

Next turning to the north-east, the river, for a distance of eight miles, breaks in a straight line through the Labradorite hills, which form almost vertical walls on either side, rising from two to four hundred feet above the water, and producing the finest scenery met with on this route. Above this is Lake Pimpuakin, which was reached August 25th, and is distant by the river 135 miles from the sea.

This lake is very irregular in shape, being full of deep bays, and has an area of over 100 square miles. The Betsiamites River flows through it on the east side, the distance between inlet and outlet being nine miles. Several other smaller rivers and numerous brooks also empty into the lake. Lake Pimpuakin.

The shores of the lake are principally low, but in places are rocky, and rise in elevations of one to two hundred feet above the water, the whole being covered with a fair growth of white spruce, balsam-spruce and white birch.

The waters of the lake and the Betsiamites River are well stocked with fish, the principal kinds being lake- and river-trout, white-fish, pike and sucker, and below the first fall of the river, salmon and sea-trout.

Mr. Bignell having arrived at this lake on September 10th, the party was again divided, Mr. Bignell, with two canoes and four men, going by the Betsiamites River to Lake Manouan, by way of Lake Manouanis, while I, with five canoes and eight men, proceeded to the same point by a portage route to the Manouan River, and up that river to the lake. Arrival of Mr. Bignell.

Leaving Mr. Bignell, September 15th, we proceeded by a bay running to the north-west, to Pimpuakin River, a small stream discharging into the lake at the head of the bay, and distant twenty miles from the outlet. In crossing the lake, we were much delayed by wind, and did not reach the river until the 19th.

Having proceeded up the Pimpuakin River, through low, swampy country, a distance of twelve miles, the general course being N. 15° W., we left it, and, passing over four portages and three smaller lakes, the total distance being five miles, (direction north-west,) we reached a small lake called Otashoao, which discharges, by a small river two miles long, into the Manouan River. This river is a branch of the Peribonka, which flows into Lake St. John, and takes its rise in Lake Manouan. Pimpuakin River.

At the point where we entered it has a breadth of 200 yards. Proceeding up the river a distance of sixteen miles, course N. 20° W., a fall of fifty feet was reached. The stream below this flows with a slow current, varied by several short rapids, and passes through hills with from two to four hundred feet elevation, the whole having been burned over by frequent fires.