

in the wet shrubbery I found some lovely beds of the pretty little oak-leaf fern, besides a few flowers and some exquisite mosses.

Yesterday we were camped on an Island in the middle of the river, with the Grand Rapids rushing and splashing on each side of us, they look very formidable; you might fancy some huge giant had tried to block the river's way with immense round boulders, but the water dashes triumphantly over or between them all, with a roar! More than one life has been lost in this part of the river; it is impossible to take any load down, so all our freight is landed on the Island, and carried in a small truck down to the lowest end, then the emptied boats are lowered carefully over the quietest part of the rapid, with ropes, and filled again, half a load at a time, till deep water is reached again. You can see how much work all this implies, for we have three boats, each carrying about five tons of freight, in bales, sacks or boxes. The poor Indian lads had very little Sunday rest, for they were carrying loads from nine till six. To-day began with a pouring rain, so they could not do very much, but it is clearing now and we hope to leave to-night. Sudden rain storms are very common here; hail, thunder, lightning and wind often accompany the rain; in one of these unexpected gusts the ridge-pole of our tent broke with a crash, and our tent fell in; fortunately it was day time, and we held up the end poles as best we could until some of the men came to help us, and propped it up; as it was at the Landing we soon had a new one made. The day I began this letter we had another little accident which might have ended more disastrously, had we not been on the spot; the tent caught fire (the wind was fresh and must have blown a hot cinder against it), but happily we saw it when the hole was not more than a foot across, and soon put it out, and had a patch put on it. My companion, having been over this journey twice, knows how to make tent life as easy and pleasant as it can be made, and I enjoy very much living in the fresh air. We have the floor of our tent covered with spruce boughs, which make a nice carpet and are excellent to sleep on; three valises and the all important lunch basket hold all we need, and we each have a camp stool. I have beside me as I write a bunch of lovely wild flowers. honeysuckle, columbine, roses, and many others I do not know by name. The island is covered with flowers, fruit bushes, flowering shrubs and trees. There is a quaint little H.B.Co.