

ains; and the other, under Lewis and Clarke, about sixty years afterward."* He does not tell us where the account of the expedition of 1738 is to be found; he gives us no further evidence on this point; and, as no other mention of the journey has ever been seen by me, it will receive no further consideration in this essay.

In a letter published in Schoolcraft's *Information respecting... the Indian Tribes*, the writer, D. D. Mitchell, says, speaking of the Mandans:—"The early portion of their history I gather from the narration of Mr. Mackintosh, who, it seems, belonged to, or was in some way connected with, the French trading company as far back as 1772. According to his narration, he set out from Montreal in the summer of 1773, crossed over the country to the Missouri River, and arrived at one of the Mandan villages on Christmas day."† I have never seen Mackintosh's account, nor have I seen any more extensive notice of it than the one given by Mr. Mitchell; and from this, it does not appear that Mackintosh visited any of these agricultural Indians except the Mandans.

There is every probability that some of these tribes received occasional visits from white traders and adventurers a century or more ago. It may be safely stated that every one of the bands represented in the Berthold village were visited by whites at least eighty years ago, and that they have been in constant communication with representatives of civilized races ever since. In 1804, British traders and French or Canadian interpreters were found in their camps; and the travelers of that year speak of "those who visited them in 1796".‡ Prince Maximilian, writing in 1833, says of "Charbonneau, who was interpreter for the Manitari language", that he "had lived thirty-seven years in this part of the country";§ that, at his first arrival, the Knife River villages stood precisely where they were in 1833; and that Charbonneau "immediately took up his residence in the central one".|| From these statements we must conclude that Charbonneau settled among the Hidatsas about seventy-nine years ago; and old men of the tribe say that he

* p. 4.

† Part third, p. 253.

‡ Lewis and Clarke, p. 96.

§ p. 318.

|| p. 321.