Game and Inland Fishery Protection Service.

REPORT OF SECRETARY,

FOR

1894.

Mr. President and Council of Game and I. F. P. Society of Nova Scotia:

GENTLEMEN,-

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The efforts of your Society to enforce the Game Laws of the Province have not in any way been relaxed through the past year. Since my last report we have secured a number of convictions, which we never would have been able to have obtained, had you not offered a reward of \$50.00 to any person who would provide evidence that would convict the culprit for killing moose or caribou contrary to the laws. There was also \$20.00 offered for small game, which was but once claimed and paid.

The past hunting season has been most favorable for the protection of moose; during the calling time the nights and mornings were too windy, and since then it has just been the reverse; when snow came it was generally followed by rain and frost, making bad hunting; notwithstanding a number were killed, but not nearly so many as if the weather had been more favorable. But few moose were snared in comparison with former years, owing to the vigilant lookout that was kept on the snarers by our officers. In some localities there were a few snares seized, and in one instance the offender was caught in the aet of skinning the unfortunate animal. These unlawful hunters are finding out that it is unprofitable business, losing their snares and time, besides running the risk of being caught in the act.

I beg to call your attention to what I consider would be a great boon to the preservation of cur game (I would except rabbits) viz., that game should not be an article of commerce. By prohibiting the sale, it would tend more to increase all varieties of game than any law that can be put on the statute book.