

DRUM CALLS.

This form of instrumental music is a by no means insignificant addition to the Flicker's repertoire. It is a musical long roll of vibrant, far reaching effect, sometimes evidently demanding an answer as the bird will assume a listening attitude, and at other times preceeding or succeeding a vocal call or song. In the spring time it is a very popular means of attracting the attention of a mate or sounding an assembly. It is seldom heard after the nesting season has well progressed and ends before the young have hatched. J. N. Baskett states that in drumming the beak is struck directly end-on against the resonant body as shown by an examination of a soft pine box which was frequently used. The box was nailed to a tree and by slipping up and throwing a hat over the bird while it was clattering away, it was finally caught. Either it or another one was drumming again the next day. Chief Simon Pokagon relates a little incident which must not be lost. In his own words: "I asked a class of Indian boys what kind of music they liked best. One said '*Pe-nay-shen*' (Bird) music. I then asked each one what kind they liked best of all the birds. One replied '*Au-pe-tahe*' (Robin), another '*Tehin-dees*' (Blue Jay), another '*Au-nawk*' (Thrasher), another '*We-bin-gwan-Pe-ney-shen*' (Bluebird), and to the smallest in the class I said '*Que-we-zaynes*' (My boy) 'what one pleases you the best?' He quickly replied '*O-zaw-wan-day Paw-Paw-say*' (Golden-winged Woodpecker). I said 'Why so my little boy?' He quickly answered 'Oh him am such a *me-no* (good) *Tom-mer Tom-mer* (drummer.)' Accent almost invariably on last syllable."