

unassuming, upright in his intercourse with his fellow-men, and highly respected.¹

At a very early period, one Grant was said to have penetrated the country on what is now Grant River, discovered lead there, mined some of it, and buried the mineral. He went away, and never returned for it. As late as 1827, Joseph Brisbois, B. W.

¹ In Grignon's narrative, in the third volume of the *Wis. Hist. Collections*, as well as in Capt. Anderson's narrative in the present volume, Duncan Graham's British services at Prairie du Chien are fully mentioned. Gen. H. H. Sibley, of St Paul, writes to the editor of this work: "I knew Capt. Graham well. He was the father-in-law of Alexander Faribault, lately deceased, who was the founder of the flourishing town that bears his name. Capt. Graham was an officer in the British Indian department, and was present in command of a party of Dakota or Sioux warriors, composing a portion of the force that was defeated by Col. Croghan at Lower Sandusky in 1813. He became a citizen of the United States subsequent to the war, and traded with the Sioux Indians for many years. I am under the impression that he died in 1844, or '45, at Wabasha, where he had been living with his son-in-law, Joseph Buisson. He must have been seventy-five years old or more at the time of his demise; and for several years previously had passed his leisure days in going from one part of this wild region to another, being a man of remarkable physical vigor, although of slight build.

Mr. Neill, in his *Hist. of Minnesota*, relates, on the authority of Gen. Sibley, that the crop of 1819 having failed in Lord Selkirk's colony on Red River, Duncan Graham, with one Laidlaw, was employed in the spring of 1820 to conduct three boats from Prairie du Chien, laden with two hundred bushels of wheat, one hundred bushels of oats, and thirty bushels of peas, to Pembina. This timely supply cost Lord Selkirk about \$6,000.

Capt. Graham was a native of the Highlands of Scotland, descending from a good family. He appears to have shared with Robert Dixon and the Indians in the campaign of 1813 on Maumee, and at Fort Stevenson, and the next year at Prairie du Chien, and the Rock River Rapids. He married a half-breed Dakota woman—a descendant of Penechon, a noted Sioux chief said to have been the son of a white trader of that name, who lived on the eastern shore of Lake Pepin—and as the Indians used to relate, the first white man ever seen by their ancestors. Capt. Graham had one son, Alexander, and four daughters,—the latter marrying respectively Hon. Alexander Faribault, Hon. James Wells, Joseph Buisson, and Oliver Cratt—all now dead except Mrs. Buisson, and all leaving numerous descendants. For his war services, Capt. Graham was granted lands in Canada, which from litigation never realized him anything. He is said to have been the first white man who penetrated so far in the Northwest as the Devil's Lake, in Dakota, an island in which was named after him. See also p. 467, *post*.

L. C. D.