

reported that he had "many difficulties to encounter before he reached Cumberland House from Churchill, the water so shoal as to prevent the navigation of small canoes." In commenting on the results of his trip Samuel Hearne says "no less could be expected; this river a little distance from here is inaccessible for anything much heavier than a light canoe." In 1788, however, Robert Longmore, an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company, was sent "to prosecute the discoveries from Churchill inland." Though he did not succeed in opening a trade route to the Saskatchewan, several trading posts were shortly afterwards established by the company up the Churchill River and in its vicinity.

In 1791 Philip Turnor, accompanied by Malcolm Ross, in charge of a survey party sent out by the Hudson's Bay Company to survey and locate the position of Lake Athabaska, left Cumberland House on Saskatchewan waters, surveyed the Sturgeonweir River up to Frog Portage, and thence made a track survey of the Churchill River up to its sources in Methye and Swan Lakes. His report and map were sent to the head office of the Hudson's Bay Company in London and his map was incorporated in Arrowsmith's map of North America.⁷ His original map, which appears to have been remarkably correct, was copied by Kohl, and the copy is preserved in the Library of Congress in Washington.⁸ A copy of this copy is published in Burpee's "The Search for the Western Sea."⁹

In 1793 David Thompson,¹⁰ then in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, crossed Burntwood Portage ($55^{\circ}12' N.$ and $100^{\circ} W.$) from the Burntwood River into the Churchill River and surveyed that river to a point 33 miles above Duck Portage ($55^{\circ}23' N.$ and $102^{\circ} W.$).

He again reached Duck Portage in 1795, where he met George Charles, an old schoolmate of his and then a fur-trader in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company at Churchill, who had ascended the Churchill River to this place. Though in the employ of the same company the two men occupied separate trading posts, and, while competing with *Canadian* traders from Montreal, they also competed with each other for the furs that were caught and brought to them by the Indians, and they sent the furs obtained in the winter's trade to different headquarters, Thompson sending his furs down the Burntwood and Nelson Rivers to York Factory and Charles down the Churchill River to Fort Churchill.

In 1796 Thompson surveyed the Churchill River from Duck Portage up to the mouth of the Reindeer River, the Reindeer River to Reindeer

⁷ See footnote 13.

⁸ Justin Winsor: The Kohl Collection (now in the Library of Congress) of Maps Relating to America (a reprint of *Bibliogr. Contribution of the Library of Harvard University* No. 19), Library of Congress, Washington, 1904, map No. 39, listed on p. 74.

⁹ p. 170.

¹⁰ For an account of this eminent trader and surveyor's explorations see J. B. Tyrrell: David Thompson, A Great Geographer, *Geogr. Journ.*, Vol. 37, 1911, pp. 49-58, and "David Thompson's Narrative of His Explorations in Western America, 1781-1812," edited by J. B. Tyrrell, Toronto, 1916 (reviewed in the *February Review*, p. 156).—EDIT. NOTE.