

At the foot of Allumette Lake, on the southern shore, is situated the thriving town of Pembroke. Here we received a most cordial welcome from friends, sons of Queen's and daughters of Kingston. We also here had an experience of what wind storms on the Ottawa can be being detained here two days. By the aid of a shanty boat and some friends we started off once more. Four miles below Pembroke are the Allumette Rapids, which we partially portaged and partially ran; then six or eight miles more brought us to the Parquette Rapids, which we ran bodily. I wish I could describe the running of a rapid. The rushing, boiling water. The straining of every muscle, the quickening of every sense, the knowledge that your life depends on successfully mounting every swell, overcoming every hostile eddy and dodging every rock. The grand excitement of travelling in a canoe at the speed of an express train, and feeling your inward strength and energy developing at the thought that for once, no human power but your own can aid you, that you are dependant on no muscle but your own. It is a time when nerves must be most completely in subjection, and when the slightest sensation of fear would be apt to capsize you. Owing to the fact that in running a large rapid, the canoe should travel slightly faster than the current, hard paddling is necessary, but I think I can safely say that one feels more inclined to paddle hard then than at any other time. The Ottawa, between these rapids and the Calumette Rapids, presents much beautiful scenery, especially the stretch north of Calumette Island. This channel is rather narrow, and the current rather strong, and the scenery, though quiet, is very attractive. Of course now we were once more in civilized parts, substantial farm-houses were numerous, and every few miles a small village would be passed. The villages we rarely visited, and only stopped at the farm-houses to get an occasional supply of life's necessities. We reached Bryson, situated at the head of Calumette Rapids, early one morning. Here we saw our first slide. These timber slides are built over rapids, which a raft cannot run, are solidly formed of heavy timber, are made about twenty-six feet wide, and of various lengths. Every one has a particular steepness of its own, depending entirely on the fall in the rapid or fall over which it is built. The water rushes through these with terrific speed. In order to prevent the cribs (compartments of the rafts) from coming down these too quickly, there is rarely more than six or nine inches of water in them, consequently the bottom of the slide acts as a kind of a break. At the foot of many of these slides there is quite a plunge, and that was the case in this instance, and, as all the cribs for the season had passed through, we had a short portage in order to reach the foot. Here we found several cribs belonging to two different rafts, parts of which had already gone down the rapids and slides ahead. These cribs are about 25 feet wide, being 30 to 60 in length, made of solid squared timber, laid side by side and fastened together by four or five logs of the same size as those below, being crossed above them. These upper timbers are fastened to the outside timbers of the lower layer, and then wedges are tightly fastened in to prevent the loose logs in between from coming out. Sometimes these cribs get pretty hard knocks, and then the passengers have to look out for themselves, as the probability is it will come apart. Sometimes lives are lost. Usually, however, they are safe and solid enough. We did not stop this time, however, to find this out, but kept on down a small rapid, about a quarter of a mile below, and then came to another large fall and rapid, over which ran a large slide. This was the Mountain slide. Intending to portage over this, we stopped and carried our goods to the foot of the rapid. When there, we noticed that the fall at the foot of the slide was only about a foot and a half, and that in the slide itself, though at one

spot it was very steep, there was not a break. The suggestion of one of our number was all that was needed. We determined to run the slide in our canoes, and to the horror of some raftsmen near by we did it, one canoe at a time. How we did it is another question. We came down so fast that breathing was out of the question, the fall at the bottom and the speed of our fall sent us under water to our shoulders, but after going forward several feet, we shot out again, and sent enough water out of our canoes to enable us to paddle safely through the surrounding eddies to the shore. It was tobogganing on a large scale, and as long as one kept his wits about him, was perfectly safe, provided only there had been no saw logs at the bottom; these were there in our case, brought there by the eddies. That we did not strike them may be known by the fact that we all got safely home.

Our next few miles were travelled on a crib. On this we ran several rapids and one large slide, this was interesting, but not nearly so much so, as performing the same operation in a canoe. Once more in our canoes, we passed the village of Portage du Fort without a call, and after a run of a few miles down one more rapid, the Snows, we found ourselves on Chats' Lake. On this lake we had quite a travel on a raft, which we had overtaken. These rafts consist of about a hundred of the cribs we have described. In the centre is a large shed, with a hole in the roof; below the hole is the fire place, made of a large but low box, formed of heavy timber, and filled with sand, and on this a regular camp fire is built, and we can vouch for it that a pleasant evening can be spent, gathered round this fire with the lumbermen, on a summer's evening. That night we slept on the raft, and, when we woke next morning, found ourselves at the head of Chats' Rapids. These are five miles long, and in canoes make a very pleasant run, though in our case one of the canoes would have badly fared, had it not been for the coolness of its occupants in choosing to run on a rock rather than go over a fall, which they came across in dodging a crib, and patching up the canoe afterwards sufficiently to run the remainder of the rapid. At the foot of the rapids is a fall, and over this fall is the steepest slide on the Ottawa, having a fall, we believe, of 40 feet in 300. We ran this on a crib, and it did make a glorious run, which was so much enjoyed by us that some of our party repeated the experiment. This was the last slide or rapid until we came to the city of Ottawa. The river for this stretch, though not particularly striking in its beauty, well repaid the trouble of the trip along the river. At last a pile of buildings came in sight, which we did not need to be informed were the Parliament buildings, and soon we came to that network of booms which fill the river for two or three miles above the city. Safely threading our way through them, we ran a couple of small rapids, and overtaking a crib prepared to run the Chaudiere slide, but in this we were doomed to be disappointed, as there was a jam in the slide. Then we bade good bye to the Ottawa, and, after devoting a few hours to seeing our friends and the sights of the Capital, we found our way to Rideau River, and had started on our quiet trip across the country—home.

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DE NOBIS NOBILIRUS.

WE hear some anxious inquiries as to what provision has been made for a gymnasium in the new buildings.

A GRAD., who is studying law, being asked by a lady friend, what he intended doing when he got through? replied that he thought of settling down in some place where members of his profession were scarce, and where he would find himself a necessity. "Oh! don't do that," exclaimed the sweet girl, "for necessity knows no law!"