

to return to the canoe for a rifle. Objection being raised, he exclaimed: "Oh! never mind me. You get the shooting irons, and I'll amuse his nibs." A steady advance was now made upon the astonished monster, who just as steadily retreated before the waving of the pail and the gentle "shoo-shoo"-ing of the intrepid Jimmie. The Chief returning with his Winchester, Bruin soon came to grief.

Coming suddenly upon another bear, the Chief, in his surprise, hurled a book of micrometer tables at him. These he caught, tore to pieces, and ate. Afterwards the pieces were recovered, spread out, placed together, interpolations made, and a copy of the whole transferred to paper. This task seriously impaired the bear's digestion, and delayed the survey two days.

Between Lake Mistassini and the East Main River, the rocks are all of Laurentian age, being made of red syenitic gneiss, with pink and gray mica, and mica-hornblende gneisses.

Along the upper East Main, a coarse, light grey pegmatite and black mica-schist predominate, and are associated with pink mica-hornblende gneiss. Lower down stream these give place to an area of light grey and light pink syenite; followed by dark green, altered hornblende, and chloritic schists, with diorite, and a dark gray, micaceous schist, becoming in places a conglomerate, from the presence of rounded pebbles of syenite. This series of rock closely resembles those north of Lake Huron. The green schists, at and near their contact with the diorite masses, are highly charged with pyrites. The diorite, also, holds considerable quantities of that mineral. In several places large masses of almost pure pyrites were found, and specimens were taken to Ottawa for analysis. This rock band, or similar ones, cross and re-cross the river at intervals for nearly two hundred miles, the strike of the rocks being

only slightly different from the general curve of the river. Syenite and ordinary Laurentian gneisses occupy the intervals between the bands of the Huronian.

With a change of rocks there was always a change of flora. Labrador Tea (*Ledum latifolium*) grows everywhere, but gets scarce towards the north. Laurel grows in great quantities in wet places, and every stream is fringed with willows and elders. The pretty little Twin Flower (*Linnaea borealis*), the only plant named after Linnaeus, with whom it was an especial favorite, is very abundant, and in July fills the woods with its fragrance. The curious Pitcher Plant (*Sarracenia*), and the Sundew (*Drosera*), are also quite common.

During the summer, the assistant made an extensive collection of the plants of the country traversed. These have been examined by Professor Macoun, and, while not new, add considerably to the knowledge of the distribution of several species.

With only three days' provisions left over, we reached the Hudson's Bay Company's trading post at the mouth of the East Main, and were warmly welcomed by Mr. C., who is one of the kindest old gentlemen we ever met. At some posts they hear from the outside world as often as thrice a year, at others only once. We have referred to the living at Mistassini, Waswanapie, and other inland posts. Even at East Main they eat bread only on Sunday, and live on salt geese more than half the year. Whilst there, we fared sumptuously on salt goose, spruce beer, blueberries, cream and rhubarb pie, and will not soon forget the kindness and generosity of old Mr. C. At East Main, the Indians of East Main bring in great quantities of fish in baskets made of spruce bark, sewn together with spruce and tamarack roots. In the fall, they shoot great numbers of wild geese, which have lived away north, and fattened on crowberries (*Empetrum* ni-