

Nore West the Current for about 2 Leagues exceeding Strong the Banks high but Land dry & barren abounding with Black Oak & Fern our Distance about 12 miles. Wrote to Mr Robertson⁶ & left with Sanscraint to be sent tomorrow. Encamped.

Saturday Ap^l 3^d 1790. parted the Weather fine & Current not so strong as Yesterday the River much Streighter & the course West Nore West the Banks still high but the Land still of a barren kind being a Stony thin Soil with principally Red Oak to here there seems yet a great Body of Water & a firm Gravelly Bottom but too high yet for setting to advantage thus far to mid Day the course West & by North the River streighter & wider but from hence in the Summer there cannot be much Water there is now a fine Gravelly Bottom the Width of the River about 45 yd^s a strong Current but able to traverse with poles any where, our Distance about 25 miles & not yet come to the Forks. Encamped.

Sunday April 4th 1790. Obligated to remain all Day a continual Rain. Went to look out above but could not yet see the Forks the course at this place nearly West.

Monday Ap^l 5th 1790. Continued our Rout the Course nearly West & arrived at a Villiage at Mid Day the Water still strong & upon a flat Gravelly Bottom the Country nearly as before. about five oClock arrived at the Forks⁷ which from the River on a West Course divides one Branch South West & the other North West that of South West being our Course we proceeded about four Miles up & encamped near where we were to make a Mark for our

⁶ William Robertson, of Detroit, for whom see *ante*, 208.

⁷ The route followed by Heward from the upper Huron River to the headwaters of Grand River is involved in some obscurity. Prof. W. B. Hinsdale of the University of Michigan has kindly studied this portion of Heward's journal and is responsible for the statements concerning it which are here subjoined: the fork which Heward had reached was at the village of Dexter, where Mill Creek empties into the Huron. It was this creek which Heward ascended on foot, as described in the opening lines of the entry for April 6. The Indian trail described in the entry for April 7 was in the northwest corner of Washtenaw County, and during the difficulties encountered in the search for the portage on April 7 and 8, Heward was traversing the townships of Lyndon and Dexter. Further data concerning the route pursued will be given in subsequent notes.