

## RECENT EXPLORATIONS TO THE SOUTH OF HUDSON BAY.

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THE existing maps of Canada show a large unexplored region south-east of James bay. My surveys and explorations of 1895 and 1896, in connection with the Geological Survey of Canada, have enabled us to construct a map showing the leading geographical features of the greater part of this large district. Its topography turns out to be very simple, the greater part of the region being comprised within the hydrographic basin of the Noddawai river, which falls into the head of Rupert bay.

Previous to 1895, it was known that a river had its source near the height-of-land in the vicinity of Grand lake, on the upper Ottawa, and that it flowed to Hannah bay, the central bight of James bay. While exploring in the upper Ottawa region in 1887, I sent my assistant, Mr. A. S. Cochrane, across the height-of-land to collect information. He made an approximate survey of about 70 miles of a stream, which the natives believed to be the Hannah bay river. His report on this work is contained in the Summary Report of the Geological Survey for 1887. During 1894, Mr. H. O'Sullivan, of the Crown Lands Department of Quebec, descended the same stream for about 30 miles beyond the point reached by Mr. Cochrane, but did not determine the destination of the river. In 1895 I crossed the height-of-land, which passes close to the northern extremity of Grand lake, and commenced an instrumental survey of the river from the point reached by Mr. Cochrane in 1887. At about 170 miles from the height-of-land, it was found to discharge into a lake, which the natives call Mattagami. My local Indian guide

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\* Paper read at the Royal Geographical Society, March 8, 1897. Map, p. 20.