

In addition to those mentioned it is probable there is a roost to the northward of the Panhandle Railroad, not far from Knightstown, as great numbers of crows may be seen passing in that direction late in the afternoon at this season.

There is also probably a roost just over the line in Ohio, southeast of Franklin county, and east of Dearborn county. Mr. H. F. Bain one winter observed their coming in the morning and departing in the evening in southern Franklin county, and the direction from which they came, and in which they went indicated they belonged to a roost.

It is to be desired that all information possible be obtained concerning this, and any other roosts which are found within the State or the members of which range into Indiana, including the localities, dates of assembly and dissolution, foods, number of individuals composing the roost, according to the best estimates obtainable, and general habits of the birds and also the disposition of the people toward them.

NOTES ON CROW ROOSTS OF WESTERN INDIANA AND EASTERN ILLINOIS. BY
JOHN S. WRIGHT.

Through the central part of Vermillion county, Indiana, during the late fall, winter and early spring, the crows may be observed during the afternoon in large flocks feeding over fields and working their way westward. During the shorter days this is noticed early in the afternoon. Through the part (central) of Vermillion county, Indiana, in which I have observed these movements, I know that it is thought that, during times other than the breeding season, these birds live in large numbers in well established roosts located in the small groves which are found in the prairies of Eastern Illinois.

In order to secure some definite information on this question last May I wrote Dr. Thomas Hood, of Dana, Vermillion county, Indiana, whose practice has familiarized him with the locality. In response he wrote me about as follows: "I have inquired concerning the roost in question (one reported at Camargo, Douglass county, Illinois,) of our older citizens. They have each heard of it, and some say there are more places than one where the crows are in the habit of congregating for the night in the little strips of scrubby oaks which grow along the small drains of the prairie to the west of here.

"One locality south of Metcalf, Vermillion county, Illinois, and west of Edgar Station, Edgar county, Illinois, is mentioned. Another farther west, north of Newman, Douglass county, Illinois, is also mentioned.

"It is said that the crows are quite pugnacious if any one invades the roost to do them harm, and are able to make it unpleasant for the invader. The farmers do not molest them, as they do not feed or do any damage to the crops anywhere near the roost."

In June last I was in Dana, Indiana, with the intention of visiting a roost which I heard was located at Hume, a station on the I. D. & W. Railroad, in Vermillion county, Illinois, about nineteen miles west of the State line, but learned of Mr. D. V. Bradley, of "The Hume Record," with whom I talked by telephone, that it would be useless to visit the roost at that time, as the crows were all nesting in the timber lands of the country over which they fed (parts of Edgar and Vermillion counties, Illinois, and Vermillion county, Indiana), and would not again congregate at the roosting place until about October, when the nesting season would be over. Mr. Bradley stated that several years ago these crows, which number many thousands, roosted about two miles north of Hume. Being molested and driven from that point, they established a roost in a maple grove (on the farm of John Hardin), southeast of Hume (distance not stated), and being again disturbed, they moved to a grove across a slough, about one-half a mile north of Hume, at which point they were last winter.

A similar roost is reported at Camargo, Douglass county, Illinois, about thirty-two miles west of the State line, on the I. D. & W. Railroad. Years ago it was within sight of the railroad.

Mr. George M. Gossett, formerly residing near or in Edgar, Edgar County, Illinois, about ten miles west of the line, reports a large roost near that place.

Several old citizens of Helt Township, Vermillion county, Indiana, (James Kauffman, Richard Gilmore and others), report that about twenty or twenty-two years ago a large roost existed in the southern part of the township in some of the pieces of timber along the edge of the prairie and a few miles west of the Wabash River (about seven miles north and west of Clinton). The persons who had known this roost state that the crows fed up and down the Wabash River and to the east of it into Parke county,

foraging around the packing houses located at the various towns, particularly Terre Haute (twenty or twenty-two miles south) and Armiesburg, in Parke county, on the old Wabash & Erie Canal (seven or eight miles distant) west and north.

A roost is reliably reported to have existed some eight years ago about one mile northwest of Brown's Valley, Montgomery county, Indiana (about thirteen miles southwest of Crawfordsville). This is said not to exist there at present.

The same person, a Rev. Mr. Kendall, of Dana, formerly of Brown's Valley, who reported the Brown's Valley roost, stated that another was located about one mile north of Guion (the crossing of the T. H. & L. Division of the Vandalia and the L. D. & W. Railroad) in the timber not far from Little Raccoon Creek.

The last two roosts mentioned seem not to have been as large as those of Eastern Illinois.

Those acquainted with the Illinois roosts state that the crows are not in the habit of feeding near the roost, though they are some times destructive to corn in the roasting-ear stage.

The roosts are very noisy. The birds will often alight two and three deep on limbs, bending the branches and splitting the tree tops. The settling down for the night is accompanied by cries and caws, crashing of limbs and the continuous flutter and flapping of wings as the birds move about to find vacant perches.

Nearly all with whom I have talked of these roosts state that the crows will defend the roost against an ordinary intrusion by a single person or by a few persons, showing great pugnacity. However, when a general onslaught is made and the battle seems too much, they arise and move away. They have been known to ruin fields of corn which had attained a height of several feet on alighting after a flight from such attacks.

BRUNNICH'S GUILLEMOT (*URIA LOMVIA*) AN ADDITION TO THE BIRDS OF INDIANA. BY A. W. BUTLER.

The effects of storms upon birds are always of great interest. It makes no difference whether this is the flight of migrants during a dark and stormy night against the protection of the lights of a lighthouse or of a lighting tower, or the death-dealing effects of a chilling storm upon