

A short distance farther down another shallow rapid occurs. The next rapid is a mile and a quarter farther down, where the fall is only two and a half feet. Below this the river continues smooth water for nearly five miles, where there is another rather strong rapid, but we were able to let our canoes down all of these without portaging. Six miles farther north the river expands into Obalski lake, which is six miles long and over a mile and a half wide at the north end. This lake has a number of small islands near the middle. The shores are mostly low and wooded, with some hills showing in the distance to the west and north. For a mile and a half below Obalski lake the river is broad and sluggish, with low banks. Three and a half miles below the lake there are three rapids close together, having a fall of six or seven feet. These can be passed in ordinary water with partly loaded canoes. The river was surveyed two miles below these rapids, but no stream large enough to go up in a canoe was reached. The stream from Molesworth lake enters the Harricanaw somewhere below this point, but as I was informed it was only two miles from the lake, I concluded it must be one of the small streams I had passed, which in the present condition of the water was too small to navigate. I learned from Indians and prospectors that a short distance farther down the river is one continuous rapid for a long distance, and is consequently not much used as a canoe route. For the most part the banks of the Harricanaw are low, and composed of clay loam. In most places the land rises gently back from the river for a few chains, and then becomes level, the slopes adjacent to the river being cut into ridges by rivulets.

Askogwash River.

The Askogwash river, which flows into Seals Home lake from the east, was surveyed almost to its source, following the most northerly branch. Where it enters Seals Home lake it is over 2 chains wide, and this width continues up to the portage to Natagan lake, and some distance beyond. The banks are marshy, and covered with grass, in some places from 5 to 10 chains back from the river. The current is sluggish, and there are three lake expansions, one of which is said to extend to the south for several miles. East of Wookey lake the river is about a chain wide for six miles. In this distance there are several shallow rapids over gravelly bottoms, where canoes cannot pass except at high water. This stream forks