

prepare for rest by rolling round him the blanket which he always takes with him. If the fire be occasionally renewed, the weather seldom causes much inconvenience. To a person accustomed to all the luxuries a civilized country can afford, this mode of life appears hard and uninviting, but the change takes place gradually, and is therefore but little felt. It seems strange, too, to live entirely on animal food, without any vegetables or salt, but it produces no inconvenience, as I can attest from an experience of about eighteen months, when I enjoyed a state of perfect health.

I found full employment in collecting the productions of the vicinity of Carlton House till the end of May, when Dr. Richardson quitted us to meet Captain Franklin at Cumberland House: thither Captain Back and I and the rest of the Expedition followed him in the beginning of July; but during my stay at Carlton House, I made several short excursions to the South Branch River, which rises considerably farther to the southward than the North Branch, but I did not find a single plant different from what are met with on the latter river. I also ascended the North Branch for upwards of a hundred miles, but saw little that was not equally common nearer to the Fort; from which circumstances, I was induced to conclude that little variation takes place for a considerable distance to the southward. Dr. Richardson having left his servant with me, we embarked in a small canoe on the 14th of July, picking up what specimens we could find along the river, and reached Cumberland House on the morning of the 19th, quite safe. As Captain Back was not yet arrived, I determined upon making an excursion as far north as Beaver Lake, where I added a few common plants to the collection; but as Dr. Richardson had already passed that way twice before, there was little left for me to do. I returned again to Cumberland House, and in a few days Captain Back and Lieutenant Kendall, with the rest of the people belonging to the Expedition, arrived in excellent health, and we immediately began preparing to embark for York Factory, on Hudson's Bay.

As we travelled with much despatch, my collections