

panied by Mr. Munroe-Ferguson, A.D.C. to His Excellency, the Governor General. After a paddle of 650 miles to the north end of Reindeer Lake, we struck northward into the unknown country, made 53 portages, averaging a third of a mile each, across rough stony country, and then descended Kazan River to Yath-kyed Lake, from which we portaged twelve miles across flat marshy land to Ferguson Lake, and then descended Ferguson River to the west coast of Hudson Bay. From there we surveyed the shore southward to Churchill, where we arrived on the first of October.

The total distance surveyed in these three years amounts to 4,200 miles, 2,150 of which was on lines, marked in red on the map exhibited on the wall, through country previously untrodden. To accomplish these surveys it was necessary to travel, in all, either in canoes or on foot, 7,800 miles.

Both tracts of country here spoken of have a generally even contour, and as a rule they slope gently northward or north-eastward towards the Arctic Ocean, or Hudson Bay. They are the homes of a couple of thousand of the people of Canada, and though these people may be Indians and Eskimos, they contribute to the revenue and to the support of the Government of Canada the same as we do. Without some knowledge of the people and the country they live in, it is impossible to govern them wisely and justly.

But what are the possibilities of settlement for civilized men? Large districts have been shown by these explorations to be underlain by Huronian and Keweenaw rocks, which are almost everywhere found to be rich in precious minerals, and if extensive deposits of these were discovered the country would soon be opened up. The surface is moderately level, so that railways could easily and cheaply be built, and ocean-going steamers could readily run into Churchill Harbour, or into any of the other numerous and good harbors along the north-western shore of Hudson Bay.