

with twenty men, establish a post there and take possession of a copper-mine, which le Sueur had discovered.¹

1700.

This detachment started towards the end of April, (1700),² ascended the Micissipi to St. Anthony's Falls, entered St. Peter's River,³ forty leagues up which they found another river emptying on the left, and which has been called Rivière Verte, (Green River,)⁴ because earth falling from the mine gives it that color. Le Sueur could sail up this river only about a league, finding it covered with floating ice, although it was only the end of September. This compelled him to throw up at that spot a kind of fort⁵ to pass the winter, which proved extremely severe, and lasted till the beginning of April.

Copper-
mine
among the
Sioux.

The writer who gives an account of this voyage, states a circumstance which is worthy of notice. He says that having run out of provisions, they made up for it by hunting buffaloes; that to preserve the flesh of these animals, they quartered them, and for want of salt, left them in the air, where they soon spoiled; that at first they found it very hard to accustom themselves to this food, which gave them all diarrhoeas and fevers, with such a loathing for it,

Remarkable
observation.

¹ There are two accounts of Le Sueur's Voyage, that in Penicaut, *Annale Veritable*, ch. ii., § 2, here followed by Charlevoix, and that in Bénéard de la Harpe, *Journal Historique*, pp. 88-70; *Early Voyages up and down the Mississippi*, pp. 87-112.

Le Sueur was a Canadian and a kinsman of d'Iberville. In 1693 he was at Chegoimegon, maintaining peace between the Chippewas and the Sioux. *N. Y. Col. Doc.*, ix., p. 570. He built a fort in the west in 1695. In 1697 he was in France and got permission to work mines he had discovered, but on his way to Canada was captured by the English. On recovering his liberty, he sailed to Canada with a new commission, but meeting difficulties, went back, and in 1699 proceeded

to Louisiana. After his voyage up to Minnesota, he returned to France in 1702. Some years after, while again on his way to Louisiana, he died at sea. La Harpe, p. 21. *Early Voyages up, &c.*, pp. 89-91.

² Le Sueur arrived in Louisiana on Dec. 7th, 1699, with 30 miners.

³ Sept. 19th. La Harpe, p. 52. *Early Voyages*, p. 91.

⁴ Penicaut, ch. ii., § 2. La Harpe says Rivière Bleue, as Charlevoix does in his *Journal*, p. 397. It is now called Blue Earth River, or Mankato; see Owen's *Survey of Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota*, p. 486.

⁵ At 44° 13' N. La Harpe, p. 53. *Early Voyages*, p. 101. It was one league up the river, on a point of land.