

the organization of the regiment or of our scout, and now we disbanded. I was present at the treaty of Portage des Sioux, which was concluded on the 18th of July; Gov. Clark, Gov. Edwards of Illinois, and Col. Aug. Chouteau of St. Louis, were the commissioners, and Col. Rene Paul, Chouteau's son-in-law, was appointed French and English interpreter.

My pecuniary condition was, at this time, exceedingly unpleasant. I was now about thirty thousand dollars in debt for supplies furnished the Rangers, and not a cent had they received for their services during the war, owing, I believe, to the culpable withholding of the pay on the part of the paymasters, who probably used it for purposes of speculation, rather than the inability or inattention of Government to pay it. The Rangers getting no pay, of course I got none. In some instances, the paymasters bought up the Rangers' claims at a reduced price, and paid for them in goods. The balance due the Rangers, was finally paid towards the close of 1815; but as they lived in various parts of the country, and many of them were irresponsible, I eventually lost \$13,684.93, all in consequence of the Rangers not getting their pay while in service, for had they been paid then, I should have promptly received mine. After collecting all I could from every quarter, I was still over eight thousand dollars in debt, which I ultimately paid to the last farthing, by boating and other operations during the ensuing four years. My creditors, knowing the object for which I purchased supplies of them, and knowing also, how I had suffered heavy pecuniary loss by the Rangers failing to get their pay promptly, never charged me any interest. I mention this to their credit.

Though the Indians, at the treaty of Portage des Sioux, had promised to be peaceful, there were individual exceptions. Relying upon the treaty, and the good faith of the Indians, the enterprising whites pushed out up the river, while, as the sequel proved, not a few of the Indians were yet hostile in their feelings. Several whites were attacked by these malcontents during 1815. Among them was John York Sawyer, a Vermonter, afterwards a