

EDWARD HIPPLE HALL.

AUTHOR, TRAVELLER, JOURNALIST, &c.

Edward Hipple Hall, the subject of our sketch, is the second son of the Rev. John Netherton O'Brien Hall, pastor of Hunstanworth, Durham, and grandson of the late Admiral John Stevens Hall, of Torpoint, near Plymouth, Devon. He has just completed his 48th year, having been born Nov. 21, 1831.

At the age of sixteen he closed his educational career creditably at the Collegiate High School of Durham, and after serving a short period in the office of a counsellor in Newcastle, he embarked for Quebec, Canada, intending to reach the Great West, which even at that early period he seems to have selected as the theatre of his future labours.

Reaching Quebec early in June, 1849, after a stormy passage of six weeks in a "leaky coal laden collier brig," and passing up the St. Lawrence and great lakes, he finally arrived at Chicago, the young metropolis of the Far West, which was then beginning to attract general attention as an advantageous settlement.

As evincing his early predilection for the sea and the adventurous life of a sailor as well as his nautical knowledge even when a boy, it is told of young Hall that during a severe storm which the little brig encountered on the voyage off the banks of Newfoundland he rendered such good service in rigging and "manning the pumps" and in the general navigation of the vessel as to merit the thanks of the owners on her arrival in Quebec where she lauded after a seven weeks' voyage.

At Chicago every inducement was offered our youthful adventurer to remain, but the "spirit moved him" to further exploration, and having recently read with great delight Catlin's entertaining book on the Indians of North America, he resolved to visit them.

Accordingly, four months later, we find him in Minnesota among the Winnebagoes, camping and trading with them. Favored with the friendship of Governor, afterwards Senator Ramsay, Congressmen Rice and Sibley, and Chaplain Gear of Fort Snelling, a few of the more influential of the early settlers in St. Paul, and the still more valuable aid of the famous chief, Hole-in-the-Day, our hero accomplished a journey to the distant post of Pembina and the Selkirk settlement, distant 700 miles north of St. Paul. This journey which occupied nearly six weeks was performed in "dog sledges" the only means of communication at that day and was a most perilous one as the young traveller



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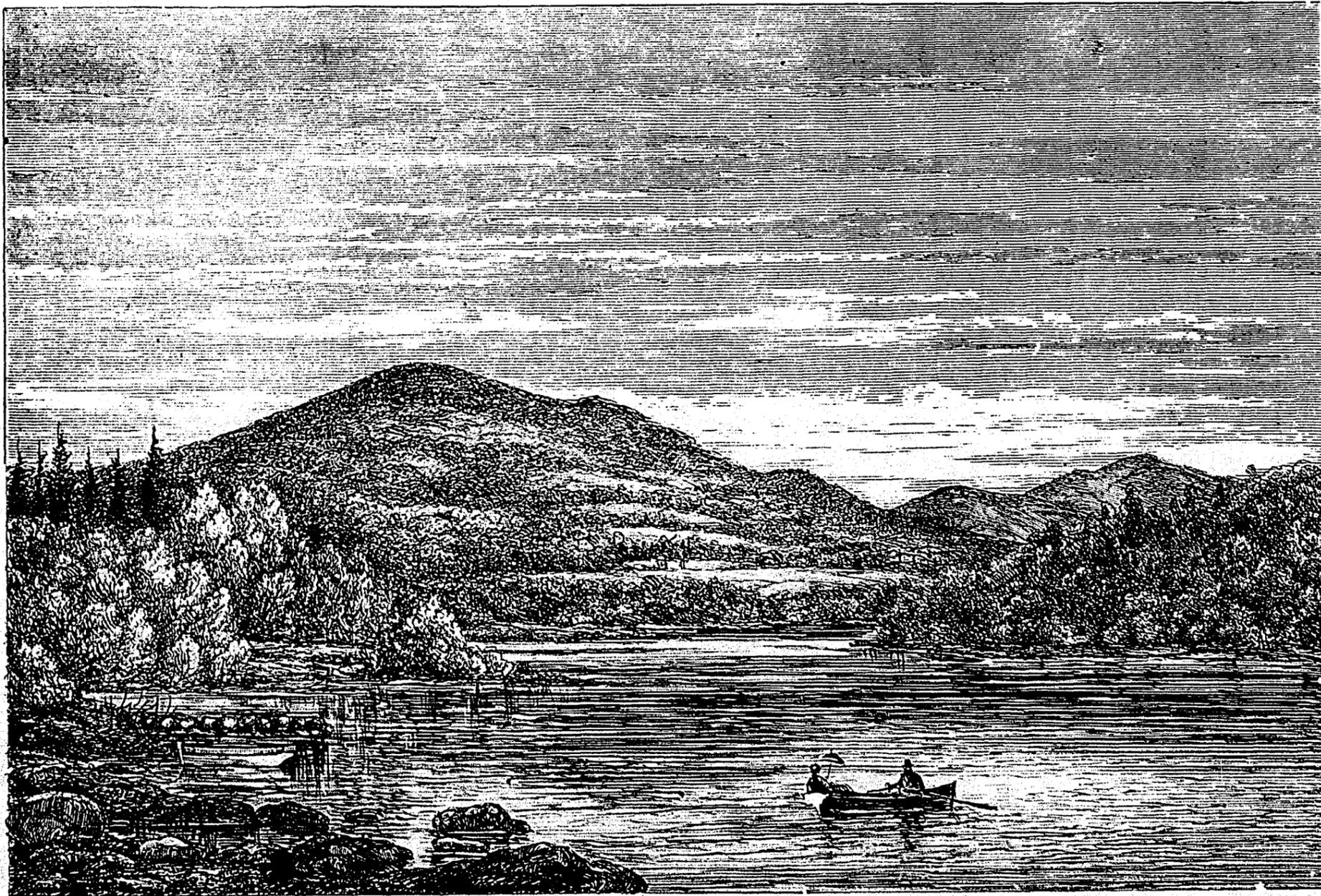
and his half-breed guides were not only exposed to the rigours of an arctic winter, but were frequently surrounded in their night bivouacs by wolves scarcely less savage than those of Siberia.

On the death of his mother, which occurred in 1856, he again turned his attention to travel, and made a tour of Northern Europe, from which he returned to America in 1860, just in time to move with the Grand Army of the Potomac in the capacity of correspondent for the *New York Tribune*. A prior engagement made with Mr. Horace Greeley, the founder and editor of that journal, to furnish a series of letters from Kansas and the West had secured our traveller's reputation as a descriptive letter writer and his re-engagement for that paper was immediate and lucrative. The first edition of these letters issued in New York in cheap pamphlet form was exhausted within a fortnight of publication and upwards of 150,000 copies have since been sold.

While acting as war correspondent for the *Tribune* he was in turn stationed at the headquarters of Generals Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Burnside, and was present at the capture of Fort Fisher, Wilmington, and afterwards of Richmond which virtually closed this memorable campaign. During the terrible attack on the earth works at the New Inlet or mouth of the Cape Fear river, he had a bullet shot through his hat sufficiently near his head to singe his hair. This he jocosely remarked was a "scraping acquaintance" with the enemy without hope of reprisal, and having, as he expressed it, "smelt powder enough" for one campaign he accepted a post in the Treasury Department under Mr. Secretary Salmon P. Chase which he filled during the closing days of President Lincoln's administration and for a short time after his assassination. While resident at the United States Capital, he edited (1863) a work on the National Tax Law which had just come into operation. This work was published by Carlton, of New York, and obtained a large circulation throughout the Union, running through three editions before the close of the year. He also contributed numerous papers to *Appleton's Journal*, the *American Encyclopedia* and edited the *Handbook of American Travel*, a work of 600 pages published by that eminent firm.

But the truth of the old adage "Once a traveller always a traveller" found fresh confirmation in the subject of our memoir.

Washington, &c., with its host of Bureaucratic Barnacles and Deadlocks, and its Legislative Circumlocution offices had no charm for a man "choke-full of adventure" and sighing for "fresh fields and pastures new" in 1865.



LAKE BEAUPORT.—SUMMER RESORT OF QUEBECERS.