

He intended to have pursued nearly the same route as I did, and after having built a fort at Lake Pepin, to have proceeded up the River St. Pierre, and from thence up a branch of the River Messourie, till having discovered the source of the Osage, or River of the West, on the other side of the summit of the land that separates the waters which run to the Gulf of Mexico from those that fall into the Pacific Ocean, he would have descended that river to the place where it is called by itself near the Straits of Annian.

Having there established another settlement on some spot that appeared best calculated for the support of his people, in the neighbourhood of some of the inlets that trend towards the north-east, he would from thence have begun his researches. This expedition was to have been attended in the expedition by Colonel Rogers, myself, and others, and I was taken out with him a sufficient number of soldiers and mariners, for building the forts and vessels necessary for the occasion, and for navigating the river; in all not less than fifty or sixty men. The grants and other requisites for this purpose were even nearly completed, when the present troubles in America began, which put a stop to an enterprise that would have been of inconceivable advantage to the British dominions.

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