



THE LUMBER CAMP.

mendous crash and a great litter of broken limbs and twigs. It has taken scores, perhaps hundreds, of years to lift the pine-tree into the air, but a few minutes' work of an axe and a saw is enough to bring it down.

Then comes the question, How far can it be "run up" into the branches? A cut is made in it, and if the wood is not sound a lower cut is made, and so on until the limit is reached.

Then if the trunk is to be squared it is "lined." The string is fastened at one end, and, mounting the tree, the foreman moves the line about until he finds what branches should be cut away to trim the trunk to the best advantage. The heavy axes then come into play, the branches are whipped off and notches ten or twelve feet apart are cut, and the wood is split off to within half an inch of the line. The hewer then arrives with his

broad segmental axe and gives the finishing touch.

Should the trunk be left unsquared it is merely cut into convenient lengths, and these are worked on to the rollway and slid down on to the ice or into the water. As with one tree so with the others: and log after log is sent down until the bottom of the rollway is one mass of timber. As the trees are cleared away the road is run up amongst them and the logs are crowded up along the slope. From dawn to dark the work of picturesque destruction goes on; and when night has closed in the men meet round the fire, and the fiddle is brought out, and the evening is spent in musical jollity.

On the Ottawa many of the lumbermen are Highlanders, in the older provinces they are often half-breeds or French Canadians; and the traveller in the woods may often hear from the log-hut the wild