

and food abundant, rapidly spread in all directions.

We have an innocent, harmless little animal called the field mouse (*Arvicola arvalis*) which is probably indigenous.

Leporidae, the Hare Family.

Our splendid Arctic Hare (*Lepus Arcticus* or *borealis*)), once fairly plentiful is now becoming quite rare. I believe the introduction here of the smaller American varying Hare or Rabbit (*Lepus Americanus*), has done much to bring about the result. The latter is so prolific and of such a pugnacious disposition, that he has driven out the more timid native animal, and usurped his territory.

Castoridae, the Beaver Family.

The Beaver in point of interest, comes next to the seal. He is an amphibious animal, but is more aquatic in his habits than otherwise. He also belongs to the rodents, or gnawers. He is furnished with four powerful chisel-shaped front teeth, (incisors) which enable him to cut or gnaw off trees and shrubs, which form his principal food. Birch trees seem to be his favourite diet, that is the inner bark of the tree, but he will also eat that of the spruce, fir, aspen, alder, or any others of our forest growth. He is very partial to the leaves, stalks and roots of the pond lily. His usual habitat is in the ponds and small muddy brooks, where he builds his house of sticks and sods. This is a most ingenious construction, and often attains considerable proportions. It is usually situated on the shore of a lake or river where the water is deep. On the front, or water side, there are generally two or more openings or passage-ways for ingress and egress, leading out under water. Internally, there are two or more apartments raised just above the water level. One of these, the outer one, is used for rolling and drying himself after returning from his