

XVIII.

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THIS mode of enticing the bull moose within shot is done in the rutting season. The Indian, who accompanies the sportsman, rolls a piece of birch-bark in the shape of a cone, and, using it as a trumpet, imitates the cow moose to such perfection, that he will draw the country for miles should there be a bull in the vicinity. This is done always on a moonlight night, and in the months of September or October.

The Indian, with his companion, stations himself in the open plain, but close to the forest, and soon gets an answer to his call if there is a moose within a couple of miles. This he repeats at intervals of about five minutes, when a crashing through the woods in the distance is heard, as the huge brute tears his way through the forest, and presently he is seen on the border of the wood. The Indian now gives a few very suppressed grunts, and the moose slowly and suspiciously draws near, and the sportsman gets his chance of a shot.

This is, however, rather poor sport; at times you sit out the whole night without getting any answer to the calls, not being permitted to make the slightest noise, and even denied the comfort of a pipe—not at all a bad thing on a Canadian winter's night.