

## DESCRIPTION OF LOCALITIES IN THE ORDER OF EXPLORATION.

## CANADA.

The region about Winnipeg is a flat prairie about 25 or 30 feet above the river. The bed and banks of the Red River of the North are muddy in the extreme and full of stumps and snags. In seining, where we did not sink into the mud beyond possibility to work, snags were sure to interfere. An old French fisherman has cleared the snags from a short stretch of bank, and here from morning till night he drags a seine over the same ground, making about 20 hauls during the day. The abundance of fishes is evident from the fact that a number are taken with every haul. The principal species are the gold eye (*Hiodon*), which is smoked and dried; the various suckers and buffalo; the pickerel (here the species of *Stizostedion* go by this name); the pike (*Lucius*), sturgeon, and catfish. The last are extremely abundant, and are taken in quantity with hand lines.

The White Mud River at Westbourne is tributary to Lake Manitoba. It is a narrow stream, 60 to 80 feet wide, and swift. There are pebbly weed-covered stretches, alternating with deep muddy pools. The country about Westbourne seems to be low and swampy. *Lucius lucius* is reported to ascend in such numbers to spawn that they can be shoveled out.

The Assiniboine at Brandon meanders through a valley about a mile wide. The stream itself is swift and between 200 and 300 feet wide. The current changes with every bend, now approaching one side, now another. The bottom of the stream is gravelly in places, but for the greater part the soft mud is 2 or more feet deep. I did not learn of any fishing here for the market.

In order to reach the Qu'Appelle River it was necessary to ride nearly 20 miles by stage. The road is over a wind-swept prairie, with clumps of low shrubs. At longer or shorter intervals there are shallow depressions which resemble enormous sink holes of limestone countries. Nothing is seen of the Qu'Appelle Valley till one is at its brink, where, about 300 feet below the general level of the prairie, lies the valley of the Qu'Appelle, or "Who Calls" River. The valley is over a mile wide and is flanked by abrupt walls. It is occupied by a series of four lakes having an average length of about 43 feet. The latter are connected by a swift, clear stream only 15 or 20 yards wide. They abound in fish. *Etheostoma nigrum* flourishes in perfection in the stream connecting the lakes. Two species of whitefish (*Coregonus*) are taken in these lakes, but I was unable to obtain any specimens.

The country about Regina is mostly a level prairie. Lacawana Creek is a small stream about 4 yards wide. Its bed is very muddy, so much so that it was almost impossible to draw a net. The banks are abundantly supplied with various water weeds. Near the town the stream has been dammed to form a reservoir for the city. The bank of the reservoir nearest the city has a strip of chara about 20 feet wide. These chara fields harbored thousands of *Pimephales* and a few *Eucalia*. Below them in a single haul of the seine secured about a peck or more of *Eucalia*. Only four species were taken at this place. Suckers, and especially pike (*Lucius*), are said to be very abundant during their breeding season or in the early spring.