

*Southern Basin.*

Southern or  
English River  
basin.

The basin drained by the streams flowing south to English River, is almost an amphitheatre in form, facing the south. The several streams converge to the convex line followed by the valley of the English River. The watershed forming the outer boundary or rim of this area, rises gradually from the west toward the east, having, probably, its highest point between the waters of Cat Lake River and Lac Seul. To the west, in the vicinity of Long-legged Lake, it rises to 1200 and 1300 feet, or sixty feet and upward above Lac Seul. North of Red Lake, the portage at the height-of-land to White River is at 1300 feet, while north of Trout Lake it is considerably higher, as this lake itself stands at nearly 1300 feet. The Woman Portage, between Shaboomene and Woman lakes, is estimated to be at 1350 feet above sea-level.

The general surface of all this basin, is of a rough, rocky character, with small areas between the ridges, of alluvial and glacial deposits. Across the north-eastern part, a strong ridge of glacial material forms a long and nearly straight line, through which two streams have cut. It is much more strongly marked near Trout Lake, and there clearly forms a dam, retaining the waters of that lake. All the other lakes are evidently in rock basins, surrounded by rocky hills.

The higher parts of the rocky country forming the remainder of the basin, show very little covering of drift material of any sort, except a few boulders, with sand in the valleys. North of the Trout Lake ridge, the most noticeable feature is the enormous number of boulders on the shore of the lake.

Topography  
of two classes.

*Effect of geological conditions on the topography.*—In general, that part of the country in which the surface is of gneiss and schist, is lumpy, with hills aligned in ridges, but the surface-level is more or less a sloping plane. In areas in which light-coloured intrusive granite prevails, the surface is, however, considerably raised above this plane. The Huronian areas here, as usual, show more pronounced denudation and greater irregularity in surface feature. The narrow, crooked lakes in the Woman Lake region, occupy gaps and gashes between high ridges. The high angle at which these rocks stand, admits of a greater disintegration of the softer beds, such as limestones and chloritic schists.

These areas can hardly be described as forming basins. The general surface of the country is apparently higher than elsewhere, but it contains deeper depressions, which are occupied by lakes. In tracing out the line of contact of the granite with the green Huronian schists of