

The plate facing page 711 in Donaldson's "Catlin Indian Gallery" is from a photograph taken in 1868, when he had reached the venerable age of seventy-two, about four years prior to his death. A scar on the left cheek, which shows in this picture, was caused accidentally by a hatchet stroke received in boyhood from a comrade with whom he was "playing Indian," an indication that the sight of the delegation in Philadelphia was not the first incident in his life which led to his vocation, although it may have been the decisive one.

Whatever unfavorable criticism may be made of Catlin as a colorist, little disparagement can be made of his accuracy and spirit as a delineator. In landscape he seizes the genius of the locality with marvelous quickness and insight. Any one who has traveled on the Upper Missouri will recognize how perfectly, in a few strokes, in the sketch before us (Pl. CXXXI, Fig. 1), he has fixed the features of that turbid flood, with its monotonous walls of cottonwood trees, terraced as they rise from the newer to the older alluvial deposits on its shores; with its caving bank, its falling trees and snags on the convexity of the river's curve where the current strikes the land with greatest force, and the low, shelving bank of the opposite side. It is not a placid stream; with a few well placed lines he tells us that it moves at the rate of seven miles an hour.

Geology, sixty years ago, was an infant science. The geologic landscape artist had not become differentiated from landscape artists in general—to this day but a limited few have obtained high proficiency among this class, yet I doubt if some of the best draftsmen attached to our own Government surveys could bring out more correctly the salient features of the Tertiary bluffs of the Dakota region than Mr. Catlin has done in the sketch represented in Pl. CXXXI, Fig. 2. Such is the country that is so appropriately designated *Mauvaises Terres*, or Bad Lands.

Pl. CXXXII, Fig. 1, copies his painting of a feature common in the bluffs of the Upper Missouri region, where small interrupted deposits of hard sandstone are mingled with much softer formations, not greatly exceeding ordinary clay in hardness. These pieces of sandstone, protecting the underlying soft rock from erosion by the rain, cause a series of pillars to be formed, as shown in the painting. A seam of lignite runs along the base of the bluff. The flood plain of the Missouri, here almost treeless, forms the distance.

The picture shown in Pl. CXXXII, Fig. 2, represents conical hills, which are very common in the same country. From these summits, during the rare rains of the region, streams of temporary existence flow with great force and cut deep, narrow, fantastic gulleys in the alluvial soil, such as that shown in the painting. These hills are striped horizontally in divers beautiful colors, being composed of strata of different tints to which the original canvas does ample justice.

Everywhere he has seized the distinctive features of the landscape and apparently with an intuitive understanding of its geologic