

24 PICTURES FROM CANADIAN HISTORY

5. On the Atlantic coast the place of Hiawatha was taken by the strong and friendly Glooskap, who at one time dwelt upon earth, and looked after the wants of men. Glooskap lived alone on the top of a mountain on the Acadian shore. Once in a while he descended, and went about among the lodges of the people. He was never too far off, however, to hear a cry of pain or trouble, and always came to the aid of those who called him.

6. One of many charming legends concerning him is the following: "The two great salmon rivers, the Matapedia and the Restigouche, rise at some distance from each other, one in the Province of Quebec, the other in New Brunswick. After a time, however, they join, and empty from one channel into the Bay of Chaleurs.

7. "Ages ago, it is said, the Matapedia had an opening of its own to the sea, but the Restigouche claimed the smaller river as its bride, and one day appealed to Glooskap, as he stood staff in hand on the top of Sugar-Loaf Mountain.

8. "The great Mic-mac deity stooped, and struck the wall of rock that divided the two rivers. At once a mighty block of land fell into the Restigouche, forming one of the islands, at this place. The larger river rushed in and grasped its bride, and together ever afterwards they have flowed to mingle their waters with the sea."

9. In course of time, however, in spite of having everything to make them good and happy, men began to grow very wicked. Not content with doing wrong themselves, they encouraged even the beasts to become wild and savage. Then Glooskap, though it gave him pain, determined to go away, and leave them to themselves.

10. Because man had grown utterly unworthy, for him there was no farewell; but the beasts, wild and tame,