

water gushing out of a lime stone rock is excellent. It is called "Camp Cold Water." Preparations are making to erect a Fort on a high bluff at the junction of the Mississippi and St. Peters.<sup>1</sup> Its latitude  $44^{\circ} 54'$  as calculated by Capt. Douglass, & Lieut. Talcott Engineer to the Yellow Stone Expedition. He had arrived at this post a few days before we did, having been 2 weeks from the Council Bluffs. His object was to ascertain the practicability of making a road from the Bluffs to the St. Peters, distance about 300 miles. He states the whole country to be almost an entire prairie.

The Sioux, who inhabit the country around the falls, had been up the Mississippi before our descent, to negotiate a peace with the Chippeways. They made 23 camps from the falls to the place where they stopt. They advanced a short distance into the country claimed by the Chippeways—it might have been 300 miles. Here they left a *letter* for the Chippeways, informing of their readiness to cease hostilities. It was a piece of birch bark, on which was marked with the point of a knife the rivers Miss. & St. Peters, the American Camp, the journey of the Sioux, their numbers, a few Chippeways and the leaders of the 2 bands shaking hands. It showed also the Chiefs present, and where those absent, who were willing to join had gone. The Gov. preserved the letter. The Chief at Sandy Lake and several other Indians came down with us. A treaty of peace was entered into between them and the Sioux that could be collected around the fort, about 300. In such a treaty those particular tribes or bands unrepresented in the Council are not considered bound by it. It is to be hoped these wretched creatures will no longer war with each other for causes unknown to the present generation, but cease their deadly hostilities. The country inhabited by either is sufficient to supply all their necessities and wants.

The River St. Peters, at its mouth, is a sluggish stream, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  the size of the Mississippi. Its waters are of a yellowish colour, apparently filled with alluvial soil. It

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<sup>1</sup> Fort Snelling.—Ed.