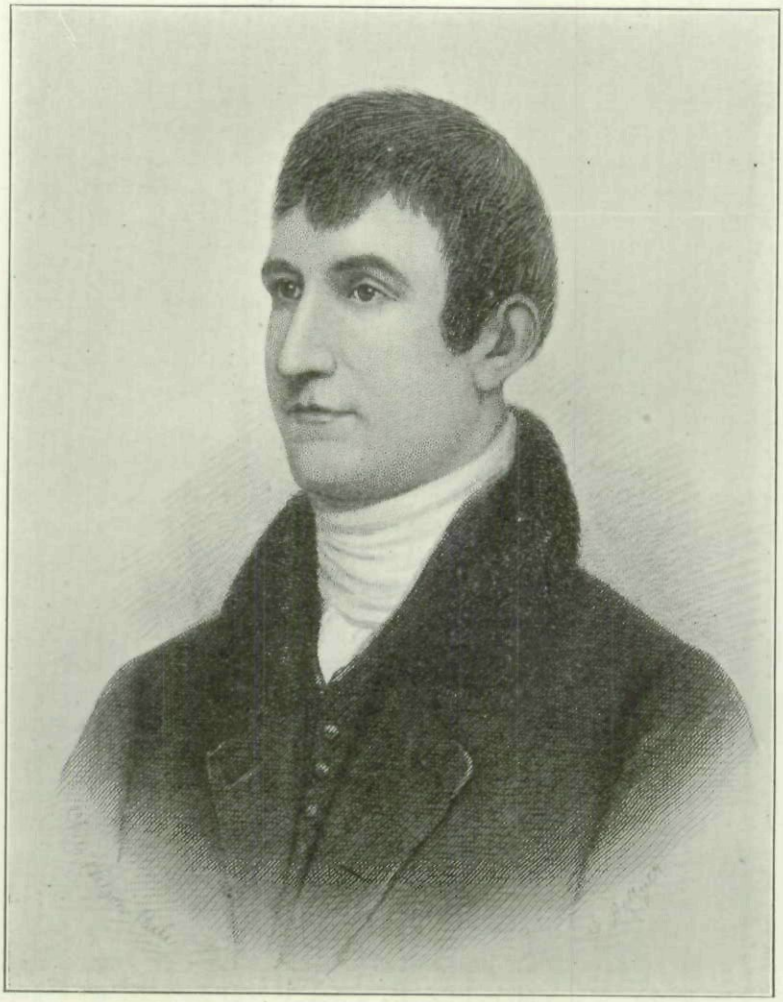
THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION IN ITS RELATION TO IOWA HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

NOTE:—The Historical Department of Iowa, seeking more ready contact with the facts of the history and geography of the region of which our state is now a part, feels the need of a brief summary of the experience of Lewis and Clark. Details of their contact with names, peoples, and the soils and streams that now form portions of Iowa will be given in full.

To Mr. David C. Mott, assistant editor of the ANNALS, was assigned the task of consulting, comparing and abstracting the different versions of the journal of the expedition. The "History of the Expedition of Lewis and Clark," by Elliott Coues, published by Francis P. Harper, New York, 1893, and the "Original Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Edited, with Introduction, Notes, etc.," by Reuben Gold Thwaites, published by Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, 1904, were his main sources. His scheme is to produce a sketch of the origin of the plan and the preparation therefor and an abstract of the journal of the expedition proper until it reached what is now Iowa, and then set out verbatim Thwaites's text of the journal with such elucidations as Thwaites, Coues and others afford, by way of comment, to the end that students whether of geography or history shall have before them all that reasonably may be thought to exist upon the exploration as it relates to Iowa, whether as a territory or a state.—E. R. H.

In vastness of plan, in success of execution, and in beneficial results, the Lewis and Clark expedition stands unrivalled in the field of American explorations. To make their way across the continent through an unknown region inhabited by uncivilized Indians, to subsist almost entirely upon the products of the wilderness, to return much of the way by another route, traveling in all 9,000 miles, to accomplish which over three years was necessary, all appeal to the imagination and make the enterprise one of heroic proportions and of romantic quality. It appeals to Iowans because these were the first white men to visit and describe the western part of what is now our state. They spent more than a month along its border.

The exploration of the head waters of the Missouri and of a route from the source of that stream to the Pacific coast, had long been a dream of farseeing public men of America and of



Meriwether Lewis

Europe. Indian tradition caused many to think the Missouri was the gateway to the Pacific—that an easy portage led from it to some stream flowing to the west. This had for years appealed strongly to Thomas Jefferson. While he was secretary of state he planned an exploration. When he became president he determined to launch the enterprise. In July, 1802, he got so far with the preliminary plans that he appointed his private secretary, Captain Meriwether Lewis, as head of the proposed expedition.

Meriwether Lewis was born near Charlottesville, Virginia, August 18, 1774. His father, William Lewis, died when Meriwether, named for his mother's family, was a child. Until thirteen years old his education was under the direction of his mother. He then was sent to a Latin school for five years, after which he returned to his mother's farm for two years. From childhood he established a local reputation as a hunter, and he acquired intimate knowledge of nature. In 1794, when he was twenty years old, the so-called Whisky Rebellion broke out in western Pennsylvania, and when President Washington called for volunteers, Lewis enlisted as a private and marched with the force to the seat of trouble. At the close of the disturbance he was given employment in the regular service, first as ensign in the First Infantry, later as first lieutenant and then captain in the same regiment. He served with distinction under General Wayne in the latter's northwestern campaigns, was in charge of the infantry in the expedition to take over the Spanish posts in Mississippi, and also was for several years paymaster of his regiment.

Captain Lewis, in his boyhood and young manhood, had won the esteem and confidence of his distinguished neighbor, Thomas Jefferson, and in the spring of 1801, the latter as president of the United States, appointed him his private secretary. It was only a little over a year after this, or July, 1802, when Lewis was appointed to lead the great expedition.[1] Concerning Lewis at this time President Jefferson later wrote:

"I had now had opportunities of knowing him intimately. Of courage undaunted; possessing a firmness and perseverance of

1 Although this vast territory to the northwest had not yet been acquired by the United States, and there was no immediate prospect of its acquisition, yet exploration was desirable for scientific, geographical, and commercial reasons.

purpose which nothing but impossibilities could divert from its direction; careful as a father of those committed to his charge, yet steady in the maintenance of order and discipline; intimate with the Indian character, customs, and principles; habituated to the hunting life; guarded, by exact observation of the vegetables and animals of his own country, against losing time in the description of objects already possessed; honest, disinterested, liberal, of sound understanding, and a fidelity to truth so scrupulous that whatever he should report would be as certain as if seen by ourselves—with all these qualifications, as if selected and implanted by nature in one body for this express purpose, I could have no hesitation in confiding the enterprise to him."[2]

Soon after he was selected to lead the expedition, by Jefferson's suggestion and arrangement, Lewis went to Philadelphia, which was then the principal seat of learning in the United States, and put himself under the instruction of eminent specialists in order to acquire a greater familiarity with the technical language of the natural sciences, and readiness in the astronomical observations necessary for the geography of his route.

The preliminaries for the expedition were being completed during the spring of 1803. The plans so far had been kept secret, as the trans-Mississippi country was under the dominion of European power, it having been ceded two years before by Spain to France, although still governed by Spain. The purposes of an extended trip of exploration into territory claimed by another power, while intended only for the advancement of trade and commerce, and geographical and scientific knowledge, might easily be misunderstood. But just then happened a thing that changed the current of history in America. Jefferson had sent a commission to France to negotiate for the purchase of New Orleans and the territory along the lower course of the Mississippi, and Napoleon fairly threw into their laps the whole of the great Louisiana Territory extending almost to the Pacific Ocean, in order to keep it from falling into England's hands. The territory which the great Missouri traversed having thus suddenly come into the possession of our government, its exploration became much more desirable.

2 Thwaites, Vol. I., Part I., p. XXVI of Introduction.

In January, 1803, President Jefferson had sent a secret message to Congress in which he urged the importance of reaching out for the trade of the Indians on the Missouri River, and Congress had made the appropriation asked for, $2,500, to defray the expenses of an expedition of exploration. On June 20 Captain Lewis received his instructions. Although President Jefferson had not at this time been officially advised of the cession of the territory to the United States, which really occurred in Paris on May 2, yet he had received some information that such action was under consideration, so when the news of it arrived early in July the plans for the expedition were already matured. It was deemed necessary that Captain Lewis should have some one with him of known competence who could take the direction of the enterprise in the event of accident to himself. With Jefferson's consent, Captain Lewis had written to Captain William Clark confidential information of the proposed expedition, asking him to "participate" with him "in it's fatigues, it's dangers, and it's honors." Owing to the slowness of the mails, Clark, who was at his home in Louisville, Kentucky, did not receive Lewis' letter for nearly a month, but he promptly accepted.

Captain William Clark, whose name is linked for all time with that of Lewis in the famous expedition, was also a native of Albemarle County, Virginia, close to where were born both Thomas Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis. Clark was four years older than Lewis, having been born in 1770. They had been boyhood friends in Albemarle County and later had been comrades in Wayne's Indian campaigns. The Clark famliy had moved to the vicinity of Louisville, Kentucky, in 1784, and was noted for its leadership and influence. George Rogers Clark, famous in campaigns on the frontier, was a brother. From his nineteenth year William was in military service in Indian wars under Colonel John Hardin north of the Ohio, was sent the following year on a mission to the Creeks and Cherokees, and in 1791 was ensign and acting lieutenant on the Wabash Indian expedition under General Scott. In 1793 he was a first lieutenant under General Wayne in the western army. He was later engaged in constructing forts along the line of advance. In 1794 he was in charge of 700 pack horses and 80 men transporting

supplies to Fort Greenville. He was frequently entrusted with important enterprises. His four years' service in the western army familiarized him with handling large bodies of men under military discipline, during which time he won a reputation for bravery and skill. He retired from the army in 1796 with the brevet rank of captain and was engaged in assisting his brother, George Rogers Clark, in settling the latter's business affairs, when the call came from Captain Lewis to join the great enterprise in the West.

The final instructions to Captain Lewis, penned by President Jefferson, were in part as follows:

"Instruments for ascertaining, by celestial observations, the geography of the country through which you will pass, have been already provided. Light articles for barter and presents among the Indians, arms for your attendants, say for from ten to twelve men, boats, tents, and other traveling apparatus, with ammunition, medicine, surgical instruments, and provisions, you will have prepared, with such aids as the Secretary of War can yield in his department; and from him also you will receive authority to engage among our troops, by voluntary agreement, the number of attendants above mentioned; over whom you, as their commanding officer, are invested with all the powers the laws give in such a case. * * * * * *

"The object of your mission is to explore the Missouri river, and such principal streams of it, as, by its course and communication with the waters of the Pacific ocean, whether the Columbia, Oregan [*sic*], Colorado, or any other river, may offer the most direct and practicable water-communication across the continent, for the purposes of commerce.

"Beginning at the mouth of the Missouri, you will take observations of latitude and longitude, at all remarkable points on the river, and especially at the mouths of rivers, at rapids, at islands, and other places and objects distinguished by such natural marks and character of a durable kind as that they may with certainty be recognized hereafter. The courses of the river between these points of observation may be supplied by the compass, the log-line, and by time, corrected by the observations themselves. The variations of the needle, too, at different places, should be noticed.

"The interesting points of the portage between the heads of the Missouri, and of the water offering the best communication with the Pacific ocean, should also be fixed by observation; and the course of that water to the ocean, in the same manner as that of the Missouri.

"Your observations are to be taken with great pains and accuracy; to be entered distinctly and intelligibly for others as well as yourself; to comprehend all the elements necessary, with the aid of the usual tables, to fix the latitude and longitude of the places at which they were taken; and are to be rendered to the War Office, for the purpose of having the calculations made concurrently by proper persons within the United States. Several copies of these, as well as of your other notes, should be made at leisure times, and put into the care of the most trustworthy of your attendants to guard, by multiplying them against the accidental losses to which they will be exposed. A further guard would be, that one of these copies be on the cuticular membranes of the paper-birch [*Betula papyrifera*], as less liable to injury from damp than common paper.

"The commerce which may be carried on with the people inhabiting the line you will pursue renders a knowledge of those people important. You will therefore endeavor to make yourself acquainted, as far as a diligent pursuit of your journey shall admit, with the names of the nations and their numbers; the extent and limits of their possessions; their relations with other tribes or nations; their language, traditions, and monuments; their ordinary occupations in agriculture, fishing, hunting, war, arts, and the implements for these; their food, clothing, and domestic accommodations; the diseases prevalent among them, and the remedies they use; moral and physical circumstances which distinguish them from the tribes we know; peculiarities in their laws, customs, and dispositions; and articles of commerce they may need or furnish, and to what extent.

"And, considering the interest which every nation has in extending and strengthening the authority of reason and justice among the people around them, it will be useful to acquire what knowledge you can of the state of morality, religion, and information among them; as it may better enable those who may

endeavor to civilize and instruct them, to adapt their measures to the existing notions and practices of those on whom they are to operate.

"Other objects worthy of notice will be:

"The soil and face of the country; its growth and vegetable productions, especially those not of the United States; the animals of the country generally, and especially those not known in the United States; the remains and accounts of any which may be deemed rare or extinct; the mineral productions of every kind, but more particularly metals, limestone, pit-coal, saltpetre; salines and mineral waters, noting the temperature of the last, and such circumstances as may indicate their character; volcanic appearances; climate, as characterized by the thermometer, by the proportion of rainy, cloudy, and clear days; by lightning, hail, snow, ice; by the access and recess of frost; by the winds prevailing at different seasons; the dates at which particular plants put forth or lose their flower or leaf; times of appearance of particular birds, reptiles, or insects.

"Although your route will be along the channel of the Missouri, yet you will endeavor to inform yourself, by inquiry, of the character and extent of the country watered by its branches, and especially on its southern side. The North river, or Rio Bravo [Rio Grande del Norte], which runs into the Gulf of Mexico, and the North river, or Rio Colorado, which runs into the Gulf of California, are understood to be the principal streams heading opposite to the waters of the Missouri and running southwardly. Whether the dividing grounds between the Missouri and them are mountains or flat lands, what are their distance from the Missouri, the character of the intermediate country, and the people inhabiting it, are worthy of particular inquiry. The northern waters of the Missouri are less to be inquired after, because they have been ascertained to a considerable degree, and are still in a course of ascertainment by English traders and travelers; but if you can learn anything certain of the most northern source of the Missisipi [*sic*], and of its position relatively to the Lake of the Woods, it will be interesting to us. Some account too of the path of the Canadian traders from the Mississippi at the mouth of Ouiscon-

sing [Wisconsin river] to where it strikes the Missouri, and of the soil and rivers in its course, is desirable.

"In all your intercourse with the natives, treat them in the most friendly and conciliatory manner which their own conduct will admit; allay all jealousies as to the object of your journey; satisfy them of its innocence; make them acquainted with the position, extent, character, peacable and commercial dispositions of the United States; of our wish to be neighborly, friendly, and useful to them, and of our dispositions to a commercial intercourse with them; confer with them on the points most convenient as mutual emporiums, and the articles of most desirable interchange for them and us. If a few of their influential chiefs, within practicable distance, wish to visit us, arrange such a visit with them, and furnish them with authority to call on our offcers on their entering the United States, to have them conveyed to this place at the public expense. If any of them should wish to have some of their people brought up with us, and taught such arts as may be useful to them, we will receive, instruct, and take care of them. Such a mission, whether of influential chiefs, or of young people, would give some security to your own party. Carry with you some matter of the kine-pox; inform those of them with whom you may be of its efficacy as a preservative from the small-pox, and instruct and encourage them in the use of it. This may be especially done wherever you winter.

"As it is impossible for us to foresee in what manner you will be received by those people, whether with hospitality or hostility, so is it impossible to prescribe the exact degree of perseverance with which you are to pursue your journey. We value too much the lives of citizens to offer them to probable destruction. Your numbers will be sufficient to secure you against the unauthorized opposition of individuals, or of small parties; but if a superior force, authorized or not authorized by a nation, should be arrayed against your further passage, and inflexibly determined to arrest it, you must decline its further pursuit and return. In the loss of yourselves we should lose also the information you will have acquired. By returning safely with that, you may enable us to renew the essay with better calculated means. To your own discretion, therefore, must be left the degree of danger you may

risk, and the point at which you should decline; only saying, we wish you to err on the side of your safety, and to bring back your party safe, even if it be with less information."[3]

On June 20, 1803, Captain Lewis received these instructions and on July 5 left Washington and proceeded overland to Pittsburgh. By August 31 a boat had been built under Captain Lewis' directions and, loading it with the materials and provisions already assembled, and enlisting a few men for the expedition, they at once started down the Ohio. The stage of water was low and by September 13 they had only reached Marietta. At Louisville they were joined by Captain Clark, they secured several other men from military posts as they proceeded, and in December reached St. Louis, then a mere village inhabited mostly by French. The Spanish commandant not having received official word of the transfer of the territory to the United States, the party was obliged to camp for the winter on the east side of the Mississippi, which they did at the mouth of Wood River, nearly opposite the mouth of the Missouri River, about fifteen miles above St. Louis. They spent the winter in disciplining the men and making necessary preparations for starting early in the spring.

Besides Captains Lewis and Clark, the party consisted of nine young men from Kentucky, fourteen soldiers of the United States Army who had volunteered their services, two French watermen, an interpreter and hunter, and a black servant, York, belonging to Captain Clark, twenty-seven in all. All these, except York, were enlisted to serve as privates during the expedition. From among them the captains selected Charles Floyd, John Ordway, and Nathaniel Pryor to serve as sergeants. These men had been selected with a view to their fitness for undergoing the labors, privations and adventures of a prolonged expedition into the unknown interior of the continent. Besides these twenty-seven men there were engaged seven more, a corporal and six soldiers, and nine watermen, to accompany the expedition as far as the Mandan nation, to assist in carrying the stores, or in repelling attacks. This made a party, including the two commanders, of forty-five.

3 Coues, Vol. I., pp. XXVI-XXX of Memoir of Lewis.

The necessary stores were subdivided into seven bales, the better to insure their loss against accident. They consisted of a great variety of clothing, working utensils, locks, flints, powder, ball, and articles of the greatest use. To these were added fourteen bales and one box of Indian presents, distributed in the same manner, and composed of richly laced coats and other articles of dress, medals, flags, knives and tomahawks for the chiefs, with ornaments of different kinds, particularly beads, looking-glasses, handkerchiefs, paints, and generally such articles as were deemed best calculated for the taste of the Indians.

The party was to embark on board of three boats, one keel boat and two pirogues, or open boats. The keel boat was fifty-five feet long, drawing three feet of water, carrying one large square sail and twenty-two oars. A deck of ten feet in the bow and one of the same size in the stern formed a forecastle and a cabin, while the middle was covered by lockers, which might be raised so as to form a breastwork in case of attack. One of the open boats carried six oars and the other seven. Two horses were to be led along the banks of the river for the purpose of bringing home game, or to assist in hunting in case of scarcity.

Everything being in readiness they determined to start on Monday, May 14, but were detained until 4 P. M., when, in the presence of many neighboring inhabitants, they set sail with a fair breeze and started up the Missouri River on their great journey. They were only able to go four miles that evening and camped on the north side of the river. There was a heavy rain that afternoon and night, but it ceased at 7 o'clock next morning, when they proceeded. They found the large boat was too heavily loaded in the stern, and it ran onto sunken logs three times during the day and once it was with great difficulty that they got it off. The weather was fair in the afternoon. They traveled nine miles that day. The next day, May 16, they set sail at 5 A. M. and traveled nine miles and reached St. Charles at 2 P. M. A number of French and Indians flocked to the bank to see the party. The journal says St. Charles was about a mile long, stretched along the north bank of the river, had about 100 houses, frame, and about 450 inhabitants, chiefly descended from the French of

Canada, "poor, polite and harmonious."[4] They had a Roman Catholic priest and followed his teachings implicitly. The party remained there five days. Captain Lewis, who had been detained in St. Louis on business, joined the party there. They reloaded the big boat, so as to make it heavier on the bow than the stern. A court martial was held while there and two of the men, William Warner and Hugh Hall, were found guilty of being absent at night without leave, and they were sentenced each to receive twenty-five lashes on their naked backs, but it was recommended that because of their former good conduct that the punishment be remitted, which the commanding officer approved. Another man, John Collins, was found guilty of being absent without leave, for behaving in an unbecoming manner at the ball the previous night, and for speaking in language after his return to camp tending to bring into disrespect the orders of the commanding officer, and he was sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his naked back. The commanding officer approved the finding and ordered the punishment to take place that evening at sunset, in the presence of the party.

On Monday, May 21, they left St. Charles at about 4 P. M., but were prevented by wind and rain from going more than three miles. The next day they made eighteen miles, passing several farms, several emigrants from the United States having settled along the valley. That day they passed a band of Kickapoo Indians who had left them at St. Charles with a promise of procuring them some provisions. The Indians gave the party four deer, in return for which the expedition party gave the Indians two quarts of whisky. This tribe resided on the Kaskaskia and Illinois rivers, but occasionally hunted in Missouri. The 23rd they passed the mouth of Femme Osage, or Osage Woman, River, coming in from the north, a stream thirty yards wide, and having along its banks thirty or forty families from the United States who had settled there. Many people came to the bank to see them. That day they passed cliffs about 300 feet high on the south side of the river, and a big cave 120 feet wide, 40 feet deep and 20 feet high. The

4 Thwaites, Vol. I, Part I, p. 18.

river was very swift there. They traveled nine miles that day. May 24 they ascended rapids with difficulty, and came near upsetting their boat, but made ten miles. May 25 they traversed ten miles, passing some creeks flowing into the river, and reached La Charette. It was founded by French colonists, contained at this time seven small houses, and as many poor families. The journal says this is the last establishment of whites on the Missouri River. Coues says this village became the home of the famous Daniel Boone at about this time. The Lewis and Clark journal makes no mention of him.[5]

The wind being favorable, May 26 they made eighteen miles. At this time Captain Lewis records "Detachment Orders" which further arranged the men into messes, and made careful direction concerning the duties of the sergeants in navigating the boats, in halting them for rest and refreshment, in distributing spirituous liquors to the men, reconnoitering and guarding when the boats were landed, in keeping a lookout at all times both for enemies and for obstructions in navigation, and for mouths of rivers, creeks, islands and other remarkable places, and directing that they promptly report them to the commanding officers.

May 27 they sailed along Otter Island. It was about ten miles long, narrow but high, fertile, and on the north side of the river. That morning they met two canoes loaded with furs which had been two months on their route from the Omaha nation, some 700 miles up the river, and a few hours later they met one large raft loaded with furs and peltries from the Pawnees on the Platte River, and three others from the Grand Osage River. They obtained no information of consequence from the men on these canoes and rafts. They traveled fifteen miles that day and camped

5 Thwaites, in his "Daniel Boone," published by D. Appleton & Co., 1903, pages 220-242, says that Daniel Boone's oldest son, Daniel Morgan Boone, and several others of the family, removed in 1796 to Femme Osage Creek, six miles above its junction with the Missouri, some twenty-five miles above St. Charles. This La Charette was close to the mouth of Femme Osage Creek, and in the west part of what is now St. Charles County, Missouri. Daniel Boone followed his children to Femme Osage Creek in 1799, being then sixty-four years old. The Spanish government, which then had control there, gave him 800 acres of land and the next year appointed him local magistrate for the district, which position he held until the Louisiana purchase, three years later. In 1813 his wife died and was buried there near the Missouri. After that Boone remained in the vicinity but lived in the homes of his children, and died at the home of his son, Nathan, near La Charette, in 1820, being over eighty-five years old. He was buried beside his wife. In 1845 their remains were carefully removed to Frankfort, Kentucky, and interred there with imposing ceremony. In 1880 an appropriate monument was erected at their graves.

that evening on a willow island at the mouth of the Gasconade River. George Shannon, one of their party, killed a deer that evening. The Gasconade is described as coming in from the south, 100 miles from the Mississippi, its length about 150 miles, its course generally northeast through a hilly country. On its banks are a number of saltpetre caves. Its width at its mouth was 157 yards and its depth 19 feet. Here they halted for a day to hunt and to dry their provisions and make necessary celestial observations. Reuben Fields, one of their party, killed a deer.

May 29 they set sale at 4 P. M., having been detained some when one of their hunters failed to come in. They left one pirogue to bring him. They only went four miles, then landed, and soon thereafter heard several gunshots down the river, which they answered by the discharge of a swivel gun on the bow.

May 30 they traveled seventeen miles. Heavy rains fell at times, accompanied by wind. The river was high, overflowing the bottoms. Heavy rains and wind compelled them to lay by the next day. They speak of much timber, cottonwood, sycamore, hickory, white walnut and grapevines and rushes. In the afternoon a canoe loaded with bearskins and peltries came down from the Grand Osage River. It contained a Frenchman, an Indian and a squaw, and they brought a letter from a Mr. Choteau sent to the Osage nation on the Arkansas River, which mentioned that the letter announcing the cession of Louisiana to the United States had been committed to the flames, that the Indians would not believe that the Americans were owners of that country.

On June 1 they set out early, but owing to the wind being ahead and the current rapid, they only made thirteen miles that day, and camped at the mouth of Osage River. Here they remained the following day to make celestial observations. The Osage River at this place was 397 yards wide.[6]

George Drewyer and John Shields, two of their number, who had been sent with the horses by land on the north side, there joined them after an absence of seven days, having had a hard trip. They had been obliged to raft or swim several streams, were

6 Coues here quotes from the journal at some length a description of the Osage River and of the Osage Indians, their numbers, peculiarities, and a legend describing how they originated from a snail and from a beaver.—Coues, Vol. I, p. 11.

out in much rain, and had to depend on the gun for food. The hunters of the party killed several deer that day. They did not start June 3 until 5 P. M. and traveled five miles. On June 4 they passed the place where the present capital of Missouri, Jefferson City, now stands, all a wilderness then. They describe the creeks and cliffs they passed that day in traveling seventeen miles. They ran their big boat under a bending tree and broke their mast. Captain Clark ascended a hill on the south side which was 170 feet high and had a mound six feet high on its top. From a point about fifty feet lower down he obtained a view up the river for twenty or thirty miles. Their hunters killed seven deer that day.

Owing to their broken mast and the swift current they only made twelve miles June 5. They described several creeks and sand bars. At eleven o'clock they passed a raft made of two canoes joined together in which two French traders were descending from up the Kansas River, where they had wintered and caught great quantities of beavers, but had lost much of their game from prairie fires. They stated the Kansas nation is now hunting buffalo on the plains, having passed the last winter on this river. The scouts and hunters, whom the expedition party always kept out, reported they had seen fresh tracks of Indians. Captain Clark suspects they are Sauks on their way to war against the Osages. The morning of June 6 they mended their mast and set out at 7 A. M. They passed some licks and salt springs. At Split Rock Creek Captain Lewis took celestial observations. They saw signs of buffalo. The river banks were falling in there, as the swift current constantly washed against them. The river raised a foot the previous night. They traveled fourteen miles that day. June 7 they also traversed fourteen miles and passed Manitou Creek, near which was a projecting rock of limestone, inlaid with white, red, and blue flint, embellished with various uncouth pictures of animals and with inscriptions. They landed and found a den of rattlesnakes. This was where now stands the town of Rocheport, near the boundary between Boone and Howard counties.[7] The hunters who had previously

7 Coues, Vol. I, p. 17.

given them only deer, brought in that evening three bears, and reported they had seen indications of buffalo.

June 8 they traveled twelve miles. They went ashore and examined the land on the south side and found it rich and good back a mile or two. They found deer licks here. Mine River, seventy yards wide, comes in here from the south. The present city of Booneville is near this point. Their hunters killed five deer that day. They met with three hunters from the Sioux River who had been out twelve months and had collected about $900 worth of peltries and furs. The morning of June 9 they set out early and soon reached Arrow Rock, where the river is confined within 200 yards. Four miles southeast was a large lick and salt spring of great strength. They observed much good prairie land in the thirteen miles they made that day. They had considerable trouble as they ran their big boat on to sunken logs and snags. June 10 they passed the two Chariton rivers, one thirty and the other seventy yards wide, coming in from the north. The larger one is the Chariton River whose source is in what is now Lucas County, Iowa, and traverses that and Appanoose County. The journal says the country through which these rivers pass is broken, rich, and thickly covered with timber, and that the Ayanway[8] nation, consisting of 300 men, have a village near its headwaters on the river Des Moines. A head wind compelled them to remain there the day of June 11, so they dried the meat they had killed and examined the surrounding country, which they pronounced as of good land, well watered and timbered.

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8 "This word, lacking any true consonants, is fluidic, and varies much in orthography. Lewis and Clark spell it several ways, as Ayaway, Ayoway, Ayahwa, Ayawai, etc. Other forms are Ayovai, Ayauvai, Aiaoaez (plural). Another series is Iawai, Iaway, etc. In Lewis' Statistical View it is marked for accent ah'-e-o-war'. From the liquid state the word has solidified into our familiar *Iowa*. These Indians on their separation were called Pa-ho-ja (gray snow); they are also among the many different Indians who have been styled Pierce-noses. The Iowa were a tribe of the great Siouan family, descendants of the old Missouris. In Lewis and Clark's time they had one village, 40 leagues up the Des Moines river, with a population of 800, of which 200 were warriors. Lewis represents them as turbulent savages, who were at war with many of their neighbors, even of their own kindred, and frequently abused their traders and committed depredations on persons navigating the Missouri, though they were at peace with the Ottoes and Missouris, some of the Sioux and Yankton tribes, and all nations east of the Mississippi. They traded in furs and peltries. The remnants of the Iowas are 165 on the Great Nemaha Reservation in Kansas, 102 on the Sac and Fox Reservation in Oklahoma, five at school at Lawrence, Kas., and one at Carlisle, Pa."—Coues, Vol. I, pp. 19-20.

The prairies also differed from those east of the Mississippi, as there they were generally without covering except grass, while here they abounded with hazelnuts,[9] grapes and osage plums, which grow on a bush the height of a hazel bush and are three times the size of other plums. They saw a great number of deer on the prairie and Captain Lewis shot a buck, the hunters killed two deer, and George Drewyer killed two bears on the prairie, but they were not fat. The journal says they had the bear meat and the venison jerked, as it was the custom to dry all meat that way that was not used when fresh.

June 1 they made nine miles. At one o'clock they met two rafts, one loaded with furs and the other with buffalo tallow. They were from the Sioux nation and were bound for St. Louis. Captains Lewis and Clark engaged a French Creole named Dorion[10] who came down on one of these rafts, and who was married to a Sioux squaw, who had lived with the Indians more than twenty years, to accompany the expedition as interpreter. June 13 they passed a bend of the river where two creeks come in from the north, called Round Bend creeks, in what is now Chariton County, Missouri. Between these two creeks was a prairie on which once stood the ancient village of the Missouris. Of this village there remained, so the journal says, no vestige, nor was there anything to recall the great and numerous nation, except a feeble remnant of about thirty families who at that time were living with the Osages and the Ottoes. They were driven from their

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9 Coues designates these nuts and fruits as follows: Hazel nuts (*Corylus americana*), grapes (probably *Vitis cordifolia*), osage plums (*Maclura aurantiaca*).—Coues, Vol. I, p. 21.

10 Patrick Gass in his journal says of this man Dorion: "Old Dorion was one of those French creoles, descendants of the ancient Canadian stock, who abound on the western frontier, and amalgamate or cohabit with the savages. He had sojourned among various tribes, and perhaps left progeny among them all; but his regular, or habitual wife, was a Sioux squaw. By her he had a hopeful brood of half-breed sons, of whom Pierre was one. The domestic affairs of old Dorion were conducted on the true Indian plan. Father and son would occasionally get drunk together, and then the cabin was the scene of ruffian brawl and fighting, in the course of which the old Frenchman was apt to get soundly belabored by his mongrel offspring. In a furious scuffle of this kind one of the sons got the old man upon the ground, and was on the point of scalping him. 'Hold! my son,' cried the old fellow, in imploring accents, 'you are too brave, too *honorable* to scalp your father.' This appeal touched the French side of the half-breed's heart, so he suffered the old man to wear his scalp unharmed."—Coues, Vol. I, p. 21.

ancient village at this bend in the river, by the Sauks[11] (Sacs), who destroyed in one contest at this village 200 Missouris. Besides war with the Sauks, smallpox had made fatal inroads on their numbers. Having traveled nine miles that day the party camped at night at the mouth of Grand River, which separates the present Chariton and Carroll counties in Missouri. This is the Grand River that has its source near the center of Adair County, Iowa, and traverses portions of Madison, Union, and Decatur counties, and some of its branches flow through Ringgold County, before they pass into Missouri. The Lewis and Clark journal says it was about 100 yards wide where it empties into the Missouri, and was navigable for pirogues a great distance.

June 14 they had great difficulty proceeding, as the current was rapid and the banks on the north were constantly falling in, so they approached the sand bars on the south. The sand bars were continually moving and they came near overturning the boat. They met a trading raft from the Pawnee nation on the Platte River. They traveled eight miles and camped at Snake Creek,

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11 As the Sac and Fox tribes, with their noted men, Keokuk, Black Hawk, Wapello, and others, occupied so large a part in the Indian history of this region, and as a remnant of this tribe occupy the only Indian reservation in Iowa, we set out below in full a footnote concerning them from Coues:

"The Sacs and Foxes were in Lewis and Clark's time already so firmly consolidated as to be regarded as one nation, and they have been usually since spoken of together. They are members of the great Algonquin family. The name of the former tribe is rendered by Lewis O'saukee, whence Saukee, Sauk, then Sac or Sacque. They had two villages on the west side of the Mississippi, '140 leagues' above St. Louis, and counted 2,000 population, with 500 warriors. They warred with the Osages, Chippeways, and Sioux, but were at peace with other tribes. The name of the Foxes is rendered by Lewis Ot-tar-gar-me; its French style was Reynard, clipped to Renard and other forms. They numbered 1,200, with 300 warriors, and had one village near the Sacs. Of the two tribes together Lewis remarks in 1805: 'They speak the same language. They formerly resided on the east side of the Mississippi, and still claim the land on that side of the river from the mouth of the Oisconsin [Wisconsin] to the Illinois river, and eastward toward Lake Michigan, but to what particular boundary I am not informed; they also claim, by conquest, the whole of the country belonging to the ancient Missouris, which forms one of the most valuable portions of Louisiana [i. e., of trans-Mississippian regions in the U. S. of 1805], but what proportion of this territory they are willing to assign to the Ayouways [Iowas], who also claim a part of it, I do not know, as they are at war with the Sioux who live N. and N. W. of them, except the Yankton-ahnah. Their boundaries in that quarter are also undefined. Their trade would become much more valuable if peace were established between them and the nations west of the Missouri with whom they are at war. Their population has remained nearly the same for many years. They raise an abundance of corn, beans, and melons. They sometimes hunt in the country west of them, toward the Missouri, but their principal hunting is on both sides of the Mississippi from the mouth of the Oisconsin to the mouth of the Illinois river. These people are extremely friendly to the whites, and seldom injure their traders; but they are the most implacable enemies of the Indian nations with whom they are at war. To them is justly attributed the almost entire destruction of the Missouris, the Illinois, Cahkoias, Kaskaskias and Piorias.' (London ed., 1807, p. 23.) The Sacs and Foxes now [This was written in 1893.—Editor] number 981; there are 515 at their Agency in Indian Terr., 381 at their Agency in Iowa, 77 at the Pottawattamie and Grand Nemaha Agency in Kansas, and eight at the Lawrence, Carlisle, and Hampton schools."—Coues, Vol. I, pp. 22-23.

so named because of the large number of "that animal" in the neighborhood, says the journal. One of their hunters, a half-breed Indian, brought them an account of his having passed that day a small lake near which a number of deer were feeding, and in the pond he heard a snake making a gutteral noise like a turkey. He fired his gun but the noise became louder. He added that he had heard Indians mention this species of snake, and that was confirmed by a Frenchman of their party.[12]

The river was high, the sand bars so rolling, and the current so strong that they were unable to stem it even with oars added to sails. This obliged them to go nearer the banks, which were falling in, so they towed the big boat part way and laborously made fourteen miles June 15. They passed the remains of an old village of the Little Osages and further on, that of the Missouris, after they had fled from the Sauks. Where they camped the river, which was high, was about a mile wide. Early June 16 they joined the camp of their hunters and found they had provided two deer and two bears. Then they passed some prairie on the north that was covered with a kind of grass resembling timothy, which appeared well calculated for hay, made their way through bad sand bars and a swift current and camped for the night, after having gone ten miles. The mosquitoes and ticks were exceedingly troublesome. June 17 they proceeded a mile or so, and finding ash timber suitable for oars, stopped and remained that day and the next making oars, repairing the cable, tow rope, etc. The timber there was good, and back about two miles commenced prairie which was some higher and rolling. All was well watered and abounded in game such as deer, elk,[13] and bear. This point in the river was a crossing place for the Sauks (Sacs), Ayouways (Iowas), and Sioux in their excursions against the Osages. The journal here states the party was much afflicted with boils and several had dysentery, which they attributed to drinking muddy water.

June 19 they proceeded under a gentle breeze. They encountered sand bars, drift wood, and rapid currents, and they

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12. Coues says, "A snake story told by an Indian and confirmed by a Frenchman, may be taken for what it is worth."—Coues, Vol. I. p. 25.

13 Coues says of this animal, it "is the Wapiti" (*Cervus canadensis*).—Coues, Vol. I, p. 27.

had to tow the boat for half a mile. They passed several creeks, which they describe. They found gooseberries and raspberries in abundance. They camped at seventeen miles, near a lake much frequented by deer and fowls. The deer were feeding on the haws they found on the edges of the lake. Mosquitoes were so bad they distributed mosquito bar to the men. June 20 they made seven miles, and the next day seven miles. They describe the land, timber, creeks, direction of the river, sand bars, etc. They had to use the tow line to get the boat over some places. There were frequent and heavy rains. Captain Lewis in the journal says at sunset the atmosphere presented every appearance of wind, blue and white streaks centering at the sun as it disappeared, and the clouds situated in the southwest were gilded in the most beautiful manner. The journal of June 22 speaks of the river rising four inches the previous night, and states that the water is very rapid and full of concealed timber. At 3 P. M. the mercury was eighty-seven, but they traveled ten miles that day. June 23 the wind was so violently against them that they had to lie to after going a little over three miles. They were then camped at a spot opposite what is now the northeast part of Jackson County, Missouri. Captain Clark had left the party and walked on ahead expecting the men who were bringing the horses would overtake him, but as they did not, and he had gone too far to return before dark, he peeled some bark to lie on, built a fire to keep off the mosquitoes and gnats, and prepared to spend the night alone. Late at night he heard the men with the horses fire a gun, and they came up with the horses and a fat bear and a deer. The river fell eight inches that night.

Captain Clark says that on the morning of June 24, while he was waiting on the sand close to the water's edge for the boat to come up, a large snake swam to the bank immediately under the deer which he had killed the night before, and which was hanging over the water. He threw chunks at the snake and drove it off several times, but was compelled to kill it. He thought what attracted it was the milk from the bag of the doe. He saw several signs of bears where he says they had been passing through the bottoms hunting mulberries. That day the country through which they passed was fine. The woods were

interspersed with prairies, where they saw immense herds of deer pasturing on the plains and feeding on the young willows. After traveling eleven miles they halted to jerk their meat, as they had killed several deer. The company was in fine spirits. June 25 they made thirteen miles. At three miles they passed a bank of coal. Fine prairies were seen and lots of plums, raspberries, wild apples and mulberries. On traveling ten miles June 26, part of the way being through narrow and swift rapids where their tow rope broke twice, they reached the mouth of the Kansas River. This is where Kansas City now stands. They had then traveled 388 miles and had been six weeks on the way. They remained in camp there two days, resting, drying their stores, hunting, repairing the boats, and making astronomical observations. They report the Missouri as being 500 yards wide there and the Kansas 230 yards wide. They carefully describe the land around and say the waters of the Kansas had a disagreeable taste. There were two Indian villages of the Kansas nation, one about twenty and the other about forty leagues up this river. These villages had in all about 300 men. They had been warred on and reduced by the Sauks (Sacs) and Ayouways (Iowas), who were better armed. The Kansas Indians were at this time hunting buffalo on the plains. Some of the hunters of the expedition here saw buffalo for the first time.

June 29 they convened a courtmartial and tried and found guilty John Collins for "getting drunk at his post out of whiskey put under his charge as a sentinel, and for suffering Hugh Hall to draw whiskey out of said barrel intended for the party,"[14] and he was sentenced to receive 100 lashes on his bare back. Hugh Hall was found guilty of "takeing whiskey out of a Keg, which whiskey was stored on the Bank (and under Charge of the Guard) Contrary to all order, rule, or regulation,"[15] and he was sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back. The orders were directed to be carried out at three that afternoon when the party was ordered to parade for inspection. That afternoon they proceeded, almost overturned their boat in a swift current among sand bars, and camped at seven miles distance. Early the next morning,

14 Thwaites, Vol. I, Part I, pp. 61-2.
15 *Ibid*, p. 62.

June 30, they passed the mouth of the Little Platte, sixty yards wide, flowing in from the northeast. A very large wolf came to the bank and looked at them. The temperature was ninety-six that afternoon, and the atmosphere oppressive. They lay by from noon until three o'clock because of the heat. Great numbers of deer were skipping along the banks, and their men shot nine that day. They made ten miles that day.

The journal of July 1 says there was a small alarm the previous night and all prepared for action. The men suffered much from heat, and they lay by three hours to refresh them. Great quantities of grapes and raspberries, and pecan trees were observed, and many deer and turkeys. They advanced twelve miles that day. July 2 they were hindered by a great quantity of drift wood which had evidently been released from where it had lodged above. Later they stemmed the current with difficulty, even when they used twenty oars and all the poles they had. Having made eleven miles they camped opposite a former site of a village of the Kansas Indians and saw in the rear the remains of an old French fort. July 3 they passed a large pond, which contained beaver and many fowls, advanced eleven miles and stopped at an old deserted trading house and camped near it. They observed black walnut, oak, honeysuckle, and buckeye. They celebrated July 4 by the discharge of their gun, or bow-piece, in the morning and again in the evening, and by issuing an additional gill of whisky to the men. They passed a lake about three-quarters of a mile wide and seven or eight miles long and they named it Gosling Lake from the large number of goslings on it. When they "came to" on the west bank to refresh themselves, one of their men, Joseph Fields, was bitten by a snake, but Captain Lewis quickly applied a poultice of bark and gunpowder, which cured it. They dined on corn that day. They passed the place where Atchison, Kansas, now stands and camped, having traveled fifteen miles. July 5 they speak of beautiful prairies interspersed with timber. They saw the remains of another village of the Kansas Indians. The river continued to fall, says the journal. On the shores they saw "great quantities of summer and fall grapes (*Vitis aestivalis* and *V. cordifolia*),

berries, and wild roses (*Rosa setigera*)."[16] Deer were not so abundant, but they saw numerous tracks of elk. They camped at ten miles.

July 6 they speak of a place where the river is confined in a very narrow channel, of prairies, of sand bars, of willow-covered islands, and of pieces of coal among the pebbles on shore. The weather was extremely hot and the men perspired profusely. The hunters continued to kill deer, sending in two that day. They camped at twelve miles. A whippoorwill sat on the boat for some time that evening. July 7 the rapidity of the water compelled them to draw the boat along with ropes for quite a distance. The prairies there had the appearance of distinct farms divided by narrow strips of woodland, which followed the borders of small runs leading to the river. They made fourteen miles, camping on the east side, and at seven o'clock a violent gust of wind with rain came up. One of the hunters reported having seen a large number of young swans that day. They saw a large wood-rat, of which Patrick Gass says "the principal difference between it and the commoner rat is, its having hair on the tail." Coues says it was unknown to science when thus discovered by Lewis and Clark, and that it had been named *Mus floridanus* by George Ord in 1818 (Bull. Soc. Philom. Phila., 1818, p. 181). They also killed a wolf (*Canis lupus occidentalis*).[17] The journal says "Another of our men had a stroke of the sun; he was bled, and took a preparation of niter, which relieved him considerably." July 8 they passed what they said was one of the largest islands on the Missouri, containing some 7,000 or 8,000 acres of good ground, high enough so it rarely overflowed. It was separated from the east shore by a channel from forty-five to eighty yards wide, up which they passed and found, near its north extremity, the mouth of the Nodaway River. The journal says the Nodaway was navigable for boats for some distance and was about seventy yards wide at its mouth. Coues says the word "Nodaway" is Indian and means some kind of snake, hence the river has sometimes been called Snake River. This stream with a beautiful

16 Coues, Vol. I, p. 39.
17 Coues, Vol. I, p. 40.

name[18] has its headwaters in Adair County, Iowa, and it and its tributaries meander through some of the most fertile parts of the state, including portions of Cass, Montgomery, Adams, Taylor and Page counties. That evening the commanders gave written orders designating John B. Thompson for Sergeant Floyd's mess, William Warner for Sergeant Ordway's mess, and John Collins for Sergeant Pryor's mess, to receive, cook, and take charge of the food for each mess, and they were given specific instructions and exempted from other duties.

The morning of July 9 a man was sent back to the mouth of the Nodaway River to blaze a tree to notify the party on shore with the horses that the expedition had passed. They saw a great number of pike at the mouth of a creek. They passed a few cabins where one of their party camped with some Frenchmen about two years previous. They passed the mouth of Loup or Wolf River, coming in from the west, through what is now Doniphan County, Kansas. They report that it was sixty yards wide and navigable for boats for some distance. They traveled fourteen miles. July 10 they discovered their men with the horses camped on the east side. That day they passed the mouth of Pape's Creek, named after a Spaniard of that name who killed himself there. It was fifteen yards wide, comes in from the west and is now called Cedar Creek. They speak of wild rye and a kind of wild potato found there. On making ten miles they stopped on the east side. They report the low land extensively covered with vines, also many goslings on the banks. On July 11 they passed the mouth of Tarkio Creek. They said the land there was low and subject to overflow and that the undergrowth and vines were so abundant they could scarcely penetrate them. Their hunters brought in seven deer that day. Coues in a note calls Tarkio Creek, or Little Tarkio,

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18 There's a river in a valley fair,
Where forest trees in the soft June air
Murmur and hum a dreamy lay,
For the woodland spirits sleep today
Where the Nodaway just nods away.

There are shady nooks on the river's edge,
And from swamp and crevice and rock and ledge,
Mysterious voices, whispering, say
"Molest us not for the fairies play
Where the Nodaway just nods away."
—Allan Stanley in Simpson Literary Quarterly, Feb., 1920.

a sloughy stream leaking into the Missouri at different places along for twenty miles. They camped that night on a large sand island and remained there July 12, refreshing the party and making lunar observations. This was opposite the mouth of the Big Nemaha River emptying in from the west.[19] They say the Big Nemaha was about eighty yards wide at its mouth and that Captain Clark ascended it in a pirogue for two miles. The journal says, "On going ashore he [Captain Clark] found on the level plain several artificial mounds or graves, and on the adjoining hills others of a larger size. This appearance indicates sufficiently the former population of this country, the mounds being certainly intended as toombs. The Indians of the Missouri still preserve the custom of interring the dead on high ground."[20] The country is described as beautiful and productive, and "the low land of the Missouri covered with undulating grass, nearly five feet high, gradually rising to a second plain, where rich weeds and flowers are interspersed with copses of the orange plum; further back are seen groves of trees, an abundance of grapes, the wild cherry of the Missouri resembling our own but larger and growing on a small bush, and the chokecherry which we observed for the first time."[21] A courtmartial that day found Alexander Willard guilty of lying down and sleeping at his post while a sentinel the previous night, and he was sentenced to receive 100 lashes on his bare back.

July 13 they proceeded at sunrise with a fair wind and at two miles passed the mouth of the Big Tarkio River[22] coming in on the east side. They tell of passing good land, some being covered with a grass resembling timothy in its general appearance, except the seed, which was like flax seed. There had been a shower, the weather was pleasant and they made twenty miles that day. July 14 there were some hard showers in the early morning, but they started at seven o'clock

19 According to the Lewis and Clark observations, thirty-nine degrees, fifty-five minutes and fifty-six seconds (see Coues, Vol. I, p. 43), the mouth of the Big Nemaha was at a point some five miles south of the present southeast corner of Nebraska, while maps of today show it emptying into the Missouri a few miles north of the corner of the state.

20 Coues, Vol. I, p. 43.

21 Coues, Vol. I, pp. 43-4.

22 This river rises in the north part of what is now Montgomery County, Iowa, and flows down through Page County before entering the state of Missouri.

and were soon overtaken by a violent windstorm which came near wrecking their boats. The party leaped out and with the assistance of the anchor and cable kept the big boat off the shore. That day they passed a small trading fort on the east side where a Mr. Bennet, of St. Louis, had formerly traded with the Indians. That afternoon they passed the mouth of the Nishnabotna River.[23] The journal says it was fifty yards wide at its mouth and that it runs parallel to the Missouri the greater part of its course. The journal also says, "In the prairies or glades we saw wild timothy, lamb's-quarter, cuckleberries,[24] and, on the edges of the river, summer grapes, plums and gooseberries. We also saw some elk, at which some of the party shot, but at too great a distance."[25] They camped on an island a little above the mouth of the Nishnabotna, having made nine miles.

A thick fog prevented an early start on July 15. At seven miles they passed the Little Nemaha River, coming in from the west. It was forty yards wide at its mouth. About three miles above that they camped for the night on the west side.[26] Along the west bank was a rich lowland covered with pea vine and rank weeds. The prairies back had abundant grass, there being timber only near the streams. Grapevines, plums of two kinds, two species of wild cherry, hazel bushes, and gooseberries abounded. On the east the river was skirted with timber, behind which was a bottom plain of four or five miles back to the hills. Those hills had but little timber.

July 16 they passed between a large island on their right and an extensive prairie on their left. The journal says, "About six miles we came to another large island on the same side, above which is a spot where about twenty acres of the hill has fallen into the river. Near this is a cliff of sandstone for two miles, which is much frequented by birds. At this place the river is

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23 The headwaters of the Nishnabotna River are in Crawford and Carroll counties, Iowa. Its several branches drain large portions of Shelby, Audubon, Pottawattamie, Cass, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont and Page counties.

24 Coues says of this: "This looks like a misprint for huckleberries; but it is a mistake for cockleburs, for I find 'cuckle burs' in Clark's MS. of this passage. The common cockle-bur or clot-bur is *Xanthium strumarium*, a weedy composite plant with close, spiny involucres. The lamb's-quarter is the familiar *Chenopdium album*, a succulent weed often used for greens. The timothy, frequently mentioned in our text, is uncertain. The true timothy is a grass, *Phleum pratense*."—Coues, Vol. I, p. 46.

25 *Ibid.*, pp. 45-6.

26 This is close to the present site of Brownsville, Nemaha County, Nebraska.

about a mile[27] wide but not deep; as the timber or sawyers[28] may be seen scattered across the whole of its bottom. At twenty miles' distance we saw on the south [29] an island, called by the French L'Isle Chance, or Bald Island, opposite a large prairie, which is called Bald-pated prairie, from a ridge of naked hills which bound it, running parallel with the river as far as we could see, at from three to six miles distance. To the south [west] the hills touch the river. We camped a quarter of a mile beyond this in a point of woods on the north [east] side. The river continues to fall."[30] They traveled twenty miles that day. The next day, July 17, they remained in camp in order to make observations and to correct the chronometer, which was run down. The latitude, which they record, places this camp, which is on the east side of the river, at a point about seven miles south of the southwest corner of Iowa. The journal says, "Captain Lewis rode up the country and saw the Nishnabotna, ten or twelve miles from its mouth, at a place not more than 300 yards from the Missouri, and a little above our camp. It then passes near the foot of the Bald Hills and is at least six feet below the level of the Missouri. On its banks are oak, walnut, and mulberry."[31]

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27 Thwaites makes the journal say "about two miles wide."—Thwaites, Vol. I, Part I. p. 81.

28 A sawyer is a snag or timber so fixed in the water that it oscillates or boles up and down, under the varying stress of the current, and forms a special danger to navigation. A firmly embedded snag is called a planter.

29 This is really west, as they always call the bank on their left, as they go up the Missouri, the south, and the one on their right, the north.

30 Coues, Vol. I, p. 47.

31 Coues, Vol. I, pp. 47-8.

On Wednesday the 13th day of January instant, the freeholders and other inhabitants of this town are to meet in Faneuil Hall, to receive the report of the committee appointed to consider some measures for employing the poor of the town. As the committee have matters of importance to lay before them, it is desired there may be a general attendance of the inhabitants.—*The Boston Chronicle,* January 11, 1763. (In the newspaper collection of the Historical Department of Iowa.)