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Collection: Prescott, Philander, 1801-1862.
Philander Prescott reminiscences and related
papers, undated and 1861?

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a person can eat a quart after it is cooked and in two hours after will be as hungry as ever the Indians had run round to the camp and gathered a little rice that had been parched which is very good to eat when traveling it prevents thirst and relieves the appetite for a little while We started early in the morning for Snake river We had a track most of the day We traveled the whole day and only stopped once that was about 2 P.M. to eat a Mouthful of wild rice and on We went, and traveled until dusk When We came a trading post the traders name was Johnson this was the hardest day's travel that we had all the journey the distance I do not know but I think it must be all of 40 or 50 miles Mr Johnson welcomed us into his and gave us such as he had & that was wild ^{Rice}, simply boiled in water

We made our report but we had been eating Rice Saltery without seasoning that we did not relish it very well but still we had to eat some Mr Johnson said there was no game about when lived and they seldom ever had meat once in a while they got a little grease from the Indians but had to pay a great price for it Mr Johnson said he came into the country from Lake Superior by the way of lakes and small rivers in Bark canoes I think he said they had near one hundred portages to make before he reached his trading post he said the whole trade was worth only about two thousand dollars a year

and it hardly paid the trouble and Expense but as he was in the trade he did not know what to do for a living only to follow up the trade. We had good large Chiny fire and a very warm room so we laid down to rest but I was so tired that I did not rest for a long time the Indians went sleep in a few minutes and did not wake until near morning. When we awoke Mr Johnson had large Kettleful of rice boiled in water as usual we eat as much as we could Mr Johnson made many apologies for the poor food he had to offer and when we started he gave us a little to carry with us in the ~~start~~ morning we started early and traveled through Pine forests all the day as we had done the day before and some of the handsomest pines that had been in the country. We traveled all day without eating again and past the time on Snow Shores just as the Sun was setting we came to an Indian camp and stopped for the night. We went into their tents and sat down the Indians told us they were starving and could not give us anything to eat. The tents which were principally made of bark from the Birch tree or Rushes from the ponds and Lakes, were open and cold all that I saw about the camp was one little Pike fish in the eatable way the woman cooked it in a small Kettle and eat it. We laid down but did not rest much being very cold and hungry in the morning we started on our Snow Shores without supper or breakfast and traveled until about noon

When the Indians halted and took out
 their little bag of rice we all Eat it
 and Started on through Swamps and hummocks
 and a most awful Country to travel on
 Snow Shoes Sometimes I would get a trip
 and my Snow Shoes would throw
 me ten feet ahead into the Snow I
 would plange by the time I would get
 up the Indians would be some distance
 ahead of me then I would have to work
 and run and worry myself most to
 death to catch up again for I hated to
 give out and tell them to wait for me
 So we worked on until night but I was
 awful tired the Indians made a good
 fire and we sat down and dried our
 Snow Shoes and Mockusens then pulled
 out the balance of the rice and we eat it
 which was but a few Mouthfuls a piece
 however we had a better camp than
 we had when we camped with the Indians
 the night before for we could make a good
 large fire and warm up well which
 is a great thing in traveling to get warm
 and dry at night then you can sleep and
 you will feel much better for traveling
 in the morning We started early on our
 Snow Shoes about noon we came to oak
 openings and our Snow Shoes did not
 trip us up so often as there was not so
 much underbrush at night we camped
 in the oak openings whilst the Indians
 were hunting about for wood for the
 night one of them found a dead Deer

and cried out good luck what
 is it We all Sung out a Dur he said
 the Indians all give a hoop of joy
 and went too see the Dur had been
 dead for a long time but was whole
 and froze and covered with snow the
 Indians dug it out and got it up to
 the fire and thawed it a little and got
 the hide off and chopped it up. the
 Meat Was fairly black they had a small
 Kettle along they Melted Snow and
 filled the Kettle and boiled the Meat
 but, oh, What an awful Smell came
 out when the Meat got hot but the In-
 = dians stuck to it and cooked it and Eat
 heartily of it. I tried to Eat some but as
 hungry as I was I could not Eat the Meat
 It was so old and Smelt so bad from
 this point by hard walking on our snow
 shoes we got into fort Snelling the com-
 = munity was about the first that I
 met as I went into the fort he was quite
 surprised to see me and made some in-
 quiris when I was gone he finally told
 him I was very hungry why have you been
 starving I told him we have been here 4
 = days living on a little wild rice he told
 me to come in to his Quarters he told his
 wife Mrs Snelling one of the most accom-
 = plished and charitable Ladies of the fort
 at that time in a few Moments she brought
 me a large bowl of Soup but none but a
 hungry person could tell how good it tasted
 with many thanks I left them and went on

To our Trading post 2 Miles above the
 Fort where Mr Samont was in charge all
 were glad to see us. They soon had some food
 cooked for us and we retired to rest the next
 morning. We all felt very tired stiff and sore
 but in a day or two we all felt well again.
 I had not been here but two days when
 my wife arrived. She had been out
 with the Indians on a hunt and it was
 this camp that I was in search of when
 we got lost and fell in with the Supe-
 =riours and hoped finding my wife as I
 expected after they had put up their tents
 I went to see them in their lodges or tents.
 My wife presented me with a fine
 boy born while they were on the hunt in
 December 1824. I staid with them about
 a week. About this time an old Supe-
 =riour chief arrived from the upper country at Mr Samonts.
 Mr L had married his daughter and the old
 chief had come down to see them also went to
 the Fort to see the commanding officer. I went along
 to Interspret. We went together to the Col's office
 and in a few minutes the Col came in and spoke
 to the old chief. He got up and shook hands
 with the Col and they entered into some common
 conversation about business of the time, re-
 finally Col Snelling asked the chief if he
 knew any thing about some cattle that had
 been killed by the Sassy Indians the summer
 before. The chief said that some white people
 were driving a drove of cattle through the
 Indian country going north to the British
 Settlement on Red River and the Indians had

demanded pay of the White Men to let them
 pass without pay and the Indians held
 council amongst the Graves and they
 agreed to go and take pay themselves
 by killing 2 or three Cattle so off the
 band started some on horse back some on foot
 whooping and hallooing and as soon as the driver
 saw the Indians the cattle started up in a
 run and the Indians after them some on
 horse some on foot and commenced firing at the
 cattle they killed several and wounded sev-
 - eral more and as fast they could not overtake
 and run wild into the prairie the drivers
 turned about and went home and lost
 their whole drove The Col asked the Chief
 why he did not stop them the old Man said
 When hungry Indians see Buffalo or
 Beef before them they are like a parcel of
 hungry wolves and cannot be made to listen
 Well said Col Snelling I am going to have
 some kind of satisfaction for this kind of
 conduct you are not a going to destroy
 whole drives of cattle that are passing peacefully
 through your country the old Chief began
 to smell the rat and made all sorts of ex-
 - cuses but Col Snelling told him that even-
 - ing came to late and that he should put
 him in prison and sent for a guard of soldiers
 they came and the Col told the old Chief he
 must go with the Soldiers, he rose and went
 the Col told him if he attempted to run
 away from the Soldiers they would shoot him
 the old Chief said nothing but went quietly
 along to the guard house the sun was not

than an hour high about half an hour
 after Sent Camp came in and said
 that the Indian was shot we all ran
 out to see and found that the old
 Man had made an excuse to go out
 and got a little in advance of the
 Sentinel and started on a run. The Senter
 - al fired and brought the old Man
 down the old Man had heard of a trick escap-
 ing and thought he could do the same but he
 got caught this time the Sentinel broke
 the old Mans arm and fractured the Humer-
 = le bone from the Elbow to within about 2
 inches of the Shoulder and the Ball went
 through and struck his side and hit a
 rib and run round the rib to the pit of
 the Stomach Skirrup and there lodged
 between the Skin and the bone and the
 arm had to be amputated but the Surgeon
 | Doct Purcell was dead So the Sergeant of
 the Hospital undertook the Job and
 tied the old Man to a table and went to work
 and in about two Minutes the arm was
 off during the operation the old Man
 did not let on that it hurt him in the least
 When they got through he asked if they were
 done I told him he had but one arm now
 Well then give me a smoke he said
 and did not appear to mind what was
 going on then if they were cutting away
 at pieces of Leather the old Man was
 kept in the hospital about month
 and his arm about well then the Col
 let them go Sent Camp above mentioned

gave the Saldinian Extra gill of whiskey
 for a Month for the good shot he made
 Breaking the Chefsame and stopping him from
 getting off for they had imbedded the Sald
 that they could run away from the
 Saldie, with the greatest ease after this
 job was over I started back to my wintering place
 again I got a few goods and made little
 packages for each of my Indians and we
 started this time we took a new route and
 went by the Mississippi the first day we
 went to the falls and camped with Sergeant
 Spaulding in charge of the Saw Mill the
 had a good warm room and gave us a good
 warm supper which we all enjoyed in the
 morning we started early and went to Elk River
 from there we went home in three days so that
 we made the journey in five days home again
 found all well and number of Indians
 waiting for us to trade I done up what little
 trading there was to be done when Mr W. M. Atkin
 came down again and insisted on my going
 up to Sandy Lake with him so I fixed up
 and one man with me and we started for
 another tramp of three days Mr. A had
 a dog train we put all our bedding on and
 me in while Mr Atkin would take teams
 and ride the first day we went about 40
 miles to a place called by the Chippewas
 Rabbit house in passing a place called
 Pattersons rapids Mr. A told me the rapids
 were named after a man that had been killed
 there by the Sioux Indians a party of men
 had been sent out to the Indian camps and

Having collected a considerable quantity
 of furs and Meat Several Indians
 came back with the men to help them in
 with this load as all was carried by straps
 over the head it would take quite a camp
 = any to carry what two horses would draw
 this company of white, and Indians
 camped at this place for the night they
 had built a large fire out of old
 dry pine. Eat their Supper and dried their
 Shaw Shaws and Mockasins one of the
 Chippewas went down to the river to
 get a drink When he came back to the
 fire he told his comrades that there was
 some persons walking on the ice for the water
 works up and down all the time just
 like when people walk on the ice Some others
 went and looked at the water Sometimes
 it would shake Sometimes it would be
 still then again all at once the water
 would begin to shake again Some believed
 and some did not the first one that made
 the discovery said he believed there was
 a war party was on the river and he was
 going to prepare for the worst so he
 put on his Mockasins and fixed up his
 pack Some of the party done the same but
 some would not believe and laid
 down and went to sleep about mid
 night here came a volley of Balls and
 arrows into the camp there were four
 five Indians killed the first fire &
 one frenchman Patterson all that were
 left took to their heels and ran for

for their lives the Sioux charged upon
 the camp and dispatched those that
 were yet alive and scalped them then
 gathered up the booty which was consid-
 erable of furs and meat and hunted so
 - and to see if they could find any wounded
 two french men that had put on their
 moccasins threw themselves under a
 large tree that laid a little up from
 the ground here they laid trembling all
 the time the Indians were hunting the fr-
 =nchmen said the Indians stepped over
 the log 2 or three times and thought the
 Indians must of seen them but did
 not want to kill them some of the In-
 dians and french men ran off bare-
 -footed and froze their feet very
 bad and some of them died the two
 laid under the log until the Sioux went
 off when they came forth put on their
 moccasins and started for home empty
 and light as the Sioux had carried off
 every thing that was of any use to them
 we left rabbit house early the next
 morning and went cedar lake where
 there were two traders viz. Mr Parks
 and Ashman here passed the remainder
 of the day in company with these gin-
 =tles men where we were treated very
 kindly for the night and had some
 fine white fish for breakfast and
 started early for Sandy Lake where
 we arrived some time after dark Thursday
 we traveled about 55 miles

our Men did not get in until about
 mid night the next morning we were all
 very stiff and tired I remained here
 with Mr. Atkinson three days Mr. A.
 had made very good improvements
 for an Indian country at this place
 Sandy Lake the North West fur company
 once had a trading post and was broken
 up after Lieut. Z. M. Pike ascended
 the Mississippi the American fur company
 came in and tore down the old
 North West Company's fort on Sandy Lake
 and moved over onto the Mississippi
 When Mr. Atkinson was now living and
 building he had a fine garden and
 a large quantity of good vegetables
 I spent three days very pleasantly with
 Mr. A. and on the 4th day in the morning
 I started with my men for home again
 Went home in three days by the time
 it was beginning to get warm and the
 snow was beginning to melt after we
 passed Crowland to the mouth of the
 Crow Wing near the Mississippi is very
 much like the Minnesota Woody bottoms
 and very crooked only the Missippi has the
 most water I got home I found the
 Indians waiting for me to get some am-
 -unition to go into the Sugar bush for
 these people make large quantities of Sugar
 the last one to start was the Hole in
 - the day the chief of Sandy Lake chipp-
 - was he started on the 2^d of March
 1825 - 1825 he had not gone far before

Some Wild geese passed over him and
 he fired and killed two of them and
 returned back and brought them both
 to me. We now commenced making our
 packs of furs and on the last of March
 the ice moved out of the Mississippi the
 first of April I went down in a can-
 oe to get some more goods. We found
 the ice had blocked up the river at a pla-
 ce called the little falls. We took our
 canoe out and made a portage round
 the ice and went on down and in two
 days we went to Fort Snelling. I go-
 and all well my wife and boy were
 all in good health. I staid only three
 days and started back in my canoe
 with two men and a few goods. I
 went as far as the falls and made a portage round
 the falls and heard that Mr Bailey had arrived
 at Fort Snelling and I went back to see him
 to see if I could do anything with him about
 our old copartnership business but he only laugh-
 ed at me and that I was being impudent to
 talk to him about an old debt that had
 been settled (by cheating) a year ago.
 So I went back and took my canoe again
 for my wintering ground. We had strong
 head winds it took us 6 or 7 days to get
 up, one day we ran under a heavy tree
 our canoe got a turn on the men and came
 broad side against the tree and came near
 capsizing us and it was with much diffi-
 -culty that we could get hold of an axe
 to cut the branches so we could get from

The true our situation was so precarious
 that we could hardly stir for fear of upsetting
 the canoe the water was very deep and
 the current very rapid and for a few moments
 we were in great danger of losing all and
 probably our lives also. We got after some
 hard work against the mud and current and
 found all well but anxious to see us as
 they were out of provisions. We waited a few
 days gathering what furs we could and started
 for home or Fort Snelling again. We went
 down in one day and a half, 120 miles by the
 river about the time some Emigrants came
 through from Redoubt of the North on
 their way the Sioux had attacked them
 and killed some of them and took
 one white child prisoner. Lieut Green
 was ordered to Lake Traverse. When the
 Indians had the child and to take the
 child and bring it down to Fort Snelling.
 So he went and the Indians gave up
 the child without any ceremony as they
 feared at Snelling. The whole extent
 of the Sioux country the Sioux had
 committed the act says because at
 Snelling had taken one of their chiefs
 and cut his arm off for killing cattle.
 The white people thus were left when the
 Sioux find upon them fled back to
 the British Settlement and the British
 made no demand for the murder therefore
 nothing was done about it and in fact it
 is supposed that the British did not care
 any thing about the affair for they did

like to have their people leave their colony
 as they had already left them and moved
 into Iowa and Wisconsin (otherwise
 Michigan) at that time after I got down
 with my furs I stopped about a month
 with my wife and boy this summer
 the Indians had all been to Prairie du
 Chien to make a treaty of Peace the Nations
 for 300 or 400 Miles round came in to attend
 a very large concourse of Indians among
 -ed Gov. Clark and some others were
 commissioners The object of the Treaty was
 for the Indians to make peace amongst the
 -Mesquies, and the white people whilst the
 Indians were making peace at Prairie du Chien
 = in the Indians were warring at home so
 if peace was made hostilities were as
 soon commenced again and the peace amounted
 to nothing although it cost the govt
 many thousand dollars during the last
 spring a duel was fought between
 Lieut. Senter and Col. Snellingson
 Joseph the Col. heard that the parties
 had gone out to fight and sent a guard
 out and stopped them the parties moved
 off and the guard went home and the
 combatants met in another place and ex-
 changed shots the Col.^{sn} had the end of one
 of his fore fingers shot off this ended the
 struggle and they went home Some time after
 this another duel was fought between
 Lieut. Bayley and Capt. Leonard they fired
 some 6 or 8 shots apiece Lieut. Bayley
 got one shot the worst Capt. Leonard's second

fir got to cock his pistol but Lieut
 Bayley Miped Second, interfered and tried
 to reconcile matters, but nothing would
 or could be done satisfactorily and at it
 they went again I believe the 8th shot
 Lieut Bayley's Ball struck Capt Leonard
 in the corner of the Eye near the temple but
 did not kill him although it came very
 near killing him. Lieut Bayley had 32
 Ball holes through his clothes, but did not
 draw blood once Capt Leonard was
 Sutter for the fort he was Boarding with
 Lieut Bayley and was a very vain
 wicked Man and it was for some bad
 language used before Mr Bayley that
 brought on their trouble, I believe there were
 one or two other Challenges and I believe
 one of them Exchanged shots and then made
 up and one party the Second, made the party
 settle or drop the matter as they said the
 Charges were too trifling to quarrel about
 Lieut Bayley had got into a scrape
 the year before coming up from St Louis
 with his Lady on board the Columbia fur co
 Kull boat They had got up some where
 about Clark's ville when a difficulty
 happened between Lieut Bayley and
 one of the clerks of the company Lieut
 Bayley went into his wife's Room to
 go to bed and found this clerk's share
 in there Lieut Bay went out and talked
 to him about it the clerk was about to
 take a glass of liquor at the time but
 instead of drinking the liquor he threw

it in Sieut Bayley's face Sieut
Bayley drew a pistol and shot the clerk
 dead I believe it is in my mind
 that he stabbed him with a knife Sieut
B married a happy life with his wife
 and finally they separated and each took
 their own course for a livelihood and
 shortly after Sieut Bayley was dropped
 at the reduction of the army after the
 war, and that was the last I heard of him
 the Sissetons had treated the traders very
 badly after they heard that the old chief
 had been imprisoned and had his arm
 cut off they thought of course he would
 either die or be killed but they dare not
 kill any of the traders they found the fort
 was too close and too strong for them and that
Col Snelling was determined to punish
 them for bad conduct after remaining about
 a month I packed up a few goods and some
 powder and lead and started up the Missouri
 again this time I was destined for Leaf
Lake with two large bark canoes and four
 men and Mr Peter Quinn for interpreter.
 There were quite a number of Chippewas
 in company they had been down on a visit
 the Mosquitoes were terrible the men had to
 wear mittens and had to keep smokes
 in our canoes all day and at night we
 were compelled to surround our camp with
 smoke in order to get some rest after
 ten days toil we reached our place of
 destination Leaf Lake about 9 miles
 east of Northtail Lake we commenced.

Building on the East Side of the lake
 the lake has Narrows in the Middle
 The whole lake is about three miles in
 length We built four houses in the form
 of a Square and left places for gates
 at Each corner The logs and furnishings
 were all up and were going on to make
 the floors out of punchins When one
 Morning a chipewas came in and said
 the Sioux had been to otter tail lake
 and killed a chipewas and his wife and
 the chipewas had killed one Sioux in
 the struggle for life The chipewas all
 started off to see what was done they found
 the chipewas and his wife scalped and the
 Sioux was set up nearby the chipewas
 and a great deal of Indian trinkets thrown
 over him The chipewas as soon as they got near
 the Sioux they fired a volley into his body and
 charged upon the dead carcass and scalped
 it and cut it to pieces and done many disgraceful
 acts to the dead body The killing of these
 chipewas frightened them so that they all
 moved off and said they would not
 winter there so I had to pull up my stakes
 and move down the river and command
 a new again at the Mouth of Leaf river
 Leaf Lake is a place where Colin Duxon
 and D. Graham once wintered for the
 North West fur company but they were also
 disturbed both parties Sioux and chipewas
 so they quit the country after moving
 down to the Mouth of Leaf river I went down
 to Fort Snelling to get my winter supplies

For the winter I had to wait nearly a
 month before the Boat arrived with
 the winter supplies from St Louis
 I got my goods as soon as possible and
 fixed up some things for my wife and
 boy and left in company with Mr
 B. F. Baker the season was far
 advanced and we did not arrive at
 our wintering ground until freezing
 weather and I had to build Mr Baker
 had built at Crow Island during the
 summer so he had a house already
 to go into and I had to go to work
 and build I built a store house and
 a house for myself and wintered
 my men wintered in a lodge made
 of poles and split wood set upright
 pitching together at the top and made
 at the bottom here the Indians brought
 me a young girl and the parent wanted
 me to take her and live with her for
 the winter I put them off they came
 again finally I consented and she
 lived with me about 2 months and
 went off to make sugar as she said
 after a while she came back again and
 staid a few days and went away a
 gain I had a great struggle with the opposi-
 -tion this winter they watched me in every hole and en-
 -der they even made their men get up into the
 forks of the trees in the coldest of weather and watch
 us when we would be going out to the Indians
 after furs and if they could possibly discover when
 we were going to they would follow us

and try to get the furs from the Indians they kept
 this up all winter but it done them no good
 for I sold my goods and made my packs
 not with standing the great Efforts made to
 break us up or to run us off from the country
 We had a very deep Snow in the winter of
 1854 the winter was very severe a Number of
 Indians perished amongst the Sioux on the Prairie
 in the River & some the buffalo had left the
 country and the Indians could not follow
 them the Snow was too deep they tried to make
 their way back again to their ^{Summit} ~~Winter~~ quarters
 or corn fields they Eat up all their horses and
 dogs Still they had not Enough to bring them in
 and as they were traveling along in the
 Snow they would fall down and then stay as
 of suffering they men to work for to get up again and those
 that could keep up did not think Enough of those
 that had fallen to furnish to help them up
 Self preservation was all the go and good had
 was their determination but finally they had
 to go to Eating each other they got so far gone
 they had to come to this When one would fall
 down dead almost they would freeze in a
 few Minutes then some one coming on behind
 would cut off a limb and at Night
 would Cook and Eat it some further perished
 about 200 got into their Summit residence
 when they had come one woman got down
 as far as Fort Snelling, crazy and she was all
 ways hankering after human flesh and when the
 children would be playing about she after would
 say what gives that children as soon the children
 were told this and what she ~~was~~ they were all

a afraid of him and would run and hide them
 selves when they saw the crazy woman coming
 finally one day she attempted to swim the
 Minnesota river and drowned in the water
 = Mjt during the winter I made one journey
 down to Mr Bakess at the Mouth of the Crow
 Wing river here I saw a deserter that had run
 away from Fort Snelling he had frozen
 his feet and could not walk and in talking
 about matters of the world I found that he was
 a universalist and we had a long talk on the
 subject of religion which I suppose done nothing
 of us any good for I told him in the end I
 should not like to trust him to raise a chi-
 = ld of mine he started back in the same
 way so I dropped the subject and went to
 bed and Early in the Morning I was off for home
 it is a hard days walk from Crow Wing to
 the Mouth of LaPoudre We covered at the
 winter by going with a party of Chippewas to
 visit a Sioux camp a long days during the
 Sioux came over first to see the Chippewas the Ch-
 pperwas returned with the Sioux to their camp
 and some of the traders went in the train to
 help them make peace we found the Sioux
 camped near the water of the Chippewa river
 in winter about 100 Lodges or about 500
 souls we staid with the Sioux one day
 and two nights, courting and feasting and
 made peace to be broke the first good oppor-
 = tunity that should offer we left the Sioux camp
 for home came to the Chippewa camp and stop-
 ed over night the next morning we got home a
 gain and waited for spring

Make our packs and start down the
 river again in the mean time I sent Mr
 Quinn my interpreter over to Lake Traverse
 where Mr McKenzie lived about five
 days Journey he took two dogs and
 one Chippewa Indian and started
 he was gone 12 days and brought back some
 Powder that I had sent him for about
 the middle of April the Ice began to move
 the Indians had all left for Larch Lake
 to make Sugar We were all alone and quite
 lonesome and the Mo Mont the Ice went
 for that we were off. With about 30 pa
 cks in a few days we all arrived
 safe at home Near fort Snelling as I
 passed the fort some of the Officers called
 me and asked me if I had seen any
 Sioux Indians I said no they said
 they had thought of sending a man
 up the Mississippi to inquire us of
 some trouble they had with the
 Sioux Indians there had been a party
 of Chippewas Nole in the day Chief
 to see the Commanding Officer and
 to trade Sugar they were camped below
 the fort in bottom some fifty in all
 Men women and children The Sioux
 had visited them day after day and the
 Chippewas had feasted them in sugar
 until they were filled and gave them
 some to carry home with them one
 evening a parcel of young men had been
 to the Chippewa Camp feasting and
 dancing when they rose to depart when

they got out side of the lodge one
 of the Sioux blowed a whistle when
 they all whiled and fired into the
 Chippewa lodges and ran off it
 was dark so Mopson followed
 them at one fire they wounded
 nine of the Chippewas but fortunate
 men killed but some was thought
 would not survive the night they were
 all taken up to the council house and
 laid on the floor the blood stood
 in large puddles all about the
 floor the Surgeon of the fort dressed
 all the wounds and Col Snelling m-
 ade them as comfortable as he could
 for the night and in the morning they
 were all taken into the fort when they
 were out of danger from the Sioux in
 the morning Col Snelling ordered all
 the Sioux to come into Council a few
 of them came in but the principle men
 did not come in they knew pretty well
 well that some of them would be
 taken as hostages until the others
 that fired on the Chippewas were
 brought in and they would not come
 in but rather prepared for resistance the
 Col ordered two companies of soldiers
 out with rifles and an interpreter the
 Indians ran and hid themselves in the
 grass at last they came upon a party of them
 up at Sand Lake they were ordered to surrender
 but they refused saying the Col would
 kill them Bad Hoie the old orator

and principal Soldier of the Nation
 told the Interpreter if he put his
 hands on him he would shoot him the
 Interpreter had two companions to back
 him up and pushed forward and laid
 hold of Bad Nail the most prominent
 Indian of all the bands the Soldier
 stepped up with the officer and
 Mr Bad Nail was confined when the In-
 = dians saw this they did not know what
 to do and kept retreating finally the offi-
 = cer managed to get about a
 dozen of them mostly Chaps and Bracs
 and closed in on them and made them
 prisoners when the Indians saw this
 they gave up and came in and all
 marched down to the Carner house
 but they could not get them into Carner
 they were fearful of a trap the agent
 Major L. Salaserra told them as long as his
 flag was flying over their heads they should
 not be hurt so after much parlaying they
 consented to go into Carner when they all got
 in a large building fall (sh) says the
 Col I have got you now in a low tone
 voice the Indians commenced by justifying
 themselves, they complained that the Chippewa
 = was never always the aggressor after making
 a peace the Chippewa was the first to break it
 the Chippewa said the same of the Sioux
 so it went back and forth and it was found
 that the Indians could not settle their difficul-
 = ties themselves neither did the agent and Col
 agree as to what was the best policy to pursue

in the Settlement of this difficulty amongst them finally Col Shelling took the whole thing into his own hands, and went at it in earnest he told the Indians. he was a going to keep some of them as hostages for three days and at the end of three days if the party was not brought in that had done the mischief he would hang the hostages this made them hang their heads they appealed to their agent Major S. Salafem the agent told the Col he had promised them protection as long as they were under his flag. Well says the Col I can easily observe the - at and went out and had the flag put down and when the Indians said that they made loud complaints of injustice the Col told them he was not a going to allow them to come right here under the guns of the fort and commit murder with impunity then run off and cut up as they please then laughing at the white people and call them cowards &c &c now says the Col I am a going to stop as much of this kind of work as possible the Indians said it was a band of foolish boys that done the mischief and offered 30 horses to settle the matter. Well said the Col you see that blood all over the floor if your people had of been shot that way would you have sold your blood for a parcel of poor old horses no says the Col you never would of stopped crying for blood in return life for life you would have asked and I shall do the same

and picked out some 6 or 8 chiefs and
 Braves and told them to go to the game had
 and sent the other Indians off to look after
 the murderers. The Indians raised a party of
 Braves and went in search of the delinquents they
 at the end of three days brought in two of them
 and said the rest had ran off and they could
 not find them the col was not satisfied and
 said he must have some more so the Indians
 started again in two days they returned and
 said the rogues had fled the country and they
 could not get them the col said he must
 have another so one of the Braves stood
 over his brother that had been charged with
 having been seen with the party that
 fired on the Chippewas but it was found
 out after words that this Indian was not
 with the party when they fired upon the Chippewas
Amag, a, nah, jee, is the name of the man that gave
 up his brother of Little Sixes Band of Sioux
 col Snelling ordered a sergeant and a
 guard to take the three Sioux and march
 them out from the Fort about a quarter of
 a mile and also ordered the Chippewas out
 to shoot them which act they performed very
 willingly the Sioux were placed some fifteen
 paces off from the Chippewas the first fire
 2 of the Sioux fell one was mortally wounded
 but started to run but another shot from the
 Chippewas brought him down so the Chi-
 pperwas took the bodies of the three Sioux and
 threw them into the Mississippi and all went
 home as quiet as if nothing had happened this
 act of col Snellings struck terror into the

the Sioux Nation and it humbled the
 Sioux down so that there was no more
 trouble with them for many years from the
 Mississippi to the Missouri Col Snelling
 was blamed by many of the friends of the Sioux
 firstly because no Chippewa had died
 of their wounds and 2^dly because they said
 that Col Snelling had no authority to
 take the life of any one and they stigmatized
 him as a murderer then others said
 again that Col Snelling had done right
 and that by that he no doubt would
 save the lives of many Indians and some
 whites also for when Indians formerly had
 committed murder they would be taken before
 the courts the result would be an acquittal
 for the want of witnesses and I am willing
 to join with those in upholding Col
 Snelling as I have lived to see the effects
 of his rule while he was commanding off-
 -icer at Fort Snelling and must say by the
 Col ordering the three Sioux to be shot
 they are saved from a life of brutal
 murder and have remained to this day
 and still talk about the matter with a
 very subdued tone when they speak of it
 amongst themselves after spending about a
 month I made preparations for the Chippewa
 country again by this time began to get
 tired of the country both in account of the
 poor land and hard labor required to keep up
 the trade and as I could not take my wife
 with me I was determined it should be the last
 time I would winter with the Chippewas

So I got ready and started in company with Mr
 Baker again this time I had to go to a new
 place and build again this was at Luch
 Lake the head of the Southern Fork of the Mi-
 -ssissippi We went into the country by the way
 of gull lake and made portages from one lake
 to another until we reached our place of des-
 tination where I must to work and built on the
 point of land making in from the south and
 Shellee is an Island and I should think there
 must be thousands of acres of land in it the northern
 most point of this Island reaches near to the middle
 of the lake which is about thirty miles long
 on my way up the Mississippi I got sick with
 some kind of fever I had but little medicine
 and I did not get well for a month as soon as
 my house was up I started down for my goods
 for the winter trade we had to wait a long time
 for the Kial Boat with our goods and it was
 late in fall before we got into the country
 with our goods the Indians most of them had
 taken their winter credits and gone off to
 hunt had it not been that I met some of them
 on the Mississippi as I was going up and
 made some credits I should not got any
 Indians to hunt for me this winter still as soon
 as I arrived we had to go to fishing as the
 Traders and Indians all have to live on fish
 and Potatoes through the winter we caught
 about 2000 Tellico species of White fish
 only much smaller weighing from a half
 to one pound a piece we run a knife thro
 ugh the tail of the fish and put in on a stick
 and hang the ~~up~~ head down wards

to dry in this way they keep fresh and good all winter this is our Bread and Meat for about 8 Months of the year the distance is so great and our canoes so small that we cannot carry any more provisions sometimes we can get a little wild rice from the Indians which is quite a relief for a change of diet once in a while 2 Sacks or one Barrel of flour was all that any of us could take for our winter supply. then we dragged out a long tedious winter most the time fishing for a living we used to cut holes through the ice about three feet thick and set our Nets by means of a long pole we would cut hole with axes until we came to the water then we used an Ice chisel this is about 2 feet long made of Iron Bevelled on one side and a little crooked on the other end and fast to a handle or pole about 6 feet long with this instrument the bottom of the hole made large and the holes are made nearly as far apart as the pole is long and the Net is tied to one end of the long pole and pushed along under the ice from one hole to another until they get to the length of the Net. which generally is about 180 feet but when the Net is floated and the sinkers it does not measure not more than half that distance as the Net when set has to be pulled about one half so as to give the fish a chance to play and that keeps them from breaking the meshes very much the Pike or Pickerel are very hard on the Net, their numerous and long sharp teeth cut a great many holes in the Net

in the Spring of 1855 we had the highest water that was ever known in this country and in the summer month of the winter of 1854 a large body of ice broke off from the fall of Sandusky and choked up the channel and water rose about 20 feet and kept breaking the ice and forcing it along before the rise and rush of water by the time it reached it was impossible to look at but as soon as the flow had passed the fort it got bent by a channel that flowed into the Minnesota river but in passing the fort it carried off a long wash house belonging to the fort and a man in it the man and wife had both got out but the man thought of his watch and after it but the rise of water was so sudden that it raised the house that was made of solid hewed logs bodily up and floated some distance before it came to pieces and the man that was carried off in it was never heard of or found the flow passed off down about a mile on a little prairie on the east bank lived a trader by the name of Haribault they had been notified from the fort of the breaking up of the ice and they made their escape to the opposite side of the river but down there the water did not rise high enough to injure the houses but the following spring the water rose from the melting of the snow which was that winter from 3 to 4 feet deep Mr Haribault's house was entirely swept away but he had used precaution and moved all his effects to the west side of the river at Red River of the North the water was so high that the river over flowed it banks for 20 miles

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on each side of the river and the people many
of them had to live in rafts, for several days
before boats could carry them to dry land
and it was reported that they could not
find a good landing until they reached the
the Mountains the inhabitants lost their all
and had to commence a new again the
Hudsons bay fur company sent to the States
and purchased cattle, horses and sheep
and sold them to the colonists, to commence
a new again but quite a number of them
left them and came over to the United States
and settled for life the driving these cattle
a crop to summer was the cause of the Sioux
chiefs loosing one of his arms at fort Snelling

but the fishing in the winter is a cold and
 poor business. Some times in the morning we
 do not get more than one fish. Sometimes
 none at all. Some times four or six. When there
 is no fish the poor dogs have to suffer of which
 most every trader in the North has a train.
 In Seesh Lake there are a few white fish
 that will weigh from 10 to 15^{lbs} but they
 are scarce. The Dorra or Pike are very
 abundant in March, the traders and
 Indians set their Nets in the air holes
 in the lake and large quantities of them
 are taken at this season of the year. This species of fish
 are hunting for place to spawn and it is
 generally shallow water and grassy bottoms &
 it suits them. also they find small fish
 about these air holes and they spawn and
 find their food all at the same place. one
 Net frequently loads a dog sled with
 this species of fish every morning. about the
 first of May the Indians most of them are
 in from their Spring hunts. They kill from
 10 to 800 Muskrats. Some times one or two
 otters, a Beaver or two a few Mink a few
 coon. Some times a Bear skin makes a good
 hunter. Spring hunt. worth from one to
 two hundred dollars. Mr. Roussau an
 old Canadian who was trading there for
 the American fur company told me he was
 there when Lieut J. M. Pike came up
 to Seesh Lake in the winter ^{1814 & 15} and found
 a British flag flying and ordered his
 Saldiers to shoot it down. he says the
 Saldiers fired several shots but could not

brought down Mr Rausan said he
 ordered the Indians to try their skill at shooting
 and the fired only a few shots before the stag
 fell to the ground whilst I was waiting here
 for the Ice to Break up in the Lake & of my men
 deserted me and went off to Red river which made
 me short of hands to take my canoes out
 the distance being about 5 or 6 days travel
 by the river at last about the 20 of May 1837
 the Ice gave way to the force of the wind and
 the heat of the Sun and in a few days we were
 afloat under way for Fort Snelling again
 the first day we crossed the lake and passed
 by the old meeting ground near the outlet
 of the lake this point had been used for a
 long time by the North West Company for a trading
 post and this is the noted place where their
 stag was shot down by Lieut J. M. Pike it
 must have required a great deal of energy
 and perseverance on the part of that officer
 to have reached that post in the winter with
 out Snow shoes or Moccasins the distance
 being about 250 miles through a thick forest
 of pines and under brush with thick heavy snow
 which became very slippery in walking on the snow
 and they froze hard in the feet and the fatigue
 all ways cold and frequently the men got frost-
 =ted We moved on down into the river and
 =n Camped for the night the next day we
 =ked all day in the serpentine course of the
 river the rapids being higher than our heads
 we could not see out any distance from the
 canoes in the evening we came to the P. Kigama
 in the Chippewa tongue a fall in the

Mississippi here the river is not more than
 20 yards wide and rushes through between
 two rocks one from each side of the river the
 pitch or rapid is about 4 or 5 feet and in the
 middle and at the bottom of the shoot is
 a large boulder and the whole river dashes
 on to this rock and divides the stream and it
 reunite, below the rock again the team, all
 have to land here and make a portage and carry the
 six goods about fifty yards round to the still
 water below the rapids. Some traders had landed
 one day coming down and all had landed except
 one small bark came with only one man in it
 he was noticing something on the shore and before
 he noticed he was drawn into the suck of the
 rapid, and in an instant more he was against
 the big rock below his canoe must have slid
 and struck about half way or middle of the
 cane and broke in two one half went to
 the side of the rock and the man floated to shore
 in one half of the canoe and his load in the
 other half all met the rest of the company
 had a great laugh at the man for his dash-
 ing and the great fright he got in going over
 the fall without thinking of what he was doing
 or where he was going. We soon got our loads
 compassed and floated on down to Sandy
 Lake, the next day, we stopped only a few hours
 the clerks of the American fur company had
 become dissatisfied with their employers
 and wished to leave them and join the Colum-
 bia fur company and gave me a letter to that
 effect which I promised to lay before the com-
 pany and did so on my arrival at our next

Lands End March 1827 Smelling repaired Sandy
 Lake the next day passed the house of Mr Oaks
 and Chapin Near Cloud Lake the had all left
 for Mackinaw with their furs and to get a new
 Sapsy for the winter from here we went to Pine
 river and camped for the Pine river is a route
 that light canoes travel to go to Leech Lake also
 Willow river is traveled for that purpose but
 loaded canoes cannot travel these routes, as the
 water is too shoal and rapid the second day we
 came to Crow Wing here we heard of Genl Jacksons
 Election we found Mr Baker had been gone several
 days so we floated on down in a day and a half
 to Fort Snelling found all well and the packs
 pretty much all made ready to ship to St Louis
 a Steamboat came to our depot and took the
 furs the first steam that ever came that far up
 the Minnesota in 1827 although there had been
 3 or 4 to Fort Snelling, the first was in the Spring
 of 1823 a Stern Wheeler, the name I do not
 now recollect. from Cincinnati with supplies
 for the fort at this time all the provisions were
 brought from there for all the troops on the
 Mississippi and we used to get the best of
 Flour for \$5 per bl and 8¢ for prime Pork
 after all the packs were off the parties of
 the company got together and had a little council
 of what was to be done the following year
 I told them for one that I was going to
 quit the Chippewa country as I had been
 there three years saying that if the time came
 one else must take my place for a while
 no one made any reply some other business
 was transacted also a proposition to sell out

came up and it was agreed that if the agent
 Mr McKenzie could sell for enough to clear
 us from debt - for to do so by the time we had
 in earned a very heavy debt our outfit, or
 on the Missouri had been very expensive and
 our whole debt was now about \$100,000
 So Mr McKenzie sold out the American fur
 = company agreed to take all the goods we
 had left at cost and give us the Mis-
 souri trade they to furnish the goods
 and we were to get one third of the profit
 the two parties went to work and took an
 inventory of stock and found that we did
 not pay our debts to Messrs Parvells by some
 thousand dollars this dissatisfied the Mo-
 = st of the partners to think that Mr McKenzie
 had sold out to such a disadvantage also
 Messrs Parvells had almost stopped business
 on account of this heavy debt that worried
 them but Mr McKenzie had made the bar-
 = gain and said he was going to stick to
 it so the rest of us all backed out except
 Mr Wm S. Laidlaw so they two Scotch men
 took the American fur company's offer and
 the rest of us were left to grub for our share
 five in number we had labored and half
 starved for four years and had run the
 American fur company so hard that they were
 glad to come to some kind of an arrangement
 but we may say our four years hard ships
 and labor went to the benefit of Mr McKenzie
 and Laidlaw and off they started for
 the Missouri country my brother remained
 with Parvells clothing again Mr Laidlaw

Went into business with his brother in Saint Louis and died about two years after. Before a daughter unmarried for Mr Laidlaw came round this way to go to Mepauri to see about some private matter of his and Mr McKenzie. When he arrived we paid him a salute from a vessel. The vessel that belonged to our Kial boat Sir full loads we find and a squib for the agent of the Columbia fur company for the honor of selling us out in the Munum. He did. Myself Mr Jeffries Mr Vinville and Mr Tillton were all out of employment. Mr Tillton got into business with one Mr Parker in the Lead business at Galena. Mr Vinville got an appointment of goods from the American fur company and Mr Jeffries went with him as clerk in the Indian trade at Lacquapulle. So they had all got into business but myself. I was left in the bank of the river. Myself and wife and one child however. I had been up in the summer to Leech Lake and brought away what few goods that were left there and turned them over to the company. The Indians all over the country looked very sad over the event, that had taken place and said they would starve and freeze. Mr McKenzie never offered me a place as clerk or interpreter or any other position or place in the new business he was about to enter into. Although I worked and starved to my heart's content for three years for the company. So when the company taking an account of stock I asked Mr McKenzie for some money and lead to leave with my wife and child as I had to go somewhere and find some kind of employment.

With some hesitation Mr McKenzie let me have a few pounds of Powder and lead so they two went into the Mufsoni trade and in a few years they made some fifty thousands dollars a piece Mr Landlaw went to the same and settled at Fort Leavenworth and in a few years after as well as Mr Siffrygo and Mr Renville and my brother died some years since also Mr Lambert, Mr Tilton Hudson is also dead so there is only Mr McKenzie and myself still living of the old Columbus fur company After we had left and all the goods had been removed from Lands End to the American fur company's store I had to start and it so happened that the Steamboat Despatch came up to Fort Snelling with Supplies for the first so I shipped for St Louis where my brother was having Mefers Pounds, it made me feel sad, to think and review the past in five years that I had been there I had formed the acquaintance of most all the officers in the fort and all the traders of the country and have and go amongst Strangers and nothing before me but the shadows I had on Every thing looked gloomy and then again to leave my Indian Wife and boy was another thing that troubled me much as I could not leave them well provided for the company being in debt I could not get away thing from that source and had taken nothing for three years but barely enough to keep me from suffering in the winter and what I did get was of the most common kind and there was not fit to go into decent company The Boat was getting

I went and bid the old woman go away
 and left her with her parents and went and
 embarked the clerk of the Sutter Store called
 me one side and asked me if I had any money
 I told him no so he took the dollar and gave
 saying you are travelling amongst strangers
 and you may want a little This was an act
 of kindness at the hands of Mr N. K. Otley
 the clerk of the Sutter Store at Fort Snelling
 which I felt deeply to appreciate and asked
 another favor of him that was if heard of
 my wife and child hanging in want of provisions
 at any time to let them have some he promised to do
 so as he had at one time thought of getting
 my wife when she was a girl but he would
 not promise to marry her for life but the old
 folks did not like and would not let the
 daughter marry under those circumstances
 so he kept a few years and then cast off
 with three or four children so Mr Otley
 did not get her, the boat was ready and
 off we sailed and I took a last look at
 the land I loved and appeared more like
 my native land and home by a long residence
 in it than the one I had left to the East in
 the state of New York Phelps town Ontario
 County I shook hands with my old friend
 Mr Otley and long shall I remember the time
 when he slipped the dollar bill on the State
 bank of Missouri into my hands and I thought
 of the old proverb a friend in time of need
 is a friend indeed he lived at Fort Snelling
 40 or 5 years left 2 or three children went to

St Louis Set up a large grocery Store but did
 in 2 or 3 years after the Brewery and the
 Boat pulled slowly over the Bar at Mendota
 which gave us time to view the old place where
 we had often aspired to see Indian dances
 and to trade Indian curiosities after we got our
 way I found that Cal Snelling was on board
 the Boat and family going east and to Washing-
 ton the cat was to settle his account, and
 what time he took sick and died Nothing trans-
 pired on our boat from Fort Snelling to St Louis
 only that I hired out to the captain of the steam
 boat as clerk at twenty dollars per month
 but I had to stand watch half the night and
 the captain the other half of the night. We arrived
 all safe and sound at St Louis & again found
 my brother Matt and was principal book keeper in
 the Mess Parrels dry goods store as I had got
 employment on the Steamboat in the daytime
 I had to be at the boat all ways in day time
 either receiving or unloading freight and it was
 only in the evening that I could get a chance to sit
 - all about the little a little while in the evening with
 my brother the Mad irregular trips from St Louis
 to Galena the water was very low on the Ro-
 - ck Island and Des Moines rapids and we had
 hard work to get over frequently had to lighten
 the Steamboat with a flat boat by taking the fre-
 - ight from the steamer and taking to shore and
 leaving a part, then moving a head with a part of the
 freight until we found deep water where we wo-
 - uld put the freight into the steamer again but
 when our freight was left on the shore I had to stay
 and watch it. So to prevent this I had it

had to perform striking steady work in the boat
 half the night and watching the freight on shore.
 Worked out in about two minutes frequently I would
 take hold and help load lead in order that we could
 keep up our regular trips this was very hard work
 to handle bags of Lead for one or two hours at a
 time was very straining on the hands and arms
 but I was careful with the freight and never
 had to pay for any but once and that was
 some fact that was stolen by the Barker for
 about fifty dollars worth the Boat had to
 pay for we worked hard all the fall running from
 St. Louis to Galena and the Boat made about
 two thousand dollars Capt Clark owned
 and commanded the boat for the Ice Co.
 - We missed running and we quit the trade to Gal-
 -ena and laid up a few days in St. Louis
 and painted the boat and repaired her machinery
 some and took in freight for Missouri mostly
 bulk meat or pork in barrels and some Lard and
 honey so we got a full freight but there were so
 many boats in that trade we had to carry freight
 very cheap and our boat being small could not
 pay very well to work cheap on small freight
 on our way down we got aground twice and had
 to unload twice this was hard work and we had to
 work night and day for the Ice was not far below
 and us and we were fearful if the Ice overtook
 us it would cut our boat to pieces in a sho-
 -ot time however we got clear and ran into the
 Bank in morning in a fog and got in amongst a
 great of snags and logs a float here we expected
 to be lost every minute but the Snags were all down
 rotten and gave way when the boat floated into

on to them the Whales of the Steamboat had got
 full of roots and even Whole trus roots, and all
 had got fastened to us and it took us half an
 hour to get clear from them by this time the fog
 had cleared off a little and we could see that
 the river was full of old dead trees floating
 down with the current at a very rapid rate
 the water was very high the water was out
 of it, looks most awfully bad from the mouth
 of the Ohio to New Orleans by this time I was
 pretty well tired out not only standing watch
 half the night I had to get up carry him the
 boat landed to word or taking in freight or pass-
 =engers as I was clerk the Captain would not
 have any thing to do with the accounts. My rest
 being broken so much it made me sick but I stuck
 to my place and before we got down negotiators
 another pile of logs in a large eddy in a fog
 in the night I think we were two hours getting
 out of this scrape at last we arrived safely at
 New Orleans and we were informed that they had run
 been known so high it was only about 2 feet below
 the levee I felt very unwell but must work and
 got out part of the freight the bark kept beating a
 shore and returned and said there was a Ball this
 Evening close by so they all Captain along agreed
 to go to the Ball I felt unwell and did not care
 about going so I agreed to stay and keep watch
 but it appears that the barkeeper had looked
 for an opportunity to get all hands off of the
 Boat so he could steal some of the freight and his
 plan worked very well for after all hands of the
 boat had got to dancing they thought nothing of
 the boat until near morning and I was left all a

Mostly all night and got so sleepy that I got
 sound a sleep in my chair and no doubt the bar
 keeper was watching me all the time to see if
 I got to sleep so he could pilage some of the freight
 and his plan worked but well for the next morning
 there was a barrel of Lard missing the captain
 when he found it out commenced swearing and cursing
 me and said I had not attended to my duty in watch-
 ing the boat. I told him I could not watch
 above and below at the same time well
 he said if you had not went to sleep you could
 have heard them in taking a barrel of Lard from
 the boat. I asked him why he allowed all the boat
 hands to leave the boat and he gone all night he
 said he did not know all the hands were go-
 ing to leave the boat and said I ought to have
 told him that they were all going to the party but
 this will excuse to throw the blame on me
 for he knew all the hands were all absent from
 the boat for they were all at the Ball where was
 dancing all night. I told the owner of the freight
 how it was and he was satisfied that the
 Captain was all together to blame in the matter and
 said he would make the Captain pay for the Lard
 and done so by deducting the amount out of the freight
 which made quite a hole in the freight bill the Capt
 was mad at me and did not speak to me for three
 days but the bar keeper got off clear with the loss
 which cost the Captain about \$30 this was the second
 pull for the bar keeper making \$80 dollar in one
 trip he got out of the Captain by stealing this
 same man came near ruining the Captain once before
 he got mad at one of the Engineers one day and set
 the engine going when we were taking in wood one

day and gave it a full head of steam and
 the way that old Machinery flew for a few moments
 was wonderful the fly wheel which weighed about
 two tons went so fast we could not see it and
 it is a wonder it did not fly all to pieces and
 kill some persons on the boat. The Engineer heard it
 and ran from the table at breakfast and shut
 off the steam a fortunate circumstance that nothing
 was broken and no one hurt. The captain tackled the
 bar keeper and gave him a terrible cussing and
 that was the last of it. The captain had got into
 a scrape coming down which like to have gotten
 the cabin into trouble. it a woman had taken
 passage for New Orleans. Where her parents lived
 her parents were a respectable family and belong to
 one of our religious societies in good standing
 but the daughter had become wild and profligate
 (too often the case in either) and ran away
 from home and went to St. Louis. Some of her
 friends found her out and persuaded her to return
 to her parents and she consented and went on ~~the~~
 our boat. The captain had found out who she was
 and was known to leave his berth and go to this
 woman's and was accused of it by some of the
 passengers. This made him mad and he accused
 me and others in the cabin of watching him and
 circulating lies about him. I told he was mistaken
 so far as I was concerned he went all round the boat
 but could get no satisfaction on the subject and
 the thing dropped. When it was common three days after
 the captain told us he was going up and down as the had
 no boat, that season there was some fright for the
 upper part of the Mississippi he handed me a check
 on one of the Banks and told me to go ~~and~~ ~~either~~

~~and~~ got the money for the freight of our trip down
 I went to the bank and got it all in silver and
 put it into a shot bag and was walking along
 by one of the chain gangs working on the levee
 one day to me of course must be on a long time
 when with that bag you would not know it long
 he said I thanked him for the compliment and
 told him I was glad to see he was safe enough
 and that I did not fear him in the way he
 was fixed there he laughed and went on about
 his work We got in our freight and left the
 cutting for Natchitoches on the redman of the
 South went in very well until we got into
 the Red river one day our shifts broke loose we
 came near being blown up by one of the
 Engineers whilst we were working to get the
 Shift The Engineer held on all Steam and it
 was escaping at a fearful rate from the safety val-
 -ve I was fearful of danger and raised the val-
 -ve a little to let off some of the steam that
 was forcing the boiler terribly We could see
 the steam flying from most long sent or splashed
 the Captain scolded me for raising the safety
 valve and I would scold some body else
 had also a large flat or broad horn as they
 are termed on the lower Mississippi in tow and
 kept on to work helping to get the Shift to
 its place and the flat boat man and some men
 lashings The Engineer held on to all Steam
 and I discovered there was something the matter
 with him I went and told the Captain that the
 Engineer would blow us all up very soon if
 he did not go and see to him the Capt started
 but before he got to the Engine a huge burst

out of the Steamship Steamship as large as a Mans
 finger and it made all hands Scatter the Steam
 ship with so much force that no one could
 approach near enough to doing thing to stop the
 leak the capt was now glad to get the op
 portunity to let off steam through the safety valve
 and by so doing let off Enoug so that we got a piece
 of copper plate and three or four double of canvas
 and a String Cord and lashed the Copper and
 Linen on over the hole and stopped the leak
 if we had of got blown up and the fact if we
 had not have been killed by the Steam we should
 have been drowned the Mississippi was so high that
 that it backed the water up in Red river 30 miles
 and the mouth of the river was about 30 miles
 wide so there was no possibility of escaping
 a watery grave and all must have perished for
 what for the fault of one man the Engineer had
 been indulging very stringly in New Orleans
 and had got the deterrime tremors and was
 perfectly out of his head at the time and came so ne
 ar blowing us all in to eternity however provid
 ence overruled the disaster and we got safe
 ly under way again and went on up a piece
 further and took in a widow woman and
 some slaves in the night they said they had been in
 a week on a raft the whole country was flooded
 with water we went on and found a steam boat
 Robert Burnsaground by this time we had got
 above the flood of the Mississippi and found
 the banks of the Red river about fifteen feet
 above water the weather was very mild and
 pleasant the fact of being well high and dry be
 lieved one man was watching to the end and body

for Michael had about 15 days sailing
 about in this high water and could not scarcely
 find dry ground enough to land the Steamboat
 on the Robert Burns lay in the Channel and
 we could not pass until she got off so we
 laid there balance of the day and a part of the
 next when the Burns got off and as she passed
 us informed us and that was all and went off,
 we had a passenger on board a kind of trader he had
 come all the way from St Louis with us and is
 one that the Captain had accused of watching the
 movements about the Lady Catherine passenger before
 to he had purchased with the Captain some 30
 Barrels of Whisky from a little Boat trading
 up and down the Mississippi river this laden a
 Steamboat so that we had much trouble to get
 along the river was narrow and crooked and
 full of Snags we got up to Alexandria and got
 off some of our load and went on a little better
 for one day when the water got very shoal again
 and one place was barely wide enough to let the
 boat through we had now been about a week
 out and had got out of provisions and we had
 much trouble in getting such supplies from the
 inhabitants as the boat wanted for the inhabit-
 ants lived mostly on corn and the negroes the
 same our fair weather turned into raining the
 Captain and Mr Gray hired a couple of horses and went
 up to Natchitoches a distance of about 30 miles by
 land and told me to work along up as well as I could
 after we got off for we were now a ground
 with much hard pulling we got off but there
 were so many Snags that we made slow progress
 it rained all night and all day the next day it

It slackened up a little and the Capt and Mr Gray
 came back again it set into running about dusk
 and it actually came down stream in the
 morning it slackened up a little and the water had
 commenced rising so we got under way and got
 up to Katchitoches and a hard trip we had of
 it. The Reservoir of the South resembles the Minn-
 isota river very much in width depth and
 superior course and height of banks but the
 timber is different the great Cypress trees laden
 with moss hanging from the top to the ground
 and the dry land is not more than half a mile
 wide and from that to a mile when it terminates
 in those cypress swamps the farms for sugar
 and cotton are from a half to one mile wide
 along the banks of the river the first night we
 arrived the pilot went ashore and got up a
 Spanish fandango Ball this was something
 I wanted to see having heard a great deal about
 the Spaniards I wanted to see them perform so
 the Captain ordered Sam one to keep watch
 and Mall went the boat crew most of them
 I said in the dance the old Spanish woman
 and one or two Dartoons women and about
 a dozen men for the ball a very good sample
 of the inhabitants of the place the women had
 Tortillas a mixture of flour and corn meal
 made into small rolls then rolled up in cane
 leaves and boiled the Spanish were buying them
 I supposed it was something good and purchased
 half a dozen and thought I would try them
 and of all the insipid things that I ever tasted
 were these Tortillas the Spanish appeared to be

very fond of them they had a little lap dog
 running about the floor when they were a hungry
 and barking and I commenced feeding him the
 Tortillas. After while the Pilot came to me and
 told me the Spanish were mad at me for
 feeding the Tortillas, to the day they took it
 as an insult to their mode of cooking and
 told me to stop. I threw the balance that I
 had in my hands and took up my hat and wa-
 lked away down to the boat and left them to
 dance and eat the Tortillas, to themselves I never
 saw a more vulgar looking little company than
 had got together to have what they called a ball.
 the boats crew danced nearly all night the
 next morning we went to work to unload
 the boat and went on very well got nearly half
 out before breakfast was call I turned to go to
 to breakfast and saw one of the men sitting
 a hoghead of sugar on a plank alone I spoke
 to him and told him not to attempt to roll the
 hoghead of sugar out alone but he persisted
 in doing it I demonstrated and told him he wo-
 =uld sit into the water. O now he said and went
 on and all most out when the hoghead of
 sugar took a cant and over it went into
 the river one end on dry land and the other
 wet it was rolled out soon as possible but
 it was spoiled it was full of water and in
 a few minutes it was all molasses and commenced
 running out the Captain commenced swearing at me
 and wanted to know why I let that man roll
 the sugar into the river. I told him I had
 forbid him and to wait for help but persisted

and went ahead after being told twice Why in Hell did you not call some hands to help I said they had all gone to Breakfast he kept on Smeaning Saying you always have some kind of a foolish get off for negligence of duty and went off to Breakfast and I followed after him at first the Capt went on shore and got an auctioneer and had the Molasses sold for about nine dollars I told him to Make the Man pay the balance by working on the Boat he let fly an oath and said he had not got a cent and how can I Make him pay for the Sugar I said Nothing More the Capt then was Mad all the way down to New Orleans and hardly spoke to any one on the boat for two or three days we hurried on got unloaded and made off down stream by this time the Water had risen about ten feet and rushed on down with a frightful current The Barges that run out of the river run out at a frightful rate and if a small boat should get drawn side by side with one I believe I would break the boat in two We came back to Alexandria and found our old friend the flat boat then he said he had not sold enough to pay his freight and was about leaving for New Orleans he was a funny old fellow active and had been interested with a large amount of property otherwise Groceries from the Ohio river several farmers had clubbed together and made a large flat boat and put in all their spare produce and sent this Man down to sell it for them with his own Wares in down to New Orleans and took in some more freight and went back to Alexandria again

here the captain came near getting into a Bowie
 Knife Scrap on account of some freight that
 had been landed and the owners had taken
 it away and then would not pay the freight
 the captain went and got a Knife and went and
 demanded pay or the goods so he could get his
 pay out of them and flashed his Bowie
 a while and the other party the same but by
 standing interposed and got the matter settled
 and the Capt got a Shuck on the bank and got
 his Money by this time we began to get sick
 of the Country and the people in it as a large
 number of men cut throats and Blacklegs
 they and was a pretty little town with
 Pine trees growing amongst the houses which
 gave it a pretty appearance from the river
 but Katchitchee is nothing but some log huts
 with only 3 or 4 only common houses when we
 were there in in the Winter of 1822 & 3 we got off
 as soon as we could for New Orleans got
 there we found our old friend with the flat
 boat had sold out and spent the most of
 the Money and left for parts unknown so
 his friends at home had to suffer. he had a
 fine lot of farm products Horses Cows
 Pigs fowls apples cider Chase Buttern
 Rack Brandy Cider Brandy Whisky corn &c &c
 and in fine he had the finest lot of good provi-
 sions that I had ever seen well and clean
 all lost to the owners several thousand dollars
 worth and I was told that was a frequent oc-
 -currence by the Cho and Indians and when
 they got to N. O they got to gambel and lose all

This was Saturday in the afternoon a gentle
 man came on Board the boat and appeared to be
 an old friend of the Captains and sat and talked
 very friendly with the Capt about half an hour
 and went away again in about an hour after
 another gentleman came to the Wharf and called
 the Captain and told him he wanted to speak
 to him the Captain went out and they walked
 off together in about half an hour the Capt
 came back and said did you see that man
 on shore that called me out I said yes well
 said the Capt that was the Sheriff the man
 that came here first has sued me for de-
 -bt the Capt said he claimed \$400 on that
 Steam boat or his Boat on the engine and
 the Capt said he would not pay it for ~~just~~ ^{an} ~~old~~ ^{old} one and was not worth anything like
 he charged for it so the Capt went to a lawyer
 and gave him 25¢ and told him the facts in the
 case the Lawyer told him the laws were
 very strict in that city about such things
 and said the plaintiff had all the advantage
 of him and now said he you have one way
 of escape left that is get up Steam gun
 by in the morning Sunday and start off
 so we done and got off clear but had no
 freight so we worked our way back to St
 Louis without any freight or pay our expenses
 so the Capt lost about five hundred dollars
 in his New Orleans trade and got back to
 St Louis about the 18th February We remained
 in port a few days one day the Capt came to me
 and said the Boat could not pay a clock now

as there was not much business doing in furs
 - it but if the 2 Pilot and I would take the
 Barr we might have all we could make out
 of it - so we agreed to do it and got our supp-
 - lies and had them charged to the Boat my
 brother was still being with the Messrs. Roberts
 the capt got about half a load of furs
 and a few passengers and started for Galena
 the day before we arrived at Galena it commenced
 snowing and then was ice running from the M^{ts} -
 - isippi and we took a large Kule in tow some
 just moved but we got to the mouth of Koon
 river after dark and it began to turn cold and
 I commenced making up in furs - river and when we got
 to Galena on the morning of the 23 February 1828
 the ice nearly formed was strong enough for
 the Boats to skate on all round the Steamboat &
 here the boat laid for two weeks frozen in
 the inhabitants had been celebrating Wash-
 ington's birth day before and in the evening they
 pretended that a Steam boat was coming by cry-
 - ing the lead and firing cannon and hoisted
 a good many of the citizens that came out to
 see if a boat had arrived and little did they
 think that a boat was so near at hand and
 we should have got up on the 22^d in time for
 the celebration if we had not taken the Kule
 boat in tow an old frenchman lived
 on the opposite side of the river got up in the
 morning and came out and said god damn the
 Steam boat what for he come here in the winter
 the old man felt hurt for he was a trader
 and had about all the flour there was in town

and was asking 13 \$ for barrel but the boat
 had a lot on board so the old frenchman had
 to come down a peg in his flour which made
 the old man sweat a little the capt of the boat
 got to gambling whilst he was foraging and
 he lost all his loose cash and hung there up
 there so long made him very cross and one day he
 got to scolding me because I was always away
 from the boat and did not sell anything I got.
 My dander up a little too and went ashore to
 a Merchant by the Name of Hempstead that
 had borrowed my brothers Pistols the ones me
 had used so much at Fort Mifflin I did not
 tell him what I wanted of them he let me have them
 and I went down to the boat with a full de-
 termination to give the capt a Challenge the 2^d
 Pilot my partner in the Barr business saw me
 with the box he mistrusted from the size and
 Shape of the box what I had and would not
 let me alone until I told him what I was a-
 going to do with the Pistols finally I told him
 I was a going to Challenge that old brute of a ca-
 ptain he set his head against it at once and
 got hold of the pistals and took them back
 again I told him that I was not a going to
 stop in the boat to be abused by that old
 fool of a captain you may go where you like
 he said but as for your getting into a quarrel
 on this boat you cant do it as long as I am on
 it so I quit the boat and went to a friend of
 mine and lodged with him about one week from
 there I went to a publichouse to live and here I
 found a Man by the Name of Hobbey he had

I have been sick for a month or more but was now
 convalescent and was making preparations to
 go to Mining and was to get an outfit from
 my friend Mr Tilton one of the late partners
 of the old Columbia fur company so I proposed
 to join in and go halves in all we could
 find in Mining. So we agreed to go over and
 see Mr Tilton on the subject. He fell in with
 the plan at once and we got a lot of tools
 and bedding and hired a team to move us out
 to the Mining country about the 20th March 1828
 We moved and the 2^d day we went and camped on
 a branch of the little Platt built a temporary
 shanty and commenced digging for Lead ore We
 dug about a month and could find no mineral
 So we moved our camp further north one days
 travel onto one of the branches of the Pichatol
 -ica here we built a small house out of little
 poplars and split some long oak shingles and co-
 -vered our house so we were quite comfortable
 and commenced digging the first hole I dug I found
 some very pretty Mineral and looked fair for a
 good Lead but on further working we found
 it was a few scattered lumps and no lead
 and so we kept on digging all summer I dug about
 200 holes from three to ten feet deep and
 did not find Mineral enough to purchase
 a plug of Tobacco Notwith standing there were
 some good leads in the neighbor hood a young
 man by the name of Tho^s McKnight came and
 went to digging near by us but found nothing of
 any value also a man by the name of Jones
 had been Mining 14 years and had found

comparison - by Nothing also a man by
 the name of Dickson he had three or 4
 men hired and ~~two~~ three Black men hired
 they worked all all summer and all they found
 was about two hundred dollars worth of Mineral
 My Partner and myself bought a prospect
 of Mr Jones and Winston & proved it
 likely to be a valuable lead and a sheet
 about 8 inches thick lying flat under gro-
 und and about four feet deep was the first of
 our discoveries in the prospect we had purch-
 ased I had worked myself completely
 down and thought I would have a resting
 spell and I hired a horse and went down to
 Galena a good days ride here I found the
 old Josephine and advertised for Fort
 Snelling the thought struck me at once here
 a chance to go and see my wife and boy
 it happened there was a man from our place
 or diggings, in town, I got him to ride the
 horse home again and I embarked on the
 old Josephine again capt Clark Master
 the old Capt and My self had forgotten all
 of our troubles in former times and we sailed
 up to Fort Snelling very fondly together
 on our way up the Capt told me that when he
 got back to St. Louis that my brother had
 attacked him about the bear hunt that
 he had shown me while on his boat and
 said my brother told him plainly that he
 the Capt was chargeable with all the trouble
 and difficulty that had risen between us
 the Capt acknowledged that when he got into

passion he would frequently say things
 that he ought not to say and I said that I
 was some what contrary and hard headed too
 was the reason we could not get along together,
 and for himself he should say nothing about
 the matter, although I had once intended
 to shoot him when the boat was frozen in at
 Galena so there was an end to that affair
 after landing I went to the Capt and asked
 what my fare was he said he believed there was
 something due me from the boat and we will say
 even so said I and we parted good friends
 again I went north in search of my old woman
 and boy I found them with the old folks
 when I had left them at Medota all well and
 in increase of family a daughter had been
 added during my absence (now Mrs Pettijohn
 they had passed the winter very well they in-
 formed and had not suffered for anything and
 had been quite happy and comfortable which
 was more than I could boast of I concluded
 to stop a while with them so I stopped about
 two weeks I told the old woman I must go
 again as an opportunity was offered so that I
 could get a passage with Mr Bailey. she opposed
 and wanted I should stay with them she said
 something might come about that we could live
 if we did live poor that was nothing she had
 got tired of living alone and there were some
 traders that were all ways annoying her and telling
 her that I would never come back here and so
 on I opposed my going down the river again
 I told her that I had some business in the mines

that I must go and attend to the said. I ^{had} been
 hard at work all summer and had made nothing
 and she did not see what use there was of
 working then for nothing. That I could stay with
 them and if I earned nothing I would be as
 well off if not better. With my family than I
 would be roving about. So I agreed to go
 down and settle up my business and come
 back and live at Fort Snelling, poor or not,
 and run the risk of getting employment, so I
 started with Mr Bailey in a McKimaw boat
 for Galena again. We were only 5 or 6 days
 going down, as soon as I landed I went
 right off to find my partner Mr Holliday
 he was glad to see me he said he wanted
 some help. I told him I could not stay that
 I was going back to my family this made him
^{have} laid down his, for I had all ways out done him
 at digging and could dig as much in one day
 as he would in a day and a half. No you
 cant go he said. I must I cannot leave my
 family any longer well if you will I will
 quit also so soon as I can get away
 so we settled up our accounts and Mr Holliday
 took all and trusts pay all the debt, and to
 give me three hundred dollars if the property
 sold for enough to bring that amount whilst
 I was absent. Mr Holliday had provided up the lead
 that we had bought of Mr Jones and found did not
 much more than pay Expense after taking of the top
 Minerals the lead took a pitch into the rock in a
 seam or crevice about half an inch wide Mr H
 worked the hard Rock down 40 feet and the lead

kept getting thinner all the way down and at
 last the stock got so hard and the lead was only
 was only about as thick as a knife blade and a
 great many tools worn out so Mr Holiday aban-
 -doned the lead now he had nothing left but a
 a clam of wood land and a good place for a
 furnace left which he sold for 800\$ and
 paid off the debts of our copartnership and
 remained there all winter until the next fall
 left the mines and went up to Prairie du
 chien with one Mr Graham whom I found
 at galena with a small keel boat fitting
 out to go into the pineries to cut pine logs to
 raft to St Louis we got up to Prairie du chien
 Mr Brunette who was to assist Mr Graham
 informed him that the Government had forbid
 people from cutting pine timber and that he
 could not go into the country so that broke
 up the old gentleman's business and left him as
 poor as I was my self and a large family of chil-
 -dren to look after thus Mr Graham was
 a captain in the last war under one col
 Dickson on the British side these two offi-
 -cers both drove a company of Sioux Indians
 as far as Sandusky and they were at the battle
 when col Croghan defeated the British
 and drove them off the Sioux Indians and
 their officers were frightened all most to death
 when they saw the British falling by hundreds
 the Indians of all nations that were there of
 which there were a good many killed themselves
 the best they could by fires and ditches and w-
 -oads &c until the fight was over when the

Indians Made off as fast as they could and
 being glad they were to get off from the awful
 sight of so many dead and dying. The Indians
 said the sight was awful and the sight and
 and the officers made the best of their way home
 again having been provisioned and clothed by the
 British at Mississimackinack or Mackinac.
 after I arrived at Prairie du Chien I looked round to see
 if there was any chance to get some employment in the
 = ndian trade but all the posts were supplied with
 clerks and Interpreters but Mr Brunette wanted
 me to go to Galena and sell some corn for him and
 purchase some dry goods for him as he had a
 number of men at work for him getting wood for
 a contract for the fort and paid his hands partly
 in goods so went north and filled up 2 or 300
 bushels of corn and shipped it on the Red Rover
 Capt Throckmorton Master and sailed for Galena
 again and back Mr Brunette was very well
 satisfied and sent me back again and I
 done so well with the corn when I got back he said
 I must go again during my absence from the
 Prairie my wife with her children and her
 father and mother with her and I found them
 in their tent near Mr Brunette's I had been gone
 so long they said they had got lonely and come
 down to see what had become of me the boat
 was in a hurry to be off so I hurried round and got
 my father some provisions and some clothing and
 told them to go up to the foot of Lake Pepin
 and there wait for me where my father-in-law's
 brother lived where there was game and they co
 = uld live much cheaper than at the Prairie

and got on to the Steamboat and went down to galena again and sold another lot of corn for Mr. Brunett and came back (Mr B was well satisfied. This was the last trip Mr Brunett had given me a note to collect for him on a man by the name of Turner and told me to sue if he refused to pay. So I went and found the gentleman but he would not pay the note so I sued him but he had been elected to the Illinois legislature and on his way and the law could not stop him. So I left the case in the hands of an officer to be attended to after he came back and took his road. I staid about galena a few days nothing to do about this time one Mr Hurchival arrived there with a large lot of Indian goods Mr Hunt from Detroit a brother in law of Mrs Silling was in charge I went to Mr Brunett and asked him to get a few of the goods and I would go up to the foot of the lake and trade for the winter so he went and made arrangements for five hundred dollars worth of cloth and blankets and Mr B added some things more which made me quite a little apartment for the trade. So Mr B got two large canoes and 6 men and started me off it late in November and cold and we had the hardest kind of work to get up for the ice was running very thick before we reached our point for to month but we got up the men took one canoe and started down through the running ice and got down before the river closed I took my goods and stored them in Mr Graham's house and went

out in search of my wife and found she
 and all the family had gone out hunting upon
 the River Zomboc or Bushy river I found
 them one days March with their ankle they
 had killed. Squirrels and Elk, and had lived in
 my mill and comfortable the next morning we took
 our baggage and started back to the place where we
 were to winter we had heavy loads and moving tired
 when we got in as we had to carry all on our heads with
 straps I had no room for my self and had to fix up
 our tent to live in through the winter we put fells and
 hay all round the and made it tolerable comfortable
 So by storing my goods in Mr Grahams house I
 had room enough and I boarded with Mr Graham
 a few days until I found that an old Frenchman
 that he had was stealing my provisions and giv-
 ing them away to the opposition traders we went
 in to breakfast I asked the old man if he had been
 giving my pork to the men of the opposition
 he first denied it but I told him he must not deny
 it for I had found out all about it from the
 men of the other house he then acknowledged
 that he had taken some before as the table
 I turned to Mr Graham and told him
 that I could not eat with a thief and if he
 was determined to keep the old thief at the table
 I could not eat with them Mr G said
 nothing so I got up and left the table and the
 next meal I had cooked and eat in the tent
 Mr Graham found he could do nothing where
 was with a large family and concluded to move
 back to Fort Snelling again and in a few
 days I came for them and they moved back

back on the ice and I moved into his house
 and passed ^{the} winter the opposition had got in a
 month before me and given all the Indians
 a credit and sent them off to hunt so that I
 saw no Indians until they returned from their
 winter hunts and the moment the Indians arrived
 the trader went round gathered up all the furs
 and the Indians had nothing to trade so I made
 no packs this winter and in the spring I moved
 up to the head of the lake and lived in my tent
 amongst the Indians about a month and traded
 a few furs and sent them down to Mr Brunelles
 whilst I was down at the foot of the lake in
 the winter some times arrived there from Pra-
 irie du chien, a trader by the name of La-
 frambois was the man from the Minniscottine
 in the evening they sent for me the clerk of
 the opposition house & he proposed by the name
 of Pire, Otabis and Mr Laframbois com-
 ments for me to pass the evening and to play a few
 games of cards I went over all social having
 been acquainted before and we sat down and
 commenced playing for amusement after
 a little Mr Laframbois got up and went
 out and did not return I sat and played until
 I got tired and Mr Laframbois came and
 got up to go home but Mr Otabis insis-
 ted on my staying longer than Mr Laframbois
 would be in in a moment I began to think that
 something was not right and started and went
 home found all quiet and no person there but
 my wife and an old frenchman that had
 come up from Prairie du chien and brought

a load of provisions for me I went to bed and
 went to sleep the next morning my wife asked
 me why I had stand alone she said
 that trader Mr Laframbois had been over
 there all the evening annoying her I started my
 -kit over to Mr Ortatis and found Laframbois
 had started at day light & putting that I
 would be after him so I tackled the matter
 and soon by all that was good that he
 knew nothing about the matter and that it was
 not a concerted plan of his so I could do nothing
 and having no fears of the chastity of my wife
 the thing had to stop then the Laframbois is
 one of the persons that my wife complained
 to me of, as annoying her when she was alone
 and opposed my leaving her alone any more
 in the spring I moved up to Fort Snelling
 and got a hold house of the Indian agent
 and moved into it and passed the summer
 buying about 3 furs goods left and let
 Mr Duncan Campbell have the most of them
 to go and trade them at a profit so he must
 off with the goods and traded a considerable
 lot of furs and went off, and sold them &
 kept all the proceeds so I was left flat broke
 again in the fall Mr Brunette sent up
 to see if I had any more furs as he had to
 settle for the goods I packed up what furs I had
 and sent down while I was at Mr Brunette
 the fall he for I had left my papers that I got
 of Mr Volney with him in part payment
 of the goods and he had sent them down and
 collected the amount and what furs I had I sent

Not pay up and whilst I was getting ready to
 go down to see Mr Brunette Mr Holaday
 arrived with Mr McKnight before named at
 Mr Loughams the Subagents on his way to Miss
 - our he wanted to know why I gave my
 papers to Mr Brunette did you not pro-
 mise to keep them your self I told him I had
 promised to keep them as long as I could
 and that he had been so long making any
 returns from our dead business that that
 I was obliged to let them go to him Well
 said he there was not enough cleared to pay
 all but I paid it and you are something in
 my debt but I knew this could not be for I
 knew from the amount raised for the wood
 claim would pay all debts and have some-
 - thing beside, so I never troubled myself abo-
 - ut paying him and he never troubled me more
 about the matter I set out for Prairie du Chien
 again and left my wife with her parents a-
 gain We had a cold disastrous time of it
 going down We went down in a large
 Kull boat and it was late in November the
 wind blew a gale some times so the boat could
 not move being worked by hand crews finally
 a Missunary a River the boat in a bark canoe
 and I got in with him and the man that Mr
 Brunette had sent up after me and went one
 day and had to lug too the blow so hard
 we could do nothing with our canoe after
 a while the old Kull came down along
 before the wind We started and with
 much difficulty we got on board

Mr Col would go with us this was Saturday Evening and Mr. C. said he would not travel on Sunday and must ashore and staid all night at a traders and passed the Sabbath there we floated on down but soon got blowed into some tree tops when it took us till near Sundown to get off we floated a short distance and tied up for the night the next morning it was very cold but calm we were now near Prairie La Poudre so named from the fact it was a fine prairie below the Mouth of Black River Wisconsin when the Indians used to go to play Ball. Went on my mill until we got within about 30 Mils of Prairie La Poudre we stopped for the night and there came up a heavy snow storm the next day we had to work in the snow all day and finally got down to the Prairie I went to see my old friend Mr Brimette he was glad to see me once more I told him at once all my troubles and failure in trade well he said it cant be helped the goods are paid for but you will owe me something so I gave him my note for the balance about \$150 and he told me I could stay at his house until I could find some employment or a chance to go back again in few days after Mr Brimette leased his tavern stand to a French man that could neither read or write and they wanted me to stay and write or keep his books so I went to work but the business soon convinced me that it would not last long in the first place the proprietor was no Manager and another thing there

Was no travel and no boards, and the Rent had
 to be paid Monthly so the first month the thing failed
 and they made a new arrangement and took
 in a partner both of the proprietors had been
 old Salders and they did not a year long the
 first one quit and hired to the last one as cook
 and in fact had done the cooking all the time
 the other stuck it til Spring and came out about
 \$200 in debt I quit the Clerk business there
 was so much trouble amongst them and waited
 an opportunity to get back to Fort Snelling what
 to do I did not know I was out of money and
 no way of coming any and had none to take home
 again but I was determined to go if I begged
 my way home again. The French are great people
 for Balls I went once in a while but did not
 enjoy myself with them and most always
 went home before the Balls were half over about
 the middle of the winter an opportunity offered
 that I could go back by walking with some
 Salders that were going up with the Mail
 and I got ready and started with the company
 I went to Marsh an old acquaintance of
 mine in Grand-ducken and told him my
 circumstances, he took a new shirt and gave
 me and off I went we before I started
 I went to shake hands with the proprietors of
 of the house the one that had charge first
 took half a dollar and handed me saying
 the money was not his. Enough for one meal
 we went on very well until we got up
 about the middle of Lake Superior here
 I got lame with the Rheumatism and

and had to stop and rest frequently but I got up to the head of Lake Pepin sometime after the party here we found a party of Soldiers watching a boat load of provisions that had been frozen in, in the fall and about sundown two teams arrived from Fort Snelling to get a load of provisions they stayed over one day and let the rest and asked me to stay and go up with I was very glad to get a chance to rest they had a good warm house and I fared very well and got over my lame knee and started up with the teams the mail had gone on the day before we had not gone more than 8 or 10 miles before in went one of the teams 2 Span of mules and 14 Barrels of Flour Sleigh and all were afloat the teamsters unhooked the forward horses of the foremost team as they gone over safe and came back and hitched a chain around a mule neck and pulled him out and so they did to all of them and got them all out safely then the flour had to be got out which was a cold wet job but by hard work all was safely landed on the solid ice and loaded up a gain when the Sleigh went down the teamsters and myself were both on the load and had barely time to escape before the load all rolled into the river we ditched up and went at a pretty smart trot in order to warm up the mules that were and cold and by night they were all dry and well the next morning we started early so we could get home that day and near sundown we once more saw our old home once more and happily glad I was to get back again when I could sit down and be quiet if I was poor and had nothing

to do I was with my family and at my home
 in the Spring of the year the agent Major L
 Taliaferro wanted to let some of the Indians to
 farming and selected Lake Calhoun for the place
 and told me he wanted me to go and stay there
 and take as many Indians as would go and set
 -tle down the agent was to furnish a team and
 a man to drive the oxen & make. No Indians would
 go at first Except my old father in law and another
 old man by the name of, Mockpu meekastah
 Man of the Clouds, We did not do much the first
 year Still we raised some corn the Indian agent
 furnished us with some provisions once in while and
 with my gun and fish line made out to live. the
 next Summer several families moved out to the lake
 and we had to plough about 80 acres that
 year in order that all might get a piece plowed
 the teamster drove and I held the plough we plowed
 until about the middle of June and quit for it was
 to late to plant after that time and I had got tir-
 -ed of plowing for it was hard work when it
 was so watery this season the Indians raised
 very good corn this year about enough to keep
 them throug the winter but by spring the corn was
 mostly all eat up this Spring I got into some tro-
 -uble with my old mother in law an Indian from
 Wabushaw's band whom she called her brother came
 -up to see her and when he started to go away the
 old woman gave him a bag of rice I supposed
 saying that she had a large family and that she
 wanted the rice more than the man did and told
 her not to give it away but she persisted and said
 it was hers and she would give it to whom she pleased

I told her again she had a large family and she
 must give away her food but still stuck to it and
 I pulled out my knife and told them if any one
 touch the bag of rice I would cut it to pieces they
 then found I was in earnest and the man started
 off for home no doubt thinking I was a very hard
 man the old woman she got mad and picked some
 of her duds and my wife and all started off
 down to the fort where the Interpreter lived. The
 old woman had played me a trick once before
 that I did not like and I had not forgotten it
 one day she was at my house and when was
 starting off home my eldest boy cried to go home
 with her but I forbade him the old woman
 came and picked him up and put him on her
 back and walked off I stood and looked
 with my eyes full of vengeance until she got
 out of site and said to my self you will not
 have that child long ^{I was} determined to send him
 below to school the first chance that offered
 the next day the old woman returned in the
 afternoon with all the family here we labored
 on all same flowing land for the Indians by
 this time we had quite an Indian town of about
 250 souls In the fall I went to the fort one day
 and coming home I got on to any of cart that
 was going to the falls and I had occasion to
 get off as we were going along and I stepped up
 by the far end of the cart to get again when the
 oxen started and the front of the cart struck me
 and pushed me over and one wheel passed over my
 body and broke one rib for me the men picked me
 up and took me to St Anthony where they had

a party of Soldiers Sawing lumber for the fort
 one of the Soldiers started off for the doctor at the
 fort as soon as we got up to the falls they came
 back with the assistant doctor he examined me and
 said that one of my ribs was broken and I had better
 go down to the fort what to do I did not know my
 wife and children were at the lake all alone I wanted
 some one to go and tell them of my condition but
 no one could go so she staid there all alone with her
 children I might expect my home every minute but as
 I did not come towards the evening of the third day she
 started out in search of me she came first to Mr Dumas
 my old Interpreter her he found out where I was and
 what had happened she came right down to the fort
 and found me ~~and~~ in the hospital in the fort
 where the commanding officer and Doctor agreed to
 let me stay until I should get well which 15
 days after I got well I got a team and moved
 back again to the Lake and found all of little
 things safe as the Indians were all hunting now
 we had lunch about here I sat down and passed
 the winter In the Spring I went Plovering for the
 Indians large numbers were added to our band
 or village this summer so they numbered now
 about 300 and they raised a large amount of
 corn and Potatoes and supplied the Indians
 with a great deal of corn on the Minnesota and
 Mississippi rivers and Major Sahapero
 made my father-in-law and Mock-pur
 chasah chiefs of the band and here the In-
 dians made great progress in cultivating the
 soil and always had a great plenty and
 had a large amount to sell to the traders

in the month of March the agent sent
 out two men to stay a month and wanted
 me to assist them to get out timber ~~Enough~~
 to rebuild a canoe house that had been
 burnt about 6 months before in this council
 that was burnt is where the missionaries used
 to preach as they happened to come along.
 Then Mr. Col sometime after I saw
 him peache here to these woods, as they
 = Moham had heard of the duties busings
 and gave them a good moral lesson on the
 subject Mr. Col came out to my place at
 Lake Calhoon, and went over to the chop
 = puma country and came near Narbony to
 death once he got lost and got out of Provi-
 = dence but finally got into port Smithing
 and was saved he was a man of great
 patience and perseverance and traveled until
 his age and strength forbid his working in the
 Missionary cause We went north and cut Samos
 = R logs Enough for the New Council house and
 carried them out of the Swamp by hand so the
 teams could get to them to haul them here
 was a month work of hard lifting but we
 finished it all up completely and the New
 canoe has built by the soldiers but never
 was thoroughly finished and stood so until
 it was nearly rotten and ready to fall down
 in the fall of the year a new opposition star-
 = ted up Mr. Harvard And A. Bailey the man
 that I had once been in partnership with
 so the American fur company went round and
 had all the Interests they could get so that

So that the New Company could not get good
 traders or interpreters nor men that were acqui-
~~ainted~~ with the Indians and trade but Mr
 Dacey had stole the March on them and got
 some of the best of the traders before they
 knew what he was doing one evening quite
 late a man came to me from the American
 fur company and said Mr Rollette wanted
 to see me so in the morning I went to him
 he said he wanted to hire me there was a strong
 opposition coming against him and he would
 like him for three years and give me \$400
 a year the same as he gave all his clerks and
 the object of his hiring for three years was
 to have enough clerk with running and hi-
 =ring Every year I found them in the old
 store house up at Sands End so I staid for
 three years at \$400 a year and went right
 and the first thing we had to do was to go to
 Grandison to fix up things there to meet
 the opposition the best way we could have
 I got news that my brother had left Mrs
 Parbells and gone home to New York state &
 set up a drug store and got married I got Mr
 Rollette's canoe ready and two men and my
 self took him up in 3 days and about 40
 =ars of the 4th day a distance of about 150 miles
 by the river I mastered almost but when we
 got up Mr was one of the greatest cowa-
 =rds on the water I ever saw he kept his pocket
 handkerchief tied in a hole in the side of the ca-
 noe all the time and he would ^{hold} onto it either
 with one hand or the other all the time