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further in, between the branches and on either side of them, the mountains are from 1,500 to 2,500 feet high, and have rugged tops and sides. Rounded boulders were found scattered all over the side and top of the hill just referred to; but although it had probably been somewhat glaciated, it had not been planed down to hard surfaces, but had an irregular outline, and the rocks were much disintegrated. Among the transported boulders and pebbles scattered over its surface, some of brecciated drab limestone with clear quartz grains, pinkish-red sandstone, red jasper and magnetite iron, were noticed. Fragments of grey, drab and yellowish limestone, with obscure fossils, were common around the base of the hill. The glacial striae were well seen on the southern side of the hill referred to, where, in one case, they were observed to groove longitudinally a vertical wall, and even the under side of an overhanging shelf of rock. The general direction was S. 25° E., or with the course of the south branch of the strait.

The fixed rocks around Nunaingok, as far as I had the opportunity to examine them, were all gneiss, the average strike of which was N. W. (true.) On one of the mountains on the north side of the northern channel a wide belt of brown, iron-stained rock runs diagonally through the ridge, the color being probably due to the decomposition of iron pyrites, but I had not time to visit the place.

At Nunaingok, on top of a bank of sandy earth, are the remains of an old Eskimo village. The roofs of most of the underground houses had fallen in, leaving only large circular pits. Some of these had become partially filled up, showing great antiquity. A few of the newest of them had been inhabited within a year. Some Eskimo camped in the vicinity informed us, through our interpreter, that this had once been a comparatively populous village, and a resort of their people as far back as their traditions extend. It is their custom to live in the underground houses from the commencement of winter, some time in November, till January, after which they leave them and spend the rest of the winter in igloos or snow houses. The water in the north branch of McLellan's Strait, they informed us, is open all winter at this point, and is much frequented by seals, which afford them a reliable supply of food. These animals they kill either from their kyaks or by spearing them from hiding places which they have built of stones on every ledge and point of rock past which the seals are accustomed to swim. Great numbers of bones of seals, walrus, reindeer, foxes, hares, birds, &c., lie scattered about on the surface and mixed with the earth around the old dwellings. The remains of stone pots and implements near others of European manufacture showed a transition from the barbarous to a civilized condition. I was told by one of the Labrador missionaries, who had had a long experience of these people, that the comforts and conveniences of civilization rendered the Eskimo less vigorous and healthy, and, as a consequence, their numbers are diminishing.

The "Neptune" was anchored in 15 fathoms at low tide in Port Burwell. The bottom was a sandy mud, and was found, by dredging, to abound with shellfish, echinoderms and crustaceans. During our stay, from the 5th to the 8th of August, the water teemed with fine cod, which were taken in great numbers by jigging. Many of them were tolerably large, and they were of excellent quality, contrasting, in this respect, with the cod we had got at Nachvak, Ford's Harbor and a fishing station on some islets we had passed to the south-east of it. Most of our crew had had more or less experience of the Labrador fisheries in previous years, and the superior quality of the Port Burwell cod was a subject of general remark among them. On our return to Port Burwell we found the fish still abundant on the 27th and 28th of September, and the party in charge of the station informed us that they could catch them any time they chose in the interval. At Nachvak the fishermen began to take cod on the 17th of July, and they were catching them in great numbers at the end of the month. During our stay in Skynner's Cove, in the inlet, from the 30th of September till the 6th of October, we caught as many as desired, by jigging from the ship's deck. From all that I could learn by enquiries along the Labrador coast and from our crew, it would appear that although the dates vary in different years and at different places, the average time for the cod to strike the shores is the middle of July, and that the particular time at any locality depends more on the presence or