

The **PALIMPSEST**

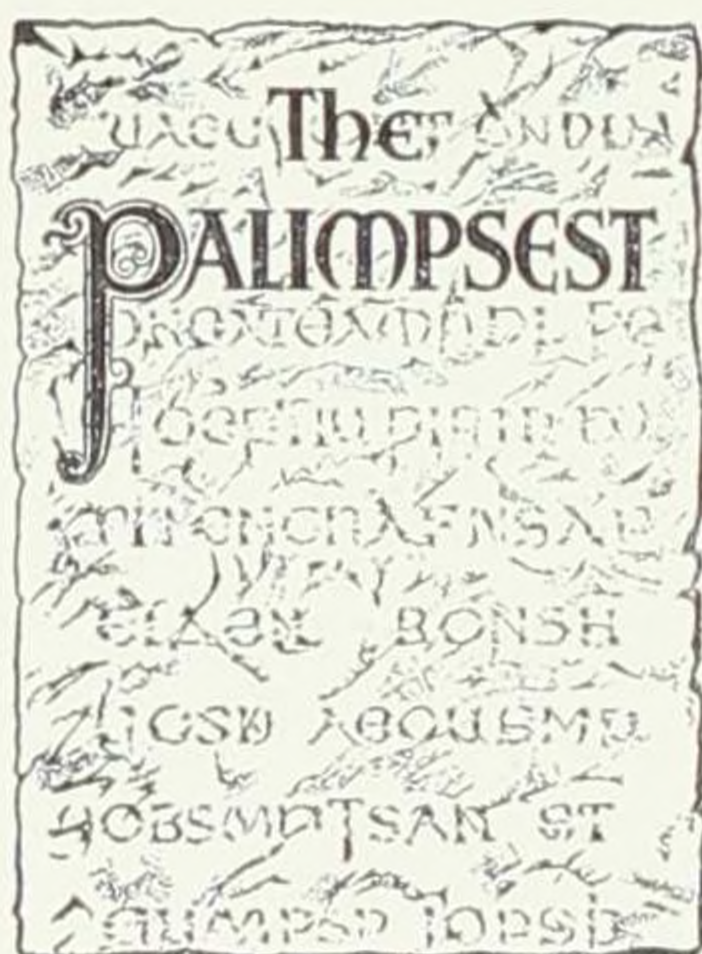


THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

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S E P T E M B E R 1 9 5 4



The Meaning of Palimpsest

In early times a palimpsest was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been erased to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records but also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts.

The history of Iowa may be likened to a palimpsest which holds the record of successive generations. To decipher these records of the past, reconstruct them, and tell the stories which they contain is the task of those who write history.

Contents

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

Iowa in the Louisiana Purchase	357
Lewis and Clark Expedition	368
Sergeant Floyd's Journal	390

Cover

Front — A painting of the Lewis and Clark Expedition by Dean Cornwell reproduced through the courtesy of the New York Life Insurance Company.

Back — *Inside*: The Floyd Monument at Sioux City.

Outside (Top): The Astor Column at Astoria, Oregon, bears a spiral frieze depicting the city's history in historical sequence. It stands 125 feet high on Coxcomb Hill and commands a magnificent view of the mouth of the Columbia River and the Pacific Ocean. The Lewis and Clark Expedition forms an important part of the frieze. (Courtesy Oregon Historical Society)

Outside (Bottom): The Jefferson Memorial at St. Louis housing the Missouri Historical Society and valuable records of Missouri and Missouri River history. (Courtesy Missouri Historical Society)

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THE PALIMPSEST

EDITED BY WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

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Iowa in the Louisiana Purchase

"We have lived long, but this is the noblest work of our whole lives," declared Robert Livingston, rising and shaking hands with James Monroe and Barbé-Marbois, Napoleon's minister of finance. The United States had just acquired an empire of 827,897 square miles at a total cost of five cents an acre. Livingston believed the treaty of April 30, 1803, would "change vast solitudes into flourishing districts" which would cause the United States to take its place "among the powers of the first rank." In his opinion the Louisiana Purchase was destined to "prepare ages of happiness for innumerable" people who would multiply "in the bosom of equality, under just laws, freed from the errors of superstition and the scourges of bad government."

Since Iowa forms a part of the Louisiana Purchase we may well pause in respectful appreciation of the manifold blessings accruing from the treaty of April 30, 1803. The amazing transformation of a wilderness into a garden is manifest

on every hand. In 1950 a total of 2,621,073 people dwelt in Iowa, or nearly half the whole number inhabiting the United States in 1800. The population of Des Moines in 1950 was 177,965, or more than the combined population of Greater New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston — the four largest cities at the opening of the nineteenth century. Philadelphia in 1800, then the second largest city in the country with 41,220 inhabitants, is surpassed by seven Iowa cities.

But the negotiation of the treaty in Paris did not conclude the acquisition, for Spain had not yet surrendered Louisiana to France. It was not until November 30, 1803, that the French prefect, Pierre Clément de Laussat, received the province from Spain in New Orleans. Twenty days later, on December 20, 1803, de Laussat formally handed over the province to W. C. C. Claiborne and James Wilkinson, the American agents, amidst a thunderous salute of cannon that shook the Cabildo in the Crescent City. As the French tri-color was presented to de Laussat, he accepted with the simple benediction: "May the prosperity of Louisiana be eternal!"

Upper Louisiana still remained in Spanish hands and de Laussat, in order to save Napoleon the expense, commissioned Captain Amos Stoddard, an American artillery officer, to receive the territory from Lieutenant Governor Dehault de Lassus at St. Louis in the name of France. Captain Stod-

dard was also empowered to take possession of the country for the United States and serve as civil and military commandant. On March 9, 1804, he crossed the Mississippi from Cahokia to St. Louis, the capital of Upper Louisiana, with a small force of American troops. Colonel de Lassus received him cordially at the government house and promptly issued the following proclamation:

"Inhabitants of Upper Louisiana: By the King's command, I am about to deliver up his post and its dependencies. The flag under which you have been protected for a period of nearly thirty-six years is to be withdrawn. From this moment you are released from the oath of fidelity you took to support it. The fidelity and courage with which you have guarded and defended it will never be forgotten."

He then delivered to Captain Stoddard "the full possession, sovereignty, and government of Upper Louisiana" with all its "military posts, quarters and fortifications." The official record of the transfer was signed by de Lassus and Stoddard, with Meriwether Lewis, Antoine Souldard, and Charles Gratiot acting as witnesses. On the following day, March 10, 1804, acting as commissioner for France, Captain Stoddard transferred Upper Louisiana to himself as representative of the United States. It was by this act that the land that is now Iowa became officially a part of the United States.

Some of the inhabitants of Upper Louisiana regretted the change of government. Daniel Boone did not enjoy the prospects, for he and other pioneers of his type had become Spanish subjects "to avoid crowds, to get and keep cheap land, to avoid taxes, to hunt big game and to live a simple Arcadian life." Others welcomed the transfer, and Auguste Chouteau called for cheers when the Stars and Stripes were unfurled. Captain Stoddard assured the inhabitants that they would have "popular suffrage, trial by jury, a confirmation of their land titles, a territorial government, to be succeeded by their admission as a State into the Federal Union; and he indulged the hope that Upper Louisiana would become a star of no inconsiderable magnitude in the American constellation." The lustrous star of Iowa, shining in the galaxy of states carved from the Louisiana Purchase, must eclipse the wildest imagination of this first American "civil Commandant" of Upper Louisiana and of Iowa.

The principal event during the brief administration of Captain Stoddard was the departure of Lewis and Clark on May 14, 1804, upon their epoch-making journey to the Pacific Coast. The expedition passed along the western border of Iowa to the mouth of the Big Sioux between July 18th and August 21st. The only tragedy on the entire trip — the death of Sergeant Charles Floyd — occurred just below present-day Sioux City.

A fortnight after Captain Stoddard took possession of Upper Louisiana, on March 26, 1804, President Jefferson approved an act providing for the government of the Territory of Orleans and the District of Louisiana. The Territory of Orleans, embracing approximately the area now included in the State of Louisiana, was given a special and almost despotic government over which William C. C. Claiborne was to preside as Governor. The District of Louisiana was placed under the jurisdiction of William Henry Harrison, Governor of Indiana Territory, because the western boundary of Indiana Territory was contiguous with the eastern boundary of the District of Louisiana. It was given scarcely a "vestige of self-government" since Harrison wielded all the powers of the executive. In addition he and the three judges of Indiana Territory had authority to make all laws which they deemed conducive to the good government of the inhabitants, and not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States. The civil government of Upper Louisiana was thus founded upon the Ordinance of 1787.

Governor Harrison arrived at St. Louis on October 1, 1804. Upper Louisiana had been divided into five districts — New Madrid, Ste. Genevieve, Cape Girardeau, St. Louis, and St. Charles — and Harrison appointed administrators over each. The District of St. Charles embraced all the country north of the Missouri River including

what is now Iowa. This vast hinterland, stretching northward to the British possessions and westward to the Rocky Mountains, contained 765 inhabitants, including 55 slaves. For the administration of this empire Governor Harrison appointed Colonel Return J. Meigs as Lieutenant Governor or Commandant of the District of St. Charles. Francois Saucier was named Presiding Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions, and Daniel Morgan Boone, Francois Duquette, and Robert Spencer were appointed associate justices. Rufus Easton was designated Attorney General and Edward Hempstead, Clerk.

The most remote settlers in the District of St. Charles might be denominated Iowans, for they lived north of the mouth of the Des Moines River. Louis Honoré Tesson was situated two hundred miles from St. Charles, a tedious journey for Sheriff Mackey Wherry if he had been ordered to evict the father of Iowa horticulture. When Julien Dubuque sold 72,324 arpents of his land to Auguste Chouteau of the District of St. Louis on October 20, 1804, he found it necessary to journey over four hundred miles down the Mississippi in order to transact his business. Basil Giard held a Spanish land grant opposite the village of Prairie du Chien, five hundred miles from St. Louis. Giard had received his grant on November 20, 1800, almost two months after the signing of the treaty whereby Spain retroceded Louisiana to

France. There were no white men living along the Missouri slope of Iowa in 1804; indeed, Lewis and Clark met very few above St. Charles.

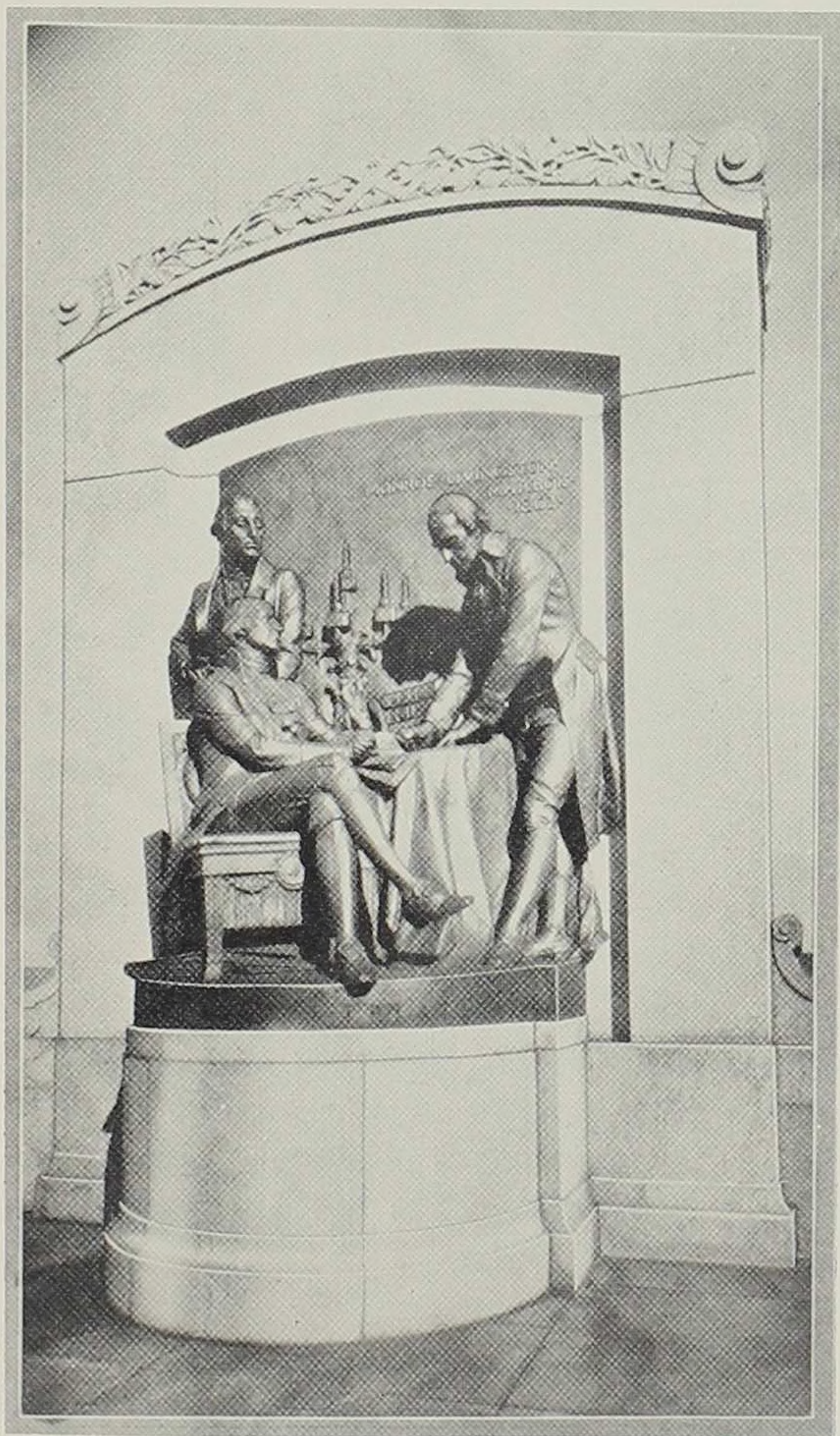
On November 3, 1804, Governor Harrison made a treaty with five drunken, irresponsible representatives of the Sauk and Fox Indians whereby all the land between the Mississippi and the Illinois and Fox rivers as far north as the Wisconsin was ceded to the United States. It was Jefferson's plan to extinguish Indian titles to land east of the Mississippi and to remove the red men westward across the Father of Waters. Millions of acres of land were thus relinquished by a few Indians, with no instructions to negotiate a treaty, for \$2234 in presents and an annuity of \$1000. This incident provoked the enmity of Black Hawk and his Sauk Indians toward the United States during the War of 1812, and was a remote cause of the Black Hawk War.

Although Harrison was a popular man, the people of the District of Louisiana thought the capital at Vincennes was too far away. Accordingly, on March 3, 1805, President Jefferson approved a bill whereby the District of Louisiana was to be "known and designated" after July 4th as the "Territory of Louisiana" with officers residing in the Territory. General James Wilkinson was named Governor of the new Territory.

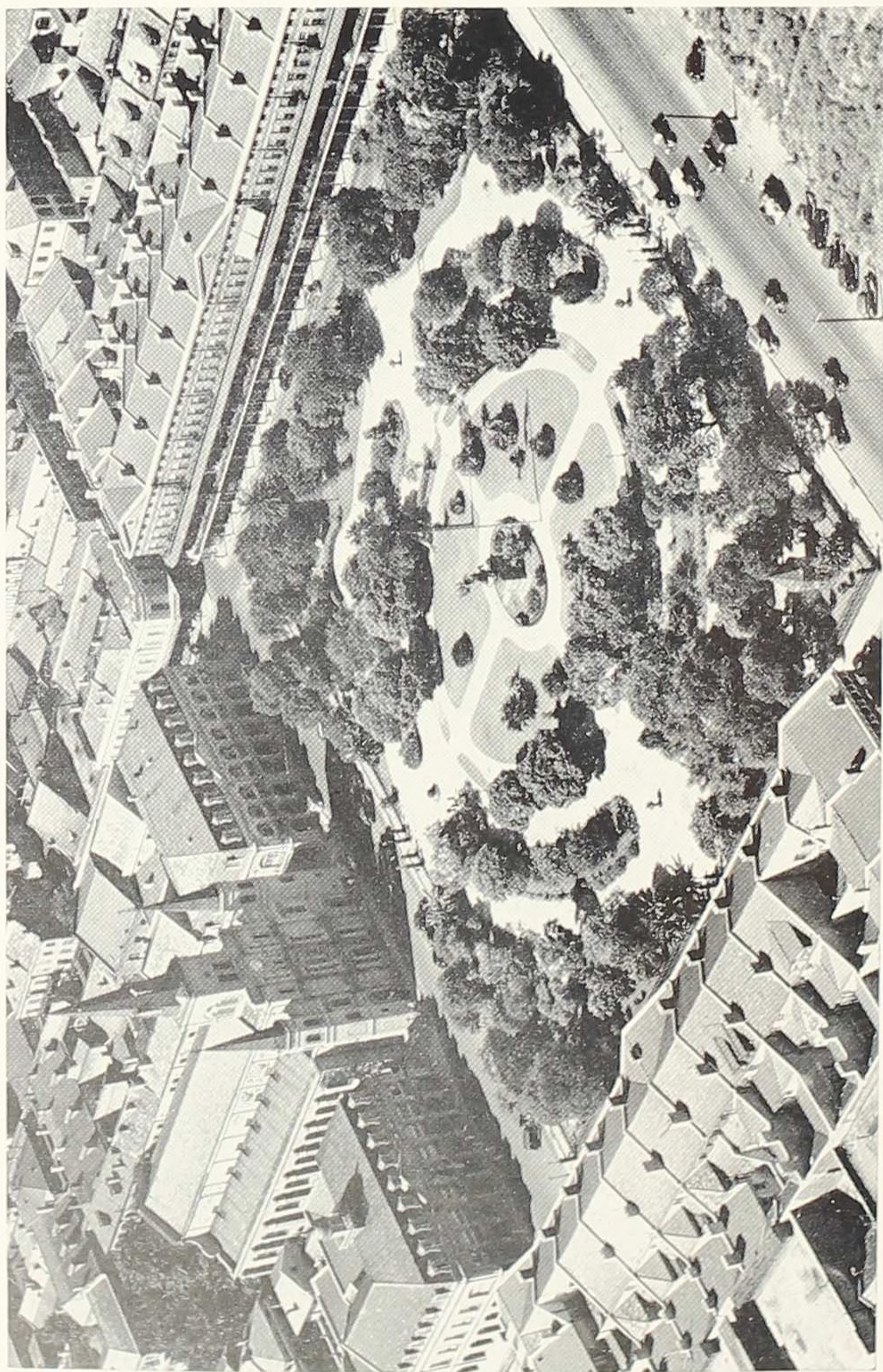
It was Governor Wilkinson who dispatched Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike to the headwaters of

the Mississippi with instructions to explore the Mississippi River from St. Louis to its source, select sites for military posts, treat with the Indians, and find out what he could about the British traders in the Iowa country. Pike recommended the hilly country about Burlington and McGregor as suitable for the erection of forts. Tesson's apple orchard, Dubuque's lead mines, and Giard's farm were the only evidences of white settlers in Iowa. Pike estimated the Sauk and Fox Indians at 4600 souls and the Iowas at 1400. He considered the prairies incapable of being cultivated and suggested that they be left to the wandering savages who then occupied them.

Governor Wilkinson aroused such bitter antagonism in the Territory that Jefferson finally removed him from office on March 3, 1807. Meriwether Lewis succeeded to the governorship, but his untimely death on October 11, 1809, was followed by the appointment of Benjamin Howard as Governor in April, 1810. When the Territory of Orleans was admitted as the State of Louisiana in 1811, Congress changed the name of the Territory of Louisiana to the Territory of Missouri. At that time the population of the whole enormous region numbered about 22,000. Howard continued as chief executive. On March 12, 1813, however, Governor Howard resigned his post and William Clark was appointed Governor. Clark had served as brigadier-general of the Missouri



Courtesy State Historical Society of Missouri
Bas Relief of the Signing of the Louisiana Purchase Treaty
(April 30, 1803) by sculptor Karl Bitter. It is located on
the bank of the Missouri River at Jefferson City.



Courtesy New Orleans Chamber of Commerce

The Place d'Armes (known as Jackson Square since 1856) showing the Cabildo (*left*), St. Louis Cathedral (*center*), and the Presbytere (*right*). Scene of the transfer of Lower Louisiana to the United States on December 20, 1803.

militia and Indian Agent for the entire Territory following his return with Lewis from the Far West. During the War of 1812 he established Fort Shelby at Prairie du Chien. It was Clark also who dispatched two expeditions up the Mississippi which were repulsed at Rock Island. At the conclusion of the war he conducted a series of councils with the various Indian tribes, among others, the Sauk and Fox, who signed important treaties in 1815 and in 1816. It was during 1816 that John C. Sullivan surveyed the northern boundary of Missouri, a line which ultimately became the southern boundary of Iowa.

William Clark continued as Governor of the Territory until 1821. By that time the importance of the Louisiana Purchase was established, although some of the old Federalist arguments could still be heard deprecating its value. Thoughtful Americans today, however, are ready to admit the Louisiana Purchase was one of the most significant episodes in American history. The reasons are quite apparent. It more than doubled the area of the United States. It formed a precedent for subsequent expansion. It gave rise to party wrangling in the United States. It led to sectionalism on even a greater scale than at that time existed in the country. It kept England out and it virtually eliminated both France and Spain from North America. Finally, from this immense area was carved all of the states of Iowa, Missouri,

Arkansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska, and parts of the states of Minnesota, Kansas, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

The Louisiana Purchase was equally significant in Iowa history. It assured us that the future history of Iowa would be American — rather than French or Spanish. It led to the immediate exploration of Iowa — Lewis and Clark up the Missouri in 1804 and Zebulon Pike up the Mississippi in 1805. It led to the establishment of military posts — the erection of Fort Madison in 1808 followed hard on the heels of the Pike expedition. It led to the sending of Indian Agents to this region and it greatly expanded the American fur trade in Iowaland.

In the space of a century and a half the paltry sum of \$15,000,000 (\$27,000,000 counting interest) paid Napoleon has multiplied many times in value. Thus, the value of farm lands and buildings in any one of the ninety-nine Iowa counties in 1950 eclipses the total cost of the Louisiana Purchase — both principal and interest. The same would be true for the real estate value in most of the larger cities in Iowa! The industrial output of a single firm — the Maytag Company in Newton — exceeds in a single year the entire cost of the Louisiana Purchase, and washing machines form a small fraction of our industrial output. The value of the land and buildings on which the State

University of Iowa is located actually surpasses the total price that was paid Napoleon. Thus, counties, cities, industrial plants, and educational institutions which today form mere pinpricks in the Louisiana Purchase, far exceed the expenditure over which the Federalists groaned so loudly in 1803.

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

Lewis and Clark Expedition

Although 150 years have passed since Lewis and Clark began their heroic trek up the Missouri their exploit is still regarded as one of the most dramatic episodes in American history. It was the first governmental exploration of this region. Lewis and Clark were the first white men to cross the continent by this route. It was one of the longest land explorations, covering a distance almost equal to one-third the circumference of the globe. It touched what are now the states of Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. It gave us our first accurate knowledge of the Northwest. It formed the basis of our claim to the Oregon country. It revealed Jefferson's vision of a great Republic. Finally, it affected to a considerable degree the development of the Northwest. Since the expedition passed along the western border of Iowa and camped on Iowa soil, citizens of the Hawkeye State are vitally interested in it.

Curiously enough, Thomas Jefferson had envisioned such an expedition long before the Louisiana Purchase. In 1783 he had suggested the idea to George Rogers Clark but nothing came of

it. Two years later, in 1785, while minister to France, Jefferson met John Ledyard, of Connecticut, a courageous explorer who had accompanied Captain Cook on his voyage to the Pacific. Ledyard readily agreed to cross Russia and Siberia and seek the headwaters of the Missouri from the West but the Empress of Russia disapproved and Ledyard was carried back a prisoner from Kamchatka to Poland and set free. Ledyard never recovered from the hardships of this journey and died in Egypt in 1788 while about to make an expedition to discover the headwaters of the Nile.

In 1792 Jefferson proposed to the American Philosophical Society that a competent person be engaged to ascend the Missouri, cross the Rockies, and descend by the nearest river to the Pacific. Andre Michaux, a French botanist and scientist, was appointed to perform this feat but got no further than Kentucky when he was recalled by the French government.

All during the negotiations for Louisiana Jefferson dreamed of his expedition across the continent to the Pacific. To command it he chose Meriwether Lewis, a choice history proved to be truly admirable. Lewis was born on the family farm near Charlottesville, Virginia, on August 18, 1774, and thus was a close neighbor of Thomas Jefferson. He received a private school education between the ages of thirteen and eighteen, during which period he seems to have excelled as a hunter

rather than as a scholar. He joined the Army of the United States during the Whiskey rebellion of 1794 and subsequently rose to the rank of captain in the First United States Infantry. He served with distinction under General Anthony Wayne in the latter's campaigns in the "Old Northwest," and was in command of the infantry which took over the Spanish posts in Mississippi. As a neighbor of Thomas Jefferson, young Lewis had won his friendship and when Jefferson became president in 1801, he appointed Lewis as his private secretary. Jefferson wrote of Lewis that he had no hesitation in confiding the expedition to him, adding this description:

Of courage undaunted; possessing a firmness and perseverance of 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.

Captain William Clark, a brother of George Rogers Clark, was selected by Lewis as second in

command and joyfully accepted the offer. Born in Virginia, in 1770, Clark was a boyhood friend of Lewis but had moved to near Louisville, Kentucky, in 1784. His family became one of the prominent families of that region. Clark entered the Army in 1789 and fought under Wayne in the Ohio campaigns. He served under Colonel John Hardin north of the Ohio and in 1791 was with General Charles Scott in the expedition against the Wabash Indians. From 1792 to 1796 he served with General Wayne again and later constructed a line of forts to guard the passage into the Indian territory. While on one of these campaigns, he is believed to have been associated with Meriwether Lewis. Small wonder that a friend of the family should write: "William is a youth of solid and promising parts, and as brave as Caesar." In 1796, at the ripe old age of 26, William Clark resigned his commission, leaving behind him a well-earned reputation for personal bravery and military skill. Joining his brother, George Rogers, in business, Clark was so occupied when Lewis invited him to join in the expedition Jefferson had ordered.

Jefferson sent the following rough draft of official instructions to Lewis:

The idea that you are going to explore the Missouri has been generally given out; it satisfies public curiosity and masks sufficiently the real destination. . . .

The object of our mission is to explore the Missouri

river and such principal streams of it, by communication with the waters of the Pacific ocean, whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado or any other river, may offer the most direct and practicable water communication across the continent, for the purpose of commerce. . . .

Your observations are to be taken with great pains and accuracy; to be entered distinctly and intelligently 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 are taken; and are to be rendered to the war office, for the purpose of having the calculation made concurrently by proper persons within the United States. Several copies of these as well as 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 loss 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, as that is less likely to injury from damp than common paper. . . .

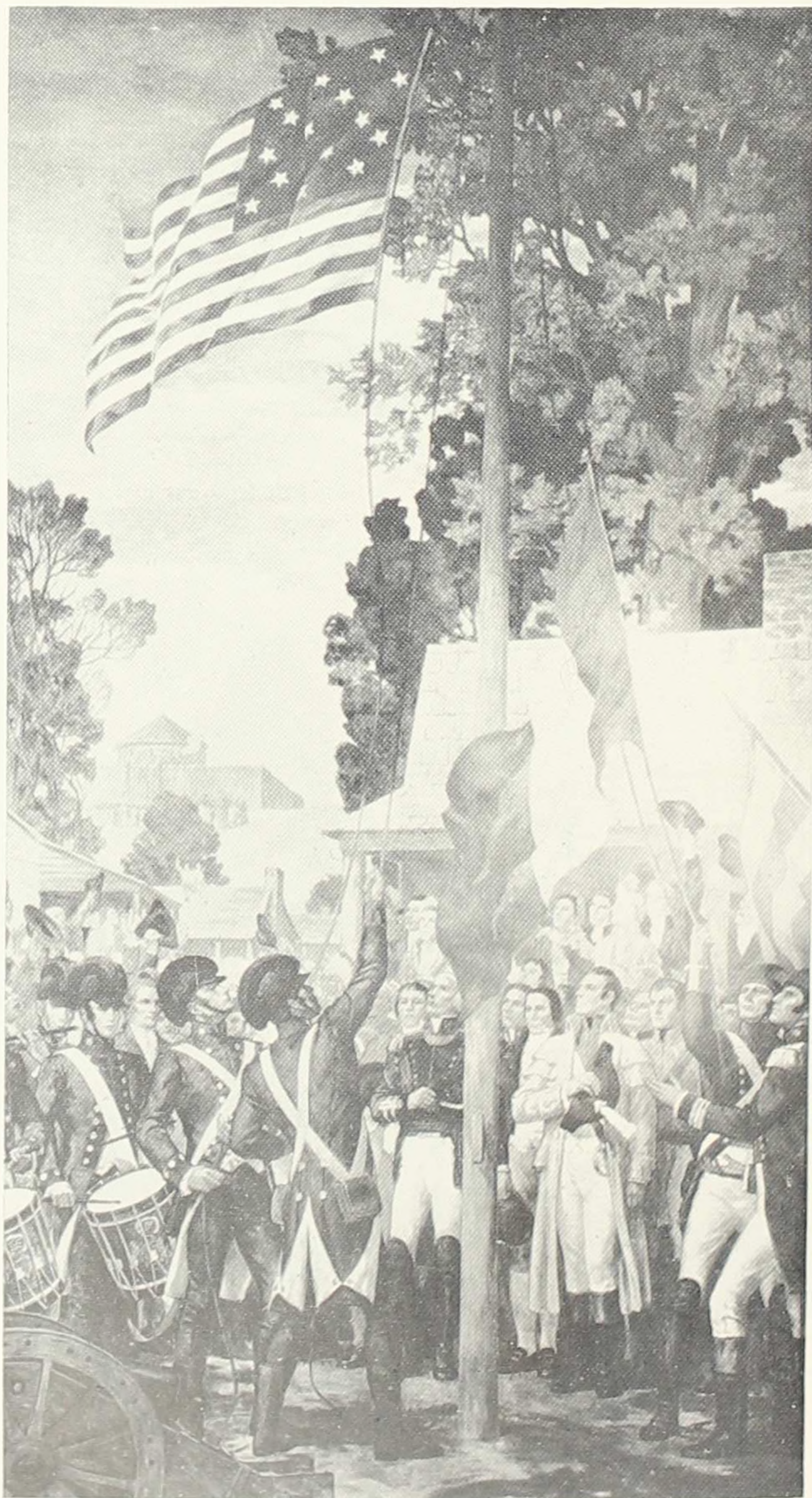
In all your intercourse with the natives, treat them in the most friendly and conciliatory manner which their own conduct will admit; allay all jealousies as to the object of your journey; satisfy them of its innocence. . . .

If a few of their influential chiefs within a practicable distance, wish to visit us, arrange such a visit with them, and furnish them with authority to call on our officers 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 young people brought up with us, and taught such arts as may be useful to them, we will receive, instruct them and take care of them. Such a mission, whether of influential chiefs or of young people, would give some security to your own party. . . .

It is impossible for us to foresee in what manner you



Courtesy New Orleans Chamber of Commerce
Painting of the Transfer of Lower Louisiana from France to the United States at
New Orleans on December 20, 1803.



Courtesy State Historical Society of Missouri

The Transfer of Upper Louisiana from France to the United States
at St. Louis on March 10, 1804.

will be received by those people, whether with hospitality or hostility, so it is 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. . . .

On your arrival at the coast, endeavor to learn if there be any port within your reach frequented by the sea vessels of any nation and to send two of your trusty people back by sea, in such a way as shall appear practicable, with a copy of your notes; and should you be of the opinion that the return of your party by the way they went will be imminently dangerous, then ship the whole and return by sea, by the way either of Cape Horn or the Cape of Good Hope as you shall be able. . . .

Thomas Jefferson,

President of the United States of America.

Captain Lewis left Washington for Pittsburgh on July 5, 1803. There he built a boat and, after many delays, on August 31st started floating down the Ohio, recruiting 14 soldiers and 9 Kentuckians and picking up Captain Clark at Louisville. In December, the party reached St. Louis, still held by the Spanish authorities, who had not been officially informed of the purchase of the territory by the United States. Because of this technicality, the Spanish commandant refused to allow the Americans to proceed up the Missouri to the last settlement, and Lewis accordingly went into winter quarters at Camp Dubois (or Wood River) opposite the mouth of the Missouri River in Illinois. Here the volunteers were drilled and disciplined by Clark while Lewis spent much time

in St. Louis learning of the Upper Missouri from French fur-traders.

The personnel and equipment of the expedition consisted of Lewis and Clark and 43 men at the start. Lewis and Clark selected three of the soldiers — Charles Floyd, John Ordway, and Nathaniel Pryor — to be sergeants. On the eve of departure the men listed below having been balloted for, were placed in the following squads:

<i>1st Squad</i>	<i>2nd Squad</i>	<i>3rd Squad</i>
<i>Sergeant</i>	<i>Sergeant</i>	<i>Sergeant</i>
Nathaniel Pryor	Charles Floyd	John Ordway
<i>Privates</i>	<i>Privates</i>	<i>Privates</i>
George Gibson	Hugh McNeel	Wm. Bratten
Thos. P. Howard	Patrick Gass	John Colter
Geo. Shannon	Reubin Fields	Alex. Willard
John Shields	Joseph Fields	Wm. Warner
Jn. Collins	Jn. B. Thompson	Silas Goodrich
Jos. Whitehouse	Richard Winser	John Potts
Peter Wiser	Rich. Worthington	John Robertson
Hugh Hall	Robert Frasure	John Boleye

Besides these men there were several French boatmen and interpreters, some half-breeds, Clark's negro servant York, a veritable giant of a man, and a corporal and five men who were to accompany Lewis and Clark as far as the Mandan Indian village.

The equipment included three boats to carry the expedition — a large keelboat, 55 feet long, and a large and a small pirogue. The keelboat had a square sail and was equipped with twenty-two

oars. The pirogues were likewise equipped with oars, poles, ropes, and sails.

This expedition, with its tremendous consequences in the expansion of the territory of the United States, as well as its addition to the knowledge of the continent, cost the United States government a most insignificant sum — less than \$2,500, which was the appropriation made by Congress. It was based upon the following estimates submitted by Captain Lewis: \$217 for mathematical instruments, \$81 for arms and accouterments extraordinary, \$255 for camp equipment, \$55 for medicines, \$430 for means of transportation, \$696 for Indian presents, \$224 for provisions extraordinary, \$55 for materials and packs, \$300 for pay for hunters and interpreters, \$100 for silver coins for expenses from Nashville to the last Missouri settlement, leaving \$87 for contingencies. Since this was a military party the two commissioned officers and the enlisted men drew their regular compensation from the Army. Later, surviving members of the expedition were given grants of land. All in all, the expedition was destined to prove itself worth far more than it cost.

Finally, on May 14th, everything was ready and, although detained for hours by the farewells of neighboring inhabitants, they managed to hoist sail at four in the afternoon and "proceeded on under a gentle brease up the Missouri," making four miles before camping for the night. The ex-

pedition reached St. Charles on May 16th and remained there five days awaiting the arrival of Lewis and additional supplies from St. Louis.

Leaving St. Charles, with its 450 "pore, polite & Harmonious" Frenchmen, the three boats proceeded up the tortuous, tawny Missouri. Wild game was plentiful and the men who walked along the bank foraging were constantly bringing in a fresh supply of game. On June 6th they saw their first buffalo signs; on June 11th they killed their first bear. Meanwhile deer and fish added variety to what otherwise might have been a very tiresome diet. On July 4th they "ussered in the day by a discharge of one shot from our Bow piece" and they closed the day "by a Descharge from our bow piece" and "an axtra Gill of whiskey."

Both Lewis and Clark were wretched spellers and their journals accordingly contain a flavor that smacks somewhat of the colorful Connecticut Yankee — Peter Pond — who wrote his first descriptions of northeastern Iowa just thirty-one years before Lewis and Clark. Nevertheless, even though a number of colorful personalities had been describing the eastern border of Iowa for decades, the Lewis and Clark expedition probably brought more detailed and accurate information regarding the Missouri slope than had been compiled about the Mississippi border in the 130 years following the Joliet-Marquette expedition.

On July 18, 1804, the expedition reached the

southwest corner of present-day Iowa and began passing along the border of what is now Fremont County. Here is the entry for that day.

July 18th Wednesday 1804 —

a fair morning the river falling fast. Set out this morning at Sun rise under a Gentle Breeze from the S E. by S passing over the Prarie, at about 3 Miles we passed the head of the Island L. S. called by the French *Chauve* or *Bald pate* opposit the middle of (1) this Island the creek on the S. S. is nearest the river. In high water an Island is formed in the bend above the last (2). Measured the Current and found that in forty one Seconds it run 50 fathom but little timber is to be Seen except in the Low points on Islands & on creeks, the Groth of timber is generally Cotton Mulberry Elm Sycomore &c. &c. passed a Island on the 2^d point to the S. S. opposit the water (3) when high passes out in the Plain. oppsed this Island on the L. S. the hills jut to the river (4) this Hill has Sliped from the top which forms a Bluff above & 200 foot above the water, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile in length & about 200 feet in Depth, has Sliped into the river, it is Composed of Sand Stone intermixed with an indiffer^t Iron ore near the bottom or next to the water is a Soft Slate Stone, Some pebble is also intirmixt. We passed a verry bad Sand bar and incamped on the L. S. at the lower point of the Oven Islands & opposit the Prarie, Call^d by the french *Four le tourtere* [*Baker's Oven*]. Saw a Dog nearly Starved on the bank, gave him som meet, he would not follow, our hunters killed 2 Deer to day.

From there on, day by day, the journal of the expedition continues with a minute description of what was seen. Broad and fertile fields and meadows, the soil "much Parched with frequent fires,"

were noted on July 20th. A "verry large yellow Wolf" is slain; so is a large water-snake that tries to feast on a deer the party had placed on the river bank awaiting supper. Tracks of bears are observed and frequent reference is made to dens of rattlesnakes. They found the "Musquitors so thick & troublesom that it was disagreeable and painfull to Continue a moment still." There were plenty of fish in the river with which to vary their diet of venison. On July 29th, Clark recorded:

we stoped to Dine under Some high Trees. . . . in a fiew minits Cought three verry large *Cat fish* one nearly white, those fish are in great plenty on the Sides of the river and verry fat, a quart of Oile Came out of the surpolous fat of one of those fish.

A tornado must have passed that way before the expedition arrived, for the journal records:

on the S. S. passed much falling timber apparently the ravages of a Dreddfull harican which had passed oblequely across the river from N. W. to S. E. about twelve months Since, many trees were broken off near the ground the trunks of which were sound and four feet in Diameter.

While passing by the western shore of Iowa, the party lived well. According to their journal of July 30th: "Cat fish is cought in any part of the river Turkeys Geese & a Beaver Killed & Cought every thing in prime order men in high Spirits. . . . Great no. of Musquitors this evening." Several men had very bad boils.

The original prairies must have been very beautiful, as witness this account on August 1st:

our Camp is above the high water level and rich covered with Grass from 5 to 8 feet high interspersed with copse of Hazel, Plumbs, Currents, (like those of the U. S.) Rasberries & Grapes of Diff^t Kinds. also producing a variety of Plants and flowers not common in the United States, two Kinds of honeysuckle . . . One Elk and three Deer Killed to day also two Beever Cought.

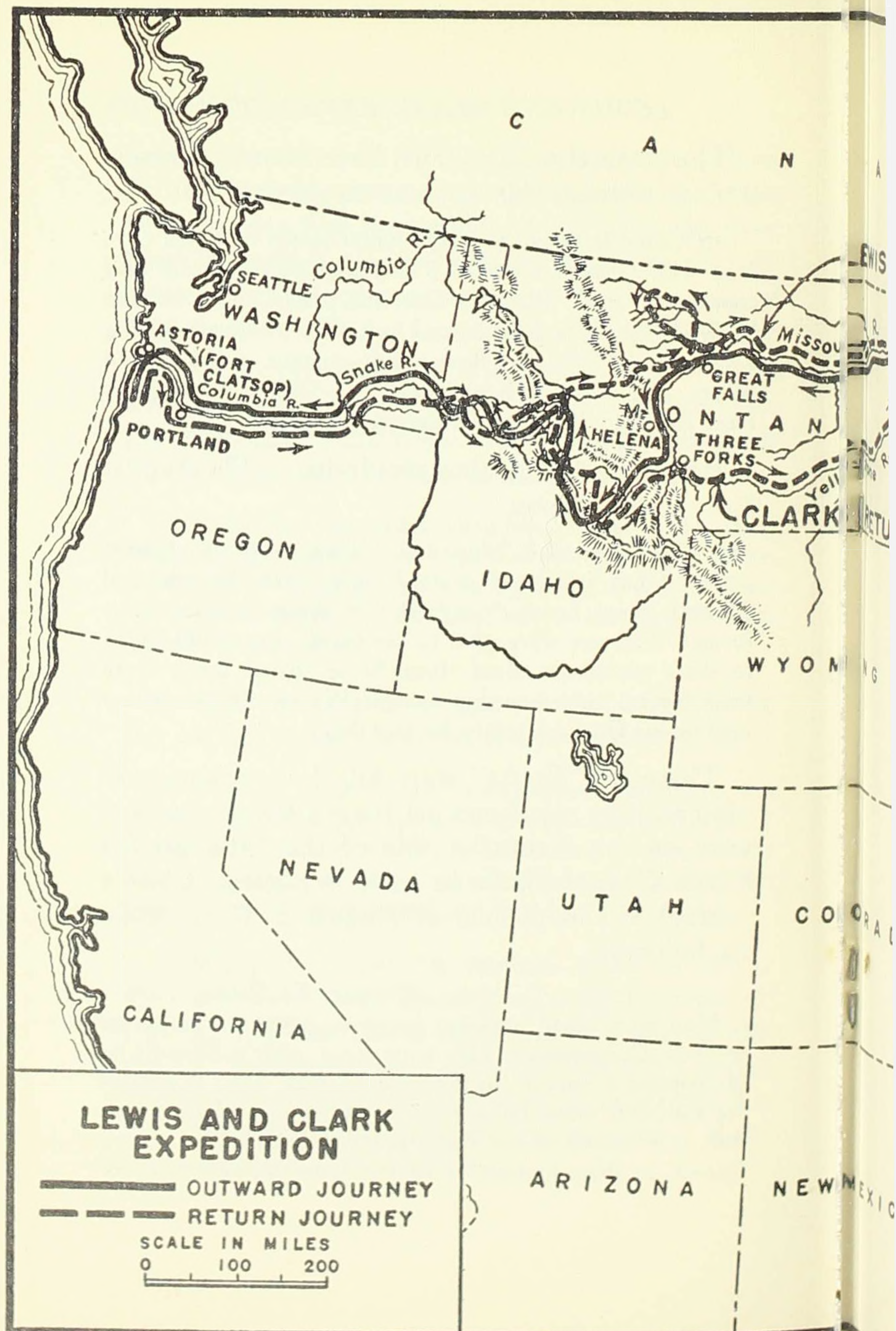
From time to time they met Indians. On August 2nd, Clark wrote:

a p^t of Otteau & Missourie Nation Came to Camp, among those Indians 6 were Chiefs, (not the principal Chiefs) Cap^t Lewis & myself met those Indians & informed them we were glad to see them, and would speak to them tomorrow, Sent them Some roasted meat, Pork flour & meal, in return they sent us Water *millions*. every man on his Guard & ready for any thing.

Three fat "Bucks" were killed that same evening and the stage was set for the famous conference on the Nebraska side of the Missouri for which Council Bluffs in Iowa is named. Clark's journal of this council of August 3, 1804, reads as follows:

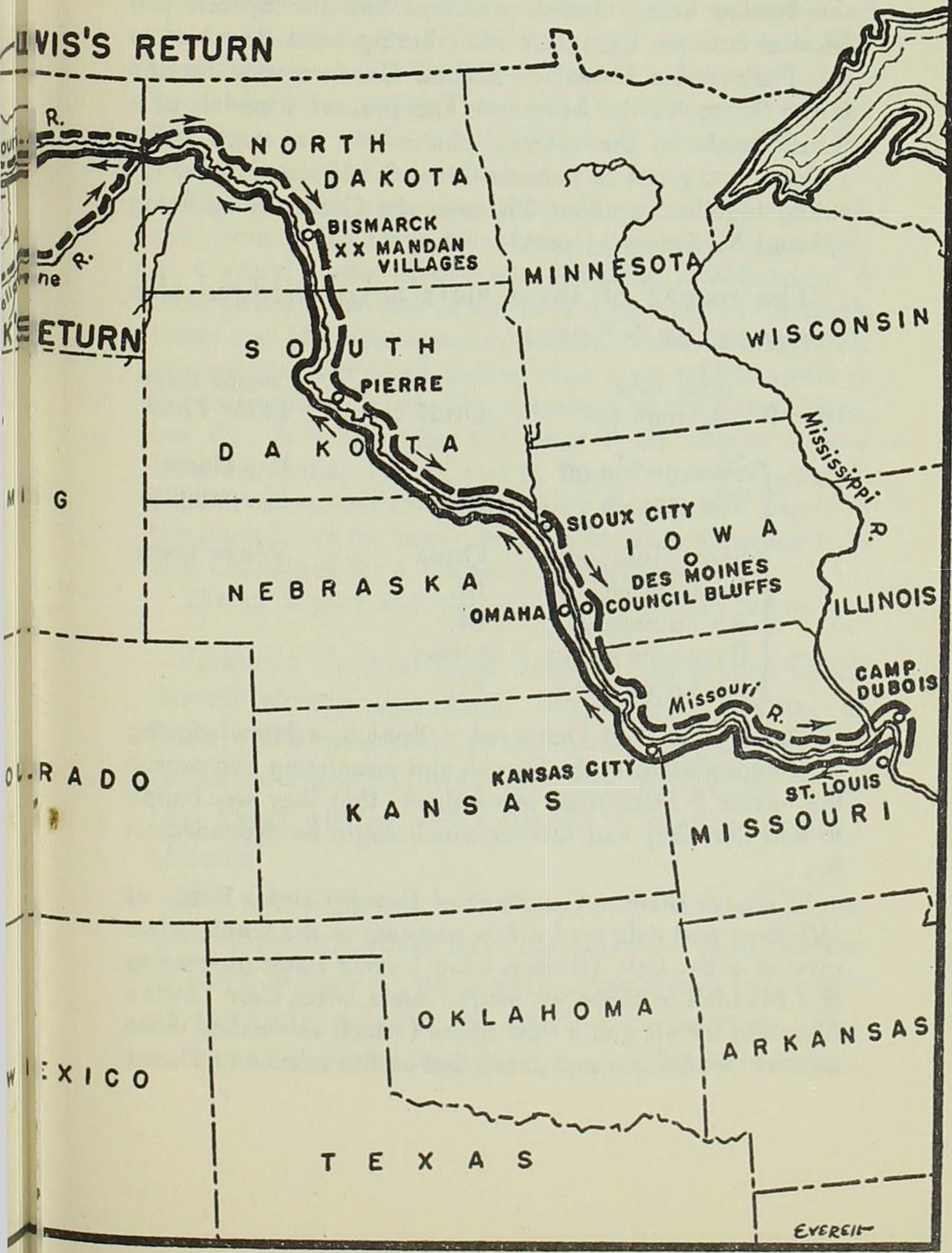
August 3rd Friday 1804

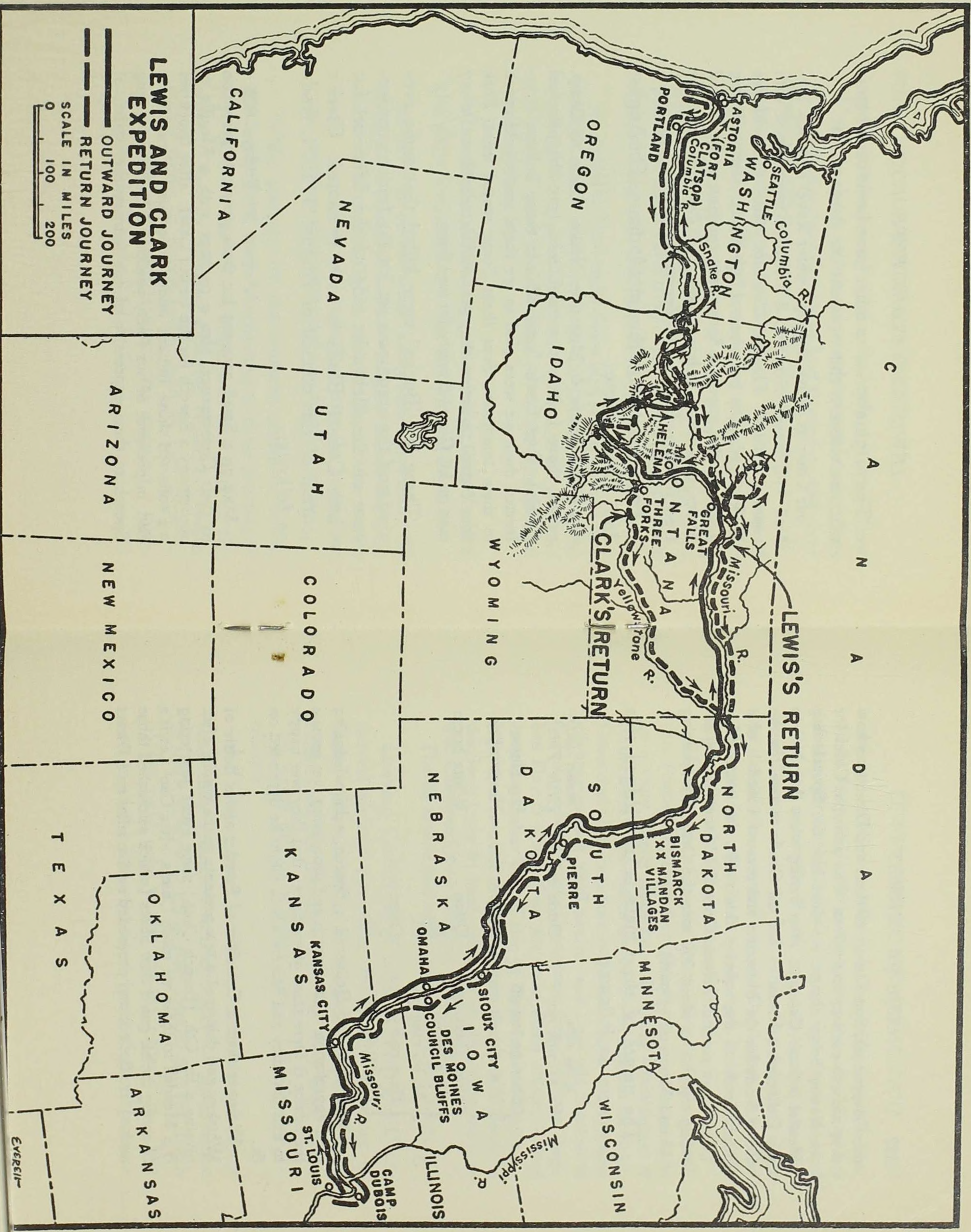
Mad up a Small present for those people in perpotion to their Consiquence, also a package with a Meadle to accompany a Speech for the Grand Chief after Brackfast we collected those Indians under an owning of our Main Sail, in presence of our Party paraded & Delivered a long Speech to them expressive of our journey the wishes of



A D A

LEWIS'S RETURN





**LEWIS AND CLARK
EXPEDITION**

— OUTWARD JOURNEY
- - - RETURN JOURNEY

SCALE IN MILES
0 100 200

our Government, Some advice to them and Directions how they were to conduct themselves. The principal Chief for the Nation being absent, we Sent him the Speech flag Meadel & Some Cloathes. after hering what they had to say Delivered a Medal of Second Grade to one for the Ottos & one for the Missourie and present 4 medals of a third Grade to the inferior chiefs two for each tribe. (Those two parts of nations Ottos & Missouries now residing together is about 250 men the Ottoes composeing $\frac{2}{3}^d$ and Missouris $\frac{1}{3}$ part)

The names of the Chiefs acknowledged this day were as follows:

	Indian name		English signif. ^{ts}
1 st	<i>We ar ruge nor</i>	Ottoo call'd	<i>Little Thief</i>
2	{ Shon go ton go	" "	Big Horse
	{ We - the - a	Miss: "	Hospatality
3	{ Shon Guss can.	Ottoo	White horse
	{ Wau pe uh	M.	
	{ Ah ho ning ga.	M.	
	{ Baza cou ja.	Ottoo	
	{ Ah ho ne ga	M.	

Those Chiefs all Delivered a Speech, acknowledging their approbation to the Speech and promising to pursue the advice & Directions given them that they were happy to find that they had fathers which might be depended on &c.

We gave them a Cannister of Powder and a Bottle of Whiskey and delivered a few presents to the whole, after giving a Br. Cth. [Breech Cloth] some Paint quattering & a Meadell to those we made Chiefs, after Capt Lewis's Shooting the air gun a few Shots (which astonished those natives) we Set out and proceeded on five miles on a Direct

line passed a point on the S. S. & around a large Sand bar on the L. S. & Camped on the upper point, the Misquitors excessively troublesom this evening. Great appearance of wind and rain to the N. W. we prepare to rec've it, The man *Liberty* whome we Sent for the Ottoes has not Come up he left the Ottoes Town one Day before the Indians. This man has either tired his horse or, lost himself in the Plains Some Indians are to hunt for him.

The Situation of our last Camp *Council Bluff* or Handsom Prarie, (25 Days from this to *Santafée*) appears to be a verry proper place for a Tradeing establishment & fortification The Soil of the Bluff well adapted for Brick, Great deel of timber above in the two Points — many other advantages of a small nature. and I am told Sentral to Several nations viz. one Days march from the Ottoe Town, one Day & a half from the great Pania village, 2 days from the Mahar Towns, two $\frac{1}{4}$ Days from the *Loups* village, & convenient to the Countrey thro: which Bands of the Soux [*rove* &] hunt. perhaps no other Situation is as well Calculated for a Tradeing establishment.

The air is pure and helthy so far as we can judge.

Leaving Council Bluff behind, Lewis and Clark moved slowly upstream, frequently stopping in Iowa. On the 18th of August, Captain Lewis celebrated his birthday and the men were given "an extra gill of whiskey and a Dance until 11 oClock."

As they approached the present site of Sioux City they recorded two episodes of significance to Iowa history — an Indian council and the death of the only man to die on the expedition. The events of the last two days spent along the west-

ern border of Iowa are worth recording in full at this point:

19th August Sunday 1804 —

a fine morning wind from the S. E. prepared a Small Present for the Chiefs and Warriors present. the main chief Brackfast with us & begged for a Sun glass, those People are all naked, Covered only with Breech Clouts Blankets or Buffalow Roabes, the flesh Side Painted of Different colours and figures. At 10 oClock we assembled the Chiefs and warriors 9 in number under an owning, and Cap. Lewis [we] explained the Speech Sent to the Nation from the Council Bluffs by Mr. Faufon. The 3 Chiefs and all the men or warriors made short Speeches approving the advice & Council their great father had Sent them, and concluded by giving themselves some Credit for their acts.

We then brought out the presents and exchanged the *Big horses* Meadel and gave him one equal to the one Sent to the Little Thief & gave all Some Small articles & 8 Carrots of Tobacco, we gave one Small Meadel to one of the Chiefs and a Sertificate to the others of their good intentions.

Names.

The Little Thief	Gr ^d Chiefs I have
The Big Horse	mentioned before.
<i>Crows Head</i> (or)	<i>Kar Ka paha</i> — Missory
<i>Black Cat</i> (or)	<i>Ne na Sa wa</i> — do
<i>Iron Eyes</i> (or)	<i>Sar na no no</i> — Ottoe
<i>Big Ax</i> (or)	<i>Nee Swar Unja</i> — do
<i>Big Blue Eyes</i> —	<i>Star gea Hun ja</i> — do
<i>Brave Man</i> (or)	<i>War sar Sha Co</i>

one of those Indians after receiving his Certificate deliv^d it again to me the *Big blue eyes* the Chief petitioned for

the Ctft. again, we would not give the Certft^t, but rebuked them verry roughly for haveing in object goods and not peace with their neighbours. this language they did not like at first, but at length all petitioned for us to give back the Certificate to the Big blue eyes he came forward and made a plausible excuse, I then gave the Certificate [to] the Great Chief to bestow it to the most Worthy, they gave it to him, we then gave them a Dram and broke up the Council, the Chiefs requested we would not leave them this evening we determined to Set out early in the morning we Showed them many Curiosities and the air gun which they were much astonished at. those people beged much for Whiskey. Serjeant Floyd is taken verry bad all at once with a Biliose Chorlick we attempt to relieve him without success as yet, he gets worst and we are much allarmed at his Situation, all [give] attention to him.

20th August Monday 1804 —

Sergeant Floyd much weaker and no better. Made Mr Faufonn the interpter a few presents, and the Indians a Canister of Whiskey We Set out under a gentle breeze from the S. E. and proceeded on verry well. Serjeant Floyd as bad as he can be no pulse & nothing will Stay a moment on his Stomach or bowels. Passed two Islands on the S. S. and at the first Bluff on the S. S. Serj. Floyd Died with a great deal of Composure, before his death he Said to me, "I am going away I want you to write me a letter." We buried him on the top of the bluff $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile below a Small river to which we Gave his name, he was buried with the Honors of War much lamented, a Seeder post with the (1) Name Serg^t C. Floyd died here 20th of august 1804 was fixed at the head of his grave. This Man at all times gave us proofs of his firmness and Determined resolution to doe Service to his Countrey and honor to

himself after paying all the honor to our Decesed brother we camped in the Mouth of floyds River about 30 yards wide, a butifull evening.

The grave of Sergeant Floyd was at a point now in the southern part of present-day Sioux City. Later the Missouri River washed away part of the grave and in May, 1857, his remains were removed to a spot two hundred yards inland and, on August 20, 1895, the original spot was marked with a slab. A monumental shaft to his memory was erected on May 30, 1901. Floyd is believed to be the first white man buried in Iowa soil; certainly he was the first soldier of the United States to be interred in the State.

The following outline gives some idea of the progress Lewis and Clark made up the Big Muddy, since it records the dates they passed by the mouths of streams, most of which drain present-day Iowa before emptying into the Missouri. The streams recorded range from the Osage to the Heart:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Mouth of</i>
June 1, 1804	Osage
June 10, 1804	Chariton
June 13, 1804	Grand
June 26, 1804	Kansas (Kansas City)
June 30, 1804	Little Platte
July 8, 1804	Nodaway

July 14, 1804	Nishnabotna
July 21, 1804	Platte
July 29, 1804	Boyer
August 6, 1804	Soldier
August 12, 1804	Little Sioux
August 20, 1804	Floyd
August 21, 1804	Big Sioux (Sioux City)
August 27, 1804	James
Sept. 4, 1804	Niobrara
Sept. 15, 1804	White
Sept. 24, 1804	Bad (Pierre, S. D.)
October 1, 1804	Cheyenne
October 21, 1804	Heart (Bismarck)

The Lewis and Clark expedition continued on its way beyond Iowa through a veritable paradise of wild game. They reached the Mandan Indian villages, some thirty miles above present-day Bismarck, N. D., on October 26th, having traveled 1,600 miles in 160 days, or an average of ten miles per day. The swift current of the Missouri, the delays occasioned by Indian conferences, and the need to forage for wild game were important factors in setting such a slow pace.

The Lewis and Clark party wintered during 1804-1805 with the Mandan Indians. Here they found the captive Indian "Bird Woman," Sacajawea, who was destined to play such a stellar role in guiding them through the Rockies the

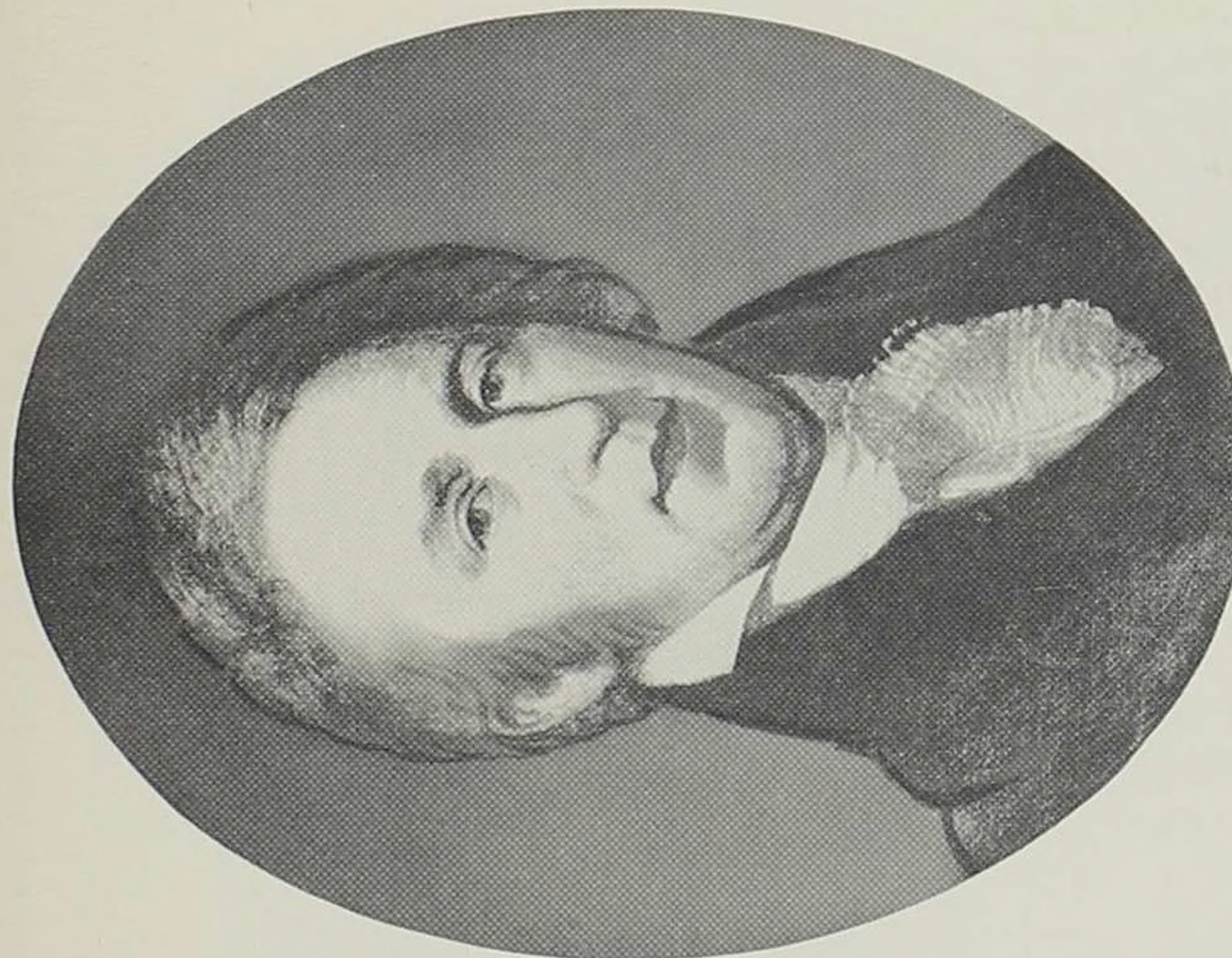
following summer. Their experiences in the Mandan village form one of the most colorful chapters in the Lewis and Clark expedition. During 1805, they ascended the Missouri to its source, toiled across the Rockies, and went down the Columbia River to the Pacific, where they erected Fort Clatsop and spent the second winter on Baker's Bay. On their return journey they paid a visit to the grave of Sergeant Floyd on September 4, 1806, and on September 23, 1806, they were welcomed joyously by the citizens of St. Louis. Floyd was the only man lost on the entire trip!

Lewis was appointed Governor of the Territory of Louisiana in 1807, but he died only two years later, on October 11, 1809. The details of his death are obscure; it is not known whether murder or suicide was the cause. Captain Clark long survived his friend. In 1807 he was commissioned a brigadier general of the militia and appointed Indian Agent at St. Louis, a post he held until 1813, when he became Governor of Missouri Territory. In 1822 he became Superintendent of Indian Affairs and, while holding this office, he died on September 1, 1838. A full account of the life of the famous "Red Head" was carried in the *Dubuque Iowa News* in 1838.

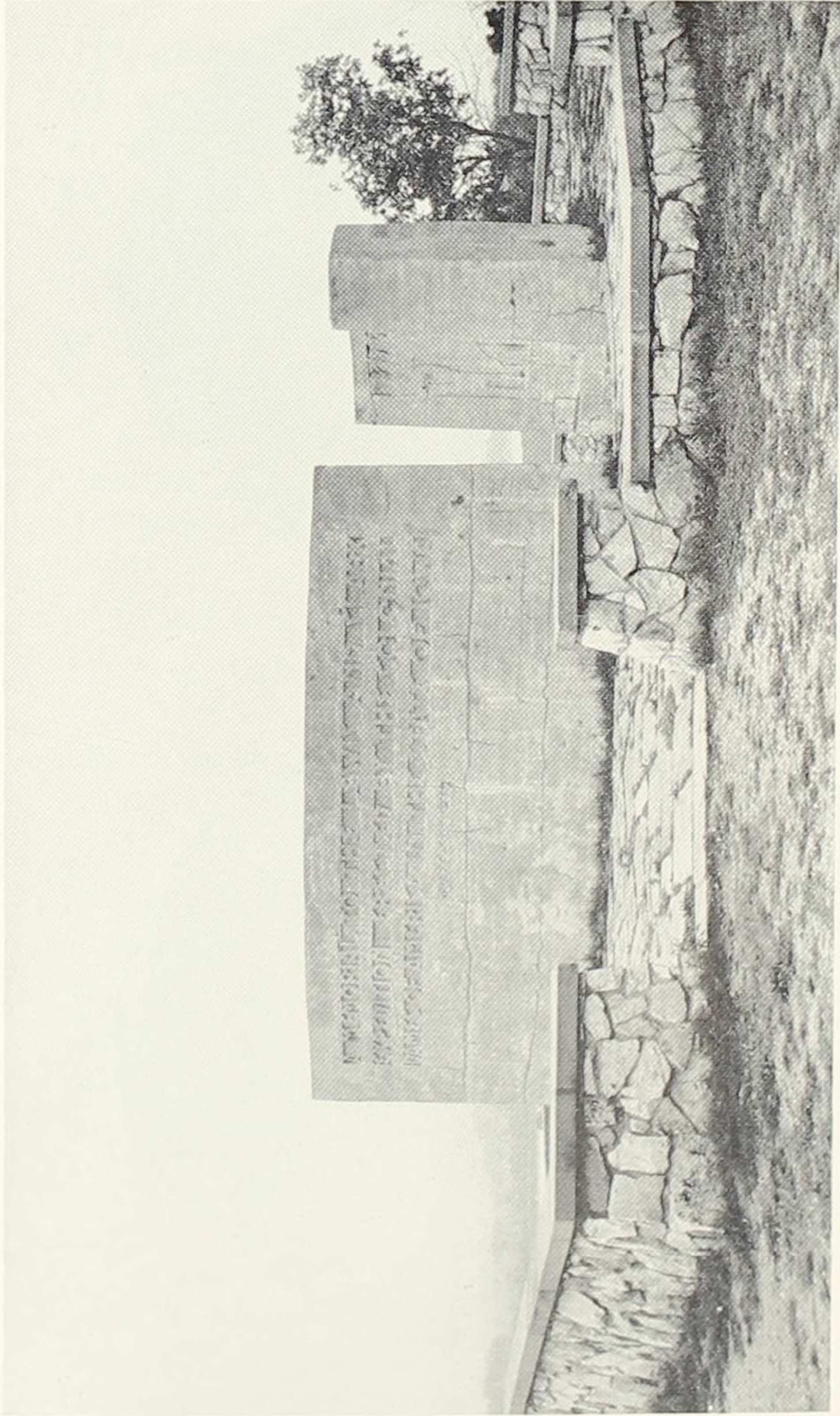
During the 33 days Lewis and Clark moved upstream along the western boundary of Iowa the expedition made the first detailed report of the Indians, wild game, and fish encountered, the soil,



MERIWETHER LEWIS



From Thwaites' *Original Journals of Lewis and Clark*
WILLIAM CLARK



Courtesy Council Bluffs *Nonpareil*

Monument to Lewis and Clark Expedition at Rainbow Point just Outside Council Bluffs.
One panel reads: "A Memorial to The Lewis And Clark Expedition Erected By The Colonial Dames of America in the State of Iowa—November, 1935."

The other panel reads: "Beneath the Bluffs on the Missouri Lewis and Clark Held Parley with the Otoe and Missouri Indians and Named the locality Council Bluffs—August 5, 1804."

flora, and fauna, the flow of the Missouri, the temperature, wind velocity, and weather. They gave to Jefferson and all Americans a picture of what had been an unknown and unreported region. Many of the names the party gave to geographical features remained and are still in use.

Today the Lewis and Clark expedition is commemorated by splendid monuments at Council Bluffs and Sioux City. The inscription to the Lewis and Clark expedition on the Floyd Monument at Sioux City reads as follows:

IN COMMEMORATION
OF THE
LOUISIANA PURCHASE
MADE DURING THE
ADMINISTRATION OF THOMAS JEFFERSON
THIRD PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
APRIL 30 1803

OF ITS SUCCESSFUL EXPLORATION
BY THE HEROIC MEMBERS OF THE
LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION
OF THE
VALOR OF THE AMERICAN SOLDIER
AND OF THE ENTERPRISE
COURAGE AND FORTITUDE OF THE
AMERICAN PIONEER
TO WHOM THESE GREAT STATES
WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER
OWE THEIR SECURE FOUNDATION

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

Sergeant Floyd's Journal

Sergeant Charles Floyd was one of the outstanding members of the Lewis and Clark expedition. His grandfather, William Floyd, migrated from Wales to Virginia early in the eighteenth century. He died in Amherst County in 1779, leaving five sons and seven daughters. In the fall of 1779 eight of these children, four sons and four daughters, migrated to Kentucky and settled at Bear Grass in Jefferson County near Louisville. The best known of these brothers was Colonel John Floyd, an officer in the Revolutionary War. Another brother, Charles, a surveyor and a friend of Daniel Boone, is supposed to have been the father of Sergeant Charles Floyd. Although the birth date of Sergeant Floyd is unknown, he is believed to have been born in Jefferson County, Kentucky, sometime between the years 1780 and 1785.

The Floyd family has given to America some notable pioneers, Indian fighters, soldiers, and statesmen. The family was on intimate terms with the Boones and the Clarks. The choice of William Clark as one of the two leaders of the Lewis and Clark expedition may account in part at least for the enlistment of Charles Floyd as one of the

nine Kentuckians to embark on this great adventure.

The Floyd Journal which follows is necessarily the briefest of all the journals kept on the expedition. The first entry was made on May 13th and the last on August 18th, two days before Floyd's death. These dates cover ninety-nine days, thirty-one of which record his adventures along the western border of Iowa. For several days in late June, Floyd was unable to make his own entries because "my hand is painfull." Again, on July 31st, Floyd wrote: "I am verry Sick and Has ben for Somtime but have Recovered my helth again." Thereafter his entries were normal in length until August 16th.

Sergeant Floyd recorded the departure of Lewis and Clark from Camp Dubois on a "Showery" Monday in May. The swift waters of the Missouri were difficult to stem and Floyd ordered his men to pitch camp on the north bank of the Big Muddy six miles above its mouth. Early the following afternoon the expedition arrived at St. Charles and awaited the arrival of Lewis from St. Louis. On May 21st they left St. Charles, making a scant four miles upstream. The following day they made fifteen miles before encamping. Indians arrived with four deer and were given two quarts of whiskey.

On May 23 the expedition passed the Femme Osage River where some Kentuckians, including

Daniel Boone, had settled just before the turn of the century. On May 25 they pitched camp near a French village which Floyd described as the "Last Setelment of whites on this River." Two days later they passed the mouth of the Gasconade and on June 1st reached the Osage River. On June 2nd, while most of the men were engaged in measuring the width of the Missouri and the Osage, some hunters went out and killed four deer. Upon their return they reported to Floyd that the land they traversed was "as Good as aney they ever saw."

Continuing upstream past the mouth of the Kansas River, the expedition slowly approached the mouths of the rivers that had their headwaters in southwestern Iowa. The following is the complete Floyd Journal from July 4 until his death.

Wensday July 4th 1804

Set out verry erley this morning passed the mouth of a Beyeu leading from a Lake on the N. Side this Lake is Large and was once the Bend of the River it reaches Parrellel for Several miles Came to on the South Side to Dine rest a Short time a Snake Bit Jo. Fieldes on the Side of the foot which Sweled much apply Barks to Coor [cure] and passed a Creek on the South Side a bout 15 yards wide Coming out of an extensive Prarie as the Creek has no name and this Day is the 4th of July we name this Independance Creek above this Creek the wood Land is about 200 yards Back of these wood is an extensive Praria open and High which may be Seen Six or Seven below saw Grat number of Goslins to day nearley Grown the Last mentioned prairie I call Jo. Fieldes Snake prarie Cap^t

Lewis walked on Shore we camped at one of the Butifulles Praries I ever Saw open and butifulley Divided with Hills and vallies all presenting themselves

Thursday July 5th 1804

Set out errley this morning Swam ouer Stray Horse a Cross the River to Join our other Horses prossed [proceed] on for two miles under the Bank of the old Kansas village formaley Stood in 1724 the couse [cause] of the Indians moving from this place I cant Larn but natreley Concluded that war has reduced thair nation and Compelled them to Retir further in to the Plaines with a view of Defending themselves and to operserve their enemey and to Defende them Selves on Horse Back encampt on the South Side

Friday July 6th 1804

Set out prossed under a Jentell Brees from the South west the water wase So [s]trong that we could Hardley Steem [stem] it Came 12 miles encampt at the mouth of a Creek on the South Side of the River Called Whipperwill Creek it is 15 yards wide

Saturday July 7th

Set out errley prosed [proceed] along, passed some Strong [fast] water on the South Side, which Compelled us to Draw up by the Cord Clear morning verry warm Strong water Came 10 miles Camt on the N. Side

Sunday July 8th

Set out at Sun Rise Rain Last night with wind from the E. passed some Good Land to day and High passed a Creek on the N. Side it Cam in Back of Isla[n]d it is a Bout 70 Yards wide Called Nadawa [Nodaway River] Creek the Land is Good and well timberd Camt on the N. Side

Monday July 9th 1804

Set out erley this morning prosed on passed a Small Creek on the South Side Called monter Creek High Land Rain to day Sailed the Gratist part of the day passed a prarie on the South Side whare Seve[r]al French famileys had Setled and made Corn Some Years ago Stayed two years the Indians came Freckentley [frequently] to See them and was verry frendley passed a Creek on the South Side Called wolf Creek it is about 60 yards wide the Land is Good water Strong made 10 miles encampt on the South Side Saw a fire on the N. Side thought it was ouer flanken partey Sent ouer perogue over for them and when they got over Saw no fire Seposed it to be Indians fired ouer Cannon for ouer men

Tuesday July 10th

Set out when we Could See, about us, when we Came to the place it was ouer men which had Left us two days ago, much feteged [fatigued] had Lay down and fell asleap passed a Small Creek on the South Side Called pape Creek it Comes through Bottom Land it is Called after a man who by drawning his Gun out of the Boat Shot him Self passed Som Strong water Campt on the North Side the Land is good

Wendesday, July, 11th, 1804.

Set out errley this morning prosed on passed a Creek on the N. Side Called Tarcio [Little Tarkio] Creek it Comes in Back of a Is^d on the N. Side Came to about 12 oclock P. m for the porpos of resting on[e] or two days the men is all Sick encamt on an Is^d, on the Southe Side floos in Creek Called Granma mohug [Big Nemaha] Creek it is about 100 yards wide the Land is good and well timber^d High and well Waterd this Creek Runs up and Heds near the River platt [Platte]

Thursday July 12th

Som Hunters out on the No. Side those on the South Side not Return Last night ouer object in Delaying hear is to tak Some observations and rest the men who are much fategeued, armes and amunition enspected all in Good order

Friday July 13th

Set out erley in the morning prosed on our Jorney passed a Creek on the N. Side Called the Big Tarkuo [Tarkio] River it is about 40 yads wide and verry mirey for Horses to Cross the Land is Low a verry hard Storm Last night from the N. E. which Lasted for about one ouer proseded with a Small S[h]ouer of Rain wind fare Sailed all day Came 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles Camt on a Sand Bare in the midel of the River a Small Shouer of Rain

Saturday July 14th 1804

Set out at day Lite Came one mile and $\frac{1}{2}$ Came a Dredfulle hard Storme from the South which Lasted for about one ouer and half which Cosed us to Jump out and hold hir She Shipt about 2 Barrels of water Came one mile the wind fare Sailed, passed a Creek on the N Side Called Neeshba Creek [Nishnabotna River] it is about 40 yards wide the Land is Low encamt on the Southe Side

Sunday July 15th 1804

Set out at Six oclock A. m pased a Creek on the South Side Called Plumb Run water verry Strong passed a Creek on the South Side Called Nemahaw Creek it is about 30 yards wide the Land is High and Good encamt on the South Side.

Monday July 16th

we Set out verry early and prossed on the Side of a Prarie the wind from the South Sailed ouer Boat Run

on a Sawyer Sailed all day made 20 miles passed Sevrall Isd Camt on the North Side

Tuesday July 17th 1804

Lay by all this day for to kill Som fresh meat Capt. Lewis & Go. Druger went out Hunting Drugher Killed 3 Deer the Land is prarie Land the Blufs puts in about 2 miles from the River and all prarie Land betwen which Runs up and Down for Som distance from 20 to 30 miles

Wendesday July 18th 1804

we Set out at Sun Rise the day Clear wind fair Sailed the Side of the Prarie Hear we toed for about 5 or 6 miles the Elke Sine [sign] is [v]erry plenty Deer is not as plenty as it was below passed Som High Clifts on the South Side Which hase the apperence of Iron ore the Clay is Red passed a verry Strong pace of Water. Saw a Dog on the Bank Which we Sepose to be Indians had ben Lost this is the first Sine of Indians we have Saw Camptd on the South Side the Land is Low that on the N. Side [Iowa] is prarie Land

Thursday July 19th

we Set out errley this morning prosed on passed a Run on the South Side Has no name we Called Cherry Run the Land is High Cliefts [cliffs] and pore whare a Grate number of thos Cherres thay Gro on Low Bushes about as High as a mans hed Came 9 miles past Several Is^d water Strong Campt on the South Side on a Small willow Is^d near the South Side the Land on the N. is Low, Land that on the South is High prarie Land

Friday July 20th

Set out at 6 oclock proseded on passed [t]he mouth of a Creek on the South Side Called Crys Creek it is about 35 yards wide it Comes in above Clifts oppset a willow Is^d at this Clift thare is a fine Spring on the

MANDAN VILLAGES WHERE LEWIS AND CLARK WINTERED



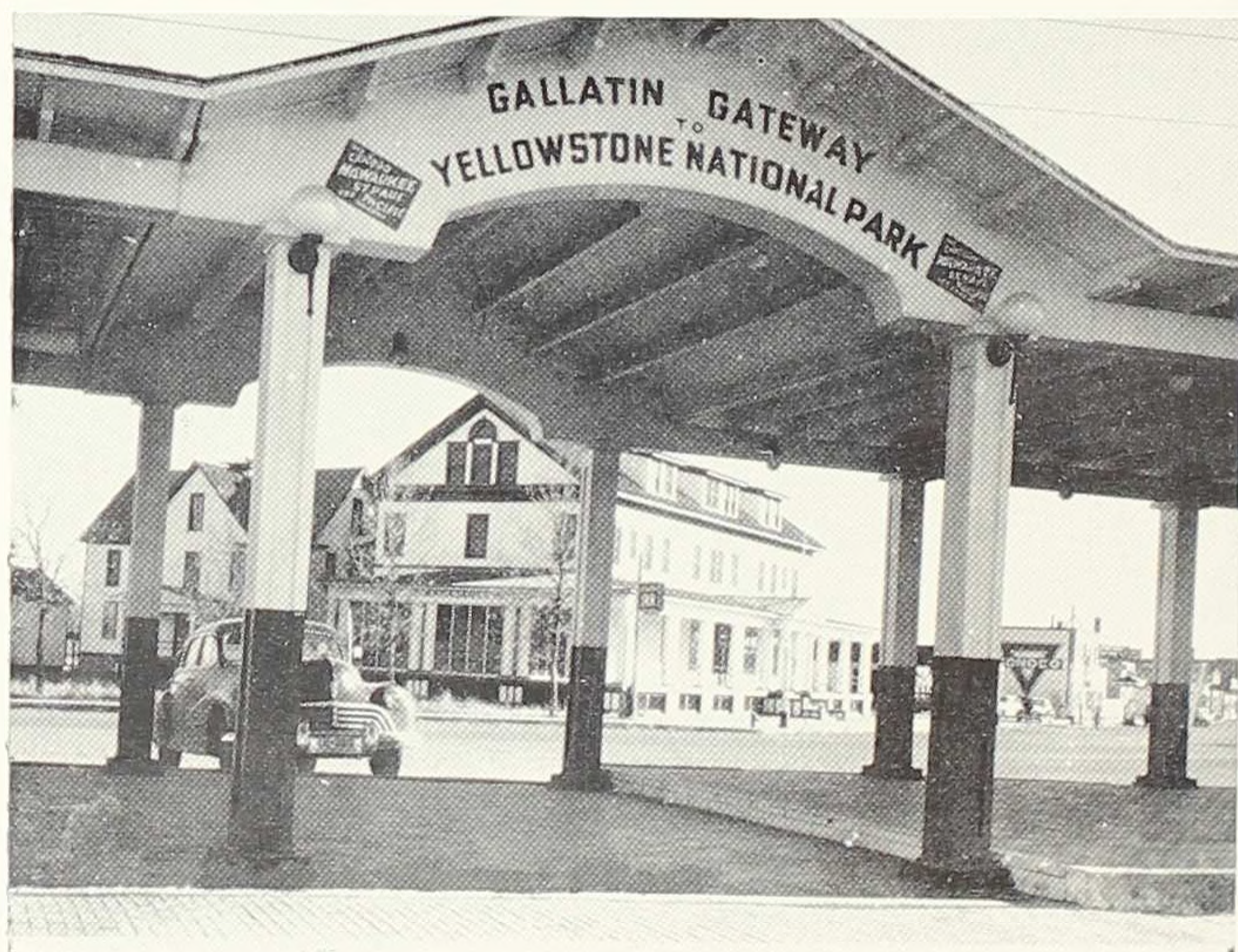
From Maximilian's *Travels*

Mandans on the Frozen Missouri



From Maximilian's *Travels*

A Mandan Village: Bullboats in Foreground



Courtesy Montana Historical Society
Sacajawea Hotel at Three Forks, Montana



Courtesy Montana Historical Society
Gates of the Mountains, Missouri River

top of this Hill is oppen prarie passed a Creek on the N. Side Called Pigger [Pigeon] Creek the Land is Low that on the South is High prarie Land passed Several Bad Sand Bares Campt on the South Side under a Large Hill

Saturday July 21th 1804

Set out at 4 oclock a m prossed on ouer Jouney Rain this morning wind fair Sailed passed the mouth of the Grait River Plate [Platte] on the South Side it is much more Rappided than the missorea [Missouri] it is about from one mile to 3 miles wide the Sand Roles out and formes Large Sand Bares in the middel of the missorea up the Plate about one mile the Hilles of Prarie Land about 2 days and half up the Plate 2 nations of Indians Lives vic [viz.] The Souttoes [Oto] the Ponney [Pawnee] this River is not navigable for Boats to Go up it passed a Creek Called the [blank space in MS.] on the South Side it is about 20 yardes wide it Comes out of a Large Prarie Campt on the South Side

Sunday July 22^d

Set out verrey erley this morning prossed on in Hopes to find Some Wood Land near the mouth of this first mentioned River but Could not we prossed on about 10 miles at Lenth found Som on Both Sides of the River encampt on the North Side

monday July 23^d 1804

We Lay By for the porpos of Resting and take Som observations at this place and to Send for Som Indians Sent George Drougher and ouer Bowsman w[h]o is aquainted with the nations nothing worth Relating to day

tuesday July 24th

we mad Larg and Long f[l]ags Staff and Histed it up

Histed ouer Collars [colors] in the morning for the Resep-
tions of Indians who we expected Hear when the Rain
and wind Came So that we wase forst to take it down
Sent Some of ouer men out to Hunt Some ore [oar]
timber for to make Some ores as the timber of that Coind
is verry [s]Carse up the River Continued Showery all
day

Wendesday July 25th

Continued Hear as the Capts is not Don there Riting
ouer men Returnd whome we had Sent to the town and
found non of them at Home but Seen Some fresh Sine of
them.

Thursday July 26th

ouer men fineshed the oares nothing worth Relating
except the wind was verry villant from the South Est

Friday July 27th

Swam ouer Horses over on to the South Side on acount
of the travilen is beter Set out at 12 oclock P. m prossed
on under a Jentell Brees from the South Este Sailed
made 10 miles encamt on the South Side at Prarie

Satturday July 28th

Set out verry erley this morning prossed on passed a
Creek on the North Side Called Beaver Creek is about
20 yards wide the Land is Low that on the South is
Prarie Land Rain the fore part of the day the Latter
part Clear with wind from the North Est. made 10 miles
Campt on the N. Side the Land is Low that on the
South is High prarie Land ouer flanken partey Came
with one Indian thay found on the South Side

Sunday July 29th

we Set out after we Dspashed the Indian and one of
ouer men with him to bring the Rest of his party the

Reason this man Gives of His being with so small a party is that He Has not Got Horses to Go in the Large praries after the Bufloes but Stayes about the Town and River to Hunte the Elke to separte thare famileys passed the mouth of Boyers [Boyer] River on the N. Side it about 30 yards wide the Land is Low Bottom Land out from the River is High Hills Campt on the North Side at a prarie

monday July 30th

Set out verry erley this morning Cam 3 miles Sopt [stopped] for the man whome we Had Sent with the Indian yesterday He has not Returnd Yet Sent 2 men out Hunting Did not Return Last night Campt on the South Side at prarie

Tuesday July 31th 1804

we Lay By for to See the Indianes who we expect Hear to See the Captains. I am verry Sick and Has ben for Somtime but have Recoverd my helth again the Indianes have not Come yet this place is Called Council Bluff 2 men went out on the 30th of July and Lost ouer horses

Wendesday august 1th 1804

Lay by all this day expecting the Indianes every ouer Sent George Drougher out to Hunt ouer Horses Sent one man Down the River to whare we eat Diner on the 28th of July to See if aney Indianes Had been thare He Returnd and Saw no Sigen of them

Thursday auguste 2^d

Ouer men hough [who] we had Sent after ouer Horses Returnd With them and Killed one Elke ouer men Killed 3 Deer to day the Indianes Came who we had expected thay fired meney Guns when thay Came in Site of us and we ansered them with the Cannon thay Came in about 2 hundred yardes of us Capt Lewis and Clark met them

at Shakeing Handes we fired another Cannon there wase 6 Chiefs and 7 men and one French man with them who has Lived with them for som yeares and has a family with them

Friday august 3rd

the Council was held and all partes was agreed the Captens Give them meney presentes thes is the ottoe and the Missouries the Missouries is a verry Small nathion the ottoes is a verry Large nathion So thay Live in one village on the Plate River after the Council was over we took ouer Leave of them and embarked at 3 oclock P. m under a Jentell Brees from the South Est Sailed made 6 miles Campt on the South Side the Land Low, that on the N. prarie Land.

Satturday august 4th 1804

Set out erly this morning after the Rain was over it Rained Last night with wind and thunder from the N. W. it Lasted about an ouer prossed on the morning Clear passed a Creek on the South Side as it has no name and the Council was Held below it about 7 miles we Call it Council Creek or Pond this Creek Comes out of a Large Pond which Lays under the High prarie Hills the wood Land is not plenty hear ondley along the River Banks in places, passed Som bad Sand bares camt on the South Side a Large prarie that on the N. is prarie Land

Sunday august 5th

Set out erley this morning Cam 2 miles when a verry hard Storm of wind and Rain from the North Est it Lasted a bout 2 ouers and Cleard up I have Remarked that I have not heard much thunder in this Countrey Lightning is Common as in other Countreys a verry Large Snake was Killed to day Called the Bull Snake his Colure Somthing Like a Rattel Snake passed Sev-

erall Bad Sand bares made 16 miles Campt on the North Side at Som wood Land that on the South is wood Land

monday August 6th 1804

we Set out at a erley ouer this morning prossed on passed a Creek on the N. Side Called Soldiers Creek [Soldier River] it Comes in Back of a Isld near the N. S. about 12 oclock Last night a villant Storm of wind and Rain from the N. W. Camt on the South Side the Land is Low that on the N. S. the Saim

Tuesday August 7th

Set out at 6 oclock A. m prossed on day Clear wind from the North west on the 4th of this month one of ouer men by the name of Moses B. Reed went Back to ouer Camp whare we had Left in the morning, to Git his Knife which he Had Left at the Camp the Boat went on and He Did not Return, that night nor the next day nor Night, [u]pon examining his nap-Sack we found that he had taken his Cloas and all His powder and Balles, and had hid them out that night and had made that an excuse to Desarte from us with out aney Jest Case we never minded the Said man u[n]till the 7th we Sent 4 men after him we expect he will make for the ottoe town as it is not mor than 2 days Journey from whare he Run away from us Water Good made 16 miles Camp^d on the North Sid at Some Wood Land

Wendesday Aug^t 8th 1804

Set out this morning at the usele time day Clear wind from the N. W. prossed on passed the mouth of the Littel Soue [Little Sioux] River on the N. Side it is about 80 yards wide this River is navigable for Boates to Go up it for Som Distance in the Cuntrey and Runes parelel with the Missourie 2 miles above on a Sand Bare

Saw Grait Number of Pelicans Capt Clark went out on the South Side and Jo Collines Killed on[e] Elke water Bad mad 12 miles Camp^d on the N. Side the Land is Low march Land that on the South is prarie Land

Thursday augt the 9th

Set out at 7 oclock a, m, after the fague [fog] was Gon which is verry thick in this Cuntrey Cap^t Clark and my Self went out on the South side passed a verry Bad place in the River whare the water is verry Shellow mad 17 miles Camp^d on the South Side at prarie

Friday augt the 10th

Set out at errley ouer this morning prosed on passed a bad Sand bare Which is verry Shallow made 23 miles Camped on a sand bare on the N. Side the Land on the S. S. is High Hilley Land

Satturday august 11th 1804

Set out after a verry hard Storm this morning of wind and Rain continued untill 9 oclock A m. and Cleard up prosed on passed a high Bluff whare the Kinge of the Mahas [Omahas] Died about 4 yeares ago the Hill on which he is berred [buried] is about 300 feet High the nathion Goes 2 or 3 times a year to Cryes over him Cap^t Lewis and Clark went up on the Hill to See the Grave thay histed a flage on his Grave as noner [an honor] for him which will pleas the Indianes, passed the mouth of a Creek on the South Side Called Waie Con Di Peeche or the Grait Sperit is Bad whare this Chief died and about 300 Hundred of his men with the Small pox this Chiefs name was the Black Bird made 15 miles Camped on the North Side

Sunday august 12th 1804

Set out at the usel time prosed on under a Jentel Brees from North Est Sailed day Clear passed Red Seeder

Bluffs on the South Side made 16 miles Camped on a Sand bare in the middel of the River

Monday august 13th

Set out verry erley this morning prosed on under a Jentel Brees from the South-Est Sailed morning Clouday about 10 o.ck. it Cleared up we aRived at the Mahas village about 2 oclock P m Sent Som of ouer men to Se if aney of the natives was at Home thay Returnd found none of them at Home

Tuesday August 14th

Lay by for ouer men How we had Sent after the Desarter on the 7th thes Indians has not Live at the town Sence the Smallpoks was so bad about 4 years ago thay Burnt thare town and onley live about it in the winter and in the Spring Go all of them in the praries after the Buflow and dos not Return untill the fall to meet the french traders thay Rase no Corn nor aney thing excep Som times thay Rase Som Corn and then the Ottoe nation Comes and Cuts it Down while thay are in the praries

Wendesday august 15th

Capt Clark and 10 of his men and my Self went to the Mahas Creek a fishen and Caut 300 and 17 fish of Difernt Coindes ouer men has not Returnd yet

Thursday august 16th

Capt Lewis and 12 of his men went to the Creek a fishen Caut 709 fish Differnt Coindes

Friday august 17th

Continued Hear for ouer men thay did not Return Last night

Satturday augt 18th

ouer men Returnd and Brot with them the man and Brot with them the Grand Chief of the ottoes and 2 Loer ones and 6 youers [others?] of thare nattion

Sergeant Floyd became ill the next day and died on August 20th. The following spring Lewis wrote Jefferson that he had sent the Floyd journal to Captain Stoddard in St. Louis. Some years later it was acquired by Dr. Lyman C. Draper and deposited in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin where Dr. Reuben G. Thwaites discovered it in 1893 among the Draper papers. It was written in a $5\frac{7}{8}$ by $7\frac{1}{2}$ inch notebook with marble boards.

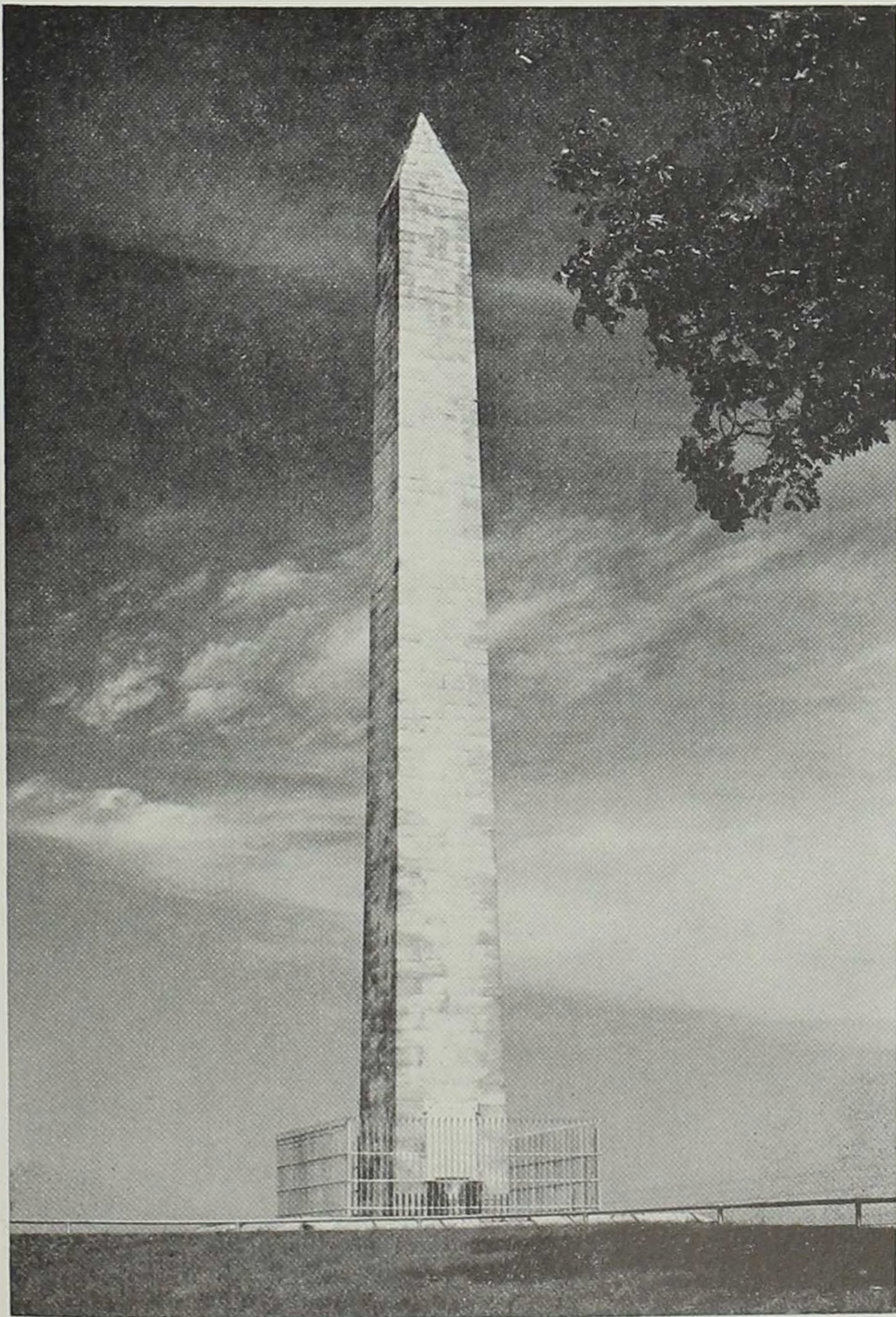
The Floyd Monument at Sioux City stands as a fitting memorial to the young Kentuckian who died while passing along the western border of Iowa. The inscription on the obelisk reads:

FLOYD
THIS SHAFT
MARKS THE BURIAL PLACE OF
SERGEANT CHARLES FLOYD
A MEMBER OF THE
LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION
HE DIED IN HIS COUNTRY'S SERVICE
AND WAS BURIED NEAR THIS SPOT
AUGUST 20 1804

GRAVES OF SUCH MEN ARE PILGRIM SHRINES
SHRINES TO WHICH NO CLASS OR CREED CONFINED

ERECTED A D 1900
BY THE
FLOYD MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION
AIDED BY THE UNITED STATES
AND THE STATE OF IOWA

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN



Courtesy Sioux City Chamber of Commerce
The Floyd Monument at Sioux City

