Journal of a Journey from Swan to the Red River and down it in a Canoe from the Elbow to its entrance into Lake Winnepeg & along the South & Eastern Shores to its Discharge into the Elongation of the Saskatchewan River or Nelson's River. by Peter Fidler

March 29th Tuesday_ at 6 ½ am, Myself, John Ross & John Taylor left Swan River house for Charlton House at the Red River, we took 3 Sleges & 9 Dogs I intend going down the Red River to its mouth to survey it, and along the Eastern Shore of Lake Winnepeg - which has never been surveyed before. 3 ½ hours in going to the Crossing place - put up at the Pine Hammock at 5 PM - Track entirely covered with the heavy Snow lately fallen, so that it is very difficult to keep it. - Mr Thomas Swain who had Charge of Charlton House all winter came here to remain - & go down with the Canoes & to meet him at Entrance of Lake Winnepeg near the play Green, he is to get my Canoe that I go down the Red River with & proceed (with the same two men who accompanies me) down to Swan Factory, by the way of the Poplar river. - he is to remain on that Establishment. - 15th Sept last I left York Factory & arrived at Swan River 22nd October a very fine fall

30th Wednesday - at 5. 11 got underway & put up in a pine Hammock just opposite Somerset House at 5 ½ PM - Cold mornings & warm in the Day.

31st Thursday - Got away at 5 ½ am & put up at 5 PM - one hours walk thro Poplars - had great difficulty in keeping the Track. which delayed us one hours walk over Roota Hills - very knowly ground - 4 hours walk across the big plain

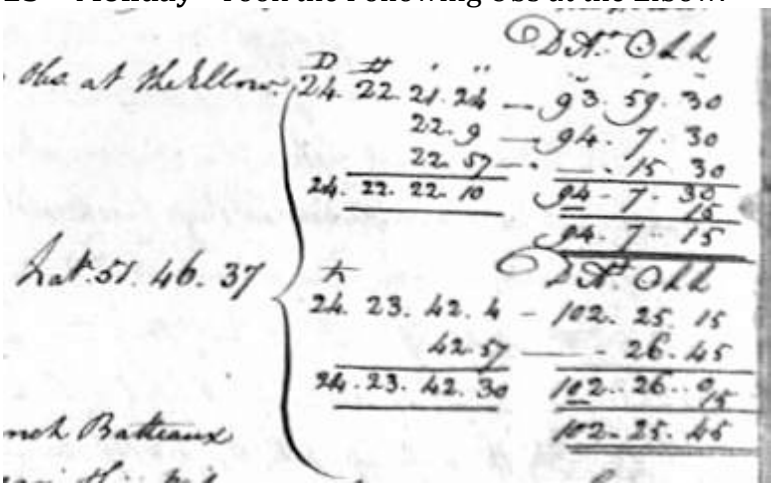
April 1st Friday - at 2#.5' am got underway & arrived at Charlton House at 9#.20' am. Found the people all well. - 3 hours walk thro' the Poplars to the crossing place of Swan River. - Met 5 Canadians going to Swan River, they have been hunting in the Barren Ground, but have been very unsuccessful. The 19th Red River Ice gave way. Frogs began to croak & Muskettoes made their Appearance. - 21st Sent 2 Men & Horses with my & the Mens Things Instruments &c down to the Elbow about 20 Miles distant - to embark in a French Batteaux building there, to go down in her to where James Inkster winters - 18th Inst he sent James Sinclair & Jack Easter an Esquimeaux who arrived

April. here - but the Day after sent them back the 1st Day after as I prefer going down by water - they had 2 Horses - they were sent expressly for the purpose of conducting me down to their House. - 21st in the Evening 2 Men returned, & one remained with our things at Glasgow House, a little above the Elbow - John Ross remained -

23rd Saturday - Got every thing ready to go away tomorrow morning - left word with James Gaddy Junr who I leave in charge - to go with all the men to Swan River, as soon as the last Indians come in, which are expected daily - to hide the Goods & leave the place. The French does the same - as there is nothing worth keeping up the place for the Summer. -

24th Sunday - Myself & John Taylor left our House, took two horses with us, & the Boy Geo. Wilks to bring them back from the Elbow - went near the banks of the Red River on the North side ESE 3 a knowl. - EbS 3 - NE ¾ a small Creek - SEbE 2 - E 1 ½ - the stony Creek fall into the river ½ mile below - at 8 am left the House & got to this Creek at 11#. 5' much water in it & dangerous to cross over - EbN 2 ½ - NE 1 ½ & arrived at Old Glasgow House at 12 ½ & found John Ross - safe, altho a bear had been close at him in the middle of the night, but by burning plenty of Old Dry Nettles he kept it off - left the House with the Things at 1#.20' (about an ENE Course from Charlton House) SEbE 2 - NE 1 ½ - NWbN 2 – NE ½ & arrived at the Elbow at 2#.46' - Marlboro House about ½ Mile above the Elbow. - very thick from Glasgow House to here - passed a Small Lake in the woods - A Canadian Tenting here building 4 Batteaux's. Muskettoes Troublesome - a little rain at Night - fine open ground here, river remarkably crooked, the high banks about 1 mile apart - The Little Lake about 1 ½ N of Old Ho.. 1 mile long we kept close along the N side of it - A few pines on South & a large Good hammock on N side where the Batteaux are built., scarcely any pine below this only small asp - Birch, Maple & Oak. The boy went back with the Horses.

25th Monday - Took the Following Obs at the Elbow.

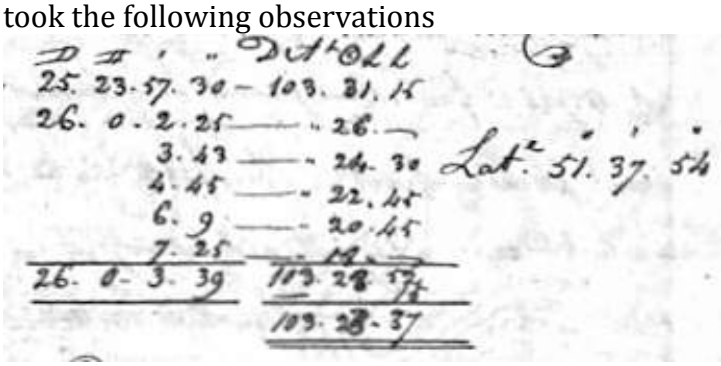


at 11#.47' am Embarked in a French Batteaux 36 feet by 12 wide - only 1 Canadian & his Wife accompany us, we have abt. 40 Empty 9 Gall Kegs to put Fat in at River Qu'appelle - we also tore down a pine Flag Staff to that place at 3#.47' bank ran down steep N 5

April 25th ½ mile between the high banks - 4#.22' passed where Falcon the Canadian Master laid up his 2 Canoes last fall, the river above being very shallow - lower end of the steep bank - 4#.40' bank ran down on S Side - 5#.17' barren ground bank on SS - 5#.55' barren ground bank on N S a nest, creek & Track - a long reach of SEbS ½ E ¾ mile - the Course the whole day about 6 miles - stopped at 6#.45' & put up at a low willow creek on N S & Barren ground bank same side a little above. river runs very crooked between the high banks, in reaches of seldom ½ mile long - & the distance by water is more than three times by Land - low willow & muddy banks & small Lake on SS just above & one on NS one mile below where we put up - ¾ wide between the high banks in the Evening - a small hill appears down the river SEE ½ E about 12 miles distant. several small hammocks of asp on both sides. -

26th Tuesday - at 4#.20' am got underway - we chiefly drive down by the current the Batteaux being so very large, with only two Oars. - keeping her from driving ashore. the Channel of the water is not more than 12 to 15 yds wide & in many places not near so much. at 6#.0' barren ground N S - 6#.23' * B G N S & Tent poles - Stopped at 7#.15' to Breakfast & got away again at 7#.6' - at 8#.29' passed the Mouth of the White mud river which is considerably smaller than this & falls in on the West side - from SW. very little wood about here - just above forms a kind of Island as thus

just below a stout creek on N. side - 9#.5' a fine barren ground bank SS - // - 9#.37' B G P[er] N S - from where we started this morng to White Mud river SSE ½ S 5 - then 4 miles the same Course below it & took the following observations



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4. 45	22. 45	
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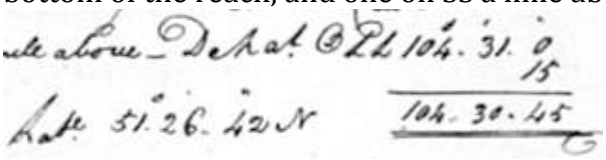
	103. 28. 37	

fine banks N S & but little wood - a point on S side at the Mouth of White Mud River - ¾ mile above where this Observation was taken high steep clay bank & upper end of Stony Ground - 2#.15' low side the first long narrow point - two others just below it - a low steep bank no willows, nor woods - SSE ½ S 2 a small river or large Creek S S - a poplar hammock N S near the river 3 ½ - 4#.10' steep long bank N S & a low flat bottom on same side and all the way to the SW End of Fort Dauphin mountain, distant about 10 miles NE - the high banks of the river about 1 mile apart - a few small Maple Trees here & there near the water edge - 6#.0' a steep bank near S S & a pretty good hammock of Poplars River crooked from NNW on the right to NW on the left - being 2 points more than round the Compass - 6#.28' a gravel beach near SS & a steep bank -

* B G N S means Barren Ground North Side

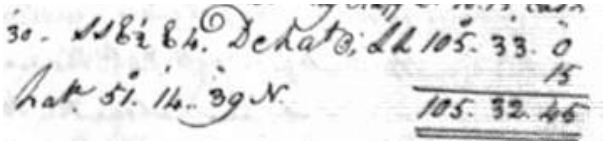
April 6#.51' a small bay in the river on S S & crooked small rapid & put up at 7#.4' on N Side in a fine low bottom about 2 Miles above upper Riviere de Trembler Course since last about SSE ½ S 4 - Thunder & rain Last Night.

27th Wednesday_ at 4#.25' am Got underway & passed the upper Poplar creek at 7#.10' - the current on the 25th about 2 ½ miles p hour - Yesterday about 2 ¼ - stopped at 7#.4' & off again at 8#.34' SE ½ E 5 from Poplar river to the bottom of the reach - fine low banks SS opposite river & no woods - high land within on N Side of Poplar rivulet - 9#.10' Steep bank SS - walked along north Shore - a Creek on N side at bottom of the reach, and one on SS a mile above –



One mile down the next reach & 1 ½ mile above Grants House built abt 1796 Called Fort de Tremble - rivulet about 200 yds below the House - the House in a fine level bare plain - several swampy places a little above it N S & 2 small creeks - banks slided down just below the House - these two poplar rivulets fall out of a small long narrow swampy Lake a few miles within on N S - very little water in either 1#.50' Passed Grants House, this last reach SSE ½ E 4 ½ - SbE 2 middling shoal & stronger current than before - very hilly & woods on both sides on faces of the Banks. all poplar, not a single pine to be seen since we left the Elbow. - more woods on S than N side - 4#.20' passed Biancours Creek SS. where a Canadian of this Name was lost abt 10 years ago 9 Days. - a high conical Knowl at the entrance on upper Cheek within. - SEbE 2 above the Creek - 6#.20' stony bank on N S - 6#.35' a large Eddy & small bay on SS. where we found the Flag Staff we turned adrift last night where we put up. 7#.10' put up on N side at a Creek & small Steep bank - last reach EbS 3 before we put up - the river is so very crooked & short turnings that the Courses are taken by the High banks that the water runs between in a serpentine course - they are nearly one mile apart - passed several points of pretty large Elms Since we passed Grants House - and not so crooked as before. - very hilly & holley on the face of the bank on N S. -

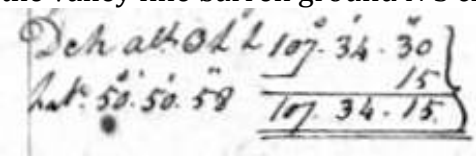
28th Thursday Got away at 4#.10' am, Stpd at 7#.40' & off again at 8#.25' - 8#.45' Crossing place by Land from N to S side in going down the river - Stony bank N S. a steep knoll just below, a ripple & low willows SS - EbS 3 this morning by Land - EbS 2 more to bottom of the reach, overtook the Flag Staff at 10#.15' cast it loose at 7#.40' - bottom of reach 9#.30'. SSE ½ E 4.



Stpd at 11#.50' & off again at 12#.20' a small Creek on N side 100 yds below where the Observation was taken & a reach SW ¼ mile - SSE ½ E 2 1#.10' - SE ½ E 3 3#.50' gravel beach & low good sleeping place on SS – S ½ E 2 Grand Gully on

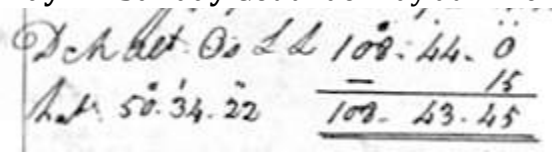
April on N S 4#.35' high bare ground on N side it – S ½ E 1 - EbN 2. 6#.29' and put up at bottom of this reach at 7#.20' on N Side at a steep barren ground Knoll & a small rapid & Creek on N S - Thunder & rain in the Night - a few Maple N S & Birch on SS above - latter part of this day woods not so thick on the North Side as above - passed many Birch Trees, not a single one to be seen Yesterday morning & above - a reach runs N on the left a little above where we put up - The Banks of the river this day are in several places 5 & in some 10 feet above the adjacent grounds not 100 yds distant which has an odd appearance
29th Friday - Got underway at 4#.24' AM & went ESE 1 upper end of a fine bare point on the SS. - SSE 2 fine bare ground not a stick to be seen above the bank on S Side 6#.30' a fine Lake on N Side, about 2 or 3 miles long & ½ wide, no woods but a bluff of Elm & Maple between the high banks, where the river runs very crooked three miles & comes round within 100 yards of the same place, about 1 mile from bank to bank this small Lake plenty of wild fowl - no willows or wood. SE ½ S 3 - SSE ½ S 4 the banks on both sides clearer of woods – S ½ E ¾ in one straight reach close on the Southern bank & passed the mouth of Shell river at 5#.12' on the N Side, abt 15 Yards wide, pretty deep comes out of Fort Dauphin Mountain or near it - a willow Island just below it & shoal & rather rapidy - Found small stunted Oaks here on S bank - the highest up of any in the Red River - There is also 2 or 3 small hammocks about the Banks of Swan Lake of Oak the most Northern that this wood grows in this Country on E side the Rocky mountain - the Crossing place by Land is also at Mouth of Shell river – S ½ E 1 ¼ in one strait reach as above, a few more stunted Oaks - This Day & part of Yesterday several fine little Lakes near the river below the high banks, fine places for Ducks & Geese - very bad woods all the way we have as yet come for building - Steep bank & hilly & holly N S, no woods above the edge of the Bank a little above Shell river. the great Plain on SS about 5 miles above Shell river - crooked as usual below the last 2 long reaches - Shell river comes from about NEbN - SWbW 3 a Gully on N S 1 mile below the river an Old Canadian House built by Mr Robert Grant about 1794 - he came into the Canadian Service the year before & went down in 1793 with 23 Thousand pounds - one Mile below the House a point of Shells on SS & Monté creek just there comes out of a Deep Gully on SS - Stone Indian Gully on SS a little below put up at bottom of last reach at 6#.40' on N side where 3 Trading Houses were built a few years back by Ayoh for H B Co - Allan McDonald for New Co & Mr Thomas Bunn for XY Co - very poor wood here for burn^g - very stony ground above the Bank & no woods - Heavy rain from 11 till 1 ½ we lay by - that time - The Grass springing up & beginning to look Green - also here & there some few Willows & Poplars begin to be green This is rather a late Spring -

April 30th Saturday - Got away at 4#.5' am passed the Crossing place at 4#.30' - S 1 SEbE 5 8#.0' good poplars on both sides for building but swampy. stopped for breakfast from 8#.35' to 9#.48' - a rapid on SS 10#.55' - a deep Gully on N S 11#.30' & bottom of last reach - a hammock of small poplars in the middle of the valley fine barren ground N S close at the river a steep mud bank - where I took the



SSE 1 - S 2 - SSE ½ E 7 two deep Gullies on North side, upper one called Chopy Creek & arrived at James Inksters House at 5#.30'. they had their 2 Boats loaded their house dismantled ready to Embark - but some Crees just came in stopped him this night - as I have to Riviere Qu'appelle to Mr McDonnels to go to buy a Canoe to carry us along Lake Winnepeg - I left Inksters house at 6#.25' he will wait for me at the overland passage until I return from thence - went down the river SbE ½ S 1 & put up on SS at 7#.15' - river not quite so crooked as before: & several stiff rapids above the House - the reach above the House walked along the Southern bank - numbers of Small Oaks; many Wild Onions & some of the prickles that is in going up the South Branch. Fine weather.

May 1st Sunday Got underway at 4#.10' - SbE ½ S 5 - SE 2 - SbE ½ S 2 & took the

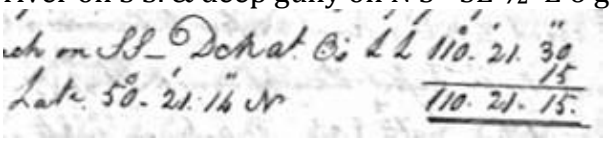


about 3 miles from winters to Summers Crossing place to River Qu'appelle or Shouting River passed the upper one at 11#.17' - Summer Crossing place from where the aim taken is S ½+ E 2 ¼ - 2 Oaks on right side the Track at the Top of the Bank & very sandy & a fine bare Knoll at the Track - Upper one an Eagles Nest, a small Creek - & steep bank, old Channel of the river just above & 2 small willow Islands just opposite it - steep muddy bank next bend below on SS such are the remarks that presented to find it by. a Big Swamp is the Cause of the winter Crossing place - as they cannot pass that way in the Summer, on that account no woods on either side this Day except Scrubs - arrived at Summers crossing place at 2#.2' - SSE ½+ S 2 Summers Crossing place - Left our 2 Men here in care of our things & the Canadian accompanied me to his house at Shouting river we went by Land W ½ S 2 ¼ & crossed a creek & Horn Hill on our right abt ½ mile off - a high Knoll - SW ½ S 4 thro fine open Land & came to the Banks of the Riviere Qu'appelle which is steep & the small rivulet runs very crooked between high banks, scarcely water to float an Empty Canoe, went up the river SW ¼ W 2 ½ & arrived at Mr McDonnels house, built & constantly kept up since 1791 it is on SS - the high banks are nearly 1 mile apart - there is 4 reaches below until it falls into the Red River - Great Quantities of Dry Provisions are

May procured here. sometimes 700 bags of Pemmican of 90 lb each & 400 Kegs of Fat of 9 Gals each - no Beaver or other valuable furs in any quantity are got in this river - all the Hunting lands of those animals are all Killed - by the great number of Bungees [Ojibwa], Ottaways [Ottawa] & Iroquois Inds exclusive of the natives of the Place - in 1794 19 large Canadian Canoes used annually to go into the Red River & carry out 27,000 lbs of Beaver only - besides other furs - lately only 5 Canoes go & Do not bring out on an average 1400 lb Beaver. - Purchased a Canoe of Mr McDonnel at 25 Beaver in Goods - is 1 half worn 3 ½ ft Gun 20 lb Ball. 36 Yew handle Knives, & 1 threepoint Blanket. - I am to get it at the Pine Fort about 18 Miles below Brandon House. Mr McKay has not any to supply me with as he wrote to me thus in March last. - Great numbers of Bugs from the Oak infest all the Bed in the Summer Time & are very troublesome. - See some further remarks on the waters of River Qu'appelle at Page.

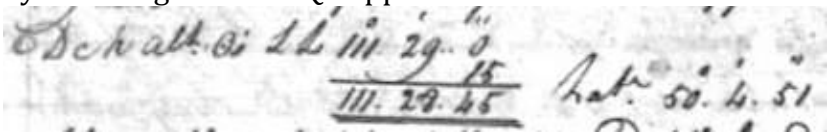
2nd Monday. at 10 ¾ am left the House and got back to our people at 2 ½ & found James Inkster here with his 2 Boats - waiting me - he has not got 20 Beavr Skins this winter - principally wolves & Buffalo Coats. - Embarked in his Boats at 3 PM & went down the Red River as before SE 6 ½ & put up on N Side at 6 ½ PM, a little above the mouth of the Shouting river - 2 Men went by Land with the Horses - Rain & very cold in the Evening. -

3rd Tuesday. at 4#.20' am Embarked & passed mouth of River Qu'appelle at 4#.45' Course SE ½ - it runs W. SW. WNW & SW in about 3 miles each to the House I lately saw. - ESE ½ S 4 8#.15' a wide bay in the river on S S. & deep gully on N S - SE ½ E 6 good poplars in middle of the reach on SS –



Taken at a small willow point N S, a small Creek on SS bite below - and small barren ground plain at bank edge - 1 ½ a stony bite on the SS & a rapid - lower banks than these 2 or 3 Days past - SSE ½ E 7 2#¾ a creek SS & deep Gully, very little wood on either side - 3#.23' Bird Tail Creek N S comes from Fort Dauphin Mountain - a low valley at the bottom of the last reach - ESE ½ E 5 - 4#.57' a good creek on S Side. middle of the Reach - rather more wood in this reach, bank & Track 5#.45' - SEbE 3 & put up on S S. near a very stony Knoll close to the Bank.

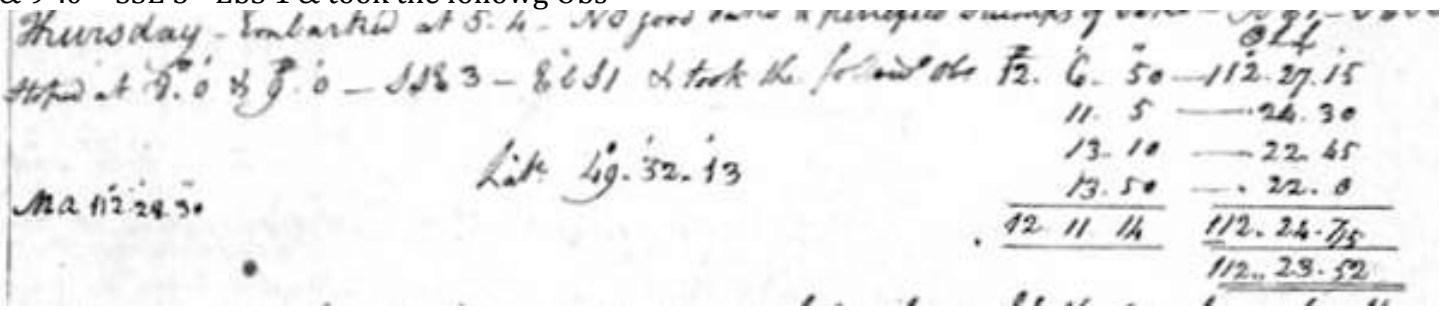
4th Wednesday - at 4#.57 am got underway & went ESE 2 - SSE 2 a Gully on the SS. they leave the river by Land to go to river Qu'appelle - SSE 3 - E 3 & took the



Taken on SS in the bite at the upper end of the Grand Bois, ¾ mile above the house built 1806 - very little wood yesterday - E 2 - Several good points of Maple below the House & Good Oaks where we put up last night - Grand Bois, about 2 miles long on the SS. tho' but indifferent Poplar - very little woods on either side except there Montagne la Bosse a ridge of Small Hills. begin near the bottom of the reach on SS

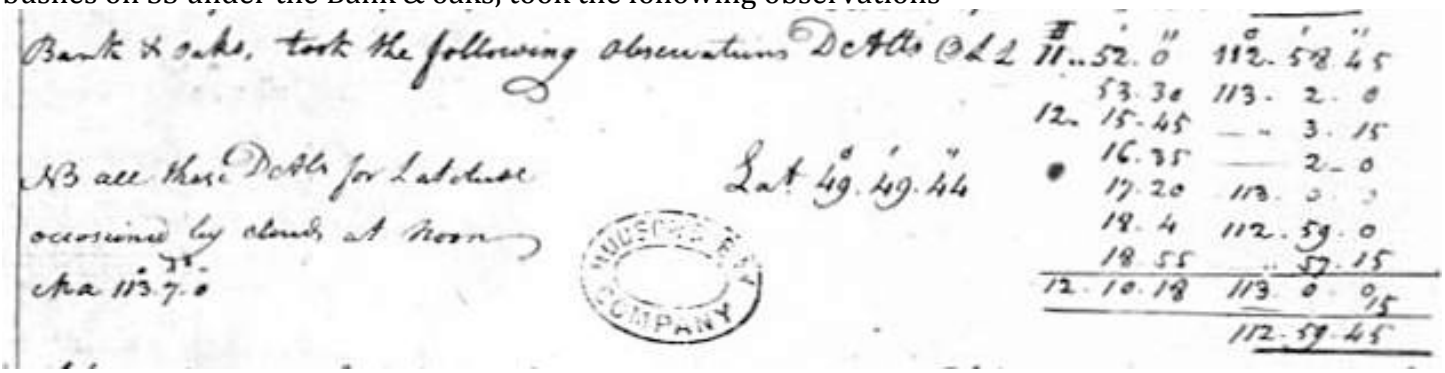
May SbE 3 two deep Gullys and Creeks on N S & put up on N S at 6#.50' PM - White scaly thin Stones or something much resembling petrified wood, in many places. - Cold weather.

5th Thursday - Embarked at 5#.4' - N S good oaks & petrified stumps of Oaks - SbE 1 - SEbS 3 Stpd at 8#.0' & 9#.0' - SSE 3 - EbS 1 & took the followg Obs



EbS 2 Montagne La Bosse House (Old) ½ mile below it on SS the new house, built on the Top of the Bank - in a fine plain - very crooked (the river) 2 miles above & a good distance below - stopped 2 hours with 2 Canadian Freemen, who payed to James Inkster part of his Debt. La Verue & La Jeuesy. got from them 44 mostly Musk rats & wolves - EbN 3 - below the House a Creek on SS 4#½ - EbS 1 put up at 6#.57' on SS - long crooked turnings from Bank to bank about 1 mile distant. - the channel of the river is now upwards of 20 yards wide - easy current. in the fall it is in general very shoal in many places.

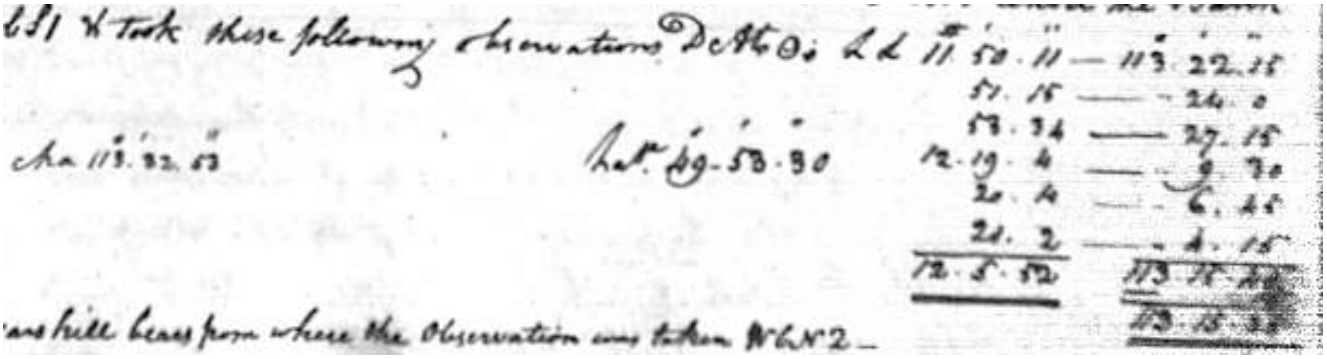
6th Friday - Got underway at 6 am EbS 2 a few woods in the face of the Bank on SS at the bottom of the reach - EbN 4 good poplars at bottom of the reach on SS & a deep Gully on N S. Main banks rather lower than above - NEbE 2 upper end of Buffalo plain on N S - a fine level place, no woods on either side - a few bushes on SS under the Bank & oaks, took the following observations



NB all these D Alts for Latitudes occasioned by clouds at Noon na 113°. 7'. 0"

A Hill appears a head from where this observation was Taken about 8 or 10 Miles off NNE 5 - at 4 ½ passed arrow wood Creek on N S at bottom of above reach - NE 5 ½ put up at 6#.55' on SS in a Bluff of Elms - a Sandy Knoll near arrow wood Creek very level low banks thro' these two last reaches - no woods only a little on the points - river much wider running in long bends between bank & bank 1 ½ mile distant - not a scrap of woods to be seen on either side - Rain from 4 to 7 am & very cold weather.

7th Saturday - Off at 5#.0' NE 2 - ENE ½ N 2 hills begin on both Sides - EbN 2 a high round Knoll near here on N S called the Beggars hill - stopped one hour for breakfast as we do every day - Jack Easter one of the Albany men kills several ducks & some Geese every day walking along shore - he also killed several Turtles about 10 lb weight this river a plentiful place for these animals - a little wood under the Bank EbS 1 & Took these following observations

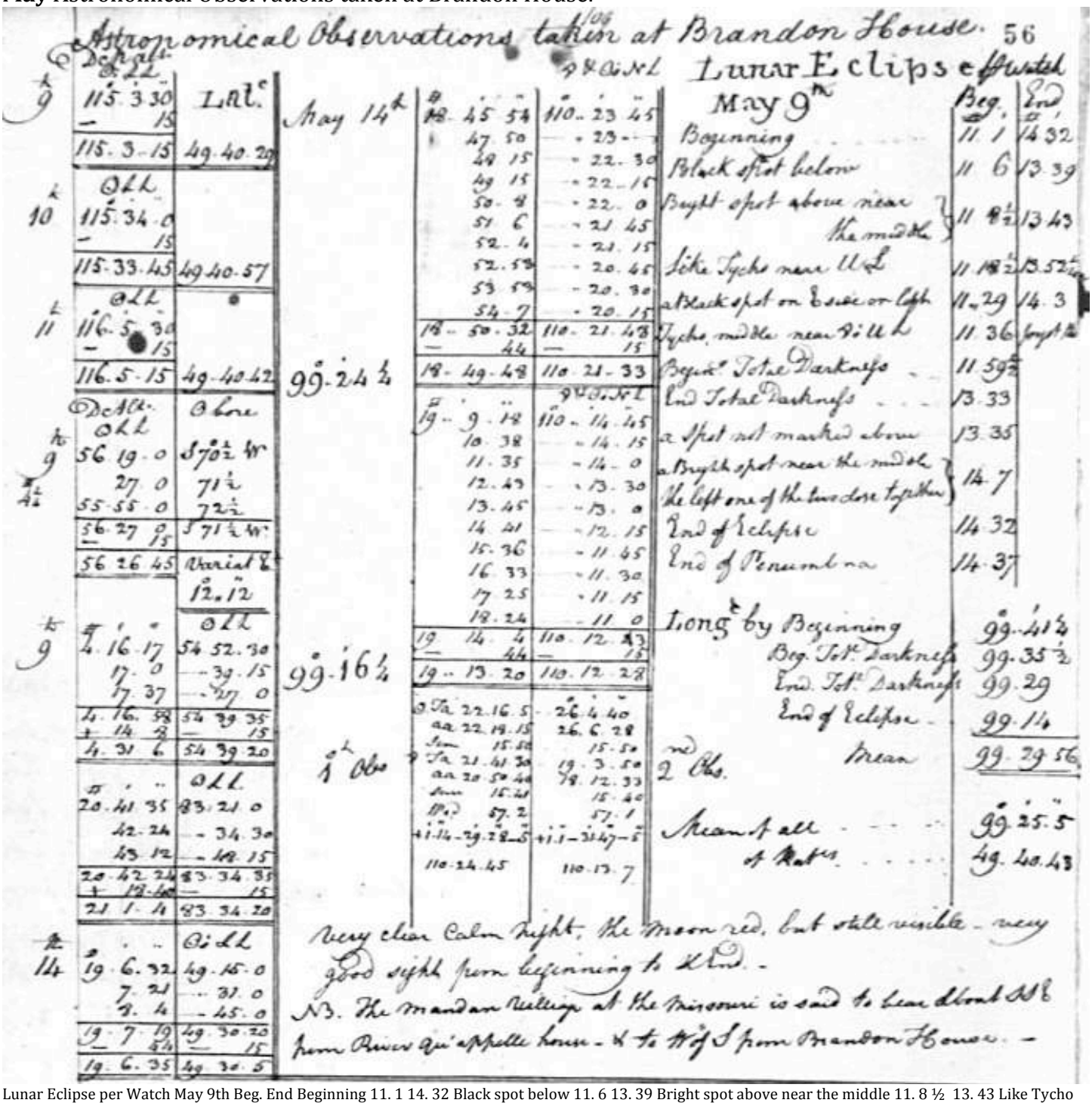


Beggars hill bears from where the Observation was taken WbN 2 - Taken on SS - a willow Pt ½ mile lower down

May pretty steep banks on both sides, but no woods on N Side except a few bushes - got off again at 12#.25' - EbS 2 very crooked - no points of maple Yesterday or this day - in this reach a good hammock of Oak on a point on the SS - the Great Swamp opposite where we got breakfast Yesterday on the SS - stopped ¾ of an hour to get an oak log to saw into boards at Brandon House - 3 ½ a willow Pt & good oaks on both sides just below it some of the Oaks are 18 Inches Diameter & abt 20 feet high without Branches, the best of them. Good poplars on the SS - EbN 4 & passed rapid river house on SS - a long reach EbN 2 & passed Rapid River on the North side, pretty deep abt 10 yds wide - the river is in the middle of this last reach - Tolerable woods on SS but not a stick 1 mile below the House on same side - shoal strong current and two willow Is^d - the EbN 4 not so crooked as above - from E to EbN 9 pretty straight - & put up on the Lower end of Sutherland Is^d about 2 miles long - best water on SS - stopped at 7#.40' - frost at Night.

8th Sunday - Got underway at 4#.57' & at 7#.30' passed Oak creek on N S, which comes out of a Swamp - all Oaks hereabout - low banks some rapid river on both sides - a large Island just above Oak Creek an EbN course 7 since we started - Saw the Moose head Hill on SS - stoped for breakfast on SS at 7#.45' cold morning - pretty crooked, strong current with grassy sides & low willow banks - off again at 8#.35' - near EbN 1 ½ & came to a Shoal rapid called the barriere, best water on N S - S ⅛ 9#.43' bottom of the rapid - from top to bottom near SE 2 an Is^d at bottom & shoal two other rapids in the middle but the bottom the worst - bare barren rather stony banks 2 miles below oak creek & no wood. - SEbE ¾ Poitras House built last fall on N Side a nice ridge of a hill - stopped here from 10 to 11 am - a few poplars & fine bank where the House is - formerly several houses has been built here. - near SE 4 a ripple & steep bank on SS & Gravel & Sand 12#.0' - NNE 1 ½ an Is^d on SS strong current - WbS ½ D^o - near NE ½ - near SSW 1 three Islands on the North side - E ½ birch on SSE ¾ - ENE ½ a shoal ripple - SSW ¼ Moose hill North End bears SW ½ W 8 miles - SSW ¼ lower end of the big turn - SSE 3 - SE ½ - ESE ½ - from NE to SSW 3 mak^g about SEbE 2 pretty strong current & arrived at Brandon House Mr John Mackay master at 3#.40' PM. This House is on the North side & was built by Mr Donald Mackay in 1793 & constantly kept up - this Year he had 4 Boats. General Charge near 12,000 Mb - remains about 9000 Mb including 2 Kegs of Spirits - Their Trade is 84 Packs. cont^g only 226 Whole Beaver 95 half. 83 Bear, the greater part of the rest is Wolves. Kit foxes & Parchment Skins. - 32 Men on this Establishment: 9 or 10 generally Summer here - Garden near 1 ½ acre of Ground - No Canadians here this Winter -

May Astronomical Observations taken at Brandon House.



Astronomical Observations taken at Brandon House. 56

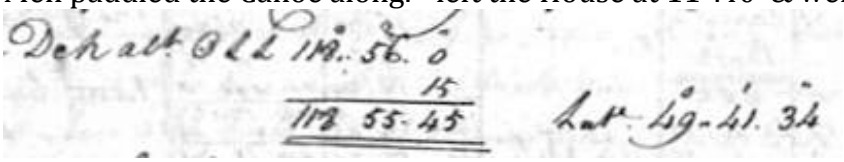
Lunar Eclipse per Watch May 9th Beg. End Beginning 11. 1 14. 32 Black spot below 11. 6 13. 39 Bright spot above near the middle 11. 8 ½ 13. 43 Like Tycho near U L 11. 18 ½ 13. 52 ½ Black spot on E side or left 11. 29 14. 3 Tycho middle near D L L 11. 36 lost Begin.g Total Darkness 11. 59 ½ End Total Darkness 13. 33 a Spot not marked above 13. 35 a Bright spot near the middle the left one of the two close together 14. 7 End of Eclipse 14. 32 End of Penumbra 14. 37 Long.e by Beginning 99. 41 ¼ Beg. Tot. Darkness 99. 35 ½ End. Tot. Darkness 99. 29 End of Eclipse - 99. 1 ¼ Mean 99. 24. 56
2 Obs. Mean of all 99. 25. 5 of Rates 49. 40. 43
Very clear Calm Night, the Moon red, but still visible - very Good sight from beginning to End. - NB. The Mandan Village at the Missouri is said to bear about SSW from River Qu'appelle house - & to W of S from Brandon House. -

16th Monday - at 7#.48' am Embarked in Company with Mr John Mackay in 4 Boats from Brandon House - 5 Men p Boat. - from NNE to S 4 ½ making EbS 3 & came to river La Sourie or Sand fly river on S Side, about 25 yds wide at the Mouth - a noted place for Sturgeon every Spring - more particulars will be found of this river at river runs S - steep banks on both sides the Red river got to mouth of river

9#.37'. many Indians here - left it at 10#.5' - Steep sand bank, a shoal ripple & willow Is just below the rivers mouth - 10#.40' steep sand bank on SS a Creek on N S ½ mile below the sand bank - & a Creek 2 miles below the House on the same side - 11#.13' steep bank & no wood on SS - we go about 4 miles p Hour 11#.40' main high bank on N S - ESE not very crooked making 6 miles - a steep sandy knoll on N S stopd at 11#.54' & got away again at 1#.35' - 2#.14' Maple Is passed several ripples - 2#.42' Yorstons Island called 1 Day from Brandon House going up - very steep sand bank on N Side just below Yorstons Is^{d} - 2#.47' a few pines Steep bank SS - The first pines seen since the Elbow - except 1 very small one a little below Poitras House on S S in face of the Bank. - Since we stopped to Cook at Noon we have come between SSE ½ N making ESE 6 - NbW 1 ½ - W ½ - a small

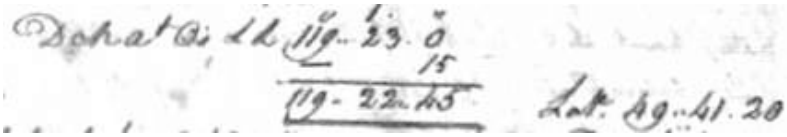
May a small Lake on N S (Turtle) - NEbN 1 high sand bank on N S & pines, lower end of the shoal ripples - ESE ¼ SSW ½ Stone Indian [Assiniboine] crossing place to Pine House below near ESE ¾ - crooked making ENE 4, & put up at the End of a NW reach on N side at 6#.35' at nearly the upper end of the Sandy Hills or Devils mountains - moving, by the sand drifting from one spot to another - we have passed many pines since the first particularly on the South side, but only in the face of the high banks

17th Tuesday - at 5#.5' am got underway - several good places of Maple for making Sugar Yesterday - from NW on the left to SSW on the right making NbE ½ E 4 & arrived at the Pine House on N Side at 7#.45' built on a very fine level plain no woods near it here we got the Canoe bought from Mr McDonnel I embarked in her, but she being so very leaky & small withall that I again went down in the Boat & the 2 Men paddled the Canoe along. - left the House at 11#.40' & went SE ½ & got the



4 miles making EbN ½ N 1 Root river on N S about 5 yards wide, little water in it high banks the top of them nearly 2 miles apart. 12#.50' - 3#.15' passed the Cypress river on SS very small - very crooked making EbN ½ N 4 below these two last rivers - steep sandy rather stony bank & oaks on N S just below Cypress river very crooked - steep muddy banks like the Saskatchewan river in the bays - a deal of small wood on both sides the river Yesterday & this Day - none above - 4#.8' a sand bank on SS - about NE 3 miles since Cypress river very crooked - Devils or Sandy Mountains lower end at Pine House - about 200 feet high - very difficult from the river to distinguish the main banks by the great quantity of small woods growing on them - put up on N S at an Old Encampment at 5 PM & pitched our Canoe. as it is remarkably leaky & bad - we drive before the Current the greater time we are on the water - The Albany Men not liking to row. - Whip poor will a bird plenty here - keeps calling thus nearly the whole night none of them are seen in the day, bigger than swallow

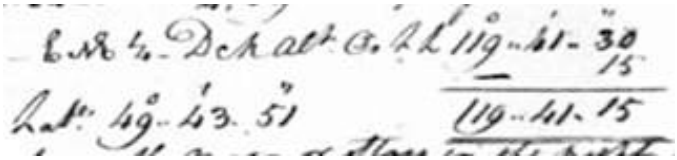
18th Wednesday - at 5#.10' got underway (the Tea Kettle always boiled before we start) NE 3 formerly an Is^d here on right hand - river narrow at the head of it 6#.25' - a sandy bank on N S - Drove ENE 1 ½ 6#.55' Doloruons house on N side in good Poplars, a high bare bank just above it - Pines on the S S on top of bank ENE 1 ½ Pine Creek N S & main bank 8#.1' a ridge of Pines runs all the way to the Souris river within on the SS - ENE 3 not very crooked as Yesterday another Pine creek on SS & lower end of Pines for a long way to come - The Main banks come within ½ mile of each other - a Small willow Is just below Pine Creek.



above the high banks from 2 to 3 miles asunder - & very seldom to be seen for thicketty woods

May taken on SS where we stopped at 9#40' a little below the Creek – got away again at 12#15' NEbN ¾ – SEbE ¾ – near NE 2. 1#24' a ledge of rocks on SS about 20 feet below the surface – near NE 1 – NW ½ 1#55' – 2#30' Good oaks on N S – not crooked since the observation. near NEbE 2 – between NW & SSE – 3# a fine hammock of Maple on N Side for making Sugar & a stage – a reach ENE ½ – no Maple yesterday – between SSW & NNW Generally from bank to bank ¾ mile apart making ENE 5 – NEbN 1 5#.5'. Half way bank houses on both sides the river – a small Creek falls in here on the N S. near SSW 1 ¼ put up at 5#40' – Stony & Stronger current since the observation. Killed a Jumping Deer at Breakfast – We have not seen a single Buffalo since we have been in the river – altho a plentiful Country for them & Red Deer.

19th Thursday – At 5#.25' am got underway – most of us very badly with colds ever since we left the House – ESE ½ NE ½ – NNW ½ . NW ½ steep mud bank on S Side NNE ½ an Old French House on N & 2 willow Isd – ENE ½ – E ¼ – ESE 1 a low point N S & place to spear Sturgeon at. NE ½ several Good hammocks of Maple – EbS ¼ SE ¼ – E ¼ - SSE ½ – SE ¼ – NE ⅛ - NWbN ½ – NNE ¼ a bit of a steep bank & swallow nests on SS – ESE ¼ – SSE ¾ willow Isd – E ¼ – NE ¼ – NbW ¾ . big swamp begins here on N S. NE ¼ – SEbS 1 – EbS ¼ – ENE ¾ – EbS ½ – ENE ¼ .



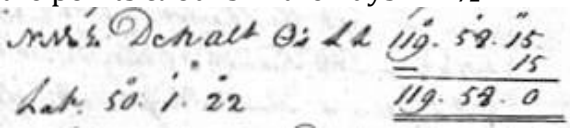
very thick smoaky air since 15th could not see the Moon or Stars in the night. Stopped at 10#.40' & got away again at 12#.37'. we only drive with the Current ⅔ of the Time we are on the Water – NW 1 – NbW ½ – EbS ¼ Willow Island NS – NE ½ – NW ½ lower end of Big Swamp on the N S. – Oaks in the bay on S S & a poplar & willow Isd. 2#.5' Killed 1 Buck red Deer off of a jam 4#.17' – WbN ¼ – SWbS ½ . NW ¼ steep low sand bank on N S close at waters edge, a place Horses come to, to lighten the Boats in the Fall – NE 1 one little willow Isd – NW 1 three willow Isd * NbE ½ – two willow Islands & put up on SS in Good Oaks at 5#.55' a few drops of rain – River from 80 to 100 Yards wide & very shoal – no rapids since Half way Creek – passed several places of Good Oaks – banks well covered with wood – no barren Ground to be seen from the River on either side – ½ way bank creek very steep.

20th Friday – Embarked at 3#.53/ am. NNE ¼ two willow Isd ENE ½ wide & many sand banks Yesterday – NE ½ – EbN ¼ – N ¼ – NWbW ½ – NNE ¼ – ENE ¼ – SE ¼ – SW ¼ – E ¼ – NE ¼ – NNW ¼ – WNW ½ – NNW ¼ . NE ¾ a Track NS stoped at 8#.40' got away at 10#.15' – EbN ½ willow Isd – near N 1 Sturgeon weir & upper end of Portage des Prairies to Lake Manneto pass on N Side of 8 Miles – steep bare bank of whitish clay & one Gully of black earth above it – E ½ – SE ⅓ French House N S Mr Harrison. stoped at it at 11#.2' & left it at 1#.45' – SSE ⅛ – E ⅛ – NEbE ¼ Old French Fort – N S about 30 Years ago – a willow Isd. ESE ¼ a Sturgeon weir – ENE ¼ – NE ⅛ – NWbN ¼ bare Plain N S – E ½ – SEbS ½ willow Isd – EbN ⅛ – NE ¼ – SSE ½ – ESE ½ . NEbE ½ John Inkster Island of Burnt Birch & Poplar on SS put up on N Side at 4#.7' – very cold weather, with a little Snow & Strong Gale at NW – Manneto paw Lake from House about NNW – & near 100 Miles to the narrow in that Lake – many Islands near it – but very few in this end – comes over the portage about due N. Crossed several hammocks of White Wood this day. the Bark is much like ash

* see page 126

May three nights past since the Pine Fort whip poor wills, calls thus all night long – 3 Days ago saw two Birds nearly the size of a Crow, of a rusty colour of Iron, called Man Eaters by our people – Inksters Island is called 15 miles by water by the Albany men to Portage des Prairies – Cloudy cold weather could not observe.

21st Saturday – Snow fell in the Night 4 Inches deep – & lay on the Ground most part of the Day – at 6#.44' am got underway – ENE ¼ – NNE ½ – NbW ¾ – NE ¼ – ESE ¼ – NE ¼ – NbW ½ – NE ¼ – ESE ¾ – SSE ½ – E ¼ – NNE ½ – EbN ¼ – SE ¾ – E ¼ – SE ¼ – ESE ¼ – NNE ¼ – NbW ¼ – ESE ¼ – WNW ¼ – E ½ – ENE ¼ – NNW ¼ – WNW ¼ – WbS ¼ – WNW ¼ Souliere Creek N S & Tent places – NbW ¼ a plain N S nearly close to the river – NE ¼ Large hammock of Oak N S. plenty of white Wood on the points & Oaks in the Bays – E ½ – NNW ¼ – NE ¼ – SE ¼ – S ¼ – ENE ¼ – N ½ – NW ½ – NNE ¼

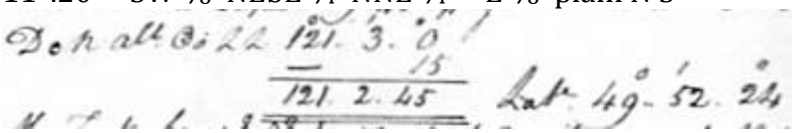


Stoped at 10#.53' & got off at 12#.50' – Taken in a Bay Drift wood N Side – NE ½ – NW ½ – NE ¼ – EbN ½ very Good Oaks on both sides <u>all</u> near the river <u>every where</u> – NNE ¾ – NWbN ½ – NE ¼ – ESE ½ – NEbE ½ – EbS ½ – SE ¼ – NEbN ¾ – ESE ½ plain near the River on N S * ENE ¼ – NbE ½ – NE ½ – NNW ¼ burnt Oaks N S – NE ¼ – SSE ¼ – EbN ½ – NbE ½ – ENE ¼ – ESE ½ – EbN ½ – SSE ¼ – NNE ¼ – SSE ½ – NbW ½ – E ½ – SSE ¼ – ESE ⅛ – NEbN ¼ – SE ⅛ – SWbS ½ – E ½ – SE ½ – SSW ½ Swallow nests S S SEbE ½ – NE ¼ – SE ⅓ – SbW ¼ & put up at 6#.28' – Cold weather till noon, than warmer, calmer & very clear – a Large smoke S from where the observat^{n} was taken

22nd Sunday – Got away at 6#.0' Am SSE ⅓ - ENE ⅓ - NE ¼ – E ⅓ – SSE ¼ – WSW ¼ – SE ¼ & came to the Tents of 4 Freemen 16 ell^{n} – here is the road overland from this river to river Pembina or Summerberry [Red river] river where Mr Alex^{r} Henry winters – stoped here from 6#.20' to 7#.30' several Graves here of Inds – NE ½ small willow Is^{d} S S – SW ½ – E ⅓ - NbW ½ – river narrower & Deeper Yesterday & this day than before – easy current WNW ¼ – NE ⅓ – SE ¼ – EbN ¼ – NbE ½ a Creek on N S & plain near – SE ⅛ – SEbS ¼ – ENE ⅛ – NbW ⅛ – ½ way plain on N S by Land from to SEbS ½ – E ⅛ – NNE ¼ Plain Is^{d} – ESE ⅛ – SSW ½ Good oaks N S – ESE ¾ – NEbN ¼ – E ¼ – SEbE ¼ & stoped at 10#.0' & off again at 12#.3'. Cloudy could not observe – a small woody hill bears from this pt Compass N 63 E – the plain <u>above</u> on N S. WNW ½ W 1 & the woods below ESE 4 which I take as a Course to avoid taking all the very short turnings by the water to it – the upper part of it is pretty straight & the lower <u>very</u> crooked. from WbS on right to WbS on left or all round the Compass making the above course straight – at 1#.50' pulling pretty hard got to the end of it – then went SSE ½ – ESE ¼ – ENE ¼ – SSW ¼ – NNE ¼ – ENE ½ smaller oaks this day than Yesterday – a plain N S. – SSE ⅛ – SSW ⅛ – E ¼ – NE ¼ – SSW ½ – ESE ¼ – NEbE ¼ – ESE ⅛ – N ¼ Kettle Plain N S – SW ½ – W ½ – SE ½ – E ¼ – SEbE ¾ – EbN ½ – S ½ – SE ¼ Eagles Nest – E ½ – N ⅛ – NNW ⅛ White Horse Plain N S from here the woods at the Forks of Summerberry river bears E ½ S about 16 miles by the Account of the men, a bluff of Poplars there – E ⅛ – SSW ½ – SW ½ – E ¼ – NE ⅛ – ESE ¼ Good Oaks N S & put up at 5#.20' – Rain at Night – Plum Trees grow here now in blossom.

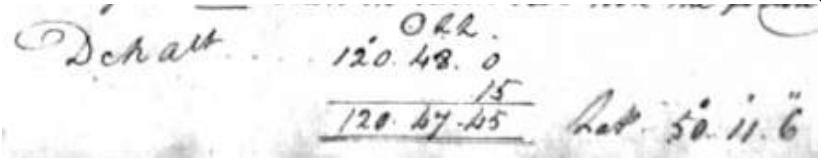
* see page 126

May 23rd Monday – Embarked at 5#.23' am S ⅛ SW ⅛ S ⅛ – SE ¼ – E ⅛ NNE ½ – E ⅛ – SE ¼ - SW ¼ - E ⅛ - NEbE ¼ – S ⅛ – SW ⅛ – WbS ¼ – S ⅛ – ESE ¼ – SEbS ½ salt bay Isd a small Plain ENE ¼ – EbN ¼ no wood N S SSE ¼ – SbW ¼ – SWbW ¼ – SE ⅛ – E ⅛ low bank S S NNE ¾ NNW ½ – NE ¼ – ESE ¼ – SSE ¼ – ENE ¼ – S ¼ – W ¼ SSW ⅛ low bank S S & salt bay, the biggest Spring here – SE ⅛ – NE ⅛ – NWbN ¼ – NEbE ½ no wood N S – SE ¼ – E ½ burnt wood S S – NNE ¼ – EbN ¾ . plain N S – few sand banks in the river Yesterday & this Day – SEbE ¼ E ⅛ – NE ¼ fine plain N S & stony banks – all above muddy – ESE ¼ – NE ⅛ – NbE ¼ fine Plain N S – NEbE ¾ Jack Lyme's Isd poplar & the head of the small rapids – river above wider wider than before – EbN ¼ SWbS ¼ stoped at 9#.45' off again at 11#.20' – SW ⅛ NEbE ¾ NNE ¾ – E ⅛ plain N S



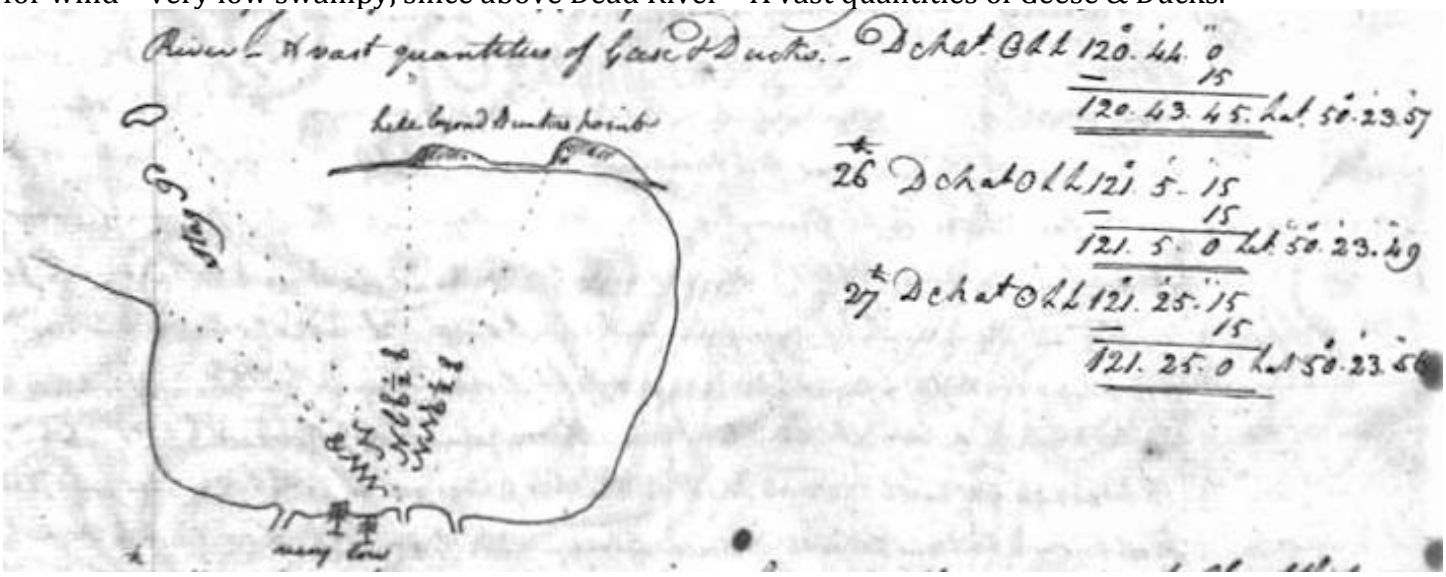
By the Mens account the Forks bears ENE ½ N about 8 miles – went SEbE ¼ SSE ¼ EbS ½ – EbN ¼ – SSE ¼ – NE ¼ – NWbN ½ – ENE ¼ – NEbN ¼ a Creek N S – EbN ¼ a strong ripple – all above since the Isd pretty strong current & very shoal in the fall – NEbE ¼ EbN ¼ – NEbN ⅛ a steep stony bank N S & a ripple – EbN ¼ ENE ¼ – ESE ¼ - E ¼ – ENE ½ – NNW ⅛ stony on both sides – a ripple & Eagles Nest S S – a fine sleepg place N S 1#.30' – with small deviation 5 miles making ENE ½ N 4 & came to the Mouth of the Summerberry river at 2#.35' – several ripples in N Branch 2 Miles above forks – then easy current and narrow – Forks open S ½ mile about 120 yds wide – This is by far the largest river of the two. – Formerly 2 Houses here fine spot & Graves on E side big river at mouth. Steep bank mouth N Branch & Good Fishery Place. Catfish principally – went down the river which is now 200 yds wide easy current low muddy sides – NW ¾ – NE ¾ – EbN ½ Creek S S. WNW ¾ – N ¼ – NEbE ½ – NbW ½ – NWbN ½ – NEbN ¼ – NEbE ¼ – NNW ½ a plain N S. EbN ¼ – NbE 1 – NbW 1 – NNE ¼ burnt wood N S – N ½ & put up at 5#.40' N Side in a ledge of wood. fine plain a little within – thick wood on S S. cold weather all Day – remarkably easy current since the Forks.

24th Tuesday – Got underway at 5#.8' Am – NE ¼ shoal & stony NNW 1 ¼ an Image, Plain & stony bank N S – NE ¼ – NbE ½ – NEbE ¼ – EbN ¼ – NbE ¼ – NEbN ¼ NNW ½ no wood N S – EbS ¼ a shoal ripple – NEbN ¼ – NNW ¼ no wood N S NE ¼ strong current since the first two reaches this Morning. <u>Pelican ripple</u> when the water or heavy winds prevails in Lake Winnipeg the Water dam up the water to this ripple – 6 reaches making NbW 1 ¾ strong current, rocks in the bay N S 8#.10' – end of the ripples at the Pelican & easier current. – a plain N S & last close to the river – very easy current & often times no current all the way from the Pelican ripple to the Lake Winnipeg – NbW ¼ – ENE ½ – three reaches making NEbN 1 – E ½ – NE ½ River 200 yds wide – NNW ¼ – WNW ½ two Graves on SS. NEbN ½ two Good points of Maple one on each side – none above – N ¼ Men took their Boats Masts they left last fall – as they cannot sail above on account of the crookedness of the river – Creek N S. NW ½ (Bob Taylors) poplars and stout Creek at head of it on SS & one a little below on N S. NEbN 1 two Canadian Old Houses N S in Middle of this last reach on North Side took the following Observation



May a stout creek opposite the French Houses on S S. stoped at 10#.40' & got off again at 12#.8' NNW ½ – NNE ½ – NWbN ¾ – near NNW 2 miles in three reaches – NWbN 1 – NbW 1 – NW 2 banks very low since noon, particularly on N S. & only willows small maple & Elm – a few oaks this day above. the small a stout Creek N S ½ mile from bottom of last reach & at the bottom of it Dead River on N S. good deep water 8 yds wide – a House 6 miles up it – The Ottaway Inds about 4 or 5 Families has wooden Houses here & has several acres of Corn Land, planted (Indian) Potatoes & other Garden stuff – as our Canoe was very bad exchanged it with them for a larger giving them a 3 ft Blanket. 2 Bea. In Ammunition & 2 Qts Spirits – this is a very Good Canoe & will answer us well, the other was very leaky & small – stopped here at 3#.3' & left them again at 4#.3' river 300 yds wide – NE 1 – NNE 1 a small branch on S S put up at the mouth of it at 5#.0'. Strong Gale ahead since noon – passed 2 Inds at noon they say Mr Hugh Henry of HBC: is passed 3 days ago – this woman Mary Isbister who was delivered of a Boy 5th Jany last is also gone out – she hired with Mr Geddes in Stromness as a man, in Mens Cloathing 1806 – remained at Albany one winter & her sex was not known till Delivery except to one John Scart her paramour. on whose account she came out – she worked at any thing & well like the rest of the men – very cold weather.

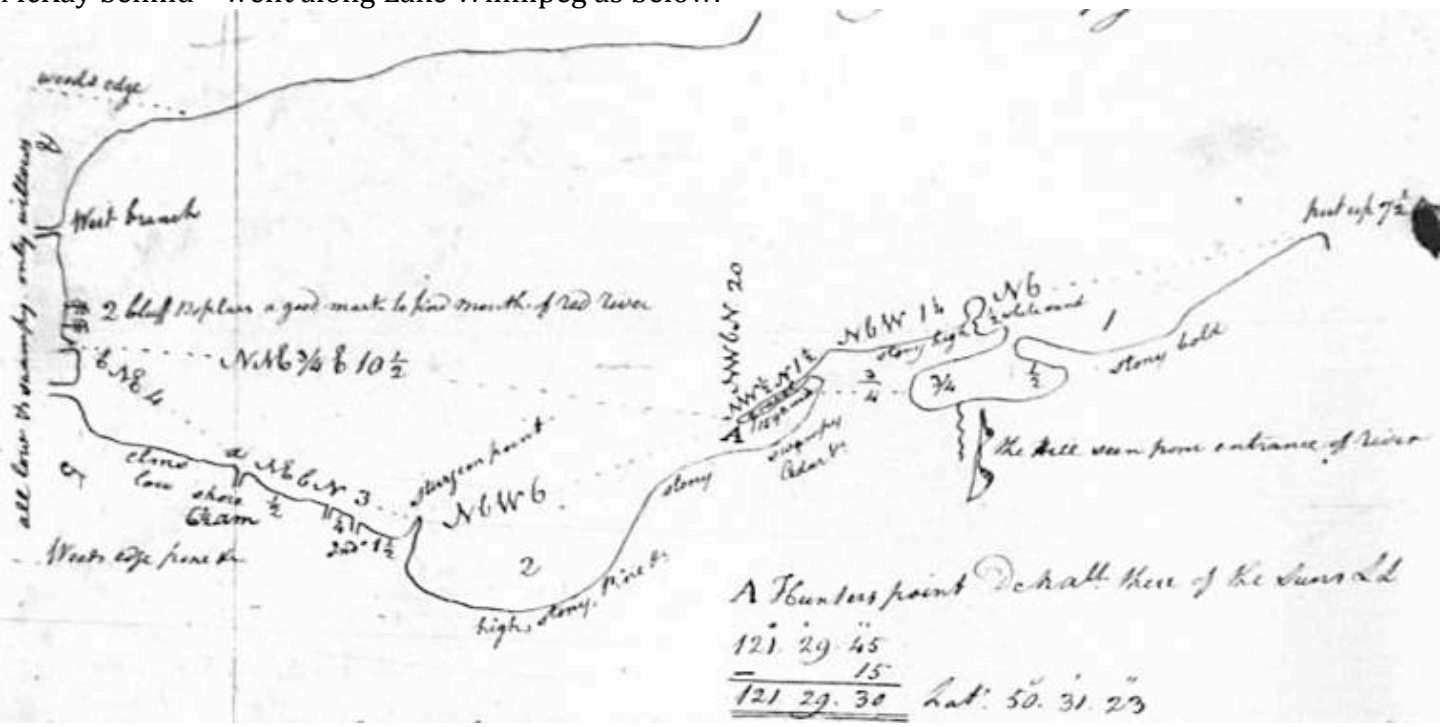
25th Wednesday – Embarked at 5#.30' Am. NbW 1 – NNW 1 a large branch on the right & a small one on the left – NbW ¾ – N ½ small branch N S or left – NNE ½ middling branch on right & not more than 50 yds wide the part we are now in – NbE ¾ Old poplar Tree in mud N S several fathoms round the trunk NEbE ¾ small Creek S S – NNE ½ – NE ½ & came to the entrance of Lake Winnipeg at 7#.20' & stopped for wind – very low swampy, since above Dead River – A vast quantities of Geese & Ducks. –



Lake beyond Duntons point Compass NNE ½ NbE 1 N & NW many low

25th Strong Gale at NW. 2 Freemen came here – 18 of them are going to the Athapescow to hunt for themselves – all these observations taken where we lay by. the west branch about 3 or 4 miles off – 26th Set a Net 1 Sucker 1 flatfish & 2 Jack – Strong breezes could not Embark – 27th Strong Gale at NW Day & Night – could not embark

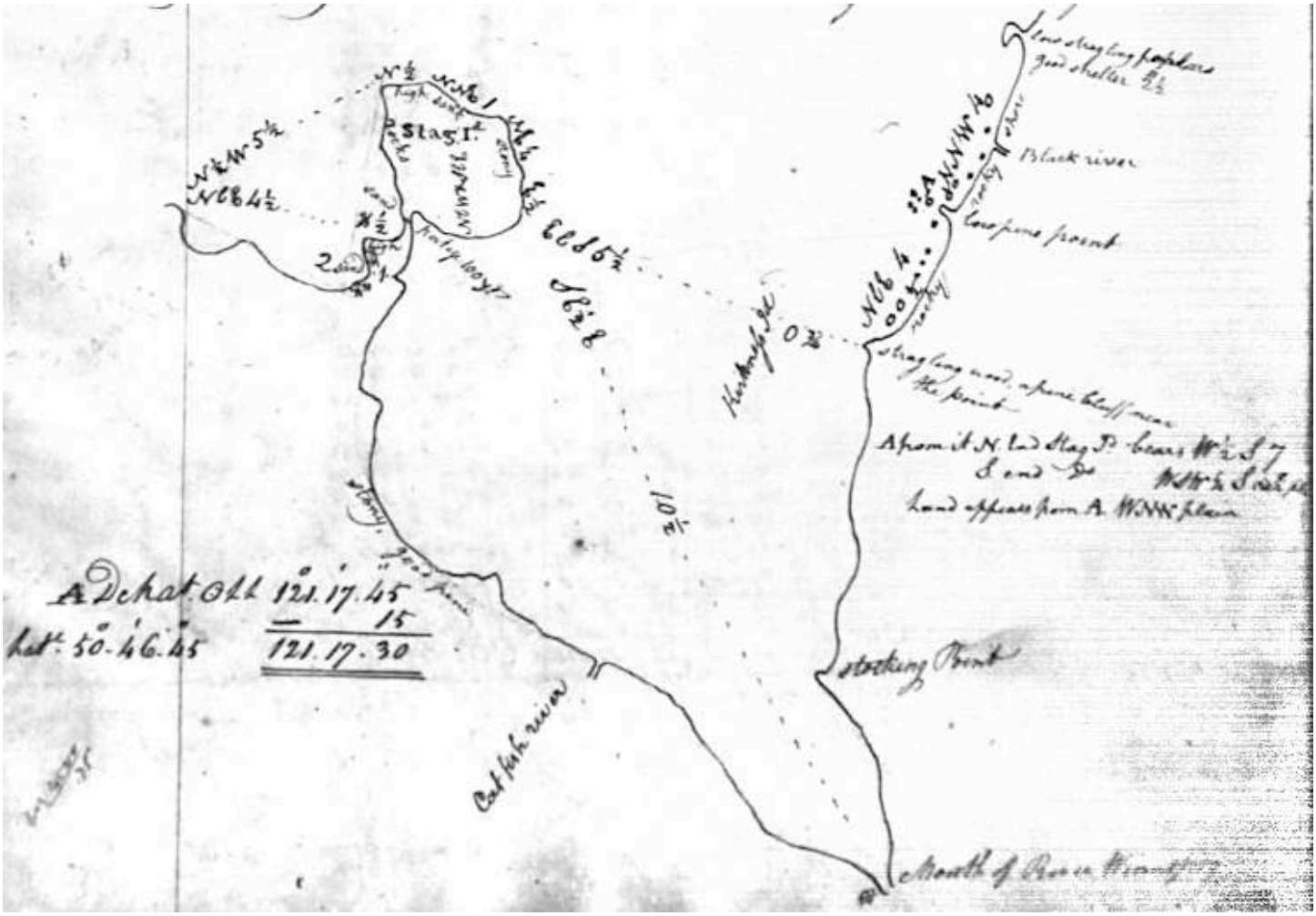
May 28th Saturday – at 4#.3' am we got underway – I now embark in the Canoe with our 2 men – left Mr McKay behind – went along Lake Winnipeg as below. –



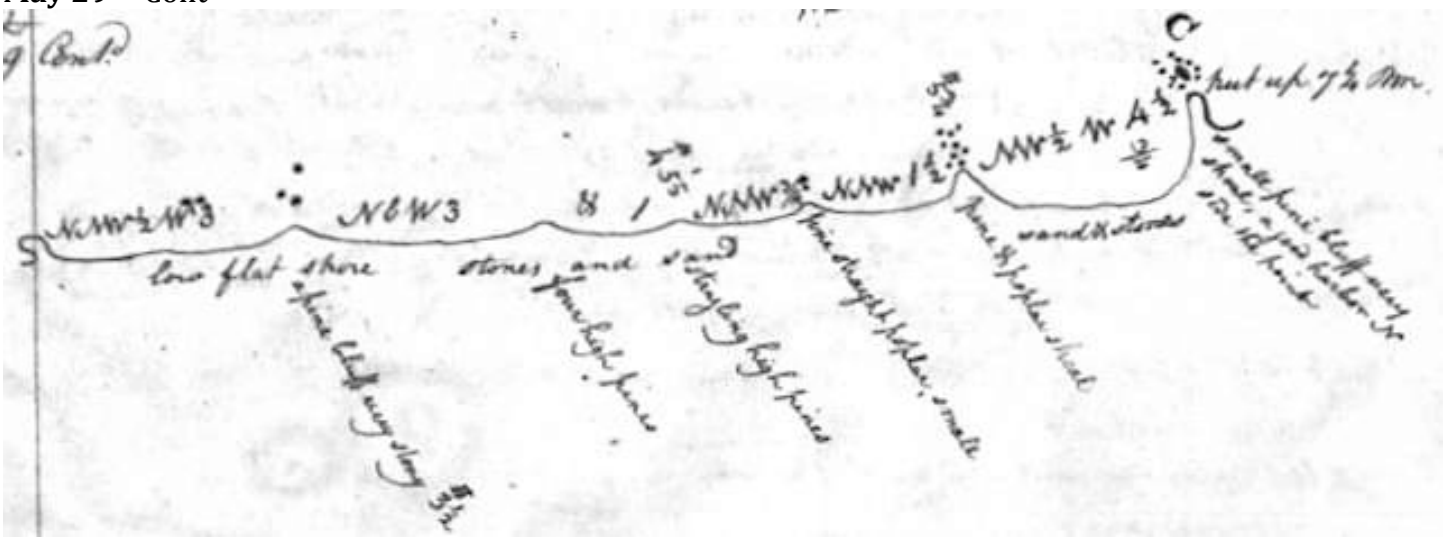
woods edge all low swampy only willows West branch 2 bluff Poplars a good mark to find mouth of Red River EbS 4 NNE ¾ b 10 ½ close low shore Grass NEbN 3 ½ ½ ½ Sturgeon point NW b 6 2 high stony Pine Is stony SWbW 20 NWbN 1 ½ swampy Cedar Is NEbW 1 ½ stony high ¾ N b 2 ½ ¾ stony bold 1 put up 7H.2 the Hill seen from entrance of river Woods edge from here A Hunters point

a end of Elms, white Grass upper cheek of the Creek & willows on lower & her dry trees standg Lay by for wind at Hunters point from 10 am to 4#.4' Pm. The Boats made a straight Course from mouth of river to Hunters point & arrived there ½ hour before us – we got some roots to repair our Canoe with – put up in company with Mr McKay & wrote a Letter to send by him to Mr Hodgson Chief at Albany. – calm evening – 2 Miles N of Hunters point the last of the Oaks & these very small. saw an Indn at night

29th Sunday – at 5#.50' Am Embarked & went along Lake Winnipeg as before.


Stag I.
Black river
stocking Point
Cod fish river
Mouth of Bonne Bramptn
A Dclnat. Obl 121.17.45
15
121.17.30
Lat. 50.46.45

May 29th Contd



NWbW ½ 3 low flat shore N b W 3 pine bluff very long 3 ½ stones and few high pines h 5.5 straggling high pines NNW 3 thin straight poplars small NWbN 1 ½ pine & poplar shoal NW ½ W 4 ½ sand & stones C put up 7 ½ Pm. small pine bluff very shoal, a good harbor inside the point

All these Observations taken at C.

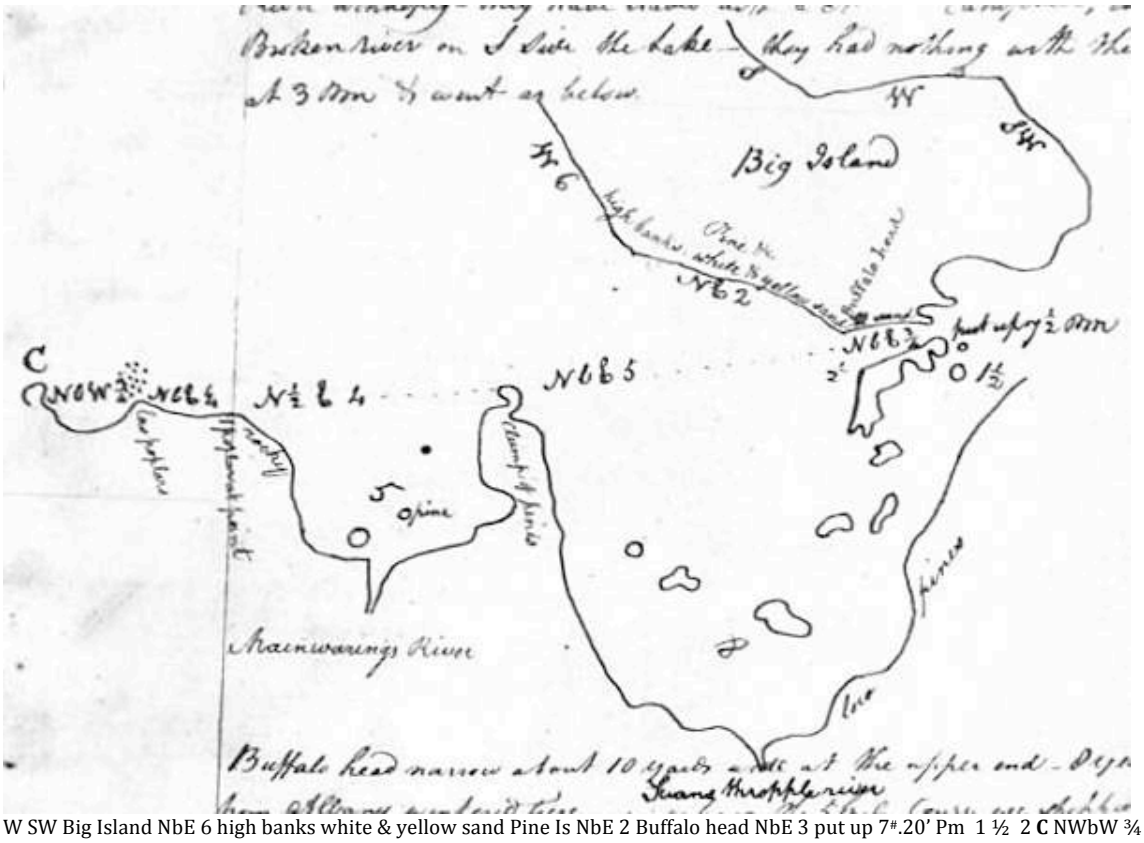
29

	Dehll ☉ ☾	Diagon			☿ ☉ ☌ ☾	
	83. 39. 0	☾ 82. 45 b	22. 39. 45	61. 22. 0		☉ ♄ 57. 22. 15
20	84. 8. 0	82. 30	40. 48	22. 30		aa 57. 22. 48
	83. 53. 30	☾ 82. 37	41. 42	23. 0		Sem 15. 48
	15		42. 34	23. 15		☿ ♃ 14. 40. 25
	83. 53. 15	Var 11. 33 b	43. 40	23. 45		aa 13. 48. 46
	☉ ☾		44. 31	24. 15		Sem 15. 37
	90. 50. 0	☾ 77 b	45. 17	24. 45		Mq 57. 7
21	91. 12. 0	76. 45	46. 8	25. 0		−11″ − 44″ 0 + 3″
	42. 0	76. 30	47. 0	25. 30		61. 11. 2
	91. 14. 40	☾ 76. 45	47. 48	26. 0		
	15		22. 43. 55	61. 24. 0		
	91. 14. 25	Var 12. 28 b	+ 1. 56	15		
		☉ ☾	22. 45. 51	61. 23. 45		95° 59′ ¾
	20. 54. 33	87. 38. 45				
	55. 23	53. 0				
	56. 14	89. 7. 45				
	20. 55. 23	87. 53. 10				
	+ 2. 8	15				
	20. 57. 31	87. 52. 55				
	Dehall			☿ ☉ ☌ ☾		
30	☉ ☾		0. 4. 40	62. 2. 15		☉ ♃ 60. 1. 45
	120. 59. 45		5. 34	2. 45		aa 60. 2. 14
	15	Half	6. 35	3. 15		Sem 15. 48
	120. 59. 30	57. 4. 45	7. 21	3. 30		☿ ♃ 27. 15. 30
		Dehll	8. 20	4. 0		aa 26. 26. 13
		☉ ☾	9. 16	4. 15		Sem 15. 44
	2. 15. 40	100. 22. 30	10. 5	4. 30		Mq 57. 10
	16. 30	10	10. 54	5. 0		+3″ − 41″ 0 + 3″
	17. 13	99. 52. 45	11. 36	5. 30		61. 54. 27
	2. 16. 28	100. 10. 25	12. 23	5. 45		
	+ 1. 44	15	0. 8. 40	62. 4. 4		
	2. 18. 12	100. 10. 10	+ 1. 56	15		
			0. 10. 36	62. 3. 49		96° 8′ ¼
				☿ ☉ ☌ ☾		
			2. 4. 40	62. 52. 0		☉ ♄ 51. 14. 15
			6. 33	52. 15		aa 51. 14. 55
			7. 18	52. 45		Sem 15. 48
			8. 3	53. 0		☿ ♃ 42. 56. 0
			8. 48	53. 30		aa 42. 14. 42
			9. 38	53. 45		Sem 15. 48
			10. 30	54. 0		Mq 57. 13
			11. 18	54. 15		
			12. 4	54. 45		+23″ − 29″ 53″ + 3″
			12. 48	55. 0		62. 55. 25
			2. 9. 10	62. 53. 31		
			+ 1. 56	15		
			2. 11. 6	62. 53. 16		95° 55′ ¼

Mean 96° 1′ 5″

May 29th Left Elk Island at 9#.20', where we parted company with Mr McKay & the 4 Albany Boats. – & got across to East Side of the Lake at 11#.5'. Calm nearly but a thick smoaky air – stoped ½ hour at Noon – from **C** the Elk Island bears South – & from **C,** S. end of another big Is^d **M**. WSW ½ S – & South end of another big Island WNW ½ N

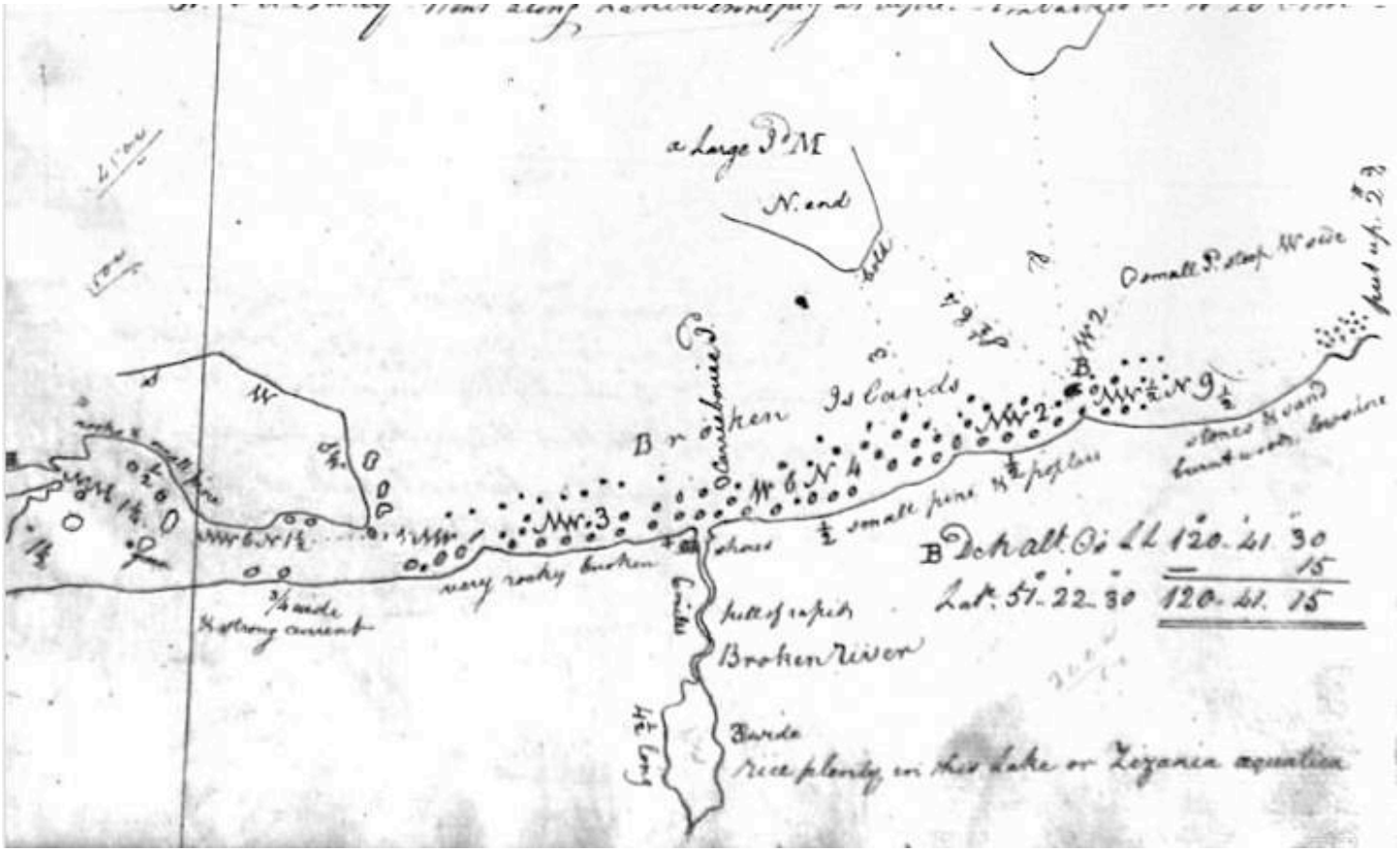
30th Monday – Strong Gale at NW till 3 Pm – very clear sky all Day till near night then thick smoaky air as usual. – passed by us 2 Canoes of Bungees going to the River Winnipeg – they have traded with a Mr Campbell, in a Deep bay beyond Broken river on S Side the Lake – they had nothing with them. – Embarked at 3 Pm & went as below.



W SW Big Island NbE 6 high banks white & yellow sand Pine Is NbE 2 Buffalo head NbE 3 put up 7#.20' Pm 1 ½ 2 **C** NWbW ¾ NEbE ¼ N ½ E 4 NbE 5 low poplars Poplar point rocky 5 pine Clump of pines hainwarings River pines low Tuang thropple river

Buffalo head narrow about 10 Yards wide at the upper end – 13 years ago Mr Couston from Albany wintered here – in crossing the Traverse we shipped much water the wind freshening up. evening quite calm.

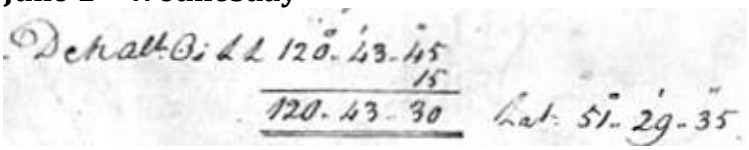
31st Tuesday Went along Lake Winnipeg as before. – Embarked at 4#.20' Am –



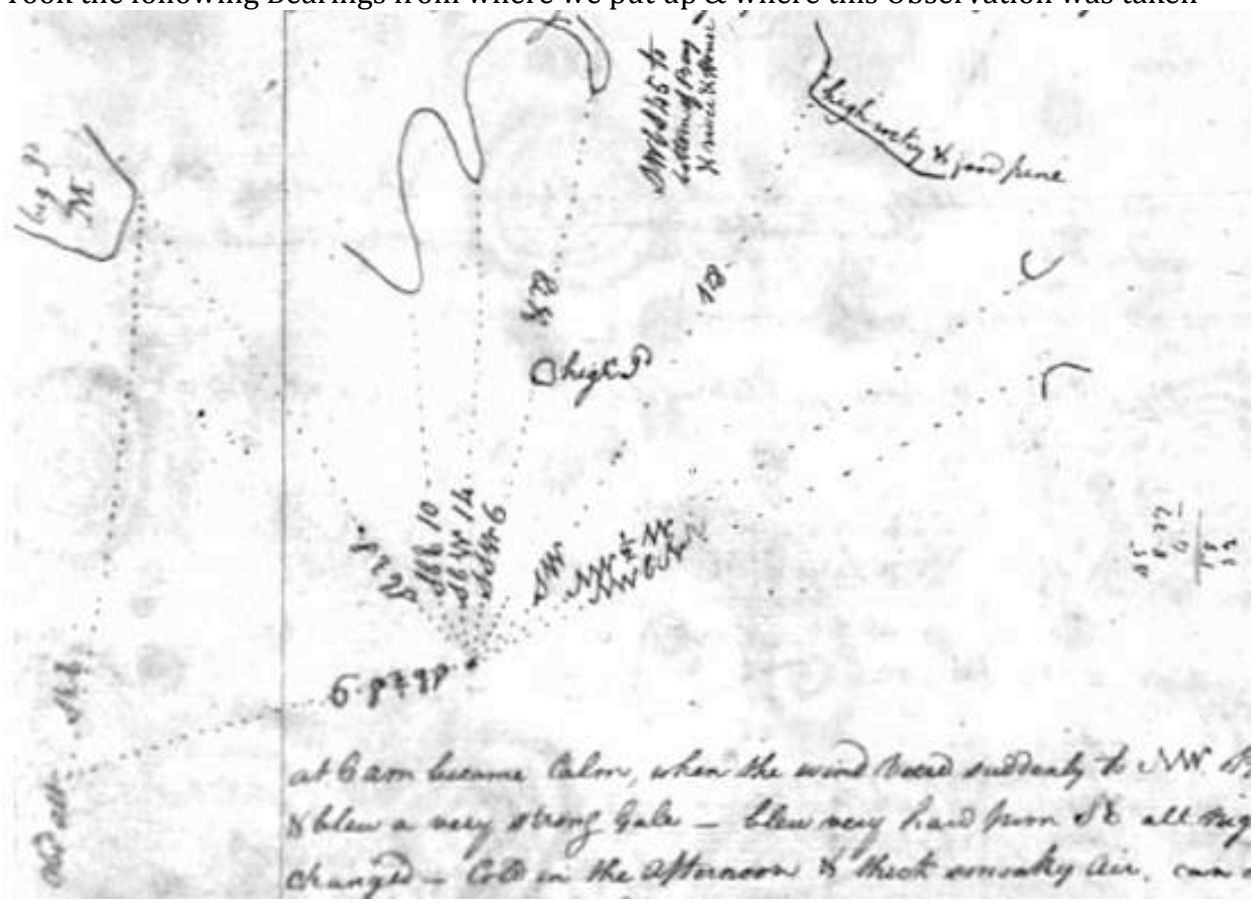
a Large Id M N. end bold SEbS 8 small Is steep W side put up 2#.¾ W rocks & small pines 2 b right 1 ½ WbN 1 ½ ¾ wide & strong current NW 3 very rocky broken Broken Islands Carribou Is **M** N 4 chose NW 2 NWbW 9 ½ ½ small pine ½ poplars stones & sand burnt wood, low pine B 1 ½ full of rapids Broken River B 6 miles 4 ½ long **B** wide rice plenty in this Lake or Zizania aquatica

May 31st The N end of the Broken Islands extends about 2 Miles NW of where the Observation was taken, they are composed of Hard rock with small pines on most of them – they are all very small – have been formerly disjointed from the Main Land by some eruption – or perhaps, they are the only visible remains of the Main Land, the earthy parts being washed away by the waters, this appears to me the most probable – as the Ground along the Shores of the Lake here is composed of rocks with with intervening vallies of wood, Good earth & sand. – Stoped at mouth of Broken river from 6 ½ to 9 ½ am – where was Mr Campbell, & 5 Canadians, who had wintered in a deep bay on SW Side of the Lake near here – he had made 14 Packs from 23 Bungee Hunters – 18 Canoes of them – Calm till 10 am then light breezes till 2 ¾ Pm at SE. then blew strong from the same quarter & thick smoaky air – Sailed the last 8 miles & obliged to put ashore too much Swell to proceed. 3 Large & 1 middle size Canoe met us 2 miles beyond last Observation, they came from Red River along SW Side – there are 21 Men of them all free except one Man, they are going to the Athapescow to hunt Beaver – they put up 1 ½ mile a head of us.

June 1st Wednesday –



Took the following Bearings from where we put up & where this Observation was taken

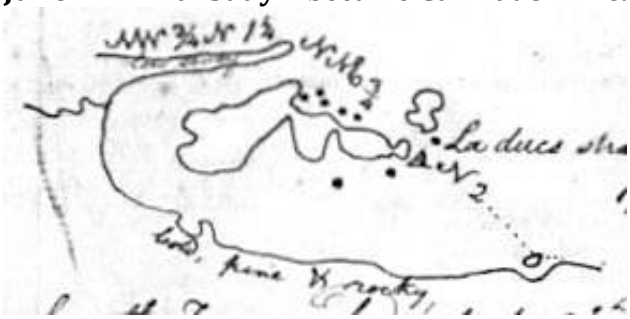


big Id M NWbW ½ SEbW 1 ½ SEbW SW NWbN ½ NWbN high Id NWbN 5 to bottom of Bay Rice River high rocky & Good pine 1 ½ EbS ½ 1 ½ EbS ½ 1 ½ EbS ½ 1 ½ Old alt SE 6#.8' Pm

at 6 am became Calm, when the wind Veered suddenly to NW Opposite to where it was before & blew a very strong Gale – blew very hard from SE all night & until ½ hour before it Changed – Cold in the Afternoon & thick smoaky Air, can observe the Sun very well with the lightest shades every day as yet

that the smoaky air has been – The 18 Canoes of Bungees we saw 30 Ult. much wished us to build at the Broken river or Burnt wood River by Bungee name – almost promised them we would this fall –

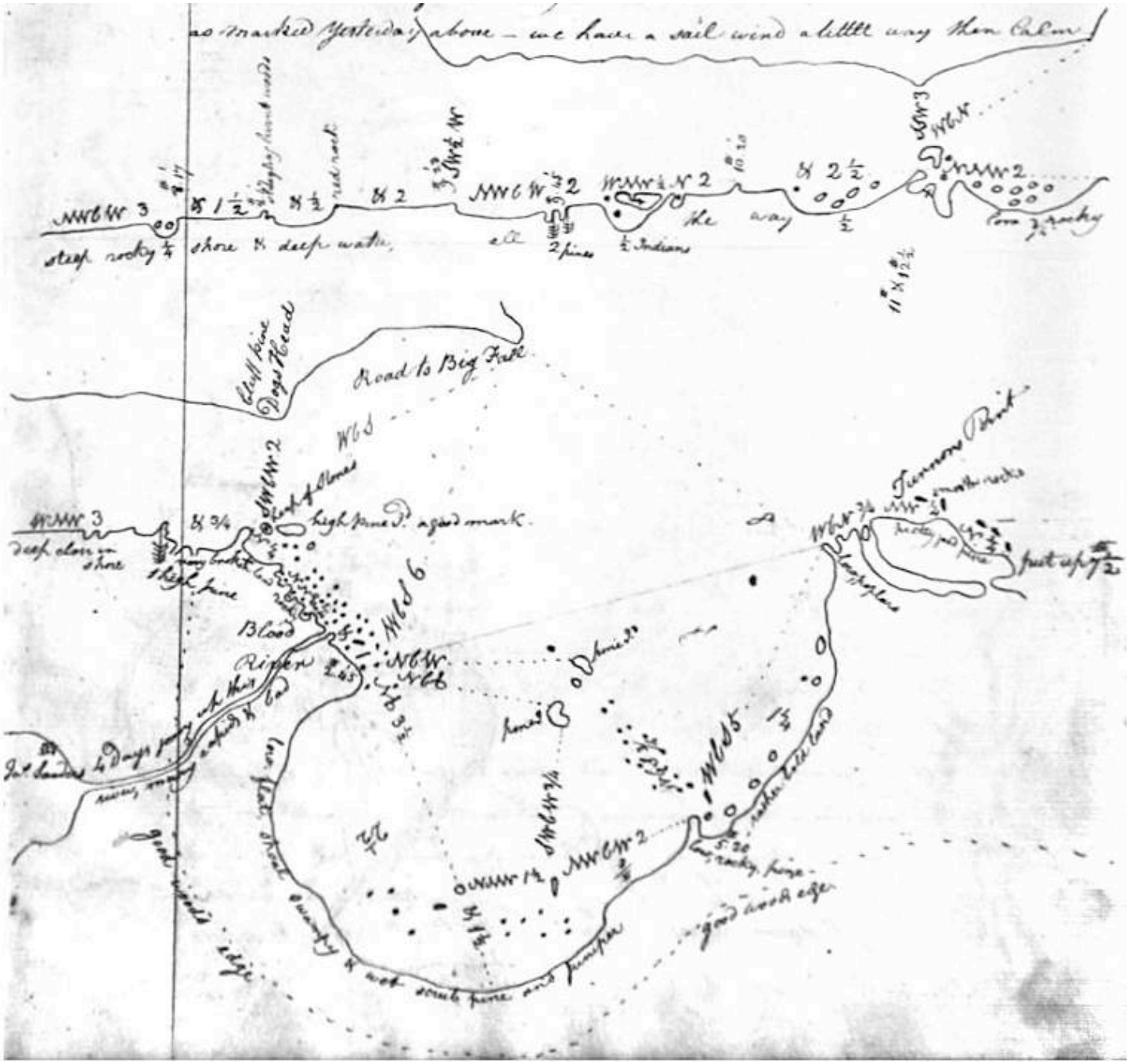
June 2nd Thursday – became Calm at 3 Am & we got underway & went as below.



NW ¾ N 1 ½ low swampy WbN 3 SbW 2 La ducs straight.

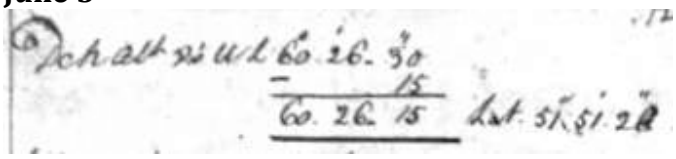
La ducs straight. a Canadian of this name was drowned here in 1773. **A** Bluff of Pine – between the Islands 20 yds a Good sleeping & Fishing place on small Id bold, pine & rocky here the Free men had put up 31st Ult. – Obliged to remain here a heavy Gale at ESE – The Man with the Canadian woman his wife, means to winter with Mr Tomison at Duck Lake, in Churchill river – gave him a Sketch to find it – curious strata or ribs of Stone on back side of the Big Id above – This Man Chetchet Alarie in particular has a Letter of recommendation from Mr Hugh Heny – added a Confirmation to it –

3rd Friday – Heavy thunder & rain in the Night – & the Muskettoes made their first appearance in this Lake – Strong Gale all Night until 6 Am when it rather abated & we got underway at 6 ¾ Am & went the N 2 Miles to the Main as marked Yesterday above – we had a sail wind a little way then Calm.



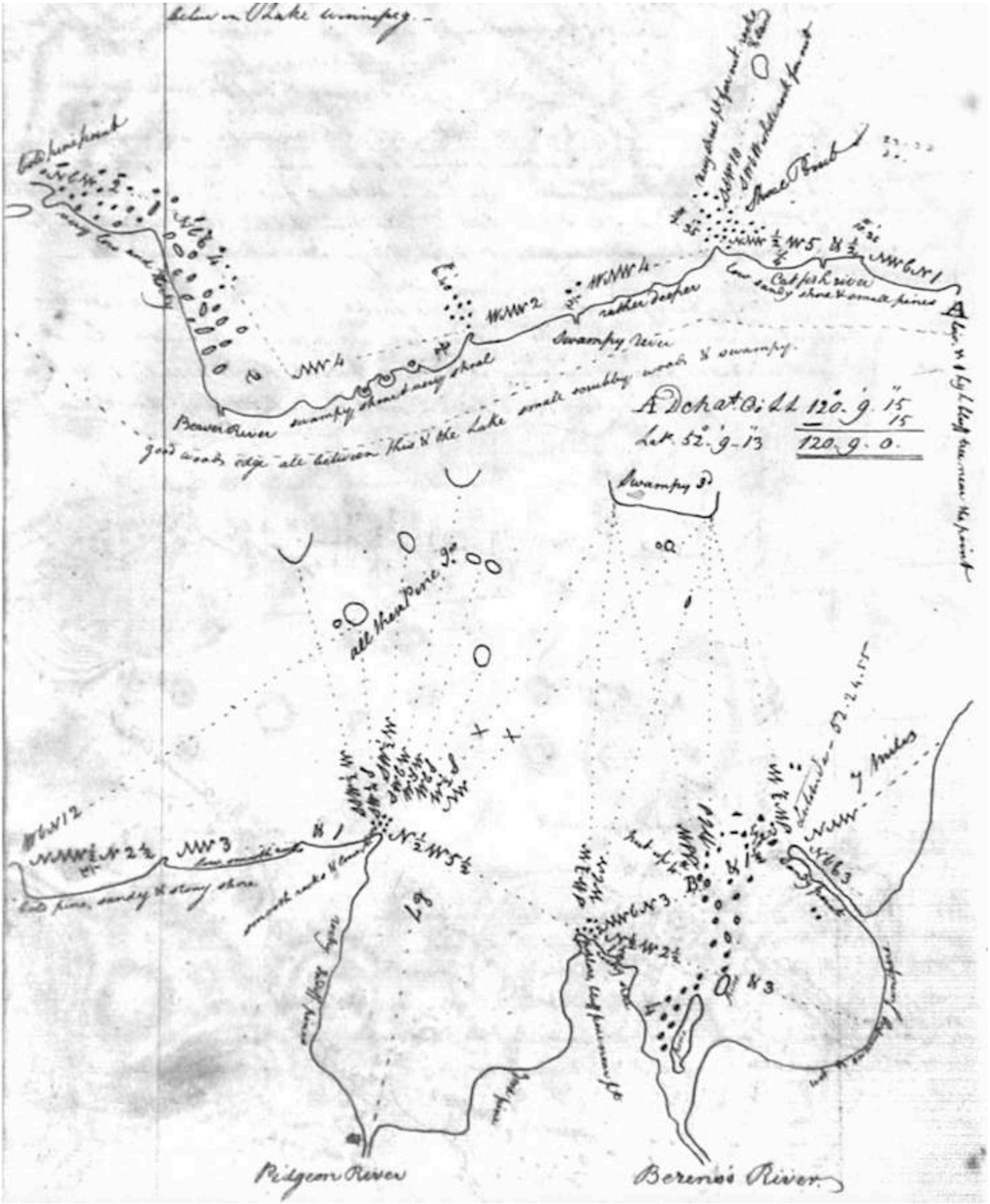
NWbW 3 steep rocky 8.17 E 1 ½ ¼ straggling burnt woods red rock E ½ E 2 SWbW NWbW ¾ 2 all 2 pines W NWbN 2 ½ Indians 10.20 the E 2 ½ way ½ WbN 3 WbN NNW 2 low & rocky 11H x 12H Bluff pine Dogs Head Road to Big Fall WNW 3 deep close in shore E ¾ 1 high pine WNW 2 reef of Stones WbS high pine Id a good mark. Blood River Inds Landing 4 days going up this river, many rapids & bad good woods edge 2.45 NbW NbE SbE 3 ½ low flat shoal swampy & wet scrub pine and juniper E 2 WbS 5WbS ¾ low poplars Turnors Point smooth rocks rocky pine put up 7H.2

June 3rd



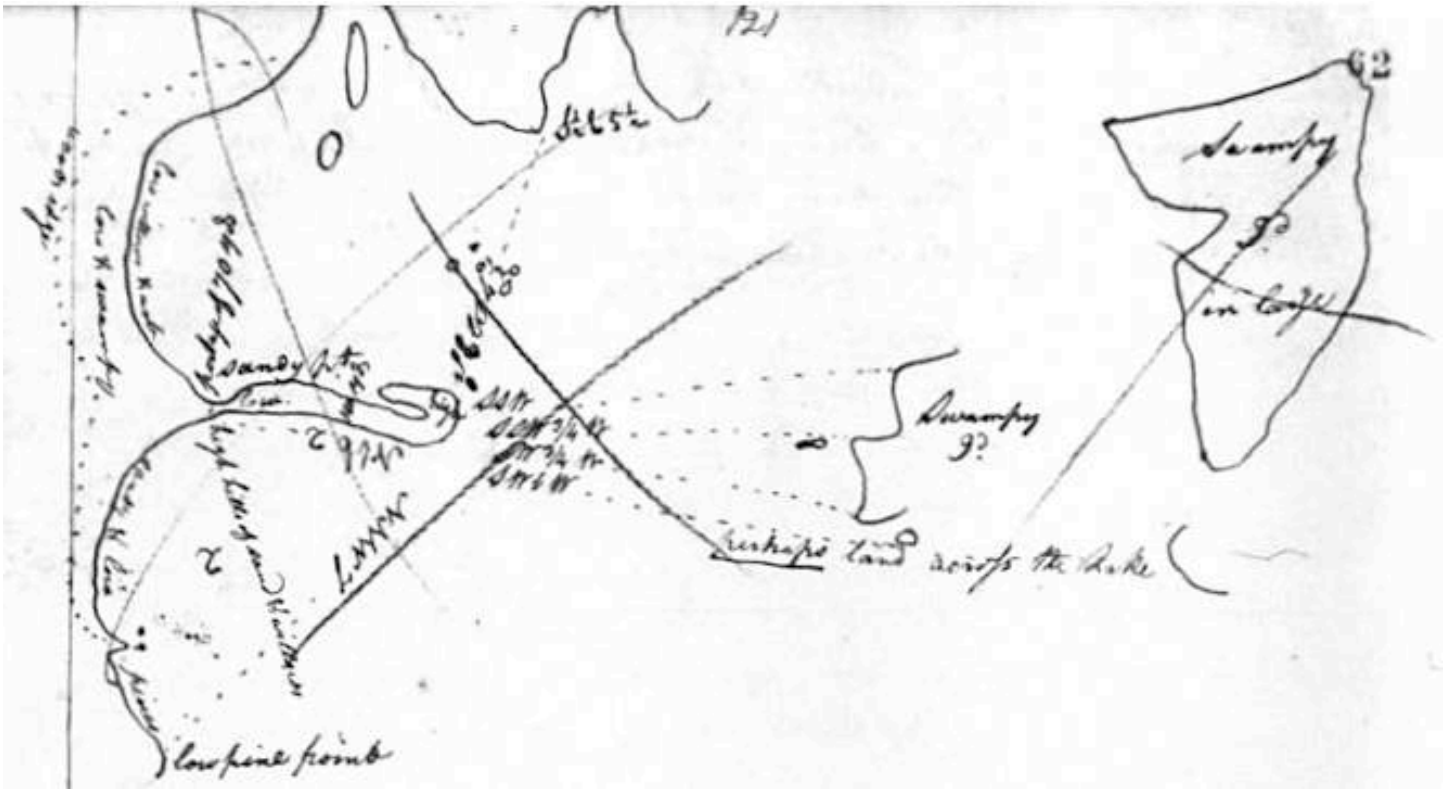
Dist N 62 ½ W Variation 10..35 East taken where we put up. –

4th Saturday – At 5#.25' Am Embarked, fine flat smooth rocks where we slept – went as below in Lake Winnipeg. –



bold pine point NWbW 5 very low and Rocky NbE 4 NW 4 Beaver River swampy shoal & very shoal E ½ S WNW 2 WNW 4 rather Deeper Swampy river very shoal & far out rocks SSW 10 SWbW 10 SWbW 10 rocks out far out Stone Point 22.32 ½ W 5 low sandy shore & small pines Catfish river WbN 1 A pine & high bluff tree near the point Good woods edge all between this & the Lake small scrubby woods & swampy. **A** Swampy Id all these Pine Is

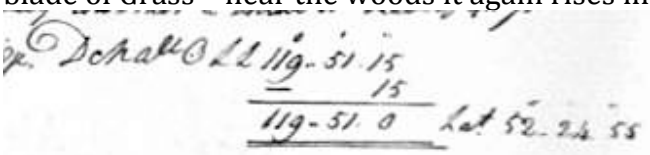
June



Sandy Pt, Swampy, low pine point, Blood River, Berens River, Isd, SSW, SW b W, NW b W, Perhaps land across the Lake, low pine point

Good pine bluff near mouth Swampy river on NS. – Did not see exactly either the mouth of Blood or Swampy river – found black water about where I have put down the Blood river – Don't think it is above 1 mile from it – perhaps more in the Bay to the North of where I have placed it. – put up on the small rocky Is^d **B** on the S side at 7 ½ PM Berens river the Canadians go thro, who winter on the Island Lake & all thro that Country it is a pretty fine river –

5th Sunday – Left the small rocky Is^d at 4 ½ AM & obliged to stop at the Sandy or Foxes point after going 1 ½ mile for wind; blowing up strong at NW – the end of the Point about 30 feet high with small scrub birch & willows – the remainder of the long projecting point is entire sand & very low – not a shrub or blade of Grass – near the woods it again rises into high sandy ridge.



Got a great quantity of Eggs from the small rocky Is near the point – they are Gulls mostly

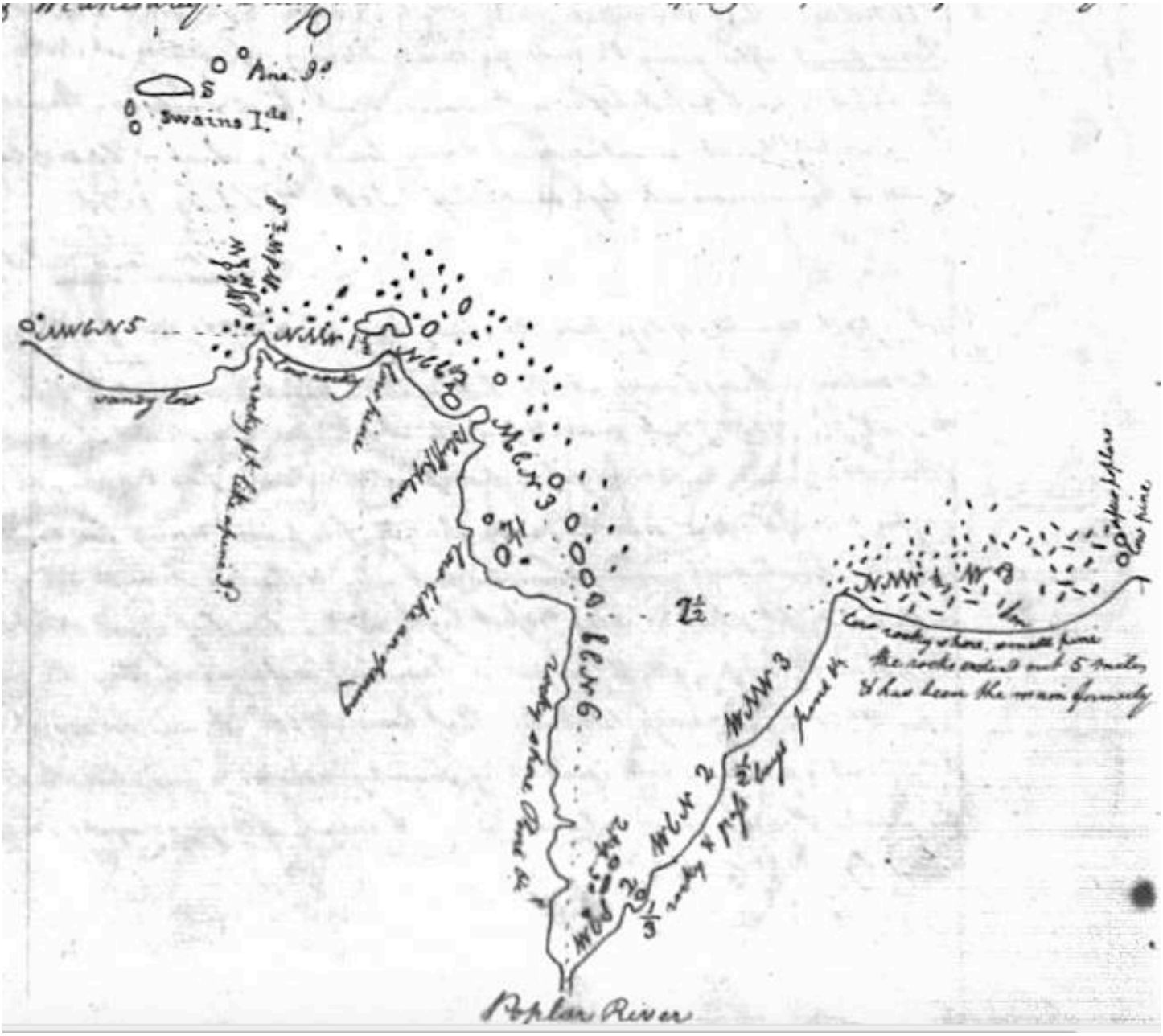
6th Monday – Strong breeze at N. but varied 2 points more easterly & we got underway & went the NNW. 7 mile course & put up at 9 ½ AM – we started at 5 ½ – the wind Detained us much until we got inshore from the Sandy point – I walked along shore all thro 7 miles – fine smooth sandy shore & low pines – & very low land & swampy within – much drift wood where we put up – & shoal – From the top of the extremity of the Sandy Pt which is near 30 feet high with a Bush of Birch & Poplars I observed the above bearings – all p Compass. – I am not certain whether the Land I saw is an Is^d or Land across the Lake that bears SWbW. It was as much as I could see it – about ½ mile near Foxes point very swampy, willows & fine place the little Bay there for Ducks & Geese – found a Canoe here – & many Sturgeon laying on the Shore Killed by Ind. lately –

June 7th Tuesday – Embarked at 5 ½ AM & kept close along shore – a very strong Gale at ENE – we had a heavy swell before we put up at 4 ½ PM – Cloudy weather could not get an observation – heavy rain most part of the Night with heavy Thunder went along Lake Winnipeg as before.

low pine point, NWbN 6, low sandy shore, Leaf river, NW 8, like an Isd at point, no wood, near the water edge, quite bare, willows & pine wood, NWbN 6, Pine Is, hummock poplars & low

near the waters edge quite bare and Swampy – with Junipers & willows & here & there a few pines within – at the Big Stone 4 small pines close together. Leaf river 10 yds wide – shoal – comes from about ENE – Three small creeks running out of the Swamp – a number of shoal rocks out in the last bay before we put up & near the Point where we put up – The 3° & this morning waited to observe the Eclipses of J_t Satellites but the bad weather hindered me observing them – very smoaky Air till yesterday – since then we can see pretty well about. Cold weather

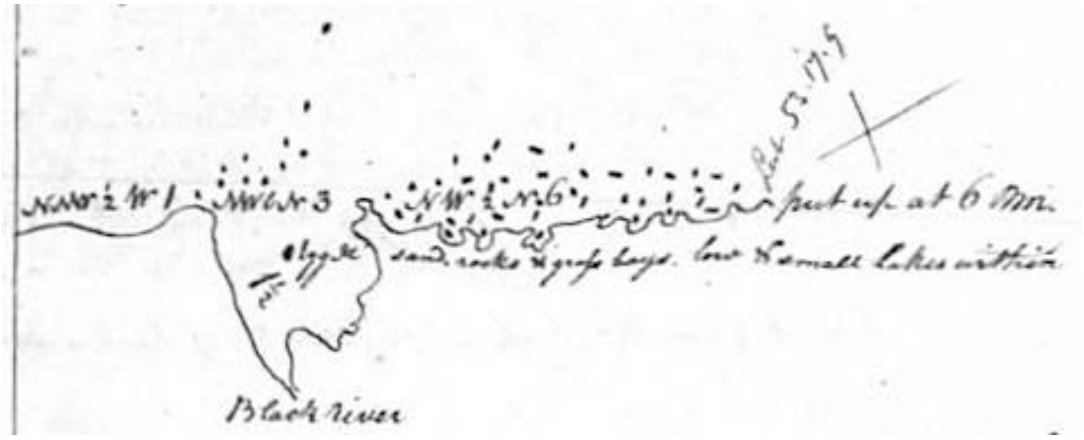
8th Wednesday. Strong wind could not embark before 9 AM, when we got underway



"Swains Ids", "Pine Isd", "NWbN 5", "sandy low", "NWbW", "low rocky Pt like a pine Isd", "NWbN", "low pine", "Bluff Poplars", "low like an opening", "NbW 3", "SEbE 6", "rocky shore Pine &c", "2 ½", "WbN 2", "WNW 3", "rocky & moss", "Large pine Isd", "Poplar River", "low rocky shore small pine the rocks extend out 5 miles & has been the main formerly", "Poplar & pine", "low pine"

June 8th Entered the Poplar River at 1 PM – went up it expecting to find Mr Thomas Swain here to pass this way down to Severn. – Courses up Poplar river EbN ½ – SE ¼ – EbN ½ ESE ¼ – EbN ½ small poplar Isd NS & 2 old Trading Houses opposite on SS. river from 20 to 80 yds wide, easy current, rocky & grass banks, small Pine & Poplar & Birch – found 1 Tent of Indians here – they had seen nothing of Mr Swain – so we return back from this place – Arrived at the Tent at 4 & left it at 5 PM they all ran into the woods at our arrival – there is a branch on left just here & ½ mile above this is a rapid & portage where Mr Thomas Swain Observed the Latitude 52°.58'.31" This summer, when he went here to Settle, but finding neither Indians or Canadians returned back. put up on one of the 2 small Poplar Isd at 6.40 PM – an excelent sleeping place about 2 miles or better from the Entrance of the river – The Albany people built a small House at <u>mouth</u> of the Poplar river 2 years ago. on NS – Jacob took many Eggs off the small rocky Islands –

9th Thursday – At 6 ½ AM Embarked & went out of the Poplar river bay as marked Yesterday & the NNW ½ W Course of 8 Miles then went as under –

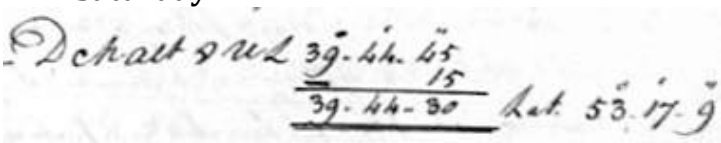


"NNW ½ W 1", "WNW 3", "NWbN 6", "Lat 53.17.9", "put up at 6 PM", "Eggs", "sand, rocks & grass bays, low & small lakes within", "Black river"

Stopped three hours in the Course of the Day, partly for rain – heavy rain when we put up – Large white fleecy clouds going in every direction before the rain came on & blew afterwards hard at NE – forenoon pretty calm. –

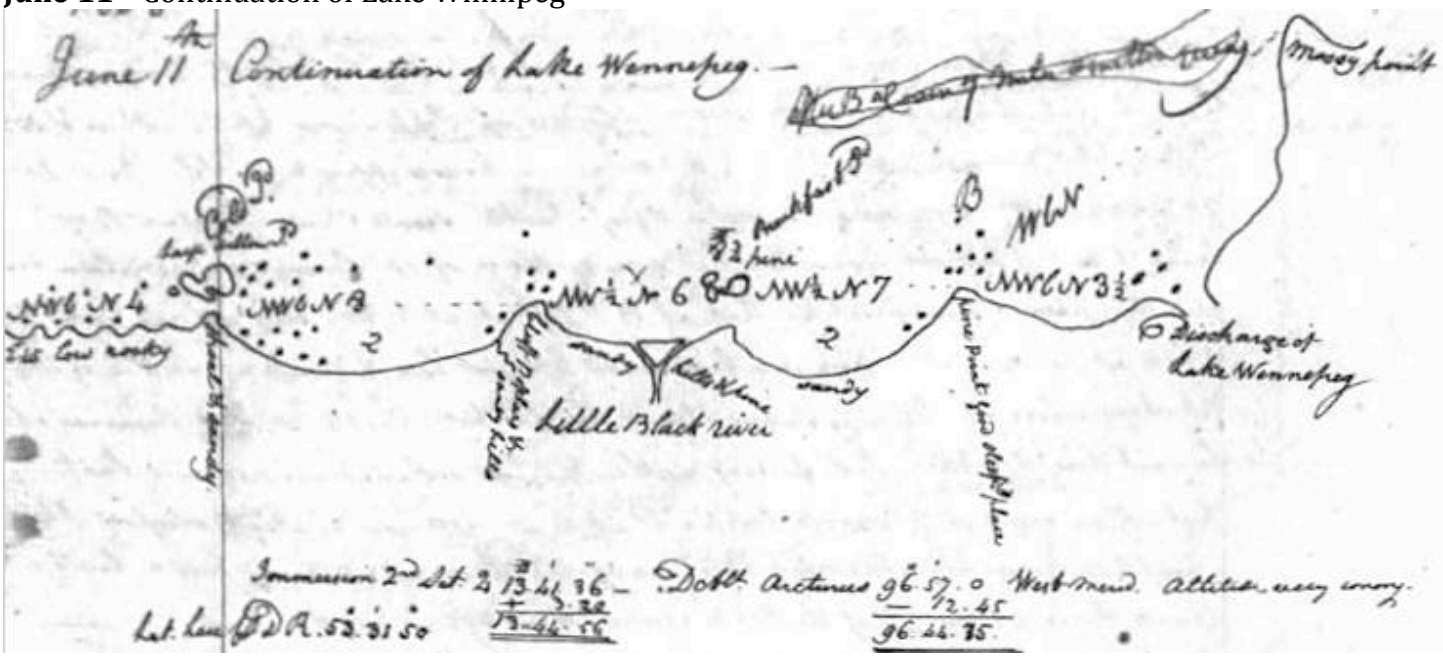
10th Friday Lay by all Day Cold freezing weather – Snow from 5 am till 5 ½ PM – without Intermission – At the White fall about 70 miles NE from this it fell 8 Inches – here not so much, but great part of it melted in the afternoon – it was 3 days after before it all went away being hot weather –

11th Saturday –



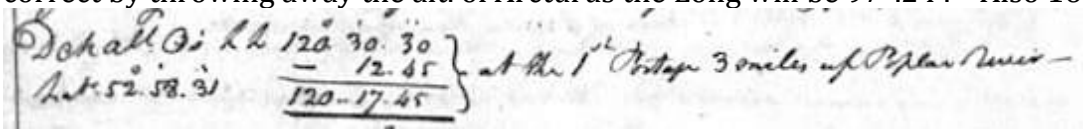
At 2#.45' AM cold frosty morning, we embarked & went as over – Met Mr Thomas Swain in One Canoe 7 miles from the Entrance of this Lake at 11 AM – with 1 four & 3 men changed Canoes & men with him – he is to go by the Poplar river down to Severn Factory – parted company with him at 4 ½ PM – he could not find a Pilot at Poplar river, so he returned back this way down to YF [York Fort] & went by Land to Severn in July. – Arrived at Entrance of the Lake at 7 ½ & put up – Mr Bird passed here 3 Days ago.

June 11th Continuation of Lake Winnipeg –



"NWbN 4", "Isds low rocky", "Large Willow Isd", "NWbN 3", "shoal & sandy", "Bluff Poplars", "sandy hills", "Little Black river", "NWbN 6", "8 June", "Breakfast Isd", "NWbN 7", "sandy", "Lime Point good sleepg place", "WNW", "NWbW 3 ½", "Discharge of Lake Winnipeg", "Mossy point"

Immersion 2nd Sat [Jupiter symbol] 13#.41'.36" – Dble Arcturus 96.57.0 West merd.
+ 3.20 - 12.45 Lat. here [Sun symbol] DR. 52°.31'.50" _____ _____ 13.44.56 96.44.15.
Altitude very wrong. reading 46°.57' instead of 96°.57'. The Error of the Watch will be 3'.20" additive – which will give the Longitude 96°.31 ¾ W which is too little by upwards of 1° – allowing the Watch correct by throwing away the alt. of Arcturus the Long will be 97°.24'. – Also 16 June 1808 Obs Alt

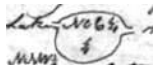


at the 1st Portage 3 miles up Poplar River –

The above Observations by Mr Thomas Swain. – The Observation of Jupiter's Satellites was made at the entrance of the Black Rivulet 1 ½ mile beyond the Island which at a Distance appears like 3 Islands – The Mossy Point can be seen from them.

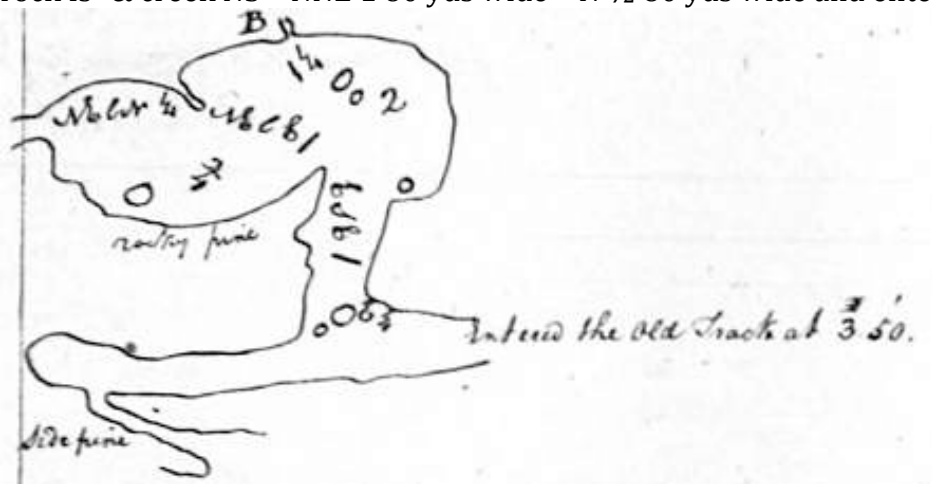
12th Sunday Embarked at 4 AM & put up at the Mouth of Each away mamis river at 8 PM –

13th Monday Got underway at 4 ½ AM & arrived at White fall at 9 ½ AM & found Mr Bird & Pruden here – all over except the Boats.

14th Tuesday – Left the White fall at 2 PM – & Entered the river at 3#.22' that avoids the Hill Portage as it has not been surveyed before, I pass that way, went down it as follows. NNE ¾ small bay on the right – NbW ¼ a Stony narrow 20 yds wide – NNE ⅛ and entered a small Lake –  [NbE ¼] near NEbN 1 – 30 yds wide a Stony place & rather shoal – ENE ⅛ – NNE ½ – NNW ⅛ a small bay on the left – NEbN ½ a small Creek on NS – EbN ¾ – NEbE ¼ – NNE ¾ a small Poplar & Birch Island & a shoal ripple, deepest water on the right – NE ¾ – N ½ a Strong rapid Carried NS 40 yds. very steep rocks lowered the Boats down Empty – got here at 4 ½ & put up at the bottom – late – low swampy sides above & scrub wood. – This Rapid is 2 or 3 Breaks, & bad – the Boats can go down tolerably but not up. – easy current the whole way above –

15th Wednesday. Embarked at 4 ½ AM & went down the river WbS ¼ – SWbW ¼ a narrow place between smooth rocks & shoot of current – W ½ all kind of Branch on the left – NNE ½ steep rocks NS – NNE ⅛ a very narrow stony shoot & high steep rocks on both sides – deep water – ENE ¾ 15 yds wide – NEbN ¾ – ENE ½ – EbN ½ 12 yds wide NEbE ½ steep high rocks on NS – NE ½ steep rocks on both Sides –

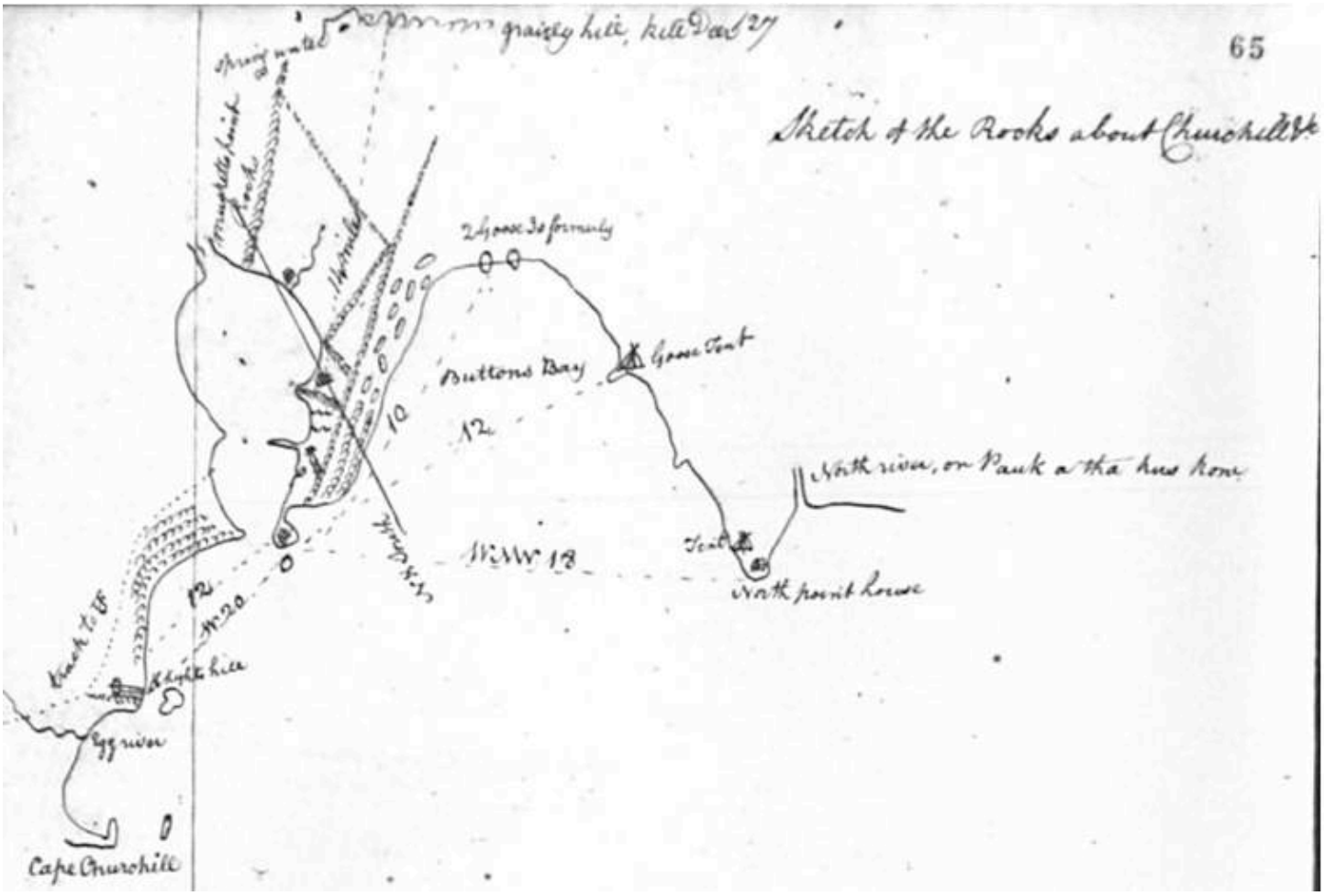
June NEbN ½ – NE ⅛ a strong rapid 150 yds long ran the Canoe down it but lowered the Boat down all Cargo in – shoal at Bottom – very steep rocks SS channell abt 11 yds wide – bad place to carry any thing at – hurt one of the Boats got here at 5#.50' & before the Boat was repaired & loaded it was 7#.15' before we Embarked – proceed down the river little current & deep – NEbN ½, narrow, steep rocks on both sides, a rock Is^{d} & creek NS – NNE 1 80 yds wide – N ½ 80 yds wide and entered a Lake as under.

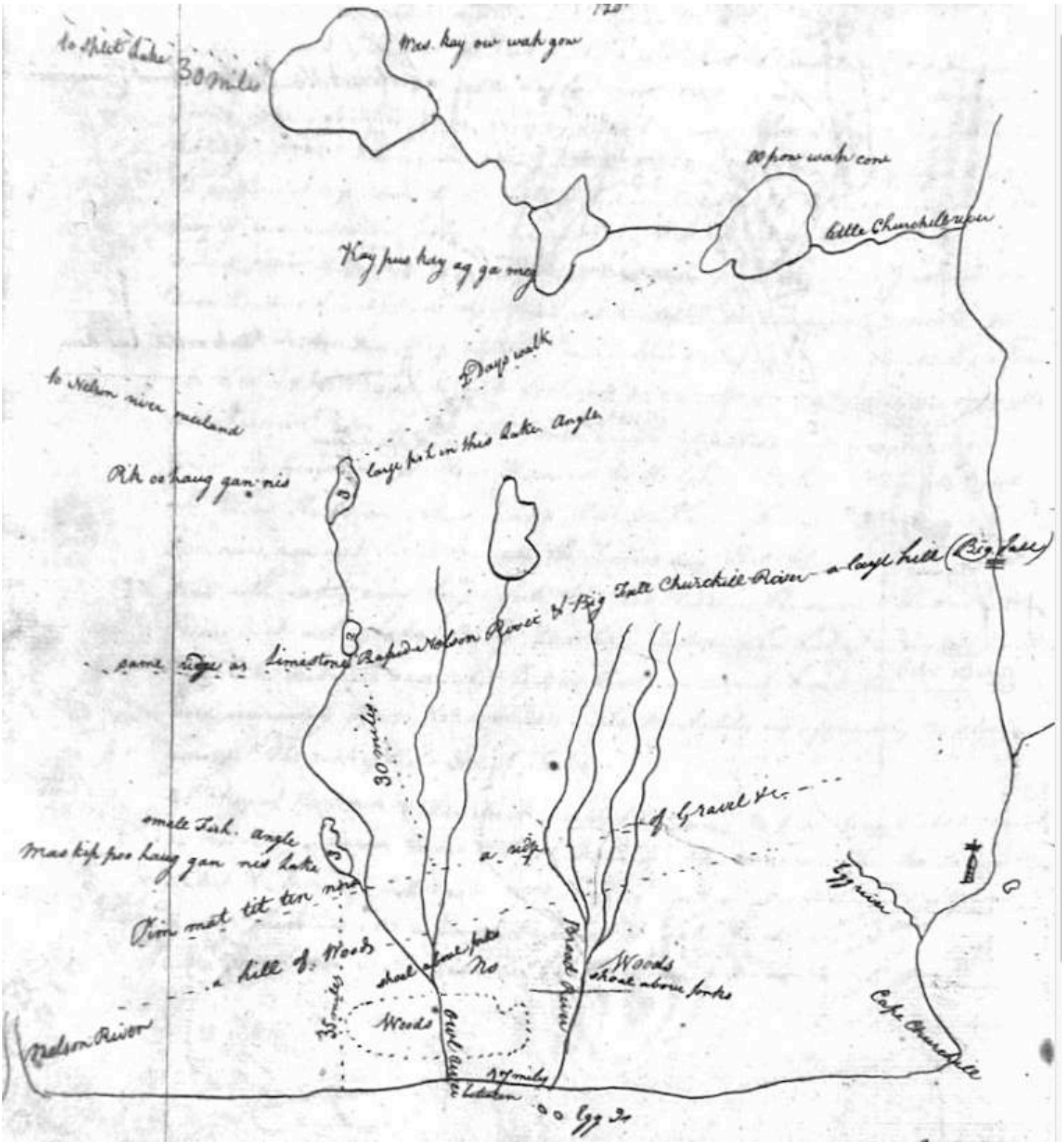


"B R", "NbW ½", "SEbE 1", "rocky pine", "EbS 1", "00 2", "Entered the Old Track at 3.50", "Side pine"

The Small river **B** the Indians come thro'. they leave the Track and go up the half way Creek in Each away mamis river – according to an Indian Sketch at Page. – 17th arrived at Oxford House & left it for the Factory – 19th left it & arrived at Mouth of Hill river 25th – left it 30th & arrived at YF July 1st – 11th left it for Inland got to the rock 16th & left it 19th – & arrived at Oxford House 24th left it 27th .. arrived at Entrance of Lake Winnipeg 31st & returned back 3rd Augt & arrived at YF 18th at noon – 26th left YF for Churchill & arrived there 29th at the Factory at 6 PM.

Remarks in Red River omitted in the proper Place. –
In the Days Work 19th May at the place marked * is old Fort des Trembles on N Side – where Messrs Bruce & Captn Tuit settled they had soon after their arrival in the fall an attack from a band of Southern Indians {Cree] joined by some Bungees – all sober – in the fray there were Killed 7 Indians & 3 Canadians – & a few Days after this affair they were obliged to abandon the Settlement & go down to the Forks & there winter, that place being more out of the way of those Indians – notwithstanding before their departure they gave the Inds – several pieces of Goods to be quiet – but they met them frequently as the Canadians went Down the river & made them every time give them still more valuable presents – till near the Forks when they returned Back – This same winter the Small Pox spread all thro' & Messrs Bruce & Tuit both fell victims to it – The Summer 1781 the Athapescow Canoes Loaded with Furrs arrived at entrance of Winnipeg river & found no provisions for them to proceed for the Grand Portage – they all went up the red River with their Furs & there Wintered – had not the Small pox have come amongst the Inds – all the Traders say that they could not have gone with safety any longer into the Red River – the same of the Saskatchewan River – it cut of above ⅔ of the whole Tribes who had it – as an Instance The Fall Indians amounted to 400 Tents in August & in October only 70 were remaining & all the survivors – The Mortality was generally the same amongst the rest of the different Tribes –
21st chay at the Mark * thereabout was Fort la Reine, the first French Establishment in Red River – towards the end of the 17th Century – Missionaries was also here to Convert the Indians, but made little improvement among them in a religious view – There was also a Jesuit priest at the Forks & was Killed in the Woody Lake going down in the Summer by the Sioux Indians about 1700 –


65
Sketch of the Rocks about Churchill &c
gravelly hill, hill Dec 27
Spring water
2 house so formerly
Buttons Bay
Goose Point
10
12
North river, or Pauk a tha hus hom
NNW 18
North point house
Cape Churchill
Egg river

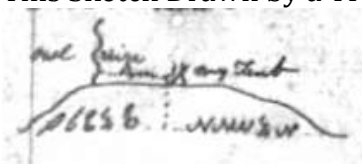


to Split Lake 30 miles Mes kay ow wah gow
oo pow wah cow little Churchill river
Kay pus kay ag ga meg
Days walk
to Nelson river overland
Ah oo haug gan nis large fish in this Lake Angler
same ridge as Limestone Rapid Nelson River & Big Fall Churchill River – a large hill (Big fall)
small Fish. Angle Mas kip poo haug gan nis Lake
Kin mat tit tin now 30 miles
a ridge of Gravel &c – – –
a hill of Wood shoal some pike No Woods shoal above forks Egg river

Nelson River 35 miles Woods Owl River Broad River Cape Churchill
40 miles to Station Eggs

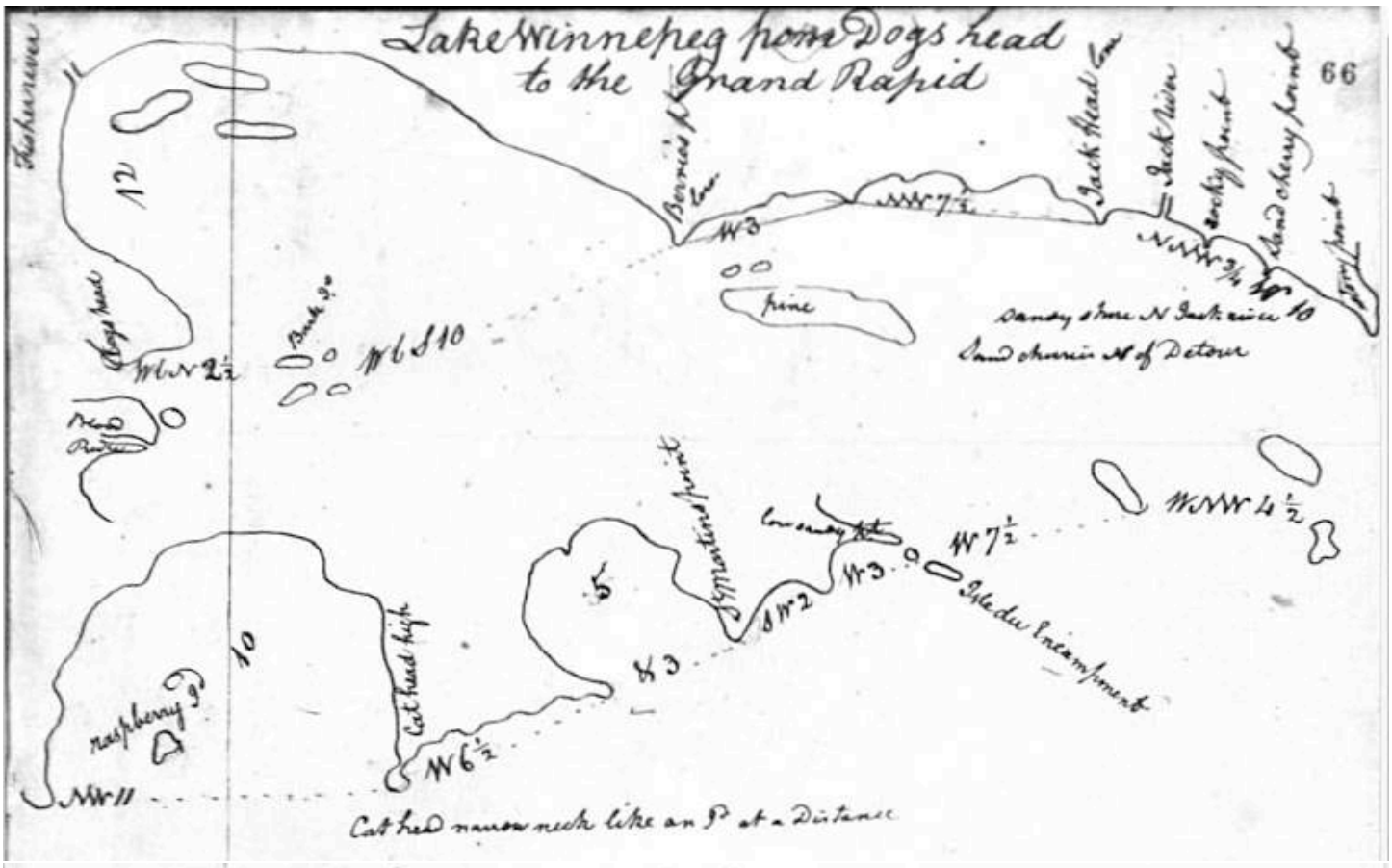
Owl river much larger than Broad River – in a kind of small bay – two hammocks of Pine near the mouth & begins to be small limestone shingle & higher – before or to the S of Owl river very flatt & muddy shores – a rounded hammock Pine 4 or 5 miles N another smaller about Same Creek – can go up very well in small canoes in owl river to the first small Lake – & tolerably beyond a good way – Broad river shoal above 1st Lake –

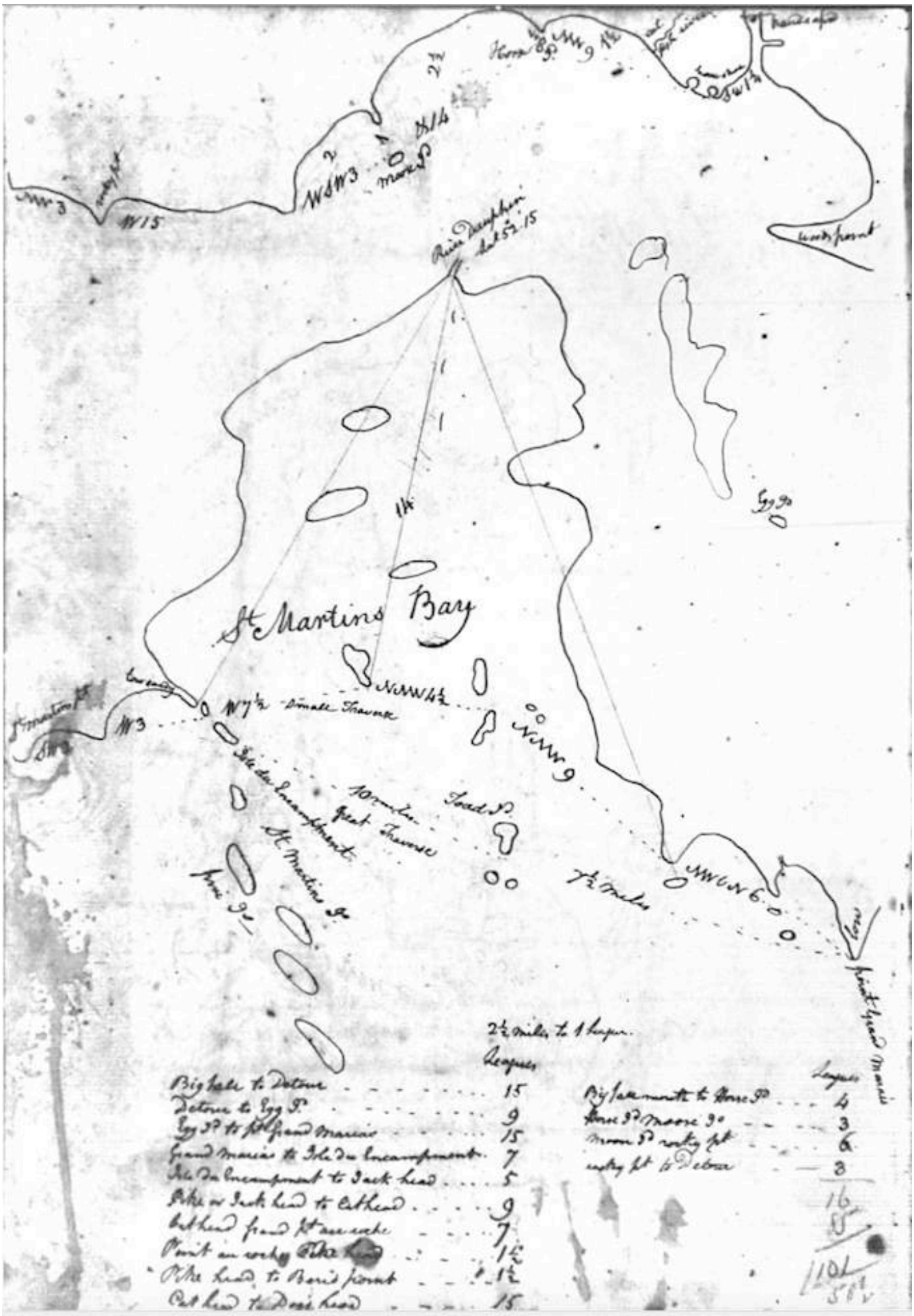
This Sketch Drawn by a YF Indian when I passed Owl River 29th July 1809. –



owl river any Tent SbE¼E NNW¼ N

Lake Winnepeg from Dogs head to the Grand Rapid




St Martins Bay
Rice Dauphin
Isle du Encampement
Great Thorne
Small Thorne
Lead Sd
St Martins Sd
Horse Sd
Moose Sd
Egg Sd
Point Grand Manan
2½ Miles to 1 League.
Leagues
Big Falls to Detour 15
Detour to Egg Sd 9
Egg Sd to St Grand Manan 15
Grand Manan to Isle du Encampment . 7
Isle du Encampment to Jack head 5
Pike or Jack head to Cat head 9
Cat head Grand St Manan 7
Point on rocky Pike head . . . 1½
Pike head to Bond point . . . 1½
Cat head to Dove head 15
Leagues
Big Falls mouth to Horse Sd . . . 4
Horse Sd Moose Sd 3
Moose Sd rocky pt 6
rocky pt to Detour . . . 3
16
85
101

[Top left coastline] W 3 W 15 rocky pt [Top center coastline] 2 WSW 3 2 ½ W ¼ more S [Top right coastline] Horn Is NW 9 1 ½ Fish river out Two Rivers ESW 1 ¾ Thunder Is [Center top] River Dauphin Lat 52.15 [Right side coastline] woods point Egg Is [Center of map] St Martins Bay NW by W ½ Small Traverse W 3 low country St Martins Pt SW 2 [Islands and features in the bay] Isle du Encampment St Martins Is Pine Is 10 miles Great Traverse Toad Is NW by W 9 NW by N 6 12 miles now point Grand Marais

Big Lake to Detour 15
Detour to Egg Isd 9
Egg Isd to fat Grand Marais 15
Grand Marais to Isle des Encampment 7
Isle des Encampment to Jack head 5
Pike or Jack head to Cuthand 9
Cut hand fr and Pt ass ache 7
Point an rocky Pike head 1 ½
Pike head to Boris front 1 ½
Cat head to Dog's head 15
Big Tall mouth to Horse Isd 4
Horse Isd moose Isd 3
Moose Isd rocky Pt 6
Rocky pt to Debra 3