

day sand stone in regular strata—timber principally birch & popular of a young growth.

From our encampment could see the opposite shore in a westerly direction.

WEDNESDAY, July 5.

We embarked at $\frac{1}{4}$ before 3 this morn, and with the aid of a little fair wind we reached the Fond Du Lac river¹ at 12 o'clock, 48 miles from the river Brulé or Burnt wood which we passed yesterday. The mouth of the river is S. 60 W. a short distance. We steered N. 70 W. 2 miles, in which it widens from $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 mile. We came to an Indian village of 7 lodges where Indians were obtained to assist us in conveying our things over the portage. This river is very crooked, and is enclosed on both sides by mountains. About 5 miles up we passed an old establishment of the N. W. Co's which they deserted during the late war. We reached the S. W. Co's establishment an hour before sunset where we are encamped, 21 miles from the m. of the river, and making 63 miles travel this day. In ascending the river the wind was frequently fair.

This place was first occupied 3 years since, during which several buildings have been erected. It is pleasantly situated on the brow of a high hill and at the head of several small Islands formed in the river. A spot of land of 3 or 4 acres from which the timber had been cut for fires, is tilled, and is now bearing very fine potatoes. The soil is a rich black mould. The Co. with great difficulty have transported to this place 3 horses, 3 cows, one yoke of oxen and 4 bulls. They also have the implements of husbandry. It was a great treat to obtain milk at this distance in the wilderness.

A young crane about 3 ft. high had been *tamed* and was running around here.

Mr. Cotes² had charge of the establishment. He in-

¹ Named St. Louis River, on modern maps.—ED.

² In Warren's "History of the Ojibways" (*Minn. Hist. Colls.*, v., pp. 381-383), the name is spelled "Cotte."—ED.