

for that purpose, on the seventeenth day of March, A. D. one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, they entered upon this unfortunate journey.

From Nouvelle Bois, on the river Chadore, they took their departure. The men and Mrs. Forbes, (who was then pregnant), and Mr. Forbes' son John, a lad about thirteen years old, on snow shoes.

Their provisions and other effects, together with four children, viz. Mary, about seven years; Peggy, about five; Catharine, about three; Robert, about fifteen months old, they undertook to haul on Indian sleighs, or hand sleds.

In this manner, but with great difficulty, they pursued their way eight days; and on the ninth, being obliged to leave the river which they had followed hitherto, and whereon they had travelled some part of the time, they found the country so broken with large and deep gullies, and so rough and mountainous, that they concluded it next to impossible to proceed any further with the sleighs.

Here they were obliged to make a halt; and after a short consultation, having first erected a small camp, to leave the woman and children in, they took the chief part of their provisions, and as much of the rest of their baggage as they were able to carry on their backs; and leaving the woman and children, about ten o'clock in the morning, set out in quest of Meconick Pond, otherwise called Lake Chadore, expecting to return the next day. But meeting much difficulty, they did not reach the pond until the next day about three o'clock in the afternoon.

Here being much fatigued, they left their baggage; and Midstaff having had some previous notice that there was an Indian residing not far from thence, went in quest of him to the other side of the pond,