

there. He returned to Canada invalided, with his rank of lieutenant, but this was not recognized in Canada. In consequence, the young lieutenant entered the fur trade, and found at Michilimackinac and in the Upper Lakes his field of labour. He was in charge of Fort Nepigon in 1728. Here La Verandrye heard of the interior, from Ochagach, a savage, who drew a map on birch bark, which was sent to the Governor, Beauharnois. Authority was given to La Verandrye and a Jesuit missionary, Gonor, to penetrate these little known regions, where no white man had trod. The following are the main points of the exploration:—

**1731.**—Aug. 26.—La Verandrye's party left Lake Superior, by way of Pigeon River, for the interior. In the same year the explorers reached Rainy Lake and built at its foot Fort St. Pierre, whose ruins are still visible.

**1732.**—The party discovered Rainy River and entered Lake of the Woods (*Lac des Bois*, also *Minitie*), and on its south-west shore built Fort St. Charles. Here, on Massacre Island, La Verandrye's son, a priest, and a number of the party were murdered by the Sioux.

**1734.**—By descending Winnipeg River, Lake Winnipeg (*Ouinipique*, "muddy water," Ojibway) was reached, and at the mouth of the river Fort Murepas was built.

**1735-6.**—Crossing Lake Winnipeg, and entering Red River (*Miskouesipi*, "blood-red river," Ojib.) at the mouth of the Assiniboine River, called by La Verandrye "St. Charles," was built Fort Rouge, on the site of the present city of Winnipeg.

**1738.**—At some time before this year, at Pointe des Bois, some two hundred miles up Red River, above Fort Rouge, was built a fort. In this year, also, Fort de la Reine was erected on the site of the present town of Portage la Prairie.

**1743.**—La Verandrye's sons ascended the Assiniboine, left it to explore one of the tributaries, the Souris River, called by them "Rivière de St. Pierre" by portage from its head-waters to the Missouri, and up this river to the foot of the Rocky Mountains (*Montagnes de pierre*). After this, in the same year, La Verandrye returned to Quebec.

**1743-8.**—During these years were discovered Lakes Manitoba (*Manitowaban*, "Spirit's Straits"), Winnipegosis ("Little Winnipeg"), and Dauphin, and Forts Dauphin and Bourbon were erected.

**1748.**—La Verandrye's son ascended the Saskatchewan ("Rapid River.")

**1749.**—La Verandrye was on the point of joining his sons to seek the sources of the Saskatchewan, when he died in Montreal, at the age of sixty-four. La Verandrye's sons now lost their license, and were succeeded by Legardeur de St. Pierre.

**1752.**—Fort Jonquière was built near the site of the present town of Calgary, on Bow River, near the Rocky Mountains, by direction of St. Pierre.