

DOCUMENTS

Journal of Occurrences at Nisqually House, 1833

INTRODUCTION

In this third installment of the document here being published for the first time, the same care has been used to remain faithful to the original manuscript and to add footnotes only where the record seems to need explanation or where additional information is deemed advisable. It is planned to conclude the first volume of these journals in the next installment.

CLARENCE B. BAGLEY.

(Continued from the Quarterly for October, 1915, page 278.)

[MAY] 1834. [page 73]⁷⁰

to return on their road and remain at Nesq] uall [y until further orders. In the evening we all reached the Fort which we found under the management of three masters viz Ouvre Trader Brown Store Keeper, and Pierre Charles Master of works. On my arrival I assumed the whole duty and ordered the men to prepare for building up the place. The Indians arfe few. fair weather—

19th Monday The men at the place are nine in number, namely Ouvre Charles, William Brown, Plomondon, Louis Sagohaneuchta, Silvan Bourgeau, Aneweskum—McDonald, John McKee and Tai. Most of them employed at taking down the frame of a kitchen and erecting it into a better situation. Besides this building there are the dwelling house of 50 feet by 21 twenty feet of which is floored &c and was the residence of the Gentleman in charge, the rest of it without flooring. A store of thirty feet very imperfect and another building of the same size [for] the men. The Bastions are good, but not complete, wanting the roof. Inventory of Goods on hand taken as also the Furs, the later as follows 180 Large Beaver, 42 Small, 4½ [] Cuttings ditto 8 Bearsfi 44 Otters, 9 Fishers, 153 rats and 21 Racoons. Passing showers of rain in course of the day

⁷⁰Owing to the bookbinder's blunder the pages of the Nisqually Journal containing the records from March 2 to May 19 have been left out of the present volume, and other pages, quite irrelevant, have been substituted. These pages have been numbered with the rest, and the Journal is continued in this issue as page 73, page 72 being left blank.

20th Thursday. Five men out squaring wood fir a dwelling house, the present one to be taken down and made a store of. [Page 74]
The rest of the men employed in the kitchen. Weather as yesterday.

May 21 [1834] Wednesday. The same duty for the men. Traded a few skins. The weather cloudy in the morning, some hail fell and it thundered.

2 Thursday. Pierre Charles, Brown and Tai were employed at making a chimney, McKee was hauling Earth for the same, and the rest squaring wood. A few Indians arrived to trade. Rained some in the forenoon.

23rd Friday. The men employed as yesterday. Traded 13 Beaver skins and an Otter. Rained all day.

24th Saturday. The men employed at changing the doors of their dwellings so as to have them facing the square, The Gable end of the Indian shop and that of the men's house, facing it, were plastered and whitewashed. The end of the men's house made into an Indian Hall. The Chimney of the Kitchen completed and part of the roof on. Fair at intervals—

25th Sunday. Every Body at rest about the place. Twenty Indians were dancing in front of the Fort in honor of the day. Fair weather.

26th Monday. Plomondon, Louis, McDonald and Ta-i were all employed squaring. Brown and Bourgeau were plastering the house and P. Charles completing the roof and flooring. [page 75] McKee was hauling logs and water Ouvre, as usual, attending to the Indians. Traded 85 pieces of Cedar Bark for roofing the store. Venison and fresh salmon were also got for ammunition. Fair weather.

27th Tuesday. The same routine as yesterday. Traded a few Beaver Skins. Fine warm weather.

28th Wednesday. The Kitchen now completed and looks like a farmer's cottage. Changed my place of residence for the above. The men were employed taking down the Bourgeois house, two squaring, and two sawing wheels for a new wagon. Indians bring a few fresh salmon which are small and traded at two Ball & Powder a very dear price—Clear and very warm weather.

29th Thursday. The same works going on as yesterday. Rained much today.

30th Friday. No change in the employment of the men. The Princess' husband arrived and brought us Letters from Vancouver, en-

closing others from London, all's well. The Brig Lama⁷¹ is on her way hither. Fair weather.

31st Saturday. The square of the new store commenced, and the wood for the new dwelling all squared. In the afternoon the men were put at cleaning the Fort. [Page 76] The trade since my arrival, as follows, 43 Large Beaver 10 Small do. 2 lb Cuttings do—5 Large Black Bears—1 Small Black do—2 Fishers—5 Minks—49 Musquash—17 Otters—29 Racoons—2 Lynx—1 Dressed Red Deer Skin—18 Dressed Chev do—12 fresh salmon and 300 lbs Venison. More Indians have arrived to trade. Fair weather. [page 77]

June 1st [1834] Sunday. All hands at rest. Indians as last Sabbath passed the day here dancing in honor of it. Very warm weather.

2 Monday. Plomondon⁷² and another man were busy covering the bastions, two men off for Cedar Bark, one hauling logs and the rest employed about the Store. Indians trade as usual. Fair weather.

3 Tuesday. The same duty for the men. Two Indian Chiefs arrived from the northward and brought a few skins to trade. Very warm weather.

4th Wednesday. The Bastions completed and Plomondon was set to making doors for the store. P. Charles, Louis, McKee, Brown and Ta-I all were busy at squaring wood for flooring the store. The men out at getting bark have done little or nothing. Fair weather.

5th Thursday. From the want of provisions I had to send Plomondon and P. Charles out hunting deer, across to the Island. Got the road to the Sound completed, and the Oxen have brought up all the Bark lying on the Beach. One man with all the women were employed hoeing earth about the Potatoes. Louis Sagohaneuchta sick. Traded 9 Beaver skins from two Yackanaws. Fine weather—[page 78]

June 6 [1834] Friday. All the men again employed at reducing

⁷¹The Llama or Llama is as interesting as her commander. In 1832, William McNeill a Boston Yankee and his brig Llama entered the Columbia River ostensibly for the purpose of trading with the Indians. Instead of blankets, capots and cloth—staples of Indian commerce—the Llama carried every toy and contraption which might appeal to the vanity of the child of the forest, and a goodly store of firewater as well. Whether McNeill's purpose was actually to compete with the Hudson Bay Company or to play his little game with Chief factor McLoughlin, will never be known. Nevertheless, the latter saw no way to rid himself of this nuisance than to buy the vessel and to entice her captain into the service. It has been claimed that McNeill was on the coast as early as 1816. He was actually in Oregon in 1826, and after his connection with the Hudson Bay Company served faithfully as captain of the Llama, his intimate knowledge of the coast rendering him a most valued man. Afterward he commanded the Nereid, and later the Beaver. He retired from the service in 1861, while in charge of Fort Simpson, to Victoria, B. C., where he had property, and died in 1875. In the meantime he had become a British citizen.

⁷²Simon Plomondon, or Plomondeau, entered the service of the company in 1821, and although a servant, knowing neither how to read or write, was associated with three important historical events. In 1827 he was a member of the McMillan party which founded Fort Langley on the Fraser River; in 1837 he was retired to the Cowlitz Prairie by McLoughlin, and in a way became the forerunner of Cowlitz Farm; in 1841 he conducted Wilkes overland from Cowlitz Farm to Astoria.

the hill to the Sound which was found yet too steep for the Oxen. Indian came in to trade. It rained a little.

7th Saturday Got the Indian Corn hoed up. Plomondon and P Charles absent since the 5th have this evening arrived with the meat of two animals. McDonald and Bourgeau have also come home with only 100 pieces Cedar Bark. Weather cloudy and a little rain fell.

8th Sunday. All quiet about us. No Indians. The weather fair.

9th Monday. The men resumed squaring logs for the Store and roofing this building. About 2 P. M. we heard a couple of Cannon shot, soon after I started in a canoe with six men, and went on board the "Llama" with the pleasure of taking Tea with McNeill who pointed out two Chinese he picked up from the Natives near Cape Flattery where a vessel of that Nation had been wrecked not long since. There is still, one, amongst the Indians, Inland but a promise was made of getting the poor fellow on the Coast by the time the "Llama" gets there.⁷³ The Captain says he had a fair voyage from the Columbia. Cloudy weather. [p.79]

10th [1834] Tuesday. The men busy as usual. The Llama now anchored opposite the road and preparations made for the Cargo and Cattle. The Indians are now poring upon us however they are all friendly. To day it rained.

11th Wednesday. All the Outfit safely landed and received in Store.

The Cattle were also got they are very wild and wicked, one of the cows wounded one of the men (Brown) in the Testicles and nearly killed a couple more. The Cattle received are three Cows with their Calves and a Bull. It rained at intervals—

12th Thursday. The men kept at covering the store. Gave out the mens private orders. The 'Llama' has taken in five horses for Fort Langley where she is to go next. Charitable donations given us by Captain Mc Neill of great use, say, a couple Iron Pins for our waggons and about one fathm of Bower Cable (Chain) The Llama has taken in more fresh water. More showers today.

13th Friday. The work getting on well. Captain Mc Neill off. Traded a few Beaver skins. Fair weather.

⁷³The news of this disaster was conveyed to the officials at Vancouver in the form of a piece of China-paper on which was a drawing showing the three shipwrecked persons, the junk on the rocks, and the Indians engaged in plundering. Thomas McKay with thirty men was sent overland to Cape Flattery but got only as far as Point Grenville when they gave up the task as impossible. Captain McNeill in the Llama then set out for the wreck and enticing some of the natives aboard his vessel held them as hostages for the return of the three. They proved to be Japanese. According to Wilkes they were sent to England and thence carried to China, where they ultimately remained in consequence of their inability to procure passage to Japan.

14th Saturday. The goods put into the main store now nearly done. The men variously employed all day. The weather fair [page 80]

June 15 [1834] Sunlay. The day passed away in quietness. No Indians to trouble us. Fair weather.

16th Monday. Pierre Charles, Bourgeau, Mc Donald and an Indian have all gone to the Island to get Cedar Bark. Plomondon and Louis busy completing the store which job was done by noon. Ouvre attending to the Indians Brown and Mc Kee sick, the former from his late blow from a Cow, and latter suffering much with a violent sore thumb. Ouvre always doing a little about the place besides watching the Indians with myself. Ta-i, our other man is off with the Llama to Fort Langley. Indians come in by degrees to trade. Fair weather.

17 Tuesday. Plomondon with his man Louis began working at the wood for the new dwelling house; Brown was also assisting them. Mc Kee still very bad. Fair weather.

18 Wednesday. The same work for the men, excepting Mc Donald who I have ordered home for going to Vancouver with Letters. Indians keep going and coming for the sake of Trade. The weather fair.

19 Thursday. No change in the duties of the place. About noon Mc Donald and Plomondon's slave started for Vancouver with Letters informing Mr. Chief Factor Mc Loughlin our state of affairs here. The men at the Cedar Bark getting on well. Fair weather. [page 81]

20th [June] Friday. The men still employed at ther various duties. Sent a couple of Indians lad to Pierre Charles for the purpose of assisting getting Cedar Bark. In the evening they both came home with 159 pieces Bark. The Indians from distant quarters come and go every time trading a few skins. Very warm weather.

21 Saturday. The men at the Cedar have come home and their week's job is 600 very well for only three men including an Indian. Few Indians have come from toward the Cowlitz and report that the ague is raging in that quarter. Ouvre's Brother in Law gone to Vancouver with Mc Donald. The weather fair.

22nd Sunday. The Sabbath kept as usual. The Indians that are about keep out. Very warm weather.

23rd Monday. Bourgeau with a couple of Indians have gone to gather more Cedar Bark. Pierre Charles has been busy at repairing the Boat. Plomondon, Brown and Louis working at the new Building. Ouvre doing sundry jobs besides attending to the Indians Mc Kee still very unwell with his left hand thumb, yet gets in water and brought up the Bark with his Oxen. The Indians are doing well and support us in meat. I have already one Cask Salted. Fair and very warm weather. [page 82]

June 24 [1834] Tuesday. Sent Pierre Charles to join his party

at the Cedar Bark. Plomondon with his men getting up the new house. Indians are always about us and bring us a few things to trade. Fair weather.

25th Wednesday. The same duty with the men. Plomondon's Brother-in-Law got this morning a thrashing for his insolence to the men and was turned out of the Fort. Weather as usual.

26th Thursday. About a dozen of Cowlitz Indians arrived last evening with a few skins. They commenced to day to trade and of course very troublesome their Chiefs the greatest beggars I have known. In the evening Pierre Charles arrived with his party 500 pieces of Bark got by them which now makes 1100 pieces besides what was put on the store. Very warm weather.

27th Friday. The men kept at their employment About one P. M. Aniaveskum Mc Donald arrived from Vancouver with Letters. The Brigade from the Interior had arrived at that place on the 16th Inst. under Chief Factor Dease, accompanied by Messrs. Black and S. Mc Gillivray, all well in those quarters.⁷⁴ The weather very warm.

28th Saturday. Trade continued with the Cowlitz Indians and I am happy to say that it [page 83] was got over without much trouble at last, though yesterday I turned several out of the shop. Fair weather.

29 Sunday. Indians all away and the day was got over without seeing any. Cloudy weather.

30 Monday. Still employed at the new dwelling house. More Indians have come to trade, and everything got on in quietness. This month returns are as follows, viz

127	Large	Beaver
48	Small	do.
1½	lb	Cutting do.
8	Large	Black Bear
2	Small	" do.
5	Fisher	
5	Lynx	
8	Minks	
81	Musquash	
45	Large	Otters
2	Small	do

⁷⁴ The party were from New Caledonia and each of the three mentioned was an important personage, hence, the notice in the Nisqually Journal. Chief-factor Peter Warren Dease received his appointment to New Caledonia in 1831, succeeding Warren Dease. He remained there until 1835 when Peter Skeen Ogden became chief factor. Samuel Black was formerly of the Northwest Company and most of his time was spent in command at Fort Kamloops. He was an all round man and especially skilled in geology and geography. He was killed by an Indian lad in 1841. Simon McGillivray figured very prominently in the consolidation of the Hudson's Bay and Northwest companies in 1821.

47 Raccoons
15 Cheveran Skins
10 Fresh Salmon
528 lbs Venison. [page 84]

July 1st Tuesday. The square of the new house up, it is thirty two feet by 18 and nine feet post from the foundation which being two feet higher than the ground makes it 11 feet altogether. This afternoon we were surprised at the arrival of a Chief by name Chalicum with Letters from Mr. Yale who sends me some Iron work wanted here, and informs me that having no Potatoes, the Llama would not touch here on her way back to Vancouver. The Chief was well received and is now encampel for the night and tomorrow the day he leaves us. Very warm weather.

2nd Wednesday. The men employed at making two Chimneys in the new building. Traded about twenty Beaver skins from the Indians now come with the Chief Chalicum. Had made my packages for sending by the Llama but as she is not coming I have taken the Bales of Furs asunder in order to build them up into packs of 90 lbs for land transportation.

3rd Thursday. The same employment for the men as yesterday, making Chimneys and Packs. Fair weather.

4th Friday. The men employed as usual Indians all off the ground Send a young man for horses in order to get returns across the portage. Fairweather and very warm. [page 85]

5th Saturday. Got the Chimnies completed and the men were at work squaring for the flooring of the house. Brown was employed about the potatoes. John Mc Kee still sick with the sore hand. Cloudy and some rain.

6th Sunday. All quiet about us. Indians do not trouble us as formerly with their dance. Fair weather.

7th Monday. The men employed covering the house excepting Brown and Bourgeau who were busy at hoing up the potatoes. Traded 4 horses for the purpose of carrying our packs over the portage. Cheaper method then hiring them. Fairweather.

8th Tuesday. The Indians away again. The House completely covered and looks well though done with Bark. Fair weather.

9th Wednesday. Pierre Charles, Bourgeau and Brown off to Vancouver with the returns on hand amounting to as follows

399 Large Beaver
86 Small do
11 lbs Cutting [do]
16 Fishers
5 Lynx

276 Musquashs
 109 Large Otters & 3 Small Do.
 5 " Blk Bear
 19 Chev Skins [page 86]

of the forementioned number of Beaver and Otters the following belong to this month.

32 Large Beaver
 3 Small "
 1 lb Cutting "
 8 Large Otters
 1 Small do.

The rest of the men that is to say Plomondon, Mc Donald and Louis were employed about squaring wood for the flooring of my new dwelling house Ouvre attends at sundry jobs and the Indians. Mc Kee still unable to work. Fairweather.

July 10th Thursday. The same employment for the men This afternoon in taking my round about the place saw a most miserable object in a poor child, ruptured, and in starving state. Gave it a covering and ordered some food, with instructions to the Indians to take better care of their children or they would suffer for their brutality. Fair and very warm.

11th Friday. All last night the Indians nigh us were singing to a medicine man who was doing his best in the killing of Plomondon's wife who has been sick for some time, I have endeavored to stop the business but believe to no purpose as she is bent on getting blowed by her countryman. Fair weather. [page 87]

12 Saturday. The men still continue at their work excepting Plomondon who is busy at watching his wife. A few Indians arrived and traded a few skins. Fair weather.

13th Sunday. All quiet about us. The Indians have all gone away to their different homes. Warm weather.

14 Monday. Louis and Mc Donald at work about a flooring for the Indian Hall. The rest of the men very little employed. Some indians arrived and brought us a little fresh meat which looks fat. Fair weather.

15 Tuesday. Plomondon with his two men resumed squaring wood for flooring the new house Ouvre and McKee have been employed at taking down the roof and Chimnies of the Indian hall in order to get it done better. Trade a few skins from Indians near us. A Cowlitz and family arrived and being a murderer is much afraid of his life. The Chickelitz Chief made his appearance two days ago with a few skins, he

said that fear made him come here instead of going to the Chinooks.⁷⁵ From him we got 10 Beaver skins and a couple of Otters. Fine clear weather but warm

16th Wednesday. The men employed making Chimnies in the Indian house. The Cowlitz off. Fair weather. [page 88]

July 17 [1834] Thursday. The men were employed as yesterday. An Indian of the Chinkalitz⁷⁶ tribe arrived with a few skins. Fair weather.

18th Friday. Plomondon and the rest of the men completed the Chimnies and got roofing sticks for the house now in repair. Indian trade as usual. Cloudy weather.

19th Saturday. The house covered, and the fort put into some order for the Sabbath. Some rain fell.

20th Sunday. The Chickalitz Indian and family off. Plomondons wife has been unwell some time, and all her care is to give away property to Indian Doctors for curing her, though at times she applies to me for medicines, which are given, but the relief she gets is attributed to her Doctors. Fair weather.

21 Monday. Plomondon, Louis and Anawiskum were employed at the floor of the Gentlemen's house. Ouvre and Mc Kee plastering the Indian house. Traded five Beaver from a couple of Indians who are from the *Too-an-noo* tribe.⁷⁷ The weather cloudy.

22nd Tuesday. Plomondon and Louis assaying the floor above stated. Anawiskum squaring wood for the floor of the Indian hall. Ouvre and Mc Kee still plastering. [page 89] Got the meat of an animal and a couple of Chevino skins from an Indian of the Mount Renier. Many of the natives about us are living on berries which are numerous—Fair weather.

23 Wednesday. The same employment for the men. Late in the afternoon Pierre Charles and Party arrived from Vancouver with the small requests from that place. I am informed by Mr. Chief Factor Mc Loughlin that the furs sent were recd at his place in good order. The Ague there not severe, and all is well. Very warm weather.

24 Thursday. Began flooring the Indian hall which work is done by McKee & Ouvre. Laves on the sick list. Fair weather.

25 Friday. The Indian hall finished. Men as usually employed about the place. Traded a few skins. Laahlette arrived from the Yacka-

⁷⁵ Chehalis. It is a well attested fact that the Chinook Indians endeavored to secure the trade with the posts for themselves and forced the interior Indians to bring their furs to them instead of carrying them directly to the post.

⁷⁶ Chehalis.

⁷⁷ The Twana which dwelt on both shores of Hood Canal.

naw⁷⁸ and says that the Brigade passed up the river seven nights ago. The weather continues warm.

26 Saturday. We this day completed the flooring of Ouvre's house which is attached to the Indian hall. The weather really very warm.

27 Sunday. This day observed as usual. Fair weather. [page 90]

July 28 [1834] Monday. Plomondon and Louis working about the new dwelling house. Pierre Charles has been out getting wood for a couple of Ploughs. Mc Donald, Bourgeau and Brown were employed at squaring wood for the men's houses. John Mc Kee and Ouvre doing sundry jobs about the fort. The weather much the same.

29 Tuesday. The pease being ripe five of the men were put at gathering them along with the women, only 1-6 of the field done. The rest of the men as usual employed. Fair weather.

30 Wednesday. With Indian assistance we got up all the Pease. During the night and day a man is kept at the sole purpose of watching the pease as the natives would soon make a [hole] in them. The weather cloudy at night; fair day time.

31st Thursday. Gathered all the Pease about the spot we are to thrash them at, where we leave them for a few days to dry. Plomondon still keeps at his dwelling. In course of the day the other men were employed squaring. The Trade of the month as follows.

125 Large Beaver
 19 Small "
 2 lbs Cutting "
 1 Fisher
 71 Lynx
 13 Large Black Bear
 2 Small " "
 33 Musquash. This includes what sent to Vancouver.
 41 Otters
 5 Horses and 1 Colt
 2 Parcht Deer Skins
 48 Dress " "
 1 Elk Skin
 910 lbs Venison

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August 1834 1st Friday. The Pease being entirely dry to thrash were all gathered up about the thrashing floor, made for the purpose. The work getting on slowly. The weather cloudy in the morning, fair and warm rest of the day.

⁷⁸ The Yakima River.

2nd Saturday. The same employment for the men. Some Indians have come to trade as also to pass the Sabbath with us. The weather as yesterday.

3rd Sunday. The day kept as usual and the natives were dancing near us. Weather very warm.

4th Monday. Two men employed thrashing the Pease three squaring wood for erecting the men's house, two still working about my dwelling house and Ouvre dong sundry jobs. The Indians keep going and coming bringing at every time they arrive something to trade. Fair weather.

5th Tuesday. The same duty for the men excepting Pierre Charles who has fallen sick he is supposed to have the ague. Late in the afternoon twenty four Clalums arrived with a good lot of furs to trade. They received a pipe to smoke and a piece to tobacco for the night. The weather still very warm.

6th Wednesday. The same employment for the men till breakfast when they were all called into the Fort and here put to work in [page 92] preparing the wood for the square of the men's houses and as the men are done thrashing the Pease they are here, one is employed winding the same indoors. The plan of getting the men about us is on account of safety during the Clalums are here. These Indians made an attempt of getting the Blankets for one Beaver I immediately turned them out of the shop, and told them they may go home with their furs. This step has caused several of the Chiefs to speak but I paid no attention to their ill humor. Fair weather.

7th Thursday. We have now completed the cleaning of our Pease and our crop in that article is thirty five kegs of nine Gallons out of 100 Gallons of seed. The men still employed indoors. The Clalums traded as I wished, and they all left us well pleased, excepting the son of the Chief killed by our party in Mr Mc Leod's expedition.⁷⁹ This fellow traded a few skins but carried off four large Beaver The trade from this nation to day is 98 Beaver skins mostly large and a few small furs. Pierre Charles bled at the nose yesterday, and to day he has had a fit of ague. Medicines were given him, and this evening he seems much better. The weather continues warm though the night has been cooler than usual. [page 93]

⁷⁹ On the 17th of June, 1828, an expedition against the Clallaam Indians was fitted out at Fort Vancouver under the command of Alexander R. McLeod to avenge the murder of Alexander McKenzie. The result was a severe chastisement of the tribe, some twenty-five of their number being slain. These Indians, naturally, were somewhat timid in approaching the company's post after this affray, but there are few ills that time cannot efface, and now, six years afterwards, the son of the slain chief, himself, is the trusted messenger of the company. See, for source account: Frank Ermatinger, *Earliest Expedition Against Puget Sound Indians*, (in *Washington Historical Quarterly*, January, 1907).

8th Friday. The square of the men's house up. A Skacet Indian has arrived with a bundle of beaver to trade. Some scamp or other have stolen one of our horses, if true I shall make an example of him so as to stop these Indians from stealing. Clear weather, nothing of any wind to cool us.

9th Saturday. The men have been employed squaring wood and working about the different jobs of the place. The mare lost yesterday has been found, and as suspected Louis's Brother in Law took it to carry himself home. Traded with the Indian that arrived yesterday. A large party of Indians have come in order to pass the Sunday with us. There is a camp of Oh-qua-mishes⁸⁰ Indians below the hill as also Sin-no-oh-mishes.⁸¹ These Natives have pitched near us for the purpose of gathering acorns and berries. Fair weather.

10th Sunday. The natives assembled and requested me to point out to them what was proper for them to act in regard to our Divine Being. I told them that they should endeavor to keep their hands from killing and stealing to love one another, and to pray only to the Great Master of Life, or as they say, the Great Chief who resides on high. In fact I did my best to make them understand Good from Evil, they, on their part promised fair, and had their devotional Dance, for without it they would think very little of [page 94] what we say to them. The weather warm & fair.

Augt. 11th [1834] Monday. Plomondon and Mc Donald still about my dwelling house. Louis, Bourgeau, Brown and Mc Kee have been employed squaring wood for filling up pieces. Pierre Charles still unwell and Ouvre plastering. The Indians about the place traded a few Beaver skins. Some of them have gone off to their old quarters. The mornings are now cool and the day warm. We are much troubled with wasps which are very numerous and voracious.

12 Tuesday. The men continue at their daily work. The natives still come in with something or other to trade. Fair weather.

13th Wednesday. The squarers have done their work, and have begun to fill up the square of the men's house. Traded 20 Beaver skins from the Sin-no-oh-mish Indians. Fine weather.

14th Thursday. The men have been employed indoors. Fair weather.

15th Friday. The men's house is now ready to begin the Chiminies. Pierre is still unwell and Plomondon is getting on slowly with his work. Cool mornings us usual.

16th Saturday. Sent four men to cut roofing sticks for the house

⁸⁰ Suquamish.

⁸¹ Snohomish.

now building, the rest of the men employed as usual. Fair weather. [page 95]

17 Sunday. All the Indians assembled to hear the wonders of our Divine Being. Fair weather to day though rained all night.

18th Monday. Plomondon was working at making doors. Pierre Charles, Mc Donald, Louis, Mc Kee, Brown, and Bourgeau were employed making Chiminies, two completed in course of this day. Traded a few beaver from two Cowlitz Indians. A few of the Oh-qua-mish and Sin-no-oh-mish left us for their own lands north of this. Fair weather.

19 Tuesday. Pierre Charles and Plomondon on the sick list; the rest of the men were employed at the Chiminies. Le Francais⁸² an Indian Chief arrived, but seems to be poorly off in the way of furs. The weather fair.

20 Wednesday. Plomondon at work making doors. Brown and Bourgeau with an Indian were across to the Island for Bark. 240 pieces brought to the Beach. The Chiminies were completed and the men began fixing the roofing sticks. Pierre Charles still sick. It rained most part of the day.

21st Thursday. The same employment for the men. Indians come and go but trade dull. Fair weather.

22nd Friday. Began covering the mens house with bark most of it done. Two men [page 96] were out for more bark, in the evening they came back with 100 pieces. More Oh qua mish Indians arrived on the score of trade. Cloudy weather.

23rd Sunday. I have this day got into my new dwelling house what is now done is well and I hope in a few days it will be completed. The mens house fairly covered and the Gable ends filled up. We have now about us three hundred Indians belonging to eight different tribes. A Chief by name Babillard got into a scrap with me, but the coward soon drew in his horns. This scamp has ever been troublesome as Ouvre says, and on that account I made him run from the Fort in a fright though provided all the time with a Brass bludgeon. The weather fine.

24th Sunday. A great day for the Indians who assembled all here for a dance and to hear from me what was right to do. I made them a speech in the Flat Head language, which was understood by the Chief Frenchmen who was the linguist for the rest of the tribes present. Every one seemed to pay attention to what I said, and it is to be hoped that these Indians will become as good as those of the Interior. A Clallum chief arrived but could not see me owing to the number of Indians. There was

⁸² Le Francais, "The Frenchman," a sobriquet given this Indian because of his attempted imitation of European customs. He was chief of the Skagit tribe. See: ante, not 56.

about 250 men [page 97] Women, Boys and Girls in the dance every one peaceable. The weather cloudy.

25th Monday. The men employed as usual. many of the Indians away to their homes. Pierre Charles has had another attack of the Ague but I am happy to remark it was a very slight one. Rained all day.

26th Tuesday. The men employed as follows, three squaring wood for the flooring of the men's house two fixing the same. Pierre Charles making a plough and Plomondon working in my house. Traded a few Beaver skins. A Sea Otter was brought me but did not agree in the price. The night has been stormy with rain. Fair all day.

27th Wednesday. The men employed as usual. The Indians numerous about us. The Clallums have gone away and carried back their Sea Otter. Fair weather.

28th Thursday. All the men employed indoors. Got the scythes put in order. Pierre Charles again sick of the ague. The weather fair.

29th Friday. Sent letters to Mr Yale by the Chief Nes Clam who proceeds to Langley. Some plastering done to the men's house, the flooring and division [page 98] made for each family. Pierre Charles still sick. The natives keep going and coming with some skins and a little meat. The weather fair.

Augt, 30th 1834 Saturday. The plastering nearly completed. The Indians keep near us for the purpose of passing tomorrow with us. Fair weather.

31 Sunday. The men have kept at rest and the natives were also attentive to their devotions. The Returns of the month as follows,

193 Large Beaver
 43 Small do.
 3 lbs Cutting do.
 8 Black Bears
 3 Fishers
 24 Badgers
 42 Minks
 102 Rats
 53 Otters
 7 Elk Skins
 37 Deer "
 9 Animals (the meat of)
 13 Mats [page 99]

September 1st [1834] Monday. This morning Pierre Charles and family took their departure for Fort Langley, along with the chief Frenchman Two men have been put at cutting grass for making hay, the rest of

the men employed in the Fort. Many of the Indians have left us. Fair weather.

2 Tuesday. The same employment for the men. This morning Atsay-le-mish's sister died she has been unwell this some time back, and all the Indian Doctors did their best but without success. The articles received by them were, on her Death, returned to the relatives. The Princess's husband has gone to Vancouver, and by him I have written to the Gentlemen there. The old Chief Chickalitz arrived and traded 18 Beaver skins besides a few Otters. The weather fair and the nights cool. We are much troubled with mosquitoes.

3rd Wednesday. The men have this day entered into their different lodgings, which are complete, and every man is now well lodged. Traded a few Beaver skins, several other arrivals, and have brought more furs. Fair weather.

4th Thursday. Sent a man with the Oxen and wagon to gather up the hay and make stacks. Plomondon employed making a Table—Mc Donald [page 100] and Louis were put to chopping the large trees about the Fort—Traded about 20 Beaver and a few Otters. The weather clear and very warm.

Sept. 5th 1834 Friday. Two men employed at cutting up a large tree that lies in our way. Three others were busy making hay, and Plomondon has been at work making a pair of stairs. The Indians are still numerous about the place. The weather fair.

6th Saturday. Got the Barley pulled up by the roots as it was too short for the sickle or scythe. The stairs completed. The weather warm and we are surrounded by a thick smoke owing to the fire being put to the field behind us.

7th Sunday. All quiet and the natives had their dance at La ah lets lodge. Weather cloudy.

8th Monday. Three men were cutting poles for making a fence. One carting away the wood cut from the big tree; some part of it we had to use powder. Plomondon was out cutting some roofing sticks for the Store, those put good for nothing. The weather the same. Smoky.

9th Tuesday. Three men employed getting poles, one ploughing the pease field, and Plomondon usually employed, the weather the same. [page 101]

10 Wednesday. The men variously employed. Two getting cedar bark from the Island, one ploughing, one driving the Oxen for the same, one squarng wood for a water spout, and another hauling home fence wood. The Indians have all gone on war to the Too-an-nooes but I really believe it is only to get something from those Indians as a remuneration for

the loss of one of the Oh-qua-mish Chief in the death of a Son. The weather much the same.

11th Thursday. One man cutting wood for making a Stable. Two others getting home the remaining Cedar bark from the Island and another hauling it up from the Sound. A flag staff has been brought home and a fence is under way for making a Park for the Cattle. The weather has become clear and the smoke has partly disappeared.

12 Friday. Sent men and women to gather up the hay, and the remainder of the men working about the place. The weather fair.

13th Saturday. Two men ploughing, the rest employed about the place. The Indians have all returned from the Too-ah-noos, and have all paid me a visit. Clear weather.

14th Sunday. It rained mostly all night and most part of the day. [page 102]

15 Monday. The men variously employed; Wheat sowed in the peas-field. Wiscum Mc Donald has had an addition to his family, a daughter. Fair weather.

16 Tuesday. We are going on with our ploughing and sowing. A stable is under way for sheltering our Cattle during the rainy season. Indians are still numerous about us. Fair weather.

17 Wednesday. The usual employment for the men, and weather continues fair

18 Thursday. Indians keep coming on us with some furs. No change in our duty. Cloudy weather.

19 Friday. Four strangers arrived from up Hoods Canal and have brought a few skins. The Princess' husband has committed an unbecoming action saying that those people above mentioned had stolen a slave for which the scamp took 7 Beaver skins and a Gun. I of course called him to account, and made him give back the skins. Fair weather.

20 Saturday. The wheat all in the ground—Gave two young Indian lads each a drubbing for riding our horses. Etienne Quaze arrived from Vancouver with letters, and this evening the Chief Frenchman cast up from Langley with Letters bearing the [page 103] same date as those of Vancouver—all well at both places in the way of trade but I am sorry to say that the Ague is very severe about Vancouver. An American Brig⁸³ has cast up in the Columbia, its views are not known. The weather fine.

21 Sunday. The natives were all present at the dance to the amount of 200. In course of it a young handsome woman (La Grande Bish) was married to a good looking lad of the So-qua-mish tribe. Fair weather.

22 Monday. Two men were out ploughing but came home soon the

⁸³ The May Darce, Captain Lambert.

plough not good, altered it a little and it seemed to go better. The rest of the men employed about the place. Etienne [Quaze] and the Chief Frenchman off for Langley with Letters. Some say a cannon was fired a few days ago about Clallum's point. Fair weather.

23 Thursday. The Cow house completed and the ploughers have done a little work. Plomondon and slave are sent to Vancouver with letters. Traded about thirty Beaver skins from the Tough-no-wau-mish.⁸⁴ Fine weather.

24 Wednesday. Got the Kitchen newly covered with Bark and an upper flooring put on. Ouvre was employed repairing an oven. Traded a half an Elk weighing about 100 lbs. Fair weather. [page 104]

25 Thursday. Two men attending to the plough. The rest of them were employed at squaring wood. The weather cloudy.

26 Friday. Same duty for the men. Indians are as usual employed at gathering acorns for the winter. The weather cloudy.

27 Saturday. Got the Fort cleaned up and other necessary jobs done about it. Traded several Beaver skins to day. Rained during the night

28 Sunday. All the natives as well as ourselves at rest. The weather was cloudy and at intervals we got rain.

29 Monday. One man hauling in squared wood while the rest of the hands are squaring more. All what was wanted is now on the place.

30—Tuesday—Two men were ploughing and the rest employed near the place. Trade of the month—

144	Large Beaver
74	Small "
1½	lb Cutting "
5	Black Bear
57	Lar Otters
2	Small "
159	Rats
22	Chev Skins
1	Elk
1½	Animal meat of
100	lb Elk "
16	fresh Salmon
22	Dried "
90	fm Hyouquois ⁸⁵

Fair weather

⁸⁴ Touch-no-wamish—probably the Dwamish.

⁸⁵Theodore Winthrop, in "The Canoe and the Saddle," spells the word "Hiaqua." It is a slender, slightly curved shell used as money by the Indians. It was a sort of western wampum. The shells were strung on sinew and, as this entry indicates, was measured by the fathom when brought to the white man's trading post.