

Journal from the Mouth of the Beaver river up it towards the Green Lake, Bolsover House and Greenwich House at the Red Deers Lake in 1799 by Peter Fidler

1799 August 24th Saturday ~ at 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ PM entered Beaver river & went up it SSW $\frac{1}{4}$. a high dry steep bare bank on N Side - at the entrance into the river & easy current - SW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SWbS $\frac{1}{4}$ - SWS $\frac{1}{2}$ a small Poplar Isd on the North side the river river $\frac{1}{4}$ mile wide here is a branch on the N side - SSW $\frac{3}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ a bare knowl on N side - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ burnt woods on the NW side - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SW $\frac{3}{4}$ - two Small bays here one on each side, keep the middle way - near SWbS wide and grassy. keep the South side channel - SWbS $\frac{3}{4}$ - an opening. keep the Middle - woods edge $\frac{3}{4}$ mile apart - grassy in the middle with a serpentine Course - SWbS $\frac{1}{2}$ a Poplar Island on the W side - SSW 2 a branch & kind of Lake on the N side put up at 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ PM - easy current all Day - with low grassy banks - & willows Light Airs at S Clear & Hot. - The 5th Inst. left Cumberland House with 3 Canoes to settle in the Beaver river at the Green Lake - 3 Men p Canoe - & one Canoe 4 men - Mr Isham Steered one Canoe - and the White Boy - his wife & Son - accompanied us as a Pilot from Cumberland House - but they knew not the least of the Track from that Place to the Isle a la Crosse which is by much the most difficult of the whole way - we proceeded on by the assistance of my Old Journal & Maps made when I went from the Athapescow in 1792 - The 20th Inst overtook Mess Auld. Linkletter. & Flett. from Churchill with 3 Boats - in Primes Lake - as they are going to build at Green Lake I intend to proceed about 30 miles farther to the Beaver Ground Lake - as our Pilots say that it is much the best place for a House - for Furrs & Provisions - Mr Linkletter builds at Isle a la Crosse - he has 6 Men - he also built a small place at the Buffalo Lake - & Mr Auld a small one at the Water Hen Lake besides his house at the Green Lake Lat 55°.27'.15" N & Longitude 107°.40' Wt - the Mouth of the Beaver river at the entrance of the Isle a la Crosse Lake - Put up in Company with Mr Auld with 2 Boats - we remained for him on the road for his accompanying us as he had no pilot for the Beaver river.

August 25th Sunday While we waited for Mr Auld at the mouth of Beaver river Mr McTavish of Old Company used every mean & rogish method in his power to persuade our pilot to leave us - as he is so very much dissatisfied at our attempting to build in this River - at 4 $\frac{1}{3}$ AM we proceeded up Beaver river as yesterday & went, near ESE $1\frac{1}{2}$ a willow Island in the Middle of the river - SWbS 2 went along a narrow part SW $\frac{1}{4}$ runs from the Middle of the river to the South Side - SEbS $1\frac{1}{2}$ - A pretty bare knowl on the W side, with a few firs - a pretty high hill appears up the reach from SE to SbE a good way off. perhaps 30 or 40 Miles - SEbS 2 a small river on the East side called the Wading River (come in all since we set of this morning 9 Miles) - SSW 1 & 1 a few firs on the W side - low grassy, willowy sides all along the river & the woods about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles apart - river about 60 Yards wide - SSE $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ two small swampy lakes one on each side of the River - S $\frac{1}{2}$ - SEbE $\frac{1}{2}$ another small Lake on W side - NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - EbS $\frac{1}{4}$ a branch on the E side & small pines - SSE $\frac{2}{3}$ - barren ground on the E side - the water has fallen in this river 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet within this Month past - SSW 1 - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSW $\frac{2}{3}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSW $\frac{2}{3}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ a small Isd on the W side - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ the head of the willow Isd

willow P - Detat. 021 go.. 37.. 30
Lat. 55.. 2 .. 5 go.. 37.. 30

SEbE $\frac{1}{4}$ rather stony bank on the East side - EbS $\frac{1}{3}$ a steep bare bank on the E side - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SWbS $\frac{1}{2}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SEbE $\frac{1}{3}$ high bare bank on the East side - SbW $\frac{1}{3}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{3}$ - S $\frac{1}{2}$ - SW $\frac{3}{4}$ a small Creek & Portage out of this river into a small Lake on the West side - SWbS 1 a small Creek on the W side - steepish banks, & good woods on both sides of the river all below, quite low, dirty banks - & willows - SE $\frac{3}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Perch River on the East side 12 Yards wide, easy current & steep banks a Portage on N side into another small river & Lake - WSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{4}$ pretty open high land on the N side & a few stragling firs & 2 steep bare sand banks, on the W side (S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SE $\frac{1}{8}$ - E $\frac{1}{4}$ bare sand banks on the E side - SE $\frac{1}{8}$ - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - SW $\frac{1}{8}$ - W $\frac{1}{8}$ - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - NNW $\frac{1}{8}$) high steep bare sand banks on the W side & a portage over the Point including the last 9 Courses SW $\frac{1}{8}$ - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - a small creek on Wt side - SEbE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{2}$ - EbS $\frac{1}{4}$ - SbE S $\frac{1}{2}$ SEbE $\frac{1}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - SWbW $\frac{1}{2}$ - WNW $\frac{1}{8}$ - a small creek on Wt side - SbW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ & put up at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - Light Airs at North - clear & hot - Shaded a little in the Morning ~

August 26 Monday ~ at 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ am got underway - went SWbW $\frac{1}{3}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{3}$ - SEbE $\frac{1}{3}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - a small stony Island and a shoal ripple above it here begin the rapids - & strong current - all below pretty easy current - EbS $\frac{1}{8}$ SEbS $\frac{1}{4}$ a shoal ripple - E $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{4}$ shoal & strong - SEbE $\frac{1}{2}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - E $\frac{1}{2}$ a fine flatt, grassy point on the W side - SSW $\frac{1}{4}$ led - SE $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{3}$ - SW $\frac{1}{8}$ these 4 last courses a continued, shoal strong rapid - when the water is low, they carry all along shore - EbS $\frac{1}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SEbE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SEbE $\frac{1}{4}$ - ESE $\frac{3}{4}$ - SW $\frac{1}{2}$

*Alt. 114 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. O 22 29.0
Lat. 54.15.25 90.29.0*

SSE $\frac{1}{3}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{3}$ shoal & strong rapids - all these last Courses a rapid at every point - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SE $\frac{1}{8}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{3}$ - SEbS 1 - hitherto the banks of the river has been pretty high since the beginning of the rapids with Good Pines &c - the banks now appears much lower - & indicates an end of these rapids being nearly all passed - E $\frac{1}{4}$ - NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SEbS 1 - ENE $\frac{1}{2}$ SEbS 1 Easy current these 4 last reaches - ESE $\frac{1}{8}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{8}$ - SEbE $\frac{1}{3}$ a small creek on the East side - SbW $\frac{1}{2}$ another small Creek on E^t side - Boil River on the West side - about 10 Yards wide, pretty deep & good current, a fine open grassy dry place at the mouth of it where it falls into the Beaver river where we put up at 5 PM - our provisions is now reduced to only 2 or 3 Days - & not knowing when or where we shall be supplied - The Boil river has a small Isd at its mouth & falls out of a Lake of the Same name a few miles up it. there is a communication by water for small Canoes to the Cold Lake high up the Beaver river - This river runs Westerly - Light breezes at South with a shower of rain at 1 PM - at 5 am we left Mr Auld amongst the rapids I have not seen him since - they will be some time in getting their Boats over the rapids - as they are much more unhandy to manage than Canoes.

27th Tuesday ~ at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ am got underway & Hugh Sabbeston accidentally broke his Canoe just after we got off which detained us 1 hour to repair it again - Went SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - E $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{3}$ shoal ridge of stones across the river S $\frac{1}{2}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{2}$ - a proper dam of stones entirely across the river - cleared a narrow passage thro it & hauled the Canoes thro it - SEbS $\frac{1}{2}$ a small Creek on the E side - S $\frac{1}{3}$ - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{5}$ SE $\frac{1}{3}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SW $\frac{1}{2}$ - two small creeks on the E side - WSW $\frac{2}{3}$ a high bank on the west side & woody - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{8}$ - I necessitated to put up for rain at 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ am - at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM the rain abated & we again proceeded &

August 27th went SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{3}$ - SW $\frac{1}{8}$ - E $\frac{1}{4}$ a high barrish grassy bank on the E^t side - S $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{3}$ a shoal, bad stony place - SEbE $\frac{1}{4}$ & again obliged to put up for rain at 5 PM - It rained pretty hard all the while before we put up this last time; the other 2 Canoes went a little ahead as the bank is steep where we encamped - Left a few lines for Mr Auld at the Mouth of the Boil river for Mr Auld acquainting him that our Provisions being nearly every bit expended & that we could not wait him on that account - also told him that at any river but particularly at the Mouth of the Green Lake river - that we should leave him a few more lines for his guidance to that Lake - A Canadian Canoe with 2 Men passed us on their way to the Green Lake, we suppose to tell the Master there on our unexpected arrival & to get all the Indians out of the way if possible - A variety of showry Cloudy, Rainy weather - wind variable Southerly - & in the afternoon Northerly -

28th Wednesday At 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ AM got underway went SW $\frac{1}{3}$ - SbE $\frac{1}{8}$ a small Creek on the E^t side - WbS $\frac{1}{4}$ - a high bare grassy bank on the W^t side - & these last courses all a strong rapid - SW $\frac{2}{3}$ - a small creek on the W^t side & burnt woods - SSW $\frac{1}{8}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - S $2\frac{1}{2}$ a small Creek on the W side - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{2}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ a pretty middling sized creek on the W side EbN $\frac{1}{8}$ - SW $\frac{1}{8}$ - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{8}$ - SE $\frac{1}{2}$ - NNE $\frac{1}{16}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{16}$ - S $1\frac{1}{16}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{3}$ - E $\frac{1}{8}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{8}$ Perch hunting river on E^t side, small - a communication this way up this river - & carry over a pretty long Carrying Place or two & fall into the Setting river - that joins the Saskatchewan river below the Neck of Land - below Hudsons House - Left this river at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ Went SSW $\frac{1}{3}$ - SE $\frac{1}{8}$ - SbE S $\frac{1}{2}$ - S $1\frac{1}{10}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{3}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ - NW $1\frac{1}{16}$ - E $\frac{1}{4}$ SSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - EbN $\frac{1}{4}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SWbS $\frac{1}{8}$ - EbN $\frac{1}{8}$ - rather steep sandy bank on the E^t side - ever since the end of the rapids a little before the S $2\frac{1}{2}$ course easy current & low banks - dirty - & smaller woods than below - SSE $\frac{1}{8}$ Duck Portage on the E^t side & a small Creek - WSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SW $\frac{1}{8}$ - a sandy bank on the W^t side & a few small poplars - SE $\frac{1}{6}$ - NEbE $\frac{1}{6}$ S $\frac{1}{3}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Pines appear ahead - half way to the Green Lake - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - E $\frac{1}{3}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{6}$ - W $\frac{1}{6}$ - SW $1\frac{1}{16}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ a few firs on the W^t side - ESE $\frac{1}{8}$ a low barren knowl on the E^t side - ENE $\frac{1}{3}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{8}$ - WNW $\frac{1}{8}$ - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{8}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{6}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{8}$ - NNE $\frac{1}{8}$ - NNW $\frac{1}{8}$ - two small branches on the E^t side - E $\frac{1}{8}$ - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - WNW $\frac{1}{8}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{8}$ -

August 28th E $\frac{1}{8}$ - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ a branch of the Green Lake river on the E^t side - SW $\frac{1}{8}$ - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - E $\frac{1}{8}$ - S $\frac{1}{6}$ the Main branch of the Green Lake river entered it at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 went up it about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour & came to a fine high dry barren ground, at 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ PM & put up - found a few Indians here - a sandy bank here, with woods on the E^t side - Gave the Inds 4 Qt of High Spirits & other useful presents - Traded from them a little fresh meat & which came very apropos - also Traded a small Canoe from them for our Pilot to go in - The Green Lake is about 5 Miles from the Mouth of the river where it joins the Beaver river - a true SSE course gives for the Lat 54°..14'.. 45" & Long^d 107°.. 36' W^t - for the Green Lake House - The Lake is Long & narrow - & full of a Green floating grass - from whence the Lake derives its name - the best & firmest Tickamy in this Lake as is known in any part of this extensive country & very plentiful - The Canadian Master came to us to endeavour to drive away the Inds that we luckily found here but without effect. There has been a House here ever since or before the Smallpox in 1781 - The river betwixt the Green Lake & Beaver river - very crooked, short turning - easy current & pretty deep - with a low meadow bottom on each side quite clear of woods for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile - covered with a thick strong, coarse grass - The Canadians keep a few horses here they have brought over Land in the Winter from the Saskatchewan River - but as the Country hereabout is wet & swampy & thicketty - they are of little use - to the Southward - the Country is more dry & open - At Isle a la Crosse they have also a few Horses there introduced since 1793 - but there they are of still less use except for dragging firewood in the Winter. There is but about 30 Men able to kill furrs at this river - all Southern Indians - they seldom visit their Countrymen at the Saskatchewan river

29th Thursday Very heavy rain all last Night & the Indians being Drunk & troublesome - we could scarcely keep ourselves dry in our Tents - Traded from them 2 rds 1 Swan - besides what is mentioned before - at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ AM got away & proceeded back & entered Beaver river again & went up it W $\frac{1}{2}$ - near WSW 1 a ripple - WSW 1, Steepest bank on the N side & a creek on the S side - WSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - NWbW $\frac{1}{4}$ - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - W $\frac{1}{2}$ - NNW $\frac{3}{4}$ - W $\frac{3}{4}$ a Creek on S side WSW $\frac{3}{4}$ NNW $\frac{1}{8}$ - a fine sandy bank on N side - SbE $\frac{1}{4}$ a strong, steep rapid, led up it - SSW $\frac{1}{8}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{2}$ shoal - SW $\frac{1}{3}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSE $\frac{3}{4}$ a small grass Island.

August 29th WSW $\frac{1}{2}$ a fine level sand bank on the S side & no woods near the river there - NWbW $\frac{1}{4}$ a ripple - WbW $\frac{1}{2}$ a creek on the N side - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{4}$

Lat. 54° 13' 30"
89° 13' 30" *Lat. 54° 19' 27"*
89° 13' 30"

NNW $\frac{1}{4}$ a low flatt willow point on the S side, and a small grass Island on the Same side WbN $\frac{1}{3}$ Rapid - WbS $\frac{1}{3}$ - WNW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SW $\frac{1}{2}$ a willow Isd in the middle of the river & a strong rapid - WbN $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ a large broken pine Tree on the upper end of this reach on the S side, called the Devils Head - WNW $\frac{1}{4}$ WSW $\frac{1}{4}$ SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ a small Lake on the South side - S 1 a willow Island and a shoal bad rapid - S $\frac{1}{2}$ - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - W $\frac{1}{4}$ - a kind of open land little woods near the river - NW $\frac{1}{3}$ - SW $\frac{1}{2}$ & arrived at the entrance of the Barren Ground Lake river at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM & put up - The woods here about 1 mile or more apart & small willows & grassy Plains on both sides the river Since we passed from Green Lake river - The Beaver river is more wide than below with sand - from 50 to 100 Yds wide - easy current betwixt the rapids in general - Set a net at the Mouth of the Barren Ground River & angled there a few small Jack - Mr Campbell the Canadian Master & 1 Man accompanied us in a small Canoe, they are endeavouring to get our Pilots from us & those few Indians that accompanied us from the Green Lake - a very thick fogg in the Morning at noon cleared up afterwards pretty hot -

30th Friday Fresh breezes at NE cloudy weather with drizzling rain Took up our net had very little Success - at 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ AM got underway Left the Beaver river & went up the Barren Ground Lake river as ant from N to EbS 2 miles making SW $\frac{3}{4}$ & came to the woods edge - shoal here - SW $\frac{1}{8}$ a branch on the S side - WbN $\frac{1}{2}$ a branch on the N side - E $\frac{1}{4}$ - from N to S on the left, to N on the right hand 5 miles making SWbS 2 miles - W $\frac{1}{4}$ the woods on the left all on the right a low grassy open Country & no woods - great numbers of Nettles growing all thro this low flatt level - Went W $\frac{3}{4}$ & a hill & woods on the right hand - near NW $\frac{1}{2}$ along the Woods - near W $\frac{1}{4}$ an Island of Grass & left the woods that was before on our left hand, & kept to the N of them thro a low wet swampy Country - Went 7 miles making SSW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ very crooked short turnings & fine high steep bank on the left hand side - these last courses from N on the left to N on the right being 4 Points more than a Circle - The river or rather creek runs is very crooked - Nearly as the last 7 miles -

August 30th 3 miles making SbW 1 - river contracts & woods on both sides - & shoal & stony - below a soft muddy bottom with Poplar where any woods grew put up at 3 ½ PM - as we find the river too shoal to be able to proceed up it with the full lading in the Canoes - Sent Mr Dunnett & one Indn Man in search of some Indians that are supposed to be not far off as we found some of their Canoes here - Got 9 Ducks from Indians.

31st Saturday Fresh breezes at NW. flying Clouds

*Wiglows. Dkhat. 02 087.59.30
Lat. 54.13.14 " 07.59.30*

Sent Joseph Lewis & our Indian Pilot to see the Lake & examine the river - & to know what length & appearance it has - as here & near here it is entirely choaked up with shoals - & little water - at Night they returned having been at the Lake & they say that it is nearly one continued shoal rapid all the way which they suppose to be about 10 Miles - they brought 19 Ducks, & Mr Isham killed 12 near the Tent - Mr Dunnett & the Indian man returned that went in search of Inds Yesterday - they have seen 4 Men, but they had got no provisions - but are going to hunt for us.

Sept^{mr} 1st Sunday ~ Early this Morning our Men put half Cargo into the Canoes & proceeded up the river - they will have a number of passages to make at the rapids to make way to float the Canoes thro. Myself & Geo Flett remain here to take care of the remainder of the Goods - we have now nothing to eat except the few Ducks the Indians kill us. 2 Indian Canoes with only One Man passed us on his way up to the Lake gave him ammunition to hunt Ducks &c with for us - also all the other Indians I gave the same to for the like purposes - also gave the Pilot 3 Qt keg of liquor to hunt well & induce the others to do the same ~ The Canadian Master with 1 man proceeded up the river 2 hours after our people went away & one man remains here to watch our motions - Light Airs at N fine hot weather.

2nd Monday Wind & weather as Yesterday

*Way Dkhat. 02 086.32.30
Lat. 54.12.58 " 086.32.30*

3rd Tuesday at 8 am Hugh Gibson with an Indian man arrived here with 3 horses - & brought Letters from Mr Bird at Buckingham House which place they left on Saturday last at 10 am - at 9 am the

September 3rd of ours returned down from the upper end of the river, having put out the goods at the lower end of a very shoal long rapid, & left 1 Man from each canoe to carry the Goods to where the water is deeper & then to embark it again - they have had much trouble in clearing away the stones for a passage for the Canoes - at 10 ¾ am we embarked all the rest of the things & went away & arrived at the Portage at 6 ½ PM. The distance by the river is about 12 Miles, so very crooked with short turnings - in some places betwixt the rapids still deep water - The True Course is about SbW 6 Miles. fine dry barren ground on both sides of the river - particularly on the N side - only here & there a few small stragling Poplars - The Men had carried all the Goods about ¾ of a mile to deep water along a fine grassy plain on the North side Indians on Hunting but no success - Fresh breezes at NW with flying showers of Thunder & rain - The Canadian Man that watched us at the foot of the rapids went to the Green Lake in a small Canoe

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4th Wednesday Fresh Gales at NW, with Thunder & hail carried all over the Portage & put up - Mr Isham & myself, went in a Canoe to examine about the head of the river for a convenient Place to build at but found none - Got 9 Geese & 1 Swan from our Pilot - 20 Ducks & 3 Swans from the Hunters & 1 Goose from another Indian - Gave the Indians a small treat of Liquor these 2 Nights past as encouragement for them to exert themselves for us in Hunting - also gave the Men a Pint of Brandy each - on account of the severe duty they have under gone of late

5th Thursday Mr Isham myself with 4 Men in a large Canoe went nearly all round the Lake but could not find a convenient place for both wood & water - went to the very bottom of the Lake and close along the N side - at 10 ½ AM we returned & embarked the Goods in the Canoes & went up the river about ½ mile & carried every thing 1120 Yards across a fine plain on the North side the head of the river to a few Pines where we shall Build as it is the best place we have as yet seen. The worst inconvenience is the push distance to fetch water - In the evening an Indian man with 3 young lads & 2 women arrived & brot the dry meat of 1 Buffalo - 1

Sept 5th parchment Skin & 1 small beaver skin, which they traded for Liquor Course from the West end of the Portage along the river SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ SbE E $\frac{1}{4}$ & enter the Lake



Taken at the SW end of the Portage River near the Lake from 50 to 110 Yards rushes & grass all thro the upper end of the Lake - on the N side a sandy shore with several fine grass plains our Pilot started a fine Herd of Buffalo there but unfortunately killed not one - We used Trading Axes as there is no falling Axes here - put down two nets in the Lake as our Pilots say that the Fish are very plentiful Fresh Gales at NW cloudy cold weather ~

6th Friday In the Morning the Thermometer stood at 20 which is very cold at this season of the Year in these parts. a thick fogg - afternoon clear & warm Fresh breezes at SW Overhauled our nets but caught not a single fish which appears that what the Pilot said is not true of their being plenty of Fish in this Lake

~~near lat of fish in this lake.~~ Sept 02 83.15.30
54.7.46 Lat. 54.7.30 83.15.30

Course from where the Observation was taken Yesterday to Bolsover House where this is taken is SSW p Compass distance 1 mile to the Place Cleared the Foundation of a Small Store 12 feet Square & got it 5 logs high - Rigged & paid off our Pilot Indians being drinking -

7th Saturday Sent John Johnston & Balice to attend the nets - the rest of the men got the Walls of the small store up - In the Afternoon gave the Indians a little credit & ammunition to hunt meat for the House & they all went away to be back with meat in a few days as the Buffalo is pretty plentiful about 15 miles off about the Loon Lake - divided all the meat remaining amongst 13 of us which is only 3 lb p Man - In the evening put some necessary things by I wrote Letters - Myself & 3 Men are to proceed up Beaver river to the Red Deers Lake to winter with the Bungees & Towaas - as 3 Canoes are sent there - Mr Pruden is to come to take charge of this Place from Buckingham House - & Hugh Sabeston acts until he arrives here Fresh breezes at NW. Clear & hot

September 8th Sunday Yesterday Mr Campbell & the other man returned to the Green Lake to acquaint Mr Duncan McTavish of our building here - the country all about Bolsover House is in general fine dry land - a good place for the Buffalo in the Winter season - at 7 AM sent of those that came here from Buckingham House & Mr Isham accompanied them back to that place; also at the same time myself, Mr Flett, Jos Lewis & Jno Ballenden set off for the Red Deers Lake - got all over the Portage at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ & put up 3 Miles above where we lay by with part of the Goods the 1st Inst ~ One Canoe of us we have no other provisions than what came to each mans share Yesterday which was Only 3 lb p Man - so that we shall have intirely to depend upon what we may kill - during our Passage to the Red Deers Lake which will take us by the Indian account 18 Days - we have unluckely no Indian to Pilot us there & none of us have ever been at that Place before - I offered large presents to an Indian to accompany us in the capacity as Pilot, but not one would listen to our earnest entreaties - they are very much afraid of the Bungee Indians who at present live near that Lake put up at 6 PM - Water rose in this bad shoal river about 2 Inches since we went up it - Killed 2 Geese & 1 Partridge Fresh breezes at SW Clear hot weather ~

9th Monday Wind & weather as Yesterday - at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ am got underway & went down the same way we came up & arrived at Beaver river at 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ PM & put up - plenty of Fish jumping at the mouth of the Barren Ground river - we angled but caught nothing - Shot 1 large & 8 Small Ducks - also 2 Geese which fell in the woods, & unfortunately could not find them.

10th Tuesday Fresh Gales at NW thick cloudy weather, at 5 am got underway, went up Beaver river EbN $\frac{1}{2}$ the woods edge on the N side NW $\frac{1}{8}$ - W $\frac{1}{2}$ - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{3}$ - N $\frac{1}{8}$ a creek on the N side - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - WbN $\frac{1}{4}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{2}$ - SbW $\frac{1}{4}$ - NWbW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SWbW $\frac{1}{4}$ - W $\frac{1}{4}$ - SbE $\frac{1}{6}$ WbS $\frac{1}{6}$ - high dry sand bank on the N side with a few Stones - all below low muddy banks - NW $\frac{1}{6}$ - SWbS $\frac{1}{6}$ - WbN $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSE $1/10$ - EbN $\frac{1}{8}$ - SW $1/16$ a fine sandy point on the South side WNW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ WSW $\frac{1}{6}$ - NE $1/16$ - nearly all round the compass 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles making WbS $\frac{1}{2}$ - W $\frac{1}{4}$ - a Sandy Mountain on the N side - D $^{\circ}$ 3 miles - making WSW $\frac{3}{4}$ - a pretty good creek on the N S - D $^{\circ}$ 13 miles

Sept 10th making WSW 5 miles & put up on the N side at a fine steep high sandy bank & small firs at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - a little below a kind of an Island on the N side - This latter part of the Day course from E to N on right to N on the left hand, being 6 points of the Compass more than a compleat circle - so very crooked - very short turnings, low dirty banks and all willows - no good place to put up at scarcely - not a single pine tree to be seen - woods edge about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile apart - & betwixt all high willows & the river running in a very serpentine manner - making little progress in a direct line - current not strong - & rather a sandy bottom - Killed 6 Large & 4 Small Ducks - Cold weather in the evening - we find that Mr Angus Shaw of the Old Company have gone up this way 3 Days before us with 5 Loaded Canoes to Winter at the Red Deers Lake - where we are going to.

11th Wednesday ~ a little rain in the Night - flying Clouds & fresh Gales at NW at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ AM got underway, went as Yesterday all round the Compass 10 Miles making WSW 5 - one mile above where we slept last Night a fine sandy bank on the N side - 2 Miles below this another fine sandy bank on the N side - & 1 mile above the last a steep dry gravelly bank on the S side - near SWbS $\frac{1}{4}$ a small creek on S side - & river rather wider, good poling the Canoe along - fine sandy bottom - below the river was not more than 15 Yards wide - Stoney on the S side & firs - NW $\frac{1}{8}$ - N $\frac{1}{8}$ - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{2}$ a small ripple - high bank & a number of Muscle shells on the S. side ~

*on - Dehat O: 22 79.35.30
Lake 54.19..4 79.35..30*

The Sun rather fallen before I began to observe - therefore this Observation is not to be depended upon - ENE $\frac{1}{4}$ - WNW $\frac{1}{3}$ - NNW $\frac{1}{3}$ - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ a small ripple & gravel on the S side - N $\frac{1}{8}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - near SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ a small willow Isd in the middle of the river & a strongish ripple - WSW $\frac{1}{3}$ near WNW $\frac{1}{2}$ a high bank, a big Stone & a good sized Creek on the N side - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{2}$ from E to N & N 3 miles making SWbS 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ a sandy bank on the S side - at the upper end of which vast numbers of Muscles in the edge of the water - we collected about One Bushel to eat at Night for want of a sufficient quantity of other eatables - 2 Sets of Old Tent poles at the lower end of the high bank on S side - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - from N to ENE 4 making SSW 3 miles & put up at 6 PM - on N side - Good pines & firs in several places on the S side we seldom came to the main bank of the river on the N side - Killed 4 Large & 4 Small Ducks - also shot a Swan - which fell & could not find it - 2 small Lakes on N side upon this Point - & Open Land only small willows &c

September 12th Thursday Last Night boiled a kettle of those muscles we got yesterday but after eating 5 or 6 each we was all taken with a sickness at the stomach - & vomiting which made us desist from eating any more of them Light breezes at SW Clear & hot - a thick fogg in the Morning ~ at 5 $\frac{1}{3}$ am got underway - went from E to N 4 making SSW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - The Loon River falls in here on the S side, from 12 to 15 Yards wide, apparently - pretty good water - a high steep bluff bank at the Point betwixt the two rivers - high bank on the S side & pretty good pines - we found no pines Yesterday until near evening - all firrs - Woods about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile apart This river falls out of the Loon Lake about 15 Miles off - fine open land around it by the Indian report - NWbN $\frac{1}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{8}$ - NWbW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SWbS $\frac{1}{4}$ - NWbW $\frac{1}{2}$ - N $\frac{1}{8}$ stoney point on the N side - WSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - NWbN $\frac{1}{4}$ a shoal strong ripple - EbN $\frac{1}{8}$ - WbS $\frac{1}{4}$ shoal & stoney - NbE $\frac{1}{4}$ a high bare sand bank on the N side - WbN $\frac{1}{8}$ - a small Creek on the N side EbN $\frac{1}{8}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ - NNW $\frac{1}{4}$ crooked short turnings as above 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ making WbS 1 mile - plenty of Buffalo tracks along shore, the first we have yet seen in this river - Very crooked from N to E 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ making WbS 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles - SSW $\frac{1}{8}$ -

11 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 6 Mat 0.22 78..55..0
late 54.16.20 78..55..0

A hammock of Pines appears ahead $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile off - & Tent poles on the North side - WSW $\frac{1}{8}$ - N to S 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ making WbS 2 miles - N $\frac{1}{8}$ a particular fine bluff headed Pine appears on the North side near the river - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ as before making WbS 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ an Island on the N side - D^o 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ makg WbS 1 mile a high bluff of Poplars on the South side - These 2 last Courses 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile each making West 2 miles straight - NNW to SW 7 making WSW 5 - put up on the N side at 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ PM - Woods $\frac{1}{2}$ mile apart & good sandy bottom - fine poleing - I walked about 6 miles along the North side - & Killed 3 Ducks - a sandy soil - & all firrs - Got 1 Swan - 7 Geese & 2 large & 3 small Ducks - a number of Geese &c in the river but they are very wild & scarce any getting near them upon almost every point they sit in small flocks - This is the best Day hunt that we have yet made - The Swan is the one I shot last Night & could not find ~ we found it at the edge of the river about 1 mile above where we slept last Night - river banks in general all small willows & very crooked the course of the river - numbers of small Lakes on the projecting points in the river, & swampy.

Sept 13th Friday ~ Last Night

*Thurs. Nat. a. 88. 9. 15
Lat. 54. 17. 6 88. 9. 15*

Taken where we put up - The willows are so very high & the river so narrow that it is almost impossible to ascertain the true course of the river Strong Gales Westerly, Clear weather - at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ am got underway went WNW $\frac{1}{2}$ (along a Willow Isd the lower end of which we slept opposite to) - a Creek on N S & the edge of the Woods - SWbS $\frac{1}{2}$ - near S 1 - SSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - NW $\frac{1}{2}$ a number of Buffalo Tracks here - a noted place apparently for those Animals crossing over the river here - SEbE $\frac{1}{3}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SWbW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SWbS $\frac{1}{2}$ - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ WbN $\frac{1}{2}$ river 60 Yards wide here - & fine sandy bottom we pole the Canoe along more than 7/8 of the Day - river below from 20 to 30 Yards wide - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ SbW $\frac{1}{2}$ - WSW $\frac{3}{4}$ a small Willow Island - SE $\frac{1}{6}$ - W $\frac{1}{4}$ - WbS $\frac{1}{4}$ - S $\frac{1}{4}$ - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - SW 1 - SE $\frac{1}{8}$ - W $\frac{1}{8}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{8}$ - a fine high bare grassy Knowl on the North side & a single lopped Pine Tree - & a good large Creek on the same side a little above -

*Thurs. Nat. all 78. 9. 15
Lat. 54. 16. 14 78. 9. 15*

Three short reaches one mile making SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - 8 miles making NW 5 - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making SW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Much burnt woods on the South side and a number of Buffalo Tracks - SW $\frac{1}{2}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Good Pines on the South side & plenty of Buffalo Tracks NWbW $\frac{1}{6}$ - WSW $\frac{1}{4}$ a Creek on the South side NbE $\frac{1}{4}$ - many more Tracks here - 4 miles making NWbW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - and put up at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM on the N side - High & pretty steep hills on the North side here at least 200 feet above the level of the river - Killed 3 Swans - 1 Goose & 1 Duck - Poled all Day.

*Day. Nat. a. 88. 14. 30
Lat. 54. 14. 28 88. 14. 30*

14th Saturday ~ Light breezes at SW Clear fine weather Poled all Day Good hunting sands this Day - Killed 8 Geese - at 6 am got underway The Thermometer at 24 - went 2 miles making NWbW 1 a stony point & small Creek on the North side - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ making SWbW 2. bareish high hills on the South side - 2 miles making S 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSW $\frac{3}{4}$ a small Creek on the South side - 2 miles making WSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - ENE $\frac{1}{8}$

*04. 2. 77. 25. 0
Lat. 54. 15. 17*

N $\frac{1}{8}$ Good pines, steepish bank & stoney bay on the North side - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making N 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - a good creek on the North Side & bare high Knowls - W 1 - 4 miles making WbS 3 open ground on the South side, high Knowls & a stoney ripple - 3 miles making WbN 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - a deep fine Gully & Creek

Sept 14th on the South side - no wood on the South side of the Mouth of the Creek 2 miles making WbN 1. fine low banks on the North side - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making WbS 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ & put up on the South side at 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ PM - passed a number of Buffalo Tracks this Day - & the country appears good for that Animal - several of their tracks are quite fresh - but the 5 Canoes of Canadians going up this way so very lately & by their universal custom of singing frighten all animals away within hearing of them - The 2nd Day after we came down the barren ground river we found a Moose under the steep bank in this river - & we approached it very nigh but unluckely our Guns was wet & would not give fire - by which means it got away before we had time to put them in order - which was unfortunate as we had then very little to eat.

15th Sunday ~ at 5 am got underway went 5 miles making WSW 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - & stopped for rain at 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ am - Killed 5 Geese - fine bare, grassy hills on the North side & a high lopped pine Tree - at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ am we again got away & went 5 miles making SWbW 4 - river more straighter than usual & the woods not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile apart - the intervening space is the river & willows - The present bed of the river appears to have been recently here - & that the Points are slowly & gradually accumulating - & the bays are constantly decreasing by the continual friction of the waters - This appears very plainly to be the case - as several different sized willows in ridges all increasing in age from the points within I have counted 18 of these successively & alternated accumulations beyond which the ground & marks are quite obliterated & not any distinct ridges to be seen - This is the case in several other rivers - that run a serpentine course - betwixt high banks - & when the intervening space is a valley - 3 miles making SSW 2 - SWbS 1 Good Pines all along the South side these last 4 miles & little on the North side - 3 miles making WSW 2 - a short crooked reach near the middle of the last course which runs N - & a large Creek on the South side, much water in it & several pretty strong rapids in it N $\frac{1}{8}$ - W $\frac{1}{4}$ & put up on the North side at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - & Killed 1 more Goose - Afternoon cloudy & flying Showers of rain - and fresh Gales at WNW.

Septem^{br} 16th Monday Fresh Gales at WNW with rain, hail & Snow all Day - did not proceed owing to the very bad Weather ~ Killed 1 Goose ~

17th Tuesday ~ Fresh Gales at W flying Clouds & Cold - at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ am got underway - went 3 miles making WSW 2 Met a Canadian man his wife & 2 Children in a Canoe they are going down to the Green Lake to winter, he says that it will be 4 nights more before he reaches there - he says that he is come from the Red Deers Lake & has slept 8 nights - he drew a map in the Indian manner - by my wish - & marked down the different rivers & Creeks that fall into this river all the way to Red Deers Lake - & marked the number of nights & the places he thought we should sleep at - making them 11 nights & that we should arrive at the Cold Lake this Day - we found out afterwards that he had been desired by his Master Mr Shaw to give us every discouraging account he could in order to induce us to return back & that he might have the whole Trade from the Bungees & Towaas - he gave us 1 Swan & 1 Goose - for which & for his seeming kindness & particularity in making & explaining his rough sketch I gave him 1 Quart of Brandy & a little Sugar - when we parted each taking his own road - The Truth or rather falsehood of his map & directions will be found in the following pages - a small Creek & pretty large Lake that this creek runs out off on the North side about 4 miles within - 3 miles making S 2 - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making SW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -

*W 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - De nat. 3 miles 75° 4. 15
Lat 54° 14. 38 75° 4. 15*

Then 7 miles making W $\frac{1}{2}$ N 5 and went on hunting on the South side as Buffalo had lately crossed the river - went 4 miles within but saw no animals of any kind - fine open land - with small hammocks of Asp - This hunting excursion should have come in the 1st a little after we was away upwards of 2 hours - 3 miles making SW 2 - Then 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making W - SSW 1 - W 1 & put up at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - woods close along both sides of the river - Good large Pine &c ~ Very few Buffalo Tracks to be seen this day - Killed 12 Geese - Snow laying on the Ground.

18th Wednesday ~ at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ am got underway went 6 miles making WbN 4 a small creek on the South Side - 2 miles making NW $\frac{1}{2}$ WbN 1 a long narrow willow Island in the middle of the river - WbS 1 WNW $\frac{3}{4}$ - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making NNW 3 - 3 miles making WbS 2 & put up at 4 PM at the Cold Lake House, up a very steep high bank Deserted a few Years since - now all in ruins within - all the out walls still standing - Fresh Gales at NW - dark cloudy very cold weather with flying Showers of Snow - The Ice freezing to the Poles all day

Sept 18th Saw a many Buffalo Tracks & went on hunting on the South side as Yesterday is mentioned - The river is now betwixt high woods on each side - & the Geese &c is much more scarce than lower down This day only Killed 3 Geese - The Cold Lake within is about 3 miles from the House & river here, about 15 or 20 Miles Long - & 8 or 10 wide - Tho I have never seen it - This is from Indian accounts - an excellent Lake for good Tickameg - which the Canadians generally eat while they remained at this House - to save expenses as the Buffalo tho' pretty plentiful is still more expensive - This House has been established soon after or about the time of the Small Pox in 1781.

19th Thursday at 6 am got underway, went 10 miles making WbN 7 a small Creek on the South side, with burnt woods at its mouth - high bare Knowls on the same side - a fine low level piece of barren ground on the North side - Small scattered Poplars on same side - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making NW 2 Little wood all along on the North side - & high banks WSW $\frac{1}{2}$ Cold Lake Creek on North side, about 10 Yards wide, little water in it & stoney running from the Cold Lake apparently about SW into the Beaver river or SSW - Burnt woods on both sides the river, & a fine grassy Knowl on the upper side Old Lake creek - & a small willow Island just above the mouth of it in the Beaver river - 6 miles making W 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making near SW 3 - these two last courses woods down to the waters edge nearly & not so crooked as below - Good pines these last 10 miles - put up at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM Cold cloudy freezing weather all day - Fresh breezes at NW - Eveng Clear & Calm - Went in search of Buffalo in the Middle of the Day but saw none - we were absent 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour, saw numbers of Tracks quite new - Killed 8 Geese -

*c. De nat. aquitae 87. 50. 45
Lat. 54. 26. 21 87. 50. 45*

20th Friday Fresh Gales at EbN, Clear weather, morning calm and very sharp - much Ice along shore in the still bays & some of them froze entirely over - Thermometer at Sun rise + 2 - at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ am got underway went 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making SbW 2 - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making near SW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a willow Island - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making WSW 2 - two willow Islands - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making SW 2 two small willow Islands & a small creek on North side - just above it another willow Isd & much drift woods upon it - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles, making S 3 -

September 20th

*Dekat Osl 72.29.15
Lat. 54.23.40
72.29.15*

This last course mostly crooked & steep banks on the North side; 6 miles making SWbS 4 - 3 miles making WSW 2 - a fine low grassy point on the North side - 2 miles making W 1 - 2 miles making WSW 1 - 2 miles making SSW 1 - 2 miles making SW 1 - 2 miles making WNW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ & put up at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - Killed 6 Geese - waiting to get shots at the Geese &c retards us very much on our Journey - very often going after them & not getting sufficiently near to shoot - before they are aware of us and fly away - full one third of our Time is lost in this manner - but it is what we cannot help as we have no provisions but what we kill, all the way - & very fortunately for us the Geese are pretty plentiful - it was rather a wild attempt to undertake this Journey without the necessary provisions ~

21st Saturday at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ am got underway went 9 miles making WbS 5 2 miles making WbS 1 - W 1 a long wide reach & shoal sands, all got out of the Canoe in several places to lighten it - a willow Island in the middle a stout creek on the North side & a fine bank & large willow Isd with 1 pine upon it on the South side - near SSW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making good 2 miles - WbS - near SWbS $\frac{3}{4}$ - SW 1 a shoal sandy reach & wide - S 1 broad & shoal sandy - SW $\frac{1}{2}$ narrow - NNW $\frac{1}{8}$ a Large river opposite in this Direction - about 60 Yards wide, & very full of sand - comes apparently from the North - pretty good current - left this river on our right hand & proceeded up Beaver river, which is now not more than 20 Yards wide - low grassy & dirty banks - entered it at 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ PM - went up it with small variation 3 miles making SSW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Moose Creek on the left hand side - for the Particulars of which see page 118 High bare Knowls on the N side it - WbS $\frac{1}{3}$ & met John Irwin and Magnus Isbister in a small Canoe they were going to Buckingham House to acquaint them there that John Richards who agreed with us this Summer had left them & all the Goods & gone again to the NW Canadian Company - Mr Shaw debauched him to leave us Put up in Company - rec'd from them 3 Tickameg & 2 lb of Salt. Fresh breezes at E^t clear weather - Got 4 Small Ducks only - stoped at 3 PM.

Sept 22nd Sunday at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ am we proceeded for the Red Deers Lake & John Irwin &c for Buckingham House - Went 2 miles making WSW 1. 2 miles making SW 1 a small creek on the South side - 2 miles makg WNW 1 - 3 miles NW & NWbN making 2 - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making NWbN 2 a fine ridge of Barren ground on the North side - 2 miles making WNW 1 - $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile making W $\frac{1}{2}$ - W & WNW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile - making 1 - a Creek on the South side - WNW $\frac{1}{2}$ - a fine high hill on the North side - S $\frac{1}{8}$ a small creek on the South side - & a steep high bank with some wood fallen down it - burnt woods a little above.

*Dist. 021 70° 52'.15
Lat. 54° 25".20 70° 52'.15*

5 miles making WNW 4 - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making W 1 two shoal rapids a small Creek - open & burnt woods on the North side near WSW 1 ~ W $\frac{1}{4}$ a shoal bad rapid, very stoney - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making WSW 2 easy current as usual & a fine piece of barren ground hill on the North side - 3 miles making S 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - & put up at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - Passed several shoal stony rapids this day - river narrow - & low banks & willows &c Light breezes at W foggy weather in the morning - rain last Night -

23rd Monday at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ am got underway - went from S to SW 3 miles making 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - a shoal rapid & burnt woods on the South side and a steep barren Knowl on the North side - WSW & W 2 miles making 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - WNW $\frac{1}{2}$ - near NNW $\frac{1}{4}$ - EbS $\frac{1}{4}$ - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile making WNW 1 fine high barren ground on the North side & a pretty stout Creek - near SbW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile making 1 - near SSE 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ making 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ - a shoal strong Fall - near SSW 3 miles making 2 - SSW $\frac{3}{4}$ a shoal gravelly ripple & a good creek on the South side - SWbW $\frac{3}{4}$ fine barren ground on the North side and a shoal gravelly ripple - 7 miles making WSW 5 the lower part of this last course the Pines close to the waters edge on both sides of the river pretty fine barren ground on the North side - upper part short turnings with Pine & willows & a spot of barren ground on the North side and Tent poles - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile making W 1 - WNW $\frac{1}{2}$ - a shoal bad rapid - a round hill of Poplars at the head of the reach - W $\frac{1}{2}$ fine barren ground on the North side - near SW $\frac{3}{4}$ a shoal bad Fall & small willow Island on the South side - near SSW 1 all one continued strong shoal rapid particularly in 5 places put up at 6 PM - easy current betwixt the rapids - Course Yesterday ESE on the left to SE on the right hand, being 8 Points more than all round the Compass - so very crooked -

Sept 23rd Fresh Gales at W flying Clouds and warm - great plenty of Buffalo Tracks all along the edge of the river this day - but we saw none we only had the pleasure to see one Old Bull this whole Journey & that was upon the South side of the river the same day we left the Cold Lake House but he was started before we saw him - Killed 1 Swan - 3 Geese & 1 Large Duck -

*Dekat aquile 87. 51. 45
Lat. 54. 25. 51 87. 51. 45*

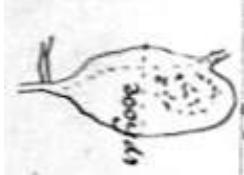
24th Tuesday Light breezes at W clear fine weather & warm what we did not Cook last night of our Hunt we left as usual near the edge of the Water - in the Night a Jack ash [wolverine] ran away with 2 Geese being all that we have in stock against tomorrow - which is a great loss to us in our present situation - at 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ am got underway - went SW $\frac{3}{4}$ in which are 3 stoney rapids - a fine Island on the South side the river - SW $\frac{1}{4}$ a steep rapid about 35 Yards long - & at least 4 feet perpendicular very shoal & stoney & strong - SW $\frac{1}{8}$ Carried the Goods on North side 100 Yards thro a hammock of Pines - a very strong, shoal, steep bad rapid here - WSW $\frac{1}{4}$ a steep rapid little water upon it led the Canoe on the North side a Pine Island - near W $\frac{3}{4}$ a shoal stony rapid, & the last we have in this river - Good pines close along the waters edge on both sides with low banks Yesterday & this day - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles near WbS making 2 - Barren ground in places on the North side & 3 small willow Islands - & came to the entrance of another small river which we go up - & left the Beaver river on our left hand - which apparently takes a Southerly course - a rapid in sight in it - easy current this day betwixt the rapids as usual - & pretty deep - entered the Small river or Creek at 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ am - & went up it 5 miles making WNW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ two small pine hammocks on the North side & a pretty large creek but no water in it - very crooked from ESE on the left to ESE on the right hand 4 miles making NW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - pines upon both sides the river - river full of Grass & low grassy swampy sides - Beaver river below from 50 to 100 Yards wide, this only from 5 to 10 - woods about 300 Yards apart & good pine all along mostly on the South side - & barren ground in several places on the North side - a great number of Large pine Trees on S side with their Tops broke off all upon a level - at least 10 or 15 feet off each - this is something singular - Perhaps either Thunder or a strong Whirlwind as been the cause of this singular circumstance a small grass Island & stoney led the Canoe over it - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ a shoal long rapid, led 100 Yards & carried all 100 Yards more on North side

Sept 24th a fishing weir lately upon this rapid to catch fish in - I believe this last Spring - WNW 1 a stony ripple, the rest easy current - NWbW 1 easy current & put up at 4 $\frac{1}{3}$ PM - to pitch the Canoe - as she was become leaky by passing over these shoal rapids - low grassy banks as before - river about 12 Yards wide - in some places 20 - We have now killed since we left the Barren Ground Lake to this Day 5 Swans, 59 Geese & 38 Ducks - we have nothing for Supper this night but 1 Swan -

*Swan S. N. aquila 87. 39. 0
Lab 54. 32. 13 87. 39. 0*

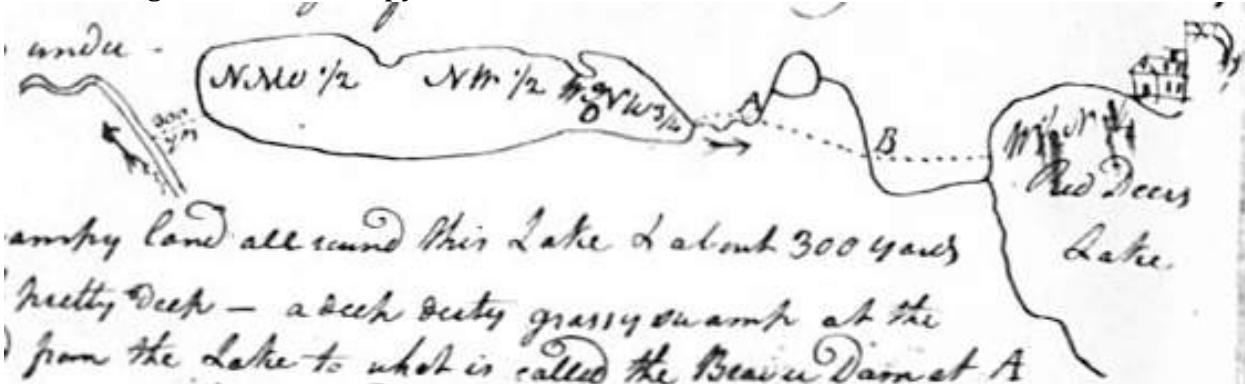
25th Wednesday Light Airs & variable cloudy weather; a thick fogg in the Morning as the river by report is pretty clear of stones above this we embarked at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ AM & went in the little river as before 5 miles makg NWbW 3 - 3 miles making SWbS 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 miles making WNW 2 & came to 2 Tents of Towau [Ottawa] Indians only 2 Men they have above 2000 lbs of dry provisions made by them this Summer - for themselves & friends, to return to their own Country next Summer at Michelemackinac - we traded from them Furrs & provisions amounting to 42 MBr - to pay them at the Red Deers Lake - where they are soon going - I wished to traded more Provisions from them but they would not - for the above reason - these Inds are very hard to Trade with - obliged to give Scarlet Cloth for the Greater part of what I now received from them, & strong Liquor for the remainder - They also gave us a particular account of the way for this to Red Deers Lake & also drew a just sketch of the Track much more accurately drawn than I have ever seen other Indians do - a small lopped Pine on South side a little above where we found these Indians - This is principally Buffalo meat that they have got - Went 2 miles making NNW $\frac{3}{4}$ a pretty good Creek on South side which runs from the WSW - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making NNW $\frac{1}{2}$ good Poplars on the South side - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making N 3 - led 60 Yards on the South side a long shoal stony rapid - & several small willow Islands - an Image on the South Side made by the Bungees when they first came into these parts - & rigged it well in Cloth & left a variety of other useful necessaries along with it - This is made with an idea that they hope the Great Manneto will grant them & their families health while they remain in these parts & that they may have the agreeable Satisfaction to all be well in health when they pass it on their return to their own country about the Rainy Lake & Grand Portage - 2 miles making NbE 1 $\frac{1}{4}$. Led 80 yards - very strong & shoal rapid

Sept 25th cleared a passage amongst the stones both at this place and the last to get the Canoe over - fine barren ground at the Portage - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile above this last handing place quite full of large stones all the way with pretty deep water amongst them - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making N W 1 - all very crooked & grassy as Yesterday - near NNW $\frac{1}{2}$ a good creek on the South side comes out of a Lake, good current & entered a small Lake as in the Margin -



went thro it NWbN $\frac{1}{2}$ close along the South shore - much grass & rushes at the upper End of it & went in the river as before, which now becomes much narrower went up it which is very crooked 1 mile & carried all nearly 300 on N side over a very bad portage - & hauled the Canoe up the creek - stony all the way from the Little Lake to the Portage - put up here - remained with the Towau Indians - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour - Nin man chee - & Sew we cap po - -

26th Thursday ~ at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ am got underway - went 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile making NW $\frac{3}{4}$ near $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile of it very stony - 1 mile making NW $\frac{1}{4}$ left this river & carried over a deep grassy Swamp into a Small Lake on the W side 300 Yards - the river contracts much just above the Portage & woods close to the very edge of the water - below an open grassy space betwixt the woods of 2 or 300 Yards wide thro which the little river ran in a very crooked manner it comes out of a pretty large Lake 10 miles farther to the NW - or N - & so very little water & rapidy that there is no going any farther up it in canoes - This is the Height of Land here - went a long the Small swampy Lake as under -



NNW $\frac{1}{2}$, NW $\frac{1}{2}$, WNW $\frac{3}{4}$, B, Red Deers Lake

Low swampy land all round this Lake & about 300 yards wide & pretty deep - a deep dirty grassy swamp at the West end from the Lake to what is called the Beaver Dam at A Left the Dam at 2#.12' arrived at the Bridge B at 2#.40' & got to the edge of the Red Deers Lake at 3#.15' crossing over 3 swamps betwixt the Bridge & the Lake - from the Beaver Dam canoes & goods & every thing is to be carried, little water in the Creek & quite narrow & crooked - left John Ballenden in to take care of the things - found 3 free Canadian Men here who accompanied us to the House from the Beaver Dam - arrived at the House (Greenwich) at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ & found all our men well there - the foundation of the House not yet laid - To fetch the Canoe & Goods tomorrow - Distance over the carrying place N $\frac{1}{2}$ E^t true dist straight 2 miles - along the Track upwards of 4 miles - Light breezes at SE - Clear fine warm weather