

Dropping the rifle and grasping a paddle, we were soon close on, when I suggested that we get between the bear and shore, but my guide thought it better since we were then so close to land to take no chances and advised me to shoot, which I accordingly did, killing her instantly by a shot through the neck. Then grasping her by the ear we towed her ashore. She proved to be an old bear, with the incisor teeth broken off, which my guide said was probably due to her having been caught in a trap somewhere, and sure enough when skinned, we found a large horizontal scar on her back, where she had been crushed in a death fall. We began to think by this time that Quebec was not a bad place for big game after all. Later on we secured another pair of fine antlers, which, though not having so wide a spread, were much more massive and had twenty points in all.

Small game was very abundant, including two varieties of grouse, also rabbit and muskrat. We used a .22-calibre for these, as a shotgun would have made too much noise and disturbed the larger game. In the vicinity of the camp we found old beaver dams, otter slides and muskrat houses. The animals were very plentiful, and paddling down the rivers after dark, we would be almost scared overboard by the noise caused by their sudden plunges in the water. My guide would smile at me and grunt: "O jusk!"

Their knowledge of the habits of all kinds of game furnished us always with an interesting subject of conversation, as we sat smoking our pipes around the evening camp fire.

Our time was now limited and we began moving south by easy stages, in order to reach Klock's by Friday night, twenty-fifth and get our baggage on their teams Saturday morning bound for North Timiskaming. On our way out we met a number of other parties going in. These came from various parts of the United States, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Annapolis, Maryland, and from Ohio. The last day of our canoe trip we had the wind against us, and the lake became so rough that we shipped water badly and it looked dubious for a while, whether or not we could make our connections in time. Fortunately an "alligator" came along and taking us

aboard, helped us over a very considerable part of the balance of our journey. These "alligators" are so constructed that they can navigate over land or water and if required can be turned into a portable steam saw mill. They are a very convenient craft for this northern country.

The voyage from North Timiskaming to Mattawa was uneventful. We reached there on the evening of the twenty-ninth, and after a hurried change of clothing, we bade our guides and the Hudson Bay people goodbye, and boarded the train for home, reaching Boston Wednesday, the thirtieth, after an absence of thirty days.

As I think over the trip now at my leisure, I feel that up to date it is the best that I have ever made and the most successful. Our guides were all that mortal could wish. They were most painstaking to provide for our comfort, and the best hunters I have ever yet accompanied, and I cheerfully recommend them to others who may desire their services.

*(The destruction to the larch or tamarack throughout the forests of Canada, by insect depredation, has been severe and widespread. The appearance of the destructive agent, the Larch Saw Fly (*Nematodes Ericksoni*) was sudden, and its spread very rapid, but it has now almost disappeared, leaving however the tamarack trees bare and dead, until the new growth, which is now coming up, takes their place. The Larch Saw Fly was first noticed in the United States in 1881, and in 1882, and 1883, its first appearance in Canada was recorded in the Eastern Townships of Quebec: In 1885 the tamaracks were dead or dying all along the line of the Intercolonial Railway, and the work of destruction had advanced into Ontario and quickly spread through the northern forests. Whether the insect is introduced or indigenous is uncertain. Dr. Packard stated that the American Saw Fly differed slightly from the German, in the eggs being laid at the base of the leaves of the newly grown shoots, rather than on or under the epidermis of the last year's shoots, where they were repeatedly and in vain searched for, and he considered that it could not have been introduced with the European Larch, as its ravages