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THE OTTAWA NATURALIST

VOL. XXVIII

MARCH, 1915.

No. 12.

HYBRIDIZATION IN THE GENUS VIOLA.

By M. O. MALTE AND J. M. MACOUN.

(Continued from page 150).

As, however, the cleistogamous flowers are developed comparatively late in the season, their failure to produce normal seed can be utilized as a means of determining the hybrid nature of critical forms only by those students who have the opportunity of studying the violets after the showy petaliferous flowers have wholly or mostly disappeared, i.e., at a time when the amateur botanist generally considers the violet season a matter of the past.

Early in the season, before the capsules of the cleistogamous flowers are beginning to ripen, the hybrid nature of suspected plants can be most satisfactorily ascertained through an examination of the pollen of their showy, petaliferous flowers, as it is not only the sexual cells of the cleistogamous flowers which are affected by hybridization, but also those of the petaliferous ones. In other words, the whole sexual apparatus of a hybrid plant, including both male and female organs, is conspicuously deteriorated and incapable of normal functions.

The stamens of a violet flower have, as is well known, very short filaments, sometimes hardly visible to the naked eye. Their anthers, on the other hand, are broad and composed of two cells, separated by a rather conspicuous connective. The latter carries on its top a peculiar appendage which is generally brown or reddish brown. The anthers proper, that is to say, the portion of the stamens below the appendages, are placed close together and have the appearance of a cupola, from the centre of which emerges the pistil. In their cells they carry numerous pollen grains which, when normally developed, appear more or less triangular, quadrangular, or elliptic, depending upon the species and also on from which side they are viewed.

The pollen grains of a stamen taken from a plant belonging to a good species, are all uniform as to size and general appearance. When examined in a drop of water under a microscope magnifying 200 to 500 times they appear opaque and of a dull grayish colour, owing to the fact that they are filled with a rich and slightly granulated protoplasma.

The opaque appearance of the pollen grains and also their uniformity are characters which can be observed not only on living plants but also on pressed material which has been kept dry for many years.

The appearance of the pollen, developed by a hybrid plant, is quite different. In the first place, the pollen grains are far from uniform in size and shape. Only a few reach the size of those of a good species, the majority being much smaller. They appear irregular in outline, are often shrunken and always of a bright colour. Examined under a microscope with a low magnification, say 100 times, the pollen from a hybrid violet gives an impression of emptiness and sexual incapacity. Examined under higher magnification, most of the pollen grains prove really, to be empty or filled with a watery content. Even those grains which, under lower magnification, appear to be fairly normal, prove to be filled with a very poor and watery protoplasma, and are therefore almost transparent.

The percentage of good sized grains in pollen of violet hybrids varies with the combination of the hybrid. The closer the species from which a hybrid has been formed are related to each other, the less degenerated becomes the pollen of the hybrid. Those hybrids, however, which are formed from systematically widely separated species, have an extremely poor pollen, the percentage of evidently wholly useless pollen grains often running as high as 95 per cent or more.

The sterility of the pollen in the petaliferous flowers of hybrid violets is, briefly, just as marked as the sterility of the capsules of the cleistogamous ones and consequently furnishes an equally excellent means whereby, in doubtful cases, the hybrid nature of violet plants can be ascertained.

The fact that hybrids between distinct species of violets show reduced sexual capability, should evidently be of great assistance to students endeavouring to reach a clear understanding of the systematic relationships of closely allied forms, inasmuch as the sterility or fertility of intermediates between such forms may decide whether the forms in question represent distinct specific units or merely are varieties of one species.

This question will, however, not be further discussed in the present paper.

The following is a list of violet hybrids which so far have been recorded in North America.

V. affinis x Brittoniana Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 169.

x cucullata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 49.

x fimbriatula Dowell, Bull. Torr. Club. 37, 170. x hirsutula Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37 171.

(= V. affinis x villosa Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 56.)

" x nephrophylla Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 50.

x palmata Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 171.

" x papilionacea House, Rhodora 8, 119. " x sagittata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 55.

x septentrionalis Brainerd, Rhodora 6, 219.

x sororia Brainerd, Rhodora 6, 221.

V. Brittoniana x cucullata House, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 32, 255. (= V. notabilis Bickn. Torreya 4, 131).

V. cucullata x septemloba Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 52.)

x emarginata House, Rhodora 8, 120.

(= V. emarginata x septemloba Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 53.)

x fimbriatula Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 172. (= V. Mulfordæ Poll. Proc. Sec. Biol. Wash. 15, 203).

V. fimbriatula x septemloba Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 51.)

" x lanceolata Forbes, Rhodora 11, 15.

x palmata nom. nov.

(= V. palmata x septemloba Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 55).

x papilionacea Dowell, Bull, Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 173.

x sagittata House, Rhodora 8, 120.

(=V. sagittata x septemloba Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 51.)

x sororia Dowell, Proc. Staten Isl. Ass. 3, 162.

V. cucullata x fimbriatula Brainerd, Rhodora 6, 217.

(= V. Porteriana Poll., Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 24, 404).

x nephrophylla Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 50.

x palmata Brainerd, Rhodora 15, 115.

(Not V. cucullata x palmata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 56. which is V. cucullata x triloba Brainerd, Rhodora 15, 115.)

x papilionacea Brainerd, Rhodora 8,56.

..

V. cucullata x primulifolia Brainerd, Rhodora 11, 115.

(= V. lavandulacea Bickn. Torreya 4, 130, V. cucullata x (?) emarginata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 52.)

x sagittata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 52.

x septentrionalis Brainerd, Rhodora 6, 220. (V. melissaefolia Greene, Pitt. 5, 103.)

x sororia Brainerd, Rhodora 6, 222. x triloba Brainerd, Rhodora 15, 115.

(= V. cucullata x palmata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 56.)

V. emarginata x hirsutula nom. nov.

(= V. emarginata x villosa House, Rhodora 8, 120.)

x papilionacea House, Rhodora 8, 120.

x sororia Dowell, Proc. Staten Isl. Ass. 3, 162.

V. fimbriatula x hirsutula Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 175.

(=V. fimbriatula x villosa House, Rhodora 8,

x palmata Brainerd, Rhodora 15, 114.

(Not V. fimbriatula x palmata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 51, which is V. fimbriatula x triloba, Brainerd, Rhodora 15, 114).

x papilionacea Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 54.

(= V. papilionacea var. aberrans Stone.)

" x septentrionalis Brainerd, Rhodora 6, 215.

x sororia Brainerd, Rhodora 6, 218. x triloba Brainerd, Rhodora 15, 114.

(= V. fimbriatula x palmata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 53.)

V. hirsutula x palmata Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 96(Not=V. palmata x villosa Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 56, which is V. hirsutula x triloba Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 95.)

x papilionacea Brainerd, Rhodora 9, 98. (= V. villosa var. cordifolia Nutt., V. papilionacea x

villosa House, Rhodora 8, 121.)

V. hirsutula x sororia Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 176.

x Stoneana Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 96. (= V. Stoneana x villosa House, Rhodora 8, 121.)

x tribola Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 95.
(V. palmata x villosa Brainerd, Rhodora
8, 56.)

- V. lanceolata x primulifolia Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 176.
- V. latiuscula x triloba Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 94. V. nephrophylla x pedatifida Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 94. (= V. Wilmattæ Poll. and Cockerell.

Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. 15, 178.)

V. oconensis x sagittata House, Torreya 7, 136.

V. pallens x primulifolia Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 177. V. palmata x papilionacea Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37, 177.

" x sagittata Brainerd, Rhodora 15, 115.

(Not V. palmata x sagittata Brainerd, Rhodora, 8, 54, which is V. sagittata x triloba Brainerd, Phodora 15, 115)

Rhodora 15, 115.)

x triloba Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 88. (= V. Angellae Poll., Torreya 2, 24, V. palmata var. Angellae (Poll.) Stone, Proc. Acad. Phila. 1903, 678.)

V. papilionacea x pedatifida Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 40, 249.

x sagittata Brainerd, Rhodora 8, 54.

x sororia Dowell, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37,178.
Stoneana, Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 93.

V. pedatifida x s gittata Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 40, 252.

" x ororia Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 40, 252.

V. sagittata x triloba Brainerd, Rhodora 15, 115.

(- v. palmata x sagittata Brainerd, Rhodora 8,

54.

V. septentrionalis x sororia Brainerd, Rhodora 6, 221.

V. sororia x triloba Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 92. (=(?) V. populifolia Greene Pitt. 3, 337.)

V. Stoneana x triloba Brainerd, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 39, 93.

Of the above hybrids totalling not less than circum.

Of the above hybrids, totalling not less than sixty, only two have been recorded from Canada.

These are V. cucullata x septentrionalis and V. fimbriatula x septentrionalis.

V. CUCULLATA X SEPTENTRIONALIS.

This hybrid was first described by Dr. Greene¹¹ as V. melissaefolia from specimens collected in 1902 by Mr. L. W. Watson on Prince Edward Island. Its hybrid nature was, however, later recognized by Dr. Brainerd, who also states that plants I elonging to the same combination, have been collected by Dr. Fletcher at St. Stephen, N.B.¹²

Pittonia, vol. 5, p. 103.
 Rhodora, vol. 6, p. 220.

In the Geological Survey herbarium of Ottawa there is a specimen collected by Mr. J. M. Macoun at "Billings' Bush near Ottawa, May 18th, 1898," which puzzled the collector. It is mounted as No. 18761 with two specimens labelled V. septentrionalis Greene. The collector, however, was in doubt whether it should be referred to V. septentrionalis, and therefore wrote on one side of the specimen "V. cucullata?" In other words, the collector was in doubt as to whether it should be considered a form of V. cucullata or whether it should be referred to V. septentrionalis. In some respects it shows the characters of one of these species, in others it comes close to the other one.

There is no doubt, however, that the specimen in question represents a true hybrid between the species mentioned. The authors have had the opportunity to revisit the locality and have observed and collected many specimens of the hybrid, growing with their parent species.

V. cucullata x septentrionalis, as it occurs in the vicinity of Ottawa, reminds one at a superficial glance, very much of V. cucullata. It forms dense and very vigorous bunches and develops an abundance of beautiful sky-blue flowers which, like those of V. cucullata are borne on pedicels much surpassing the leaves and which, therefore, are very conspicuous. The exposed position of the flowers is, however, not the only thing which makes them so conspicuous. They are, in addition to being numerous and of a very rich colour, surprisingly large, in fact much larger than the flowers of either V.cucullata or V. septentrionalis.

A closer examination of the specimens collected reveals the fact that as far as their morphological characters are concerned, they represent undoubted itermediates between V. cucullata and V. septentrionalis. It is true that their pedicels are much longer than those of V. septentrionalis, but on the other hand they are decidedly shorter than those of V. cucullata and though soft and weak, are not slender as is the case with the pedicels of V. cucullata. The herbage of the hybrid plants differs from that of the glabrous V. cucullata in being very sparsely and obscurely hirtelloushairy, and by the very same character from V. septentrionalis, which is rather conspicuously hairy, especially on the petioles.

The characters of the sepals in the hybrid are also intermediate between those of the parent species. In *V. cucullata* the sepals are perfectly glabrous, i.e., are not at all ciliolated

along the margins, whereas the sepals of *V. septentrionalis* are strongly and very conspicuously ciliolated. In the hybrid the sepals have rather sparsely ciliolated margins.

The conclusive evidence showing beyond doubt that the plants are forms of neither V. cucullata nor V. septentrionalis, but hybrids between those species, is, however, furnished by the pollen. An examination of the same proves this without doubt. A large number of pollen grains are perfectly sterile, as a matter of fact not less than about 95 per cent, whereas pollen from specimens of V. cucullata and V. septentrionalis, collected with the hybrid, shows one hundred per cent perfect grains.

V. FIMBRIATULA X SEPTENTRIONALIS was collected at Charlottetown, P.E.I., by Mr. L. W. Watson.¹³ As specimens of this hybrid have not been seen by the authors of the present paper, it will not be discussed here.

In the spring of 1913 the authors made a joint excursion to Chats Falls, Ont., situated on the Ottawa River, and only about 20 miles from the Capital. Among other interesting finds was a violet hybrid which is of special interest not only because it has not been recorded before from America, but also because the species from which it had been formed belonged to a group in which hybrids, so far, have never been observed on the American continent. The hybrid in question is

V. CONSPERSA RCHB. X ROSTRATA PURSH.

The occurrence of this hybrid in the Ottawa district is furthermore of interest, because V. rostrata is a comparatively rare plant in these latitudes. As a matter of fact, its occurrence at Chats Falls was a very agreeable surprise to the authors as so far, it had been recorded only from three localities in the vicinity of Ottawa. The occurrence of the hybrid between V. rostrata and V. conspersa was, as a matter of fact, less surprising than the occurrence of V. rostrata itself. The two species grew mixed together and blossomed at the same time. Consequently as hybrids between allied species of violets are very readily formed—a fact that is most emphatically demonstrated by the list of hybrids, given on previous pages—the discovery of the combination V. conspersa x rostrata was really only a matter of diligent search, it being quite a natural consequence of the parent species growing together.

¹⁸ Brainerd, Rhodora, vol. 6, p. 217.

The most conspicuous difference between V. conspersa and V. rostrata is, as is well known, that the spur of the former is less than 8 mm. long and comparatively stout, whereas the spur of the latter species is 10-12 mm. long and slender. The hybrid found at Chats Falls is characterized by having a spur the size and shape of which is just intermediate between those of the parent species. All other morphological characters, which it is hardly necessary to describe in detail, are also intermediate between those of V. conspersa and V. rostrata making it quite certain that the plants referred to are natural products of a spontaneous cross-fertilization between the species in question. That this really is the fact, is furthermore proven beyond doubt by the condition of the pollen as developed in its petaliferous flowers. Ninety-five to one hundred per cent of the pollen grains are imperfectly developed, shrunken, deformed and empty. Consequently they are sexually impotent and incapable of fertilizing the ovules of either the hybrid itself or of the parent plants.

What has been written must be considered as only an introduction to a more complete and detailed study of the genus *Viola* but it is hoped that enough has been said to encourage local botanists to undertake similar work in this genus within easy walking distance of their homes.

AUGUST BIRD LIFE AT PLEASANT POINT, ONT.* By Melville Dale.

During the past three summers it has been my privilege to spend part of the month of August at a little summer resort called Pleasant Point, situated on Sturgeon lake, some ten miles from Lindsay, and some seventy miles north-east of Toronto. The Lake is one of the Kawartha group and is part of the Trent Valley canal system. It is about fifteen miles long and from one to two miles wide. A dam at Bobcaygeon has raised the level of the lake to some extent, and formed a considerable area of "drowned land" at the mouth of the Scugog river. This marsh is composed of the usual growth of wild rice, bulrushes, pickerel weed, white and yellow pond lilies, etc., while many lagoons both large and small are found within its confines. In certain localities numerous stumps rise a foot or so above the water and form a favorite roosting place for the gulls, terns and herons.

^{*}Read before the McIlwraith Ornithological Club of London.

The land is quite rocky and the soil in the immediate vicinity of the lake poor. Farther back, however, the farms are excellent. The trees are the usual ones found in the north country, white birch, cedar, balsam, pine, maple, red and white oak predominating.

As already mentioned my observations have all been made during the month of August, so that the records kept include both summer residents and early fall migrants. In fact, if it were not for the small birds, particularly warblers, which arrive in great hosts about the mildle of the month, August would be a rather unprofitable and uninteresting time for the bird student in this district.

From the camp at Pleasant Point, walks are taken up country in different directions for the study of land birds, while canoe trips are made to various points of interest along the lake shore or up the marsh. Probably the most interesting excursion of all is the one up the north arm of the lake in the direction of Fenelon Falls. About half way to the Falls a number of stumps are located along the west shore, some of them a few inches or a few feet above the water, others just below the surface far enough to make navigation dangerous in any but very calm weather. It was here the Caspian Tern was first observed in the summer of 1912. Identification was easy as the birds allowed a very close approach before taking flight, and even then they circled back and forth over the canoe, strongly voicing their displeasure at being molested. On August 22nd, 1914, a census was made of the birds found here, which showed Herring Gull 40, Ring-billed Gull 60, Caspian Tern 15. The difference in the color of the feet, even more readily than the difference in size, distinguishes the two gulls as they stand around on the stumps, but any differences which might be apparent then are immediately lost as the birds rise and fly screaming through the air.

The following list of species observed does not, of course, pretend to be a complete one, but will show to some extent the variety of birds to be found in this district.

PIED-BILLED GREBE, Podilymbus podiceps \tau—Common. Breeds in large numbers in the marsh.

Loon, Gavia imber—Tolerably common. Often seen disporting themselves in the lake in front of the camp.

HERRING GULL, Larus argentatus-Common.

RING-BILLED GULL, Larus delawarensis—Common Above census would seem to indicate that they are more numerou than the Herring Gull.

†Scientific names supplied by Associate Editor-P. A. T.

BONAPARTE GULL, Larus philadelphia—A small flock of ten or fifteen usually to be found during August, feeding in the middle of the lake.

CASPIAN TERN, Sterna caspia—This rare species is one of the notable birds of the lake. Their favorite roost seems to be the stumps half way to Fenelon Falls, but later they were discovered in similar stumpy areas in the marsh. They are also to be found fishing singly or in pairs up and down the lake, and may be distinguished from the gulls even at a distance, by the characteristic, down-pointing head and bill. The identification is made doubly sure when one drops into the water with a great splash to secure some luckless minnow.

Black Tern, Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis—Fairly common. Breeds in the marsh. Early migrant. Nearly all gone by the middle of August.

BLACK DUCK, Anas rubipes—Flocks, sometimes numbering hundreds, seen in the marsh.

AMERICAN BITTERN, Botaurus lentiginosus-Common.

GREAT BLUE HERON, Ardea herodias-Very common.

GREEN HERON, Butorides virescens virescens—Along the river in the marsh. Somewhat rare.

Virginia Rail, Rallus virginianus—The only one observed was on August 19th, 1914, but no doubt there are numbers of them throughout the marsh.

Sora Rail, Porzana carolina—Several records for this bird.
Also no doubt quite common.

FLORIDA GALLINULE, Gallinula galeata—Very abundant. One of the most interesting birds of the marsh.

American Coot, Fulica americana—A few seen each year. Not nearly as common as the Gallinule.

LEAST SANDPIPER, Pisobia minutilla—A small sandpiper observed from the deck of the steamer en route from Lindsay to the Point. It flew up as the boat approached and identification, of course, is not positive.

Solitary Sandpiper, Helodromas solitarius—During the wet summer of 1912 several were noted alongshore and in a pool in a clearing in the woods. None seen in 1913 or 1914.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER, Actitis macularius-Common.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER, Squatarola squatarola—August 9th, 1912, one seen in a wet field three miles from the lake—a rather unusual place. Identified by the white rump and black patches under the wings.

KILLDEER, Oxyechus vociferus-Common.

RUFFED GROUSE, Bonasa umbellus—Found in swampy places. MARSH HAWK, Circus hudsonius—Not very common.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK, Accipiter velox—One seen some distance up country.

RED-TAILED HAWK, Buteo borealis—A pair bred in a big woods half a mile from camp.

SPARROW HAWK, Falco sparverius-A few seen up country.

Osprey, Pandion haliaetus carolinensis—One fishing near Bobcaygeon, August 12th, 1912.

KINGFISHER, Ceryle alcyon-Very common.

HAIRY WOODPECKER, Dryobates villosus-Common.

DOWNY WOODPECKER, Dryobates pubescens-Common.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER, Syphrapicus varius—Rather numerous. Breeds.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER, Melanerpes erythrocephalus—A number at the Point. Much more numerous up country. .

FLICKER, Colaptes auratus—A few observed each summer. Not common.

NIGHTHAWK, Chordeiles virginianus—Flocks of fifteen or twenty seen during migrations.

CHIMNEY SWIFT, Chatura pelagica—A few always flying around-HUMMINGBIRD, Archilochus colubris—One or two seen each year.

KINGBIRD, Tyrannus tyrannus—Quite common and as usual very noisy.

CRESTED FLYCATCHER, Myiarchus crinitus-To be seen or heard every day.

PHOEBE, Sayornis phabe—Plasters nest under the rocky ledges in Fenelon river.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER, Nuttallornis borealis—This rare species is one of the features of Pleasant Point bird life. It is quite a common breeder and may be seen almost any time of the day sitting on the top of some dead tree watching for passing insects.

Wood Pewee, Myiochanes virens—Heard calling from the deep woods.

ALDER FLYCATCHER, Empidonax trailli alnorum—Heard one calling from a swampy thicket.

LEAST FLYCATCHER-Empidonax minimus-Fairly common.



PRAIRIE HORNED LARK, Octocoris alpestris praticola—Found in fields a short distance from the lake.

BLUE JAY, Cyanocitta cristata—Only one or two seen each year.

Crow, Corvus brachyrhynchus-Ever present.

BOBOLINK, Dolichonyx oryzivorus-Found up country.

COWBIRD, Molothrus ater—Quite rare. Only two or three records covering the three years, one of them, unfortunately, being that of a young bird fed by a red-eved vireo.

REL-WINGED BLACKBIRD, Agelaius phaniceus—Great flocks in the marsh.

MEADOWLARK, Sternalla magna-Not very common.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE, Icterus galbula, -Rather rare.

BRONZED GRACKLE, Quiscalus quiscula æneus—Quite numerous up country.

PURPLE FINCH, Carpodacus purpureus-Rather rare.

GOLDFINCH, Astragalinus tristis-Common everywhere.

VESPER SPARROW, Poocætes gramineus—A few along the roadside near the lake.

SAVANNAH Sparrow, Passerculus sandwichensis savanna—Not singing in August and therefore difficult to locate. Positively identified once, and suspected frequently.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW, Zonotrichia albicollis-Common.

CHIPPING SPARROW, Spizella passerina-Common.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO, Junco hyemalis—One might expect this sparrow to be common but only two or three seen each summer.

Song Sparrow, Melospiza melodia—Common.

SWAMP SPARROW, Melospiza georgiana-Found in the marsh.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK, Zamelodia Indoviciana-Quite rare.

SCARLET TANAGER, Piranga erythromelas-Also rare.

PURPLE MARTIN, Progne subis-Heard near Fenelon Falls.

CLIFF SWALLOW, Petrochelidon lunifrons-Common.

BARN SWALLOW, Hirundo erythrogaster-Common.

TREE SWALLOW, Iridoprocne bicolor-Rather rare.

BANK SWALLOW, Riparia riparia—Common.

CEDAR WAXWING, Bombycilla cedrorum-Very common.

MIGRANT SHRIKE—Lanius ludovicianus migrans—Quite common up country.

RED-EYED VIREO, Vireosylva olivacea-Very common.

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER, Mniotilta varia—Probably the most numerous warbler.

Nashville Warbler, Vermivora rubricapilla—A few seen each year.

TENNESSEE WARBLER, Vermivora peregrina—August 21st, 1914, one seen.

PARULA WARBLER, Compsothlypis americana—A number seen each year.

Cape May Warbler, Dendroica tigrina—1914 the first year this bird was recorded. Twelve seen in one day.

YELLOW WARBLER, Dendroica astiva—A few seem to breed in this locality, but not at all common,.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER, Dendroica cærulescens—Also breeds in small numbers.

MYRTLE WARBLER, Dendroica coronata—Common.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER, Dendroica magnolia—Quite a common migrant.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER, Dendroica pensylvanica—Common.
BAY-BREASTED WARBLER, Dendroica castanea—Common during migrations.

Blackpool Warbler, Dendroica striata—August 21st, 1914, one seen.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER, Dendroica fusca—Very common during migrations.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER, Dendroica virens-Very common.

OVEN-BIRD-Seiurus aurocapillus-Common.

WATER-THRUSH, Seiurus noveboracensis—Numbers breed in the swampy places. In August they may be seen feeding in the open along the shore among the drift wood and other debris.

MOURNING WARBLER, Operornis philadelphia—Keeps to the swampy thickets and rarely seen in August.

MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT, Geothlypis trichas—Quite a common bird.

WILSON WARBLER, Wilsonia pusilla—August 19th, 1914, adult male seen. Only record.

CANADIAN WARBLER, Wilsonia canadensis—Common, especially during migrations.

AMERICAN REDSTART, Setophaga ruticilla—Very common.

CATBIRD, Dumetella carolinensis—Common.

House WREN, Troglodytes aedon-Fairly common.

WINTER WREN, Nannus hiemalis—Nests in swampy places. Not singing in August and therefore hard to find.

Long-billed Marsh Wren, Telmatodytes palustris—Abundant in the marsh. Their nests are to be found all over, and the birds scold the intruder as his canoe is pushed among the reeds.

Brown Creeper, Certhia familiaris—Only one or two observed. White-breasted Nuthatch, Sitta carolinensis—Very common. Red-breasted Nuthatch, Sitta canadensis—A few seen each year. Breeds.

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE, Penthestes atricapillus—Around the camp all the time.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET, Regulus calendula—One or two seen in 1912.

VEERY, Hylocichla fuscescens—Common. ROBIN, Planesticus migratorius—Common.

BLUEBIRD, Sialia sialis-A number seen each year.

The discovery of this bird and its use of the Trent Valley as a migration route adds considerably to our knowledge of its distribution in Canada. About five years ago Mr. John Firth, Durham, was authority for the statement made to Mr. W. E. Saunders, that a mounted specimen in his collection came from an island near Parry Sound "where they were breeding." Mr. Saunders had no opportunity of investigating this matter for himself but at his request, Mr. Guy A. Bailey of Geneseo, N. Y., went to Parry Sound about 1911 to investigate the matter and found, sure enough, that the bird nested in considerable numbers on at least one of the islands in that district. He returned with photographs of the eggs and young.

Prior to this discovery the only place where these birds were known to nest in the Great Lakes was a little cluster of islands in Lake Michigan and now, following the addition of this bird to the Canadian breeding list comes this definition of its migration route.

This bird is seen in both spring and fall migrations on Lakes Huron, St. Clair, Erie and Ontario, but nowhere has it been reported in anything like the numbers that have been seen on Sturgeon lake.

Mr. Saunders and his friends, who make such frequent visits to Point Pelee, have always found this species to be rare; and its size, coupled with its peculiar call, almost dog-like in tone, together with the fact that Terns are usually noisy, renders it likely that very few pass unnoticed within the range of the observer.

BOOK NOTICE.

NERVES -By Professor D. Fraser Harris, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., Etc., Professor of Physiology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N. S.

This most admirable handbook on "Nerves" belongs to that excellent series, "The Home University Library of Modern Knowledge," published by Williams and Norgate, London. The series ranges over such diverse fields as Literature, Art, History, Philosophy and Science, and the authors include some of the most eminent specialists of our time. Professor Fraser Harris's little treatise of nearly 250 pages will rank among the best, for it is brightly written, full of interesting matter, thoroughly up to date, and as clear and concise as could be desired. The book has a distinct literary flavour, as might be expected from a writer who has the distinction of being a member of the exclusive "Authors Club" of London.

Nobody, in these days of stress and strain, needs to be told that he possesses nerves. Most people are only too painfully aware of the fact, and like James David Forbes, the Scottish physicist, compelled to confess "I am laid on my back, and unable to revolve through the smallest aliquot parts of a right angle without a tremendous twitch"

A clearer description of the nerves, and of nerve functions, than Dr. Fraser Harris gives in his first two chapters cannot, we feel sure, be found, though a few good figures of the brain, spinal cord, and of actual preparations, not diagrammatic, would have been helpful to ordinary readers. Many curious facts are detailed in the earlier chapters, such as the ascertained speed of nerve impulses, viz.: 180 feet per second in man's motor nerves. These nerve impulses are not the same as electrical waves, though all neural activity, as of all muscular activity, is accompanied by electrical disturbances. The continuity of the neuraxone is carefully explained and in Chap. III the nature of nerve centres, or specialized groups of nerve cells, are admirably elucidated. The nerve centres are a "hierarchy," the lower centres obey the higher, says the author, there is no equality, but there is co-operation, surely an object-lesson for some politicians! Curiously enough nerve activities are not specific for experiment shows that a nerve for inhibiting the heart was grafted on to the nerve for dilating the pupil of the eve, and on being stimulated the heart-nerve actually dilated the pupil (p. 78). The character of nerve activity depends upon the tissue or organ in which the nerve ends. Habit or the forming of nerve-paths, individual susceptibility or the truth that "what is one man's meat is another's poison," and other interest-

ing topics are all admirably treated. The importance of inhibition is revealed, and the most recent views on fatigue, sleep, and nerve restoration, set forth. Professor Fraser Harris's views on sleep attracted wide attention, when he delivered his remarkable Midland Institute lecture, in Birmingham, some years ago. It is here shown that sleep results normally from a kind of poisoning of the brain cells, decreased brain circulation, and diminished sensation. Sleep may be prevented by too energetic brain circulation, excessive mental occupation, etc., and the paragraphs are most valuable upon the causes of "insomnia," that dread calamity, which is well-nigh the worst of human ills. The author gives some curious examples of sleep under difficult circumstances, but these are even surpassed by the recorded instance of a naval captain during the last attack on Rangoon (in the Indian Mutiny), when, worn out by constant overstrain. he fell into a deep sleep on deck, and slept for two hours though he lay within a vard of one of the largest guns, which was being energetically fired the whole time. The author does not shrink from postulating a "nerve force" as a scientific fact, in spite of its psychological and metaphysical dangers, and he declares that our nervous system is "dynamogenic." The tremendous muscular power of maniacs, must be attributed to abnormal production of such nerve force. In Chap. IX on "Nervousness" Dr. Harris describes the Nissl granules. In the cell rested and fresh the granules are well-formed, but in overworked cells they become irregular and indistinct, hence they must be the physicochemical basis of nerve energy. Gland cells are similarly crammed with minute granules in the rected condition, but are deficient in granules after active glandular secretion. High phosphorus (lecithin) is beneficial for nerves in a starved, fatigued condition, and fatty food, under proper conditions, is valuable. The pages on fussiness, irritability or "bad temper," neurasthenia and other troubles are scientifically described. Bodily health and nerve health are vitally connected, and the power of inhibition is a supreme blessing, this power of control being the expression of nerve vigour, it is "Knowing when and where to stop, when not to act and not to speak."

A useful glossary of terms, and a brief bibliography of "nerve" books, and a very concise index complete a model guide upon a subject of universal interest. Professor Harris is, we notice, the only Canadian author who has written a book for this "Home University" Series, which the London "Daily Telegraph" affirms gives "the world's learning in little."

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