

nearly all my spare time, at these seasons, was spent in shooting and acquiring some knowledge of the peculiarities of the game I was in pursuit of. First let me say something of that magnificent bird, the Canada Goose (*Anser Canadensis*), one of the finest of its order in the world.

This is the earliest of the spring water-fowl migrants, and makes its appearance at Moose, with extreme regularity, on the 23rd of April. So much is this the case that during my ten years stay there, we had a goose at our mess dinner table on St. George's day, first seen and shot on that day; and this I learnt had been the case for a long series of years previously. I may add that this species of goose arrived with about equal regularity at York Factory, latitude 57° N., 420 miles further north, but a week later.

The Cree Indians, at both these places, assert positively that a small brown bird uses this goose as a convenient means of transport to the north, and that they have been often seen flying off when their aerial conveyance was either shot or shot at. The little passenger has been pointed out to me, but I have forgotten its name. Certainly it makes its appearance at the same time these geese do, which, by the way, are the only kind that are said to carry passengers. The natives of the Mackenzie River, more than a 1000 miles to the south-west, tell the same story, so I believe in its truth.

According to my experience and belief, there is another, but less numerous, variety of the Canada goose; the male of this bird is usually distinguished by a ruddy brown colour of the plumage on the breast, by the extreme loudness and sonorousness of the call, and by the so much greater size, that there is a difference made in the quantity served out as rations to the men. The line of flight of this larger variety is also different, as they pass chiefly by Rupert's River, about 100 miles to the east of Moose, and thence on to the east main coast of Hudson's Bay, on which lands they breed, not going very far north, nor crossing as far as I know, Hudson's Strait—as none are mentioned as having been seen at the Meteorological station, under Mr.