

RETURN TO THE PAS.

We left the Reserve on the 3rd November, and reached the Pas on the morning of the 5th, having to run the gauntlet through swift currents and floating ice of the Saskatchewan in our frail bark canoes, where any misguidance might have been fatal.

We remained at the Pas until the 15th November, awaiting the freezing of the muskegs and closing of the rivers, preparing sledges and having snow shoes made.

I also here defined the boundaries of the Indian hay lands to the south of the Saskatchewan River, to which I have before referred.

Further Surveys.

On the morning of the date last mentioned, we went to the islands known as the Indian Plum Islands, on the largest of which we camped, being about 13 miles distant from the Pas.

The lake in which these islands are situated lies to the south of the Saskatchewan River, and within 1 mile of the Big Eddy. The islands are not approachable at all seasons, on account of the shallowness of the lake.

Big Pear Island contains 1,068.65 acres, is well wooded with poplar, birch and a few spruce. The timber is small.

The soil, class 1 and 2.

Island No. 2 contains 154.03 acres.

The soil class 1 and 2, and the timber-poplar and birch.

Island No. 3 contains 79.97 acres, with 1 and 2 as class of soil, and the timber-poplar, birch and spruce.

On the 20th November, while blowing a gale, with wet snow, we returned to the Pas, having completed the survey of the Indian Plum Islands.

The following day, 21st November, we surveyed Potato Island, and connected it with Rock Island, it being about 335 chains from it. This island is in *À-tic-à-make*, or Whitefish Lake, and about 14 miles from the Pas; contains 6.51 acres, and is perfectly bare. The land, class 2.

On the evening of the 21st November we were at the Pas, intending at once to proceed to Chimawawin by dog trains, but were informed by the Hudson Bay Company's officer at that place that we would not be able to get half way there on account of the open water of the Saskatchewan, he having sent runners in that direction who had returned, not having been able to accomplish their journey.

Deeming the ice sufficiently secure, we started on the morning of the 27th November for Chimawawin, having three dog trains heavily laden, and my men with light sledges drawing their own blankets.

On the 29th, while going on beautifully on good ice, we came to open water, but with ice skirting the shore and open swift water in the centre of the river. Two dog trains and one man with a sledge were near one another when a mass broke off and the trains and our provisions were in jeopardy; but, providentially, all were got to shore without any loss, the man with the sledge getting off when the mass was in motion. One of the leading dogs, which must have been in the water before, trembled for twenty minutes after, from fear.

We arrived at Chimawawin on the morning of the 30th November.

The Councillor and some of the chief men, informed of my arrival, came and had a talk, and showed me what land they wanted

CHIMAWAWIN RESERVE.

This Indian Reserve is situated at the head of Cedar Lake, or where the main Saskatchewan and 2 of its branches discharge their waters into Cedar Lake. It embraces Chimawawin Point, 2 Islands, and a portion of another island

We began the survey of this Reserve on the 1st of December, taking in Chimawawin Point, containing 1,331.35 acres.

The soil being variable, some 1 and 2 class; some 2nd class, and some 2 and 3 class, in places pretty stony.