

The Ottawa Valley Tourist Association.

As the beauties of the Ottawa Valley are gradually becoming better known, many inquiries are being made by parties desirous of obtaining reliable and accurate information regarding the district. To meet this demand, the "Ottawa Valley Tourist's Association" has been formed. The secretary of the Association will be glad to furnish any information desired regarding the attractions of the district, hotels, transportation and the like, as well as to personally meet and assist any strangers while in the city of Ottawa. At the central office at Ottawa, there will be collected photographs, descriptive matter, and such general information as will probably be desired by prospective visitors. Local committees at the different local points throughout the Ottawa Valley will furnish the information, and will be ready to receive



Glimpses at the Parliament Buildings, Ottawa; Post Office and Custom House to the left.

and assist visitors at all times. Communications addressed to "The Secretary, Tourists' Association, Ottawa," will be cheerfully answered. We know that we have the attractions, and we will do all in our power to help you to enjoy them.

It is the intention of the Association to issue, during the coming winter, an illustrated booklet, descriptive of the Ottawa Valley. Anyone who would like to receive a copy of this booklet will be accommodated in due course if he will send a request to the secretary of the Tourists Association.

The Ottawa.

This noble river, known to the old "voyageurs" and early settlers as the Grand River, is upwards of six hundred miles long, and has twenty tributaries of large size, besides numerous smaller ones. Beautiful, wonderful, lovely, are not extravagant or ridiculous adjectives when used to express the delight of those who, for the first time, enjoy a trip on the steamers of the *Ottawa River Navigation Company*.

The Ottawa is broader, two hundred and eighty miles from its mouth than it is between Ottawa city and the Lake of Two Mountains, and flows with such a strong and deep flood that the green waters of the St. Lawrence, for many miles below the confluence of the two rivers, are pressed against the southern shores.

Coming from the far north, from regions comparatively little known, even at the present day, there is a certain mystery about this "Grand" river, which awakens our curiosity and engenders a spirit of romance, and, as we ascend its current, the beautiful islands and the picturesque scenery of its banks command our admiration. The Ottawa was the highway of the early French explorers, missionaries and fur traders in their journeys from Montreal to the great lakes Huron and Superior, and the Far West. It was traversed by the red man as well as the "coureurs des bois." It was ascended by Champlain,

in 1663—who was the first explorer—on his voyage to discover what he had been led to suppose was the North Sea. During this voyage up the Ottawa, with two canoes, he experienced much hardship and many difficulties; continually menaced by wandering bands of Indians, he was at last forced to abandon his provisions and to trust entirely to hunting and fishing to provide him with the necessities of life. Champlain finally reached the country of the Nipissing nation, on the shores of Lake Nipissing, and, finding that the Ottawa as a route to the North Sea was a mistake, he resolved to return to Quebec, which he reached after great hardships and privations, and he soon afterwards sailed for France.

Ottawa, for a city of its size, has other advantages; its electric car service is really excellent in every way, and tourists will find the Gilmour a hotel easily reached, not too far from the centre of the city, yet quieter.

Considerable enterprise was shown in building such a hotel where it stands, and here it may be said that no brighter hotel is to be found in Canada or elsewhere. But expense not having been spared in its fittings or management, the Gilmour has been a success.

The rooms are large and airy, are tastily furnished, both table and

attendance are good—and one matter which will be appreciated, all little incidental details are carefully attended to.



"The Gilmour," Ottawa.

Aylmer.

Aylmer, a short distance from Ottawa, is, on account of its delightful

situation, an ideal place to spend a summer vacation. The Ottawa River, expanding into what is called Lake Deschênes at Aylmer, affords good fishing, and there is ample room on the broad face of the lake, for boating of all kinds. The accompanying cuts of One-Tree Point and Hotel Victoria will give those seeking "pastures new" an idea of what there is at and around Aylmer, Quebec, in the way of hotel accommodation and scenery. Queen's Park, which is about one and one-half miles above Aylmer, is a most beautiful spot; and is well provided with means to while away many a pleasant hour; among its attractions being the forest, promenade pier, water chute, and floating promenade, the maze, fine boats and bathhouses. The Hull Electric Company's cars run through to the Park, passing Aylmer and Hotel Victoria en route.

The Victoria is beautifully situated on an elevation, overlooking the Lake—a handsome, well-appointed hotel—recently built, but already very popular, it is under the same management as the Russell of Ottawa.

Aylmer is only thirty-five minutes ride from Ottawa, over the finest-equipped electric railway in Canada.

The Hull Electric Company's cars leave Hull, from the Ottawa Electric Railway terminus, every ten minutes in summer, running through to Aylmer, Hotel Victoria and Queen's Park. For any further particulars, write H. S. Dunning, manager of the hotel, or W. R. Taylor, secretary-treasurer of the Hull Electric Company, Aylmer, Quebec.



Hotel Victoria, Aylmer, Que.