

And the only means available at present is the income from license fees and fines.

We believe that by a reasonable license system, and a strict observance of the law, a sufficient sum can be gathered in each year to, at least, balance the outlay. Further, it is felt that a reasonable license system imposed both on our own citizens and foreigners, prevents indiscriminate slaughter to a very great extent.

So far nothing has been said about our game birds. We have the Ptermigaw or white Partridge in the north. They are to be found anywhere north of the forty-seventh parallel of latitude, in many parts much further south.

We have the spruce partridge and the common partridge, or ruffed grouse, all over the province. Their sale has been prohibited for a term of years. It was high time this step was taken. I know of one village where there are only two stores. It has not even a blacksmith's shop and country tavern, where one of the merchants exported twenty-five hundred brace of the birds in a single season. We have also in the west part of the province the prairie chicken, a much more luscious bird than is the partridge, and which, with a little trouble, might be had in abundance in the east as well as the west. We have also the woodcock, the snipe, the plover and probably a few wild turkeys still in the Niagara peninsula. These birds remain with us all the year round. We have also in their season wild geese and a numerous variety of ducks, which make Ontario their breeding grounds, great numbers of which are annually brought down before they return in the fall of the year to replenish the larder of our Yankee cousins.

With the exception of our migrating birds our game never leaves our borders. It is here at all seasons of the year.