party were unpleasant almost from the start at Fort Snelling. When Pembina was reached, there was an open rupture and he left the party to complete his "pilgrimage" by himself and on his own account. Leaving Pembina (which he calls "Pembenar") Beltrami set out, with two Chippewas and a half-breed interpreter, and traveled southeastwardly to the junction of the Thief and the Red Lake Rivers, and thence his journey was by canoes up the latter river to Red Lake. He calls the Thief River "the Robbers' River" and gives the name "Bloody River" to both the Red Lake and the Red Rivers. He considered the former the principal branch of the latter, which in one place (Pilgrimage, Vol. 2, p. 400) he mentions as "the Red River, or, more properly speaking, the Bloody River." But he does not call Red Lake "the Bloody Lake."

After a number of perils and privations Count Beltrami finally reached Cass Lake and Leech Lake, and then went down the Mississippi in a canoe to Fort Snelling, and thence to New Orleans, etc. En route, on Thief River, the Sioux fired on his party, severely wounding one of his Chippewas. The next day both Indians and the half-breed deserted him and took a short route to Red Lake. For four days the Count waded up Red Lake River, towing his canoe, in which was his baggage; once the canoe upset, throwing everything into the water. On the evening of the fourth day he met some Chippewas, and one of them assisted him in paddling his canoe to Red Lake after two days of hard work. He skirted a great deal of the shores of the main Red Lake and finally made a portage from the south shore to waters which eventually led him into Mud Lake, which he said the Indians called the "Puposky-Weza-Kanyagnuen," or End of the Shaking Lands. The chief of the Red Lake Chippewas was called Big Rabbit, and on the north shore was another band of some 300 souls whose chief was the Big Elk.

THE SELKIRK SETTLEMENT AND POLK COUNTY.

Reference has been made to the settlement by Scotch, Swiss, and French Canadian Colonists of the district obtained in 1881 by Lord Selkirk from the Hudson's Bay Company and which was on the lower Red River. It was called generally the Selkirk Settlement, and sometimes referred to as the Red River Settlement. The first colonists came from Scotland in the fall of 1812 and located at the mouth of the Assiniboine, near the present site of Winnipeg.

The Selkirk Settlement is definitely and in some respects rather prominently connected with the history of Minnesota, and especially with that of the Red River Valley. The first permanent settlers and residents of the State, and of that part of the Valley within the State, were refugees and fugitives from the Selkirk Settlement, or Red River Colony. They had been driven out by grasshoppers, floods, droughts, and other calamitous visitations and they sought safety to the southward, where they believed conditions were better. By the year 1840 nearly 700 Red River refugees had come to Fort Snelling and many of them had made permanent settlements about St. Paul and elsewhere in Minnesota. (Minn. in Three Cents., Vol. 2, p. 76.)

And so, too, regarding the first white settlers in the Polk County district of the Red River Valley. They too came from the Red River Settlement. Only a few of these were farmers, however. They were traders, but had cabins along the Red, and perhaps on the Red Lake River, and doubtless they cultivated gardens and small tracts of grain. There was also considerable corn raising in the country in early days, more perhaps, in proportion to other crops, than there is now. In 1826 the Chippewas of Red River were raising plenty of corn, potatoes, and turnips. In 1832, when Schoolcraft and Boutwell were on their famous expedition to Lake Itasca, they stopped, in the first week of July, at the trading post at Sandy Lake. In his journal (Minn. Hist. Socy. Coll., Vol. 1, p. 158) Boutwell writes:

Corn for this post is mostly obtained at Red Lake, from the Indians, who there cultivate it to a considerable extent. The trader tells me that he bought 105 bushels from that place this spring, and that it is not a rare matter to meet a squaw who has this quantity to sell.