

voice asking us if we could direct him to some part we had never heard of. I lay hold of my gun to be prepared for emergencies, while my brother drew back the canvas. Our visitor seeing we were well armed and on the alert muttered an apology and sheered off. Had he found us unarmed and unprepared we do not think we should have got rid of him so easily. We kept watch some time, but hearing nothing more we again settled down to slumber, and I must say I spent a much better night than the previous one, an old lawn tennis hat serving splendidly as a night cap and my jacket rolled up as a pillow.

The next morning we made enquiries at the Land Office respecting some land, but found all that was worth having already taken up. We did not waste much time here, but at once journeyed on. At our usual mid-day rest one of the ponies, which was rather wild, gave us considerable trouble. Although we had hobbled both, one of them liked its liberty so much that it took us nearly two hours to catch it, which we could only do by riding it down with the other, and making it thoroughly tired before we could get near it. We caught it at last, and drove on till about nine p.m., when we reached the first crossing of the Souris River. This was the widest and most difficult stream we had to cross since starting. As the wind was blowing quite a gale and a heavy pour of rain was coming down we had