

Seymour

Dufferin Aug 31. 73.

Dear Papa

I arrived here safely after an arduous journey of 11 days from the N.W. Angle Lake of Woods, on Thursday evening. I telegraphed to you next day as I have not had the chance of writing for some time & thought you might be anxious.

My trip to Lake of Woods has been on the whole a good one & has offered some interesting facts.

I have got I think with the help of Dr. Beyboys maps together with my own observations a large area of Huronian rocks pretty well defined, & which surround

the northern part of the Lake.

These rocks are penetrated in various directions by granitic & syenitic rocks, & at Rat Portage form a very close & well shown junction with red Laurentian gneiss. The junction however appearing to be faulted I call these rocks Huronian having never seen any typical Huronian rocks. Lithologically they in many places almost exactly resemble the Quebec group rocks of the E. Townships, consisting of Softish, thin laminated chloritic & talose schists, some quartzites, & a considerable quantity of a rock which Beepby or have called "Greenstone Conglomerate", but which is really a compact breccia & more than anything else resembles the volcanic breccias of Cumberland & Wales. Dr Beepby's map in some particulars is right, in other places quite wrong, a large area for instance put down by

him as grain really consists of
soft green slaty rocks.

The whole Lake has been thoroughly glaciated
& almost every rock & island bears
striae & is ice rounded. The general
direction is about S.S.E. I have seen
some instances of crossing glacial striae
but these may be due to the ice shores of
the lake itself.

I have also collected some interesting
information concerning changes of level
in the Lake &c.

I left the N.W. Angle finally on Aug 18
to cross to Red R by the Red & Roseau
rivers, hoping to see some exposures of
Silurian rocks, but in this I have
been disappointed, not having seen a
trace of solid rock all the way.

The trip has been an interesting one
however. There are cliffs of hard sand
& clay on the Roseau R, deposits very
fine toward the base, but near the

top layers of gravel & boulders.

I could see no trace of any fossils in these deposits with the exception of a single piece of wood which I found projecting from one of the bluffs 30^{ft} from the top. (Some of the cliffs are 60 feet above the river.) I send a small fragment of the wood.

As soon as I get my 2 of W specimens & put away & other preparations made which I hope will be in about two days, I will start Westward. The advanced astronomical parties are now far across the Souris R & Head quarters at Turtle Mountain.

On my arrival here I received quite a bundle of home letters & papers. What does the discovery at Polson's Lake amount to?

Your affectionate Son
George.

