

Some people assert that it is the Indians who are killing off the game. This is a libel on the poor red man.

Whoever heard of an Indian, so long as the white man did not encroach on his hunting grounds, knocking a fawn on the head for fear it would again get in front of his dogs and allure them from larger game, leaving both hide and carcass to feed the fishes? Who ever heard of an Indian killing moose and deer for the hides alone, leaving the carcass to feed the fox and wolf or bait bear traps? So long as the Indian has the field to himself he only takes enough game to supply his own frugal wants and no more. It is only when the white man steps in to dispute his right to the hunting ground that he kills off all the beaver in a pond or destroys all the game he can in one season.

Can so much be said in favor of the white hunter?

But it is not the actual slayer of the animals who ought to be held responsible for the game laws being violated to the extent they are. There are other men higher up in the social scale who are as much and even more in the fault than they.

No hunter will kill game unless he can dispose of it to advantage. The professional hunter does not kill for the sport alone, but to make money, and if he knows there is no market for it he will not slay. The merchants and lumbermen who are ever ready to purchase heads hides and meat at all seasons of the year and generally at a somewhat lower figure than the market value as an offset to the risk they run are more to be blamed than the hunters. If those gentlemen could be got at and a measure of justice meted out to them a large factor in perpetrating the evil would get its quietus.

Some lumber camps are kept well supplied in moose meat at from two to five cents per pound. I know of one case, I am pleased to say not in Ontario, where the owner