

29th.—Continued down the Marten River, passing five small chutes by portages, the aggregate fall in seventeen miles being one hundred and ten feet.

Re-enter  
Rupert River.

Here the Marten enters the Rupert River. Passing down the Rupert, which here has an average breadth of one-half mile, the Nitchicoon branch was passed, two and a-half miles below.

By this river the canoes bound for the Hudson Bay post at Nitchicoon, on the East Main River, leave the Rupert, and reach that river through a system of lakes similar to that passed on the Marten.

Lake Nemiskow

Continuing down the Rupert, with a swift current, for six miles, a full and rapid of twenty feet is passed by a portage one-half mile long; thence the river runs with a swift current three miles, to the entrance of Lake Nemiskow. Passing down the lake eight miles, we camped on a small island, where the Hudson Bay Company have stored a supply of provisions for the Indians wintering in the vicinity. The country passed through to-day was much lower than yesterday, being nearly flat; the timber much the same, with more second-growth birch and poplar of small size. Lake Nemiskow is silted up by the detritus brought down by the river for a distance of two miles beyond where we camped, and is characterized by low islands and sand-banks, clad with willow-bush and reeds, through which a channel, half a mile wide, runs.

30th.—Proceeded down the lake to an encampment of Indians from Rupert House, who were engaged netting and smoking small sturgeon for winter use. Left again at 2.30 p.m., and followed the north-east bay six and a-half miles to the smaller discharge.

Lake Nemiskow is made up of three deep bays, forming a Y; each being about fifteen miles long, with an average breadth of three miles. The Rupert River flows in by the south-east bay, and out again about half-way up the north-east, having two outlets, the larger being several miles farther north than the smaller. A large river flows into the south-west bay, and forms the canoe route to Washwanaby, a Hudson Bay post on the Notaway River. Several other large streams flow into the lake.

The surrounding country is comparatively flat, being highest to the south-west, where the hills probably have an elevation above the water of 200 feet. To the north and east is much lower and swampy. The waters of the lake are shallow.

Père Albanel says, in the Relations des Jésuits, that ten days are required to make a circuit of the lake, and that it is surrounded by high mountains, forming a semicircle from south to north.

Leaving by the smaller discharge, we descended it two miles to a portage 600 yards long, past a rapid and fall of forty feet. Camped at