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HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

SECTION B

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(Saskatchewan)

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A Diurnal Account of the Trans- actions and Occurrences at Carlton House, by James Bird

Commencing Oct. 9. 1797 } Inclusive
Ending May 31 1798 }



1797
Oct. 9

Monday a light Breeze & clear weather
At 7 A.M. M^r. Tomison with twelve Men
in three Canoes embarked for Buckingham House
Three Men getting ready to go on hunting, one
Man employed opening packages & the other three
(who arrived yesterday) resting themselves.

10

Tuesday a fresh Breeze & S.E. clear weather
Sent three Men with Guns on hunting & the rest
employed felling logs for a Cook Wood. Four Men
in one Canoe loaded with trading Goods arrived
from Cumberland House.

1797

Oct.

11

Wednesday Wind and Weather as yesterday

The Men who arrived yesterday settling themselves
the rest employed as before

12

Thursday a light Breeze NW clear weather

All hands at the House employed building a
Cook Room; the three Men who went away on
Tuesday arrived with the flesh of two Cow Buffals
and returned to their Post.

13

Friday a light Breeze S.W. clear fine weather

Men employed as yesterday. - Six Men arrived
from Cumberland House (in a light canoe) to
winter here

14

Saturday a fresh Breeze E.N.E. clear weather

The Men who arrived yesterday settling themselves
the rest employed as before.

15

Sunday a fresh Breeze NW. Cloudy weather

16

Monday a fresh Breeze N.E. clear weather

1797

Oct.

17

Sent six Men to get wood for canoes and loads
and the rest employed building a Cook Room.

Tuesday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Men employ the same.

18

Wednesday a light Breeze S.W. clear weather

Men employed building a Chimney in the
Cook Room



19

Thursday a light Breeze S.W. clear fine weather

Two Men sawing plank & the rest employed
plastering the Cook Room. - Three Men
arrived with the meat of two Bull Buffals

20

Friday Wind and Weather as before

Two of the Men who went for Canoe wood
arrived with a few Splinters; the rest employed
as before

21

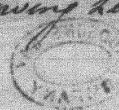
Saturday a fresh Gale NW. Cloudy weather
with rain.

1797
Oct

The two Men who arrived yesterday returned with
Provisions to their Post; two Men employed
repairing the path down the Bank and the rest
as before

22

Sunday a light Breeze N. & cloudy weather
At 9 A.M. Mr. Hop with three Men in one canoe
arrived from Cumberland House & delivered me
the following letter, dated



Cumberland House 15 Oct. 1797

D. S.

I am under the necessity of sending
three Men in one Canoe for a few necessary
Articles of Trading Goods as sh^d. list inclosed; which
I hope you will send if you can conveniently
spare them. — I wish you would dispatch them
as quick as possible, Wishing you health, plenty
and a good Trade, I remain D^r. Sir

Your obedient
humble Servant
C. Fidler.

1797
Oct. 23

Monday a light Breeze S. & clear fine weather
Two Men employed laying a Floor in the Cook
room and the rest employed cutting fire wood
Two Indians arrived with a few Beaver
skins.

24

Tuesday a fresh Breeze N. & cloudy weather
Men employed as yesterday. The Indians
yesterday traded and went away.



25

Wednesday light Air S. & cloudy weather
Early A.M. Mr. Hop and Men embarked for
Cumberland House. Men at the House employ-
ed as yesterday. Three Men arrived with a canoe
load of Timbers & Splinters, for Provisions & returned
to their Post.

Copy of a Letter sent to Mr. Fidler

D. S.

I have sent you what we could
possibly spare of the different Articles you
requested, as sh^d. Account inclosed; and am
very

1797

Oct.

very its not in my power to supply you with a
little dried provisions. — Wishing you a
pleasant winter I remain, Sir

Your humble servant
James Bird

26 Thursday a fresh Gale N.W. cloudy cold weather
with showers of snow.

One Man employed making a Dow for the
Lock Room, Two Men making Coots and the rest
cutting fire wood

27 Friday a fresh Gale N.W. cloudy cold weather
Men at the House employed as yesterday; those
who were getting Canoe wood arrived, having
taken nearly sufficient for five Canoes

28 Saturday light Air N.W. clear sharp weather
Four Men employed moving cabins and
the rest as yesterday. — A good deal of Ice driving
in the River

1797

Oct. 29

Sunday a light Breeze S.W. cloudy weather

30 Monday a light Breeze S.W. clear weather
Two Men employed removing cabins, one making
a Dow for setting traps and the rest employed
cutting fire wood.

31 Tuesday Wind and weather as yesterday
Four Men employed knocking down a Chimney
and the rest as before. — Two Men arrived
from the hunting Post with the Meat of two
Bulls & one red Deer.

Nov. 1

Wednesday Wind and Weather as before
Six Men employed rebuilding a Chimney, two
taking up part of the Floor & the rest cutting
fire wood. Those who arrived yesterday went
away

2 Thursday a light Breeze N.W. cloudy weather
Two Men employed planing Boards for the
Floor and the rest building a Chimney. One
Man arrived from the hunting Post with the Meat

1797
Nov.

of a Cow Buffalo; two Indians also arrived with a few Wolves skins

3 Friday a light Breeze N.W. clear weather
Three Men laying a Floor and the rest
variously employed. — The Indians of yesterday
went away as did the man who arrived
from the hunting Tent

4 Saturday wind and Weather as yesterday
Two Men employed sawing Boards, one laying
a Floor & the rest employed finishing the Chim-
ney and sweeping the yard.

5 Sunday a light Breeze N.W. cloudy cold
Weather with heavy Snow in the evening

6 Monday a fresh Gale N.W. cloudy cold
Weather with light Snow

Two Men sawing Boards, one chopping
logs and the rest employed clearing Snow out of the

1797
Nov.

yard cutting fire wood. — Three Indians
arrived with a few Beaver skins.

7 Tuesday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy weather
Two Men sawing Boards, one chopping logs
and the rest employed cutting fire wood.

8 Wednesday a light Breeze N.W. clear sharp
Weather

Men employed as yesterday. — At 10 P.M.
the River Ice closed and at 3 P.M. a Man arri-
ved from the hunting Tent but was unable
to cross the River

9 Thursday light Air S.W. clear sharp Weather
Two Men sawing Boards, one making a Bench
one making Rep. Parapets at work for the men
& Trade; the rest employed plastering the
House

10 Friday a light Breeze N.W. clear sharp We-
Sent two Men to endeavour to find the hunting
Tent who returned in the evening without being able
to effect it; Two Men sawing Boards, one repairing

1797
November

Hede and the rest employed cutting fire wood

11 Saturday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy cold weather
with heavy snow in the evening
Men employed as yesterday

12 Sunday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy cold weather

13 Monday a light Breeze S.W. clear sharp weather
Sent one Man to look for Birch for Hede, one repairing old Hede, one making small Kegs and the rest employed clearing snow out of the yard and cutting fire wood. — A Man arrived from the hunting Trail for Men to fetch meat. — Three Indians also arrived with a few Furs.

14 Tuesday light Air N.E. cloudy cold weather
Sent five Men with the Man who arrived yesterday for meat, one repairing Hede, Taylor at work for Trade and the rest employed getting home meat killed near the House.

The Indian of yesterday traded and went away.

1797
Nov. 15

Wednesday light Air N.W. cloudy cold weather with snow

One Man employed planing Boards for a Partition two fells home Birch for Hede, one Man sweeping snow out of the yard and the rest employed cutting fire wood. — The Men who went for meat yesterday arrived.

16 Thursday a light Breeze S.W. cloudy weather
Sent five Men for meat and the rest variously employed.

17 Friday wind and weather as yesterday
Men at the House variously employed; those who went for meat yesterday arrived

18 Saturday a light Breeze S.W. cloudy sharp weather
Two Men employed sawing Birch, one making small Kegs, Taylor at work for Trade, one Man planing Boards and the rest getting fire wood. Late in the evening two Cumberland House Indians arrived carrying a few Beaver skins



1797
Nov. 19

Sunday a light Breeze N.E. cloudy weather
with light snow at times

The Cumberland House Indians went away

20

Monday light Air N.E. cloudy weather

Sent five Men for Meat, one planing Boards
Taylor at work for Trade, one Man came, one
looking for the Moose and the rest employed
cutting fire wood.

21

Tuesday wind and weather as yesterday

Men at the House employed as yesterday; those
who went for Meat yesterday arrived

22

Wednesday a fresh Breeze N.W. clear sharp weather

Sent five Men for Meat, one putting up a Partition
one making Kegs and the rest employed falling
fire wood

23

Thursday wind and weather as yesterday

Men employ the same. — Those who went for
Meat yesterday arrived

24

Friday a light Breeze N.E. cloudy weather

1797
Nov.

Men variously employed

25

Saturday wind and weather as yesterday
Men at the House variously employed; those
who went for Meat yesterday arrived

26

Sunday light Air N.E. cloudy with rain

27

Monday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy weather
Sent four Men for Meat one bending Sleds, one
Man making small Kegs, Taylor making bladders
two unwell and the rest with a Moose hauling
home fire wood.

28

Tuesday a fresh Breeze N.W. clear sharp weather

Men at the House variously employed;
those who went for Meat yesterday arrived

29

Wednesday a fresh Breeze N.W. clear sharp
weather

One ^{man} making Sleds, one making small Kegs
Taylor at work for Trade and the rest employed
falling fire wood. — An Indian Man arrived
with a few skins

1797
Nov. 30

Thursday Wind and weather as yesterday
Men employ the same. — The Indian
of yesterday traded and went away

Dec. 1

Friday light Air S. clear weather
Men variously employed

2

Saturday a fresh Breeze NW. cloudy weather
with light snow at times

Sent three Men with Dogs and sleds to fetch
home Birch sticks, Taylor at work for Pease
one Man making Kegs, two ill and the rest
employed cutting fire wood & sweeping the
yard. — A Man arrived from the hunting
Pent for Men to fetch the meat of a Cow Buffalo

3

Sunday Wind and weather as yesterday
The Man who arrived yesterday returned to
his Pent.

4

Monday light Air S. cloudy weather
Sent two Men for Meat (who arrived), one Man
making Kegs, Taylor making small boats for

1797

Dec.

for Pease, two ill, and the rest employed getting
fire wood

5

Tuesday Wind and weather as yesterday
Sent two Men for Meat (who returned), the rest
employed as before. — Three Cumberland
House Indians arrived with a few Furs.

6

Wednesday a fresh Breeze NW. cloudy warm
weather

Four Men sawing Birch for sleds and the
rest employed as before.

7

Thursday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy warm
weather

Men employed as yesterday. — The Indians
of Tuesday went away. — A Man arrived
from the hunting Pent for Men to fetch Meat

8

Friday light Air variable cloudy weather
Sent five Men with Dogs and sleds for Meat
one Man (John Clouston) to look for the Muses
(who was so unfortunate to walk across the line

1797

Dec.

of a set Gun which immediately went off, but luckily for him only two shot struck him, one of which passed thro' the calf of his leg and the other lodged against the bone of his leg, the rest employed hauling home fire wood

9 Saturday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Four Men unwell and the rest saniously employed

10 Sunday Wind and Weather as before

11 Monday Wind and Weather as before
Sent four Men for Meat, four unfit for duty, (one from a wound in his leg and the rest from violent coughs and colds) and the rest making a path to haul home fire wood through

An Indian Man arrived with a few Wilder Skins

12 Tuesday a light Breeze N.E. cloudy cold weather with light Snow.
Two Men with a Horse hauling home wood, two

1797

Dec.

clearing snow out of the yard, one making sleds & the rest at the House unfit for duty; those who went for Meat yesterday arrived. — The Indian of yesterday went away.

13 Wednesday a light Breeze N. clear sharp weather.
Sent four Men for Meat, the rest who are fit for duty variously employed.

14 Thursday Wind & Weather as yesterday
The Men who went for Meat yesterday arrived the rest as before.

15 Friday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy weather
Sent five Men for Meat, three ill, and the rest with a Horse, employed hauling home wood.

16 Saturday a fresh Gale N.E. cloudy cold weather.
The Men who went for Meat yesterday arrived the rest as before

17 Sunday a light Breeze N.E. clear sharp weather.

1797

Dec: 18

Monday Wind and Weather as yesterday
sent five Men for Meat, three ill, and the rest
employed hauling home fire Wood.

19

Tuesday Wind and Weather as before
The Men who went for Meat yesterday arrived
the rest as before.

20

Wednesday light Air N. cloudy Weather.
Sent four Men for Meat, two for making Cloths
for the Men & the rest employed hauling home
fire Wood.

21

Thursday Wind and Weather as yesterday
The Men who went for Meat arrived, the
rest as yesterday.

22

Friday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy Weather
Sent five Men for Meat, four ill, one Man
making small Kegs, one making Beds and the
rest employed cutting out a Water Hole &c.

1797

Dec: 23

Saturday light Air N. clear sharp Weather
The Men who went for Meat yesterday arrived
three Men hauling in Wood and sweeping the
yard the rest as yesterday.

24

Sunday a fresh Gale N.E. cloudy Weather
with Snow

Mr. Jordan arrived with a few Skins
which he traded and went away

25

Monday a light Breeze N. cloudy Weather
Two Cumberland House Indians arrived
from across the River with 8 B. Skins



26

Tuesday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Sent five Meat, two fetching home Horses, one
making small Kegs, three ill, and the others
felling fire Wood

27

Wednesday light Air N. clear fine Weather
Sent three with Horses to day Meat, those who
went for Meat yesterday arrived; the rest as
before.

1797
Decr 28

Thursday Wind and Weather as yesterday

One man making small Keps, one making Beds
(two ill (one from a complaint in his lungs &
the other from a violent cold) one lame & the
rest employed hauling fire Wood into the yard.

29 Friday a fresh Breeze N.E. Cloudy Weather
Sent five Men for Meat and the rest as
yesterday

30 Saturday Wind & Weather as yesterday
At 6 A.M Thomas Sabister, was found dead
in his bed, (about an hour after he had expired)
We imagine his sudden death to have been
occasioned by the bursting of an Abscess which
had formed in his lungs, as he had for some
little time past complained of a pain in his
Breast. Two Men employed making a Coffin

31 Sunday Wind & Weather as before
The Men who went for Meat arrived. — At 3 P.M.
interred the remains of the late Thomas Sabister

1798
January

Two Indians arrived for Tobacco

1 Monday light Air N.W. Cloudy rainy weather
Several South. and Stone Indians arrived
with a few Wolves skins and some dried Bannin
part of which they traded

2 Tuesday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Men employed hauling in fire Wood
The Indians trading

3 Wednesday Wind and Weather as before
Sent five Men for Meat, one Man came and
the rest employed cutting fire Wood
The Indians finished trading and went away

4 Thursday light Air N.W. Cloudy cold weather
Sent five Men for Meat who arrived, one Man
making small Keps and the rest as before

5 Friday light Air N.W. Cloudy weather
Sent five Men for Meat (who arrived) the rest
as before

1798
January 6

Saturday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Sent three Men for Meat (who returned); the rest
employed hauling in fire Wood and cleaning
the yard

7 Sunday Wind and Weather as before
An Indian Man arrived

8 Monday a fresh Breeze S.W. part clear, part
cloudy weather
Sent two Men for the Meat of a Cow Buffalo (which
they arrived with) one Man making Kegs, one
chopping Logs, one lame and the rest employed
cutting fire Wood. — The Indian of yesterday
went away.

9 Tuesday light Air S.W. part clear, part cloudy
warm weather
One Man employed making small Kegs & the
rest taking Ice into the Meat Shed.

10 Wednesday light Air S.W. clear thawing weather

1798
Jan^y

One Man employed making Kegs, Taylor at work for
Trade and the rest employed cutting fire Wood. — One
Man arrived from the hunting Tent (with the Skins
of two Bulls) for Men to fetch Meat

11 Thursday a light Breeze N. cloudy warm weather
Sent two Men with the Man that arrived yesterday
for Meat (who returned) the rest employed as before

12 Friday a light Breeze N. clear warm weather
Two Men employed sawing Boards and the
rest as before.

13 Saturday light Air variable cloudy weather
Men employed as before. — Two Cumberland
House Indians with their Families arrived.

14 Sunday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy weather
with Snow in the evening
An Indian and his Wife arrived with a few
beaver skins and a little Fat which they traded.

1798
Jan. 15

Monday a fresh Gale N.E. cloudy weather
with snow

Men employed hauling snow out of the yard
and cutting fire wood.

16 Tuesday a fresh Breeze S.N.E. cloudy weather
One man making Kegs, two sawing Boards
and the rest employed cutting fire wood.

17 Wednesday a light Breeze W. clear sharp weather
Men employed as yesterday. — The Indians
of Saturday went away, across the River

18 Thursday Wind and weather as yesterday
Men at the House employed as before. — One
man arrived from the hunting Post for Men, to
fetch meat

19 Friday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy fine weather
Sent five men with the man of yesterday for meat
the rest employed as before

1798
Jan. 20

Saturday a fresh Breeze N.W. clear sharp weather
Men at the House employed as before, those
who went for meat yesterday arrived.

21 Sunday Wind and weather as yesterday

22 Monday Wind and weather as before
Sent six men for meat and the rest employed
felling fire wood

23 Tuesday light Air N.E. clear weather
Men at the House variously employed, those
who went for meat yesterday arrived

24 Wednesday Wind and weather as yesterday
Sent three men for meat (who arrived), one
man making snow shoe frames, one making
small Kegs and the rest employed cutting wood

25 Thursday light Air N.E. cloudy weather
Men employed as yesterday.

1798
Jan. 7 26

Friday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Men employ the same

27 Saturday light Air S. clear warm Weather
Sent two Men for Meat who arrived; the rest
employed cutting fire wood and sweeping the
yard

28 Sunday light Air N. cloudy weather

29 Monday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Sent six Men for Meat (who returned), one Man
making small Kegs and the rest employed
felling fire wood. — An Indian arrived with
a little Fat and a few Wolves.

30 Tuesday light Air S. clear warm Weather
Sent five Men for Meat (who arrived); the rest
employed felling fire wood &c. — The Indian
yesterday traded and went away

31 Wednesday light Air variable clear thawing Weather

1798
Jan. 7

Sent eight Men for Meat (who arrived); the
rest variously employed. — An Indian and
his Wife arrived with 10 Wolves and a little
Fat &c

February 1 Thursday light Air N. clear thawing Weather
Sent six Men for Meat & the rest employed
cutting fire wood. — The Indian of yesterday
traded and went away

2 Friday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Sent five Men for Meat and the rest employed
cutting fire wood

3 Saturday light Air S. cloudy warm Weather
Sent six Men for Meat, and the rest variously
employed.

4 Sunday light Air S. clear fine Weather

5 Monday light Air variable, cloudy Weather
Sent six Men for Meat (who arrived); the rest

1798

Peter

not employed cutting fire wood &c.

6

Tuesday a light Breeze N.E. cloudy weather
Sent four Men for Meat (who arrived) the rest
variously employed

7

Wednesday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy weather
Four Men sawing Birch for Skids, one Man making
Kegs, Taylor making Chiefs boats and the rest
employed cutting fire wood

8

Thursday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy weather
Men variously employed. — One Indian
arrived with a few Wolves Skins

9

Friday light Air N.W. cloudy weather
Men variously employed. — The Indians
of yesterday traded and went away

10

Saturday wind and weather as yesterday
Men variously employed

1798

Peter

11

Sunday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy weather

12

Monday a fresh Breeze N.W. clear, sharp Win.
One Man employed making small Kegs, Taylor
making Skoaths, and the rest falling fire wood.
A Man arrived from the hunting sent for
Men, to fetch Meat

13

Tuesday wind and weather as yesterday
Sent five Men for Meat (who arrived) and the rest
employed cutting fire wood

14

Wednesday wind and weather as before
Sent six Men for Meat (who returned) the rest
variously employed

15

Thursday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy weather
Sent five men for Meat, the rest variously
employed

16

Friday wind and weather as yesterday
Men at the House variously employed. — Our Hunter
and Men arrived with the sent &c.



1798

February 17

Saturday Wind and Weather as before
Men employed cutting fire wood and cleaning
the yard

18

Sunday Wind and Weather as before

19

Monday a strong Breeze N.E. with thick snow

20

Tuesday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Two Men getting ready to go to Cumberland
House, one Man making Kags, Taylor making
cloaths for the men and the rest employed
hauling snow out of the yard.

21

Wednesday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy Weather
One Man making Kags and the rest employed
putting Ice in the Meat Shed. An Indian
Man and his wife arrived with a few Wolves skins
; a Cumberland House Indian also arrived

22

Thursday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Sent two Men off for Cumberland House, the rest
employed as yesterday. — The Indian Man Skinner

1798

Feb.

who arrived yesterday went away

Copy of a letter sent to Mr. Fidler

D. Sir

By the Beavers (N. Luth and
John Clouston) who are to assist Magnus Puatt
up to this place, you will receive letters from
Messrs. Morrison and Astorland &c.

Your Indians have all been up this
way but finding no Beavers, a part of them
returned in January towards Cumberland
I have perhaps visited you in this; the rest
are on the opposite side of the River and I am
uncertain whether they intend returning to you
or not

I am sorry to inform you of the death
of Thomas Sibster which happened on the 30th of
December after a short illness. I imagine it
to have been occasioned by an Abscess having
formed in his lungs which burst & immediately
suffocated him

There are no Furs to be got here
save a few unskinned Wolves, a few of which I
intend sending you to pack with your Beavers. In
the Provision way we are more fortunate having a

1878

Feb

a tolerable Stock of all kinds. — Have sent you
a little Fatk and am sorry it's not enough
to send for a greater quantity, owing to the great
depth of snow

Wishing you a pleasant Spring
I remain

Your humble servant
James Bird.

James Bird

23

Friday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy weather
Sent two men with the Indian of Wednesday
for Furs, one making small Reps and the rest
employed cutting fire wood

24

Saturday wind and weather as yesterday
Men employ the same

25

Sunday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy weather

26

Monday a fresh Breeze N. part clear, part
cloudy weather with snow at times
One man employed making Reps and the
rest cutting fire wood

1878

Feb

27

Tuesday wind and weather as yesterday
Men employ the same

28

Wednesday wind and weather as yesterday
Men at the House employed as before, those
who went with the Indian of Friday last arrived
with 70 lbs. in Furs & some Fat & pounded
meat

March

1

Thursday a fresh Gale N. cloudy weather
Men variously employed

2

Friday a fresh Gale N. first part clear, latter
part cloudy weather
Sent two men to hunt with the Cumberland
House Indians & take care of what skins they may
kill; the rest variously employed

3

Saturday a strong Gale N.W. cloudy weather
with snow at times
Men variously employed

4

Sunday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy weather.

18798

- March 5 Monday a fresh Breeze N.E. part clear, part cloudy weather
One man employed making Kags, Taylor making Cloaths, two men sawing Wood for Canoe and the rest with a Horse hauling home fire wood.
- 6 Tuesday a light Breeze N.E. part clear, part cloudy weather
Men employed as yesterday
- 7 Wednesday a fresh Breeze N.W. clear sharp weather
Men variously employed
- 8 Thursday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy cold weather
Men employed pounding meat &c.
- 9 Friday a fresh Gale N.E. cloudy cold weather with snow.
Men employed cutting fire wood & clearing the yard.
- 10 Saturday a light Breeze N.E. clear fine weather
Men employed as yesterday

18798

- March 11 Sunday Wind and weather as yesterday
- 12 Monday Wind and weather as before
Two men looking for the Hares, one making Kags, two getting Wood ready for Canoe building Taylor making Cloaths and the rest sawing Pemmican Bay
- 13 Tuesday a fresh Gale N.W. cloudy weather with a little rain
Men variously employed. — The Men who were tenting with the Cumberland House Indians arrived with a few Beaver skins
- 14 Wednesday a fresh Breeze N.W. clear weather
Men variously employed
- 15 Thursday Wind and weather as yesterday
Sent two Men to live with the Cumberland House Indians — the rest variously employed
- 16 Friday a light Breeze S.W. cloudy weather
Men variously employed.

1798
March 17

Saturday a light Breeze & clear weather
Men variously employed

18 Sunday Wind and weather as yesterday

19 Monday a light Breeze & clear warm weather
Three Men planing wooden work for Caroes and
the rest variously employed. — Magnus Twaite
with the two Men who went off the 22^d Ult arrived
from Cumberland House, and delivered me the
following letter, dated, Cumberland House 11 March 1798

D. Sir

I received your favor the first by the
arrival of Nicholas Leitch & John Elmston. They
had a bad and tedious journey, on account of
the great depth of the snow and very rough Ice
in several places. — Magnus Twaite accompanies
them back to superintend the Caroe building at
your place

M. Moran is not returning to your
House in the Fall (As met at as short distance
from it) as particularly requested, for Ice Chirizels,
Fishes

1798
March

Fishes, Hatchets &c, and the Indians belonging to
this place coming frequently for these articles and
could not be supplied with them, they were
under the necessity of going elsewhere. — The above
want of Iron work will be the loss of great many
good skins to the Company. — The Indians
said when they come here in the Fall for Ice
Chirizels &c, that they should hunt Beavers over
this place all winter and whatever they might
kill we should have got as there is no opposition
here

M. Pop and party got froze in near 60
miles from the House in the Fall, and it was
near Christmas before we could get the Trading Jaks
hauled down here

Our Fishery has turned out worse than
usual; altho we have had 10 Nets constantly down
— At present they scarcely afford us 2 days off week
— Am happy to hear you are better off for Provisions
as we are badly off here for want of it

Wishing you health and a good Trade
I remain D. Sir

Your humble servant
D. Fidler.

1798

March 20

Tuesday a light Breeze W. clear weather
Six Men getting ready to go and look for Pith; three
who arrived yesterday resting themselves, and the
rest variously employed

21

Wednesday light Breeze S. clear fine weather
Sent off six Men to gather Pith; the rest variously
employed

22

Thursday Wind and weather as yesterday
Four Men employed planing canoe wood, two came
(one from a strain in his leg and the other from the
Rheumatism) a Taylor making bladders, one Man
looking for the Moose, & the rest variously employed

23

Friday Wind and weather as before
Men variously employed

24

Saturday a fresh Breeze W. W. clear fine weather
Men employed as before

25

Sunday Wind and weather as yesterday

26

Monday Wind Weather as before

Mun

1798

March

27

Three Men employed planing canoe wood, two
splitting wood, one looking for the Moose and the
Taylor making bladders; the other two came

Tuesday light Breeze N. W. part clear, part cloudy
warm weather

The Men who were tenting with the Greenland
land Moose Indians arrived; they met two Cana-
dians going to the Tents with liquor &c.

An Indian arrived with a little Fat which he
traded and went away

28

Wednesday a fresh Breeze N. E. cloudy cold weather
Sent the two Men back again, who arrived yesterday
with liquor &c. in case they Canadians should stop
at the Indian Tents till skins were killed; the
rest as before



29

Thursday a fresh gale N. E. cloudy cold weather
with thick snow in the evening
Men variously employed; three who went away
yesterday arrived having met the Canadians returning
home.

30

Friday a fresh gale N. E. with thick snow

Men

1798

March.

Men employed putting snow out of the yard

31st Saturday a fresh Breeze N.E. part cloudy part clear weather
Men variously employed

April 1st Sunday a light Breeze N.E. Weather as yesterday

2nd Monday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Sent two Men to fetch home the Masts, for getting Wood ready for Canoe building and the rest variously employed

3rd Tuesday Wind and Weather as before
Sent two Men away with the Masts to take care of them; the rest employed as before

4th Wednesday a fresh Gale N.E. with Snow
Men at the House variously employed; those who went for it the 2nd Oct arrived.

5th Thursday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy cold weather
The Men who arrived yesterday resting themselves the rest variously employed

1798

April

6th Friday a fresh Breeze N.W. cloudy cold weather
Men variously employed

7th Saturday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Three Men employed planing Canoe Wood and the rest cutting fine Wood

8th Sunday a light Breeze S. clear fine weather

9th Monday a fresh Breeze N.E. clear fine weather
Men variously employed

10th Tuesday a fresh Gale N.W. Weather, cloudy & clear alternately with showers of Rain
Four Men employed planing Canoe Wood & the rest making Pimmecoon. — Made 25 Bags

11th Wednesday Wind & Weather as yesterday
Men variously employed

12th Thursday a light Breeze N.E. clear weather
Men variously employed.

22

1798
April 13

Friday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Men variously employed

14 Saturday Wind & Weather as yesterday
Seven Men employed bending Canoe Timbers
the rest, cutting fire wood and sweeping the yard

15 Sunday a fresh Breeze E.S.E. clear cold weather

16 Monday a fresh Breeze E.S.E. cloudy cold weather
Six Men employed bending Canoe Timbers and
the rest falling fire wood

17 Tuesday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy cold weather
then with showers of snow
Four Men employed planing canoe wood and
the rest falling fire wood. — The River Ice made
a move, but stopt again in a few minutes

18 Wednesday a fresh Breeze E.S.E. cloudy weather
Men employed as yesterday

19 Thursday Wind & Weather as yesterday, Men
employ the same. — The River Ice moved again

1798
April

and continued to drive about half an hour then stopt

20 Friday a fresh Breeze E. cloudy weather
Men employed as before. — The River Ice
broke in the course of last night & continued
driving down.

21 Saturday Wind and Weather as yesterday
Men employed as before

22 Sunday a fresh Gale N.W. clear weather

23 Monday a fresh Gale E. cloudy weather
with rain in the afternoon

Four Men began making a canoe and the
rest employed falling fire wood.

24 Tuesday a fresh Gale E.S.E. cloudy weather
Men variously employed. — Two Men
& South P. Indians arrived with a few Wobowkins

25 Wednesday a fresh Gale E.S.E. Weather, clear &
clouds alternately

1798
April

Men employed sawing a canoe. — Two
Lumberland House Indians arrived

26 Thursday a fresh Gale N.E. part clear, part cloudy
Weather with Rain

Sent two Men with the Indians of yesterday to
fetch their Furs; the rest employed sawing a canoe
& cropping some South Indians who arrived. —
The Indians of Tuesday went away

27 Friday a light Breeze N.E. clear hot Weather

Four Men employed at a new canoe and the
rest cropping Indians, who went away. — The Men
who went away yesterday arrived with 70 B^r. Skins

28 Saturday a fresh Breeze N.E. first part
cloudy, latter part clear Weather

Four Men employed timbering a new canoe, one
unwell & the rest employed cutting fire wood &c.

29 Sunday Wind & Weather as yesterday

30 Monday a fresh Breeze S.W. clear Weather

Sent off four Men to endeavour to find the Lumberland
House Indians, the rest employed sawing a canoe &c.

1798
May

Two Indians arrived & brought 12 B^r. Skins

1 Tuesday a fresh Breeze N.E. clear Weather,

All hands employed sawing a canoe. — Two of the
Men who went away yesterday arrived, being unable
to find their way to the Indians. — The Indians of
yesterday went away.

2 Wednesday a light Breeze N.E. part clear,
part cloudy Weather.

Men employed as yesterday

3 Thursday Wind and Weather as before

Men variously employed. — Two Men who went
away on Monday last arrived with 12 B^r. Skins

4 Friday a light Breeze N.W. cloudy Weather with
Rain and Snow

Men variously employed.

5 Saturday a light Breeze S.W. part clear, part
cloudy Weather

Men employed sawing a canoe.

1798
May 6

Sunday a fresh Breeze N.E. cloudy weather

Monday a fresh Breeze N.E. part clear, part cloudy weather

Sent two Men to dig ground for Potatoes, two to the Cumberland House Indians & the rest employed making a canoe

Tuesday light air N.E. weather as yesterday

Men employed as yesterday, those who went away yesterday arrived as did the Cumberland House Indians

Wednesday wind and weather as yesterday

Two Men getting ready to go to Cumberland House and the rest variously employed.

Thursday Wind and weather as before

Sent two Men in a canoe off for Cumberland House. The Indians of Tuesday all went away in an old large canoe for Cumberland House

Friday a fresh gale N.E. clear weather

Men variously employed

1798
May 7

Copy of a letter sent to M. Gidder

Sr. Sr.

A canoe of Canadians who it is said are going to Cumberland House, but who, I imagine, intend waiting for your Indians at some of the carrying places nearest this place, occasion my sending the Bearers to accompany them in case you should have no Men so high up the River, with a little liquor Tobacco &c.

As our proportion of Woles is too great for the few Beavers we have I have sent you down an hundred, which I hope you will be able to divide among your bundles without any inconvenience

We have four canoes nearly made, but I am afraid our Birchbark is too bad, tho' sufficient in quantity to make a fifth.

I remain Sir

Your humble servant
James Bird.



1798
May 12

Saturday a fresh gale N.E. clear weather

Men variously employed

1798
May 13

Sunday a fresh gale N.W. part clear, part cloudy weather

1798
May 14

Monday a fresh Breeze NW. Weather as yesterday
Men employed dressing a canoe

15 Tuesday Wind and weather as yesterday,
Men employ the same

16 Wednesday light Air variable, sultry weather
Sent four Men in a canoe & two with Horses up
the River to meet the Canoes, one Man ill and
the rest variously employed

17 Thursday a fresh Breeze NW. part clear, part
cloudy sultry weather
Two Men employed at a canoe & the rest
tying up Furs.

18 Friday Wind & weather as yesterday
Two Men employed digging in the garden and
the rest employed pounding Meat &c. - Two of the
Men who went away on Wednesday arrived in a
Canadian Canoe; the rest remain at the entrance
of the settling River to wait the Canoes.

19 Saturday a strong Gale W. part clear, part
cloudy weather
Men employed packing Furs.

1798
May 20

20 Sunday a strong Gale NW. with Thunder and
Rain.

21 Monday a fresh Breeze NW. part clear, part
cloudy weather
Two Men employed digging in the garden
& the rest employed picking the five new Canoes

22 Tuesday a fresh Gale W. Weather as yesterday
Men variously employed.

23 Wednesday Wind and weather as yesterday
Men variously employed

24 Thursday a fresh Breeze NW. cloudy weather
Men variously employed. - Two Indians
arrived with a few Beaver Skins

25 Friday Wind and weather as before
The Men who went away on Friday last
arrived, the rest variously employed.

26 Saturday a fresh Breeze NW. cloudy weather
Men variously employed

1798
May 27

Sunday a fresh Gale M^t clear weather

28

Monday a fresh Gale S^t clear weather

Men variously employed

29

Tuesday a fresh Breeze M^t weather, clear
and cloudy alternately, with small showers of rain

At 8 h^{rs} M^r Tomison and party arrived
from Buckingham House

30

Wednesday a fresh Breeze M^t clear weather

Early A.M. M^r Tomison & party embarked
for Cumberland House. - Men employed getting
canoes & ready, to embark tomorrow.

Early A.M. William Walker ran
away to some Indians who are tenting about
20 miles off.

31

Thursday a fresh Breeze M^t cloudy weather

Early^{A.M.} sent off eight Men in four canoes for
Cumberland House & in the evening embarked
with two Men in one canoe; left Magnus Swate
in charge, & five Men with him at the House.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY					
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Reference :—

B. 24/a/3

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