

according to size, and fitted for two masts and small sails—but we had only one sail for many of them—and carry four or five tons weight. Having got everything ready for a start, a tow-line was thrown to the tug, which is nothing more or less than one of the expedition boats fitted up with an engine of about 4-horse power; and now we are on Lake Shebandowan. This lake is about 30 miles in length, and appears to one more like a river than a lake, so narrow and winding is it. It does not appear to be more than five miles in width at the widest part, in many places is not more than 100 yards wide, and in one place narrows to about 15 yards. It is surrounded by a very rocky and hilly country, some of it wooded, but much of it quite bare from the effects of fires. On this lake we met a large canoe containing ten Indians, which was a novel sight to eyes accustomed to city sights and more civilized styles of boats, while it was astonishing to see the rapidity and regularity with which the paddles were handled, and the swiftness with which the canoe, like a vision, glided away. At noon, we reached the Kasheboywa Portage, and went into the shanty for dinner, just as another heavy snow storm commenced. Having partaken of a hearty dinner, we portaged our goods, with the help of a span of horses and wagon, loaded them again, and set out upon Lake Kasheboywa, our party now consisting of two soldiers and about twenty or twenty-five voyageurs. For the first two or three miles we had to depend upon our oars as means of locomotion, but at last, in the many turnings of our route, we came into a favorable wind, when the sails were hoisted and we were wafted along much more swiftly and easily. Our time, not being occupied at the oars, was employed in listening to stories told by the Indian and half-breed voyageurs, some of whom were from the Sault Ste. Marie, and others from the eastern parts of the country. At about seven o'clock, in the