

[Forest and Stream.—Continued.]

2514. *Massachusetts Sharptail Grouse*. By Newton Dexter. *Ibid.*, No. 22, June 2, 1892, p. 517. — Contains a note on *Phalaropus lobatus*.

2515. *Ways of the Ruffed Grouse*. By Dorp. *Ibid.*, p. 520.

2516. *Prot[?]onotary Warbler in Massachusetts*. By C. E. B. *Ibid.*, No. 24, June 16, 1892, p. 562.

2517. *Butcher Birds and Hawks*. By Didymus. *Ibid.*, No. 25, June 23, 1892, p. 588. — *Lanius ludovicianus*. — C. F. B.

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GENERAL NOTES.

Habits of the Herring Gull. — In Mr. G. H. Mackay's very interesting article on the Herring Gull, in the July number of 'The Auk', he states that it is with some hesitation that he regards them as gregarious, for they apparently only come together when there is some particular reason for so doing, and not because they *like* to. My own impression was just the reverse of this, but I must admit that my observations have been made but casually, and that I have not observed the Gulls with the care that Mr. Mackay has devoted to the subject. I should have said that Gulls scattered in search of food at high water, but came together sociably at other times.

At Plymouth, Mass., it used to be no uncommon sight to see the greater part of the Gulls in the neighborhood gathered in one vast flock on the outer side of the long sand spit, known as the 'Beach.' This, if my memory serves me aright, usually took place some little time after low water. The Gulls were not feeding, but resting and preening their feathers, and, unless disturbed by man, they would remain until driven away by the advancing tide.

At high water the Gulls were widely scattered, searching for floating food, and as the flats in the harbor were left bare by the receding tide the Gulls would gather here and there in small flocks looking for food. At