

possibly be scarcity of their natural food supply in the mountains, probably caused by the extended drought of the summer of 1922.

*U. S. Indian School,
Santa Fé, New Mexico.*

FURTHER NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS ON THE BIRDS
OF HATLEY, STANSTEAD COUNTY, QUEBEC,
1919-1923.

BY HENRY MOUSLEY.

IN my last paper in 'The Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, No. 1, pp. 51-59, I find the latest date recorded was October 31, 1919, when flocks of Tree Sparrows which arrived on September 26 were still about. Since then the following twelve species, Mourning Warbler, Horned Grebe, White-winged Scoter, Surf Scoter, Scaup Duck, Bohemian Waxwing, Starling, Rough-legged Hawk, Double-crested Cormorant, Mallard, Bufflehead, and Palm Warbler, have been added to my list, bringing the total up to 187 species to date. These will be dealt with hereafter in an annotated list as before. Continuing from where I left off in October, 1919, I propose to record just a few of the most interesting events under the heading of each month, as follows, viz.:

November, 1919.—On the 5th, the first flock of Redpolls appeared, followed on the 9th by Snow Buntings. On the 16th, a Goldfinch was seen, and the following day a Northern Shrike, the only one recorded for the winter. Mr. Greer saw what he took to be a flock of Herring Gulls on the St. Francis River at Sherbrooke on the 21st, and five days later, large flocks of Canada Geese and Snow Buntings were seen at Hatley.

December.—A Robin was seen by Mr. Greer's brother on the 4th, at North Hatley, and Pine Grosbeaks by Mr. Greer and myself on the 14th and 15th. The former also saw a Song Sparrow round his barn on the 21st, which was kept under observation until the 27th, when it disappeared, and was not seen again. Three more Robins were recorded on the 23rd, quite close to my house, and Mr. Harrison F. Lewis wrote me that he had seen

three on the 26th at Bergerville, near Quebec, so it looks as if a number of the birds had remained through the winter in this Province, the same as they did in Nova Scotia in 1917-1918, as recorded by Mr. Lewis in 'The Auk,' Vol. XXXVI, 1919, No. 2, pp. 205-07.

January, 1920.—On the 16th, a flock of twenty Evening Grosbeaks was reported, and I heard a Chickadee utter the so-called love note "Phe-be," with the thermometer registering 20° below zero! On the 22nd, Mr. Greer saw a Merganser on an open patch of water on the River Massawippi at North Hatley, and a Robin on the 27th near the same place. On the 28th, three Evening Grosbeaks were seen by my younger son.

February.—Mr. Greer again reported the Merganser as being at North Hatley on the 8th, and on the 27th, he saw a Robin there, and Evening Grosbeaks were also seen by his son. From the 15th to the 19th, Pine Grosbeaks regularly visited my garden. On the 23rd, I saw a Crow at Ayer's Cliff, and was informed the bird had spent the winter in the neighborhood, notwithstanding the fact that the thermometer seldom registered much above zero. On the 24th, I saw the first Prairie Horned Lark.

March.—On the 5th, the worst snowstorm of many years commenced, and lasted all through the following day and night, the high wind piling the snow up into great drifts, and causing a dislocation of traffic both by road and rail, the thermometer at the time registering from zero to 10° below. It was not until the 10th that a decided thaw set in, and Crows were heard cawing in all directions. On the 28th, a couple of Black Ducks were seen on "the marsh," this record being nine days ahead of any previous one. A flock of fifty Canada Geese was reported on the 29th.

April.—Nothing of any great interest occurred during the month.

May.—Warblers were late in arriving, the Yellow Palm failing to put in an appearance at all. The first Myrtles appeared on the 7th, followed at intervals by most of the other species to be found here. Canadian Ruffed Grouse did well, a nest with eleven incubated eggs being found on the 25th, and three broods of chicks were seen between this date and June 10.

June.—Two small Gulls, probably Kittiwakes, were seen on Lake Massawippi on the 5th, and on the 12th, I came across a

female Indigo Bunting on the western shore, which from her actions was evidently breeding. This bird is uncommon here, and I have only once found their nest and eggs, in 1912. On the 14th, I found the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher breeding for the first time, full particulars of which appeared in 'the Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 127. They have been particularly numerous this season. On the 19th, my younger son saw four Great Blue Herons, an unusual event, as I have no previous record for the month of June. The 22nd brought a pleasant surprise, for I came across a singing male of the Bay-breasted Warbler, not five hundred yards from the site of the nest found in 1918. On this occasion, however, I failed to locate his home, and did not see the bird again in this particular spot, but found him on July 2, on the very same ground as in 1918, but no amount of searching revealed any nest, the bird being probably mateless, as no female was seen on either occasion. On the 24th, a Bartramian Sandpiper was seen, as recorded in 'The Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 126. On this date also, a Brown Creeper was seen in the big swamp near Beebe, this bird never having been recorded before between May 25 and August 2 in any given year. Warbling Vireos were seen frequently, a pair nesting in my garden again as last year, and within a few yards of the old site.

July.—On the 1st, I looked up my little pair of House Wrens, and found they had nested again in the old locality, for both parents were feeding their brood of five young. The notes of the Olive-sided Flycatchers, which also nest in this locality, were heard, but all my attention was taken up by a singing male Scarlet Tanager, whose nest is still a desideratum, the bird being scarce in these parts. However, nothing came of it, as I failed to locate either a nest or a female. On the 2nd, I found a nest of the Myrtle Warbler, containing four fresh eggs, and on the 9th, one of a Magnolia Warbler, also with four fresh eggs, both of which I consider genuine second sets, and not brought about by the loss of the first, or even any subsequent set. The nests were within nine yards of each other, and the set of eggs in the former must be about the smallest on record, their average size being only $.63 \times .50$, the extreme given in 'Warblers of North America' being $.63 \times .51$.

On the 6th, I definitely added the Sharp-shinned Hawk to my breeding list, by finding a nest situated about forty-five feet up in a tall spruce tree, and which contained four young birds. The female was very noisy and demonstrative, but the male was quiet and unobtrusive. He was in full adult plumage, whilst his mate was in a phase half way between that of adult and immature. The return of the Solitary Sandpiper, on the 15th, reminded me forcibly that the summer was on the wane. Two days later, a Wilson's Snipe was flushed on "the marsh," this bird never having been noted before in July, the earliest previous record being August 24 of last year, 1919.

August.—On the 1st, an immature Mourning Warbler was secured by my friend, L. M. Terrill, on Mt. Orford, bringing my list of Warblers up to twenty-four species, see 'Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 126. On the 16th, a Lesser Yellow-legs was seen on "the marsh," the last record dating back as far as August 31, 1917. This bird was joined by another on the 18th, and with one seen on the 26th, 29th, and September 7, the total record for the past ten years stands at fourteen birds only.

September.—On the 3rd, a Cooper's Hawk was seen, and on the 9th a Wilson's Warbler, both uncommon birds here.

October.—On the 6th, I secured an example of the Pied-billed Grebe on the marsh, the first I had seen there, and also obtained my second record for the Green Heron, the last one dating back to September 24, 1917.

November.—On the 1st and 7th, two Horned Grebes were obtained on Lake Massawippi, see 'Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 126.

December.—A Robin was seen on the 4th and 5th, and another on the 12th by Mr. Greer; it was singing in a tree top near North Hatley. Goldfinches and Purple Finches were observed on the 9th and 10th, the latter wintering here for the first time, see 'Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 606.

January, 1921.—The first record for the year was a Purple Finch on the 3rd, and five more on the 15th, with five Goldfinches as well. A Crow was seen on the 29th and 30th.

February.—A Saw-whet Owl was killed in the barn of Mr. Glen Bean at North Hatley on the 13th.

March.—Prairie Horned Larks were first seen on the 2nd, and Bluebirds on the 12th, this being a record by eight days. For other early spring records during this and following months, see 'Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 609.

April.—A Killdeer was seen on the 5th, and a nest and four eggs of the Prairie Horned Lark was found on the 9th, this being a record by five days.

May.—On the 21st, I climbed Mt. Orford (2860 ft.) in company with my friends, Napier Smith and Colonel Morrill. On the summit a flock of White-winged Crossbills was seen, out of which a female was obtained. Mr. Smith had found these birds breeding near the mountain on April 12, a nest containing three young about two days old having been located, and some interesting photos obtained. One female Myrtle Warbler, and three or four Black-poll Warblers were also seen near the summit, and what looked like an old nest of the latter was discovered about four feet up in a stunted spruce. Other interesting birds, observed lower down the mountain, were the following. viz.: Mourning Warbler one, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks three, Scarlet Tanager one, and a Sharp-shinned Hawk, whose nest was evidently not far off. A nest of the Ovenbird was found all ready for eggs, this being an early date. In Mr. Smith's garden at Magog a Warbling Vireo's nest was seen, also one of the House Wren in a nesting box

On the 26th, a male Scarlet Tanager was seen in my garden, and on the 27th and 28th, I had the gratification of listening to the notes of the "Kicker." On both occasions these were heard on "the marsh" at 8 P. M., and were exactly as described by the late Wm. Brewster, Kic, Kic-Kic, Ki-Kêer. They were uttered regularly at short intervals, and kept up for long periods at a time. In view of my record of the Black Rail, 'Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 56, may I not, like Mr. Brewster, be allowed to ascribe these notes to this bird, until such time as the matter can be set at rest, in the way pointed out by Mr. Brewster, in his 'Birds of the Cambridge Region,' 1906, p. 148-149? On the 28th, a White-winged Scoter was seen on Lake Massawippi, and I heard that a pair of Purple Martins had attempted to breed in Mr. Austen Beaumont's Martin house, near Kingscroft on the 30th, but had been driven off by some Tree Swallows, who had taken up their

residence previously. Mr. Beaumont told me that Martins used regularly to occupy this house a few years ago.

June.—On the 4th, a male Indigo Bunting was seen near my house, and on the 6th, I was able to add the Brown Creeper to my breeding list, by finding a nest in a swampy wood on the eastern shore of Lake Massawippi, containing five fully fledged young, which all flew out directly I rapped the tree. The nest was situated behind the loose bark of a dead fir tree, fifteen feet above the ground, and was composed of coarse strips of bark, held together with spiders webbing, the lining consisting of soft material, such as animal fur, and very fine shreds of bark. Judging from the shape of the nest when I found it, the weight of the little birds had so elongated it, that finally they must have been lying in a tier, one above the other.

On the 12th and 13th, I found two nests of the Northern Parula Warbler, and another again on the 30th. One of these differed from any of the others found here, being suspended after the manner of a Baltimore Oriole's, and not constructed between two hanging strands of usnea lichen. It is remarkable that since May 12, until the 21st, of this month, I did not see a Hummingbird. On the last day of the month, I found the nest of a Redstart, containing one young Cowbird, and one young Redstart. The only other record of a Warbler being victimized dates back to June 27, 1915, when I found an egg in the nest of a Yellow Warbler as already recorded.

July.—A Solitary Sandpiper returned on the 6th, this being a record by three days, the previous earliest being July 9, 1916. On the 23rd, I left Hatley and did not return until the end of August.

August.—On the 31st, I saw seven Solitary Sandpipers all close together, a somewhat unusual sight. A Killdeer was also noted.

September.—On the 3rd, 5th and 8th, three other Killdeers were observed near the same spot as the one seen on August 31. Possibly they may have been one and the same bird, but in any event this species is gradually extending its range in the Province of Quebec. On the 5th, a Green-winged Teal was seen on "the marsh," the previous record dating back to 1916. Another was seen on the 14th, in company with a Blue-winged Teal, which

latter bird had only once previously been noted, in 1919. A Philadelphia Vireo was seen on the 16th, and on the 29th I beat my previous record by seeing eight Solitary Sandpipers all close together. Most of the Warblers were seen during the month, and the season can be compared to that of 1912 for the abundance of Warbling Vireos.

October.—In the early part of the month up to the 11th, the following Warblers were seen viz.: Nashville, Northern Parula, Black-throated Blue, Bay-breasted, Blackburnian and Myrtle. On the 5th, a large flock of Pipits was noted.

On the 12th, I left Hatley on a visit to England, and did not return until the following March.

December.—On the 14th, Mr. Napier Smith wrote me that a Great Blue Heron had been seen by two parties at Magog on the 1st instant, during a southwest gale. This is the latest record I have for the species, my latest previous being Nov. 27, 1916. In this same letter, Mr. Smith speaks of Owls being abundant especially the Short-eared, which showed a great individual variety of plumage colouration, dark, light and white-faced. On the 11th, Mr. Smith secured a Canada Jay, the second record only I have of the species, the previous one being October 21, 1915.

April, 1922.—On the 22nd, the first Myrtle Warbler was seen, beating all former records by four days, the previous earliest being April 26, 1913. On the 26th, I saw a pair of White-breasted Nuthatches carrying building material to a knot hole in a tall maple.

May.—Many records of early arrivals were obtained from the 1st to the 12th, in one case, that of the House Wren, being as much as eleven days in advance of any previous date. On the 12th, a Philadelphia Vireo was seen, this being the first spring record I have, all the others being in the fall. The day following was a "red letter" one, an example of the Palm Warbler being secured, and on the 14th, a beautiful nest with seven fresh eggs of the Brown Creeper was found near Lake Massawippi, in the same wood, and close to the one found last year on June 6, containing five fully fledged young. In the present instance, the site and construction of the nest was similar to that of last year, but this one was of course in perfect shape, and can be seen in the Victoria

Memorial Museum at Ottawa, to which institution I presented it. On the 19th and 20th, whilst staying with my friend, Mr. Napier Smith, at Magog, I had the pleasure of hearing and witnessing the love song and flight of the Woodcock, but no amount of searching revealed the nest. It was whilst looking for this nest, that we came upon a male Chickadee fast asleep in an old nest of a Red-eyed Vireo. Just previously, we had found the female sitting on seven eggs in an old stump nearby. So sleepy was the male, that he almost refused to leave the nest, and when he did, he merely stood on the edge of it, whilst we watched him at very close quarters. When we moved away, he again retired for the night, and so we left him. Speaking of the so-called love note "Phe-be" of the Chickadee, the following is a record of the total number of times I have heard it uttered, during the past eight years viz.: January 3 times, February 1, March 19, April 40, May 52, June 22, July 13, August 22, September 51, October 15 times, November and December nil. I think this record tends to show that the note is really a love one. During the four winter months, the birds hardly ever utter it, then in March it begins, and in April increases, and by May has reached its height, as might be expected. From thence there is a diminution, until we reach September, when there is another great increase, which however is in the natural order of things, and what one might expect.

Whilst at Magog, I also heard of a Crow carrying off sixteen young chickens, in a manner similar to that witnessed by myself near Hatley, and already recorded, 'Auk,' Vol. XXXIII, 1916, No. 1, p. 73. On the 27th, I found my first Song Sparrow's nest containing a Cowbird's egg, and four of the owners. On the ground at the side of the nest, the fifth egg of the Sparrow was found, with a hole "jabbed" in it, as if by the bill of the Cowbird. Do we know all that is to be known regarding the number of eggs the female Cowbird lays, and the exact time, and method of depositing them, in the nests of other birds? The subject should prove an interesting one to our Oölogists, in view of Mr. Edgar Chance's recent work with the Cuckoo in England, see 'The Cuckoo's Secret,' Edgar Chance, 1922, pp. 1-239. At Hatley, the Cowbird is an infrequent (but I am afraid somewhat increasing) visitor, for during the past twelve years, I have only come across three eggs,

and three young birds, two of the former being found this year, the one above, and the other in the nest of a Magnolia Warbler on June 9. On the 29th, at Lake Massawippi, I came across a Black Duck with her brood of six Ducklings, in a marsh on the eastern shore, not far from Massawippi Station.

June.—On the 8th, a Northern Water Thrush was observed feeding its young on the eastern shore of Lake Massawippi, and on the 9th, the Magnolia Warbler's nest was found, containing the Cowbird's egg referred to above. Two other very interesting nests, also of this species, were met with on the 14th and 16th, built in the forks of spiraea bushes, a most unusual site, as previous to this I have never found them in anything but coniferous trees. On the 11th, a nest of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher containing four fresh eggs was found by Mr. Napier Smith, who was spending the day with me, this being my second record only of the species nesting here.

On the 13th, a "mock" nest of the Winter Wren was located, in which the male spent a good deal of time. The nest was situated five feet above the ground, in the roots of a large upturned tree. On the 16th, a male Rose-breasted Grosbeak was heard singing, and a Woodcock was flushed, a somewhat unusual thing, as the bird is very scarce here, and has never been seen in this month before. On the 26th, I climbed Mt. Orford (2860 ft.) for the third time, finding the nest of a Junco with five fresh eggs almost on the summit, where a Winter Wren was also singing. Lower down, an Olive-sided Flycatcher was observed, and on the way home a Great Blue Heron was seen, near Little Magog Lake.

July.—On the 6th, I climbed Barnston Pinnacle (2150 ft.), finding a Junco's nest on the summit, containing three fresh eggs. Two Loons were also observed on the lake below, which is now known as Lyster Lake. On the 19th, a female Hummingbird was seen, the first record since May 28th! They appear to have been very scarce this year. On the 29th, four White-winged Crossbills were seen in the large swamp near Beebe.

August.—On the 1st, I was fortunate in observing an immature male of the Mourning Warbler, in some thick blackberry bushes at the side of the road, not very far from the spot where I obtained the Orange-crowned Warbler in September, 1919. On the 11th,

I obtained my first personal record of the Red Crossbill, and Purple Martin, both of which were seen near Massawippi Station, two of the former, and one of the latter. The former used to be plentiful here at one time, but of late years has been supplanted by the White-winged species, which has been especially numerous and well distributed this season, in many parts of the Province, as well as the Red Crossbill. It was a great pleasure to meet with the Purple Martin, although only one example was seen, perched on the telephone wires, with a number of Barn, Cliff, Tree, and Bank Swallows. On this date also, I met Mrs. Piercy of Ayer's Cliff, who told me she had seen the Wood Duck transporting her young in her bill from the nest to the water. The site was a hole in an old tree, on the banks of the River Tomifoby, above Ayer's Cliff. On the 17th, Mr. Napier Smith obtained his first record for the Red Crossbill at Magog.

September.—On the 14th, a Wilson's Warbler was seen, and on the 19th, whilst hunting for rock ferns in the big gorge at Coaticook, I came upon an immense Crow roost, the ground all under the trees being covered with feathers and droppings. This is probably the roost, or one of the roosts, I always supposed lay to the east or northeast of Hatley, see 'Auk,' Vol. XXXIII, 1916, p. 73. On the 21st, I saw a female Scarlet Tanager, quite an unusual sight, for of the very few birds seen each season, it is generally the male that has been in evidence. On this same day, which by the way happened to be a very cold one, the thermometer only registering 32° at 7 A. M., a small flock of seven Canada Geese passed over Hatley, and in so doing, created a record for the past twelve years, as my earliest previous date is October 7, 1918. On the 26th, a few Pine Siskins were noted (previous earliest date, Oct. 11) and a Tennessee Warbler on the 27th. As regards the Warblers, the present fall has been a most disappointing one, very few birds having been seen, and this remark might apply equally well to most species of other birds besides. One notable example that occurs to me at the moment is that of the Solitary Sandpiper, a very common bird here in the fall, but which I have not seen since August 26, a very different state of affairs to last September, as already recorded.

October.—This month was ushered in by an abnormal heat

wave, the temperature on the 1st reaching 80° in the afternoon. On the 3rd, another flock of eleven Canada Geese was seen going south, notwithstanding the continued heat wave. On the 9th, large numbers of Ducks of various kinds were reported on Lake Massawippi, in fact, it is many years since Duck shooters had such a time as during the present month. On the 14th, a Fox Sparrow was noted, and four Prairie Horned Larks. The former are uncommon here, and I seldom see very many of them in a season. In 'The Canadian Naturalist,' 1840, p. 245, Gosse speaks of having seen three or four of them at the edge of a maple wood, about the middle or end of July. One would feel inclined to suppose that Gosse was in error in this matter, if it was not for the fact that he was well acquainted with the bird in Newfoundland, where he had spent seven or eight years before coming to Compton. My earliest date for the arrival of the bird in the fall is October 6. On the 16th, a Yellow Palm Warbler was observed, and four days later, the last of the Myrtle Warblers were seen. At the end of the month, a large flock of Snow Buntings was seen by Mr. Greer.

November.—On the 3rd, Goldfinches, Redpolls, and Pine Siskins were seen, the latter being especially numerous. A week later, on the 10th, a Brown Creeper and five Red Crossbills were noted, and on the 14th, a Meadowlark, with three White-winged Crossbills on the 18th. On the 26th, a Great Grey Owl was obtained, near North Hatley, by Mr. Willis Bassett, and sent to Mr. Greer to be mounted. This is the second record only that I know of for this species, the previous one having been mounted by Mr. Greer, as already recorded. On the 17th, two Robins were seen near North Hatley, and a Prairie Horned Lark near Katevale on the 26th, both records being sent me by Mr. Greer. The latter for the Prairie Horned Lark is three weeks later than any previous date so far obtained for this species.

December.—Pine Siskins are about in great flocks, and on the 2nd, twelve White-winged Crossbills were seen, these birds being very numerous, as well as the Red Crossbills. Pileated Woodpeckers also seem to be more in evidence than usual, and Crows are wintering in many localities, little flocks of from six to ten having been several times recorded. On the 23rd, the first Northern Shrike was seen, and I also took 'Bird-Lore's' yearly Christmas

Census, recording 15 species, with a total of 424 individuals seen, of which number 100 were White-winged Crossbills. On the 27th, the first Goshawk for the winter was recorded, and two Golden-crowned Kinglets were also seen, this being a record by two days, my latest previous date being December 25, 1915. On the 28th, it snowed heavily all day, with a temperature of 4° below zero, which gradually increased to 20° below on the 30th, making it appear as though the year 1922 was going out like a lion. This, however, was not to be the case, as a rapid thaw set in on the 31st, and on New Year's Day, 1923, it was raining, with a temperature of 38°. This, I think, about sums up the principal events for the past two years, so I will now proceed with the annotated list of the twelve new species added since 1919, carrying on the numbering from where it previously left off.

176. **Oporornis philadelphia** (Wils.). MOURNING WARBLER.—Rare transient. Already recorded, see 'Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 126. Since the above record of a young male taken by Mr. L. M. Terrill on Mt. Orford in 1920, I have been fortunate in seeing one at Hatley on August 1, 1922, as previously mentioned in the present paper.

177. **Colymbus auritus** Linn. HORNED GREBE.—Uncommon transient. Already recorded, see 'Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, p. 126.

178. **Oidemia deglandi** Bonap. WHITE-WINGED SCOTER.—Occasional transient. Whilst on Lake Massawippi on May 28, 1921, I saw what at first sight I took to be a Black Duck, but on a nearer approach the white speculum in the wing became clearly visible, and its mode of flight, low over the water when flushed on several occasions, proclaimed it to be a White-winged Scoter. On October 9 of the present year 1922, Mr. Percy Bowen, of Hatley, obtained a male on the above lake, which was shown to me in the flesh the same evening. It weighed 3 lbs. 2 oz.

179. **Bombycilla garrula** (Linn.). BOHEMIAN WAXWING.—Rare winter visitant. I am indebted to my friend, Mr. Napier Smith of Magog, for this record. He wrote me on December 14, 1921, that on the 6th inst. sixteen of these handsome birds were in a small tree in front of his house when he returned home in the middle of the day. The birds were reported from several other localities in the Province, there being quite an abnormal influx of the species.

180. **Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis** (Gmel.). ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK.—An uncommon fall and winter visitant. I am again indebted to Mr. Smith for this record, as in the above letter, he also mentions the fact of having watched a bird of this species being buffeted about by a southwest gale on December 1, 1921, as it tried to keep its bearings south.

181. **Phalacrocorax auritus auritus** (Swains.). DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT.—Casual transient. On my return from England in March,

1922, I heard of one of these birds having been shot on Lake Massawippi in November, 1921, somewhere between the 10th and 15th, the exact date not being remembered. The bird is now in the possession of Mr. Fred Mitchell of Sherbrooke, where I saw it on October 10, of the present year 1922.

182. *Sturnus vulgaris* Linn. STARLING.—Rare visitant. I am again indebted to Mr. Smith for this record, he having obtained an example of the bird at Magog on March 13, 1922. It was first seen at 1:15 P. M. on March 11, feeding in the middle of Main Street with some English Sparrows, which with their customary cheek and curiosity, were keeping a close watch over the new-comer. Two days later, it was again in the same spot, with the same bodyguard, and was later on secured, and on dissection proved to be a male. Probably this bird came up the Connecticut River Valley, and is the first record for Quebec. What this beginning may lead to, no one can tell. I remember staying with my friend, Dr. Chas. W. Townsend, at Ipswich, Mass., in May, 1916, when we were called to a neighboring house, to see a nest containing some curious unknown fledglings. These proved to be young Starlings, and the first breeding record for the district. Visiting the doctor again in 1921, I saw flocks containing hundreds of birds! Starlings were first introduced into this country by Eugene Schieffelin, sixty birds being liberated in Central Park, New York, in 1890, and forty more in 1891. From these one hundred birds descended the millions that now invade the country for more than one hundred miles north of New York City, and ere long will no doubt become more or less of a plague here.

183. *Dendroica palmarum palmarum* (Gmel.). PALM WARBLER.—Very rare transient. So far as I am aware, this is the only record for the Province of Quebec. The bird first attracted my attention on May 12 of the present year 1922. It was flitting about in a small wood adjoining the little marsh near my house, and from the first, I felt sure it was *palmarum* and not *hypochrysea* or the Yellow Palm Warbler, as the underparts were very dull in comparison to the bright yellow of an example of *hypochrysea* I had seen in this same wood, only a few days before. However, it was late in the afternoon, and having no gun, I had to content myself with the hope that it would be there the following day. In this I was not disappointed, and after a search of some two hours, I again found the bird in a cedar tree, and secured it, and later on sent it in the flesh and presented it to the Victoria Memorial Museum at Ottawa. I find on reference to Ora Knight's 'Birds of Maine,' 1908, that there is no record of the species ever having been taken in Maine. Miss Inez Addie Howe of the Fairbanks Museum of Natural Sciences at St. Johnsbury, Vermont, writes me on June 10, 1922, that there are no records in the Museum for Vermont, their type specimens having been taken in Massachusetts. In Allen's 'Birds of New Hampshire,' there are no spring records given, but an example was secured at Shelburne in the Androscoggin Valley on September 16, 1884, as recorded by Dr. A.

P. Chadbourne, and Mr. Allen speaks of having taken specimens in the Saco Valley at Intervale, between the 8th and 14th of September. Its reported presence at Manchester in spring, he goes on to say, is probably an error ('Proc. Manchester Inst. Arts & Sci.,' Vol. II, p. 82, 1901).

In 'Birds of the Jefferson Region, New Hampshire,' the late Mr. Horace W. Wright speaks of the bird as a rare fall migrant. The range of the appearance of the species, he gives as from September 10 to October 4, and within that period of twenty-four days, one, two, or three individuals respectively, had been seen in each of the years 1904-1910 except 1905.

In 'Life and Sport on the North Shore' (of the St. Lawrence) by Napoleon A. Comeau, 1909, there is a reference on page 433, leading one to suppose that the Palm Warbler had been met with on some few occasions at Godbout. This is evidently an error. The birds referred to without doubt being the Yellow Palm Warbler (*D. Palmarum hypochrysea*); at all events, they are treated as such by Mr. Ridgway in his 'Birds of North and Middle America,' Vol. 2, 1902.

184. **Marila marila** (Linn.). SCAUP DUCK.—Occasional transient. A male example of this species was shot by Mr. Percy Bowen on Lake Massawippi, on October 9, 1922, and was seen by me in the flesh the same day. It weighed 2 lbs.

185. **Oidemia perspicillata** (Linn.). SURF SCOTER.—Occasional transient. A female of this species was also shot by Mr. Percy Bowen on Lake Massawippi on the above date, and was seen by me in the flesh the same day. It weighed $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

186. **Charitonetta albeola** (Linn.). BUFFLEHEAD.—Occasional transient. A female of this species was secured on Lake Massawippi by Mr. Piercy in the fall of 1921, and I saw the bird when mounted. At that time, it was in the possession of Mr. Fred Mitchell of Sherbrooke.

187. **Anas platyrhynchos** Linn. MALLARD.—An uncommon transient. A few of these birds have been obtained on Lake Massawippi from time to time, by Mr. Piercy of Ayer's Cliff, so he tells me, but none of the birds were preserved.

During the year 1923, I have done very little bird work, beyond keeping records of the arrival and departure of the migrants, most of my time being devoted to the orchids. However, there are certain outstanding events which seem to call for some special notice. First and foremost amongst these, is not only the arrival of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) at Hatley, but also its breeding here, which event so far as I am aware, is the first recorded one for the Dominion of Canada, see 'The Auk,' Vol. XL, 1923, Nos. 3 and 4, pp. 539 and 694. Two broods were reared in the top of the spire of St. James' Church, and at the time of writing (November 30), the two old birds still roost there every night.

Other interesting birds, that bred in the village for the first time, were a pair of Belted Kingfishers (*Ceryle alcyon*), and a pair of Bank Swallows (*Riparia riparia*), both species selecting the face of the village gravel pit, for the site of their nesting holes. Pileated Woodpeckers have also frequently been seen in the village, all through the year, more especially on the trees surrounding the common. White-winged Crossbills (*Loxia leucoptera*) were seen in January, and on March 11 a Richardson's Owl (*Cryptoglaux funerea richardsoni*) was picked up dead in some woods near Stanstead and sent to me in the flesh, this being about the best record for the winter. Early in June, systematic hunts were made on the shores of lake Massawippi for nests of the Northern Water Thrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis noveboracensis*), but without success, although on the 12th a female was seen carrying nesting material, but could not be followed, owing to the difficult and swampy nature of the ground. On the 16th, a nest of the Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulesceus caerulescens*) was found, containing four young birds just hatched out. The nest was resting on the branch of an American Yew, one foot above the ground, and as if to prove how difficult it is to find Warbler nests, unless you are specially looking for them, this was the only one met with during the whole season. Migrant Shrikes (*Lanius ludovicianus migrans*) were very scarce, only two birds being seen all through the season, and these were not found on the old nesting grounds, the trees on one of them having been all cut down. One of the most gratifying events of the past two or three years is the gradual return of the House Wren (*Troglodytes aëdon aëdon*) to these parts. Formerly, as already recorded, I only knew of one pair of birds; now, I have records of them nesting in boxes at Lennoxville, Magog, and Ayer's Cliff. At the last named place, Dr. C. L. Brown tells me that no less than three pairs occupied boxes in his garden this summer. At Hatley the pair already recorded in 1918, 'Auk,' Vol. XXXVI, p. 479, are still nesting in the old locality, at the edge of some woods, a quarter of a mile or so from any house.

Another bird belonging to the Transition zone, the Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*), seems to be coming more frequently into the district, for I saw two different broods the first week in

August, the parents of which were feeding the young, they apparently not long having left the nest.

My little marsh was practically dried up for the best part of the year, owing to a bad leakage near the dam, and what with this, and the fact of my having resided in the village for the past twelve months, I have seen very few marsh birds. It seems sad that the whole aspect of this little marsh is changing, and I feel I am gradually losing interest in it. One thing I have to be thankful for, however, is that I got all my Sandpiper records before it was too late.

May was cold and backward, most of the early wild flowers being a fortnight behind time. It was snowing here on the 10th, and very cold. The first Myrtle Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) was seen on the 7th, then there was a little wave on the 11th, Black and White (*Mniotilta varia*), Black-throated Green (*Dendroica virens*), and Myrtle Warblers (*D. coronata*) being in evidence, but it was not until the 19th to the 22nd that any appreciable flight took place, and then the Warblers that did come were not in their usual numbers, in fact, I hardly ever remember seeing fewer. I have no spring records for Orange-crowned (*Vermivora celata celata*), Tennessee (*V. peregrina*), Cape May (*Dendroica tigrina*), Bay-breasted (*D. castanea*), Black-poll (*D. striata*), Yellow Palm (*D. palmarum hypochrysea*), Pine (*D. vigorsii*), Mourning (*Oporornis philadelphia*), or Wilson's (*Wilsonia pusilla pusilla*) Warblers, and out of this number I saw only the Tennessee, Black-poll, and Yellow Palm in the fall. Possibly, the most noteworthy thing about the fall migration was the unusual number of Yellow Palm Warblers, a species I do not very often meet with, except in very limited numbers. The last Myrtles were seen on October 18, which is six days short of a record. As in the spring, so likewise in the fall, nothing like the usual number of Warblers were seen, and I cannot say I remember any particular day on which a large flight took place, the birds apparently passing through gradually. What with the above poor results, and the loss of my Sandpipers, I feel as if there had been no season at all.

On September 18, I saw a Labrador Chickadee (*Penthestes hudsonicus nigricans*), and the day previous was told that Dr. Brown's son had shot a Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) on Lovering Pond

near Ayer's Cliff. On October 26, a flock of twenty-six Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis canadensis*) were seen by my elder son, and this is the only record I have for this winter. The day following, fifteen Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) were flying round the ball on the top of the church spire, in addition to three already perched on it. The former, finding no room, flew off South, and were not seen again, see 'The Auk,' Vol. XLI, 1924, No. 1, pp. 158-59, for this and further records of the occurrence of the Starling in Canada.

On November 3, and again on the 14th, Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator leucura*) were seen in the village, and the day following the last flock of Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos*). Last year these birds wintered in numbers for the first time in my experience, and it seems strange that with such an open season as the present one, that they should not have done so again this year. The last Juncos (*Junco hyemalis hyemalis*) and Tree Sparrows (*Spizella monticola monticola*) were seen on the 15th, from which date to the end of the month nothing of interest was noted. On December 8, whilst at Ayer's Cliff, I was surprised to see two Blackbirds in a large flock of English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus domesticus*), which were feeding on some grain in the station yard. On a near approach, they turned out to be two male Cowbirds (*Molothrus ater ater*), a most unexpected record for so late in the year, especially as the species is uncommon here at all times, although slightly on the increase of late years. On the 10th I saw the pair of Starlings go to roost as usual in the ball on the top of the church spire at 3:25 P. M., but this was to be my last view of them, as they must have either gone South the following day, or else changed their roosting quarters, for I have not seen them since. I think the first is the more likely solution. On the 13th, nine Pine Grosbeaks were seen in a field feeding on the seeds of Charlock (*Brassica arvensis*), a weed which often abounds in grain fields. On the 27th, I took 'Bird-Lores' Christmas Census, recording eleven species of birds, with a total of 105 individuals. Amongst these were two Golden-eyes (*Clangula clangula americana*), four Golden-crowned Kinglets (*Regulus satrapa satrapa*), and a Crow, an example of the latter not having been seen since November 4, as already recorded. Only twice previously, in 1915 and 1922, have I seen Golden-crowned Kinglets in December.

No Crossbills, Northern Shrikes, Goshawks or Snow Buntings have been seen this winter, the only northern visitors recorded being Pine Grosbeaks and Red Polls (*Acanthis linaria linaria*).

Whilst at Ayer's Cliff on December 27, I heard that several Pheasants had been taken in this district of late. The birds no doubt have come in from the State of Vermont, probably from near Willoughby Lake (about twenty miles or so to the south of Hatley), where I understand many birds have been liberated from the game farms there. The first record appears to be of a bird seen on Stanstead Plain during the months of September and October, 1921, which was eventually shot by a Mr. Durocher, who I believe still has it as a mounted example. The birds doubtless are not the true English Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*), but belong to the strain *P. colchicus* × *P. torquatus*, in which a white neck ring is always more or less developed, hence the name Ring-necked Pheasants (*Phasianus torquatus*) by which the birds are known.

With the addition of the above species to my list, the total now stands at 188 species and subspecies for Hatley and district. As in 1922, the weather remained open and mild until nearly Christmas, when a cold wave set in accompanied with snow, and a temperature a little below zero.

Certainly, this year might be described as the "Summer and Winter of my discontent," for taking it on the whole I never remember having seen fewer birds, and I think this has been the experience of many, especially during the fall and winter months.

Hatley, Quebec.