

JOURNAL FROM DETROIT TO THE ILLINOIS

Journal of a Voyage made by M^r Hugh Heward to the Illinois Country

Detroit March 24th 1790 took my Departure for the Illinois.¹ had much Trouble as Customary in getting the Engagee's off in which Hurry we left a Keg of pork behind 'till we got to the petite Cote, return'd with one of the Cannots to Babys Mill & then with Duarier walk'd up opposite the Fort & borrow'd a Cannot to cross—had just Time to get the Keg & get out at the Gate at 9 oClock cross'd & return'd the Cannot & from thence carried the Keg of pork each his Turn to our Cannot at M^r Baby's Mill, Slept there & next morning the 25th very wet & disagreeable we from there joined our other Cannot at Labourses Mill the Weather so bad we unloaded & I there hired Joseph La Mirand² another Engagee at 40/p Month about mid Day

¹ For a sketch of the career of Hugh Heward see *ante*, 277. The occasion of his present journey to the Illinois is not known, but it seems evident he was acting in the capacity of agent to William Robertson. It seems evident, also, that the manuscript journal now extant is not the day by day record as actually kept by Heward, but rather an amplified report prepared at a somewhat later date. The surmise is offered that this was done by Heward during a period of comparative leisure subsequent to the termination of this journey, for the purpose of forwarding to Robertson. With the copy of the journal as printed here are preserved two sheets of what appears to have been the actual daily record made on the journey. One of these contains only the title, as printed above. The other is filled (on both sides) with entries which are frequently much briefer than those recorded in the draft of the journal here printed, and which differ from the latter, furthermore, in various details. The journal as printed, therefore, is presumed to be a copy written out by Heward at a date subsequent to the termination of the journey described, and to be based on his briefer daily record amplified from the fuller knowledge carried in memory. Yet this theory does not entirely suffice to dispose of the problem before us. For example, the entry of April 19 in the sheet which we presume to be the original diary merely records: "Arrived at the Portage this Day Mid Day this day measured the portage & follow'd on foot." It can hardly be supposed that the precise details as to measurements and otherwise in the entry for April 19, as printed, were carried in memory by Heward over a period of several weeks and of several hundred miles of arduous travel. All that can be certainly stated editorially is that the manuscript journal here printed was produced not long after the conclusion of the journey described in it.

² Joseph Lamirande, founder of the Detroit and River Raisin line of this name, was born in the district of Three Rivers, Canada, in 1767. Probably he came west in early manhood in the capacity of fur-trade engagé. On May 18, 1795, he married at Detroit Mary Angelica Salot, who was born at Sandwich, Aug. 8, 1780. They had