

as aquatic species, in astonishing abundance, are found in all the ponds, lakes, sleughs, and streams.

Most of my collecting was done in the vicinity of the town of Carberry, which is surrounded by a dry, level prairie, known as the Big Plain. Others of my specimens I obtained from the many moist spots or ponds occupying the hollows of the rolling prairie around the City of Brandon; others from the innumerable ponds and lakes everywhere dotting the country between Brandon and Fort Ellice; others from depressions in the level sandy prairie south of Beaver Creek, near Fort Ellice; while others are from the Red River, the Souris, and the Assiniboine. One great feature of the prairie-region, of which Manitoba forms part, is the extraordinary number of lakes and lakelets. Their number is enormous, especially in some localities. They are of all sizes from the dimensions of one's sitting-room up to the size of Lake Winnipeg; but the most common size is from one-quarter to half-an-acre. The smaller ones dry up completely during the summer and autumn; while the water in the larger ones becomes greatly lowered, to be raised again by the melting of the snow in the spring. Myriads of mollusks must come into existence every spring, only to be killed by the drying up of the ponds later in the year. To such an extent is this the case that one is almost led to wonder that their extermination does not ensue. When crossing, last October, the wide stretch of level sandy prairie south of Beaver Creek, I was surprised to find the ground strewn for long distances—often a mile or a mile and a half—with bleaching fresh-water shells, showing clearly the extent of the waters in the spring-time, though I saw but few pools. *Limnaea palustris* was the commonest species under these conditions; but, in the deeper depressions, where rushes grew, there were others, including *Bulinus hypnorum*, *Sphaerium jayanum*, *Planorbis exacutus*, &c. A sleugh is a marshy spot or pool on the surface of the prairie, often occupying the bottom of a coulée or old watercourse. "The Swamp," more than once referred to, is a large extent of almost impassable virgin swamp,