

Anderson's Journal at Fort McKay, 1814

By Capt. Thomas G. Anderson

WEDNESDAY, August 10th, 1814.—Col. McKay set off at ten o'clock in the morning; would not allow any guns to be fired. In the afternoon a few Renards (Foxes) arrived from the Riviere au D'Inde, and brought word that they had seen the two barges that had went adrift from this place. The Tonnerre Noir, or Black Thunder, a Yankee Indian, passed on his way above, unperceived.

THURSDAY, August 11th.—Gave out some few articles of goods to the Michigan Volunteers, by Col. McKay's orders previous to leaving. Gave out twelve carrots of tobacco to be distributed among the troops in general. This was done because it is customary to allow the people of this place to smoke as a preventive to sickness. The want of provisions obliges me to give every assistance to the farmers to get in their grain as fast as possible. I, therefore, allow all the Volunteers that are not on duty, to go and work for them in the day time. Employed the Sergt. of artillery men, with some of the Michigans, in making leaden three-pound balls. Appointed a patrol to go about at night in order to detect stragglers, if any such persons should be found, that they may give an account of themselves.

FRIDAY, August 12th.—Sent off twelve men with an interpreter, and two Indians for the barges that drifted away from this place. One of the Volunteers by the name of Aslin, having refused to go on fatigue, and having absented himself without leave, I put in close confinement and allow him one and one-half pounds of