



# Journal of Charles Le Raye, while a Captive with the Sioux Nation

*Charles Le Raye*

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## **Journal of Charles Le Raye, while a Captive with the Sioux Nation** Charles Le Raye

Charles LeRaye, was a son of James LeRaye, the Count de Chaumont, who came to America with LaFayette and served as aid upon the staff of the renowned Frenchman during the Revolutionary war. After the war Count LeRaye secured a large tract of land near the head of Lake Ontario, in New York, and set up a large establishment there. No more is known of his son Charles than is revealed in the text. This journal was presented by Mr. LeRaye to Jervasse Cutler, an American officer, who published it at Boston in 1812 as an appendix to another work.

Le Raye's Journal narrates an expedition which he began at the French village on the Illinois, started up the Missouri Sept. 21, 1801, and was captured by the Sioux in October on the Osage River in present-day. (Osage river, the first large branch of the Missouri, rises in eastern Kansas and enters the Missouri from the south just below Jefferson city.) As a captive of this band of Sioux. reached the Missouri again Dec. 2nd at the mouth of the Little Sioux River. Spent the winter at the mouth of Sioux River and in March proceeded to the Ricaras. A French trader named Pardo had accompanied them from the Osage and obtained permission from the Sioux to take La Raye on a hunting expedition up the Missouri with the Grosventres, his wife being a daughter of the Grosventre chief. On June 5th at the lower Mandan village. July 3rd, party left for the Yellowstone, where they spent the summer and winter. He says they went west from the Grosventre village to a river called Road River which they followed down to the Yellowstone at a point he thought about 100 miles above the mouth, in the Crow Country. Then up the Road to Crooked River and up that river, finally up the north branch. Crossed over to the Bighorn and then down that river to its mouth. In May, 1803, visited the trading post on the Assiniboine and in June crossed over to St. Peter's River. Returned and spent the winter at the Ricara village with some St. Louis traders.

This book published in 1812 has been reformatted for the Kindle and may contain an occasional defect from the original publication or from the reformatting.

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