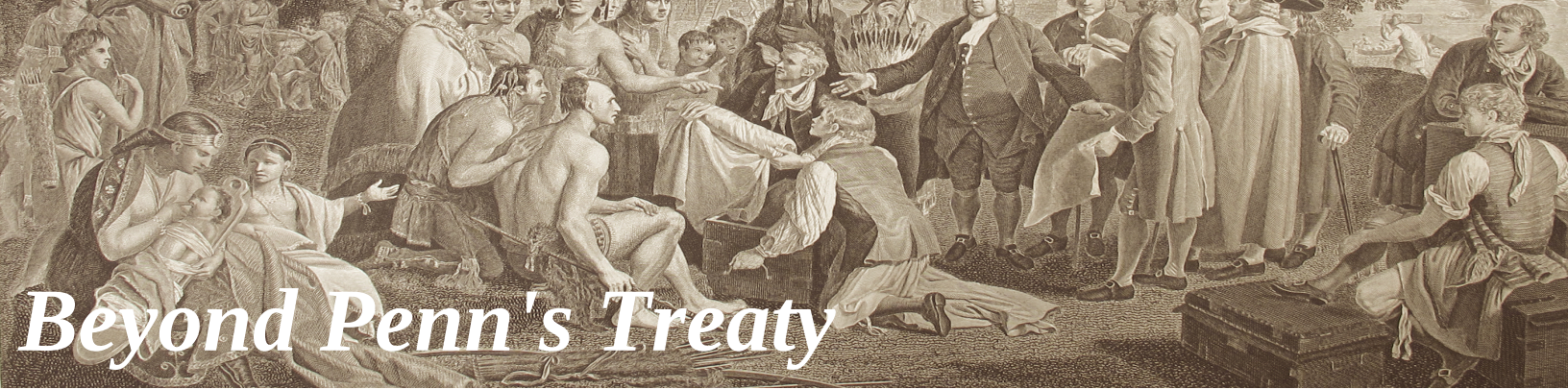




Journal of a Journey

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TYPE_OF_MANUSCRIPT: Printed journal

CALL_NO: Friends Intelligencer Vol.44 Nos.28-40 (1887)

DATE: 1799, 1803

LOCATION: Swarthmore College

AUTHOR: Isaac Coates (1748-1809)

SUMMARY: Isaac Coates was a Quaker from Caln, Pennsylvania, and was a member of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Indian Committee. In this journal he describes journeys taken to visit "the Indian Country" in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New York, in 1799 and again in 1803. Isaac was the son of Samuel Coates, of East Caln township, and was born 1748. He married Hannah Stalker, and lived on a farm that had been his father's.

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JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—I.

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

[THE following journal, kept by Isaac Coates, a Friend, of Caln, Chester county, describes two journeys taken to visit "the Indian Country" in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New York, in 1799 and 1803. It gives an animated description of the country passed through, the experiences of the travelers, etc., as well as many interesting details concerning Friends and the Indians.

Isaac was the son of Samuel Coates, of East Caln township, and was born Fourth month 12, 1748. He married Hannah Stalker, of the same township, (b. 3d mo. 9, 1752), and lived on a farm that had been his father's, near the present Caln Station, on the Pennsylvania Railroad. It was from here, presumably, that he set off on the journeys described below. He was a member of Caln Meeting, and is buried in that burying-ground. Among his children was Lindley Coates, a prominent and esteemed Friend, active in the anti-slavery movement. Lydia, a daughter, (b. 2d mo. 6, 1778), was a minister among Friends, and died in 1839. She married Mark Hughes, and it is their son William, of Avondale, Chester county, who has handed us the Journal of his grandfather for publication. It will run through several issues of our paper.—EDS. INTELLIGENCER AND JOURNAL.]

6th-day. the 23d of the Eighth month, 1799, after a solid time in my family I left home on my journey into the Indian Country and Upper Canada. Dined at Robt. Moore's, fourteen miles. Reached Wm. Webb's, twelve miles, and lodged that night; at both places kindly entertained.

24th. Dined at Wm. Wright's, where we were affectionately received. With some difficulty crossed the Susquehannah, (the river being low); passed through York Town to my brother Caleb Kirk's. This day's ride, twenty-five miles.

25th. Stayed meeting at York, and lodged at brother Caleb's two nights.

26th. Rode to Warrington, eleven miles; attended quarterly meeting, after which rode to Thos. Thornburg's, eight miles; lodged and fared sumptuously.

27th. Rode over and through the gap in several mountains, past a furnace known by the name of Kittera's. The precipices on both right and left of

one of them exhibited a magnificent appearance. After which we entered a limestone valley of good land, though not improved, as I apprehended, in the best manner. Fed our horses at the stone tavern, sixteen miles; [then] to Shippensburg twelve and one-half miles, part of which, notwithstanding it was in the valley, appeared to be very poor, covered with pine of small growth and barren oaks. A few miles before we reached Shippensburg we passed through some excellent wheat land, being covered with black oak and hickory. Dined at Shippensburg. The general part of the corn thus far very poor; buckwheat, in some places, pretty good. Then proceeded to a small village called Strasburg, ten miles; through tolerable land but no water which I thought fit to drink for myself or horse for twenty miles. Then ascended the mountain called the Blue Ridge, the ascent and descent of which is three miles, affording a prospect which shows the wonderful works of the Author of Nature. Crossed a branch of the Conodoguinet running to the right, and lodged at Skinner's, in Horse Valley. This day's ride, forty-one and a half miles.

28th. In the morning, ascended and descended two large mountains, the valley between them called Path Valley, in which is a small village called Ferrisburg; it being seven miles across those two mountains. In the aforesaid valley is a fine stream running to the right, called Conogochek [Conococheague]; and a pretty good settlement. After crossing the mountains, very poor broken land thinly inhabited, to Fort Littleton, twelve miles from Skinner's; here we breakfasted. In crossing those mountains and valleys my mind was much employed in contemplating the wonderful works of an all-wise Creator.

To John Skinner's on the top of Sidling Hill, eleven miles, being a tremendous mountain, on the ridge of which we rode about four miles; at the end thereof, and descending the mountain, a grand prospect opened of the Allegheny Mountain and what appeared a tolerably level valley, considerably improved with plantations; but in riding through it we found it to be very hilly, approaching to mountains; then crossed a branch of Juniata, running to the right, and rode to Hartley's, where we expect to lodge. The river was frequently on our right hand and frequently near our left hand, and we on an eminence perhaps of one or two hundred feet, some places approaching near perpendicular. This day's ride, thirty-nine miles.

29th. Rode up the valley through some tolerably good limestone land to Bedford, six miles; crossed two branches of the aforesaid water. After leaving Bedford passed through a gap in Wills' Mountain and over Juniata again. Here is some of the best land and the best improved I have yet seen amongst those mountains. To our right to Stotler on the ridge, in divers places was oats growing of a good length; some ripe, some almost ripe, and some standing in shock. From thence to Berlin, thirteen miles. On our way we met an old man who had just killed a large buck which had horns with a number of prongs, covered with the velvet, which he had skinned and had some

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30th. Took an early set-off from Berlin, being a village of about 50 houses; passed through some very rough land and roads on which I saw a rattlesnake about three feet long with ten rattles, lying in the road, appearing to have been just killed by a wagon-wheel running over it. Part of the way to this stage the land was covered with most beautiful lofty chestnuts, and part of the way very thick set with white pine, being thirteen miles; [reached] a Dutch tavern where we thought best to breakfast on our own chocolate. From thence to George Bachelor's, fourteen miles in which we crossed what is called Laurel Hill, being one mountain after another for seven or eight miles of the way. The ascent of one of them exceeded all for chestnut timber I ever saw; they stand so thick together and are so tall that I fully believe there are thousands of acres that would yield more than 10,000 rails to the acre. Almost all those mountains that go by the aforesaid name are the most fertile of any I have yet seen; the trees and vegetables of every kind are so luxuriant I could not help feeling some attachment to the place; but when I considered the exceeding rough mountainous face of the surface and the intolerable road to and from the place, I am content if I should live to return to spend the remainder of my days in Chester county. Proceeded to Connelstown, being a new settled place of about fifty houses on the Yoghagena [Youghiogheny] river. Lodged with our old friends, Thomas and Joshua Gibson, sixteen miles. Nothing very remarkable the last stage, except in one place about six miles back, we rose to or on an eminence where a grand prospect opened to view, to the east, the north, and the west, particularly to the west where we could see as far as the eye could reach—I suppose as far as the Ohio river. Here on the Yoghagena river the people were employed in building flat-bottomed boats, the stern of which they cover with thin boards for a shelter. Some of them are thirty, some forty, and some fifty feet long and twelve wide, in which they will carry 360 barrels of flour or iron or other produce in proportion, to Kentucky or New Orleans.

31st. Crossed the Yoghogany, being a small river, perhaps half as large as Schuylkill above the Falls. About a mile from said river as we rode up a small stream large enough to turn a mill, we came to a curi-

ous limestone rock lying horizontal, about three feet thick, forming a concave semi-circle of perhaps 300 feet, near the centre of which the water fell about twenty-eight feet there being a walk on another rock about twelve feet below the other, and near the same distance deep back behind the water where we might safely walk. Just at one side and near the centre of the semi-circle a spacious grist mill is built butting up against the rock. Then passed over many hills and valleys to Reese Cadwallader's, twenty miles. Passed a new paper-mill occupied by Jonathan Sharpless, on Redstone creek; also Samuel Jackson's grist mill at the mouth of said creek, over which there is a large bridge, near thirty feet high, wide enough for a wagon to cross. We were expecting to find a road in proportion; but immediately after getting over we found ourselves on a narrow path perhaps not more than five feet wide, and a precipice on our left hand down to Redstone creek, and on our right hand down to the Monongahela river, each of them near perpendicular, which was near 200 feet, which to some of our company was truly alarming; and I believe would have been more so had it not been that a bulky woman rode on just before us seemingly without care or fear. Then rode up the last mentioned river through a beautiful town on the bank of the same, perhaps of forty or fifty houses. This river I think is larger than Schuylkill, running to the right. The land thus far through the Redstone settlement is very rough and mountainous, and appears to be very fertile, producing wheat, rye, oats, buckwheat, and grass in abundance even on the top of the hills, and abundance of lofty timber of many sorts, particularly sugar maple and white oak. But notwithstanding it hath been a very wet growing season and all kinds of grain in the ground and vegetables look luxuriant, yet the waters are very low, which induces me to believe that, when the land comes to be more generally cleared and a dry season takes place (which I suppose frequently does), the inhabitants will suffer from lack of water. The reason in part as I take it, of the water's failing so much is a horizontal rock which lies a little underground, I believe, over much of the country.

Ninth month 1st, being First-day, attended Redstone meeting. In the afternoon crossed the Monongahela at Bridgetown, the banks of which, I am informed, will average forty feet. Rode five miles of the roughest road I have yet passed to Francis Townsend's.

2nd. Attended quarterly meeting at Westland, which notwithstanding some weaknesses [and] disorder appeared in the conduct of the young people, was a comfortable, solid time, there being a number of well-concerned, valuable Friends engaged in conducting the business of this remote and newly established quarterly meeting. Here I met with a number of my former acquaintances who had removed to this country years past, divers of them in low or straightened circumstances, that now appeared to live in fullness and plenty; many of whom I hope are in a good measure thankful to their kind Benefactor who hath spread them a table in the wilderness and provided a comfortable asylum in this

Transcription

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western country. We were truly glad to see each other. This night, lodged at my kind friend, Jonas Cattel's.

3rd. Passed the time very agreeably amongst our friends about Bridgeport, on the Monongahela, in preparing necessities for our wilderness journey, and lodged at the same place.

4th. Stayed and attended meeting at Redstone, where was a marriage accomplished between Samuel Jones, latter, formerly of York, and Ruth, the daughter of Reese Cadwallader. Dined at our kind friend Jonas Cattel's. Friends at this place were exceeding kind, and seemed as if they thought they could hardly do enough for us. Got well equipped by them for our journey and set off soon after dinner. Crossed the beautiful river Monongahela and rode eleven miles to one Graybill's, where we lodged. The most of the way tolerable; good land though mountainous and not equal to Redstone land for fertility. About ten miles from the river, on our way we crossed a considerable stream called Pidgeon's creek, running to the right.

5th. Rode eight miles to one Barclay's, got breakfast. Nothing very remarkable occurred on our way this stage, except as we rode a considerable way up a branch of Mango creek, in divers places the water fell off a smooth, horizontal rock, some places four, some six, and some more feet; and up this narrow valley the greatest quantity of large sugar maple with troughs for collecting the sap appeared, of any place I have yet seen, though they abound through the country in such plenty that I think if the inhabitants are careful and frugal, they need never import the luxury of sugar. Even if other timber should fail for firing, the stone-coal is plenty in these parts; [rode] from thence to Pittsburg, fifteen miles. About one mile from Barclay's is a saw-mill occupied and perhaps owned by one Baldwin who removed from Newlin, a Friendly man; which I thought might be good quarters if I should ever travel this road again. No great variations in the land except gradually declining towards poor land. When we arrived on the top of the mountain, where we got the first sight of Pittsburg, we soon began to descend the steepest hill I ever saw a wagon road upon, which to me appeared almost impracticable for a good team to draw an empty wagon up. Nevertheless the inhabitants say they frequently go up loaded. When we descended to the bottom we again crossed the beautiful Monongahela and immediately entered the town where we stayed the afternoon in providing some necessities, in which I took the opportunity to walk down to the point or junction of the aforesaid river and the Allegheny, which makes the great and grand River Ohio, it being a delightful prospect. Also had a view of the remains of the old French fort Duquesne and the English fort, which are both very much demolished and beautiful grass-lots in their place. This town appears to be a lively place of trade containing perhaps 200 houses.

[To be Continued.]

EITHER we must lay self aside, or God will lay us aside.—GURNALL.

Transcription

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JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—II.

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

Ninth month 6th. [1799]. Set off early from Pittsburg and immediately crossed the Allegheny river, a beautiful stream about a quarter of a mile wide. For about two or three miles after crossing, we rode through the richest piece of land I think I ever beheld, for so much. The stately walnuts [were] four feet through, and a great length, and other timber in proportion, every herb and plant appearing as luxuriant as if it had grown out of a dung heap. Soon after that, a declension of soil took place and progressed until it became, as I thought, very poor, rough, and hilly, until we came to one Duncan's, where we fed our horses and dined from the supply of our bags, it being eighteen miles; from thence to one Bovear's, where three of our company lodged. James Cooper and myself rode six miles further to my cousin Abner Coats's, who is just newly settled in the woods; has got about ten acres of land cleared and seems in a likely way to make a living. He was very kind and glad to see me; tied up our horses, fed them with bran and cut corn-tops, with which they seemed to do very well. All this stage appeared to me to be very poor, until we turned off the road and got near Abner's, where the land appears tolerably level and pretty good soil. We crossed one large and one lesser stream running to the right, called Conyconeys. Divers places the road was intolerable for short steep hills,—so much so that going down some of them, leading our horses, we seemed in danger of their falling down upon us. This day, rode thirty-four miles.

7th. Rode from Abner Coats's to Funk's, seventeen

miles; it being a very rainy day, which made the road so bad, together with the hills, rocks, and sloughs or little guts descending out of the mountains, that for bad traveling it exceeded all I have yet met with. We crossed two large streams, the first called Mud Creek; the second, Slippery Rock. From thence to McClern's, nine miles. The road tolerably good for this country and the land about middling, being much covered with white oak. At this place we arrived about two in the afternoon; appearing to be good quarters for ourselves and horses, we stayed all night, and lodged comfortably in the barn.

8th. Set off early and rode to Franklin [country seat of Venango county, Pa.], a small town of perhaps ten or fifteen houses, on French creek, a small distance above the fort at the junction of said creek and the Allegheny river, thirteen miles. The most of this stage is stony chestnut land. About four miles before we got to Franklin, we crossed Sandy Creek, the descent and ascent of the mountains on each side being each of them about half a mile, and in some places, I think near forty-five degrees of elevation. Going down the hill I discovered my mare had lost one of her shoes, and by the time I got to this place she began to limp pretty much, and no smith here. The prospect looks dull to proceed from here to Jonathan Titus's, on Oil Creek, eighteen miles. Immediately after leaving Franklin we crossed French Creek, and soon entered very poor, barren land which continued for several miles; then came to land more level than any we have seen the west side of Allegheny river, for so much; some bottoms, very rich abounding with plums, some of it rather too much upon a dead level to be very good for wheat, and exceeding thick set with small timber, particularly quaking asp. About twelve miles from Franklin we came across a cabin and a few acres of ground cleared, where the people looked clean and decent; had abundance of watermelons with which they regaled us plentifully without charge. A few more cabins and small lots cleared we saw on our way between French Creek and Oil Creek. Rattlesnakes abound here. I saw a large one of about three feet nine inches long, and about as thick as my wrist. I alighted and killed it; cut off the rattles, being nine. Another we saw about the same size with its head mashed, but not dead. Great numbers of wild turkeys are here; we saw several flocks containing forty or more and might easily have shot some of them if we had had guns and ammunition.

We arrived at Titus's a little before sunset; got our horses to good pasture, and lodged comfortably in his barn. Said Titus being a young man, settled here on Oil Creek in the woods about two and a half years ago, has made a great improvement for the time; owns 400 acres of land, the most of it a rich bottom; has got about twenty-six acres of excellent corn in the ground, a considerable quantity of wheat in stack; a spring of excellent water near the door, large enough to turn a breast-mill; so that upon the whole I think this farm likely in time to be of most inestimable value, Oil Creek being boatable this high, which is about eighteen miles from the mouth where it empties into Allegheny. Oil Creek took its name from the oil

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which is skimmed off the water in great quantities, resembling the Seneca or British oil in smell; its length being about thirty-six miles from its mouth to the place where it issues out of a small lake.

9th. Being very rainy, I rode two miles to a blacksmith at Oil Creek mill, got a shoe on my mare and returned to my company at Titus's, where we remained all this day, it being very wet, and lodged in the same barn.

10th. Being a fine morning, we set off early and rode twenty-nine miles near the mouth of a large stream called Brokenstraw, where we pitched our tent, kindled a fire, and lodged in the woods. I am not furnished with language or memory to describe the particulars of this day's journey, but may endeavor to note some particulars. After leaving Titus's we rode two miles to a newly erected mill and saw-mill on a branch of Oil Creek, which the Holland Company have erected in order to supply the new settlers with flour, etc., and divers of them come there twenty, twenty-five, and more miles with bags of grain on a horse, to be ground; there being no road that any carriage can pass, and indeed, (to such who have not seen those mountainous new countries), it would appear impracticable to pass with a single horse. After leaving the mill we soon entered a forest of white pine, hemlock and divers other sorts of timber not necessary to mention, and great part of our ride this day was through timber of that sort; some of the way tolerably level, but a great part of it such mountains thickly set with stones and rocks, which together with the interlocking of the roots of the timber, a little comparable to a corn-riddle, and the deep swampy guts, it was with difficulty we got along over roots and rocks the cavities between them being so deep and so close together that had our horses got their legs in, (and this to appearance seemed almost unavoidable), they must have been broken. But I suppose the way to be much better than it was two years ago, being now a cut path all the way, which was not the case then. In many places the timber is, I believe, from one hundred to two hundred feet high, and thickly set, insomuch that a great part of the face of the ground and rocks is scarcely ever saluted with the luminous rays of the sun, which I think is the reason of the rocks and old logs being very thick set with coats of moss; and as the seed of different kinds of trees falls on this moss which the rocks and old logs contain, there being moisture enough contained in it to occasion a vegetation, the body or trunk ascends and the roots crawl on the surface of the rock or log to the edge, and then descend into the ground, and great numbers of that description are grown into large trees the roots of which clasp a rock a little similar to the clasp of an eagle's claw; and on many of these rocks there are several trees. I saw one rock about twenty feet in diameter, which had seven trees on it, some of which were two or three feet over and perhaps one hundred and fifty feet high and the rock ten or twelve feet high. I think we saw neither house nor improvement for twenty miles; neither can I suppose much of it will be settled for many years to come. We came on the Brokenstraw about

seven miles above the mouth and rode six miles down the stream to the place of our encampment, through a very rich bottom. As I rode along this day I frequently experienced a transition of ideas; while passing through the dark shades of the thick and lofty timber which sometimes appeared like a desolate, gloomy wilderness comparable to the gloom of eternal night; and other times so great, so grand, so magnificent, that it became truly transporting.

11th. Set off early, without taking breakfast or feeding our horses. Rode down the aforesaid creek almost to the mouth and with some difficulty got along, the Indian path up the river being in many places hard to be discovered, to a place called Warren [now the county seat of Warren county], being a newly laid out town, but without much building except one cabin and a storehouse built by the Holland Company near the mouth of another large stream called Connowongo. Here we breakfasted and fed our horses. The people in the cabin were very kind, made our chocolate for us and gave us some good pigeon soup. [Distance] nine miles. Here we hired a guide; rode over the Connowongo, and followed our guide with undescribable difficulty about sixteen miles to Cornplanter's settlement. The logs, the brush, and thick-set young timber rendered this stage extremely difficult and tiresome; almost a continual succession of logs, in many places three or four in a perch, as high as our horses could step over, and many of them they had to jump; and the young growth being so thick that if we were two rods apart we would have to call out to each other in fear of being lost; great part of the timber being chestnut and thrown down either by fire or wind; the land very poor. About an hour before sunset we reached the new house which Cornplanter is getting built, and the schoolhouse where Henry Simmons teaches the young Indians, at which place we met with Henry, greatly to our mutual comfort, and where we tarried all night in the schoolhouse. At this place there are several comfortable houses building, it being about one mile lower down the river than where Cornplanter's village stands, and appears to be on more suitable ground, which with the advice of our young men, the Indian inhabitants of the town just above, propose to move. Cornplanter and many others of the nation came this evening to visit us, and appeared to be much pleased with our coming.

12th. This morning the old chief and some of his connections brought us some cucumbers to help out our breakfast, and immediately returned to his village. We then soon set off up the river, Henry Simmons bearing us company, and in about one mile we came to the town. Stopped a few minutes with the Indians who gathered around us apparently much pleased with our arrival. We proposed a council or conference with them, to be held in two days after that time, to which they readily assented, and agreed to send out some runners to inform their people. We then took leave of them for the present and proceeded up and across the river twice to Genesinghta, to our dear friends, Halliday Jackson and Joel Swayne, whom we met with mutual joy, and rested pretty much in the house the remainder of this day,

Transcription

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10th. Being a fine morning, we set off early and

rode twenty-nine miles near the mouth of a large stream called Brokenstraw, where we pitched our tent, kindled a fire, and lodged in the woods. I am not furnished with language or memory to describe the particulars of this day's journey, but may endeavor to note some particulars. After leaving Titus's we rode two miles to a newly erected mill and saw-mill on a branch of Oil Creek, which the Holland Company have erected in order to supply the new settlers with flour, etc., and divers of them come there twenty, twenty-five, and more miles with bags of grain on a horse, to be ground; there being no road that any carriage can pass, and indeed, (to such who have not seen those mountainous countries), it would appear to be impracticable to pass with a single horse. After leaving the mill we soon entered a forest of white pine, hemlock and divers other sorts of timber not necessary to mention, and great part of our ride this day was through timber of that sort; some of the way tolerably level, but a great part of it such mountains thickly set with stones and rocks, which together with the interlocking of the roots of the timber, a little comparable to a corn-riddle, and deep swampy guts, it was with difficulty we got along over roots and rocky cavities between them being so deep and so close together that our horses got their legs in, (and this to appearance seemed almost unavoidable), they must have been broken. But I suppose the way to be much better than it was two years ago, being now a cut path all the way, which was not the case then. In many places the timber is, I believe, from one hundred to two hundred feet high, and thickly set, insomuch that great part of the face of the ground and rocks is scarcely ever saluted with the luminous rays of the sun, which I think is the reason of the rocky and old logs being very thick set with coats of moss; and as the seed of different kinds of trees falls on this moss which the rocks and old logs contain, there being moisture enough contained in it to occasion vegetation, the body or trunk ascends and the roots crawl on the surface of the rock or log to the edge, and then descend into the ground and great numbers of that description are grown into large trees the roots of which clasp a rock a little similar to the clasp of an

9th. Being very rainy, I rode two miles

the path from Cornplanter's to Genesinguhtha being in some places very difficult passing; [the distance] being nine or ten miles.

13th. Stayed with our friends and visited several families of Indians in their houses and cabins. One Indian, John, has built himself a snug house and kitchen, the logs well-hewn and the joists and boards planed, [with] sash and glass windows. He has mowed and made two good stacks of hay, fenced in several acres of ground in which he has good corn; and several others of them are improving in their buildings, fencing, etc. We have fared very well this day on provision wellcooked by Halliday Jackson; also walked about and reviewed the improvement made by our young friends in this wilderness country, which appears considerable. And although I think the spot they are settled upon is much inferior to many other places in these parts for fertility, yet their corn and buckwheat are good; [they] had pretty good oats, have a considerable quantity of hay procured, a large garden of good vegetables, and have about five acres of ground cleared and plowed ready to sow wheat. They have got a comfortable two-story house to live in, and several other necessary buildings.

[To be Continued.]

Transcription

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JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—III.

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

Ninth month 14th. [1799]. After breakfast, prepared to set off nine miles down the river to Cornplanter's village,¹ in order to attend the council before appointed, and nine of us embarked in a canoe to wit: Indian John, Halftown, Halliday Jackson, Joel Swayne, Joshua Sharples, Thomas Stewardson, James Cooper, myself, and Hugh Hartshorn. Had a pleasant sail down the river, and arrived at our destined port a little before 11 o'clock, divers of the distant chiefs being collected before we came. Before we sat in council, walked about, viewing some of the Indian cottages and their dress, which would take more time to describe than I am at this time disposed to take. About an hour after we arrived, a large horn, something like a French horn, was blown, in order to collect the chiefs and others to council; and in a short time they collected in a part of Cornplanter's house or cabin, perhaps to the number of thirty or more. We all sat down in stillness a short space, when the old chief stood up (his son Henry O'Beil interpreting), and addressed us in substance as follows:

"Brothers, I am glad the good Spirit has favored you all with health in your long journey to come and see us and take us by the hand, so that we may brighten the chain of friendship; and now some of us are collected, we should be glad to hear what you have to say to us."

We then informed them that we had taken a long journey to see our young men who were settled among our Indian brothers, and that we had not much that we knew of to say to the Indians; only to know from themselves how they liked our young men being amongst them, and whether they thought they were likely to be useful to them or not. We then had our certificate read and interpreted to them, with which they expressed satisfaction; and we having agreed upon a short piece of advice or queries to lay before them, which we had in writing, it was read by paragraphs and interpreted to them as follows:

"Brothers, you have now heard that our coming here was to see how you and our young men who live amongst you are getting along. We are glad the Good Spirit has favored us to meet you in health, and given us this opportunity of taking you by the hand and brightening the chain of friendship. Now, brothers, we should like to hear from your own mouths if you are quite satisfied with our young men living amongst you. They came here with a hope of being useful, by instructing you in a better way of managing your land and providing for yourselves and your cattle. We desire you to speak freely, brothers. It has been some satisfaction to us in riding through your town to see marks of industry taking place; that

you are building better and warmer houses to live in; and that so much of your cleared land is planted with corn, potatoes, beans, squashes, cucumbers, etc., and to see these articles kept in good order. Brothers, we observe where your new houses are building, that the timber is very much cut off a rich flat which we wish you encouraged to clear and make it fit for plowing. We believe it to be very good land for wheat, as well as corn, and as the white people are settling around you, the deer and other wild game will grow scarce and more difficult to be taken. We therefore hope that more of your men will assist in clearing land, fencing it, planting it with corn, and sowing it with wheat. You will then have a supply of provision more certain to depend upon than hunting. Brothers, we were pleased to see your stock of cattle increased; the rich bottoms on the river will be plenty for them to live on in the summer season, but as your winters are long and cold, it will require something for them to live on in the winter. Now the white people keep their cattle on hay, on straw, and on corn-fodder. Straw you cannot get until you raise wheat or other grain; the rich bottoms, if they were put in order, would produce a great deal of hay; but for an immediate supply, we think, if as soon as you gather your corn you would cut the stalks close at the ground, bind them up in small bundles, and put them in stack, as our young men do, they would keep the cattle part of the cold weather. Brothers, we are glad to see a quantity of new fence made this summer, near where our young men live, and we would not have you get discouraged at the labor it takes; for if you will clear a little more land every year and fence it, you will soon get enough to raise what bread you want, as well as some for grass to make hay for winter. Brothers, we understand you are desirous to discourage whiskey from being brought amongst you, with which we are much pleased, and should be glad you could entirely keep it away; for to get it, you give your money which you should have to buy clothes with, and to buy oxen and plows with to work your land; and it does not do you any good."

After which a solemn silence took place, in which I thought I felt love to flow to the poor natives, accompanied with a strong desire that they might be prevailed upon to wholly decline the drinking of distilled spirits; for truly I think until some reformation in that respect takes place amongst them, the solid ground on which we can expect their profitable civilization is small; and though I felt as I did, it seemed discouraging to offer anything to them on the occasion, considering my own inability and the imperfect interpreter we had—being one who hath a strong inclination to the evil habit himself. So I had liked to have omitted saying anything, until my friend Joshua Sharples whispered to me and told me if I had anything to say to them not to omit it. I then addressed them in substance as follows:

"Brothers, your brothers, the Quakers, who have come a long way to see you, believe that the Great Spirit made both white men and red men, and placed them on this great island, gave them many good things to live upon such as grain, flesh, fruit, etc., and

[NOTE.—Genesinguhita, where the travelers met Halliday Jackson and Joel Swayne, as described last week, was on the Allegheny Reservation of the Seneca Indians, on the Allegheny river, just above the line, in New York State. Cornplanter had a village and private reservation of his own,—about 1300 acres,—down the river, and below the line, in Warren county, Pennsylvania. He called it Genesedaga. The town of Kinzua is now on the opposite side of the river.]

Transcription

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also gave them understanding hearts. And we also believe that his design or intention was that we should love and serve him, and not only love him and our own people but love and be at peace with all people of all nations and colors. But some white men became very cunning and sought out new inventions, one of which was making rum, whiskey, brandy, etc., out of the good things that he had given them, which at first was used in very small quantities as medicine; but as it became more plenty, many white men got to love it and drink more of it, inso-much that they became drunk and neglected their business; many of their wives and children suffered in want of food and clothing, and it seemed to be the beginner or forerunner of almost every bad practice.

Now, brothers, some of your friends, the Quakers, many years since were favored to see the mischief that rum and whiskey had done, and believed it right for them not to drink any more, and have found by more than twenty years' experience that they can do better without it than with it. And seeing the mischief it did to others, and how much better they themselves did without it, believed it right to persuade others to do so too; and as we love our Indian brothers, and seeing their land is much sold and white people settling all round them whereby the deer and other game is likely to become so scarce that they cannot live by hunting much longer, we were drawn in compassion to invite some of our young men to come and live amongst you, in order to instruct you in the useful ways of the white people who have now been some time with you. But we understand that some bad white men let Indians have whiskey and that many of them love it so much that they often get drunk and are wicked. Brothers, we wish you would not hearken to those bad men who want you to buy their whiskey, nor give way to your own love for it, but stand against it and not use any of it; for if you do, your friends, the Quakers, will be discouraged and hang down their heads and go and leave you. But if you will stand against it and not use it, become sober men, they will be willing to assist and instruct you what they can."

I believe the interpreter endeavored to render it into the Indian language as well as he could, though he appeared somewhat convicted; and I also think they understood it pretty well, as there appeared a general concurrence by their usual nod and sound on such occasions, and by what the old chief said to us after, on our asking them if they had anything to say to us, he replied that Henry Simmons had told him some time ago that he intended to go home this fall, (Henry having taught school at Cornplanter's village), and that he could not give us an answer until he knew whether Henry would go or not. We then agreed to be a little time by ourselves. They left us a few minutes and we laid the matter close to Henry. He then told us that he believed it was his duty to come here and he now believed it was his place to go home, which we could not gainsay, though we felt sorry the Indian children should be left without an instructor. The chiefs were called in again, and tenderly informed of Henry's intention of returning. Cornplanter then replied if it was right, he could not say against it, but

was afraid he should not have help enough to keep away the whiskey, as Henry had been a great help to him in that, and that he thought the Indians would now mind him more than they would one of them; and then said that when our young men came first amongst them some of their warriors did not like it, but now he believed they all liked it, and all spoke very well of them, and wished the young men to tell us if any of the young Indians or others behaved bad to them. They then all rose up and in a friendly manner shook hands with us and did what they call "cover the council fire." Then one of their women brought in a large loaf of unleavened wheat bread and a tin cup full of pretty good butter, on which we dined and took our departure up the river. Halliday Jackson, James Cooper, and myself walked, the others all went in the canoes we came down in. Arrived at the young men's home just before sunset, and lodged this night with them.

15th, and first of the week. Have not gone much out of the house to-day. Sat down with the young men at their usual time of holding their meeting, which to me and I believe to others was a solid, strengthening time. A little after night, Joshua Sharples went out of the house and just as he came in, the trap-door of the cellar being open, he stepped in it and fell with the back of his head against one of the joists or sleepers, and so down into the cellar. We all made what haste we could down, finding him stunned and senseless. We were exceedingly alarmed, got some camphor, bathed his temples and other places so that in about two or three minutes he came to so as to speak, but knew not that anything was the matter, or where he was, for a considerable time. At length his understanding returned, but he could not all the evening recollect falling, being a good deal hurt. Our getting away from here as soon as we proposed, [now] looks doubtful; but it is a great comfort to us to find him as well as he appears to be. Went to bed and I slept with him in some hopes he may be better in the morning.

16th. Joshua quite as well as we could expect, but not fit to travel. This day we have had a visit from five or six Indian chiefs who stayed with us the most of the day and appeared very much pleased in being in our company and viewing a map which we had with us. Soon got to understand it so that they could point out almost any of the rivers and lakes. About noon Cornplanter came and brought us a quarter of venison and two pigeons. Offered to send some of his people to pilot us to Buffalo, but we could not tell him when we could go, not knowing when our friend would be able to travel. About the middle of the afternoon they all took an affectionate farewell of us for the present.

[NOTE.—Cornplanter, at the time of this visit, was about 60 to 65 years old. He was of half-blood only, the son of a white man named John O'Ball, a Mohawk Valley trader. He is believed to have been with the French in the defeat of Braddock, in 1755, and he afterwards took part with the British, in the War of the Revolution. After that, however, he devoted himself to peace, and refused to fight. In the Indian disturbances from 1791 to 1794, he kept the Senecas friendly, and he continued to live on his reservation to his death, in 1836, when he was considered to be about 100 years old. The accounts of him say that "he deplored the evils of intemperance, and exerted himself to suppress it."]

Transcription

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17th. A fine day. Joshua appearing some better, eighteen or twenty of the Indians came to see us and bade us farewell. About one o'clock we set off, Halliday Jackson bearing us company. We took an affectionate farewell of our other two friends, after an uniting opportunity just before parting. Rode about four miles up the river through middling good land to the house of one of the old chiefs who was with us yesterday, and who had his horse standing hitched ready to pilot us up the river to a small settlement of Indians. On riding along we discovered they had the day before opened and cut the path wider and better for several miles just on our account; and on our way we passed a new settlement, made this summer by Halftown, on some most excellent land. Where he lives he has cleared and fenced two or three acres and got it in with corn and vines. After crossing the river we rode to another chief's house where there are several cabins, and pitched our tent and lodged on the river bank. They were kind to us in their way, and gave us two very good squirrels. This being ten miles up the river.

18th. Being a rainy morning, we set off having Sunfish and Halliday Jackson for our guides, which we found to be very useful to us before night, it being a very wet day and much of the way so swampy and difficult that we should have been much beset without them. Abundance of the way through, the wilderness is so stopped up with wind falls of timber, many of which are so large in low ground and fallen one on another for a mile together, that to a stranger it would seem altogether impassable. Many of these with great difficulty we have to jump our horses over, and perhaps in mud half leg deep; and many of them were so large no horse could leap them. We went up the river three miles and then took up a valley about twelve miles, down which a creek of about the size of our branch of Brandywine runs. Excellent good land all the way up, there being abundance of sugar maple, beech, ash, birch, and Bass. I have seen sugar maple in abundance that were three feet over and near one hundred feet high; the other timber in proportion. We then ascended a very high mountain; good land up it, and on the top still good, being covered with very heavy, lofty timber some of which is white pine, some poplar, and the other as before mentioned. Before we ascended the mountain we came to the heads of springs within a few perches of each other, some of which run into the Allegheny and some into the Cattaraugus. The former empties into the Ohio; the latter into Lake Erie and so down the river St. Lawrence. In some places, abundance of wild cherry three and four feet in diameter, perhaps sixty and some eighty feet to the first limb. But as I do not intend to give a minute description of the land, water, and timber, only to give a sketch of what appeared remarkable, suffice it to say that in this day's ride, (which was a very wet one through abundance of swampy land), I think the land was generally good and heavy loaded with timber. This day's ride, twenty-four miles. Pitched our tent by a spring amongst lofty timber, and just after we got our fire made and tent raised, it began to rain very fast, and was an exceeding wet

night, accompanied with a great wind or storm inso-much that we heard the trees falling almost all around us. Our situation appeared to be somewhat trying; but as we had no alternative, soon composed ourselves and went to sleep.

[To be Continued.]

Transcription

ytf 17th. ytf ytf A fine day. Joshua appearing some better, eighteen or twenty of theytf Indians came to see us and bade us farewell. About one o'clock we set off,ytf Hal- liday Jackson bearing us company.ytf We took an affectionate farewell of our other two friends, after anytf uniting opportunity just before parting. Rode about four miles up the rivertyf through middling good land to the house of one of the old chiefs who wasytf with us yesterday, and who had his horse standing hitched ready toytf pilot us up the river to a small settlement of Indians. On riding along weytf discovered they had the day before opened and cut the path wider andytf better for several miles just on our account; and on our way we passed aytf new settlement, made this summer by Halftown, on some most excellent land. Where he lives heytf has cleared and fenced two or three acres and got it in with corn andytf vines. After crossing the river we rode to another chief's house whereytf there are several cabins, and pitched our tent and lodged on the rivertyf bank. They were kind to us in their way, and gave us two very goodytf squirrels. This being ten miles up the river.ytf ytf ytf Sunfish and Halliday Jackson for our guides, which we found to be veryytf useful to use before night, it being a very wet day and much of the way soytf swampy and difficult that we should have been much beset without them.ytf Abundance of the way through, the wilderness is so stopped up with windytf falls of timber, many of which are so large in low ground and fallenytf one on another for a mile together, that to a stranger it would seemytf altogether impassable. Many of these with great difficulty we have to jumptytf our horses over, and perhaps in mud half leg deep; and many of themytf were so large no horse could leap them. We went up the river three milesytf and then took up a valley about twelve miles, down which a creek ofytf about the size of our branch of Brandywine runs. Excellent good landytf all the way up, there being abundance of sugar maple, beech, ash, birch,ytf and bass. I have seen sugar maple in abundance that were three feetytf over and near one hundred feet high; the other timber in proportion. Weytf then ascended a very high mountain; good land up it, and on the toptytf still good, being covered with very heavy, lofty timber some of which isytf white pine, some poplar, and the other as before mentioned. Before weytf ascended the mountain we came to the heads of springs within a fewytf perches of each other, some of which run into the Allegheny and some into the Cattaraugus. The former empties into the Ohio; the latter into Lakeytf Erie and so down the river St.ytf Lawrence. In some places, abundance of wild cherry three andytf four feet in diameter, perhaps sixty and some eighty

18th. ytf ytf Being a rainy morning, we set of

JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—IV.

Ninth month 19th, [1799]. It being likely for a fair day, we set off, though the bushes were very wet, and rode to Lake Erie, 27 miles, and pitched our tent on the margin thereof. We passed some very bad, swampy road in the morning. The timber and land much as yesterday and almost all the way, so far as I have come through the New York State, there appear to be very few stones. But after riding 8 or 10 miles this day, we came to abundance of the most beautiful poplar trees I have ever seen; and about one mile before we crossed Cattaraugus River we came into a bottom of very rich land, wherein abundance of black walnut stand, many of them three, four, five, and perhaps some six feet in diameter, and sixty or seventy feet to the first limb. Crossed Cattaraugus, being ten miles from our lodging, and rode ten more to an Indian village. Stopped awhile with them, but as their chief was not at home we soon left them, and rode seven miles through a low piece of land heavily timbered with hemlock, sugar maple, etc., to the lake aforesaid, which, to be sure, at first view exhibited a grand prospect here in the wilderness, appearing both as to motion and sound like the ocean. Had a good supper of chocolate, cooked by Halliday, who is yet with us; got a comfortable night's sleep, and early in the morning, for the first time, heard a wolf howl.

20th. Rode 28 miles down the lake on the beach or margin thereof to the mouth of Buffalo Creek. Crossed it in a boat and swam our horses over, it being a very deep channel, about 30 or 40 yards wide. Lodged at Joseph Elliot's headquarters, he being the principal surveyor or superintendent of the Holland Company's business. Were kindly entertained free of cost. This day's ride down the lake was a delightful journey, affording such a variety of prospect of the wonderful works of nature. Some places the land at the margin of the lake appeared to be pretty level; in most others there was a wall on our right hand, in many places 50, some 60, and some near, if not quite, 100 feet high and almost perpendicular; the beach or margin from the water to the wall, very diverse for width, some of 20 yards, some 10, some 5, and in several places the wall butted into the water, where we several times had to ride in round the points of rocks knee-deep and sometimes belly-deep; and in one or two places between a large pyramid of rock and the wall on the right, the pyramid appearing conical or in the form of a sugar loaf about ten feet in diameter at its base, and about twelve feet high. These cones, I believe, are made by the dashing of the waves, together with the freezing of the water in the winter, in the smooth joints of the rocks, whereby abundance of them fall down, parting off from their fellows in smooth, perpendicular points. The high, perpendicular wall exhibits a curious view; the stone appears to be principally composed of slate and limestone in different regular strata or layers. The bottom or lowermost rocks that I discovered in most places are limestone, curiously laid in a horizontal form and nicely jointed in squares of eight, ten, or twelve feet in diameter, the

Transcription

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20th. ytf Rode 28 miles down the lake on the beach

joints or vacuums between them mostly about an inch wide. Some places we found them to extend into the lake; other places not quite to the edge of it; and in others not within ten yards of it. Where they extended to the lake, they formed a beautiful level to ride upon. The next layer or stratum is slate about ten feet perpendicular. In some places it appeared very shelly or near rotten; in many others, excellent slate in great quantities either for flagging or covering for houses. Then one general layer of limestone about fifteen or eighteen inches thick; then pretty generally slate or other stone to the top of the wall or abutment, all which are curiously jointed in smooth squares or columns some two feet square, some five, and some in oblong squares two or three feet by eight or ten. And as the water in wet times penetrates down those joints, I suppose it freezes in the winter and bursts off the columns, which fall down on the margin of the lake, in many places large bodies of them together as much as several square rods, and the timber on the top with them. In many places the trees were hanging by one half of the roots with their tops below a level, and some right top downwards and not touching the bottom. In many places by the continual dashing of the waves against the rocks they are worn in curious forms.

21st. Rode three miles down on the margin of the lake and river Niagara to the ferry. No such curious wall on our right hand as yesterday, but similar beds of limestone. This Niagara River is the great outlet of all the northwestern lakes and waters, which makes a very great river above a mile wide and of great depth, running very rapidly. We crossed the river in a boat, which the heavy current drives across in a few minutes, which to some of our company appeared a little terrifying; and then rode up on the margin of the lake on the other side about eight miles, which appears to be pretty level except some very high banks of sand and a general bed of limestone lying in a form similar to the lower bed on the other side. Then turned off from the lake about a mile to Daniel Pound's, where four of us dined and left some linen to be washed (Halliday Jackson and Hugh Hartshorn having parted with us at the ferry and gone down to view the great Falls). We then rode to Asa Schooly's, where we met with our beloved friends William Blakey, Nathan Smith and Jacob Paxson, who we heard had arrived two days before us. Here we all propose to stay this night, our kind friend and landlord appearing to have things comfortably convenient about him. They said they could contrive for bedding for us all; but Thomas Stewardson and myself were desirous to sleep on the floor with our blankets, believing it would be best on several accounts; but we could not do it without hurting our friend's feelings, so consented to take a bed. But when we got to the bed chamber by ourselves, we found a good clean bed and clothing, which we examined, and found a thin straw bed on the sacking. We then took off the feather bed and laid it in the corner of the room, expecting we should not be discovered. But our kind friend came into the room and found the bed in the corner, but did not any more insist upon our compliance with their request.

22d, and first of the week. Stayed and attended their meeting, which is held in the house of our friend Asa Schooly, where we lodged, which to me was a dull time, though some lively communications therein. After dinner I took an affectionate farewell of Halliday Jackson, who was returned from viewing the great Falls and is now about to return through a lonesome wilderness to Genesinguhtha, the place of his present abode. We then classed ourselves in order to visit the families in this neighborhood, Nathan Smith, Jacob Paxson, and James Cooper going in one company, and William Blakey, Joshua Sharples, Thomas Stewardson, and myself in another. We then proceeded to and visited the families of John Cutler, a member; John Harret, and Azariah Schooly. Neither of the last two in membership, but hopeful, well inclined people. Returned to lodge at the same place. I may here note that Joshua Sharples, in getting into the boat at Buffalo Creek, slipped and fell on the edge of the boat, which at first did not seem very bad, but [he] hath been gradually getting worse. We now think some of his short ribs are broken, and it looks as if he would hardly be fit to travel to-morrow.

23d. Joshua Sharples being too much amiss to venture out, we set out without him and had religious opportunities in the families of Daniel Pound, the widow Morris, and Obadiah Dennis, the second of which in a particular manner was a favorable one; and then returned to our old lodging where we all met and had a religious opportunity in the family.

24th. Joshua Sharples being unable to travel, we left him and rode thirty miles to John Wills's, where we lodged. On our way we rode fourteen miles down the river Niagara, crossed Chippeway River and passed the great Falls. Several of our company were disposed to take a view of the great phenomenon, but James Cooper and myself thought there was not time sufficient to satisfy our curiosity, so rode on and left them to take a slight view. We all met at the aforesaid Wills's, and had an opportunity of retirement in the family, in which was some pretty close work.

25th. Set off from John Wills's, he accompanying us, and rode eleven miles to Friends' meeting, at the place called the Short Hills, which in the forepart was very heavy and trying, but more lively before the conclusion. After meeting, William Blakey, Thomas Stewardson, and myself visited Samuel Taylor and family, and went to Jeremiah Moore's to lodge, in whose family we had a solid opportunity.

26th. We visited the families of Enoch Shrigley, Solomon Moore, Jacob Moore, and Thomas Rice, none of them members, but all the descendants [of Friends] and appear to be thoughtful people. In the evening had a religious opportunity in the family of John Taylor, whose wife and children are members, but John was disowned by the Falls Monthly Meeting and is now desirous of being reinstated, and sent an acknowledgment by William Blakey; here we lodged.

27th. Joshua Sharples met us yesterday in the afternoon, being somewhat better, but weakly yet. We visited the families of Joshua Gillam and Benjamin Will, both members, and the family of Thomas Gillam, not a member, it being a tender visitation to

Transcription

joints or vacuums between them mostly ytf about an inch wide. Some places we found them to extend into the lake; ytf other places not quite to the edge of it; and in others not within ten ytf yards of it. Where they extended to the lake, they formed a beautiful ytf level to ride upon. The next layer or stratum is slate about ten feet ytf perpendicular. In some places it appeared very shelly or near rotten; in ytf many others, excellent slate in great quantities either for flagging or ytf covering for houses. Then one general layer of limestone about ytf fifteen or eighteen inches thick; then pretty generally slate or other ytf stone to the top of the wall or abutment, all which are curiously jointed ytf in smooth squares or columnes some two feet square, some five, and ytf some in oblong squares two or three feet by eight or ten. And as the water ytf in wet times penetrates down those joints, I suppose it freezes in theytf winter and bursts off the columns, which fall down on the margin of theytf lake, in many places large bodies of them together as much as several ytf square rods, and the timber on the top with them. In many places theytf trees were hanging by one half of the roots with their tops below a level, ytf and some right top downwards and not touching the bottom. In many ytf places by the continual dahsing of the waves against the rocks they are ytf worn in curious forms. ytf ytf ytf lake and river Niagara to the ferry. No such curious wall on our ytf right hand as yesterday, but similar beds of limestone. This Niagara River is the great outlet of all theytf northwestern lakes and waters, which makes a very great river above a mile ytf wide and of great depth, running very rapidly. We crossed the river in ytf a boat, which the heavy current drives across in a few minutes, which toytf some of our company appeared a little terrifying; and then rode up on theytf margin of the lake on the other side about eight miles, which appears ytf to be pretty level except some very high banks of sand and a general bed of ytf limestone lying in a form similar to the lower bed on the other side. ytf Then turned off from the lake about a mile to Daniel ytf Pound's, where four of us dined and left some linen to beytf washed (Halliday Jackson and Hugh Hartshorn having part with us at theytf ferry and gone down to view the great Falls). ytf We then rode to Asa Schooly's, where we ytf met with our beloved friends Wiiliam ytf Blakey, Nathan Smith ytf and Jacob Paxson, who we heard had ytf arrived two days before us. Here we all propose to stay this night, ytf our kind friend and landlord appearing to have things comfortably ytf convenient about him. They said they could contrive for bedding for us all; ytf but Thomas Stewardson and myself were ytf desirous to sleep on the floor with our blankets, believing it would beytf

ytf 21st. ytf ytf Rode three miles down

him. We then returned to Jeremiah Moore's, where we met with the rest of our company; had a solid conference among ourselves respecting the nature of our appointment, which hath felt increasingly weighty. Four of us lodged here, to wit: Nathan Smith, Thomas Stewardson, Joshua Sharples, and myself.

28th. Joshua Sharples went along with James Cooper to see a friend. Nathan, Thomas, and myself visited two families who are a little inclined to the Methodists, and returned to Moore's to dinner. In the afternoon paid some social visits, and lodged at the same place, which at present is a temporary home.

29th, and the first of the week. Attended Friends' meeting at their usual time and place. After meeting, walked four or five miles along with Nathan Smith to Samuel Becket's, where Nathan had appointed a meeting to begin at four o'clock, to which the neighbors and many of the Friends from about their meeting house came, and which I hope was a time of profitable instruction to some of them. On taking a view of the earnest desire which many of them have to attend such places, the compassionate feelings of my heart were very much awakened, especially for their women, many of them going four or five miles on foot, some of them with young children in their arms and others in such a state that I should have thought scarcely fit to travel far on horseback; yet they would and did walk faster than was easy for me, and returned to their homes in a dark night, the men carrying lighted torches in their hands to show them the way along their muddy and rooty roads. Lodged at the same place.

30th. Spent part of the day agreeably with some of our friends; also had a solid opportunity with a man who we believed had taken imagination for revelation, which had led him into some strange acts and predictions. I hope his state was so clearly opened and laid home to him that it may be of use to him. He acknowledged he had been deceived and followed a lying spirit. In the evening five of us returned to my lodging.

[To be Continued.]

Transcription

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*JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN
COUNTRY.—V.*

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

1st of the Tenth month [1799.] We all attended a conference before appointed to be held at Friends' meeting-house in Pelham township, otherwise the Short Hills, with the members of said meeting and the Friends of Black Creek, which was conducted with great solemnity. In this conference I was more fully convinced that there is a small number of seeking, religiously minded Friends in both places, and that if they abode in the patience and perseverance, the way would open ere long for the establishment of a monthly meeting amongst them. But the rest of my brethren believed the time was already come; so, after expressing my doubts of their being fully ripe to be entrusted with the executive part of our Discipline at this time, I freely submitted my feelings to the judgment of those whom I esteem to be deeper in the religious experience. It was then agreed to open a new monthly meeting to-morrow at eleven o'clock, to be known by the name of Pelham Monthly Meeting in Upper Canada, to be composed of Friends of Pelham and Black Creek and to be held alternately at each place the first Fourth-day in every month.

2d. Attended the opening of the new monthly meeting, it being a favored opportunity, which revived a hope that if this small number of Friends composing said meeting keep in humility and steady attention to best direction, their number and experience may so increase that the testimony of truth may be supported amongst them. After meeting took leave of our kind friends near the meeting-house and rode five miles to our friend, Samuel Becket's, who is a member of said meeting and who kindly entertained six of us, Joshua Sharples staying at James Crawford's.

3d. Thomas Stewardson, James Cooper, Jacob Paxson, and myself set off, intending for Newark down the Niagara River. Dined at Queenstown, the landing where all the goods conveyed thus far by

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yf yf

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water are unladen, and those intended to be re-shipped and taken into Lake Erie are carted or carried by land above the great Falls. Thence to Newark, it being a newly settled town at the mouth of the river Niagara, containing about one hundred houses. It is a beautiful place opposite the American fort, called Niagara Fort, and just where the river empties into Lake Ontario which is another wonderful fresh water sea in this northern country. Lodged at George Bradshaw's. In this place oats is 6d. per quart, hay 14d. per night for horses. This day's ride, twenty-two miles.

4th. Rode fifteen miles up the river to William Lunday's. Left our horses there and walked about a mile to a meeting appointed by Nathan Smith and William Blakey, in a meeting-house near the Falls, called the Federal Meeting House, it being built by the inhabitants for any minister of any religious denomination to preach in, but I understand meetings are very rare in it. No Friends live hereabouts but William Lunday, and he, by some means, forfeited his right before he came here, but is kind to us. I thought the opportunity was owned, particularly toward the close. In the afternoon William Blakey, Nathan Smith, and Thomas Stewardson set off for Black Creek; Jacob Paxson being very poorly, stayed at Lunday's; James Cooper and myself went about five miles down the river to view a great curiosity called the whirlpool. On our way we met with an acceptable repast on excellent peaches. We came to the bank of the river, which I believe is three hundred feet above the water, nearly perpendicular, on which we had a fair view of that astonishing place, the river rushing with great impetuosity against the bank or wall of rocks at a short turn in the river and then turning in a cove of perhaps ten acres in which it whirls round and round, striving to escape at a narrow passage of perhaps one hundred yards, being all the opening there is between the high hills. Into this pool abundance of logs and timber is carried and perhaps cannot get out for some weeks. It is amazing to behold the whirls that are formed, the logs sucked down and some time after shooting up (perhaps 100 yards from the place they went down, end foremost) fifteen or twenty feet perpendicular out of the water; that upon the whole it is an indescribably agitated place. Returned and lodged at William Lunday's.

5th. William Lunday accompanied James Cooper and myself in order to take a satisfactory view of the great cataract. We went about three-quarters of a mile below the Falls and then descended a bank of lime-stone rocks, I suppose nearly 300 feet, which was not quite perpendicular, to the surface of the water, some times holding by roots, some times by twigs, and some of the way down a ladder, other times sticking our toes in the cavities and holding by the craggy parts of the rocks. When down, clambered along the rocks, logs, slabs, and timber up the river to the place where the water shoots over the rock and falls 160 feet. We went as far as we thought was safe, being as wet, with the spray of water and sweat, as if we had been in a heavy shower. I had an inclination to go further in behind the water, but Lunday said it was dangerous; for, as he said, if the

wind were to shift against us we should be in danger of being suffocated with the spray and sulphur which smelled very strong. I thought there was not quite so much danger as he alleged, believing he was a good deal timid; however, I thought best to decline, lest I should suffer for my temerity. On clambering along the rocks by the water with a wall or mountain of rocks 160 feet high in some places over my head, hanging twelve or fifteen feet over plumb, it appeared truly awful and dangerous, which put me upon thinking what my view was in going into such apparent danger, as it is evident great columns of them frequently break off and fall down; but as I believed it was not altogether to gratify an idle curiosity, for the whole of the prospect led me into a reverent frame of mind, admiring the wonderful works, and in some measure adoring the Great Author, I then thought if I should then be buried in oblivion, perhaps my soul was as much in a state of aspiration and adoration as it might be when the unavoidable event should take place. This consideration led me on without much fear at that time, though naturally timid. I need not undertake to describe this wonderful phenomenon, as many pens have been employed in setting forth its magnitude; but as I have taken a view of the river in places many miles down, I am fully of the mind that the great Falls at some period were nine miles farther down the river and that they are gradually wearing up, and perhaps in time may drain the great Lake Erie. It is wonderful to behold the agitation of the water in the rapids above the falls and also below them, column after column dashing against each other and rising a great height with such foaming and confusion that the whole appears truly awful. We were very wet when we left the place; got on our horses and rode to Chippewa. Fed our horses and took a snatch ourselves, then rode to Black Creek settlement, twenty-four miles, and lodged at Anna Morris', who is a kind, agreeable young widow.

6th. Attended the meeting at Asa Schooly's, it being large for that place. After meeting we had a conference with the members of that meeting and laid before them the need we thought they had of a house to meet in, which they seem spirited to build. On considering their circumstances,—being most of them new settlers and not in very affluent life,—we made them an offer of thirty dollars toward purchasing materials; but they modestly declined accepting it, and said they could do themselves. I have now prepared things in order to set my face homewards tomorrow, which feels very pleasant.

7th. Wm. Blakey, Nathan Smith, Jacob Paxson, Thomas Stewardson, and myself lodged at our kind friend, Asa Schooly's, last night, who with his valued wife, equipped us for our journey through the wilderness. Early in the morning, after taking an affectionate farewell of our kind host, I set off with Thomas Stewardson, and rode thirteen miles to the ferry. Had a fine passage over the river which is a terror to many, then rode three miles up the lake to the mouth of Buffalo creek, put up our horses and waited until all the rest of our company came, which is now augmented to the number of eleven—William Lippincott, John

Transcription

water areytf unladen, and those intended to be re-shipped and taken into Lake Erie are carted or carried by land aboveytf the great Falls. Thence to New-ark, itytf being a newly settled town at the mouth of the riverytf Niagara, containing about one hundred houses. It is aytf beautiful place opposite the American fort, called Niagara Fort , and just where the river empties intoytf Lake Ontario which is anotherytf wonderful fresh water sea in this northern country. Lodged atytf George Bradshaw's. In this place oats isytf 6d. per quart, hay 14d. per night for horses. This day's ride,ytf twenty-two miles.ytf ytf ytf 4th.ytf ytf Rode fifteen miles up the river to Williamytf Lunday's. Left our horses there are walked about a mileytf to a meeting appointed by Nathan Smith and ytf William Blakey, in a meeting-house nearytf the Falls, called the Federal Meetingytf House, it being built by the inhabitants for any minister of any religiousytf denomination to preach in, but I understand meetings are very rareytf in it. No Friends live hereabouts but Williamytf Lunday, and he, by some means, forfeited his right before heytf came here, but is kind to us. I thought the opportunity was owned,ytf particularly toward the close. In the afternoon William Blakey, Nathanytf Smith, and Thomas Stewardsonytf set off for Black Creek ; Jacob Paxson being very poorly, stayed atytf Lunday's; Jamesytf Cooper and myself went about five miles down the river toyt view a great curiosity called the whirlpool. On our way we met with anytf acceptable repast on excellent peaches. We came to the bank of theytf river, which I believe is three hundred feet above the water, nearlyytf perpendicular, on which we had a fair view of that astonishing place, theytf river rushing with great impetuosity against the bank or wall ofytf rocks at a short turn in the river and then turning in a cove of perhapsytf ten acres in which it whirls round and round, striving to escape at aytf narrow passage of perhaps one hundred yards, being all the openingytf there is between the high hills. Into this pool abundance of logs andytf timber is carried and perhaps cannot get out for some weeks. It is amazingytf to behold the whirls that are formed, the logs sucked down and someytf time after shooting up (perhaps 100 yards from the place they went down,ytf end foremost) fifteen or twenty feet perpendicular out of the water;ytf that upon the whole it is an indescribably agitated place. Returnedytf and lodged at William Lunday's.ytf ytf ytf ytf 5th. ytf ytf William Lunday a and myself in order to take a satisfactory view of the great cataract.ytf We went about three-quarters of a mile below theytf Falls and then descended a bank of lime-stone rocks, Iytf suppose nearly 300 feet, which was not quite perpendicular, to the surfaceytf of the water, some times holding by roots, some times by twigs, andytf some of the way down a ladder, other

Will and ——— Carpenter joining with us to go to the States. Four of us lodged at Joseph Elicot's who was very kind, and gave us a good supper and breakfast.

8th. Set off from Elicot's, it having been a very wet night and dull morning. Rode eighteen and one-half miles to where there is a large new house building for a house of entertainment. Fed our horses and dined on our own provisions. The land the most of this stage an open plain full of lime-stone which doth not appear to me to be very valuable, the grass and herbage of an inferior kind; some of the way pretty good land covered with beech and sugar maple. From thence to Tonawanda, a large stream running into Lake Ontario, 11½ miles. Between those places there is some excellent land covered with beech, sugar maple, bass, black walnut, shell-bark, hickory, poplar, and divers other sorts of timber. Just after we crossed the Tonawanda I rode a few rods to the left hand to see the memorable and celebrated rock under which Captain Lindley and his men, about two years ago, encamped and lodged a very cold, wet night without fire; and just after I got into the road again, had the mortification to lose a great part of my horse-feed by means of the bag's coming untied and scattering on the ground, which my mare may have cause to lament in this wilderness country. Then rode eleven miles further to a small stream, struck up a fire and lodged in the woods at the east end of the White Oak Plains, having passed over some very poor land, some good, and a large plain pretty much without timber or luxuriant herbage. On our way this day we met many people moving from Bucks county and the Jerseys to Canada. It is amazing what numbers of people emigrate from those two places over the Niagara river. Where we have pitched our tent there are several other fires, at some of which there are several Indians out hunting. They have large bundles of skins. This day's ride, forty-one miles.

9th. Set off early and rode to Elicot's store-house, thirteen miles, having an order from him to get anything ourselves or horses stood in need of. This stage almost all the way excellent limestone land covered with ash, beech, bass, sugar maple, etc., in abundance; a deep soil and not so broken with the rock nor yet so dead a level as in some places, and is tolerably well watered with lively streams. Soon after I set off this morning, my mind became serene, which led me into an humble state, and thankfulness and gratitude to Him who hath hitherto preserved me and showered down many blessings and favors upon me, ascended from my soul, accompanied with strong desires that the rest of my time may be spent in a measure worthy of such favors. From thence to two new taverns just by a large spring; seven miles of this distance the land much as before, when we came to a creek running to the left called Kittle Creek, just at a great fall over a large flat rock, called the Buttermilk Falls, then immediately entered land of an inferior quality, into a large road I suppose opened by the State of New York, on which there are many new improvements. From thence to Parsons's on said road, being a new tavern; pretty good accommodations; eleven miles. On the way we crossed the Genesee river, four miles from our lodging,

it being a large stream running into the lake. On the west side of said river there is a small Indian village on an extensive flat or plain of very rich land covered with high grass, I suppose some thousands of acres. This day's ride, thirty-six miles, in which space we met fifteen or sixteen wagons with families and many other people moving to Upper Canada. So great is the emigration to that government.

10th. Rode ten miles along the aforesaid road which is at least 100 feet wide. I was very much surprised to see the improvement which is made in this new settled country, particularly along this road. I am informed it is but ten years since it first began to be settled; and now there is not half a mile without a house, and many of them very good ones—what may be called elegant—many capital barns; a great deal of land is cleared and there are very good cattle in the fields. The people principally emigrated from the New England states, and this is a specimen of their industry. When we had ridden ten miles from our lodging we parted, Joshua Sharples, Nathan Smith, James Cooper and myself turning off the main road to the north in order to pay a visit to some Friends who are settled at a place called Mud Creek. The other friends all propose to go directly home. We then rode eight miles to Jacob Smith's; dined and rested the afternoon; here we propose to lodge. The most of the way from the great road here, appears to be a light, sandy land, thinly timbered and I think may be called poor. About one mile before we came to Smith's, we again came into rich beech and sugar maple land. Our landlord doth not appear to be much polished, but I believe is hearty in entertaining us in his way.

11th. Rode from Jacob Smith's seven miles to his brother Jeremiah Smith's. When I came in sight of the house, although the barn and farm looked well, yet the house appeared so miserable I was ready to wish I had not come into those parts; but in a little while after I entered my mind was saluted with something like "Peace be to this house," and I felt myself very happy in company with the family, and believe that divers of them live near the fountains of good. We stayed till evening and then rode two miles to Abraham Lapham's and lodged.

[To be Continued.]

Transcription

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*JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN
COUNTRY.—VI.*

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

Tenth month [12, [1799.] On viewing the Lapham's farm and things about it, (though he lives in a very poor house), I was astonished to see the improvement made in the time; he told me it was but four years last spring since he began on it in the woods, and now he has more than one hundred acres of land fenced in, fields and meadows all in, either with grain or grass, and the most of it excellent. Has built a saw-mill and has a dairy of cows so good that notwithstanding it hath been an unfavorable season, they have made above two thousand lbs. of cheese; and yet he appears with his precious wife to be well concerned Friends, and is free to devote much of his time in the service of truth. Truly in this far back settlement in the Genesee county, State of New York, the appearance of things is comfortable, and affords an encouraging hope that if the few Friends here settled improve as well and hold up so good a light in a religious sense as they do in improving the wilderness country, they may yet become as "a city set upon a hill that cannot be hid." Stayed all this day with these our valued and kind friends; wrote a letter to Jacob Taylor, at Oneida, and walked about viewing the improvements Lapham has made. Lodged another night in his house. In the evening, Caleb Maccumber and another friend came to see us, and we spent some time in agreeable converse.

13th, and first of the week. Rode two miles to Nathan Comstock's, where Friends' meeting is held, which was large this day for such a new country. It was a favored meeting, in which the gospel was preached, and near the close I could not feel easy without requesting an opportunity with Friends, selected from others, which was readily complied with, wherein I endeavored to relieve myself of a heavy burden which I had silently borne ever since I came into these parts, on account of such a rapid increase of the abominable practice of distilling the precious wheat into whiskey; and though I believe there are a few well concerned Friends here, yet doubts accompanied my mind that they were too easy about the wickedness of such a perversion of the blessings of Divine Providence; and I endeavored to put them upon nobly bearing a testimony against it, and set the light upon the candlestick, believing that the destruction or salvation of their country very much depended upon the conduct pursued in that respect. After dinner rode seven miles to Nathan Herrington's, a kind man not in membership, but a diligent

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attender of meetings, and there lodged, having ridden ten miles this day.

14th. Rode five miles through rich land and new road. We came to a great road, and as soon as we entered it we came in sight of Canandaigua, a newly settled town containing nearly or quite fifty houses. I was surprised to see such a place in this back country. It stands on a beautifully elevated spot, the buildings generally excellent, and divers of them would cut a very good figure on the banks of the Schuylkill for a country seat. The town commands a pleasant prospect of a small lake about twenty miles long and two or three wide. We rode round the lower end of the lake and crossed the outlet; then rode nine miles to one Gilbert's tavern, a good stage for horses. Greater part of said nine miles is very rich land, some of the timber more mixed with hickory and oak than some other places; but generally through this country there is a great scarcity of mill seats or lively streams. Thence to Thomas Lee's, a kind man, his wife a member of our society; seventeen miles. About midway of this stage we passed Judge Potter's house and farm. The house is quite grand and magnificent, and was it one story higher would cut no inconsiderable figure in one of the most populous streets of Philadelphia. About two miles before we came to said Lee's, we crossed a fine stream running to the left, being the outlet of Crooked Lake; and about one mile below the lake, at the place we crossed said stream, there is a new mill and saw-mill which was built by David Waggoner, one of the followers of Jemima Wilkinson, it being a few miles from her residence. Our quarters for ourselves and horses at this place are excellent; and being informed that Joseph Jones, a young man brought up in Yorktown, with whom I had some acquaintance, lived near, I sent for him. He came and spent the evening very agreeably to us both, and as there appeared to be a few Friends and some Friendly people in this settlement besides some of Jemima's followers, who are very tired of their adherence, Nathan Smith felt a draft in his mind to have a meeting appointed, which was accordingly done, to be held in the house where we have put up, to begin to-morrow at eleven o'clock. This day's ride, thirty-one miles.

15th. Attended the appointed meeting, which was large considering the place, it being a memorably favoured time, in which the gospel was preached in demonstration of the spirit and with power, and I believe many hearts contrited, divers who had been and some who are the adherents of Jemima. After meeting walked home with Joseph Jones; spent the afternoon with him at his lodging where he has set up his trade at a mill known by the name of the "Friends' Mill," but [which] is now private property, and will, in time, I think, be of great value, the stream being large and durable, and a fall over the rocks of forty feet, which completely answers for a dam and head race for one grist mill, two saw mills, and a fulling mill. Returned to lodge at the same place.

16th. Set off early from Lee's and rode sixteen miles till we came in sight of Mud Lake to our left

hand. There Joshua Sharples, Nathan Smith, and John Hill went forward, and James Cooper and myself took a right-hand road leading to Bath, and rode two miles to one Stanford's, fed our horses, and dined. Just before we came to Stanford's, Joseph Jones came up with us and brought forward Joshua Sharples's pocket-book, he having left and forgotten it at our lodging. Then James Cooper followed the others with the pocket-book. Joseph and I rode to Bath, fourteen miles. The first part of this day's ride was chequered with good, bad, and middling land. About seven or eight miles before we came to Bath we passed the upper end of Crooked Lake, it being about twenty miles long and about three miles broad in the widest place. About two miles above the head of the lake, tolerably good land with improvements; the rest of the way to the town very poor land covered with pitch pine. The town of Bath is handsomely situated on the bank of a branch of the Susquehanna called Cohocton, containing about forty houses, one of which is a court-house, in Steuben county. Lodged and was kindly entertained by William Kersey and his wife, who appeared truly glad to see me.

17th. Set off early from Kersey's, accompanied by Joseph Jones, and rode six miles to Dolson's, where the rest of our company lodged, they being just gone when I arrived. I thought they might have stayed a little longer to acknowledge Joseph's kindness in following with the articles left behind. Thence to the Painted Post, twelve miles; it being a noted place, I was disappointed in seeing the house and entertainment. However, it was not so bad but it might be worse. The most of this stage was down the Cohocton and nearly all the way very poor, rough land. Thence to the tavern known by the name of Lindsley's; a good stage, twelve miles. Immediately after leaving the Painted Post, crossed the Cohocton, a large stream running into the Tioga. We then rode up the Tioga, a long, rich bottom, and crossed it twice after leaving Lindsley's. Crossed the Cowanesque and the Tioga twice more before we arrived at Berry's, where we lodged; ten miles. This day's ride, forty miles.

18th. From Berry's to Peter's Camp, twenty-one miles still up the Tioga, and crossed it six times. Land and timber much as before, except in many places very lofty white pine. On our way we fed at one White's, twelve miles from Berry's, a newly settled place, and appears as though it may in time be good quarters. We have now ridden about forty-two miles up the Tioga river, and crossed it ten times. Thence to the block-house, ten miles, where we fed and parleyed a little about staying all night. Some were for lodging there, but from the general account of the mischief done to travelers by the man of the house or some of his family, I was all along uneasy to stay there. The rest of my companions appearing disposed to stay, it being then three o'clock in the afternoon, however at last I gave up to stay, and then they changed their purpose and set off, and I with them, I feeling a good deal unhappy at our entering a lonesome desert, not knowing whether we should meet with any suitable place to encamp, and two of our company being a little infirm. But in riding about

Transcription

attender of meetings, and there lodged, ytf having ridden ten miles this day. ytf ytf ytf 14th. ytf Rode five miles through rich land and new road. We came to a great road, ytf and as soon as we entered it we came in sight of Canandaigua, a newly settled town containing nearly or ytf quite fifty houses. I was surprised to see such a place in this back ytf country. It stands on a beautifully elevated spot, the buildings ytf generally excellent, and divers of them would cut a very good figure on theytf banks of the ytf Schuylkill for a country seat. The town ytf commands a pleasant prospect of a small lake about twenty miles long ytf and two or three wide. We rode round the lower end of the lake and crossed ytf the outlet; then rode nine miles to one Gilbert's tavern, a good stage for horses. Greater part of ytf said nine miles is very rich land, some of the timber more mixed with ytf hickory and oak than some other places; but generally through this ytf country there is a great scarcity of mill seats or lively streams. Then to ytf Thomas Lee's, a kind man, his wife a ytf member of our society; seventeen miles. About midway of this stage we ytf passed Judge Potter's house and farm. Theytf house is quite grand and magnificent, and was it one story high ytf would cut no inconsiderable figure in one of the most populous streets of ytf Philadelphia. About two miles beofreytf we came to said Lee's, we crossed a fine ytf stream running to the left, being the outlet of Crooked Lake; and about one mile below the lake, at theytf place we crossed said stream, there is a new mill and saw-mill which was ytf built by David Waggoner, one of theytf followers of Jemima Wilkinson, it being a ytf few miles from her residence. Our quarters for ourselves and horses at this ytf place are excellent; and being informed that Josephytf Jones, a young man brought up in Yorktown, with whom I had some acquaintance, lived near, I ytf sent for him. He came and spent the evening very agreeably to us both, and ytf as there appeared to be a few Friends and some Friendly people in ytf this settlement besides some of Jemima's ytf followers, who are very tired of their adherence, Nathan Smith felt a draft in his mind to have a meeting ytf appointed, which was accordingly done, to be held in the house where we ytf have put up, to begin to-morrow at eleven o'clock. This day's ride, ytf thirty-one miles. ytf ytf ytf 15th. ytf Attended the appointed meeting, which was large considering the place, it ytf being a memorably favoured time, in which the gospel was preached in ytf demonstration of the spirit and with power, and I believe many hearts ytf contrited, divers who had been and some who are adherents of Jemima. After meeting walked home with ytf Joseph Jones; spent the afternoon ytf with him at his lodging where he has set up his trade at a mill known by ytf the name of the

three miles, we came to a stream of water and there fixed things in order for lodging in the woods, which we got completed before night; and had a comfortable night under a tent made of bushes, by a large fire. My companions said the place should be called Coats's Camp, which name I have no doubt it will go by. From Peter's Camp we immediately left the Tioga on our left hand, and ascended a great mountain called the Savage Mountain, which I take to be the same range with the Alleghany and Laurel Hill. It is a great height and breadth, being twenty miles across the ascent, and on the top until we came to the place we lodged, (which is thirteen or fourteen miles), to the worst road I have met with on this side the Genesee river, being very stony, rooty, and muddy; a great part of it covered with hemlock.

19th. The descent down the south side pretty good road, but steep until we came to Trout Run, nine miles from the block-house, then down said run six miles, in which distance we crossed it twenty-seven or twenty-eight times, and came to Charles Reeder's. Got oats and fed our horses, then left the main road, crossed the Lycoming and went seven miles over very poor, rough land to Moses Wilson's, a Friend at a place called Blooming Grove. Dined and proposed to stay all night. Rode these two days, fifty-two miles.

20th. First of the week. Rode two miles to Nathaniel Pearson's where a small meeting of Friends is held by indulgence on the First-day of the week. Sat with them in their meeting and went home with Moses Starr to dine. Afternoon rode seven miles to the widow Harris's. The land and timber this day's ride, which was nine miles, appeared to me to be very poor until we came to the said Harris's, on the west branch of the Susquehanna, where there appears to be excellent land a considerable width from the river, and they have an extraordinary plantation for fertility with a beautiful descent from the house facing the south. On taking a view of said farm and the buildings upon it, I was led to contemplate upon the great difference between the New England settlers in a new country and those from Maryland, having heretofore mentioned the industry, economy, and intrepidity of the former. This family emigrated from Maryland and appears in the household to be in affluent circumstances. Several sons, young men grown, and have been settled here, I suppose, twelve or fourteen years; have got a good deal of excellent land, cleared perhaps by the blacks, but they have no barn nor stable fit to put a horse into; but have ten or twelve hounds, a tame wolf, etc., and I expect spend much of their time in hunting; all of which had a tendency to increase my partiality in favor of the Yankees. But we are kindly entertained here; therefore it will not be proper to cast any reflections on their economy.

21st. Rode from the widow Harris's to Wm. Ellis's, nine miles. On the way crossed the Loyalsock. Rested till evening, when twelve Friends appointed by Philadelphia Quarter came to Ellis's in order to attend the opening of a new Monthly Meeting at Muncy, next Fourth-day, the 23d of this month. Here we all lodged, being sixteen of us, they having plenty

of room, good accommodations, and open, generous hearts.

22d. Went to get my mare shod. Returned to Ellis's and lodged.

23d. Attended the opening of the new Monthly Meeting at Muncy, where appears a considerable number of well concerned Friends. Said meeting held till near sunset. Lodged this night at our kind and hospitable friends, Wm. and Mercy Ellis's.

24th. Rode from Muncy to Catawissa, thirty miles, and lodged at Ellis Hughes's. The most of the way a very good road; passed by a number of pretty good plantations though a thin soil and a great deal of what I call poor mountain land, covered with barren oaks and small pitch pine. Soon after I left Ellis's, crossed Muncy Creek, a large stream; and a little before we came to Catawissa town, Fishing Creek, another large stream appeared on our left hand and emptied into the northeast branch of the Susquehanna, which opposite to said town is about a quarter of a mile wide. We rode through it, [it] being a little more than belly deep.

25th. Stayed in the town and walked about with Ellis Hughes viewing the river and town, which contains about fifty houses, most of them not the most elegant. Near three o'clock, afternoon, James Cooper and myself set off, leaving the rest of our company who intend to attend the Monthly Meeting at Catawissa to-morrow, and rode fourteen miles to Ledingburg's, a Dutch tavern, the road being good over mountains of very poor land.

26th. Rode from Ledingburg's to Ricgh's, nine miles; fed our horses and got breakfast; to Kensingers, eighteen miles, and dined; to James Star's, at Parvin's, twenty miles, and lodged. This day's ride, forty-seven miles. The most of it good road over a poor mountain country. Crossed the Schuylkill at a forge in a gap of the Blue Mountains, and Maiden Creek about a mile before I came to James Star's. James Cooper having parted with me two miles back, in order to go to John Star's, it felt very comfortable to be with these my old neighbors and beloved friends, James and Eleanor Star.

27th. First of the week. James Star accompanied me to Reading; attended Friends' meeting in that place, which is very small, six miles, and dined at John Jackson's, who accompanied me to my son-in-law's, Mark Hughes, seven miles, at Exeter. The pleasure I felt in meeting with my children was more sensible than easy to describe.

[To be Continued.]

Transcription

three miles, we came to a stream of waterytf and there fixed things in order for lodging in the woods, which we gotytf completed before night; and had a comfortable night under a tent made ofytf bushes, by a large fire. My companions said the place should be calledytf Coats's Camp , which name I have noytf doubt it will go by. From Peter's Camp ytf we immediately left the Tiogaytf on our left hand, and ascended a great mountain called the Savage Mountain., which I take to be there sameytf range with the Alleghany and Laurel Hill. It is a great height and breadth,ytf being twenty miles across the ascent, and on the top until we came to theytf place we lodged, (which is thirteen or fourteen miles), to the worstytf road I have met with on this side the Geneseytf river, being very stony, rooty, and muddy; a great part ofytf it covered with hemlock.ytf ytf ytf road, but steep until we cameytf to Trout Run, nine miles from theytf block-house, then down said run six miles, in which distance we crossed itytf twenty-seven or twenty-eight times, and came to Charles Reeder's. Got oats and fed our horses, then leftytf the main road, crossed the Lycoming andytf went seven miles over very poor, rough land to Mosesytf Wilson's, a Friend at a place called Blooming Grove . Dined and proposed to stay all night. Rodeytf these two days, fifty-two miles.ytf ytf ytf 20th.ytf ytf First of the week. Rode two miles to Nathanielytf Pearson's where a small meeting of Friends is held byytf indulgence on the First- day of the week. Sat with them in their meetingytf and went home with ytf Moses Starr to dine. Afternoon rode sevenytf miles to the widow Harris's. The land andytf timber this day's ride, which was nine miles, appeared to me to beytf very poor until we came to the said Harris's, on the west branch of the Susquehanna, where there appears to be excellent land aytf considerable width from the river, and they have an extraordinaryytf plantation for fertility with a beautiful descent from the house facytf ing the south. On taking a view of said farm and the buildings upon it, Iytf was led to contemplate upon the great difference between the New Englandytf settlers in a new country and those from Maryland, having heretoforeytf mentioned the industry, economy, and intrepidity of the former. This familyytf emigrated from Maryland and appears in the house hold to be inytf affluent circumstances. Several sons, young men grown, and have beenytf settled here, I suppose, twelve or fourteen years; have got a good deal ofytf excellent land, cleared perhaps by the blacks, but they have no barnytf nor stable fit to put a horse into; but have ten or twelve hounds, a tameytf wolf, etc., and I expect spend much of their time in hunting; all ofytf which had a tendency to increase my partiality in favor of theytf Yankees. But we are kindly enter-

19th.ytf ytf The descent down the south side

JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—VII.

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

[SECOND JOURNEY—1803.]

BEING several years one of the committee who have the care of the concern and fund raised by our Yearly Meeting for promoting the gradual civilization and real benefit of the Indian natives, I have for several months past felt my mind drawn to visit them again in Cornplanter's settlement, and where some of our young men are residing amongst the Seneca Nation, at a place called Genesinguhtha, in order to instruct them. The committee, last month in Philadelphia when met, believed it would be likely to be useful in promoting that good work, for four Friends to be appointed to visit the before-mentioned settlement this season; accordingly separated Isaac Bonsal, Thomas Stewardson, John Shoemaker, and myself for that purpose. We then agreed to meet at Thomas Lightfoot's, at Maiden Creek, on the 9th day of the Ninth month, 1803.

The morning of said day I left home in company with James Wilson, who is intending to accompany some women Friends to Upper or West Canada, in order to visit the members of our Society residing there. About noon we met Isaac Bonsal at John Scarlet's, and arrived in the evening at Thomas

Lightfoot's, where we were informed all the rest of our company were gone forward about noon that day.

[9th mo.] 10th, [1803.] Rode over a number of mountains to Kepler's, formerly Rich's tavern, and lodged, where we fared better than we expected.

11th. Rode to Trexler's, late Ledenburg's, in the morning, where we found our friends who went before. They not being ready to set off, we left them and rode to Catawissa, 23 miles, this morning before ten o'clock, and attended Friends' meeting in this place, having ridden ninety-six miles. We propose to rest the remainder of this day at Ellis Hughes's, it being the first of the week. On viewing the timber, mountains, land, and roads thus far, I think it needless to make any observations, finding them all to very nearly correspond with the former notes I made thereon; but have observed a number of miles back to this place, the Indian corn, buckwheat, potatoes, and almost all other tender vegetables are generally killed with the frost.

12th. Our expected company all arrived last evening. In the morning provided some necessaries, and rode this day to Wm. Ellis's, thirty miles, at Muncy, where we all propose to lodge, being ten of us. Soon after we crossed the northeast branch of the Susquehanna we found the frost had not been so severe as where we passed yesterday; but it is almost melancholy to behold in this part of the country the springs and streams of water to be almost wholly dried up and gone, even many heretofore large streams with no water in them, and many valuable mills are without one drop, insomuch that divers of the inhabitants have got to boiling their wheat to eat and expect if the drought continues much longer it will be generally the case. At Wm. Ellis's the women were washing and they told us they expected it must be the last time, except rain came, or they brought their water a number of miles.

13th. A wet morning. We stayed at Wm. Ellis's and dined. About two o'clock p. m., Thomas Setwardson, Isaac Bonsal, John Shoemaker, George Vaux, and myself, all who were going to Genesinguhtha, set off. James Wilson, Hannah Yarnal, Mary Witchel, and Samuel Johnson, who propose going to Canada, stayed at Ellis's. This afternoon we rode fifteen miles to Newberry, a small town of perhaps fifteen or twenty houses. Most or all of the way from Ellis's to Newberry is a beautiful road along the bottom lying on the west branch of Susquehanna. On our way we crossed the Loyalsock about nine miles from our last night's lodging, and the Lycoming about six miles farther, near Newberry, both of which are large, beautiful streams falling into the West Branch. The most of this afternoon's ride along the bottom is very fertile although it appears to be sandy. Near Lycoming the Indian corn is excellent; I expect it will produce fifty bushels to the acre. We propose to lodge to-night at John Sloan's tavern where we have had an excellent supper. We passed through Williamsport, about three miles back from Newberry, it being the county town of Lycoming county, containing twenty or more houses.

14th. Rode eighteen miles to James Kooker's on Larrie's Creek, and dined. The most of the way over

Transcription

ytf BEING several years one of the committee who have the care of the concern ytf and fund raised by our Yearly Meeting for promoting the gradual ytf civilization and real benefit of the Indian natives, I have for several ytf months past felt my mind drawn to visit them again in Cornplanter's settlement , and where some of our ytf young men are residing amongst the Seneca ytf Nation , at a place called Genesinguhta , in order to instruct them. The committee, ytf last month in Philadelphia ytf when met, believed it would be likely to be useful in promoting that ytf good work, for four Friends to be appointed to visit the before-mentioned ytf settlement this season; accordingly separated Isaac ytf Bonsal, Thomas Stewardson, ytf John Shoemaker, and myself for that ytf purpose. We then agreed to meet at Thomas ytf Lightfoot's, at Maiden ytf Creek, on the 9th day of the Ninth ytf month, 1803. ytf The morning of said day I left home in company with James Wilson, who is intending to accompany some women ytf Friends to Upper or West Canada, in order to visit the members of our ytf Society residing there. About noon we met Isaac ytf Bonsal at John Scarlet's ytf and arrived in the evening at Thomas ytf Lightfoot's, where we were informed all the rest of our ytf company were gone forward about noon that day. ytf ytf ytf [9th mo.] 10th, [1803.] ytf mountains to Kepler's, formerly Rich's tavern , ytf and lodged, where we fared better than we expected. ytf ytf ytf 11th. ytf ytf Rode to Trexler's, late I morning, where we found our friends who ytf went before. They not being ready to set off, we left them and rode ytf to Catawissa , 23 miles, this morning before ytf ten o'clock, and attended Friends' meeting in this place, having ytf ridden ninety-six miles. We propose to rest the remainder of this day at ytf Ellis Hughes's, it being the first of ytf the week. On viewing the timber, mountains, land, and roads thus far, I ytf think it needless to make any observations, finding them all to very ytf nearly correspond with the former notes I made thereon; but have observed aytf number of miles back to this place, the Indian corn, buckwheat, potatoes, ytf and almost all other tender vegetables are generally killed with the ytf frost. ytf ytf 12th. ytf ytf Our expected company all arrived last evening. In the morning provided ytf some necessaries, and rode this day to Wm. ytf Ellis's, thirty miles, at Muncy , where we all propose to lodge, being ten of us. ytf Soon after we crossed the northeast branch of the Susquehanna we found the frost had not been so severe as ytf where we passed yesterday; but it is almost melancholy to behold in ytf this part of the country the springs and streams of water to be almost ytf wholly dried up and gone, even many heretofore large streams with no ytf water in them, and many valuable milles are without one drop, insomuch ytf that divers of the inhabitants have got to boiling their wheat to eat and ytf expect if the drough continues much longer it will be gener-

a very rough mountain called the Alleghany; some spots tolerable land, but I think four-fifths of it is not worth settling upon. Just before we came to the creek we entered a forest of very tall white pine which stands very close together, insomuch that I concluded if it was all cut up in four-foot lengths it could not be corded on the ground. Said Kookan has about fifteen acres of land cleared, which appears to be very fertile, having very luxuriant potatoes and butterweeds, also the appearance of good oats standing in shock and some not cut. Thence to John Norris's mill, on a branch of Pine Creek, thirteen miles. After leaving Larrie's Creek we rode about five miles through very rich land exceeding heavy loaded with timber—mostly white pine with some hemlock, sugar maple, etc., and then entered a valley down which a branch of Pine Creek runs, which we crossed eleven times, and then came upon a larger branch of said water, crossing it several times. Up to the mill pretty good land in a narrow valley between two high mountains; no house nor improvement for ten miles of the last stage. At this place we have got a very pleasant landlady who provided us a good supper.

15th. Rode to Moses Wilson's eleven and one half miles; the most of the way upon a branch of Pine Creek, through very good land heavy loaded with timber, and there appears to be several new settlements making which in time may be very valuable, one of which is Sampson Babs's who is making an improvement on a fertile spot and has got a race almost finished in order for a sawmill, and perhaps a grist mill. He appeared exceedingly elevated with seeing us and told us when he came there first, being no road, he came by direction of a compass, and resided twelve weeks without seeing the face of any person. Had only a blanket and piece of hemlock bark for his house and bed-clothing. Moses Wilson and his truly valuable wife appear to be very happy in seeing us. He has made a considerable opening in the heavy timber and has got good corn and other things; but truly those who have not been in the back country can have but a very imperfect idea of the hardship and difficulty those have to endure or encounter who are the first settlers in a new country. Thence to James Mills's at the third fork of Pine Creek, which is a boatable stream about fifty-six miles above where it empties into the west branch of Susquehanna, and ten miles from Moses Wilson's. On our way we came to a camp in the woods, where we found Wm. Ellis, with a number of hands who are out surveying Wall, Fisher & Co.'s land, said Ellis accompanying us six miles to said Mills's in order to spend the evening with us in friendly converse. The land generally good this stage, and some of it excellent with abundance of very large sugar maple. Said Mills is living on said Fisher's land which I think will, in time, be a very valuable estate. He said he had two years ago six hundred dozen of wheat, and the present year has got seventeen acres of corn, which will no doubt yield fifty or sixty bushels to the acre; appears to be a very active, intelligent man; has got twelve children, nine of whom live with him, who are very healthy and hardy. He is perhaps as successful

a hunter as there is in this State, and many of the wild beasts of the woods fall a prey to his skill, such as bears, panthers, elk, and deer. It is said and believed he killed eleven elk one morning before breakfast. One of his sons, in the ninth year of his age, killed six elk and five deer; is now in the fourteenth year of his age, has killed several bears this season. Two of his daughters killed three elk in one day; and we have this evening feasted on the product of their skill. Said Mills told me that he and one other man were out about a week and they killed in that time above seventy deer.

16th. Before we left Mills's, breakfasted on coffee, of which we had plenty, wheat bread and butter, venison, both of the elk and common deer, eels, trout, and other fish, of which they catch abundance. We then rode about twenty-five miles up Pine Creek, and crossed it thirty-eight times before we came to the head, which is about eighty miles from where it empties into the West Branch. Almost all the way up it, good land in general, heavy loaded with timber, some of the way very lofty white pine. After we left the head of said creek, rode seven miles through very rich land and timber rather exceeding that on Pine Creek, to a spring, being one of the head-springs of the Alleghany River, where we struck up a fire, pitched a tent, and lodged.

17th. Rode twenty-three miles to a new settlement on Osweo being one of the main branches of the aforesaid river, where there are several neat houses built, which is intended for a town called Cerestown or Francis King's settlement. The most of the said twenty-three miles is excellent land, but so heavy loaded with timber of divers sorts, such as hemlock, white pine, sugar maple, cherry, and some bass or lynn, that it will be very expensive clearing. It is astonishing to see the height of the white pine, and other timber in proportion. Although to such as have never seen such timber it may seem a little romantic, I have seen, (particularly when we came near Francis King's), great numbers of trees which we all believe to be thirteen or fourteen perches high; and John Bell, a Friend of veracity, told us he measured one which was 250 feet long when it fell down, which is fifteen perches and ten feet. Said Bell and his wife are Friends that came from the north of England, and are about settling here; [they have] a good deal of very good corn; they seem to be in good spirits, were truly glad to see us, his wife remarkably so, insomuch that she was ready to weep with joy; is a remarkably cleanly woman and was very happy this afternoon in entertaining us with a good cup of tea sweetened with loaf sugar and good will, that I thought the joy and happiness we were instrumental in communicating to this woman was almost worth our journey to these parts. Here we also met with my old friend, Halftown, who is up here in a canoe with three of his children, in order to get some necessary tools, etc.; was just going to set off about fifty miles down the river to his home. He was very much rejoiced to see us and agreed to stay until tomorrow to navigate us down the river to Genesinghta.

18th. First of the week. Stayed at Cerestown till after dinner. Francis King is a plain, sober-looking

Transcription

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ytf ytf

15th.ytf ytf Rode to Moses Wilso

man, but by some means he forfeited his right of membership with our Society before he left England. His wife died after he came here, leaving with him seven or eight children who are members. John and Mary Bell with six or seven children are all members. These two families with one or two more, are in the commendable practice of meeting together once or twice a week in order to pay the tribute of worship. We sat with them in their little meeting and dined at John Bell's, whose wife is a woman of the most exquisite sensibility; and at our departure taking leave of them [it] seemed as much as she could bear with becoming fortitude. After dinner, walked along with Halftown down the Osweo six miles, where it empties into the Alleghany, and he had left his canoe. The water being very low, some of us walked and others rode in the canoe turn about until we reached Adam Hoopes's, fourteen miles from King's. The land and timber down the river to here, pretty good. Said Hoopes received us very kindly in his cabin and treated us with the best provision he had; which was venison, [and] corn, dried, pounded, and made into mush, with milk to eat with it. We all slept on the floor of his cabin before the fire, having some of his poultry taking their repose close by us. He is a courteous man who owns 20,000 acres of land in this country, a considerable part of which is very good, and is now beginning a settlement just at the mouth of a boatable stream called Issua, which perhaps in time may become a very valuable estate. He has got a large house raised but not covered, and some corn standing, and perhaps eight or ten acres which he intends to sow wheat upon.

[To be Continued.]

Transcription

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JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—VIII.

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

Ninth month 19th [1803.] Adam Hoops's brother proposing to go to Genesinguhta to get some seed wheat, and the river being so low that we were doubtful Halftown would be beset to convey us down in his canoe, they kindly offered some of us a passage in their canoe. Accordingly Thomas Stewardson, John Shoemaker, and George Vaux went with him, he having two active young men to work it; and Isaac Bonsal and myself took passage with Halftown and his son, having an exceedingly pleasant ride down the river, keeping in company all the way with the vessel which our friends were on board of, and another canoe with one man in it going to Pittsburg. We sometimes sat up and sometimes lay down and slept between two Indians navigating us, who appeared very dexterous, and disposed to accommodate us in every respect in their power. About twelve or fifteen miles down from the Issua we stopped and dined at a place called the Plum-Orchard, it being on or near the upper end of the Indian reserve. I never saw such a place before, it containing about forty or fifty acres of exceeding rich land thickly set with trees which are loaded with excellent fruit, and abundance on the ground, now in full season. I have no doubt but there is more than one hundred cart-loads of excellent plums on which we satiated our appetites for that fruit and took some on board. Then sailed down the river to the mouth of Tusquiatossy, it being twenty-one miles from Issua. There we struck up a fire, pitched our tents and slept on the river-bank, the number of the passengers our squadron contained being twelve. George Vaux hitherto being our cook hath performed his office to suit our palates, and this evening failed not in his skill. In the night an alarm was sounded in our camp by a sentinel, under an apprehension of the near approach of a mortal enemy. One of our company took the alarm and immediately rose; the others believing it to be the effect of imagination did not think it necessary to get up, which ultimately proved to be the case.

20th. Breakfasted early and pursued our voyage four miles to the mouth of Tusquiatossy, being a creek (though now quite dry) that runs down what is called the Little Valley. Thence to Genesinguhta, where we met with our beloved friends, J. Taylor, J. Thomas, and J. Swayne, the young men whom we stationed there in order to improve the natives, John Pennock also being there some time, improving some of them in the smith-business. It was truly a very satisfactory meeting, particularly to them, they being so long from a sense of duty separated from their friends and relatives. Many of the Indians came to see us this afternoon and took us by the hand with evident tokens of great joy, which is a clear indication that they are highly pleased with, and in good measure sensible of our disinterested endeavor to improve them in agriculture, mechanical arts, and profitable civilization. We observed, as we sailed down, the Indian reserve of land along the river to be excellent; and when we came within fourteen or fifteen miles of Genesinguhta, the settlements and

Transcription

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improvements began to appear, and many of the Indians have begun to clear out and cultivate their ground; have built houses more comfortable than they were formerly accustomed to. When I was up the river from this place four years ago, I believe there were but three or four settlements worth noticing; and now there are eighteen or nineteen, and divers of them have large fields of corn, considerable stock of cattle, and some of them this season had wheat for sale; so that upon the whole I think they have improved in agriculture beyond my expectations. Soon after we arrived, our friends showed us the copy of a speech made by Cornplanter and his brother, Conudiu, on the proposal of their moving off the Indians' land and settling near them where they might have the opportunity of being instructed as usual and building a saw-mill, which is as follows:

"Conudiu first spoke: It is now a long time since you came to live amongst us; it has even exceeded the limits that were first proposed. I now speak the united voice of our chiefs and warriors to you, our women also, and all our people. Attend, therefore, to what I say. We wish you to make your minds perfectly easy; we are all pleased with your living amongst us, and not one of us wants you to leave our country. We find no fault with you in any respect since you came among us, neither have we anything to charge you with. You have lived peaceably and honestly with us, and have been preserved in health, and nothing has befallen you. This we think is proof that the Great Spirit also is pleased with your living here and with what you have done for us.

"Friends, Tewenstee, we have been very much engaged in business respecting the affairs of our nation, which has prevented us from answering your proposals of declining the settlement at Genesinguhtha and moving up the river to settle on land of your own joining ours. We now all agree to leave you at full liberty either to remain where you now are on our land, or to move up the river and settle, on land of your own—only that you settle near us. The Little Valley is as far up the river as our people are willing you should go, as we want you to be near us, that you may extend further assistance and instruction; for although we have experienced much benefit from you, and some of our people have made considerable advancement in the knowledge of useful labor, yet we remain very deficient in many things, and numbers of us are yet poor.

"Friends, Tewenstee, I myself have been advising our people to pursue the course of life you recommend to us, and we have fully concluded to follow habits of industry; but we are only just beginning to learn, and we find ourselves at a loss for tools to work with. We now request you to bring on plenty of all kinds you think will be useful; then such of our people as are able will buy for themselves, and such as are poor we wish you to continue to lend to, and they shall be returned to you again. We also want you to bring useful cloths and sell to us, that we may get some necessary things without having to go so far for them. In looking forward we can limit no time for you to live beside us; this must depend on your

own judgment. When your friends come from Philadelphia we wish you to communicate this speech to them as the full result of our minds concerning you."

After the foregoing speech was delivered Cornplanter spoke as follows:

"Friends, Tewenstee, attend. I will add a little further. When I was in Philadelphia, a long time ago, the Indians and white people at that time continued to kill each other; I then heard of Quakers, that they were a peaceable people, and would not fight or kill anybody. I inquired of the President of the United States about them, whether or not this account was true. He said it was true enough; they were such a people. I then requested him to send some of them to live amongst the Indians, expecting they would be very useful to us. Then it was a long time after before you came. You are now here, and it has afforded me much satisfaction that you have come. I have not been disappointed in the account I heard of you. You have lived peacefully among us, and no difficulty has happened between you and our people. We now want you to stay with us and stand between us and the white people; and if you see any of them trying to cheat us let us know of it; or if you see any of our people trying to cheat the whites we wish you to let it be known also, as we confide in you that you will not cheat us.

"Friends, we have now spoken so full on the business that we need not say any more until we find one of you has killed one of our people, and we find him lying dead on the ground, or until one of us kills one of you; then we will take up the business again." [Delivered the 30th of the 8th month, 1803.]

Notwithstanding this, we thought it necessary to see the chiefs and others in council; and being informed that Cornplanter was just set out on a hunting tour, we hired an Indian to go in the night, (though it was a wet one), in quest of him. He set out and traversed the woods, blowing his horn; and just at daybreak found him, who came to us early this morning which is the 21st, and 4th of the week. After conferring with him, he appeared very much pleased with our coming, and agreed to send out for the distant chiefs and others to meet us in council at this place next Seventh-day morning. We then set off up the river in order to look for a suitable place to make a settlement and build a saw-mill. Having viewed two valleys heretofore had in view, but found the streams entirely dried up, we came to a fine stream on the east side of the river, called Tunesasau, on which we think there is a good mill-seat, being about three and a half miles from this place, and land tolerably good; then returned. On our way we had the curiosity to ascend a very high mountain in order to have a prospect of the river and adjacent country. Jacob Taylor leading the way, we ascended about one mile and a half, the most of the way very steep. When our company the most of them were so tired they gave out, Jacob Taylor and myself pursued our route until we got a grand prospect of the river and the adjacent country and a number of the Indian settlements, and got home as soon as the others. The young Indian who is the smith at Genesinguhtha, whose name is Levi Halfstow, went with us and re-

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improvements began to appear, and many of the Indians have begun to clear out and cultivate their ground; they have built houses more comfortable than they were formerly accustomed to. When I was up the river from this place four years ago, I believe there were but three or four settlements worth noticing; and now there are eighteen or nineteen, and divers of them have large fields of corn, considerable stock of cattle, and some of them this season had wheat for sale; so that upon the whole I think they have improved in agriculture beyond my expectations. Soon after we arrived, our friends showed us the copy of a speech made by Cornplanter and his brother, Conudiu, on their proposal of their moving off the Indians' land and settling near them where they might have the opportunity of being instructed as usual and building a saw-mill, which is as follows:

Conudiu first spoke: It is now a long time since you came to live amongst us; it even exceeded the limits that were first proposed. I now speak the united voice of our chiefs and warriors to you, our women also, and all our people. Attend, therefore, to what I say. We wish you to make your minds perfectly easy; we are all pleased with your living amongst us, and not one of us wants you to leave our country. We find no fault with you in any respect since you came amongst us, neither have we anything to charge you with. You have lived peaceably and honestly with us, and have been preserved in health, and nothing has befallen you. This we think is proof that the Great Spirit also is pleased with your living here and with what you have done for us. Friends, Tewenstee, we have been very much engaged in business respecting the affairs of our nation, which has prevented us from answering you proposals of declining the settlement at Genesinguhta and moving up the river to settle on land of your own joining ours. We now all agree to leave you at full liberty either to remain where you now are on our land, or to move up the river and settle, on land of your own--only that you settle near us. The Little Valley is as far up the river as our people are willing you should go, as we want you to be near us, that you may extend further assistance and instruction; for although we have experienced much benefit from you, and some of our people have made considerable advancement in their knowledge of useful labor, yet we remain very deficient in many things, numbers of us are yet poor. Friends, Tewenstee, I myself have been advising our people to pursue the course of life you recommend to us, and we have fully concluded to follow habits of industry; but we are only just beginning to learn, and we find ourselves at a loss for tools to work with. We now request you to bring on plenty of

turned with those who gave out; he made himself very merry with us when walking through the woods; said the Quakers were like little children learning to walk, and that we might now see some of the hardships the Indians had to pass through in their hunting, only that it would not do for them to stop and rest; but when he found I went on, said there was one hardy man amongst them. I think I never heard Thomas Stewardson complain or give out until this time. In the evening Blue Eyes came; was very glad to see us, but was sorry he had to go to Cattaraugus to see a sick daughter, so that he could not be at the council. Because he is a steady friend and promoter of our concern for the good of the natives, being a chief who both by precept and example endeavors to lead them on in habits of sobriety and industry, and as he could not stay with us, we took the opportunity of opening to him some of the reasons of our coming here at this time, which was a proposal of our young men's moving off their land and settling near them on some of their own. He was wise enough to see the reason of the proposal; and although he saw and gave in to the propriety of it, yet appeared sorry, as he is a near neighbor; and said if they moved he would wait to see how they would do and then move near them. Truly the opportunity this evening with Blue Eyes had a tendency to produce some very pleasant sensations in my mind, and I thought I could own him for, and really felt him near, as a brother.

22d. Fifth of the week. This being the day on which the youngmen hold their meeting, we sat with them, which I believe was a time of refreshment to us all. In the afternoon walked about viewing the improvements the Indians have made which are considerable. Several of them have a good deal of corn, and some have raised some wheat; but I think they have not improved in agriculture and industry equal to those up the river. We saw two of them threshing their wheat; but as they had no barn to put it in, it appeared to be somewhat damaged in the stack. I endeavored to put them upon building barns, which they promised to do.

23d. We all in company with Jacob Taylor, John Pennock and Joel Swayne, went down to Genesinghuta, or Cornplanter's Village, nine and a half miles. Being eight of us having three horses, Jacob Taylor and myself walked all the way and back again, being nineteen miles. The others rode turn about. We arrived at the village about eleven o'clock and spent two or three hours in viewing the Indians' houses, corn-fields, and other improvements; and although we discovered fourteen shingled houses and abundance of corn, yet I think they have not improved four years past, equal to the Indians up the river. We dined at Cornplanter's upon the best venison I have eaten since I left home, Indian bread, butter, buttermilk, bears' fat and squashes. Some of our company were very desirous to return before dinner; but Jacob Taylor told them it would not do. They then summoned all the fortitude they could and sat down to dinner. Jacob Taylor, John Pennock, Joel Swayne, Thomas Stewardson, and myself ate with good-will; the others did as well as they could. The old chief

was very pleasant with us and made himself very cheerful, inquiring for Henry Simmons; said he was a man for his mind, and if he had not been a Quaker he would have made a very good war chief. Some time after dinner, we returned. J. Taylor, Thomas Stewardson, Isaac Bonsal, George Vaux and myself walked one or two miles near the river bank; the other three rode. On our way passed through abundance of good corn and beans, and by eight or ten houses, some of them very complete work, with stone chimneys. In one of them lives an old woman, half-sister of Cornplanter, with three or four sons. The poor old woman was rejoiced to see us; said she was thankful to the Good Spirit for preserving us in our long journey to see them, and also that He put it in our hearts to have compassion on them; and that she was old and did not expect to be at the council tomorrow, but hoped the Good Spirit would preserve us. Truly the manner of her expression, the tears standing in her eyes, and the whole of her deportment, expression, and appearance had a tendency to enliven the affectionate feelings of my heart, and I could not help thinking she was as much the favorite of Him who sees not as man sees, as many who think themselves more polished. In about three miles' walking, Cornplanter, Conudiu, and about twenty or thirty more of the Indians overtook us on their way up to the council. I walked very pleasantly and cheerfully with them. The old chief, Cornplanter, wanted me to ride his horse; but when I refused, he said I was a sachem.

[To be Continued.]

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JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—IX.

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

Ninth month 24th, [1803.] About 10 o'clock, many of the chiefs and others collected and seated themselves around a small fire which was kindled in the open yard, and sent us word they were ready, about sixty in number. We then went and sat with them. After a short pause Conudiu rose and congratulated us on our safe arrival in their country, and said they were thankful to the Great Spirit who had preserved us in our long journey to see them, and more which I can not well recollect, much to the same purport. Cornplanter then said they were ready to hear us. We then had our certificate read and interpreted to them, which is as follows:

To Cornplanter and other Chiefs of the Seneca Nation of Indians living on the Allegheny River; Brothers:

Our friends who live amongst you inform us they have conferred with you some time past about removing to settle some distance farther up the river, on some of the land you lately sold to the white people; which we understand they and some of you think might enable them to be still more useful to you than where they now live.

"Brothers, we are desirous every movement we make amongst you may be well considered and so conducted as to always keep the chain of friendship clean and bright between us; for which reason we think it right at this time to send some of our brethren to help to consult and confer on this business, and our friends Isaac Coates, Isaac Bonsal, Thomas Stewardson, and John Shoemaker, feeling their minds clothed with love toward you, are willing to undertake this long journey. We hope you will receive them as brothers, and listen to their words, for they are true men and sincere friends to your nation.

"Brothers, our hearts are made glad to hear from our

friends amongst you that you are beginning to live more comfortably on the fruits of your labor, under the blessing of the Good Spirit; and we more especially rejoice to hear that your chiefs and young men generally refrain from the use of strong liquors, which you know have been so destructive to Indians as well as many white people. We hope you will be strengthened by the Great Spirit to persevere in the good resolution you have taken on this subject.

"Brothers, we desire the Good Spirit may be with you and influence you and our friends in your councils, on the weighty subjects which may come before you; that so everything may be settled and conducted to mutual satisfaction and to the furtherance of our designs of being lastingly useful to you."

We remain your friends and brothers.

Philadelphia, 19th of the Eighth mo., 1803.

(Signed by)

DAVID BACON,
JOHN PARRISH,
OLIVER PAXSON,
NICHOLAS WALN,
WILLIAM SAVERY,
SAMUEL CANBY,
JOHN PEIRCE,
ROBERT SMITH,

JOHN WISTAR,
ELLIS YARNAL,
NATHAN HARPER,
JOHN BIDDLE,
HALLIDAY JACKSON,
JOHN MORTON, JR.,
THOMAS WISTAR,
GEORGE WILLIAMS.

After the foregoing certificate was read and explained to them, evident marks of assent were discoverable, and we having concluded upon and drawn up an address to them on the important contemplated removal of our young men, it was also read to them by paragraphs and interpreted as follows:

"To Cornplanter and the other Chiefs of the Seneca Nation residing on the Allegheny River; Brothers:

"You have heard the speech which our friends at home have sent to you by us. We now wish you to speak your minds to us quite plain, and if there is anything which does not feel easy to you, that you will tell it to us.

"Brothers, we have seen the speech made by you to our friends who live among you, at one of your late councils, by which we understand you leave them at full liberty to move up the river to settle on land joining to yours.

"Brothers, since we came here we have been viewing the land, and think if the Holland Company will sell us a piece on Tunesasah Creek that it will be a suitable place for our friends to settle upon; they will then still be among your settlements.

"Brothers, when our friends first came to settle among you, we told you the tools they then brought should be for your use, to be lent among such of you

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ytf ytf Friends Intelligencer 44 (1887), 452-4, 468-70, 482-4, 701-3,ytf 514-6, 530-2. Sections labeled the chiefs and others collected and seated themselves around a small ytf fire which was kindled in the open yard, and sent us word they were ready,ytf about sixty in number. We then went and sat with them. After a short ytf pause Conudiu rose and congratulated us ytf on our safe arrival in their country, and said they were thankful to theytf Great Spirit who had preserved us in our long journey to see them, and more ytf which I can not well recollect, much to the same purport. Cornplanter then said they were ready to hear ytf us. We then had our certificate read and interpreted to them, which is ytf as follows:ytf ytf ytf To Cornplanter and other Chiefs of ytf the Seneca Nation of Indians living ytf on the Allegheny River;ytf Brothers:ytf ytf Our friends who live amongst you informed conferred with ytf you some time past about removing to settle some distance farther ytf up the river, on some of the land you lately sold to the white ytf people; which we understand they and some of you think might enable ytf them to be still more useful to you than where they now live. ytf "Brothers, we are desirous every movement we make amongst you may be ytf well considered and so conducted as to always keep the chain of ytf friendship clean and bright between us; for which reason we think it ytf right at this time to send some of our brethren to help to consult ytf and confer on this business, and our friends Isaac Coates, ytf Isaac Bonsal,ytf Thomas Stewardson, and John Shoemaker, feeling their minds ytf clothed with love toward you, are willing to undertake this long ytf journey. We hope you will receive them as brothers, and listen to ytf their words, for they are true men and sincere friends to your ytf nation. ytf "Brothers, our hearts are made glad to hear from our friends amongst ytf you that you are beginning to live more comfortably on the fruits of ytf your labor, under the blessing of the Good Spirit; and we more ytf especially rejoice to hear that your chiefs and young men generally ytf refrain from the use of strong liquors, which you know have been ytf so destructive to Indians as well as many white people. We hope ytf you will be strengthened by the Great Spirit to persevere in theytf good resolution you have taken on this subject. ytf "Brothers, we desire the Good Spirit may bless and influence ytf you and our friends in your councils, on the weighty subjects which ytf may come before you; that so everything may be settled and conducted ytf to mutual satisfaction and to the furtherance of our designs of ytf being lastingly useful to you." ytf We remain your friends and ytf brothers. Philadelphia, ytf 19th of the (Signed by) ytf DAVID BACON,ytf JOHN WISTAR,ytf JOHN PARRISH,ytf ELLIS YARNAL,ytf C

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as wanted to use them. They have been so lent, and we have sent others for our friends to use. When our friends remove, such of the first parcel of tools as remain with them, will be left with your chiefs to be lent out for the good of the nation.

"Brothers, we have lent some blacksmith tools to the smith who resides at the upper town; the others our friends take with them; but the smith who lives here may have the use of them. The two smiths we hope are now able to do nearly all the smith-work you will want.

"Brothers, if our friends get a house put up before winter suitable for their accommodation, they will remove from the one they now live in. The barn and some of the land they may want another summer, as perhaps they cannot get land enough cleared to raise grain and hay for their cattle. You will agree among yourselves which of you shall live here when our friends remove.

"Brothers, when our friends remove they will continue to give you assistance and instruction when they can; if they think you stand in need of it. Several of you have tools, and as there are some of the first parcel which came up that are not worn out, they will be left with the chiefs to be lent to such as want. Many of these tools are already lent; we think it will be best for you to appoint some person to have particular charge and care of them, as lending tools has been very troublesome.

"Brothers, we understand by your speech to our friends that you want them to bring on tools and cloth to sell. Brothers, we do not want them to keep a store of goods among you; we think it will not be best; but we intend to send on a few scythes, sickles, augers, and some such tools for our friends to sell to such of you as may want to buy; but if any of your people buy from them and then sell to the white people, they are not to sell any more to such as do so.

"Brothers, we again repeat it, we wish you to speak your minds freely to us, and if there is anything which you and we do not understand alike, that you will tell us, as it is our wish to comply with all our engagements. The iron which our friends have promised you will be sent on as soon as the water will admit."

After a little pause, Cornplanter replied: "If you will leave us a little while, we will counsel among ourselves and return you an answer."

We then left them about an hour, when they sent us word they were ready. We again seated ourselves as before, when Cornplanter addressed us in substance as follows:

"We are all glad to see you that are now assembled in council, and glad to hear what you say to us; and your speech is good, being the same language you have always spoken to us. We know the time is out that was first agreed upon for your young men to stay with us, and that nothing had been said to us about their staying longer, and perhaps that was the reason why they wanted to purchase a piece of land from the Holland Company joining to ours; but they were welcome to live where they now do as long as they please; and if the Holland Company will not sell you any land, we hope they will continue to live

where they now do. When your friends first came, and for a long time after, many of the white people told us to 'watch the Quakers well, for they are a cunning, designing people, [and] under pretense of doing something for you intend to get some advantage of you some way or other.' But of late, finding all was straight and no advantage attempted to be taken, they have left off talking about it. Your young men and we have now lived several years as brothers. When they came here we were very ignorant, but are now just beginning to learn. Your young men do not talk much to us, but when they do they speak good words and have been very helpful in keeping us from using whiskey. We had desired them to agree among themselves who should live in this house, as your young men expect to leave it before winter; but we do not think it right to fix on any one yet, for if you cannot buy a piece of land, they will need this place themselves; and if you do buy a piece, they may not get a house fit to live in before winter, and then they will want it themselves. You have said you will leave all the buildings, fences, farm, etc., for us to have, except the barn and some of the land next summer to raise some grain and hay for yourselves and cattle until you can raise it on your new settlement; but it is hard work to cut down so many big trees and clear the land; perhaps they cannot get enough cleared next summer, and if they do not, they are welcome to work this as long as they need it. So it will be time enough to choose one of our people to have this house and farm when your young men are well fixed on the new place. We will appoint some of our chiefs to receive the tools and collect such as are lent out; to have the charge of lending them. In our speech to your young men we requested them to bring cloth and tools to sell to us that we might not be cheated by the white people. But you have come to a wise conclusion in not keeping a general store amongst us, for perhaps some uneasiness or dispute might arise if a store were kept. But we thank you for your kind intention of bringing some scythes, sickles, augers, etc., to sell to such of our people as may want them, and are pleased that such who buy are restricted from selling to white people; also for the iron which you propose to give to us, we wish your young men may divide amongst our people, and then we can get the smiths to make such things as we want.

"Brothers, we are well pleased with your conduct toward us and having always done what you promised to do."

An old chief called Mush said a few words as a kind of acknowledgment for some little uneasiness he had occasioned principally by his not heretofore understanding the nature of our intention or prospect of settling our young men amongst them, but now appeared perfectly satisfied. Then Connawanteu said that we promised to endeavor to send a smith among them; that after some time we did send one, but he stayed a short time, "and our smiths were not fully perfect in the trade. Now you have sent a smith, the best we ever saw; he can make everything we want, but he has been here but a very little time and now says he is going away. We wish he

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as wanted to use them. They have been so lent, and we have sent others for our friends to use. When our friends remove, such of the first parcels of tools as remain with them, will be left with your chiefs to be lent out for the good of the nation. Brothers, we have lent some blacksmith tools to the smith who resides at the upper town; the others our friends take with them; but the smith who lives here may have the use of them. The two smiths we hope are now able to do nearly all the smith-work you will want. Brothers, if our friends get a house put up before winter suitable for their accommodation, they will remove from the one they now live in. The barn and some of the land they may want another summer, as perhaps they cannot get land enough cleared to raise grain and hay for their cattle. You will agree among yourselves which of you shall live here when our friends remove. Brothers, when our friends remove they will continue to give you assistance and instruction when they can; if they think you stand in need of it. Several of you have tools, and as there are some of the first parcel which came up that are not worn out, they will be left with the chiefs to be lent to such as want. Many of these tools are already lent; we think it will be best for you to appoint some person to have particular charge and care of them, as lending tools has been very troublesome. Brothers, we understand by your speech to our friends that you want them to bring on tools and cloth to sell. Brothers, we do not want them to keep a store of goods among you; we think it will be best; but we intend to send on a few scythes, sickles, augers, and some such tools for our friends to sell to such of you as may want to buy; but if any of your people buy from them and then sell to the white people, they are not to sell any more to such as do so. Brothers, we again repeat it, we wish you to speak your minds freely to us, and if there is anything which you and we do not understand alike, that you will tell us, as it is our wish to comply with all our engagements. The iron which our friends have promised you will be sent on as soon as the water will admit. After a little pause, Cornplanter replied: "If you will leave us a little while, we will counsel among ourselves and return you an answer." We then left them about an hour, when they sent us word they were ready. We again seated ourselves as before, when Cornplanter addressed us in substance as follows: We are all glad to see you that are now assembled in council, and glad to hear what you say to us; and your speech is good, being the same language you have always spoken to us. We know the time is out that was first agreed upon for your young men to stay with us, and that nothing had been said to us about their staying longer, and perhaps that was the reason why they wanted to purchase a piece of land from the Holland Company joining to ours; but they

would stay all winter, and then we think our smiths by that time, with his instruction, will be able to do our work; but now they cannot do all we want."

We replied that John Pennock, (the good smith he meant), had a wife and children at home who required his attention, and we could not urge him to stay from them longer than he was willing; that he had been with them as long as we expected; but when we got home we would mention their request to our friends for them to consider whether they could help them or not.

And as I have heretofore and more strongly of late felt my mind impressed with strong desires for the benefit and improvement of the poor natives from whom our predecessors in the first settlement of Pennsylvania received so much kindness and assistance, at times [I] felt a flow of good-will towards them, and the rest of my brethren present having desired me to reply to them, I addressed them in substance, as follows:

"Brethren and friends attend. It is now a great many years since our forefathers, the Quakers, came over the great water and began to settle in that part of this country called Pennsylvania. At that time the Indians were very numerous and we were but very few. The Indians were kind to our forefathers, helped and assisted them in the wilderness. Love and confidence were kept alive towards our fathers and the Indians a great many years, and they were at peace with each other; but after some years a great many other people came over the great water and a great many were born here who were not so peaceable and did not love the Indians so much as our fathers did, who were the first settlers. And as these people became numerous, for a good while [they] had a share in the great councils in Pennsylvania; and at length as our fathers, the Quakers, were altogether for peace, and the others became the more numerous, they took the great councils of the State affairs in Pennsylvania into their hands; many of these were very desirous of having the Indians' lands, and as fast as they could kept driving them back. Then Indians began to kill white men and white men to kill Indians. All this time the Quakers loved the Indians and did not kill any of them, but were very sorry the Indians and white men did kill one another, but could not help it; and [during] the long time of Indians and white men being at war and killing one another, treaties were often appointed, and although the Quakers had no power over either the Indians or whites, yet some of them almost always attended the treaties to try to keep the Indians from being cheated out of their land or other things. The wars and troubles continued at times between the Indians and whites, until about ten years ago when there seemed to be a general peace agreed upon between the Indians and white people in this country. Soon after that, at one of our great councils in Philadelphia, where there were a great many hundred Quakers present, we remembered our Indian brothers, whose fathers were so kind to our fathers, and on whose fathers' lands, (which once belonged to them), we now live so comfortably; and our Indian brothers being driven back, we counceled amongst ourselves

to know what way we could do them the most good. We then thought if we would raise a great deal of money—and give it to them, they would soon waste it and spend it for whiskey and in other ways which would do them no good at last. Then we concluded to ask leave of the President of the United States to try to help our Indian brothers. The President appeared to love the Indians and gave us leave; and as we knew that by clearing and cultivating our land we had got to live comfortably, we thought it would be best to get some of our sober, industrious young men to come out and live amongst them and endeavor to teach them to clear and farm their land so that they might live comfortably as we do on ours. It is now several years since some of our young men have been living amongst you.

"Now, brothers, it rejoices our hearts to find that the Good Spirit has preserved our young men amongst you and that we see signs of industry taking place; many of you are beginning to build better houses and clear out your land, raise more corn, as well as cattle and wheat, particularly up the river. Brothers, you may be assured that we do not want anything from you for all that we do for you, neither your skins, your furs, your land, nor anything else that you have; only that you should attend to the counsel and instruction of our young men who live among you. Brothers, it made our hearts glad when we heard from our young men that the Seneca nation of Indians, more especially on the Alleghany River, had taken up the resolution to banish whiskey and other strong liquor from amongst you; we wish you to be strong in your resolution and join together as one man against this mighty evil; and when any of your young men are out hunting or otherwise met with white people that offer it to them, be sure to refuse, for when a man drinks some he mostly wants more and more until he gets drunk; and when that is the case either with white people or Indians, they mostly neglect their business; their wives and children often suffer for want of necessary things. Brothers, there are other things that do a great many white men much harm, which are gaming, playing cards and laying wagers; whereby many of them not only spend their time unprofitably, but often lose almost all that their wives, children, and themselves should have to live upon. We wish you not to fall into any of these practices, but to live sober, industrious lives; and then the Good Spirit will love and preserve you. But if you will get drunk and be wicked, you will feel sorrow and trouble in your own hearts for it."

After which a letter from John Parrish to Cornplanter was read, which mentioned this desire,—that they might follow the counsel we gave them; that they would have the ox instead of the buffalo, the hog instead of the bear, and the sheep instead of the deer.

Cornplanter then replied it was very true if we had given them a large sum of money it would all have been gone before now and they would have been none the better; and he appeared quite elevated with John Parrish's prospect of their having domestic animals instead of the wild, and said very pleasantly

Transcription

would stay all winter, and then weytf think our smiths by that time, with his instruction, will be able to ytf do our work; but now they cannot do all we want. ytf We replied that John Pennock, (the goodytf smith he meant), had a wife and children at home who required his ytf attention, and we could not urge him to stay from them longer than he was ytf willing; that he had been with them as long as we expected; but when weytf got home we would mention their request to our friends for them to consider ytf whether they could help them or not. ytf And as I have heretofore and more stongly of late felt my mind impressed with ytf strong desires for the benefit and improvement of the poor natives ytf from whom our predecessors in the first settlement of Pennsylvania received so much kindness and ytf assistance, at times [I] felt a flow of good-will towards them, and ytf the rest of my brethren present having desired me to reply to them, I ytf addressed them in substance, as follows: ytf ytf ytf Brethren and friends attend. It is now a great many years since our ytf forefathers, the Quakers, came over the great water and began to ytf settle in that part of this country called Pennsylvania. At that time the Indians were very ytf numerous and we were but very few. The Indians were kind to our ytf forefathers, helped and assisted them in the wilderness. ytf Love and confidence were kept alive towards our fathers and they ytf Indians a great many years, and they were at peace with each other; ytf but after some years a great many other people came over the great ytf water and a great many were born here who were not so ytf peaceable and did not love the Indians so much as our fathers ytf did, who were the first settlers. And as these people became ytf numerous, for a good while [they] had a share in the great councils ytf in Pennsylvania; and at length as ytf our fathers, the Quakers, were altogether for peace, and the others ytf became the more numerous, they took the great councils of the State ytf affairs in Pennsylvania into ytf their hands; many of these were very desirous of having the Indians' ytf lands, and as fast as they could kept driving them back. Then ytf Indians began to kill white men and white men to kill Indians. ytf All this time the Quakers loved the Indians and did not kill any ytf of them, but were very sorry the Indians and white men did kill one ytf another, but could not help it; and [during] the long time ytf of Indians and white men being at war and killing one another, ytf treaties were often appointed, and although the Quakers had no power ytf over either the Indians or whites, yet some of them almost always ytf attended the treaties to try to keep the Indians from being ytf cheated out of their land or other things. The wars and troubles ytf continued at times between the Indians and whites, until about ten ytf years ago when there seemed to be a general peace agreed upon ytf between the In-

that he should soon be an old man leaning on his staff and could no more go out to hunt, and if they followed our advice he would then never want fresh meat—he could have it at the door and not have to go to the woods for it. Then the chiefs and divers of the young men took us by the hand and with great marks of affection concluded the council.

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FRIENDS' INTELLIGENCER

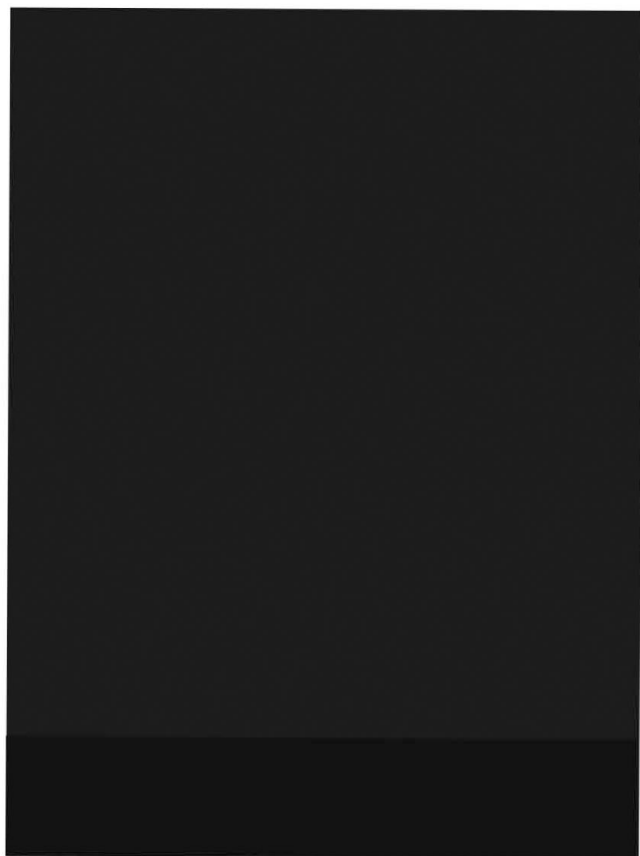
UNITED WITH

The Friends' Journal.

INTELLIGENCER
Vol. XLIV. No. 38. }

PHILADELPHIA, NINTH MONTH 17, 1887.

{ JOURNAL.
Vol. XV. No. 764.



JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—X.

BY ISAAC COATES, OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

Ninth month 24th, [1803], (Continued). On meditating on the occurrences of the day and what we have seen and heard and felt since we came amongst them, I felt a secret satisfaction to spring in my heart, accompanied with a belief that the Everlasting Father and Care-taker of men owns the concern for the improving of these inhabitants of the wilderness, and that their understandings were more clearly opened to see into the nature, utility, and disinterestedness of our labor, expense, and concern for their improvement. Last evening our horses came, we having sent three Indians for them last Fourth-day to Francis King's, near sixty miles from hence, where we left them. We were glad to see them, though they appear to be more worsted than if we had been riding them every day.

25th and first of the week. Sat with our young

men in company with Steven, the blacksmith, up the river, in their meeting which was silent.

26th. A rainy morning; we threshed and winnowed six bushels of oats for [the use of] our horses [going] through the wilderness to Cattaraugus.

27th. We all set off, in company with Jacob Taylor, and rode through the wilderness to a spring on a great mountain and encamped, having a fine day to ride, and at night to lodge under our tent, it being the same place where I lodged four years ago,—a most tremendous night with rain and wind. Here we met with Blue Eyes who lodged with us; it being twenty-five miles; almost all the way excellent land.

28th. Rode twenty miles to the Seneca village on Cattaraugus, passed through the village of Delaware Indians, and propose to lodge with the chief warrior of the Cattaraugus Senecas. I described the land and timber of this day's ride, heretofore, which upon a second view I think was not exaggerated. Arrived here about three o'clock. Although some of our company, for a considerable time in the forepart of our journey, appeared somewhat delicate as to food and lodging, I find almost any person of common understanding by constant practice in any kind of business becomes in good measure perfect; so we all appear to be approaching towards a reconciliation with our present allotment. The chiefs of this settlement, being scattered so that we could not get them together this evening, we concluded to have them collected to-morrow.

29th. About ten o'clock, forenoon, seven or eight chiefs, with perhaps ten or twelve young men, or what they call "warriors," collected in the chief warrior's house; and, after a short pause, Lieutenant Jo opened the council with a congratulatory speech to this effect:

"Brothers, we believe it was consistent with the mind of the Great Spirit, that we should meet here to-day. We thank the Great Spirit for preserving you in your long journey to see us; and it is quite plain to us that he intends to do us good, because he has put it into the hearts of the Quakers to come and see us, and to instruct us; and now you are come, have found us, (and we have met you), all in good health, our hearts are so filled with thanks to the Great Spirit above, and to you, that we can not express it."

Then Teconondee, or Flying Arrow, the principal sachem of this village, arose and addressed us to this import:

Transcription

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"Brothers, we are thankful to the Great Spirit for opening the way for us to meet here to-day. Our hearts are made glad when we remember the Great Spirit has put it into the hearts of our brothers to take notice of us; for we are a poor, destitute people, our lands being almost all gone, and we hope you will excuse, or not think hard of us, when we open our helpless situation to you. We have sent for Jacob Taylor to give us some advice about our saw-mill, it being out of order. Now we are convinced the Good Spirit approves of our request, and has a mind to do us good, because he has so ordered it that our brothers, some of the Quaker chiefs, have come along with him.

"Brothers, we have been made glad when we heard from our brothers, the Quakers, that they were willing to take three or four of our boys and instruct them in farming and other useful training and occupations. Brothers, we are very thankful to you for your kind offer, and we have been counselling among ourselves and trying to get some boys about the age of fifteen, that will be of good dispositions and ingenious in learning; for we think if we could get some of them instructed as you are, they might be very useful to our nation, not only in teaching others, but in keeping our accounts, so that we may not be cheated. Brothers, we find this is a very hard thing to come at. We have a good many boys that would do, but their relations think so much of them they cannot bear to part with them; but here is one, a nephew of mine, fifteen years old, who is willing to go, and is a fine boy. His father and mother are also willing; but his grandfather and his uncle refuse to let him go, and say they cannot part with him, so we must give him out for the present, for it is of the utmost importance to us to maintain harmony in our nation. There is one about nine years old that I would be glad you would take; he is a fine boy."

Then the chief warrior, Wau-un-de-guh-ta, addressed us; although they were not in a very florid style, yet his remarks appeared, and we fully believed them, to be the product of an honest and sincere heart; to this effect:

"Brothers, I hope you will not think hard of us when we open our hearts to you, for we are a poor, destitute people, and our land is now so nearly all sold that we have but a little left for every family; and the deer is become very scarce, so that we often may hunt all day and have nothing at night. Brothers, our hearts rejoiced when we heard the Quakers were taking pity on us, although we could scarcely think there was any people who would do so much as you are doing for us, without being paid. But now we are convinced that the Quakers have the good of our nation at heart, for we see you have sent some of your young men to the Allegheny River to teach the Indians to farm, without asking any pay for it; and we see that many of our people are learning. They live much better than formerly, and we have seen so much of the conduct of your young men that we can rely upon them; and we have found Jacob Taylor to be a true man. Brothers, we are ashamed to ask what we are now going to ask of you, but our necessity makes us willing. We cannot ex-

pect you to do so much as to send any of your young men to live among us; but we think if you would send us a set of smith's tools, we have a young man that has learned at Genesinghuta, that can do our smith work. Now we have to go above thirty miles to get it done and often have to wait near a week before we can get it done. And we are determined to get to farming, working our land, and to raising wheat to support our families. Brothers, you have done a great deal for us in sending us saw-mill irons which have been of great use to us; but our saw-mill is out of order, and that is the reason we sent for Jacob Taylor to show us how to mend it, as he is a man we can confide in. But, brothers, do not think hard of us if we should ask one thing more, for the Great Spirit has blessed you with wise hearts and you are become rich; and that is we have but one plow and many of us are desirous of becoming farmers and sow wheat, but cannot get a plow. If you would send us another set of plow-irons, we have two good yoke of oxen and a number of horses, then we think we could do pretty well.

"Brothers, we have heard your advice or counsel to us in time past to refrain from drinking whiskey. We thank you for it, for we see if we do not, we shall come to nothing; and, brothers, you sent us a letter four years ago wherein you told us that if we did not leave off drinking whiskey you would be discouraged from trying to help us, but if we would leave off and become sober men, you would be encouraged to assist us as you could. That letter we have yet. [They then produced the letter to us and we found it was written by Thos. Stewardson and myself, and our names were signed to it]. Now, brothers, we are often counselling together about it, and are determined to refrain from the use of it, and although some few of our young men sometimes break over our resolution, we think we are gaining ground or strength in the good undertaking; and of all the chiefs and warriors that are now present, we believe not one has been drunk for more than two years past, and some for a longer time than that, and divers of us have not drunk any; so we are encouraged to be strong in full hope that we shall banish it altogether."

In the evening the chief warrior's daughter, who is an amiable young woman, came home from a visit at Buffalo, accompanied by a young man her relation. On their way they discovered a young deer about half grown, in the edge of Lake Erie, which they chased with their canoe and killed with their setting poles and brought it home. Some of the meat added to the satisfaction of our supper. After their arrival, Wau-un-de-guh-ta introduced his daughter to us all, one by one, holding her by the hand; and she without any appearance of unbecoming shyness shook hands with us all, in a modest manner, which altogether appeared so becomingly polite that we could not help noticing it with peculiar pleasure. On taking leave of him in the morning, he in a weighty and feeling manner expressed: "We are glad you have stayed two nights with us, and I hope the Great Spirit will look down upon you and preserve you in your long journey, and favor you with a clear sky, so that you may get home in good health and find your wives and children so."

Transcription

ytf ytf Brothers, we are thankful to the Great Spirit for opening the way for ytf us to meet here to-day. Our hearts are made glad when we remember ytf the Great Spirit has put it into the hearts of our brothers ytf to take notice of us; for we are a poor, destitute people, our ytf lands being almost all gone, and we hope you will excuse, or not ytf think hard of us, when we open our helpless situation to you. Weytf have sent for Jacob Taylor to give ytf us some advice about our saw-mill, it being out of order. Now we are ytf convinced the Good Spirit approves of our request, and has a mind to ytf do us good, because he has so ordered it that our brothers, some ytf of the Quaker chiefs, have come along with him. ytf Brothers, we have been made glad when we heard from our brothers, they ytf Quakers, that they were willing to take three or four of our boys ytf and instruct them in farming and other useful training and ytf occupations. Brothers, we are very thankful to you for your ytf kind offer, and we have been counselling among ourselves and trying ytf to get some boys about the age of fifteen, that will be of good ytf dispositions and ingenious in learning; for we think if we could ytf get some of them instructed as you are, they might be very ytf useful to our nation, not only in teaching others, but in keeping ytf our accounts, so that we may not be cheated. Brothers, we find this ytf is a very hard thing to come at. We have a good many boys that ytf would do, but their relations think so much of them they cannot ytf bear to part with them; but here is one, a nephew of mine, fifteen ytf years old, who is willing to go, and is a fine boy. His father and ytf mother are also willing; but his grandfather and his uncle ytf refuse to let him go, and say they cannot part with him, so we ytf must give him out for the present, for it is of the utmost ytf importance to us to maintain harmony in our nation. There is one ytf about nine years old that I would be glad you would take; he is a ytf fine boy. ytf Then the chief warrior, Wau-un-de-guh-ta, addressed us; although they were not in a ytf very florid style, yet his remarks appeared, and we fully believed them, ytf to be the product of an honest and sincere heart; to this effect: ytf ytf ytf Brothers, I hope you will not think hard of us when we open our ytf hearts to you, for we are a poor, destitute people, and our land is ytf now so nearly all sold that we have but a little left for every ytf family; and the deer is become very scarce, so that we ytf often may hunt all day and have nothing at night. Brothers, ytf our hearts rejoiced when we heard the Quakers were taking pity on ytf us, although we could scarcely think there was any people who would ytf do so much as you are doing for us, without being paid. But now ytf we are convinced that the Quakers have the good of our nation at ytf heart, for we see you have sent some of your young men to the ytf Allegheny River to

We then withdrew a few minutes to confer upon their proposals and requests, and soon returned to inform them what we agreed upon. John Shoemaker rose and informed them that we believed it would not be best to send one boy only, because he would be likely to feel himself lonesome and so become uneasy; neither did we think it would be best to send one younger than 13 years, lest when the older one had served out his time and had gone home, the younger one would be uneasy. But if they could get two or three boys of good disposition and near of an age who would be willing to come and work as some of our children do, we should be willing to accept of them and use our endeavours to instruct them.

Then Thomas Stewardson informed them that although we had not proposed to do any great matters for them, yet as they appeared desirous of improving, we were willing to assist them a little, and would send them a pair of bellows, an anvil, vise, and some other tools to begin with, if they thought Sam Jemison, (who has been instructed in the business at Genesinguhtha), would come and do their work; also we would furnish them with one hundred lbs. of iron, a set of plow-irons, and some steel to begin with.

Wau-un-de-guh-ta then replied: "You are wiser than we, and we believe have come to a good conclusion about the boys, and we think we shall be likely to get two pretty near of an age in a few weeks, who will be willing to go, and whose parents and relations will consent to their going. And if any of our boys are sent, we want them taught to work as your children are; for it will be of very little use for them just to learn to read and write if they do not know how to work.

During almost all the time of the council, I think that notwithstanding they are a very dirty, mean people in and about their houses, cookery, etc., I never felt a greater flow of near affection to any people, accompanied with what I took to be an assurance that their souls are as precious in the eyes of Him who is impartial in judging of the inmost recesses of the heart, as ours are who have been blessed with so many inexpressible favours; (I fear too often with but little sense of gratitude). My heart was tendered in hearing them express their situation, with looks extended upwards, and then to us, expressive of their sense of gratitude; to the Great Spirit for influencing our hearts to take pity on them, and to us in manifesting our kindness, insomuch that I could not suppress a flow of tears; and although a good deal had been said on both sides, it being likely I should never have the same or a like opportunity, I thought I could not leave them easy without endeavoring to open to them the real cause of our coming; the origin of the concern which the Society is engaged in for their good; that the good men in our Society always loved our Indian brothers, and during the whole time the white people and Indians were at war and killing one another, we had no hand in it nor could not be at war with anybody, but were sorry for it. And although we had no outward power in our hands, generally when treaties were appointed between the white people and themselves, some of us attended to try to keep them from being cheated.

And when the war was over we were willing to try to help and instruct them. With much more similar to what I expressed in the council at Genesinguhtha, relative to the bad effects attendant upon the use of ardent spirits both upon white men and Indians, with a strong recommendation to them to endeavour to avail themselves in every respect of the opportunity put into their power of improving the little good land they have left, and following the advice and example set and given them by our young men who reside with their brother Senecas on the Allegheny River. Also I informed them that Jacob Taylor intended to stop on his return from Buffalo and view their saw-mill. And although we were desirous of getting forward this afternoon, on our way to Buffalo Creek, and made attempts to conclude the council, they were so pleased with our company that it seemed too hard for them to part with us; and the chief warrior said he was sorry and ashamed they were not in a capacity to entertain us better, but if we would be so kind as to stay another night with them they would do the best they could, and Flying Arrow said he would bring as much corn as our horses could eat. For my part, I was not in a capacity to refuse their request and told my companions I would rather stay with them until the next morning. To this they all consented and we informed them so. They seemed much rejoiced; the chief warrior saying we had made the hearts of their women and children glad, and some more of them would be glad to take us by the hand. Flying Arrow soon sent us plenty of corn, and his father cut corn tops enough and brought to our horses. The chief warrior's wife exerted herself in doing all she could for us. After the council was concluded and the most of the Indians gone, also Harry, who was our interpreter, I had a good deal of very friendly conversation with Wau-un-de-guh-ta, (our landlord), Jacob Taylor interpreting. I soon found there were such impressions made upon his mind that it has opened a door to a large scope of inquiry; and I believe many things appeared in a fresh or new light to him. I discovered him for some time to be in a deep study; at last he said there was one thing he wanted to ask but was afraid the question would not please us. We told him he might ask anything. He then said, some time ago when he was at the Federal City, on his way there he saw a great many black men that were slaves to white men and looked miserable; and he wanted to know whether the Quakers kept any of them. We told him we did not, and did not think it right. He seemed very much pleased. Many things more he asked; [so] that truly the undissembled appearance and conduct of this man and his wife made very pleasant impressions on all our minds.

[To be Continued.]

Transcription

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Wau-un-de-guh-ta then replied: "You are wiser

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JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—XI.

BY ISAAC COATES OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

EARLY in the morning on the 30th [of 9th month, 1803] we all set off and rode to New Amsterdam, at the mouth of Buffalo Creek, which is about thirty-three miles, eight of which is mostly bad road or path through the woods to Lake Erie; the other part of the way is down the lake on the margin. A very pleasant ride, although each time I have ridden it I have been affected with the headache. A material change appears to me to have taken place on the margin since I was along it four years ago. The beautiful beds of lime-stone are generally covered with sand, and much of the best kind of slate very much gone. When we arrived at Amsterdam, Red Jacket and several other Indian chiefs were there along with the mill-wrights who say they have completed the saw-mill for the Indians and want their pay. We sent for some of them and desired to know whether we could have them personally in council to-morrow at their village. Red Jacket informed us they would be glad if they could comply with our desire, but hoped we would have patience, for they could not well meet us to-morrow, but would meet early the next day. We then conferred together and Isaac Bonsal and George Vaux were most easy to go over the Niagara river to-morrow in order to be at the meeting at Black Creek the next day, Thomas Stewardson, John Shoemaker, and myself were most easy to stay in order to attend the proposed council on First-day morning.

Tenth month 1st, and seventh of the week. Jacob Taylor and myself went twelve miles up the Buffalo Creek to see the new saw-mill that is built for the Indians, (we some time past having made them a present of all the iron), divers of the chiefs and one

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of the undertakers attending. I discovered it to be an excellent seat, and it appeared to be a strong mill; but upon trial in our presence it was far from answering our expectations according to the contract, by not sawing half as fast as we believed such a stream-head and fall would do if the workmanship had been effectually executed. The chiefs said they were ready to pay off the contract if we would say it was well done, according to contract; and on our conferring with the rest of our company the next day, we advised them not to pay off the contract until it was completed. As I rode this twelve miles up the creek and back again through the Indian reserve I think a great part of it is equal if not superior to any piece of land of equal quantity I ever saw. I believe there are more than a thousand acres upon which there might have been more than two tons of hay to the acre mowed and made the present year.

2d, and first of the week. In the morning we set off and arrived at the Indian village, in their council house, about eleven o'clock; but we had to wait until near four in the afternoon before what we thought a competent number collected. They generally appear to be a more indolent, careless, and some of them intemperate people than those at Allegheny and Cattaraugus, a few instances excepted, particularly one called the Young King and another called Pollard, who are sober, temperate men, and as intent upon being farmers as any we have seen. The Young King having cleared and plowed a good deal of land, has several horses, a very good yoke of oxen, and seven milch cows; and it is said Pollard rather exceeds him. I hope their example may induce many more to follow them, there being the greatest number on this reserve of any in the Seneca nation. When the Young King, Red Jacket, Farmer's Brother, Pollard, Jack Berry, and five or six other chiefs were collected with some young men and women, we proposed either going back or opening the council. They then went in the council house and after sitting a short space, Thomas Stewardson in a brief manner informed them the reason of our coming into their settlement; and although there did not appear to be the same desire of improvement in many of the Indians in this settlement as those we have been at before, which I believe is much owing to the opportunity they have of being corrupted by the example of white people at New Amsterdam, which is a very dissipated place, yet he felt encouraged to endeavor to stimulate them to industry and to refrain from spirituous liquors. It was not a very comfortable, animating time as yet with them, yet I was not easy to omit opening divers matters to their consideration in a summary way, which contained a good deal of the heads of what I mentioned at the other places; which seemed to attract their attention. I also informed them I had seen a good deal of the land contained in their reserve that is excellent; and if they would be industrious they might live well; but if they would not, but followed the practice of drinking, they would lose the little good land they now have, their wives and children would have to lie down under the snow and go to sleep without anything to eat or to keep them warm.

John Shoemaker advised them to settle farther up the creek, where the land is so very good, and not strive to huddle together so close; which advice seemed to please them very well.

Red Jacket then addressed us in a polite and masterly manner in which he displayed his talents as an orator in a methodical and flowery style near half an hour. He took in every part of the advice communicated to them by us, in regular order, and paraphrased upon it, with the frequent expression of thanks to the Quakers, recounting their kindness to the Indian from the first settlement of Pennsylvania; and concluded with endeavoring to assure us if we would come and see them two years hence, we should find them much improved in farming, and also in the disuse of whiskey. And notwithstanding I believed his speech was calculated to endeavor to please us, and that there was much less sincerity or reality in his intentions than in those of whom we have conferred with before, yet I could have sat, I think, patiently two or three hours to hear him exert his smooth, oily, oratorical abilities.

We then left them. Young King and Pollard in a particular manner parted with us very affectionately. Returned to our lodging at a tavern in New Amsterdam, this being the third night.

3d. Thomas Stewardson and Jacob Taylor set off for Batavia in order to see J. Ellicot, in order to agree upon Tunesasa Creek, and also to pay a visit to the Indians at the Tonnewanto. John Shoemaker and myself rode down to the ferry on the great river Niagara, and crossed in six minutes. There I saw three Mohawk Indians carry a bark canoe a considerable distance and put it in the river, then five of them got in it and rowed across in five minutes; said river is said to be above a mile wide. We then rode to the mouth of [the] Chippewa, fed our horses and took a snack, at which place there was a British officer who was formerly stationed in the neighborhood of the great Falls, but is now fixed at York, over Lake Ontario. He being on his way up to Long Point on the Grand River, he was so much pleased to be in company with a couple of Quakers that he politely offered to accompany us to the Falls and show us the way down. As we rode down the river in view of the rapids we met I. Bonsal and G. Vaux who had been taking an upper view. They turned back with us and we all went to the ladder where the curious are accustomed to go down, the officer leading the way; but the tremendous appearance of the way down discouraged John Shoemaker from attempting it. The rest of us followed the officer down and then up the craggy, slippery way to the edge of the great shoot of water; which together with returning is a laborious task, for I believe there were but very few dry threads, either linen or woollen, upon any of us when we returned. I having four years ago had a view and given some description of this amazing cataract, need not write much now. While I was viewing this superlatively grand and most astonishing natural curiosity of the kind in the known world, my curiosity would have been fully satisfied had it not been for one reflection or consideration, which was that I knew my wife had a great desire to enjoy the

Transcription

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view I was then favored with, which made me feel as though I was only half satisfied. We returned to Chippewa and lodged, having ridden twenty-four miles this day.

4th. We set off and rode down the river by the side of the rapids above the Falls for a little more than a mile and then took another view of the great phenomenon; and I think this morning, the whole of the prospect appeared more astonishingly great and beautiful than I had ever seen it before, it being a clear morning, and viewing the great fall and the dashing of the huge and confused rolls of water over the rocks in the rapids between us and the sun, to be sure appeared amazingly grand and gratifying. We then rode four or five miles to view the whirlpool, which four years ago I thought as great a curiosity as the other; yet I was disappointed now, though it appeared a wonderful place, but very far inferior to what it did then; there being but few logs in it, and whether it was owing to the stillness of the day or from some other cause, I know not, there did not appear the sucks formed taking down the logs, nor the very great agitation there was then. We then rode to Wm. Lunday's; dined; and thence to John Taylor's at Pelham, where we met with James Wilson and the rest of the company we parted with at Wm. Ellis's at Muncy, who all lodged at Taylor's except James Wilson, Isaac Bonsal, and myself, who went to Jeremiah Moore's. Rode twenty-three miles to-day.

5th. Attended the monthly meeting of Friends at Pelham, which myself and others had established in the year 1799. I remember it was a subject of great weight with me at that time, being impressed with some serious doubts that the members which were to compose said monthly meeting were furnished with religious experience or skill enough to be intrusted with power to judge of the fitness of persons to be received into membership, or to deny from the privileges of the Society. And although there now appear to be more in number than there were at first opening, and some rather more experienced, yet I apprehend they still remain in a very infant and unskillful state. Isaac Bonsal, John Shoemaker, and I endeavored to draw their attention by querying with them whether they were easy to remain in a careless situation respecting the foul channel in which they receive or obtain the titles for their lands, or whether it would not be better to apply for redress. Some of them at first expressed they thought it was a matter of no consequence, but others expressed their dissatisfaction. At length they united in desiring that the Yearly Meeting, or Meeting for Sufferings, might take the matter upon their behalf. Lodged at John Taylor's.

6th. Isaac Bonsal, John Shoemaker, George Vaux, and myself rode to Queenstown and dined; then crossed the great river Niagara where it is not half a mile wide, but we were told the depth hath hitherto been unfathomable. It looks a terrifying place to cross: the water appears nearly as green as grass and whirling round, I suppose occasioned by the great rocks in in the bottom; this being the place where I apprehend the great Falls at some period exhibited the grand appearance they now do up the river miles away.

We got over safely and in about five miles came to the Tuscarora village of Indians, where I met with Jacob, the Indian, who learned the smith trade with John Pennock. He appeared much pleased with seeing us. A number of other Indians were helping him to put up a coal pit. He told us his cousin learned first, and a great many of the white people from Queenstown and Niagara brought their smith work to him. From his appearance and disposition of industry, I thought our expense and trouble in educating him were well spent. Then rode to one Beech's in the wilderness, where we met with two families from Cattawissa, one of which was Ezekiel James's, who were moving to Yonge street in Upper Canada. We all lodged in this cabin, being twenty-three of us besides the family; having ridden thirty-three miles this day.

7th. Rode forty miles to Batavia. All the way except one or two cabins and a few settlements a little before we came to the town, this day's ride was all through the Holland Purchase, and a good deal of it very good land, especially near Batavia which is the county town of a new county called Genesee, containing about twenty-five houses, a large courthouse and jail. When I was through this country four years ago, there was no settlement or improvement from Buffalo to the eastern transit line of the Holland land—which is above fifty miles. It is surprising how the Eastern or New England men open the woods and settle, it being chiefly men from those states who emigrate into this new country; and although I think the land in general is equal to what I conceived it to be when here before, there is one very discouraging consideration which is the great scarcity of water, we having ridden in one place to-day twenty-five miles without finding any for ourselves or horses, and in general very scarce. But it hath been an uncommon drought at this place. Joseph Ellicot lives here. We met with Thomas Stewardson, Jacob Taylor being gone home. Thomas informed us they had agreed with Ellicot for the land on Tunesassa Creek, which we had pitched upon for our young men at Genesinguhtha to settle upon. Here we lodged, having ridden forty miles to-day.

[To be Concluded next week.]

Transcription

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JOURNAL OF JOURNEYS TO THE INDIAN COUNTRY.—XII.

BY ISAAC COATES OF CALN, CHESTER COUNTY.

[Concluded.]

Tenth month 8th [1803]. This morning George Vaux's horse appeared to be very much amiss, but we all set off early and rode six miles to a good tavern where the store-house formerly was. Breakfasted and fed our horses; but when we set off it was thought by us all [that] George Vaux's horse would not be able to travel so as we might reach the meeting of Friends at Mud Creek to-morrow. We then unanimously agreed for Isaac Bonsall and me to go forward in order to reach the meeting, and the others to get along as well as they could, and all of us to meet next Third-day evening near the outlet of Crooked Lake. We two then rode on and crossed the Genesee River and thence to General Hall's tavern, where we had good accommodations; it being thirty-six miles from Batavia.

9th and first of the week. Set off early and rode about twelve miles to Jacob Smith's and got breakfast; he and his daughter accompanying us about six miles more to the meeting heretofore called Mud Creek, but which is now called Farmington, that being the name of the township. And they have now a monthly meeting, which is held the fifth day of the week before the last First-day in every month. I was glad to meet with divers Friends with whom I had formerly spent some time very agreeably. The

meeting appears to be very much increased since I was here before. It was silent to-day. We dined at Nathan Comstock's and then rode to Abraham Lapham's, where a considerable number of the Friends of the neighborhood came and spent the evening with us; amongst whom were Joseph Jones and wife, he having purchased [land] and living near here. Upon the whole it was a very agreeable and satisfactory evening. Many subjects of a religious nature were conversed upon which I believe ended to mutual satisfaction; and I think I was not mistaken when here before, when I believed if they improved in a religious sense according to their activity and talents, they might be a shining light in this fast settling northern county of good land. This day, twenty miles.

10th. Spent this [day] in order to let our horses rest and get some of our linen washed. We took the opportunity of walking to see some friends and view the improvements made by these Eastern people, which exceed what can be conceived in the idea of a Pennsylvanian or more southern man, for the time. They seem as if there were scarcely anything too hard or too heavy for them to undertake and go through with, especially in opening a new country heavily timbered. Said Lapham, though he does not appear a robust man, has made a surprising improvement for the time he has been settled here which is about eight years; and although there has been an uncommon drought in this country this year, they have made 250 cheeses this summer, many of which will weigh fifty pounds, and but very few less than thirty pounds, which, to be sure, in their cheese-house has a beautiful appearance. Although I have such an opinion of the Eastern men in opening the wilderness, I think they are far short of a good Pennsylvania farmer in keeping their farms in good order after they have them cleared. We propose to lodge another night with these our kind friends, Abraham and Esther Lapham, who seem disposed to do everything they can to accommodate us. The neighbors hereabouts have been two nights and one day collecting and bringing their hogs to Lapham's, and to-morrow morning they propose to set off with 250 of them about seven or eight miles into the woods to feed upon the acorns and beech nuts which are very plenty, and have agreed with four persons to stay in the woods with them, night and day, for about two months; these they call "hog shepherds."

11th and third of the week. Joseph Jones came early this morning to Lapham's and set off with us

Transcription

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and rode through a body of rich land thirteen miles to Canandaigua, [this] being a most elegant and beautiful town here in the woods, containing near one hundred houses, many of which are truly grand. It stands near the outlet of a beautiful lake, about eighteen or twenty miles long and two or three wide. We crossed the outlet and rode four or five miles up the side of the lake, and then generally through the woods, except some few settlements, to Judge Potter's, eighteen miles, where we got our horses well fed and a good dinner, free of cost. Said Potter has an elegant house and good farm; I suppose two hundred acres of excellent land cleared, and a stock of cattle of superior kind. We then rode five miles to Morris Shepperd's, near the outlet of Crooked Lake in Jerusalem, or Jemima Wilkinson's settlement; said Shepperd being first cousin to Nathan Shepperd, late of Philadelphia. Here we came up with Thomas Stewardson, John Shoemaker, and George Vaux and propose to lodge here. George's horse holds out. Thirty-six miles.

12th, We all set off, Joseph Jones still accompanying us, and rode twenty-three miles to Bartel's mill, where we got an excellent dinner. Here we met with Thomas Clark, the turnpike man, who appeared in distress. Said three of his children were dead, and the other one had been very bad, and [was] not quite well. His wife had lain sick and in distress for nearly three months, and had not yet the use of all her limbs. She now says she would not stay in this country for all the land in it; so he proposes to try to move her and his one child into our neighborhood again. The most of the way from Jerusalem here, is their land. We rode in the morning several miles in sight of the Crooked Lake to our right hand; and after riding some distance we came in sight of the Little Lake and rode several miles in sight of it to our left, and saw where it empties into Mud Lake. Rode down near that to this mill which is on the outlet called Mud Creek; then rode down near the same to Dolson's, where it empties into the Cohocton; nine miles. On our way we passed several little lakes, it being most of the way through a low piece of land covered with lofty white pine, though not very large, and, I think, an unhealthy place. Thirty-two miles.

13th. I rose up out of bed about four o'clock this morning, having had, I think, the most unmerciful set of bed-fellows I ever experienced; for after I found it was in vain to stand them battle, I submitted and surrendered to them. But let me be as passive as I would, they gave me no quarter, but continued to use their offensive weapons upon me full as much as if I had been striving to aggravate them; until I thought best to plan a retreat, and am glad to escape with whole bones, but am afraid some of them will follow or keep with me all day. About six o'clock we all set off and rode down the Cohocton twelve miles to the Painted Post, through a bottom of pretty good land. Fed our horses and parted with Joseph Jones, who hath been an agreeable company thus far. Thence to Lindsley's, and dined; all the way up the Tioga, twelve miles. At the Painted Post we crossed the Cohocton; from Lindsley's to Berry's, ten miles,

where we propose to lodge. One mile from Lindsley's crossed the Cowanesque. Thirty-four miles.

14th. At Berry's, on the Tioga, we have had as good a supper and night's lodging as we could have expected at Cheltenham or Caln. Nine miles; having ridden forty-three miles up the Tioga and crossed it eight or nine times, through a rich flat of land. Thence to the block-house, eleven miles, it being deserted and without inhabitant that we discovered, except one cat. On examining the house, we chose to raise our tent, kindle a fire, and lie on the ground, where we had a much more comfortable night than we should have had if French Anthony had still lived there. Thirty-two miles.

15th. A little before day-break it began to thunder, and by the time it was light enough to set off, it rained middling fast; but we could do no better than to set off in it over the remainder of the Savage or Allegheny Mountain, it being a very bad road, though much better than four years ago. It rained until we came to Trout Run, nine miles from the block-house, which is at the foot or lowermost part of the south side of that great mountain, which is twenty miles across from Peter's camp to Trout Run, and a great part of it pretty good land, but rough and rocky in some places. We then rode down a narrow valley, down which the aforesaid run descends, to Reynold's tavern, fifteen miles from the block-house. In about four miles' riding down the valley, we crossed Trout Run thirty times. Here we breakfasted and dined both at once. Thence to Williamsport, fourteen miles, it being a place we passed going out, [we] having now performed a revolution by encircling a very large circuitous route of settled and unsettled country. Here fed our horses. Thos. Stewardson, John Shoemaker, and George Vaux propose to stay all night; Isaac Bonsal and myself rode three miles farther to the widow Harris's and lodged. Thirty-two miles.

16th and first of the week. Rode nine miles to Wm. Ellis's, and put up my mare, then walked one mile back to meeting. There I met all my companions who with me came to Ellis's to dinner. In the afternoon I discovered my mare to be in such a condition that she could move but with great difficulty; we supposing her to be foundered, sent for some tar and applied it in the usual way. Went to bed not expecting her to be fit to travel to-morrow.

17th. My mare rather better, but not fit to ride. We set off; I walked and drove her before me, and walked to Milton, a beautiful town on the bank of the west branch of the Susquehanna, sixteen miles, and dined. Thence to Sunbury, fourteen miles, and lodged; having walked about twenty-five miles, my brethren spelling me some times. Northumberland is a town about twelve miles below Milton, standing in the point between the west and the northeast branches of the Susquehanna, which we passed through just before we crossed the northeast branch and about two miles above Sunbury. Had it not been that the situation of my mare and walking on foot occasioned some unpleasant sensations, it would have been a very pleasant day's travel down the river through a good deal of good land pretty well improved. I believe each of those three towns

Transcription

and rode through a body of rich land ytf thirteen miles to Canandaigua, [this] ytf being a most elegant and beautiful town here in the woods, containing ytf near one hundred houses, many of which are truly grand. It stands nearytf the outlet of a beautiful lake, about eighteen or twenty miles long and twoytf or three wide. We crossed the outlet and rode four or five miles up theytf side of the lake, and then generally through the woods, except some few ytf settlements, to Judge Potter's, eighteen ytf miles, where we got our horses well fed and a good dinner, free of cost. ytf Said Potter has an elegant house and goodytf farm; I suppose two hundred acres of excellent land cleared, and a stock ytf of cattle of superior kind. We then rode five miles to ytf Morris Shepperd's, near the outlet of ytf Crooked Lake in Jerusalem, in Jemimaytf Wilkinson's settlement; said Shepperd being first cousin to Nathanytf Shepperd, late of Philadelphia. Here we came up with Thomas Stewardson, John ytf Shoemaker, and George Vaux ytf and propose to lodge here. George's horse ytf holds out. Thirty-six miles. ytf ytf ytf 12th, ytf We all set off, Joseph Jones still ytf accompanying us, and rode twenty-three miles to Bartel's mill, where ytf we got an excellent dinner. Here we met with Thomas ytf Clark, the turnpike man, who appeared in distress. Said three ytf of his children were dead, and the other one had been very bad, and [was] ytf not quite well. His wife had lain sick and in distress for nearly three ytf months, and had not yet the use of all her limbs. She now says she would ytf not stay in this country for all the land in it; so he proposes to ytf try to move her and his one child into our neighborhood again. The most ytf of the way from Jerusalem here, is their ytf land. We rode in the morning several miles in sight of the Crooked Lake to our right hand; and after riding ytf some distance we came in sight of it to our left, and saw where it empties ytf into Mud Lake. Rode down near that to this ytf mill which is on the outlet called Mudytf Creek; then rode down near the same to Dolson's, where it empties into the Cohocton; nine miles. On our way we passed several ytf little lakes, it being most of the way through a low piece of land ytf covered with lofty white pine, though not very large, and, I think, anytf unhealthy place. Thirty-two miles. ytf ytf ytf 13th. ytf I rose up out of bed about four o'clock this morning, haing had, I think, theytf most unmerciful set of bed-fellows I ever experienced; for after I ytf found it was in vain to stand them battle, I submitted and surrendered ytf to them. But let me be as passive as I would, they gave me no quarter, but ytf continued to use their offensive weapons upon me full as much as if I ytf had been striving to aggravate them; until I thought best to plan a retreat, ytf and am glad to escape with whole bones, but am afraid some of them ytf will

contains about one hundred houses beautifully situated, but I think Milton is the most so. Crossed the Chillisquaque about five miles above Northumberland. Thirty miles.

18th. Set off early on foot and left my companions to drive my mare. Directly crossed Shamokin Creek and walked from the town fourteen miles to Thubnsman's tavern, the others coming there. About three miles from said tavern crossed the Mahanoy, and just by the inn, the Swope Creek. Thence to Little's tavern and ferry, twenty-one miles, having walked about nineteen miles to-day. About midway of the last stage crossed Mahontongo, and about a mile back from Little's crossed Wiconisco. Almost all the way from Sunberry here is, in my opinion, very poor land, both mountains and valleys, notwithstanding some of it heretofore hath been celebrated as excellent, being much of it set with scrubby pitch pine. The fields in general look poor and dreary and the cattle mostly poor with their hair standing the wrong way. Thirty-five miles.

19th. Pursued my journey on foot, ten miles, in which I crossed Peter's Mountain, where I mounted my invalid mare and rode four miles to McAllister's. The greater part of this stage very poor and some of it exceeding rough land. When we arrived at McAllister's, I discovered on the sign in large letters, "The Practical Farmer," which together with what I had heard heretofore of the man's extent and proficiency in agriculture, raised my expectations of seeing something extraordinary, but was very much disappointed, the garden and barn excepted. Breakfasted and rode six miles down the river through a beautiful country to Harrisburg, a beautiful town on the bank of the river, which I suppose contains 300 houses; thence to Middletown, nine miles, land very similar to the last mentioned. This town, I suppose, contains about one hundred houses; thence to Elizabethtown, eight miles. One mile after leaving Middletown, crossed the beautiful Swatara. Here we propose to lodge, and had it not been for the state my riding dependence was in, it would have been a very pleasant day's travel of thirty-seven miles.

20th. Walked nine miles, my company coming up with me, got on my mare and rode to Wm. Webb's, ten more. At Lancaster Thomas Stewardson took a passage in the stage and I rode his horse home, the mare following twenty-six miles home, where I had the satisfaction to find my family in health; having been from home six weeks all to one night, and traveled 950 miles. ISAAC COATES, SR.

THE ingenuity which society exerts to surround with a glamour of romance the horrible business of wholesale slaughter, is worthy of a better cause. It was a lady—the Marchioness of Londonderry—who last week presented new colors to a military company at Dublin. If it were possible to produce a photograph of the carnage of a battlefield, no lady who saw it would ever touch any part of the trappings of the agents in it.—*The Christian*.

Our minds are filled, not by what we put into them, but by what we give out from them.

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