

reached Old Ash House on the Souris river, "settled two years ago, and abandoned the following spring."

Having been unable to procure a guide here, he himself assumed the head, and, going by Turtle mountain, again reached the Souris or Mouse river, which he followed up to the "bight," whence he crossed the plains, a distance of 37 miles, to the Missouri river, reaching it on December 29 at a point 6 miles above the upper of the Mandan villages. These villages are stated to have been five in number, and contained in all 318 houses and seven tents, inhabited by Mandan and Willow Indians in about equal numbers. The number of the Willow Indians in another place in his notes (there called Fall Indians) is placed at 2200 to 2500. He remained at these villages till January 10, trying to induce the Indians to come north to trade, but with very little success, as they were afraid of the Sioux. While here he wrote down a vocabulary of the Mandan language, containing about 375 words.

On January 10, 1798, he left the villages, but being delayed by severe storms, it was the 24th before he reached the Souris river, and February 3 when he arrived at McDonald's house at the mouth of the Souris river. At Souris river post he remained till February 25, 1798, not to rest and enjoy himself after the hardships of his journey, but to make up his notes and plans and prepare for a longer trip, this time on foot, to connect the waters of the Red and Mississippi rivers, and thence onward to Lake Superior, a trip which his companion ridiculed as being impossible to accomplish before the advent of summer. On the above date he started out on foot with a dog-team, and followed the course of the Assiniboine eastward to its mouth, making, as he always did, a survey of his route, passing on his way Pine fort and Poplar house, both of which had been abandoned, and some houses a little below the Meadow Portage to Lake Manito Bah.

On March 7 he reached the forks of the Assiniboine and Red rivers at the present city of Winnipeg, though no mention is made of any habitation there at the time. Travelling on the ice, he turned up the latter stream, and on the second day reached Cheboillez's old house of the North-West Company, a quarter of a mile up Rat creek above its mouth, the latitude of which was $49^{\circ} 33' 58''$ N., which would be a few miles west of Niverville on the Emerson branch of the C.P.R.

On March 14 he crossed the boundary-line into the United States, and reached the house of Mr. Charles Cheboillez at the mouth of Summerberry or Pembina river in lat. $48^{\circ} 58' 29''$ N., at the present town of Pembina in North Dakota. After staying here for a week he continued up Red river, passing the house of the North-West Company kept by Mr. Roi, at the mouth of Salt river, also in North Dakota, to the mouth of Red Lake river, which he ascended to the mouth of Clear river, where there was a North-West Company's house kept by Baptiste Cadotte, which he places in lat. $47^{\circ} 54' 21''$ N., close to the present site