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The Panther's Claw

By H. Mortimer Batten

PART II-Chapter V.

HAVE told you how, tortured by his own conscience, Sam Ravenstone became a changed man in the brief space of five months. During that five months he had learnt the utter folly of playing the fool. He had been a wild shaver, even as wild shavers go in the mining camps of the north, but now he had bidden adieu to the gambling den, the drinking saloon, and the dancing halls. That part of his life was finished, he was determined now to live straight, and for all this he had to thank his young partner. Had it not been for Frank Ward, the brand of Cain would have been upon him. Sam Ravenstone had received a fright which would last him his lifetime, and the last five months, which had made a man of him, were to prove the saddest he would ever know. But this terrible experience had taught Sam a second lesson, almost as great as the first. They had taught him the meaning of the word partner-

other man was Sam's partner. Halman believed that Sam Ravenstone had meant to take his life, and believing this he had sworn to kill Ravenstone ere he him-

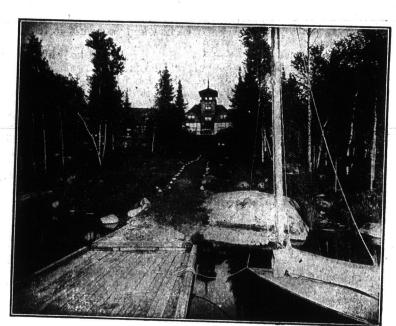
self crossed the great divide.

When Halman returned to his people that spring, away back in the land of many rivers, he told his story to the warriors of his tribe, and a great indignation rose up among them. "The man owed me money," Halman told them. "Money that I had worked hard to earn, and when I asked him for it he struck me senseless, without a word, and

left me to perish by the wolves." "This act cannot go unavenged," cried an old warrior. "Halman is a mighty hunter among us. In a year or two he will be our chief."

"Rest assured, brothers," answered Halman, "I, myself will avenge it, ere three snows are passed Ravenstone will be led into our tepees, a captive. I have spoken.'

The months slipped by, and Sam Ra-



BEAUTIFUL MINAKI

One of the most picturesque spots in which to spend a holiday is undoubtedly Minaki, whose environments are of unsurpassed scenic beauty and health-giving proclivities. It is situated 114 miles east of Winnipeg and 335 miles west of Fort William on the line of the Canadian Government Railways.

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The Inn has accommodation for three hundred and fifty-five guests, and is situated in a beautiful natural park. Every room has an outlook of exceptional attraction, a view over woodland and water vistas from every room in the entire structure. The utmost care has been taken to leave undisturbed the natural beauty surrounding the Inn. The many densely-wooded knolls and lookout points in the vicinity afford shaded, tool places on warm summer days.

The Minaki Inn is so situated that the prevailing west wind affords complete coolness on the hottest summer day, and brings with it, not only the health-laden aroma of the spruce, balsam and pine, but also an invigorating element from the thousand miles of open prairie to the west. The altitude is sufficient to warrant immunity or to immediately relieve sufferers from hay fever, and the cool nights assure complete comfort to the tired and overworked, or a necessary change in the rocks, waters and woods, to the resident of the cities and towns of the prairie.

The Minaki Inn has been the first facility provided in exclusively summer resort hotels in Western Canada, and the enterprise shown in providing this facility is the confident expectation that city residents will gladly welcome and patronize this charming resort, which takes second will no longer be any necessity of sending the family to a remote resort, where through stress of business or disinclination for the long journey, business men will no longer deprive themselves of frequent short or long vacations, and will be constantly in touch with their business or family.

ship, and in the north the bonds of part-venstone, by his marvellous abilities as

were now sworn partners, and would reforget, or almost forget, the experience

There was one who would not forget. That one was Halman, the Indian. Though an unbroken savage, his ideas of justice were keen. Moreover it is a law among the Indians that when a man is struck by another, and cannot retaliate, his manhood is gone. It may be years ere he seeks his vengeance, but so long as he lives is determined to seek it ere he dies, and to redeem his manhood by fearlessly returning blow for blow, all is well with him.

Halman, however, had more than a mere blow to avenge. Sam Ravenstone had struck him, with all injustice, and had left him to perish miserably in the snow. That another man had rescued

nership are stronger, even, than the a traveller, made money hard. Either as So much by the way. Sam and Frank far above the average, and now that he a canoeman or as a dog driver he was lived straight and clean the money teammain so for life. In time they would ed in faster than he had ever imagined, while Frank Ward, in spite of his youth, that had made them such, but the man who sows his wild oats is sure some day them they had more records for hard travelling to their credit than any other woodman of the northern forests.

Eighteen months were past. It was early spring one day, while Sam sat alone at the shanty, he was surprised to see an aged Indian beach his canoe by the landing stage below, and come hobbling up towards the clearing. He was evidently very old. He walked with a slight limp, and with the stiffness of many summers. Hobbling up to the verandah he addressed Sam in a weak and shaking voice. "Are you Sam Ravenstone, the Portage Agent?" he asked. Sam answered him, and the old Indian hobbled a few paces nearer. He him did not matter—even though that do, so Sam bade him to squat at the