



FIG. 64.

Flicker; High-hole; Yellow-hammer: *Colaptes auratus*.

Table of Alterations 1

Introductory Selection:

November. . . frost] written in margin
night hung upon the stream
their veins dividing to form
flow composition
words
dividing] divining look
preceded by cancelled poetry
from out of the pond
occasionally fed upon by the caterpillar
peculiar shredded bark
settle down one does
last night's dream interlined with a caret
blue jay burning bush
loneliness] loveliness
fantastic] fantastical
hoping] hopping
gayfeather god] blazing star
mind] followed by mire
un-cancelled rattling interlined above
phlebia oak coral pink merulius

November. . . frost] written in margin
and marked for inserting
shale outcrop] preceded by cancelled
stream] preceded by cancelled dusky rill
night hung upon the stream
interlined above
along] the terminal moraine
night hung along the stream
their veins dividing to form
a network near the margin
honeysuckle] tatarian interlined with a
caret
pasture] pages
flow composition
followed by erased springing
conscious] hardly conscious
sentences] interlined above cancelled
words
my] interlined with a caret
labyrinth] written vertically in margin
and marked for inserting
dividing] divining look
swung swingly over
our bodies] a network near the margin

opposite] followed by whorled
preceded by cancelled poetry
saying bees] bays
self] written vertically in margin
fastidious wing or vain
from out of the pond
undertook] seam
interlined with a seem sessile
faint hearted above cancelled fainted
heart
occasionally fed upon by the caterpillar
unicorn] interlined with a caret
unicorn caterpillar
along the path
peculiar shredded bark
exfoliating] underlined in pencil
and traced with black ink
partial parting
settle down one does
point of origin] gooseberry prickles
& round the bend the self] followed
by existing without one active separation
last night's dream interlined with a caret
push off afloat into current

sparrows persist] followed by inserted
white throated red bellied red headed
blue jay burning bush
floodplain nettle followed by stinging
springing] spring dale
flowed] followed by erased springing
loneliness] loveliness
never] interlined with a caret
Is] is
floating happiness
fantastic] fantastical
me] my
trail] track
take] forests
hoping] hopping
make for . . . ever] written after finical
and marked for transposing
my] followed by cancelled being
gayfeather god] blazing star
ransacked] followed by cancelled place
chip buzz chip buzz
kinglet in cocklebur boxelder
mind] followed by mire
and so splendorous the empty

golden crowned
macroscopic] microscopic features
un-cancelled rattling interlined above
shale plates
fissility] written in margin
marked for inserting
phlebia oak coral pink merulius
passage to cosmos
fields] followed by cancelled
the farm] trailing rivers
hemlocks] preceded by cancelled my
undertakings . . . hitherto] life is short
though expressive] followed by transposed
pomp

Table of Alterations 2

Introductory Selection:

tinkling] un-cancelled rattling
followed by erased hunted
yak yak] yak-ah yak-ah
a rival nutter] without assemblage
and industrious birds
head down] interlined with a caret
down a branch to my very paddle
damp] woods-earth glad
clap] far reaching clape
seems very human
Fig. 65 ant eaten by flicker
public highway] dazzling beauty
into the air like a flycatcher
crossed out and interlined
a maker of music] instrumental
abstract machine] body
and written with ink
shorts wings & long tail
infested orchard] comparative few
by gleaning to the very tops

tinkling] un-cancelled rattling
interlined above
upon the hill] nuthatch
underlined together with high-hole
followed by erased hunted
sapsucker] rosettes of lichen
crossed out with a pencil
suspended underneath
yak yak] yak-ah yak-ah
for the little ones to follow
transposed bobby bow bobby bow
interlined with a chipmunk
a rival nutter] without assemblage
chirruping] chirrup
Doctor Mearns says
immanent] eminently useful
and industrious birds
scrambling and grubbing about
slips] sleeps hanging upside down
crossed out
head down] interlined with a caret
uprooted] specificity
Is] is
floating] a secret unity creeps

down a branch to my very paddle
placid] Lake
If] if if if if if if if
punky] damply
damp] woods-earth glad
awakening] awakens in margin
preceded by cancelled
the first glad awakening
clap] far reaching clape
lept] leap pulses at the sound
If] if if if if if if if
playing bo-peep
seems very human
bo] crossed out to body
written in pencil
and interlined below
Fig. 65 ant eaten by flicker
Fig. 66 showing long tongue extended
ant hill] old pasture
ground habit dominant
public highway] dazzling beauty
black back or a fence post shadow
transposed perhaps elliptic
sallies] elliptical sallies

into the air like a flycatcher
dogwood] mulberry crossed out
and interlined with a caret
elderberry] choke cherry
crossed out and interlined
with a caret
Fig. 68 prionus beetle
as Doctor Fisher well puts it
a maker of music] instrumental
marked love on the drum
for transposing
gentle little downy
abstract machine] body
followed by cancelled significance
subject] lived principally on sap
spiders interlined above
and written with ink
turning away] enunciation
initial pleasures
flit] pretty friendship
shorts wings & long tail
repertoire] repetition
evoking] interlined with a caret
written after dainties

infested orchard] comparative few
line their cavities with the fuzz
from the stems of tall ferns
in the swamp] erased the bottom
by gleaning to the very top

Table of Alterations 3

Introductory Selection:

on] *on and on*
cultivated
moment] *with moment*
a steno morning
only] *just a little further*
a few more minutes
all the way to zero
there ahead
76 to 34 to 36
hopping] *rock hopping*
tiring] *tired stone toss*
in mud spring
a moth] *3 moths*
we all take
happily sobering starlight
a free walk off trail
we followed the turkeys
up so so wow high wow
waxing
this] *is beautiful*

on] on and on
sterling, co
cottonwood] basswood seeds
planted overland above
cultivated
corn soy drone
grades] grazes
short grass prairie drone
moment] with moment
catalogued and positioned below
loops] loops and loops
the south platte
a steno morning
65] 80 mph crossed out
9 hours to need
a different humidity
only] just a little further
beyond] inserted around the corner
crossed out
disrupted] disrupt
a few more minutes
farther] papa
laughter] giggle
ages 5 & 9] 9 & 5

all the way to zero
awakened] awake
you are not
where] here you are but
there ahead
you are not where
ahead] again
all the way to zero
76 to 34 to 36
awake 10 years
to lunch under
ponderosa shade
hopping] rock hopping
creek rock boulder hop
glacier hop boulder rock hop
to shore hop
tiring] tired stone toss
gives way to
lake] to meadow
moose scat & tracks
in mud spring
purple riparian aster
10:01 p.m.
8,200 feet

a moth] 3 moths
in headlamp light
phosphorescent chill
a reasonable chill
we all take
a pee] a nature pee
in starlight
sober] happily sober
happily sobering starlight
endo valley delivers
magpies today
steller's jays
a free walk off trail
says] saying papa
we did it
we made up the trail
we followed the turkeys
back down to the creek
wow wow wow wow
high] up so
up so so wow high wow
fire] built fire
from wet wood
moon] crescent moon

waxing
up so high
over] just over the ridge
this] is amazing
this] is beautiful
this] funny little avens
tundra avens
the avens creek rose
hips of it sprucing awake
need] final need
not heat collapsed
wheezing] wet
wet high pitched wheezing
emanates from doused fire
still the bearings
the actual bear
charging] running from
to] away
no aspens to turn leaf
rustle] rustling
this internal chatter
smoothness and sleep

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Adult male, back brownish, barred with black; throat pinkish fawn and rest of under parts lighter, spotted with black; red band on back of neck; *rump white*; black stripe on sides of throat and black crescent on breast; under side of wings and tail yellow. *Adult female*, similar, but without black streaks on sides of throat. *Length*, 12 inches.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION. — North America west to Alaska and the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains; breeds throughout its range, and winters from Illinois and Massachusetts southward.

Though the Flicker is to be found with us during the winter, his loud ringing *if-if-if-if-if-if-if* is especially associated with the spring smell of the damp woods-earth, and the first glad awakening. Sometimes it is only a single note, a loud,