

of the lake was the little village of Renton, with its store, saw-mill, two or three houses, and, *mirabile dictu!* its railway station. Here, indeed, was a name for politicians to conjure with, the Canadian Pacific Railway. Leaving the village, we paddled on through Crooked Chôte Lake, then down the river, passing under a C. P. R. bridge, and crossing at last to Moore's Lake. From here the stream goes with a swift rush for a mile to the Mattawan. But, alas for us! What would have been a few moments of swift and glorious transit by water was turned into an hour's laborious journey by land. The lower part of the lake was covered with logs; and several score of jolly fellows were sending them on their way down the stream. We dined at the junction of the Amable du Fond with the Mattawan. Then we had a ten miles' paddle between lofty pine-crested hills, and before sunset were on the waters of the Ottawa.

We pitched our tent about half a mile from the little town of Mattawa. As soon as possible two of us went over to the post office, and as two weeks had elapsed since we had either seen letter or paper, you may be sure that the browned hands were eagerly stretched out to receive the accumulated budget of that time. A strange little place we found Mattawa. Here were fine brick stores, and curious old French shanties, and not far away a cluster of Indian tents. On the street were to be seen the spruce shop-clerk and the rough shanty-man, the telegraph operator and the Hudson Bay voyageur, the fashionably dressed Miss and the wild-looking squaw. On a hill stood the Catholic Church, a fine brick edifice, and not far away a convent. The first sound we heard the next morning, as we lay in our tent, was the deep tone of the church bell, followed by the silvery chimes from the convent. A queer, quaint spot it was. To me it seemed the most Canadian place I had met with in Canada. Three elements were woven into the fabric of its life—the wild past of dusky savage tribes, the mediævalism of French Catholicism, and the mighty progressive spirit of the Anglo-Saxon.

(To be continued.)