

I cannot here omit mentioning the aid which I have received, in the scientific parts of the Treatise from the splendid, complete, and accurate work of Prof. Baird on North American Mammals. The general characteristics of Families are quoted verbatim from his work.

LYNX, *Rafinesque*.

Gen. ch. Molars  $\frac{3}{3}$ - $\frac{3}{3}$  the small anterior premolar of *Felis* wanting. Tail considerably less than half the body, exclusive of the head and neck, generally not much longer than the head, and abruptly truncate at tip. Baird.

LYNX CANADENSIS, *Raf*.

Sp. ch. Size between that of a Fox and Wolf. Tail thickly furred, shorter than the head, and tipped with black. Paws densely covered with hair, and armed with strong claws. Colour in winter, a silver grey on the back, paling towards the belly, which is sometimes white; a rufous undershade mixes with tints. The ears are pointed, not large, and tipped with a pencil of long black hairs. Whiskers generally white. Length from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail about 3 feet. Average weight about 25 lbs.

This species is the largest of the North American Lynxes, and is the only one found in the Mackenzie River District. It is called by the "winterers" indifferently either Lynx Cat, Loup Cervier, or Pichen. In appearance it is rather formidable; its teeth are long and sharp, while its powerful claws and immense spring render it a dangerous opponent to any animal that it encounters. In its habits it is predatory. Hares and mice it devours with avidity; birds it pursues to the tops of the loftiest trees, and it even kills fish in their own element; while it has no objection to carrion, and, when pressed by hunger will even eat its own kind. Tales of the ferocity of this animal have been told by the early writers—of its attacking and mastering deer—but they are without foundation. It is a solitary beast, and I should consider its unaided strength perfectly incompetent for such a purpose.

In its motions, though very active, the Lynx is rather an ungainly animal. Its favourite pace is a succession of long leaps much in the manner of the American Hare (*Lepus Americanus*), which it also slightly resembles in shape. It is stupid, and easily caught. A sudden and loud cry from the hunter pursuing it is