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PETER SKENE OGDEN'S  
SNAKE COUNTRY  
JOURNAL  
1826-27

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## MAPS

- 1 ROUTES OF OGDEN'S EXPEDITION OF 1826-27 AND MCLEOD'S EXPEDITIONS OF 1826 AND 1826-27 *in pocket*
- 2 LANDFORM MAP OF OREGON *in pocket*

It has not been possible with any degree of certainty to compile separate lists of the men, engaged and free, who accompanied McLeod on his two expeditions to the Umpqua, or who joined him for shorter or longer periods. As both journeys took place during outfit 1826-27 no distinction is made in the Columbia District account books. The following list, which covers both journeys, has been compiled mainly from the Columbia District Statement and the Abstracts of Servants' Accounts for 1826-27 (B.239/l/2 and B.239/g/6 and 65). Other names, particularly of freemen, are found only in McLeod's journals. See pp. 143-219.

	Age	Parish	Usual Capacity	Years Service
*America		Owyhee [Hawaii]	[Labourer]	9
*Aubichon, Alexis	35	Berthier	Middleman	12
Birnie, James	27	Aberdeen	Clerk	9
Bostonnois, Jean Baptiste			[Freeman]	
Cadrette			[Freeman]	
Cannon (Canning), William			Freeman	
Carteah (of Deputy's household)				
*Charles, Pierre				
Deputy, Jean Baptiste, (dit McKay)			[Freeman]	
*Dick	27	Owyhee	[Labourer]	10
Douglas, David [Horticultural Society of London]				
*Dubreuille, Jean Baptiste	36	Ste. Anne	Steersman	21
Dupont, Nicholas				
Ignace			[Freeman]	
Jacques			[Freeman]	
*Jeaudoins, Charles	27	Varenes	Middleman	11
*Joyal, Etienne				
*Keekanneh	29	Owyhee	[Labourer]	10
Kennedy, John	26	Sligo	Middleman	13
L'Etang, Pierre	39	Trois Rivières	Guide	9
*Laframboise, Michel	35	Varenes	Interpreter	17
Louis, Joseph				
Lucier, Etienne			[Freeman]	
*Otoetanie, Michel	35	Iroquois Indian	Bowsman	12
*Ouamtanie, Michel	51	Iroquois Indian	Bowsman	30
Piette, (dit Faneant), François	29	Sorel	Middleman	10
*Petit (dit Gobin), Antoine (a)				
*Seguin (dit Ladiroute), Xavier	27	Vaudreuil	Middleman	8
Towai	29	Owyhee		10
*Tourawhyheene	26	Owyhee	[Labourer]	10

\* In B.239/l/2 these men were "Cr. by Furs in the Umqua".

# Journal of a Trapping Expedition along the Coast South of the Columbia in charge of A. R. McLeod C.T.<sup>1</sup> Summer 1826

A Trapping Expedition to the South of Columbia, under the command of Alexr. Rodk. McLeod Esquire Chief Trader, being nearly ready to leave Fort Vancouver I<sup>2</sup> was appointed to accompany him as second in Command, & as Mr. McLeod will have sufficient to attend to in conducting the Expedition &c. the duty of Journalist of course must fall to my lot, and as it is my first attempt in that way I shall trust to the generosity of the Gentlemen into whose hands it will fall for whatever errors they may find.

*Friday 5th May.* Every necessary arrangement being made (with the exception of our horses who are hourly expected from the upper Establishment)<sup>3</sup> and for whom Mr. McLeod remains I took my departure about 4 P.M. in a Boat with the property, accompanied by the Interpreter, five Servants and three Indians, one of these brought by Michel the Interpreter<sup>4</sup> on his voyage to the South last winter and who is now on his way to rejoin his friends, my Instructions are to proceed to the Falls of the Wallamatte and there await Mr. McLeod, in the mean time making every necessary preparation in my power prior to his arrival with the Horses, in consequence of the rain was obliged to put ashore at the entrance of the Wallamatte at 6 P.M. where we encamped for the night.

*Saturday 6th.* Embarked at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 4 A.M. the water appears high but the current is not Strong Seals are are numerous in this River but so very shy that we cannot approach them, from the number there are of them I am inclined to believe fish are numerous at the Falls, flying showers of Rain throughout the Day which towards evening increased so as to oblige us to encamp at 7 P.M. having come from 15 to 20 miles to day.

*Sunday 7th.* Got under weigh at 4 P.M. and after passing a small rapid

<sup>1</sup> Chief Trader Alexander Roderick McLeod. For a biography see *H.B.R.S.*, III, 448-50. McLeod's journal, printed here, and his chart were sent to the Governor and Committee by McLoughlin in September 1826 (see *H.B.R.S.*, IV, 30). The only map listed as being in Portfolio B (mentioned on p. xxix, n. 2.) which might have been McLeod's was No. 109 described as "Map of Snake Country 1826". This map, like others of the country west of the Rocky Mountains, was "sent to Mr. Arrow-smith" and not returned to the Company's archives.

<sup>2</sup> Donald Manson. The entry of 16 May (p. 148) and McLoughlin's letter (p. 220) show that the writer of the journal up to that date was Donald Manson. For a biography see *H.B.R.S.*, XVIII, 222-41. The only other clerk listed as being attached for any length of time to the Umpqua expeditions was James Birnie, but he merely carried dispatches from and to Fort Vancouver whilst McLeod was in the field in December 1826 (pp. 199, 200, 223, 224).

<sup>3</sup> Fort Nez Percés (Walla Walla).

<sup>4</sup> Michel Laframboise.

good if not a better chance than the others who proceed forward it is all a lottery — for no certainty appears of success, and the whole party cannot find employment to any advantage so we have no alternative but to divide ourselves into as many Parties as circumstances and our own safety will warrant as the only effectual plan favourable to our pursuit. Every preparation is made to avail ourselves of the first Calm day to proceed, the present state of the weather is against us, the awkwardness of many Individuals attached to the party suggested the propriety of substituting Indians in their place, who are habituated to the navigation of the Coast and management of their Canoes. All unnecessary Baggage &c. being well pack'd is intrusted to an Elderly Indian residing in this neighbourhood — also our horses strongly recommended to his particular attention and promised him a proportionable remuneration on our return for his services.

*Suslow*  
*Saturday 15th.* The weather fine but the wind blows with too much violence to venture on the Ocean in an Indian Canoe with Safety of course we cannot stir. Wm. Cannon and Michel Oanitany started at an early hour to set their Traps, up a little Stream on our track about three miles from hence — my presence being of no material consequence at the Camp as we expect calm weather every day to enable us to proceed forward, with a view to disburthen the Craft as well as to see the country I resolved to start to day and accordingly departed towards evening with an Indian and one of our unexperienced hands (A. Gobin) leaving the management of the Camp to La framboise with injunctions to proceed with caution — after going forward over Rocks and hills about 10 miles we stoped for the night on our way we passed three Indian huts containing seven families.

*Sunday 16th.* Same weather as yesterday and we naturally concluded our Party in the Rear could not move we continued our route about 11 miles and passed the remainder of the day in the vicinity of an Indian Camp among the number that visited us I observed one apparently more intelligent than any of the rest, and very inquisitive about us and the object of our Mission, which was communicated to him by my Indian Companions afterwards he gave me to understand that the River we were going to possessed Beaver, and that there were several Lakes in the neighbourhood inhabited by those Animals, mean time pointing to a particular spot in sight of the Camp saying there also was Beaver which proved correct for in the evening I visited the place alluded to and found many vestiges not however to occupy the attention of a Party yet worthy of notice to an individual. Late in the evening the Wind abated Considerably of its usual violence which gives hopes of our people coming forward in

course of to morrow morning the few Indians I have seen differ from those we lately left for cleanliness and Dress far excel the others.

*Monday 17th.* Fine weather the wind at sun rise came on with as much violence as ever and did away with the hope I entertained of seeing the remainder of our little Party for the day — a grievance particularly annoying has we have no time to Spare, every moment is become precious had not the elements protracted our operations we might be now employed trapping whereas the whole party except two individuals are inactive in the forenoon we got two Deers in the evening the wind fell.

*Tuesday 18th.* The Weather fine and the night Calm which led me to expect the arrival of our people till about 8 A.M. when the wind Sprung up and I no longer cherished the hope of seeing them unless I went to them which I resolved on doing but did not go about three miles when I perceived three Canoes under sail coming forward I accordingly returned to the entrance of the River *Saestecau*<sup>1</sup> to meet them by that time the wind had increased so much that two of the Canoes shipped a great deal of water in passing Bar however no accident happened and by sun set the whole Party collected La framboise Jeaudoine P. Charles having come by Land preceded the Crafts since I parted with them the latter killed 3 small Deer and to day a small Buck Red Deer added four Small Deers to the number part of which went to give the party a meal on arrival — We erected our Camp at the entrance of the River Saestecau it is about three Hundred yards wide at ebb tide and apparently very deep Current strong, several Indians collected about our Camp in the evening, it is with difficulty that we can converse with them for none of the Tribe are acquainted with the Cheenook dialect<sup>2</sup> one individual excepted who accompanied us from the establishment and now proves the ablest Linguist with these people with whom he has been a residenter for some years indeed since we left the Killimoux Village he has been employed as such for the want of a Better substitute, we cannot therefore interrogate the Indians on many subjects as we could wish because we are not only subject to misunderstand them but also liable to be misunderstood and a wrong construction put upon our questions which might very likely rise suspicion that would tend to frustrate our views, we are therefore more forbearing less inquisitive than we otherwise would be were we better provided with Interpreters.

<sup>1</sup> McLeod had left his camp at Alsea River and moved to the foot of Heceta Head on 11 July. He had crossed the Head on the 15th and reached Siuslaw River on the following day.

<sup>2</sup> The Chinook jargon (not to be confused with the Chinook language, the speech of the Chinook Indians) was the old trade language of the North-West Coast, and was made up of English, French, Spanish and Indian words. See R. L. Reid, 'The Chinook Jargon and British Columbia', and F. W. Howay, 'The Origin of the Chinook Jargon' in *British Columbia Historical Quarterly* (Victoria, B.C., 1942), Vol. VI, pp. 1-11, 225-50; and Lyn Harrington, 'Chinook Jargon' in *The Beaver* (Winnipeg, Hudson's Bay Company), Winter 1958, pp. 26-9.

Wednesday 19th. High Wind and fine weather sent the Men for the Buck Deer above mentioned with which they returned in the evening and we prepared to proceed up the River many Indian visitors again to Day who give us hopes of finding Beaver in various little Rivers that runs into the Main River we understand that *Depaty* a freeman went on a trading excursion to the Umpqua River about 20 miles from hence where he got a few Skins we could no ascertain the Number — some berries brought us by the natives for which they obtained some small Trifles also some Camass<sup>1</sup> became an article in demand and the Men Traded some.

Thursday 20th. Fine weather high wind as usual from the same quarter. We proceeded up the River to the first Fork on our left at the entrance of which we erected our Camp between two villigae apparently this stream is a resort for Indians from various parts of the neighbouring Country about thirty came about us Shortly after we landed and six were pointed out to us as Leading characters denominated Chiefs of whom some are from the interior others from River Umpqua to the Southward of this twenty miles messengers were despatched to different quarters to give intelligence I suppose of our arrival one of the Chiefs traded 11 Béaver and another Individual four all for *Jye quoise*<sup>2</sup> this article seems to be the principal Commodity of Trade with these Indians.

Friday 21st. Same weather as for many days past in succession six men off to set Traps exclusive of two Indian Lads attach'd to our Party who have and still Continue the same pursuit that they are now engaged in they past one night in the Rear of the Party and came up with us last night with the Meat and skin of a Beaver Caught the preceeding evening they are now gone up the River, all hands were ordered to convey us intelligence every third day at Latest in the evening P. Charles and Jos: Louis arrived rather unexpected this movement was in consequence of their having killed six Elk at a short distance from hence and they returned to give intimation thereof that we might get the Meat Collected, they have

<sup>1</sup> See *H.B.R.S.*, XIII, 6n. In his 'Sketch of a journey to the north-western parts of the continent of North America, during the years 1824, 5, 6 and 7', pp. 89-90 (*Companion to the Botanical Magazine*, see p. 177, n. 2), David Douglas mentioned finding *Scilla esculenta*, the *Quamash* of the natives, "who prepare its roots in the following manner. A round hole is scraped in the ground, in which are placed a number of stones, and a fire is kept burning on them till they are red hot, when it is removed and replaced by some brushwood and straw, on which the roots are laid, (covered with leaves, moss, or straw, with a layer of earth,) and they remain there until they are baked or roasted, a process which occupies a few hours, after which they are taken out and hung up to dry. Sometimes the natives bruise these roots, or pound them into cakes and round lumps, which they lay up on the shelves in their lodges for winter use. When cooked, they have a sweetish and by no means unpleasant taste, and a very palatable beverage might probably be prepared from them. Lewis and Clarke observe that they are apt to produce bowel complaint, if eaten in large quantities, as they certainly do flatulence. The plant abounds in all low alluvial plains, on the margins of woods, and banks of rivers".

<sup>2</sup> See p. 89, n. 1, and p. 223. — *Dentalium* — tooth shell wampum

nine Traps set two men with La frambroise and self keep Camp besides three Indians who I suppose would readily join the Strongest party and forsake us the first favourable opportunity however I must do them the Justice to notice thier good behaviour hitherto and more usefull generally speaking, than the *Owyhees* we have who have been two thirds of the time disabled for duty and even now two of them have the greatest difficulty to walk from disease.

Saturday 22nd. Cloudy weather light rain at intervals Jeaudoin and Teurwathinn<sup>1</sup> came with two Beavers and an otter the Chief that we got skins from the day before yesterday brought 18 Beavers and a sea Otter traded for a Calico Shirt a small tin dish the remainder paid for in *Jye quoise* he gave hopes of another visit in a few days with more Furs early in the morning sent our two men with some Indians for the Meat P. Charles and Jos: Louis left in the woods the latter are to attend their Traps after sharing the Meat with the others who are to bring it to the Camp — at dusk the men returned with part only of the Meat, the day being to far spent to enable him to effect the purpose for which they went, in so doing they acted up to Orders the Indians that accompanied them gave but little help and evinced a Strong inclination to help themselves to some particular pieces of meat which gave<sup>2</sup> to the men who would rather purloin it to satisfy their own Gluttony than admit of sharing it with the natives could they do it with impunity this circumstance soon buzzed about on arrival and caused a little talk but to little purpose Our little Chief with some of his followers being about our Fire immediately ordered four of his party to go and protect the Meat in the field and fetch it to the Camp on the morrow, they instantly Started agreeable to the summons without even a hint from us directly or indirectly — the result will prove how far we are Justifiable in trusting to them to effect the purpose of their Mission — of the animals lately killed three was left at the disposal of the Hunters, the remainder taken for our mess and put to the Credit of P. Charles who killed them — Jeaudoin and his companion went in Course of the Afternoon some distance up the North Branch of this River but finding the Navigation much impeded by fallen trees they returned at dusk conceiving the Obstacles insurmountable without a certainty of a proportionable reward, the distance they went gave them no hopes of success as they did not notice any Visteges the natives do not seem much inclined to favour views in that respect for none of them are so accommodating as to show us where any is to be found with a reward too exorbitant to make it a president, the short time we have to remain in this neighbourhood, is too limited to defray the expences we would incur by

<sup>1</sup> Tourahyheene. See p. 148, n. 7.

<sup>2</sup> Blank in MS.

employing Indians to direct the places inhabited by Beaver and at best we stand exposed to deception, several instances of which have already occurred, the payment having been previously delivered is so much lost to the individuals who made the Bargain and Jusfys them avoiding the like they have accordingly gone without any of the Natives, towards the source of the Main Stream, where the best prospects of success exists if we can depend on the information of the Leading men of the Tribes.

*Sunday 23rd.* Same weather as yesterday we had another visit from the little Chief who brought a few more Skins that he Traded we have now got 40 odd Skins from him, and prospects of getting more as he is intent at our instigation, on going on a trading excursion to *River Coacousse*<sup>1</sup> the first one beyond and next to the Umpqua in six days or seven at most he expects to be back Several of the Leading characters were about us to day and in course of a conference with them, they expressed a wish of knowing if we would repeat our Visit being answered in the Affirmative if we found a suitable encouragment they replied that they would use their best endeavours to Collect Skins that on the present occasion we came unexpectedly and found them empty handed but if we would assure them of returning prior to the setting in of the rainy season they will bestow their attention to Collect skins, which hitherto neglected, because they never got any encouragment to make any exertions, for the few Beaver they killed about their Camp remained in possession of the young Lads that hunted them for amusement; and they disposed of them to the first comer for Trifles but now that we gave them hopes of a good Market they would attend very particularly to that object and assured us their Lands was not so destitute but what they could glean a handsome quantity of Skins which they would Carefully lay by against our return. Relative to the resources of the Interior Country they told us they had a correct knowledge of it as far South as *River Coacouss* above mentioned and to a certain distance Eastward, and added that the intermediate Space of Country between it and the Umpqua River tho not very extensive was nevertheless rich in Beaver, particularly a Lake of some extent was repeatedly alluded to in course of our conversation on the subject whose water runs into the *Umpqua* they also added that trappers never visited that quarter and concluded by observing why he did go there when Beaver was so plentiful and Seldom frequented by Indians would become an easy prey to Trappers seemingly the Natives to the Southward like those here, give themselves no trouble about fur bearing animals and seldom molest others save in the Ruting season to provide themselves with

<sup>1</sup> Coos River, Coos County, Oregon. See Lewis A. McArthur, *Oregon Geographic Names*, 2nd edition (Portland, Ore., 1944), p. 129.

Robes for the inclemency of the Season the produce of the waters amply supplies them with abundance of Food — Besides the Lake above mentioned several others were mentioned by the principal men as containing Beaver the little Chief particularly Commented on the subject alledging that his Lands were in question and made the subject of conversation, which he hoped would Claim our future Attention and influence us to visit that quarter and extend our excursion beyond those Streams affirming that our Labour would be fully Compensated to all of which we made a suitable reply and in the afternoon the little Chief and suite departed on his Mission as above Stated one of the Chiefs above remain with us for the Night — we have a visit from *Dick* and *America* who returned to attend their Traps having hopes of taking Beaver where they laid their Traps intelligence from P. Charles and Jos: Louis states that if they find no Beaver will return in three days if otherwise the fourth will bring us accounts of them Jeaudoin and Taureauwathinee hitherto proving rather unsuccessfull in their researches, have engaged an Indian to direct them the route to a Lake in this vicinity the former is a industrious but awkward Lad, the latter possesses every bad perfection I believe he is both indolent and Slothfull to a degree beyond bearing the Indians that the Little Chief sent for our Meat brought it whole and entire and were rewarded proportionably.

*Monday 24th.* Cloudy weather two Indian Lads of our Party after an unsuccessfull excursion in quest of Beaver having caught but one since leaving us three days ago altho they were accompanied by an Indian of this River who directed the way to several places, Small Rivers destitute of Beaver if we can believe the assertion of our informants, what they brought confirms the Report we traded three Beavers from one of the Chiefs and our Indians Linguist exchanged his 2½ point Blanket for a Robe containing eight Beaver skins the few people about the Camp find employment in drying Meat and Scraping Skins at which they are uncommonly awkward and cannot manage the business of dressing Leather at all, if otherwise we might collect a good many animal skins by bestowing more time to hunt which we have hitherto done merely to satisfy imediate wants from time to time — we had another visit from the Elderly men but nothing particular transpired except a reception with little variation of what was said on both sides yesterday, they seem much elated with the prospects of an open intercourse with us and are on the eve of dispatching messengers to acquaint their Tribe of the circumstance mean time paving the way for themselves to Collect Skins which anticipate from the exertions of their followers trusting to their influence to carry effectually the measure into operation.

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*Tuesday 25th.* High wind which dispelled the cloudy appearance of the atmosphere and a clear serene weather succeeded. Jeaudoin and Taureauwathinee returned from the Lake with an empty belly, having had no success with their ten Traps all of which they set and this morning found seven Started, but nothing Caught, I suppose to inattention in setting them they have left their Traps which they were directed to do since there is signs of Beaver — one of the principal Chiefs voluntarily sent one of his Tribe to direct our youngsters to Beaver who departed three in a canoe in the afternoon they have leave of absence for five days if any appearance of success exists where they are going to, should they again be disappointed they were told to return without unnecessary delay — Traded a Sea Otter.

*Wednesday 26th.* High wind and fine weather Joyalle and Teaurouathinee departed to attend the Traps at the Lake Jeaudoin remains here to proceed up the North Branch as soon as he can obtain a small Canoe from the natives mean time he with the others at the Camp, are employed preparing the Skins of the animals lately killed.

*Thursday 27th.* Same weather as yesterday nothing particular transpired.

*Friday 28th.* Fine weather this evening Joyalle and Teaurouathinee arrived in consequence of not taking Beaver since leaving this they Caught but one altho they confess that there is some yet they have brought their Traps Certain of not being able to succeed in taking them — We are assured by the Natives that some distance in the interior we should have better luck, but our time is too limited to admit of ascertaining the fact in a few days hence we must trace back our Steps agreeable to appointment and Differ to another season, to acquire further knowledge of the Country and its resources to the Southward of this stage, as our progress in that direction terminates here the discourse of the principal Indians tends to encourage very much the prosecution of the Plan and affirm with much apparent Certainty, that we would be fully compensated in the sequel, for the Country is well stored with Beaver and not molested by Natives as in this neighbourhood This afternoon we got a deer. Indian report states that P. Charles and Jos: Louis are towards the source of the main Stream trapping, but we are not informed of their success our informat is ignorant thereof.

*Saturday 29th.* Fine Weather at dusk Dick and America arrived with the Skins of nine Beavers of which the claims seven anticipating no further Success for the time appointed they deemed it necessary to bring their Traps they report that evident signs of Beaver exist in two small Streams where they found employment and I have no doubt that the want of Industry is more the cause of their ill luck than the actual scarcity of Beaver.

*Sunday 30th.* Very warm and Calm weather a party of four in two Canoes proceeding up the South Branch of this River they have leave of absence for two days — little Chief and Party arrived agreeable to his promise and regrets not having more time to himself so that he might have gone beyond River *Umpqua* in quest of Skins, but rather than disappoint us he returned from said River having got nine Beavers which we readily obtained from him, he again repeated his intention of Collecting as many Skins as he can against our return and seemd desirous it should be previous to the Rainy Season, in this particular all expressed themselves to the Same effect — alledging they had accounts from the Indians to the Southward having a good many skins, which circumstance gives the Indians about here prospects of bright Trade, and several individuals are about to proceed forward for the purpose Our little Chief I believe will be a principal in that Case, as an encouragement at parting we presented him a Calico Shirt which he received with evident marks of Satisfaction — in course of our conversation they suggested that we should return by the *Umpqua* as the most advantageous Route for our horses by which means we would be enabled to visit the source of different Rivers with less loss of time than by the Coast and by the means of Canoes might without any difficulty navigate those Streams to their Confluence with the Ocean for the purpose of Trade while Trappers might be advantageously employed in the interior, the little Chief offered us his services to direct us the Route Southward of the *Umpqua* and if we can rely on his assertions he would be very adequate as he affirms to have a thorough knowledge of the Country which he represents as very practicable with the Loaded horses<sup>1</sup> Killed a Deer.

*Monday 31st.* Fine Weather late last night the four men sent up the South Branch, returned not being able to proceed owing to the quantity of fallen Trees which obstructs its navigation, at a late hour last night P. Charles and Jos: Louis arrived with the Skins of thirteen Beavers of which the former Claims eleven they had not time to reach the source of the River they went up, otherwise they expected better luck for the Indians they saw along their route all agreed in the same story that about the heads of the Rivers the Beaver keep this forenoon we moved to the sea shore to be at hand to avail ourselves of the first calm day to start on our return appearances indicates a speedy departure P. Charles & Jos: Louis having still a few Traps set went for them, in which the former Caught a Beaver in the evening they Joined the Main Body killed a Deer and a Seal the Blubber of the latter afforded a most delicious meal to the Men.

<sup>1</sup> See p. 184.

*Wednesday 4th.* Weather fine. Before we were ready to start, Aubichon and family joined us, proceeded four and twenty miles and encamped. Saw some Indians collecting roots for winter consumption. Country rotten, yet good footing for our horses.

*Thursday 5th.* Very sultry weather in consequence of its effect on our horses, the distance of eighteen miles proved too great for some of them, who became exhausted previously. Several Indians of both sexes were seen in the course of the day gleaned a miserable subsistence, composed of vegetable production.

*Friday 6th.* Weather fine. Continued our Journey the distance of 13 miles and put up for the night: previously we met Bt. Deputy<sup>1</sup> & little Ignace, freemen, who have voluntarily evinced an inclination to accompany us, which was agreed to. Jacques another freeman, will in a couple of days join us to take his chance with the rest. Three deer killed. Many Indians seen: some of them came to our Camp in hopes of obtaining a morsel treat which which they were gratified.

*Saturday 7th.* Very sultry weather. After proceeding seven miles, we encamped, our horses were getting exhausted, and the scanty pickings the country affords, make them fall off daily. Hunters out but no success. Jacques a freeman, above mentioned came up with us today, and is now of the party.<sup>2</sup>

*Sunday 8th.* Very warm weather. Ther. at 82 tho we proceed about thirteen miles it proved as much as most of our horses could withstand the labour. Formed our camp on the margin of an old Beaver dam. All the

<sup>1</sup> See p. 154, n. 2. This was the freeman referred to as Jean Baptiste McKay by David Douglas. Cf. Douglas' entries for 17 October 1826 in both 'Sketch' and *Journal* with McLeod's journal entry for 18 October. Deputy *dit* McKay, as his name appears in the Company's account books, was identified as Jean Baptiste Desportes McKay by A. G. Harvey, in *Douglas of the Fir* (Cambridge, Mass., 1947), p. 91. According to *Washington Historical Quarterly* (Seattle, 1933), XXIV, 288-90, McKay was an Astorian overlander of 1809.

<sup>2</sup> Douglas, 'Sketch', 2-7 October 1826: "At noon of this day (7th) we were joined by J. Baptiste Mackay and two Iroquois; he informs me that he has already given one of his hunters who went to the Umtqua or Arguilar River, orders to bring home cones of the large Pine for me. *Pinus resinosa* here attains a height of one hundred and thirty feet, and a diameter of four or five. On one of these trees I killed a beautiful *Grey Squirrel*, measuring two feet from tail to snout, and saw a curious striped variety, and also a flying squirrel, but could not secure either of these. *Typha angustifolia* and *Nymphaea advena* are not uncommon in small lakes. . . . One of our hunters, J. Kennedy, had a most narrow escape this morning from a male *Grisly Bear*, which he did not perceive till it had come within a few yards of him. Finding it impossible to out-run the animal, and his rifle missing fire, Kennedy sprang up a small oak which chanced to be near; the bear was so close behind, that he seized him by one paw on the back and the other under the right arm, but fortunately his clothing was so old that it gave way, or he must have perished. Blanket, coat, and trousers were torn almost to rags. This kind of bear cannot climb trees. Our hunters all turned out to seek for the beast, but could not meet with it, though such a supply of food would have been most acceptable. Our last fragments of meat were cooked last night, and gave us a very scanty supper; this morning a small deer enabled us to obtain some breakfast. Thus we live literally from hand to mouth, the hunters all declaring that they never knew the animals of all kinds to be so scarce and shy, which is attributable to the great extent of country that has been burned". Cf. *Journal* entries for 7 and 8 October 1826.

exertions of our hunters produced only a deer. Country hilly yet not woody.

*Monday 9th.* Cloudy weather. Continued our Journey thro' the plains the distance of six miles and encamped, having a piece of woody country in our front to pass on the morrow. A Buck Elk killed and brought to camp. The fire seemingly continued its devastation even into the woody country; a circumstance that has reduced our horses considerably: an evil without remedy.<sup>1</sup>

*Tuesday 10th.* Rain most part of the day. As we were in motion and had entered the woods, some time previously, the only alternative was to proceed about 15 miles to a fork of Elk river,<sup>2</sup> where we stopped for the night. Country hilly, yet the road good and good footing for the horses.

*Wednesday 11th.* Rained all day. Two beavers caught, an Elk killed. Two men went in quest of two horses that remained in our rear and could not find them.

*Thursday 12th.* Light rain. Our strayed horses recovered by means of Indians. Some individuals proceeded on our rout for the purpose of hunting. Unfavorable weather stopped us these two days. Indians came to us bare handed; of course no business with them transpired.

*Friday 13th.* Fine weather; continued our progress for eleven miles along the little river, at its junction with the other, those who left us, had encamped and were ready to start when we arrived: they killed 3 deer. Roads fine, yet very hilly. Saw some Indians as poor as Job.

*Saturday 14th.* Rained hard all day of course, could not proceed. Six deer killed; Tourocoahina lost his horse with his traps and other property.

*Sunday 15th.* Altho' the rain fell light today, such is state of the roads

<sup>1</sup> Douglas, 'Sketch', "Monday the 9th. A small *Elk* was killed to-day, after receiving eleven shots, it weighed about 500 lbs., but was lean and tough. The horns of this species are very large, thirty-three inches between the tips, with five prongs on each, all inclining forward, the largest three feet all but one inch long; body of an uniform brown, with a black mane four inches long. I am pretty certain that this is the same sort of animal that I have seen at the Duke of Devonshire's, and unquestionably a very distinct species from the European Stag. I ascended a low hill, about two thousand five hundred feet above its platform, the lower part covered with trees of enormous size, and the same sorts as on the Columbia. On the summit are only low shrubs, small oaks, and a species of *Castanea*. This fine species I first took for a *Shepherdia*, as it was only shrubby in growth, but I shortly found it on the mountains, growing sixty to one hundred feet high, and with a diameter of three to five feet. The leaves of this tree, (*Castanea chrysophylla*) give quite a peculiar and lovely tint to the landscape. The fruit seems extremely rare, as I only saw it on a single tree, and that growing on the very summit of the mountain. Under its shade is a fine evergreen shrub, new to me, apparently a *Clethra*. Here, too, *Pinus resinosa* grows immensely large, two hundred and fifty feet high, and fifty-five feet in circumference. *Arbutus Menziesii* and *laurifolia* are abundant, but their fruit is almost all taken away by the bears. Two species of *Caprifolium*, that I never saw before, grew here. My feet are very sore with walking over the burnt and decayed stumps, and struggling through the thick under-growth of *Pteris Aquilina* and *Rubus suberectus*, which are bound together with several decayed species of *Vicia*." Cf. *Journal* entry.

<sup>2</sup> Elk Creek, Douglas County, joins Umpqua River near Elkton. See Lewis A. McArthur, *Oregon Geographic Names*, 2nd edition (Portland, Ore., 1944), p. 182.

already, it is endangering the safety of our horses in such steep hills as we have to pass: Consequently we deferred starting till tomorrow. Two deer killed, two beavers caught. Women employed in scraping skins.

*Monday 16th.* Continued our progress along the same river, till we reached the Umpqua,<sup>1</sup> where finding pasture, we formed our Camp, distance sixteen miles over very hilly country, which caused several individuals to stop in the rear, their horses being too much exhausted to keep up with the van. The want of feeding for a number of horses justified a division of our party. Now we have got to a convenient situation, we propose allowing our much exhausted horses some days rest, before we venture to proceed further. The lost horse and the owners property were recovered by a select party of men employed for that express purpose. Saw some deer and wounded one. Light rain fell in the afternoon. Understanding that Indians resided in this neighborhood, we anticipated a visit from them; but our hopes not realized.<sup>2</sup>

*Tuesday 17th.* Light rain in the course of the night, yet we enjoyed a fine day. In succession our men cast up, by the close of day, all hands reached the Camp. Many horses narrowly escaped, several hurt by falling down the hills. On one occasion a saddle bag was turned in which was a Canvass bag containing. Balls, part of which, was lost. An Umpqua Indian came to us, and we availed ourselves of the moment to apprise his countrymen thro' him, the object of our mission so as to avoid giving any groundless alarm. Two deer killed, traps set in the little river; women employed dressing leather.

<sup>1</sup> McLeod was, according to David Douglas, about thirty or thirty-five miles from the ocean.

<sup>2</sup> Douglas, 'Sketch', "Friday the 13th to Monday the 16th [October]. — For the last few days our progress has been much retarded by rain and heavy fog. The difficulty of proceeding becomes greater and greater in consequence, for the poor horses slip their footing continually and get bad falls; and to ensure the safety of my collections, I carry them on my back, tied in a Bear's skin. We have passed three ridges of mountains, about two thousand seven hundred feet high, Mr. McLeod and I taking the lead, and chopping off, with the help of Baptiste McKay and two Indians, the branches of trees which impede our progress. The numerous trunks of fallen Pines are of almost incredible size, often measuring two hundred and fifty feet. A tree, apparently belonging to *Myrtaceae*, struck me much: its leaves, wood, fruit, and bark, are all aromatic, smelling like *Myrtus Pimento*, and producing sneezing like pepper. The fruit is large, globular, and covered with a fine thin green skin, enveloping a small nut with an insipid kernel, which appears to be the favourite food of squirrels. . . . It is *Laurus regia*. Want of food, and the difficulty of making our way along, renders this journey most exhausting. We were somewhat cheered at seeing the Umpqua River rolling along below us, when we reached the summit of a weary ridge of mountains to-day. The stock of food being quite done, Mr. McLeod and McKay went out to shoot, while I employed myself in chopping wood, kindling the fire, and forming our encampment; and after twilight refreshed myself by bathing in the Umpqua. Our distance from the ocean could not exceed thirty or thirty-five miles, as I observed *Menziesia ferruginea* (Bot. Mag. t. 1571) and *Pinus Canadensis*, both of which always keep along the skirts of the sea. The poor horses are so fatigued that it is found impracticable to bring them up to-night, and mine being among the laggards, I cannot lie down, as I have nothing whatever to stretch beneath me, my blanket and bearskin being among the luggage on the horse's back. Mr. McLeod returned unsuccessful, so that we were supperless; but he hopes that a large doe, which though wounded, yet managed to elude his search at night, may still be found to-morrow morning." Cf. *Journal entries*.

*Wednesday 18th.* Fine weather. Three men went for a horse that was left in the rear; but he was still too much exhausted to come forward. Mr. Douglas and Dupotys boy started for the interior to Botanize.<sup>1</sup> Three deer, two Elks killed. Saw some Indians on their way to their residence, some distance to the westward of us.

*Thursday 19th.* Fine weather. Understanding that the principal Chief of the Umpquas<sup>2</sup> was some distance above us on the river, J. Kennedy being acquainted with him, and possessing knowledge of the Country was directed to bear a message from me to him requesting an interview as soon as possible; mean time, this mans services may be of consequence to Mr. Douglas, who informed me by note of his forlorn situation at the second crossing place, without a craft or other means of fording the river. Dupotys boy who brought the note, accompanied Kennedy. In the afternoon very unexpectedly the party returned,<sup>3</sup> in consequence of Mr. Douglas having hurt himself very severely in the Chest from a fall in

<sup>1</sup> Douglas, 'Sketch', pp. 127-8, "Tuesday the 17th. Last night sat by the fire till two o'clock, when Mr. McLeod most kindly insisted on giving me his own blanket and buffalo robe to lie down upon, while he took a turn of sitting up, wrapped in a great coat. We all three went out to seek for the wounded doe, and found her with a ball that had pierced both shoulders; still, another shot was necessary to despatch her. McKay having also brought down a fine buck, weighing 190 lbs., we returned to the camp in high spirits, and made a comfortable meal on the excellent venison these animals afforded. Our horses did not arrive till four o'clock, and in a very exhausted condition. The luggage which mine carried was almost destroyed by the poor beast's repeated falls; the tin box containing my note-book bruised quite out of shape, its sides bent together — a small case of preserving-powder quite spoiled, — and my only shirt reduced, by the chafing, to the state of surgeon's lint. I congratulated myself exceedingly on not having trusted my papers of plants to the same conveyance, but carried them on my back. The country towards the upper part of the river appears to be more varied and mountainous, and may, perhaps, afford me the much-wished-for *Pine*, as it certainly considerably resembles the spot described to me by the Indian in whose smoking pouch I last year found some of its large scales. If the morning proves fine, and any provision has been killed, I intend to start tomorrow for a few days' excursion in that direction, Baptiste McKay having given me one of his Indian hunters, a young man about eighteen years of age, as a guide. To what nation he belongs he does not know, as he was brought from the South by a war party when a child, and kept as a slave till McKay took him. He is very fond of this mode of life, and has no desire to return to his Indian relations; and as he speaks a few words of Chenook and understands the Umpqua tongue, I trust to find no difficulty in conversing with this my only companion. Wednesday the 18th. I set off this morning, proceeding due South . . . I began making a raft, which blistered my hands dreadfully . . .". Cf. *Journal entry*.

<sup>2</sup> Douglas ('Sketch' and *Journal*, 18 and 22 October 1826) referred to Centrenose as "chief of the tribe inhabiting the upper part of the Umpqua River", and as "the principal Chief". McLeod later (pp. 185, 187) referred to him as the "old Chief".

<sup>3</sup> Douglas, 'Sketch', "Thursday the 19th [October]. Finding my hands in such a state that I could not proceed with my raft, I wrote a note to Mr. McLeod, then nine miles distant, informing him of my situation, and sent it by my Indian guide, during whose absence I took my gun and went out to the chase. I soon after wounded a very large buck, but in the eagerness of pursuit, fell into a deep gulley among a quantity of dead wood, and lay there stunned, as I found by my watch when I recovered, nearly five hours, when five Indians of the Callipoosie tribe helped to extricate me. A severe pain in the chest quite disabled me, and I found my only plan was to regain the camp as fast as possible, my Indian friends lending a hand to saddle my horse and assist me to mount it. It gave me more pleasure than I can describe to have some excellent provision left, with which I could recompense these friendly savages for their timely aid. After expressing my gratitude in the best way I could, I endeavoured to creep along with the help of my stick and gun, but was thankful to meet with John

chasing a deer. Kennedy having ascertained certain intelligence of the Chiefs intentions of coming to us in a few days, did not consider it necessary to go further, meeting with one of his sons bearing the message deemed it advisable to come back with him. The lad is to accompany us, till his father, the principal Chief makes his appearance. Five Deer killed. The horse left on the way brought to camp. One Beaver caught. Meat brought to camp.

*Friday 20th.* Fine weather. Continued our Journey along the Umpqua, Course westerly, distance ten miles, killed a deer. The two Iroquois freemen remained to provide themselves with canoes, afterwards they will join us.

*Saturday 21st.* Fine weather. Proceeded about seven miles and camped at the termination of the plains<sup>1</sup> about a mile short of an Indian Village to which we sent two of our Indians to obtain canoes, with which they returned at dusk. The little Chief<sup>2</sup> with whom we became acquainted in our late Trip, accompanied our Messengers and informed us, that he and his followers had a few skins which they would bring to trade. Obtained some salmon trout from our visitors of an excellent flavour. A canoe with two families from above past opposite to our camp on a visit to their country people.<sup>3</sup>

*Sunday 22nd.* Fine weather. The two Iroquois that stopped behind, having succeeded in obtaining canoes, joined our party this afternoon. The principal Chief with some followers arrived, and seemed much gratified with some trifling articles we presented him gratis. Having intimated my intentions of proceeding along the coast, to obtain a knowledge of the resources of the country, as well as to establish an intercourse with the natives to the Southward, the two chiefs prepared to follow to which I readily assented and gave directions to make the necessary preparations for a speedy departure; reserving five of the less experienced trappers to accompany me, the others to employ themselves to the best advantage hunting beaver in the tributary streams flowing into the Umpqua. In pursuance of said plan, Canoes were the first object and a sufficient number was hired to bring us all to the first Villages where we can make up the deficiency. Engaged an Indian to accompany Mr. Douglas to the upper part of the Country.<sup>4</sup>

Kennedy, whom Mr. M'Leod had kindly despatched to render me assistance, and who accompanied me to the camp, where a little tea considerably revived me. I also bled myself in the left foot, and felt much better . . . Cf. *Journal* entry.

<sup>1</sup> They were encamped near present day Scottsburg, Douglas County.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. entries for 21 and 22 October by Douglas in his 'Sketch' and *Journal*.

<sup>3</sup> Douglas, 'Sketch', "Sunday the 22nd [October] . . . Our Indian friends brought us more fish, and a very large *Black-tailed Deer* (*Cervus macrotis*) was brought down by Mr. M'Leod's rifle. This is a grand animal, seldom seen further North than 47° N. lat., and one-fifth larger than the *Long White-*

*Monday 23rd.* Fine weather. In the course of the forenoon we started<sup>1</sup> in a body, leaving Laframboise in Charge with an assistant. All the families remained at the camp. After obtaining canoes in addition to the number we have, our party gradually diminished as we approached the sea. Being coupled in each canoe together they took different directions up the various streams in hopes of finding beaver. They were directed not to exceed ten or twelve days absence at which period I expect to return. With five men and two Indians in a canoe, accompanied by the old Chief and suite in another craft, continued descending the main river<sup>2</sup> till dark, having run the distance of about seven and twenty miles, put up for the night in sight of the sea, yet not at the mouth of the river, where breadth gradually increased as we approached the Ocean, its utmost limits may be about a mile and a half in breadth but at our camp not above hundred yards. Past the Villages situated opposite the rapidous part of the river, for the convenience of fishing — past which the navigation is fine, without any impediment in contrary directions rapids and frequent shoals are often met with. The bottom of the river is of freestone which adds much to the difficulty of ascending it. After dusk 2 canoes with two Indian families hove in sight and our followers had to go out to them, before they would venture to come nigh us; they had a cargo of berries with which they were going forward to exchange the same for salmon — having to depend on what chance may put in our way for subsistence, we had recourse to salmon for our supper, which we obtained by way of barter from the Natives coming along. Saw plenty of wild fowl but could not lose time to hunt.

*tailed Deer.* It is often taken by a snare made of a species of *Iris* (*Iris tenax*, Bot. Mag. t. 3343), which, though no thicker than the little finger, is strong enough to secure the largest Buffalo and the Elk. The women of this tribe are all tattooed, chiefly over the lower jaw in lines from ear to ear. This kind of marking is considered a great addition to beauty . . . Mr. M'Leod has been much engaged all day in making arrangements for his journey to the country South of this river, where one large and two small rivers are said to exist. While he is in that quarter, I purpose, if in health, to resume my route towards the head-waters of the Umpqua, where I have no doubt many rarities may yet be found. Centrenose (the principal Chief) came to our camp this afternoon, and with him Mr. M'Leod means to make arrangements for my being accompanied either by him or some of his sons". Cf. *Journal* entry.

<sup>1</sup> Douglas, 'Sketch', "Monday the 23rd [October.] Mr. M'Leod has made the desired arrangement, and while Centrenose goes with himself to the coast, one of his sons will accompany me in my researches, which are chiefly directed towards the discovery of the great *Pine* so frequently mentioned. The road being hilly, wooded, and difficult to travel, I declined the use of more horses than were absolutely needful, namely, one for my guide, and the other to carry my blanket and paper, and on which I could occasionally ride. Started at ten . . .". Douglas found his "long-wished-for Pines", commonly known as sugar pines, on 26 October, probably where what is now known as Sugar Pine Mountain, west of Roseburg, Oregon. See Harvey, *op. cit.*, p. 102. Douglas had named this tree *Pinus Lambertiana* after Aylmer Bourke Lambert, author of the great work on the *Genus Pinus*, when he first saw its seeds in the tobacco pouches of the natives soon after his arrival in the Columbia. Cf. *Journal* entries.

<sup>2</sup> Umpqua River.

Laderoute,<sup>1</sup> two Owhyhees and three natives;<sup>2</sup> proceeded by water about 11 miles, where the river is divided into two branches, one coming from the northward, and the other from the opposite direction at the confluence of the former, stands a small village, containing half dozen of men and families. Engaged a guide for the main Channel, where we found a foot path on the west bank of the south branch, which we followed and seasonably came to the river — past three small plains abounding with fine grass in full verdure. After dusk we put for the night, distance by land 14 miles course southerly. Left six men of all descriptions with strong injunctions to be on their guard, that their attention might not be drawn from that object I deemed it necessary to prohibit setting traps till my return, provided Ignace and Jacques with ammunition to procure the means of subsistence.

*Monday 11th.* Heavy rain all day. As soon as day light enable us to see our way we moved forward, after passing a short belt of wood we opened into a fine plain at the extremity of which, we came to a village of five dwellings rather unexpectedly. Our sudden appearance amazed the inhabitants who had not observed us, till we reached their door their fear was soon dissipated, we obtained some dried salmon, indifferently cured for which they got in return a few trinkets. My men took their breakfast and by means of canoes, we forded the river, about 50 yards wide — continued our Journey on the east bank about five miles and reached another village greater and more populous than the last. Here the river assumes a different aspect, it becomes rocky, with many cataracts, some perpendicular falls, that afford the means of spearing the salmon trout, our guide made some objections for going further alledging that we could not reach the great river (for by this time, it appeared evident to him, our intention led that way) owing to the high state of the water, all the others supported the argument, yet persisted in going forward, tho' aware we could not go far, not being prepared to encounter such difficulties as the

<sup>1</sup> See p. 142. Xavier Seguin dit Ladiroute was employed by the Hudson's Bay Company from at least as early as outfit 1820-21. He was the man referred to by George Simpson in his letter to Louis Denis de La Ronde dated Fort Wedderburn, 7 December 1820. See *H.B.R.S.*, Vol. I, E. E. Rich (ed.), *Journal of Occurrences in the Athabasca Department by George Simpson, 1820 and 1821, and Report* (Toronto, The Champlain Society, and London, The Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1938), p. 193. Ladiroute went to the Columbia in 1822 and was attached to Ogden's Snake Country expedition of 1825-26. In 1828 he made the brigade journey to and from York Factory, and in 1831 became free. He was still active in 1834 (B.239/x/2, p. 489; B.223/d/105a., p. 228).

<sup>2</sup> One of these must have been the Umpqua Chief Ogden heard about on 23 March 1827 (see p. 99) and is therefore identified as Little Chief. Two chiefs joined McLeod's party on 21 and 22 October 1826 at the Umpqua River. See p. 184. The "Principal Chief" or "old Chief", identified by David Douglas as Centrenose (see p. 184, n. 4, and p. 185, n. 1), left McLeod and turned back from the sea coast on 25 October, but Little Chief remained and he was undoubtedly the Umpqua Indian described by McLeod on 4 January 1827 as ranking as a chief. Little Chief left McLeod on 22 January. See pp. 202, 208.

natives represented, but still no impediment as yet afforded to obstruct our progress, with great deal of persuasion our Guide assented to proceed as we gave him to understand, our intention was merely to see the country, we would defer till a more favorable period to visit the Great river,<sup>1</sup> which these people are in the habit of visiting and from hence in Summer reached it in two days they represent it to be a fine stream, not very large somewhat answering by their description the Umpqua: like it the country on each side is plains, those people know nothing of its junction with the Sea. We continued our Journey, passed the village about 4 miles, following the same track by which we came, and in this short space, had to ford the river three different times, on one occasion Laderoute proved unable to follow his companions, had to go to his assistance still we had not come to the worst part of the way, seeming difficulties increasing, without any advantage accruing from persevering further I deemed it advisable to trace our steps back, to examine the Indian route to the Umpqua, which if practicable for loaded horses at this period of the season, the length of the river, Shequits, no doubts exist, but we can get to the great river by this rout after a few days fine weather as the water falls as rapidly as it rises. At dusk we formed our camp about a mile south of the last village we past. The Indians brought us some fresh trout of small size, but not unpalatable, their dried fish of which also they brought us some, is very indifferently cured without taste of a bad quality: in this respect, they fare better than their friends in the lower part of the river. The former having the advantage of vegetable productions growing abundantly in their neighborhood a luxury to Indian palate that the later seldom enjoys as none grows within their reach.

*Tuesday 12th.* Very heavy rain throughout the night and day — as early as possible we proceeded to the village and to our surprise found the water had risen four feet perpendicular since we past yesterday, had some further conversation with the Indians on the subject of the resources of the country, their assertions tend to encourage us to persevere in our pursuit, several minor streams are pointed out to us said to contain beaver, but the great river in particular is frequently alluded to, as possessing beaver in great plenty; but these people like their neighbours are subject to exaggerate, so we can't rely on what they say. These people seemingly never molest those animals, I presume others either judging from appearances they never kill an animal and depend solely on the produce of the waters for subsistence, with roots that grow spontaneously in the vicinity, the same observation is applicable to the natives on the great river, who never trouble themselves about furs, and have little or no intercourse with strangers. At the second village, we hired two canoes; in

<sup>1</sup> Part of Rogue River. See pp. lxi-ii.

which we embarked and proceeded before the current with uncommon velocity to its junction with the main river. It keeps the same breadth all long, bank in many places high and perpendicular. The bed of this river is of gravel in the present state of the water, no impediment exists to obstruct the progress from the upper village; but in the summer it is very shallow, during the low state of the water. As we descended many Beaver vestiges were observed, and many must have remained unnoticed from the velocity with which we passed many places. At the forks we took our own crafts and before dusk reached our Camp, found every thing safe.<sup>1</sup>

*Wednesday 13th.* Light rain and cloudy weather. Made some preparations for a trip to the Umpqua, thro' the country, the object of which is to bring our horses if practicable. The women employed in drying skins, at which job the men assist.

*Thursday 14th.* Rainy weather. With the same men as on the former occasion accompanied me, we left the Camp in canoe ascended the river<sup>2</sup> the length of the forks, left our craft, being provided with Indian guide, shaped our course southerly thro' a foot path leading along the west shore of the north branch about two miles up the river we found a small village containing half dozen of Indians situated at the foot of a steep rock, which obstructed our passage, but by means of the only canoe these people had, we were enabled to pass the precipice, which otherwise might have caused much loss of time, thro' more than seventy yards in the direction we are going. After dusk the two Owwhyees cast up being in rear ever since we left our crafts, the present state of the water renders the road infinitely worse than it otherwise would be, could we ford the Channel occasionally, it would exempt us from passing many bad places. We find the representations the Indians made of this rout to be very incorrect: however in summer it certainly assumes more favorable aspect. The country on both sides of the river as much as we can see of it, is mountainous and broken and covered with much wood.

*Friday 15th.* Heavy rain continues and in the evening came on snow. Continued our Journey and ascended the mountain nearly to its summit, passed two small villages collectively not exceeding twenty inhabitants of the masculine gender. Lost couple of hours waiting for the two oyhees, their non appearance, and our uncomfortable situation from the inclement weather, hurried us forward leaving them to make their way forward the best way they can, taking for granted that they cannot stray from the track. We put up in the face of a steep hill, much exposed, having no other canopy than what our Blankets afforded. Saw elks tracks as we came along, we crossed four small streams runing from west to east.

<sup>1</sup> They were back at their camp of 9-10 December on Coquille River.

<sup>2</sup> See p. lxii.

*Wednesday [sic] 16th.* Weather fine, in the course of the forenoon descend the mountain and entered a fine plain where I appointed a rendezvous with Depoty but to my surprise no vestiges can be found which circumstance led us to continue forward after passing a short mountain covered with thick woods we again got into a plain country on the bank of a small river, met Indians who informed us of Depote's residence and added that a gentleman with some men, was stationed at the Umpqua river, we directed our steps towards Depotys camp, but the darkness of night put a stop to our progress, previously we espied a grizzly she Bear, and two Cubs having nothing for supper, was an inducement to make some exertions and success crowned our endeavors, one of the young ones escaped owing to the obscurity of the night. Encamped in the open plain.

*Sunday 17th.* Rain returned with as much violence as ever. In the forenoon we reached Depatys camp,<sup>1</sup> he handed the letters, amongst others, was an official one<sup>2</sup> from Chief Factor McLoughlin, purporting to send a reinforcement of 11 men whose names are specified, to be at the establishment at a fixed period in March. Meantime to employ them to the best advantage that circumstances may warrant. We proceeded to the site of an old establishment on the Umpqua<sup>3</sup> where we found Mr. Birnie<sup>4</sup> with Laframboise, P. Letang<sup>5</sup> and another man<sup>6</sup> seemingly waiting for my

<sup>1</sup> McLeod had entered the Umpqua Valley by way of Lookingglass Creek. Depaty's camp was near the present Roseburg, Douglas County. See p. lxii.

<sup>2</sup> McLoughlin's letters dated 15 and 21 November 1826. See Appendix D, pp. 223-4.

<sup>3</sup> No definite information concerning the origin of this "old establishment", which was apparently near the junction of Elk Creek with the Umpqua, has so far been discovered in the Company's archives. McLoughlin, in 1843, recorded "In 1820 Mr. Thomas McKay was sent with a Party to explore the country South of the Wallamette . . ." (B.223/b/30, fo. 46). This statement was apparently correct, for on 2 March 1821 Finnan McDonald wrote that Thomas McKay was "doing well with his Band in the Weliamit" (F.3/2, fo. 234). Cf. K. A. Spaulding (ed.), Alexander Ross, *The Fur Hunters of the Far West* (Norman, Okla., 1956), p. 132. In July 1836 Chief Factor John McLoughlin sent William Glen Rae to examine "the place [Jean Baptiste] Gagnier selected for a Fort" on Umpqua River and to begin building operations (B.223/b/15, fo. 33). Thomas McKay was sent there in 1838 with "six good men, to put the affairs . . . in order, and tranquilize the Natives . . ." (B.223/b/20, fo. 23). This later post, said to be about thirty miles from the mouth of the Umpqua and three miles above the junction with Elk Creek, was visited by Lieutenant Emmons in 1841 (C. Wilkes, *Narrative of the United States Exploring Expedition. During the Years 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842* (London, 1845), V, 224-8). This Fort Umpqua, established in 1836, and marked on Wilkes's map of 'Oregon Territory', was also described in 'List of Posts and Establishments . . . belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company . . . 1846', and referred to by John Nicholson in his deposition dated Victoria, Vancouver Island, 15 September 1865 (*British and American Joint Commission for the Settlement of the Claims of the Hudson's Bay and Puget's Sound Agricultural Companies, 'Evidence on the part of the Hudson's Bay Company, Claimants', pp. 122, 147-50*). Cf. Lewis A. McArthur, *Oregon Geographic Names*, 2nd edition (Portland, Ore., 1944), pp. 183, 210, 525.

<sup>4</sup> James Birnie. For a biography see *H.B.R.S.*, III, 428-9.

<sup>5</sup> See p. 142. Pierre L'Etang was a former North West Company servant. He appears to have become a freeman in 1829 (B.239/x/2, p. 289; B.223/d/105a, p. 149).

<sup>6</sup> See Appendix D, p. 224. The only "Bastonnais" having an account in the Company's Northern Department ledger in 1821 was Jean Baptiste Bostonois. He was a former North West Company employee in the Athabaska district. He became a freeman in 1822 (B.239/x/2, p. 73).

arrival, the former gentleman was the Bearer of the dispatches from the fort. Deputy was engaged to hunt otherwise I would have met him at the appointed place, he having lately killed an Elk, brought the meat forward, sent two lads with two horses for the Bear we left at our last resting place.

*Monday 18th.* Heavy rain all day. No particular occurrence took place. A couple of our men that were with Deputy cast up. No intelligence of our two Owhyhees; Dupont and Tawai<sup>1</sup> whom I found here with Deputy are labouring under an indisposition, in case of their getting worse, suggests the Idea of sending them to get medical assistance.

*Tuesday 19th.* Rainy weather continued. Deputy's family arrived at dusk our long expected Owhyhees made their appearance famished and fagged, took an account of their property and made a division thereof, preparatory to our removal from hence.

*Wednesday 20th.* Still rainy weather, made several appointments to wit: Mr. Birnie with two men to proceed to Fort Vancouver bearing dispatches.<sup>2</sup> Laframboise with Letang and two men to proceed on trading excursion along the coast as far north as Cawais's village from thence to trace back their steps to the entrance of the Umpqua in the event of meeting any of my party on their way up to accompany them, failing that to leave what furs they may have to a trusty Indian and proceed to effect a junction with us at the river Shequits.

*Thursday 21st.* Light rain. Comfortable to the settlement made yesterday, two parties started, by Mr. Birnie with two men Dupont and Tawai, having five horses, directed their course to Fort Vancouver. They have dispatches for Doctor McLaughlin. M. Laframboise with Letang, Faniant and Joyalle, departed: their mission is above mentioned, it was my intention to move from hence, today but having rain coming on before we got our horses and ready, made us postpone our departure till tomorrow.

*Friday 22nd.* Heavy rain, entrusted some of our property and baggage to an Indian residing in this neighbourhood, taking forward what will answer our purpose till our return proceeded about 7 miles and encamped. 1 deer killed.

*Saturday 23rd.* Fine weather. Continued our Journey about 14 miles and encamped: saw some deer. Hunters had no success.

*Sunday 24th.* Rain fell heavily during the night, but ceased with the dawn of day and the weather continued fine which favored us as we had a small mountain, covered with thick woods to pass, which in rainy weather

<sup>1</sup> See p. 142. Towai, as his name appears in the Company's accounts, was a former North West Company employee. He was still active in 1834 (B.239/x/2, p. 542; B.223/d/105a, p. 256).

<sup>2</sup> McLeod's letter was dated 18 December 1826. See Appendix D, p. 225.

would expose our property to be damaged, having no proper covering to secure from being wet. Proceeded about nine miles and encamped on the bank of a small river<sup>1</sup> at the end of the plains: here Deputy fixes his camp till my return: further horses cannot go at this season with safety, prepared to cross the mountains, 3 deer killed and brought to camp.

*Monday 25th.* Weather fine. Having every thing ready, the same men, that accompanied me, now return, John Kennedy and Gobin being the only addition. Having light loads we went a good part part of the mountain, whose ascent is very steep and the descent not so steep but very long at the its base. Pass'd the first river flowing in from the west and encamped, one of our party little Michel<sup>2</sup> missing, having returned on the way for some thing, he forgot come night coming on he could not find his way.

*Tuesday 26th.* Fine weather, as soon as day dawned, we got in motion just at the moment, little Michel hove in sight. In the evening we reached our camp and found every thing in good order and safe.<sup>3</sup> Four of our party remained in the rear.

*Wednesday 27th.* Fine weather. The remainder of our party cast up, today in two divisions — settled a party to proceed under the guidance of P. Charles — to trap beaver in a river in our front not very remote from hence, Ignace having found some beaver in this vicinity, sent him to set his traps.

*Thursday 28th.* Fine weather. Eight men under the guidance of P. Charles departed for the purpose of trapping in a river southward of us they descend this river to the sea from hence proceed along the beach, the two Indians that accompany them, are to act as Interpreters. In the course of the day, the remainder of the party, except Ignace, who attends to his traps, proceeded down stream below our first encampment, in this stream, many vestiges of beaver. Few Indians are now seen, to what we formerly saw, occasioned by the failure of fish which makes the natives resort to other parts.

*Friday 29th.* Still fine weather, all hands setting traps, with instructions to be at the camp every night, unless leave of absence is previously obtained. A party of Indians visited us, they were much gratified with a hearty meal we gave them.

*Saturday 30th.* Same weather as yesterday. At dusk Ignace and family arrived, he caught seven beavers and otters, since we left him others who visited the traps set yesterday, brought two beavers. More traps set — many shots missed at otters.

<sup>1</sup> Lookingglass Creek.

<sup>2</sup> Besides Michel Laframboise who had left the party on 21 December, one 'Michel' Otoetanie is known to have been on this expedition and another 'Michel' Ouamtanie may have been.

<sup>3</sup> Presumably at their camp of 12 December 1826 on Coquille River.

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<sup>1</sup> Lookingglass Creek.

<sup>2</sup> Besides Michel Laframboise who had left the party on 21 December, one 'Michel' Otoetanie is known to have been on this expedition and another 'Michel' Ouamtanie may have been.

<sup>3</sup> Presumably at their camp of 12 December 1826 on Coquille River.

*Sunday 31st.* Fine weather still, altho' beaver so common hereabouts, the ebb and flow of the Ocean is much against trapping; moreover in land, the height of the water proves an insurmountable obstacle, for the men can neither, proceed afoot nor with a craft, brush wood and fallen trees obstruct the various channels — 4 Beaver brought to the Camp. Indians engaged as guides, to show where beaver resides.

*Monday 1st January 1827.* Fine weather, all the men out the whole day the close of which brought them home, with only 3 beavers a party of Indians visited us, among whom were many elderly men whom we interrogated on various subjects, but to little purpose as they can give us no satisfactory information or else they plead ignorance, it is obvious, fiction is predominant failing with them.

*Tuesday 2nd.* Fine weather. Having but six men about me still they were not backward in observing the usual ceremony of the new year, a fathom of tobacco given them on the occasion — afterwards they were directed to decamp — from hence, to a more eligible spot about seven miles nearer the Ocean, which we reached in good time to form our Camp. Great indication of beaver. Two Elks killed a part of one brought to Camp.

*Wednesday 3rd.* Fine weather, the men after bringing the meat we had in the field to the camp, went to visit their traps, they only caught one Beaver, two missed, in the course, we heard beaver playing in the water.

*Thursday 4th.* Rained at intervals. The Indians who accompanied P. Charles and party arrived, reported no bright prospects little or no Beaver to be found, they brought the skins of two state that the party will soon be here, unless they find greater encouragement than they have thitherto experienced, the natives attribute the disappearance of the beaver to the height of the water one beaver caught, an Umpqua Indian who ranks as a chief with this people, voluntarily accompanied us since leaving said river and was one of those that accompanied the party to the southward on his return yesterday, passing a village situated by this stream, some miles westward of us, to advantage of a favourable opportunity and seized on the person of a youth and succeeded in carrying him with impunity: no doubt this act of aggression will be imputed to us, as being committed by an individual attached to our party; therefore to do away with any bad impression, this act of cruelty might create, after reproving the old fellow sharply, in presence of many Indians, for his misconduct took the youth from him and returned him to his friends.

*Friday 5th.* Heavy rain in the course of the night, succeeded by fine weather during the day. Sent two men to deliver the above mentioned youth to his Parents, who were grateful for our interference. Perre

Charles, & four of the party arrived, the others have stopped to lay their up a small river where some Beaver vestiges were seen, they have had no success: seventeen Beaver is all they caught. All hands daily at their traps, they brought eight beaver today two men stopped out to examine a creek running some distance to the interior.

*Saturday 6th.* Cloudy weather. Aubichon and Joudoin who slept out on leave of absence, returned today, brought one beaver and two cranes, made preparations to proceed with a few men along the coast, the object in view is to reach, if possible, the great river, said to be some distance to the southward all our endeavors to obtain satisfactory account of it have failed but I hope the excursion in contemplation, will put the question at rest. Settled two Indians to be of the party, gave instructions to the people remaining at the camp to continue trapping, turn about day after day, only half of them to absent themselves at once.

*Sunday 7th.* Fine weather, till midday when heavy rain and occasionally hail came on, accompanied by high S.W. wind — with the rising sun six men and self on board of a canoe, descended the river<sup>1</sup> to its confluence with the Ocean, from hence afoot along the beach about 14 miles and sixteen by water, passed a small river by the natives (Chiste etudi)<sup>2</sup> formed our Camp near where our people were lately trapping, on the border of an extensive marsh or swamp. Saw many wild fowl, but the stormy weather precluded hunting, tho' our situation and circumstances would render it a necessary expedient for our means of subsistence entirely depend on the chase.<sup>3</sup>

*Monday 8th.* Fine weather, we started, having previously sent forward our three Indians, (for we took one on the way) to obtain guides and Interpreters at the next river, we found them before the Indians came with a canoe, the village being situated on the east bank of a small lake, which divided us from them, and without a craft we could not get at them, for no wood is to be found on the west shore, which is composed of sand thrown up by the sea, after waiting some time at last a canoe brought us, still further delay incurred before we got a guide: that object accomplished we continued our journey. This tribe of Indians is called, *Got tam you*,<sup>4</sup> the discharge of the lake we passed yesterday, and today passed the river of the same name, also another stream about an hundred yards wide, here we

<sup>1</sup>Coquille River.

<sup>2</sup>The Khustenete.

<sup>3</sup>McLeod's route from this point onwards is difficult to follow. Assuming that the 'small river' mentioned on 7 January is Sixes River and that he turned inland shortly after passing it, he was travelling for four days (8-11 January) before reaching the Toototenez (Rogue) River at a point four miles from the sea. Distances of 17 and 13 miles are recorded for 8 and 10 January, but none stated for the other two days. McLeod does not give the directions in which he advanced. In these circumstances the identification of rivers in the entries for 8-11 January should be regarded as provisional

<sup>4</sup>Kwatami.

found a deserted village; for want of timber we were obliged to use the planks with which the natives form their huts to raft us over the river. Beaver muck seen at every river as we go along, the Indians who never saw a European face before, seemed to be alarmed, for we observed in the course of the day, several running with all their might from us. Thro' the means of our Interpreter, we hailed them but ineffectually. This river is termed, *Squits en*.<sup>1</sup> Proceeded about 17 miles and formed our Camp on the border of a small lake, about a mile and a half long killed 3 geese and a duck, saw Elk tracks, tho of a late date, yet we are too much hurried to lose time to hunt.

*Tuesday 9th.* Fine weather: as we preparing to start, we saw a Beaver swimming opposite to our camp, and gave the name to the Lake — he was shot at but at too long distance to do execution.

*Wednesday 10th.* Fine weather, continued our rout, in consequence of many steep rocks, we had to ascend and descend the hills alternately, little or no wood, having a foot path along which we followed. Passed the river *Quatachen* and river *Henne-Chenni*<sup>2</sup> both small and not above knee deep water at ebb tide, Beaver vestiges in both, the natives never molest them we observed also several Sea Otters close to the rocks; one was wounded by a rifle shot, but for want of a canoe, we lost it, met with some Indians in the course of the day, after their panic was dissipated and a few presents handed them, they assented to keep us company, so we continued in company, till evening when we shared our booty of the day with them, having three deer we gave them one and reserved two small ones for ourselves distance 13 miles. Country rough tho' free of woods. Many tracks of Elk and deer. Seen no harbors for vessels along this part of the coast, except what point of rocks can afford, which are more favorable to Indian canoes than any other crafts.

*Thursday 11th.* Fine weather, continued our progress, we had not gone far when we discovered a village situated on the borders of a small river, sent some of our deputies forward to dissipate the confusion observed among the inhabitants, being on an eminence we could see all their motions in an instant they had their war garments on, and had their different weapons in hand, which were not laid aside, until we got in the midst of them, and given them every assurance of amity. Strengthened with the few trinkets we presented them, had the desired effect. This river is about 50 yards at ebb tide, termed, *Ukejeh*<sup>3</sup> there were many Indians at the village, the majority being up the river, the same case at the other villages we saw, so that an idea of the population cannot be hazarded

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps Mussel Creek.

<sup>2</sup> Perhaps two forks of Elk River, Curry County, Oregon.

<sup>3</sup> Elk River, or perhaps the northern tributary of Rogue River.

without liability to incorrectness. The Indians accompanying us prove defective in their official capacities, not possessing a knowledge of the language of these people so accurately as to serve our purpose effectually, on many points that we wish to get information cannot be obtained, Beaver works continue plentiful and the natives inform us that in the interior there is plenty, and confess that they never molest them, we endeavored as well as we could to encourage them to hunt beaver, but pleaded ignorance of the method of killing these animals, when told that beaver was the object of our pursuit, they appeared amazed and pointed towards the east of south, saying we would find plenty in small rivers flowing into the great one, the object of our research which was not far, before sun set if we continued our rout we would reach it. We accordingly set forward and reached the river about the hour the Indians told us, by a short rout over land thro' a fine country, covered well, fine grass in full verdure. This stream is called in the native dialect *Toototenez*,<sup>1</sup> it falls short of the description report has given it, in size and depth for it does not exceed a quarter of a mile in breadth, where we fell upon it about four miles from the sea at a village containing about a dozen of Indians, for brevity's sake I shall pass over the confusion excited by our unexpected appearance, which however was attended with no consequence and was speedily terminated and perfect reconciliation established, which a few trinkets tended to strengthen. Formed our camp close to the village that we might observe their motions better and fixed on a convenient situation for our purpose, these people like the rest of their brethren don't trouble themselves about beaver, tho' vestiges exist in every creek that we past, not half from hence, we observed some of this date, still these people have not a skin amongst them they confirm the report that up this river beaver is plentiful, the Indians that accompanied us, kept company with the strangers till late hour, the few attached to our party as usual to our camp, about an hour after, the others evacuated their dwellings except a lame man whose infirmities precluded his following the others, we find out that the desire of communicating our arriv[al]<sup>2</sup> to their friends influenced them to depart at such unseasonable hour, these people as well as the others we saw, seem poorly supplied with the means of subsistence, Whale Bl[ubber] seemingly they have a quantity, a dainty dish to them in general my men obtained some and praised it very much for its delicacy indeed it must proved to them for they swallowed it with avidity.

<sup>1</sup> The "Great River", the Rogue River. See pp. lxiii, lxv.

<sup>2</sup> This word appears in the manuscript at the end of a line and about half-way down folio 14. From this point to the bottom of the folio, where the words "ignorant of the method" (see p. 206) appear, the paper has apparently been in contact with something of a sticky nature and separation has caused several jagged tears along the edge. Omission marks indicate the missing words.

*Friday 12th.* Fine weather, we borrowed canoes from ..... and proceeded to the junction of the river with the ..... found two villages; one on the north, and the other on ..... shore, the former inhabited, the latter, one family ..... a dwelling, judging from the number of huts, suggest ..... idea that no small degree of alarm, must exist, for it was [obvi]ous, that these dwellings had been lately abandoned, ..... we were confirmed in the opinion, that our arrival caus[ed] uncommon concern, but observed our Informant, a prin[cipal] Indian and Leader of the tribe, they have resor[ted] to the ..... and will returned with the evening, which prov[ed] to be the case, and we availed ourselves of the occasion to present [them] with a few trinkets and notified them of our research ..... they told the same story as the others, that .... river was .... in beaver, that they were ignorant of the method ..... ting the animals and besides having no market for furs made them more indifferent about them, they further added to our interrogatory questions, that they know of no great river south of our present situation, that this one on whose banks we situated, was the largest they were acquainted with or heard of. We formed our Camp on the north shore. Here the river is nearly a mile from bank to bank — but its channel is obstructed by shoals, formed of gravel, the bottom of the river is formed of the same and the water very transparent, its entrance very narrow, ebb tide not three hundred yards wide on each side a bank of sand on which the surf runs very high, a chain of rocks connected with the point on the north shore, runs several miles out to sea. The hills are lofty on both sides of the river, clayeish soil, with fine grass in full verdure less woods on the north, than the south shore as far we could see the hills continuing the same as far as the sight could extend, in the direction of the river, which appears to come from eastward, the want of a compass precluded ascertaining this point we have seen many seals on the river and many other marine animals not unlike the sea lion at which several shots were fired, without effect. 9 Bustards killed of larger size than any I have seen in this quarter; their colour dark, and under the wings deep brown.

*Saturday 13th.* Same weather as yesterday, in the course of the night we observed the natives to have returned to their habitations, we availed ourselves of the opportunity at an early hour this morning to visit them, after a short conference a [few] articles<sup>1</sup> (trinkets) were distributed amongst them and we [depa]rted and returned up the river to our first encampment [saw] many Beaver vestiges, tho' the distance was but few miles three Elk killed and several Bustards. One sea otter skin traded, in this neighbour-

<sup>1</sup> See p. 205, n. 2. This is the point about half-way down folio 14d. where the jagged tears begin.

hood, the Indians say, those an[imals] are numerous at a certain of the season; they even enter .....

*Sunday 14th.* Fine weather, we had an interview with the [princi]pal Indians of the place at an early hour and notified [them of] our intentions to join our party, and observed that [we wo]uld again visit them in quest of Beaver, in reply to [which] they replied as before, that up this river would find ..... abandoned the idea of ascend this river for a proper ..... canoes these people have, are not at all calculated ..... such strong currents as run in this river, they are [shaped] like [a tr]ough, square at each end, their breadth about ..... of their length. On leaving our camp we went ..... animals killed yesterday laid, many Indians ..... us, to whom we gave the greatest share, reserving a little ..... us forward; while the men were preparing their [brea]kfast, ..... of the natives succeeded in escaping unobserved ..... one of our small hatchets after our search made in which the remainder of the natives joined, to no avail we had recourse to other means and detained half dozen of them for sometime, till a message was delivered to the principal characters, signifying our intentions of recovering the stolen article, or else ample remuneration made us in return in a short time, three Chiefs with about sixty followers made their appearance, and informed us that our suspicions were well-founded, but that the offender was out of reach and some days would elapse before the article could be recovered, to bring the case to a termination, they offered us a hostage and gave us up the services of an Indian of their tribe till our return when they would recover the stolen article and restore it, this settlement was acceded to, and both departed us with our hostage on our return and the Indians to their dwellings — we availed ourselves of the opportunity this circumstance offered of intimating to them our abhorrence of thieving and indeed it was the value of the article as the act to have passed it over in silence might not only leave a bad impression but actuate them to further aggression, we encamped near river Ukejeh, a few Indians from thence came to us, spent part of the evening at our camp and went back.

*Monday 15th.* High northerly wind with frequent showers of hail and snow continued our progress passed river river Ukejeh had an interview with the Indians, passed the river Hene Chenni at dusk we put up in the face of a steep hill, where we laid much exposed to the wind — two deers killed and one only rendered to the camp.

*Tuesday 16th.* The same weather as yesterday, continued our rout and encamped at the last woods south of river Got tom ye killed three bustards.

*Wednesday 17th.* Weather still more stormy than yesterday, in the

evening the wind increased to a gale, however we reached our camp,<sup>1</sup> found every thing safe, the night being far spent when we got home, the Indians accompanying us could not keep up, but did not stop in the rear, our hunters had but little success, both with traps as well as with the gun; yet it is acknowledged both beaver and elk are plentiful; the rise and fall of water is so frequent and generally on either extreme which renders trapping a very precarious business at this season.

*Thursday 18th.* Stormy weather continued throughout the day the arrivals preparing to set traps, granted leave of absence to Kennedy and Laderoute, to be here the day after tomorrow, to leave their traps set, if appearances justify the measure. Two beaver and an otter brought to camp, at my suggesting to some of our party previous to my departure on my late jaunt to proceed to river Cahouse for the purpose of trade, the instruction was followed up, but no success ensued in consequence of the high value the Indians put on the few furs they possessed, being informed by stragglers that we put an advance on our property, above the rate allowed at the establishment which precluded the possibility of settling with them and without being authorised I am not justifiable in establishing such precedent, as would satisfactory to those people, for it is very evident they will not give their skins, under the value of the Fort Vancouver Indian Tariff. I felt somewhat disappointed that Laframboise and party are not arrived.

*Friday 19th.* Same weather as yesterday with rather less rain men started in various directions to set traps and hunt large animals provisions scarce.

*Saturday 20th.* During the forenoon the weather was fine, but soon changed and rain fell in torrents traps visited no success, great rise observed in the water.

*Sunday 21st.* Cloudy weather, and light rain all day, an elk and a beaver brought to camp, the missing of Beaver is echoed from every mouth all day; the meat of three elk brought in and a beaver. Having barely time for the men to reach the establishment agreeable to orders, making allowances for detention by stress of weather, it is now necessary to put a stop to trapping even if time permitted, the weather is too unfavorable for the purpose.

*Monday 22nd.* Same weather as yesterday, issued orders for all the traps to be taken up, in doing which two beaver were found in them. Women employed in scraping skins settled with the little Chief Kitty yeahun and Neaze who return to their respective homes along the coast. Made some preparations for starting tomorrow should the weather permit. As the navigation of the Umpqua is very dangerous at this season of the year,

<sup>1</sup> On Coquille River.

suggests the other rout by the north east branch of this river, as the surest way, as we can by means of canoes reach the foot of the mountain from thence men can easily in three days carry our property over to McKays [Depaty's] camp, at least where we last left them in a fine plain at the base of the mountain, southward from hence. Some of the party having traps above were allowed to start to recover them.

*Tuesday 23rd.* Cloudy weather, with frequent showers of rain Aubichon, Joudoin Turoucoohinna requested to proceed by the Umpqua to recover some property they left there in November which I agreed to, having no burthen but their own things from where the navigation is dangerous, they can proceed by land gave a note to Ignace for Laframboise directing him to afford the party what assistance he can, and take every advantage of the favorable weather to get forward, directed this little party to keep together with the exception of Ignace who stopt to finish scraping a skin or two meantime the others go a short distance forward to lay their traps and are to wait for him, about midday the remainder of the party and self proceeded a few miles up the river, the heavy rain made us put sooner than we otherwise would have done, having upwards of two hundred skins in furs and no proper covering gives much trouble to preserve them from injury. The men who preceded us yesterday, we found near where we formed our Camp, they could not recover some of their traps owing to the heavy rise in the water, in the traps taken up, four Beavers were found in them.

*Wednesday 24th.* The rain fell so heavily that we could not stir many Beaver vestiges about our camp, induced the men to set a few traps some Indians came to us from above, report many elk in that quarter water is very high and the current proportionally strong. In the course of the afternoon Ignace cast up, with a sick child of his, whose indisposition suggested the idea of coming to us to obtain medical assistance. The child's case is not dangerous, tho' the father alarmed.

*Thursday 25th.* Heavy rain — in the course of the night the water rose about four feet perpendicular in the river, during the night the Indian that was given us as hostage, effected his escape he was seduced by an acquaintance of his who residing on this river who accompanying Ignace, the latter Indian informed of this circumstance took to the woods and we saw him no more, confirmed us in the opinion that he was privy to the others escape. Ignace departed in the course of the forenoon, I admonished him to make all haste and join the others, in fifteen days he expects to reach the old fort in the Umpqua, the appointed place of rendezvous.

*Friday 26th.* Light rain, we proceeded to the first fork distance about 9 miles, heavy rain made put up, no particular occurrence.

be said to consist of two parts—to improve the mind and acquire Manners to regulate our Intercourse with others but you must see that in proportion as you improve your Mind you will acquire manners if you apply to your Studies you will become Modest, Respectful, Sensible, anxious to give satisfaction to those with whom you have Intercourse and see the necessity, the absolute necessity, every Man is under of acquiring the Good Will of others. On the other hand, if you are an Idler you will be stubborn, conceited, assuming and self willed—be you cautious then of never being Idle. As Idleness is the root of all Evil, and Bear in mind that as the Labour of the Mind is superior to that of the Body by so much is a well informed Man superior to an Ignorant Laborer. At the same time that application to our Studies increases our knowledge it improves our hearts and elevates our Mind to the Great Author of our Being—points our Duty to him—and makes us preserve the Advantage to ourselves in discharging them with cheerfulness and pleasure. Be you therefore most attentive Morning and Evening to address your prayers to the Almighty Father of all to Return him thanks for the Great Benefits that you have received at his hands and to implore him to Grant you the Grace so to Regulate your conduct as to deserve a continuance of the same and if you punctually do this you may depend you will succeed in the World and be a Credit to yourself and to your friends. I expect you to pay particular attention to every thing my uncle Desires you as also your school master as a complaint from them would Expose you to my Displeasure. It is impossible to send you shoes from this as the people who go from this with Letters can only take them and their provisions across the mountains. May God Bless you.

[JOHN McLOUGHLIN]

## THE OREGON STATE BOUNDARY

By LEWIS A. McARTHUR

IT WILL be the purpose of this article to mention in some detail the various steps that have been taken to describe officially and to mark on the ground the boundaries of the present state of Oregon. No attempt will be made to consider the situation that existed before the formation of Oregon Territory.

Oregon Territory was organized August 14, 1848, with boundaries described as follows:

all that part of the Territory of the United States which lies west of the summit of the Rocky Mountains, north of the forty-second degree of north latitude, known as the Territory of Oregon, shall be organized into and constitute a temporary government by the name of the Territory of Oregon.

In 1853 the territory was reduced by the formation of Washington Territory, and on February 14, 1859, it was admitted as a state with its present limits. The boundaries were described in the state constitution of 1857 as follows:

Beginning one marine league at sea, due west from the point where the forty-second parallel of north latitude intersects the same; thence northerly, at the same distance from the line of the coast lying west and opposite the State, including all islands within the jurisdiction of the United States, to a point due west and opposite the middle of the north ship channel of the Columbia River; thence easterly to and up the middle channel of said river, and, where it is divided by islands, up the middle of the widest channel thereof, and in like manner up the middle of the main channel of Snake River to the mouth of Owyhee River; thence due south to the parallel of latitude forty-two degrees north; thence west along said parallel to the place of beginning, including jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases upon the Columbia River and Snake River concurrently with States and Territories of which those rivers form a boundary in common with this state. But the Congress of the United States, in providing for the admission of this State into the Union, may make the said northern boundary conform to the act creating the Territory of Washington.

The congress did not adopt the boundary set forth in the Oregon constitution of 1857. A change was made which resulted in cutting off from the new state that part of Washington now embraced in Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield and Asotin counties, or, in other words, all that part of Washington south of Snake River. This was done by changing that part of

dred pounds for my five years service. So much for myself. As to the other part of your letter regarding my Brother, I am happy that you have remit'd him the hundred pounds but, by the by, I had given orders to that effect and, if my memory does not fail me, with both you, my grandfather and my uncle Alexander, to advance that sum on my account. And this year if you or my uncle Alexander should require it, the Company's Agents will pay you a hundred pounds on my account to be remitt'd if necessary to David. I do not know where I would advise David to settle, and therefore leave it all to himself, and will conclude my letter with the usual way, though I hope you will do me justice to believe that with sincerity and esteem,

I am, Dear Uncle,

Your affectionate nephew

JOHN McLOUGHLIN

DR. JOHN McLOUGHLIN TO JOHN FRASER

Fort Vancouver 17th March 1826

My Dear Cousin

I have observed your note at the end of my Uncle's letter and see you write a very good hand for a Boy and that if you chuse you will write very well. Now mind what I say take pains and learn and every one will be fond of you but if you do not mind your book and take pains to learn no one will care for you nor will look at you so you see it will be your fault if people are not fond of you. I expect a very long letter from you and that I will be able to shew to every one and tell them this is my cousin John's letter, he is only seven years of age, see what a fine hand he writes and

I am Dear John

Your affectionate cousin

JOHN McLOUGHLIN

Master John Fraser  
Care of Dr. Fraser  
Terrebonne  
Montreal

DR. JOHN McLOUGHLIN TO JOHN McLOUGHLIN, JUNIOR

Fort Vancouver 1st February 1830

My Dear Boy,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 27th last April and am surpris'd after the refusal I gave your Request to come and join me you should again make it. You ought to know that if I conceived it to your advantage I would have acced'd to your wish and I have written my friends to consider what Business you are qualifi'd for and to place you accordingly. But of this they will judge as I am afraid you are not yet sufficiently advanced in your education—and if they leave you at school I Desire you will particularly apply yourself to study the English and French Grammar so as to be able to write in both languages correctly. I am happy to see the great improvement in your hand writing since the date of your preceding though I must say (as you are now of age when the truth should be told you, to enable you to judge correctly) that your hand writing is not such as it ought to be considering your age and the time you have been at school (it is very inferior to your sisters writing) which is certainly owing to yourself and shews you did not apply as much as you ought. Recollect that any Man can Accustom himself to write a good hand and that while learning you are working for yourself and at the very best and most profitable kind of em[ploymen]t you can have and that a school master may be as able and exert himself as much as possible still his scholars will only improve in proportion to their own exertions and their own Real Anxious Desire to Learn. Men form their opinion of young people (And it is correct) from the zeal with which they see them Apply to their Studies and the progress they make and there never was yet a person of a Good Disposition who did not give proofs of it (when he had an opportunity) by his application to his Studies. you are now a Man and ought to be able to perceive what I state is correct and if you feel that pride and ambition (which I hope you have) to Rise in the world, you must see that the only way you can succeed is by Applying yourself Most diligently to your Education. You must employ every Moment that you have to spare from your meals and sleep to improve yourself and take pains to do *with all care imaginable As well as you possible can.* Education May