

Or the Thrasher:

“Pickereel, pickereel, pickereel,
Stickle-back, stickle-back,
Sculpin, sculpin.”

“Kittiwake, kittiwake, kittiwake,
Curlew, curlew
Bobolink, bobolink, bobolink,
Whippoorwill, whippoorwill.”

Many of the other poems too will appeal to the lovers of out-door life and nature. We congratulate Dr. Weeks upon his little volume which can well find a place on the shelves of any naturalist's library.—W. S.

Birds and the English Whitethorn.—Rev. E. A. Woodruffe-Peacock gives¹ a list of 22 species of English wild birds that feed on and disseminate the seeds of whitethorns (*Crataegus oxyacanthus* and *C. oxyacanthoides*). The Hawfinch and Greenfinch open these thick shelled seeds for the sake of the endosperm, hence do not come in the list of distributors. It is stated that seeds which have traversed the alimentary canal of a bird germinate a year ahead of those gathered by man and that formerly they were fed to turkeys before being sown in order to gain this advantage.—W. L. M.

Sapsuckers distributing diseases of trees.—The work of the true Sapsuckers (*Sphyrapicus*) is of such a character that it must be an important means of transmission of diseases of trees. Little has been recorded on this subject because these diseases themselves have been little studied. In the reviewer's bulletin on Woodpeckers in Relation to Trees and Wood Products (Biol. Surv. Bul. 39, 1911, p. 25) was recorded the occurrence of galls caused by the fungus *Peridermium cerebrum* in connection with Sapsucker work. During the study of the chestnut blight (*Diaporthe parasitica*) in Pennsylvania it was noted that Woodpecker work was associated with about one-tenth of the older lesions of this devastating disease.² Prof. M. B. Waite says³ he has observed several cases where Sapsuckers were responsible for the transmission of the highly destructive pear blight (*Bacillus amyliivorus*). These are the previously recorded instances of the distribution of plant diseases by Sapsuckers, that have come under the reviewer's eye. Now appears another relating to the red stain (*Fusarium negundi*) in the wood of boxelder. This stain which results in wood containing it being relegated to a lower grade also has been found to be carried from tree to tree by Sapsuckers.⁴ In departing from

¹The Naturalist, Nov. 1919, pp. 353-355.

²Fulton, H. R. Proc. Chestnut Blight Conference, 1912, p. 56

³Official Rep. 31st Fruit-growers' Convention Calif., 1906, p. 144.

⁴Hubert, Ernest E. Journ. Agr. Research, 26, No. 10, Dec. 8, 1923, pp. 447-457, ls. 1-3.