

Having had an opportunity of visiting this island twice and on both occasions sufficient time to examine the back of it, where the most characteristic outcrops appear, what I have written may be taken as representing at least the most salient points in its geology.

I may add that the bearings of the glacial *striae* were taken by Captain Duncan, of the steamer *Princess*; he had a compass with him on our second visit to this spot. I mention this because the markings here differ from some others in the Red River Valley. On these islands in many cases the glaciated surface of the rock is very marked and glistens like polished metal, when examined under the glare of the sun at noonday.

This varying of direction in the *striae* of the islands and those of Stony Mountain is an important fact and opens up a most interesting question for investigation by members of this society, viz:—What was the course of the glacier which swept over where Lake Winnipeg now is and pushed it away down the Red River Valley? It may have meandered considerably, while it ground out a basin for the lake and a course for the river; for we know in some cases among the Alpine districts now, glaciers are moving slowly through ravines which indicate a varied direction. Though no such irregular course is outlined by ravines in this lake region yet there may have been a time in the topography of the district under consideration when it was very different from what it is now. How interesting and important it is that the members of this society should collect all the data they conveniently can regarding these varying *striae* in the Red River Valley and among the islands of Lake Winnipeg. Keep a record of all information secured and in the course of time from the collected markings a fair outline of the course over which this river of ice glided can be made out.

Without remarking further upon this interesting problem than to advise the society to keep it before the members I shall proceed to describe what I observed while examining Berens Island on the map, but better known to those who cross this lake as

SWAMPY ISLAND.

This place is sixty miles from Black Bear Island, in the main body of the lake, which here widens and forms a large expanse of water. The suspended mud of Red River is no longer seen coloring the waters of the lake, which are now clear and retain their purity throughout the whole distance to the