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RS1899/D32

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JOHN HUDSPET

JOURNAL
1816

Journal continued

The conclusion of a Winter

(and

Commencement of Summer

in

Hudson's Bay

A.D. 1816.

Eastmain - Labrador
James Bay

Thursday, March 25th 1816

The Thermometer this morning was 19° below the Cypher, the weather bleak and hazy. - In the afternoon Messrs. Russell, Christie & party returned from Struttons, accompanied by the chief Mate of each Ship. Mr. Wild of the Edystone & Mr. King of the Hardiers, also two Delinquents selected from the Edystone's crew were brought for trial & punishment as a warning to the others. - After the Seawallers had taken a little refreshment, & perhaps taken rather a copious draught of generous Grog to recruit their Spirits, in which Mr. King in particular, was polite enough to accompany them, they were going to proceed to business, that is, to try the above 2 men, for refractory conduct, & abusive language to their officers. Every thing was arranged & prepared with no little ceremony, the Court-keeper's stick was ornamented with a Ribbon & piece of Sealing wax & given to the Constable. The Judge wore a

Badge suspended over his shoulders by
a Ribbon. This was a small circular
piece of cloth on which the figure of
3 crowns was nicely worked with silver
wreath. - Counsellor Christie wore a si-
milar Badge, but with only 2 crowns.
Mr Secretary Counsellor Kivony wore
also 2 crowns. and Mr Sheriff Russell
was distinguished by a badge of 1 crown.
The Books of Law - Papers of mighty
importance. - and an enormous folio
Bible, were placed on the Table.
The men were about to be summoned
before this awful tribunal, when a dis-
pute took place among themselves. -
Mr Kivony in a paroxysm of rage struck
Mr Russell several blows, a scuffle en-
sued in which, the judge, the 2 Coun-
sellors, the Sheriff, their Dogs & wives
were all engaged embroiled. - The Ta-
ble was upset. - The Sub was spelt
upon the Holy Bible. - some blood
was shed & it was nearly termina-
ting in Murder. but this was happily
prevented by locking the Com-
partments in separate Rooms. - What
adds to the impropriety of this equi-
vocal scene, is, that the 2 Defendants
were Bar witnesses to the whole trans-
action and observed of some of the

blasphemous imprecations which Kivony
uttered. that even they had something to
learn yet in the language of impiety &
blasphemy. - for this surpassed in our scenes
that even they were engaged in. Suffice
it to say this affair put a stop to all
judicial proceedings for this day. - a
profound calm succeeded this storm &
all assembled to supper except Mr Russell
all who sustained some bruises.

Friday March 22^d Fine, mild,
beautiful weather, but gave not a bit
more plentiful. - when out today I saw
nothing whatever. - The great men
soon tolerably reconciled again. - In
the afternoon they resumed their legal
inquiry and interrogated the 2 Mates
on both respecting the return of the ship.
The evening afterwards was spent with
the utmost conviviality & good humour
apparently till a late hour. - but as I
afterwards discovered it was a scheme form-
ed by Vincent & Kivony. - to get these two
Officers made drunk, when sufficiently so
to answer their ends, the Governor retired
into another room & placed himself be-
hind the door to listen. - Kivony contin-
ued as one of the company, pushing
round the grey fool. - at last all had de-
parted off to their own apartments but Mr
Wald & Kivony and I stopped to see

The Issue. Wild was completely drunk
& Henry embraced the favorable circum-
stant when he could extort any thing
he pleased from him. he touched the
subject of the Ships return. called
himself Prosecutor General. & told
M. W. he would make him repeat
every part of the testimony he had given
in this afternoon. & so on. not wishing
to be privy to any unjust or illogical
insinuations that might be thrown
out against any one I retired. but
I afterwards understood that M.
Wild said. "that had we persevered
longer we might have got home
if he had had the command of the
Honble Co's Ship he would have per-
sisted longer". - This did not escape
the ears of the great Man behind
the Door. & next day M. W. when
order was made to confirm what he
had said when drunk.

An Indian called Neche-may and
a boy came in today with fears
the former pretended to be a great
conjuror & assured me he knew the Ships
would return long before he heard of
it. but on asking him if he knew
that the crews were to be very unwell
they & that a great many would die,
he answered in the Negative & except
bittely on being told of it. He expressed

his regret that he could not restore them
to life who were already dead, but he would
endeavour to prevent any more falling
victims to the Iron grasp of Death. - At
the same time he wanted Medicines
from me for his wife.

I omitted mentioning that on Sun-
day last the 17th Inst. another of the
Hadows men departed this life.

Saturday March 23^d. The weather
was milder today that it has been
since the commencement of the win-
ter. - The Thermom. was 2 or 3 degrees above
freezing in the morning & it afterwards
rose much higher, so that there was a
partial thaw. with a fall of light soft
snow which rendered walking bad & I
staid at home all day. - In the after-
noon the 2 culprits underwent their
examination and were acquitted.

The evening was spent with great con-
viviality & homage at the shrine of
Bacchus.

Sunday. March 24th. The weather
all forenoon was so mild as to be thaw-
ing. however in the afternoon we were
visited by a Tempest surpassed in vehemence
by none that have preceded this
Winter. it abated in the evening & was
followed by a brilliant display of

The Aurora Borealis - these beautiful
luminations are not so frequent here
as farther North where they are al-
most constant in the winter; at this
Season when the Sun departs to re-
turn no more for 6 months, these
waters kindly rise to supply its beams
and afford sufficient light for all the
purposes of existence - The Inha-
bitants of these regions of Darkness
usually in performing their jour-
neys travel at night it being so
much lighter than the time corres-
ponding with Day. the gloomy twi-
light of which only seems to render
Darkness more dismal. - By the bye
the time is at hand when all journeys
are performed by night here, as the
weather is milder & the sun more
powerful the reflection of it from
the snow is so pernicious to the eyes
as very much to impair & even de-
stroy vision. and the snow is so soft
as to render walking almost impossi-
ble. - but after sunset the air becomes
cool & it mostly freezes. the snow ac-
quires such firmness that it is then
practicable to walk without snow
shoes. - After Supper tonight Mr.
Vincent expressed a wish that I would
go to Moose by the first opportunity
after the breaking up of the Ice.

Monday, March 25th This morning the
therm was 28° below the cypher and the
weather fine. - About 7 a clock a large
Sledge drawn by 6 men was dispatched
to Stuttons with further supplies. it
was followed soon afterwards by Mr King
& Mr Wild whom I accompanied a little
way & then pursued my hunting, but
I got neither Fox, Hare, Partridge nor
Pheasant. - a Fox however was brought
from the South side of the River.

The Big Sledge sent off today is to pro-
ceed from Stuttons to Rupert's House
& convey from thence Beef back to
Stuttons, before they return to E. M. they
will be a fortnight or more in com-
pleting this laborious task.

Having received an intimation through
the wife of Mr Vincent, that our private
letters had not been forwarded to Europe.
I took occasion this evening to ask Mr V.
whether they were gone or not. - He was
not prepared for such a question & seemed
embarrassed what reply to make. - he said
he could not possibly say. he believed
some were sent and some were not. -
some were too large to be contained in
the Box & could not be sent. - there was
one particular letter addressed to the owner
of the Meadow. that I sent because I

thought it might concern the Ship -
but at any rate Mr Hindspeth you need
give yourself no concern about it for
I requested Mr Lean to write to the friends
of all those connected with the Ship to
inform them of your safety. - I told him
Mr Lean could not possibly know where my
friends lived therefore that would be of
little avail. - Mr Keiny whose profound
silence & sullen aspect betrayed the secret.
at length said, that it would have been
improper to send them, for the company's
packet might have been seized thro'
it. - I observed that it was he who carried
these letters up to Mr Vincent at Westburn
wick & most likely he had a hand in put-
ting up the packet he would certainly
know whether they were sent or not? -
he denied all knowledge of them. Mr
V. & then assured me that mine were
gone. - I told him I could not be per-
suaded that mine had shared any bet-
ter fate than the rest. - I took it for gran-
ted that none of them were sent & we
would therefore expect the restitution
of them. adding that, to open or con-
ceal a letter was a crime of a very
serious nature. - by the laws of Eng-
land it is felony. - The climax of
Keiny's passion now reached its height

and he said with warmth. I had made a
very serious accusation & hoped I did not
suppose any one on the Honble Company's
service would be guilty of felony. - I re-
plied I should be very sorry to think I had
occasion to think so & had made no such
accusation. I had only spoke conditionally
and stated a well known fact. - The
Governor said, that he was also surprised
to hear me make use of the expression
but attributed, to the sensibility of my
feelings on this occasion and another repre-
sented me. - But I saw a storm was brewing
and I left the room. - A hot debate im-
mediately took place. - the Governor at
first ~~took~~ ^{expressed} my part, he was soon content-
ed to acquiesce in the sentiments of that
Gentleman - Keiny, in order to escape a
volley of abuse himself. - Vengeance
was denounced upon me. & their anger
increased to madness. - Mr Christie and
Mr Russell stood my friends, the for-
mer of these and Mr R. went to blows. -
before the affray ended they had begun
to demolish the furniture, and I was
apprehensive of being attacked or de-
riving the night that I took the precau-
tion of placing my gun near me &
sleeping with my Hatchet by my
side! Such are the men who hold the

the highest offices in the respectable
service of the Hudson's Bay Company.
Men who by selfish, interested & corrupt
means enrich themselves at the expense
of their Employers, & by the ruin of
their affairs, they have succeeded in
blinding their eyes & to keep up the decep-
tion and shut up every avenue of in-
formation, have recourse to every
art that rascals & villainy suggests
and a consciousness of guilt and
dread of exposure drives them to des-
peration which is proved by their daily
conduct.

Tuesday March 26th. The weather
begins now to announce the approach
of a more genial season this is the
mildest day there has yet been, in the
morning there was a fall of soft snow,
afterwards it thawed as well at night
as by day - a phenomenon that has
not before occurred during the winter.

Today our great men were not so
far recovered from the effects of the
last night's inebriety, to be able to get
up before dinner. The Prosecutor Gen-
eral had so vehemently threatened me
with a Hudson's Bay prosecution, that
I was somewhat surprized that not a
syllable was mentioned on the subject

of last night's disturbance, and I was ad-
vised not to resume the subject lest it
might appear as a wish to offer an apo-
logy. I was also warned to be cautious what
I disclose to Mr Christie, from which, I sus-
pect he is a Snake in the Grass.

Wednesday March 27th. The wea-
ther still mild with thick snow on the
forenoon, & sleet or snow & rain in the
afternoon accompanied with wind. I
went out a hunting or prodding as usual
but saw nothing & had a tiresome, dis-
agreeable walk from the softness & moist-
ure of the Snow. Two of the Governor's
retinue set off early this morning on their
return to Montreal - the Governor, his Quar-
ter Master, the Prosecutor General, Counsellor Christie
& attendants and equipage, that is the
dog carriage for the Governor's Lady -
all take their departure tomorrow if
the weather will permit. The
day and evening passed over peacefully!
Mr Vincent instead of resenting my late
conduct has been more than usually
complaisant since, & I am informed
that he and his wife spent that night
in tears, perhaps he now sees his error
and decries the consequences.

Thursday, March 28th. This morning

the Therm. was 18° below the cypher & the weather very stormy. All ingress and egress to and from the House by the regular passage is now rendered impossible the gates are sealed up by a bank of snow 15 feet high & upwards, and the only thoroughfare now is over the top of the barn-houses. Travelling today being impracticable our Visitors were detained, but as they intend going in the morning they resolved to be very abstemious today, but the force of habit overcame the powers of Resolution & they went drunk to bed as usual.

Friday March 29th This morning the Therm. was 25° below the cypher & the weather delightful, consequently every one was astir at an early hour preparing for the Moose expedition. Breakfast was served up at twelve, but they manifested no inclination to move. indeed both the Governor & Prosecutor General complained of being very much out of order with such complaints as the heartburn, the hiccup, belching & the like which they ingenuously attribute to their having eaten some of the Fish called Moria for Supper &

from this we now stile a Debauch ironically stile a Debauch - eating Maria & Methy. As there was no appearance of their immediate departure, I went out to my hunting as usual. on my return, they were gone, to my great satisfaction and Mr. Russell testified his joy by welcoming me to Boston again and thanked God for all his mercies. I congratulated Mr. Russell on his being once more at home. The time again passes pleasantly my confusion, noise & discord is no more heard, and order, peace & rational amusement is the more enhanced by the change. A young man named Kennedy, & Wm. Donald with his wife and 2 children went with the Moose party, with a view of accompanying Mr. Riveny up to the Red River Colony in the Spring: they go up the Albany ^{River} which communicates by tributary branches with the lake into which the Red River empties itself. Some very large Methy were caught today, one weighed 8 lbs they are a species of Cod.

Saturday March 30th The weather warm & beautiful, but during my walk today I got nearly snow blind with the brightness of the Sun reflected from the snow. there is no game about

of any description & all the Factory
women and children have left their
Tents and come home. - This evening
there was a fall of Snow, without
wind which is rather a rare occurrence.

Sunday March 31st Upwards of
half a foot of snow had fallen during of
night and the weather was cool & clear
this morning. - This additional quan-
tity of soft snow will render walking
very labourous & it is unfortunate
for those at present on the expedi-
tion to Rupperts house, who in addition
to the fatigue of walking, be are yoked in
a Team like Beasts of burthen & have
to drag an enormous load the distance
of 50 or 60 miles. - That Europeans &
especially Caratons should voluntarily
submit themselves to a country of savages
to be degraded to the rank & occupation
of Slaves may appear surprising &
the hardships which they undergo at-
most incredible. - Travelling hun-
dreds of miles is not extraordinary &
hard labour falls to the lot of Millions
but there are few countries where
the weary traveller cannot find a
habitation where he can rest & regale
himself or take refuge from the storm
but in these hyperborean regions he
must endure the rigors of the cold and

pelting of the storm - stunted in his
food, he melted snow his most grateful
drink, - the tempest may howl & the
storm may rage, he must persevere
while his small stock of provisions
lasts. if that should fail he can no
where lay in a fresh supply. - a
wretched hovel might shelter him
from the inclemency of the weather
as well as the Palace of a Prince, but
even that is not to be found. the snow
is his carpet & the snow is his bed. -
In other places industry will obtain
independence & merit meet with re-
ward, but not so here; when after
long servitude - hard labour or over
exertion the faithful servant has ruin-
ed his constitution and brought on a
premature old age, he is regarded as
an incumbrance here and sent home
to his native country to scowl out
the remainder of his days in poverty
and wretchedness. - One man in par-
ticular of this description was among
the passengers which were landed at Ad-
from the Ship. he is not yet 40 but bears
all the marks of decrepid old age; he
was forwarded to house with the others
but could proceed no further than
Rupperts House where he now remains,

a complete object of pity. - his case excited the compassion of the Governor & others on their way here & they commenced a subscription for his relief. They recommended him to the humane & benevolent as having been a zealous, valuable and meritorious servant in the employment of the Hon. H. B. C. that in consequence of over exertion & accident he was rendered no longer fit for their service. - he is therefore sent home to Okebay his native country where he has a wife and family for whom he is unable to earn in likelihood & he is extremely poor. therefore as an encouragement to the deserving servants of the Comp^y, the liberality of the officers & others in this country is solicited. - Mr. Reppel very justly observed, that is the business of the Comp^y, who stile themselves Hon^{ble}, to reward such servants & not private individuals who are scarcely able to keep their own families. I concurred in Mr. R's sentiments but contributed my mite, not because the H. B. C. had profited by his services but because he was a fellow creature in distress & deserving charity, the sum then subscribed was 18 £. Mr. D. & I hoped to make it 100 £. -

Monday, 1st of April, or Goose Month. - The weather very raw and somewhat - a little wind and drift walking soft and nothing to be got. We dined today on Coast pheasants & Beaver boiled - the flesh of this animal to those who like it, forms a delicious repast, it is fatter than Pork which is my great objection to it, but I can eat it without aversion perhaps if quite fresh, I should be fond of it - The tail is the greatest delicacy. This organ is hard thin and flat, covered with a scaly thin skin that is taken off, there is another skin like that of Pork, & the whole substance of it is fat except a small round bone that runs down the centre.

All Fish were got by the hooks in the week the weather in the evening was stormy.

Tuesday, April 2nd The storm this morning had quite subsided & the day passed out extremely fine. - Early in the morning 2 Men & 2 Dogs were dispatched to hunt terns with some Flou & I sent letters by them to Capt D & Mr. B. After breakfast I took my usual walk, continued to set snares & look after them every day though I get nothing to repay me for my trouble. - In the afternoon some Indians with their families came & idled

with their winter furs. - they take care
to complain of scarcity & starvation &
report that an Indian called Blue Soup
has literally starved to death, & that
his 2 wives and their children came to
Fox skin's tent & entreated him to go
& buy their husband for they were
so weak themselves they could not do
it. - accordingly Fox skin & his father
in law went & found the man lay-
ing dead upon the snow. he was no
thing but skin and bone. They are
apprehensive that another man
named Squaw has had a similar
fate. - An old woman - a patient
of mine called Sutton (the Heel)
also died a few days ago. - The In-
dians now arrived are Loganima
a single man. - Fox skin with a
wife and 3 children. Musquettoy
with a wife & 2 children & Moliposom
with 2 wives and 6 children. he has
lost for 2 during the winter.

Wednesday, April 3rd The weather
keeps mild. The Therm^o rose today to
46° above the cypher & the snow be-
gins perceptibly to waste away.

In the forenoon the Indians traded
their furs which consisted of Fox,
Beaver, Marten, Otter, Rabbit and
Lynx or Wild cat skins - also Castor.

which is produced by the Beaver. - They
complain that they have been obliged to
eat many of their skins for want of
other food, a necessity which sometimes
falls to the lot of the Europeans; instances
sometimes occur where hunger compels
them to eat their Shoes, small clothes,
& every article of leather clothing. - but
most probably this dont often happens
one event of the kind can be spun out to
a great length and the Indians are genera-
ly unmeasuring; for my part I hear
more the outcry of want than see the
appearance of it, much less experience
it myself. - every day brings forth some
thing good in its kind. - a few days ago I
feasted on Beaver. - yesterday there were
Beef steaks for dinner & venison Steaks
for supper. & today we had a pike stuffed
and roasted, a dish to me, rare as it was
excellent. - About 7 in the evening
the 2 men returned from Stollons, who
bring the accounts of another being ad-
ded to the list of the dead & M^r Peorian
writes me that he kindly expects the
dissolution of another man.

~~Saturday, April 6th There was a
heavy fall of snow in the morning,
followed by a strong gale of wind. -
in the middle of the day thawing set~~

Thursday, April 4th. Today it continued thawing most effectually for it rained incessantly the whole of the day the Therm^o. at 46 above the cypher. In the afternoon the wind veered to the N.W. instantly the weeping eyes of heaven were dried up & the earth became involved in frost. - blowing hard, with snow & drift. - Mr. R. has sent away all the Indian women & children to hunt for themselves & detained the men in order to send them to Skutumpah, as there is every appearance of approaching Spring.

Friday April 5. The weather being very favorable the Indians were sent off early this morning to Skutumpah with Flour &c. - The therm^o was a few degrees below the cypher which immediately succeeded in the thaw of yesterday rendered it excellent walking & permitted me to get out. I got one hare. - Mr. R. & I were also out got 2 pheasants, 2 Starlings were got from the hooks, and 3 women sent to single for trout got 5. - Old Peggy came in with some Rabbits & partridges & went back immediately to her tent again.

The Therm^o. rose as high as the freezing point today but did not thaw.

Saturday April 6. There was a heavy fall of snow in the morning followed by a strong gale of wind. - it thawed in the middle of the day but towards evening became cold again. - The Indian women whose husbands are gone to Skutumpah, sent in 2 little seals for some food of any kind. - they said they would be glad of a piece of Caribou Hide or any thing, so they got a piece of Bullbock hide. - Notwithstanding the badness of the day the 3 Indians returned from Skutumpah and arrived about 6 in the evening.

Another Man died on the 3rd - the same evening on which the last was buried. - this is the 7th and 6 more are still ill but likely to recover. - The Big Sledge arrived at Skutumpah yesterday from Rupert's House. but the state of the weather was such today that the men considered it unsafe to attempt coming across. - The Indians lost their way & were for a little while bewildered. - Only 2 Nethy were caught today by the Noks & 2 persons angling for trout caught nothing.

Sunday, April 7th. This morning after breakfast I took a walk to Battle Point about 2 miles off, where the Indians are encamped, in order to see their tent

or Barricade as it is generally denomi-
nated. but I found they had pitched a
Tent in which they all were to the num-
ber of 20. each family sitting together,
the children about their mother and
the husband by the side of his wife,
he who has 2 wives sat between them
& each woman was surrounded by her
own children. In constructing a tent
the place fixed upon is always in wood
that will shelter it from the wind and
where there are dead trees near for fuel,
some slender trees are cut down for
tent poles, and two of these are tied
together about a foot and a half from
their small extremity, they are then
elevated and the lower ends drawn
apart to the extent of the diameter
of the Tent, and these form the Key
Stone which supports the
whole fabric two more
poles are placed at Right Angles
with these, crossing each other at the
top and resting on the Angle formed
by the 2 first, in this way poles are
placed all round forming a perfect
circle at the bottom and entwining
with each other in a point at the
top. they next with their hatchets
and snow shoes dig out all the

snow till the reach the bare earth
the Poles are then covered with Deer
skins & leaving the upper part of
one uncovered to allow the Smoke to
out & to admit the light. a fire is now
kindled in the centre, and all round
the bottom of the tent is covered with
fine pine brush, make a clean com-
fortable carpet to sit on and a wholesome
bed to sleep on. - A remark:
able that when the Indians
are in at the Factory, they generally
defer their departure until the evening
when it is too late to make their
tent, and they sleep in the open air
contentedly as they would in a Bed Room
it dont appear that even the children
suffer from this exposure to the cold.

In the afternoon the party arrived
from Kautons with the King Sledge.
Mr Donovan the 2^d Mate of the Marble
& 4 Sailors came with it, some of the
latter were so tired that the Factory men
had been obliged to haul them on the
Sledge a considerable part of the way.

Before these people left Respect's home
one of Pease Souse's wives had come in
with three children in a state of utter
starvation, she had left the other wife
(who was also her sister) to perish being

unable to proceed. Mr. Donovan & another went to look for the dead body, & to cover it up, but they could not find it, it was she was found by her own father when she was yet warm.

The weather extremely fine all day. Monday April 8th. In the forenoon the Therm^o was up to the freezing point, but did not thaw. - the weather was extremely fine, but in the afternoon a strong gale of wind came on in an instant, kept blowing, drifting, very hard for 2 hours & then ceased.

Tuesday, April 9th. The Therm^o was 8° below the cypher this morning & the weather fine which induced me to take my customary walk. I shot 2 partridges, Donovan who was with me, became snow blind & therefore we returned.

Like yesterday a gale of wind came on from the SW which lasted a few hours and afterwards the night was fine.

Wednesday April 10th. This morn^g. the big Sledge was sent off again to Hamilton, drawn by 10 Men & 2 Dogs. - Mr. D. returned with them. - Having got breakfast by 5 o'clock, I went out on hunting sooner than usual & got 3 Hares. - The Therm^o was so low as 25° below the

cypher & it scarcely rose to the cypher all day, but there was not a breath of wind and the sun shone so bright that the weather was delightful & the heat almost oppressive. - I was induced by the fine ness of the weather to penetrate through the woods to an insulated Hill, called Beaver hill, which is about 3 miles from the House. - On reaching the summit my labour was amply repaid by a most gratifying & enchanting view I had of the surrounding country. The prospect was extensive, interrupted on one side only by the convexity of the globe and on the other by a ridge of hills at a great distance inland; for many many miles the ground is entirely flat and even, interspersed with extensive forests & large plains covered with snow, which with the sable hue of the other forms a striking contrast. - when I reflected that I was now gazing upon the Face of Nature as formed of by the almighty Creator of the Universe, I was overcome with sensations of wonder, amazement & admiration not easily described.

Thursday April 11th. Today the weather was tolerably mild & extremely fine, & I secured no game. - In the evening Peggy arrived with some Rabbits & Partridges.

Good Friday April 12th Snowing incessantly the whole day, and quite mild.

Saturday April 13th The weather throughout the whole day extremely stormy, blowing from the NW with drift and snow. A woman called Timmita a quarry or Mr. Belland was seized today with Tetanus & is in a dangerous state.

Sunday April 14th Unbearable weather all Johnson being hazy and blowing fresh, and in the evening it began snowing very thick, notwithstanding the badness of the weather a tribe of Indians came on, viz. Jack Hester, Jett & his sons, Jack, Metewissem, Hec, a Kee-shick, and a younger boy, each hunting a Hedge heavily laden with victuals for the place, consisting of Venison, Rabbits, Sautedged thousands, likewise their winter's Furs. another Indian called Cooper arrived with some Bacon from Repaste House.

The Indian Hester is a very respectable Indian, he professes a degree of information and shrewdness far superior to the natives of this country in general, and few foreigners can speak the English language with more fluency and accuracy than he does. However it is to be under-

stood that he had a European father tho' he has always led a Savage life.

This Man is the very counterpart of Piggie - he always takes care to make himself welcome when he comes to the Factory, by bringing a supply of provisions with him; in return he meets with a great deal of attention, so far as even to eat at the governor's table where he acquits himself with perfect ease & propriety. However Jack with all his good qualities professes a large of the Indian disposition, like them he is very prone to drunkenness - when intoxicated he quarrels & fights with the rest of them. Next to Spirituous liquors, Tobacco is the Indians greatest luxury, and to omit giving them a piece of Tobacco would be an affront not soon forgotten.

Monday April 15th The weather today continued as bad if not worse than the day preceding being snowing, blowing & drifting besides the weather being very mild rendered the walking difficult & disagreeable. In spite of all this, the men who went to Stutter having got tired of waiting, ventured to return at the great hazard of missing their way on the trackless Sea. They did indeed miss their way but reached

The Mainland about 10 miles to the Southward. they were then past danger. By the accounts of the Captains it appears that several of the men are in a hopeless state, and they propose leaving some of them conveyed here, as the only means of saving their lives, but owing to the weather they could not be brought today.

In the forenoon the Indians traded their furs & got their supply of powder and shot for the approaching goose hunt. One of Metepescum's wives & his son came in with some rabbits & fish.

Tuesday, April 16th - All day the weather was quite soft with now and then rains, sleet, and snow. At noon the Therm^o. was 50° above the cypher. - In the Morning, Hester's & Metepescum's families went away & in the afternoon Fox, skin came in with Furs. Esquannimona & Musquetoe Boy with Pheasants and Partridges.

Wednesday April 17th The Th^o. & above the cypher with morning & the weather very fine, which allowed me to go hunting, but I saw nothing whatever. - In the after part of the day it thawed.

Thursday April 18th During the night there was no frost & the thaw continued all day with fine weather above head. The Sailors who have been here for some time were to have been sent off to Strutton this morning, but the softness of the weather prevented them going.

Friday, April 19th It was freezing during the night which rendered it excellent sailing. consequently the 6 Sailors were sent off to Strutton previous to the breaking up of the Ice. The Indian Cooper's one man were dispatched to Aspart's House & 4 men & 3 Dogs to Anois Bay (6 or 8 miles to the North) with powder, shot Tobacco &c to supply the Indians for the goose hunt in that quarter. one of the party was to remain there.

The Morning being extremely fine we breakfasted by 6 o'clock & went out a hunting. I got a very fine & considerable Silver Fox, and the weather getting rather cold & unpleasant I immediately came home sufficiently satisfied with my morning's work.

Mr. A. R. who went over the same returned without any thing. Six Moxies were got from the Hook & Two Snickers only from the Nets after standing 6 days. About 11 A.M. the 6

seven named Metacappe arrived
with a very valuable pack of Furs,
consisting of Beaver, Otter, Marten,
Black Bear, Fox, Musk Rat & Rabbit
skins to the amount of 134 Beaver,
also a quantity of Castor & Beaver Flesh.

The left chief part of his family at
a fishing place and only brought
his wife & infant & one son, a youth
of 18. Wussittigun, the wife of Me-
tacappe is a neat tidy sensible
little woman, - they have a daughter
married to one of the Factory servants,
she being apprized of their arrival
left her tent & came down as also
another of their Sons who was with
her. I place myself in the way to
see their first interview and was
much pleased to see the affectionate
regard manifested on both sides, by
these good, uncultivated people.

Saturday April 20th. This morn-
g. Miquetoe's wife came in begging
some of the cattle's skin to cut & she
got away half a Bulls skin hide for
her family, as there is no game to
be got. - The weather all day was
cool and most delightful but I did
not go out, having for some days
just occupied my leisure times
by drawing a sketch of Button's

Island for Capt. D. I staid at home
to finish it.

Sunday April 21st. Fine clear weather
& the temperature considerably above
freezing. Metacappe's family went
away this morning, leaving their
business papers & such to my care, he
is very consumptive. - They also took one
ewe with them for a young woman
who spits blood. - These complaints
are very common among these poor
Natives & cuts off many in the bloom
of youth. - Their precarious mode of
living obliges them always to be moving
from place to place & almost at all times
carrying or dragging a heavy burden
let them be ever so unable for the task
there is no mitigation, if ill or nearly
sick from a fit of sickness barely
able to walk they are compelled to travel
and still they sink under the oppression
and in this helpless state the party often
cross them to perish. - If they have
any provisions at all they will give
the poor creature some, to save for
a few days, cut a little fuel & then
pursue their way. - they say very
justly, they can do no good by stop-
ping & better one die than all starve
together. - frequently persons thus

left recover & afterwards join their
tribe. - It is not an uncommon
thing for children to destroy their
parents when they become helpless
and unfit to support themselves
& this they do at the request of the
old people themselves. - they genera-
lly kill them by strangling them,
but not many live so an age, to
require the operation. - but when
they really do become so helpless
as to be unable to walk, it is
certainly a mark of filial affec-
tion to terminate their suffering,
at once, rather than leave them
a prey to hunger & cold.

Monday, April 22nd. The wea-
ther so warm today as to render the
snow very soft for walking & the
rays of light so powerfully reflected
from the snow very injurious to
the eyes. but Mr R. has furnished
me with an admirably
contrived blind by which
I am able to preserve mine from
all its baneful effects.

I found a Hare had been eaten
out of one of my snares by a
Fox but I had ample satisfac-
tion on the Depredator by knocking

him on the head with my hatchet.
I also got another Fox in a trap
Woody Island. but it was rather da-
maged by the Butcher Birds (called
here Whiskey jacks) which had perforated
it on the back and nearly eviscerated the
animal leaving nothing but the bones
and the skins. Both were red Foxes.

Mosquitoe Bay was preparing a num-
ber of Dewy Geese at Butler Point for
the use of Mr Russell at the approach-
ing goose hunt. The effect of this
day's warmth was apparent on the
snow which in many places is visibly
decaying.

Tuesday, April 23rd. The weather
continues that of Spring. - It was frosty
in the night but throughout the day
the sun was very powerful. - Unfit
to walk as it is from the soft-
ness of the snow I went out with my
gun in the forenoon to pass away
the time. I got a pheasant & some
small birds called Snow Birds, from
their coming about in great num-
bers when the snow is fast melting
ground & are therefore the harbingers
of Spring. - they are generally soon
followed by the Geese. - Mosquitoe
brought in 10 Birds. Pheasant & Partridge

Wednesday April 24th. The weather continues extremely fine. I went out after breakfast as usual & got a Hawk but meeting with loss of the Sails coming from Buttons with letters. I returned home to hear the news.

They have relinquished the idea of sending the sick here, as it would be attended with so much difficulty, danger & bodily pain, to the men in their enfeebled state. There have been no more deaths since we last heard from them but one man is daily expected to take leave of this world. - Capt. D. writes me he is heartily tired of his winter residence & rejoices in the prospect of a speedy release from their present shackles of Ice & Snow. - he says with great exertion & assiduity he has only procured 38 Hares, 43 partridges & 7 Foxes during the winter.

Thursday, April 25th. The meteor of the weather indicating the rapid approach of Spring. The two Sails were dispatched back again without delay and to all appearance we shall have no more traffic to Button Bay, Ice. After breakfast

we all went out. Mr & Mrs R went to Button point to make their good stand. they met with some Pheasant & shot 3. Mr G. & I were employed making decoy geese. I got a Hare out of one of my snares in the Ridge Path. Musquetoes & Esquimaux brought in a quantity of the roots & Hares. Peggy likewise came in with some Hares & some Birds & went immediately back to her tent again.

Friday April 26th. The appearance of the weather this morning seemed to indicate rain but it proved otherwise. - the day was clear & quite sultry. - the Therm^o was nearly 70° above the cypher at noon but it fell in the afternoon and the same temperature which at another time would have been hot I now felt very cold.

I took my usual range during the forenoon but only got one Pheasant I saw some Hares basking in the Sun but could not get within shot of them. - walking is extremely soft & tiresome.

Saturday, April 27th. A fine sunshining Morning as for several days past. - After breakfast Mr G. & I went to the Marsh to make

our gun stands. Mr. S. went with us to show me where to pitch it & point out what would be land & what water. seeing a stranger coming across the river she returned home & left me to form my Ambuscade according to my own taste. which I did, by making a small circular enclosure just large enough to sit or lay down in & turn about with ease, sheltering it with a thick hedge made by sticking Willow boughs in the snow, & then lined the inside with Pine brush. at a proper distance from this the decoy geese are placed & when a flock of Geese are flying past the person concealed within the enclosure imitates the call of a Goose which the foolish Birds think proceed from the decoys & come towards them. in this way the sportsman has an opportunity of firing at them. But this the weather has been warm & it is the usual time of their appearing none have been seen yet. I begin to fear they will participate in the general scarcity. In the Ridge path I got another Horse today.

The person who came from the North^d was a young woman in the

stage of a Consumption. she was sent in by Metacappa to be maintained here the same Indian sent in a message that "he wanted victuals & if he did not get any he must lie down & die, & you might lie down & die too." This seems to imply a kind of threat, that if relief was not sent him, he would not have any victuals for us.

Sunday, April 28th. The weather gloomy and overcast & seemed to promise rain, which would be very desirable to carry off part of the immense quantity of Snow which covers the face of the earth to such a depth, that altho' it has been decaying for these 10 days past, its diminution is not perceptible. Spent the day religiously.

Monday April 29th. Frosty during the night, the day mild & overcast with a southerly breeze & fog.

After breakfast I went to take my usual walk along shore, but from the dull appearance of the weather I thought it unnecessary to wear my Shada, however I soon found error, this haze in the atmosphere produced by the exhalation from the Snow is as injurious to the Eyes as

as the Sun's beams... the darting pains which I felt warned me of approaching Snow blindness & I retreated into the woods, where to beguile away the morning I lighted a Fire & made some decoy geese. In the Ridge path I got a Hare & a wood partridge. I met Mr Russell in a great bustle she informed me that a Deer had come across the river just opposite the house. Mr R. had his gun in readiness but it was alarmed by some children & run off. Mr R's dog had gone in pursuit of the Deer & Mr R was gone in pursuit of the Dog - however the Deer made its escape. - Old Peggy came in again today but without having had her usual success.

Foxskin came to consult me about his wife, whom he represents to be extremely ill. This man seems to think that the Geese are not to be expected till there is water & spots of ground bare which is not yet the case. - In the middle of the day today, there were several peals of Thunder, but no rain accompanied it.

Tuesday April 30th The wind north-
easterly yet the weather continues mild and soft, there were even a few slight showers of rain in the forenoon. Today I went with a good many Pleasants just below the house. I shot several of them but only got two, owing to their feeding in the woods where the snow was so very soft, I could not possibly go in search of them - with much trouble I got through into what is a large Plain in winter & a haunt for Pleasants, but I found it one entire sheet of water, and there being some dangerous quagmires here which at times have proved fatal to the cattle, there I made the best of my way back again & went down the ridge path to convey my Decoys to my Goose Stand here I got a wood partridge & in coming home along shore again I shot 2 more Pleasants. Walking today was extremely laborious from the moisture that the Snow Shoes absorb and quantity of slush that lodges on their surface their weight is so increased that they appear like a millstone on each foot, yet to walk without it would be still more fatiguing, nay absolutely impossible but then instan-

sinking to the knees, a person might sink to the waist. - therefore of two evils the weightiest one is the least.

For when, who was so solicitous about his wife, was in no hurry back to her with the intended relief, he did not leave C. A. till afternoon. - Peggy & Mary her little girl, went to the Southward to live with Musquetoe, during the Goose hunt. - & M. Bolton's the both her legs & arms are yet contracted since her late spasmodic attack went by sea to an Island 10 miles off where Fox skin's Tent is.

A boy came in from the Indians to the North - for some Medicines, he represents them to be Snow Island and starving - yet these beings are so improvident that 3 large families of them are all huddled together in one Tent, whereas if they were separating 10 miles apart they would each have an opportunity of procuring game sufficient for their support.

Goose Month is over and without one Goose having been seen.

Wednesday 1st of May or Frog Month - so called from the Frogs be-
gining to croak in this Month.

During the night there was a sharp

foot which made it excellent walking this Morning. - About say break M. B. had breakfast alone & went out with great expedition & secrecy, from a selfish wish to have all the sport to himself, because I had got a few pheasants yesterday, he was afraid I would be beforehand with him; I was somewhat pleased to find him return without any thing & he was a little Kishy, washy, that is, bores.

M. Gladman & I went out between 5^o to 6^o he got nothing & I only got a Hare from one of my snares. I came home to Breakfast at 8 o'clock & did not go any more out this day. - The weather all day was fine, and at night frosty.

Thursday May 2nd Early this morning a hop, wag, quagge, the wife of Musquetoe's boy, came to consult me about her child and husband who are ill. - she got some Medicines & went away again. - There was 9^o of Frost this morning, but the day was clear warm & pleasant, with a strong southerly wind. - but in the evening it cooled to the N.W. I spent the forenoon according to custom, but saw none of the feathered tribe. - a Hare was caught in one of my snares & white

I was setting the snare again another came in my way which I shot. I reloaded my piece & a 3^d Hare came to the unlucky spot & it also fell into my hands.

Friday May 3^d There was a few degrees of Frost during the night which rendered it excellent walking this morning & the weather was so inviting I went out between 5 & 6 o'clock. I saw a few Hares shot one & returned to breakfast. During the rest of the day I was busy drawing a plan of Cartmain for Mr Russell.

In the forenoon Cospanimma the brother of Fox skin brought us some venison they having killed the deer which was seen here a few days ago. Cospanimma saw 5 Geese yesterday & I saw one in the evening flying to the N^w. The weather keeps fine, but for want of rain the snow disappears very slowly.

Saturday May 4 It being a beautiful morning I took an early walk down that delightful river in the Ridge path, expecting to see some poor unsuspecting hare lashing itself in the morning sun.

but I met with none. The Geese surrounded with the song of a thousand little warblers chanting the columns of spring, & for a moment I fancied it a morning of May in England, but the illusion was but transitory my ears were greeted with the crackling of the snow under my feet if I turned aside from the path. I sought to the knees - if I looked for verdant fields & flowery meadows. I beheld around me nothing but boundless forests & barren plains, yet even here there is much to admire; to a mind susceptible of sublime impressions, there is "Sermons in Stones & god in everything".

After breakfast Mr Gladman went out & had an opportunity of firing at a goose but did not hit her. This induced to go to my goose stand in the Marsh in the afternoon, but nothing came near me. I shot a wood partridge in the Ridge path.

The weather during the day was the same as for some days past. Wind S^w. The water from the Plains & Swamps in the woods begins now to make its way towards the Sea & the river. Today the clear ground round the house, & nominating the Plantation was completely overflowed. The creek by which

one of these Swamps empties itself be-
ing blocked up by a great depth of
snow. The accumulated water has
found an exit in this direction & pass-
ing with some force over the banks of
the river forms a fine cascade near
the house.

Sunday May 5th. The much
wished for weather has arrived at last.
There was a fall of rain during the night
today a thick fog with a strong southerly
wind which brought the geese in some
numbers. several flocks passed over
the House flying to the North.

The afternoon & evening was cold &
stormy. - spent the day with in doors
for the most part reading.

Monday May 6th. This morning we
all went to the Marsh to shoot at the
geese. Mr. M^r & R to their stands at
Weather point. I to mine at Goose Bird
& M^r G. went to the Knobel. The weather
was bleak & stormy & very few
geese were flying so that none of us
got any thing.

Tuesday May 7th. Early this morning
a curious and rather an entertaining in-
cident occurred. Mr. Russell was awake
out of sleep by a noise which seemed to
make the whole House tremble & starting

out of Bed. to his astonishment beheld
a Pheasant lying in the middle of the
Floor in the agonies of Death, but how it
came there was inexplicable. presently
one of the Men made his appearance &
developed the mystery. It seems that the
Pheasants were flying over the House &
one of them lightening upon the top of the
Chimney he could not refrain from shooting
it. falling down the chimney, it was found
as above described. I have heard it said
that a cock has run out with his gun &
some geese were flying over & shooting one
it fell down the chimney into his
kettle on the Fire & this is not more im-
probable than the above circumstance, for
there is scarcely a person about the Place,
who has not his gun by his side while he
is at other employment - the Cook, the butler,
keeper, the blacksmith, the carpenter
& the cooper have all a loaded piece stand-
ing by the side of the door of their respec-
tive apartments. Mr. M^r Russell & every
one else have the same at this momentous
season. At 8 o'clock we all went to our re-
spective Goose stands in the Marsh, the
morning was then fine but it afterwards
began to blow hard from the N.W. which
drove us home again. I got a Place
in the Ridge Path by a Snare.

In the afternoon Misquetoey Boy came to the Factory in a very dejected state, complaining of starvation. he has not shot one goose yet & they have no other Dependence. Cartidges have left the least. The winds frequent the plains whether it is impossible to go in search of them for water. The hardness of the Snow during the night prevents the Hares making any impression upon it, that their tracks may be seen so as to set snares for them. and Fish cannot be pursued, because they dare not set their Nets lest the Ice breaks up & they would lose them: therefore these poor Indians on the Sea Coast must be all in a very deplorable state.

Wednesday, May 8. This morning Mr Ripfoll very humanely sent over to the South & North with a small supply of victuals (chiefly oatmeal) to the Indians lest they be in want. In the Forenoon Peggy & her grand daughter Nancy, came in for something to eat, & were thankful for a piece of Bullock's hide or any thing that will support nature.

About 6 in the morning I went to the March & found Mr G. already there; he had fired a goose but killed none.

We came home to breakfast & again returned to my Stand or rather Stand in the Marsh, for I have made it so snug with branches & a dcke of Snow, that I can repose myself on the Pine Branch, enjoy the genial rays of the Sun & read my book with ^{more} pleasure & comfort than I would, be seated up in a splendid apartment. I am informed of the approach of the Geese by their own loud discordant notes, & then I begin to exert my Stentorian lungs with such dead power, that today I drove Mr Gladman home in the sulks. he complained that I frightened the Geese all away. of course neither of us shot any. Mr R. made a stand near the House. Mr R. did not go out.

In the evening, the Men sent with relief to the Indians, returned. he who went to Goose Point Island, brought 6 Geese from Hester's family, which he shot today, but the Senior Hester is very ill & unable to shoot. his daughter Nancy (Foxskin's wife) is also very ill & likely to die. & they beg me to visit her, she is about 8 miles from here, but the quantity of water on the Ice renders walking very bad, & being subject to the cramp in my legs. Mr R. does not wish me to undertake the journey. The Indians to the North, have been much pinched for food &

for the last two days had not eaten any thing - the younger children were lying in the Tent so reduced & weak as to be unable to walk, yet even children were so patient under sufferings that they dont complain. Metacappo sent the only Goose they got before the man came away, observing when he gave it to him, that "he had now made a hearty meal & he could live very well upon that for two days."

Thursday, May 9th. We all had breakfast at 5 o'clock this morning & went to the Goose Hunt. The frost in the morning was pretty intense, but being quite calm the Sun was very powerful all day. Several flocks of Geese and Swans passed to the N. but flew so high that one might as well shoot at the stars & expect to hit them. W.R. after firing many shots in vain at last brought down a Wayway a small species of Goose. we all came home at 2 o'clock. Dined off an excellent roast Goose. Mr. Russell & I were both out again in the evening but got no Geese. I shot 2 Woodpeckers in the Ridge Path.

Friday May 10th. The weather continues extremely fine. - We all went to

the Marsh about 5 o'clock and remained all Dinner time; many geese, swans, ducks passed to the North: but nobody shot any but W.R. who brought down a Wayway - the whole marsh is now an entire hatch patch of water thick & snow in going after the wounded goose Mr. Russell fell down and was soured over head and ears; I also went in pursuit of the Goose but was obliged to desert, my Snow Shoes almost worn away with me. - About the same time Mr. Pollard & his daughter Sally were coming across with some Geese from Fox Skin's tent. this tough old woman whose life was despaired of but a few weeks ago & is still carrying a paralytic arm in a sling, was not only able to perform such an intricate journey, but to carry a load of 14 Geese. - She brings a message from Jack Hester requesting me to visit him as he continues very ill. - if the night is frosty so as to harden the Snow a little probably I may take a walk to see him.

Saturday, May 11th. There was no Frost during the night but the morning being very fine. I undertook to go to visit the Sick Indians to the Southward, and set off about 4 in the morning for Hester's Tent which is about 14 miles off.

I was accompanied by 2 Men & 2 Dogs
with sleds to bring what furs they have
procured. - The commencement of the
journey was the worst part of it, owing
to the number of streams run-
ning from the marsh to the river
which required to be passed or leapt
over with snow shoes on. - In walking
over some congealed Snow on the sur-
face of a pool of water, the frail
fabric gave way & I got drenched in
water before I had advanced 1/2 a mile
however after getting to sea we were
able to walk the rest of the way
without snow shoes. - Several geese
and swans flew past us & I heard In-
dians firing all along the coast
but it appears their success is very
bad indeed & there is every prospect
now of the Goose Hunt failing al-
together. - I found my patient Hester
sitting out amongst some stones watch-
ing the geese, he immediately conduct-
ed me to his Tent and paid me every
possible attention. - As these people
place great faith in medicine or rather
in a Medical man whom they consider
a conjurer, it is necessary to make a show
of doing something to satisfy them
therefore I bled old Hester & one of his
Sons & gave them some simple Med.

icine. When this was over, I was asked whether
I chose a Roast Goose or a boiled one, I gave
the preference to a Roast Goose, accordingly
a Goose which was shot just at this instant
was prepared - it was shot, plucked, gutted,
roasted, and eaten all in the space of one
hour, and I must confess I never eat a
goose dressed in greater perfection nor
never made a heartier meal in my life,
a keen appetite is a famous appetite
antidote for Opiumean prejudices. - The
women and younger part of the family
seemed to devour with avidity every thing
that would afford nourishment, at one
report of the gun some one went to bring
what was killed & whether hawk, crane, goose,
duck or quail, it was plucked that instant
& in a very few minutes it is seen boiling
at the fire or put in a Kettle to boil in
a large Kettle hanging over the fire for the
purpose, with the geese they have to pay
for their powder & shot at the Factory
& therefore they have only the Gizzards to
themselves, but even the guts don't go to
waste. - The water in which their meat
is boiled always serves for drink the re-
minder of the day - it saves the trouble
of melting snow - it contains nourishment
& is also a more palatable beverage.
In the afternoon there was so little game

about that I did not go out with my husband's superiority, which too often is cruelly
a but amused myself with gathering
berries which grow here in great places
and are excellent at the season of the year
it is unnecessary to observe that in most
places the snow has frozen the
ground.

In the evening the
young men all came in from hunting
& appeared much dejected with their
had success, having only got 4 geese
all day. - The Old Man impudently said,
"he thought God Almighty was very stingy
with his geese" - this expression was from
the mouth of a Heathen, but how many
are there who consider themselves Christians
that are guilty of greater blasphemy 20
times a day. Altho' here was a family
of savages to the number of 13, the custom
of decumens was observed, my showing an in-
clination to go to sleep was a signal for
all the rest, and immediately all were
stretched out, with the feet to the fire
& the head in the opposite direction like
so many radii converging from a cen-
ter - I wrapped up in my blanket, I enjoyed
a night of comfortable repose.

The inmates of this Tent were as fol-
lows - The Senior Nester & his old wife
Pigeon, the very nose on this old lady's
face shows indelible proofs of her being

erected on their poor helpless unprotected
women. - next is his eldest Son, Jack with
his 2 wives Bet & Ugly & a pretty little girl
called Luell - the 2nd Son Hayer (Hudson's name)
his wife Bladder & child A Heudred, so
named from their killing 100 geese on the day
of his birth. 3 unmarried sons, Flying cloud
(Kew. or heeshuck), Victor & Neward, with
with myself & 2 Men made 16 in all. the
Dog's name was Keshy, washy.

Sunday May 12th - A day spent in
left Nester's tent and proceeded homeward
but went a little aside from the straight
road to an Island off the point of
Fox, a. hook, to see Mr Foxskin who
by the bye is the Relict of a Medical gen-
we reached this island between 5 & 6 in
the morning & found her present hus-
band Foxskin going to his goose stand, he
had his face painted in a ridiculous
manner. I suppose from a superstiti-
ous idea that it would please the gods
& bring them about him. I inquired of
him where his tent was, he pointed &
puffed on without speaking a word &
it was with some difficulty that I found
it out. - I told Mr Foxskin had a little
tea made for breakfast & after this refresh-
ment resumed my journey. After I

was gone a girl came after me with a pair of deer horns - I expected to have had a feast here but was disappointed. Jack Hester told me he believed Fox had shot some swans yesterday & if that was the case there was sure to be a feast this would have been a great gratification to me indeed, for it is one of the principal ceremonies that the Indians observe - and is generally repeated with the first of the season of all their particular animals, - as Beaver, Geese, Swans &c. - A Goose Feast consists in each person being presented with a goose to eat, which is to be finished in a limited time, not a joint is to be displaced nor a bone broken, & the bones are all to be clean picked & polished. The master of the Family makes a speech and the skeletons are burned with a great deal of formality. - The bones of all the geese they kill are religiously preserved a stage is erected to lay them on, to prevent dogs & other voracious animals getting to them - if these observances were not scrupulously attended to, they would despair of any success in hunting. -

All the first Fish caught in a new Net, are served up at a Feast, if they were not so honoured the Net would not be worth a farthing. The Indians

have an invariable custom of offering a part of whatever they eat or drink to some supernatural Being by spilling it on the ground or putting it in the Fire, but I am inclined to believe that it is to the Devil this respect is shewn, they think that God or the good Spirit is too good to do them an injury, & dont require any tribute.

To return to my journey - the walking was much softer today than yesterday & the last 3 miles I waded to the house in water. the weather was very warm in the after part of the day there was rain. The Men who went up the middle of the river all the way to the house, had to be brought ashore in a Canoe. - The Ice on the north side of the river is broken up & the whole seems so much decayed that it cannot keep much longer together.

Monday May 13th The weather today was so stormy with wind & snow that no one went a goose hunting - and but a few geese were seen flying past the house. Murgeston Boy brought 4 on the previous day & returned to his Tent again.

Tuesday, May 14th This morning we all went to the Marsh about 6 o'clock the wind was southerly, the weather misty,

saing, cold and uncomfortable & few
or no geese flying so that I lost all pa-
tience & seeing a wounded goose laying
on the Ice on the river, but being pre-
vented getting to it by a quantity of wa-
ter between it & the shore I determined
about 11 to get some one to accompany
me down in a canoe. There was no bo-
at more in readiness & a great number of
geese beginning to fly past, I returned
to my stand but had no sooner got
there, than there were no more geese
to be seen. Presently I saw Mr. R. & Pogy
coming down in a canoe, they put a
shore for me and we went in quest of
the goose, but when we approached it,
it flew away. I then paddled the bo-
at more up to the Factory & being my 5th
attempt I was pretty well fatigued.
We hunt today committed a thousand
and Duck shot by Mr. R. and a Wood
partridge by myself. Mr. Rollins
daily brought 26 geese from Fox skins
all the Indian complaint of snow thin-
ness which prevents them killing geese,
they see double, and generally fire at
the phantom instead of the object.
I experience the same affliction my-
self today in a small degree. In the
evening one of our winter tempests came
on & lasted all night with heavy snow drift.

Wednesday May 15th. After the longest con-
tinuance of fine weather that I have seen
in this country. Winter with all its rigors
has paid us another, but I hope a final
visit for this season. The storm raged
furiously all day. The cold very intense,
& the quantity of Snow fallen since last
night, prodigious. There was 18" of feet
at 6 P.M. perhaps this weather may
be good by retarding the flight of the
geese to their breeding places & by free-
ing over the ponds again, cause them
to fly about in quest of water. The
wife of Musquetoe Bay came in today
begging some cattle hide to keep them
from starving, being quite blind he
cannot shoot.

Thursday, May 16th. This morning
the wind having abated & the frost be-
ing pretty intense, Kinnaitchogway
returned to Fox's Tent & Shap. way, giving
to her own. A man & dog were dispatched
to the North Goose Tent for their geese &
2 Men & 2 dogs to Jack Weather's, one of the
latter returned about 10 o'clock with
the 2 women Pet & Bladder & the boy
Visitor whom they met at Sea, having
in 40 geese. The other man went to
Fox skins Tent but did not get a single
goose. Mr. Rollins returned again the

two Women's boy after getting some Car
meal Powder went away again. In
the afternoon I went out. got a wood
partridge. The weather all day was
cold with sleet & snow showers.

Friday May 17th. This morning we
had breakfast early in order to go to the
goose hunt but the weather was so cold
nobody went but myself. I only chased
my stand of the snow & returned. In
the Ridge Path I caught a Hare with
its summer coat of fur. that is it
had exchanged white for brown. I
went with Mr. Pollard out shooting.
she had got 6 wood partridges within
my precincts. which I was not altogether
pleas'd at and on reproving her for
hunting on my ground. she told me
very sincerely that she hunted there be-
fore I was born. it was her country
not mine & she would hunt where
she pleas'd. I might go home to my
own country & hunt. This is a proof
that the Squares of Hudson's Bay
can just be as contentious as the
Dames of Europe. when they please.
The man sent to the Sea Indians returning
bring without a single goose. it appears they
canly get sufficient to keep themselves alive.
The Inuit boy came in with 4. The
the still keep cold & unpleasant.

Saturday May 18th. There was a sharp
Frost during the night but the Sun was
powerful enough in the day time to melt
the Snow. the weather was clear. we were late
at the Marsh in the forenoon but got nothing
there was seen scarcely a goose to be seen.
I shot a Hare on the Ridge Path. & Mr. R.
got one on a snace. a wood partridge was
shot by a piece of Mr. Russell a little girl
of 13. an age at which boys in other count-
ries would hardly be suffered or perhaps ad-
vise to handle a gun; this too was her
first attempt. This afternoon Mr. R.
took it into his head to send to Beuttons to
learn the state of affairs there before the
breaking up of the Ice, and propos'd send-
ing off two Men in the morning propos-
ing they were agreeable to undertake
the journey, for being extremely hazard-
ous at this advanced period of the season.
he would by no means cause them to
go against their will. one of the men
hesitated but another volunteered and
has stand'd stead. & every thing was put
on sending for starting as soon as the
frost should harden the snow a little. for
night is now the only time for travelling.
I intended to accompany them but
the weather appeared so mild in the
evening. that I relinquish'd my purpose.

Sunday May 19th During the night there was showers of rain. Southerly wind 3 or 4 feet - but towards morn. the wind veered to the NW & began to blow violently from that quarter as it generally does, consequently the expedition to Skutlows was frustrated: but the wind having abated in the evening and the weather being cold, we had again hopes of its being accomplished.

Monday May 20th At 1 o'clock this morning the Therm^o was at 44 - 18° of frost accordingly the 2 Men set off for Skutlows - the weather was then good, but before 3 o'clock it snowed very thick with a strong south wind and afterwards came very heavy but fortunately cleared, so as to enable the Men to see the Islands, otherwise they would have been in imminent danger. At the morning innumerable flocks of Geese were flying to the North - but owing to the badness of the weather none of us went out till 9 o'clock. I fired so often without effect that I lost patience & came home. Mr. M^r R. Staid longer but got nothing.

About noon the 2 women Ugly & Coos came with about 40 Geese which they left at an Island called Dilly Dally

about 4 miles off & two Men were instantly sent for them - These women had brought this heavy load 18 miles they did not stop half an hour here before they set off again on their return but they despaired of getting home tonight & they would have to light a fire on some island in their way & abide by it till morning.

The after part of the Day was clear & cold with Northerly wind again.

Tuesday May 21st The weather all day was remarkably cold - the Therm^o was never higher than 22°. About 10 AM the 2 Men got back from Skutlows and as usual being much exhausted. A Boy belonging to the Skutlows was on Sunday last crossing the Sound to gather Cranberries on the opposite Island he broke through the Ice & the strong Current which runs there swept him away under the Ice to be seen no more a man who was with him at the time looks in also, but he was providentially seen from the House & the passing people hastening to his assistance was encouraged to keep holding by the edge of the Ice till he was extricated from his perilous situation - he was completely exhausted & declared he could not have held so long had he not seen

hath so near at hand. About an
hour after this catastrophe, the
Boatswain of the Eddystone, Sat. Jackson
breathed his last, another sacrifice
to that dreadful smould'g the Scurvy.

There are still 6 labouring under
this calamity and probably most
of them will sink under their suf-
ferings. Their Fresh Meat is now
nearly done & they are destitute of
every thing that can conduce to
their comfort or palliate disease.

I much fear that in the end, things
will be more serious than what has
already occurred. - an unfortunate
fatality seems to have accumu-
lated a train of Misfortunes to
complete a sum of misery. -

Musquetoe Bay sent in to me
today for Medicines, being extremely
sick. - he says, the gese perceive
he is going to die and therefore
come near him. - The woman who
came with the message only brought
2 gese from him.

Wednesday, May 22nd The weather is
still severely cold for the season of the
year. Among other remarkables I may
record, that one of the Men got his ears
frozen yesterday. - the 21st of May. -
Nobody went out today to hunt.

Thursday May 23rd Today all the
River Ice above the Factory is quite
broken up, but Bishop's House Islands
in the middle of the river obstructed
the passage of the Ice for some time
but at last it forced its way down
the north shore, the side next the
House is still fast.

The weather all day was fine, but
not warm and no gese at all flying
but they were sitting in great num-
bers upon the Ice and fishing about
in the water. - Early in the mor-
ning 3 Men were dispatched to the
Southth to bring gese from the In-
dians they returned in the evening
with only 7. - Old Peggy brought me
3 from Musquetoe Bay which he
shot today, & he was so famished with
hunger, that he no sooner got them
that he ripped them open, & ate
the fat and part of the entrails raw.
Peggy herself is so weak from want
that she is hardly able to walk or
speak. - I got one Wood Partridge today.

Friday, May 24th Today the wea-
ther proved very warm which once
more reanimates torpid nature.
The grove resounded with the songs
of little birds. - Swallows in great

members returned to take possession of their deserted homes. swarms of flies and other insects started into existence to multiply & to annoy. even the Ponds acquired such a degree of warmth as to call forth from their unwelcome inhabitants an occasional creak of approbation.

The river all day exhibited a busy scene the whole has broken up and the Ice continues floating down towards the Sea. this operation has been performed without the smallest delay or disturbance of the elements which is rarely the case. When the Moose river breaks up. the effect is terrifically grand. a torrent of Ice comes down almost instantaneously & is driven with such impetuosity that mountains of Ice are piled up wherever there is any obstruction to its passage. this impedes the currents of the river, forces the water over the banks & occasions an inundation.

As soon as the river is seen breaking up the great guns at Moose Factory are fired to warn any who may be near the river to get out of the way. The difference between these 2 places is occa-

ly their distance from the Falls. in Moose River the first Fall is 200 miles up. in Slide River the first Fall is not 30. therefore all the Ice from above is broken to pieces by coming over the falls and is the reason of this river breaking up so placidly.

A few Geese were flying today but nobody tried for them. I shot one Pheasant.

Saturday May 25th. As the winter landscape is on the wing, the weather so agreeably reversed. I shall now consider winter to be past and Spring or rather Summer commenced. Today people were employed digging in the gardens & planting Potatoes. Peggy & Mary in the morning went up the river in a canoe to catch fish. In the Evening Mr. Russell, Mr. R. and her daughter Peg went upon the river to shoot. Chat. Cramer one of the native Scots Kinaitchoyay & Sally went in another canoe for the same purpose; the latter party got nothing. Mr. Russell got 3 ducks and at supper we feasted on the Spoil.

Summer in Hudson's Bay

From October till the end of May an incessant snow falls upon the earth, during this period the most extensive and rapid rivers cease to water the Plains. - the bellying waterfalls & murmuring rapids are hushed to silence and even the raging Ocean yields submissively to the all subduing powers of Winter, and becomes still. But no sooner does the genial warmth of summer return to renovate sleeping Nature, than the snow rapidly disappears, this descending in numerous temporary brooks to the large Rivers, swells them up & breaks asunder their frozen bands. - this breach begun in the rivers soon extends to the sea which in its turn yields to the influence of the Season.

But the change produced on the land is not less surprising; the voracity with which the trees shoot forth their buds and the meadows display their verdure almost exceeds invisibility; nature only requires a few days to bring her plants to perfection. wild flowers of the Field ornament the earth & send forth a charming down. the waters teem with a variety of

Fish of the finest quality; numerous flocks of wild fowl sport upon the lakes and afford both food and pastime and it would appear that even the natives of this intemperate region have a season of pleasure. - but it is not so. swarms of Insects soon succeed to annoy & distress them. - the number of vermin bred by the sun's heat, marshy bottoms & stagnant pools, in the unpeopled regions of America, are infinite. - the whole air is filled with multitudes of Mosquitoes which produce unceasing torment, and embitter all the comforts of life, and the millions are destroyed still millions more succeed to exert their direful influence. - the great of Europe gives but little uneasiness, it is sometimes heard to hum about our beds at night and keep off the approach of sleep. by the apprehension it causes, but here, scarcely the art of man or his utmost precaution can prevent them interrupting his repose. Besides the Mosquitoes, there are a kind of Gnats denominated Bulldogs and Sandflies which are no less formidable. - The immense number of Frogs & Toads which every where abound cannot be considered a grievance

but the reverse, they are not only harm-
less but beneficial by preying on
those more contemptible insects, worms
and grubs whose destructive effects of-
ten blast all the beauties of a luxu-
riant garden, & in a few hours convert
it into a picture of sterility & desolation.

Another inconvenience which the
summer brings with it, continual
wet feet & if travelling wet clothes,
the land abounds with marshes, ponds
swamps & rivulets that it is impossible
to go many yards without meeting
with moisture, for in the woods
the rays of the sun never pene-
trate to dry it up, & in navigating
or journeying in a canoe it is impossi-
ble to keep dry, so that on the whole,
I would give the preference to the
winter season. The climate is severe
but it appears terrible only to us,
while the whole face of nature is
clothed in snow the hardy Indian
carries neither the verdure nor the
fertility of the more Southern
landscape, insured to the weather he
sleeps with comfort in the midst
of Ice, daily ranging the boundless
woods for his precarious subsistence,
if successful revels in gluttony till
all is expended then seeks for more.

and when hunger assaults him, he bears
it with fortitude and patience. In
the Summer he leaves the Woods
and derives his Support from the
Waters.

Sunday May 26th 1816

The weather delightful. Passed the
day as the Sunday is to generally
spent, devoting a small portion
to religion, the rest to pastime,
keeping fires, eating, drinking,
vague conversation, & a large part in
the innocent exercise of walking for
the purpose of passing away the
time. - The Ridge path is nearly
all clear of snow & today it was one
scene of bustle, the feathered tribe
busily employed in building their
nests or catering for their young,
but most conspicuous were the Blakes,
engaged at their never ceasing toil;
I remained watching & admiring
them for a considerable time, they
are extremely numerous & some
are of an enormous size.

There were some pheasants in
the path, which the sacredness
of the day preserved from the fowling
aim, but some wood partridges
were not so fortunate, these birds

are so stupid that they allow a
person to convey a Boon round
their neck by means of a long pole
in this way, are often taken.

Monday May 27th. In the morning
I went out before breakfast but met
with no game. and I have got so
tired of hunting geese without get-
ting any that I have given that up.
When the Indians are so unsuccess-
ful I have very little chance.

Musquetoe Bay & his family came
in today, they brought only 3 geese.
The weather in the morning was
very fine, but blowing a fresh
breeze from the westward, as the
day advanced it increased to a gale
with rain & lustily heavy snow
and sharp frost. Some fishing
nets were set & a few fish caught
today.

Tuesday, May 28th. Cold wintry
weather & blowing hard from the NW
nevertheless Musquetoe Bay went
away to the Brandy Islands to
fetch Foxskin here to accom-
pany him inland.

Shapway, quays and Pennaitch
o. quay went across the river to ex-
amine the Nets, but got very few fish.

Wednesday May 29th. The weather
still bleak & blowing from the SW. I
went out in the forenoon, but did not
meet with any thing, several geese
were flying but it was too cold to sit
in my stand. In the afternoon the
Indian Musquetoe Bay returned with
Foxskin & Esquanimma bringing
with them 50 Geese. so that the
Sea is still navigable on Foot. At
the same time Peggy arrived with
50 Hk of Fish mostly Jack. This
reasonable supply will prevent the
necessity of killing any of the young
Cattle which otherwise must have
been done. The place being quite des-
titute of victuals. The home nets
produced but little. Peggy went
away again immediately. One of
the men shot an Eagle & Musquetoe
shot a goose.

Thursday May 30th. The weather
today was tolerably fine. At day-
break Esquanimma went back
to Brandy Island accompanied
by 2 men & dogs to bring some more
Geese from Hester's tent. The man
returned in the evening with 40 geese.
In the afternoon we made a trial
to catch some fish in the River with

a Lean Net. The bed of the river is
so stony that every now & then the
Net was getting entangled & had to
be lifted over the stones. However
we got Old Fish, namely Pickoney,
Ploats, Perch & Suckers. The last
of these are not much esteemed &
generally fall to the share of the
poor women & children, the Gyts
of the Fish are also their portion &
those of very delicate stomachs may
shudder at this such a dish, but
I am told they are the most deli-
cious part of the Fish. Carry one
about the place were assisting
at this necessary work, must
bring about 20 in number in
men, women & children. Mrs.
Ruppell & I barefooted & barelegged
worked one canoe. Mr R was in
another with some of the men,
carrying out the Net &c.

Friday May 31st All day there
was constant rain, with warmth,
which gave life and vigor to the
torpid Frogs, and their occupation
today was universal. A thousand
dissonant notes perfectly stunned
the neighbourhood. The croaking
of the Frog is well known & in some

countries ^{they} have covered the ludicrous
appellation of Dutch Nightingales. In
a wet weather their voices are in
full operation, they are then heard
with unceasing assiduity sending
forth their call & welcoming their
favorite consort. It is said no weath-
er glass can be more true than a frog
in foretelling the approaching change.

Today I was employed in the woods
procuring some sorts of trees for Mr
R who is making some Riggins or
Baskets of Birch skin for me.

The men were engaged digging in
the gardens & some seeds were sown.

In the forenoon the 2 Indians Mus-
queter Boy & Foxskin were dispatched
up the river in a canoe with goods
for the Kwasquiscow Settlement.

Saturday 1st of June. Very cold
bleak winter weather. Blowing
from the N.W. with rain sleet and
snow. The forenoon I spent in
the woods digging roots. and the
afternoon in reading, writing &c.

Sunday, June 2nd The weather
today pretty good but very cool for
the season of the year & a great con-
trast to the last Sunday. In the

forenoon Mr. M^r and family, Mr.
G^r & I all took a walk to the Sim-
mer house & spent some time there.
The after part of the day was occu-
pied with reading &c. - Peggys came
down the river with a few fish to-
day and went away again.

Monday June 3^d. This morning we
had breakfast between 5 & 6 & Mr.
W^r & Mr. S, with 5 men went
across the river in canoes to fish
with the Seaw. by the 1st draught
we got upwards of 60 fine Pickering
the next about 20. we tried at two
more places which producing
nothing we returned about noon.

The Brent Geese were flying in
clouds today & in the afternoon Mr.
Russell and Mr. Gladman went to
the marsh but got nothing. In
the mean time I was employed
breaking out a piece of ground
for a garden and collecting manure
into it. For supper we had part
of the fruits of our mornings la-
bor and a delicacy which I never
before partook of. viz Fish guts
which are really excellent and
but for prejudice would become
a great dainty. - Between 9 & 10 in
the evening a theasont was observ-

ed perching on the top of the ware-
house. I run down stairs for my gun
& fired at it, it seemed to drop but
being nearly dark it could not be found.

The weather all day proved very
good the morning was cool but the
evening was very mild & if the Frogs
are to be believed we may expect
rain, the whole neighbourhood is
swal^l in their notes so various that
I imagined the rude harmony to
proceed from Geese & Ducks and all
the inhabitants of the grove com-
bining together to form a concert
of discord, until I was informed it
was the Frogs.

Tuesday, June 4th. The Frogs it
seems fauld true. - the morning
commenced with very heavy rain
which continued the whole day, blow-
ing fresh from the East.

I amused myself all day with draw-
ing a few rough sketches of some of
the scenes in this country.

Wednesday, June 5th. All day blow-
ing a violent gale of wind from NW
and cold weather. - In the forenoon
Mr. R. went down to the marsh to shoot
geese and ducks but got none. I amused
myself at home with drawing & reading.

Thursday June 6th. This morning there was a frost & continued cold all day, blowing a strong gale from the N.W. - This unaccountable weather has again blasted all the rising vegetation and the face of nature again wears the aspect of naked winter - both the Natives & Europeans say, they never saw such a season.

These violent gales of wind must occasion the breaking up of the Ice at Sea, and probably the fate of the ships at Annetown is by this time decided. - This forenoon I sowed a quantity of garden seeds in a spot of cleared ground in the woods.

Friday June 7th. The weather continues winterous & cold. - The sea is entirely clear of Ice as far as far as the eye can reach from here. - I should suppose the whole of this part of the Bay is now broken up.

Saturday June 8th. Late last night Peggy arrived she had been nearly upset in her canoe & had put ashore some way & walked down. 2 Men were sent up for her Fish. they weighed 16 lbs. - Early this morn-

ing Pinnatchogun, Sally and the Thapungygoos brought 36 lbs more, some of them small Surgeons & some of them large like, we dined today on Surgeons & a Jack of 10 lbs weight.

The weather much the same as for the last 3 days, but upon the whole rather milder. - I amused myself all day with Gardening merely the recreation, for I don't expect the produce will ever repay my trouble. - Today on the battle keeper going to Woody Island to look at the battle, he found a young Whale just expiring, as soon as the man returned with the tidings, the Indian women went off, skinned and dissected it, brought home the spoils on their back, and had a noble Feast.

Sunday June 9th. This morning there was a short cessation of the N.W. gale, but the breeze soon sprung up again from the same quarter the weather cold and gloomy. On looking over the Meteorological Journal, from the 13th of August last till the 8th of June, the winds stand as follows - from N.W. 116 129 days. Between N.W. & S. 89 days

between N. N. E. 74 days calm 3 days
Total 295 days

More disasters

About 5 P.M. Foxskin arrived
here, in consequence of a fatal ac-
cident he was obliged to come back.

They had got about the 6th carrying
place & he was on shore dragging the
canoe up a rapid, when the line
broke. Musquetee boy who was steer-
ing the canoe was Deceased, the
canoe floated down till it came
to the Fall, there it upset &
all the heavy commodities sunk
to the bottom - a few Bales of cloth
and Blankets drove on shore & by
means of a long pole he also got
the canoe safe to land.

Foxskin travelled part of the way down
on foot through the woods and in some
places he maderafts to float himself
down the river and over creeks. This he did
by binding pieces of drift wood together
with the roots of trees - he had no hatchet,
no apparatus wherewith to make a
fire - no food to eat, nor clothing to keep
him warm, for every thing was in the
canoe when it upset - Any one but
a Native would have perished with the
cold, but the Indians are so unacquainted
with the cold, that they will swim out of a

peculiar which one would imagine human
nature could scarcely endure.

The Deceased is the last of a large fam-
ily who have all been snatched off in
their prime either by untimely acci-
dents or by some deplorable malady.
Their parents murdered their 2 eldest
children and eat them, the Mother
the groom of Sons in their turn, made
away with the Father in his old age, and
lastly this Son & his wife hastened the
death of the old Mother. (Father) a few
weeks ago. This last event has preyed on
his mind ever since, and lately he acted
and talked in such an incoherent
manner as to indicate signs of
mental derangement. - Wickedness
always brings its own punishment.

This widow is here at present and she
seems to feel with as much sensibility
as any person would in a similar sit-
uation. She is left with 2 children
which she had by a former husband
& a brother of the last one. They were
both (he & she) two indolent, worthless
creatures.

Monday, June 10 M.R. was going
to send a canoe up the river to search
for the Indians' Body & bring down
all the goods they can find - but Fox

was so ill both in mind & body from his late hardships that he was unable to go and it was deferred till another day.

The wind today got to the South, and the weather was fine & mild. In the forenoon we fished with the team near the house & caught about 100 Sittewag besides several Suckers and one large Trout. In the afternoon I assisted in packing Furs.

Tuesday June 11th. At 5 this morning 2 Men were sent up the River in search of the lost Goods. The Indian remains so ill he could not go.

The weather all day was warm with showers of rain.

Wednesday, June 12th. Early this morning Fox and one of the Eskimoes went away in a Canoe to go to Mullis Point but the Sea had risen so close in upon the Coast that they could not proceed. The man returned but Fox when being anxious to get home his wife went forward on foot along shore. The weather during the fore part of the day was very disagreeable, but a few geese passing close over the house. Mr R was induced to go to the marsh. He got no geese but he found a Beaver which had strayed down the river walking

amongst the grass and shot it. The history of this wonderful animal is pretty well known but most accounts given of it are on some incorrect account. It is true that they build a house by the side of a river or creek, that they have dams and dams up the water, but the use of this dam is not for the convenience of walking over, but is their store of provisions for the winter, for they live on the bank and build of trees which they would be unable to procure if they did not use this precaution. Their house is erected by the side of the river or lake where their provision is, especially it is only a mound of earth covered with straw but the interior is subdivided into different apartments out of each of which there is a hole going underground to the water. There is no opening to the external air. This instinct the Beaver retains in the domestic state, always at the approach of winter they set about making a house if they are kept in a box like a dog they will block up the opening & begin making a hole through the floor. In an Indian tent they are equally solicitous to block up every opening to the external air. whenever it is

left alone it proceeds immediately to canvas the tent and place all the conveniences against the door. - shut up every chink that admits the light.

They tame very easily and will follow their master about like a dog, but are troublesome in a house from the noise they create in the night time, by collecting materials together for their above purpose. The wonder is increased not lessened on seeing the animal. its body is so heavy & clumsy and legs so short that it appears to crawl rather than walk - its feet are like hands and it uses them as such. - the hinder ones are like fins, and notwithstanding this conformation they cut down trees at a considerable distance & convey them to the water, the instruments they use for this purpose are two large foreteeth in each jaw. - their tail, which is broad, flat and scaly, is an organ of great utility, it serves as a rudder in the water - on this they carry the mud with which they build their habitations, and it they use as a towel. - The bastard of farrenous in medicine, is produced by this useful animal. - They are of a brown color & the fur is valuable.

Thursday, June 13. The weather tonight proved warm and fine and our stock of victuals here being reduced to one single goose - we were ready to avail ourselves of the first favorable opportunity to catch some fish. Accordingly immediately after breakfast, Russell, Gladman & myself with 5 men went off in a large canoe with the Sun & spent the whole day at that employment with tolerable success at 1/2 past 6 P.M. we came home pretty well prepared for a good dinner that was awaiting us, namely a Roast Beaver.

Friday, June 14th. Most excellent summer weather. - but Ice is still in sight all along the Coast.

Saturday, June 15th. About 4 in the morning 2 men were sent away in a canoe to go to Hester's tent & they did not return. - The Grass & Ducks were now entirely gone and the swamp and ponds are now solely occupied solely by the Frogs, which in number, almost exceed credibility, and the noise which they make almost drowns every other. They are every where and don't seem at all alarmed at the approach of man, many of them even continued their song.

while I struck them back with a stick. Before commencing their note, they take in a full inspiration, then keeping their mouth quite close they blow with all their force, which distends a pouch under the chin & produces a sound so loud that it can be heard to a great distance. - they continue doing this for a few minutes till all the air is exhausted, then breathing rapidly for a little while, they recruit their strength & then go through the same process again. - Though all these creatures are here comprehended under the name of Frogs, the species most numerous are Toads, and what is rather remarkable the natives are fond of these and dread the sight of a leaping Frog, which they say are always attempting to jump at their throat. - whereas in England a person would almost as soon embrace a Rattle Snake as handle a Toad & there are few who have any antipathy to the Frog. - I amused myself all forenoon with making a border of wicker work round my garden. - In the garden in the woods I met with a Woodpecker bridge which after some time I succeeded in snaring, but gave it its liberty again. - In the afternoon

I assisted to pack furs & in the evening went down to the Pond at Goose Point where there is a Muskrat house, to set some traps for these animals. -

All day the weather was warm & very sultry. - The Therm at one time was as high as 80° -

Sunday June 16. - This morning before breakfast I went to examine my Beaver traps but found none caught. I confess it was not very agreeable to my feelings to be plunging in the water among myriads of Toads, but I had courage enough to surmount every prejudice. The Men sent up the river in quest of the lost goods, returned today with the canoe and what Foxskin rescued from the water, but they found nothing more except the blanket of the deceased Indian. -

The other canoe returned from Sack Hesters with a quantity of Fish & only 49 geese. - Pennitchoquay also brought in about 40 lbs of Fish. -

All day the weather was quite sultry and terminated in a Thunder storm & a slight of heavy rain. -

Monday June 17th. All day the weather was in from sea with a thick mist, and in every respect it was a

gloomy day, for in consequence of a very trifling misunderstanding between Mr. Russell & I. both he & his wife show to be dumb and act in a very silly ridiculous manner, as I took no notice whatever of their illnature their constrained behaviour gradually wore off. - I amused myself during the day by reading, gardening and making a basket.

Tuesday, June 18th. In the early part of the morning there was rain, during the forenoon the weather moist & warm. - the wind East^{ly} and distant Thunder was heard. - In the afternoon the weather got cold. and the wind westerly.

On visiting my Beaver traps I got nothing therefore I demolished the House, which was constructed of dried grass & marsh roots rolled into balls and heaped one above another. I again set a trap that if they begin to repair their dwelling, I may happen to catch some of them. - I saw another house on a small Islet in the Pond to which I ventured and set a trap there. - These animals live on water roots and not on the bark and buds of trees like the Greater Beaver.

Wednesday, June 19th Today in the afternoon some strangers arrived, no less than two great men Capt. Showenashew & Lieut. Wappustanicum and their families from Inland, with a middling good quantity of Fur. - The Captain had landed unperceived until he fired 3 guns, the salute was returned by the same number and the Factory flag was hoisted in honour of the great man. - his flag also, tied to a pole was placed in the yard. The Captain was decently dressed in a plain coat having taken off all the tawdry ornaments & he requested that a coat quite plain might be made for him, the taste for savage finery is wearing out even among the Americans, at present their ambition seems to consist in valuable and therefore higher ornaments. a Gun. a Blue Shirt - and a Blanket. - The party of strangers consisted of Showenashew, his 2 wives Ma, heegan (a wolf) & Nitchacostawam both sisters. - a 3 sister named Pay, tau, pay, noogway, who agreed to become the wife of Wappustanicum in lieu of a late wife who has left him & a large family & gone off with his brother. There are about five

children... the whole group joined
in a general dance, and they were
soon singing... O be joyful!

Thursday, June 20th. The Indian
chief, not satisfied with having drunk
1/2 gallon of grog during the night, came
in early in the morning for more &
said he intended to be drunk all day
consequently no furs were traded.

About 10 o'clock a canoe arrived
from Nausyewicow with some furs
& other articles from that post, it
contained an Englishman, an Indian
& his family. - The Indian is a
brother to Wappustanicum & is called
Shee-sheep (a Duck). - In the af-
ternoon Mettacappo & Cannappay
wouhit arrived from the D. with
60 geese - some feathers & quills & a
few furs. - they say this is the first
day that he has been so far from
the shore as to admit of their passing.
Showenashin's favorite wife, the
Wolf, - having taken it into her head
to have a cloth gown made in the
English fashion, she was gratified in
her whims. - throwing aside her
former weeds decked herself out
in great finery, and she was so
vain of her new costume that he

awkward grimaces were quite amusing.
Every one of these women constantly
lugs about in their arms one or two
dogs so that they are not abt behind
their Eastern neighbours in folly,
in pity but some of our fantastical
European Fair were aware, when they
fix their affections on the brute crea-
tion, that they are only mimicking
savages, and approaching nearly to
state of Barbarism. - The Romanan
Squaws too even carry their ridicule
under the name of a Shippatoggy.
this elegant appendage is probably sel-
dom enriched with such precious ar-
ticles as a fine pocket handkerchief,
a smelling bottle or a love Epistle, but
its contents are equally luxurious &
infinitely more serviceable, such as
a pipe - a knife - a piece of tobacco,
the materials for lighting a fire
&c. - the Wolf had one of these bags
made of an entire Beaver skin wh^{ch}
I purchased of her with a Waistcoat;
this she presented to her huge lord
& he expressed himself highly satis-
fied. - he called me the Indian's Friend.
Wappustanicum produced the scalp
of two Eskimoes, these I wished to pur-
chase but he said he liked them too

well to part with them. I told him I liked them very much too. & as he could get more he might let me have them. he replied they were his wife and he could not live without them. so saying he put them into his bosom, however at the command of the Chief he gave me one. but kept the best to himself. The animosity between the Eskimans & the Indians is mutually implacable and they never meet but the encounter is fatal to the weaker party. the Indians in Labrador from their skill in fire arms have the complete superiority & the Eskimans are driven to the desolate barren regions in the North & to the Islands where they live by fishing. principally on Whales, Seal and seal oily food. a few years ago all the Indians round James Bay used in the summer season go an Eskimans hunting, surprise them in their retreat & butcher them without mercy. The Scalps of the slain they preserve as trophies of victory. But these inhuman expeditions are nearly now put a stop to.

There appeared to be some disturbance among the Indians during the night, but it was not serious. The Duck is a very turbulent fellow and

when he gets drunk is a dangerous companion for he bites viciously and no knife is more certain in performing excision than his fangs. The Gatesue kept shut so that we are in no way annoyed with them.

Friday, June 21st. This forenoon, the Chief & his party paid their debts & received their presents. The Captain got a Shirt. Silk Handkerchief, a coat & hat. The other hunting Indians receive merely a Shirt & coat. They also got knives, awls, needles, powder, shot in a present. besides many other things which they ask for & cannot be refused them. About noon a Pigeon Fleet of canoes came sailing up the river, with Blankets hoisted for sails. The Strangers were Jack Hester Jun^r his eldest wife Post & their interesting interesting little daughter Luit. Fox skin, his recent wife Nancy, & two of her children clean & neatly dressed. Whitefoot his wife Omissionow & 3 or 4 children. Sepans, a poor wretch & his wife, her aw, pan, quon. Pelayshen (little bird) Paw, waitcheesh his wife, & little child of theirs and a Lad called Catchayappin. as is usual on these occasions they have as much as they

choose to drink, and of course all the male part with some of the females were soon happy enough.

These Indians impudences of another unfortunate event, which befel one of the Eddy's boats crewmen who spent the winter at Rupert's house. He is supposed to have taken this the ice on Rupert's river and lost his life.

These Indians say, to use their own expression, that it is frightful to see the state of the Ice at present, so close in with the shore, and they think it will be impracticable to get to or from Kamtlon for a considerable time.

The weather today was warm, & sometimes much overcast with Thunder clouds, which at noon spread such darkness over the earth, as leads us to suppose there was a total eclipse of the sun. In the evening there was much lightning & distant thunder.

Saturday June 22^d Today the whole atmosphere is clouded with smoke it is supposed from some distant conflagration. A Thunder storm which in some countries is unattended with danger, in this frequently spreads fire and devastation over an extensive tract of country, from the lightning set-

ting fire to the woods. Early in the morning I was walking in front of the Pookades when my attention was drawn to a crowd of Indians who were all pointing to something & calling to me in their own language, at last I found it was some pheasants that were running about at the very gates, and I run in for my gun but wishing to appear very expert before such dexterous marksmen, I bungled so as to miss the pheasants, to the no small amusement of the Spectators who laughed heartily at my expense. - After breakfast 4 more canoes arrived & we have now a numerous assemblage. It is remarkable that these different tribes who are many hundred miles apart, have no communication with from one year's end to the other, and keep no regular reckoning of months and days, should be able almost invariably to meet here at the same time. The strangers landed a little way below the house & spent near 2 hours dressing themselves before they came up. - Those already here were as busy preparing for their reception, having no additional finery to put on, they smeared their faces with a little paint

to them according to their taste
gave them an uncouth hideous ap-
pearance. - All the Indians have
brought in an excellent trade. - the
last are from Rupert's House. - a canoe
of Comanchaffy, 3 wives & child
Yastawayham his 3 wives & children
Anchekeesh. - Escacheenish & 2
to numerous to particularize. -

The master at Rupert's H^c writes that
the goose hunt there has been very
unproductive, & the circumstan-
ces attending attending the death of
Robt. Mason the Eddystones Sailor,
rather mysterious, he went out it
seems on the morning of the 25th
of May without telling where he was
going & he never returned, the river
had not then broken & the ice was in
a very precarious state, so that it is
imagined he had fallen thro' & was
drowned.

In the evening I went down
to Goose pond with an intention
of bringing home my Beaver
traps, but finding a Musk Beaver
or Muskrat caught in one I reset it.

The weather keeps very warm
and agreeable. - The Ice still
very near to the shore.

Saturday, June 23^d. Early yesterday
morning 3 men were sent in a canoe
to the South for Geese. - The Naas-
quicon canoe was sent back with
Goods for that post & this morning
Forsyth was sent off with a packet to
the gates were kept shut all day &
no Indians admitted except those
who wish to abstain from drinking.
The weather all day was surprising-
ly dark, gloomy, rainy & cold.

It seems Whitefoot has paid his
addresses to the sorrowful widow
Shap, way, quango, but the saddest
creature could not bear the thoughts
she said, of taking a husband so soon
after the melancholy death of the
last one, but he renewed his suit
this evening & she gave her consent,
with great reluctance no doubt, but
she said he would always be plaguing
her if she did not.

Monday, June 24th. Today there
was no fresh arrival, but the Indians
that are here continue the duties of
Bacchus. - In the afternoon I was
sent for to see Yastawayham who
was in a Fit. - but finding it was
only a drunken fit, I did not think
it necessary to do any thing to him.

and the great man's benevolence, thought proper to give me a great deal of abuse about it both in English & Indian, as it is wrong to bear any insults from these creatures, I got him a good scolding which had the double effect of raising & silencing the one and convincing the other, for the sick man was soon after revived in fact he was relieved by throwing up the cause of his qualms. being a great conjuror he wished to attribute his speedy recovery to something supernatural. - he said he was certain it was the ghosts of the dead that had made him ill for he had thrown up a great quantity of human hair, and to appease the angry dead he went to the Burial ground with a little pot of Rum, and after using a great many unmeaning signs and Expressions understood only by the inhabitants of the other world. - he would attend obediently to what they said in reply & then appear angry with them, occasionally giving them a little Rum, till he had satisfied them he then took his leave charging them to say nothing more. The sub-

missive dead obeyed the commands of this powerful necromancer, and his astonished countrymen admired his wisdom & his power.

The weather today was cold and blowing fresh from the westward. In the evening Peggy came in with about 70 lbs of Fish some of them very large Suck.

Tuesday, June 25. In the morning I went down to Goosepond & got another Muskrat. During the day I was occupied with some writing &c. Shosenashew and Wapfustaricaw took their dahl for next year and are ready to go away. - All day it blew a fresh breeze from the South^W & the Ice is still close in with the Shore.

Wednesday, June 26. Early this morning all the Indians prepared to go away, but before the tribes parted they resolved to have a friendly glass, one followed another till they all got quite drunk and they did not go away until the evening. They sat on the beach all the time the Canoes all in readiness in the water & in the great Captain's canoe his flag was all day flying, the-

Sactory Flag being also hoisted. Snow
shoes and Prof. perstomium went up the
river. the rest went across the river to visit
their gray thunders. Soon after Tom Pipes
arrived & went across to join them.

The canoe went off for green on Satur-
day last returned this evening & Peggy
brought in some Fish. The weather
all day was warm & fine. I visited
my traps in the forenoon but got
nothing.

Thursday June 27th. In the fore part
of the day the weather was very warm
with showers of rain and Southerly
wind. but after the rain ceased it
began to blow hard from the westward
with a thick fog & became very cold.

The last of the Snow in the yard
disappeared today & not till today.

Friday, June 28. In the morning
the weather was boisterous & cold with
showers of Snow. but in the afternoon
it rather improved. I went to look
at my traps but got nothing. Plenty
of Ducks & Teal were in the Pond but
I could not get a shot at them.

Tom Pipes, his wife & child were in
about noon & went away again, in
the evening two of Yarkawayham's girls
came in for some gray, for the

Swains who left latter day & are yet out windy
blow. The Ice still appears in sight all
along the coast.

Saturday June 29th. The weather to-
day was various, a sharp frost in the
morning, blowing fresh from the South
& warm during the day, and in the evening
heavy rain. Two men were dispatched
in the morning to the Northwest to buy
grass from *Metacarpus* & *Metapericum* if
they can get to them.

Sunday, June 30th. This is the last
day for which the people at Strutton
are supplied with victuals and if they
have at all gone beyond their scanty
allowance their present prospects must
be truly awful, unless a Vespal has
scouted them from a Noose. I started
this morning to go to ^{the} top of Treason hill
(a conical mount about 3 miles off)
from the top of which the view extends
nearly to Strutton. I had been once
up by myself in the winter, but
the appearance & nature of things
are so changed now that it was though
rather unsafe to go alone, consequ-
ently a young woman called Diana
was appointed to be my guide. I
had nothing to fear from the goddess
of Chastity, & being the Genius of

Thunting also, made his company an acquisition, for I could be under no apprehension of starving even if we should be lost. however I found the road as way intricate, and the prospect from this eminence extensive & pleasing.

The state of the Sea appeared tolerably satisfactory. there is Sea Stagnation along our ice surface but I think a large repellent might force its way through amongst it, and the Wind being fair both from Home and Respects House I hope a supply will reach Scuttlon before they are reduced to absolute starvation.

To the North of the River it is one continued field of Ice reaching close in to the Shore, which prevents the Northern tribe of Indians from arriving. The weather was agreeably warm & the wading up to the knees in water & snows most of the way. I had a pleasant walk except for the Mosquitoes which were very troublesome. In the evening the boat

was returned from Metacappi's tent with the remainder of his geese & some Women belonging to the Factory.

Monday July 1st During the night heavy rain, the weather today was very warm with occasional showers &

the evening the Rain fell in torrents with Thunder & lightning. Today Mr R. had the Long Boat launched into the river & rigged in order to be sent to Scuttlon tomorrow and in the afternoon we endeavoured to get some Fish with the Seaw, to send there but we were completely unsuccessful.

In the evening 6 Indians arrived from Respects House. they say that the Ice still surrounds Scuttlon so closely that they dont think the Boat can get there. - The Gipsy Schooner which we have for some time been expecting from Respects House with the Fur & Geese from that Post, had not sailed when these Indians came away. -

These Strangers are Governor a great man. - Cooper his brother. - Quapekay. his son Shanty keesh, Kenowap and Mushaweto. -

Tuesday, July 2nd The weather today was fine with a northerly wind. In the evening Metepescum and one of his wives came in with geese, he comes very opportunely to go with the Long boat to Scuttlon for he knows the way there & is an expert hand at managing a boat.

Wednesday, July 3rd. At 7 this morning
the Long Boat sailed for Skibboom with
a favorable wind and fair prospects
but in a few hours a strong gale sprang
up from the N.W. the Indians had
just before gone away and were glad
to return. all the morning was occu-
pied in boatship. Muckawato paid
his addresses to M^{rs} Willard D^o. Sally
a girl of 14 or so but met with a refusal
for the present he promised however
to come again in the Fall & purchase
her with some Deer skins & Birch bark
Quapokay then stept forward in the
shaly of his son Shantekesh but
the mother was still deaf to the voice
of love and Quapokay who is a con-
jurer told her she should not live
long. the proposal of marriage was
next made to the young woman
Diance who also rejected it. the con-
jurer next applied to M^{rs} R.
for a niece of hers, but only met
with reproof for his presumption.

Shantekesh the unfortunate
swain, bore this neglect with the
greatest indifference, he had no
affection for any of them & he nei-
ther consulted theirs so the stub-
bornness of parents could give little

harm on either side. These unequal
alliances are generally formed at
these annual drinking meetings, the
subject is perhaps mentioned when
they are half drunk but the bargain
is seldom struck till they are just
going away & this unfortunately
is forced perhaps against her inclina-
tion into the canoe without know-
ing to whom she is given or for what
purpose. in vain she screams and
sobs & sighs or holds by her distracted
mother, she is torn away & her un-
expecting husband triumphs in her
sufferings, for some time he takes
no notice of her. by degrees she dies
up her tears & becomes reconciled to
her lot, the husband begins to con-
sult her affections & in time they
become man & wife, sometimes he
wife is tolerably affectionate, she
is always obedient if otherwise he
enforces his commands by blows, al-
tho she receives frequently unmercifully
& bears without murmuring or com-
plaint. she is affectionate to his
children because she is their mother
& constant to her husband because
she dares not be otherwise, if an In-
dian has grounds for jealousy it ge-

generally proves fatal to his rival...
As soon as girls arrive at the age of 14 they are considered marriageable but some are betrothed at the early age of 10 years. - This practice is somewhat excusable in the natives who have so great difficulty in maintaining a large family that they are glad to get rid of their daughters as soon as they can. but it becomes a shameful depravity in Europeans who too frequently imitate the Savages in this respect - and sometimes in the more disgusting one of having 2 wives... Polygamy is practiced among the natives by those of very opposite characters - the Indolent and the Industrious, and from very different motives - vanity and necessity. As a number of wives constitutes greatness the Indolent wretch who can scarcely support himself takes 2 wives to hide his defects and raise his consequence.

The Industrious man is obliged to add to his conjugal stock to enable him to pursue his occupation of hunting & fishing, for as his family increases he loses the assistance of his wife whose time is ta-

ken up with her children and as these people live in the full enjoyment of primitive liberty, they acknowledge no master and no one thinks of a servant, therefore he must take another wife to assist the first in the care of the family & help the husband to procure their subsistence. Nothing is more common than the wives of one man being all sisters. There have even been instances of a man having his own sister, a father his own daughter and a mother her own son but such cases are rare. they are held in detestation by the other Indians & their corrupt life usually terminates in the uttermost misery.

Thursday, July 4th Today the wind was from the westward with thick fog and as the long boat did not return it is probable it is probable she did not reach Struttons yesterday but when the gale came on had run for shelter to Goose Bent Island.

The Indians went off in the morning, the 2 ~~gallant~~ gallants Muckawee & Shantchee lingered behind the rest but they did muster courage to renew their courtship.

Friday July 5th. The wind today was from the Eastward with heavy and incessant rain.

Saturday, July 6th. Today the weather was such as filled every one with the greatest anxiety. It was exceedingly tempestuous and very foggy. - our fears are afloat respecting the Boat sent away on Wednesday last which has not returned. a little Vessel which has for some time been expected from Repulse House may chance to be now at Sea, if so she will inevitably be lost. - in all probability a Vessel is now on her way from Moose & she would be in a perilous situation, lastly if no supply has reached Inuitons from any of these sources, the misery there must be truly awful. - six days have now elapsed since their stock of provisions was expected to be done. Dismal as our present prospects are, we shall yet hope for the best under the guidance of an Almighty Provider who has hitherto sustained and borne us through many difficulties.

Sunday July 7th. Every thing still wears a very gloomy aspect; it was blowing fresh from the NW all forenoon with a thick fog, there was also a smart shower of snow & rain.

Monday July 8th. This morning it was frosty with frequent snow showers. the wind westerly & the weather foggy. - In the afternoon Mr R. went to set Rabbit snares (our stock of Provisions being nearly exhausted again) in returning home she got a young hare. - I also went to set snares but only made two. - Peggy came in with a very seasonable supply of Fish.

Tuesday, July 9th. Today the weather was a little warmer and more agreeable but foggy most of the Day. A good deal of Ice is to be seen all along the coast, the wind is westerly and moderate, yet the Long Boat does not put up her appearance.

Mr R. got 3 Old Hares today and several young ones. she therefore took away her snares, rather than destroy the young Brood.

Wednesday, July 10th This morning
early 2 men were dispatched in a canoe
to the southward, to make enquiries
respecting the Long Boat. The wind
continues westerly, and this morning
the Ice was close in to the mouth
of the river. - The weather being con-
warm & fine Mr. Gladman & I in
the forenoon took a walk to Beaver
Hill, to view the state of the Sea
from thence. - and in every direction
it appeared covered with Ice, so as
to preclude the possibility of a vessel
passing either to or from Struttons.

When I returned home I found a
great Northern Cedar Capt. M. Gove
and his tribe had arrived in Otta-
waes, bringing an excellent Trade.

Between 7 & 8 in the evening the
Canoe of enquiry returned with the
agreeable intelligence from Hester
that the Long Boat went from his
tent to Struttons on Friday last &
he has no doubt but she got there.

On the same day he saw the Off-
day Schooner from Rupert's House
go to Struttons bound in consequence
of the bad weather. she has plenty
Landed Geese on Board, and conse-

quently the Ship's People will not
be labouring under any scarcity
of provisions now. -

The Indians as usual Men, women
and some of the children were all
drunken in a short time, & during
the night they very quarrelsome
amongst themselves

Thursday, July 11th The prospects
begin to brighten, signs of winter

Thursday, July 11th The weather
today was quite sultry with light
breezes from the westward, but no
arrival from Struttons. - The
whole of the day was occupied in
trading with the Indians. - one
poor woman fell under my care,
who had been cruelly beaten by
a man called Cochipaton, be-
cause she would not become
his wife, she is sister to his present
wife. - another poor woman has
taken refuge in the house to a-
void being forced away with a
man she abhors, also the husband
of her sister.

Jack Hester & his son Metawes-
cum arrived, they brought me
the model of a Canoe & a sledge.

About ten the evening some
strange Indians made a smoke
on the north shore & fired guns.
2 Canoes were instantly sent across
for them. they proved to be two good
men Captain Pittababbinow,
Captain Aquasto with their
families. The whole of this tribe
come from a great distance and
as they only visit the Factory
but seldom, they are much
more wild and untractable
than those who hunt nearer
hand. - One of the party is a
very old Man, who says he can
read the prayer Book, but where
he was instructed I could not
learn. he said also that he
could write but on trying him
I found it was nonsense.

The night was extremely hot
and the Mosquitoes excessively
troublesome. - The Frogs are
yet very numerous but their
noise has in a great degree ceased.

J. M. Hudspeth.