On January 28th I revisited this locality and had barely reached the fountain-head of the stream—a veritable hot spring—when a Song Sparrow took wing from the cat-tails about the margin.

It was apparent that the continuous flow of hot water was responsible for the unusual occurrence. The stream banks were almost free of snow and ice for a short distance, which no doubt enabled the birds to secure sufficient food, as they appeared quite active and contented, although the thermometer registered below zero.

The Song Sparrow is apparently somewhat of a slave to custom, even more so than many species. Almost wholly a ground feeder, it appears to ignore seeds adhering to bushes and trees—a fact that tends to keep it under cover, and that may have a bearing on its abundance and wide distribution.

I know of no other record of this species occurring in the Montreal District during the months of December, January, or February, and it is therefore significant that it should be found in the only spot in the district that is at all suitable as a winter habitat.—L. MCI. TERRILL.

Cassiope tetragona (L.) DON. IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.—I observe that J. Dewey Soper in "*The Canadian Field-Naturalist*," November, 1922, quotes a statement that the finding of *Cassiope tetragona* in Rocky Pass, Western Alberta. has "brought the southern limit of this northern plant a long way south."

This species is recorded by F. K. Butters, in *Minnesota Botanical Studies*, 15th March, 1914, as having been found at 6500 feet in the Selkirk Mountains near Glacier. It is recorded in Britton and Brown, Vol. 2, page 686, as found in Oregon.

In Howell's *Flora of Oregon*, 1903, p. 419, it is recorded for the Cascade mountains in Oregon but no record is given of the altitude at which it is found in that region.

There is no doubt that this species is more common in the north than in the south, but at one time in the development of the vegetation of this continent *Cassiope tetragona* and many other so-called northern plants were common inhabitants of the lowlands. As the climate became warmer and the ice receded, other plants came in and, through competition, crushed them out, or drove them up into the higher altitudes or latitudes. On many of our mountains in British Columbia we find these plants stranded between timber-line and the perpetual snow line with a zone of subalpine vegetation gradually encroaching on them. If the mountains are of a sufficiently high altitude *Cassiope teragona* will climb higher; the altitude at which it is found depending largely on the latitude of the mountain and to some extent on the precipitation in that district.

Specimens in the University of British Columbia, Provincial Herbarium, are from:

Near Lake Atlin, B.C.—altitude 2000-3000 feet.

Headwaters Stikine, Nass, and Skeena, B.C.—altitude 5000 feet.

Moose and Goat Mts., near Pelly Creek, B.C., and Bad Luck Mountain, Ingenika River, B.C.—altitude 6000 feet.

The specimens found by Prof. Butters on the Selkirks were at an altitude of between 6000 and 6500 feet. This would suggest that they were found a little farther north than those collected by Mr. Soper, but without a knowledge of the precipitation in the Rocky Pass district and without information as to the latitude and longitude it is difficult to say with certainty what region may be claimed as the OLDEST CANADIAN HOME of *Cassiope tetragona*. This I think is a better way of putting it, than by speaking of "its southern limits" as if it were now spreading south. As to their southern limit of migration in the preglacial period we know little; some northern plants went beyond the equatorial line and their descendants are thriving south of the equator. Seeing that during the ice-age all *Cassiope* was wiped out in the north, the present northern plants have not occupied that territory so long as have the plants of the same species now found in Oregon. Prof. Butters' specimens were found near Mt. Sir Sandford (alt. 11,590 ft.) Lat. 51° 39″, Long. 117° 52″.—JOHN DAVIDSON.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The statement quoted by Mr. Soper in *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*, November, 1922, reads in full: "Concerning No. 673, I am glad to state that you have brought the southern limit of this northern plant a long way south. We have *Cassiope tetragona* in our herbarium from numerous places in the far north, the most southern locality, however, being from the Yukon district." The statement could, no doubt, have been more happily worded. It was, however, the writer's intention to convey the idea that the contribution of *Cassiope tetragona* from Alberta to the National Herbarium at Ottawa was considered a very valuable one, inasmuch as the herbarium so far had no specimens from any locality south of the Yukon Territory.—M.O.M.

TWO ANONYMOUS PAMPHLETS ON ANTICOSTI.—The bibliography of the natural history of the island of Anticosti is not extensive. Mr. Harrison F. Lewis has called my attention to a pamphlet of thirty-nine pages, in the library of the Geological Survey, Ottawa, entitled "The Settler and