

**TRAVELS IN NORTH AMERICA DURING THE  
YEARS 1834, 1835, & 1836: INCLUDING A  
SUMMER RESIDENCE WITH THE PAWNEE  
TRIBE OF INDIANS, IN THE REMOTE PRAIRIES  
OF THE MISSOURI ; AND A VISIT TO CUBA  
AND THE AZORE ISLANDS, VOL. II**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649121755

Travels in North America during the years 1834, 1835, & 1836: including a summer residence with the Pawnee tribe of Indians, in the remote prairies of the Missouri ; and a visit to Cuba and the Azore Islands, Vol. II by Charles Augustus Murray

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**CHARLES AUGUSTUS MURRAY**

**TRAVELS IN NORTH AMERICA DURING THE  
YEARS 1834, 1835, & 1836: INCLUDING A  
SUMMER RESIDENCE WITH THE PAWNEE  
TRIBE OF INDIANS, IN THE REMOTE PRAIRIES  
OF THE MISSOURI ; AND A VISIT TO CUBA  
AND THE AZORE ISLANDS, VOL. II**



T R A V E L S

18

N O R T H A M E R I C A

D U R I N G

THE YEARS 1834, 1835, & 1836

I N C L U D I N G

A SUMMER RESIDENCE WITH THE PAWNEE TRIBE OF  
INDIANS, IN THE REMOTE PRAIRIES OF THE MISSOURI,  
AND A VISIT TO CUBA AND THE AZORE ISLANDS

B Y

THE HON. CHARLES AUGUSTUS MURRAY.

"Le voyageur me semble un exercice profitable: l'ame y a une continuelle  
exercice, à remarquer les choses inconnues et nouvelles; et je ne sçache  
pas meilleure escole à frequer la vie que de luy proposer incessamment la  
diversité de tant d'autres fantasies et usances, et luy faire gouter une si  
perpetuelle variété de forme de nostre nature."—*Essais de Montaigne*, liv. 3,  
chap. ix.

I N T W O V O L U M E S.

VOL. II.

NEW YORK:

HARPER & BROTHERS, 82 CLIFF STREET.

1839.



25  
1204

## CONTENTS

or

### THE SECOND VOLUME.

---

#### CHAPTER I.

The River of Snakes.—Labyrinth of Hillocks.—Unfortunate Commencement of our Journey.—Indications of a Tempest.—Preparations for passing the Night.—Awful Storm.—Prairie Wolves.—Difficulty in kindling a Fire.—Halting-place.—Exploring Excursion.—Buffalo Tracks.—Supper.—Necessity of short Allowance.—Buffalo Soup.—The Night Watch.—Precautions against being Surprised.—Meditations in the Wilderness.—Our March resumed.—A Disappointment.—Pools of Water.—Difficulty in collecting our Horses.—A Buffalo shot.—Supply of Meat.—A Party of Indians described.—Plans to be adopted in the coming Encounter.—Hostile Appearances.—The Meeting—its pacific Termination.—Comfortable Camping-place. . . . . Page 13

#### CHAPTER II.

March resumed.—Our Night Camp.—False Alarm.—Rules for Traveling in the Prairies.—Solitary Indian Traveller.—Indian Trails.—Arrival at the Banks of a large Stream.—Herds of Antelopes.—Wild Grapes and Plums.—Culinary Invention.—Watery Labyrinth.—Discovery of an Indian Trail.—Pursuit of its Course.—Loss of our Horses.—Search for and Recovery of them.—Annoyance by Mosquitoes.—Discovery of a larger Trail.—Determination to follow it.—A Jungle.—Amusing Perplexity.—Approach to the Kansas River.—Gratitude to Heaven.—Exultation of the Party.—Ruins of an Indian Village.—Fording the River.—An old Indian Camp.—Trouble in making a Fire.—My new patent Grate.—Hot Soup. . . . . 28

#### CHAPTER III.

Uncomfortable Night.—Our wretched Appearance and forlorn Costume.—Unceasing Rain.—Symptoms of Ague.—Fruitless Hunt.—Consolation in Disappointment.—Pursuit of the Northern Trail.—Lucky Discovery.—Arrival at our old Camping-place.—Diminution of our Provisions.—Forced Marches.—Pursuit of a Flock of Turkeys and

a Fawn.—A gray Badger shot and eaten.—A Thunder-storm.—Relics of our former Halting-place.—Our miserable Plight.—Grouse, or Prairie-hen.—Unsuccessful Search for Deer.—A Tangled District.—Privations.—March resumed.—Vicissitudes of Temperature.—Merriment of the younger John.—Indian Trails.—Horse-dies.—Flowers of the Prairie.—Approach to the Missouri.—Welcome Signs of Civilization.—An Amusing Difficulty.—Hospitable Reception at the Fort. . . . . Page 43

## CHAPTER IV.

Epidemic Fever and Ague.—Hospitality of Captain Hunter.—A noxious Intruder.—Visit to the Kickapoo Village.—An Indian Preacher and Prophet.—Restrictions similar to those in the Mosiac Law.—Specimen of an Indian Sermon.—Pursuit of a Bear.—Sale of my Horses.—Embark for St. Louis.—Dangerous Navigation.—Pawpaws.—Unhealthy Appearance of the Missouri Settlers.—Republican Equality.—Gambling in the Steamboat.—Officers of the United States Army.—Frequency of Duels.—Drunkenness among the common Soldiers.—Insubordination and Desertion in the Army.—Arrival at St. Louis.—Catholic Church there.—A French Artist.—Dulness at St. Louis.—Jefferson Barracks.—Old French Village.—The Arsenal.—Hospitality of the commanding Officer.—Music in the house of Mr. P., a German resident in St. Louis. . . . . 59

## CHAPTER V.

Embark on the Mississippi.—Droff Rencontre.—Subjection of Indian Tribes.—Keokuk.—Atrocious Exploit.—Passing the Rapids.—Fort des Moines.—Frequent Desertions from this Post.—River Secnery.—Fort Armstrong.—Fossil Remains.—Galena.—Lead Mines.—The Miners; their dissolute Life.—Subscription by the Irish Liberty-boys.—Lynch Law; its Origin.—Rate of Wages among the Miners.—Price of Provisions.—Hospitable Reception at Prairie du Chem.—Hunting Expedition to Turkey River.—Horrible Tragedy. . . . . 71

## CHAPTER VI.

Encampment of Winnebagoes.—Their Lodges.—Women of the Tribe.—Arrival at the Painted Rock.—March into the Interior.—Our Party reconnoitred by an Indian.—Language of the Winnebagoes.—A half-breed Interpreter.—Hunting Expedition on Turkey River.—Stratagem of our Indian Neighbours.—Bee-hunting.—A Stag bathing.—Disappointment.—Search for Deer.—A Doe shot.—Prairies and Woods set on fire by the Indians.—Critical Situation.—A Forest Conflagration.—Prairie Wolves.—Return to the Fort.—Fallacious Assertions.—Tribes in the Neighbourhood of the Fort.—An Excursion.—Ascent of a steep Bluff.—Reception in a Log-hut.—Fertile District.—Beautiful Woodland Scene. . . . . 85



## CHAPTER VII.

An English Settler.—Search for Deer.—Excursion to Dubuque.—River Platte.—Crossing the Ferry.—The Ferryman's Extortion.—Ramble among the Mountains; its Excitement.—"Awkward Slue."—Deer Feeding.—Practice in Woodcraft.—Beautiful Scene.—Dinner in the Ferryman's House.—A Western Twilight.—Arrival at Dubuque.—Company in the Bar-room of the Tavern.—Meeting with Dr. M. of the United States Army.—Our Dormitory.—Singular Dialogue.—Theft rare in the Towns on the Mississippi.—Mines near Dubuque.—Religious Service in the Town.—A Bully.—Whimsical Delusion.—Tomb of a Spanish Miner.—Mr. F., the Geologist.—Arrival at St. Louis.—Mean Extortion. . . . . Page 99

## CHAPTER VIII.

Society of St. Louis.—A Ball.—The Waltz.—Musical Accomplishments of my Hostess.—Independent Hack-driver.—Singular Character.—Leave St. Louis.—Traveling Party.—Embark in "The Far West."—Icy Obstructions in the River.—Visit to our Friends at the Arsenal.—Irish in America.—Mishaps.—Ignorant Pilot.—Mouth of the Ohio.—Shores of the Mississippi.—Mouth of the Arkansas.—Change of Climate.—Vicksburgh.—Big Black Creek.—Natchez.—Comfortable Assurance.—Miserable Road.—The Upper Town.—Public Buildings.—The Theatre.—The Audience.—The Performance.—Drunken Indians.—Leave Natchez.—Mouth of Red River.—December Scenery and Temperature.—New Orleans. . . . . 114

## CHAPTER IX.

First Appearance of New Orleans.—Lodgings.—Public Buildings.—Society.—Theatres.—Creole Ball.—Creole Beauty.—Cotton-pressing.—Motley Population.—The Battle Field.—Pont Chartrain.—Suburbs of the City.—Leave New Orleans.—Change of Climate.—A Polish Jew.—Dangerous Rocks.—The New Year.—Harbour of Havana.—Regulations on Landing.—Former and Present State of Havana.—Military Force in Cuba.—The Town of Havana.—Public Ball.—Spanish Boarding-house.—Beautiful Italian.—An Excursion.—Visit to the Governor.—Performers at the Italian Opera.—The Theatre.—The Audience.—Effective Police System.—The Garrotte.—Execution of Culprits.—Streets of Havana.—Idlers.—Manufacture of Cigars. . . . . 129

## CHAPTER X.

Tour in the Country.—Our *Cotéje*.—The Road.—Aspect of the Country.—Changes of Soil.—Equipment of Equestrian Farmers.—Singular Mode of Travelling.—Arrival at our Journey's End.—Don Dionysio Mantilla's House and Sugar Plantation.—Preparation of Sugar.—Distillation of Brandy from Molasses.—Village of Marielli.—Fine Prospect.—Friendly Reception.—Aquatic Excursion.—District of St. Marc's.—Mr. C——'s Plantation.—His Hospitality.—Coffee

Plantation.—Tenure of Property in Cuba.—Return to Havana.—Another Excursion.—Family of Montalvo.—Strange Inconsistencies.—A Cuban Dinner.—The Dessert.—Rambles in the Neighbourhood of San Ignacio.—Journey to Matanzas.—A pretty Village.—Specimens of Spanish Beauty.—Rustic Ball.—Arrival at Matanzas.—My Host.—Cure for Fever. . . . . Page 147

## CHAPTER XI.

Town of Matanzas.—Excursions on Horseback.—Fertile Valley.—Day-dreams.—Cock-fight.—Lofty Mountain—Ascent to its Summit.—Magnificent Prospect.—Forest Trees.—Trails of Runaway Negroes.—Different Tribes of African Slaves imported into Cuba.—Congo Musical Instruments.—Negro Suicide.—Return to Havana.—Mercantile Excitement produced by a sudden Rise in the Price of Sugar.—Management of a Sugar Estate in Cuba.—The Carnival.—Bull-fight.—The Italian Opera.—Fertile Plains.—Gay Scene in the Plaza de Armas.—Commerce and Statistics.—Treaty for the Abolition of Slavery.—Dinner with the Governot.—The New Prison.—Masked Balls.—Leave Havana.—Sail for Charleston.—A Storm.—Arrival in the Harbour.—Hospitable Reception.—Letters from Home. . . . . 169

## CHAPTER XII.

Charleston.—Hospitality of the Inhabitants.—The Carolinian Character.—Change in the Law of Primogeniture.—Education.—College at West Point.—Republicanism of Charleston.—Tone of Society.—Sainly Newspaper Editors.—Sail for Norfolk.—Arrival there.—A Race.—Passage from Norfolk.—American Seamen.—Night Scene on board the Steamer.—Arrival at Washington.—Debates in Congress.—Diplomatic Dinners.—General Jackson.—Mr. Van Buren.—Mediation of Great Britain between the United States and France.—Proceed to Baltimore.—Commerce of that City.—Philadelphia; its Society and Hospitality.—Route to New York.—Indian Excitement.—Threatening Aspect of Indian Affairs.—American State Militia.—Streets of New York.—Dinner given by the St. George's Society.—Races on Long Island.—Visit to a Friend's Country Seat on the Banks of the Hudson.—Return to New York. . . . . 186

## CHAPTER XIII.

Institutions and Society in the United States.—Importance of the Labouring Class.—Non-existence of Pauperism.—State of Crime.—Education.—Political Institutions of America.—Slavery in the United States.—Contradiction in the Theory of American Government.—Expedient for the gradual Extinction of Slavery.—Its Non-efficiency.—State of Religion in America.—The Voluntary System.—Religious Sects.—American Society.—Education.—Style of Oratory in Congress.—Officers of the Army and Navy.—American Ladies.—Intonation of Voice.—Academies.—Independent Manner and Opinion of American Ladies.—Marriage.—National Vanity. . . . . 199

## CHAPTER XIV.

Veracious Disappointment.—Sail for Elizabeth-town.—Proceed to Plainfields and Flemington.—Beauty of the Country.—Addition to our Party.—Journey toward the Alleghanies.—Nation of the Delawares.—The River Delaware.—Immense Forest.—A Rattlesnake.—Valley of Lackawana.—Anthracite Coal.—Valley of Wyoming.—Coal Mine.—Return to Flemington.—Purchase of Live Stock.—Embark for New York.—Gambling Excitement.—The great Racing Match.—Excursion to the West.—Stay at Newburgh.—Start for Albany.—Poughkeepsie.—Wedding Party.—Hyde Park.—Glorious Landscape.—Kinderhook.—A wet Ride.—Albany.—Dutch Church.—Falls of Cohoes.—The Patroon's House and Family.—Lake Otsego.—Hyde Hall.—Cooper's Town.—Dinner with Mr. Cooper, the celebrated Novelist.—Prosperity of the Towns between New York and Buffalo.—Terms of political Abuse.—Oneida Indians.—Canandaigua.—Journey resumed. . . . . Page 220

## CHAPTER XV.

Falls of Genesee.—Commette versus Romance.—Captain Jones.—Approach to Ithaca.—The Town.—Railroad to Owego.—The Wind-Gap.—Easton.—Patios of the District.—Episcopal Church.—Ride to Bethlehem.—A German Emigrant.—Embark for New York.—Preparations for Return to England.—Embark in "The Oxford."—Party in the Cabin.—Hill, the American Comedian.—Prosperous Voyage.—Home. . . . . 237