

bases of supplies from which to work, one at the River Camistigoya (Lake Superior), a second at Takancamiononis (Lake St. Joseph) and the third at the lake of Assenipoles (Lake Winnipeg).

The next expedition referred to is that of the year 1731, "some of them in the employ of M. Verendrey started from Kaministi-quoya, a Fort constructed by Lieutenant Robert de la Noye passed on to Rainy Lake where they built Fort St. Peter.

In the last century the Northwest Company had their principal trading post at Grand Portage, but finally moved to the Kaministiquia, where, quoting from La Hontan's Memoirs; "At some seasons of the year no less than 3,000 traders, trappers, and their families were assembled at Fort William, which had become the chief entrepot of the Northwest fur trade."

Quoting from the Rev. Dr. Bryce's book on Manitoba: "In the year 1810 Mr. Franchere, then in the employ of the Astor Fur Company started from New York, sailed around Cape Horn, then up the Pacific coast, crossed the Rocky Mountains, and passed down the Saskatchewan river, on through Lake Winnipeg and the water stretches to Fort William, where he arrived in 1814."

"Fort William was built in 1805 and named in honor of the Hon. William MacGillivray."

Mr. Franchere says: "Fort William has really the appearance of a Fort from its palisades 15 feet high, and also that of a pretty village from the number of buildings which it encloses, in the middle of a spacious square stands a large building elegantly built, in the centre of which is a room about 60 feet long by 30 wide, decorated with several paintings. It is in this room that the agents, the clerks and the interpreters take their meals at different tables. At each end of the room are two apartments for the partners.

"The back part of the house is occupied by the kitchen and sleeping apartments of the domestics. On each side of the building there is another of the same size; these are divided lengthwise by a corridor and contain each 12 sleeping rooms. One of these houses is intended for the partners and the other for the clerks.

"On the east side of the fort there is a large building in which furs are examined and where they are put up in tight bales by means of a press.

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