

Stephen Decatur, of Portsmouth, N. H., shot a moose in the Tobique country in September, 1896, with an antler spread of 66 inches, and in November, 1903, George Brown, of Boies-town, shot a moose on the Sou-west Miramichi with an antler spread of 67 inches. Later John Bodkin of Dublin, Ireland, has a trophy of Restigouche of 63½ inches, and Captain Russell, an English sportsman, another from Tobique measuring 62 inches with 32 points. In 1911, several heads were taken from 60 to 64 inches, but space forbids the detail; suffice to say that there are ten bull moose now in the forests of New Brunswick for every one of ten years ago. As you cluster around the camp fire at night, the guides will tell you of mammoth moose that exist in New Brunswick to-day who are too wise to come to the horn and whose track is like the print of a water pail on the shore of the mountain lake.

Many sportsmen prefer stalking the moose on snow to any other form of hunting. Extreme care is required to get within shooting distance. His homely nose will catch the least whiff of human scent borne by the wayward breeze, or his great ears will hear the click of the overlapping snowshoe, or his vigilant eye will note the darkening of the snow line through the avenues of trees, and the thud, thud of heavy feet upon the hollow ground will notify the hunter that his supper of moose steak and onions is indefinitely postponed. A wounded moose will sometimes turn and charge his enemy. Woe to the hunter, then, unless his hand is steady and his aim is sure, for death lurks behind the vengeful fury of those lancelike hoofs.

By many amateur woodsmen the caribou is esteemed more highly as a game animal than the moose. The great virgin wilderness of New Brunswick at the present day is a caribou paradise. If the moose may be numbered in hundreds, the caribou may be reckoned in thousands. They can be stalked with considerable ease on a windy day, but cannot be run down, no matter what the depth of snow, and so they escape the butchery in the close season that too often falls to the lot of moose and deer.