Indian guides left the portage to cross the country on foot
to Sandy Lake while the residue of the party accompanied
and managed the canoes. This measure was adopted, on
the representation of the frenchmen, of the great difficulty
and labor in ascending the Fond du Lac river, to lighten
the canoes, which they said was absolutely necessary, or
we should be compelled to walk on the banks of the river.
Though I was well satisfied the walk we undertook would
be very tedious and laborious, at the earnest request of the
Gov. we consented, I feeling well satisfied with the walks
I had already had.

For the first 2 miles we steered west, and nearly the
course of the river, until we gained a path leading from
Plain Island to the interior, some particular hunting
ground of these Indians. We continued on this path until
our last course this day. We next steered N. 70 W. 1 mile,
S. 20 E. 2 miles to a small pond or lake, the lower part of
which we waded through,— the waters being high it was
impossible to follow the path; and probably in a common
season there is little or no water here. We then went S.
70 W. 1 mile to a lake of considerable size. Thus far the
land has been low,— timber birch, maple, bass wood, and
elm. Next we steered S. 20 west 6 miles over a ridge one
half (the first covered chiefly with pine the residue the
sugar maple). The Indians had a large establishment in
this wood, this last spring where from every appearance
they must have made great quantities of sugar. We stopt
and dined on raw ham and sea biscuits, the only pro-
visions we had brought with us. Each man carried his
own provisions and blanket. A short distance from where
we rested, perhaps 1 & $\frac{1}{2}$ miles and course S. 30 W. we
came upon the banks of a lake about 3 miles long and two
broad, of pure water, and containing 4 Islands. I think I
never beheld a Lake more beautiful. In walking on its
beach some of the finest cornelians and agates were found
which had been picked up on our voyage. They must
have been abundant for in half an hour we obtained a
great quantity. From this circumstance we named this