

not ready and could not leave before the first of June, nor could I have done it as I was then situated, still I was ready as soon as the Indians were.

We however set out the twelfth of June. We should doubtless have started about the first had it not been unusually wet during the spring, so that the Indians could not clear and get in their crops which they must attend to before leaving. At first the Delegation consisted of five, headed by John Metoxen. This was considered a sufficient number to represent the nation and also to man our bark-canoe, on board of which we put our provisions &c. for the journey.

Nothing worthy of particular notice occurred whilst ascending the Fox river to the Portage at Fort Winnebago, excepting that our progress was slow in consequence of the Indians being unacquainted with managing bark-canoes and one of our number was taken sick and we were obliged to leave him at the Portage. The Fox river is remarkable for nothing except its meanderings and lakes; as it takes its rise in a small lake about 3 miles from the Portage, and between this place and its outlet at Winnebago Lake there are four small ones, and the widening at the Big Butte des Morts [Hill of Death] may fairly be considered as making the fifth. The largest however of these is Lake Winnebago which extends from N. to S. about 35 m. and from E. to W. about 8 or 10 m. Having so many vast reservoirs it never overflows its banks, nor does the ice break up at once in the spring, but wears away by degrees. The soil upon its

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1804. Williamson was appointed missionary of the American Board in 1834. On April 25, 1834, he started on an exploring tour from Ripley, doubtless the tour during which Marsh was to meet him. Williamson ascended the Mississippi to Fort Snelling, then the highest white settlement on the Mississippi, visited Prairie du Chien and Rock Island, and collected such information respecting the Dakotas, or Sioux, as led to the establishment of a mission among them. He returned to Ripley, July 2, 1834, and was ordained near Chillicothe, Ohio, in September, 1834. His later missionary experiences and trials in what is now the state of Minnesota, are foreign to this article. He died at St. Peters, Minn., June 24, 1879; his wife died at St. Peters, July 21, 1872.—W. W. W.