

naturally be the conduct of a war party of Indians, that I at first believed him, but we stopped shortly after for dinner, and although the men pretended to be much afraid of the Indians, I discovered something in their conduct that satisfied me, that it was a hoax. They proposed to turn back to Prairie du Chien for fear of the Indians, but I told them that I was never in the habit of turning back through fear, until I saw there was really danger, and that I did not require them to run any risk which I would not myself freely share.

We finally proceeded on quietly until near the mouth of Riverie AuBœuf or Buffalo River, when Armstrong and the man who came down with him, who were actually in great fear, as they were not in the secret of the plot, discovered an Indian on the bluffs below its mouth, or imagined they did, and gave the alarm of "Chippewa!" But we met some Sioux at the foot of the bluffs, and they said that it could not be Chippewas, as they had the day before been hunting over there and thought it probable that some of their people might still be hunting there. So we proceeded to a point opposite to the mouth of the Chippewa River, and encamped for the night.

So much had been said about danger from the Chippewas, that I began to believe there was something in it, and must confess that the next morning I entered the narrow mouth of the Chippewa, fringed with bushes, with some fear that some Indian might be hid, and fire upon us without giving notice of his presence; but once in, the feeling of fear wore off, and we proceeded on with little to eat until about 10 o'clock, when we came to a Menominee lodge, where we found a great deal of venison, and a quantity stuck up around the fire cooking, to which we did ample justice. We then proceeded about ten miles up the river, where we found the boat and three Americans who had remained with it. But they refused, as well as the Canadians to go back to the mill under the superintendence of Armstrong; and from all accounts of the men, as well as from what I had seen of him, I was