

ravines between them. Most of these huge mounds of rock are covered with a thick growth of maple, birch, poplar and evergreen trees ; though some of them have been stripped bare by fires, and then they look like huge specimens of those granite boulders which abound in some parts of Ontario, and in truth granite appears to be the principal component in their formation. At times, having gone some distance in advance of the waggons, an opportunity would be afforded to stop for a few moments gaze upon the view spread before me; one place in particular dwells in my memory, where I stood for some time to feast my eyes with the beauties of a scene which, while it was but a type of many through which we passed, might well furnish a subject for the pencil of an artist, but no artist being present the scene was not committed to paper, though it was indelibly photographed upon the tablet of my brain, and preserved in the album of my mind. The road being very winding, only a few hundred yards of it was visible from the hill upon which I had halted, while the hills which rise in every direction were covered with such a thick growth of fir, spruce and other evergreens that it would be almost impossible for a man to make his way through the dense forest, and these growing down to within a few yards of the road, which was, in common with all the surrounding country, shrouded in a snowy mantle of fleecy whiteness, while the trees retained enough of the soft white snow to vary the appearance of their robes of verdant foliage with the fringe of purest white ; and all this seen between the flakes of the gently falling snow, while a solemn silence reigned around unbroken save by the chipping of a ground squirrel which, unused to the presence of mankind, perched himself upon a fallen tree about a yard from me, and by the twittering of a flock of snow-birds which hovered about the road. About dusk in the evening we reached the Kaministiquia