Voyage to the Frozen Ocean.

Mackenzie's first voyage was in 1789 down the river which now bears his name to the tide waters of the Frozen Ocean. Of the In[illegible] there are but cursory notices. They appear all to have belonged to the Chipewyan family, & he did not see the Esquimaux. The total numbers encountered were not over 300, as according to their own account most of their people were engaged in hunting reindeer. He says that they reside but a short time near the river & remove from one bank to the other as suits their convenience.

Slave River. "The Slave Indians having been driven from their original country by their enemies the Knistenaux, along the borders of this part of the river, [below the Lake of the Hills] it received that title though it by no means involves the idea of servitude, but was given to these fugitives as a term of reproach that denoted more than common savageness."

On Slave Lake he met three lodges of Red Knife Indians, so called from their Copper Knives. They informed him that there were many more lodges of their friends at no great distance, but that he would see no more of them at present as the Slave and Beaver Indians as well as others of the tribe would not be there until the swans cast their feathers.

He was informed that several winters before many of the Slave Indians inhabited the islands in the Lake but had been driven away by the Knistenaux. These last seem to have carried their war parties to some distance beyond.

Near the Outlet of the Great Bear Lake he met Dog ribs & Slaves, some of whom perfectly comprehended the language of his guides, Chipewyans. He gives a description of their dress, dancing, implements &c.

Farther down were the Hare Indians, so called because Hares & fish are their principal support. Lower still the Deguthee Dinnee, or Quarrelers, beyond whom were the Esquimaux.

The names given to the various tribes in order, either in the text, or on the accompanying map, are, Red Knives, Slaves, Beaver Inds. Strong bows, (left bank) Inland Inds. (Rt. bk.) Mountain Inds. (left bk) Natana, Dog Rib, Hare & Quarrelers.

* Note. The word Bethoullay is used to signify white men.