

the traveller and painter, George Catlin, who in 1832 set forth on his eight years of wanderings among the Indians, of which he left such an interesting account in his two volumes of "Letters and Notes on the Manners, Customs and Condition of the North American Indians."

¶ When he and his fellow traveller, Robert Serril Wood, had ascended the Mississippi from Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, to the Falls of St. Anthony, and were thence ascending the St. Peter's river, they were stopped at a place called Traverse des Sioux on the latter stream, about one hundred and fifty miles from the Red Pipestone Quarry, by a party of Sioux, who refused to allow them to proceed farther. They were detained a whole day, and it required all their powers of persuasion to win at last a reluctant consent that they should be allowed to visit the place where from time immemorial the different tribes had gone to renew their pipes and where, no matter what hostilities were in progress, they met in peace, hiding the war club and the scalping knife as they approached the sacred ground, under fear of the vengeance of the Great Spirit if they desecrated it by warfare.

"The position of the Pipestone Quarry," we read in the letter written by Catlin from the place itself, "is

