

About twenty miles south of the Rupert portage we crossed over to a long island, which lies outside of and close to the point or tongue of land that separates Ponachuan bay from Abatagush bay as shown on plan; and thence southward along the western side of said tongue, or peninsula, until we closed on our former work at the end of the long portage.

In following down the latter stretch, a splendid view is had of the opposite side, or country west of the lake, which seems to rise in gentle swells far inland, alternately covered with coniferous and deciduous trees of varying color, forming a most delightful landscape, which we fully enjoyed on a calm clear September day, particularly after braving a storm of hail, snow and rain the day before.

Looking south, however, the aspect is not so encouraging; for like at the north end mountain ranges appear to rise one above another, and broken spurs show up here and there over a space of nearly ninety degrees or from south nearly to west; but from west to north the country is level or gently rolling as above stated.

The temperature of the water in the lake here on the 24th of September was 45° 00' and that of the atmosphere 50° Fahrenheit.

There are splendid quarries on some of the islands and points along this shore and in some places, bold bluffs rise from the water's edge 50 to 100 feet perpendicular, composed chiefly of cherty limestone, evenly stratified from one to two feet in thickness.

Along this shore and down among the islands, about three miles north of the end of the long portage, is considered the best fishing ground on the lake.

Here the Hudson Bay Company's men salt some 300 barrels every year; and such solid fish are the grey trout here that only one pound of salt is required to keep 47 lbs of fish in good condition for the whole year.

In the waters of the St Lawrence slope the *touladi* or large grey trout are generally soft and flabby, as compared with the speckled trout, but in the Mistassini waters the large grey trout are considered far superior to the brook trout. Our grey trout have whitish flesh, while their is a solid reddish flesh, much resembling the sea trout in color and flavor