

*Epilobium angustifolium* and *Cirsium muticum*. An abundant companion of these is *Mertensia paniculata*, a sturdy vagabond with purplish-blue flowers, handsome when young but becoming disreputable with age. *Caltha palustris* and *Veronica americana* succeed one another along swampy rills. The Crowfoots are represented by *Ranunculus abortivus*, plain but hardy, *R. pennsylvanicus*, and our childhood friend, *R. acris*. There is not much further change until autumn, when Asters and Goldenrods brighten the fields for a season.

Bog societies present little that is new. Sphagnum Moss, Labrador Tea, Laurel (*Kalmia polifolia*), *Linnaea borealis* with its delicate twin blossoms, *Galium boreale*, *Pyrola chlorantha*, *Pyrola asarifolia*, *Moneses uniflora*, and quaint *Mitella nuda* are perhaps representative. I have yet to find the Pitcher-plant, Sundew, Valerian, and Gaultheria. Where spruce bog thins out into poplar knolls you find *Actaea rubra*, *Apocynum androsaemifolium*, *Aralia nudicaulis*, *Prunella vulgaris*, and sometimes a patch of *Pedicularis canadensis*.

Ecologically, one might almost speak of "portage societies" for I have found the open ground about portages a rich hunting-ground for species lacking elsewhere. There, outcropping gneiss is thinly upholstered with sod and abundant moisture tempers frosts and fosters vegetation. At the foot of rocky cliffs just below Kabahose falls, a forty-foot cataract some twelve miles south of the camp, I discovered last June an Eldorado of *Primula mistassinica*, a charming little flower, easily rivalling *Campanula rotundifolia* in grace; and when scattered along the brim of a magnificent foam-flecked pool of black water, it was doubly beautiful. Another "find" in the same spot was *Clematis verticillaris*. Beside Weiswinin falls, too, I gathered in a goodly harvest during the summer months. Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*), two less common Cinquefoils, *Potentilla fruticosa* and *P. tridentata*, and two unfamiliar Fleabanes, *Erigeron hyssopifolius* and *E. racemosus* grew there in abundance, along with *Aquilegia canadensis* and *Lilium philadelphicum*.

Weeds, the *profanum vulgus* of civilized fields, have immigrated but little so far, and the few ruffians to be found in this new country can be blamed on balast and poor seed. My rogue's gallery comprises the Catchfly (*Silene noctiflora*), Chickweed (*Stellaria media*), Ox-eye Daisy (*Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*), Vetch (*Vicia Cracca*), Hound's Tongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*), and Shepherd's Purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*), but none grow yet in sufficient quantities to harrass the farmer.

Cryptogamic life I must dismiss briefly. Ferns are less plentiful than further south, but there is an abundance of Bracken, Bladder Fern, Maidenhair Fern, and Oak Fern. The Equisetaceae are well represented, and there is a great plenitude of Lycopods, especially *Lycopodium clavatum*, *L. dendroideum*, and *L. complanatum*. Many glades on higher ground can boast of a charming Lilliputian forest of these dwindling descendants of the Coal Measures. Mosses abound in the woods and are exuberant under portage conditions, *Bryum* and *Hypnum* forms predominating as usual. New "brûlé" is often a moist mass of Liverworts. Among fungi my most welcome finds were *Coprinus micaceus* and *Morchella deliciosa*, and these I did my best to exterminate.

A man of grass will be pardoned for venturing a few closing remarks on the zoology of the district. The only fish in the Kapuskasing river are pike, pickerel, black bass, and suckers, all of small size. Precipitous falls between here and James Bay apparently discourage ichthyic development. Insect life is plentiful (my fellow officers wax profane over armed hosts of *Anopheles*) but lacks the variety of the lower latitudes. In seeking Coleoptera I have found the Buprestidae and Cerambycidae well represented, while my Pay Sergeant, Alex. Miller, of Toronto, whose hobby runs to butterflies, captured some thirty-six different Rhopalocera during the summer of 1918, chiefly of the genera *Argynnis*, *Brenthis*, *Grapta*, *Vanessa*, *Lycaena*, and *Pieris*.

My register of birds totals about forty to date. The Whiskey Jack (*Perisoreus canadensis*), the Arctic Redpoll (*Acanthis linaria*), and the Snowflake (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) winter with us, the latter two whirling about in flocks of hundreds. Spring brings Horned Larks and Juncoes, and later on Robins, Song Sparrows, Phoebe, and the Veery Thrush. I have seen very, very few warblers. Ducks, Rails, Bitterns, and Sandpipers haunt the swamper stretches of the river, and a pair of Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus*) have returned here summer after summer to fatten on the garbage from the internment camp. Our most distinguished visitor has been a Snowy Owl (*Nyctea*) who lit a few feet from my office door one cloudy noon last November. He was a magnificent specimen, white without a sullying fleck, and must have measured four feet from tip to tip of his great wings. We were permitted to step almost up to him before he took to flight and floated noiselessly away. Had murder been desired, a child could have shot him.