

one of the party ever thought of selling a beaver skin. But this year, when we went up there, the Indians had come in and were camping right where I had camped for twelve or thirteen years—two brothers and a son—and they had three dogs. And of all the destruction! What is the result? Our party has to go to a new hunting ground. I will give the Indians their due: if we had a trap set they did not let that dam out. But they let the other dams out and they destroyed the beaver. I was writing a letter for an old Indian to his son in France, and among other things he said: "Tell him one hundred and fifty." I said "One hundred and fifty what?" "Well," he said, "he know what that is." I went to the Indian camp. The squaws were skinning the beaver. Some of them were thrown out; you never saw such a slaughter of our game. I went to the Indian one Sunday morning, and I said: "I have been hunting here now thirteen or fourteen years. You should not let those dams out and destroy the beaver in this way. I am not a game warden; I am your friend, but you should not do this." He said: "I kill him all; none get away." He commenced to show signs of anger, and I changed the subject. We found eleven sets of beaver entrails where they had let out two dams. I questioned this Indian and found that, originally, he had come from James bay. He knew the Indians at Hudson bay and James bay who were getting the tags off my wild geese. There was a game warden with us, and I think he reported this Indian. I did not report him; I would not invite him into my tent and talk it over with him and then report him. I had a talk with the game warden about this affair, and he told me that his sympathy was with the Indians. Every word he spoke made me feel as if some one was throwing ice water on me. He said: "My sympathy is with the Indian in every respect; they are starved out. Do you know the treaty the Government has with the Indians? Did you ever read it?" I said "No." "Well, he said, "before you go further I would advise you to read it." The game warden told me that if I did what the Indian had done, he would prosecute me—and I would respect him for it if he prosecuted me a dozen times. Can we do anything to stop this thing? A young Indian told me that he got \$10 a quarter for moose meat. We find deer heads in the woods that have been taken the year before, with no horns on them.

Mr. E. T. D. CHAMBERS (Quebec): Had I known that this matter was to come before the meeting, I could have interested you fully as much as representatives of the other provinces have by reading correspondence showing the terrible depredations made by Indians