

[51] APPENDIX, No. I.

Mr. PATRICK KENNEDY'S Journal of an Expedition undertaken by himself and several Coureurs de Bois in the year 1773,-- from Kaskaskias Village in the Illinois Country, to the Head Waters of the Illinois River.*

JULY 23, 1773. " We fet out from
 " *Kaskaskias* in fearch of a Copper
 " mine, and on the 31st reached the *Illinois*
 " River;—it is 84 miles from *Kaskaskias*.
 " The fame day we entered the *Illinois Ri-*
 " ver, which is 18 miles above that of the
 " *Missouri*. The water was fo low, and
 " the fides of the river fo full of
 " weeds, that our progrefs was much
 " interrupted, being obliged to row our
 " boat in the deep water, and ftrong
 " current. The chain of rocks, and high
 " hills which begin at the *Piafas* about
 " three miles above the *Missouri*, extend
 " to the mouth of the *Illinois* River, and
 " continue along the fouth-eastern fide of
 " the fame in an east-north east courfe.--

* N. B. This *Journal* was never printed before.

" [52] About eighteen miles up this river,
 " on the eastern fide, is a little river called
 " by the Natives *Macopin* or *White Potato*
 " River;---it is 20 yards wide, and navi-
 " gable nine miles to the hills. The
 " fhore is low on both fides;---the tim-
 " ber, *Bois Connu*, or *Paccan*, *Maple*, *Afh*,
 " *Button Wood*, &c.—The courfe of the *Il-*
 " *linois* River here, is N. N. E; the land is
 " well timbered, and covered with high
 " weeds. There are fine meadows at a
 " little diftance from the River; the banks
 " of which do not crumble away as thofe
 " of the *Missiffippi* do: we paffed numbers
 " of Iflands, fome of them between nine
 " and twelve miles in length, and three
 " miles in breadth.—The general width
 " of the River in this day's journey, was
 " about 400 yards.

" August 1, about 12 o'clock, we ftop-
 " ped at the *Piorias* wintering ground.
 " About a quarter of a mile from the Ri-
 " ver, on the eastern fide of it, is a mea-
 " dow of many miles long, and five or fix
 " miles broad. In this meadow are many
 " fmall lakes, communicating with each
 " other, and by which there are paffages

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“ [53] for small boats or canoes, and one in particular, leads to the *Illinois* River. The timber in general very tall Oaks. We met with some beautiful islands in this part of the River (48 miles from the *Mississippi*) and great plenty of Buffalo and Deer.

“ August 2, At one o'clock we passed an island called *Piere*.—A *Fleche*, or arrow stone is gotten by the Indians from a high hill on the western side of the River, near the above island;—with this stone, the natives make their gun flints, and point their arrows. Half a league above this island, on the Eastern side of it, the meadows border on the River, and continue several miles; the land is remarkably rich, and well watered with small Rivulets from the neighbouring hills. The banks of the River are high, the water clear, and at the bottom of the River are white Marl and Sand.

“ August 3, Passed the *Mine* River. It comes into the *Illinois* River on the north-western side of it, 120 miles from the *Mississippi*. It is 50 yards wide and very rapid.

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[54] “ August 4, Here the land on both sides of the *Illinois* River is low, but rises gradually.—The *Prairie*, or meadow ground on the eastern side, is at least twenty miles wide; it is fine land for tillage, or for grazing cattle, and is well watered with a number of springs. About 12 o'clock we passed the River *Sagamond*, 135 miles from the *Mississippi*. It is a River 100 yards wide, and navigable for small boats or canoes upwards of 180 miles, and about sunset, we passed the River *Demi-Quian*. It comes in on the western side of the *Illinois* River;—(165 miles from the *Mississippi*;)—is 50 yards wide, and navigable 120 miles. We encamped on the south-eastern side of the *Illinois* river, opposite to a very large savannah, belonging to, and called, the *Demi-Quian* swamp. The lands on the south-eastern side are high and thinly timbered;—but at the place of our encampment are fine meadows, extending farther than the eye can reach, and affording a delightful prospect.—The low lands on the western side of the *Illinois* River,

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“ extend so far back from it, that no
 “ [55] high grounds can be seen. Here is
 “ plenty of Buffaloe, Deer, Elk, Tur-
 “ keys, &c.

“ August 5, It rained all day, which
 “ detained us till the evening, when we
 “ embarked, and rowed till dark; in our
 “ way we passed the Lake *Demi-Quian*,
 “ 200 yards west from the river of that
 “ name; it is of a *circular figure*, six miles
 “ across, and discharges itself by a small
 “ passage, four feet deep into the *Illinois*
 “ River. This Lake is 171 miles from
 “ the *Mississippi*. The general course of
 “ the *Illinois* River varies very little; it
 “ rather however inclines to the eastward.
 “ The lands are much the same as before
 “ described, only the *Prairies* (Meadows)
 “ extend further from the river. By our
 “ reckoning, we are 177 miles from the
 “ *Mississippi*.

“ August 6, Set out early, and at 11
 “ o’clock we passed the *Sefeme-Quian* river,
 “ it is on the western side of the *Illinois*
 “ river; is 40 yards wide, and navigable 60
 “ miles; the land bordering on this river is
 “ very good. — About four o’clock we passed

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“ the river *De la March*, (on the western
 “ [56] side also of the *Illinois* river;) it is
 “ 30 yards wide, and navigable about eight
 “ or nine miles only. Though the *De la*
 “ *March* is not so long as the *Sefeme-Quian*,
 “ yet it is much handsomer. These rivers
 “ are about nine miles distant from each
 “ other. Here the land begins to rise grad-
 “ ually on the western bank. At sun-set
 “ we passed a river called *Michilimackinac*.
 “ It is on the south-eastern side of the *Illioi-*
 “ *nois* River; is 50 yards wide, navigable
 “ for about 90 miles, and has between 30
 “ and 40 small islands at its mouth; which
 “ at a distance appear like a small village.
 “ On the banks of this river is plenty of
 “ good timber, viz. *Red and white Cedar*,
 “ *Pine, Maple, Walnut, &c.* and finding
 “ some pieces of coal, I was induced
 “ to walk up the river a few miles, *tho’*
 “ *not far enough*, to reach a coal mine. In
 “ many places I also found clinkers, which
 “ inclined me to think that a coal mine, not
 “ far distant, was on fire, and I have since
 “ heard, there was.--The land is high on the
 “ eastern bank of the river, but on the
 “ western are large plains or meadows, ex-

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“ tending as far as can be seen, covered
“ [57] with fine grass. This river is 195
“ miles from the *Mississippi*.

“ August 7, The morning being very
“ foggy, and the River overgrown with
“ weeds along its sides, we could make
“ but little way. About 12 o'clock we
“ got to the old *Pioria Fort* and village on
“ the western shore of the River, and at
“ the southern end of a lake called the *Il-*
“ *linois Lake*; which is 19 miles and a half
“ in length, and three miles in breadth.
“ It has no Rocks, Shoals or perceivable
“ Current. We found the stockades of
“ this *Pioria Fort* destroyed by fire, but the
“ houses standing. The summit on which
“ the Fort stood, commands a fine prof-
“ pect of the country to the eastward, and
“ up the lake to the point, where the Ri-
“ ver comes in at the north end;— to the
“ westward are large meadows. In the lake
“ is great plenty of fish, and in particu-
“ lar, *Sturgeon*, and *Picannau*. On the
“ eastern side of the lake, about the mid-
“ dle of it, the chain of Rocks, that ex-
“ tends from the back of *Kaskaskias*, to
“ [58] *Cahokia*, *Piasa*, the mouth of the

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“ *Illinois River*, &c terminates. — The coun-
“ try to the westward, is low and very le-
“ vel, covered with Grass, Weeds,
“ Flaggs, &c. — Here is abundance of
“ Cherry, Plumb and other fruit trees.—
“ This lake is 210 miles from the *Missi-*
“ *sippi*.

“ August 8, The wind being fair we
“ made a fail of our tent, and reached the
“ upper end of the lake by fun-set; and
“ the wind continuing fair we ascended
“ the River, and about 4 o'clock passed
“ *Crows Meadows River*, which comes
“ from the eastward, and over against
“ it, on the west side, are the mea-
“ dows just mentioned, 240 miles from
“ the *Mississippi*. This River is twenty
“ yards wide, and navigable between
“ 15 and 18 miles. The land on both
“ sides of the *Illinois River*, for 27, or 30
“ miles above the lake, is generally low
“ and full of Swamps, some a mile wide,
“ bordered with fine meadows, and in
“ some places, the high land comes to
“ the River in points, or narrow necks.

[59] “ August 9, At 10 o'clock, we passed
“ the *Riviere de l'Isle de Pluye*, or *Rainy*

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“ *Island* River, on the south-east side it is
“ 15 yards wide, and navigable nine miles
“ to the rocks.—After passing this River,
“ which is 255 miles from the *Mississippi*,
“ we found the water very shallow, and
“ it was with difficulty that we got for-
“ ward, though we employed seven oars,
“ and our boat drew only three feet water.
“ The grass which grows in the interval
“ or meadow ground, between the *Illinois*
“ River and the *Rocks*, is finer than any
“ we have seen, and is thicker and higher
“ and more clear from weeds, than in any
“ of the meadows about *Kaskaskias* or Fort
“ *Chartres*. The timber is generally *Birch*,
“ *Button*, and *Paccan*.—The wind conti-
“ nuing fair, about 10 o'clock we passed
“ the *Vermillion River*, 267 miles from
“ the *Mississippi*. It is 30 yards wide, but
“ so rocky as not to be navigable.—At the
“ distance of a mile further, we arrived
“ at the little rocks, which are 60 miles
“ from the *Forks*, and 270 miles from the
“ [60] *Mississippi*.” The water being very
“ low, We could get no further with our
“ boat, and therefore we proceeded by land
“ to the *Forks*. We set out about two

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“ o'clock on the western side of the
“ River, but the grass and weeds were
“ so high, that we could make but
“ little way.

“ August 10, We crossed the high
“ land, and at ten o'clock we came to
“ the *Fox River* (or a branch of it)
“ after walking twenty-four miles. It
“ falls into the *Illinois* River, thirty miles
“ beyond the place where we left our
“ boat.—The *Fox* River is 25 yards wide,
“ and has about five feet water; its course
“ is from the westward by many windings
“ through large meadows. At three miles
“ distance, after crossing this river, we
“ fell in with the *Illinois* River again, and
“ kept along its bank; here we found a
“ path. About six o'clock we arrived,
“ after walking about 12 miles, at an old
“ encampment, fifteen miles from the
“ *Fork*. The land is stoney, and the mea-
“ dows not so good as some which we for-
“ [61] merly passed;—from hence we went
“ to an island, where several *French* traders
“ were encamp'd, but we could get no intel-
“ ligence from them about the *copper mine*
“ which we had set out in search of. At

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“ this island we hired one of the *French*
“ hunters to conduct us in a canoe to our
“ boat.

“ August 11, We set off about three
“ o'clock, and at night got within nine
“ miles of our boat. We computed it to
“ be 45 miles from the island we last de-
“ parted from, to the place where we left
“ our boat.

“ August 12, We embarked early, and
“ proceeded three miles down the *Illinois*
“ River.---On the north-western side of
“ this river is a coal *mine*, that extends
“ for half a mile along the middle of the
“ bank of the river, which is high. ---
“ On the eastern side, about half a mile
“ from it, and about the same distance be-
“ low the coal mine, are two salt ponds,
“ 100 yards in circumference, and several
“ feet in depth; the water is stagnant, and
“ of a yellowish colour; but the *French*,
“ [62] and natives make good salt from it.
“ We tasted the water, and thought it salt-
“ er than that which the French make salt
“ from, at the *saline* near *St. Genevieve*.
“ At nine o'clock we arrived at our boat.
“ From the island, where we found the

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“ *French* traders, and from whence we em-
“ barked in a canoe to go to our boat,
“ there is a considerable descent and *Ra-*
“ *pid* all the way. Here it is, that the
“ *French* settlers cut their mill stones.---
“ The land along the banks of the river is
“ much better than what we met with,
“ when we crossed the country on the 10th
“ of this month. On the high lands, and
“ particularly those on the south-eastern
“ side, there is abundance of red and white
“ Cedar, Pine trees, &c.—We embarked
“ about two o'clock, and proceeded till
“ nine at night.

“ August 13, We lay by half this day,
“ on account of wet weather.

“ August 14, Embarked early, and af-
“ ter crossing the *Illinois* lake arrived late
“ in the evening, at the *Pioria Fort*.

“ August 15, Rowed very constantly
“ [63] all day, and arrived at the *Mine Ri-*
“ *ver* in the evening.---Here I met with Mr.
“ *Janiste*, a *French* gentleman, and pre-
“ vailed on him to accompany me, in an
“ attempt up this River, to discover the
“ *Copper Mine*.