

"Behind, and still on the same side, are found the lodges of the guides, another building for furs, and a powder magazine—the last building is of grey stone and roofed in with tin. In the corner stands a bastion, or point of observation.

"On the west side is seen a range of buildings, some of which serve for stores and others for shops; there is one for dressing out the employees, one for putting out the canoes, one in which merchandise is retailed, another where strong drink, bread, lard butter, etc., are sold, and where refreshments are given out to arriving voyageurs. This refreshment consists of a white loaf, a half pound of butter and a quart of rum.

"Behind is still another row of buildings, one of which is used as an office or counting house—a pretty square building, well lighted. Another serves as a store, and a third as a prison.

"Further back are the workshops of the carpenters, tinsmiths, blacksmiths, and their spacious courts or sheds for sheltering their canoes, repairing them and constructing new ones. Near the gate of the fort, which is to the south, are the dwelling houses of the surgeon and resident clerk.

"Over the entrance gate a guard house has been built;

"As the river is deep enough at its entrance, the Company has had buoys built along the Fort as a landing place for the schooners kept on Lake Superior for transporting peltries, merchandise and provisions from Fort William to Sault St. Marie and vice versa.

"There is also on the other side of the river a number of houses all inhabited by old French Canadian voyageurs worn out in the service of the Northwest Company.

"Fort William is the principal factory of the Northwest Company in the interior, and a general rendezvous of the partners, the agents of Montreal, and the proprietors wintering in the north nearly all assemble there every summer and relieve the returns from expeditions, and discuss the interests of their commerce; the employees wintering in the north spend also a portion of the summer at Fort William, they form a great encampment to the west outside the palisade, those who are engaged at Montreal to go to Fort William or to Rainy Lake, and who do not winter in the North, occupy another space on the east."

Such was Fort William in 1814.

In 1816 Lord Selkirk with his noted DeMuron soldiers, 250 in