

FRIDAY, July 14.

This morning Mr. S. Lt. M. & Mr. C.<sup>1</sup> left for the portage to meet the residue of the party. I was well enough pleased to remain in *a house* among *half* civilized beings and gain a little rest.

SATURDAY, July 15.

The Gov. arrived this afternoon. He appeared nearly overcome with heat and fatigue.

SUNDAY, July 16.

Spent in reading and walking. Found several old curious works in the small library kept at this Est. These young gent. have had no communication with the civilized world for more than a year, and the narration of the events which have occurred during this period, while it pleased, seemed to astonish them. I very much doubt whether the desire to accumulate wealth could ever so strongly predominate in me as to induce me to forsake the pleasures, the comforts, and elegancies of civilized life for a residence in this dreary wilderness where men generally suffer their passions to go at large so totally unrestrained that they fall far below the savages with whom they associate. There are certainly few situations which fortune could compel me to endure, more dreadful than this. Starvation has few horrors which are not at some season or other felt in a greater or less degree by the resident here. Even at this season these people are living on dried buffalo meat and Labrador tea! without bread or vegetables. They have a few potatoes growing which if the soil were not very rich would not yield a bushel to the acre. And even of these the Indians take much the larger share.

This lake is surrounded by hills of sand and gravel in which I found great numbers of cornelians, agates and jaspers. Many deep bays make out from the lake between the hills.<sup>2</sup> There are 6 or 8 small lakes or ponds adjacent to this. From a hill back of the Estb. 4 may be seen within 2 miles.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Schoolcraft, Lieut. Mackay, and Mr. Chase.—ED.

<sup>2</sup> Schoolcraft gives a good sketch of Sandy Lake (*Narrative*, p. 116.)—ED.