

Birch and poplar are almost always present wherever the soil admits. On the richer and lower ground, between Red Lake and Gull Rock Lake, and farther down the river, the poplar trees are well grown and appear in groves in which nearly all the trees average eighteen inches in diameter near the base. Farther to the westward on the higher ground, the soil being sandy, the Banksian pine is more abundant, and near the western end of Pipestone Bay, some trees of red pine form a small grove, which appears to be the northern limit of the species in this basin.

Tributaries.

*Streams flowing to the Red Lake basin.*—The streams flowing from the south to Gull Rock Lake and Red Lake are all rather small. The first one examined was a small stream draining Stone Lake, and emptying into the south bay of Gull Rock Lake. This proved to be very shallow, and the lake is of small size lying between hills of granite, with occasionally fragments of Huronian rock caught up in it, showing at a few points on the lake.

Stream from  
Bug Lake.

Another lake lying further to the west, called Bug Lake, drains by a small creek to the western extremity of the south bay of Gull Rock Lake. The valley in which this lake and stream lie, runs west by south-west from Gull Rock Lake, following the strike of the gneisses and altered rocks. The distance from lake to lake by the river is about four miles, with two miles of the western part over a lake connected with Bug Lake by a short reach of sluggish river. The upper part of the stream is very shallow and is overhung by tall gray willow bushes, making travelling along it difficult. Two portages were made past rapids. The fall at the lower one is seventy feet and at the next forty feet, so that the lake lies at an elevation of about one hundred and twenty feet above Gull Rock Lake.

From a bay on the south-west, a portage leads to a small lake draining to Red Lake. The road is through scrub pine bush with mossy floor, over a slight rise for about 600 yards—the terminal points being at about the same elevation.

Stream from  
Medicine  
Stone Lakes.

The stream which rises here flows through several large lakes, and reaches Red Lake about a mile east of a narrows near the middle of the lake (Middle Narrows). The small lake at the head waters is bordered by mossy muskeg, and is about one-third of a mile in length. The stream flowing from its western end is too small for canoes, and the portage to the next lake is through spruce bush for 1000 yards. The fall is about fifty feet to a lake less than half a mile in length. Two small portages and an intervening pond, lie between this and the Upper Medicine Stone Lake, which is a long narrow strip of water