

Below The Pas the banks of the river again become low and are made up of river deposit, fringed for most of the distance by tall balsam poplar. The first high ground reached by the river is at Pine bluff, forty-one miles below. In low water, limestone is reported outcropping there, and also on the Moose lake branch, a few miles to the north-east. At Kettle point, twenty-one miles farther down, a small hill rises ten feet above high water and on its surface boulders of limestone occur. A small exposure of the limestone is seen in places, but the surface of the hill is made up mainly of boulder-clay. The banks below this become noticeably lower as the river is descended and near Cedar lake are just above the water and fringed with willow, showing less of the river deposit than in the upper reaches. Limestone exposure.

Where the banks are built up above the range of ordinary high water they are of very much the same character throughout. A fringe of trees skirts the river on both sides and consists principally of balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera*, Linn.), elm (*Ulmus Americana*, Linn.), ash (*Fraxinus pubescens*, Lam.) and gray willow (*Salix longifolia*). The latter grows generally either along the edge of the bank or at a distance from the river where the land is swampy. In the shade of the forest, the Saskatchewan berry, (*Viburnum opulus*) or "high bush cranberry," grows very luxuriantly. The negundo is occasionally met with, as well as black spruce, though the former is generally confined to the higher land on each side of the valley on the dryer soil. In low water the banks rise to over six feet and are apparently level for a short distance back from the river, but soon sink with a gradual slope to the level of the marsh or hay flat in the rear. In high water the river rises to the top of the bank and is then above the general level of the surrounding country, so that any further rise is followed by a flooding of the hay lands and an enlargement of the lakes and marshes adjoining. The water is highly charged with a very fine sediment which gives it a muddy colour. This is to a great extent deposited before leaving Cedar lake, and the water issuing to Lake Winnipeg is therefore fairly clear.

The slightly sloping plain through which the lower part of the river flows is not so pronounced a lake basin as that above The Pas. A strip of higher land follows at no great distance to the west of the main channel. To the east and north the margin of the higher country is much more irregular. From the north side of the strait at The Pas the dry ground forms a bay to the north-east, approaching the river again a short distance below what is called the Moose Lake channel. From a few miles east of this a wide low flat runs to the north-east to Moose lake channel.