

"At eighteen miles lower, the Riviere du Lievre enters the Ottawa from the north, about 260 miles in length, draining an area of 4,100 square miles. Fifteen miles below it, the Ottawa receives the North and South Nation Rivers on either side—the former ninety-five, and the latter one hundred miles in length. Twenty-two miles further down, the River Rouge, ninety miles long, enters from the north.

"At twenty-one miles lower, the River du Nord, or North River, 160 miles in length come in on the same side; and lastly, just above its mouth, it receives the River Assumption, which has a course of 130 miles.

"From Bytown [or Ottawa City] the river is navigable [downwards] to Grenville, fifty-eight miles, where the rapids that occur, in a distance of twelve miles, are avoided by a succession of canals. At twenty-three miles lower, at one of the mouths of the Ottawa, a single lock, to avoid a slight rapid, gives a passage to Lake St. Louis, on the St. Lawrence, above Montreal.

"The remaining half of the Ottawa's waters find their way to the St. Lawrence by passing in two channels, behind the Island of Montreal and the Isle Jesus by a course of thirty-one miles. They are interrupted by rapids, still it is by one of these that all the Ottawa lumber passes to market. At Route de l'Isle, therefore, the Ottawa finally merged into the St. Lawrence at one hundred-and-thirty miles below Bytown," now Ottawa City.

"The most prominent characteristic of the Ottawa is its great volume. Even above Bytown (O. C.), where it has yet to receive tributaries equal to the Hudson, the Shannon, the Thames, the Tweed, the Spey and Clyde—it displays, when unconfined, a width of half a mile of strong boiling rapid; and when at the highest, while the north waters are passing, the volume, by calculated approximation, is fully equal to that passing Niagara,—that is double the common volume of the Ganges.

"Taking a bird's eye view of the valley of the Ottawa, we see spread out before us a country equal to eight times the extent of the State of Vermont, or ten times that of Massachusetts; with its great artery, the Ottawa, curving through it, resembling the Rhine in the length of its course, and the Danube in its magnitude.

"This immense region overlies a variety of geological formations, and presents all their characteristic features, from the level uniform surface of the Silurian system, which prevails along the South Shore of the Ottawa, to the rugged and romantic ridges of the Metamorphic and primitive formations, which stretch far away to the North and North West.

"As far as our knowledge of the country extends, we find the greater part of it covered with a luxuriant growth of red and white pine timber,