
From the end of the portage the canoe route leads north through the middle channel about six miles to the northern extremity of the large island on the left, and thence, the river flows north-eastward $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles with a steady current until we come to the upper jumping portage.

This is a good well beaten portage, fifteen chains in length on the left bank, by which the upper jumping chute is passed.

The difference of level there is only ten feet, but with a dam at the head of the chute, a good water power can be had, converting the vast surface of the big lake into a never failing reservoir.

About seventy chains farther down we come to the lower jumping portage, a good well beaten portage about the same length as the upper one and on the same side of the river, but the fall here is twice as great as at the upper portage.

Another magnificent water power can be had here: in fact I believe that the banks are sufficiently high to admit of a dam being built here at moderate cost that would flood back the water and efface the other chute and have the reserve of the Big lake to draw from, with more than double the head of water to work with. The elevation of Big lake is 612 feet and that of the foot of the lower jumping chute 576 feet, so that a head of 40 feet can be had with a flow of at least 1,000,000 cubic feet of water per minute, giving over 75,000 horse power with never failing head.

Below the chute the river runs rapidly northward for about a mile to where it opens out into a broad expanse, a mile in width, and then turns westwards in a sort of crooked lake $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile in width.

The country here seems to have been burnt over some thirty years ago and is now covered with a thick growth of poplar, *bouleau* and *cyprès*. About six miles below the last mentioned portage we come to a pretty large lake lying N. E. and S. W. nearly at right angles to the general course of the river.

We surveyed the south-west shore of this lake throughout and part of the easterly shore, but had not time to follow the great bay north-eastward, where a second discharge flows off forming an island several hundred acres in area.

The elevation of the lake is 575 feet above sea level and at its western discharge, a portage one mile in length on the west side passes chutes and rapids that give a fall of 40 feet.