

water "cornelian Lake." We passed on towards the head of the lake steering S. 20 W. 4 miles, and arrived on the bank of another small lake near its outlet which was not a step over. We took a portage path made by the Indians across $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile to a Lake apparently 5 or 6 miles long and 2 broad. Its water was muddy and warm. Our guides killed a large green turtle on which they feasted at night. They boiled it and gave us one of the fore legs—it was very sweet and delicious. Here our troubles and severest toils commenced. They stated this was the end of the path, and requested we should not be angry with them if we found the road bad after leaving this lake. They must either have intended to take us a more direct course, or they were unacquainted with the country. I have since learned, that had we passed around the head of the lake to opposite side to where we left the path our course would have been over a country high and dry and by which we might have gained the lake a day sooner. Far different from such a country was that we crossed. We steered N. 20 W. 6 miles along the bank of this lake nearly to its head where we encamped a little before sunset, some of us much fatigued. We had not proceeded a mile on this course before we were led into swamps and morasses which one would think impenetrable were he not led on by an Indian. We seldom found footing before we had sunk to our knees in mud, and frequently to our hips. We encamped on a slight rise of ground, but it was with great difficulty water was procured at all palatable. Rain with thunder and lightening during the night. Whole distance 24 m.

TUESDAY, July 11.

Early in the morning we rose shouldered our packs and commenced our rout,¹ which the whole of this day laid over

¹ *Schoolcraft* (p. 113): "[This] morning, as we were about to depart, we observed near the camp-fire of our guides a pole leaning in the direction we were to go, with a birch-bark inscription inserted in the top of the pole. This was too curious an object not to excite marked attention, and we took it down to examine the hieroglyphics, or symbols, which