

arrest the flight of a flock when nearly a mile away. The plan usually adopted is to build a little brush shelter on the grassy flats, place a few decoys within shot and wait for a flock to come within sight and sound. Then the game commences. The hunter sends forth a cry which catches the ears of the geese, and the leader of the flock wheels in his direction, taking a wide circle. If the caller is skilful the radius of the circle is gradually lessened, and man and geese keep up a discordant concert, until the latter, now flying low, come within range of the gun. The rest is easily imagined, and a skilful sportsman will probably bag a brace of geese, sometimes more, for though shy, geese are silly things and will often return within range of the gun with a view of alighting alongside of those that have fallen, especially if the leader happens to be numbered with the slain.

It is at Moose Factory and other Hudson's Bay Company's posts on the coast of James Bay, where the killing of geese is an important industry. They are killed there by thousands, and salted down for summer use. They are to the inhabitants of those places as salt pork and bacon are to us. The Hudson's Bay Company, when issuing weekly rations to their employees, instead of giving out so many pounds of pork, gives so many salted geese. I forget the exact number of geese that constitute a man's weekly ration of meat, but I think that it is somewhere about two.

There are two kinds of geese, the large grey goose and the "wavy," the latter being somewhat smaller, but the mention of "Roast wavy" to the old Hudson's Bay man makes him smack his lips, and if he has moved from the coast inland, he pines for his lost "Roast wavy." So they must be good.

I once asked a native of the north to give me the Indian names of the geese and different kinds of ducks. I have my notes lying before me, and I will now transcribe them, as they may interest some of the readers of *ROD AND GUN*. I give them as they are written, without further comment of my own, except an occasional etymological explanation. The Indian names I have spelled phonetically, according to the English alphabet.

*Neekah*—Goose.

*Mahnk*—Loon.

*Ashemahnk*—A smaller species.

The Indian word for duck is "she-sheep," as an affix, "ship."

*Niniship*—"Nini" or "inini," a man, the real thing).

The real duck, a big brown, nearly black duck.

*Apishininiship*—A smaller edition of the above.

*Aag*—Saw bills; generic term.

*Ininisig*—The real saw bill.

*Manahsig*—Lesser saw bill.

*Keen-ah-Konayship*—Smaller still. (Keenah konay—Sharp bill).

*Kenogayowayship*—(Kenoah, long; Okat, leg) Long legged duck; pintail.

*Pingkeahoship*—(Pingkwahk—Arrow) Arrow headed duck; a duck with a very large head.

*Kah-Kahn-de-quay-ship*—(Kahkahndequay—Going backwards and forwards) A black duck that keeps its head moving backwards and forwards as it flies, making much noise with its wings.

*Quayshoship*—(Quayshoshe—Whistle) Whistling duck.

*Wabiship*—(Wabi or waba—White) White duck; feeds on snails; seen only in fall and spring.

*Ah hah-we*—(The noise it makes, ah-hah-hah-hah-we) Beak white and brown; large flocks; the last of the arrivals from the south; does not breed here.

*Mahkahtayship*—(Mahkahtay—Black) A large black duck only seen in fall and spring.

*Se-ah-moo*—Like the teal, only larger, dark with highly colored markings. (Widgeon?)

*Shingopix*—Small divers.

These are my notes and I leave it to others to class them more perfectly and add more to the list, if any are philologically inclined.

### An English Sportsman's Opinion.

The route we had taken was the main highway from Port Arthur to the sea. But on both sides of it there are other lakes and rivers innumerable, the home of the maskinonge, weighing up to 60 lb. or 70 lb., of high-leaping ouananiche, of lordly salmon and of speckled trout, of sturgeon, bass, pike and whitefish. You can pull your canoe into the reeds and shoot duck—mallard and canvas-back, redhead and pintail, widgeon; green-winged, blue-winged and cinnamon teal; plover, snipe, curlew and pelicans; geese and swans—till your gun is too hot to hold. On the marshy shores you can see the moose standing knee-high in the water, you can hear the whistle of the wapiti or follow the track of the caribou. You may meet the Hudson's Bay factor travelling in pomp, in a large war-canoe paddled by a numerous crew, with his camp-equipage following him. One summer evening on the Assiniboine I was startled to hear the unmistakable notes of a bagpipe in the far distance. Rounding the bend of the river came a fleet of canoes, with the Indian agent's leading, and a piper industriously warbling Highland airs in the bows. Tell it not in Inverness, but the piper was a half-breed.

And all of these things you may see on British soil, and, having once seen them, the memory thereof will abide with you forever.—C. H. WILLIAMS in *Blackwood* for January.

### Desbarats Islands.

By Straw Hat.

"To him, who in the love of nature holds communion with her visible forms, she speaks various languages."—Bryant.

Canada has many lovely spots, but there are few of them like Desbarats. Its predominating feature is variety, an endless variety of natural beauty, and to call it an artist's paradise is by no means exaggeration. The members of that happy brotherhood, whose love of beauty binds them by the strong bond of sympathy with nature, will find a realm of artistic scenes in this ever-changing and ever-fascinating region. Here is verily "The Meeting of the Waters." A channel from Lake Superior flows into Lake Huron, and on a fine day one can see from the top of the great pine-clad bluffs, which rise in many places both along the shore and inland, a vista picture of waters, islands and mountains stretching many long miles away to the horizon. To this same channel flows the little Desbarats River, after winding silently in graceful curves past the hamlet of the same name, which, by contrast, enhances the beauty of its wild surroundings. For him who would study pioneer life and the life and character of the red man, here are excellent opportunities. The inhabitants are farmers, miners and Ojibways, a part of the Algonquin tribe which not many years ago covered almost the whole of Ontario and parts of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and almost all the Canadian West up to the foot of the Rocky Mountains with its trails. Historically, Desbarats, as part of the Sault Ste. Marie country, has a fascinating history. By studying the map furnished by the Bureau of Ethnology, Washington, one can see that it is most centrally situated in the "Land of the Ojibways."