

In nearly the whole of this vast area, moose and caribou roam in countless numbers and the annual export of furs by the company demonstrate the fact that the furbearing animals from the smallest to the greatest are neither decreasing in numbers nor quality.

What a mine of wealth is here stored up for the benefit of future generations, if any reasonable means are adopted to preserve it from destruction. It is drained by innumerable streams of all sizes, from some large enough to be navigated by good sized vessels down to the tiniest rivulet. Lakes of all sizes in which the waters are gathered together are there by the thousand. All the waters of the purest quality, all teeming with fish, many the feeding and breeding grounds of innumerable water fowl, enclosed and overhung by all varieties of timber and vines adapted to the latitude. It contains nearly everything requisite for man's comfort and industries. And yet of this vast territory where a kind providence has been so lavish of its favors, and which lies at our very doors, so little is known.

During the last twenty years the writer has visited a good many parts of the Province on the outskirts of civilization from the upper waters of the Blanche River to, and away above, the head of Rainy Lake; to spend days, weeks and months traversing its lakes and rivers, travelling through the wilds at all seasons of the year from the sweltering days of July to snowshoeing at 40° below zero, and pitching the light cotton tent on four feet of snow, but a glance at the map of the Province convinces him that he has seen almost nothing of the country, and has never been in the parts where game is to be met with in the greatest abundance, and yet he can scarcely recall a day in which he did not see less or more signs of some variety or other.