

heavy pole, is placed, this animal being so powerful that it easily tears to pieces the log-traps used for the next species.

5. *Putorius Vison*, Gmel (Mink).—Abundant throughout the district. Their "roads" run round the margin of every lake, and the "portage paths" of the Indians generally follow those these little animals form in their constant passage from one lake to another. It is surprising, considering the number of "log-traps" set for them in these paths over the whole country, the facility with which they are caught, and the eagerness with which they are sought after, that any escape. The skins sell for \$2 each, and were formerly worth \$2.50. The season for trapping them is the end of September and October. The traps are constructed by driving slabs, split out from a cedar tree, or small stakes into the ground in a circle, leaving a narrow entrance on one side, across which a fir-pole heavily weighted is placed, and so arranged as to fall and crush the animal when the bait inside the circle of sticks is disturbed. The top is covered over with a handful of branches, which prevents the Mink from reaching the bait except by the narrow entrance. As soon as taken, an opening having been made near the tail, the skin is stripped off inside out, and stretched till dry, on three splints of cedar-wood cut to fit accurately together on the principle of a boot-tree. When alarmed, this animal takes to the water, swimming and diving with great readiness, though it can continue but a short time under water. The young are born in June.

6. *Mephitis Chinga*, Tiediman, *Americana*, Sabine, (Skunk). Common about the settlements in Grenville, &c.

7. *Lutra Canadensis*, Sabine, (Otter).—Many seen in the lakes throughout the district. Living entirely on fresh fish which its extraordinary powers of diving enable it to obtain with facility, the Otter will not take any bait, but is captured by means of iron spring-traps without teeth, set at the water's edge in spots where it is in the habit of going in and out of the water. These landing places or "Otter-slides" are usually situated where the shore is pretty steep, and the well-beaten track is always very conspicuous. Unless the trap is firmly secured with a chain or very strong cord, this powerful animal frequently carries it off, but is generally soon drowned by it, and sinks to the bottom where it is not easily found. The skins I was informed are sold at from four to six dollars each.

8. *Vulpes fulvus*, Desm. (Red Fox).—None seen, but reported