

right at home. He dragged himself through his gallery and found Mrs. Snapper and the youngsters waiting for him as they did not know whence or how he had gone.

The sun was getting warmer now. The ice tent had collapsed and the surface of the lake was open water in places, covered with a film of ice at night, which melted in the day time on most days. Bare spots of ground were showing behind SNAPPER's house when one day he discovered, right on top of it and following the shore of the lake, the moccasin prints of two men and the next day he found a beaver at the bottom of the lake, just at the dam; his hind foot caught in a steel trap with chain attached and at the other end of the short chain a heavy stone. The dam was cut a little, to make some current in the lake, thus attracting the attention of the beavers. The trap was set on top of the dam with the big stone attached to the chain, so that when the beaver put his foot in it he jumped into the deep water, pulled the stone with him and so was kept below the surface and drowned. Next day this beaver had been taken away but another was found drowned, caught by both front feet, then another. The other beavers, frightened by this, left the lake so SNAPPER and his family were alone again.

Soon SNAPPER's family married and in turn had families and all lived on the lake unmolested, for the beaver or the mink never returned, and sometimes at night, when the moon shines brightly over the smiling waters of the lake, SNAPPER gathers his many grandchildren round him and tells them about the beavers and his fight in mid-air with the hawk.