

as had been believed, and that the climatic and other conditions about James Bay and for a hundred miles inland are such as to allow of settlement, and the growth of the more hardy cereals.

In 1893, accompanied by Mr. D. I. V. Eaton, we again started from Lake St. John, but instead of following the Ashouapmouchouan River in a northwest direction to its head, we passed directly northward up the Chef branch of that river, and thus lessened the distance to Lake Mistassini by about fifty miles. The route explored in 1892 was followed to the East Main River, and the work of the season started from the end of the last season's survey, this time ascending the river. The main stream was ascended, with numerous portages past falls and rapids, about one hundred miles, when the river was left and the route passed up a small northern tributary, called Long Portage Creek, which is on the route followed by the Hudson's Bay Company to their post at Nichicun. This stream was ascended thirty-five miles and then the route led eastward through a number of lakes for thirty miles to the watershed between the East Main and the Big river which is the next large stream to the north flowing into James' Bay. From there six miles of lakes were passed through to the Big River, which flows from the southward, and is a large stream where we joined it. Eight miles below, the river enters Nichicun Lake, which is a large irregular body of water about thirty miles long, and 1760 feet above sea level.

From Nichicun the route explored continued eastward through a bewildering system of irregular lakes drained by tributaries of the Big River, for forty miles to the height of land dividing the Big River from the waters flowing north into Ungava Bay; and from there twenty miles farther to Lake Kaniapiskau, another of the large lakes found throughout the Labrador Peninsula. The Kaniapiskau River flows out of its north end, and was followed downward to its mouth on the southwest side of Ungava Bay. For sixty miles below the lake, the river, like all the streams of the central area, flows nearly on