



camp, with spirits as much exhilarated above the common tune, as they had, the evening before, been depressed below it. Our course of travelling was south-south-west, which carried us directly up the valley. We had not, however, gone more than a mile when two bears were discovered, at no great distance, playing with each other in the grass. We were, in fact, within shooting distance, and had approached without exciting either notice or alarm. Mr. P. for a moment forgot his pains, and dismounted to take a shot at them. We each put an additional ball into our guns, and examined our priming; then taking a deliberate aim, both fired at the same moment. Neither shot took effect, or if wounded, they ran with their usual clumsiness over an adjoining hill, leaving us the satisfaction of having shot at a bear.

We now entered on a very elevated tract of land, barren in appearance, but still covered with oaks, and rising one ridge above another, until we had attained a very great elevation, and one which commanded the most extensive prospect to the north and north-west; and, on gaining its summit, the view was equally commanding to the south and south-east. This ridge appears to be a favourite haunt for elk and

bear, which have been frequently seen in our path. The enormous size of the horns of the elk give that animal an appearance of singular disproportion, but it has a stately carriage, and in running, by throwing up its head, brings the horns upon its back, which would otherwise incommode, if not entirely stop, its passage through a thicket. On descending from this highland, we came upon the banks of a small stream running south, and which originated in several springs in the valley which we have thus accidentally struck. Presuming it to be a tributary of White River, we pursued down its banks for about six miles and encamped. Distance eighteen miles.

The changes in the Ozarks comparing Schoolcraft's day to 1999 are difficult to believe. The animals he encountered included six bears in four days in Texas County. His elk description seems totally misplaced. Barren hilltops without trees cannot be found within today's Ozark realm. Crossing what must have been the Big Piney River on Monday, November 16, 1818, Schoolcraft described the bottom of the river as "grey sandstone." Where is the gravel? I cannot imagine the Big Piney without a gravel bar!

It is interesting to note that

although Schoolcraft became a recognized authority on Indian culture, there is no contact with Indians on this section of his trip. However, there was concern that the Osage Indians were in the area. Schoolcraft did not sight evidence of Indians until November 24 in Douglas County.

I have modified Rafferty's map to include present-day county boundaries, the Gasconade River and other noteworthy features.

Schoolcraft's Ozarks journal, *Rude Pursuits and Rugged Peaks*, edited by Milton D. Rafferty, is published by University of Arkansas Press, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 1996. It is available at bookstores.

OLDTIMER RECALLS ORIGIN OF PALACE CEMETERY

In August 1936, a man who said he was the oldest living resident of the Palace area at that time, W. S. Williams, wrote *The Pulaski County Democrat* about the origins of the Palace Cemetery. His letter told of his having witnessed the first burial in the Palace Cemetery, that of a young Dieharty girl in 1868.

"At that time the county road ran by the place where they buried her," he said. "Later her brother, a young man, was buried near the same spot. Then a young woman, Sally Wilson, was buried on the same plot of ground which became the Palace Cemetery. Many of my relatives are buried there. In fact, I know all the people who have been laid to rest in this cemetery since I was a boy ten years old--sixty-eight years ago."

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