

try. I climbed to the top of a tall tree and there nailed securely the flag of Canada."

The progress of the explorers was marked by the names given to lake and river of distinguished members of the Canadian Civil Service, as Lake Selwyn and Lake Daly, also Lake Aberdeen, Lake Schultz, and Lake Lady Marjorie.

As our explorers proceeded, the timber became more scanty, scattered, and stunted in growth, till at last the whole country was a vast rolling, treeless wilderness.

Speaking of the physical aspect of this hitherto unknown region, Mr. Tyrrell says:

"I may liken it to the prairie in a measure. It is a rugged, rolling tract of land, speckled over with swamps and occasionally rocky hills. In the whole Barren Lands there isn't wood enough to make a boot peg of, so that, though we were often wet, the luxury of a fire was impossible, and such game as we shot had to be devoured raw.

"The lakes abound with fish, mostly trout and white fish; but here, except for the reindeer, appearances of animal life stop short.

"No birds; no wild fowl, save one or two solitary white partridges—brown at that season; no musk-ox, although their presence might be expected; a few scattered white wolves, that is all, if you except the reindeer. And the big antlered fellows roam supreme in the Barren Lands. Once we saw a herd that fairly hid the earth for a whole three miles; and at the smallest possible calculation there could not have been less than

several hundred thousand, feeding there on the damp grass. Only for the deer the party's larder would have failed entirely, as the dried meat constituted the principal diet.



A DIFFICULT PORTAGE.

Of one deer hunt Mr. Tyrrell writes thus:

"Our canoes were headed to leeward of the band, that they might not scent us as we approached the shore. The valley and hillsides for miles appeared to be moving masses of reindeer. To estimate their numbers would be impossible. They could only be reckoned in acres or square miles. At the first shot the whole band—a solid mass of several thousands of deer—was thrown into confusion, and they rushed to