

being in peace with all the nations, he would not make reprisals for the robbery which they had committed. He only added that the King, their master and his, wished all his subjects to travel on that river without receiving any insult; that therefore they should take care of what they were doing. The Indian who had been spokesman seemed confounded, and made no reply; another merely said that they had been attacked by the Scioux, who had forced them to abandon all their baggage; and that if he did not take pity on them by giving them a little powder, they could not reach their village. Consideration for [the safety of] a missionary who was to go up to the Scioux, and whom these Indians might meet, made him give them two pounds of powder. Mr. Le Sueur made the same day three leagues, and passed a little river west of the great river, then a large one on the east of the Mississippi, which is navigable at all times. The Indian nations that know it called it Red river.<sup>1</sup>

On the 10th, at daybreak, they heard a stag whistle on the other side of the river; a Canadian crossed in a little Sciou canoe that he had found. He soon after returned with the body of the animal, which it is easy to kill in the rutting season, that is from the beginning of September to the end of August.<sup>2</sup> During that season the hunters make a little whistle of the first bit of wood or cane, and when they hear a stag whistle, they answer; the animal, supposing it to be another stag that whistles, comes to them, and they kill it without any difficulty.

From the 10th to the 14th, Mr. Le Sueur made seventeen leagues and a half, passed Rivière des Raisins ["Grape river"] and that of the Paquitantes;<sup>3</sup> the same day he left on the east of the river a large and beautiful river, which comes a great distance from the north, and called Bon Secours, from the great number of Buffalo, stags, bears and deer found there. Three leagues up this river there is a lead mine; and seven

<sup>1</sup>The stream now known as Black river.—Ed.

<sup>2</sup>In La Harpe, the French word is *aout*; this is probably a misprint for *oct.*, "October."—Ed.

<sup>3</sup>Neill thinks (*Minnesota Explorers*, 1881 p. 41) that these may be the Wazi Ozu and Buffalo rivers—the latter flowing through Buffalo county, Wis.; the former probably the Zumbro river, in Wabasha county, Minn. Bon Secours is the present Chippewa river.—Ed.