

the level with the surrounding table-land, is from 100 to 300 feet wide, but at its bottom is often less than 50 feet across. Down this narrow zig zag gorge the river rushes in a continuous rapid with a fall of 260 feet from the basin to where it issues into the wider ancient valley some eight miles away.

From June 1st to July 15th we were engaged exploring the western or Ashuanipi branch of the river; and an idea of the almost level nature of the central area may be obtained, when it is stated, that during this time we did not make a single portage of the river. The last two weeks in July were spent exploring Lake Michikamau, which, next to Mistassini is the largest lake in Labrador being upwards of seventy miles long and twenty five miles across in the widest part. This lake, like all the other large lakes of the region, is abundantly stocked with fine large fish, including lake trout, brook trout, land-locked salmon, whitefish and pike, and I may here mention that the finest trout fishing in Labrador, which means the finest in the world, is to be found on the Hamilton River above the Grand Falls.

On August 1st we started southward up the Attikonak Branch of the Hamilton, and followed it to Attikonak Lake at its head; from there a short portage route lead to the Romaine River, which was descended to within 100 miles of the coast, when it becomes unnavigable, and a portage route sixty miles long was followed south-westward to the St. John River and that stream descended to its mouth near Mingan on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. From Mingan the party crossed to Gaspe and so returned home.

The principal geological discovery of these two years was the finding of a large area of stratified Cambrian rocks, which extend from the upper part of the Hamilton River in a north-northwest direction across the Koksoak River. These rocks contain a quantity of valuable iron ore so great that, in the exposures seen, it was estimated by millions of tons. From the notes taken much information was added to the knowledge