

singly or in pairs have been taking themselves to likely places, with their well trained dogs, and laying out for a few days quiet sport, to return with a bag of the king of our game birds the prairie chicken or of the tasty wild duck. Shooting is not by any means the least of the pleasures which life in Manitoba affords to a healthy man. It has many charms and is really an innocent form of recreation if followed in the true sporting manner. The game most sought after is, of course, the prairie chicken, one of the finest of the varieties of grouse. It is to be found on the prairie almost anywhere in Manitoba and the Territories. Until a few years ago very little effort was made to preserve these splendid birds from the merciless pothunters whose sole ambition seemed to be to exterminate them as soon as possible, and as a result they became exceedingly scarce in some parts of the country. Wise measures are, however, now in force which are having to some extent the effect desired by lovers of the game. If means could only be devised to put a limit on the numbers killed by each person and to prevent any wholesale slaughtering by so-called sportsmen it would tend to still further protect the birds, while not depriving anyone of a right or pleasure. The laws might also be arranged so that families in the cities or towns of the province could occasionally have a taste of the birds, without having to depend on the bounty of friends who happen to have shot a few more than they need.

Attention has frequently been called this year by farmers throughout the country to the fact that the opening of the game season does not also mean the opening of all the lands and private properties to the searchers after game. Quite frequently complaints are made of the discourteous manner in which chicken hunters take possession of the fields of the farmers without even so much as saying with your leave, driving through standing grain or shooting into the stacks, and often getting nasty if the long suffering farmer ventures to remonstrate. This should not be. Gentlemen always ask permission before they shoot over private grounds. A nice thing to do if the hunter has been fairly successful is to leave a brace of the chickens at the house before leaving.

In duck shooting the conditions are entirely different again. The radius shot over in a day is generally small and there is very little danger of trespassing. Usually the city or town duck hunters go north to the lakes and there "far from the maddening crowd" put in the time at their disposal without molestation from irate landowners.

One of the most amusing hunting stories of the season comes from the Deloraine district. It is too good to miss so we give it in the language of the *Deloraine Times* for the benefit of our readers:

"Both amusing and embarrassing were the circumstances related to us as happening to a couple of enthusiastic shots, between Melita and Deloraine. It appears that on Saturday two well-known gentlemen, whose usual business is to keep on the soft side of the farmer and sell machinery, left Melita for Deloraine, intending to have some sport by the way. When the Souris River was reached sport was good, but they had no dog to retrieve the game. This did not deter the brave and generally genial \_\_\_\_\_, who took off his lower gar-

ments and waded in. Ducks, chickens and a fine sand-hill crane fell to the share of the hunters, until they had a bag of about 30 head, when night arrived. The excitement of the sport was so great that the sportsmen had wandered over considerable ground, and when it was thought time for the gentleman to return to don his clothes, or such of them as he had left off, to they were not to be found, and to facilitate the finding the man with only part of his clothes took the rig and drove wildly here and there seeking the place where he had deposited his unmentionables and boots and socks. Wildly he searched, and far and wide he drove, and still his search was fruitless, and to make matters worse he now lost sight and sound of his companion in arms. Darkness which could be felt all around, only half clothed and his shapely limbs protected from the cold air by the aid of an old horse blanket, was there ever such a pickle for a valiant man; and where was his fellow sport. Gone, lost; would he ever be found, and would he ever find himself, in his own clothes again. It may readily be conceived with what horror the situation came home to him—and that other one; who still had his clothes but no horse or buggy, and all alone on the prairies, with his memory. We draw a veil over the situation suffice it to say that the sportsman with the buggy, with some important portions of his attire remaining in a lonely state by the Souris, drove up to a farmer's house near Waskada, in the middle of the night, and was kindly received, and clothed—in the vacant places. How the other fellow got along, we don't altogether know, but on Sunday evening both arrived at Deloraine in different rigs, and all they had to say was about the fine shooting they had had, to prove which they produced a nice lot of game, including a crane, but of this other little incident of—  
—hunting his \_\_\_\_\_ never a word; but the above is the chronicle related to us."

Many lovers of the gun have come to Manitoba this season from distant places to enjoy a week's shooting. These are usually found to be true sportsmen and as such are made cordially welcome.

Sportsmen who are too ambitious to shoot at feathers can find plenty of hair in the less frequented or hilly parts of the province. Taking Manitoba all round it is a veritable sportsman's paradise and we may look forward if wise methods of preservation are pursued, to many years enjoyment of that title.

#### Editorial Notes.

GENERAL regret has been expressed at the departure of Hideh Fushiki, the Japanese artist, who has been living in Winnipeg for some time past, for Chicago, where he intends to take part in the art competitions at the World's Fair.

By the removal of Major Morris of the Salvation Army, from Winnipeg consequent upon his receipt of orders to transfer to Toronto, Winnipeg lost one of her most able and energetic workers in the Gospel field. The Major is possessed of exceptional ability as a business manager, is thoroughly consecrated to the work in which he is engaged and is respected and liked by all who know him both in and out of Army circles.

GEO. T. ANGELL, of Boston, president of the American Humane Education Society, is endeavoring to make arrangements to have meet at the World's Fair "A Humane Congress of all Nations" at which the merciful of all nations will be present to discuss and ascertain the

best plans for humanely educating all civilized nations, not only for the prevention of national and international wars and the conflicts between capital and labor, but also for the best prevention of every form of cruelty both to our own and the lower races that depend upon our care. Of his scheme, he says in an appeal to American editors, "Such a Congress, if properly directed, may attract the attention of the governments and people of all nations, and result in consequence to the world's progress in civilization as important as the discovery of this Western continent by Columbus four hundred years ago." All humane people will be heartily glad to see him succeed in his purpose, and to aid him in any way they can.

THE COLONIST has received from the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture of Ontario, a copy of the Annual Report of his Department for the year 1891. It is a large and comprehensive volume and contains the reports of the Bureau of Industries (Agricultural Statistics); of the Agricultural College and Experimental Farm (including the Experimental Union); of the Agricultural and Arts Association; of the Dairy and Creamery Associations; of the Fruit-Growers' Association; of the Entomological Society; of the Clerk of Forestry; of the Beekeepers' Association; of the Poultry and Pet Stock Associations; of the Sheep Breeders' and Swine Breeders' Associations and of the Central Farmers' Institute; also a list of Secretaries of Agricultural and other societies. As we have already compiled for our readers in previous issues considerable of the matter contained in this report from the Bulletins and pamphlets which we receive from time to time, we will not go into them again.

A CASE involving the settlement of an important dispute between the department of the Interior of Canada and several of the large ranchers of Alberta was argued recently before the exchequer court at Ottawa. The case was that of the Crown vs. McDiarmid & Ross. It appears that several years ago, McDiarmid & Ross took up a ranch near Calgary under a lease from the Government for a period of twenty-one years at a rental of two cents an acre. Before long they got into arrears with their rent and the consequent trouble with the Department ended with the cancellation of their lease. After that they continued to pasture their stock on the lands without any agreement at all, and when a claim was put in by the Government for rent they refused to pay it on the ground that as their lease had been cancelled they could not be expected to pay. This is only one of several cases of this kind which the Department is now dealing with. After the arguments on both sides had been heard, judgment was reserved. The Government is not desirous of continuing this large leasehold system as the country is becoming too well settled to admit of it. A plan which they do favor is for the ranchers to hold about 5,000 acres and fence it in. What the merits of the respective sides of this suit are we cannot, of course, judge but it would seem that the ranchers are very unjust in trying to hold the lands without giving any return for them, when there are so many actual settlers who would be glad to get them for farming purposes.