Puget Sound Agricultural Company

Charles W. Smith, School of Library Science, University of Washington:

By George Vancouver, Esqr. Commander of His Majesty's Sloop Discovery, &etc.—

Mr. Alexr. Purvis Cranstoun late Master Surgeon of His Majesty's Sloop Discovery, having been regularly surveyed and in consequence thereof invalided. You are therefor hereby required and directed to repair forthwith on board the said Sloop and take upon you the charge and employment of Master Surgeon in her accordingly (in the room of the said Mr. Alex. Purvis Cranstoun) until further order. For which this shall be your order.

> Given on board His Majesty's Sloop Discovery in Nootka Sound, the 9th of September, 1792.

> > Geo. Vancouver.

To

Mr. Archibald Menzies, hereby appointed to Act as

Master Surgeon of His Majesty's Sloop Discovery,

until further order.

Archibald Menzies was not only the surgeon but also the botanist of the famous expedition. Probably his finest monument is *Arbutus menziesii*, our beautiful madrona tree, botanically named in his honor. His journal of this great voyage, edited by Dr. C. F. Newcombe, with a biographical sketch by J. Forsyth, was published in 1923 as Memoir Number V., of the Archives of British Columbia.

Puget Sound Agricultural Company

Another fruit of Professor Clark's researches in Great Britain was the following document pertaining to the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, important subsidiary of the Hudson's Bay Company. It was located in the Public Record Office, London, Foreign Office America Volume 460. Professor Clark copied it with care and kindly submitted a transcript for publication in this *Quarterly*. He says it was enclosed in a communication dated March 23, 1846, from Sir H. Pelly. This was, of course, Sir John Henry Pelly, Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company from 1822 to 1852. There was enclosed in the same communication a chart of Cowlitz Farm as cultivated in 1844 and the spring of 1845, but Professor Clark did not copy it. The document as copied follows:

Extract from Report of the Agents of the Pugets Sound Agricultural Company at the annual meeting of the Proprietors held on the 14th January 1846.

The Country account exhibits the general results of the operations of the Company abroad and of the value of the property on hand there on the 31st May last.

There has been a Profit of $\pounds 2219$. 19. 11. under this head, arising from the increase of the live stock, the sale of farm products to the Hudson's Bay Company and the shipment of wool, sheep skins and hides to this country.

The Proprietors will recollect that at the General Meeting, held in 1843, the agents reported that their had been to that time an excess of expenditure beyond the returns, amounting to £2607.3.3, incurred in bringing the Cowlitz and Nisqually Farms into cultivation, in the erection of buildings etc and for other purposes incidental to the business. This sum was carried to a suspense account, and your agents have now to state that the favorable result of the operations of the Company for the two last years has enabled them to clear off that amount, and that there remains a balance of profit of £926.1.— say as follows

1842.	Expenditur vond Retur	e be- ns £1322.0.5	1844 Profit on transac- tions of the year				
1843	do	1285.2.10			£1313. 4. 4.		
В	allance of F	£2607.3.3 Profit 926.1	1845	đo	£2219.19.11.		

£3533.4.3

£3533. 4. 3

There is also a sum of $\pm 857.15.8$ at the credit of Profit and Loss, being the Balance of the interest account up to the 30th. June 1845.

The quanity of wool sent to England last season considerably exceeds that shipped in 1844, the reports being 10,842 lbs. & 7682 lbs respectively, and from the increased care used in the country a perceptible improvement has taken place in its quality.

The shipment of 1845 was disposed of at an average price of 10/4 p lb. the fines wool realizing 1/3 p lb.

The amount of livestock on Inventory on the 31st March 1845 compared with the Inventory of 1844 stands as follows

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General B. T. E. Bonneville

3:	l March 1844	4 31 March 45	Increase
Sheep of all sorts	6996	8833	1837
Horned cattle	1921	2436	515
Horses & mules	188	301	113
Swine	136	182	46

In conclusion the agents consider that the present state and prospects of the company warrant them in recommending to the Proprietors that a Dividend at the rate of Five pounds p cent be now declared on the paid up capital of the association, payable on Monday the 26th instant, clear of Property Tax.

Mem. As regards the grain and other crops it may be stated that in 1844 the Pugets Sound Agricultural Company raised

at Cowlitz Farm					at Nisqually				
Wheat	7000	bushels	from	833	sown	220	Bu. from	42	sown.
Oats	3200	"	"	300	"	233	"	66	"
Peas	1000	"	"	180	"	450	"	66	"
Barley	170	"	"	20	"	36	"	3	"
Potatoe	S					1040	"	164	"

General B. L. E. Bonneville

Much interest is being revived in the career of General B. L. E. Bonneville. It has long been the habit of historians to accept Washington Irving's beautiful account of Bonneville's ambitious fur hunting while on a leave of absence from the United States Army. In 1923, Isaac K. Russell published his Hidden Heroes of the Rockies in which he sought to tear away screening veils and to reveal other reasons for the expedition. He says, pages 252-253: "The country along this stream [Salmon River] was a favorite wintering ground for these Indians. Captain Bonneville, an army captain, who had one eve for beaver dams and another much sharper eye for the points where good American forts might later have to be planted as centers of the fight for Oregon, went there to winter with them. . . . But like his great friend Captain Stuart, of the British Army, who was hovering around the same locality, posing as a big-game hunter, Captain Bonneville could not talk out loud of his real plans. . . . Stuart and Bonneville, the first of these military figures to invade the mountains behind a 'smoke screen,' so that they need not disclose 'military and hostile intentions,' met often during this time [1832-1833]. And Bonneville never cracked a single smile as Captain Stuart told him of his great