

"Well, here's to you," said my acquaintance as he finished. "I hope we'll meet again soon. I guess I'm married to this outfit, and may meet you to-morrow or may be on my way to Fort Pitt or some other place ninety miles from nowhere. So long, old man!"

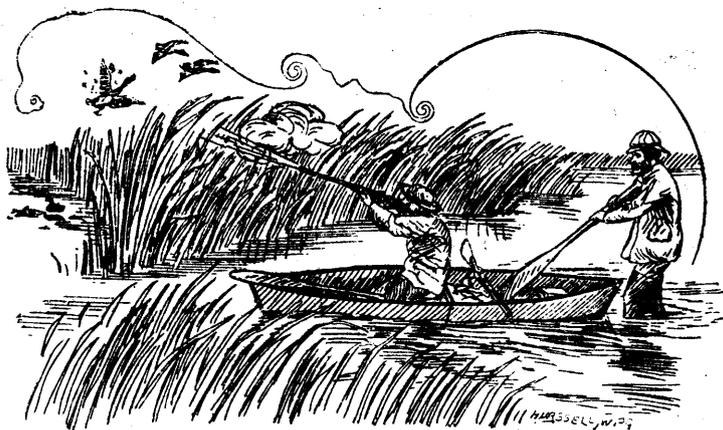
A Day's Shooting

NEAR PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

(For "The Manitoba.")

SOME miles north of Portage la Prairie there is a large slough, which runs in a north-westerly direction, till it is lost in the marsh near Lake Mani-

of landing, and the toe the isthmus. Yes, that would be a splendid trip; ducks were reported plentiful; the weather was all that could be desired; mosquitoes were about all gone, and every thing sounded lovely. Making a *portage* was easy work, (in our minds). All we had to do, was carry the boat across that narrow strip of land, and as it weighed only seventy-five pounds at that time, that was nothing for two strong men. On the day set, off we started, having secured a lad to look after the team, reached the slough, stabled the horses, and got afloat. I must tell you about the boat. My partner in this trip, and myself, were the architects and builders. She—I speak of her in



RUNNING THE SHALLOWS.

toba. Coming from the south-west, is "Cram Creek," a narrow arm of the lake running inland about four miles, and evidently trying to intersect the slough, but when it gets within about four hundred yards of the latter, off it goes in another direction. Now, another duck-hunter and myself thought it would be a good trip to paddle up the slough, *portage* the isthmus, go south on the creek two or three miles, until we had described a horse-shoe shape, one heel being the point of embarkation; the other, the proposed point

the feminine, not only because it is proper to do so, and according to custom, but also because her name was "The Gal;" and she was called "The Gal," on account of being made of galvanized iron. My partner, however, had a different name, I forget now what it was—taken from the Greek or Choctaw I think; whatever it was, it wasn't worth taking, and did not add to her sailing qualities. Well, so there will be no hard feelings between my partner and myself. I will call her simply, "She." She was built in