

or spices. This was set down for us, & the Buffalo horns made into a kind of a spoon, which would contain about half pint, ^{to eat with.} It was laughable to look at each other fishing in the wooden bowls, & then trying to get something out of the spoon. We were here permitted to see their extreme poverty which changed the comical eating into deep felt sorrow about their wretched condition. This "feast" did not last long for another was announced, & we had to be in a hurry, to keep close to our guide, so as not ^{to} get lost in the winding streets. Here we found another dish, that is, the corn was in another form viz: pounded & made into a cake with water, & boiled in water. How tasty, or savory this was can be imagined, but eat we must, only with this difference that we had to eat with one spoon. We were heartily tired of "feasting" after we had gone to three more, when we were permitted to retire. ^{4th} to roll ourselves into our blankets, & lay on the floor amidst the Indians.

Early, we went up to take our mules to pasture, - for every thing of the kind has to be kept up during night, for fear of the Sioux - in the meantime we examined the timber near the village, where we found oak & cedar, some of it fit for building purposes, which was confined to the banks of the river, but in general there ~~was no wood~~ ^{is none worth naming} except on the islands of the Platte river.

About 8 o'clock we left for the upper Pawnee village, about 28 miles distance, up the Platte, several chiefs accompanied us.

We traveled on a high prairie, the nicest upland prairie we had seen yet, until noon, when we went down to the river, to get dinner, & to look at the place, which was recommended to us, as the most suitable for a mission & establishment on the account of the large island, abounding with timber