

and for no higher motive than the gratification of his curiosity & passion for sport, I felt ashamed before God, that I had so long held back from a mission among the Indians in order to *save souls*.¹

28th. To save 12 miles in 32, I took a new road to the Wisconsin, for 14 miles. I travelled a bridle path when in the woods, but when in the Prairie, which was most of the way, I had to travel with or without a trail, as it happened. I made out to hit upon the fords of the streams except the last before I reached the Military road, but there being a farm in sight, when on the hills, I found but little difficulty in getting along to the house. Here I fed myself, but could get nothing but Prairie hay & pumpkins for my horse, of which he did not eat much. In this neighborhood were 6 families, recently settled, but the gospel had never yet reached any of their dwellings.

From this to the Wisconsin, 6 miles, & from thence to Prairie du Chien, 6 miles more, I travelled the new Military road, which leads from the Prairie to fort Winnebago, at the portage between the Wisconsin & the Fox River of Green Bay. This road is new & pretty good.

The Wisconsin at the ferry is about half a mile wide including the Islands & Slews or buyo's, but if all the water run in one channel, it probably would not be over 80 or 100 rods. I saw no place in this or the Mississippi River, that I could see straight across it for Islands or strips of land, with Slews, channels or pools behind them. In consequence of these Islands, the beds of these Rivers are wider, & the channel more difficult to find than they otherwise would be. The sand which lies in the bed of the Wisconsin moves by the influence of the current so that the channel is often changed, & rendered difficult for navigation.

Just about sun down I reached the house of Bro. Samuel

¹ *Western Pioneer*, ii, p. 38:—"I slept in a cabin chamber with Sir Charles Murray, Queen Victoria's chamberlain, then selecting lands to enter in this country. He yet [1879] owns large tracts in Grant County, Wisconsin, but after paying taxes for thirty years it is doubtful whether his lands would sell for their cost and the interest on it."—Ed.