

found him well But feeble. They Gave him to Eat Moderately at first and he Gained Strength. They Went to work and Put the furs on a Scaffle [scaffold] out of the way of Woods [wolves] or Eney Varmant and all Seat of for home. The Day Befour they arived they ware Overtaken By a Snow Storm on the Planes & Could not Sea thare Way Near Right. They Seat Down on the Plané thare Beaing no Wood Nigh and Leat the Snow Cover them Over. They Had thare Blankets about them. They ware in the Morning—it was Clear with ye Wind Nowest [Nor' west] and freaseing hard. They Dug out of the Snow and Beaing Weat in Sum of thare feet thy Was Badley frosted tho Not More than ten Miles to Walk. The Boy escaped as well as Eney of them—I Beleve the Best. I had a Long job to Heal them But without the Los of a Limb.

The Natives Had found out whare we ware and Came in with Meet and furs to trade. While I was up the River among the Band I Informd the Chefe of the Belts I had with me and ye Commanding officers Speach and Desird him to Make a Speach Befour they Decampt. This Chefes name was Arechea. The Chefe that Came to me first Had a Smattran [smattering] of the Ochipway tung—so much so that we understood Each Other at Least Sufficiently to Converse or Convae our IDEase [ideas]. He Made a Long Speach. By the yousel [usual] Sine of a Shout threw the Camp they ware willing to Cumply. In the Spring I sent my People after the furs they Had Put on a Scaffel in the Winter. They Had an Indan Hunter with them who Kild them Sum Buffeloes. The men Cut Down Small Saplens and Made the frames of two Boates—Sowed the Skins toGather and Made Bottoms to thare frames—Rub'd them Over with tallow which Made them tite anuf to Bring the furs Down to me whare I had Canoes to Receive them.⁶⁶

On acount of the fase of the Countrey and Site the Enter-

⁶⁶ Boats made of skins, especially buffalo hides, were much in use upon the Missouri. For an illustration of these primitive craft see *Early Western Travels*, (atlas volume) xxv, plate 48.—Ed.