

School of Science Notes

On May 20th last, A. Niven, O.L.S., left the city to finish running the division line between Algoma and Nipissing districts. In his party were two men from the S.P.S.—his assistant, E. V. Neelands, and W. E. H. Carter, assistant Geologist. It took two weeks to get to the end of the first half of the line, which was run in 1896, and on which W. W. Stull, B.A.Sc., held the position of assistant. This part of the trip began with a 7-mile portage, and after that about as much portaging as paddling. The starting-point was reached on a Saturday evening. This is on a small river, about 2 miles from Night Hawk L., a large expanse of water not far north of the height of land. On Sunday the whole party paddled out to Indian Camp Island, in the lake, to call on the Indians. There were twenty of them in all, principally children and young squaws. Chief Buffalo received the party. He and his squaw are fine samples of the tribe, if dirt counts for anything. Besides these, there were 35 Indian dogs, the meanest specimens of the canine race; and one young bear. This latter tried its best to chew a chunk out of Neelands' leg. The young maidens are not like the kind one reads of—they were not at all bashful, but all assembled on the bank both to welcome and say good-bye to their white visitors.

Next day the party separated. The line was begun, and the geologists started away in a canoe on their work, and after that it was only once in every week or so that all could camp together again. While exploring one of the larger lakes, the canoe and its cargo narrowly escaped from a whirlwind, which formed in one of the bays by a sudden change in the direction of the wind. The country around bears evidence of other similar disturbances. This higher part of the North-land is well stocked with game. Bear, moose, caribou and many other smaller fur-bearing animals were seen.

No more Indians appeared, after those mentioned, until the middle of August, when New Post, on the Abitibi River, was reached. This is about 60 miles from James' Bay, and comprises three buildings, belonging to the Hudson Bay Company, where the Indians trade for food the furs they get in the winter, and around which they loaf in the summer months. It is their common custom to erect their wigwams about the Posts during this time, and receive rations from the company for doing nothing. Here W. A. Parks, B.A., and W. E. H. Carter saw the last of the survey party, and spent the next three weeks between there and Moose Factory, which is at the mouth of the Moose River. This village of Moose is over 200 years old, and was the first headquarters of the Hudson Bay Company. There are between 150 and 200 inhabitants, either white or part Indian, and except the Bishop of Moosonee and his family, are families in the employ of the company. In the summer months, an addition of about 250 Indians is made to the population, so that the whole place, which is a long, narrow island, one mile up from the mouth of the river, assumes a very lively aspect. The annual ship, sailing from England, with the supplies, had then arrived after being jammed in an ice floe in Hudson Straits for 10 days. This is the great event of the year, and the factors from the different posts

around James Bay assemble there then in their York boats to get their supplies for the coming year. The vessel was in plain sight 9 miles out off the river's mouth, in the "ship-hole," a deeper space between the two outer bars. Every single article has to come by ship, for if it were brought through Canada, it would be worth its weight in gold by the time it got there, because the rivers are so difficult to navigate, and only possible to canoes.

The trip home was made up the Missanaibie River. This is a much prettier river than the Abitibi, but a harder one, for the current is very swift, and it is well filled with rapids. It took twenty days to come out, a distance of from 350 to 400 miles.

Mr. Niven's party ought to be well on its way out by now. It is to be hoped that this month will be a bright one, for it is cold up there now, and if it is as rainy as in September, it will be a very severe trip for them.

At the residence of the bride's father, on Wednesday evening, October 5th, 1898, by the Rev. Septimius Jones, Arthur E. Blackwood, of Claremont, New Hampshire, U.S.A., to Edna May, eldest daughter of Alfred M. Watson, of Toronto. As Mr. Blackwood is a graduate of the School of Practical Science, the school extends to him its heartiest congratulations.

On Thursday, 13th October, a mass meeting of the students was held in order to organize the Association Football Club, when the following officers were elected: Hon. President, Mr. C. H. C. Wright; President, Mr. Revell; Vice-President, Mr. W. H. Boyd; Sec.-Treas., Mr. Henderson; Captain, Mr. Morrison; Manager, Mr. J. A. Johnson; I. Year Rep., Messrs. Larkworthy and Harvey; II. Year Rep., Mr. Matheson; III. Year Rep., Mr. Patterson; IV., Year Rep., Mr. W. E. H. Carter.

The first meeting of the Engineering Society was held on Wednesday, 12th of October, with Prof. Galbraith in the chair. On account of the resignation of the President, Vice-President, 4th Year Representative and Assistant Librarian, nominations were received for those offices. Mr. Carter and Mr. Shanks were elected unanimously to the offices of President and Vice-President, and Messrs. Grant and Shipley were nominated for 4th Year Representative, and Messrs. Clark and Price for Assistant Librarian. A number of the members gave their experiences on vacation work, then the meeting adjourned in order to allow the members to attend the trial-heats for the games.

CLASS OF '01.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 11th inst., a large and enthusiastic meeting of the class of 1901 was held, for the purpose of electing the officers for the year. The elections resulted as follows: President, E. J. Kylie; 1st Vice-President, Miss Hutchison (acclamation); 2nd Vice-President, C. E. Rowland (acclamation); Secretary, A. H. Adams; Treasurer, H. B. Irwin; Athletic Director, E. P. Brown (acclamation); Musical Director, H. L. Lazier (acclamation); Orator, F. G. Lucas; Prophet, H. M. P. Deroche; Poetess, Miss Forrest; Judge, A. F. Aylesworth; Critic, J. B. Coyne; Historians, Miss Cole, G. F. McFarland (acclamation); councillors, Miss Watt, Miss Crane, F. H. Woods and P. A. Carson.