

would the balance between resources and their exhaustion be so nicely maintained.

On the western border of the Park the same system has been adopted, with, as I am assured, the same excellent results, but as to this I am not able to speak from personal knowledge and observation. Twenty years ago bear had nearly disappeared; now they are plentiful. Beaver were almost exterminated; they have become a nuisance. A dam or lodge was a curiosity worth walking several miles to visit; to-day the animals may be seen at work on every stream. The numerous dams present a series of impassable obstacles to trout moving to and from their spawning-beds. They have also raised the level of many lakes, drowning the timber and destroying the feeding grounds of the large game. Beyond any question their presence in such numbers injures the fishing and shooting, does damage to the forest, and makes the country wetter and more difficult to traverse. Where one finds several hundred yards of a familiar trail under water, and is obliged to make a *détour* through the thick woods, his admiration for the sagacity, diligence, and pertinacity of the beaver sensibly wanes,—these excellent virtues are sometimes uncomfortable to live with. The administration would do well for the Park were it to keep the beaver within reasonable bounds, and might easily derive a handsome revenue from this source.

In this high-lying country the timber is too small to attract the lumbermen, and even as pulpwood it probably has but little value. Where the growth is slow the annual rings are close together and the wood is hard, resinous, and unsuitable for the mill. The few spruces of any size that exist are much scattered and are situated in such remote places that it would not pay to take them out. A very large part of the wooding is small deciduous timber of no present or prospective value where it stands. It does not seem too much to hope that the forest will long be spared, and certainly the loss and gain should be carefully measured before the axeman is given his will of it. The government is in a position