
SECTION No 8.

PART OF GRAND LAKE MISTASSINI

We surveyed the west shore of Cabistachouan bay from the last mentioned portage, a distance of about seven miles, to where another portage of quarter of a mile through low swampy ground takes us into Abatagush bay, a couple of miles beyond the H. B. Co's. post, and having surveyed the bay around to connect at the post with my former work, we continued over through the long portage to Ponachuan Bay and thence up said bay about six miles to where another portage of about half a mile takes us back again into Abatagush bay about 8 miles north of the H. B. Co's post as shown on the plan, section No 8.

The country here is level or gently rolling and fairly well timbered with black and grey spruce, bouleau, poplar, larch, etc.

Returning to the post we surveyed up the west shore of the long mainland point that separates Abatagush bay from the main body of the lake as far as the Big Narrows, a distance of about 15 miles, and thence followed the east shore a distance of twenty miles, to where a chain of small lakes and portages takes us into Mistassinis or Little Mistassini lake.

There is a general sameness in the country all along here:—easy slopes covered mostly with spruce, bouleau and poplar, and a soil well worthy of cultivation if the climate were suitable.

The distance from the big lake into Mistassinis or Little Mistassini by this chain of lakes and portages, is five miles.

The land is very poor in this direction on nearing Little Mistassini, and the unworn rocks and crags that cover the surface except in the marshy holes and ponds, are of a flinty nature and the timber appears small and stunted; and still in the midst of this poverty-stricken region I was surprised to see several large and beautiful Scotch thistles, blooming most fragrantly, a fit emblem of the hardy race, that can generally thrive well on any soil or in any climate.

SECTION No 9.

Lake Mistassinis or Little Mistassini is no small sheet of water.

We followed it for 44 miles, from the last mentioned portage to its most northern bay.