

It then enlarges to the right forming a bay near 6 miles deep. Passing the bay which is 2 miles wide, the lake becomes very narrow & is not more than the half of a mile over. It continues nearly this width until it lessens to a river again.¹ From this to its source is 6 miles. 3 of this the river was 200 yds. over, but entering its source, the canoe completely filled up the stream. From this it became difficult. It was obstructed by logs, brush, grass and beaver dams, over all of which the canoe was lifted by the men.

This stream rises in a marsh, through which there was no channel but that made by forcing the canoe along through the mud and rushes. At the head of this the canoes were discharged and them and the baggage carried over the portage by hand. I took my baggage weighing about 100 lbs., swung it on my back and marched across with great ease (in no instance was I in the *mire* over my knees.)² This portage cannot be a mile over, though it is generally reckoned $1\frac{1}{2}$ & sometimes 2. One third of the distance the land is very wet & marshy—the residue is high and dry. Timber, hemlock, pine, spruce & birch.

MONDAY, June 26.

This morn I rose at 4, and walking on the shore of the lake found several fine specimens of cornelian and agate. A piece of copper was found by Mr. S. Most of the stone on shore indicate they are in the neighborhood of copper. This piece was embeded in stone.

¹ The cities of Houghton and Hancock are now situated at this point.—Ed.

² *Schoolcraft* (pp. 89, 90): "Each of the gentlemen of the party was to carry his own personal baggage across the portage. This was an awkward business for most of us. The distance was but two thousand yards, but little over a mile, across elevated open grounds. I strapped my trunk to my shoulders, and walked myself out of breath in getting clear of the brushy part of the way, till reaching the end of the first *pause*, or resting-place. Here I met the Governor [Cass], who facetiously said: 'You see I am carrying *two* pieces,' alluding to his canoe slippers, which he held in his hands. 'A piece,' in the trade, is the back-load of the *engagée*."—Ed.