

in a direction nearly west from the Falls of St. Anthony, at a distance of three hundred miles, on the summit of the dividing ridge between the St. Peter's and the Missouri rivers, being about equi-distant from either. This dividing ridge is denominated by the French, the Coteau des Prairies. Our approach to it was from the east, and the ascent, for the distance of fifty miles, over a continued succession of slopes and terraces, almost imperceptibly rising one above another, that seemed to lift us to a great height. The singular character of this majestic mound continues on the west side, in its descent toward the Missouri. There is not a tree or bush to be seen from the highest summit of the ridge, though the eye may range east and west, almost to a boundless extent, over a surface covered with a short grass, that is green at one's feet, and about him, but changing to blue in distance, like nothing but the blue and vastness of the ocean."

¶ Amongst the Sioux of the Mississippi Catlin found the following legend: "Many ages after the red men were made, when all the different tribes were at war, the Great Spirit sent runners and called them all together at the 'Red Pipe.' He stood on the top of the rocks, and the red people were assembled in infinite numbers on the plains below. He took out of the rock

