

Smoky Creek and Cedar Creek.

Smoky creek is bordered with low hills showing an abundance of rock exposures. Near the lake there is some good soil and good forest of large poplar and canoe-birch, but along the trail line farther inland the country is either burnt or covered with small second growth, and the soil is poor. These conditions prevail along Cedar creek and down to the foot of Millie lake. Smoky creek abounds in small speckled trout, averaging about 6 inches in length.

The Atik River and Adjacent Country.

The Atik river is the largest branch of the Migiskwan, and has a total length of sixty-five or seventy miles. It was surveyed by compass and micrometer from the mouth to the north end of Durant lake, a distance of sixty-five miles following the sinuosities of the river. It is probable that the source of this river is in a stream flowing north, and entering Durant lake at the south end. This stream was ascended in canoes for over five miles, when it became rapid, but of considerable size. For the first twenty-three miles, or up to the Hill cache, the Atik is very crooked, and has numerous rapids. The first portage is one mile from the mouth, and is seventeen and a half chains long over a burnt, sandy, Banksian pine plain. The river at this rapid falls about 15 feet, and is full of boulders. There is on each side a morainic ridge which seems to have caused the rapid and supplied the large number of boulders. No solid rock is seen. The country along this part of the river was all burnt in 1906, though there are a few green clumps of trees still standing. The Atik flows through a sandy country up to the Hill cache, with occasional strips of alluvium along the banks. The banks are usually from 5 to 10 feet high, but near the mouth of Cañon creek the sand banks are very much higher and continue so up to the Hill cache, where the western end of the portage is up this steep hill.

The principal forest trees along this stretch are Banksian pine, spruce, and poplar, the two latter being found principally on the lower ground. Some of the Banksian pine are large enough to make railway ties, but such trees are by no means abundant.

Cañon creek enters the Atik about a mile below the Hill cache. It is a small winding clear stream flowing over a sandy or gravelly bottom, with sandy banks from 10 to 100 feet high, covered