

## Part I. Old Trails and New Arrivals: March 27, 1855 – Early October, 1855

### **Background: Treaty at Table Rocks in 1853 and Coos County Indian Lands in 1854**

#### **Table Rocks, September 10, 1853.**

**A. G. Walling** [1884: 221-224]: *Reinforcements began to arrive from various quarters by the time the forces returned to the valley. Ettlinger had faithfully performed his duty, and presented the governor with memorials from citizens and officials of Jacksonville and vicinity, which set forth the dangerous condition of affairs and appealed for help. Among other things a howitzer was asked for, and this request was referred by the governor to the authorities at Fort Vancouver, who sent the weapon with a supply of ammunition, forty muskets with accoutrements, 4,000 cartridges, and some other articles. Lieutenant Kautz, since general, was sent in charge of the howitzer, with seven experienced men. Acting Governor Curry made proclamation for an armed guard of citizen volunteers to accompany the Lieutenant and his charge. In obedience to the call forty-one men volunteered, and led by J. W. Nesmith, with Lafayette Grover as lieutenant, hastened to the scene of hostilities. Lieutenant Grover went in advance with twenty men, and was joined at South Umpqua, on September first, by Judge M. P. Deady, who was on his way to Jacksonville to hold court. The next night they stopped at Levens' station, and a day or two later came to Table Rock, too late to be of service, but in time to assist at the peace talk. Joel Palmer, superintendent of Indian affairs in Oregon, and Samuel H. Culver, government Indian agent, successor of Judge Skinner, who had resigned his charge, also arrived. From Port Orford came Captain A. J. Smith, with his company of the first dragoons, sixty men in uniform, an imposing and unfamiliar sight to the people of the valley. These had slowly and laboriously toiled through devious trails, over fallen trees and through the almost impenetrable wildwood tangles along Rogue river to where their assistance might be needed, but only to find their services useless, unless it was to awe the haughty savage whose heart was yet divided in its councils. Owing to Palmer's failure to arrive at the time appointed, the peace talk was postponed until September tenth. Meantime the volunteers lay about headquarters talking over occurrences of the past fortnight and speculating upon those to come. They were 400 strong, and had little need to fear the results of future deliberations. Besides, Smith and Kautz were at hand and the former's sabres and the latter's twelve-pound howitzer with its shells, spherical case shot and canister, would soon make short work of the comparatively defenseless aborigines. The latter, too, talked and thought of the new dispensation of affairs, and looked with wonder and awe upon such preparations for their injury, and begged General Lane -- "Tyee Joe Lane" -- not to have the hy-as rifle fired, which took " a hat-full of powder and would shoot a tree down."*

*The inevitable war correspondent was abroad, even in that day, and under the title of "Socks" wrote to the Statesman of his visit to headquarters:*

*"Never having seen General Lane my curiosity prompted me to visit his camp day before yesterday. Having seen generals in the States togged out in epaulets, gold lace, cocked hats and long, shining swords, I expected to find something of the kind at headquarters. But fancy my surprise on being introduced to a robust, good-looking middle-aged man, with his right arm in a sling, the shirt sleeve slit open and dangling bloody from his shoulder, his legs incased in an old pair of gray breeches that looked like those worn by General Scott when he was exposed to the*

*'fire in the rear.' One end of them was supported by a buckskin strap, in place of a suspender, while one of the legs rested upon the remains of an old boot. His head was ornamented by a forage cap that from its appearance recalled remembrance of Braddock's defeat. This composed the uniform of the hero 'who never surrenders.'*

*"The quarters' were in keeping with the garb of the occupant; it being a rough log cabin about sixteen feet square, with a hole in one side for a door, and destitute of floor and chimney. In one corner lay a pile of sacks filled with provisions for the troops, in another a stack of guns of all sizes, from the old French musket down to the fancy silver-mounted sporting rifle, while in a third set a camp kettle, a frying-pan, a coffee pot minus the spout, a dozen tin cups, four pack saddles, a dirty shirt and a moccasin. The fourth corner was occupied by a pair of blankets said to be the general's bed; and on projecting puncheon lay ammunition for the stomach in the shape of a chunk of raw beef and a wad of dough. In the center of the 'quarters' was a space about four feet square for the accommodation of guests. Such being the luxuries of a general's quarters you may judge how privates have fared in this war."*

*A pleasant incident of the stay at Camp Alden was the flag presentation. The ladies of Yreka had decided to honor the braves of that locality who had so promptly volunteered in defense of their neighbors across the line, and had prepared flags and sent them through Dr. Gatliff to Camp Alden. The doctor gave them to General Lane, and a ceremony was arranged for the afternoon of September first. The two companies of Rhoades and Goodall, escorted by Terry's Crescent City Guards (an independent organization which volunteered to fight Indians, but performed no service owing to the abrupt close of the war), were marched up, and with appropriate words the General presented the banners.*

*On the tenth of September the leaders of opposing races met at the appointed place on the side of Table Rock and discussed and agreed upon terms of peace. The occasion was a remarkable one; and brought together many remarkable individuals. Many of those who were eye-witnesses of the "peace-talk" still live, and several have attained to honor and distinction. From the pens of two of these we have life-like and intelligible accounts of that meeting which was in some respects the most remarkable occurrence that ever took place in Southern Oregon. **Judge M. P. Deady** wrote concerning it:*

*"The scene of this famous 'peace talk' between Joseph Lane and Indian Joseph -- two men who had so lately met in mortal combat -- was worthy of the pen of Sir Walter Scott and the pencil of Salvator Ross. It was on a narrow bench of a long, gently-sloping hill lying over against the noted bluff called Table Rock. The ground was thinly covered with majestic old pines and rugged oaks, with here and there a clump of green oak bushes. About a half mile above the bright mountain stream that threaded the narrow valley below sat the two chiefs in council. Lane was in fatigue dress, the arm which was wounded at Buena Vista in a sling from a fresh bullet wound received at Battle creek. Indian Joseph, tall, grave and self-possessed, wore a long black robe over his ordinary dress. By his side sat Mary, his favorite child and faithful companion, then a comparatively handsome young woman, unstained with the vices of civilization. Around these sat on the grass Captain A. J. Smith -- now General Smith of St. Louis -- who had just arrived from Port Orford with his company of the First Dragoons; Captain Alvord, then engaged in the construction of a military road through the Umpqua canyon and since paymaster of the U. S. A.;*

*Colonel Bill Martin of Umpqua, Colonel John E. Ross of Jacksonville and a few others. A short distance above us on the hillside were some hundreds of dusky warriors in fighting gear, reclining quietly on the ground.*

*"The day was beautiful. To the east of us rose abruptly Table Rock and at its base stood Smith's dragoons, waiting anxiously with hand on horse the issue of this attempt to make peace without their aid. After a proposition was discussed and settled between the two chiefs, the Indian would rise up and communicate the matter to a huge warrior who reclined at the foot of a tree quite near us. Then the latter rose up and communicated the matter to the host above him, and they belabored it back and forth with many voices. Then the warrior communicated the thought of the multitude on the subject back to his chief; and so the discussion went on until an understanding was finally reached. Then we separated -- the Indians going back to their mountain retreat, and the whites to the camp."*

***J. W. Nesmith**, who was present and quite prominent at the treaty, has left some additional particulars of interest. He says:*

*"Early in the morning of the tenth of September, we rode toward the Indian encampment. Our party consisted of the following persons: General Lane, Joel Palmer Samuel Culver, Captain A. J. Smith, 1st Dragoons; Captain L. F. Mosher, adjutant; Colonel John Ross, Captain J. W. Nesmith, Lieutenant A. V. Kautz, R. B. Metcalf, J. D. Mason, T. T. Tierney. After riding a couple of miles we came to where it was too steep for horses to ascend, and dismounting, we proceeded on foot. Half a mile of scrambling over rocks and through brush brought us into the Indians' stronghold, just under the perpendicular cliff of Table Rock where were gathered hundreds of fierce and well armed savages. The business of the treaty began at once. Much time was lost in translating and re-translating and it was not until late in the afternoon that our labors were completed. About the middle of the afternoon an Indian runner arrived, bringing intelligence of the murder of an Indian on Applegate creek. He said that a company of whites under Captain Owens had that morning captured Jim Taylor, a young chief, tied him to a tree and shot him to death. This news caused the greatest confusion among the Indians, and it seemed for a time as if they were about to attack General Lane's party. The General addressed the Indians, telling them that Owens who had violated the armistice was a bad man, and not one of his soldiers. He added considerable more of a sort to placate the Indians, and finally the matter of 'Jim's death was settled by the whites agreeing to pay damages therefor in shirts and blankets."*

*The treaty of peace of September 10, 1855 [sic] contained the following provisions: Article 1 defines the boundaries of the lands occupied by the Rogue River and related tribes. The principal geographical points mentioned as lying upon these boundaries are, the mouth of Applegate creek, the summit of the Siskiyou mountains at Pilot Rock, the Snowy Butte (Mount Pitt), and a point near the intersection of the Oregon road near Jump-off-Joe creek. All Indians within these limits were to maintain peace with the whites, restore stolen property, and deliver up any of their number who might infringe the articles of the treaty. The second article provides that the tribes should permanently reside on a reservation to be set apart. According to article three they were to surrender all fire-arms except fourteen pieces, which were reserved for hunting. According to article 4, when the Indians received pay for their surrendered lands, a sum not exceeding \$15,000 was to be set aside to pay for whatever damages they had caused. By*

*article 5, they were to forfeit their annuities if they again made war. In article 6 they agree to inform the agent if hostile tribes entered the reservation.*

*A supplemental treaty regarding the sale of the Indians' lands, was entered into on the same day. By it they ceded to the United States government all their right to the lands lying within these boundaries: Commencing at a point on Rogue river below the mouth of Applegate creek, thence southerly to the divide between Applegate and Althouse creeks; thence along the divide to the summit of the Siskiyou mountains; thence easterly to Pilot Rock; thence to the summit of Mount Pitt; thence to Rogue river; thence westerly to Jump-off-Joe creek; thence to place of beginning.*

*The Indians were to occupy temporarily a reservation on Evans' creek, west and north of Table Rock, until another residence was found for them.*

*In consideration for the transfer of their rights, the agents agreed to pay the Indians sixty thousand dollars; of which fifteen thousand were to be retained as provided in the treaty of peace. The damages caused by the Indians were to be estimated by three disinterested persons. Five thousand dollars were to be expended in purchasing blankets, clothing, agricultural implements, and other desirable and necessary articles. The remaining forty thousand dollars were to be paid in sixteen annual payments of live stock, blankets, necessaries of life, etc. Three dwelling houses, one for each of the principal chiefs, were to be erected, at a cost of not more than five hundred dollars each. The remaining provisos relate to the non-molestation of the whites passing through the reservation; to the referral of grievances to the resident Indian agent; to the discovery of thefts, murders, etc.; and to the ratification of the treaty by the president, at which time it would take effect. The treaty for the cession of lands bore the signatures of Joel Palmer, Samuel H. Culver, Joe Aps-er-ka-har, Sam To-qua-he-ar, Jim Ana-cha-ara, John, and Limpy.*

#### **Coquille River, June 1854.**

**Daniel Giles** [Dodge 1898: 300-304]: *Johnson had discovered coarse gold on the headwaters of the south branch of the Coquille, and imparted his name to that tributary of the main stream, which was destined to yield a "million or more." Giles, leaving J. C. Fitzgerald, his partner, and the Indian boy, in charge of the schooner, joined two other men, procured the canoe, secured supplies and arms, and started for the new diggings. They glided up the romantic stream, dreaming of the glittering treasure which they expected to possess in a few days. The Coquille river, with its heavy foliage bending their graceful boughs over the placid waters, produced a scene of grandeur that was amazing. These beautiful pictures were fresh from the hand of nature. The woodman's ax had never marked the massive trunks of these mammoth forests. The wild birds were hopping from branch to limb, while their beautiful carols seemed to fill the air with nature's sweetest melody. No other sounds were heard except the dipping of their paddles, or an occasional splash when some member of the finny tribes would endeavor to jump from the surface of its habitation. The mosses hung at least a half a yard below the tree branches in graceful fringe which added grandeur to the most beautiful scenes.*

*As they left the Coquille bar and for a few miles inland, seals would seemingly follow their canoe, and occasionally lift their heads out of the water and gaze at them for a time, and then*

suddenly disappear. Their appearance reminded the party of watchdogs as their heads resembled those of the canine family. The banks of the stream were covered with salmon bushes which were loaded with ripe and luscious fruits. At this time there was not a settler to be seen or heard above the ferry at the mouth of the river. The adventurers noted the immense growth of myrtle, maple and ash that covered the rich bottoms, and that game such as deer, bear, elk, beaver, otter, mink, squirrel and many other kinds of small animals, were in abundance and the country seemed to be a hunter's paradise; besides, the river was almost alive with eels and other fish, and the feathered tribes were at hand inviting the steady aim of the sportsmen. The first camp was made near the mouth of Beaver Slough. The next morning they tarried late, waiting for the tide to flood. Soon after passing the mouth of Beaver Slough a canoe was seen to shoot out from that stream, and it was soon followed by other like crafts, all containing four or five Indians, armed with their bows and arrows. These weapons were rather inferior, however, they were destructive at short range. The natives depended more on their rude knives that they had made from scraps of iron, picked up along the beach. They also had war clubs that they used in battles. As soon as Bill Woods, (one of the party of whites,) saw that the Indians had no squaws with them he knew that they were bent on mischief, and they accordingly decided to keep them some distance away, by threatening with their guns. The Indians soon paddled their canoes to the side of each other and seemed to hold a council of war, after which they followed them gaining fast, and some of them passed them on the opposite side of the stream. The whites had kept at one side hoping the savages would pass along peacefully. One large canoe started for the adventurers, coming up in the rear. Giles was in the middle of the canoe, Woods at the stern and Tom Hall in the bow. Woods told Giles to make them stop, he motioned to them to keep off, and addressing them in Jargon, forbade them approaching nearer. This had the effect to hasten them in their endeavors to come nearer to the whites. Woods instructed Giles to aim his double barreled shot gun at the necks and if they did not stop to get as many as he could. As Giles lifted his gun the savages slackened their speed, dropped back and held another talk with the Indians. They soon came on, and the same maneuver took place again, after which they all passed the adventurers and went on up the stream in advance. The whites took the precaution to keep in the middle of the stream to avoid being ambushed. The Indians were not seen again by the white men until after sun set, when they passed them about one mile below the junction of the Middle and South fork of the Coquille river.

The prospectors continued to the mouth of the middle branch of the stream, two miles thence, and to their great surprise, relief and joy they found old John Paull, a Clickitat chief, camped with about fifty of his men, having come from Willamette Valley for the purpose of hunting deer, elk, bear and other game. They were well armed with guns and revolvers and the Coast Indians were much afraid of old John and fortunately Giles was well acquainted with the chief, having met him in the Willamette Valley.

The party who had been kept in mortal fear all day, now felt that they had surely found friends when they were in great need. Chief John, after hearing the story of the adventures of the day, invited the prospectors to camp inside of his guard. He furnished his unexpected company with fresh elk meat and stated that he would protect them as long as he remained in the country, which would be two weeks or more as he expected to load every animal he had, 100 or more, with dried meat before he returned to his own hunting ground. Two of the savages visited old John that evening and informed him that they intended to have murdered the prospectors that

*night as they did not know that the Clickitats were around. The chief advised them to go back to Coos Bay and not to molest the whites for he would kill any Indian who should murder white men, that he was a friend to them and would protect them.*

*It is worthy of note here that this interview took place two miles south of Myrtle Point at the Hoffman farm, and it will be seen in another chapter that quite a skirmish took place at this point between the U. S. dragoons and the natives a short time later. When the white men retired that night their new-found friends showed them where to make their beds.*

*They retired, leaving their guns sitting by trees, but when the old chief made his rounds at tattoo he placed their guns by their sides under the blankets remarking that they must not be careless though they felt safe, for their enemies might slip into camp, steal their guns and massacre them.*

*The next morning the men felt much refreshed by their rest, after their nerves had been strung to such an exciting tension the previous day. After a good breakfast they began to speculate upon starting into the wilderness, as this was the head of navigation. Mr. Giles admits that they felt some fears that their enemies would follow them. Chief John had a daughter with him who was dressed in calico. The prospectors had not seen that much civilization for a long time and they were loath to depart hastily. Of course she received continuous attention from their white visitors. The party purchased a young horse and pack saddle from their benefactor, packed it with blankets and provisions and under an escort of five warriors the party proceeded on their way and were cautioned against carelessness. The Clickitats went after elk across the prairie and Giles and party turned their course toward the mines. These men ever afterwards declared that Chief John had saved them from a cruel fate at the hands of the Coos Bay Indians, as those who had pursued them proved to be of that tribe. The next night they camped at the edge of the prairie but used every precaution to avoid surprise and resist attack. The wolves were howling and bear signs were plentiful but the party were not molested.*

#### **Fort Orford, July 10, 1854.**

**Reverend Parrish** [Port Orford report to Joel Palmer (US Senate 1893: 28-32)]: *SIR: In obedience to your instructions, dated May 15, 1854, I beg leave to submit the following report:*

*In the Port Orford district, which includes all that part of Oregon south of the waters of Coos Bay and west of the summit of the Coast Range of mountains, I have found the natives all speaking one language, and from similarity of appearance, habits, and pursuits, consider them as being one nation or people, who, from their language, may be denominated To-to-tin, or To-to-tut-na; the latter appellation being applied to them by their early visitors.*

*They are divided into twelve bands; eight of them are located on the coast; one on the forks of the Coquille, and three on Rogue River. Each of these bands, or villages, acknowledge the authority of one or more chiefs, and have their separate territories, but their political distinctions appear to extend no further than the division of a State into separate countries, migrations, intermarriages, a common language, and common interests uniting them as a whole.*

The number and other statistics of the different bands of the To-to-tin Indians are exhibited in the following table:

*Census of the To-to-tin Indians, Port Orford district, Oregon Territory.*

Name of band.	Men.	Women.	Male children.	Female children.	Sick.	Blind.	Guns.	Villages.	Name of chiefs.
Nas-o-mah .....	18	20	10	11	-----	-----	-----	1	John.
Choc-re-le-a-tan .	30	40	18	17	-----	-----	-----	1	Washington.
Quah-to-mah ....	53	45	22	23	-----	1	3	3	{ Hah-hul-ta-cah. Tay-o-ne-cia.
Co-sutt-heu-tun .	9	9	6	3	-----	-----	-----	1	Chac-tal-ka-le-ah.
Eu-qua-chee.....	24	41	18	19	-----	-----	1	1	{ Ah-chess-see. Tus-lul.
Yah-shute .....	39	45	24	12	-----	-----	-----	2	{ Sin-hus-chaw. Enc-wah-we-sitt.
Chet-less-en-tun..	16	15	11	9	-----	-----	-----	1	En-e-tus.
Wish-te-na-tin ..	18	26	12	10	-----	-----	2	1	{ Nel-yet-ah-we-sha. Cha-hus-say.
Che-at-tee.....	117	83	22	19	-----	4	2	-----	{ To-hush-ha-cue-lest-che-tets. Taw-chutt.
To-to-tin.....	39	47	22	12	-----	3	3	1	{ Am-ne-at-tee. Tal-ma-nat-e-see.
Mack-a-no-tin ...	85	58	17	17	-----	-----	-----	1	Tal-le-all-tus.
Shis-ta-koos-tee .....	-----	61	23	16	-----	1	1	1	{ Yah-see-oe-we-see. Yah-cham-see. Koo-oay-yah.
Total.....	448	490	205	168	-----	9	12	14	

#### LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES.

The Nas-o-mah band resides on the coast, at or near the mouth of the Coquille River. Their country is bounded north by the land claimed by the Coos or Coos Indians; east by that of the Choc-re-le-a-tau, and south by that of the Quah-to-mah. With the precise boundaries on the north and east I am unacquainted; but a small creek about 2 miles south of the Coquille River makes the boundary on the side of the Quah-to-mah.

The Choc-re-le-a-tau village is situated at the forks of the Coquille River; their lands are drained by the upper waters of that stream. There being mountain barriers between them and their neighbors, except the Coos, their precise limits are unsettled.

Proceeding southerly from the Coquille River, along the coast, we find the first village of the Quah-to-mahs near the mouth of a large creek called Quah-to-mah, or Flores Creek, the second at Sixes River, and the third at Port Orford, being 7 or 8 miles from the Coquille to the first village, and the same distance intervening between the villages successively. Hah-hul-ta-lah, the principal chief, resides at Sixes River, and Tay-o-ne-cia, subchief, at Port Orford. This band claims all the country between the summit of the coast range and the coast from the south boundary of the Nas-o-mahs to Humbug Mountain (a lofty headland, about 12 miles below Port Orford), where the lands of the Co-sutt-hen-tuns commence.

*The Co-sutt-hen-tun village is at the mouth of a small stream which enters the ocean about 5 miles south of the Humbug Mountain. Like their neighbors, they claim to the summit of the coast range, and along the coast to a point on the coast marked by three large rocks in the sea, called by the whites the Three Sisters.*

*The country of the Eu-qua-chees commences at the Three Sisters, and extends along the coast to a point about 3 miles to the south of their village, which is on a stream which bears their name. The mining town of Elizabeth is about the southern boundary of the Eu-qua-chees, and is called 30 miles from Port Orford.*

*Next southward of the Eu-qua-chees are the Yah-shutes, whose villages occupy both banks of the To-to-tin, or Rogue River, at its mouth. These people claim but about 2 1/2 miles back from the coast, where the To-to-tin country commences. The Yah-shutes claim the coast to some remarkable headlands about 6 miles south of Rogue River.*

*South of these headlands are the Chet-less-en-tuns. Their village is north of but near the mouth of a stream bearing their name, but better known to the whites as Pistol River. The Chet-less-en-tuns claim but about 8 miles of the coast; but as the country east of them is uninhabited, like others similarly situated, their lands are supposed to extend to the summit of the mountains.*

*Next to the Chet-less-en-tuns on the south are the Wish-te-na-tins, whose village is at the mouth of a small creek bearing their name. They claim the country to a small trading post known as the Whale's Head, about 27 miles south of the mouth of Rogue River.*

*Next in order are the Che-at-tee or Chitco band, whose villages were situated on each side of the mouth and about 6 miles up a small river bearing their name, but their villages were burned last February by the whites. They consisted of forty-two houses, which were all destroyed; a loss which the scarcity of timber in their country makes serious. The lands of these people extend from Whale's Head to the California line and back from the coast indefinitely. The forty-two houses destroyed by fire, at the lowest estimate, were worth \$100 each, for which I would here recommend that they receive a full indemnity.*

*The To-to-tins, from whom is derived the generic name of the whole people speaking the language, reside on the north bank of the To-to-tin River, about 4 miles from its mouth. Their country extends from the eastern boundary of the Yah-shutes, a short distance below their village, up the stream about 6 miles, where the fishing grounds of the Mack-a-no-tins commence.*

*The Mack-a-no-tin village is about 7 miles above that of the To-to-tins, and is on the same side of the river. They claim about 12 miles of the stream.*

*The Shis-ta-koos-tees succeed them. Their village is on the north bank of Rogue River, nearly opposite the confluence of the Illinois. These are the most easterly band within my district in the south.*



*As the Indians derive but a small part of their subsistence from the country, they attach but little value to the surrounding mountains, for which reason their boundaries, except along the coast and streams, are in many cases undefined, and in others vague and indefinite.*

#### *FACE OF THE COUNTRY -- ITS EXTENT AND VALUE.*

*Although the Port Orford district is but about one degree and twenty minutes in length, the line of coast will measure about 150 miles. Its eastern boundary is also very irregular, but may average 30 miles from the coast, which will give an area of about 3,000 square miles. Though much of this area is taken up by mountains too steep and stony for cultivation, yet they are not entirely without their value to civilized man. In the northern and eastern portions a growth of valuable timber covers alike valley and summit; whilst along the coast, and winding to the southward, the timber is displaced by a most luxurious growth of rich, nutritious grass, forming a region for grazing purposes scarcely surpassed.*

*Stretching along many of the streams are found prairies of the richest alluvial formations, as well as plains of considerable extent, well adapted to the cultivation of grain and vegetables.*

*I can not here forbear to speak of the floral beauty of these "oases" in the wilderness, exhibited at almost all seasons of the year. Besides beautiful varieties of the rhododendron, honeysuckle, acacia, tulip, lily, and many other flowering shrubs and plants. common to the United States, there are others of surpassing beauty, to which my knowledge of botany does not enable me to give a name. Being well stocked with nutritious roots and berries indigenous to Oregon, this section of the country, from the great variety of its climate, produced by the unevenness of its surface, or exposure to the sea, from the ripening of the early strawberry to the frosts of winter, at all times affords a variety of berries, ripe and wholesome for food, and of most delicious flavor.*

*Though this region, for its timber and agricultural productions, may justly be regarded as valuable, yet when its mineral wealth is taken into consideration its value in all other respects sinks into insignificance.*

*The beach, through the whole extent of the district, is a deposit of the precious metals, and is already dotted with towns and villages of miners, and it has been recently discovered that its mountains abound in placers equal in richness to those of California, whose fame has unsettled the world, and thousands are now rushing to offer their devotions at this nearer shrine of Mammon.*

#### *PHYSICAL AND MORAL CONDITION.*

*We find these tribes with a kind of patriarchal form of government, peculiar not only to themselves, but to most of the tribes west of the Rocky Mountains, and which is not very dissimilar to the tribes east, showing clearly one common origin. In their primitive state, nature has supplied them with a liberal hand, so that they may gather abundant subsistence.*

*Their country abounds with wild game; the coast with a great variety of shell-fish, together with the salmon and small fish, with which their rivers are supplied. If taken in the proper season they render them an abundant supply of food.*

*They seem to be free from diseases, with the exception of sore eyes (which is confined exclusively to the women) and the venereal, which has been recently introduced among them by their white neighbors. They show evident marks of smallpox having been among them about thirty years ago; also the measles, about eighteen years since, both of which were very destructive to them from their mode of treatment. As to medicines for treating these diseases, they have none; with their sick they practice necromancy, juggling, and conjuring of evil spirits. They also, like all the other tribes along the coast and in the interior, practice sweating in houses built expressly for that purpose, and invariably when they sweat themselves by this process they immediately plunge into cold water, and in consequence of treating smallpox and measles in this manner it proved fatal to most of them, so that many of their once populous villages are now left without a representative.*

*As, by their present localities, they are more or less exposed to the disease of smallpox by the landing of sea steamers at the various points on the coast, I would therefore earnestly recommend that the children and youths be vaccinated at as early a day as possible.*

*Their houses are constructed by excavating a hole in the ground, 12 or 16 feet square, and 4 or 5 feet deep, inside of which puncheons or split stuff are set upright, 6 or 8 feet high; upon the top of these boards or thatch are placed for the roof. In the gable end a round hole is made, sufficiently large for the entrance of one person; the descent is made by passing down a pole, upon which rude notches are cut, which serve for steps. These houses are generally warm and smoky. From this and the careless habits of the women at certain periods, I have no doubt arises the disease of sore eyes among them.*

*In the spring season they gather the stalks of the wild sunflower and wild celery, and eat them with avidity.*

*Tobacco is the only article cultivated by them; I presume it is indigenous to this country, for they always speak of it as having been always cultivated by their fathers. Many of them are now desirous of cultivating the ground: some few in the vicinity of Port Orford have fine patches of potatoes that bid fair to yield an abundant harvest.*

*Some of the young men are employed by the whites as domestics, and they are generally active and please their employers; in general they are apt and tractable, and I have no doubt, if properly cared for, they would be industrious and respectable.*

*In a moral point of view, I can not learn that they have any mode of religious worship. Their idea of a Supreme Being is extremely dark and vague; they are generally very superstitious; they are all friendly to the whites, and friendly and hospitable among themselves.*

*From the numerous miners and settlers that are pressing into their country they are suffering many grievous wrongs that call for the immediate interference of the Government. Within the*

*last six months four of their villages have been burned by the whites, the particulars of which, and its connection with the arrest of prisoners, I will send you in another report at an early day.*

*Many of them have been killed merely on suspicion that they would arise and avenge their own wrongs, or for petty threats that have been made against lawless white men for debauching their women; and I believe in no single instance have the Indians been the first aggressors.*

*I would therefore recommend that the Government treat them as wards: and as the guardian of the ward is expected to take charge of his estate and place him under the best tuition possible to train or apprentice him in the arts of civilized life, that he may be able to act his part in the drama of human affairs when he ripens into manhood, so should the Government at as early a day as possible treat with this people, purchase their possessions and remove them to some healthy part of the Territory, settle them upon land susceptible of cultivation, supply them with implements of industry, employ good men to assist them in opening small farms to instruct them in the science of agriculture, erect them suitable mills, have them instructed in the mechanical arts, apprentice their young men and girls to a manual-labor school, erect a hospital for their sick, and above all, make them amenable to the laws of the land (in which they may be instructed in a short time) so as to be able to appreciate their rights and the rights of their fellows and entirely do away with all their rights and forms of government, and as soon as consistent adopt them as citizens of the United States.*

*When this is done, there is hope of their salvation as a people, and not till then; and what is applicable to this tribe is, in these respects, equally so to all of the tribes west of the Cascade Mountains. Yet, I am aware, very unlike this has been the old plan of the General Government towards the Indian tribes. True, their rights in some respects as a people have been regarded; the Government has treated with them and paid them for their lands; but the very money they have received has, in general, rendered them more wretched and miserable. They have been left with a nominal form of government of their own: left to roam at large; to follow their wars and war dances; to prey upon their fellow red men whenever they found them the weaker party. And they, in their untutored situation, the very income they have received for their lands has proved a deadly canker to their best interests in time and led them to their eternal destruction in the world to come.*

*What the value of this region may be to the Government, or what it may yield to the world's wealth when tenanted and cultivated by enlightened industry, are questions which it may not be proper for me to introduce into this report. Its value to the Government may be inferred from what I have heretofore said of the inexhaustible mineral wealth of its mountain lands and the adaptation of its plains and valleys to the agricultural pursuits of the white man.*

*In conclusion, allow me to remark that I have personally visited these bands -- have taken a correct census of their numbers; and from personal observation I am led to the conclusion that their woes are daily multiplying in their present condition, surrounded as they are by the influence of bad white men, who are daily making inroads upon them and prostrating their highest virtues.*

*I would therefore beseech the Government, in their behalf, that the most efficient measures should be taken for their speedy removal to a place of quiet, and, if possible, to one of safety, in order to instruct them in the arts of civilized life.*

*All of which is respectfully submitted. With high esteem, I have the honor to be your obedient servant, J. L. Parrish, Indian Agent, Port Orford District.*

#### **December 1854.**

**Esther Lockhart** [Dodge 1898: 350-354]: *Their advent in Coos had a peaceful one; the Indians satisfied and friendly. Caesar, the white man had come, had seen and had conquered. Soon the country round about bay had been explored, the desirable claims had been located and apportioned to different members of the company, and the first permanent white settlement was established in Coos county. Several of the newcomers had returned to the valley for their wives and children, and in the afternoon of the 18th day of October 1853, three families, namely: Dr. Overbeck's, Judge Tolman's and our own, arrived at Empire City. As my eyes first rested upon the beautiful blue bay that flowed so tranquilly along on its journey to the sea, my thoughts instantly reverted to my childhood's home in the State of New York on the shore of Cayuga Lake. We three were the first white women who had ever been on Coos bay, and our presence created considerable stir among the masculine portion of the Indian population. They gazed at our white faces with great admiration and anxiously besought our husbands to trade wives with them, offering innumerable blankets and baskets in addition to their dusky partners.*

*Our method of reaching the bay was an entirely primitive one, riding over the mountains on mules until we reached Scottsburg, where we embarked on the little river steamer "Washington," which many will doubtless remember. Arriving at Winchester bay, we again mounted the mules. I had two little girls, one of whom I held on my lap, while the other rode behind me, clinging to a handkerchief tied tightly around my waist. The other ladies rode in the same way. Our husbands led the mules, fearful lest they should take fright and dash into the surf with their precious (?) burdens. In such fashion did we make our first pilgrimage along the wave-washed shore of the mighty Pacific.*

*On reaching Empire City, which consisted of one cabin and a rude hotel, we went at once to the latter place, kept by our genial friend Frank Ross, where we feasted on fresh salmon, clams and roasted wild ducks and geese. A few days after our arrival came Curtis Noble and family, his wife now being Mrs. M. A. Jackson of Empire City. Her daughter, now Mrs. Emma Saunders, was the first white child born in the county. Soon followed the families of Dr. Coffin, Samuel Dement, John Yoakam and Dr. Foley, nearly all of whom located at Empire City. The day after reaching the bay we set out for our new home at North Bend, that claim having been assigned to my husband. A valuable coal mine was supposed to exist there, and Mr. Lockhart was put under heavy bonds to hold it for the company. Our experience in this almost unbroken forest partook of both the comic and tragic elements of life.*

*As we had been traveling constantly for several weeks, and had been unable to have our clothes laundered during that time, I soon did a large washing which I innocently spread out upon the bushes around the cabin. On arising next morning imagine my disgust and indignation at finding*

*every article of clothing gone. The Indians had taken advantage of the unusual opportunity to replenish their scanty wardrobe, and I never regained a single piece.*

*For the first few weeks all went smoothly enough. The Indians were friendly, too friendly in fact, for their calls at the cabin with requests for food became too frequent. Gradually there came mutterings of discontent among them; they looked on us with jealous eyes and declared that we had stolen their "illihee" (land). Finally, one Sunday, about six weeks after our arrival there, a party of fifty or sixty Indians, dressed in warpaint and feathers and armed with bows and arrows, led by an old chief with an Umpqua Indian as interpreter, came to our cabins demanding that we give up everything and leave at once. We had no right there they said; we were frightening the fish away from the waters, and already there were fewer ducks and geese because of our presence. Soon there would be nothing left for the Indians -- the pale-faces would own everything. Mr. Lockhart listened quietly to their threats and complaints, and buckling his revolver about his waist, he mounted a stump and addressed them. He told them that we had come there to stay; that we wanted to help the Indians and would improve the land so that the country would be better; that the Great Father at Washington -- the president of the United States -- had told the white men to come and live there. He finally succeeded in pacifying the savages so that they said we might stay, but no other people could come.*

*The truce, however, was but a short lived one. Within a week the Indians were as hostile as before. At this juncture we had in our employ a man named Rohrer, a good hearted fellow but cowardly, who had for some time feared violence from the natives. One day as he, with two men that were up from Empire City for a few hours, were cutting fire wood near the cabin, a number of naked Indians suddenly appeared before him. In a mixture of English and jargon they informed Rohrer and his companions that they would be called upon the coming night to go to the Indian huts and that they must not refuse to obey the summons. Rohrer turned white with fear, which the Indians soon perceived. Stepping toward the terrified man, an Indian opened Rohrer's shirt and placing his hand upon the white man's breast felt the tumultuous beating of his heart. "Nica tum tum hiyu wawa!" (Your heart talks very much) he said scornfully. Giving the three men each an Indian name, and telling them to come when they were called, the savages departed.*

*I had been a listener to part of this strange conversation, and when a few minutes later, the men entered the cabin and begged the children and I to get into their canoe and go with them to Empire City, my inclination urged me strongly to do so. But duty was stronger still. My husband had gone to Empire City the day before to attend a company meeting, and I felt positive that he would be home that evening, besides we had large stores of provisions, such as flour, sugar and ham, and I felt that we could not afford to give them up to the Indians, without a struggle, especially, as supplies could not be obtained anywhere on the bay. So I stayed, and Rohrer remained with me. At 8 o'clock that evening, Mr. Lockhart returned, and after a hurried recital of the day's experience, he began preparations for an immediate departure. A little sloop, belonging to Marple, Harris and my husband, lay at anchor just below, and our goods were hastily transferred to it.*

*Day was just breaking as we disposed of our last load and stood out into the bay, bound for a place of safety for ourselves and little ones. As we glided quietly away from the unfriendly shore,*

*the Indians saw us and came rushing down to the banks. "Nica Clatawa" -- good-bye. A few arrows came whizzing through the air, but they fell harmlessly into the water near by. Two hours later and we were safe at Empire City and at Noble's hotel. We found considerable change in the little settlement we had left two months before; comfortable cabins had sprung up here and there, and the place really seemed quite civilized.*

*It was in December that we returned to Empire City, and early in the new year a sail was seen outside the harbor. Quickly the joyful tidings spread through the town that the long expected ship, bringing men and provisions, had at last arrived. Eager to welcome the vessel and her burden, six men of the village manned a boat and boldly sailed out toward the heaving bar. But their eagerness had not been tempered with judgment, and the six venturesome spirits found watery graves.*

*About this time great excitement was aroused by the discovery of gold at Randolph. For a time Empire City was deserted. Of course we went with the others to make our fortune, picking up nuggets of gold from the Randolph beach. But the mines failed to meet the expectations of the people, although a few men were fortunate there, and the majority of the gold seekers returned to Empire City, leaving Randolph a deserted village.*

*Thus far the sanguine hopes of the "Coos Bay Commercial Company" for the future greatness of their newly acquired territory had not been realized. Coal of sufficient good quality for shipment had not yet been disclosed, and it was a difficult matter to find owners of vessels willing to permit their ships to cross an unknown bar which appeared tortuous and often turbulent, especially as there was no cargo for them to take in return. In consequence of such discouragement, the organization was dissolved. Provisions continued scarce and high, but owing to the abundance of fish, game and berries, no famine occurred.*

*All of the pioneers today will doubtless remember that Coos bay at that time consisted principally of men, consequently the advent of a woman and particularly a young married one, was hailed with delight by both sexes.*

## March 27, 1855: First post office in Port Orford and tragedy at Empire City

### March 27.

**Lewis McArthur** [1982: 599; 817]: *Port Orford post office was established March 27, 1855, with Reginald H. Smith first postmaster . . .*

*John Yoakam settled in Coos County in the early fifties. He was the father of seven children, five of whom were killed by a large tree which fell one night, March 27, 1855, on the Yoakam cabin. This was the most unexpected and unusual tragedy in the history of the county. It took place at a point sometimes call Yoakam Hill southwest of Coos Bay town and west of Libby.*

**Esther Lockhart** [Dodge 1898: 354-355]: *About this time a frightful accident occurred that is almost without a parallel in the annals of Coos county. John Yoakum and his wife Eliza, with their seven children had taken up a claim about six miles from Empire City, near what is now known as the Camman wagon road. The place where the house stood is often spoken of as Yoakum's Hill. They had been busily engaged in felling timber and burning brush around their cabin, and had at the time referred to a number of trees afire. One large tree not far away had given them considerable uneasiness, but after a careful examination about 9 o'clock in the evening they decided there was no danger of its falling upon the house. It was a calm and peaceful night; the stars shone brightly in the dark vault overhead, and the seven little children slept quietly in their beds, unconscious of the awful tragedy which was so soon to end their innocent lives. Scarcely, however, had Mr. and Mrs. Yoakum re-entered their cabin, were a fearful sound of splitting timber was heard. "Run for your lives!" shouted the husband and father, "the trees are falling upon the house."*

*The four older children, followed by their father, rushed for the open door; the mother paused to snatch her baby from the cradle, and at that same instant the treacherous tree fell, with a terrific crash, upon the little cabin, shattering it almost into fragments. As the tree descended upon the house its heavy limbs caught and entangled the four children, killing them almost instantly. A limb struck the mother, injuring her shoulder and arm, but she thought not of her pain, believing that the babe in her arms was safe, and not till she reached the light did she know that her child was dead.*

*When the first horror and agony of the situation had passed away, the anguished parents searched for the two little boys, aged four and six, who had not escaped from the house. They expected to find their maimed and mangled bodies, but to their unspeakable joy they found them in their little trundle bed, alive and fast asleep. The limbs had fallen in such a manner as to shield their bed, and the commotion had not even awakened them. These two boys are now middle-aged men, known to us all as Jasper and George Yoakum.*

#### **April 4, 1855: John Alva Harry and Ephraim Catching claim The Forks**

**A. G. Walling** [1884: 484]: *Coos county is divided naturally into two topographical sections, the valleys of the Coquille and Coos bay. The country drained by the Coquille forms about two-thirds of the total area of the county, and comprises the southern part. The tributaries of that river are its three branches, called north, middle and south forks; Russell, Catching, Hall, and other creeks, and many sloughs. The Coquille itself is formed by the confluence of its forks at the head of tide water near Myrtle Point and flows into the ocean sixteen miles due west of the point of junction, but forty-five miles, if the meanderings of the stream be counted. For all the distance it is navigable for small vessels, and for the lower twenty miles for craft of large size. Consequently the stream is of great importance to the county, affording a reliable and cheap means of communication. It serves the purpose of a highway, and nearly all traffic is carried on by means of boats borne upon its waters. It forms the longest navigable highway in Oregon south of the Willamette. The Coquille, as well as its tributaries, flows through a heavily wooded country. Splendid forests of fir, cedar, myrtle, maple and other beautiful and valuable woods adorn the banks, and cover the hills and valleys as far as the vision can extend. The soil that supports these growths is of a rich description, being composed of the finely divided particles of sandstone worn from the mountains which compose the Coast Range, and brought down by the torrents in winter and deposited on the lower part of their course, where, mingled with vegetable matter, they form a soil of a light, porous nature, easily worked but wonderfully productive of nearly every known crop. These are the myrtle bottoms, so styled by the settlers because the myrtle is found growing thereupon. The myrtle groves are extremely beautiful, the stately shafts of the trees resembling, with their spreading capitals of limbs and leaves, some imaginative picture of an ancient cathedral. The shade is very dense, nearly every ray of sunlight being interrupted by the thick crown of lance-shaped leaves interlocking from tree to tree, so that a sort of twilight always reigns. The usual height of the myrtle is about sixty feet and the trunk is bare of limbs for a great part of its height. The myrtle has great value as an ornamental wood suitable for cabinet making. It grows in such vast quantities in the low lands along the coast that no demand could ever arise which could not be fully met. It is said that under certain conditions of temperature that this wood is liable to decay, but that point is not yet fully settled. Aside from its value as fuel, this beautiful, hard, dense and finely-grained wood is not in extensive use or demand. The fir, of three species, yellow, red and white, is being converted into lumber as fast as circumstances require. Nowhere in the world does the fir attain a greater size than in Coos county. It forms a resource of great importance, though by no means an inexhaustible one. The same remarks apply to the white cedar, with the qualifications that this tree is more in demand, as its lumber brings a higher price, is less abundant and likely to become extinct in comparatively few years.*

**Orvil Dodge** [1898: 210-211]: *The location where Myrtle Point stands was selected by the natives as a central place, and here they congregated and established their villages, as they retired from the seashore and engaged in the chase for the elk which roamed the hillside and wallowed in the cool pools along the spacious and shady valleys. When Marple, Harris, Thrift and others first explored the valley, they camped at this place, but considering the wild and massive growth of timber and vegetation, it is presumed that they little dreamed that in less than two decades a thriving and bustling little village would crown the point which came so abruptly*



*and formed the steep precipice at the foot of which the crystal stream glided so placidly through the myrtle and maple forests toward the sea.*

*The pioneer saw the beauties and natural advantages of the location, and E. C. Catching located a home under the donation act, and it became a rendezvous for pioneers, prospectors and natives. The creek which joins the river a few hundred yards above the townsite, was named after the locator, and a blockade was made at its mouth, as danger from an outbreak of the tribes was feared. Catching was a kind, considerate man and enjoyed the respect of his own people and also that of the natives, hence he became a favorite with the chiefs as well as their subjects, and the friendship formed caused a little romance of considerable interest. The daughter of one of the chiefs fell in love with Mr. Catching, who was then a young man in his prime. He soon found out that the charms of the girl, who is said to have been beautiful, had captivated his heart, but he had promised his mother when he started from home that he would never inter-marry with the Indian tribes, and he so informed the infatuated maiden. This seemed to crush the spirit of her ambition and she threatened self-destruction. The young man was in great distress. His fine sense of honor and filial regard for his beloved mother, restrained him, and although he was offered the hand of a maiden belonging to a royal family, not until the princess made an attempt to destroy her life did her lover at last consent to accept of her as his bride. The wedding was consummated and royal wedding feasts according to the custom of the natives were enjoyed by the tribe, and the beautiful maiden became the dutiful and even Christian companion of our hero. Those yet living, who knew of the circumstances and who were acquainted with Mr. Catching, assert that the princess ever afterwards performed her duties gracefully, receiving instructions from her liege lord in the culinary arts and general housekeeping. She became known as a virtuous and worthy matron.*

**April 12, 1855: Dennis Hathorn signs Oregon Land Survey Contract No. 57**

**April 12.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** *Surveying Contract No. 57. Township and Subdivision lines of Township 11 S., 7 W., Townships 26 & 27 S., 7 W., Townships 28 & 29 S., 8 W., 6<sup>th</sup> Standard Parallel South through Ranges 8, 9, & 10 West, Exterior and Subdivision lines of 8 Townships lying in the Upper Coquille Valley.*

**C. K. Gardener:** *This Agreement, Made this Twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) day of April, 1855, between Charles R. Gardner Surveyor General of the United States for Oregon Territory, acting for and in behalf of the United States, of the one part, and Dennis Hathorn of Benton County, Oregon of the other part,*

*Witnesseth, That the said Dennis Hathorn, for and in consideration of the conditions, terms, provisions and covenants hereafter expressed, and according to the true intent and meaning thereof, doth hereby covenant and agree with the said Charles K. Gardener, in his capacity aforesaid, that he the said Dennis Hathorn in his own proper person, with the assistance of such chain-men, axe-men, and flagbearers, as may be necessary, agreeably with the laws of the United States, and with the General Instructions to Deputy Surveyors, and such special instructions as he may receive from the Surveyor General, survey and mark the 2<sup>nd</sup> Standard Parallel South, through Range seven (7) West and the 6<sup>th</sup> Standard Parallel South, through Ranges (8) Eight, (9) Nine and (10) Ten West if found practicable and fit for settlement, also the Exterior and Subdivisional lines of Tps. (11) Eleven South Range (7) Seven West, and (26) Twenty Six and (27) Twenty Seven South, Range (7) Seven West. Also the Exterior and Subdivisional lines of Eight Townships lying in the Upper Coquille Valley between the Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) Standard Parallel South and the Southern boundary of Township (32) Thirty Two South, Ranges Seven (7) to Ten (10) West both inclusive -- these townships to be [illegible], and non other than those fit for settlement to be subdivided.*

*Estimated Distance Six Hundred Miles 600 Miles*

*and that he will complete these surveys, in the manner aforesaid, and return the true and original field notes thereof to the office of the said Surveyor General on or before the First (1<sup>st</sup>) day of January next ensuing the date hereof [acts of God excepted,] on penalty of forfeiture, and paying to the United States the sum mentioned in the annexed bond, if default be made in any of the foregoing conditions.*

*And the said Charles K. Gardener, in his capacity aforesaid, covenants and agrees with the said Dennis Hathorn, that on the completion of the surveys above named, in manner aforesaid, there shall be paid to the said Dennis Hathorn on account of the United States, by the Treasury Department, upon the receipt of his account at the General Land Office, properly certified by Charles K. Gardener, in his capacity aforesaid, and accompanied by the approved plats of the surveys for which the account is rendered, as a full compensation for the whole expense of surveying and making return thereof, Twelve Dollars (\$12) per mile, for every mile and part of a mile actually run and marked in the field, random lines and offsets not included.*

*And it is further understood and agreed, between the parties to this agreement, that the said Charles K. Gardener reserves to himself in his said capacity, or his successor in said office, Twelve per cent of the whole amount accruing on the surveys aforesaid, to be applied in defraying the expenses and salary of a Deputy Surveyor to be appointed by Charles K. Gardener, in his capacity aforesaid, as his assistant for the purpose of a general inspection and examination of surveys, whilst in progress in the field, or after completion thereof. Provided, No member of Congress or sub contractor shall have any part in this contract, and that no payment shall be made for any surveys not executed by the said deputy surveyor, himself in his own proper person.*

*In testimony whereof, The parties to these articles of agreement have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.*

*Signed, sealed and acknowledged before us} C. K. Gardener, Surveyor General.  
W. B. Thompson, of Salem, George H. Belden of Salem O. T., Dennis Hathorn, Deputy Surveyor.*

**Dennis Hathorn:** *I, Dennis Hathorn, Deputy Surveyor, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially execute the surveys mentioned in the foregoing contract, to the best of my skill and ability.*

*Sworn to and subscribed by Dennis Hathorn before me at Salem, O. T. in the Territory of Oregon this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1885.  
C. K. Gardener Sur. Gen. of Oregon, Dennis Hathorn, Deputy Surveyor.*

**C. K. Gardener:** *Adenda to the Usual Special Instructions To Dennis Hathorn, Esq.*

*Deputy Surveyor, As the extent and location of the lands fit for Settlement & Cultivation, within the district of County specified in the contract is unknown & can not definitively be determined in reference to the numbers and Ranges of Townships, you will be governed by the following special instructions --*

*Should it be deemed impracticable to extend the Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) Standard Parallel west, you will make an offset South on Township lines and run standard line west on Township lines, from a point as far north as practicable, that the country surveyed may be between it & the South Seventh Standard Parallel South, denominated in contract as Southern boundary of Tsp. 32 South Ranges 7 to 10 West both included --*

*Should there be Townships desirable to survey lying North of this offset Standard line North of the extension of the Sixth Standard Parallel, you will commence at their most easterly side & run north & west, making closing corners as in other cases on the Standard Parallel lines.*

*As your surveying operations are to extend to a part of Oregon of which but little is known as to its correct geographical location & extent of country fit for settlement & cultivation you are expected not only faithfully to perform the conditions of your contract, but furnish this office with all useful information that may come to your knowledge and accompany the return of the field*

notes of your extension lines, with a letter or statement setting forth the extent of the extent of the settlements & country fit for settlement in the vicinity of your operations, not included within your surveys.

**April 21.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** *Know all Men by these Presents, That we, Dennis Hathorn of Benton County, Oregon Territory, as principal, and Wayman St. Clair, Abiathan Newton & Silas Newcomb, all of Benton Co. O. T., as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the United States in the sum of Twelve Thousand Seven Hundred (\$12,700) dollars, lawful money of the United States, (being double the estimated amount which would be due by the United States to the said Dennis Hathorn, on the completion of the surveys named in the foregoing contract;) for which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, and each and every of us and them, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents; signed with our hand, and sealed with our seals, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 1855.*

*The Condition of the above Obligation is such, That if the above bounden Dennis Hathorn shall well and truly and faithfully, according to the laws of the United States and the instructions of the said Surveyor General, in the manner and within the period required of him to be made by the foregoing contract, and return the field-notes of the said surveys to the Surveyor General, in the manner and within the period named in the said contract, then this obligation would be void, or otherwise it shall remain in full force and virtue.*

*Signed, Sealed, and Acknowledged Before Us.} J. R. Cardwell, Dennis Hathorn, B. R. Biddle, Wayman St. Clair, Abiathan Newton, Silas Newcomb.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*You are to sign the foregoing contract, write your name in full over the opposite "Deputy Surveyor," before two witnesses, whose residence must be given immediately underneath their signatures, and fill the existing blank at the top thereof with the day and month in which you thus sign the same.*

*The BOND must be dated on the day it is signed by yourself and sureties. The remaining blank must be filled with the names and residence, written in full, of two sureties, whose sufficiency for the amount must be certified in the above blank, by the proper officer of a court having a seal. Yourself and sureties must sign the BOND, writing your names in full, in the presence of two witnesses, whose residence must be stated immediately below their signatures.*

*The officer who certifies as aforesaid, must fill the said blank with the style and location of his office, and accompany his signature in every case with an impression of the seal of the court. He may also administer the oath at the bottom of your contract, after you have signed the same, giving an impression of his seal in each case.*

*All erasures, mutilations, and interlining must be avoided.*

.....

### May 7, 1855: Flanagan and Northrup claim Newport and Eastport Coal Mines

**A. G. Walling** [1884: 493]: *The first coal discovered was on the Lockhart claim, at North Bend. The seam was eighteen inches in thickness, and was deemed so valuable that the owner refused \$40,000 for it. Veins were soon after found near Empire City and at other places, but none of them were immediately worked. The first coal shipped to San Francisco was mined on the Boatman claim, near Coal Bank slough, and brought a price of forty dollars per ton. A previous cargo had been lost with the vessel carrying it, on the Coos Bay bar. In 1855 the mines of Newport and Eastport were opened and during the next year shipments began to take place. These were rival properties, the Newport being owned by Flanagan and Rogers, while the Eastport belonged to Northrup and Symonds, who were succeeded by the Pershbakers, who sold to J. L. Pool, the present proprietor. A. J. Davis, who distinguished himself as one of the town proprietors of Marshfield, acting as agent for a San Francisco firm, opened a mine near the mouth of Isthmus slough, in 1856, expending money lavishly to construct a railroad, storehouses, wharf, etc., before the size of the vein and the quality of the coal were found out. The mine proved unsatisfactory in these respects and was abandoned after an expenditure of full seventy-five thousand dollars.*

#### June 16.

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 26 S., Rng. 7 W. – Ridgeline division of Williams River and Umpqua River, including Green Butte, Bear Ridge.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 25 and 36.</u>
6.50	Enter E. N. Thomas' field, course NW. and SE.
12.00	Leave same, course NE. and SW.
16.00	E. N. Thomas' house bears S. about 450 lks. [300 feet]
22.20	Road, course N. and S.

<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 23 and 24.</u>
63.00	Enter field, course E. and W.
...	...
80.00	Stanton's house bears S.35°E.

#### June 18.

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 26 S., Rng. 7 W. – Ridgeline division of Williams River and Umpqua River, including Green Butte, Bear Ridge.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, on South boundary of Sec. 35.</u>
1.18	A pine, 36 ins. in diam.
12.00	Enter prairie, course N. and S.
...	...
63.00	Leave prairie and enter oak timber, course N. and S.
66.00	H. D. Bryant's house bears S. about 6 chains [400 feet]

## June 21, 1855: Dr. Glisan arrives at Fort Orford from San Francisco

### June 24.

**Dr. Glisan:** . . . *As usual, we had some very pleasant, and a few exceedingly disagreeable persons aboard. There was a gentleman belonging to the profession of Civil Engineers, en route for Oregon, to secure a contract for surveying. Unfortunately for himself and for fellow-passengers, he was very much intoxicated, and, hence, disposed to give full play to the expression of his thoughts, which being sarcastic, and generally personal, rendered his society undesirable. He usually began his conversation by preaching forth his wonderful acquirements, which according to his own estimation, were vast indeed. He harped principally on the Government and her officials, civil, not military, and particularly the Surveyor-General of California, Major Jack Hays -- who came in for the largest share of abuse; but unluckily for his auditors, he was prone before the conclusion of his discourse to identify them with the perpetrators of all his wrongs. One unfortunate fellow was disposed to quiz him, and this brought down upon himself the most sarcastic abuse I had ever heard. This gentleman was bald-pated and small headed, and having just crossed the Isthmus, had his face burned to a blister. Mr. L -- consequently possessed a fruitful theme of discourse on phrenology. He began by asking his subject if he possessed any knowledge of this science or any other, and then laid down as his first proposition that men of his cranial conformation never had any intelligence; upon which he dilated with great volubility, to the merriment of everyone. We could only "laugh in our sleeves," as the fellow's abuse was intolerable, and ought to have been promptly checked by the Captain, in order to prevent a disturbance. Fortunately, the abused gentleman set it all down to King Alcohol, probably deeming himself a little to blame, and bore it like a martyr -- knowing, also, that a single word to Capt. Dall would have been the means of sending the intoxicated individual from the cabin to the steerage, as a nuisance. The Captain was on the eve of doing this anyway, as the man's impertinence ran wild; but he finally toned him down by taking away his liquor, and, giving him a dose of morphine, put him to sleep. Next morning he was sober, but awfully sea-sick; so we saw no more of his honor.*

*Near the Golden Gate was pointed out to us the spot where a splendid steamer was wrecked in 1851, on attempting to enter the harbor of San Francisco in a dense fog. We touched at Trinidad and Crescent City; the latter is a thriving little village. It is about three hundred miles from San Francisco, and sixty-two from Fort Orford. We also passed the mouth of Rogue River, famous for its Indian war in 1853.*

### June 29.

**Dr. Glisan:** *Landing at this post on the twenty-first of this month, after a long and tedious sea voyage, via the Isthmus, and a short delay in California, I was vividly impressed with the exhilarating and health-inspiring influence of the air. The evergreen forests of spruce, fir, and cedar, which are still standing in all their primeval loveliness and grandeur, associated in a few places with the beautiful rhododendron, and the sweet scented myrtle, covering mountains and vales, give a novelty and charm to the landscape unsurpassed by anything of the kind ever seen by me before.*

*The summer months here are delightfully cool and pleasant, but the other three seasons are checkered with fogs, cold winds, and storms of rain, and occasionally of snow. The lightning's flash and the loud thunder's rattle are in summer unseen and unheard; but the intermitting roar of the old Ocean's waves dashing at regular intervals against the rock-bound shore, inspires one continually with the grandeur and sublimity of the scene.*

*The fort is in latitude, 42 deg. 44 min. 27 sec. north; and in longitude, 124 deg. 28 min, 52 sec. west. On reference to the Meteorological Observations of the post, I find there are in the course of a year 180 fair, 186 cloudy, and 122 rainy days, with one day of snow. The mean temperature of spring is 52 26/100 deg.; of summer, 58 21/100 deg.; of autumn 54 22/100 deg.; and of winter 50 18/100 deg.; and of the year, 53 71/160 of Fahrenheit. The average rainfall in spring – 16 71/100 inches; in summer, 3 33/100 inches, in autumn, 22 69/100 inches; in winter, 32 29/100 inches, and for the year, 75 02/100 inches. The thermometer ranges between 79 deg. in summer, to 30 deg. above zero in winter. The climate is remarkably healthy; there are no malarious diseases. The soil is good except near the beach, but not very productive of such fruits and cereals as require warm summers.*

*Such garden vegetables as cabbages and potatoes thrive well; tomatoes, melons and corn hardly ever come to maturity. Peaches, plums, cherries, pears, grapes and such like fruits can not be raised to advantage. To wild berries, fruits, game and fish I shall make allusion further on after a personal inspection of the country—grass in this region is green throughout the entire year.*

*The principal rivers near here are the Coquille, thirty miles north; Elk, four miles north; and Rogue River, thirty miles south. The second mentioned stream received its name from the large herds of elk which range along its bottom lands. Elk meat is more largely consumed here as an article of food than beef—it is nearly as good, and much cheaper; it sells at from twelve to eighteen cents per pound, whereas good beef is worth twenty-five cents per pound.*

*There are two traditions as to origin of the name of the last mentioned river. Some assert that it took its appellation from the roguish propensities of the Indians living on its borders; whilst others maintain that rogue is a corruption of the French word rouge (or red) signifying red river, because some of its principal head branches are always turbid from a mixture of reddish clay and sand stirred up in the mining districts.*

*Adjoining the Military Reservation of this fort, is a little village called Port Orford, which was located or laid out in 1850, during the mania upon the subject of town sites. Having the best port between San Francisco and the Columbia River, it was thought to be an admirable spot for a large city, but like many similar attempts, it has proven a failure. For notwithstanding the additional advantages of gold having since been discovered along the sand beach for many miles above and below the town, and of the touching here of a regular mail steamer every fortnight, it still numbers only about forty houses, and one-third of these are tenantless. It has a good summer harbor, as the wind during this season is from the northwest; but in the autumn, winter and early part of the spring, it is generally very dangerous for vessels to attempt to "lie to" in the harbor, or even to enter it, as the prevailing winds are then from the south, southwest, and southeast. The expenditure by the Government, some of these days, of a few millions of dollars,*

*for a breakwater, will make this magnificent harbor of refuge for our naval and merchant vessels, when overtaken by storms on the Northern Pacific coast.*

*Our post is nearly surrounded by a dense forest -- but has an expansive view of the Pacific Ocean in front. It is cut off from the beautiful Rogue River, and Willamette Valleys, by the coast range of mountains -- some spurs and peaks of which are very high. One of the highest points in our vicinity is "Humbug Mountain" -- receiving its name from a false report of the discovery of rich gold diggings on it.*

*This whole coast, from San Francisco to the Russian Possessions, is thickly wooded -- the principal trees are fir, cypress, and cedar; the latter is only found at intervals. It makes much the best lumber, as it does not shrink and swell alternately with the dry or wet weather so much as the other two kinds, and is more durable, and makes far the best finish. It is quite abundant near this place; its market value is three or four times as much as fir or spruce. There are three saw-mills here, only one of which is at present running -- the others are idle for the want of water. The one in operation is a steam mill, and turns out daily an average of fifty-five hundred feet of plank, besides many thousand laths; it employs twenty-five hands. Sawmilling is another example of our speculation. From 1847 to 1852, there was great demand for lumber, especially in San Francisco, which was then being built up of frame houses; but after the great fires there in '50 and '52, a more substantial class of buildings was erected of stone and brick—lumber was, consequently, in but slight demand. Its supply had, in the mean time, increased by twenty-fold, as a large number of persons had been induced by the enormous prices of two hundred and six hundred dollars per one thousand feet, to erect saw-mills; it is now a drug in the market.*

*Twelve months ago there was great excitement in regard to the discovery of gold near this place; as is usual under such circumstances large numbers of people flocked here—the majority of whom went away disappointed. The beach for many miles above and below this point has gold in it, and in some places "pays well." They who secure average claims, in point of richness, and work them properly, clear from two to seven dollars per day; but the great drawback to miners here is, that they won't let well enough alone—they are constantly leaving old claims that pay moderately well, to look out for better. Moreover, though naturally shrewd, they are easily humbugged into some castle-building, money-making, mining-operation, that promises everything and accomplishes nothing; particularly if the imposter be a foreigner, and possess some knowledge of chemical jugglery -- being able by a few tricks, to convince his dupes that he has discovered some wonderful method of separating gold dust from sand, by causing it to unite more readily with mercury than by the common process, he succeeds in organizing a stock-mining company, which is to give him one third or half of the profits; thus making a very profitable operation for himself, even by the ordinary methods of mining, so long as he can keep his dupes in the dark, and hold his company together. There is a Monsieur C. at present humbugging some twelve or fourteen persons in this way. The affair is, however, about reaching a climax, and he will doubtless soon have to leave "these diggings," as he did those of the Rogue River a short time ago. Vive la bagatelle.*

*Miners in this Territory and in California are governed in their operations by what is termed the Mining Law; which, although agreeing in its general features, varies somewhat in its details in different districts. This law is a system of regulations formed by the miners themselves, and at*



*one time governed them in almost everything criminal and civil, but is at present limited to a few points only -- such as the right of ownership to claims, and the extent of ground each man is allowed by pre-emption. At some places each person is permitted to take up a claim of three hundred feet front, by fifty or one hundred deep; in others, not more than one half of this extent is granted. This only refers to pre-emption right, that is, the title to mineral land conferred by virtue of having first "squatted on it." One has the privilege of buying as many claims as he pleases.*

*There is not a more healthy spot on the globe than Fort Orford -- the only diseases here are the result of some species intemperance. Indeed, were it not for an occasional accident, there would be no need of a physician at this post; more particularly as the command is so small -- being only a detachment of twenty-five men (Company M, Third Artillery), commanded by Lieutenant A. V. Kautz, Fourth Infantry. I had more cases of sickness to attend in one day at Fort Arbuckle, during the sickly season, than I would be likely to have here in a whole year.*

### **June 30.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 26 S., Rng. 7 W. – Ridgeline division of Williams River and Umpqua River, including Green Butte, Bear Ridge.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 34 and 35.</u>
28.25	Enter field, course E. and W.
40.00	...
	Joseph Atterberry's house bears N.43*W.
43.40	Leave field, course N.20*W. and S.20*E.
43.40	Same house bears N.55*W.

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 14 and 23.</u>
6.73	Slocum's house bears N.56*W.
16.80	Same house bears N.20*W.
18.40	Leave field, course N. and S.

### **July 3.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 26 S., Rng. 7 W. – Ridgeline division of Williams River and Umpqua River, including Green Butte, Bear Ridge.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>South, between Secs. 1 and 2.</u>
12.30	Enter field, course E. and W.
14.80	Pierce's house, bears E. about 1 ch. [66 feet]
23.15	Leave field, course E. and W.

**C. K. Gardener:** *Addenda to the special instructions to Dennis Hathorn Esq., Deputy Surveyor, Contract No. 57.*

*In case of being able to make your work close within proper limits with the work of the Townships adjoining, which have been previously surveyed, and as you find erroneously, you will remeasure so much of the lines upon which you should close, setting the mile & half mile posts each in its correct position taking the usual bearing trees & otherwise perpetuating those corners the same as would have been done had they originally been carefully placed -- This instruction will apply to Standard Parallel Lines as well as to other exterior lines of Townships -  
- Keep full notes of these corrections, noting carefully the amount of error in each case, in the proper place in the field book --*

*Such lines of correction will be paid for at a rate agreed upon by yourself and the deputy in error, to be qualified by and if necessary controlled by the Inspector's report; The Inspector to be appointed by the Surveyor General at such time as is deemed proper.*

*The Subdivisions of the erroneous Townships to be matter of correction & adjustment, according to my future instructions.*

*Surveyor General's Office To bear July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1855.} C. K. Gardener, Surv. Gen. of Oregon*

#### **July 4.**

**Dr. Glisan:** *As Lieutenant A. V. Kautz is absent on detached service I am in command of the post, and have just had the pleasure of firing a national salute of thirty one guns. To be able to appreciate our national greatness, one should travel over the Union and behold for himself the immense extent of territory now embraced in our mighty Republic; which possesses every variety of soil and climate, and more natural resources, generally, than that of any other nation on the globe; and inhabited by a people vigorous, intellectual, brave and indomitably persevering. Our past history has been a miracle to the nations of the old world; and our prospects are still more glorious. Could our forefathers have seen the fruits of the glorious cause for which they laid down their own lives, their dying couches would have been replete with all the joy that earth can afford. May we never cease to commemorate this day, and to offer up thanksgiving to the Ruler of Heaven and Earth for his helping hand to our ancestors in the hour of their greatest distress. In the language of the poet I may conclude;*

*“Lives there a man with soul so dead  
Who never to himself hath said,  
This is my own, my native land?”*

#### **July 5.**

**Dr. Glisan:** *We are hourly looking for the steamer “Columbia;” she always touches here, and leaves the mail, both going and returning. On her last trip down there were some four or five army officers on board—some of whom have recently received appointments in the new regiments. Among those were Captain Stoneman, Captain Whiting, and Lieutenant Williams. Major Henry Prince, with some two hundred and thirty-one U. S. troops, destined for Fort Vancouver, will probably be up on the next steamer. The one they started in, the “America,” was*

*burnt on last Sunday night week, whilst stopping for a short time at Crescent City. She was totally destroyed.*

*In order to protect our immense western frontier, Congress passed a bill last session, adding four new regiments to the army—two of cavalry, and two of infantry. These are being rapidly filled up, and will probably be ready for the field next spring. Our troops in New Mexico are kept constantly in active service—the Apache Indian being very troublesome. An expedition of several regiments, under General Harney, has been ordered on the plains west of Kansas and Nebraska to quell Indian depredations. The Sioux have been very troublesome there within the last twelve months.*

*In California and Oregon, disturbances occasionally occur between the settlers and the Indians - - a few years ago they were quite frequent. Then there were several fights in this vicinity -- Captain Aldin, U. S. Army, was wounded in one of those engagements near Rogue River. Six miners were killed in another encounter on the Coquille. Shortly after this last affair, the miners in a large body went against the Indians, and killed some fifteen of them.*

*Within a hundred yards of garrison, and a short distance from shore, is a rock known as “Battle Rock,” receiving its name from a contest which took place there in 1850, between some Americans and Indians. The former had intended landing with the view of selecting a town site, but finding the latter hostile, took up their position on the above rock, whilst their vessel -- Captain Tichner’s schooner -- returned to San Francisco for reinforcements. The Indians made numerous attacks on the place for ten or twelve days, but being repulsed with heavy losses, finally abandoned the idea of dislodging the whites from their secure retreat. The rock being some twenty yards from shore, was rather inaccessible. A small cannon that the whites had was used with much success; and assisted more than anything else in frightening the Indians. The loss of the latter was ten or twelve. None of the former killed—a few slightly wounded. The whole party, consisting of only nine men, finally made their escape into Umpqua Valley.*

### **July 10.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 27 S., Rng. 7 W. – Ridgeline division of Williams River and Lookingglass Creek, including Flournoy Valley, White Tail Ridge, Eagle Rock.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, on South boundary of Sec. 36.</u>
0.00 [?]	West, Peter Williams’ house, bears N.23*E. West, Peter Williams’ house, bears S.38*W. [?]
...	...
80.00	John Early’s house, bears N.50*W. At the ¼ post, Peter Williams’ house, bears N.57*E. The other W’s. house S.51*E.

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, on South boundary of Sec. 35.</u>
40.00	¼ post, established by Col. Ford bears N.15*W., 50 lks. [33 feet]
40.00	John Early’s house, bears N.25*E.

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, on South boundary of Sec. 34.</u>
40.00	<i>¼ post, set by Ford bears N.15*W., 76 lks. [50 feet]</i>
49.00	<i>A road, course NW. and SE.</i>
56.50	<i>Daniel Huntley's house, bears South about 2 chs. [125 feet]</i>
60.00	<i>Leave prairie and enter timber</i>
60.50	<i>A creek, 25 lks. [15 feet] wide, course SE.</i>

### July 11.

**Dr. Glisan:** *The "Columbia" passed up last Friday, and has just gone down -- having on board several army officers; some of whom are on their way to New York. Among others Lieutenant Myers and Dr. Luckley. A friend of ours, Mr. L. Blanding, of San Francisco, who has been spending a few days with us, also took passage in her this morning. Being a lawyer of some eminence, and possessing agreeable manners, his visit was very welcome to this lovely place. Our associates in this neighborhood are few indeed.*

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 28 S., Rng. 8 W. – Ridgeline divisions of Umpqua, Coos, and Coquille river headwaters, including Mount Gurney, Tioga Ridge Road and Sugar Pine Ridge.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>South, on East boundary of Sec. 7.</u>
33.24	<i>A Road from W. E. Weekly's sawmill to Looking Glass Prairie, course East and West.</i>
33.24	<i>Summit of ridge, course East and West.</i>

## July 13, 1855: Hathorn surveys Umpqua Valley to Coos River tidewater trail

### July 13.

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 28 S., Rng. 8 W. – Ridgeline divisions of Umpqua, Coos, and Coquille river headwaters, including Mount Gurney, Tioga Ridge Road and Sugar Pine Ridge.]

Chains	West, on North boundary of Sec. 5.
56.00	<i>Summit of ridge c.N.25*W. and S.25*E.</i>
56.00	<i>A blazed line and dim trail leading to tide water on Coos River. This trail follows a ridge, which divides the waters which flow into Coos Bay from those running South to the Coquille. The head of tide water on Coos River is said to be about 25 miles distant by this trail. So said by those who marked out the trail.</i>

### July 13 [?].

**Dr. Glisan:** [Note: published version gives date as “July 23th, 1855,” but lists “July 22D, 1855 as the following entry. This is obviously a typo of some sort and I am guessing the actual date of “July 13<sup>th</sup>” -- which is in chronological order -- was intended instead.] -- *Lieutenant Kautz and I went a fishing yesterday in Elk River, and caught a lot of splendid trout. There are two species of this delicious fish in Oregon; one, called the mountain trout—being the same as the speckled or brook trout of the Northern States; and the other the salmon trout. The former abound in the clear mountain streams, and small fresh water lakes; the latter in the rivers and lakes near the ocean. The salmon trout are much larger than the mountain trout, and are very closely allied to the salmon itself.*

*This being a heavily timbered country there are, of course, very few flowers. I see no familiar ones except the yarrow, wild tansy, and strawberry; there is also a specie of wild clover which grows very abundantly. Of fruits we have the salmon-berry, thimbleberry, and sal-alle berry. The latter resembles in appearance and taste a large variety of the huckle-berry, and affords a very delicious dessert. The thimble-berry is almost exactly like the raspberry in size and appearance, but grows on a larger and less prickly bush. Salmon-berries grow on very large shrubs, and are named for their color. They are similar in size and shape to blackberries, but not quite so palatable.*

*Game is very scarce in this neighborhood. The deer and elk have been frightened back into the mountains; there are a few, however, remaining. A friend has a very large pair of elk horns. It was a problem to me how the elk could run through the bushes with such immense appendages, but after seeing in what way they are adapted to the head I became convinced of their advantage -- they are sloped backwards so as to protect the head, neck and body from the thickets. A few panthers, martins, black bears, and otters, may be seen occasionally. There are two varieties of the latter animal -- the land and sea otter. The skin of the other is much more valuable. There are some wolves or coyotes, but they are not often seen, and are not very troublesome, except in winter, when they lurk around the dwellings. Two varieties of foxes are also occasionally seen -- the common gray and the silver gray; the last variety is prized very highly for its beautiful skin. A few squirrels, principally the small gray.*

*There are fewer birds here than at any place I have ever been. There are pine hens, quail, and partridges (Maryland pheasant) and pigeons -- and ducks and geese in winter. The harbor is dotted with white sea birds -- such as didappers, gulls and pelicans. There is also a large fishing hawk of the eagle species, with a white head, white on tips of tail and wings, and dark body. The pine hen is so called from always being found in the pine woods. It is almost identical with the prairie hen of the States immediately east of the Rocky Mountains; it is also known as the blue grouse. I have noticed a very beautiful bird called the blue jay—it resembles very closely the jay bird of the Middle States; but its plumage is of a much darker and more brilliant hue. The humming-bird, sparrow, cedar-bird and robin are also to be seen.*

### July 16

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 28 S., Rng. 8 W. – Ridgeline divisions of Umpqua, Coos, and Coquille river headwaters, including Mount Gurney, Tioga Ridge Road and Sugar Pine Ridge.]

Chains	South, on West boundary of Sec. 30.
12.25	<i>To summit of rocky precipice and South end of mountain ridge, overlooking the upper Coquille, and a large part of Umpqua valley.</i>

### July 17

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 29 S., Rng. 8 W. – Camas Mountain, Camas Valley, Chimney Rocks, Middle Fork Coquille River.]

Chains	<u>South, on East boundary of Sec. 1.</u>
25.50	<i>SW cor. Of McCulloughs' pasture, course N.5°E. and N.80°E.</i>
27.35	<i>Creek, 15 lks. [10 feet] wide, course NE. . . .</i>
30.50	<i>Enter prairie, course E. and W.</i>
33.40	<i>Enter Waters' field, course E. and W.</i>
. . .	. . .
40.00	<i>Waters house bears S.79°W.</i>
44.50	<i>Leave field, course E. and W.</i>
53.50	<i>A road, course MNW and SE.</i>
	<i>Same house bears N69°W.</i>
	<i>Leave prairie and enter oak timber, course W. and SE.</i>

Chains	<u>South, on East boundary of Sec. 13.</u>
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42.00	<i>An Indian trail, course NW and SE.</i>
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### July 18

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 28 S., Rng. 8 W. – Ridgeline divisions of Umpqua, Coos, and Coquille river headwaters, including Mount Gurney, Tioga Ridge Road and Sugar Pine Ridge.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>South, on the East boundary of Sec. 36.</u>
2.25	Enter prairie, course NW. and SE.
12.0	Enter field, course East and West.
17.25	Leave same, course NW. and SE.
21.65	Old ¼ post, bears West 77 lks.
27.60	“Kammas Valley” trail, course NE. and SW.
30.00	Leave prairie and enter timber, course East and West.
...	...
42.00	Enter Oak openings, course East and West.
53.50	A house, bears N.70*W.
...	...
62.39	Same house, bears N.50*W.
76.50	Enter prairie, course East and NW. . .

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, on the South boundary on Sec. 36.</u>
47.70	“Kammas Valley” trail. Course NE. and SW. . .

## July 21

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 29 S., Rng. 8 W. – Camas Mountain, Camas Valley, Chimney Rocks, Middle Fork Coquille River.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>South, on West boundary of Sec. 19.</u>
5.00	C. B. Rawson’s house bears S.79*E.
14.70	Branch, 12 lks. [8 feet] wide, course SE.
14.70	A. Reed’s house bears S.53*W.
...	...
50.00	NE cor. wheat field containing about 5 acres.

<u>Chains</u>	<u>South, on West boundary of Sec. 25.</u>
53.50	John Storment’s house bears SW.
56.40	Enter W. P. Day’s pasture, course E and W.
57.50	Enter middle fork of Coquille River
57.50	Same house bears S.75*W.
59.00	Leave river, course SE.
61.10	Same, course SW (six inches deep), 30 lks. [20 feet] wide.
62.00	Enter prairie, course NE and SW.
62.00	W. P. Day’s house bears S.50*E., about 31 chs. [2,050 feet].

<u>Chains</u>	<u>South, on West boundary of Sec. 31.</u>
4.00	Leave pasture, course E and W.
4.00	Leave prairie, course E and W.
8.00	Enter fir timber, course E and W.

- 10.08            *Trail, course E and W.*  
 18.50            *Branch, 8 lks. [5 feet] wide, course NW.*  
 20.48            *Trail leading to intersection of forks of Coquille.*

**A. G. Walling** [1884: 421]: *Camas Valley. -- Camas valley, formerly known as Eighteen-Mile valley (being that distance from Flourney's), lies in the extreme southwestern part of Douglas county. It lies at the head of the middle fork of the Coquille river, which drains the country round about. Camas valley is some seven miles in length and three in widths possesses a very fertile soil about 1,000 acres in extent, and has uncommon facilities for procuring timber. Some of the most productive ranches in Douglas county lie within this vale. Nearly all the valuable food products of the clime flourish in this out-of- the-way nook, and the inhabitants are self-supporting to a high degree. The first permanent settlement in the valley was made by William Day and Alston Martindale, March 8, 1853, and both of these pioneers still occupy the donation claims which they then took up. In the same year came -- Patterson, C. B. Kawson and Jesse Dryer -- A few others came within a year or two, among them Adam Day, but in 1856 there were but three women in the valley. These were the wives of Messrs. Day and Martindale and the daughter of Adam Day.*

## **July 22.**

**Dr. Glisan:** *The steamer "Columbia" stopped here on the evening of the twentieth. Lieutenant G. H. Derby and Alexander Piper, U. S. Army, were on board en route for Fort Vancouver. The former gentleman belongs to the topographical engineers, and is quite celebrated as a witty writer. His productions are usually published in a California magazine called the "Pioneer." He informs us of the death of Captain J. L. Folsom, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Army. He died on last Tuesday evening. He leaves a large estate.*

*Lieutenant Kautz has involved himself in a civil suit for putting a civilian, who had been creating disturbances among the Indians on the government reserve, in the guardhouse; he confined him six days. The civil authorities have brought a suit for false imprisonment against him. He left this morning to attend his trial at Coos Bay. I am consequently in command of the post. This not being a proper duty of the medical staff, we only exercise it in the absence of all line officers. Our rank avails us in everything else but commanding. It holds good on all councils, boards, court martial, and in selection of quarters, etc. Mr. Henry Tichenor and myself accompanied Mr. Kautz some ten miles up the coast. On Our return we passed Cape Blanco, the most western portion of the United States territory. There are some forty miners engaged in digging gold dust on the beach at that point.*

*The gold was found disseminated in finally divided articles in the sand; and is separated by running the latter through a machine, consisting of a "long tom," and "drop riffle." The former is a wooden trough three feet broad, six feet long, and two inches deep, with a plate of sheet iron at one end perforated with several hundred holes. This is placed so as to form an inclined plane. At its lower end, and partly under it, is the "drop riffle." This consists of two side pieces holding a number of open boxes, one above and behind the other, like a stairway. In each of these boxes is a gate corresponding to the "rise" in a step, which can be elevated or lowered so as to be brought any required distance from the surface of the mercury in the cell of the box. A stream of*



water is let upon the “long tom,” and carried over the surface of the mercury in the “drop riffle.” The same being brought in close contact with the mercury by means of the sliding gate or drop-board, its gold dust is thus more readily united with this metal, forming what is called an amalgam. When the mercury is sufficiently impregnated, it is poured into iron pans and the gold allowed to settle. The sediment is then placed in a linen bag and compressed; thus separating another portion of the mercury. The remainder is termed “amalgam proper,” which contains about forty per centum of gold. The final step in the process is to place this into a retort, and by means of heat evaporate all the mercury. By this process very little of the latter is injured by oxidation, and it can, of course, be used again.

A constant supply of water is, in this mode of mining, necessary; and when it cannot be obtained from a stream sufficiently high to be conducted to the “tom” through a wooden trough, it is got from a shallow well by means of a carrying pump, worked either by horse or steam power—usually the former. There are some claims at Cape Blanco which “turn out very well.” The best belong to a Mr. Coffee, who is said to be running through one machine, where are employed only three or four hands, about fifty dollars a day. And this, too, a regular thing.

The sand beach differs materially from what are termed solid or quartz diggings in the regularity of finding gold. In the latter it is frequently necessary to work five and six months without getting a grain, then perhaps a vein is struck which turns out hundreds of dollars a day for a short time. But sometimes a shaft is sunk at an enormous expense without yielding anything. These shafts are usually sunk in the side of a hill, down to a level with the bed of a stream where gold dust has been found in the sand. The object is to strike the original bed of gold. The gold on the beach is also much finer than that found in the placer diggings in the interior of Oregon and California.

It is very easy to get up an excitement about gold diggings in this country. The last steamer was crowded with passengers for the newly discovered mines at Fort Colville in Washington Territory; they are represented as being vastly rich. There is doubtless much gold in that region, but, judging from the manner in which such things usually terminate in this country, about one half of those on their way there will return in a few months utterly disappointed; for the richness of mines is always exaggerated by speculators. Without going any further we will take Fort Orford as an average case, by way of illustration. About fourteen months ago a party of five or six men discovered gold at a place now called “Jackson’s Diggings” some thirty miles from this place. They worked five or six weeks, but secured barely enough to compensate them for their trouble. However, they were determined on making a speculation out of it. So after securing their claims they managed to return here just about the time the steamer stopped on her way to San Francisco. Knowing that if they exhibited the gold publicly everybody would accuse them of trying to get up an excitement for speculation, it was at first confidentially shown to a few persons, who divulged the matter to their particular friends, and they in turn to theirs, until everybody learned the wonderful secret. It was represented that this gold was found after a single day’s work. In a few hours everybody who could get away from Fort Orford were on their way to the mines. And ‘tis said that the agents of the line got up flaming hand-bills, which were posted through the streets of San Francisco. It at least turned out gold for them; for their ship was crowded with passengers as long as the bubble lasted. Persons arrived here by the hundreds; purchased pans, shovels, and picks; and, for the want of other conveyance, started for

*the magic spot on foot. The majority being city clerks, and others of that class, who had never walked a half day in their lives, soon began to break down, and consequently to throw away such articles as they thought could be best spared. About every third man would say to his party, "Well, we want only one pick, I am going to throw mine away."*

*On arriving they found gold, it is true, but not enough to pay the cost of the claims. So the little bubble bursted. The discoverers, the merchants, and steamship company, being the only parties who made anything. At the present time there are not more than a dozen persons working at the place. In the significant cant of the country the "diggings have gone in."*

*Now for a story somewhat different, but still illustrative of the ruse de guerre constantly practiced in the country. A party of three men came here a short time after the above excitement, and went to work at Cape Blanco, the place spoken of above being within eight miles of this place. After working a few days they came to the village and purchased a few articles on credit, with a promise to pay on the following week. At the appointed time the first bill was settled, and another contracted with the same limitation as to the time of settlement. Thus they worked on, as it were, from hand to mouth; and when asked how they were doing, replied, "wall, we guess we are making a living, but it is better to do this than to starve."*

*At the expiration of some seven months these men came to the village with thirty thousand dollars, which they had got out at that spot: sold their claims at an exorbitant price, and left the country. The purchasers found the claims pretty well exhausted; and by the process then in operation could not make them pay well. But since the introduction of the drop riffle they are made to yield, on re-working, pretty good wages. And, by prospecting in the neighborhood, some of the miners have found new places, which turn out handsomely. As, for instance, that of Mr. Coffee's, alluded to above.*

### July 23

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 30 S., Rng. 9 W. – Kenyon Mountain, Middle Fork Coquille River, Rock Creek, Signal Tree Road.]

Chains            South, on East boundary of Sec. 13.

.08            *Indian trail on summit of ridge, course N.65\*W., S.65\*E.*  
 14.00        *Enter fir grove, course E and W.*  
 18.00        *Leave same and enter oak and pine openings, course E and W.*  
 19.10        *A trail on summit of ridge, course N.80\*E. and S.80\*W.*

### July 25.

**Dr. Glisan:** *The steamer "Columbia," Captain William Dall, touched here this morning on her downward passage; brings glorious accounts of the gold mines at Fort Colville. Almost all the settlers in the upper part of Oregon, and in Washington Territories, have started for the mines. Of course all the vessels bound from San Francisco to Oregon will, for the next four months, be crowded with passengers inflated with golden dreams.*

**July 27.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 29 S., Rng. 9 W. – Kenyon Mountain, Middle Fork Coquille River, Rock Creek, Signal Tree Road.]

*About one fourth of this township is level and rolling country and includes what is known as “Camas Valley” 18 mile prairie, which will require to be subdivided. Balance of township is unfit for settlement and impracticable to survey.*

**July 31.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 29 S., Rng. 9 W. – Kenyon Mountain, Middle Fork Coquille River, Rock Creek, Signal Tree Road.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 25 and 26.</u>
7.25	<i>Enter Adam Day’s pasture C. E. &amp; W.</i>
20.70	<i>Leave same C. E. &amp; W.</i>
20.70	<i>Adam Day’s house, bears N.75*W.</i>

**August 2.**

**Dr. Glisan:** *There has been a coolness existing between Lieutenant K., of this post, and two persons in the village, named Smith and Sutton -- the former a lawyer, the latter Justice of the Peace. Lieutenant K. started for the town to-day after dinner, and being apprehensive of an reencounter, took with him a large cane. In a short time thereafter the constable of the place, Seth Lount, came running to garrison in great perturbation, begged me, for God’s sake, to hurry down town, as the Lieutenant had been shot through the heart by Justice Sutton. My first impulse was to order a corporal’s guard to assist in arresting the perpetrator of the deed, but as a few moments’ delay might be the death of my friend, I of course hurried to him first. To my astonishment, on arriving I found him sitting up in a chair as composed as if nothing had happened. The whole town had concentrated there in the meantime.*

*On inquiry, I learned that Sutton had commenced a quarrel with Kautz, and in the course of it had used language which the latter had construed into being called a liar, whereupon he raised his cane with the intention of striking the former, who drew a pistol and fired. Lieutenant K. immediately dropped on the floor, and on being picked up placed his hand over his heart. The bystanders, thinking the shot had taken effect in his chest, immediately sent for me. It was discovered in the meantime that the ball had not struck him – and, probably, not even grazed him. From where the ball hit the floor it is impossible that it could have passed higher up than the pelvis. Still, the expansive force of the gasses, generated by the combustion of the charge of powder in the gun, striking against the pit of the stomach, may have had something to do with the result. The most reasonable solution of the problem, however, is, that it was a nervous shock produced by the mental certainty that, if fired at with the pistol almost touching his body, death would be inevitable. The following is a case in point, taken from **Guthrie’s Military Surgery:***

*"During a rapid advance of part of the British Army in Portugal, one of the skirmishers suddenly came upon his adversary, with only a small bank between them; both parties presented, the muzzles of the pieces nearly touching; both fired, and both fell. The British soldier after a minute or two, thinking himself hit, but still finding himself capable of moving, got up, and found his adversary dead – on the opposite side of the bank. I saw him immediately afterwards in considerable alarm, being conscious of a blow somewhere, but which after a diligent search, proved to be only a graze on the under side of the arm; yet the certainty he was in of being killed, from the respective position of the parties, had such an effect upon him at the moment of receiving this trifling injury, as nearly to deprive him, for a short time, of his powers of volition; whereas, had the wound been received from a concealed or distant enemy, it would in all probability have been little noticed."*

#### **August 4.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 29 S., Rng. 9 W. – Kenyon Mountain, Middle Fork Coquille River, Rock Creek, Signal Tree Road.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 34 and 35.</u>
8.30	<i>Clickatat Trail from Umpqua Valley to Fork of Coquille.</i>
...	...
42.00	<i>Enter oak timber. C. E. and W.</i>
46.50	<i>Old Indian trail from Umpqua to Fork of Coquille</i>

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 26 and 35.</u>
40.30	<i>Indian trail. C. N.E. and S.W.</i>
44.00	<i>Leave Prairie and enter Timber. C. N. and S.E.</i>

<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 26 and 27.</u>
7.00	<i>Enter oak timber. C. E. and W.</i>
9.20	<i>Old Indian trail. C. E. and W.</i>
16.00	<i>Enter fir timber. C. E. and W.</i>

*There are 5 donation claims taken in this township.*

#### **August 6.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 30 S., Rng. 9 W. – Skull Ridge, Chipmunk Ridge, Middle Fork Coquille River, Bear Creek, Panther Creek, Twelvemile Creek, Battle Creek.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, on North boundary of Sec. 1.</u>
2.06	<i>An Indian trail, course N and S.</i>
3.46	<i>An Indian trail, course N and S.</i>
...	...
56.27	<i>Main trail leading from Umpqua valley to the Fork of the Coquille, NE and SW.</i>
57.20	<i>A branch, 5 lks [3 feet] wide, course N.</i>
65.20	<i>Middle fork of Coquille, S.80*W.</i>

68.00            *leave same, course N.80\*W.*  
 71.35            *Same trail, course NE and SW.*

Chains            West, on North boundary of Sec. 3.

8.10            *Clickatat Trail, course NE and SW.*

...

57.10            *Old Indian trail, NE and SW course.*

75.00            *Top of [Kenyon] mountain.*

### **August 7.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 30 S., Rng. 9 W. – Skull Ridge, Chipmunk Ridge, Middle Fork Coquille River, Bear Creek, Panther Creek, Twelvemile Creek, Battle Creek.]

Chains            South, on West boundary of Sec. 6.

74.75            *Indian trail, on summit of ridge, course E and W.*

Chains            South, on West boundary of Sec. 7.

32.70            *Old Indian trail, course NE and SW.*

...

48.25            *Main trail, course E and W.*

### **August 8.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 29 S., Rng. 8 W. – Camas Mountain, Camas Valley, Chimney Rocks, Middle Fork Coquille River.]

*This township contains over half of what is known as “Kamas Valley” or “18 mile prairie,” which is excellent prairie. It also has some prairie along the N Boundary. Balance, hilly and timbered with Fir, Oak, and Laurel. Most of the Tp. will require to be subdivided.*

### **August 9.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 30 S., Rng. 9 W. – Skull Ridge, Chipmunk Ridge, Middle Fork Coquille River, Bear Creek, Panther Creek, Twelvemile Creek, Battle Creek.]

Chains            West, on South boundary of Sec. 36.

10.25            *Indian trail, course N and S., on summit of ridge.*

*General Description. This township is either hilly or mountainous, generally covered with fir, hemlock and cedar timber of good quality but difficult of access. The middle fork of the Coquille runs through this T. and any of the tributaries head in the same. The principal trails from the Umpqua to the forks of Coquille and Coos bay lead through it. Probably about one fourth of the Tp. will require to be subdivided.*

**August 11, 1855: Joel Palmer signs treaty with Coos, Nasomah and Kelawatsets**

**August 11.**

**Joel Palmer** [There were 13 Articles of Agreement negotiated and signed by Palmer between the United States and several confederations of coastal Oregon Indian tribes and bands in 1855, but never ratified by Congress. For a complete text of the 13 articles to the signed treaties, see US Senate Ex. Doc. No. 25, 53<sup>rd</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session 1893: 8-12.]:

*In testimony whereof, the said Joel Palmer, on the part of the United States, and the undersigned chiefs, headmen, and delegates of the said confederated bands, have hereunto set their hands and seals this eleventh day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-five.*

*Signed in the presence of -- Cris. Taylor, Secretary to Treaty,  
W. W. Raymond, Sub-Indian Agent,  
R. W. Dunbar,  
B. M. Palmer*

*Joel Palmer [L. S.], Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Oregon Territory*

*Loni, second chief, his x mark [L. S.]  
Cal-he-na, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tel-kite, his x mark [L. S.]  
Albert, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ki-hosi, first chief, his x mark [L. S.]  
Sme-ka-hite, his x mark [L. S.]  
Quink Ouse, his x mark [L. S.]  
Kos-kup, his x mark [L. S.]  
Que-mah, his x mark [L. S.]  
Kle-ick, his x mark [L. S.]  
Pah-hi, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ha-ake, his x mark [L. S.]  
Que-e-to, his x mark [L. S.]  
Que-lis-ke, his x mark [L. S.]  
Quo-ap-pa, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jim, his x mark [L. S.]  
Con-chu, his x mark [L. S.]  
Toch-a-lie, his x mark [L. S.]  
Pah-ni-ka-u, his x mark [L. S.]  
Wo-cos-konts, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tlate-hal, his x mark [L. S.]*

*He-a-kah, his x mark [L. S.]  
Sam-may, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ke-etch, his x mark [L. S.]  
John, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jim Selitsa, his x mark [L. S.]  
Sis-nah-quo-lin, his x mark [L. S.]  
Scho-jo, his x mark [L. S.]  
Kle-con-outs, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ton-ton, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tlouched, his x mark [L. S.]  
To-cot-so, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jake, his x mark [L. S.]  
Chah-quo-lah, his x mark [L. S.]  
Chi-ni-co-wash, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tu-e-uch, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ah-sis-less, his x mark [L. S.]  
Lu-con-in, his x mark [L. S.]  
Is-han-na, his x mark [L. S.]  
Yet-sit, his x mark [L. S.]  
John, his x mark [L. S.]*

**August 13.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 30 S., Rng. 9 W. – Skull Ridge, Chipmunk Ridge, Middle Fork Coquille River, Bear Creek, Panther Creek, Twelvemile Creek, Battle Creek.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 13 and 24.</u>
19.00	<i>Summit of ridge, NW and SE.</i>
29.50	<i>Indian trail, course NE and SW.</i>

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 12 and 13.</u>
.10	<i>An Indian trail.</i>

**August 15.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 30 S., Rng. 9 W. – Skull Ridge, Chipmunk Ridge, Middle Fork Coquille River, Bear Creek, Panther Creek, Twelvemile Creek, Battle Creek.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 11 and 12.</u>
44.50	<i>A trail on summit of ridge, course E and W.</i>

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 1 and 12.</u>
5.43	<i>Indian trail, course N and S.</i>

<u>Chains</u>	<u>South, between Secs. 1 and 2.</u>
5.00	<i>Main trail, bet. Umpqua and the forks of Coquille, course NE and SW.</i>

**August 17.**

**Joel Palmer** [There were 13 Articles of Agreement negotiated and signed by Palmer between the United States and several confederations of coastal Oregon Indian tribes and bands in 1855, but never ratified by Congress. For a complete text of the 13 articles to the signed treaties, see US Senate Ex. Doc. No. 25, 53<sup>rd</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session 1893: 8-12.].

*We, the chiefs, headmen, and delegates of the Sueslan and Winchester Bay bands of the Kal-le-wat-set or Umpqua tribe of Indians, and the several bands of Kowes Bay Indians, after having fully explained to us the above treaty, do hereby accede to its provisions, and affix our signatures, or marks, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1855.*

*Signed in the presence of –  
Cris. Taylor, Secretary,  
R. B. Metcalfe, Sub-Indian Agent,  
E. P. Drew, Sub-Indian Agent,  
Jn. B. Gagnier, Interpreter,  
John Fleet, Interpreter,  
J. C. Clark, Interpreter,  
R. W. Dunbar,*

L. P. Brown,  
M. H. Hill,  
John Gale.

Eneos, his x mark [L. S.]  
De-chaum, his x mark [L. S.]  
John, his x mark [L. S.]  
Peter, his x mark [L. S.]  
Poscal, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ha-lo-teeth, his x mark [L. S.]  
Kal-la-hat-sa, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ha-lo-gleese, his x mark [L. S.]  
Bi-chauma, his x mark [L. S.]  
Louis, his x mark [L. S.]  
Lake-man, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jerome, his x mark [L. S.]  
Peir, his x mark [L. S.]  
Wilson, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tom, his x mark [L. S.]  
Captain, his x mark [L. S.]  
Stephen, his x mark [L. S.]  
Cal-lolh, his x mark [L. S.]  
Wal-lauch, his x mark [L. S.]  
Loch-steh, his x mark [L. S.]  
Wal-loch, his x mark [L. S.]  
Pete, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jackson, his x mark [L. S.]  
Hal-lice, his x mark [L. S.]  
Don-Quixotte, his x mark [L. S.]  
Charly, his x mark [L. S.]  
John, his x mark [L. S.]  
Que-el-ma, his x mark [L. S.]  
Qui-it, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ha-lo-wa-wa, his x mark [L. S.]  
Taylor, his x mark [L. S.]  
Pee-lee-gray, his x mark [L. S.]  
Joe, his x mark [L. S.]  
Sam, his x mark [L. S.]  
Charley, his x mark [L. S.]  
Sam 2d, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jim, his x mark [L. S.]  
Johnson, his x mark [L. S.]  
Charley 2d, his x mark [L. S.]  
Oleman, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jack, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tom, his x mark [L. S.]

Jim 2d, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tim, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tom, his x mark [L. S.]  
Sam, his x mark [L. S.]  
Fat-tim, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jim, first chief, his x mark [L. S.]  
Bob 2d, second chief, his x mark [L. S.]  
John, his x mark [L. S.]  
George, his x mark [L. S.]  
William, his x mark [L. S.]  
Charley, his x mark [L. S.]  
Dock, his x mark [L. S.]  
Dick, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ale-man-doctor, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jim, his x mark [L. S.]  
John, his x mark [L. S.]  
Gabriel, his x mark [L. S.]  
Cris, his x mark [L. S.]  
Kah-tite, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ne-ah-tal-woot, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jake, his x mark [L. S.]  
Quin-ultchet, his x mark [L. S.]  
Yat-se-no, his x mark [L. S.]  
Lalkt, his x mark [L. S.]  
Damon, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ka-ton-na, his x mark [L. S.]  
Loch-hite, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ten-ach, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ki-hi-ah, his x mark [L. S.]  
Hon-slach, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ko-ah-qua, his x mark [L. S.]  
Solomon, his x mark [L. S.]  
Lol lotch, his x mark [L. S.]  
Skil-a-milt, his x mark [L. S.]  
Yah-who-wich, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tes-ich-man, his x mark [L. S.]  
Hon-nu-wot, his x mark [L. S.]  
Squat-kle-ah, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ki-u-ot-set, his x mark [L. S.]  
Al-la-wom-mets, his x mark [L. S.]  
Too-tee, his x mark [L. S.]  
No whe-na, his x mark [L. S.]



**August 18.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 30 S., Rng. 9 W. – Skull Ridge, Chipmunk Ridge, Middle Fork Coquille River, Bear Creek, Panther Creek, Twelvemile Creek, Battle Creek.]

Chains            North, between Secs. 10 and 11.  
 14.70            *Ascend perpendicular rocks about 20 ft.*

29.60            *Indian trail, course E and W.*  
                   *Summit of ridge, course E and W.*

...                ...

48.30            *Main trail, course NE and SW.*

56.00            *Middle fork of Coquille, 50 lks. [33 feet] wide.*

Chains            North, between Secs. 9 and 10.

24.35            *Main trail, leading from “Kammas Valley” to Forks of Coquille.*

Chains            South, between Secs. 3 and 4.

28.55            *Old Indian trail, course E and W.*

32.50            *“Clickatat trail”, course E and W.*

... *There are no settlers in the township.*

## August 23, 1855: The Observed Arrivals of Capt. Cram and William V. Wells

### August 23.

**Dr. Glisan:** *Captain T. J. Cram, U. S. Topographical Engineer; Dr. Hubbard; and Mr. Wells, editor of the Alta California, arrived on the "Columbia" this morning. Mr. W. having travelled all over the world, is an exceedingly well informed and entertaining gentleman. Captain C. was a fellow passenger on our trip from New York, and we are, of course, highly delighted to see him. He has come up simply on a visit. The other gentlemen are engaged in a coal speculation at Coos Bay. This mineral has been found there in large quantities; and of very good quality. It has also been discovered in other parts of this Territory, and is likely to turn out a handsome speculation to those who first succeed in bringing it to market, as all the coal heretofore used on this coast has been brought from the Eastern States or England. I perceive that the rumor, heard here a few weeks since of Indian troubles on the Klamath River, has been confirmed. There were eleven white men killed by the Indians at last accounts. The origin of the difficulty was on the part of a few drunken Indians, who attempted to maltreat some white men.*

**Joel Palmer** [1855 Oregon Indian treaty agreements (US Senate 1893: 8-12)]:

*We, the chiefs, headmen, and delegates of the Quans, Sake-nah, Klen-nah-hah, and Ke-ah-mas-e-ton bands of Nas-o-mah or Coquille tribe of Indians, after having had fully explained to us the above treaty, do hereby acede to its provisions, and affix our signatures or marks, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 1855.*

*T-sin-no-nas, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Pil-le-kio, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Klas-won-ta, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Sat-tae, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Wah-hench, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Tom, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Joe, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Mal-a-quack, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Won-na-tlos, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Mil-luck, his x mark [L. S.]*

*John, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Charley, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Che-kan-nah, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Kume-mas, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Tsha-san, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Kon-u-quan, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Sands, his x mark [L. S.]*

*T-sis-tah-noo-ka, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Mah-T-lose, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Chil-lah, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Hon-ouse, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Charles, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Lah-Lee, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Noch-to-soch, his x mark [L. S.]*

*O-Charley, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Klong-Kus, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Bill, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Other-tom, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Yohn, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Nelson, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Locks-ey, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Jo-Lane, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Frank, his x mark [L. S.]*

*John, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Jim, his x mark [L. S.]*

*George, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Bale, his x mark [L. S.]*

*El-Kah-hut, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Klo-Kat-on, his x mark [L. S.]*

*San-dish, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Kitchen, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Jim-too-Wah, his x mark [L. S.]*

Signed in presence of--

Chris. Taylor, Secretary  
 John Flett, Interpreter  
 Jn. Bts. Gagnier, Interpreter  
 Joseph E. Clark, Interpreter  
 E. P. Drew, Sub-Indian Agent  
 R. W. Dunbar

**Capt. Cram:** *From Crescent City to Rogue river, thence to Port Orford, the shore is broken and divided by spurs of the mountains coming quite down to the water's edge, throwing the mule track back from the sea up the steep sides and over the sharp crests of the spurs, making the route a very difficult one for the animals to tread; and yet it is the only land route connecting the shore settlements. Indeed, in almost all the country adjacent to the coast, and back into the interior as far as the Oregon trail, the roads generally are nothing more than pack trails for animals or foot paths for Indians and their pursuers.*

*With the exception of the valleys of the upper part of Rogue river, of the Umpqua, and of the Coquille, to which I have already made allusion, the whole country represented on map No. 9 is extremely forbidding to the eye of the farmer. Immediately on the coast the ground is covered with a dense forest of cedar, inferior pine, (called Oregon pine,) spruce, fir &c., of trees of such gigantic size as to preclude the idea of clearing the land for cultivation. Further inland the back ground of this natural amphitheatral picture, viewed from the sea, is a succession of hills, the mountains of volcanic origin, rising one above the other, presenting their rocky fronts and sharp summits in beautiful shapes and variety of color, and showing their well defined crest line in clear relief against the sky as far as the eye can reach; and, as long as it can endure to observe, as we steam along the coast of Oregon, it will meet pretty near the same picture. The forest lands, and mountain slopes of this coast will never be brought under cultivation. They are fit only for lumbering and mining, perhaps, in some places. To the botanist, the florist, horticulturist, mineralogist, and geologist, they afford fields of interest, and, if explored, would probably yield many new and valuable specimens to their respective cabinets.*

*At Port Orford, which is just immediately south and under the cape bearing this name, there is a tolerable harbor, or rather, a "Hole in the shore," into which steamers of the largest class can safely enter and approach to within a few hundred feet of the beach, when the wind don't blow too hard from the south or southwest, and the fog is not too dense. Under a north or northwest wind, once in, vessels may ride at anchor here in security. This is not only the best, but it is the only place entitled to the name of harbor on the whole Oregon coast. A coast so strikingly destitute of harbors as this can contribute very little to the commercial prosperity of the State upon which it may front, presenting, as it were, a barrier rather than affording entrances to the interior.*

*Lumber is extensively manufactured by steam mills near Port Orford. It is here that the Oregon white cedar is found of extraordinary size. Boards from three to five feet in width are produced of perfectly "clear stuff," and of such quality, for the plane, that this kind of lumber has, in a*

*measure, superceded the white pine for interior finishing; for exterior work, however, it is not so well adapted.*

*On former official maps Cape Orford and Cape Blanco are put down as one; but Cape Blanco, whose approximate longitude 124 [degrees] 45' W., and latitude about 42 [degrees] 45' N., is distant from the former about ten miles. Between the two capes there is a beautiful indentation, bordered by a continuous sand beach, passable for wagons at all times, and affording the only wagon road passing out of Port Orford; all other routes leading out of this settlement can only be traveled on foot or on the backs of pack animals.*

**August 26.**

**Dr. Glisan:** *General Joel Palmer, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon, and Dr. Drew, sub-agent, arrived here on the twenty-fourth instant, and left this morning for Rogue River to hold a council with the Indians of this coast, with a view of forming a treaty with them for the purchase of their possessory rights to the soil, and their removal to an Indian Reserve to be set apart for them higher up the coast.*

### August 27, 1855: The Buford Affair and south coast treaty signings

**Capt. Cram:** *In July, 1855, a council was to be held by the then superintendent of Indian affairs in Oregon with the tribes in this district, at a point about three miles up from the mouth of Rogue river. The Indians, on invitation of the superintendent, were assembling. On the day previous to that fixed for the treaty one, from provocation, wounded a white man before the detachment of troops that had been sent from Port Orford to keep order had arrived. The whites assembled to the number of sixty, and loudly demanded of the sub-agent the offender, to hang him. The summary process was stoutly opposed by that functionary, but on the arrival of the troops he agreed to allow him to be taken under their conduct before the justice of the peace for a hearing. The hearing bound the prisoner over for trial, and remanded him in charge of the corporal's guard to camp for safe custody. The corporal, with two privates, the prisoner, and another Indian as canoe-man, were returning in their canoe down the river, when they discovered a boat containing three whites in hot pursuit, and two others, containing whites, following. Soon the foremost came near the corporal's canoe and fired into his party, killing both Indians -- the prisoner and canoe-man. Notwithstanding, the council was held, and the Indians of Rogue river and Port Orford agreed to quit their native soil and go to reside on a tract that had been designated as the Coast Indian Reservation, further north, represented on map No. 14. It was the design to gather all the bands along the coast of Oregon and place them upon it, there to teach them agriculture and the arts, and to forever prevent whites from acquiring the rights of soil upon it.*

**A. G. Walling** [1884: 272-273]: *Another incident of importance has a termination somewhat different from the ordinary tale, but is itself very lamentable in its results. On August 26, 1855, James Buford, a miner living at the mouth of Rogue river, became involved in a quarrel with an Indian, and was shot by the latter, the bullet taking effect in Buford's shoulder. The native was arrested and brought before a justice of the peace, and after a partial examination it was resolved to remove him for the night to the council ground, and afterwards to Port Orford. There being a considerable number of Indians thereabouts, a squad of United States troops was detailed for the service of guarding the prisoner, who was taken in a large canoe with his guard. Shortly, another canoe ran alongside in the semi-darkness, and from it Buford and two friends, Hawkins and O'Brien, fired and killed the prisoner and an Indian who was paddling. Instantly the soldiers returned the fire, killing two and mortally wounding the other assailant, who retained only sufficient strength to swim ashore, where he died upon the bank. This incident, we need not add, created a great deal of excitement, and resulted in a war of words against the army which could so quickly take the side of the savages, and leave unavenged the wrongs they committed upon the whites. Nevertheless, the army was, from the nature of things, opposed to the whites, although they could not be said to favor the Indians. Departmental instructions leave the officer commanding a military post no option regarding the treatment of either savage or civilized persons, but require him to interpose to restrain, on the one hand, the violence of the nation's aboriginal wards, and on the other to resist the action of the whites who may interfere unlawfully with them. After the uprising of the Interior Indians under John, Limpy and other chiefs, the Coast Indians were solicited to join in the warfare against the whites, but the sentiment of the larger portion was for peace, and the overtures of those chiefs were rejected. The Buford affair may be allowed to have contributed somewhat to produce the hostilities which*

*followed in the spring of 1856, but still greater weight is probably to be attached to the success of the malcontents on the river above in resisting the efforts of their opponents who sought to conquer them. During the early part of the winter of 1855-6 symptoms of increasing discontent were noticed among the natives, and the condition of affairs was pronounced grave enough to warrant immediate measures being taken to preserve peace. An Indian agent for the locality at the mouth of the river was considered indispensable, and Ben Wright, the celebrated Indian fighter, who had gained a vast experience in the management of the savages, and who had sustained intimate domestic relations with various tribes, was, at the solicitation of certain people of Yreka and elsewhere, appointed to that post as successor to Mr. Parrish, by Joel Palmer, superintendent of Indian affairs for Oregon. Wright began his ministrations under favorable auspices and for a time everything promised security for the whites, whose fears were not of the most serious cast. The military arm was present in the person of Brevet-Major Reynolds, U. S. A., who was stationed at Port Orford, the post bearing the official designation of Fort Orford. This force, though too small to be of much service in time of a real outbreak, still served to maintain order as between the whites and natives, and was much relied upon by the infant colony so far away from effective help, and so completely at the mercy of the savages. The settlers, of course, were almost entirely men in the prime of life; very few women and children had yet arrived in the country -- a peculiarly fortunate circumstance as we shall see. Only two or three white families were to be found at the settlement at the mouth of the river, called Gold Beach, but many miners abode in small cabins scattered along the banks of that stream for several miles upwards from the mouth, and along the sea-coast north and south, but mainly located near the present site of Ellensburg. Three miles up the river was Big Flat, where a considerable settlement had been formed, and some land brought under cultivation.*

### **August 30.**

**Joel Palmer** [1855 Oregon Indian treaty Articles of Agreement (US Senate 1893: 8-12)]:

*We the chiefs, headmen, and delegates of the Se-quate-sah, Ko-se-a-chah, Euka-che, Yah-shute, Too-too-to-ney, Mack-a-no-tin, Kos-sul-to-ny, Mussle, Cos-sa-to-ny, Klu-it-ta-tel, Te-cha-quot, Chet-less-ing-ton, and Wis-to-na-tin bands of Tootootony tribe and Chet-co tribe of Indians, after having had fully explained to us the above treaty, do hereby acede to its provisions, with the following proviso:*

*That the canoes belonging to the members of our respective bands shall either be transported to the district designated as a reservation, or other canoes or boats furnished in lieu thereof, or the value of same paid the Indians by the Government of the United States, at the direction of the latter, and that means of transportation for the old, infirm, and children, with goods, wares, and chattels belonging to the members of the said bands and subsistence for the members thereof during time of removal, shall also be furnished by, and at the expense of, the Government of the United States.*

*In witness whereof we hereunto affix our signatures, or marks, this thirtieth day of August, 1855.*

*Signed in the presence of -- Cris. Taylor, Secretary, Jerry McGire, R. W. Dunbar, August V. Kautz, 2d, Lieut. 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Dr. R. Glisan, U. S. A., E. P. Drew, John Flett, J. E. Clark.*

**Sins Band**

*Ta-Wos-Ka, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Too-too-to-ny**

*An-ne-at-ta, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Tal-ma-net-sa, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Ko-chil-la, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Hurt-la-no, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Chet-co tribe**

*Eu-tlach, first chief, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Too-Whus-ka, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Ka-tulch-Kla, his x mark [L. S.]*

*No-get-toe-it, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Jashuts**

*Sin-Whuss-Chan, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Eu-San-e-Klon, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Eu-nah-nese-tah, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Yah-Kat-chin-a-mah-tin, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Whis-to-na-tin**

*Nal-tah-wos-shah, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Cha-hus-sah, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Kos-sa-on, his x mark [L. S.]*

*E-u-le-te-tes-tlah, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Coc-sa-to-ny**

*Ses-tel-tus, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Tat-sa, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Hus-to-Mat-say, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Chet-less-ing-ton**

*Mos-quot, his x mark [L. S.]*

*No-on-me-hos-quah, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Tac-qua, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Cosh-nul-see, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Ko-so-e-chah**

*Tag-o-ne-cia, first chief, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Loo-ney, his x mark [L. S.]*

*John, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Jim, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Se-qua-a-ch**

*Whiskus, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Ten-as-tic, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Eu-Wach-nah, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Port Orford band**

*Smut-tah-ta, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Too-Kus-Chol-nah, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Se-tah-Kue, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Scah-lah, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Euku band**

*Ah-Chase, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Tos-lon, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Quil-su, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Yo-Walt-Ma, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Kos-sul-to-ny**

*Mussles-Tie, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Too-Quot, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Klu-it-ta-tel**

*Non-Wholt, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Koose-tla, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Eu-til-Mus, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Te-cha-quot**

*Ult-sa-yah, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Yah-sun-su, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Ton-wa-nec-a-she, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Che-nun-tun, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Chis-tah-tah, his x mark [L. S.]*

**Mack-a-no-tin**

*Tut-tel-ol-tus, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Eu-Sol-Sun, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Squo-che-nol-la, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Shet-nul-lus, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Noch-was-su-yah, his x mark [L. S.]*

### September 1 (Saturday).

**Dr. Glisan:** *Having received a dispatch from General Palmer that a disturbance had occurred between the miners and Indians near the council grounds on Rogue River, Lieutenant Kautz and myself had repaired thither, and returned on the first instant.*

*Leaving Fort Orford on the twenty-ninth ultimo, we arrived on the "ground" the same evening, after a journey of thirty miles over the roughest road I have ever traveled. For two thirds of the distance the rider is in constant peril of the neck and limb. Woe to him if his animal makes a misstep; his journey to the bottom of some gorge would excel the velocity of steam. At one place it is necessary to ride across a stream on a log—a short, broad one, it is true, but still a log, and should your horse make a careless step a heavy tumble would be the consequence at least. In traveling up one mountain gorge it is necessary to cross a creek seventeen times in a distance of about four miles. The trail then turns abruptly westward, and the broad Pacific lies before, and three hundred feet beneath us. Yes, literally beneath us; for its bank is perpendicular, and the trail within three feet of its brink. The view is grand. Niagara itself, of which the roaring breakers below remind us, is not more sublime.*

*Again the road meanders through the mountains for a few miles, and then descends to the water's edge. It now continues for a few miles along the sand beach, which is admirable traveling at low tide. Here are to be seen thousands of gulls, ducks and pelicans. We were much amused at some of the latter, who had gormandized to such an extent that they could scarcely skim the waves. One old fellow was unable to surmount more than a single breaker at a time, and would occasionally be struck by its foaming crest and launched far in the rear. There is some mining done along this portion of the beach, but not much, except at the mouth of the Rogue River. The gold is distributed in such minute particles through the sand that but little can be got out by the ordinary mining process. This whole coast for a hundred miles in extent will, however, be an immense field for mining some twenty years hence, when labor becomes cheaper, and machinery more perfect.*

*The council ground was located in a beautiful myrtle grove on the south bank of Rogue River, three miles from its mouth. The object of the council was to form a treaty with the various bands of Indians belonging to the Port Orford district, with the view of settling them, together with all other bands and tribes living on the coast of Oregon, on an Indian Reserve; that is, a tract of land set aside for them exclusively—on which the whites are not permitted to reside. This system of disposing of the Indians has been for many years adopted by our government. It is the only plan to prevent their entire extermination. The manner in which it is carried out is too well known to require description. That some system of this kind is requisite is but too painfully felt by every man of sensibility and intelligence, who has ever been in our new Territories and seen how badly the Indians and whites get along together, This is more apparent on our Pacific coast than east of the Rocky Mountains. For the excitement of gold mines has filled California and portions of Oregon more rapidly than any other parts of the United States Territory, and, consequently, brought the whites and Indians in more frequent conflict.*

*The donation act of Congress, which grants to actual settlers one hundred and sixty to six hundred and forty acres of land—the amount varying according as certain provisions in the Act*



*are complied with—when and wherever they choose to locate it, without having previously extinguished the Indian title, is another prolific source of trouble peculiar to the Oregon Territory; hence the difficulties are innumerable. And what makes matters worse, some of the rougher class of miners will submit to no control in their intercourse with the Indians.*

*If an Indian steals anything from, or hurts one of these persons, his life is generally the forfeit. The Indians around here formerly acted upon the same principle, but their frequent conflicts with the whites have so intimidated them that they are now generally inclined to peace. There have sufficient bad and desperate fellows among them, however, to keep their bands in constant difficulty.*

*An instance occurred during the session of the council of a most painful character—the more so as it terminated in the death of three American citizens, together with two Indians, and came within an ace of not only breaking up all further negotiations with Indians, but of bringing on another Rogue River war. The circumstances are these:*

*An Indian and a white man had a quarrel, which resulted in the latter being wounded in the shoulder by the former. The Indian fled. Captain Ben. Wright, a sub-Indian agent, being on the treaty ground for the purpose of assembling the Indians preparatory for the treaty, happening to hear of the difficulty, and wishing to prevent further bloodshed, went personally and arrested the Indian with the view of having him properly tried, and punishing him for his misdemeanor if found guilty. At night, whilst he, some others, and the prisoner, were lying asleep in a small shanty, a shot was fired by an unknown person, which shattered the prisoner's arm. Wright having dressed his wound, placed him between himself and the wall; thus, with his own person, affording protection to the Indian. The night passed off quietly, but as it was evident that the populous intended getting forcible possession of him in the morning with the view of hanging him, the Agent rose early and took his prisoner to the treaty ground, and there placed him in a small hut. He had scarcely done so, when the mob assembled to a number of sixty persons, armed with Colt's revolvers, and demanded the prisoner. Wright stood in the door, and by his determined manner and strong arguments, managed to keep them at bay until the arrival of a detachment of fifteen U. S. troops, who had opportunely reached the opposite side of the river; and for whom he secretly dispatched a messenger. The prisoner was then turned over to their protection. The crowd hung around for some time blackguarding the soldiers, but finally dispersed.*

*On the following day, the twenty-seventh of August, a constable took a prisoner in charge with the intention of taking him before a magistrate some three miles down the river. At the solicitation of the constable, the request of General Palmer, General Superintendent of Indians in Oregon, who had arrived in the meantime, a corporal's guard of troops was furnished by the prisoner. After the latter had been properly committed by the magistrate to stand his trial at the next term of court, he was remanded to the corporal for conveyance to prison. As the guard was ascending Rogue River late at night (moonlight) three men came alongside. The corporal ordered them to keep off, but instead of doing so they commenced firing into his boat, killing the prisoner, who was at the time between the corporal's knees, and another Indian rowing the boat.*

*The corporal then commanded his men to return fire. The three men were instantly killed, each receiving a ball through his chest. The five corpses were taken to camp. The Indians fled from the council ground in consternation. An attack was expected on the general's camp by the exasperated citizens. A gentleman was dispatched to the mouth of Rogue river to explain the matter to the Vigilance Committee. On arriving there he ascertained that the three men, who had met such an untimely fate by their rashness, were to have been supported by a strong party in another boat. But this party is said to have returned home and gone to bed, after hearing the fatal shots, without even ascertaining the fate of their companions. The miners composing the Vigilance Committee were, of course, much excited, but after understanding the matter thoroughly, came to the conclusion that the soldiers acted only in the discharge of their duty. This was also the verdict of the coroner's jury, held on the deceased the following day.*

*The event is to be deplored. But it will probably prove a lesson to a large class of persons in this community who wish to take the law into their own hands, and execute it in accordance to the dictates of interest or passion. It is probable that the Indian in this case was to blame; if so, he certainly would have met with a proper punishment when tried by a jury of Americans. Why then attempt to frustrate the ends of justice by mob violence?*

*The Indians returned to the ground again on the thirtieth to the number of twelve hundred and twenty, and after having signed the treaty, received from the agents various presents of blankets, calicoes, kettles, shirts, pants, coats, beads, knives, hatchets, tobacco, etc. On being told that these were given them by our great Ti-hee (chief), the President of the United States, they supposed he must be a very rich man, and, of course, have a great many wives. When informed that he had only one, they were very much surprised. Their chiefs usually have as many wives as they can care of—sometimes as high as fifteen or twenty. The men generally are permitted to have more than one. The women, on the contrary, were limited to one husband. As it is customary among all savage nations, the squaws perform all the drudgery; while the men either fish, hunt, or idle away their time smoking. The former are said to have been chaste before the whites came among them. If so, their principles have undergone a radical change. In number the females predominate—owing to the fact of the males being killed in a larger proportion by the casualties of war, etc. They are all slaves in the strict sense of the word, and are sold like negroes among the whites. The nearest relative, such as the father, mother, brother, or husband, holds the rights of disposal. Two or three blankets, a canoe, or a horse, will buy any of them. Here is a wide field for the talents of the women's rights society.*

*I have never before seen a tribe that had not something characteristic in their dress; which usually consists of a buffalo robe, a blanket, thrown over the shoulders, buckskin moccasins, and leggings. Such is the dress of all the tribes that at present roam the prairies and deserts east of the Rocky Mountains. And such is said to have been the attire of the degenerated race of which we are now speaking. But these marks of distinction have passed away. In this whole council you couldn't perceive two Indians dressed precisely alike. One man's apparel consisted of simply a coat; another, of drawers; a third, of pants; a fourth, a jacket; a fifth, a soldier's uniform; a sixth, a pair of boots and a breech-clout, and occasionally you might see one dressed a la American. With the above articles they wring as many changes and combinations as the chimes of some of our fashionable church bells. One of the most amusing spectacles of all was that of a*

*little chubby boy with a soldier's jacket, reaching to his knees, and having down it's back seam a broad scarlet stripe.*

*The squaws adopt the same principles, or rather no principles at all, in their attire. Many of them, however, have learned to make dresses similar to those of the whites. Like all Indian women, they are passionately fond of ornaments. Some of the belles have as many as twenty strings of beads around their necks. There is a peculiar bead-like shell, about an inch long, obtained near Puget Sound, which is preferred to anything else. Instead of ear-bobs they wear dangling from the middle cartilages of their noses vari-colored shells and beads -- which may be termed nose-bobs. Some of the old spinsters substitute a long painted feather stuck transversely; signifying, perhaps, that they may be easily "caught."*

*At the Indian villages one may sometimes see the men, and frequently the boys, in puris naturalibus. Not so with the females. They are never, not even the little papooses or babies, without some substitute for the fig leaf of Mother Eve. The majority of both men and women go bareheaded; though a common headdress of the latter is a conical basket made of the inner bark of the birch tree. This also serves for them a pail, the slits being woven so closely that when swollen by moisture the vessel is perfectly water-tight. And, of course, it is also used as a basket proper—particularly to carry berries in. There are many varieties of the latter, and I am very fond of them; but to eat them when brought in these baskets sometimes requires more courage than I am master of; especially if I have previously observed the owner in the interesting occupation of searching for and eating pediculi yes, eating them, but it is said that they do it out of revenge.*

*Their staple article of food is the salmon, which are as plentiful in the Oregon rivers as herring and shad in the Potomac; Rogue River especially abounds in them. The agent issued them to the Indians attending the council as a substitute for beef. One haul with a seine at the mouth of the river, when the tide is setting in, is sufficient to last twelve hundred Indians a fortnight. They have some strange superstitions about these fish; and are never known to catch them until salmon-berries -- which are also an article of food -- are ripe; or to cut them open with a knife in dressing them -- for this purpose a sharp stone is used. An infraction of this custom is an unpardonable offense to the salmon Ti-hee -- chief or god. What they can't consume whilst fresh are dried for winter use. Their manner of cooking salmon is worthy of adoption by voyageurs. Having dressed it properly, it is laid open longitudinally, and spread out on two sticks, arranged in the form of a cross; the longer and larger one being sharpened at one end, and stuck in the ground at a convenient distance from the fire. It thus becomes broiled much better than when cooked on a gridiron; the use of which indispensable article of civilized cuisine is as little known among them as manufacture of flour, which they imagine is found by the white man in the beds of rivers. They usually catch salmon in weirs and cast nets. The latter is also employed in the sea in catching a species of small fish resembling sardines, which go in vast schools along the shore. Their presence is indicated by gulls and other sea-birds who hover in their vicinity. Swimming usually near the surface, they are readily secured by suddenly dipping the net under them and raising it up. But for sea-fishing a hook and line is commonly used. The latter is made of birch bark, and the former consists of a bone and nail bent at right angles to each other. When a fish is hooked he is gently drawn to the surface of the water, and a basket placed beneath to secure him.*

*They are also very fond of shell-fish, such as oysters, clams, muscles, [sic] etc. Their mode of cooking these, as well as their favorite kamas and cowas [lomatium, or “biscuit root,” also spelled Cous, and found in abundance along the Oregon Coast and estuaries], is to dig a pit into which wood and stones are thrown, and a fire kindled. When the wood is consumed the articles to be cooked are thrown in upon the hot stones and covered with dirt. They will eat any kind of animal matter, and are not particular whether it has been killed, or has died a natural death. The carcass of a sea-lion floated ashore near Port Orford a short time ago. Like buzzards they gathered around it from far and near, and had a glorious feast. At the proper season berries afford them a good substitute for bread; such as the blackberry, raspberry, strawberry, salal-berry, salmon-berry, thimble-berry, and red and black huckleberries. Those of them not living immediately on the coast subsist in part upon elk, bear and deer. But as they are notoriously lazy, and have but few guns, in consequence of an Oregon law prohibiting firearms from being sold to them, their success in hunting is not very great. They are not such expert marksman as the Indians living east of the coast range of mountains—especially the upper Rogue river and Modoc Indians. My description had reference to the Indians living on or near the coast; and especially of two tribes residing in the Port Orford district, but will apply to all those on the coast west of the coast range of mountains from the northern to the southern boundary of the Territory. There are, perhaps, three thousand, all of whom, together with most of the upper Rogue river Indians, are to be moved on one reservation twenty by seventy miles in extent. They are split up into small bands from thirty to one hundred and fifty souls; each of which has a head man, called Ti-hee (chief), who gains control over them simply by his bravery or wealth. With few exceptions the position is neither hereditary, nor elective. Their language varies in different tribes; but there is a jargon, introduced among them by the Hudson Bay Company, that they all understand. It consists of about two hundred and fifty words, taken from the English, French and Chinook Indian languages. This jargon is to them what the pantomime is to the tribes east of the Rocky Mountains; but is not an entire substitute, for the latter is used to some extent.*

*Like all Indians, they are very thriftless, and literally carry out the idea of letting the morrow take care of itself. Those around the white settlements will occasionally hire themselves out for a few hours or days at a time. But when eight or ten dollars are thus earned they are entirely too rich to work any more until that is exhausted.*

*A man is considered wealthy who possesses a few skins, blankets, a canoe, or a horse; very few of them own the latter, their usual mode of transportation being in a canoe. This is made of cedar, by first burning it out with hot stones and shaping it with a knife or hatchet. It is usually two feet broad by twelve long, but the Indians in the upper part of Oregon, and near Puget Sound, in Washington Territory, have much larger ones—some of them being sixty feet in length with a beam of eight, and are said to be beautiful specimens of naval architecture. There is nothing remarkable or peculiar in the general appearance of the coast Indians. Their height is rather below the medium. Heads will compare favorably in size with those of the Anglo-Americans; retreating foreheads; nose rather inclined to flatness; thick lips, high cheek bones—and dark eyes and hair, of course. The latter is long in both sexes, and allowed to dangle over their shoulders. The men don't seem so particular about abstracting their beards as most other Indians—some few of them even allow it to grow. Both sexes have small hands and feet. They follow the universal practice of tattooing and painting. But instead of trying to imitate nature like our belles, the squaws daub the paint on like a house painter. And when in full dress, which*

*approximates to no dress at all, as for a dance, all the primary colors are represented on one person. We witnessed several of their balls at the council ground. A most ludicrous sight. The spectators being seated on the ground, leaving an elliptical space in the middle for the dancers, some seventy or eighty persons will enter, and singing a he-ah . . . ah . . . ah, he-ah . . . Ah . . . ah, will commence a succession of bobbing up and down, both feet at a time, body slightly bent, and limbs as rigid as marble statues. They all spring in unison -- and keep pretty good time. The same dance is kept up the whole night, with proper intervals of rest. Their war dance is somewhat different.*

*Their houses are of the most primitive order. A single shed of bark, with a log or brush wall, and dirt floor; size usually about ten feet by twelve. In one of these are crowded about ten or fifteen persons; huddled, in bad weather, around a fire, which is invariably built in the centre of the building, with no particular outlet for the smoke. No wonder they suffer so dreadfully from sore eyes. But there is another prolific cause of this malady which needn't be mentioned in this unscientific sketch. They suffer much from consumption; and the small-pox and measles make a clean sweep whenever they appear among them. This is more owing to their method of treatment than any particular virulence of the disease. The patient is placed in a "sweat-house," and whilst reeking in perspiration is suddenly taken out and plunged into a stream of the coldest water that is to be found. Besides sweating, they use certain kinds of herbs. But incantations are their favorite remedies. If the patient has a snake in his stomach, or be possessed of a demon in the form of a rabbit or wolf, the doctor, with grave aspect, seats himself beside the couch, and with his hands under the blanket will commence a series of gesticulations, groans, howls, and screams, until the excitement is raised to a proper pitch, then, drawing forth his hands, suddenly throws upon the floor a dead snake, wolf, or other animal. The patient being now dispossessed is expected to recover. Should the laws of nature determine otherwise, the poor doctor's life pays the forfeit, unless he can compromise the matter with relatives by paying the value of the deceased. Being largely fed he is in honor bound to take the consequences. So it would seem that not even martyrdom itself will stay the current of quackery.*

*When an Indian dies he is thrown into a pit, together with all his goods and chattles. To prevent the grave from being robbed these are generally injured in such a manner as to render them useless to anybody but the dead, to whom they are supposed to be indispensable in their heavenly journey. As no attempts have yet been made to enlighten these tribes upon the glorious truths of Christianity, they, of course, know nothing of the promises of the Bible. They believe in a good and evil spirit. The former is called the great Ti-hee, and reigns in heaven. His wrath is signified by hard winters, scarcity of food, and epidemics. His satisfaction by a healthy season, mild winters, and an abundance of food. Besides him there are numerous subordinate Ti-hees inhabiting particular earthly localities, and having jurisdiction over certain animals, mountains and streams. Heaven is to them either a region covered with eternal verdure—its plains and mountains teeming with elk and deer, and its crystal streams abounding in luscious salmon—according as they happen to live on the coast or in the interior.*

*The Indians having signed the treaty, the council was dissolved, and we all started for home, where we arrived yesterday in the afternoon.*

**September 2 (Sunday).**

**Dr. Glisan:** *Mob law seems to be the order of the day. La grande speculation of Monsieur Chevalieur having turned out a failure, as predicted, a crowd of some sixty or seventy persons assembled in front of his house in Port Orford, and divided his goods and chattles sans ceremonie, and then voted him sixty lashes, provided he does not leave this country by the next steamer.*

**September 3 (Monday).**

**Dr. Glisan:** *The noise was kept up in the village all night. It seems that after frequent importunities Mr. Dart gave permission to some of the crowd to be "treated" at his expense. When he went to foot the bill this morning he found that the mob had run him in debt one hundred and forty dollars. It has been raining all day. The first rain we have had since May, excepting a slight shower last week.*

## September 8, 1855: Palmer signs treaty with Coquilles

### September 8 (Friday).

**Coquelle Thompson** [Youst and Seaburg 2002: 36-37]: “You say you take us to Willamette. What kind of place?” “Well,” **Julian Palmer** [sic] say, “just like here, only more open place. The Willamette is a big river.” Question again from **chief**, “I want to know, any deer in there?” “Deer? Of course there’s deer in there. Lots of deer in there!” “Any fish in there?” “Oh yes! Lots of spring fish. All kinds of fish, just like you got here.” “Any eels?” “Oh, Yes! Lots of eels, Oregon City. Big falls there! Lots of eels, hang that way!”

Oh everybody glad now. Indians ready to give up now, ready to go. “Any elk there?” “Oh yes elk there! Everything you see here, everything there! Bear!” “Any berries there?” “Oh yes, everything you have here: strawberries, blackberries, salmonberries, everything you got here, just same there.” That’s all they want to know, you see. All leaders stood up before treaty people. They say, “We’ll go now, we give up now.” Oh Jerry Palmer [sic] clap his hands. He was a middle-aged man.

**Joel Palmer** [1855 Oregon Indian treaty Articles of Agreement (US Senate 1893: 8-12)]:

*We, the chiefs, headmen, and delegates of the Cah-toch-say, Chin-chen-ten-tah-ta, Whis-ton, and Klen-hos-tun bands of Coquille tribe of Indians, after having had fully explained to us the above treaty do hereby accede to its provisions and affix our signatures or marks, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1855.*

*Signed in the presence of -- Cris. Taylor, Secretary  
August V. Kautz, 2d Lieut. 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry  
R. W. Dunbar  
John Flett, Interpreter  
Henry Hill Woodward*

*Washington, his x mark [L. S.]  
Tom, his x mark [L. S.]  
Chi-a-le-tin-tie, his x mark [L. S.]  
Ni-ich-lo-sis, his x mark [L. S.]*

*Tu-si-uah, his x mark [L. S.]  
Jackson, his x mark [L. S.]  
David, his x mark [L. S.]*

### September 9 (Saturday).

**Dr. Glisan:** *Steamer arrived at four this morning. Brought Company H, Third Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant J. G. Chandler, to relieve detachment of Company M, at this post. Lieutenant A. V. Kautz is ordered to take the latter to the Presidio; thence proceed to Fort Jones on temporary duty.*

**September 10 (Sunday).**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 29 S., Rng. 8 W. – Camas Mountain, Camas Valley, Chimney Rocks, Middle Fork Coquille River.]

Chains            North, between Secs. 33 and 34.

14.75            *Conical rock, about 30 ft. in diam., and 30 ft. high.*

Chains            North, between Secs. 9 and 10.

66.90            *Indian trail, course E and W.*

Chains            West, between Secs. 3 and 10.

62.60            *Indian trail, course NE and SW.*

Chains            South, between Secs. 3 and 4.

56.00            *Road, course E and W., on summit of ridge.*

Chains            West, between Secs. 9 and 16.

43.00            *Indian trail, course NE and SW.*

50.00            *A road, course NE and SW.*

Chains            East, between Secs. 30 and 31.

20.50            *Leave W. P. Day's pasture, course N and S.*

Chains            North, between Secs. 29 and 30.

40.00            *Geo. Day's house bears S.84\*E., about 10 chs. [650 feet].*

41.20            *Enter Geo. Day's field, course E and W.*

45.60            *Dry bed of creek, 10 lks. [6 feet] wide.*

50.40            *Leave field, course E and W.*

50.40            *Leave prairie and enter oak openings, course E and W.*

65.00            *Enter prairie, course E and W.*

Chains            East, between Secs. 19 and 30.

83.82            . . .

*At cor. Martindales. SW cor. bears S.62\*E.*

20.00            *Same cor. bears S.27\*W.*

38.90            *Middle fork of Coquille, course S., about 30 lks. [20 feet] wide.*

. . .            . . .

71.10            *W. P. Day's, NE cor. bears S.*

Chains            North, between Secs. 17 and 18.

*Abraham Patterson's house bears N.27\*W.*

40.00            . . .

*Same house bears S.43\*W.*

57.50            *Leave prairie, course NE and SW.*

. . .            . . .



73.80            *Enter Higginson's pasture, course E and W.*

Chains            West, between Secs. 8 and 17.

70.40            *Indian trail, course N and S.*

70.40            *Leave prairie, and enter timber, course N and S.*

Chains            East, between Secs. 7 and 18.

57.58            *Indian trail, course N and S.*

71.00            *Enter Higginson's field, course N and S.*

76.20            *Leave same and enter pasture, course N and S.*

*Enter timber course N and S.*

81.80            *Middle fork of Coquille, 25 lks. [15 feet] wide, course S.*

Chains            North, between Secs. 7 and 8.

20.65            *Indian trail, course NW and SE*

Chains            East, between Secs. 6 and 7.

69.62            *Indian Trail, course S and N.*

*General Description. The W ½ of this township lies W of the ridge dividing the Umpqua from the Upper Coquille Valleys and extends across the middle fork of the latter stream, along which are a few sections of excellent prairie land . . .*

*There are six donation claimants in the Western and one in the NE part of the township.*

### **September 11 (Monday).**

**Dr. Glisan:** *Three men started out in the bay fishing in morning. A strong northwester springing up they were unable to manage their boat, which was gradually floating seaward. A party of staunch sailors in town perceiving their distress went to their rescue. They succeeded in saving the men, but left the boat adrift. The latter was afterwards secured by a schooner which was sent after it.*

### **September 14 (Thursday)**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 28 S., Rng. 8 W. – Ridgeline divisions of Umpqua, Coos, and Coquille river headwaters, including Mount Gurney, Tioga Ridge Road and Sugar Pine Ridge.]

Chains            North, between Secs. 13 and 14.

50.00            *Enter prairie, course East and West.*

51.75            *R. W. Detons house bears East about 25 lks. [16 feet]*

57.50            *Enter field, course NE. and SW.*

62.00            *Leave same, course NE. and SW.*

77.50            *Enter timber (Oak), course NE. and SW.*

**September 17 (Sunday)**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 28 S., Rng. 8 W. – Ridgeline divisions of Umpqua, Coos, and Coquille river headwaters, including Mount Gurney, Tioga Ridge Road and Sugar Pine Ridge.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 14 and 23.</u>
61.00	Leave Fir and enter Oak timber, course North and South.
68.00	Enter prairie, course North and South.
71.50	Robt. Gurney's house, bears South about 2 chs.
76.00	Road, course NW. and SE.

<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Sections 14 and 15.</u>
.40	Road, course East and West.
.40	Enter prairie, course NW. and SE.
9.20	Enter field, course East and West.
9.20	W. E. Weekly's house, bears N.25*W.
20.00	Leave field (R. Gurney's), course East and West.
25.00	Leave prairie and enter Oak timber.
25.00	Same house, bears N.50*W.
38.00	Summit of ridge, course NW. and SE.

**September 18 (Monday).**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 28 S., Rng. 8 W. – Ridgeline divisions of Umpqua, Coos, and Coquille river headwaters, including Mount Gurney, Tioga Ridge Road and Sugar Pine Ridge.]

<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 21 and 22.</u>
69.00	Trail, leading from Umpqua Valley to tide water on Coos River, course East and West.
73.50	Summit of ridge, course East and West.

<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 15 and 22.</u>
59.40	Trail, leading to Coos River, course NE. and SW.
69.00	Summit of ridge, course NE. and SW.

*General Description. The surface of this Tp. Is very broken and the NW. portion, mountainous. A few little valleys are susceptible of cultivation. There are six claims taken in the Tp. and one sawmill in operation. The NW. portion of the Tp. is unfit for settlement or cultivation, and therefore not surveyed.*

**September 27, 1855: Hathorn surveys an “Indian burying ground”**

**September 27.**

**Dennis Hathorn:** [Tsp. 27 S., Rng. 7 W. – Ridgeline division of Williams River and Lookingglass Creek, including Flournoy Valley, White Tail Ridge, Eagle Rock.]

Chains            West, between Secs. 12 and 13.

18.50            *Enter prairie, course North and South.*  
 18.50            *Labrie’s house, bears S.35\*W.*  
 30.00            *Leave prairie, course NE. and SW.*  
 32.20            *A branch, 20 lks. [6 feet] wide, course North.*  
 32.20            *A road and bridge and road over same.*  
 32.20            *Same house, bears South.*  
 33.20            *Leave same, course NW. and enter field.*  
 35.00            *Enter prairie, course NW. and SE.*

Chains            North, between Secs. 11 and 12.

80.00            *E. M. Moore’s house, bears N.78\*E.*  
 80.00            *J. T. Arant’s house, bears N.15\*E.*  
                   *Land, level prairie.*  
                   *Soil, first rate.*

Chains            West, between Secs. 1 and 12.

57.40            *A road, coarse NE. and SE.*  
 60.00            *E. M. Moore’s house, bears N.15\*E.*

Chains            South, between Secs. 1 and 2.

25.50            *Leave oak timber and enter prairie, course East and West.*  
 34.75            *A road, course East and West.*  
 ...                ...  
 41.67            *Wm. Cathcart’s house, bears S.66\*E. about 10 chs. [660 feet]*  
 43.75            *Leave prairie and enter Oak timber, coarse East and West.*  
 43.92            *A branch, 12 lks. [8 feet] wide, coarse SE.*  
 51.00            *Enter prairie, coarse East and West.*  
 52.42            *Leave field, coarse East and West.*  
 52.67            *A road, coarse East and West.*  
 53.00            *Enter Arant’s field, course East and West.*  
 53.00            *J. T. Arant’s house, bears S.80\*E.*  
 73.25            *Leave field, course East and West.*

Chains            West, between Secs. 26 and 35.

80.00            *Mitchell’s house, bears N.40\*W., about 10 chs. [660 feet]*

Chains            North, between Secs. 26 and 27.

2.70            *Enter Mitchell’s field, course East and West.*

18.20 *Leave same, course East and West.*  
 18.20 *Leave prairie and enter Oak timber, course NE. and SW.*

Chains North, between Secs. 14 and 15.

63.00 *Enter Ash swale, course NW. and SE.*  
 68.00 *Leave same, course NW. and SE.*  
 74.25 *A branch, 8 lks. [5 feet] wide, course NE. (nearly dry).*  
 75.00 *Enter prairie, course NE. and SW.*  
 ...  
 80.00 *A cor. H. M. Collver's claim, bears N.35\*E.*

Chains North, between Secs. 10 and 11.

19.50 *Leave field at NE. cor., course SE. and SW.*  
 19.50 *A cor. H. M. Collver's claim, bears N. 80\* E.*  
 24.00 *Leave prairie and enter Oak timber, course NE. and SW.*  
 32.00 *Summit of ridge, course East and West.*  
 38.70 *Enter H. M. Collver's field, course East and West.*  
 ...  
 40.00 *H. M. Collver's house, bears N.84\*W.*  
 54.60 *Same house, bears S.60\*W.*  
 54.60 *Leave field, course N.80\*E. and S.80\*W.*  
 66.50 *Enter Oak timber, course NE. and SW.*  
 71.15 *A road, course NE. and SW.*

Chains West, between Secs. 27 and 34.

9.00 *Mitchell's house, bears N. 30\*E.*

Chains North, between Secs. 21 and 22.

17.90 *Indian Trail, course East and West.*

Chains West, between Secs. 10 and 15.

24.75 *Franklin White's house, bears North about 150 lks. [100 feet]*  
 26.30 *Leave White's field, course North and South*  
 ...  
 50.00 *Enter Oak timber, course North and South.*

Chains West, between Secs. 3 and 10.

12.00 *Enter prairie, course North and South.*  
 20.00 *SW. cor. J. T. Arant's claim, bears S.12\*W.*  
 ...  
 40.05 *Same claim cor., bears S.51\*E.*  
 74.50 *Leave prairie and enter Oak timber, course North and South.*

Chains North, between Secs. 28 and 29.

39.20 *Enter prairie, course NE. and SW.*  
 39.20 *Enter Newton's field, course NE. and SW.*

...	...
40.70	<i>Leave field, course NE. and SW.</i>
43.00	<i>Leave prairie and enter Ash and Oak thicket, course West and SE.</i>
...	...
52.25	<i>Enter Flournoy's field, course East and West.</i>
62.75	<i>A branch, 8 lks. [5 feet] wide, course East.</i>
<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 21 and 28.</u>
62.00	<i>Enter prairie, course North and South.</i>
66.00	<i>Enter Ash swale, course North and South.</i>
66.50	<i>Leave same, course North and South.</i>
73.75	<i>Enter Flournoy's field, course NW. and SE.</i>
<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 20 and 21.</u>
10.00	<i>Leave field, course NW. and SE.</i>
...	...
40.00	<i>J. P. Bowyer's house, bears N.76*E.</i>
46.00	<i>Leave prairie and enter Oak openings, course East and West.</i>
65.00	<i>Summit of ridge, course East and West.</i>
<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 16 and 21.</u>
13.15	<i>A road, course North and South.</i>
...	...
46.15	<i>Enter field, course North and South.</i>
47.25	<i>Flournoy's NE. cor.. bears S.71/2*E.</i>
47.25	<i>Jones Flournoy's house, bears N.15*E.</i>
54.25	<i>Same claim, cor. Bears S.18*E.</i>
54.25	<i>Jones Flournoy's house, bears N.25*E.</i>
54.25	<i>Bowyer's house bears S.158E.</i>
61.35	<i>Leave field, course North and South.</i>
<u>Chains</u>	<u>North, between Secs. 31 and 32.</u>
32.50	<i>Leave timber and enter prairie, course NE. and SW.</i>
32.50	<i>Flournoy's house, bears West about 5 chs. [330 feet]</i>
<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 29 and 32.</u>
11.60	<i>Indian burying ground, bears N.26*E.</i>
11.60	<i>Leave Oak timber and enter prairie, course NW. and SW.</i>
18.87	<i>Indian trail, course North and South.</i>
18.87	<i>Same burying ground, bears N.54*E.</i>
<u>Chains</u>	<u>West, between Secs. 20 and 29.</u>
29.75	<i>Leave Flournoy's field, course North and South.</i>
30.25	<i>A road, course North and South.</i>
32.50	<i>Flournoy's house, bears North about 8 chs. [50 feet]</i>
35.50	<i>Leave prairie, course North and South.</i>

35.50            *Enter Oak timber, course North and South.*

*This Tp. has a few valleys of excellent land, occupied by about 20 claimants.*

*The Western and Northwestern portions extend on to a high range of the Coast Mountains; the balance is hilly and sparsely timbered with Oak and produces a fair quality of grass.*

**A. G. Walling** [1884: 419]: *Through this valley runs Flournoy creek, a branch of Looking-glass. The valley was named for its first occupant, H. B. Flournoy, who settled there in 1850. Besides the individual achievements of its early settler the valley possesses somewhat of renown derived from various circumstances, more particularly in the Rogue river wars. Fort Flournoy is a wooden defensive work, built by the settlers in 1855 to protect the people of the vicinity against the savages, but never used as such. It still stands as a memorial of those troublous times, and may be seen now by the antiquary or the curiosity-seeker. It is built of hewed logs in the form of the block houses erected by our fore-fathers to guard against their vindictive neighbors, the Indians. Its size at the base is some sixteen or eighteen feet square, but after rising seven or eight feet the second story is considerably larger -- twenty-six or twenty-eight feet square -- projecting beyond the outside of the under portion. Loopholes provide opportunity for shooting downward upon opponents who may be engaged in forcing an entrance to the lower story.*

### Early October, 1855: The claimed arrival of William V. Wells

**William V. Wells:** *Early in October, 1855, with an old companion of my peregrinations -- one of those golden-tempered, delightful traveling-companions with whom to associate is a perpetual treat -- I found myself on board the staunch steamship Columbia, bound from San Francisco to Oregon.*

*On the evening of the second day we came in sight of Trinidad, a little hamlet located about two hundred miles north of San Francisco. It was quite dark as the steamer came to, near a black, sea-beaten rock, through whose caverns the sea roared with a dismal moan. An inhospitable coast is that of California and Oregon, from San Diego to Puget Sound, a distance of thirteen hundred miles, there is found but one port -- that of San Francisco -- to which the dismantled ship may fly for refuge in a gale from seaward. Trinidad is a "port;" but justly regarded with terror by the mariner in times of tempest. The fog limited our observations from the quarter-deck to a few dimly discerned huts far up the bank, and the only sound of civilization was the distant crying of a child ever and anon mingling with the surf's roar. Freight was discharged, and a speedy leave taken of sorry-looking Trinidad.*

*On the following morning the discharge of a gun from the bows brought us to the deck, when we found the steamer heading into the bay or roadstead of Crescent City. This, like most of the harbors on this coast, can only boast of its capacity. It extends from the houses of the inhabitants entirely across the Pacific. It is proposed to build a breakwater here, and so form a natural harbor. An infinite number of millions of dollars are named as an estimate of the cost. Crescent City is three years old, situated on the sea-beach, backed by a dense mass of pine and cedar forest, inhabited by several hundred traders, packers, Indians, dogs, and mules. A brisk ride to Cape St. George, taken during our stay here, satiated our curiosity. The country becomes uninteresting after the forest and green undergrowth of coast-trees have ceased to be novelties. The men were mostly "Pikes" of an exceedingly rough cast, and the Indians, who were the first specimens of the Oregon savage we had met with, were decidedly to us the lions of the town. Wandering out toward a rocky promontory north of the town, and designated as the Battery, we found an encampment of the Chetkoe tribe. Three old women among them were quite blind, and, squatting in the sand, were feeling nervously around for some bits of willow which they were fashioning into baskets -- time out of mind the Indian's occupation. Several young squaws accosted us in broken English. One of them was really pretty, and but for some barbarous tattooing, nose and ear pendants, and a villainous smell of decayed salmon, would have been a very Fayaway. This young lady was in dishabille as we passed, and, though making her toilet with otter fat, glass beads, and shells, did not shrink at the unexpected visit. The entire party wore a dress composed of equal parts of cheap blankets, cast-off coats and shirts, and the usual savage finery. The men sported the bow and arrow armor with a coyote or fox-skin for a quiver. All had the ears or nose slit, and one or two coquettish young jades of squaws wore fish-bones through their nostrils, and were otherwise scarified and marked.*

*On the same afternoon we bade adieu to Crescent City, and were quickly again on our way to the Northward. On the following morning the ship's reckoning showed us to be opposite Port Orford, and this being our proposed landing-place, we watched with some curiosity for the lifting of an impenetrable veil of fog which shut out all view of the coast. The speed was*

*slackened, and the "blue pigeon" kept constantly moving. Suddenly, on our starboard bow, appeared a lofty rock looming out of the mist. It was a grand and startling spectacle. Though the sea was comparatively calm, the ground swells surged up around its base in piles of boisterous foam, roaring among the caverns and gulches, and rushing up to the height of forty feet; then, as the swell receded, the whole surface presented a bold front of yeasty rivulets, white as milk, and trickling down the rough sides of the rock in hissing cascades, as one might imagine they would down the furrowed cheeks of some awful giant of Scandinavian romance. Clouds of birds hovered around the peak, screaming and dipping down to the waves, and scolding at our sudden intrusion. Our new acquaintance disappeared astern almost as soon as we had descried it. It is the southwestern point of Port Orford harbor, and is one of the enormous boulders rolled by some convulsion of nature from the steeps of Humbug Mountain, which rears its head far above the surrounding country. We could now run with some degree of certainty, and heading boldly in, a gun was fired, the echo of which had scarcely done rattling through the coast-range when it was answered from on shore. A moment after the shrill scream of a rooster came across the water, and the fog lifting, opened to our view a bluff bank, perhaps forty feet high, upon which was situated a small town, with some forty houses, half-deserted, and standing at the verge of a bank of lofty foliage, forming the great fir and pine region which skirts the Oregon coast from the California line to Puget Sound.*

*From under the lee of a promontory known as "Battle Rock," and the history of which we shall presently review, a boat put forth through the surf, into which we bundled, and grasping the hands extended in kindly parting, we had soon made our first landing on the Oregon coast. As we rounded the point we looked back upon the steamer heading out to sea, and pursuing her way to the Columbia River.*

*We landed at a little lumber wharf, whence a short walk brought us to the United States Barracks; and entering the house of Dr. Glisan and Lieutenant Kautz, we were soon engaged in conversation with a party of educated gentleman, whose cultivated talents shone the more conspicuously in the wild region that duty had made their place of residence. About three hundred yards from the Government reserve, and hidden from it by an intervening range of hills, is situated the little town of Port Orford. Its history is that of the sudden and too ephemeral growth of the coast villages of Oregon.*