



BEAVERS FELLING TREES AND BUILDING THEIR HUT.

WILD ANIMALS OF CANADA.

THE BEAVER.



VERY Canadian boy and girl should know all about the beaver—the emblem of their country—and a very good emblem it is; and a very good motto is “Busy as Beavers” for all Canadians, old or young.

Certainly the beaver is a very industrious fellow, and we need not be ashamed of him upon our country's crest. For so small an animal he accomplishes very remarkable works.

The average beaver is about two feet six inches long, and its tail is about a foot longer. It will weigh from thirty to sixty pounds. Its fore legs are small, but the hind legs are large and strong, and its feet are webbed to the very claws. It is an awkward animal on land, but just let it dive into the water, and it is as active, as graceful, and as much at home as a bird in the air or a fish in the sea.

The most remarkable part of the beaver is its broad, flat, scale-covered tail. It is used as a paddle in swimming, as a trowel and hammer for building, as a support when its owner sits up, and