

DOCUMENTS

THE NISQUALLY JOURNAL

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[November, 1851]

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Tuesday 11th. Fine. Cloudy. Chaulifoux¹ jobbing.

Wednesday 12th. Sunshine. Inds.² putting potatoes in (300 bushels Ladyfingers)

Thursday 13th. Rainy. Indians lifting potatoes. Chaulifoux assisted by Gohome³ & Squally⁴ covering Stables [Ms. Page 17] All the remaining furs of Outfit '51⁵ made up & packed. Fiandie⁶ assisting in store, every preparation made for taking Inventory tomorrow. Cush⁷ w^h.⁸ waggon sent to sleep out in the plns⁹ convenient for Cattle killing Tomorrow. letters received from Vancouver.¹⁰ Mr. Huggins¹¹ still improving.

Friday 14th. Fair. Work as yesterday, Cowie, Koemi & Keavehacow¹² returned from Vancouver.

Saturday 15th. Clear & cold, wind N.y. Hands variously employed, Letters sent to Cowlitz¹³ pr. klapat;¹⁴ Express from Victoria.¹⁵

Sunday 16th. Weather as yesterday. Adam¹⁶ & Montgomery¹⁷ in to sleep here tonight, and assist John Ross¹⁸ (who is leaving for

1 A servant.

2 Indians.

3 An Indian employee.

4 An Indian employee.

5 The preliminary advance in goods made by the Hudson's Bay Company each year to a post was termed the "Outfit." All accounts were kept in reference to each year's "Outfit".

6 A servant.

7 An Indian employee.

8 With.

9 The Nisqually Plains where were situated the substations of the Company.

10 Fort Vancouver, formerly the headquarters for the Department of the Columbia, but now only a sub-post, chiefly agricultural in its character.

11 Edward Huggins, clerk.

12 These three men are Kanakas or natives of the Hawaiian Islands.

13 Cowlitz Farm, a post of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company situated near the present town of Toledo.

14 An Indian runner or mail carrier.

15 Fort Victoria, on the site of the present city of Victoria, B.C. It is now the headquarters of the Department of the Columbia, and the residence of the chief factor, James Douglas.

16 Adam Beinston, formerly a servant, but probably farming on shares on the plains at this time.

17 John Montgomery, a servant.

18 Formerly a servant of the Company but latterly farming on shares probably on the estate of the deceased Mr. Heath, near Steilacoom.

Cowlitz) in driving his cattle across Squally¹⁹ River. Mr. Forrest²⁰ taken very ill with the dysentery. Mr. Huggins and McPhail²¹ improving.

Monday 17th. Rain first part of the day clear towards evening. All hands set taking up potatoes, Chalifoux attending on Mr. Forrest who is at present very low. All the Cowlitz people that were to have assisted John Ross in driving his cattle over, having left rather unexpected this morning, and being left without a chance of getting any others to assist him, an estimate of all his farm cattle was made by Dr. Tolmie²² which after deducting decrease for sales, deaths etc. left a balance of 55 head, of which JR is to take 25 head per first convenient opportunity, sometime this winter. The other 30 left to the Estate.²³ [Ms. page 18]

Tuesday 18th. Cloudy & rainy. People employed variously, chiefly taking up potatoes. Pere Jayoul²⁴ arrived from Olympia, having been sent for pr desire of Mr. Forrest. Express sent off to Victoria pr Canoe.

Wednesday 19th. Fine, Morning hard frost. [?] in, and dipped a band of scabbly Lambs at which most of the men were employed. Barnes and Thornhill with the women taking up potatoes. Mr. Forrest no better.

Thursday 20th. Fine first part of the day, rain in the afternoon. People variously employed.

Friday 21st. Weather as yesterday. Cowie and Keavehacow and all the Indian axemen, [?] flooring for stable; the others at potatoes and variously.

Saturday 22nd. Fair; hands employed variously. Mr. Forrest, getting no better;

Sunday 23rd. Rainy, and strong gales from the SE. Mr. F. very low & weak.

¹⁹ Nisqually River.

²⁰ Mr. Charles Forrest, agent for the Puget's Sound Agricultural Co.

²¹ John McPhail, a servant.

²² William Fraser Tolmie, chief trader for the Hudson's Bay Co. and superintendent of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Co.

²³ The meaning here is not clear. Possibly the reference is the estate of Mr. Heath, deceased, at Tilthlow, near Stellacoom. Heath had been farming under an arrangement with the Company, but after his death the estate was taken over by the Company and Mr. Walter Ross placed in charge. Possibly John Ross has an interest there.

²⁴ Father J. F. Jayol. He was in charge of St. Joseph's mission, on the site of the present Priest's Point park, Olympia.

Monday 24th. Weather as yesterday. All hands having breakfasted before turn to, the able [?] set to thrashing out oats with flails & cleaning [?] the others including the women picking & sorting potatoes in the cellar. Thornhill mending [?] ready for sending wheat to mill. About 11 A.M. this morning, it pleased God to release poor [Ms. Page 19] Mr. Forrest from his sufferings. A few hours before his death he appeared to be resigned & happy [?] had made his will two or three days before wherein he appointed Jas. Douglas Esqre.²⁵ and Wm. F. Tolmie Esqre. his Executors. The wife of J. McPhail also died last night after an illness of 5 days of the prevailing complaint. She was buried in the afternoon, a coffin having been made for her body by Cowie.

Tuesday 26th. [25th] Fair. All the Spare hands taking up potatoes, Barnes & Fiander winnowing wheat & putting it up in Bags, all of which was taken down to the beach Store. Chalifoux and Cowie greatest part of the day making a coffin for the body of Mr. F. de^d. towards evening the remains of Mr. Forrest was committed to the grave. Pere Jayol performed the burial service. All hands attended; The grave was made outside the garden fence on the SE side, on a spot particularly desired by the deceased before his death. Montgomery in with two half broke in Oxen from the plains.

Wednesday 26th. Fine clear weather. Cowie and Chalifoux, preparing wood for an enclosure to be made round the grave of the De^d. Mr. F. Englishmen with the indian gang taking up potatoes, 56½ bush. Wheat sent to the mill²⁶ in charge of W. Young & 5 indians, P. Joyoe taking passage with them to St. Joseph's. [Ms. Page 19.]

Thursday 27th. Fine pleasant Weather. Chaulifoux, Cowie, Gohome & Keaveacow preparing Wood for Enclosure round from Mr. Forrest's grave. Barnes doing duty in Slaughter House. Fiandie, Thornhill & gang raising potatoes ploughed up by Slugomas, Northover ploughing Mr. Ross left to resume his duties at Tlithlow.²⁷ Dr. Tolmie rode out to Steilacoom. In the

²⁵ Chief Factor James Douglas, in charge of the Department of the Columbia, with headquarters at Victoria, B.C.

²⁶ At Newmarket, now Tumwater, south of Olympia.

²⁷ A Company post near Steilacoom, in charge of Walter Ross, clerk.

evening arrived and anchored at Landing the *Mary Dare*²⁸ Capt. [?] & the "Beaver" Steamer Captn. Steward. the *Mary Dare* brings a good supply of goods for the Post. Passengers Mr. Mrs. Miss & Master Work & Miss Burney²⁹ who is one her way to her brother's Mr. Burney at Cowlitz.

Friday 28th. Forenoon rain, with a strong breeze from the S. West. About eleven this Forenoon the Steamer and Brig left for Olympia to settle the customs business. Dr. Tolmie & Mr. Work have gone in Steamboat. Chaulifoux, Tapou, Cowie, Keavhacow & five Indians busy all Forenoon cutting firewood for Steamboat the remainder of day to themselves. Northover & Fiandie ploughing. paid off T. Linklaters³⁰ Potatoo Gang. Crop at Linklaters³¹ 1150 Bushels.

Saturday 29th. Forenoon Fine. A. Noon Showers. Chaulifoux, Cowie & Keavehacow, preparing wood for enclosure round Mr. F.'s grave. Tapou cutting firewood. Oxen out after Beef, two killed to day. Gang picking Potatoes.

Sunday 31st. Fine. Frosty Evening [Ms. Page 21]

[To be Continued]

28 On the seizure of the *Mary Dare*, H. H. Bancroft writes: "In January, 1850, President Taylor declared Portland and Nisqually ports of delivery; but subsequently the office was removed at the instance of the Oregon delegate from Nisqually to Olympia, when there followed other seizures, namely, of the *Mary Dare*, and the *Beaver*, the latter for landing Miss Rose Birnie, sister of James Birnie formerly of Fort George, at Fort Nisqually, without first having landed her at Olympia. The cases were tried before Judge Strong, who very justly released the vessels. Strong was accused of bribery by the collector; but the friends of the judge held a public meeting at Olympia sustaining him. The seizure cost the government twenty thousand dollars, and caused much ill-feeling."—*History of Oregon*, II, p. 107.

29 The party is composed of John Work, chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Co., his wife, Suzette, and son; Miss Letitia Work, who in 1857 married Edward Huggins; and Miss Rose Birnie, sister of James Birnie.

30 Thomas Linklater, shepherd.

31 That is, at the company post at Tenalquot, on a prairie of the same name now in Thurston Co.