicago, was raised to over 60c., and the farmers were busy taking advantage of it. But there had been too much agitation, many things had been written and printed by Hamlin Garland and others, which had produced serious

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effects. Some of these publications partly exposed the methods of the Secret Government, and were suppressed. The Chicago riots were serious, and if pushed a little further, they would have amounted to a revolution. A crop of socialist papers sprang up all over the country, one of the most notable of which is the APPEAL TO REASON of Girard, Kansas. The Spanish War was entered upon by the secret government, for two purposes; one was that they might distract the attention of the people from home troubles, and employ their energies abroad; the other was to have an excuse and occasion to enlarge the standing army of the U. S. to such a size, as to make it too strong for any revolutionary rising, or for even the States-militia to cope with it. In this way the present position has been arrived at, and the U. S. has begun to conquer and administer foreign possessions in Cuba and the Philipines.

To us here in Canada, however, it seems that the American is not suited to act an imperial part and govern foreign races advantageously. This the Englishman does not understand, he thinks the American can do as he has done, and he is anxious to encourage Brother Jonathan and to hurry him along the path of conquest and imperialism. For this the Englishman is fitted, and he has also acquired experience. To begin with, the Englishman in England has not such an extraordinary prejudice against the negro. He seldom sees one there, and when he does, he refuses not to sit by him, or eat with him, but treats him like another man. When the Briton goes abroad and meets the oriental man of color, he does not scruple to put him down as an inferior, he compels his Indian or Malay to Kow-tow and Salaam to him. But when these relations are established, he rewards the oriental for his submissiveness, he recognizes his merits, and has a kindly feeling towards him. The American, on the contrary, takes his

negro of the south, tells him that he is an American citizen, and encourages him to be insolent. Then as soon as he is insolent, he strings him up to a tree and riddles him full of holes with a revolver. Even when he is speaking him fair, he detests him, and the negro has no better feeling towards the white man. Take Americans who have been engaged in burning negroes alive in Arkansas or in Tennessee, and send them out among the Filipinos, and how much good will they do? They will see in the Filipino only another nigger, and I would be sorry to undergo the treatment they are likely to give the Filipino. Then, when we consider what a failure the Americans made of their Indian policy in the western States, it raises further doubts. Their Indian agents were pitchforked into their positions for political reasons. The best of them were half pedlar and half thief, and all their efforts were directed to robbing both the Indians and the American government. If such men are sent to the Philippines or Cuba, what will be the result?

Now the British Indian Civil Service Official is a different person,—he may be rather a fresh young man, but he has been partly trained for his work and has passed examinations. He has an idea of duty, he has entered the service for life, and is anxious to be promoted. He aims to do justice among the natives, and to hold the scales fairer than they would themselves. He does not arrive in India with a consignment of wooden nutmegs among his baggage.

In one respect the way has been paved by events for an expansion of the American army. The development of wealth has been accompanied by the inevitable development of poverty. At the outbreak of the Spanish War, I heard the people saying, "Now the Americans will be offering bounties again for men, and what a pension list they will have!" I said "I think you will find that there will be no pension list for this war, and

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as for men, there will be no scarcity. There are thousands of men in the U. S. to-day, who will be glad of the chance of regular rations, and free clothing, and who will not mind being shot at in order to get them." The event has justified my prediction, men have not been scarce, more could be had than were wanted. But the treatment of the soldiers in Cuba has disgusted many of the men, and those who have come back are not very anxious to re-enlist. I will not attempt to explain this, except that it may be put down to bad organization in the American War Office and army. There is need of much improvement here, if the U. S. is to have an army fit for foreign service.

And speaking generally, it seems strange that the government of the United States, a country in which people are shot and killed on trivial pretexts, should undertake to maintain order in the Philippine Islands. During the year 1898, the murders committed in the U. S. numbered 7,840, and there were 109 legal executions and 127 lynchings. Putting the best construction on it, 236 crimes were avenged, and in 7,604 cases no punishment followed. I am afraid that the poor Filipinos cannot show any such record as this at the present time. It is possible that under the influence of an American government, and under the instruction of American missionaries, they may yet attain to this high standard of crime and lawlessness? Or is it possible that contact with people who are living a more primitive and simple life, may have a humanizing influence on the Americans? Is there any chance that in trying to maintain order in the Philippines, their efforts may react upon themselves, and they may learn to keep better order at home? It is hard to form an opinion. But in the American newspapers the opinion is freely expressed that capitalists and speculators will skin the Filipinos, and that the power of the American government will be exerted to cram American goods

down their throats. It is a question whether churchery and slavellization will make the Filipinos happy or contented. The new Imperialism is a problem abroad, and the political situation in the U. S. makes it a problem at home.

R. S. KNIGHT, Lancaster.

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### HUMOROUS.

"Music," said the eminent violinist, as the reporter to whom he had kindly accorded an interview ran his pencil rapidly over the paper, "is the most elevating of sciences. It moves the deeps of one's nature, refines the sensibilities and enlarges the heart. It—what were you about to ask?" "I should like to know, sir, how you regard the distinguished virtuoso, Professor von Bergstein, as a violinist?" "He is nothing, sir, but a cheap, vile imitator—a base counterfeit—a tenth rate catgut scraper, sir!" exclaimed the eminent musician, scowling fiercely.

Mrs. Dimling: I wish you would tell me the difference between a fiddler, a violinist, and a virtuoso?

Dimling: I will. A fiddler plays for nothing, a violinist gets five dollars for an evening's work, and a virtuoso receives fifty dollars for one piece.

Musical Criticism.—Mistress (benevolently to her maid in anticipation of a compliment): What would you do if you could play the violin as well as I can? Maid: I should take lessons.

"Please, sir," said a young man to the foreman of a paving gang on Selby Avenue, "Will you give me one of those round cedar blocks?"

"Those blocks belong to the city, my boy. If you are a taxpayer, they are as much yours as mine; but you don't look like a taxpayer. However, I will give you one if you tell me what you want it for."

"I want to cover it with carpet, and make a hassock."

"What do you want of a hassock? You ain't a married man."

"Oh, no, sir; but I can trade the hassock for a birdcage to Mrs.

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Brown. Her bird is dead."

"But what do you want of a birdcage without any bird?"

"Oh, I don't want the cage! but I found out that I could trade the cage for an oxidised picture-frame."

"There it is again. What good is a picture-frame without any picture?"

"But Mr. Oliver has got a picture of General Sheridan, and he said he would trade me a hanging-lamp for a good oxidised frame for it."

"So its a hanging-lamp you want?"

"No," I've got no particular use for a lamp; "but I can trade a good hanging-lamp for a Persian rug, and I can trade the rug for a Mexican parrot, and Tom Higbee will trade me his fiddle for the parrot. See? It's the fiddle I'm after."

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### THE INDIVIDUALITY OF BIRDS.

W. E. SAUNDERS.

Until the year 1898 I had never set deliberately to work to find—and spent hours in the search of—the nest of any particular individual bird, and the enjoyment and instruction received from such a detailed study are with difficulty exaggerated. One who is busily engaged in making an oological collection in his spare moments, and at the same time spending all the hours of business in commercial pursuits, is apt to think he has not time to give hours to the study of a single bird, perhaps a common one, unless he wishes to find its nest. It was through a desire to collect a small series of the eggs of the Wood Pewee that I was led to make the observations presented herewith; and the making of them has opened my eyes to the fact that I have hitherto missed the best side of our interesting study. Perhaps the continual use of a field-glass had something to do with my own awakening, for at the very outset of the season observation of the Prairie Horned Lark,

with this aid, gave great delight and formed an easy opening into that line of work, with an abundant success which greatly encouraged the novice. The difference in color between the sexes, while sufficiently marked when in the hand, is yet small enough to make the assistance of a glass most acceptable.

The Savanna Sparrow puts one's wits upon the grindstone, for, though the birds found on a suburban common crossed and recrossed with a maze of workmen's paths, are not shy, yet their actions on the ground are so mouselike that they are hard to follow; and when the male comes to make an inspection, and the two fly far, chasing and dodging on the wing, and perhaps alighting apart to be soon hidden, one must think and act quickly to get an eye on the female before she is out of sight. In these birds no hint of color serves as a guide, and if the male does not sing, as he often will not, actions only can be used as a criterion, and it is not long before the student becomes familiar with the many little points which distinguish the sexes.

Therefore, when the time came to study the Wood Pewee, the season's work had made the novice consider himself well on the road to adeptness in the making of observations.

At first sight the male and female Wood Pewee are alike, and so they continue in color, and the first two pairs taught me little; the third nest, however, belonged to a bird keener than the others, and who consequently took more watching.

The first morning disclosed the nest, which was about twelve feet out from the trunk of a small oak and fifteen feet above the ground. For nearly eleven feet the limb was comparatively straight, but then dropped at an angle of forty-five degrees for six inches, and resumed the horizontal. It was on the second horizontal that the nest was placed, and from it I dipped the eggs with a fish rod and net on June 29.



THE LATE WILLIAM ANGLIN.

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On July 5 I was there again and found the female very suspicious of me, so that I had to watch her for nearly an hour, one of the most entertaining hours of the season. She was evidently most anxious to go to the nest, and flew from perch to perch uttering her soft call, while the male, from a nearby tree, answered her. It was then that I noticed that the female prefixed to her PEE-WEE a short TE thus, TE PEE-WEE. The male did not use this prefix, but on his part appeared to have a monopoly of the call with the descending scale, P-E-E-E-U. Musical notation poorly describes these beautiful bird notes, but a better method is as yet lacking. On consulting my books I cannot find that anyone mentions any noticeable difference between the sexes, nor is one note more than another ascribed to either sex; in fact, except at breeding times such items in the life history of many birds cannot well be worked out, and in that busy time one is apt to place too high a value on material things and perhaps estimate too lightly the use of his eyes, ears and note book.

These birds were observed for a considerable time on two mornings, and their use of these two notes was constant, as was the case also with two other pairs observed a few days afterwards, and again with the first pair on subsequent days. The conclusion formed as to the sex of the singer was based simply on the behaviour of the birds themselves; the anxious one who flew from the nest was taken to be the female, and the less concerned mate the male. When observation of other pairs proves beyond doubt the correctness of these conclusions as to the use of the notes, it will be time enough to sacrifice the life of a bird to prove the sex of the singer.

After watching this pair for some time, I found the nest about thirty-five feet up in an oak tree, and fourteen feet out from the trunk. What was my surprise to notice that the limb was of exactly the same type as that on which the

previous nest was built, and that the nest occupied relatively a similar position. These eggs also were taken with a dip-net on a rod; and on July 24th, after a further search, the details of which confirmed the notes given above, I found a third nest in precisely the same position on a similar limb in an oak tree, but this time the nest was twenty-five feet up and ten feet from the trunk. The three trees in which these nests were built would be enclosed by a circle one hundred yards in diameter, and one would scarcely expect that there would be, in such a limited area, three limbs of this character; but they were there, and the bird used them.

The only other pair of Wood Pewees in these woods built two nests for me about five to six feet from the body of the tree, on ascending limbs; they left the woods about the time of the first nest of the pair under study.

What might have been the object of the bird in selecting such limbs as these three nests were built upon, I cannot guess. That a twice-bent limb is any better protection against feral foes, I cannot think, though the bird herself may think, or even know, otherwise; but this much is certainly true, that this pair of birds proved a most fascinating study in 1898, and their nest in '99 will be eagerly looked for, and if possible, their object in so persistently choosing such a site ascertained.—MICHIGAN BULLETIN.

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The American magazines are fighting "On War with Spain" with more energy than ever. When all the heroes have told their stories, the supply of paper in the United States will have been exhausted. Captain Bobadil is living again. Let us hope that Dewey, whose modesty and bravery have commended themselves to all outside of the U. S., will have sense enough to keep out of print.



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