

know who were there. Shortly six canoes put off, with at least twenty Indians. These speedily appeared in their wild and untutored state. After the usual recognition, gave them tobacco, ammunition, &c.,—received fish in return. They seemed greatly amused with our buggy, &c., inspecting every part thereof, with the utmost minuteness. Camped on the north side of Buffalo River at 8, P. M.

July 6—Arose sufficiently early to see

“Morn again burst through the vaults of heav’n,  
And shake its jewell’d mantle o’er the sky,  
Heavy with rosy gold.”

We were now in the Sioux country, and as their policy is to take persons by surprise, we had to keep a sharp look out. I felt, however, that I could say

“Let trial and danger my progress oppose,  
They only make heaven more sweet at the close;  
Come joy or come sorrow, whate’er may befall,  
A home with my God will make up for it all.”

With a scrip on my back, and a staff in my hand,  
I march on in haste, through an enemy’s land;  
The road may be rough, but it cannot be long,  
And I’ll smooth it with hope, and cheer it with song.”

This day may be regarded as forming part of “man’s strange eventful history.” We reached Rice River about 2 P. M. expecting shortly to partake of wild fowl to our hearts content, but were frustrated for a time, having to cross the river first. This is a most rapid stream, though not very wide. Our guide plunged into it, and found it too deep to venture across with our conveyances laden. The only seeming alternative was to build a canoe for ourselves and luggage, and make the horses swim over with the empty vehicles; but as “necessity is the mother of invention,” the box of our buggy was thought of, and at once removed. Being of an oblong form, some seven feet long by four wide; and nearly water proof, it was at once tested, and found to answer admirably. By this means the entire paraphernalia, animate and inanimate, were safely lodged on *terra firma*, the box being capable of carrying 600 lbs. weight each time.—The horses swam like good fellows.—Preparations for dinner were at once commenced. We were calculating upon

enjoying ourselves with a dish of soup, when, to our discomfiture, we were told that the whole had been upset, so that we had to put up with what we could get. The mosquitoes carried on business pretty extensively at the same time; so that we were in a perfect dilemma. To do the mosquitoes justice, they must be seen and felt, to be appreciated. They swarmed like bees, entering the mouth, nose and eyes, and were, in fact, almost unbearable. The only conclusion to which a victim can come, is, that he must submit to become a mosquitoed martyr.

July 7—Started early. Dined near Sand Hill River, which we afterwards crossed: descent great. Camped at 8½ P. M.

July 8—Sabbath. As “necessity knows no law,” and as our guides deemed it unsafe to remain in any one place long, on account of the Sioux, who were likely to take advantage of such a delay, we were brought to journey on. Crossed the Red Lake River before dinner. This is rather a wide stream, and the current very rapid. This day, whilst indulging in a reverie I felt most sensibly the force of the words—

“Adieu! my native land, adieu!  
Thy hills and dales no more I view;  
I hear thy church-bells chime no more,  
But harken to a foreign shore.”

We halted for three hours in order to attend devotional exercises. After certain preliminaries, we sang a portion of the hymn beginning—

“There is a land of pure delight.”

As we were on the banks of a river, on rising ground, and surrounded by beautiful scenery, the words seemed somewhat appropriate. To meet the views of the majority, I then read an abridgment of Mr. Wesley’s Morning Service of the Church of England; and as we were all British subjects, we most heartily and earnestly offered up the prayers for our beloved Queen, and all the Royal Family. After journeying on a little further, we encamped for the night, and as our guns had not been allowed to intrude upon the quietude of the Sabbath, we had to partake of a meal, minus aught of the feathered tribe.