Thrills of Landing a Big Salmon in the Alexis River of Labrador

BY LAWRENCE MOTT.

lee'ard-"Breeze 'll freshen

up a bitty-my think!" he added. . At last the long winter months of waiting and of longing were behind us; my Lady Dainty and I were once more bound down the grim Labrador coast, this year to cast our flies for salmon in as yet untried streams.

Although it was July the night air was very cold, made the more so by huge icebergs whose massive forms and minaretted peaks seemed to appear mysteriously from the hazy, moonlighted distances over our bows and, as strangely, to vanish astern.

To port the black line of the Labrador swung past as a whole sail sou'westerly wind hurried us on, to the drone and swish of disturbed waters and the complaining creak of an ungreased mainthroat halliard block.

"Pass the word below, Skip, when you make Alexis Bay."

"Aye, zur-g'night, zur."

But the sun was just coming over the rim of the world as I stepped on deck. We were slipping easily "down 'long." Grey and green, green and grey-always the same monotony of rock and barren tundra. A tracery of white at the foot of the cliffs showed clearly and the ponderous roar of the heaving ground swell as it dashed itself to foam came softly over the laughing, sun-kissed waters.

First "White Water." "Yon's he," the skipper sung out, as we rounded a bold headland, and an hour later the auchor was let go off the mouth of Alexia River, of whose wealth of salmon I had so often heard from the

Montaignais Indians. My boys took all the camp dunnage in the two big dories, the Lady Dainty and I following by cance.

"Good luck an' good fishin', zur. I'll hang on opless it comes fer t' blow, then I'll stan' out till de wind shifts off'n de

Our hungry eyes feasted on the magnificent stretches of river as it came rush ing from the hinterland in a wide sweep to the sea. The first "white water" above the tidal pool glistened brilliantly, and we blessed the day that we were born.

A most comfortable little bank, that was protected from easterly winds, offered an excellent camping place for the first night, and while the boys were uptenting I put the rods together.

"What shall it be?" "A silver Doctor, No. 6, double," she

said, fastening the cast on her line. by the New York Herald Co. All "I'll try my luck with a Jock Scott, rights reserved.)

We crossed a long, pebbly bar to the ad of the lower pool. And such a pool! Beginning at the top-in heavy whirling rapids it slowed bit by bit until it was



An ideal spot for salmon. Here and tail. there bowlders created great eddies, where "First rise!" I whooped gleefully. the silver fish like to rest and accustom Wheeeeee! themselves to the taste of fresh water. "First fish," she called in return, ong ribbons of foam trailed away down her reel's music came shrilly over stream in which sea trout broke re- rush of the river. skies and a genial sun,

peatedly; over it all the bluest of blue Out of water he hopped. "Nice one! About twelve pounds!" Five Good Ones rough shore until she could go no further.

"Gone, by thunder!" --She replaced the broken cast, put of another fly and silently took up l chuckle, even quietly, for the loss of the is heavy and dark from rain.

forlornly from it. first fish burts.

Two Fine Ones and Some Big Trout salmon that I had risen, and he took it

I washed across, and my Lady Dainty "Here goes for the first fish," she called. At my sixth cast, the fly well out in with a vicious rush, tearing off twenty- his way sullenly against a seething rapid, Partridge Bay, Black Bear and the rivers "Done with you for my amount!" I the stream, I saw the old familiar flash five yards of line without the least idea My Lady butting him all that she dared in Gros Water Bay, the voyage taking us of a silver side and the flirt of a black of stopping.

On the Upper Waters

"About the same size as yours."

forward ons content to float in an eddy, his fins that before Angus gaffs him."

barely moving. . . causing its scales to radiate all the colors on ne for the second time

pool, and there she was, lying flat on a her face. projecting ledge, staring into the crystal "My arms!" she whispered, but I shook clear water below. She beckoned impe- my head. She did not ask again. riously, motioning to be careful. I crept | Monotonously the salmon kept up his

."See him?" she breathed.

Slowly moving to and fro as the water! But after forty minutes' fighting My pushed him, lay a huge salmon, whose Lady began to gain steadily. as dark length was magnified by the angle; "You gaff him, please," she almost wept

She wriggled out of sight, and with my flashed bits of reflection. What life and go that fish had! He gaffer at her side to steady her, reached Nearer still. By Jove, what a fish! started at once for the open sea, my Lady the desired position. As her line length- Now I could see the "Durham Ranger," keeping pace as best she could over the ened I could see the fly plainly, drifting and, to my horror, the book had worn

He saw it, made a half hearted lunge him by what seemed the merest thread of "Snub him!" I yelled. She did. The upward, then settled back behind his rock. skin. rod tip flew back and a limp line dangled Three times more she tried, but he refused

"Try a 'Dusty Miller'!"

"Durham Ranger No. 4," I advised as a last resort, though this is a large, gaudy King Salmon's Fight.

monster, as he leaped full and clear of as the "big fight."

ing that I might foul the line. title of his kind, viz., the king of sweet dropped down,

rent to help his fight and setting himself and mosquitoes on the Alexis are devil-

Suddenly he began to pound his way

muttered. But was it? With almost incredible strength he bored River, White Bear Arm, Hawk Bay, Up and up, and still up without a falter. well north of 53 degreed.

Where the water slid smoothly from the This chap flew all over the pool, now next pool it was rather shoal. He crossed skittering on the surface like a mad thing, it in a cloud of foam or spray and sank then plunging recklessly backward and heavily in a nearly still, very deep hole.

"My arms! My arms." Little by little I wore him out until he I laughed. "They will be worse than

It was a sort of truce for a few mo-My gaffer came across. A quick, deft ments, neither side apparently ready to jerk and a beautiful fresh run female fish commence hostilities. A stone flung over was lying on the pebples, the sunlight him stafted matters, and out of water he

. A vera vera guid fush, 'Twult gang I looked for my Lady, but she was gone! awa you thirty pun," Angus said slowly. Down stream? No; I should have seen Round and round the Big One went hanging deep and shaking his head dog-With my rod I scrambled up the low gedly. I crossed to beside My Lady, and cliff that lay between me and the next there was a pittful little look of pain on

itinerary of circling the pool, and she could not gain a foot of line. Sometimes he When my eyes became used to the would stop, sulking, but a few sharp raps wavering of the eddies I, too, saw "him." on the rod but: jarred him into moving on "Thirty pounds if an ounce!" I began Then she gained a few inches, a few inches more-whiz! He had it all back.

the from which I looked, until he seemed a I waded knee deep. In the strong sunlight I could see his great length rolling "Slip off and get out on that point; you from side to side, and as he came nearer can reach him from there, and I'll watch." the convulsive movemer of his gills

through the tough jaw and was holding

"Steady, steady!" I begged of my lady as I reached under water, took a deep breath and struck the gaff home through the solid shoulders.

No one spoke as the magnificent fish lay on the rocks, his fins feebly quivering osition. I could not find it in my heart to fly, rarely used except when the water at their very tipe. The crimson state from the gaff wound ran slowly across the silver, dark ruby in contrast.

"You are the winner for the season, C Rush! Splash! It was done so quickly Big One!" I said respectfully, and so i that I could not see it, but she had him! proved when the trip was over. He In my excitement and delight I slipped, weighed thirty-six pounds five ounces and and rolled comfortably head over heels was as handsome in proportion a fish as into the river. When my head came up any Restigouche salmon that I ever saw. the first thing that appeared was the So ended that which we always speak of

the surface and not fifteen feet from me. Our success on the Alexis was most With that I made for the shore, fear-gratifying, the pools being full of fish that were keen on rising.

The battle was on in earnest, and The next day we poled and struggled right royally did this salmon uphold the away up river, camping when night

But it must be admitted that we As I wrung the icy cold water from boarded our little "shippie" for further my clothes it seemed as if he took advan- north one evening under deep, far tage of every assistance that Nature could of skies and a sinking sun that glimgive him. No matter how warily my lady mered from between fleece lined dark tried to get below him, he always dropped clouds, with a feeling of gratitude for her down stream as she moved, using the cur- solid, simple comforts, as the black flies ishly attentive and persistent.

The rivers that we fished later include "This is your finish, O Big One!" I the Forteau, Pinware, Red Bay, Mary's River (in St. Lewis Bay), North East

## How General Carter Won the Medal of Honor Fighting the Apache Indians.

rived among the Apaches a new Indian Fort Apache.

States stood, the target for more had come nobody knew, but it had not medicine man. Two of the officers fell, their Prior to the appearance of discontent for additional troops. He believed that loped back to the creek below;

The Big One

these, and at the end of it the Congress much of the Indians' wealth, in return rising. and Medal of Honor for "distinguished for which he had promised to make his The additional troops were denied, and ingly and appeared to have no thought the group. The first volley brought down alive, drew his revolver and, thrusting chance the Indian should fall into the bravery" was awarded to him. The here prophecies me true. He had been lavish as no move was made immediately the of resistance. It was explained to the Captain Hentig and his orderly, and bulof that fight was Major General William with promises as to what was going to medicine man tried to convince his follows. It Carter, until recently in charge of the happen in the way of good fortune to lowers that the white soldiers were Klinne and his family were only being every direction. With his two comrades The scouts and other Indians were American forces on the Mexican frontier, the tribe, and as up to date nothing un afraid. His influence grew, and spread taken to the post and would be well shot down, Lieutenant Carter stood mo finally driven from the camp, but they at present acting chief of staff in Wash- usual had happened, he determined to in- to nearly all the Indian camps in the treated, but it was also explained that mentarily facing more than one hundred drew off into the underbrush to renew flame his followers still more.

figurer that it is told how a young attache one to the effect that he would bring to vised the Indians to brew and drink That this threat had so little influence toward capturing his fallen comrades. carrily looking man working at the desk markable resurrection be said nothing were ready for any crimes. for some time he went to him and asked :- could be done until the whites had either Ou receiving the order from head- he would come back to life again.

long time the White Mountain Apaches come of it and privately warned the Cibiou Creek. | quietly to warn these Indians away from skins and caused them to pause in their Groping toward the spot where his or every person mardered by them was killed

HREE officers of the United named Nockay det Klinne. Whence he Colonel Carr was ordered to arrest the might be averted; so, although the actions to the Other. Indians to go away. As he guard, shot the Medicine Man through and began making signs to him. In spite

Casting from a Light Dory

So little does he look like an Indian Among other of his promises had been matters worse the prophet of evil ad- would be killed at once.

When this was learned by the Ameri. Colonel Carr seat a runner to the camp the command moved with its prisoners, and rear, while the dismounted men of troop men that could be temporarily spared The superstition that the Indian bore a the explained afterward that he thought can troops it was at once plain that im- of the medicine man, telling him that a camp was selected to spend the night. be had been talking to a civillan friend mediate interference was necessary. The no harm was intended, but that he must It had been noticed that mounted Indians general attack, seized their rifles and, about were still full of fight, and, remedicine man and several of the chiefs obey orders and report to the agent. To were coming up the creek from the gulches with Sergeant Alonzo Bowman in the membering the queer prophecies of the camp, and Burns, fearing that a knife the Sixth United States cavalry. Carr, who explained to them the folly and so on Monday, August 29, the little and that they were collecting about the commanded by Colonel E. A. Carr and and futility of rising against the whites, command under the leadership of Colonel medicine man's guard. Colonel medicine man's guard. Colonel finding his body so that his followers and and futility of rising against the whites, command under the leadership of Colonel medicine man's guard. stationed at Fort Apache, Ariz. For a He told them nothing out disaster could Carr left the fort and took the trail to ing trouble, directed Captain E. C. Hentig dians momentarily overawed the red-could not carry it away,

but in August, 1881, there was evident the medicine man, the young officer The Indians on the following day were sign of dissatisfaction among them, and Nockay det Klinne pretended to agree one man, there rode out of the brush separate the scouts and get them in camp from annihilation. It gave the necessary reached there just as rifles amid the driven off, and finally they scattered and day by day they grew more sullen and with all that Colone! Carr had said, but in the creek bottom an Apache chief out of harm's way. morose, though the American officers could when a few days later he was summoned named Sanchez. He came forward as a Lieutenant Carter, fully realizing that to the attack. The Apaches fell back as, if to remind him that the medicine were some other incidents in the campaign to report at San Carlos to the Indian friend, shook hands with the American the situation required delicate handling, and made for cover. - cans should not appear as if looking for reluctant about going. Captain Hentig. Medicine Man."

than a hundred rifles nred at them taken him long to gain a complete ascen- Knowing that the Indians were allowed to count up the command unham- witted young Indian fired and gave the lately shot by the Indian scouts. The riddled with bullets he was still alive. at close range by Apache Indians, dancy over the minds of the Indians. ready inflamed, Colonel Carr telegraphed pered, and when he had finished he gal- war cry.

escaped and fought the battle to its tragic had succeeded in obtaining for himself overawe the Indians and prevent an up- American officers were surprised to find Hentig, his orderly and Lieutenant Car- Lie that the medicine man surrendered will-ter, who stood together, began firing into seeing that the Medicine Man was still renewed frenzy and action. If by any White Mountain reservation. To make if there was any attempt at a rescue he Indians, besides the scouts in camp. He the battle. knew that the first move would be made. With every man under his command and it was judged most prudent not to

or the State Department went to General life all the ancestors of those who raith- "tixwin," a strong intoxicant made from on subsequent events is due to the fact. With his fighting blood aroused he engagement that was to tax to the ut-Carrier's office soon after he was appointed fully believed in him. but as an excuse corn. With the liquor and the medicine man himself had as-emptied his revolver at his enemies in the medicine man himself had as-emptied his revolver at his enemies in the medicine man Washington, and after watching the for not at once bringing about this re- tions of the medicine man together they sured them that he would last long enough to ness came the dead, including Captain by some other means than shooting. One and that if he were killed by the whites rescue the wounded and rob the Apaches Hentig and his orderly, were buried in of the guides named Burns was instructed of their prey. Standing his ground, he a single grave dug inside Colonel Carr's to accompany Lieutenant Carter and put quarters to arrest Nockay det Klinne Through high willows and underbrush managed to carry the wounded men to the tent. The burial was done by the few the medicine man to death with a knife. D, seeing one of their comrades facing from the firing line. The Indians lurking charmed life and could not die had to a

had been on triendly terms with the whites, chiefs not to believe the predictions of The next morning, as the soldiers were the camp, and he directed Lieutenant Car- attack. This panse, it was afterward derly had fired the last shot into the head in the same manner as their chief had died breathing spell for the Americans to rush woods sent missiles of death about him, came to terms. But in the meantime there

of the chief were suspicious, he was al- raised his arm to motion to them one half- both thighs, but McDonald was immedi- of the fact that he had been literally Medicine Man even after being shot It was immediately apparent that if In an instant the redskins were fren- called loudly to the Indians to fight on the followers of the medicine man should bodies riddled with bullets. One among the Apaches the medicine man by a show of everwhelming force he could Arrived at the camp a little later, the zied, and levelling their rifles at Captain and made efforts to reach the scouts. learn that he was alive in spite of his

> his superstitious followers, which might ported his uncanny discovery to Colonel Carr there had been a cessation of shots,

on the firing line Colonel Carr began an start another volley, as might have been

which reminded all present that they were An investigation was begun, as the attl. agent of the government he not only officers and directed that they Colonel Carr meanwhile walked calmin Lieutenant Carter, unmindful of the professional fighters and were seeing all tude of the Indians grew steadily worse ignored the order but rired to his camp apparently counting the men as he went be put in camp. The scouts left the other to where the scouts left the scouts left the other to where the s and soon it appeared that there had a on Cibiou Creek, about forty miles from Orders had been given that the what was left of the medicine man's To Lieutenant Carter, Sergeant Alonso features. To his consternation and sur- Bowman and Richard Heartery were "Lope" in the person of a medicine man; As soon as this move was reported a fight, as it was still boped an uprising standing near Lieutenant Carter, called Surgeant McDonald, in charge of the prise the medicine man opened his eyes awarded the medal of honor.

