

With Lieut. Jemette, the commandant, M. Cadotte, and two Canadians set out to return to Fort Michilimackinac, taking along with them what provisions they could carry. This journey was attended with numerous distressing delays. It had to be performed on snow shoes, a mode of walking excessively fatiguing for those unaccustomed to it; and which in the present instance obliged them to make very short daily stages. This delay occasioned a great consumption of their provisions, and increased the danger of their perishing from want; as the woods at this season of the year afforded no chance of game, and the rivers where frozen over, had been deserted by the water-fowls. To add to their distress, after proceeding about half the journey, they found the river clear of ice, and were obliged to travel for the remainder by a circuitous and intricate path through the forest. On examining their stock of provisions, at this place, they found it necessary to send the Canadians back to the Sault, for a fresh supply; they had already been seven days on their journey, and after taking what provisions were necessary for the Canadians to support them on their return to the Sault, they found the remainder consisted of two pounds of pork and three pounds of bread, which was all they had to maintain the lives of three persons until they should return. Mr. Henry was appointed Commissary on this occasion, and calculating that the Canadians would, with sufficient exertion, perform the journey in four days, which had occupied them, for seven, he divided the small stock of provisions accordingly. His apportionment in this instance turned out to be correct, for the same day on which they had eaten their last little morsel, their faithful Canadians returned with their supplies from the Sault Sainte Marie. But although relieved from the dread of famine they had still difficulties to encounter; before they had proceeded far the commandant declared his inability to advance from the state of his feet, being blistered by the snow shoes: and it was only with the utmost exertion, they were able to bring him along with them by very short journeys. From this cause, famine again began to threaten this adventurous little party; and being now too far from the Sault to send back, they agreed as the only chance for their safety, that Mr. Henry, along with one of the Canadians, should set out before and inform the garrison at Michilimackinac, of the state in which they had left their companions, so that assistance might be sent from there to meet them. This they happily accomplished and all reached the Fort in safety.

The trials Mr. Henry had already met with, and the dangers to which he had been exposed, had no other effect on his ardent and enterprising spirit, but to encrease his activity, and accelerate his movements in the object he had in view. On the tenth of March following, we find him setting out from Fort Michilimackinac on his return to the Sault Sainte Marie. The object of this journey was to make maple sugar, which forms a considerable article of food in that country, and in which occupation he employed himself and attendants, until the middle of May, when he again revisited Michilimackinac. It was while on this expedition that he met with Sir Robert Doyers, an English gentleman, then on a voyage of curiosity in this hitherto unknown country.