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Along the latter stretch, there is an immensity of excellent tamarac for railway ties, etc., but it has been all killed by the saw fly. If it could be utilized at once the timber is still good, but being so inaccessible, it is likely to waste and rot there.

Five fair sized streams join the river in the latter stretch and at its end a river a chain wide and three feet deep, with sluggish current, comes in from the east.

From there the course turns again westward for about twelve miles, to where it touches the north side of a lake about three miles in length and half a mile in width, and four miles further down, it touches the north side of another lake of rounded form about a mile and a half in diameter.

The expression that a river touches a lake may seem odd, but it cannot be described otherwise, for in both cases the river flows into the lakes and immediately the discharge flows out again, as shown on the plan.

Before reaching these lakes, we pass through several rapids that give a total fall of 60 feet.

The same level, poor, sandy, swampy land, covered with small spruce, *cyprès*, poplar and bouleau, borders the river on either side all along

After passing through the lakes above mentioned the river puts on a more majestic appearance and then rapidly falls off westward again for about six miles, to where it meets the discharge of lake Chibougamou. The total fall in this stretch is 30 feet.

The Chibougamou river is by far the largest stream of the two; it falls in rapidly from the north, but their united waters now flow on, keeping the same westward course with many rough rapids, all of which we ran until we came to the portage on the right; the first and only portage we made on this river since we left lake Presqu'île.

The distance from the last mentioned forks to this portage is 15 miles and the total fall 56 feet.

The soil and timber seem to improve as we descend, but on the lower part of this stretch the country has been overrun by fire some years ago and is now covered with a dense growth of spruce, bouleau and *cyprès*.