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**A. P. Low's 1893–1894 expedition through the  
Labrador Peninsula: a tale of iron and irony**

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Albert Peter Low (1861–1942) was a geologist with the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) who made a pioneering trek through Québec and Labrador in 1893–1894, travelling the major rivers of northeastern Québec and central and western Labrador and documenting the geology exposed therein. In June 1893, Low's party set off from Lac St. Jean canoeing to Lake Mistassini thence to the headwaters of the East Main River then over to the headwaters of the Koksoak River and finally downstream into Ungava Bay. By steamship from there, they arrived in Rigolet in October 1893 and proceeded to North West River. Starting in the late winter of 1894, the crew travelled up the Hamilton (Churchill River) portaging around Grand (Churchill) Falls and into Lake Michikamau and then along the Ashuanipi and Attikonak rivers. During their travels through western Labrador, Low documented the vast iron ore resources of the region. The crew then proceeded by difficult portages along the Romaine to St. John rivers to Mingan on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River; 16 months after they started from Lac St. Jean. Low estimated the expedition covered a total of 8736 km as in canoe, 4736 km; on vessel, 1600 km; with dog-teams, 800 km; and on foot, 1600 km. The Low expedition provided a veritable cornucopia of data on what was, at the time, a last great unexplored wilderness of North America.