

fine, the Ottawa range of mountains stretching along the background to the northward as far back as the eye can see. Six miles from Arnprior is Sandpoint, and three miles thence across to Bristol. Six miles further is Bonchere, the river of this name giving evidence, as we approached, by the many rafts visible, of its connection with the Madawaska and its importance as a lumber station. Back of Arnprior lies Renfrew, Douglas, &c., through which the Brockville and Pembroke Railway will pass.

"The scenery as far as 'the Snows,' a strong swift rapid, is of a most diversified character—several islands dispersed here and there along the north shore greatly heightening the effect. The current above 'the Snows' is very swift, and which, breaking against the points and islands impeding its course, forms the rapid, and the many Snys that encircle the islands, pop out at the sides like a restless crowd of white foxes, and rush down with a merry, frolicsome bound, as pleasing as it is reckless. Before reaching 'the Snows' is Farrel's Wharf; the Opeonga road commences here. Five miles higher up is Gould's Landing, and a mile and a half further is Portage du Fort. Along the entire of this length of the river are fine clumps of trees and islands, rich in foliage, and worthy of the artist's study and attention.

"The village of Portage du Fort is at the head of a beautiful bay. It has good milling privileges, three mills in operation, and cannot help going a-head. It is one of the many places along this vast river which has greatness forced upon it, and in whose position alone lie the germs of future prosperity. All the lumber from the Upper Ottawa must pass through here, within a short distance of the village. It is delightful to stand at Gould's Landing, and watch the cribs speeding down the current with the rapidity of thought, and arranging themselves, guided by the trusty oarsmen, alongside their respective rafts which line the opposite shores. Leaving Gould's Landing, I proceeded upwards of thirteen miles by stage over an easy and even road, having a sandy bottom, to a small place called Cobden. One of those terrible fires which sometimes visit and destroy vast lumber regions on the Ottawa, has here laid under contribution to its ravages full thirty miles square of splendid timber. The road leads through an immense forest of charred and dead pines, standing and blackened monuments of the terrible havoc that reduced them to their present desolate-looking condition. If any one desires to get an idea of what a fire in the woods means, let him pass through here. The usual undergrowth of hard wood is already springing up. Experienced lumber-merchants tell me that more standing timber was destroyed by fire in 1853 and 1856, than has been shipped to Quebec since the first opening of the Ottawa lumber trade.

"In the morning I took the *North Star* to Pembroke, where we arrived shortly after 9 A.M.