

The timber is chiefly white and yellow pine, interspersed in the vallies with a little maple, oak and ash.

The Mississippi runs within  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile of the lake.

This morning the Gov. with some of the party & 3 canoes left here for the sources of the Mississippi. The difficulty of navigation precluded the residue from accompanying him.

During his absence I occupied myself in surveying the lake and acquiring information relative to the country—(See ad. Journal.)<sup>1</sup>

MONDAY, July 24.

This day the Gov. & gent. returned quite exhausted<sup>2</sup> while those who remained were greatly recruited. They did not go to the extreme source of the river, only to red cedar Lake the highest navigable water at this season, and 350 miles from Sandy lake. The whole of the country is low & marshy, and much of it covered with wild rice. The river above Sandy Lake becomes very crooked—so much so that the river in one instance in the short distance of 1 mile would cross a straight line 15 times. Frequently by making a portage of the length of the canoe 3 or 4 miles was saved.

ST. PETERS, CAMP COLD WATER, SATURDAY, July 31.

In the afternoon of this day we arrived at this post, having left Sandy Lake about 10 o'clock of the 25th inst. One &  $\frac{1}{2}$  of these days was spent in hunting buffalo on the scrub oak prairies. Four buffalo 1 Elk & 1 deer were killed. These were very grateful this being the first fresh [meat] we have obtained on the tour. The buffalo meat is rather inferior to that of the bear—the deer and elk are nearly equal. We saw many large herds feeding on the prairies. Until we arrived at these prairies the banks of the river

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<sup>1</sup> The information then acquired by Doty was in September following written out in detail in a letter addressed to Gov. Cass. It will be found in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, vii., pp. 195 *et seq.*—Ed.

<sup>2</sup> They had been as far as the sources of the Mississippi, and had suffered much from mosquitoes and fatigue.—Ed.