

50 feet. The water is dark greenish in color and clearer than that of lake St John.

Leaving the most northern bay of this lake a short portage of a little less than a quarter of a mile takes us over the dividing ridge to a small lake 15 chains across, and elevated 15 feet above Mistassinis.

This little lake discharges by its northern end into another small lake about $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile in length and 5 to 15 chains in width, lying nearly east and west, and discharging at its eastern extremity where there is a short portage on the left bank, and then a sluggish little stream barely floats the canoes into lake *Clair*.

Lake *Clair* is exactly on the same level as Mistassinis 1250 feet above sea level. It is a very picturesque lake about $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles in length and one mile and three quarters in width.

BASALT COLUMNS

Its south western shore resembled at a distance the ruins of some dismantled fortress. On closer observation I found that a great part of the shore line was composed of immense columns of basalt, standing out as bold and regular as if they were a work of art.

In some places they were hexagonal and in others quadrangular and going westward from there the lake shore is composed of very finely and smoothly stratified slaty stone which the Indian use for whetstones. I brought home some specimens and they make excellent razor hones.

If ever railway communication could be had to this locality these quarries would be valuable.

Descending the discharge of this lake, a crooked stream some twenty feet in width, winds through low swampy ground for a distance of fifty chains to another lake about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length and $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile in width.

The country around here is level or gently rolling and is timbered mostly with black spruce, cypress and larch.

Following down the discharge of this lake about six miles in a north easterly direction, through a rather poor looking valley, we come to a small lake or expanse, where another river comes in from the east, and thence their united waters wind northward $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to join the Sikawako Sibe or Porcupine River, at an elevation of 1230 feet above sea level.