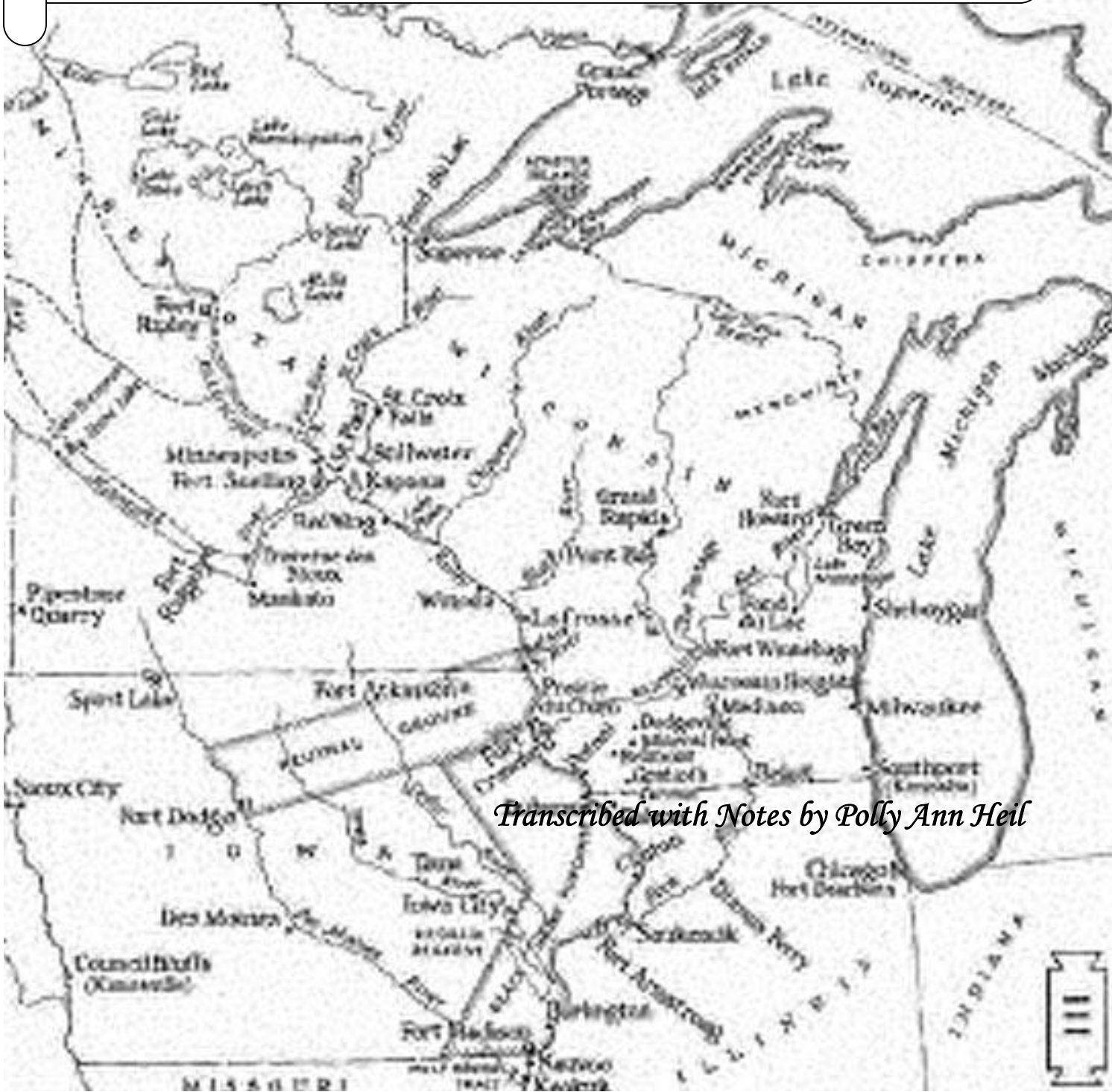


*A Journal of the Chippeway River Outfit Prairie Post
1848 – 1849
by George P. Warren, et. al.*



Transcribed with Notes by Polly Ann Heil

Acknowledgements

Cover map from www.ancestry.com, "Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota, 1832-1858."

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About This Edition

Around 1848, George P. Warren took over the Prairie Post trading post at Chippewa Falls. During the day-to-day operation of this post Warren – and others who worked with him – made entries into this journal. The entries detailed the goods traded, sold, and even loaned from the trading post as well as some of the daily activities required to keep the trading post running. This journal ended up in the private papers of Father Charles Francis Xavier Goldsmith of Chippewa Falls. These papers were eventually donated to Special Collections of the University of Wisconsin in Eau Claire – also an Area Research Center for the Wisconsin Historical Society.

In working with this edition, I decided to keep the text as close to the original as possible because the language used in the journal is rich and, in some places, quite telling. Changes in spelling and word usage also define entries that were made by other people. One assumption made in this edition is that only George and Edward made entries in the journal; however, careful handwriting analysis will probably show that more individuals were involved in keeping the records as the 1850 census shows that at least three “laborers” were living with George.

Keeping the text as close to the original as possible did pose some interesting dilemmas. For instance, George has a tendency to add an “e” to the end of many words and to use abbreviations. Maintaining all these variations in the index would have created a very unusable tool for the journal. Therefore, for indexing purposes, only the main spelling for an item is used but any alterations of that spelling are indicated in parentheses after the main entry. In addition, items that could have been sold individually are listed in the singular form to add additional consistency. In addition, to these conventions this edition maintains the original pagination and lineation to make comparisons between the original image and the transcription easier. The lines are numbered by page and any notes reference the line number *and* the specific term; these notes are kept as close as possible to the actual line of text. Definitions and notes are only offered on the first occurrence in the text. Finally, all editor’s notes are contained in [] and are italicized.

Extensive notes have been included with the account of a lynching near the end of the journal. These notes are offered to allow the reader to quickly compare changing accounts of the events that led up to and followed the lynching.

1 Private Journal of Chippeway River Outfit - of 1848
2 to 1849
3 Prairie Poste. C.R.
4 G.P. Warren
5 August 2 1848

¹ *Chippeway* - accepted spelling of "Chippewa" at the time. Even the 1850 census records the name of both the city and the county as "Chippeway."

³ C.R. - Chippewa River

⁵ *August 2* - There is no explanation in the journal for the difference between this date and the first entry on August 23rd.

1 August 23rd
 2 La Garde started from here with La Martin this morning
 3 for Lake Superior. Late in the afternoon Belisle started
 4 from the Mill in Ermatinger's & Mishlau's boat with
 5 Louis Nolan & Joe Salkey, who I pay \$1⁰⁰ per day –
 6 Borrowed 1 Sov. \$4.90 from J.E. – & gave it to Belisle to pay
 7 to Gilbert on my private a/c. Gave Belisle 50 cents on
 8 Salkey's demand for whiskey. Arrived here + found
 9 my horse stolen out of the stable but he came back again
 in the evening.

10
 11 24th
 12 Took inventory of Goods &c in the store as it is this
 13 day –
 14 Sold - 1 fine comb - 4 / - - 2 tin pans damaged + new - @5/-
 15
 16 27
 17 Gave an indian Credit - powder 1 lb. 3 small bars
 18 bars leade for \$1.50 & gave him 3 flints + 2 or 3 inches
 19 scarlet
 20
 21 30th
 22 Gave to Joe Cadotte 1 bar lead on a/c - opened 1 Bble
 23 pork for use of the house.
 24
 25 31st
 26 Took out of store - for self - look in private a/c -
 27 Sold to Md. Belisle 4 yds ribbon #3 & 4 @ 2/ - - charge
 28 her to 4/ - pd me 4/ - cash-. Boat arrived from the
 29 lake with cargo of 8 lbs flour 8 bbls whiskey 4 bags
 30 shot 4 bags corn - ½ box tobacco - 1 tea - Belisle
 31 gave me for whiskey + pork sold on the way
 32 (5f) + 50. \$1.50 book to the blotter for hands of boat
 33 accounts gave to Louis Nolan 50¢

³ *Belisle* - Based on research in the 1850 census of Chippewa County, this appears to be "Charles Belile," a Canadian-born laborer who lived nearby (p:224; l:14).
⁴ *Ermatinger* - The 1850 census also lists "James Armatinger," a Canadian-born Indian trader, living nearby. James was also George's step-father (p:221; l:18).
⁴ *Mishlau* - The 1850 census shows a "George Michlu," a Canadian-born laborer, living nearby (p: 216; l:37).
⁵ *Louis Nolan* - According to the 1850 census, "Louis Nowland" lived nearby (p:219; l:14).
⁵ *Joe Salkey* - This could be the "Joseph Selkiu" listed in the 1850 census (p:220; l:16).
⁷ *a/c* - This shorthand is used throughout to mean "account."
¹⁵ *fine comb* - a fine toothed comb.
¹⁹ *bars leade* - Lead was sold and traded in bars. These bars were melted down and poured into molds to make shot for the rifles.
²³ *Bble* - This is an abbreviation for barrel which occurs in various forms throughout this text.
²⁴ *for use of the house* - It appears that George was "renting" a house for use as a trading post. Later in the text it becomes more apparent that he is renting the house from Belisle.
³⁰ *lake* - The lake mentioned here is probably Lake Pepin.
²⁸ 2/- - The / - throughout this journal denotes dollars.
³² *sold on the way* - Belisle appears to have taken the liberty of selling goods along the way.

1 | September 1848
2 | Settled with boat hands - disbursed \$5⁰⁰ to them.
3 | got back 10¢ from Campbel as per a/c. - sent Belisle
4 | down after 1 bbl flour and whiskey to the mill -
5 | got from him (for whiskey sold) \$1⁰⁰. Got from his wife
6 | 2⁵⁰ credited to her on a/c - went above + got from mother
7 | \$2.50 + 1 thaler - credited on flour = Sold to Francois Gothier's
8 | wife - 16 ½ # pork for \$2⁰⁰ = Gave to Joe Salkey on a/c
9 | 1 pr striped pantaloons - gave Pierre
10 | 1 yd GL cloth - 4 yds ribbon - 1 dos flints - 1 # powder
11 | 6 ¼ shot - Sold to Francois Laroch on a/c 1 pr stirrup leather
12 | 8/ - - Gave John Shaffer my note (\$8⁰⁰ payable at sight
13 | for 8 days work on boat.

14 |
15 | 2
16 | Preparing to leave for La Pointe - rec'd of Belisle \$1.00
17 | for whiskey & pipes - got of him 68 rats credited to him
18 | Francois Gothier- 3 minks 27# red deer skin at 10¢
19 | gave to Cadotte on a/c to the amt of vis.
20 | 8 gal whiskey @ 8/ - = 2# powder 6 ½ shot - 1 hand saw file
21 | 1# tobacco - 1 hande threade - 6# sugar loaned
22 |
23 |

³ *Campbel* - This could be either James Campbell (p:221; l:5) or John Campbell (p:220; l:27). It is not clear from the census whether these were brothers because James was born in Scotland and John was born in Virginia. However, they were next-door neighbors and lived near George Warren.

⁶ *mother* - George Warren's mother, nee Charlotte Cadotte, by this time was married to James Ermatinger and lived nearby.

¹⁰ *GL cloth* - According to "Wool in the Fur Trade." this designation refers to the type of selvedge woven into a length of cloth. GL refers to gray list which means that the selvedge was gray no matter the color of the rest of the cloth.

¹⁷ *rats* - The rats mentioned throughout this text were probably muskrats.

¹⁸ *red deer skin* - The time of year during which a deer skin was harvested was apparent from the pigment.

²¹ *loaned* - Items are loaned out from the trading post; this was different from selling items on account.

1 November 4th 1848 continued
2 Opened the box guns + found 5 rifles in - opened the goods +
3 found all in goode order. Lent out of here to an indian
4 to him & withe. Sold 50¢ of whiskey (1 qt and ½ pt boxe
5 Paid M^cCan for hauling my stuff - cash - \$3⁰⁰
6
7 5
8 Sold to-day 1 doz pipes 4/ - - sold 8 candles on a/c
9 sold 10¢ whiskey - took inventory in store - 1 pt whiskey
10 sold it on a/c -
11
12 6th
13 Collected to-day for whiskey 38¢ - Sold to indians on a/c
14 1 rifle - 3 ½ axes - 1 pr 3pt blankets - 2 farth G.L. cloth
15 4 papers vermilion - 3 scalper knives - 1 box fur caps
16 + gave them 1 doz rifle flints + 2 Gals whiskey -
17 Gave to woman for use of the house 1 broom
18 1 box mustard - coffee. took inventory & fixed store.
19
20 7th
21 Gave to mill men 2 draws W. gave Md. Belisle (5 ea.) 1 set
22 knives + forks. gave an Indian for 2 green buck skins +
23 meat - 2 Gals. W. 2 yds green gartering - 3 yd. L. - gave him
24 on a/c 2 yds. green gartering - 2 Scotche - gave to indians
25 as a draw 1 qt whiskey. Sold to Indian for cash
26 2 comb 4/ - 1 glass 2/0 - ½# worsted 12/- whiskey
27 65¢ - gave to indians 3 gallons whiskey
28 Sold to indians on a/c Viz.
29 1 3pt Blanket - 1 rifle - 1 Bbl flour -- 3 ½ yds scarlet
30 18 yds callico - 1 ¾ yd cloth 4 cartouche knives
31 7 vermilion - 8 awls - 14 yd gartering 30 skns
32 worsted - 3 ½ doz flints - 4 tomahawks - 1 flat file
33 4 yds linsey - 2 yds flannel - 4 yds ribbon #4
34 2 horn combs - 2# powder - 1 pig 8 bars lead &
35 ¾ bbl flour gave to a small injun ½ doz brass rings

¹⁴ 3pt blanket - The value of a blanket appears to have been indicated by a point system. A 3pt blanket was 6'x4½' and weighed 3½ lbs. (Geery, p 9).

¹⁴ farth - Based on entries elsewhere, this is probably "fathom" which is a length of 6 ft. This would be equivalent to 2 yds. of fabric.

¹⁵ vermilion - a dye obtained by grinding the mineral form of mercuric sulphide.

²³ gartering - a fabric tape used to hold up stockings similar to trim used in upholstery (<http://buckconner.tripod.com>).

²⁶ worsted - yarn.

²⁹ scarlet - a bright red cloth.

³⁰ cartouche knife - a knife with an ornately carved handle which was sometimes inlaid with bone.

³³ linsey - Also known as linsey-woolsey, this fabric was made by weaving coarse wool on a cotton warp.

1 November 8th
2 Sold on a/c 1# red worsted - gave askin 3 box matches
3 " on " to the indian 1 Bb flour - 1 bar lead
4 gave to an indian 1 gall. W. - 1 2/12 doz rings
5
6 9
7 Gave Indian 3 yds ribbon #4 - lent to Francois Gothier
8 1 link stove pipe (elbow) opened 1 Bbl pork for use of the
9 house
10
11 10th
12 Gave Md. B. for use of the house 1 bar soape.
13
14 11
15 Spent to day for horses & self \$1,00
16
17 12
18 Got from indians on their credits 2 shaved deer skins
19 1 green unshaved - meat which I gave 1¼ bush potatoes
20 To Joe Cadotte Balce coming to him \$150-
21 sold to Indians on a/c 1 cartouche knife - 1 ver - 1 awl
22 3/8 scarlet - Got from Edward's adventure 110 sm rats 48 big
rats
23 12 minks 2 blue deer skins - 1 scalper - 1¢ wht thread
24 3 yds callico (1 blkt 4 farth fine cloth left him in pledge
25 on 8/0 pd gave the Blkt to Antoine Cadotte + sold him
26 on a/c 1 pr. pants. 1 hand thread - 2 yds linsey - 4 yds
27 blue gartering ½ bar soap - ½ yd cloth - bot of Allen
28 1 brass faucet of 1 quire paper 4/- - sold M. Gothier
29 2 yds GL. cloth \$5⁰⁰ 1 ¾ yds fine cloth \$7.75 - ½ # tea
30 35¢ 1 madrafs hrkf 4 candles 2/- Lent to a squaw
31 2 green skins for drefsing & and ¼ bar soape

¹⁸ *shaved deer skins* - Shaved deer skins were of much greater value to the traders than unshaved skins.

²⁰ *Balce* - balance.

²⁸ *quire* - 1/4 of a ream of paper.

³⁰ *madrafs hrkf* - probably madras handkerchief

1 November 13th
2 Sold to Trapania on account 2 cartouch knives
3 1 scalper - 1 2½ pt Blkt ½ yds Fancy list 2 yd
4 #3 - Taffetty ribbon - 1 horse candle - 2 doz pipes
5 4 skns silk thread - sold to indians for meat
6 + deer skins - 1 large tin pane - 3 vermillioux
7 1 doz gun flints - ½ # beads - 8 branches blk wanmpim
8 5 branches whit wampum 1/8 yd searlet - ½ bush
9 potatoes - 1 qt whiskey - Sold to Antoine & Edward
10 1# tea - 1 yd #4 ribbon - ¾ furniture callico
11 ¾ cottone - Lent to James Ermatinger 1 Bbl mefs
12 porke - 1 bed corde. Got of the indians to day 2 dried
13 green deer skins - 1 green blue skin - meat - bot 1 mink
14 skin 2/- lent to men 2 tomahawk pipes

15
16 14th

17 Took to a woman to have stretched & dried 5 deer skins.
18 Paid whiskey for a woman 10¢ - sold thin dress deer
19 skin 8/- men arrived from below this evening -
20 bot of Trepannia 10 bear skins sm & big

21
22 15th

23 Sold to Indians on a/c 4 tomahawks - 5/8 scarlet
24 2 vermillion - 4# sugar - gave them say 2 bush.
25 potatoes - 32 ½ galls whiskey - got of indians 3 buck
26 skins - green - 1 Fisher - meat - Sold on a/c 1 pr
27 boots - 1 pr damaged socks - ½ doz pipes - sold 1 candle
28 to self 1 pk cards - recd \$24⁰⁰ cash - sold 1 qt
29 whiskey

30
31 16th

32 Paid indians 2 ½ gall. whiskey - sold 1 pt - got of indians
33 on a/c 1 deer skin - meat - gave indian on a/c 5 qts.
34 sold to indian 2 skns worsted & beads for 1 mink and 1 green
35 skine , sold on a/c 1 muskrat cap - 6 yds flannel
36 to indians 23 gallons whiskey - 1 pwt looking glass
37 1 coarse comb - 1 fine got for W. 1.25

³ *Fancy list* - The OERD offers the following definition of "list": "a selvedge or edge of cloth, usu. of different material from the main body." From this definition, it seems apparent that this was some sort fabric with an ornamental edging (such as eyelet).

⁶ *vermillioux* - vermillion.

⁷ *wanmpim* - wampum. Beads were strung together into "branches" and were used as money.

1 | November 16th
2 | Continued - sold to indians on a/c 2 tomahawks
3 | 1 pr scarlet leggings - 6 yds gartering - 8 awls
4 | 1 tin cup - 2 vermilion - 2 doz rifle flints
5 | self started from here with man with
6 | 3½ gallons whiskey - 1 rifle
7 |
8 | 17th
9 | Edwarde started from here with La gard + Osho-gay
10 | Self got here with antoine from Derwine
11 | returns - meat dried - 12 blue skins 13 fur sinews
12 | got from the ingins on their a/c 1 blue skin
13 | 3 shaved - & got for trust - 1 buck skine 1 fisher
14 | got from Belisle for Wh 22[@] -
15 |
16 | 18
17 | Sold 1 pt wh. bot 2 brass faucets of allene @ 8/ -
18 | Edward arrived - returns big - 2 green buck skins
19 | 82 rats - 1 fisher - 1 Linx - 3 minks - 1 sm beaver
20 | buck bear, sold in trip - sold 3 skns worsted
21 | 1 horn comb 12 pr earbobs. received from LaPointe for
22 | store 1 yd blk ribbon #5 -- 10 masse x 3 ¼ ¢ 2 doz col thread
23 | 4 papers needles - gave order to Howe on the house
24 | for 1 Bbl flour
25 |
26 | 19th
27 | Recd from Osho gay \$1.50 cash by Edward
28 | sold on a/c 1 pr satinet pants - 1 callico shirt lent 1
29 | new Collins' axe - self 1 spool wht thred
30 | starche

⁵ self - George Warren

⁹ Osho-gay - Although the spelling varies, this appears to be an Indian that George Warren dealt with often.

¹¹ sinews - tendons. Sinews were used as lacing for items such as snow shoes and clothing.

1 November 20th 1848
2 Lent to Joe Gothier 7 ³/₄ gallons whiskey - 1 keg
3 1 knife - 1 pt cup & sold 1 plug tobacco - Sold 2 spools
4 white thread - 3 yds linsey - 2 yds ribbon #3
5 1 yd ribbon #4 - Gave to Horel's order 1 Bbl flour as
6 part paymente for fetching in goods from La Pointe
7 sold to indian on a/c 1 rifle - 1 paper ver & got of him 2
8 pr sinews & sold 3 brass rings - sold to indians for meat
9 5 qts whiskey - sold 3 pipes, gave an otter to La
10 Gard on Allen 12/- bot 10# butter at 2/0 sold to
11 McCan 2 pr boys brogans -
12
13 21st
14 Sold 8 mafes seed beads - 1 yd ribbon blk #5
15 solde on a/c 5# green skine + sold 8# sugar
16 sold on a/c to indians 1 vermilion - 2 tomahawks
17 gave indian say 1 ¹/₄ bush potatoes, reced to-
18 day from below the part had left by me at
19 the Eau Claire - say 19 bags corn -
20
21 22
22 Gave Antoine Cadotte 1 ¹/₄# dress deer skine as per
23 agreement - Got 6# dress deer skin from Donaldson &
24 woman drefsing skins in all say 4 skins - Sold in
25 cash 2 mafses seed beads 4/- sold on a/c
26 4# butter - 1 ¹/₄ # dress deer skin - 4 plugs Chaw tobacco
27 1 plush cap - 12 skns sowing silk - took away
28 10 yds cotton to make fly for men - sold on a/c
29 whiskey.
30 23
31 Prepared to send out the men on tramp with
32 the following articles - 4 yds ribbon #4 15 pr scarlets
33 40 sm broaches - 6 yds gartering - 1 ¹/₂ doz shirts
34 ¹/₂# seed beads - 2 wht covd looking glasses - 2 yellow glasses
35 2 cartouch knives - 3 ver. 4 horn combs
36 2 spools thread - 1 box caps - 40 hawk bells
37 12 skns worsted - 2 pks cards - 3 yds furniture
38 callico - 3 yds mimiru ac - continued

¹¹ brogans - shoes.

¹⁴ seed beads - small beads used for beadwork.

³⁶ hawk bells - small bells (similar to sleigh bells or "jingle" bells) that were used for decoration on clothing.

1 November
2 23 continued - 1 farth G.L. cloth
3 1 farth L.L. cloth 1 farth Scarlet - got of
4 James Ermatinger as balce of 1 sovereign sent
5 him down last fall - 2.10 - got of him as
6 borrowed 1 grinde stone.
7
8 24
9 Went after Hay - Nothing occured
10
11 25
12 Sold on a/c 2½ bush potatoes corn - 1 farth G.L. cloth
13 1 pr scarlet leggins - scarlet - 4 / 0 lent 95¢ cash
14 got 40 cents -
15
16 26
17 bot 3 bear skins - 8.50 - bot 1 3pt blanket \$4⁰⁰
18 gave womane 8 shaved deer skins to dry
19 spent 20 cents for W.
20
21 27
22 Got "Forne" from the olde man. sold to indians
23 for 2 blue deer skins - 1 drefs sm. say 5 qts whis-
24 key mixede - got from Belisle while I was
25 gone 67 ½ ¢ - Edward arived - & brot as returns
26 4 fisers - 12 pr sinews - cash 4/ - - 1 sm dress deer
27 skine
28
29 28
30 sent out again. Edward & Antoine - with
31 the same goods which he took out before
32 barring what he gave La Gard & might
33 have solde out before, + 5 ½ gallon mixed
34 whiskey - + \$11.50 cash - got of Chevallier
35 as payment of 41 gallon w - Belisle sold him
36 last summer - solde one box percussione
37 caps to an indian on a/c

²⁵ brot - brought.

1 | November 29th 1848.

2 | Sold ½ doz pipes 1# dress Elk skine - 1 pk cards - sold &
3 | gave say 2 qts whiskey - La gard arrived
4 | from his tripe - sold say 5 gallons whiskey
5 | skins worsted - 1 yd cloth G.L. - 1 ver. 1 doz rings
6 | 1 doz hawkbells 3 yds callico - 1 comb - & fetched
7 | as return - 1 fisher - 10 rats - 2 beaver - 1 cub bear
8 | 28 ¾ # ~~lb~~ green deer skin - got from La Sarts wife
9 | 4 pr moccasins which she made & charged on
10 | her favor - sold 2 hands blk thread - 1 bar soap
11 | & sent up for self & house 2 bars soap
12 |
13 | 30th
14 | Sold on a/c 2 bars soape - Edward arrived
15 | & fetched as returns say 1 blue deer skin - 1 fish -
16 | 2 coons - 1 rat - bears grease
17 |
18 | December
19 | 1st
20 | Paid woman for dressing 5 deerskins &
21 | stretching & drying to - say 3 yds callico @ 3/-
22 | 12# flour - 1 qt whiskey - bot of Allen
23 | 3 ½ yds bed ticking @ 4/0 - sold it to A.C.-
24 | sold to hands say 2 qts whiskey.
25 |
26 | 2^d
27 | Solde to indians on a/c - say 3 2½ pt Blankets
28 | 1 2 pt - 1 1½ pt - 1 farth G.L. cloth - 3 yds callico 1/4
29 | 2 tomahawks - 1 ind axe - 2 wht cov looking glafses
30 | ½ doz awls - 1 ½ dox flints - 3 plugs tobacco.
31 | Got of those indians - 6 martins - 3 fishers
32 | 1 minke - 5 shaved deer skins - thread.

December 1848

1
2 3^d
3 Sold - 8 yds callico at 1/6 - 1 doz hooks & eyes
4 [illegible]
5
6 4th
7 Sold on a/c 1 yd GL cloth 1# [?]
8 1 hank blle thread - 2 ind axe - 10 flints
9 [?] horn comb - sold on a/c -
10 11 yds callico [?] 14 yds callico 3/-
11 5 ½ linsey woolsey 4/- 4yds cotton -
12 2 spools col thread - 1 pr GL cloth leggins
13 1 scarlet cappechon
14
15 5
16 Sent out all hands - say 5 mene with about
17 10 gallons whiskey - sold on a/c 1 cartouch
18 knife - hired man today @ 6/ - per day -
19 gave old Iosa \$6⁰⁰ of his money -!
20
21 6
22 Sold 1 qt whiskey - got horse shod by
23 Colton & train shaft fixed - by Colton
24
25 7
26 Sold on a/c 1 yd cotton 1 yd linsey - ½ yd fine
27 cloth - 1 G.L. cloth. 3 yds blk callico 2 yds #4
28 ribbon 2 yds #3 ribbon - 1 ver. 1 scarlet
29 cappechon - lent to J.E. 2 bags corn -
30 to indian 40# flour for money
31 given by him last fall - say \$15⁰⁰
32 & 50 more to be pd hime

¹³ *cappechon* - probably Capuchin. The *OERD* defines this as "a cloak and hood formerly worn by women."

²³ *train* - "In summer, canoes and boats were used [to haul furs and goods]; in Winter, horses or oxen pulled French *traines* (box sleds) on the ice" (Rentmeester p 240).

December 1848

1
2 8
3 Lent to Trappania 358 lbs corn - in 5 bags
4 La Gard & La Sarte arrived from their tripe
5 fetching as their returns proper 25# grease
6 deer skins - 1 buck bear - 1 fisher - 1 martine
7 1 mink sack - 1 coon large - 3 small coons
8 ½ # dress deer skin - 2 pr sinews - meat &
9 bear's grease - For Edwards credits for
10 8 ½ # green skin - 1 large coon - for + by an
11 indian - 2 large coons - 1 green skin - 1 ½#
12 & 6# green skin for sm - dried - say knife 4
13 indian
14
15 9th
16 Sent out La Sarte & La Gard with - 5 gallons whiskey
17 6 yds callico 1/6 7 skns worsted 2 horn combs
18 1 wht covd looking glass - 1 yellow - ditto
19 1 doz brass rings - 2 vermilion - 1 pk cards
20 11 branches wampum blk 6 branches wht ditto
21 2 broken pr ribbon - 1 brokn gartering 1 c. knife
22 3 bars lead - sold to Indians - 1 1 ½ blkt
23 ½ yd scarlet ½ yd cloth - 36# flour - & gave him
24 1 box percussion caps - 1# sugar
25 Sold to indian on a/c 1 bag corn meal
26 50# fine flour - 1 3pt Blanket bot of [?]
27 1 ice cutter - 1# powder 3 # shot - 1 G.L. cloth
28 cappichon - 2 yd gartering - 1 tin kettle Sold
29 1 plug tobacco 7# green deer 1 skin
30 1 hank thread wht - borrowed from Allens
31 cigars - got of Colton 1 buck saw which
32 he framed for me & to he charged for
33 his a/c - lent colton my pony from
34 date -

1 | December 1848
2 | 10
3 | Colton arrived with the pony tonight
4 | nothing else occurred.
5 |
6 | 11
7 | Sold 2 bunches seed beads - 3 yd blk ribbon #5
8 | 2 dress skins - La Gard & Lasart arrived
9 | [Editor's note: illegible.]
10 |
11 | 12th
12 | Sold 5 ½ yds callico @ 1/6 - sold to indians 4 bars lead
13 | say 6# flour - 3 gal corn meal - got of indians
14 | meat 5# green skine - Edward arrived yesterday
15 | returns as follows with indian credits &c -
16 | 78# green deer skin - 20 # blue 2 martins - 4 fishers -
17 | 2 coons 2 bears - 2 pr moccassins - 1 ¾ # dress
18 | leather - 26 pr sinews - havin sold 9 gal whiskey
19 | 10 pr ear bobs - 4 skns worsted 1 pk cards 1 farth scarlet
20 | 1 farthom S.L. cloth - 1 vermillione - ½ seed beads
21 | 3 yds callico - 2 looking glasses - thread
22 | Lent J.E. 1 bay comb
23 |
24 | 13th
25 | Sold on a/c 1 pr socks white - 1 madrass hdkf -
26 | 1 yellow covered looking glass - sold 1 doz pipes
27 | fro Belisle for Trappania cash \$4⁰⁰
28 | sold on a/c 1 ½ qt whiskeys - gave to a woman
29 | to dry - 5 green deer skins & 1 pr snow
30 | shoes to lace Solde to indians on a/c 1½ pt
31 | blanket 1 farth G.L. cloth - 8 bars lead -
32 | got of same 1 sm he bear skine

²⁰ S.L. cloth - According to "Wools in the Fur Trade," the S.L. refers to save list. (This is confirmed by the inventory list at the end of the journal.) Save list meant that the selvedge was not dyed with the rest of the cloth.

1 | 14
2 | Edward went run with foll 1 3pt Blkt 1 farth G.L. cloth
3 | 1 farth Scarlet - 2 looking glasses ver. &
4 | 2 prs ribbon - 1 shirt - 5 skns worsted 8 branches
5 | blk wampum - 11 branches wht to - 5 gal. whiskey
6 | La Garde went out as follows - 6 gallons whiskey
7 | 6 yds calico - 7 skns worsted - 2 horn combs
8 | 2 looking glasses - 2 ver. - 1 doz rings 1 pk cards
9 | 11 branches blk wampum - 6 branches wht
10 | 2 ps ribbon broken- 1 broken gartering - 1 cartouch
11 | knife - 3 bars lead

12 |
13 | 15
14 | Sold 1 horse train (the oldest & largeste \$7.50

15 |
16 | 16
17 | Sold to indian on a/c 12 ½ blkt - 1# powder
18 | 3 bars lead 10 flints - (14) gave indian according
19 | to promise 6 gallons whiskey

20 |
21 | 17th
22 | Sold on a/c - 3 bars soap - 2 gallons whiskey
23 | 1 pr blue sat pants - 2 plugs chewing tobacco
24 | 1 yd blk ribbon - 1 hank thread - 1 yd linsey
25 | ½ doz pipes - 2# candles - sold 1# candles -
26 | La Garde arrived with returns as follows - 1 coone
27 | 2 rats - 1 blue deer skine - 1 shaved Elk skine
28 | 7 shaved der skins - meat

29 |
30 | 18
31 | Sold on a/c 6 yds callico 1/6 - 5 gls whiskey
32 | to self 3 yds callico, 1 spool thread - 2 ½ yd ribbon
33 | to woman for dressing skin which she
34 | fetching 3 yds callico - 1/6 - to indians for
35 | tracking 4# sugar - 1 ver - ½ bar soap
36 | Edward got in with returns as follows
37 | 1 bear sack - 3 shaved deer skins -
38 | meat - . returned all goods as pr invoice
39 | sold 1 ½ gallons whiskey.

1		December
2		19
3	Sold on a/c 1 hank thread \$ 3 skns sowing	
4	silk - La Gard arrived with 1 she & 1 cub	
5	bear skine - sold for \$1.20 whiskey.	
6	Made out Edwards' adventure to start	
7	20# insr - viz - gallons whiskey	
8	1 farth fine cloth - 2 scarlet - 1 G.L. cloth	
9	1 save list cloth 1 3pt blanket - 1 2½ pt	
10	2 2pt - 16 skeins worsted 5 shirts	
11	3 cartouch knives - 2 scalpers - 6 Ver.	
12	5 pr ribbone broke - beads - 1 pr gar broken	
13	3 yellow looking glasses 2 white ½ doz awls	
14	8 combs - 1 pk cards - wampum - flints	
15	5 broaches pr large ear bobs 1 broyia	
16	8 box caps	
17		
18		20
19	Started Edward & mine - started my-	
20	self to the Eau clear to buy furs with	
21	cash \$102.02 -	
22		
23		21 st
24	Was Gone -	
25		
26		22
27	Arrived from the Eau Clear after	
28	fetching furs as follows & prices affixed	
29	4 foxes - \$5 - 1 fisher 12/- - 1 coon 4/-	
30	2 foxes & wolf \$2.75 - wolf & 2 mink 12/ -	
31	Bear - fox - 4 coons - 5.50 - as expenses	
32	50¢ - got on a/c - 1 coon - 1 fox - 1 wolf	

1 | January 1 1849
 2 | Edward arrived with Trapania's furs - 1 buck
 3 | bear - 3 cubs - 6 martins - 1 otter - 1 coon -
 4 | sold 1 broome - 1 pr blk ribbone #5 - pipes
 5 | on a/c 18# candles - 3 yds callico @ 1/6 -
 6 |
 7 | 2
 8 | Gave indiane on credit 8 gallons whiskey
 9 |
 10 | 3
 11 | Sold on a/c 1 brick cloth G.L. 2 gallons whis-
 12 | key - borrowed of Trucky 1 bbl corn in ears
 13 | to return to him 1 ½ bush shelled - sold to
 14 | Allene on a/c 6# dress skins @ 10/- 2 ½#
 15 | @ 1.50 - to off & discharged La Gard to him
 16 | \$15.71 - pkd up deer skins weight
 17 | & & put in the loft furs viz - 1 shaved
 18 | elk skine - 2 blue skins - 220# shaved deer skin
 19 | 4 buck bears - 2 she - 5 cubs - in the loft
 20 | 17 martins - 2 minks - 13 fishers - 5 otters
 21 | 1 lynx - 1 small beaver - 8# dress skine
 22 | 2 wolfs
 23 |
 24 | 4
 25 | Sold 3 plugs 4/- - 1 shaved buck skine weight
 26 | 4# - lent 1# candles - discharged at his
 27 | request Antoin Cadotte - 11 pr moccasins
 28 | in the store this date -
 29 |
 30 | 5
 31 | Sold 1 crambo horn comb - Sold on a/c
 32 | 6 yd callico @ 2/6 - 1 bar soape

1 | January 1849
2 | 6
3 | Got of indians on a/c 2 buck bears
4 | 3 deer skins - got 8 skins dryed which
5 | were sent up to be dressed & which I pd
6 | for 12 ¼ yds callico @ 1/6- 3 yds ditto 2/-
7 | 1 ¾ @ 2/6- 1 bar soap - say 2 bush po-
8 | tatoes - sold on a/c to indians - 3 Brogins
9 | 2 ver - 1 scalping knife - 3 yds callico @ 1/6
10 | 1 ½ yd @ 2/6 - 6 bars lead - 1 ½ qt whiskey
11 | sold 14 rings 2/- Paid out to Francois
12 | Gothier for use of his cattle 3 days \$3.75
13 |
14 | - 7 -
15 | Sold on a/c to Allene 8# dress deer skine
16 | to one of his men 2# @ 12/ - Got of hime 1 bbl
17 | S.F. flour - Sold on a/c to McCann 1 ¾# dress
18 | deer skine - 1 venison hame - sold on a/c
19 | 1 doz pipes - 15 yds ribbon #3 - bot on a/c
20 | 2 good wolf skins 1 damaged - hired horse
21 | for to day 95¢
22 |
23 | 8
24 | Sold deer skine for 12 - 1 hickory shirt 8/-
25 | say 15# flour - ½ bush potatoes - say 4 o5#
26 | porke - got 2 lynx skins - 1# dress skine
27 | sold on a/c 22 blk wampume - 11 bran
28 | ches white wampume - 1 tine cupe - took
29 | downe with me \$70,15 -
30 |
31 | *Handwriting changes at this point*
32 |
33 | 9
34 | Day fine & weather moderate
35 | George making preparations to go down
36 | to the Lake. Finally got off about 2 or 3 o'clock
37 | sold to amt of Forty cts for liquor

⁹ *scalping knife* - "These scalpers are of the simplest pattern possible-a generally straight or very slightly curved blade 6 or 7 inches long, fairly straight and unsharpened on the top, ending in a point from which the sharpened bottom edge begins and runs along the bottom back to the grip, making a curved edge suitable for skinning and slicing. The grip is a single piece of wood split with a saw for two-thirds of its length. The short tang of the knife blade was shoved into this split and fastened by two or three rivets inserted into holes drilled from side to side. With a minimum of machine polishing, the knife was completed and ready for sale" (*Oregon*).

1 | January 10th
2 | The day fine & weather moderate
3 | Spent the day in putting things in order
4 | Disturbed by the Gothiers coming down
5 | on their way to the Lake. Sold to amt of
6 | 1.78 for liquor. Broken Arm arrived with
7 | Amonse's pack which consisted of 22 lbs
8 | green deer skin & $\frac{3}{4}$ dressed.
9 |
10 | 11th
11 | The day cold & windy. Spent the day in
12 | working about the house
13 | An Indian arrived here with $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs
14 | dress skin. Gave a part for what # he owed
15 | & pd him for the others.
16 | Sold dress skin for 18/-
17 |
18 | 12
19 | I left here to go above. Did not get
20 | any farther than Ermatinger's from
21 | which place I had to go to Brunetts
22 | in order to see an Ind. I did not get
23 | back till the 3rd day.
24 |
25 | 15
26 | The day cold & windy nothing of any
27 | consequence occurred
28 |
29 | 16
30 | The day cold & windy
31 | Sold Liquor for 4/- pipes 4/-
32 |
33 | 17
34 | The day fine & frosty. Indians arrived who I
35 | gave a few potatoes & 2 qts liquor.
36 | Some of Wolfs band arrived & brot news
37 | that the Wof's youngest son was shot accidentally
38 | on the 16
39 | Hired a man to chop wood at 4/- a cord
40 | & board

January 18 1849

The day clear & frosty. Started with Broken Arm
to [Editor's note: illegible] camped at the mouth
of [Editor's note: illegible] river Took with us 4 gals liquor
brot back two fisher 1 otter 1 mink 4 or 5 deer
skin & about 15 lbs meat - with the balance
of our liquor. Sold to day 1 doz pipes Naturey for
2/- & 1 ¼ lbs deer skin on a/c

*Handwriting changes at this point. This appears to be George's
handwriting again.*

#20th

Arrived from Lake Pipin having started from
there with 17 bags oats 40 bush - 6 bags corne
& Bbl hard bread - 2 Bbl flour - returned to
Truckey 1 ½ bush corne - left at the Eau
Cleare 1 bbl flour - 3 bags corne - 1 bag oats.

19

Nothing occured -

21

Sold on a/c to indiane 1 farth G.L. cloth
1 Broyia - 2 pr G.L. leggins - to woman
for dressing 2 deer skins 2 gal. corne

22

Paid out \$10⁰⁰ for part of a load which I had
hired at the Lake & which load came up for
Jas. Ermatinger. for which he is to haul up
for me 2 bbls whiskey. got 3 bags of corne
from him as corne returned which he had borrowed
from me.

23

Went above to the old man's & during my
absence Belisle sold dress deer skin
pipes to the amt of \$1,15 which he gave
me - sold to him on a/c 1 crambo horn
comb 1 bar soap - sold on a/c to
a squaw 1 tin cup 2 awls - 1 spool thread

1 | January - 1849
2 | 24
3 | Sold to indiane for a fisher skin say 30#
4 | flour - gave to indians \$1⁰⁰ of flour & corne say
5 | 2 qts whiskey - sold to indians on a/c 1 sm.
6 | blkt coat - sold 30# flour @ 6 - whiskey 4/-
7 | to man for shoping 5 1/2 cords wood - 2/5-
8 | " for dressing skins \$2.50
9 |
10 | 25
11 | Sold to Belisle on a/c 2 dress deer skins 2#
12 | 1 pk cards - 4/- 1 plug chewing tobacco 2/
13 | whiskey 50¢ candle 6# - Sold to indians
14 | a cloth coat for 2 otters which he had
15 | pd before
16 |
17 | 26
18 | Sold 1 pk cards - 1/2 doz pipes Sold to indians
19 | on a/c 1 tomohawk pipe - 4 3/4 gallon whiskey
20 | got of Indian 7 1/2 half dress deer skins - 1 Lynx
21 | 1 sm fisher - 10 no 1 rats - 39 no. 2 rats -
22 |
23 | *[Editor's Note: The handwriting in the journal changes at this*
24 | *point.]*
25 |
26 | 27
27 | George got off at about 10 o'clock
28 | Sold to Inds on a/c 1 coat \$12,00 1 farth cloth
29 | at \$5.00 2 Braies 2,00 piece scarlett 1,00
30 | ribbon 1,00. 3 gals liquor & 1 ice cutter
31 |
32 | 28
33 | Sold to Ind on a/c 1 1/2 gal liquor - Sold for cash
34 | 1 pack cards & liquor for 2/ - . Sent
35 | off the dutch man - In the afternoon
36 | O-Sho-ga arrived & had with him 211 Rats
37 | of different qualities 1 mink 1 martin
38 | 1 fisher 2 summer Lynx & 13 deer
39 | skins. Filled for him 17 gal keg
40 | & 1 3 gal Do in which I took out of
41 | a new Bbl 7 gals.

²⁹ Braies - male undergarments.

⁴⁰ Do - This appears in other inventory and similar records of the time and seems to mean "ditto."

January 29

1
2 Sold to Ind for 8 qts liquor one otter &
3 30 rats & to an other on a/c 1 pr scarlett
4 leggins - Liquor for cash 12 ½ cts
5 Sodl to Oshaga on a/c 1 pr scarlett 5 qts liquor
6 7 lbs pork 25 lbs flour. He is to be here in
7 12 days from date. Hired Antione on
8 his former terms with the exception of
9 giving him a deer skin

10
11 30

12 Broken Arm brot with him for 3 gals liquor
13 12 lbs shaved deer skin 1 red fox 3 mink
14 & 5 rats & brot also on an Indians a/c 4 ½ lbs
15 unsmoked skin 2 lbs smoked & 1 fisher
16 Bundeled up 3 lbs dressed skin to send
17 to LaPointe. Gave an Ind 50 lbs fine flour
18 which was due him. Took it out of one of
19 James Bbls. Received from William 2
20 Bbls whiskey & \$2,00 for liquor he sold going
21 up. Received of LaNosh 2 bags corn & 1 bag oats which he
22 brot up from Truckeys. Sold 2 packs cards
23 & liquor for 2/ -

24
25 31

26 Gave 3 yds callico to Ind woman for dressing 2
27 skins. Went up the River & got 2 fishers &
28 2 lbs. beaver

29
30 February 1

31 Sold to Allen on a/c 25 pr sinews & to Inds
32 7 ¼ yds cloth 1 yd scarlett cloth 8 lbs shot
33 23 gals corn 24 lbs flour 40 pork 11 yds ribbon
34 6 yds callico. Sold for Liquor & cloves 4/ -
35 Belisle arrived with him 2 cross foxes 4 Red no. 2
36 2 wolfs no 1 1 no 2

February 2nd

1
2 Bot one string bells of Ind for one bush corn
3 Paid out to Belisle \$6⁰⁰ for expenses coming up
4 from the Lake. Sold for liquor 33 cts.
5
6 3rd
7 Nothing of any importance occurred
8 Sold 1 pack cards for 4/ – Liquor for 65 c & for a/c 75¢
9
10 4
11 Returned to Donaldson 3 lbs dressed
12 skin which had been borrowed last fall
13 Bot a Fisher skin from & Received 4 or 5 deer
14 skins from Inds on a/c
15
16 5
17 Sold to Belisle 1 pr pants & to Inds on a/c 1 piece
18 cloth 3 pr leggins 9 yds callico 4 lbs shot 1 bus
19 corn 5 gals whiskey. Sold liquor for cash to
20 cost of 1,80
21
22 6
23 Sold on a/c to Inds 5 gals liquor. Received of Inds in
24 deer skins 2,00 & gave to them on a/c 3 plugs of tob 1 pr
25 spears one looking glass & ribbon for 1,50
26 Sold for cash meat 4/ – & deer skin 2/ –
27
28 7
29 nothing occurred worth noting
30
31 8
32 Cold & very windy. nothing worth noting
33
34 9
35 Opened a Bbl pork. Belile stated for the Lake.
36
37 10th
38 Sold ½ doz pipes 20¢ & on a/c one doz. Sold
39 also one a/c 16 lbs flour 6 lbs pork
40
41 11
42 Received 8 pr shoes which I had got made. Sold on a/c
43 1 deer skin one mirror & 2 pr mocisins & lent
44 one Bbl S Fine flour gave one deer skin to be made
45] into shoes. Sold liquor for 1⁰⁰

February 12

1
2 Received of Colton 3 sacks corn in place for
3 which trip Trapaniau had borrowed. Received 4/ -
4 for a/cs. Oshoga arrived.

5
6 13
7 Sold to Inds on a/c $\frac{3}{4}$ Bbl flour 1 pr leggins
8 4 yds callico 1 knife 10 yds Ribbon.
9 Oshoga gone down the River on a
10 visit.

11
12 14
13 Cold windy day. Bot of Allen wood screws &
14 2 gimblets for 12/ -. Pd to Blk smith 4/ - for
15 Repairing a gun lock

¹⁴ *gimblets* - "gimlets." A gimlet is "a small tool with a screw tip for boring holes" (OERD).

16
17 15
18 Went up the River. Not anything occured
19 worth noting

20
21 16
22 Bot of Inds a lot of venison for liquor
23 & one fisher for callico. Sent old
24 Broken Arm away. Received of Oshoga
25 60cts. Trains arrived from below

26
27 17
28 Sold on a/c 4 gals liquor to Ind. Taped a new Bbl for
29 him. Sold for cash one pack cards & liquor for
30 2/ -. Paid out to Bellile 1,00 - 4/ - for what he had
31 given on his way down to the lake to have a horse
32 collar repaired.

²⁸ *Taped* - "tapped."

33
34 19
35 Sold to Henry Bailly 1 bag oats 2 bush
36 @ 75¢ - gave him his father's note to
37 La Gard -

February 1849

1
2 20
3 Went to Brunet & got his "Train de glesá"
4
5 21
6 Got back from above went downe to get a
7 pair of harnnes fixed - geting the cains & lug-
8 pins put one - harnnes borrowed from
9 Francois Gothier
10
11 22 & 23
12 Prepared & started men to take Oshogay
13 tonight to "red cedar Lake amt of
14 outfit look in bill & for items -
15
16 24
17 Started the train for Oshogay
18 Sold on a/c to indiane - 1 bush corn -
19 3 ½ # shot - 1# powder - 1 pr cloth liggins
20
21 25
22 Sold on a/c 150 sowing needles 2 hank blk
23 thread - paid Jean Bts Cadotte
24 the balance due hime for service of last
25 fall's boating
26
27 26
28 Sold 1 am axe \$2,50 - 1 doz pipes 4/ - 4 box
29 matches 10¢ dried meat 8/ -
30 sold on a/c 1 redding comb - 1 fine comb -
31 1 yellow covd looking glass.
32
33 27
34 Solde 3 yds callico 4/ -
35
36 28
37 Got for 2 meals & 1 pt whiskey 75¢
38 Paid out to Trappania \$10.71 cash which was
39 due hime on our transactions - Sold hime
40 1 pr shears - 4/ - bot 3 martins - @ 1,50 cash -
41 sold 1 pr spring bales - sold to indians on a/c
42 ½ pr 2pt blks - got of him on a/c 1 fisher - 1 wolf

³ *Train de glesá* - Though the spelling is quite intentional here, George may have meant "train de glissa" as "glissa" is a French form of glide. Interpreted in this way makes this item the same as the trains mentioned elsewhere in the journal.

³⁰ *redding comb* - a wide-toothed comb used for detangling.

1 | April 1849
2 | 18
3 | Arrived here from my trip above with Antoine.

1
2 B.W. Brisbois Esqn
3 Sir

4 When I wrote you from
5 Lake Pipine I was in hopes that the next time
6 I would finde more subjects to write upon – Well
7 so I have, subject enough – On my arrival
8 at the Mill I received the news of my
9 brother's death. I hurried up to go & see the old folks
10 & my sister. In place of the welcome greetings I was
11 accoustomed to meet on my arivals, this time was
12 nought but bitter weeping through the whole establish-
13 ment. My brother was shot through the heart
14 by the accidental discharge of a gunne on
15 Saturday – I arrived at the Mill Sunday evening
16 I got up at the old man's place several hours
17 after they had burried hime –
18 On my arival at Lake Pipine I received the news
19 of the mill folks having hung an indiane for
20 stabbing a mane – as near as I can learn the
21 facts, they are these. Marchal (the man stabled)
22 was attempting to take "Half Thigh's" (the indian)
23 wife by force which fetched on a fight between
24 Marshal & "Half Thigh" where upon Half Thigh
25 stabled or rather cut Marshal two or three
26 times on the back. On his feeling cut
27 Marshal ran to a house where there
28 were some persons gambling & by his
29 groans & gesticulations made them believe
30 that he was on the point of death
31 The men inthe room then put after the Indiane & caught
32 hime – tied hime, & kept him in a shop till
33 morning. After they had got hime in the house
34 they proceeded to beating the Indian & in fact
35 out his head very bad by him with boots

⁹ *brother* – The brother George refers to here is Edward, the same brother who worked at the trading post and probably wrote some of the entries in this journal.

⁹ *old folks* – James Ermatinger and Charlotte Cadotte Warren Ermatinger, George's parents.

¹⁹ *hung an indiane* – Little seems to have been published about this incident; however, the following accounts provide a glimpse of changing attitudes. First a lengthy account, originally published in the 1890s.

On the 4th of July, 1849, a party from the saloon, who had been drinking freely, among them Martial Caznobia, went to the wigwam of an Indian, and attempting to take liberties with his squaw, was repelled by the husband's driving a knife to the hilt into his body. He was taken to the Hurley House and was supposed to be dying. As it was Sunday morning, a large crowd congregated. Some one yelled, "Let us hang the d----d Indian." A rush was made for his place, a rope was brought, he was taken out and hanged to the limb of a pine tree. Mr. Allen remonstrated with all his power against the outrage, well knowing that the very existence of the settlement was thus placed in jeopardy. The news spread instantly, and 1,500 enraged Indians came down upon the place, resolved to burn it, unless the murderers should be turned over to them. The exertions of George P. Warren, a Chippewa interpreter, and James Ermatinger, and their confidence in and respect of Mr. and Mrs. Allen alone prevented the execution of the threat, and after an explanation that no wrong was intended against the Chippewa nation, that it was the result of fire-water, the chiefs

1 he was kicked so by "Joe LaBoone".
2 In the morning nothing would satisfy them
3 short of hanging the indiane. this was
4 proposed & came into effect. Mainly by 4
5 persons. They carried him to the grave
6 yard Allen not being willing to have
7 them hang him in his shop as they were
8 going to do. & there hung him, without any
9 show or pretence whatever of a trial - There they
10 left him hang for several hours & in fact
11 they killed hime by inches. They tied him so tight
12 the night that they had him in the house
13 that the flesh & skin of his wrist over-
14 laped & covered the cord with which he was
15 tied. Marshal, I understand, is now
16 perfectly well. He having been more scared than
17 hurt the night that he was cut when they brot
18 the indian in the house, he got up & was going
19 to pound the indiane & in the
20 morning eat as hearty as ever -
21 There were four men ~~concerned in~~
22 ~~old blooded murder~~ perpetrators of this
23 cold blooded murder. & such as have no
24 responsibility whatever as they
have placed themselves now they are
25 dangerous for I firmly believe they
26 would not scruple to shoot a man down
27 to get out of their scrape. They it seems
28 have threatened to come upon my step -
29 father & myself in case the Indians
30 should attempt to retaliate
31 as persons having influence
32 among indians. I have my doubts whether
33 I out to move above or not. If the civil
34 authorities do not take notice of that act

concluded that they would be satisfied if the ringleaders should be arrested and tried according to our laws. Time Inlgar and the others were accordingly placed on a boat and sent to Prairie du Chien for trial. Eight braves volunteered as an escort. On reaching the vicinity of the Sioux, the fear of their hereditary enemies seized them, notwithstanding their late treaty of peace, and they returned. The prisoners kept on and never reported in person again on the river. Caznobia recovered and made no unnecessary delay in relieving the village of this presence. (*History* 195)

The following description was published in 1976.

Tension between the races was fairly constant, and from time to time violence broke out. On July 4, 1849, several lumberjacks left their holiday celebration in a Chippewa Falls saloon for some fun at a nearby wigwam. When one of them Martial Caznobia, attempted to take liberties with a Chippewa woman, her husband drove him off with a knife, inflicting a supposedly fatal wound (Caznobia recovered from it). A mob of whites hanged the Indian to the limb of a pine tree. More than a thousand of his fellow tribesman then descended upon the town and threatened to burn it unless the killers were turned over to them. Finally the chiefs agreed to let the mob leaders be punished according to the white man's law. Three men were arrested and put on a boat to be sent to Prairie du Chien for trial. They escaped on the way. (*Current* 154)

Finally, in 1978, the following item was published.

The state's first lynching of record had a Chippewa Indian as its victim. The event took place at Chippewa Falls; the date, usually given as July 4, 1849, is more probably June 24 that year. The Indian's name is not known, but he was lynched for having knifed Martial Caznobia, a French-Canadian logger who had attempted to assault an Indian woman, perhaps the lynch victim's wife. A large number of Chippewa, angry at the white lynchers, soon gathered at the settlement, and more bloodshed was averted by sending three or four ringleaders to Prairie du Chien for trial. They went

1 I have not the least doubt that the Indians
2 will retaliate for they look upon the subject
3 as a national affair & innocent person
4 will be more apt to suffer either in person
5 or in property as the perpetrators
6 of the deede will take good care to stow
7 themselves in safe places. In fact about a
8 week ago there was an attempt on the part
9 of the indians to kill a man an old
10 Yankie - My father was lectured on the
11 subject pretty severly by an old chief -
12 Now Sir, I do note consider myself & outfit
13 safe as long as those fellows are at large
14 & I am at loss what to do - to move above
15 & be among the indians, will be as bad
16 for if the indians should take it into
17 their heads to kill any one, these cut -
18 throats will just as likely retaliate one
19 as not. in fact, they have been heard
20 to shove any man who would
21 express his opinion against their pro-
22 ceedings Now is there no way of punishing
23 these fellows by Law. for if they are
24 note, there certainly will be some murder
25 committed or property destroyed either by our or the
26 other party -
27 The Indians are almost all gone over
28 to Lake Superior - I am afraid that
29 they will not make any ride of any
30 consequence -
31 Will you please to send me in addition
32 of the list made out 1 bx
33 pipe - 1 soap - 2 bottles Pheonix buttons
34 2 balsam Wild Cherry. ~~and also Sloan's~~
35 ~~ointment & powder~~

unpunished, however, because no
one testified against them. Caznobia
recovered and left Chippewa Falls.
(Holzheuter 5)

1 | *[Editor's Note: The following minutes appear written in pencil on*
2 | *the back of the preceding letter. The original is relatively clear but*
3 | *does not seem to reproduce well.]*
4 |
5 | Proceedings or a council held here - July 24 1849
6 | in regards to the hanging of an indian at C. Mills
7 | Capt Rims & Mr. Allen having being requested by the 3
8 | chiefs to appear & explain the cause of the hanging
9 | the indiane -
10 | 1 explanation by Mr. Ermatinger - partaken by
11 | Allen - Capa Rims, McCan -
12 | Speak from Little Chief - to Mr. Allen - viz
13 |
14 | I demand
15 | these four men from you as those men were
16 | allowed by you and yours to kill My young man
17 | deliver those men to me now -
18 | If my young man had done you wrong
19 | I should not hesitate to deliver them to you. interpreted by G.
20 | Warren
21 | Ans - by Mr. Allen - Interpreted by
22 | Allen's curbau[?] & Mr. Ermatinger -
23 | Speech by 3 chiefs - G W
24 | There's no law - I have waited long enough
25 | for your law to act - therefore I will persede
26 | My law - blood for blood.
27 | Speech from Capt Rims - AC, JE
28 | Friends - I am ignorant - but I have but
29 | one law - a law which I was borne with
30 | - the law of nature - retaliation - it is just
31 | it is equally 2 sided - you are wise - there is
32 | nothing escapes your wisdom - you now
33 | talk to me about law? Where was your
34 | law when you hung me - or is your
35 | law only one-sided -
36 | Akawan -
37 | *[signature illegible]*

1		May 16 th 1849	
2		Goods returned by Oshoga	
3	2 prs save list cloth		1 yd G.L. cloth
4	1# scarlett		1 3pt Blanket
5	2 2½ pt Blanket		3 lbs worsted (asst)
6	33 ¾ yds callico		6 cartouch knives
7	2 scalper knives		5 yds ribbon
8	2 ½ yd Ribbon		2 scissors
9	2 hand saw files		8 awls
10	2 fire steels		5 ivory combs
11	2 shaving boxes		4 horn Do
12	2 pewter looking glasses		1 zink Do
13	19 strings Blk wanpum		25 strings white Do
14	49 ear bobs (small)		2 hands w thread
15	2 Rolls gartering		2 papers spices
16	1 scarlet cloth coat garnish with Ribbon		
17	8 Hawk bells		29 thimbels
18			
19		By Furs brot by Oshoga	
20	x 519 Rats spring		x 7 fall Do
21	1 lb Beaver		x 1 Lynx
22	x 5 Coons		x 2 Red foxes
23	20 minx		x 6 otter
24	1 fisher	x 1 Hill Bear	
25	He broth 1 Bear skin & 1 otter on Georges a/c		
26	7 lbs. green deer skin 4 [?] cacked sugar 293# goods		

²⁶ *cacked* - caked.

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