

In summer these deer live on the great rocky wilderness that extends from a short distance north of Athabasca and Reindeer Lakes, between Great Slave Lake and Hudson's Bay, to the Arctic Ocean. In the autumn they collect together in large bands and move southwards into the wooded country where they spend the winter, leaving again for the Barrens in the early spring.

During the present year the writer spent the summer in one of their favourite wintering grounds in the hitherto unexplored region north of Churchill River and south-east of Lake Athabasca. Almost all of the deer were at the time away to the north, but a few stragglers had remained behind.

Our party entered the country by ascending the Caribou River, a stream about as large as the Rideau, flowing into Churchill River 225 miles north of Battleford. On the first of July it was found to be at its extreme high water level. Its banks were overhung with willows, and its bed was quicksand, so that we could neither track nor pole, but were obliged to ascend it with the paddle against a heavy and constant current. The river flows in a wide valley, with high granite ridges at some distance back on both sides.

As the river is ascended, poplar, white spruce, and all underbrush gradually disappear, and the country becomes generally wooded with Banksian Pine, with Black Spruce in the wet places, and great stony tracts devoid of timber of any kind. We have now reached the winter home of the Caribou which in this region stretches northward from about Lat $56^{\circ} 45'$. It consists of long almost bare hills of Archæan rocks, separated by wide valleys, the bottoms of which are filled with sand and ridges of boulders. In these valleys lie many small lakes, on the shore of one of which, near the head of Caribou River, the Hudson's Bay Company established a small trading post last autumn, and traded with the Indians throughout the winter, but in spite of the fact that meat is abundant the Indians are not going back there this winter and the post has been abandoned.

The Indians report that the deer collect on the frozen surface of these lakes during the day in immense herds, and are readily killed as long as the desire remains to shoot them, or till the whole herd is