

it was very rare to see a calf or a young animal among the herd. They had no rest—they were hunted in all directions.

By the Honorable Mr. Macdonald :

Q. Where were the hunters from generally that did this work? A. They were hunted by the half breeds and Indians, as well as by the whites.

Q. And by the Americans? A. Yes; the Americans went into the buffalo robe trade very largely, and in fact in 1879 80 I think there were some 300,000 buffalo robes sent down to American territory. Two or three years afterwards there were only three or four thousand. We have a large variety of birds in the North-West; the largest of them is the swan.

By the Honorable Mr. Turner :

Q. Have you the wild turkey? A. No; we have the swan, the goose, the crane and a large variety of ducks there.

By the Honorable Mr. Reesor :

Q. The sand crane is an edible bird is it not? A. Yes.

Q. Something like the turkey? A. Yes.

By the Honorable Mr. Turner :

Q. Have you any snipe? A. Yes, different varieties of snipe, and a great many varieties of plover. We have the partridge, the prairie chicken and the duck. In fact the northern Indians live almost entirely at certain portions of the year on geese and other wild fowl.

By the Honorable Mr. Kaulbach :

Q. Have you the woodcock? A. No, but I believe the woodcock would flourish if it were taken to that country. There is a new prairie chicken that has made its appearance in Manitoba. It is a variety of the grouse and they are getting very plentiful I believe. They are from Minnesota.

By the Honorable Mr. Allan :

Q. Is that the pin-tailed grouse? A. Yes. One or two woodcocks have been killed in Manitoba. I believe Sheriff Inkster killed the first that was ever seen there. I believe the one he shot is the same as the woodcock down here.

By the Honorable Mr. Sutherland :

Q. They resemble the prairie chicken, only they are a somewhat larger and prettier bird? A. Yes.

By the Honorable Mr. Turner :

Q. Has the sparrow made its appearance there yet? A. No, but we have the sparrow hawk.

By the Honorable Mr. Girard :

Q. Is there much hunting of these different kinds of birds? A. Yes, they are very plentiful. In the fall they are to be had in thousands.

Q. Are all that are killed consumed there? A. Yes.

Q. Are any exported? A. No. They have no means of exporting them.

Q. Are they sold in the markets? A. Yes. They are put up in the fall in barrels and the Indians draw them in the winter time.

Q. What is the price for these different birds when sold for trade? A. You can get them for 10, 15, or 25 cents each.

Q. Are geese sold there? A. Yes, they are sold at 50 cents each—\$1 a brace.

Q. And the partridge and prairie chicken? A. When they are plentiful you can get them very cheap; you can get them for 20 cents a brace.

Q. And ducks? A. It is the same with the duck. It depends upon the supply very much. A year favorable to hatching they are very plentiful.

Q. Are there many swans killed there? A. Yes, in the southern part of the country.

Q. Are they killed for the flesh? A. Yes, for the flesh and the skin. They generally skin them and sell the feathers and skin. The flesh is the most inferior of our northern birds; it is very coarse.

By the Honorable Mr. Kaulbach :

Q. Do they grow very large? A. Yes, very large.