

than this I could get no information, and after making a note of it the subject was forgotten.

Birds would be as likely to preen their feathers before a storm as at any other time, and it might be easy to imagine a connection in this respect, while a definite answer would be very difficult to obtain. If any reader has ready information on this subject, I should be very grateful if he would impart it.

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#### CARDINALS AT WAYALUSING, WISCONSIN

Mr. Howard Clark Brown's notes on the Cardinal lead me to offer my experiences with the species here. While I was making a bird count in the woods in summer I found fully as many cardinals as we find here in winter. They were about their nesting activities, and of course secretive and not easy to find. In the winter they find the food easier to get and more abundant at the lynch counters than in the woods, therefore one finds them plentiful in places where they are easily seen. They break up the big kernels of corn with a sort of churning movement of their bills. I once saw a male cardinal feed his mate while she was sitting on the nest. He broke the kernels of corn up and then fed the pieces one by one to the female, putting them into her bill. In the winter one is sure to find cardinals about corn cribs where the corn can be gotten at. Cardinals also like nut meats and squash and pumpkin seeds. Like many of our native birds they are tormented by the English sparrow. A pair tried to nest in the vines on my neighbor's porch. Three eggs were laid before the sparrows found the nest. Then the sparrows broke one of the eggs. The cardinals succeeded in hatching one young, but the sparrows killed it and tore the nest to pieces. Another pair of cardinals tried to build a nest in some grape vines near the house, but as fast as the cardinals would build it the sparrows tore it down. The cardinals finally got discouraged and went away. Three pairs of cardinals nested near my house last summer. Senator Robert Glenn found the first cardinal here in 1906. Now there are dozens of them.

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