

THE CANADIAN SPORTSMAN AND NATURALIST.

No. 1.

MONTREAL, JANUARY 15th, 1881.

Vol. I.

TO SPORTSMEN AND LOVERS OF NATURAL HISTORY.

There is an evident demand for a lively journal devoted to our Field Sports and Natural History. The Canadian sportsman, properly speaking, never had a recognized paper whereby he could communicate his experiences. Newspapers as a rule took a daily public interest in matters of this nature, but a future reference to their columns has invariably been lost. This will not be the case with the *SPORTSMAN* which is printed in proper form, may be filed, bound or become a historical document. Besides, the greater part of the original matter written on this side of the St. Lawrence, referring to our Sporting matters and Natural History, has been generally posted to American scientists or to journals published in the United States; therefore, the literary talent produced by and properly belonging to this class of our intelligent manhood, has been absorbed through other channels. We are anxious to obviate this, hence the issue of the *CANADIAN SPORTSMAN AND NATURALIST*.

Our columns are therefore open to correct brief reports on Field Sports, and matters relating to Canadian Natural History. We intend to give accurate accounts of the large four-footed game; such as the Moose, the Woodland and Barren-ground Caribou; the Virginian Deer, and smaller quadrupeds. Another object in so doing, is to make an effort to harmonize the Game Laws of Canada, particularly those of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Ornithology and Oölogy, combining descriptions and remarks on our Northern Birds, their nests and eggs, will take up a portion of our space during the summer season of 1881. Thenceforth the other branches of Natural Science will be periodically attended to.

Our columns are open to writers on the delightful and exciting sport of fishing for Salmon, Trout, and other species of fish that rise to the fly. The most prolific lakes, rivers and localities will be carefully and correctly described. We intend to give an easy and inexpensive way to reach them. Lists of the food fishes found in our inland and maritime waters will be given, together with notes relating to them.

Next we approach Entomology—a branch of natural study containing forms of great interest, and at this age, studied more than any other terrestrial life. It is possible that the Editor who is now studying the *Solitary Wasps of the North*, will be able to describe some additional forms to the already important work on this class of American insects, by Henri de Saussure, of Geneva, Switzerland.

During the first year's issue, the monthly number of our pages will be necessarily confined to eight, but should the journal succeed in attaining the anticipated support which we desire, it will be enlarged to sixteen pages of interesting matter. Now, its existence rests with our sportsmen and students of Natural History; give it your support, and we will furnish you with a neat, well-conducted, spirited periodical, which will reach you regularly every month.

In a former part of our notice we stated that the situation of the Salmon Rivers of this Province would be accurately given, with descriptions of the pools and their distance from the coast. We have done so partly in this issue, in order that European, American and Canadian lovers of fishing may take advantage of these favorite localities during the season of 1881.

The Editor of the *SPORTSMAN* has had experience on the southern coast of Labrador, therefore, gentlemen wishing to visit the rivers hereinafter mentioned, may rely on *bonâ fide* sport.