

Hudson's Bay Company, who had the guidance of the Expedition on the journey to Red River, had a separate party of his own.

The parties thus organized set out in July, 1857, and proceeding by the usual canoe route from Fort William, made numerous explorations, determined the levels as they went, and eventually arrived at the Red River Settlement in the fall of the same year.

Mr. Gladman, after a short stay, returned by the way he had come to Toronto, where his connection with the Expedition soon afterwards ceased, while Professor Hind, who I should have mentioned had been attached to the party as geologist, proceeded by way of the Red River over the prairies to St. Paul.

My assistants at this time were Mr. Lindsay A. Russell, Mr. J. F. Gaudet, Mr. Alex. W. Wells and Col. C. de Salaberry. The three first-named gentlemen were surveyors, all of whom are of high standing in their profession, while Col. de Salaberry acted chiefly as Commissary—an important office in a region where provisions were not always very abundant.

The winter of 1857-58 was chiefly occupied in exploring the country between the Lake of the Woods and Red River, a region at that time but little known, and reported to be impassable in summer, on account of swamps which were said to cover the greater portion of its area. At the same time, an instrumental survey was made, so as to connect Fort Garry with the survey made many years previously by the Boundary Commissioners, under the treaty of Ghent. This enabled us to establish with accuracy the longitude of Fort Garry, which, on the maps then in use, was set down as much as twenty-one minutes too far to the west.

The party were also able, before the opening of navigation, to explore the Rosseau River and make an instrumental survey of the Red River and Lake Winnipeg, between Fort Alexander, at the mouth of the Winnipeg River, and the Boundary Line at Pembina.

Immediately after the opening of the navigation, having organized a party of half-breed Indians and procured canoes, we proceeded by way of the Manitoba and Winnipeg Lakes to the great Saskatchewan River, and examined the rapids and impediments to the navigation between Lac Bourbon and Lake Winnipeg. The levels were determined with care, and the "Track Survey" which we had made of the Lake Coasts, as we proceeded, was corrected as often as possible by observations for latitude and longitude.

Separating our party at the Mossy Portage, the name by which the path between Lake Winnipeg and Lac Bourbon is called, I sent Mr. Wells to explore Lac Dauphin and survey the route by way of the Little Saskatchewan and Lake Winnipeg to the mouth of the Red River, appointing the 1st of July following to meet him at the settlement.

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