

feeding grounds were once more free to the Wrens. Ten days after the storm winter conditions again were normal. On February 5 at Plummers Island in company with Dr. A. K. Fisher I saw a pair of Carolina Wrens searching through leaves and other drift lodged by last year's freshets in willows above a small channel of the river, an unusual habit as it brought the birds out in the open.

Observations during February and March show that the Carolina Wren has again decreased in this region though those that remain are somewhat greater in number than was the case in the spring of 1918. The supposition advanced in my former note that decrease in this species was due not to cold but to the heavy blanket of snow that buried the normal food supply, seems substantiated. At the present writing (April 10, 1922) there is one pair of Carolina Wrens on Plummers Island and three or four more along the Potomac within a radius of two miles, while occasional pairs have been noted in recent excursions near Mount Vernon and elsewhere in the Washington region.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Thrush Killed by Red-Squirrel.—Near the Ste. Anne River in the Gaspé Peninsula on July 12, 1922, my attention was attracted by the excited *pit, pits*, of Olive-backed Thrushes. On investigation I found two of these birds flying about a Red Squirrel who sat erect on a fallen tree, holding in his fore-paws a partly eaten Thrush in the spotted juvenal plumage. The squirrel's face was smeared with blood and it was altogether a most lamentable spectacle.

The destructive character of the Red Squirrel is well known, but it seems best to record this instance of his criminality.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, *98 Pinckney St., Boston.*

Additional Notes on Birds of the Labrador Peninsula.—The period from June 16 to September 12, 1922, was spent by me on the southern coast of the Labrador Peninsula. The following notes are based on observations which I made during that time.

Dr. C. W. Townsend has kindly reviewed the manuscript of these notes.

1. **Alca torda.** RAZOR-BILLED AUK.—The colony of this species at Perroquet Island, Bradore, P. Q., is considerably larger than was realized in 1921; I think that this is due in part to actual increase in the size of the colony, in part to inadequate observation in 1921. On July 11, 1922, I recorded 400 Razor-billed Auks as seen by me in this colony. The actual population of the colony must be much greater than that.

The colony of this species on Bald Island, near Betchewun still exists. On July 30 I saw at that island 30 or more Razor-billed Auks, including a recently hatched young one.

2. **Sterna paradisaea.** ARCTIC TERN.—About 2000 Terns were found nesting on the Perroquet Islands of Mingan on July 26. Most of them were Common Terns (*S. hirundo*), but a number of Arctic Terns were seen and were distinguished by their darker underparts and longer tail-

feathers. Comparison of the two species was made with field-glasses ($\times 6$), while the horde of screaming birds hovered overhead. The desiccated remains of one Arctic Tern were found on one of the islands. At that date most of the nests contained eggs, but a few young were seen.

3. **Moris bassana.** GANNET.—Mr. J. L. DeVany, Dominion Bird Officer, informed me that Gannets were common throughout the summer of 1922 near the Perroquet Islands of Mingan. In that vicinity I saw about 200 Gannets on July 26, and 11 (in thick fog) on September 12. Along the Labrador coast east of that point a few Gannets were to be seen in the course of a day's sail at almost any time during the summer. Between June 2 and June 16, 1922, I sailed in a motorboat from Bonaventure Island, P. Q., to Long Point of Mingan. On this voyage Gannets were seen all along the way and were especially numerous off West Point of Anticosti. In my opinion the waters near Long Point of Mingan provide exceptionally good fishing for the Gannets and are frequented by them for that reason. The birds there are probably (at least for the most part) daily visitors from present-day breeding-places, such as Bonaventure Island, rather than representatives of the breeding colony which formerly existed on the Perroquet Islands of Mingan.

4. **Somateria dresseri.** AMERICAN EIDER.—Eider arrived on the southern coast of the Labrador Peninsula, I am informed, in large numbers in the spring of 1922. They commenced nesting operations as usual, but succeeded in raising very few broods of young. Only about 15 broods of young Eider were seen by me during the entire summer. I have no doubt that the Eider of this extensive coast decreased in numbers, rather than increased, during the breeding season of 1922. One cause for this condition of things was a notable invasion of Arctic Foxes, which appeared in the southern part of the Labrador Peninsula in April and May, 1922. I am informed that thousands of these animals were trapped before June 1, but many of them remained on the southern coast, from Piashte Bay eastward, throughout the summer, and destroyed large numbers of the Ducks' nests on all but the most isolated islands. I am also informed that they killed some adult Eider, but I did not personally see Eider which I thought had been killed by them. I consider it probable that the very rainy weather which prevailed on the southern Labrador coast in June, 1922, also interfered with successful hatching by the Eider.

After incubation is well under way many of the Eider drakes gather in flocks and proceed eastward and northward, "down" the Straits of Belle Isle. Near Shekatika on July 1 I saw a flock of two or three hundred drake Eiders in nuptial plumage. At Perroquet Island, Bradore, I noticed similar, but smaller flocks flying eastward between July 2 and July 15. Some of the Eider drakes, however, remain on the southern Labrador coast at least until after they have assumed the eclipse plumage. This plumage is well known to the human inhabitants of the region.

5. **Carpodacus purpureus purpureus.** PURPLE FINCH.—A male in song was observed at Mingan on July 25, 26, and 27.

6. **Spizella monticola monticola.** TREE SPARROW.—On the mainland near Perroquet Island, Bradore, a male of this species, singing freely, was often noted between July 2 and July 15. Two males were heard singing there on July 14. One singing Tree Sparrow was observed carefully at close range, and its distinctive markings noted, but generally the bird was not seen when its song was heard. That song, short, sweet, and clear, as it was borne from its invisible source out of the sweeping, open vastness of the green Labrador barrens, seemed one of the most delightful in my experience.

7. **Spizella passerina passerina.** CHIPPING SPARROW. In front of the Hudson's Bay Company's Post at Mingan on July 25 I saw an adult Chipping Sparrow on the ground. I watched it for about one minute at a distance of 10 or 12 feet and noted its small size, black bill, rufous cap, whitish, unspotted underparts and other characteristics. Then it flew to the roof of the Company's store and sang its usual monotonous song. A little later on the same day I saw an adult Chipping Sparrow, probably this male or its mate, feed a young Chipping Sparrow, which was able to fly, on a fence nearby. This is the first record of this species in the Labrador Peninsula. I believe that it has extended its range there from the Gaspé Peninsula, via Anticosti, as a result of the clearing of the land following settlement.

8. **Dendroica aestiva aestiva.** YELLOW WARBLER.—At the head of Bradore Bay on July 14 I saw a pair of this species in a thicket. The female was carrying food in her bill. The species is fairly common farther westward along the coast.

9. **Seiurus aurocapillus.** OVENBIRD.—While on a boat at anchor in the cove of Isla a la Proie, Mingan Islands, on June 20, I heard three different Ovenbirds singing in the woods about the cove. While on a boat at anchor in a cove on the east side of Large Island, Mingan Islands, on June 21, I heard three different Ovenbirds singing in the woods about the cove. I landed on Large Island on the latter date and saw a male Ovenbird at close range there and noted its characteristic markings.

10. **Sitta canadensis.** RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH. Two individuals of this species, two miles apart, were noted on Large Island, Mingan Islands, on June 21. One of these was observed again on June 22. A Red-breasted Nuthatch was observed on Eskimo Island, Mingan Islands, on June 27.—HARRISON F. LEWIS, *Canadian National Parks, Ottawa.*

Notes from Waukesha County, Wis.—Spizella pallida. CLAY-COLORED SPARROW. Not mentioned by Cahn¹ in county list. Two male birds heard singing in brushy fields on May 30, 1922, about three miles south of Waukesha. One was again observed in the same place on June 4 and 17. On the latter date, the bird was collected by Clarence S. Jung

¹'Birds of Waukesha County,' by Alvin R. Cahn, Bull. Wis. Nat. Hist. Soc. Vol. XI, No. 4, 1913.