

After having spent four years in the Saskatchewan country, through which he probably made surveys, though the character and extent of the surveys are not yet known, he descended the river to York Factory where he started a series of meteorological observations, the results of which for the next fourteen years, with the exact places at which they were taken, we now have, so that for that time there is no uncertainty as to his movements.

From 1793 to September 5th, 1795, he remained at York Factory acting as a clerk and trader at that post and receiving a salary of £25 a year for his services.

On the 26th of June 1794 the following remark is entered in his register:—"South Branch House burnt and plundered by the Fall Indians, 3 men, 1 woman and 2 children murdered, and 2 carried away as slaves, young women. Canadians killed and wounded 14 of these Indians in ye attack." On August 11th of the same year there is the following entry, "8 Canoes of Englishmen arrived from Cumberland House with the news of the S. Branch. Mr. Vandereil with them."

In a letter written by Joseph Cole and his associates at York Factory to the Governor of the Company in England the following brief statement is made about the destruction of South Branch and Manchester Houses, with regard to both of which attacks we have hitherto been very much in the dark; "The natives have been and are very hostile to your Honour's Servants inland. They attacked Manchester House last Fall, where only seven resided, plundered the house of every article of trading goods, which they carried away. The men escaped only with the clothes on their backs. The easy conquest of valuable booty obtained at Manchester induced a vast number of the same tribes to attack the South Branch on the 24th of June last, where they killed Magnus Annel, Hugh Brough and Wm. Fea, plundered and set fire to the house, and carried off in triumph the scalps of the unfortunate sufferers. Mr. Vanderial escaped their fury by concealing himself in an old vault, and afterwards directed his way to Cumberland. It is much to be feared that Buckingham House ere this has shared the same fate."

Fidler's Note is more exact as to the fate of most of the inhabitants, and probably his date of the 26th of June would be more exact than Cole's of the 24th of the same month.

On the 5th of September, 1795, he left York Factory, and on the 21st of October reached a place which he calls Charlton House on the upper waters of the Assiniboine River in latitude 51° 47', where he remained for the winter. Two years later a trading post in the immediate vicinity owned by the North-West Company was visited by