

called Clatise, where the people had lost several sheep, and believed it to be the work of a Lynx. They then housed the sheep in a strongly built log shanty. Next morning they found the roof turn off, and fourteen fine animals destroyed. It was the work of Master Bruin, whom they afterwards succeeded in trapping.

Felidae, the Cat Family.

The only member of this family in Newfoundland is the Canada Lynx (*Lynx Canadensis*), which does not appear to have been originally an inhabitant of our island. Its presence here only dates back some twenty or thirty years, previous to that time it was unknown. It is supposed to have found its way across the Straits of Belle Isle from Labrador, on the ice. It is a nasty brute, very cat-like in appearance, and propensities. In fact it is nothing more or less than a great wild cat.

Mustelidae, the Weasel Family.

Of this important fur bearing family our only representatives are the Pine Marten (*Martes abietum*) so valuable for its beautiful fur, and the common Weasel (*Mustela vulgaris*). Some persons contend that our weasel is the Ermine, because, like the latter it changes its coat in winter and assumes a pure white one, with the exception of the very tip of the tail which remains black. Possibly, it may prove to be the Ermine, but that is a point not yet determined; it certainly resembles it very much, and apparently should prove just as valuable for its fur. Of course it is well known that the skin of the Ermine is exceedingly valuable. It is this fur that is assumed by Royalty and high dignitaries in Church and State. It also figures in Heraldry as one of the furs used in blazonry, represented by a field argent, with small spots sable on a shield.

It is rather singular that in Newfoundland, so