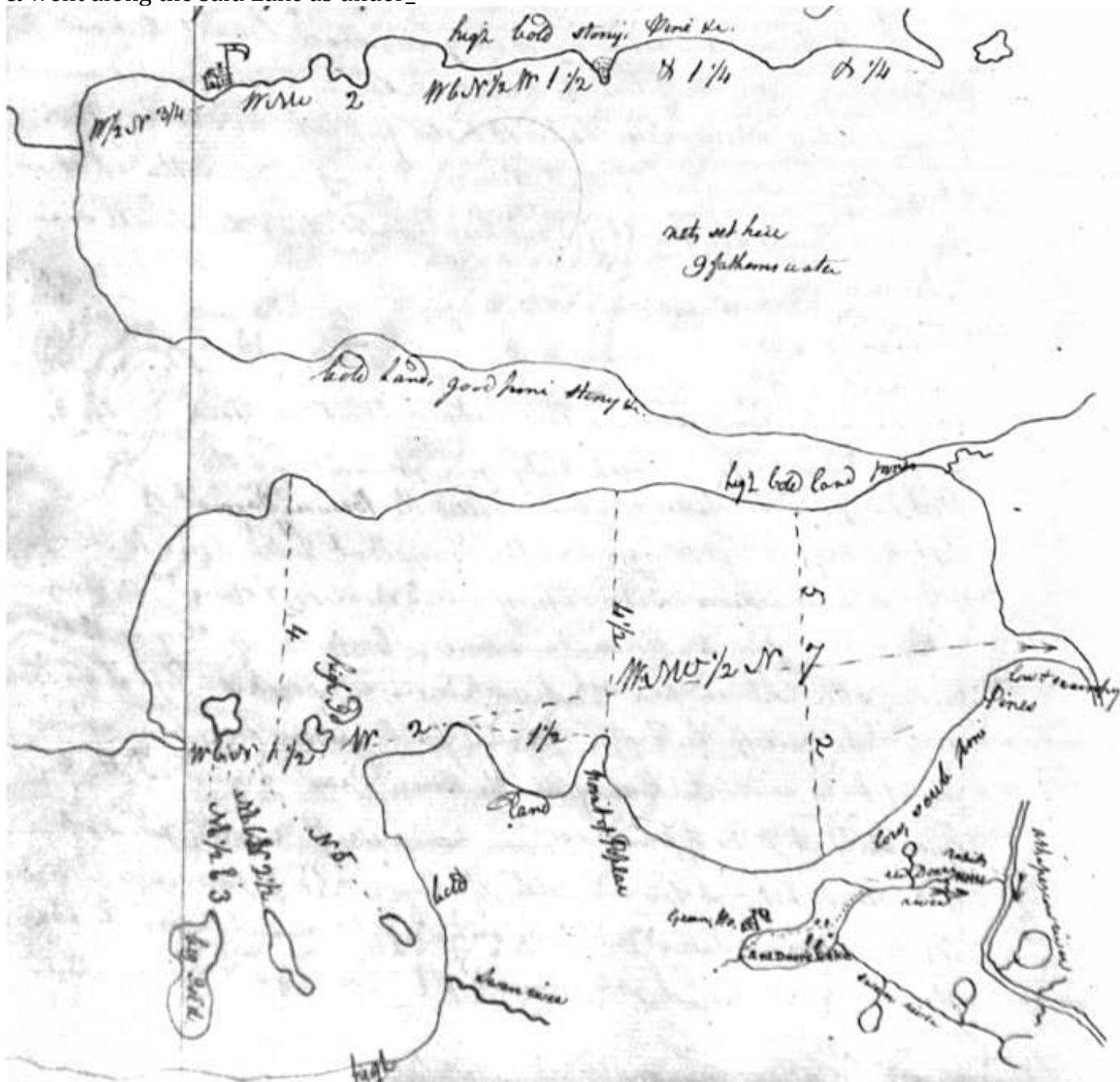


Journal from Greenwich House Red Deers Lake, up the Athapescow River to the Canadian settlement at the mouth of the Little Slave Lake River, 1800. by Peter Fidler. 1800

January 25th Saturday ~ As some Canadians are going from this House to their settlements at the entrance of the Slave river that falls out of the Little Slave Lake, Myself, John Ballenden, & Magnus Isbister accompanied them - we have all Dogs & Sledges to haul our Bedding Provisions, &c_ Several of those Berryer & Foreow Indians are there whom I gave credits to this fall - our principal motive for going there is to see some of them if at the House & to either get some part of our Credits or else tell them to bring them to the Red Deers Lake in the Spring when the rivers clear of Ice - as they only will come at that time - Mr Robert Henry & 2 Canadians in Company - at 8 am got away from Greenwich House Red Deers Lake & went along the said Lake as under



[Map/Sketch with annotations:] high bold stony. Pine &c. WSW 2 WbN $\frac{1}{2}$ N $1\frac{1}{2}$ N $1\frac{1}{4}$ N $\frac{1}{4}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{3}{4}$ nets set here 9 fathoms water bold land, good pine stony &c. high bold land pines WbN $\frac{1}{2}$ N 7 Low swampy Pines long reach Pine Athapescow River Red Deers Lake Green Ho. Point of Pines Island Swan River bold NE WbS 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ S 3 Big Island high

Jany 25th Entered Red Deers river at 2 PM - & went down it NNW $1\frac{1}{2}$ - N $\frac{3}{4}$ - N $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ a small kind of swampy branch on the North Side _ then afterwards about NWbW or NWbN 4 miles & put up at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM on the South side - a small grass Isd and a barren knowl on the N side a little below - saw a herd of Buffalo of about 20 Cows on the river where we put up but could not get a near shot at them - This is very low in this part of the Country _ for such animals - being hereabout very thickety & swampy - River not froze over from the Lake 5 miles down it - obliged to keep close along shore on that account. Morning Clear & Calm Middle of the Day Cloudy & hot - with a strong breeze at West - Evening clear, calm & Cold - the Snow melting on our Shoes in the Day, froze very hard towards evg - which occasioned our putting up rather earlier than usual - low banks & swampy in general - with thick small pine & poplar

ni Sholar - Det 24 116° 2..30
Lat. 54° 58' 20" 116° 2..30

We have 2 Sleges with 5 Dogs - & the Canadians 2 Sleges with 4 Dogs -

26th Sunday Calm Clear sharp weather at 5[#]..55' am got underway went down the Red Deers river as last night near NNW 4 miles - WNW 2 miles in shorter reaches - these two last courses the river from 60 to 70 Yards wide & appears to have very little descent - consequently easy current - near WNW 1 mile in shorter reaches, & 2 small grass Islands in the river - Shorter reaches & more crooked 3 miles about a WNW Course made a fire here & got breakfast - left it at 10 $\frac{1}{3}$ - then as before 5 miles making about WNW 3 & cut thro the woods on the South side the river making 3 long stretches to the N & returning nearly to the same Place as in the margin -



To keep the river it is about 5 or 6 miles - & thro the Bank of Woods only $\frac{1}{2}$ mile - arrived at the mouth of the Pine river on the West side, that falls out of a pretty large Lake - river about 15 Yards wide & comes from WbN - a steep bare bank opposite to the mouth of the river - Then went very crooked short turnings betwixt W & NbW 7 miles making about NW or NWbN 3 miles & passed a place where the pine Trees have fallen into & nearly across the river & stops the navigation here for Canoes - unless a road is cut thro it with Axes - rather more straight 2 miles making N 1 - here the pines are fallen into the river as above - & the river has a good descent - some small rapids - Then 6 miles in short crooked reaches about $\frac{1}{6}$ of a mile each making NW 3 - & put up on the North side at the head of a reach $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long that runs EbN - & a high knowl at the head of it on W side - 5 PM

Det 24 Jupiter - 115° 59' 0"
Lat. 55° 0' 5" 115° 59' 0"

January 27th Monday _ at 6 am got underway & went from NW to N 6 miles makg about NWbN 3 & passed a small river on the East side - a fine grassy dry point on the South side where they join - the continued rapids begin here - & the river has a great descent - low banks in general above - muddy with small pine & poplar - tho a few large ones of each near the banks - Went down the rapids which are shoal, & very stony 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles near WbN - just below the river mouth on East side a very crooked reach, that runs much to the Eastwards - & a little above this river on same side, last June 2 Men, 2 Women & 3 Children (Bungees) was killed by the Beaver Indians of Peace river - The year before several of the Southern Indians had been in their country & killed several of the Beaver Inds & destroyed & took the greater part of a number more their Tents, Kettles, &c &c - however they made a stand for some time, & killed 2 Southern Inds before they ran away - This affair made them visit these parts this Summer to kill any one they could fall in with - The Bungees - were coming to Red Deers Lake in Canoes - when they were murdered & scalped the usual custom of all Indians. - a high steep bank bare on the East side at the end of last course - Then about 7 miles, making about N or NbW 5 miles - all in very short & very crooked reaches - & some rapids in the upper parts - running from South on the right to North on the left hand - which is the most crooked river I have ever seen - a small Pine Island on the South side the river.

Min. Dk Nat. 012 32.46.30
Ate 55.2.12 32.46.30

Just above where this Observation was taken a reach very short runs N to the right & below a reach near a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long - got off again at 12 $\frac{1}{3}$ & went about 7 miles in short crooked reaches making NWbS & entered the Athapescow river at 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ PM - about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile above the mouth of the Red Deers river is a very small pine Island on the North side - River opens from the Athapescow river SW Good pines this day with steep banks & low woody Points - some few bare open places on the South side - Went up the Athapescow river SbE 2 - SSW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ WSW 2 a willow Island - W 1 - NWbS 1 & put up on the N Side at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$.5' PM below the Small river on E^t side in Red Deers river - steep high banks on both sides in places & several fine bare places on both sides. that river from 20 to 40 Yards wide -

Width - Dk Nat. add basin 102-10.30
Ate 54.57.10 - - - 102-10.30

Fresh breezes at SE. Clear & pretty warm -

January 28th Tuesday ~ Light breezes at S. Clear & warm – evening Overcast – could not obtain an Observation for Latitude – at 5^{#..45'} am reassumed our Journey, & went WSW 1 a Poplar & Pine Island in the middle of the river – WSW 1 – WNW 1 – WbS 1 – WbN 1 – SWbS 3 – WbS 1 – SSW 5 – SWbW 1 – WNW 1 – WSW 1 – SbW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ high bare bank on the North side & a small creek on the same side a little below, which we passed at 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ PM. SbE 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ – S $\frac{1}{2}$ – ESE 2 a Poplar Island (at the middle of this last reach on the North side, in returning back the 2^d February observed the Emersion of the first Sattelite of Jupiter pr Watch

of the first Sattelite of Jupiter pr Watch. 6[#] 20. 40 good sight
 Some fire at 7. 0. 42 D Alt. 51. 21. 30
7. 19
6. 53. 23 – The estimated Lat^{de} for computing the True time is 54. 47 $\frac{1}{4}$ N

Some fire at 7. 0. 42 D Alt. 51. 21. 30 <u>7. 19</u> <u>6. 53. 23</u>	6. 20. 40 good sight 7. 19 <u>6. 13. 29</u> Long } 113. 21. 0 P Margentown 113. 16. 45 D Lambur } 113. 16. 45 D Lambur
---	---

The Estimated Lat^{de} for computing the True time is 54° 47' $\frac{1}{4}$ N used the Stop at the Watch in taking the D Alt Procyon – as where I observed was a good distance from the fire – Course by the Indian Account from this to Red Deers Lake or Greenwich House is about SSE true – Drift wood on the South shore on the South side the Island –) Then we went SSE 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ – SWbS 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ – SbE 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ & put up at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM – The Latitude for correcting the Watch is deduced from the Alt of Arcturus the 29th Inst – Saw the Track of an Indian a little below the Island – & on our return found their Tent & got from them a little Provisions which we were much in want off before –

29th Wednesday

day D Alt arcturus 111. 2. 0
 Lat. 54. 44. 3 111. 2. 0

At 6 am got underway & went SE 1 a good large Creek on the South side & a high steep, fine grassy hill with a few small firs on the North side WbS 1 NW 2 a poplar Island on the North side – ~ found that our men had left my Gun – sent one man back for it – & we waited until he returned – W $\frac{1}{4}$ another Island & small Creek on the South side – W $\frac{1}{4}$ – SWbW 1 – WbN 1 the Elbow of the river here – above it takes a more Northerly course to the mouth of the Little Slave river – a steep bank & the earth fallen down on the North side, passed it at 9 am – Then went NWbN 3 – NNW 1 – NbE 1 – the bank fallen down on the South or left hand side in 4 or 5 places – a smallish Poplar Island – NbE 1 – NWbN 2 very rough Ice – a steepish bare bank & a small creek on the North side – WbN 2 – NW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ – NWbN 3 & put up half way thro a long reach on the North side – at 5^{#..50'} PM – light breezes at East – Clear & Sharp – evening overcast. – Saw the Tracks of several herds of Buffalo – crossing the river – Pretty good Pine & Poplar & pretty lofty banks on both sides of the river – river from 200 to 400 Yards wide a little above the red Deers river the widest we have seen as yet ~

January 30th Thursday

*De Natactus 110. 27.0
Lat 55. 1. 34, 110. 27.0*

not very clear. at 5[#]..50' am reassumed our Journey & went NWbN 3 - W 1 - SW 1 - W 1 - Burnt woods on the South side fallen down - NWbW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - NWbN 1 a creek on the South side - NbW 1 - high bare steep banks on the South side & a few Burnt sticks upon it - NWbN 1 a good creek on the North side NW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - WbN 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ a kind of lost pine on the North side - stoped at 10 $\frac{1}{3}$ & got away again at 11 $\frac{1}{3}$ & went up the Athapescow river as before - WbN 1 a Creek on the North side - & very rough Ice - W $\frac{1}{2}$ - WSW 2 - NbW 1 much drift wood on the North side & the lower end of a Long Point on the South side to go round - began it at 1 $\frac{1}{3}$ & went from N to S till 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM about 9 miles & got round it - 2 Islands together mostly pine near the end of the Point (upper) & Wind fall wood on South shore & a creek just above the Islands on South side - two small Willow & Poplar Ids above the Creek & much drift wood - Then went about 5 Reaches from SW to N 7 miles making SWbW or WSW 6 miles - but as all this part of miles was dark could not well ascertain each course - & arrived at the Canadian House at the mouth of the Little Slave Lake river at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - as it was dark on our return I took the Courses betwixt the House & the upper end of the Long Point as under - SSW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - SWbW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 small Islands on N Side & drift wood & very bad - SW 2 two Islands on the North side - SW 1 - WbS 1 - W 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - WSW 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - W 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - Mouth of Slave river & House - Light breezes & Northerly light Snow - a good deal of Poplar the latter part of the day ~ no rapids betwixt this & the Red Deers river, but rather shoal in some places - of Sands & stones - for several miles below the Red Deers River smooth easy current & then a great number of rapids & falls all the way together nearly to the mouth of it where it joins the Track from Isle a la Crosse by Portage La Loche to the Athapescow Lake - in the Year 1800 Oct^{br} the New Compy proceeded down this way to that Lake & had the misfortune to lose several pieces of Goods - & 2 men nearly drowned - 5 Canoes - they carried & Goods over Land from Edmonton House to the Pembina berry river a distance of 20 or 30 miles - Messrs Alex^r McKenzie John Haldane - George Keith &c also in the Spring (May) this Year 3 Canoes went down this way. Mr Alex^r Kennedy - Mr Heoven &c & arrived safely at the Athapescow Lake 22^d May. Mr David Thompson the first who ever passed down here in Spring 1799 ~

January 31st Friday ~ Took the following Observations at the Canadian House here

D Alt. Jupiter $115^{\circ} 40' .45''$
 $\frac{115^{\circ} 40' .45''}{115^{\circ} 40' .45''}$ Lat. $55^{\circ} 9' .13''$

D Alt. Adeluran $101^{\circ} 54' .15''$
 $\frac{101^{\circ} 54' .15''}{101^{\circ} 54' .15''}$ Lat. $55^{\circ} 9' .26''$

} Mean Lat. $55^{\circ} 9' .1908''$

The observed
Emersion of the first Satellite of Jupiter betwixt $11^{\circ}..53'..15''$ and $-11^{\circ}..54'..53''$ Jupiter being hid by clouds
the intermediate time - suppose the true emersion to have been at $11^{\circ}..54'..0''$ - as at the first time the
satellite could not be seen & at the last time very plain - assuming $11^{\circ}..54'..0''$ for the true time of
Emersion pr Watch & the error of the watch at that time as determined by the D Alt of Saturn (which I
mistook for Procyon as they were pretty near together)

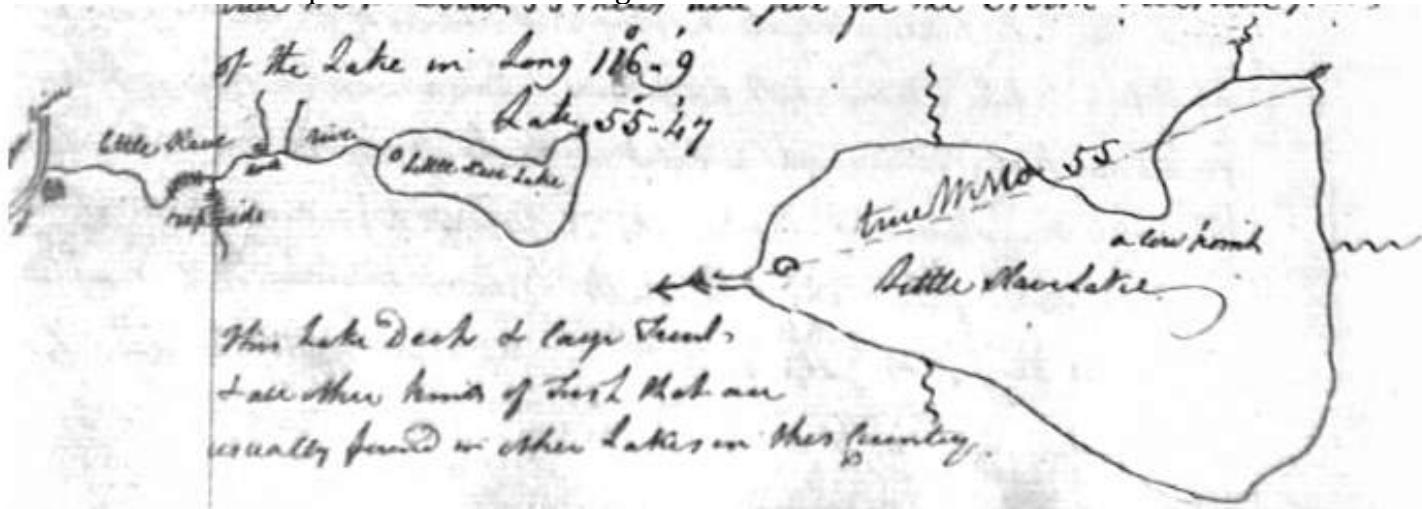
(we pretty near together) $\frac{11.54.0}{-11.30}$
D Alt. Saturn $\frac{11.42.30}{11.42.30}$ Long: $113^{\circ} 57' .30''$ W. from Greenwich.
$8.50.20 - 82.11.30$
 $51.46 - 32.30$
 $53.3 - 53.45$
 $8.57.43 - 82.32.35$
 $— 11.30 -$
 $8.40.13 - 82.32.35$

t AR is found by computing it from the Long^{de} & Lat^{de} adapted to the time of observation viz. Long.
 $4..6.16'..36''$ AR $128^{\circ}..51'..24''$ t from Merid $2^{\#}..56'..40''$ --

By. long. $4^{\#} 16' .16.36$ ar. $128^{\circ} 51' .24$, t from

Went to the top of the Bank which is pretty steep & high NNW $\frac{3}{4}$ & climbed to the top of a lofty pine Tree
- from whence an extensive view of the country may be seen, particularly from the SE - S & to NWbN The
high banks of the Slave Lake can be plainly seen bearing pr Compass WbN & appears about 30 miles off -
by both Indian & Canadian Information who have been all round that Lake, they say that it is from 60 to
50 miles long - with high rocky shores on the N side, with scrubby small woods & intersected in many
places with deep swamps amongst the Rocks - The SW side is more level & the ground in general is more
dry & free from Rock, About the Lake particularly to the N & NW borders of it the Buffalo is pretty
plentiful & fine plains - with little wood - hereabout the Beaver Indians sometimes kill Beaver, who
inhabit on the banks of the Peace river, towards the rocky Mountains - It is estimated at from 50 to 60
miles betwixt the Northern shores of this Lake & the South Branch or Forks of the Peace river situated in
 $56^{\circ}..9'$ & Long $117^{\circ}..45'..0''$ W^t - The Slave river is said to be very crooked similar to the Red Deers river
with a stony bottom strong

Jany 31 current - with a number of rapids in it about the middle to the Lake in a Summers day a Canoe will easily run before the current the whole length of the river - The Athapescow river from the Canadian House runs NE 2 miles & appears from the Pine Tree afore mentioned to keep nearly a South or SSW Course until where the Summer berry or Pamb in na river falls into it on the South Side 2 Days journey above this about 45 or 50 miles - a long reach below their confluence & 2 or 3 Islands from thence it is said to tend more Westerly the Athapescow river towards the Rocky Mountains - The river here at the Canadian House here is about 200 Yards wide or 250 & increases in width all the way down, where at the junction of the Red Deers river it is 400 Yards wide - The Slave river is about 40 or 50 Yards wide at the entrance & a small gravel Island at its mouth The Canadian House is upon a steep bank on the North side the Mouth of the Slave river - built last October Decoygn master - saw 2 Iroquois at the House - they live here principally upon Buffalo meat - but at this Time the Canadian Master was near starving - only having one Beaver amongst 11 of us - then 2 Savages brot. a little with them just before we returned back which we was supplied with a little of it - This Account concerning the Slave Lake & river is in general extracted from this Canadian Masters account for the truth of which I cannot vouch but imagine that the distances &c are tolerably near the truth. An Island 2 miles from the Head of the Slave river in the Slave Lake, estimated from the mouth of this river where it falls into the Athapescow river - at 30 miles a direct course WbN pr Compass - variation of the Compass supposed to be 22° East (which is near the Truth) gives for the Island } Lat - $55^{\circ}..25'..45''$ Long $114^{\circ}..42'..0''$
& from the same authority the mean direct course of the Slave Lake is true WNW about 55 miles will give for the North Western part of the Lake in Long $116^{\circ}..9'$ Lat $55^{\circ}..47'$



[Map/Sketch with annotations:] Little Slave River rapids Little Slave Lake true WNW 55 a low point Little Slave Lake This Lake deep & large Trout & all other kinds of fish that are usually found in other Lakes in this Country.

Feby 1st Saturday ~ Returned back to Greenwich House Red Deers Lake – by ourselves with 2 Canadian men – Mr Henry remains behind at the House here – These remarks below are made more particular with a view of ascertaining the Distance in Walking – as we walk faster & make longer days journeys than on our going down Left the House at 6 am arrived at the 2 pine Is at 9 ½ – to the lost Pine at 2 – & put up in our old hut the night before we got to the House at 5[#]..40' – stoped about 15 minutes in the day & walked fast – distance about 40 miles.

2nd Sunday – Got away at 5..20 – stoped 22' & passed the upper Poplar Island below the Elbow at 12 – put up at 3..30 – on account of one Tent of Beaver Indians from whom we got some meat we are very much in want off – 1 mile below a Poplar Island on South side – & observed an Emersion of 1st Sattelite as mentioned the 28th Jany – Distance this day about 34 miles.

3rd Monday ~ Got away at 4..20 – stoped 1 hour & passed our hut above the Red Deers river at 11 ½ – entered the mouth of red Deers river at 2..30 distance this day down the Athapescow river to the mouth of Red Deers river 32 miles ~ Went up red Deers river from 2 ½ to 5 – ¾ of an hour above where the ☽ Meridian Altitude was taken – About 8 miles in this river –

4th Tuesday Got away at 5..30 passed the small river on East side at the head of the bad rapids at 7..40 – Distance 9 miles – Got to the Pine river on West side at 12 stoped 1 hour – distance betwixt these 2 rivers about 16 miles put up in our old hut the day after we left the Red Deers Lake – at 5..30 – Distance from Pine river to here about 15 miles – but part of this distance is very crooked – had we always followed the river the distance would be near 20 miles

5th Wednesday ~ Got away at 3 ¼ arrived at the Lake at 5..40 about 8 miles along the Lake from 5..40 to 10..40 but stopped ⅓ of an hour & arrived at our House – Distance thro this Lake about 17 miles – The distances in Red Deers river are estimated rather too much –

In the Athapescow river 30h..25' at 3 ½ mile pr Hour is 106 Miles

Red Deers river 16..50 at 3 ¼ Do good --	55
--	----

Red Deers Lake 4..20 at 4 Do good --	<u>17</u>
--------------------------------------	-----------

From Greenwich House to the mouth of Slave river -----	178
--	-----

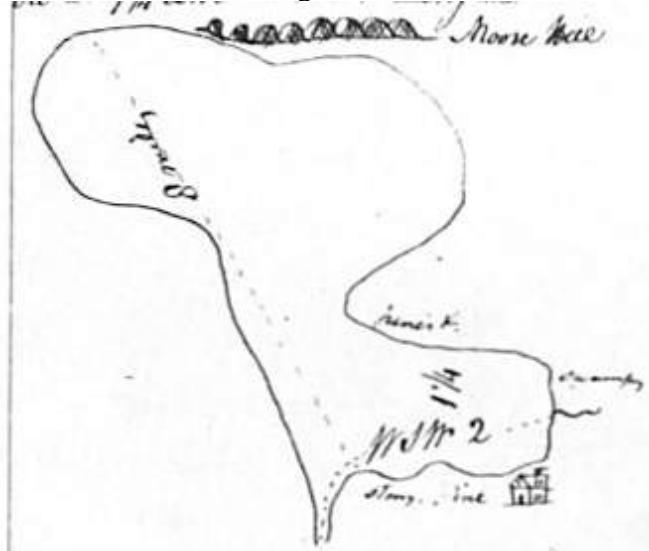
To follow the Red Deers river quite through & never cut across any of the Points of Land is about 60 miles. – Found Mr James Bird on our arrival at our House he had come here from Edmonton House & been here about 7 Days – I also made a Journey overland last December from the 18th to 31st to & from this to Edmonton House – & the Lakes, rivers Creeks &c – are all inserted in the map of the Beaver & Athapescow rivers &c

1800 May 15th Thursday at 2 PM, proceeded up the Moose Creek from Beaver river mentioned at page 105 - Went up the Creek - SEbE $\frac{1}{3}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{4}$ a rapid - SE $\frac{1}{3}$ 2 rapids - ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ all along shoal rapid - E $\frac{1}{8}$ 2 rapids & a small willow Island - E $\frac{1}{4}$ a steep strong rapid - near E 1 in which are 7 Rapids - 3 of them strong & steep - a stony Beaver Dam quite across the Creek - barren open ground on the North side - ESE $\frac{1}{3}$ easy current & a strong rapid at the upper end of the reach ENE a strong rapid - ESE $\frac{1}{4}$ stony & easy current & 1 rapid - ENE $\frac{1}{8}$ (burnt woods all along on both sides of the river) easy current & deep - betwixt the rapids the water is from 10 to 12 feet deep & very little current - SEbE $\frac{1}{2}$ in which are 3 rapids - near East 2 miles in which are 11 rapids & put up on the North side at the Head nearly of all the rapids at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - swampy low Land on both sides the river near where we put up & thickety of Pine &c for 1 mile; in the Creek from the mouth at Beaver river to here 27 rapids & has a great descent from 50 to 60 feet - the last rapid at the head of which we put up is the longest & shoalest also the worst in the whole river - & formerly a fishing weir built here by Indians - since the river has taken a more Easterly & Southerly course it is about 30 or 40 Yards wide & below near the Beaver river not above 25 Yards & in some places not 15. -

15. - ^⑥ Melt. Arcticus III. 50. 0
Lat. 54. 20. 12 III. 50. 0

not Good, Star quite hazy. 3 of our Canoes left the Red Deers Lake with 3 men each 21st April & did not arrive at Buckingham House until the 3 Inst - on account of the very little water in the Beaver river & this Creek on the rapids - they were 5 Days in going the distance we have gone up the Creek this day - being obliged to make a carrying Place at every rapid - we left the Red Deers Lake & Greenwich House the 13 Inst at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - & found very good water considering it being near the height of Land - for 2 Days before we embarked 2 successive Days & Nights of heavy rain made these Little rivers full of water which was very lucky for us - 13th Embarked at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM from West end of Long Portage (3 men in the Canoe) & put up at the lower end of the Little Lake on N S[ide] - 14th at 4 AM got away & arrived at the portage at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ - am - entered Beaver river at 4 PM & went a good way down it - left my small Canoe here that I came in from our House to lighten the Large one that 4 people Embarked & entd the Moose Creek at 1 PM - which bears SW - & proceeded up it at 2 PM Fine warm & Calm.

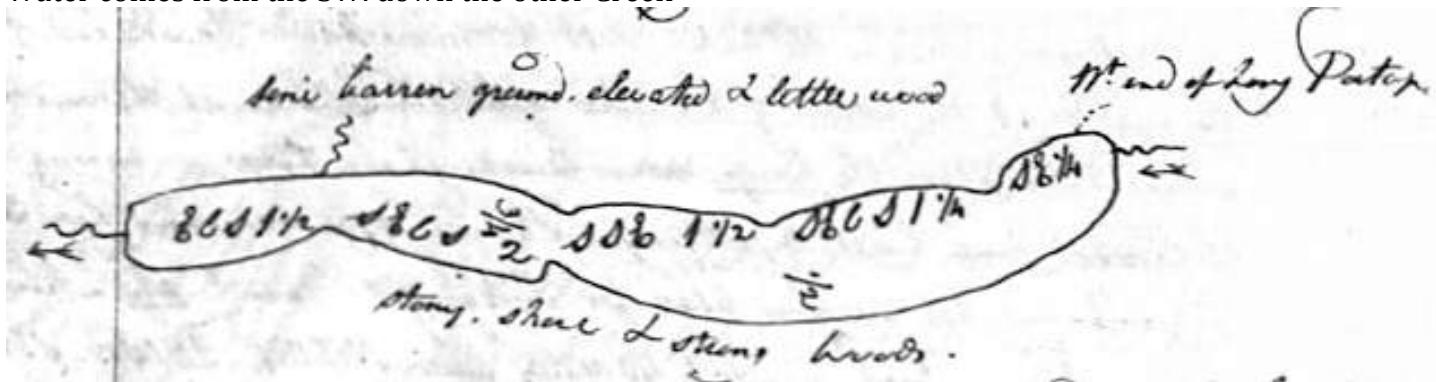
May 16th Friday ~ at 4:15 am embarked & proceeded up the Moose Creek as yesterday SEbE $\frac{1}{2}$ - SSE $\frac{1}{3}$ - SbE $\frac{1}{4}$ - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ a rapid SEbS 15 Yards - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - SEbS $\frac{1}{4}$ & here about 60 Yards wide - ESE $\frac{3}{4}$ 150 Yards wide - E $\frac{1}{8}$ 60 Yards wide - 80 Yards wide - SSE $\frac{1}{4}$ 100 Yards wide - SW $\frac{3}{4}$ - 100 Yards wide - and got the first view of the Moose Hill the SWestern part of it bears SE $\frac{1}{2}$ E - also came of the Moose Lake - S $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{3}{4}$ from 100 to 300 Yards wide - a hill & small woods on the East side the entrance of the Lake - below this day - very thicketty of pines & low swampy Land - low banks & grassy - & pretty deep & very little current wet sides - Good pines on the West side at the entrance into the Lake - which Did at 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ am - & went along the Moose Lake as below -



[Map/Sketch with annotations:] 8 miles Moose Hill Pines &c. WSW 2 Stony.. Pine

Good Woods all round the Lake - at the Moose Hill - the N end of which terminates at the bottom of this Lake & the other end is at the middle of Small Lake above the Bridge near Buckingham House - running S Westerly The French House built by Mr Angus Shaw in 1790 & remained here 3 years before it was left - a good place for Tickamy &c. went up a kind of narrow kind of Creek from 10 to 40 Yards wide SWbW 1 - SWbS $\frac{1}{3}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{3}$ SSE $\frac{1}{3}$ - SSW $\frac{1}{2}$ - 5 reaches as before making SW 2 miles - SWbW 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a narrow kind of swampy Lake about 300 Yards wide - at the upper of it the Horses last fall carried the Goods over Land from Buckingham House & was embarked in the Canoes - a Grass Island Creek on the North side near the Head of this Lake -- went then in a narrower creek with strong current also as the last on account of the late heavy rains - in the time of mossing in the Summer scarce water thro all these creeks to float an Indian small canoe left the narrow Creek 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile making SWbS $\frac{1}{4}$ & passed a Pine hammock on the North side keeping near the woods on that side - a small Lake on E^t side - the hammock before mentioned - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles near SSE making 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ S - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles making ESE 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ fine barren bank on the East side - strong current - sharp turnings in this Creek & entered a small Lake called

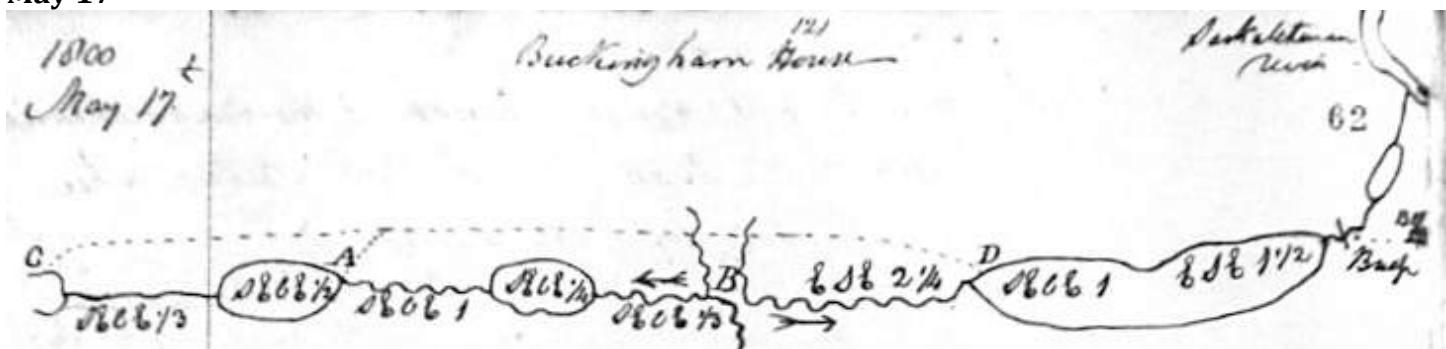
May 16th Swan Lake I found 3 of our men here from Buckingham House with 6 Horses. they are to assist us over Land by Dragging the Canoe & carrying our Pieces &c when we cannot proceed further with the Canoe by Water The creek comes from the SW that we have just now come up & we leave it on our right hand - a small one the way we are going - went thro' Swan Lake SbW 3 miles - this is $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide - low grassy sides - I entered the creek which is now very crooked & narrow only 5 or 7 yds wide 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile making SbW 1 I entered a small Lake & went thro' it SbE $\frac{1}{2}$ mile & about 300 Yards - grassy, low, wet sides as before - and entered another Creek went up it 3 miles making EbS 2 & came to a shoal bad rapid - Carried the Canoe & every thing on the North side good 150 Yards - then up the same creek as before $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile making EbS $\frac{1}{2}$ & entered another small Lake & went thro' it EbS $\frac{3}{4}$ - 200 Yards wide - then up the same creek which is now become very shoal & narrow - SbE $\frac{1}{2}$ & left in the Canoe at the upper end - & entered a pretty long Lake as below - easy current ever since we met our Men - & the larger part of the Water comes from the SW. down the other Creek



Some barren ground. elevated & little wood Wt end of Long Portage SbE 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ SbE $\frac{1}{2}$ SbE 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ SbE 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ SbW $\frac{3}{4}$ stony shore & strong Woods.

Put up at the bottom of the Lake at the West end of the Long Portage at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ PM - I tyed up & made things ready to carry upon the Horses tomorrow - Fresh breezes at NW. fine weather. very grassy low wet side all along from the Moon Lake & above the 1st Long Lake from Moon Lake the 2^d creek high willows on both sides about the Pine Hammock a plentiful place for Ducks, Geese &c.

17th Friday ~ at 4 Am loaded the Horses with every thing we had & 2 men went a little further with the Canoe by water & then carried it for near 4 miles - 4 men - 2 at a time - as on the other side - the creek becoming so very narrow near the heighth of Land that there is not room to wind the Canoe round -

May 17th

C to D carry all the Goods &c on North side -

A to B carry the Canoe on the same side - in the intermediate space the creek is too narrow to admit turning the Canoe - fine high banks on each side with a gentle ascent & in some places rather steep - the valley betwixt the feet of the opposite banks about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile across - low grassy land - & very bad walking along it - B the heighth of Land the current towards D runs into the Saskatchewan river about 2 miles below Buckingham House called the Moose Creek but not passable for any sort of Canoes. The Bridge is over the creek built of wood - about 200 yards from the lower end of the Lake - which is very grassy & swampy - at the bridge the Canoes are carried up the bank on the S side which is steep & miry & then hauled upon a sledge - made of 2 long pieces of wood about 4 inches square & turned up at each end a little before & 6 or 8 upright posts at proper distances on each side - a line betwixt each is put across & the Canoe is laid upon them & so conveniently & safely conveyed from one place to another - Paddle the Canoe & Goods from D to the Bridge - from the Bridge to Buckingham house across a fine level open grass plain is SE 3 miles & arrived at that House at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ am - Mr Bird arrived from Edmonton House exactly at the same time..