

Friday Sept. 17th 1824

Four Compy of the 1st Infy, A. B. H. & I
commanded by Lieut Harney, Capt Spencer
Lieut Gwynne, & Capt Mason, having been as
signed to Keel Boats Muskrat, Mink
Raccoon & Beaver, the whole under direc
tions of Major Kearny, left Saint Louis
on the morning of the 17th destined for Council Bluff.
The shore was lined with spectators to wit
ness our departure, most, if not all of whom
take considerable interest in the success of the
Expedition, & as we are to attempt to navi
gate the Missouri, differently from what it
has hither to been, many remarks & observa
tions were made, respecting the feasibility
of our plan.

Genl. Atkinson is with us—

We run up to within two miles of
the mouth of the Missouri, halted for the
night—

16 miles

Sept. 18th.

At day break, the bugle sounded to rise, & shortly after we started & reached the Missouri about Sunrise and advanced up it to Belle Fontaine where we arrived at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9.

6 miles

We now commenced taking out part of the freight of the Boats, they already being deeply loaded, & we having considerable Pork, whiskey, Company baggage & to put on board of them

Sept. 19. Sunday

Genl. Atkinson left Belle Fontaine about 10 to meet us again to morrow—Our Boats, being loaded, we got off, at 2 P.M. & run up to & halted before dark, N.W. Quarter Plantation—

8 miles

about 60 Recruits for the 6th. Infy were distributed at Belle Fontaine, amongst the 4 Boats

Sept 20th. Monday

Started at ½ past 5 & 3 miles above stop =ped to breakfast, during which, we altered the buckets of the Beaver, they dipping too deep in the water—passed Chabonier*, & reached Saint Charles, at ½ past 3 – Here met Genl. Atkinson & Mr. Benton (Senator from Missouri) & received from the former my final instructions

we were detained here 'till 6 P.M. in repairing some Iron work for the Beaver for constant complaints are made by the officers, respecting the machinery of their Boats. I determined upon taking along with me Mr. Mac =Donald the Head Carpenter, who had been engaged in constructing it—halted 3 miles above Saint Charles

13 Miles

*Charbonnier Island

Sept. 21st. Tuesday

Started at ½ past 5 & advanced 3 miles to breakfast. repaired the slider of the Mink met with a strong current—passed which we consider to be D. Littyohirs grave, on the beach—stopped at the foot of Bonhomme Island for dinner—After which when again under way, running up on the right bank of the river, found the current very strong, put out the cordell on a felling in bank; a large tree inclined over very much, & threat=ened the distruction of our back, to the considerable alarm of some on board—halted 2 miles below Lewis ferry, having made
15 miles

Sept 22. Wednesday

got under way shortly after 5. passed the little Osage River, sent the skiff for a furkin of butter Mr Pitman at Lewis Ferry. Stopt at 12 at Missouri Town (9 miles) and took in 19 barrels Pork, for the command—got off again at 1 P.M, & continued til 6 passed by a small settlement called St. Johns Town, & halted a few miles above on the right bank, having made
18 miles
This day saw several flocks of pigeons & had a strong favorable wind

Sept 23^d Thursday

Started at ½ past 5, & with a great deal of difficulty made one mile by 9 o'clock a very strong current against us, & the sand bar difficult to cross—proceeded at 10, passed by New Port, a small place on the right bank, & stopt at dark, having made

16 miles

The Rackoon, this morning, was in some danger of being lost in consequence of her men, on the Cordell not hearing the command join them, from the Back.

Stubbs & McBride of the Recruits, deserted from the Muskrat.

Sept 24 Friday

Started at ½ past 5, soon after which it commenced raining, made 4 miles by 8 O'clock & stopt to break =fast, on the right bank—passed Pinkney, a small Town, on the left, after which met with much difficulty, in stemming strong currents & getting on Sand Bars; The Beaver swung twice this afternoon. Hamadine fell over board but saved himself by swimming! Mrs Hill, one of the Camp women was delivered of a daughter was not able to reach shore 'till one hour after dark, at which time, we had made

16 miles

Allison one of the Recruit deserted to day from the Muskrat—Very stormy day, but wind favorable.

Sept 25". Saturday

The Muskkrat & Mink lay on a Sand bar, all night, & were not able to get off 'til near 8 this morning—This when two Boats being at the L'outré Island—We all started about 9. it again commenced raining, the wind blowing from the N.W—ahead—passed the Gasconade & halted about 4 miles above it, having made

16 miles

Campbell, of the Recruits, deserted this morning from the Beaver—

Mr. O'Fallon Indian agent from the Bluffs met us this afternoon at the Gasconade

Sept 26". Sunday

Started at ½ past 5—run up 3 miles to breakfast—stopt to dinner at 1 P.M. opposite to Big Muddy, after which passed Little Muddy & encamped on the Left bank having made

18 miles

Sept 27". Monday

Started at ½ past 5. breakfasted opposite to Cote Sans Dessein—passed the Osage river & a little after Sun down halted at the town of Jefferson, at the mouth of Wier creek—

This morning the Comg. Lieut Day, went ahead to procure some fresh beef—He joined us after dark, having made a contract with a man on the opposite shore, to supply us before day break—made 16 miles

Having no further use for Mr. McDonald, I told him, this evening, he could return to Saint Louis. He will do so in the morning, together with Col. Nash, a gentleman who has accompanied us from Belle Fontaine.

Sept 28" Tuesday

In consequence of the fresh beef not arriving 'til near 7 a.m, we breakfasted at our incampment of last night, & at 8 we put off, & passing thru a strong current for a short distance made 10 miles when we stopt for dinner, at 1 P.M.—a part of the machinery of the Rackoon, gave way. killed a few quails, & put off at 2—In the afternoon, the Beaver & muskrat run against each other, when all the the (sic) buckets, of one wheel of the former were broken! They were replaced in 40 minutes, after which there was a long & well contested race between the Beaver & the Mink-as well as between the Racoon & the Muskrat—made at Sun down 16 miles

Sept 29th. Wednesday

Started as usual—passed the Little Moniteau having made 3 miles, stopt to breakfast—met two men in a canoe from the Bluffs—proceeded 5 miles & stopt for dinner—after which continued 'til near Sun down passing thru some strong currents & halted on the Right bank—
15 miles

Sept 30th. Thursday

Started at day break & breakfasted at the Moniteau Bluff. afterwards passed the Big Moniteau & halted at dark, opposite Franklin at Boonvill, having made 16 miles after dark, went over in a skiff, to Franklin, & set a blacksmith at work, to make spikes, screws, wrenches & c.—

Whitaker of the Recruits was caught stealing cabbages, & put in Jail by the civil authority.

October 1st. Friday

The Boats came over to Franklin at day break—took in 150 empty pork barrels—we drew fresh beef, & were detained 'til 10 a.m. in getting plank for buckets and the things from the blacksmith—left a man behind to obtain jackets for Poles, & pushed off, the shore lined with spectators to witness the operation of the machinery of the Boats—passed the La Mine River & stopt on the Right bank—

13 miles—

October 2^d. Saturday

Started at day break. passed the Arrow Rock—made 4 miles & breakfasted on the Right bank. Sergt. Sheffield & Priv Gotnam of Compy. H & Brown of the Recruits, were reported as Deserters. Lieut. Miller & Kingsbury were sent in pursuit of them. continued on our journey, passed the Chariton, & halted about dark 2 miles above it

20 miles

Stratton the man left behind at Franklin, for the buckets joined us near the arrow “Rock” with 10 of them

Octob. 3^d Sunday

Put off at day break, & run up 3 ½ miles to breakfast, which we took on the left bank. Ba = chelor, & Harrison were reported as Deserted last night from Compy. B—advanced up 2 ½ miles further, & halted for the remainder of the day! The Boats here were all unloaded & cleaned out after which they were again loaded & much better arrangements made of their cargoes—

6 miles

Octob. 4th. Monday

Started at day break—halted to dinner when Mr. Calbutson it appear'd had slept the night previous—continued on meeting with some very strong water. The afternoon rainy & wind ahead—Stopped a little after dark having made.

18 miles

Capt Spencer having complained, that he had not men enough, for the Mink, sent him 3 from the Beaver, & 2 from the Muskrat.

Octob 5" Tuesday

Started at 6—passed the Grand River
& thru a pass where we found many snags
made 12 to dinner; which we took at a Point
nearly opposite Mchanans Mountain at which
place the Pilot saw Mr. Culbertsons Boat 1½
miles ahead—Stopped as usual, one hour for dinner
after which we put off determined to over take Mr.
G. Brats which we effected about ½ past 7, the moon
shining perfectly clear, & halted, having made
19miles

This mornng at breakfast, we sent out one hunter from
each Boat. That from the Mink, is the only one
that has returned: D Coleman went out & we
took him up, near dark he bringing a turkey with
him—he reports having seen much game—
This is the first clear day we have had since the
24th ?

Octob 6". Wednesday

Started at day break & run up 3 miles for
breakfast—Four men, Hageman of the Recruits, &
Deude of Compy. B—Yilneuf & Bartlett of Compy H
were reported as Deserted. The two former the Mink
the latter from the Racoon—came 10 miles to
dinner, & at the expiration of the hour, it being 3 P.M.
as we put off, Mr. G^s—Boats came up--proce
=ded to the Sugar Tree Bottom & halted
16 miles

In the evening walked up with the Genl & others
about a mile & contracted for fresh beef, to
be delivered at Sunrise—Mr. G—s boats
stopped about 2 miles in rear of us.

Octob 7 Thursday

The Boat started a little after day break, & I walked up a mile & had the first beef ready for delivery at Sunrise! about 10 a.m. took up Lt Kingsbury, who brought Sergts Sheffield & Cutnam of Compy. H. Bachelor & Harrison of Compy. B Deser =ted—In the afternoon, the Racoon took up the two hunters from the Beaver & Racoon, who brought with them, Hagerman of the Recruits, who had been re =ported as Deserters—passed the Tabo & halted 3 miles, above it—

16 miles

Octob 8". Friday

Started at day break, & ran up 3 ½ miles, to breakfast & just before landing, while in a strong current, the main cross piece of the Rigar slide to which the Piston is attached, (of the Beaver) broke in two directly in the center! remained til near 12 in putting in the new one, when we proceeded & ran up passing the Big Sny Bar & the Beaver & Racoon stopt on one side of a Willows Island the other two Boats passed on the other, & went to the main shore

12 miles

Octob 9". Saturday

Got off, at day break—about 10 a.m. passed Bluff Town, on the Left bank. Strong head wind & current—In the afternoon the Muskrat took in the Hunter, who went from here on the 5th run on til 6 P.M. passing Fire Prairie Creek & halted on the Right Bank having made

14 miles

Passed this afternoon Le isle du Sorciere (Wizzard Island) of which a curious story is extant among the French Boatment viz—that about 11 years since as a Boat was ascending one of the hunters saw on the Island an Elk made by a man without a head—he fired all his ammunition (27 shot) at him, without effect, when he returned to the Boat, procured more & 11 men to accompany him; all of whom saw & repeatedly fired at this monster, without success

Octob 10". Sunday

Started shortly after day break & in 2 ½ hours ran up to Fort Osage distance 5 miles. halted for breakfast during which I walked up to see Mr. & Mrs. Sibley. when I returned found that Harrison of Compy B had cut his throat—he was buried, & we proceded—halted about dark, on the left Bank, having made

17 miles

During the afternoon had some rain & near west it lightened—we passed to day the Little Blue, & found many sand bars.

Octob 11". Monday

Started as usual—morning cloudy, cool, & wind strong ahead—at about 11 a.m. the Beaver's rudder was unskipped (in a very strong current) by striking on a sawyer, run her, on a Sand Bar, & fixed it! Were obliged to put to, at 12, & in consequence of a very strong headwind the Boats were detained here 'till 3 P.M.—came up opposite to Liberty, & stopped an hour before Sun down to obtain fresh beef, but in this was disappointed.

9 miles

Octob 12 Tuesday

Started at day break, morning cool frosty & a heavy fog on the water, made 3 ½ to breakfast came up to Mr. Choteaus Trading House to dinner, where we found the Kickapoos, & the Kansas were expected tomorrow made some purchases; In the afternoon passed the Kansas River & halted one mile above it, on the Left Bank, opposite to Curtis & Ely's Trading house, having made

16 miles

Octob. 13". Wednesday

Started at day break, which as the days are becoming shorter, is now at about $\frac{1}{4}$ before 6. at about 11 a.m. the Beaver got on a log, which with much difficulty, she was removed from. at noon the main cross piece of the after slide of the Racoon, broke in two similar, to that of the Beaver on the 8" !! In the afternoon passed the Little Platte coming in, on the Left Side, & passed by the Missouri State Line—came up to Diamond Island & halted on it, at Sunset

14 miles

Octob 14". Thursday

Started shortly after day break,—run up 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to breakfast—made 6 more to dinner, & halted at 7 P.M. on the Left Bank, having made

20 miles

Octob 15". Friday

Started at day break came 4 miles to breakfast—after which, reached Cow Island—passed the old Cant. of the Rifle Regt on it but few vestiges remaining dined at the upper end of the Island proceeded 'til about Sun set, when we halted on the right bank having made—
18 miles

Octob 16". Saturday

Came 6 miles to breakfast—after which we passed Independence creek met with considerable difficulty & detention, on account of Sand bars & stopt at dark, on the right bank, at the low end of the Grand Detour.
20 miles

Octob 17". Sunday

morning very foggy—started at day
break & came thru a difficult 4 miles to break
=fast—stopped at night on the Right bank
at the head of the Grand Detour—

16 miles

The Mink remained a mile in the Rear &
in the evening took in Drum Major Roques
& his Son, who started on the 11th for a few
hours hunt—

Kittler of Compy. B. was reported to day
to have been left behind, this morning.

Octob 18" Monday

waited til Sunrise for the Mink to
come up when we started—passed on & about
noon, passed the Black Snake Prairie & the
Yellow Banks—about dark, stopped on the
Right bank, on a Sand bar, having made

20 miles

Octob 19th. Tuesday

Started at half past 6—The morning, being overcast run up to the lower slough of the Nodowa 5 miles to breakfast—after which moved up 3 ½ miles, & on account of a very strong head wind, & current, found it impossible to make any headway & stopped under a point, on Nodowa Island at 1 P.M. having made 8 ½ miles about 3 P.M, about 60 or 70 Men, turned out in order to drive the upper end of the Island (it being not more than a mile wide) which we effected, tho without success—

Octob 20th. Wednesday

Pushed off at day break—wind yet strong ahead. moved up above the head of the Island for breakfast—strong current at Sun Set reached Wolf river, & stopped 14 miles

Shortly before stopping, passed a Keel Boat, 5 days from C. B—sent a skiff to her, to obtain news—

Octob 21st. Thursday

Started at day break, & reached the Nemaha, (coming in on the right bank) at lunch & stopped on the opposite side of the River, having made 16 miles

Octob. 22^d. Friday

Started at day break—made 4 ½ to breakfast—at this time Stansberg of the 6th. was reported absent from the Mink Sent two men in a skiff after him—passed the Turkio coming in on the Left Bank had much difficulty with Sand bars & strong currents & stopped at Sunset on a bar on the left shore, having made

17 miles

about noon passed a Keel Boat from the Bluffs, but at too great a distance, to hail him.

Octob 23^d. Saturday

Put off at day break, & run up, to
the Nishnebotana, 10 miles to breakfast.
The boats stopped, seperate from each other,
& we came up passed the Little Nemeha on
the Right bank, & encamped or halted after
dark, two miles above it at a small willow
bar 20 miles

This day at dinner, Thomas of the Recruits
attached to the Mink was found Dead, was
buried with the honors of war

Octob 24^r. Sunday

Started at day break—made
4 miles 2 breakfast—Passed Sun Island
& stopped on a Sand bar at Sun down
on the right bank, having made

17 miles

Nearly opposite to us is the place, where
the Nishnabetona approaches within
150 yards of the Missouri & we are now
37 miles from the mouth of the former—

The Prairies we find this evening to be
on fire—

Octob 25". Monday

The Mink, about day break, was blown off, from the Shore, & in rejoining her position, broke the main cross piece of the forward slide—she remained here during the remainder of the days. The other Boats moved up, with much difficulty ½ a mile & stopped under a willow point—the wind very fresh from the N.W. so as to prevent our moving further ½ mile

Octob 26". Tuesday

very cold morning, clear & still—started at day break & made 5 miles to breakfast shortly after which it again commenced blowing very hard, from the N.W. & we were obliged to lay by 'til 5 P.M. when we put off & made by 7. P.M.

8 ½ miles

Passed this morning a small keel Boat, 3 days from the Bluffs, who informed us of Genl. A.s ari =val there at 8 P.M. Brown & Fields, who had been sent after Stansberg, on the 22 came up, leaving the man behind he not being able to travel with them—Sent them back to find him with orders to wait the arrival of Mr. Culbertsons Boats & to come up, in them. Corpl. Jolley of the Recruits is missing, but it is supposed he will go by Land to Co B.

Octob 27". Wednesday

Started shortly, after day break, & came up to Le Grand boutment or falling banks to breakfast 3 miles—at this time we had a little snow—after which it cleared away, & the wind again commenced blowing from the N.W. moved on with considerable difficulty, & stopped on a Sand bar, on the Right bank, about 5 P.M.

10 miles

Octob 28". Thursday

The wind at day break abated a little, & we put off about 6. A.M. made 3 miles to breakfast & stopped on a bar on the Right bank, the wind blowing very hard & directly ahead—In the afternoon, moved up, overtook, & stopped along side of, J. Consols Boat

4 miles

In Consols Boat found Burrows, who had been lost whilst hunting on the 25". & met by one of the hunters on the 26". starving & worn out—the Lodges of the Ottoes are 4 miles from this, & D. Colman engaged some of them, to go in pursuit of this man George who has been missing since the 24".

Octob 29th. Friday

Last night was very cold this morning we had a great deal of ice—got off at 6 a.m. (the wind having waned) in front of Consols Boat & came up 5 miles to Weeping Water creek to breakfast—the wind commenced blowing from the S.E. & we stopped at dark, on the right bank, along side of the Sail Boats, having made

18 miles

Octob 30th. Saturday

Started at 6 A.M. with a strong formable wind—the Sail Boats, some ran by us—at 1 P.M. having made 9 miles passed the Platte, & stopped about 7. on the Right bank, 2 miles below Pilchers Trading house, having made 16. miles

May 16th— 1825— Monday

Left Council Bluffs at 7 this morning with 3 Boats, the Beaver, Otter, & Muskrat assigned to the 1st Infty—4 more, the Elk Buffaloe, White Bear & Racoon being assigned to the 6th Infty & the Mink on board of which is Genl. A. who commands the Brigade, & is one of the Commissioners made today about 11 miles & stopt on the Left bank— 11 miles

May 17th— Tuesday

Put off shortly after day break
& after meeting during the day with very
strong currents, & several of the Boats, in
the fleet, swinging, & meeting with much
danger we stopt about 6 P.M.
having made about 17 miles

May 18th. Wednesday

Started shortly after day break—crossed
the River, & had difficulty—getting round
a Bar—at noon, a very strong head wind—
after an hour detention moved on, & stopt
about 6. P.M, the Beaver & Buffaloe on
the Right bank, the remainder of the fleet
on the opposite side, & a short distance
above—made about

about Sun down, Capt Mason killed two geese
on this morning below Soldiers River, coming in on the left

May 19th. Thursday

Put off at day break, crossed the River & over took the other Boats—met with much strong water, & drift wood—stopt on the left bank for breakfast—the Otter, after having crossed, swung & instead of the 2^d back in advance, became the last—on her next attempt, she struck so hard against the bank as to move for four inches the shafts & to shake her machinery—after being repaired, she started about 12. & after doubling a difficult point the men being on the cordell, her bridle broke, & her mast snapt in two, near the deck—the Boats of the 6th. Infy with the Genl had left us, while I supervised repairing the Otters machinery—wrote to the Genl. informing him, of our accident, & the carpenters went into the woods, cut down a cotton tree, & commenced a new mast—about 4 P.M, Mr. Kennerlys boat, which left C. B. the afternoon of the same day, that we did, passed us.

May 20th. Friday

The new mast of the otter being completed, we got off at ½ past 5 a.m. run up about 6 miles & breakfasted on the right bank—over took the Boats of the 6th. Infy at noon, found them repairing the mast of the Racoon which had broken a short time previous—at this time the box, of the shaft of the otter broke which detained us 2 hours—proceded & in the afternoon came to the longest stretch which we have yet seen in the Missouri—stopt at Sun down, 1 ½ miles in rear of the Genl.

May 21st.

Started at day break, overtook & passed the Genl. & 6 Infy^{rs} & stopt at 9 a.m. to breakfast. The Otters machinery was again repaired, which detained us, the rest of the day—

6 miles

May 22^d. Sunday

Started at day break—rainy morning overtook the remainder of the fleet at breakfast from here, entered on Pratts bend—15 miles round—300 yards across—got some coal, which 2 men of the otter's crew (who went ahead on the 20th) had burned—encamped on the right bank—

20 miles

an Express, which left C.B., yesterday morning at 10 overtook us, at noon

May 23^d. Monday

Started early the wind strong and a head after proceeding about 200 yards, the new mast of the Otter, broke in two. The rest of the fleet proceeded after breakfast. two of the 1st Infy remained behind—got another mast & started at ½ past 12—passed Woods Hill which comes to the river on the Right bank in a high bluff of yellow clay—in the afternoon, passed the 6th Infy & stopt on the Right bank, about Sun down.

12 miles

May 24th. Tuesday

our Boats got off at day break & run up 3 miles to breakfast—Lieut Harris of the 1st. Infy having been missing since yesterday & fearing that he is lost in the woods sent 2 hunters, in pursuit of him—left the Muskrat hoping he may see her, from the opposite shores, with directions to fire her swivel occasionally—set off & passed Blackbirds Hills so called from a celebrated Maha chief, buried on the top of it—at that place, a bear, crossed the river, a short distance in front of us—some fired at it, but without success.

May 25". Wednesday

Started early—the water is falling & the river much more easy to navigate—at noon, some of the Parties who had been in search of Lieut Harris, returned with out success—sent out another party—stopt at night near the old Maha village—

15 miles

May 26". Thursday

Sent a party of 5 good hunters in search of Lieut. Harris with directions to return to the place where he left the Boat, & to use all possible measures to find him—started at day break—in the afternoon had a strong and fair wind—passed Floyds Bluff, & River & stopt in the evening, 2 miles above it—on the Right bank

20 miles

after dark, we were hailed from the opposite shore sent a small boat over, & found Lieut Harris nearly worn out

May 27". Friday

remained 'til about 6 a.m, waiting for the Genl. & the boats of the 6" Infy to come up—then started & ran up to the mouth of the Sioux River coming in on the left side & remained here the rest of the day waiting for the White Bear which has been in the rear, for 2 day past

May 28". Saturday

Started about 6 a.m.—ran up one mile with considerable difficulty & on account of strong head winds & currents, were obliged to lay by, rest of the day

May 29th. Sunday

got off at day break—fair wind—took
in, (in the afternoon) the party which had been sent
out, on the 26th. in search of Lieut Harris—ran up
near the Iowa River, & halted at dark, on the
right hand side 22 miles

May 30th. Monday

startd at day break—got up, opposite to
the Iowa River, & had some difficulty, in getting
up on account of sand bars—was overtaken
by the Genl. & 6th. Infy whom we left behind yesterday
it commenced raining very hard, which lasted til 1 P.M.
when it abated a little & we moved on—stopt at
about 6 P.M on the left hand shore a very large
Sand bar, opposite to us, & extending for several
miles.

May 31st. Tuesday

The wind being strong & a head, detained us 'til 8 a.m.—then started & ran up about 4 miles, where we remained—the rest of the day waiting for the rear Boats, which in consequence of hard winds, lay for several hours, on a Sand =bar, & would not move—

4 miles

June 1st. Wednesday

The River rose since yesterday noon, nearly three feet—started at day break—fine morning—no wind—ran up, & stopt at Sundown on the right bank, having made about

20 miles

June 2^d. Thursday

Started early—good wind—run about 8 miles passed the White Stone River & stopt for breakfast after which, put off, the wind very strong, & proceded about 10 miles further, and stopt at 4 P.M—(the Beaver & Muskrat) to await the arrival, of the other Boats—
18 miles

June 3^d. Friday

Put off at 8 a.m. the river being much more straight—fair wind—about 2 P.M. passed the Chalk Bluff, & Perkin's old Trading House, opposite to it—stopt 2 miles above here, at 4 P.M, having much injured the rudder of the Beaver, while running thru some very strong water
15 miles

June 4". Saturday

During last night, a severe storm of rain, & hail. Thunder & lightening and hard winds—put off about 5. a.m. run up thru a slough, for 2 miles & stopt for breakfast, a mile above the River Jaque coming in, on the left side—proceded at 12. & came up about 16 miles

June 5". Sunday

Started early—passed the Calumet Bluffs—handsome & extensive Prairies—hills approaching very near the River in the evening when we halted Rose a half Indian, came to us, from the Poncas—he states the whole nation is there waiting for us & that Capt Armstrong with his party, (the horse) have been there 11 days—

June 6". Monday

Rain again last night—proceeded at day break—run up about 4 miles & stopt for breakfast, on Bon Homme Island—on the left side, where we saw, what is called by some, the remains of an ancient fortification—which (as is evident, that this Island was commenced, by the collection of sand around a snag & formed from that) 'tis most probable that it is nothing more, than what once was a Sand =bar when this Island was inundated—In the afternoon passing up the River, a young Elk, came by us, within a few yards—got on a bar, about 6 P.M—were too hard in getting off during which the Beaver was in much danger, of being lost—slept near Plumb creek.

June 7". Tuesday

Put off at 6. a.m. at which time the wind commenced blowing strong ahead having made a mile the Beavers cordel broke—thru over the anchor which she dragged for a quarter of a mile she an al got to shore safely, tho with much difficulty & exposed to great danger—were detained the rest of the day, in consequence of the wind.

June 8". Wednesday

Started at day break—& having made about 5 miles, stopt at the mouth of White Paint Creek, within a few hundred yards of the Poncah Village—after clearing away ground for an encampment, our Boats were unloaded, cleaned & the cargoes put back, which employed us the remainder of the day—In the evening an express came up, from C. Bluffs, bringing our letters & papers

June 9". Thursday

The two Battalions paraded at 9.a.m near the Village, & were reviewed by the Genl.—morning exceedingly hot & oppressive—after which the Indians came in from camp & the Commissioners held a Council and made a Treaty with them—They count about 150 Warriors & about 450 souls—they have 60 lodges & are about 350 miles by water, from C. Bluffs.

June 10". Friday

The Indians came into our Camp this morning, & entertained us, with a dance we departed at 1 P.M—ran up about 5 miles, & stopt a half mile above the Leau =qin course, an important stream & from which is said the Missouri, receives much of its character—at the mouth of this River, & saw an old Trading House, formerly occupied by Mr. Paschal Serry (Cerre)

June 11". Saturday

got off at day break—wind fair passed the Pancah creek on which that Tribe, formerly resided—dined at what is called the Grand Tower, & after making about 23 miles, stopt on the Right bank nearly opposite, to a creek, on which are found, some boiling Springs—

The River to day much straighter, & the current less rapid, than we have found it, for the same distance, since leaving Saint Louis—

June 12th. Sunday

fine morning—fair wind—started at day break—passed up, on the Left side, under the Cordell—a large portion of the bank, falling in, directly along side, of the Otter, put her in much danger—another, injured the Mink, by springing her mast—handsome ridges of hills on both sides, & they approach much nearer, the River, than below leaving the Bottoms much narrower—many signs of Buffaloe, both on the Prairie, & on the banks—none of them, yet seen, from the Boats—stopt at dark on the left bank, near an old village (deserted) of burrowing squirrels

June 13th. Monday

Shortly after starting, the Cordell of the Beaver broke—dropt anchor a short distance & made fast to the Elk, without damage—at Sun rise the wind commenced again from the South—continued under sail, during the day, making halt for breakfast & dinner—passed in the afternoon Little Cedar Is =land & slept a short distance above it, on the left bank—the 1st Regt. in advance—

June 14th. Tuesday

The remaining boats, coming up, we started at Sunrise—fair wind—saw a buffalo & several antelopes—one of the party killed two of the latter—

June 15th. Wednesday

Wind continues fair—started very early the bugles sounded before day break

In the afternoon passed Capt Armstrong & his mounted party, being driven in from the hills, in consequence of heat & want of water—

The Elk got on a sand bar, before dark, & fired signals of distress—sent to ascertain the cause of it—

June 16th. Thursday

waited til near 7 for the rear Boats to come up—put off the wind strong & fair—passed Shannons River – 8 miles below it, White River – afterwards the remains of old Cedar Fort—nothing left of it, but the chimney & a short line of pickets—twas abandoned & burned a few years ago,—stopt 8 miles above it—

June 17th. Friday

Put off, at day break, & after running about 5 miles reached Kiawas Fort, when we found some Sioux—many more are expected to morrow—this place being fixed on, to hold treaties with them we are now about 500 miles (by water) above Council Bluffs—

June 18". Saturday

This place is within a short distance, of "the Three Rivers of the Sioux pass," & 15 miles below, the commencement of the Great Bend—the Band of Tetons is here, & the other Bands of the Sioux, have been sent for to come in—an express has started towards the "Black Hills," in search of the "Chayennes," to invite them, to meet us, near the Chayenne River—

The Elk & Otter, came up to day—the first having been about since the 15". & the latter since the 16". Inst.

June 19". Sunday

We are busily employed in repairing the Boat the machinery of most of them, being much worn.

The Band of Yanktons, this evening arrived on the opposite shore, & have made their camp up, on a high hill—

June 20th. Monday

This morning the Rackoon (which was left behind, on the 13th Inst) came up, & brought from the opposite shore, some of the Yankton chiefs—In the afternoon the Sutlers Boat was sent over, & brought the Band—

June 21st. Tuesday

The Genl. reviewed the Troops, including Capt Armstrong party of horse this morning at 9—after which a Council was held with the Indians consisting of the Tetons, Yanktons & Yanktonaus, of the Sioux Nation, numbering (those present) about 250 warriors—some chiefs, were recognized—others made

June 22^d. Wednesday

The Commissioners again met the Indians at 12—Rained for some time prevented them from proceeding, after which a Treaty was made with them, & being signed and witnessed one was left with each Band—Presents of Robes Pipes, Leggings that were made by the Indians, to the Commissioners—who received from them, guns, blankets, lead, powder, etc.

June 23^d. Thursday

a cloudy morning—our Boat busy repaired—our men recruited—the Council held & Treaty made we departed at 12 M.—The wind ahead—passed “The 3 Rivers of the Sioux Pass” called Pecou—Lu Las La coming in on the right side behind an Island—cordelled this afternoon on a very high rolling bluff bank—Stopped a little after dark the 1st Regt in advance, about half a mile--

June 24". Friday

Started about 4 a.m., & ran up, to a small creek (Prickly Pear creek) to breakfast the remainder of the Boats, over took us here—we are now near the commencement of the "Great Bend" & several officers & others, left us here in order to pass over it

June 25". Saturday

about noon passes some Sioux, about 40 on the left bank—at 2 P.M, the Beaver stuck, on a bar—after considerable work with the assistance of the crews of the other Boats & not being able to move her, she was unloaded & got off—her cargo being put back, she started at Sundown, & over took the Boats of the 6". In the afternoon, they having proceeded from where the Beaver was grounded, after dining.

June 26". Sunday

Started at day break, & ran up about 4 miles to the upper Part of the "Great Bend" to breakfast—stopt for dinner, at Tylers creek, coming in on the right bank. the water is falling & as it leaves the Bars, they are so muddy, as to make it almost impossible to pass over them—this renders the cordelling very bad, in the afternoon the White Bear ran afoul of the Beaver & in the (?)* to extricate them, the fore stay of the W.B. was cut in two, when her mast went overboard nothing was broken, & we proceded in about an hour.

June 27". Monday

Proceded at day break—passd Cedar Iland where Lisa previously had a trading establishment.

*word to faint to read

June 28". Tuesday

at noon, whilst advancing, some of the party discovered 3 Buffaloe Bulls on an Island—the boats were halted & some run forth in pursuit—two were killed, but one only obtained, which weighed upwards of 900 cwt an issue of fresh meat, was thus made, to the whole command—

June 29". Wednesday

Breakfasted at Horse Island, & came up to, and slept near the mouth of Teton, or Little Missouri River

June 30th. Thursday

Started at day break—in half a mile passed the Teton River, where we saw Capt Armstrongs horse party—proceeded a mile above here, & formed an encampment, to remain several days, to council with the Indians

July 1st. Friday

an express was sent for the purpose of finding the Chayenne, & inviting them, to this place—a Genl. Court Martial was convened to day by virtue of a “Right Wing order”—the Court decided it was not formed consistently with the “art of War,” & that they were incompetent, to try any Prisoners—and adjourned

July 2^d. Saturday

a very hot day but little
wind, & that by no means refreshing—

The Ogalallas, bringing with them, about 100
Lodges, arrived & pitched their Camp, about a
mile from us.

July 3^d. Sunday

The wind during the night
got around to the N. W., & during the day
the weather was very cool—a great change
since yesterday.

July 4th. Monday

after breakfast went about 2 miles to see a Prairie dog village—found it, & attempted to kill some of them, tho without success saw two antelopes—

at noon an extra gill was issued to each man to drink, to the anniversary of the Independence of this country—at 1 P.M, a national salute was fired, from a 6 pounder, & a Howitz—about 15 of the chiefs & principal men of the Chayenne arrived, & a talk was held with them, preparatory to one to be had tomorrow.

at 3 P.M, the officers accompanied the commissioners, to the camp of the Ogolollas to partake of a dog feast, given them, by the Chiefs—after which we assembled in our Camp, & drank some wine, in commemoration of the day.

about 15 of the Chiefs & Warriors of the Chayenne came in to day, having their nation to follow.

These Indians, range principally in the Black Mountains, have no intercourse, & but very little knowledge with the white character—they are decidedly the finest looking Indians, we have seen

July 5". Tuesday

The weather to day excessively hot. The Thermometer at 106—There was considerable air stirring during the whole day but it appeared to come, from the direction that the Sun was in—In the evening a talk was held with some of the chiefs, preparatory to the Council to be held tomorrow --& some Rockets were fired off the whole command including the artillery mounted was received at 10 A.M, by the Genl.

July 6". Wednesday

about 7 a.m, upwards of 200 Lodges, of the Saones a band of the Sioux arrived, & encamped within a half mile of us at 9. a council was held with the Chayennes Saones & Ogalolla, & a Treaty agreed to, & signed by the Chiefs & Principal men—Presents were then made.

July 7th. Thursday

fine morning & fair wind—
started at 9 a.m. under sail, some hundred Indians, on the shore, to witness our departure—on account of the extreme barrenness of the Country, & the difficulty of subsisting horses, the Horse party has been in a great measure, broken up, about 30 sent back, to C.B. & 10 restrained to accompany us & procure fresh meat—some given to the Indians.

halted about 6 P.M, having made
17 miles
The weather to day very hot—some of Capt A^s party fainted on the Prairie—

July 8th. Friday

During last night, we had some hard wind, rain, & hail—proceeded at day break—stop^d at about 2 P.M, on the Right Bank, where we were detained, for two hours, in consequence of strong head winds—the hunters brought in 3 black tailed deer—proceeded about 4, & encamped at 6 P.M.—having come, to day about

13 miles

July 9th. Saturday

In consequence of strong head wind and a heavy rain, we were detained 'til 8 a.m. at which time it cleared away & the wind abated— We continued on the Right hand side of the River the whole day & under the cord (this being the first case of the kind, since we left Saint Louis) & halted before sunset a mile below the mouth of the Chayenne River, having made about

17 miles

two of the Party on shore, saw to day a White Bear, which they were afraid to attack—he moved off, from the men, & they left him unmolested

July 10th. Sunday

We proceeded at day break—passed the mouth of the Chayenne, about 200 yards wide—near which we saw & gathered, a great abundance of the black & yellow currant—now ripe, & the largest about the size of a common marble—the latter kind, much sweeter, than the former—had a light wind to day for a few hours, halted at Sundown, on the right bank, having made about

17 miles

July 11". Monday

Started at day break—fine morning during the day a favorable wind, tho light. about 6 P.M, halted a mile below, the "Little =Chayenne," on the Left side, having met here Fire Heart^s Band of the Saones, with whom the Commissioners in tend holding a Council

July 12". Tuesday

at 8 a.m., the Brigade para =ded, & marched past the Genl. in quick time after which the Commissioners met the chiefs war =riors & principal men of the Band, & the Treaty which had been made at Camp Teton on the 6th & signed, was explained to these men, & signed by them about 3 P.M, & one of the Unkopas, a Band of Sioux came in & wished to have a talk delivered to them not willing to be detained, they were directed to meet us at the Ricaras, & we departed at 4 P.M, & made about 5 miles when we halted at 6—

July 15". Friday

started at day break—passed a River, on the right bank, called by the french Grand River, near which we saw, some old dirt lodges of the Ricaras—they have been deserted for many years—about noon, passed a small creek called Marissa River & at 2 P.M, halted a mile below the Arikara Village & pitched our Camp, on a high Prairie, considerably removed from any timber.

In the afternoon visited the Villages there were two of them of them separated by a Ravine, consisting each of about 40 lodges—each village surrounded by a slight picketing

We are now 780 miles above Council Bluffs From the Puncabs to this place with but an exception here & there, the country is extremely barren & a dried up—'tis unfit for any use, not raising even a weed.

July 16". Saturday

Last night, the weather very hot, & great number of mosquitoes—about noon, accompanied the Genl. to the Village, to partake of a feast—it soon appeared, that our invitation was a mistake it having been given by an old Frenchman (Garreau) who was drunk, & forgot it, on his return to his Lodge.

July 17". Sunday

The Ricaras were much alarmed about day break, by the appearance of the "Knife =chief coming in, with 200 of his Band, whom they took for the "Crows" coming to attack them

at 8 a.m., the command (with the arts. on the right the Rifle, on the Left) were reviewed by the Genl.—& as soon as we were dismissed the wind commenced blowing so hard as to blow down the awning, which had been put up on the Prairie (there having no trees) where the Council was to be held, & which was therefore accordingly postponed

July 18". Monday

about 6 a.m. a council was held with The Ricaras, & a Treaty made, in which all their past offenses were forgotten, & that they were henceforth to be judged of, & acted towards, agreeably to their future conduct a few plugs of tobacco were given to them

we started at 8. a.m. ran up about 9 miles to dinner—the River much narrower, than below, & the current less rapid—In the afternoon, had a head wind,— the Bottom Land appears more frequent, & fertile & better timbered

Garrou an old Frenchman who has been with the Ricaras for 27 years, is with us, & going to the Mandans—

July 19". Tuesday

Started at day break, & ran up about 4 miles & halted opposite the "Stone =Idol creek" for breakfast—wind ahead tho not very strong—find to day but few sand bars the river generally narrow, at one place, not more than 250 yards wide—the River appears entirely different, from what it is below the Ricaras—it has fewer Sand bars & Islands—it is much narrower the current less rapid & the water not so muddy the Bottom Lands are much more extensive the soil more fertile—timbers more abundant

July 20". Wednesday

The mosquitoes are getting so troublesome, as some times to deprive the men of their sleep & rest, they having no "Bars"—proceeded at day break—halted for dinner on the right hand shore where some Indians have lately been encamped their willow shelters about 60 in number remaining—a large trace supposed to lead to the Mandans passes here—In the afternoon Capt Gant shot at a Buffalo & wounded him—6 others were seen by some of the party—the weather in the afternoon very hot, & mosquitoes troublesome

The wolves last night came near our camp & were howling for some time

July 21st. Thursday

during last night some hard winds & rain—started at breakfast—in the afternoon the Boats had some difficulty in getting thru a very narrow pass, a channel being deep for the fore-most one passed by Warraconne River, coming in on the left side—about 5 P.M, a very hard blow slept on the Right Land shore

Several deer, & Elk have been seen in the bottom, for the last few days

about dark, some wolves assembled on the shore opposite to us, & p'ars us a serenade—this is a good sign indicating that we are in the neighborhood of Buffaloe, as wolves generally follow the herds, in order to pick up, the weak & sickly ones

July 22^d. Friday

fine morning. started at day break the men complained of having been more troubled by the mosquitoes, thro the night, than was before whilst shoving up, we in the Beaver picked up a very large white wolf, in the water which some of the Muskrats crew had shot; he stunk so bad (having lived of late on the carcass of a buffaloe lying near where we saw him) that we thru over breakfasted opposite to the Cannon Ball river—about 10 a.m, saw a herd of about 200 buffaloe, some hunters in pursuit—during the afternoon & evening the hunters brought in ten Buffaloe—an Elk, several deer, & geese

July 23^d. Saturday

Started early & moved up about 4 miles, to an old village on the Right hand side formerly inhabited by the Mandans, consisting of about dirt lodges—4 mile above this, a War Eagle was seen in the River, & it being known, that from the scarcity of feathers (at this Season) & thou fine, he being wet, one of the men swam after, & caught him near the opposite shore—

July 24th. Sunday

Last night & this morning very cool started at day break—Saw many Buffaloe, & Gazal in the River—most of the day fair wind & at no time were we more than fifteen minutes, out of sight of large & innumerable herds of buffaloe—four calves were caught, some by the men, jumping upon them, when in the water, & putting a rope around their necks—halted on the left bank, at an old Indian encampment, surrounded by mounds in a circular form & apparently intended for defence—opposite to this, Heart River, comes in behind an Island, or bar.

July 25". Monday

Started as usual—soon afterwards, a fine breeze sprung up, which served us, most of the day—saw many herds of buffaloe on both sides of the River. & some elk—stopd about 7 P.M, on the left bank, opposite to the remains of some old lodges

July 26". Tuesday

Started at day break—fair wind arrived at the Mandans, about 1 P.M.— we have pitched our Camp, on the Right or S. West side of the River on a handsome plain bounded by graceful hills, & protected by the River & rapines—we are two miles below, the place where Lewis & Clark wintered in 1804.5. & a few hundred yards from a Village, which has been built within the last 8 years, & is beautifully situated, on a bluff, which projects, for some distance over the River, & has a thorough command over it—within 7 miles of this place are 5 Indian Villages—of which 2 are Mandan situated on the Missouri, a mile or so apart, & 3 are inhabited by the Minatarees or Gros Ventres & are Knife River, which falls into the Missouri about 6 miles above here

July 27". Wednesday

The Mandans & Gross Ventres, are clearly allied in friendships, & confirmed by intermarriages—these 5 Villages may average about 40 Dirt lodges each & each of them containing about 3 Warriors, & souls— from here to the British factories or Trading House, are the Assiniboin is but 150 miles, & over a good country & a long trace, leading to it—An American Trading House is located here, of which Mr. McKenzie, has the barge—who gets his goods from Saint Louis, via Saint Peters & Lake Traverse

From the Rickaras here, the Country appears much better than we saw it, below the former place—the soil more productive, & better timbered

We are now 1600 miles above the mouth of the Missouri—

around the Villages is an extension Prairie level & bounded by a range of hills, 2 miles in the rear—on this Prairie, their horses, feed in the day time

July 28". Thursday

at Sunrise went with—party of the Mandans about 100, to hunt buffaloe we rode down the River 8 miles, when we found them, in great numbers—several were killed—the Indians show some skill & dexterity in pursuit & shooting their arrows, into the mortal parts of the animal

In the afternoon a very severe storm, of wind & rain—which upset our Tents, & for a time deluged our Camp—

July 29". Friday

Mr. Gordon, a citizen, whom we left at Fort Kiawa, came in to day bringing our letters which had been sent there from "C.B."—he traveled alone, & in days several rumors of Sioux & Assiniboines, being in the neighborhood are afloat—no doubt they are false, & are spread by the Mandans, (who are at War, with both nations) to make us believe they are bold & fearless—

the River rose this afternoon a foot, in consequence of the rain of yesterday

July 30". Saturday

about 1 P.M., a council was held, & a Treaty concluded with the Mandans & Gros Ventres—about 200 were assembled

July 31st. Sunday

a very cool day, resembling autumn—in the evening, about 9—some rockets were fired off & a few shells, the latter frightened the Indians, considerably, they not being able to imagine, how it could go off twice

August 1st. Monday

a flag was sent this morning by Capt Riley, of the 6th Infy, in order to meet the Crows & hurry them in—they are supposed to be about 10 miles off & as Buffaloe are known to be, in that direction & quarters, 'tis fraud, they may make a delay there

Augt 2^d. Tuesday

went to day for the first time into the adjoining Village—visited 20 lodges found them so dirty, was not tempted to remain long—every evening, the horses are brought in from the Prairie, & for the sake of safety & security are suffered at nights, to partake of part of their lodges

a report was made to day to the Genl. that the assiniboines had scalped, in the morning, two Squaws of the Gros Ventres, as they were attending the corn, adjoining the Village

Augt. 3^d. Wednesday

The report of yesterday, of the assi
=niboins proves unfounded—almost every day furnishes similar false rumors—

The Crows arrived about 10 a.m, bringing 300 Lodges, 600 Warriors & about 3000 souls—they are fine looking Indians, & well mounted

Augt 4". Thursday

The Command was reviewed this morning at 7. by the Genl. after which a Council was held & a Treaty made & signed by the Commissioners, & the Chiefs & Principal men of Crow Nation —afterward a very serious difficulty ensued by Mj. O.F. striking 3 or 4 of the Chiefs, on the head, & one so seriously, that the blood ran down his face, very free—the Inf Roll was beat. the Battalions, paraded—three or four officers of us, alone remaind with the Indians, who were prepared & ready for fight—their guns cocked, their arrows, ready for use—by some trouble & exertions a partial reconciliation was affected, which was afterwards matured by Genl. Atkinson, meeting & talking to some of the Principal men, outside of Camp—at one time, it was considered, that the result, Peace or War was as uncertain, as in throwing up a copper, whether it comes, head or tail—the Nation moved about a mile, farther from our camp—a Capt's guard was mounted & our chain of sentinels increased—

Augt 5". Friday

a warm day—the difficulty of yesterday, was adjusted, & considered finally settled Presents were made to the Chiefs & Principal Men of the Crows, who appeared satisfied. Genl. A rode to their village, & was politely treated, in the Chiefs Lodge—in the evening some Rockets & shells were fired off

a capt's. guard being mounted, I went upon duty, as officer of the day.

Augt. 6th. Saturday

our business here being terminated we started at 7 A.M.—the White Bear, one of the Boats belonging to the 6th. Infy being considered unable to keep up, with the others was left behind—passed the Mandan, & Gros Ventres Villages the latter being on Knife River, which empties in to the Missouri 9 miles above our late encampm't over took & passed the Crow Nation, who were moving up on the bank of the River, being about to return to the Mountains—had some wind & sailed a part of the day—halted at 6, about 3 miles distant from the Crow Camp, having made
20 miles

Augt. 7th. Sunday

proceeded at day break, a little lightning & some rain—after which the Sun came out very hot—made ten miles for breakfast had some sailing—In the afternoon passed Miry River & encamped on the Right bank a mile or two above it, about Sun down the Mosquitoes in the evening very numerous & troublesome

The Camp guard was this evening reduced from a Capt. to a Subalterns, as usual.

Augt 8". Monday

Morning clear & cool—as we were about starting, some one killed a Porcupine—proceeded a little after day break—strong water during the day—passed on the Left bank some considerable quantity of coal—halted about Sun down, two Deer were killed to day—very fat & large—tracks of the grizly Bear were seen on the Sand bars—stopt at the lower end of the “Island, in the Little Basin”

Augt 9". Tuesday

about day break some light =ning—Started as usual—fair & stiff breeze breakfasted on board, whilst sailing—at 3 P.M. passed the mouth of the “Little Missouri,” near which we saw on one side of the River, several rafts, & on the opposite, painted sticks, put there about 6 weeks since, no doubt, by a war party of the Assiniboins—above the mouth of the “Little Missouri” we found many snags, & a very narrow passage thru them—dined a mile above this & then proceeded ‘til Sundown having made, a better run, then on any day previous viz
35 miles

Augt. 10". Wednesday

a heavy fog at day break started about an hour after that—had some difficulty in getting over sand bars—passed “Wild =Onion creek,” coming in on the Left Bank, & stopt for breakfast, a short distance above it afterwards had some sailing—in the afternoon passed near “Goose Egg Lake” & halted at 6 P.M. on the Right bank a few miles below “Cha =boneaus creek” having made about 30 miles

Our hunters to day, killed a Buffaloe, & some deer & antelopes

Augt 11". Thursday

Started at usual—passed Chabo =neaus creek, so called from a fren Indian who accompanied Lewis & Clark a cross the mountains and whom we saw at the Mandans residing as a Trader among them—saw two White Bear—they appeared to be yearlings & at 200 yards distance—on account of Sand bars, we could not, without going back approach nearer to them so we continued on—the hunters killed several Buffaloe & deer & at night upwards of 3 pounds of fresh meat, was issued to each man of the command—had a fair wind & good sailing most of the day & stopt at Sundown, having made, about 30 miles

Augt 12th Friday

Last night very warm—proceeded at daybreak head wind. had good banks for cordelling, & easy water—about 11 a.m. in consequence of the strong head wind, were obliged to lay to, until 4 during which time a large Buffaloe bull ran down very near to our Boats—he was afterwards killed—stopt at Sun down—our run to day has been but short

Augt 13th. Saturday

Started as usual—fair wind hoisted sail—about 7. the hunters brought in 3 White Bear, which they had killed yesterday breakfasted on board—passd the Burnt Hills & Halls Strand creek—sailed til 1 P.M. when we stopped for dinner—proceeded at 3, & halted at Sun down, on the left bank, having made
30 miles

Had some White Bear, cooked for supper—found it tough, & not as good, as the common Black Bear Passed to day, the most northern point in the Missouri, being upwards of 48° & less than one de=gree from the line that separates the U.S. from Canada

Augt 14". Sunday

During last night some rain, & at day break, a shower—proceeded as usual—had a little wind & continued 'til 10 a.m, when we halted for breakfast on the Right bank several of our party here left the Boats, in order to walk & hunt to, the Yellow Stone a Beaver trap was found this morning, with the foot of the animal in it—a White Bear, was seen, on the bar; stopd at 6 P.M, on the Left bank, where we found a small pen made of logs, about 8 foot diameter evidently intended to protect some Trappers from surprise from the Indians—some of the logs, had a name, written on it with a coal, but so badly, we could not make it out—A.R. in capital letters were easily distinguished—a White Bear, was killed two miles above here

Augt 15".

Started at day break—the white Bear, killed last eve & was brought aboard—very large, weigh =ing about 400 cwt —the River full of turns, & some very short—about noon passd the mouth of White Earth River, coming in on the left sailing for most part of the day—stopt after Sun down, on the N.E. shore

Augt. 16th. Tuesday

Rain last night--& strong wind at day break—breakfasted early and proceeded at half past 6 a.m.—passed a slough, on the Left bank (which several of the Party suppose to be White Earth River) saw a large White Bear, on the Right shore—the River has many short turns—dined at 2 P.M, about which time it cleared up & the Sun shone warm & bright—halted at Sun down on the Left shore

Augt 17th. Wednesday

Started at day break—the wind blowing moderately & fair, this as the River makes such short turns, what is fair one mile, is often ahead the next—arrived at 2 P.M. at the mouth of the Yellow Stone River, & encamped a short distance above it, on the Right bank of the Missouri, near an old Picket enclosure made by Henrys party in 1822, & which they abandoned the following year in consequence of the defeat of Ashley by the Ricaras, & the “Black Feet,” stealing their harvest

Augt 18th. Thursday

our Camp lies near the River on a most beautiful & level Prairie, bounded in the Rear by the Missouri, on the Left by the Yellow Stone, in front by a handsome wood three fourths of a mile distant, & on our right the Prairie extends for several miles, & passes over a gentle & smooth Ridge—we have plenty of game, near us, viz Buffaloe, Elk, Deer, Big horns, Ducks, Pigeons, as well as fish, of which we get abundance, from the two Rivers—

we were engaged to day, taking the freight out of our Boats & cleaning them

Augt 19th. Friday

Genl. Ashley & his party arrived to day about noon, with 100 pack of Beaver skins from the Mountains—he left—Council Bluffs, last Novemb. & wintered near the head waters of the Platte—he has met with several Nations of Indians, & had his horses stolen, & his party fired upon, by the Black feet one of his men, is seriously injured, from an attack by a White Bear.

Augt 20th. Saturday

we started shortly after
day break—the Otter one of the Boats of the
1st Infy, Buffaloe of the 6th being left behind
our object from this, to ascend the Missouri for a
few days—Genl. Ashley (who has determined to detain
his party & furs, til we go below, in order to be
sure of a safe passage) is with us—ran up 6 miles
to breakfast. found the River narrow & shallow
& but little current—continued during the day
under the wheels & cordell—the weather very warm
& no wind—handsome Prairies on other side of the
River—halted at dark, on the Right bank, having
made 25 miles

Augt 21st. Sunday

Started at day break—6
miles above stopt for breakfast at which
time, 10 large Elk were killed near our
landing, & brought in—saw two White Bear
who came within about 150 yards of us, & then
ran off, before we could load our guns—
the Banks generally bounded by high, rough &
precipitous barren hills—current is gentle &
the River narrows—in these respects the character of
the Missouri is totally changed above the Yellow
=Stone, from which it is below—passd on the Left bank
a long range of hills 150 feet high, containing coal & Salt
=petre & which appears, to have been much burnt—
at Sundown encamped on the left bank—day very
warm, & no wind

Augt 22^d During last night, we had much wind
Started at day break—passed Marthas River
on the N.E.—wind light, tho fair—the River
Bottoms begin to widen, in the afternoon pas
=sed thru a part of the River, out up with Sand
bars, & at one point, the Missouri, could
not have been more than, 100 yards wide
Sun very warm—in the evening the Beaver, Muskrat
& Racoon had a race, of about a mile—
little or no difference, in their running—halted
at dark on the Left bank

Augt 23^d Tuesday

Supposing that we are not more
than 25 or 30 miles from Porcupine River we
started at day break, with the intentions of pushing
had (sic) & endeavoring to reach there, which is to
be, the extent of our journey—had a good wind
& breakfasted, whilst under way—made good progress
under sail, ‘til about noon, when the wind died
away—the River—full of turns which had us to
=wards every point in the compass—at Sundown
reached a creek, which is suppose to be the “2000
Mile creek” but as we have not seen the Porcupine
River, tis determines that we continue on
under now 2000 miles, from the mouth of the River

Augt 24". Wednesday

During the night a hard rain, & a very severe blow, which caused the Mink to drag her cable & the wind drove her over, to the opposite shore that was so dark that she could only be seen during the flashes of the lightning—a few men had slept on board of her, & who were on her, when she drifted off—they brought her back by day break when we all proceeded a mile or so, brought us to Porcupine River, which we passed without knowing it—it comes in behind a bar continued 'til 8 when we halted for breakfast—it was now as ascertained We had passed the Point, we had been aiming & a return decided on—our Masts were taken down, & our Boats dismantled, & at 12 we turned round each Boats crew, giving 3 hearty cheers, when we commenced descending—a hard blow & storm at 5 P.M., which detained us, an hour—slept on the Left bank

Augt 25". Thursday

Rain & Lightning during the night wind in the morning, from N.E.—proceeded at 4 A.M. at 7 it cleared away—cool, & feels like Autumn—stopt at 9 for breakfast—two Buffaloe bulls were killed where the current is strong & snags thick, find much difficulty in preventing the Boat from running over them—at 12 the wind blew so hard, as to compel the Elk & Beaver to lie to, 'til 3 P.M.(the other Boats being ahead continued) we stopt at 7 P.M. on the Left bank—passed to day the Marthas River, which is not more than a yard broad, at its mouth.

Augt 26". Friday

Started this morning earlier, than usual in order to reach the Yellow Stone for breakfast—the Beaver & Elk arrived at 10 A. M, the other three Boats, had reached there, at 7. found the Otter & Buffaloe which had been left behind when we went up—arrangements were made, for starting off, tomorrow

Augt 27". Saturday

at day break embarked 90 horses, aboard our Boats, & then proceded down the River, taking with us, Genl. Ashleys party of 22 men, 31lbs furs, which they had brought from across the mountains—

In the morning had some rain, when it cleared away, & remained so, 'til about 4 P.M. when the clouds thickened, & we experienced for half an hour, a very severe wind which compelled us to lay by—about this time a large water spout, was seen in the

we had passed White Earth River about 3 P.M, & encamped 15 miles below it, on the Left bank

Augt 28". Sunday

The weather last night very cool
proceeded as usual—breakfasted at 8 a.m. &
at 9 took in our hunters, who had left us last
night in a skiff, bringing with them, two large deer
& an Elk—

Augt 29". Monday

Started as usual—about noon
met with a herd of Elk & our Boats, (excepting
those of the 6th Infy and the Otter) stopt, we killed
about a dozen, & took them on board, which
detained us two hours. we then proceeded 'til
dark, which brought us within 3 miles of the
Little Missouri, & when we encamped on the
Left bank, on a Sand bar & departed from
the remainder of the Boats.

The afternoon warm, & found
in the evening, some mosquitoes,—

Augt 30th Tuesday

The morning cool, & some wind started at daybreak, & passed a snaggy place at the Little Missouri, where we found the Boats of the 6". Infy & the Otter—continued on, wind ahead which drove the Beaver, against the shore, & broke the yoke of her rudder—stopt at dark, on the Right bank

Augt 31st. Wednesday

Proceded at day break at 7 a.m, passed the Gros Ventres Villages, on Knife River, & at 9 stopt at our old encampment below the town Mandan Village—the remainder of the day was occupied, in repairing, the White Bear—

'Tis understood that the Chayennes are within 15 miles of here in order, to make Peace with the Mandan & Gros Ventres & that 300 lodges of the Assiniboins are on the opposite side, of the River, & within ten days travel this we are anxious to see these Indians, yet the delay, is more than we can afford

Sept^r 1st Thursday

Started about an hour after day break the number of our Boats being increased to 8 stopt at 8. a.m, for breakfast, where we found our hunters whom we sent out yesterday, bringing an Elk & a deer—we took with us about a dozen of those Sioux who are going from the Mandan, to join their Nation at half past 4 P.M, the Pitman of the Mink broke, & we halted on the right bank on a high Prairie—saw during the day, several scattering buffaloe & sent out hunters in the skiff, to descend the River this evening & hunt to morrow morning—at Sundown a Buffalo Bull that had been chased from the hills entered our Camp and was killed, directly alongside, one of our Boats

Sept. 2^d. Friday

the Mink being repaired we started, as usual our hunters brought us two Elk, about 6 a.m. at 12 we passed an “Old Mandan Village,” on the right bank, & at 5 P.M. the mouth of Cannon =Ball River, & slept ten miles below it, on the left bank.

Sept 3^d. Saturday

Started at day break—& at the distance of two miles passed the Warreconne creek—head wind—our hunters, report that there is no game, to be seen—halted at 8. for breakfast, & were detained 'til 11. a.m, waiting for the Boat Elk, when she came up, the Mink got under way but immediately came to, in consequence of strong head wind which detained us 'til 2 P.M. we passed at 4, a Chayenne encampment of about 200 souls, on the right bank, & halted at 6 on a Prairie on the left, near a large herd of “Elk”— several of the party went in pursuit but were unsuccessful

Sept 4th. Sunday

arrived at the Ricaras about 8 a.m & remained 'til 3 P.M—saw many of the Nation, & some of the Chayennes, the latter having 6 lodges here—the Commission =ners held a talk with them & made them presants, as well as to the Ricaras, who ob =tained none, on our former visit—descended about 20 miles, in the afternoon the wind occasionally strong & ahead— a few Pawnee Indians who have been on a visit, to the Ricaras, & anxious to return have been taken—passage, on board one of the Boats

Sept 5". Monday

Proceeded as usual, breakfasted below Morean River dined opposite to the Little Chayenne, & encamped on the right bank, (opposite to an Island,) 20 miles below it—The water has fallen several feet since our passing up—the River is now filled with Sand bars, which renders it very difficult, at some places, to find the channel

Sept 6". Tuesday

During last night, high wind & rain—morning cool—ran about 15 miles & halted for breakfast, on the right shore, where we found 15 lodges of the Saones, a band of the Sioux—at this place the Elk joined us having been absent (in the rear) since yesterday morning put off at 9—& at 11 a.m, were stopped by the wind, which detained us, 'til 5 P.M. after which we ran down, to the upper end of the Chayenne Band, & halted after dark, on the left bank.

Sept 7". Wednesday

Started at day break—passed the Chayenne River at 7 & breakfasted a mile or two below it—where we found a few Sioux, & who were very desirous of hearing an account, of the difficulty we had with the Crows, at the Mandan Village—this story we find has already been circulated amongst all the Indians, thus far—after breakfast experienced much difficulty with Sand bars—halted at 2 P.M, about 10 miles above Teton River, for dinner when we found the Iron hoops, of the rudder, of the Musk-rat was broken—the forge was put up, & it was night, before she was repaired.

Sept 8". Thursday

Last night very cool, & the first frost that we have experienced—started at day break passed Teton River at 7 a.m,—the navigation of the river, getting much better—sun, during the day warm & pleasant—no wind—reached Medicine or Tyler River, at dark, & slept on the opposite shore—having made to day

66 miles

Sept 9". Friday

proceeded at day break—6 miles below entered upon the "Great Bend"—dined at the foot of it, & arrived at Fort Kiawa, at 5 P.M.—

The gorge of the Big bend is laid down on all maps, from N. to S which is incorrect it should be, from E. to W—

Sept 10". Saturday

During last night the wind blew very hard, & had some rain—the crank of the Racoon being broken, we were detained 'til half past 8. a.m, when we proceeded & ran down to White River, for dinner after which we had much difficulty, wind sand bars—stopt after dark, on the right bank under a high bluff, we had no place for a camp but were necessarily compelled to halt here in consequence of the darkness & a fresh breeze, just springing up

Sept 11th Sunday

The Elk & Buffaloe, boats of the 6th. Infy, & the Otter of the 1st remained in the rear, last night—they came up above day break, when we proceeded—passed Cedar Island at 10 a.m.—saw a flock of Tur =kies near it some wind during the day but fair—river getting better less obstructed with bars, & current stronger—stopt after dark, on the right hand shore, under high Bluffs

Sept 12th. Monday

Proceeded at day break & were detained 3 hours, in getting a mile & a half out of a slough, into which we had entered last night wind fresh & fair—dined near Pancah creek—passed the Leau qui cour & arrived at the Pancah Village, on White Paint creek, at 5 P.M.—

Sept 13". Tuesday

The horses which we brought in our Boats from the Yellow Stone, having been disembarked, & a party started by land, for Council, we proceeded after breakfast—passed Bon Homm Island & dined near the Calumet Bluffs after which, about 3 P.M & 5 miles above the River Jacque the Muskrat struck a snag which made 6 holes in her—she was immediately run on a Sand bar in about 3 foot water, where she filled, & settled on the Bar—being unloaded, she was hauled up, & blankets & being stuffed in, she was bailed out, & by dark we succeeded in getting her ashore—the abort happened in the middle of the River, & the Beaver & Otter being near, immediately halted along side, & by the assistance of the three boats crews, she was saved, tho with difficulty—she most certainly have been lost, had she been alone she had the greater part of Genl. Ashleys Beaver on board of her, which was not injured

Sept 14" Wednesday

The Muskrat having been last night hauled out of the water, a new plank put into her & being caulked, she was again launched, & being reloaded in having breakfasted proceeded at half past Six passed the Jacque near which we found a snaggy place & stopt at noon, on a Sand bar, for dinner, & for the purpose of drying Genl. Ashleys furs, which were wet yesterday in the Muskrat—this detained us, til 4 P.M. when we put off, & shortly passed 4 Boats, on the way to the Mandans Rickaras & Sioux belonging to the Traders a few miles below passed Vermillion or White Stone River & reached the Burning Bluffs at Sun down & halted on the opposite shore

an hour after dark we experienced a very heavy blow, accompanied by rain, thunder & lightning which lasted for an hour

Seven black bear were seen to day, and five of them shot.

Sept 15". Thursday

Received this morning at day break several news Papers, brought up, by the Boats, which we passed yesterday & obtained from them, by one of our party, who visited them in a skiff, & overtook us this momt proceeded as usual & ran down about 15 miles to breakfast, when the Elk rejoined us, which had been absent from yesterday & bringing 7 elk which some of her Crew had shot—passed the Iowa about 2 P.M,—reached the Big Sioux at dusk & halted, on the left bank, a mile below it made to day about 60 miles—the current is strong, & we find many snags and sawyers

Sept 16". Friday

Proceeded at day break morning foggy—ran down about 20 miles when we passed the old Maha Village & breakfasted a mile below it—from this place, two men were started by land, for Council Bluffs, in order to meet the Express Should he come up, by this route & turn him back—passed Black birds Hills, in the afternoon, & stopt at Sun down, on a high Sand bar, on the left hand shore geese, ducks & Turkies run in great abundance, to day.

Sept 17". Monday

The Boats proceeded this morning at day break—the Beaver being the rear one, as she was about to start, a large part of the Sand bar fell in, & broke some buckets—soon after starting entered into a sdy snaggy bend & ran over a sawyer, which knocked out an arm & broke some more buckets & whilst these were repairing we breakfasted—afterwards & about 8 miles below, passed the fleet which had stopt for breakfast we continued & halted at half past 12 at the lower end of Pratts bend (which is 20 miles round & the gorge 360 yards) & which we found full of snags, & in some places dangerous—

Sept 18". Sunday

about 7 a.m, the Boats made their appearance, when we proceeded passed the Little Sioux River—the Raccoon, struck a log which broke her main water shaft, & knocked out—about 30 of her cogs—being so near C.B we proceeded, leaving her behind, to make repairs & follow us—halted at Sundown on the right bank.

Sept 19th. Monday

Proceeded at day break about 12 passed the “devils race ground,” & reached Council Bluffs, at 2 P.M. a month earlier, than we expected, when we left there, last May—

The Racon arrived, the following day Thus in little upwards of 4 months, we have traveled above 2700 miles—made several stops—traded with all the Indians, on that part of the River—met with no serious accident, excepting that of the Muskat, which was shortly repaired—& all returned in good health—no lives having been lost—

Sept 23rd Friday

The Detachment of the 1st Infy being ordered to remain, to await the directions of the Govt, & the Cantonment at C.B., not being large Enough, to contain all the Troops, it was determined, that the 1st should build huts, for wintering Quarters near the Lime Kiln & we accordingly started at half past 3 P.M, & reached the Kiln, at 5—we encamped on a handsome table Land on the right bank, about 8 miles (by water) below Fort Atkinson—at this Place we built Cant. Barbour, in less than 4 weeks spacious & comfortable Quarters, Store Houses & for the 4 companies, rafting all our logs across the Missouri, & sawing the Plank by hand—

May 2^d. 1826---Cantonm't Barbour

Having received an order yesterday, from Genl. Head Q^{rs} to repair with my Command to Belle Fontaine, we started, at 8 a.m, in the Elk, White Bear & Muskrat Transport Boats, when within 2 or 3 miles of Mr. Cabannies, the wind blowing strong from the South, & the waves running tolerably high we were very near being lost, in the Elk, she springing a leak in several places, & for a few moments leaning her starboard side, so much over as to have the running board, considerably under water, & shipping some of it—from Mr. C^s sent back for the Beaver, & taking the Elks load into her, proceeded at 3 P.M, a slight rain, & wind strong from the north—were obliged to put to, at few miles below Haits Hills which was effected with considerable difficulty The River, which has been higher, this Spring than ever before known, appears, to be falling fast

May 3^d Wednesday

Proceeded at 4 A.M.—break
=fasted near Mr. Robideaux—at 8, pas
=sed the Platte, & about 5 P.M, the
narrows of the Nishnabotana—in the
afternoon rain, & hard wind—In con
sequence of the storm, we were desi
=rous, of stopping, but had run about
15 miles, before we could find dry
Land--& this is only to be seen, when
the Hills, come in, to the River

May 4th. Thursday

Started at 5 A.M.—passed the
mouth of the Nishnebotona & at 7 halted
for breakfast on the Right bank, &
were detained here the remainder of
the day in consequence of hard wind

May 5th. Friday

Started at 4 A.M.—about 7—
when turning a point to the right, the White Bear
fell into an eddy which turned her around
like a top, her larboard side, bent over, she
shipped considerable water, & was in much
danger of being lost—stopt at 8. Below Wolf
=River, for breakfast—killed a Deer, swimming
in the River—at 2 P.M. when halted for dinner
one of the men, was bitten by a Pilot Snake
& dozens of those & the Rattlesnakes were
discovered & killed—In the afternoon passed
Independence creek, & halted at Sundown on
the Right bank, a few miles above Cow Island
clear sunshiny day—little wind

103 miles

May 6th. Saturday

Proceded at day break—passed Cow Is
=land & breakfasted a short distance below it—after
=wards passed the Little Platte & halted for dining
at Mr. Ely's establishment the wind strong ahead
at 1 P.M, moved on, passed the Kansas; stopt at
the landing near Liberty for 2 hours—during which
rode to the Town (4 miles) to the Post office—there
has been no communication between—this & Franklin
for a fortnight & 2 mails are due—the high water
has overflowed the Country—reached Fort Osage
at Sundown, & visited my old friend Mr. S—

100 miles

May 7th. Sunday

Took in Mr. S. brother & his horse & proceeded at day break—about 7, in passing down a slough the Beaver ran on a snag which broke out two of the Arms, of the wheel—repaired it, & continued on at 8—at 11 the Pitman of the Muskrat, broke in two, & her forward slide went to pieces! detained 'til ½ past 2 P.M, in mending it, & then proceeded—passed Grand River in the afternoon, & slept 10 miles below it.

In the morning passed two Keel Boats, on their way to Council Bluffs—the water is so high, that they are compelled to warp their Boats, the whole distance—

May 8th. Monday

Started at daybreak, passed the Chariton, at 7 A.M, & breakfasted a mile below it—reach Franklin at ½ past 11 dined & left there at ½ past 1 P.M—the skirts of the Town are overflowd—not much damage done—passed Jefferson, in the afternoon & halted at 7. on the right bank 5 miles below it

During the evening much lightening, & in the night, a very heavy rain

we have overtaken the rise of the River—the water appears now to be at its height

Thursday May 9th

Proceeded at day break—clear morning—
passed the Osage at 6 a.m.—breakfasted near
the Gasinade, & halted at 7 P.M, about
5 miles above Saint Charles—
day clear, & but little wind

Wednesday May 10th 1826

started at day break—passed
Saint Charles, & arrived at Belle Fontaine
at 7 A.M. to breakfast—found the Cantonm't
in a very decayed state, but being more
comfortable than tents, moved into it
Remained here 'til July 10th, when we
moved down the Mississippi, & encamping about
4 miles below Carondelet commenced the
erection of Jefferson Barracks—the 3^d. Infy
arrived here from Green Bay, in Sept^r—