

All my arrangements being completed at four o'clock on the evening of Wednesday the 2nd of November, I left Fort Garry, being attended to the water's edge by my kind friends, the officers of the garrison, and embarking on the pontoon set my face to the southward on my return to Canada.

The first stage was only seven miles, to Pierre Charette's a wealthy and intelligent French Metis, who gave us a hospitable reception, a warm supper, with liberty to select the softest plank on the floor of his clean store room to spread our blankets on. Our insane friend was a confirmed smoker, and there were two powder-kags in the room, on one of which he sat and attempted to place a candle on the other, but was prevented by some persuasion—it can easily be imagined how comfortable the rest of the party felt, as he had his pocket full of friction matches. Very little sleep visited the optics of the majority. Being an old campaigner, and, calculating the chances to be pretty equal on all sides, I did not believe in loss of sleep, and therefore slept accordingly. We started in the morning at 5 a.m., and had great difficulty in crossing the River la Salle, at the site of the *blasted fence* of 1869, and reached Louis Larocques at noon. This is 23 miles from Fort Garry. We dined here and it was found that our insane friend had lost his sabre; after a scene of great confusion it was finally decided to send back a boy to Charette's, as it was surmised that it had been left there. Our teamster had put on an ox as a relay to one of the carts, we reached Vandol's on the north side of Scratching River at 7 o'clock p.m., and remained there all night. Starting in the morning at 7 a.m., we drove on at a great rate till noon, when we dined at the Big Bend on Red River. In the afternoon our insane companion took a fancy to drive the ox in the shafts of the baggage cart, which he did with such effect that a general smash up was the result, the axle being broken and the cart rendered useless. It became necessary to load the baggage on the remaining cart, which being effected we reached the Hudson Bay Company's stockade, three miles north of Pembina, at half-past 6 p.m.

Saturday, the 5th of November, was ushered in by a smart snow storm, which showed no sign of abatement till mid-day, suggesting unpleasant thoughts of difficulties in the way of continuing our journey; but at noon the gale lulled and we started at once, our party reduced to myself and my insane companion, of whom I had taken charge under a Brigade Order. At one o'clock passed the custom house, and reached Twelve Mile Point at half-past four, where we camped for the night at a French Metis' house, named Guidons. Started at 6.45 on the morning of the 6th, and reached Twenty-eight Mile Post at 11.15; dined there, and crossed the Little Salt at three o'clock; crossed the Big Salt and camped on the east side at six o'clock p.m. The whole of

the land in Dakota is rich agricultural soil; those rivers are all alkaline water, unfit for use. On the 7th we left camp at Big Salt River at 4.30 a.m., crossed Turtle River at 9 o'clock, and reached Grand Forks at 3 o'clock p.m., where we camped at Gerard's, a French Metis. We left Gerard's at 7.30 a.m., reached Buffalo Coleau at 12.30, dined there and pushed on to Goose River, which we reached and crossed at 7 p.m., in a severe storm—this march was thirty-eight miles. We camped down beside George Fisher's train, who had bedding for the garrison at Fort Garry, thirty-four days out from St. Paul. He had four of his horses stolen at Elm River, and the rest had given out—he intended to lie over for two or three days to recover. Left Goose River at 7.30 a.m., and met my old boatmen going down to meet some of their flat craft at Frog Point, fourteen miles below Goose River. Reached Elm River at 11.45 and dined there, and reached Georgetown at 4.30 a.m., staid at an hotel for the night, thankful at having again reached the outskirts of civilization. Left Georgetown at 4.30 a.m., reached Probatfields at 11 o'clock, dined there and pushed on to Robinson, 41 miles from Georgetown, which was reached at 4.30 p.m. Found in the morning that the teamster had left my tent d'alrie behind at Georgetown. Left Robinson's at 7.30 a.m. and reached Harris' two and a half miles beyond McCaulayville (Fort Abercrombie) at 10 o'clock. This being the point from which I had started on the 3rd of October. There was still before me a long and painful journey before the railway would be reached, and even then nearly twelve hundred miles would have to be traversed to reach Ottawa, whence I had started on the 1st of September.

LATEST WAR NEWS.

The title of Emperor of Germany has been accepted by King William at the request of the King of Bavaria, seconded by the King of Saxony, and chiefly urged thereto by the promptings of his own ambition. The North German Parliament, now in session, have been informed by Count Bismarck of this step of his Royal master. The federal treaties with the South German States have been signed, and Prussia is thereby made the stronger. It will be mortifying to Francis Joseph to have to quietly witness the aggrandisement of his powerful rival, and the adoption of a title once belonging to his ancestors.

The Duke of Aosta, in accepting the Spanish crown, said.—“I have before me a smooth and, I hope, happy course to pursue. You present to my view a more extended horizon, and invite me to duties always elevated, but now of the utmost moment. I accept the noble mission conscious of its difficulties.” The young King enters upon his new duties with creditable utterances; it is to be hoped he will disappoint no one.

A Vienna despatch received in London on

the 12th, says that the sublime Porte had called for the immediate return of the number of irregular troops each district could furnish, and has also summoned the reserves. The Sultan had called a naval council to increase the strength of the fleets.

A despatch dated Paris, the 6th, says that full accounts of the engagement commenced on November 28th and ending the 3rd inst., show that much more was accomplished than the authorities had expected. The discipline and steadiness of the troops were a full match for the Germans. The result of the fighting in the large circle of investment in the east, south, and south-east, is that all the positions taken remain in possession of the French, or are under command of their guns.

Late Versailles advices say that the German losses before Paris on the Loire, since the 28th of November, are immense. Correspondents are forbidden to communicate the truth. The publication of official returns show losses of over 12,000, with many returns lacking.

A despatch from London, Monday, 12th, says that the explosion at the cartridge manufactory was more serious than at first expected. Another of the victims had died, and it was feared that at least thirty of those wounded could not recover.

A despatch from Berlin, on the 12th, says that the bombardment of Paris has been definitely decided upon. A later despatch confirms the report, and also says the centre of the city can be reached with shells, the batteries are now in position, and the opening of the fire is fixed for the 19th inst.

A despatch from the Duke of Mecklenburg makes the following announcement from Meung: The enemy (the army of the Loire) violently attacked us yesterday, the 9th, but were victoriously repulsed by the 17th and 18th divisions. Notwithstanding the superiority of their forces, our losses were smaller than yesterday. He also reports a severe battle with the army of the Loire at Beaugency, where the French were reinforced. 1500 prisoners and six guns were taken; the remainder of the French army on the road to Bourges is either captured or beaten. Another account says that after the fight of the 7th the Bavarians threatened Beaugency and the forest of Marchenoir. The French were reinforced, but the Prussians took Brovant, Besumont, Messian, and Beaugency. On the 9th Bouvalet, Villercran and Bernay were captured.

A despatch, dated Brussels the 11th, says that Garibaldi has resigned his command of the army of the Vosges. He has been led to this course owing to the unfriendly spirit manifested by the people, who show no disposition to offer obstinate resistance to the invaders.

The French Government had, on Sunday, established its quarters at Bordeaux. M. Thiers was also there. Vigorous measures have been decided upon, and large reinforcements are going forward to the army