THE CARDINAL AND THE BROWN THRASHER.

BY MARION E. SPARKS.

Miss Sherman's notes on the Brown Thrasher explain in part why books and birds do not always agree. In central Illinois the Thrasher, like the Rose-breasted Grosbeak, sings in town, from the tallest twig that will bear his weight, is cheerful and alive to the tip of each feather. In the country Osage orange hedges or orchard trees provide the Thrasher with both singing and nesting places, the latter usually five to six feet from the ground, though one was found near the ground by means of the fuss the birds were making because a small child was looking into the nest. I have never found another lower than five feet from the ground.

The Catbirds of my acquaintance have been impudent, not shy, for while they can move more quietly than mice, they seem to fear nothing; however, they refuse to remain when
the Cardinal comes. The Thrasher and Rusty Blackbird, too, all three tenants of our yard for nearly twenty years, moved out or were driven away by this gay and noisy bird.

A pair of Cardinals made a nest in 1911 in a trellis against the house, about ten feet from the kitchen door, using chiefly bark from the grape arbor across the driveway. They had one young one, that left the nest while it could barely fly six feet, a tailless brownish, homely bird, in late June. It followed and teased the old birds for its food, till they left in the fall.

In 1912 a pair built in the same spot and raised, to nest-leaving size, one young one.

Soon the male was whistling and calling as in early spring, and in a few weeks a new nest was found, in a pear tree about two rods distant. It was like the others, made of bark stripped from grapevines, but seemed more flimsy and less well built than the other two. This nest was nearly eight feet from the ground; the others only five, but "protected" by a rose bush growing against the vine trellis. Again there was one young bird, and the amusing spectacle was presented of the two young birds of different sizes tagging after their parents and clamoring to be fed, and the bigger one tried to get the larger share.

This continued till the birds left in October. One male, however, remained late, calling and whistling till November.

On March 4, 1913, a pair came back, and it remains to be seen if they will continue the proceedings. They are certainly quarrelsome; even the Blue Jays give up the bathing pan to them in haste.

The musical whistle, repeated at short intervals nearly all day for several months, is monotonous and less pleasing than the variety provided by the Thrasher, the Catbird or the Rose-breasted Grosbeak. There was a little while in late September and early October when they did not whistle and call, but before leaving the whistling was begun again by the one male, who stayed late.

May 12, 1913. The Cardinal is whistling and calling yet.
The nest, if made, has not been found. There are two pairs here this year in the haunts where for the two years before only one pair had been.

May 31, 1913. No nest; no Cardinals.

THE EXTERMINATION OF THE WILD TURKEY IN CLAYTON COUNTY, IOWA.

BY ALTRE A. SHERMAN.

Some brief reference to the history of Iowa may afford a better understanding of the early status, and speedy extinction of the Wild Turkey in Clayton County, following the occupancy of its land by the white race. After the treaty of 1804, made by the United States Government with the Sacs and Fox Indians, the whole of Iowa (excepting a few square miles in the northeast corner, which were claimed by the Sioux) was set apart as the tribal property of the Sacs and Foxes. It was held by them as their private hunting grounds and was jealously guarded by these warlike Indians from encroachment by other tribes. At the same time it was one of the duties of United States soldiers stationed in the frontier forts to protect these Indians in their rights by expelling any of the whites who ventured across the Mississippi River. Among the participants in this work of expulsion were two soldiers, who afterward became prominent characters in United States history, Colonel Zachary Taylor and one of his lieutenants, Jefferson Davis. There can be no doubt that their task of keeping white men out of this territory was well done; also that the Indians acting upon the principles of true conservation, maintained a great abundance of game.

In 1832, after their defeat in the Blackhawk War, the Sac and Fox Indians were forced to relinquish the eastern portion of their hunting grounds, which was thrown open for white occupancy the following year. The stream of immigration that slowly trickled into Clayton County was a feeble one, very unlike the tidal wave that swept over Oklahoma fifty-five years later. The early settlers in this part of Iowa