

Rod and Gun in Canada

Whether by night or by day, if the wind is up, it is of little use to call, as the sound is so choked and muffled that its effective range is very limited. On a perfectly calm evening the horn will often bring a moose a distance of two miles.

Still-hunting on the snow, while not to be recommended for dudges or invalids, is a far-more certain way of bagging the moose than any other. The royal game, though wary, is not as difficult to approach as the red deer, and starts more deliberately; but when once under way, with his famous pacing gait, is most determined in his flight. In Maine, where the hunters are many and the moose are few, a method is pursued called "walking down" the moose. This is a sport for guides rather than tenderfeet. It consists in following the moose that has been started until the animal rounds up. The man, though left far behind at the beginning of the race, sticks doggedly to the trail, and finally tires out the strongest moose. On the first day the chances are that he will not see the moose at all, though he may have started him frequently. When darkness sets in he camps on or near the trail. Resuming the chase early in the morning, he comes, in the course of an hour or so, to where the moose laid down for the night as soon as he found the man was not following. On the second day the moose, which has not stopped to feed in all this time, pauses now and then to rest and listen, and perhaps before sundown the hunter gets a glimpse of him. On the third day the moose is routed every mile or so and sighted as he

drags himself along. At last the animal, footsore and weary, angry at his relentless foe, turns at bay. Then are needed a cool nerve and a steady aim, for if the moose is only wounded by

pose it to be a small tract of ground in which one or more moose have located, and where they have trampled the snow down flat. In reality a yard often covers an area of one or two



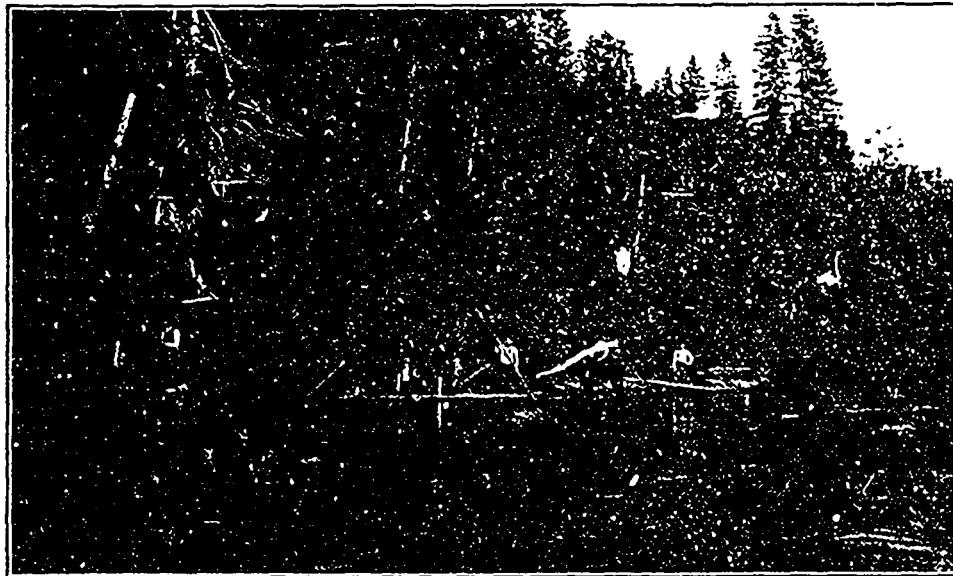
Falls and "Dam" Pool—Northwest Miramichi.

Courtesy N. B. Tourist Association.

the shot he will charge his enemy. The charge, though, is a blind and clumsy one, and the hunter may easily avoid it by jumping behind a tree.

Moose "yard up" as soon as the snow gets so deep as to render travel difficult. Usually the cows and calves yard by themselves, while the bulls will be found elsewhere. Persons who have never seen a yard commonly sup-

square miles. It is commonly found on a hardwood ridge or the side of a mountain, and consists of a number of intersecting paths trodden deeply in the snow, to which the moose confine themselves while browsing on the young growth and branches from place to place. A few sunny spots may be found where the animals are in the habit of resting or consorting sociably together. These are trampled down hard and exhibit much of the scenic quality of an ordinary domestic cow-yard in winter. A large area of ground is needed to supply a sufficient amount of food for even a single moose. For this reason when moose are plentiful they are seldom found in force in any one locality, but rather as their numbers grow, they spread out and occupy new ground. If food becomes scarce in the yard, the moose locate another one, plowing single file through the cloying drifts. If the animals are alarmed by man and started from the yard, they will not return to it that winter. Nevertheless they will often remain in a yard all winter, though lumbermen are chopping and yarding trees not a hundred rods away. The moose discriminates readily sounds that are harmless from those that are dangerous. On a stormy day, for instance, when the forest is groaning and crackling with the winter gale, the moose in his lair on the ridge chews the cud of contentment, but let the



A Horse Express on a New Brunswick River.

Courtesy N. B. Tourist Association.