# THE OTTAWA RIVER.

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" .................................. The Ottawa Country is
" little known, but no man visits its magnificent
" scenery, no man begins to understand its enor-
" mous resources, without an expression of admira-
" tion at the one and surprise at the other."...............

That portion of the Country which is drained by the River Ot-
tawa, and its tributaries, is very little known by the majority of the
Canadian people, except those who are immediately connected with
the lumber business. The great valley of the Ottawa lies in the very
center of Canada ; the river itself dividing the Provinces of Ontario
and Quebec, and including nearly one-fourth of its whole territorial
extent. This valley contains an area of about 80,000 square miles,
and furnishes one of the most valuable portions of our Exports.

The River Ottawa, is supposed to take its source in about 49° of
North Latitude, and 76° of West Longitude. The river winds its
course through the forest solitudes, known only to hunters and
the scattered agents of the Hudson Company, which lie on the
slope of the highlands that separate its waters from those of Hudson's
Bay. On its course it receives many tributaries, and expands into
large lakes. At about 300 miles from its supposed source, and 440
from its mouth at Bout de l'Isle, below Montreal, the Ottawa takes
the Indian name of Lake Temiscaming, which turns at right angles
nearly to its former course and extends for 67 miles unbroken by fall
or rapid. At the head of this lake the Ottawa receives its tributary
called La Blanche ; this streams runs north, for about 90 miles.
Near the outlet of the Blanche, to the west, is the Keetacummaw, a
stream of about 50 miles in length.

The next tributary, on the Ontario side is the Montreal River,—
its mouth being 34 miles below that of the Blanche ; its course is
120 miles north-west, and communicates with Lake Temangamingue ;
this Lake communicates with Lake Nipissing by Sturgeon River.
Between Lake Nipissing, the River Montreal and the River Ottawa,
the whole country is intersected by lakes of various sizes, all com-
municating together.