

spawn, and lay in a provision of them, they being good and fat at that time. October and November are the second season for hunting the elk and the beaver; and in December (an admirable provision of Divine Providence!) a fish appears, called by them ponamo, which spawns beneath the ice. At that time, also, the turtle bring forth, &c. Such, and even greater and more numerous, are the manors and revenues of our Indians; such is their table and their food: the whole being meted and parceled out, each thing in its due and needful season. Solomon himself never had his store-rooms better ordered and regulated than are these supplies, and those who furnish them. And, truly, a greater than Solomon hath appointed them. To Him be glory for ever!

For the more entire enjoyment of their inheritance, our denizens of the woods move cheerfully to the various abodes of plenty, with all the pleasures of the traveller who seeks his diversion; and for their great help and easement in so doing, they have the greatest convenience in the world, which is the canoe. These vessels are small skiffs, made of the bark of the white birch, very narrow, and pointed at the two ends, turning up like the crest of a helmet; the body is like a large cradle, bellying out; they are eight or ten feet long, and capacious enough to hold, in a single one, a family of five or six persons, with all their dogs, packs, skins, kettles, and other heavy baggage; and their best quality is, that they can land any where, which our skiffs or ships' boats cannot do: for the most deeply laden canoe does not draw half a foot of water; and when unloaded is so light that you would lift and carry it in your left hand, while it is so swift, when impelled by the paddle, that, without exertion, you could in fine weather make thirty or forty leagues a day. Nevertheless, we rarely see these savages post along in that manner, for their day's journeys are all pleasant pastime, and they are never in a hurry. Far different are our movements, who can do nothing, but we must whip and spur, because we are ever urged forward by a fervid nature, which knoweth not peace.