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## The Canadian Sportswan and Naturalist.

No. i.
MONTREAL, JANUARY 15th, I88I.
Vol. I.

## TO SPORT'SMEN AND LOVERS OF NATURAL HISTORY.

There is an evident demand for a lively jonrnal devoted to our Field Sports and Natural History. The Canalian sportsman, properly preaking, never had a recognized paper wherely he conld commonicate his experiences. Newspapers as a rule took a daily public interfest in matters of this nature, but a future reference to their colmmons has invariably been lost. This will not be the ease with the Sportsman which is printed in proper form, may be filed, tround or become a historical document. Besides, the greater part of the original matter written on this side of the St . Lawrence, referring to our Sporting matters and Natural History, has been generally posted to American scientists or to journals pnblished in the United States; therefore, the literary talent produced by and properly belonging to this class of our intelligent manhood, has been absorbed through other channels. We are anxions to olviate this, hence the issue of the Canadian Sportsman ani Naturalist. Our columns are therefore open to correct brief reports on Field Sports, and matters relating to Canadian Natural History. We intend to give accurate accounts of the large four-footed game; such as the Moose, the Wonlland game; such as the Moose, the
Varren-ground Caribou; the Virginian and Barren-ground Caribon; the Another object in so doing, is to make an effort to harmonize the Game Laws of Canada, particularly those of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.
Ornithology and Oology, combining descrip-
tions and remarks on our Northern Birds,
their nests and cges, will take י! a portion of
Our space during the summer neason of 1881 .
Thenceforth the other branches of Natural
Science will be periodically attended to.

Our columns are open to writers on the delightful and exciting sport of fishing for Salmon, Trout, and other species of fish that rise to the fly. The most prolific lakes, rivers and localities will be carefully and correctly described. We intend to give an easy and inexpensive way to reach them. Lists of the food fishes found in our inland and maritime waters will be given, together with notes relating to them.

Next we approach Entumology-a branch of natural study containing forms of great interest, and at this age, studied more than any other terrestrial life. It is possible that the Editor who is now studying the Solitary Wasps of the North, will be able to describe some additional forms to the already important work on this class of American insects, by Hemri de Saussure, of Geneva, Switzerland.

During the first year's issue, the monthly number of our pages will be necessarily confined to eight, but should the journal succeed in attaining the anticipated support which we desire, it will be enlarged to sixteen pages of interesting matter. Now, its existence rests with our sportsmen and students of Natural History; give it your support, and we will furnish you with a neat, well-conducted, spirited periodical, which will reach you regularly every month.

In a former part of our notice we stated that the situation of the Salmon Rivers of this Province would be accurately given, with descriptions of the pools and their distance from the coast. We have done so partly in this issue, in order that European, American and Canadian lovers of fishing may take advantage of these favorite localities during the season of 1881 .

The Editor of the Sportsman has had experience on the southern coast of Labrador, therefore, gentlemen wishing to visit the rivers hereinafter mentioned, may rely on bond fide sport.

## SALMON AND TROUT IRIVERS AND LAKES OF QUEBEC.

It may be said that in former times salmon visited the greater portion of the Northern rivers entering the St. Lawrence above and below the city of Quelec. Some of these rivers are not now trequented liy salmon. It is only of late years, however, that the Jacques Cartier became worthy of being leased for surface fishing. We are informed that under proper management and good gnardianship, the pools on this river are prolitic with fish that give excellent sport. Years ago, the small river known as the St. Charles, at Quebec, was considered a salmon strean, lut nome have been in it for seasons qone hy. The biditor killed a grilse in the St. Charles, near Lorette, about fifteen years ago. Very large trout (S.fontinalis) has been taken by the thy from beneath the falls of Montmorenci. Doubtless, these were forced down the river when small, and having lain in the cool aurging pool, the fish became fattened and large.

Salmon enter the St. Auns, but on account of lofty falls, they cannot follow the river to a great distance. This river has been greatly poached in the neighborhood of Bonquet's Bridge.

There are other salmon rivers of minor importance, entering the St. Latwrence below St. Anns, and some of them are pronomoded good, but we believe that thore has been too much netting of late years fon the coast, and hence the old reliable good score rivers hawe sutfered. This may be considered a mere opinion; however, it will be our object to fully investigate the cause of last season's scarcity of the noble fish. We are anxions to have the opinion of men of old experience.

There are two ways of reaching the salmon rivers between Bersimits and Natashquan. This is done by means of sailing mail packets. -one leaving the long wharf at Rimoushi on the lst and 15 th of each month, from May to September. The other packet leaves Gaspé Basin on similar dates. The Rimouski
packet calls at Bersimits, Godtont, Trinity Bay, Seven Islands and the Moisie River The captain charges one dollar per passengert crossing the St. Lawrence, the latter to supply his own provisions during the passage. The Gaspé packet is supposed to call at the west and east ends of the Island of Anticosti alter ${ }^{+}$ nately-that is to say, one trip to English Harbour on the west end, and the following trip to Fox Bay on the north-east end; thence across to Natashquan, Point Esquimault, Mingan and other rivers on the same coast. The charge for the passage from Gaspes to Anticosti is four dollars, with board-

Now that we have introdnced these matters In regard to fising localitios, the continuation of our remarks on the salmon rivers will ap ${ }^{\circ}$ pear in the February number. In the meall time, we will occupy a portion of our space with a deseription of the beautiful trout lakes siguate north of Montreal.
We will first mention the region of the Vpper Assumption River, where numerou ${ }^{\text {a }}$ lakes abound, containing leautitul richliavoured tront. It is difficult to reach the lakes of the Northern Laurentian districts, on account of rugged woodland and rocky sur roundings, there being no roals leading froll civilization but what are generally used on both sides of the river as Indian pathis to the uppert waters. With a good guide a series of moun ${ }^{-1}$ tain lakes can be reached in a day's walk from Manning's farm, taking along a canoe or twoAny lake will ofter abundant sport. The upper portion of the Assumption river abounds in trout averaging from a quarter to two proun $^{\text {ds }}$ weight. There is another grand scenic locality which we have visited, where the lakes are alive with large hascions tront; these ard situated on each side of the colonization rod leuding to the Mattawan. The Black River rums for several miles along the side of the road and its pools and rapids are teeming with game fish; therefore, as a summer resort for fishing, this region cannot he surpassed. To reach the mountain lakes, it will be necessary
in starting from Montreal to take the steamer " Berthier," from the wharf' opposite the Bonsecours Market, to Lanoraie, where a railway carries passengers, \&c., to Joliette. At this village a team is necessary to carry the sportsmen and traps to either Maming's farm or Mr. Leprohon's honse on the Black River Road, which leads through the trout lake region towards the Mattawan. We will continue this subject in the Felruary number.

## Wholesale slaught'er of wild DUCKS.

Among the various devices resorted to for the destruction of our Wild Fowl, the swived gun is prechaps the most destructive in its effects. Great numbers of wild ducks are an-- nually slanghtered by its means, and the genuine $S_{\text {portsman }}$ must view with alarm the rapidly decreasing numbers of the birds in the localities where it is used. For the past $t_{\text {wo }}$ or three seasons several American steam yachts, armed with these guns, have been cruising in Lake St. Francis, near Lancaster, Ont., and have apparently done a remmerative business in supplying the American markets with birds. The modus operamdi is to steam slowly towards the large flocks, or "rafts' of dnckes, on their feeding grounds in the lake, and as they are then usually in compact flocks, a great number are secured at a single discharge. As many as 60 to 100 being often bagged at a
shot; whed a shot; while, as a matter of course, a great many are wounded, and but few of these are secured, the operations of these pot hunters being conducted on too large a scale to allow of the pursuit of single birds. It is needless to state that this system of shooting has al ready been productive of a great amonnt of harm, and if persisted in will spoil to a certain extent the duck shooting on our lakes. We therefore trust, before the advent of another season, the Game Societies of Ontario and Quebec will have taken the matter in hand and
devised devised some means whereby the slaughter
may be prevented, and the rapidly diminishing birds be conserved for the legitimate sportsman.

## Wallace.

## OUR JOURNAL

will sustain properly defined Game Laws of the Dominion of Canada. It will also extend a cordial hand of fellowship to all well organized game cluls. We fully trust in its success, and now wish our patrons happiness and prosperity, with plenty of sport during the veason of 1881 .

## IN PLOSPEC:T.

A gentleman lately returned from the Northwest 'rerritories promises to send us some interesting and truthfinl accounts of the game noticed in the reakion through which he passed last summer. We will embeavour to procare it for the Fehnuary mumber.

## PROVINCE OF QUEBEO.

Gime in Seanon-lantiary.
Caribon, Virginian bear, Mogse and the common Hare.

Ruttled and Spruce Gromse, Wild Geese and Duck:.

Fish in Searon-January.
Whitefish, Salmon-Trout, Speckled, Brook or River Trout, (S.fomtimalis), Bass, Doré, Maskilongé.
Note--Every net lience issued by the Department at Ottawa, states as a condition of the issue, that its use for the capure of Bass, prior to the lst of July, is prohibited.

## A GOOD FI'I'.

In the selection of a yrum, the inexperienced Sportsman is apt to overlook one of the most important features required. For rapid and accurate shooting, it is necessary that the stock of the gun be curved to suit the length of neck of the marksman. To fit properly, the gun, when raised to the shoulder should be almost on a level with the eyes, reruiring but a slight
bend in the neck to enable the sportiman to cover the object' aimed at. Before the introduction of breech loaders it was a difficult matter to procure a gun with the necessary curve, and efen at the present time, the greater numper of those manufactured are too straight in the stock to suit the average neck.

The varions improyements in the manufacture of guns made during the past few years, leaves little to be desired, and the reputation for excellence of work, achieved by some of the most celchrated makers, leaves little room for criticism. The Sportsman has now mo difficnlty in procuring a good article; let him be careful in his selection, recognize the importance of a proper fitting gun, and the result will be an increased pleasure in his sport, -a pleasure engendered by success.

Wallace.

## DEATH OF THE EDITOR OF "LAND AND WATER."

The death of Francis Trevelyan Buckland, better known as F:ank Buckland-announced from London, has heen expected, as he has been in wretched health for some time past. His father, the geologist, Dean of Westminster, a most accomplished man, lost his reason some time before his death. Frank Buckland, who was born in 1826, was a student of Winchester College and afterwards at Christ Church, Oxford. The larger part of his life was given up to the stuly of the natural sciences, and he was a recognized anthority upon the habits and culture of the forl fishes. Few men of science were so popular in England. He was a public benefactor through his introduction of new varieties of fish for food and especially through his successful cultivation of salmon and trout. In social life he was one of the most charming of men, despite the fact that his house was really a kind of combination of the Aquarium with the Zoological Gardens, so full was it of birds and beasts and fishes. Whoever loved him loved him perfurce, not his dogs only, but his cassowaries and his
crocodiles. The story might have been told of him which was true of Agassiz, that when his wife one morning found in one of her slippers ${ }^{3}$ cold little slimy snake, one of six sent the day before to her scientific spouse, and carefully set aside for safety by him under the bed, and upon the startling discovery started back, crying out in terror, Agassiz! Agassi\%! there is a snake in my slipper!" the response of the savant was, as he rose suddenly up from his couch: "A nnake! Gool heavens, where are the other five?" At home Frank Buckland sat in a cumbrous old chair which he valued highly becanse it had once belonged to the famous John Itunter. Its unconfortahle angles were disregarded by him-they were convenient for the monkeys. There small men sat aloth, and were free to pounce down on his prof sheets at will. A retired organ monkey was ${ }^{8}$ great favorite, and shared with the aflicted but always cheerful savant the frugal meals to which physicians limited him, tasting every thing in turn, even to the claret and water.N. I. World.

MONTREAL BRANCH OF THE ENTO MOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

The seventy-ninth meeting of the alove Branch took place on the evening of the $11^{\text {th }}$ inst., at the rexidence of II. II. Lyman, Ery" "Thormill," McTavish Street.
An arcurate and interesting paper was read hy Mr. George H. Bowles, "On the month parts of some carnivorous and wood-atitug Beetles," with very excellent illustrations ${ }^{\circ}$ dissections.

It was moved by Mr. Conper, seconded bf Mr. Lyman, "That the paper just real, with the arcompanying illustrations, be sent to the Entomologist for publication.-Carrica.

Mr. H. H. Lyman exhibited his very fine collection of Insect Arehitecture, the only $0^{0^{e}}$ of the kind in the city.

Mr. Burland, jr., was elected a member.

## Natural History.

## ORNITHOLOGY OF MOUNT ROYAL.

A ramble over our beautiful Mountain Park, and Cemeteries will well repay students of Ornithology, and Ö̈logy. The summit is 750 feet alove the level of the river, and commands ${ }^{a}$ view of one of the most. magnificent landscapes on this continent. The noble river St. Lawrence, is sech for a long distance, and leyond Beleril Mountain rises majestically above the surrounding valley; on the south side, the view is bounded ly the long range of mountains in the State of New York.
The writer spent many pleasant days last summer, observing the birds that frequent and breed on Mount Ruyal, and identified thirtyeight species. Those marked with an asterisk, do not breed on Mount Royal, hut are fresuently seen there. Several other species were ofserved, but not having been fully identified, are left out for a future note this coming spring. The following list contains the names of the thirty-eight species identified:-
Robin...



## THE BARLED OWL.

This bird was, last month, aboudant in the neightorhodand city of Montreal. We have no recollection of seeing so many near another city in Canada. It is a day owl, and its occurrence in the vicinity of civilization may possibly be on acconut of the Honse Sparrows, which have multiplied greatly of late. The latter are easily caught during the winter, and doubtless a nice worsel for the owls. The common haunts of the Barred 0 wl are dense wools-they are not pelagic-loving the northern forests, but during winter, hunger will force all woodland animals to retreat froin their solitudes. The abundance of the Honse Sparrow has also induced an unnsual number of another enemy to remain in our neightorhood. The Shrike or Butcher Bird. Persons who have read the history of this bird can well muderstand that he would be a greater foe to the Sparrow than the more clumsy owl. Here we see a natural law faithfully carried out in order that each species may be benefited, even as parasites, retaining an equal balance in their sphere.

## THE GRAY SEA EAGLE.

A large specimen was shot on the 28th December, at the village of Cowansville, while in the act of carrying ofl a chicken from a farm yard. This earle is the Halietus albacillia of Cuvier, a bird of doubtful specific position at present. Its halits are similar to that of the Bald Eagle. It is the property of J. I. Newport, Esq., of this city.

## WOODCOCK IN DECEMBER.

Early on the morning of the 16 th December a man captured a woolcock which was running on the ground in the vicinity of Beaver Hall Terrace in this city. This fact would not have been ascertained, were it not for the numerous telegraph wires which surround the streets. During the previous night, the lim, in its southern flight, struck against a wire with force sufficient to take ofl the skin and feathers, from the front portion of the head, above the base of its beak. Many woomeock are killed in the spring and fall by telegraph wires, as they migrate only at night, and gencrally ly low. The hird was bronght to the Sportsman Oflice, the man being ignorant as to its name. Having no immediate accommodation for this interesting game burd, we sent it to Mr. Halls restaurant, on St. James street, where it was living on Christmas eve. It may not lee generally known to Sportsmen or Naturalists, that the worlcock has the power to erect ahont half an inch of the upper mandible, withont opening the beak to its base. It apmors as if the bird was supplied with a flexor nerve to elevate the tip of the upper mandible. 'This feature was quite remarkable in the above specimen. It is supposed that these late woodcock have been living in the vicinity of warm springs on the Lanrentan Momutains.

## REPORT ON NOMEN(LATURE.

We havereceived the Third Ammal Book of the Michigan Sportsman's Associaton for 1880. It contains ninety-seven pages of interesting matter. Considering the fifth Committee Report valuable to Canadian Sportsmen and Naturalists, we publish the first frortion in this issue of our jourmal.

Your Committee on "Nomenclature, both Popular and Scientific," would respectfully report: That miform and correct names should be habitually employed in sjreaking and writing of the different species of game. On account of the loose way of naming animals
in vogue in this country, many otherwise well written articles be:ome quite unintelligible. In reading of field sports we are constantly in the position of Mr. A., who was informed by hif friend 13 . that he had just scooped Mr. Johns of a cool $\$ 100$ at poker. Mr. Johms being A.'s clergyman, and a very examplary man, an explanation was demanded, when it was ascer tained that it was not Mr. Johns at all that had been relieved of his money, but Jones, the gamester. Such carelessuess in the use of names is reprehensible and never necessary. And yet in writing of game, one will give a description of a day with the partridges. As there are two succies of hirds called by that name, we are left in doubt as to which he means. Another has heen shootitg elk. Does he mean wapiti, or the true alk, commonly called moose ${ }^{\text {f }}$ Another has caught a fine string of pickerel in the clear waters of Niagara river. We doult the finct and the habitat. On investigad tim we find he enjoyed the superior sport of taking pike-perch. The same species receive different names in different places, and different species receive the same name. Some kinds are called by hames that properly belong to other species, and thus the mixing and mud dling gees on. One fish has received nineteen ditierent names within a few hundred miles op the $\Lambda$ tlantic coast. Herring are said to be taken in Lake Michigan, when it is known that there is not a herring west of the Niagard river, except such as are brought here driee or pickled. And so we might go on almost indefinitely depicting the ridiculousness of popular nomenclature. But the annoying fact is too well known to require amplification Nor are we much better off when we turn to scientific classification and nomenclature ; for umbitious naturalists are constantly re-arrant ing both.

What constitutes classification and nome ${ }^{\mathrm{n}^{\prime}}$ clature? Accepting the testimony of lexico graphers, the first is an arrangement or distri bution of groups in classes, orders, familiest genera, and species, according to common
relations or affinities: and the second a peculiar system of technical names adopted as descriptive of the first. One, then, must be subservient to the other, yet in intimate relation to it. Again, classification should be an arrangement the most easily adapted to the demands of science, at the same time affording the best means of study and research ; in fact, should be the guide-board on the free road of science, instead of (as it too frequently is) the barrier and stumbling block to progress.
Nomenclature, too, is expected to serve the purpose of an aid to the examination and classification of objects in comnection with the laws by which they are governed, and as a means of investigating their structure, history, and llses. For this reason Latin or Greek names Here adopted as affording uniformity that could not be attained by the nse of common or vilgar designations, and as permitting scientists of all nations to meet upn a common leound, irrespective of profuse lingual knowledge. Whether nomenclature is serving such a purpose, or not, we shall see further on. Embracing so wide a scope as does natural
history, objects animate and inanimate, from the awe-inspiring celestial bodies in their multitude, to the most insignificant of earthly microcosms, and details so numerons that to ${ }^{10}$ ssess a knowledge of the smallest ${ }^{\text {nertions }}$ is ${ }^{\text {a }}$ competent task for a lifetime spent in study atd investigation, it is little wonder that errors are both numerous and constant. Yet this affords no excuse for their muremitting multiplication by individuals of less than two seore of years who insist on forcing them upon ins regardless of scientific truth or progress. They laugh, sneer, and pooh-pooh, the patiently acquired results of old, staid and carefnlly plodding and reasoning naturalists to scorn; and not satisfied with this, only too frequently resort to abusive epithets and vituperative
abuse. abuse. For what rights has either age or reason that are not subsed vient to Young America, When full of egotism, he steps upon the stage? $0_{\text {ur }}$ interest as an ascociation is centered
chiefly on those forms of ferce natura usually denominated game, with, perhaps a minor regard for the fur-bearing species. Individual animals, we feel, demand individual and at the same time appropriate names; names indicative somewhat of their character-such is the true rule of nomenclature and classification. The better to exhibit relationship, individuals are collected into groups that present the greatest number of characteristics in common such being called genert. Genera are further collected under the same seneral rule into families; families into orders; and orders in turn into classes.

Were it pessible to arrange all clasees in such a manner that the individuals of one genera of an order should be comected more nearly with that order than any other, little would the necessary to rember classification both simple and complete. But, unfortmately, it has been found that characters are not sutficiently uniform, and at the same time easily cognizable, to allow the arrangement of all groups of individuals into closely oronected families. Aware of this, the great Swedish Natmralist cmployed one system of organs as the basis of classification. Others have amed to classity only by the structure of individuals, as a whole, and this latter could it be carried into effect, would seem the most philosophical ; it has loeen fomm, however, that either system followed exclusively results in heterogenous combinations. It was like errors that cansed the famons controversy between Huxley and Owen a few yeare since, and which led to the re-elassification of mammals. $A$ combination of the two systems is mow in vogne as being the least objectionable, and affording the greatest facility in investigating the productions of nature.

The six primary orders of Limmens are now divided into rertelrates and incertebrates. Of the former, mammals, birds and tishes alone have special interest for us. Following classitication onward, we find mammals divided into classes in accordance with their marked physiological and anatomical peculiarities ; and the
reproductive system being the most prominent and permanent in all forms of life, it is justly selected as a basis. Ungilata, for instance, is recognized as a generic order among animals possessing non-deciduous uteri, and its name further signifies that all of this class have all the toes or digits protected by a case forming or approaching to a hoot. Now, the possession of hoofs, of itself, is not of sufficient evidence on which to base an order; but taken, with the peculiaritios of dithused or cotyledonary placenta, of milk teeth, alsence of clavicles and other concomitant anatomical idiosyncracies, it has a tirm hasis; but prople at large are not supposed to be familiar with these, while a hoot or a hoof-like tendency is patent to all-hence the title.

By dividing the order Cugmlata into two sub-orders, we have, Perissonactioh (ofdtoed) and Artionartya (even-toed), and approach a step wearer the desired result. The tormer is further recognized by the possession of not less than twenty-two (22) dorso-lumbar vertebar, a simple stomach, large carcum, udders in the groin or inguinal region; and when horns are present, as being entirely epidermal and devoid of bony core, and placed in the centre of the skull; there are also other minor characteristics too numerous for mention in this comnection. This order embraces the Equida, or horse family. Rhinoce otide, or rhinoceros fanily, and Tapiride or tapirs.

The Artionamtia, or even-tued, has two sub-orders, the Rumantia, or those provided with compound stomachs, and the NonRumantia. The former have but one pair of incisor teeth in the upper jaw of the aduit, and those the outermost ; canine teeth may, or may not be present above, they almost always exist below and are trequently so approximated and inclined forward as to be mistaken for true incisors, which they closely resemble in form ; the third and fourth digits are consolidated into one, whlgarly known as the "cannon-bone," and there is an extra metatarsal or ankle-hone, appearing as it the detached distal end of the
fibula; the stomach is compound-"' all chew" ing the cud"-with not less than three more, commonly four, divisions. Of this sutrordef we hold the sheep, decr, or ox as a type.

While Rumantia might very properly le held as a family instead of sul-order, for convenience sake, and greater ease of approxima' tion, it is divided into the families of Tragu' lide', C'otylophera and Camelide', the formef with the false musk deer as a type, the second with deer, antelope, and oxen, and the last embracing camels, llamas, ete.

In turn, Cotylophera may be divided into sut-fimilies as Bovide, Cervide, ete., though the anatomical differences are not sufficient to absolutely warrant it; to prevent confusion, however, it is perhaps better so. Next we have the genera Cerrus, Bos, Oris, Antilocapra, etc-

As classification now prerails, we have an order, Rumantia, embracing familes of Cervi dae, and Cavicomer, etc. The latter is usually again divided into sulrfamilies of Ocince, Boviner, Aploceriner, ete., and the former given the sulrfamily of Cerrime. The Cervine ent brace the following genera: Alces (clk of moose), Rangifer (reindeer or caribon), Cervis, (wapiti or stag), and Cariacus (Virginia, black tailed, mule decr, etc. The characteristics of the family Cervidae are given as "Incisors, ${ }_{8}^{\prime}$; canines, ${ }_{0}^{1-1}$, , or wanting; molam, ${ }_{6}^{6-6}$; antlers solid, deciduous not encased by horns, sometimes wanting. Foot lifid."

Sub-family, Corrine-"Horns solid, always present in males, sometimes in temales, not covered with skin; foot bifid, with two small hoofs behind and above the large ones."

Genus Alces-" Horns in male only, broadly palmated at tip; nose broad, hairy excep small spot between nostrils."

Rangifer-" Horns in loth sexes, broadly palmated at tip; nose hairy."

Cercus-" Horns on male only, rarely subr palmate, curved backward, snags forward, one immediately ahove the harr fail short; hoofs broad and rounded."

To be Continued.

