

"June 10th.—Heavy thaw, with water on the ice of the lakes. Made about 4 miles on small lakes, with short portages between. Wood is very scarce at this camp, and we can only find a few dry roots on spots where the snow is off the ground. The same bleak country. Red and gray granite rocks and ledges everywhere.

"June 11th.—Travelled about five miles in an easterly direction, on a long, narrow, winding lake. The hills are a good deal higher to-day, with rougher abrupt bluffs and broken rocks. Leaving the lake we made a small portage, and camped below a bank of fine sand of a red colour, on the edge of another lake at the end of the little rocks. This is on Stewart and Anderson's route, where they canoed it to the Great Fish River. The bank of sand on which we are now camped extends for a couple of miles, and is perhaps half a mile in width. It is quite a pleasant sight after the monotonous rocks. It is formed into ridges, mounds and hollows like its rocky neighborhood, and bears a few small stunted pines here and there."

Owing to the thaw the water from the melting snow had so accumulated on the lakes, that the party were obliged to wait until the ice and snow had so loosened as to rise above this. The snowshoes were no longer needed, and consequently had been abandoned. Four days were lost on this account, and on June 15th a start was made again, but the travelling was very bad, only about 5 miles being the progress for the day. The lake, from their account, would be about 15 miles in length, with many rocky islands and points. Good whitefish reported in it, though the party did not set any nets.

June 17th.—"Started in the morning and travelled 8 or 9 miles to the north eastern end of the lake, and made a portage of about a mile, camping half way on it on account of the scarcity of wood. Here there are only bushes of stunted pines; the largest is not a yard in height. They are of a considerable size at the base, from which the branches spring; the whole is bent and crooked in every imaginable position, and generally dry at the top.

June 18.—Finished the portage, and travelled on a narrow lake about 5 miles, to where a little river joins it with the next lake in our route. The ice in it we found had gone, so we had to make a portage of about a mile and a half over the hills.