

The thaw now was so considerable that some bare land appeared; and the ice on the streams began to break up.

On the 25th, as the weather was very inviting, they again set out; but on the 1st of May, a heavy fall of snow came on, attended with a bitter gale of wind, which increased to such a degree, that they were incapable of standing upright, and the cold was extremely piercing.

The second proved fine with warm sunshine; and having dried their wet clothes, they proceeded to the place where it was intended to build their canoes; but in consequence of a dispute between Matonabee and some of his countrymen, he determined to travel farther to the eastward before they set about this necessary duty.

For some days the weather was hot and pleasant. On the 6th, they fell in with some strange Indians, who were proceeding to the factory with their furs; and on the invitation of Matonabee, they joined company.