



Indians declaring war.

rabbits, squirrels, foxes, beavers, raccoons, opossum, deer, wolves, bears. Farther inland the animals were even larger and more numerous. It is said that a traveler standing on a hill in the far West once saw at one time a buffalo, an elk, an antelope, and a panther—a small menagerie in itself. Fur-bearing animals were found almost everywhere, and the farther north the hunter went the better he found the furs. The most important of all the animals was the bison or buffalo, great herds of which roamed over the region between the Alleghanies and the Rockies.

**23. Indians.**—But the most important inhabitant of the forest was the Indian. You remember how Columbus on his first voyage found red men and by mistake (p. 6) gave them the name of Indian, a name that has clung to them ever since. The Spaniards found Indians in South America and Mexico; De Soto found them in Florida; Cartier found them in Canada; and Englishmen found them all along the Atlantic coast. They were not always found in great numbers, but they were always pres-