

DOCUMENTS

THE NISQUALLY JOURNAL

[Continued from Volume XIV, Page 234]

[February, 1852]

[Ms. Page 38]

Sunday 1st. Forenoon cloudy. Afternoon commenced raining heavily & continued so all night. [Ms. Page 39]

Monday 2nd. Fine. Chaulifoux¹ making corn bin Tapou² & Keavhaccow³ variously employed. Barnes,⁴ Northover⁵ & Fiandie⁶ carting up goods from beach. Oxen out after Beef. 13 animals slaughtered. The "Susan Sturges" arrived and anchored off landing.⁷

Tuesday 3rd. Fine & pleasant. failed in the attempt at Cattle driving to day, got them as far as the hill head, where they took fright and dispersed in confusion. Another attempt to be made tomorrow. Captn. Huffington of the S. Sturges, purchased of the Coy. 40,000 Shingles at \$4 pr. 1000. Got all the dry goods on board Steamer this afternoon. Chaulifoux repairing plain⁸ Wagon. Barnes & Thornhill⁹ & Kanakas¹⁰ thrashing Peas. Northover & Fiandie carting up from beach. four oxen hauling firewood. A brisk trade in Sale Shop¹¹ to day.

Monday last W. F. Tolmie¹² on signing a Custom house paper preparatory to landing 306 lbs leaf Tobacco part of the Steamers trade goods, made a note on said paper of which the following is a copy. Said leaf Tobacco having been seized on board said Steamer Beaver by S. P. Moses, Esqre. Collector of Customs, along with other goods used on the N. W. Coast of America, north of Lat. '49¹³ in the Indian trade and which had inadvertently been retained on board the Steamer by Captn. Stuart,¹⁴

1 A servant.

2 A servant.

3 A servant.

4 A servant.

5 A servant.

6 A servant.

7 Nisqually landing.

8 That is, the wagon used on Nisqually plains.

9 A servant.

10 Hawaiians. A number of these people were in the employ of the Company as servants. The reference here is probably to Cowie, Keavhaccow and Tapou.

11 Fort Nisqually since about 1840 had been under a dual management of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company and the Hudson's Bay Company. The Sale Shop was operated by the latter.

12 William Fraser, Tolmie, chief trader for the Hudson's Bay Company and superintendent of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company. He is in charge of Fort Nisqually.

13 That is, north of the boundary line.

14 Captain Charles Edward Stuart.

when directed to proceed from port Victoria¹⁵ to Nisqually with the *Mary Dare* in tow—All said goods have been refused in bond, and the leaf Tobacco excepted are now on board the Steamer for exportation. [Ms. Page 40]

Thursday 4th. Succeeded in driving Cattle. Twenty four head shipped on board Steamer. Chaulifoux jobbing about Fort. Kanakas & Indians splitting fence rails, remaining hands shipping Cattle.

Thursday [Wednesday] 5th. Fine & Calm. finished loading "Beaver" & commenced at "Mary Dare." All hands employed loading 59 Qtrs Beef shipped on board "Mary Dare for consumption at Victoria.

Friday 6th. Fine. Forty-seven head of horned Cattle on board the Steamer & 30 head on board "Mary Dare" besides several Horses and above 70 Sheep—they left the Nisqually anchorage ground late in the Evening, Mr. Work¹⁷ and family going as passengers. Mrs. Ross¹⁸ also has gone in "Mary Dare" as passenger. She intends residing at Victoria—a letter arrived this Evening from Collector Moses requiring that the trade goods should be left on shore, although previously a clear & distinct understanding existed between Dr. Tolmie & Mr. Moses that they should be sent out of the Country. the goods were landed before the Steamer departed. last Monday a grand meeting was held at Steilacoom to talk over the conduct of Mr. Moses in the late seizure affair, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. Moses had done his duty and deserved the thanks of his fellow citizens, but that certain other public officers had been bribed, alluding to Judge Strong.¹⁹ They were also very fierce against the Co^y. Messrs. Balch,²⁰ Hall,²¹ Bradley²² & Chambers²³ in particular, talked of confining

¹⁵ Fort Victoria, Vancouver Island, around which was built the present city of the same name. It is now the headquarters of the Columbia Department of the Hudson's Bay Company having superseded Fort Vancouver on the Columbia which by the treaty of 1846 was placed on American soil.

¹⁶ For an account of the seizure of the *Beaver* and *Mary Dare* by American customs officials see entries for November 27, 1851 and following, reprinted in the April and July (1923) numbers of this *Quarterly*.

¹⁷ John Work, chief factor for the Hudson's Bay Co.

¹⁸ Her full name has not been ascertained. In the account books of the Company she is listed as "Madam Ross." She is probably a relation to the three Ross employes—John, Charles and Walter.

¹⁹ Judge William Strong.

²⁰ Lafayette Balch, proprietor of the new town of Steilacoom. It was but natural that he should wish to confine the company to limits of one square mile since his own townsite was upon land claimed by the company.

²¹ Identity not ascertained.

²² John Bradley.

²³ Thomas Milton Chambers.

the Compy. within the limits of one square mile²⁴ & destroying all the cattle they found without the prescribed mile—&c &c &c [Ms. Page 41]

Saturday 7th. Fine. Hands variously employed. Oxen carting up Steamers trade goods from Store on beach.

Sunday 8th. Strong gale from the S.E. Evening commenced raining. one of the working oxen found dead.

Monday 9th. Fine. Chaulifoux jobbing about Fort. Cowie, Keavhacow, Squally²⁵ & Gohome,²⁶ splitting fence rails. Barnes, Thornhill & Tapou in garden. McPhail²⁷ & Indian gang removing potatoes from pits to cellar. Oxen hauling firewood. three ploughs at work.

Tuesday 10th. Fine. Chaulifoux, Cowie, Keavhacow, Squally & Gohome off to the Squally²⁸ River to split cedar boards. A gang of Indians taken on. Commenced clearing in Swamp. Tapou grinding axes. Oxen hauling firewood A band of Snoqualmies²⁹ trading. traded³⁰ 50 Beaver Skins also several Mats.

Wednesday 11th. dull Gloomy Weather. McPhail with Indian gang clearing in Swamp. Barnes, Northover & Fiandie out without leave, drinking &c. Thornhill delving in garden. Oxen hauling firewood. Rabasca³¹ off with an express for Fort Vancouver.³² traded 10 Beaver.

Thursday 12th. Fine. hands employed as yesterday. Oxen off to Montgomery's³³ to be in readiness for tomorrows killing. The U. S. S. of War "Vincennes" is now lying at anchor at the landing. Received [a visit] from the Captain (Hudson) and officers. [Ms. Page 42]

Friday 13th. Fine clear Weather. Indian gang clearing in Swamp. Tapou & Barnes delving in garden. Two Horse Carts employed

²⁴ According to the Oregon land act commonly known as the "Donation Law" settlers were permitted to make entries of one full section, or square mile of land. The Company at this time claimed all of what is now Pierce and part of Thurston counties. Some time previous the settlers about Olympia forced the Company into an agreement to withdraw its cattle from the right bank of the Nisqually River. Now the residents of Steilacoom are trying to force the Company to withdraw from its northern confines so that the rich areas of Steilacoom, Tlithlow, Sastuc may be open to entry by Americans.

²⁵ An Indian employee or servant.

²⁶ A servant.

²⁷ John McPhail, a servant.

²⁸ Nisqually River.

²⁹ A Salish division which formerly occupied the upper branches of a river of the same name in Washington and which numbered 225 in 1857. The remnant of these Indians is now on Tulallip reservation, with other broken tribes.—*Handbook of American Indians.*

³⁰ According to the Indian Act of 1834 (*4 U. S. Statutes at Large, 727*), it was illegal for an alien to trade with an Indian.

³¹ A servant.

³² See note 15.

³³ John Montgomery, a servant.

carting down 150 Bush. Potatoes to the "Vincennes" price 60 cents per Bush. Dr. Tolmie accompanied by Captn. Hudson sett off pr Canoe for Olympia. Two ploughs at work.

Saturday 14th. Fine beautiful weather. hands employed as yesterday.

Sunday 15th. Fine. Dr. Tolmie returned from Olympia, returning from thence Dr. T. met the "Mary Dare" who was on her way from Victoria to clear at Olympia she has brought a small consignment for this place.

Monday 16th. Chaulifoux, Keavhaccow, Tapou & Squally preparing cedar boards. Barnes making ready for treading out Oats. Mr. Dean³⁴ in, superintending the dipping of a band of Wedder Lambs in Tobacco water. Oxen employed carting up and down to Store on beach. Fiandie sent to plough at Tlithlow³⁵. sold nine live Hogs to the purser of the Vincennes for 10 cents per pound. A Visit from Captn. Hudson & several officers of the "Vincennes." Dr. Tolmie left again for Olympia. Canoe arrived from Victoria bringing a packet. [Ms. Page 43]

Tuesday 17th. Gloomy & Showery. Cowie repairing horse cart. Barnes & Thornhill thrashing Peas. McPhail & gang clearing in Swamp. The "Vincennes" sailed this morning. Evening arrived Dr. Tolmie from Olympia.

Wednesday 18th. Fine. Barnes & Thornhill attending Horses thrashing (treading) Wheat. McPhail & gang clearing in Swamp. Oxen out after Beef five animals slaughtered. Myself³⁶ rode out to Balch's and settled an account against him. "Mary Dare" arrived and anchored at landing.

Thursday 19th. Fine. Wind from the North. Barnes & four Indians unloading "Mary Dare." Commenced sowing Oats, 16 Bush sown by Northover. McPhail & gang sorting Potatoes. Forty Bush sent in from Tlithlow. Recd. an order from Balch & Coy. for 1200 pounds of Beef and several other articles. Dr. Tolmie accompanied by Captn. Mouat³⁷ rode out to Tlithlow

³⁴ Thomas Dean, foreman, in charge of Tlithlow, a station near Stellacoom.

³⁵ A company station near Stellacoom, originally settled by the Red River immigrants of Canada in 1841. After their departure in 1842 the place was taken over by the Company and shortly afterwards a Mr. Heath, from England, settled thereon. From this circumstance it is mentioned in the Journal as "Heath's." After his death Mr. Walter Ross, clerk, was sent there to reside and to take charge of all operations on the plains. It is frequently mentioned as "Ross's," "Walter's," and "Ross Ville." A journal kept there has been preserved.

³⁶ Edward Huggins, clerk, and keeper of the *Journal*.

³⁷ William Alexander Mouat. He is to take the "Mary Dare" to England.

Collector Moses met Dr. Tolmie on board the "Mary Dare" to day, and drew out a form of affidavit to be sworn and subscribed at Victoria, regarding the Flour & X. P. Ploughs recently imported by the "Mary Dare"—he having written Mr. T. the 17th Inst. objecting to the affidavit there [anent?] already presented, chiefly for the reason that they had not been signed by the affiants, or persons, certified by the S. P. at Victoria, as having made oath on the subject. [Ms. Page 44]

Friday 20th. Fine Noon Misty. Clear the remainder of day. Failed in the attempt to drive Cattle for "Mary Dare." Thornhill sent with a Canoe load of Beef &c to Balch & Coy. Recd. an order from Messrs. Balch & Palmer³⁸ for 25 Barrels of Flour at \$16.00 per Barrel. McPhail & gang clearing in Swamp. Two Am vessels are now fitting up for Queen Charlottes Island,³⁹ one belonging to Captn. Balch⁴⁰ & one to Mr. Hancock.⁴¹

Saturday 21st. Fine. Chaulifoux, Cowie & Keavhacow placing the newly split cedar planking in Store at beach. Dr. Tolmie accompanied by Captn. Mouat rode out to Steilacoom and recd. payment from Balch & Coy. for the goods supplied him latterly. Oxen out after Beef, 7 animals slaughtered.

Sunday 22nd. Fine.

Monday 23rd. Fine. A gale of Wind from the South East. Failed again in attempt at cattle driving. Chaulifoux & gang putting up a partition in one end of Store at beach for a dwelling house for Mr. Miller⁴² the Surveyor of Customs. Horse Cart bringing home firewood. Five Beeves received from the Plains. McPhail & Indian gang clearing in Swamp. Canoe arrived from Victoria with the Yearly accounts, returned again for Victoria this evening. [Ms. Page 45]

Tuesday 24th. Cold a fine breeze from the S. E. All hands employed loading "Mary Dare." 781 Ewes on board by 4 P. M. at 5 She set sail with a fine fair wind.

Wednesday 25th. Showery dull weather. Barnes attending Horses treading out Wheat. Chaulifoux & Cowie stocking a plough.

³⁸ His full name has not been ascertained.

³⁹ To take part in the gold rush to that place.

⁴⁰ The *Demariscove*. See entry for *Friday 27th*.

⁴¹ Samuel Hancock, a settler (?) of 1847 at Tumwater, and 1853 at Coupeville. At this time he is a rolling stone and identified for the time being at Neah Bay, where he has a trading store. Hancock, in his manuscript, "Thirteen Years' Residence in Washington Territory," does not mention the incident recorded in the *Journal*. Nor does he claim an interest in the *Franklin*, which is the other ship mentioned. Possibly he was acting as agent.

⁴² Winlock W. Miller.

Keavhacco, Tapou & Squally removing old cow sheds & park to a more convenient situation. Thornhill installed in Kitchen in place of Sales who wishes to work for a time about the Farm. Mr. Palmer up complaining that the greater part of the 25 Barrels of Flour they purchased a few days ago has turned out Sour & unfit for use. Dr. Tolmie gave him an order for exchange at Victoria. Oxen carrying fodder from Barn to Stable & bringing home firewood. Palmer informed Dr. Tolmie that some time ago four or five of our English laborers offered to accompany Captn. Balch in his gold expedition to Queen Charlottes Island. Balch refused to take them.

Thursday 26th. Fine. 14 Bush Oats sown. Chaulifoux fitting an Axle to a pair of Cart Wheels. Keavhaccow & Cowie making Stirrups from hard wood. Gang clearing in Swamp. Sent 800 pounds fresh beef to Balch & Palmer. Oxen employed hauling firewood. [Ms. Page 46]

Friday 27th. Cold all day. Commenced Snowing in the Evening. Chaulifoux making a pair of Window Sashes for room in Store at beach. Cowie, Keavhaccow & Squally Stocking ploughs. McPhail & gang clearing in Swamp. Oxen hauling firewood. A Wagon load of Potatoes from Tlithlow served out the plain rations. Several of the English Laborers have been asking Dr. Tolmie for an increase of Wages. Dr. Tolmie reasoned with them that if they attended strictly to their several duties they should have an advance of wages but certainly not otherwise. Balch's Schooner the "George Emory" is reported to have arrived at Steilacoom from California. The Gold Ship "Damarascove" sailed today for Queen Charlottes Island.⁴³

Saturday 28th. Very Cold. Six inches of Snow on the ground. Hands variously employed.

Sunday 29th. Cold. Gale of wind from the Northwest. had the band of tame cows driven in & some Straw given to them. Mr. Dean in, reports a great mortality among the Wed Lambs 400 having died within the last 3 Months princpaly Sheep under A Beinston's⁴⁴ charge have suffered most. [Ms. Page 47]

⁴³ *Demariscove.* Practically all histories of Washington contain an account of this expedition.

⁴⁴ Adam Beinston, a servant.

[March, 1852]

Monday 1st. above 12 inches of Snow on the ground this morning. Commenced freezing hard in the Evening. Barnes, Sales & Indian gang thrashing out oats in Barn. Kanakas making Stirrups. Chaulifoux making Sashes. Oxen out after Beef, 3 killed. Horse Cart bringing home firewood. Northover sent out to replace A. Beinston in the charge of the Station at Sastuc,⁴⁵ Beinston term of Engagement being on the eve of expiring. Northovers Wages are raised to £22 per annum.

Tuesday 2nd. More Snow. Very Cold. Hands employed as yesterday. Tapou and S. Hatal left this afternoon for Fort Vancouver with the yearly accounts. Wagon sent out with a load of fodder to Tlithlow as food for Sheep being impossible for the Sheep to get any grass on account of the great depth of the Snow. Horse Cart instead of returning here from Steilacoom is to go to Tlithlow & be employed tomorrow carting out fodder for the Sheep.

Wednesday 3rd. Still Frosty. Dr. Tolmie rode out and visited the Sheep in the plain. found Adam Beinstons Sheep in a most deplorable condition. Above 60 Lambs have died since the cold weather has commenced. Chaulifoux and Kanakas making Window Sashes. Barnes, Sales & Indian gang thrashing out Peas. Oxen carting firewood. Horse Cart carrying Straw from Barn to Stable. [Ms. Page 48]

Thursday 4th. Snow Still continues on the ground to the depth of 8 inches. Barnes finished thrashing & Winnowing Oats. 120 Bush. cleaned making Total of 385 Bushels thrashed out, about one half of Crop, half having been fed off in the Straw. Indian gang thrashing Peas. Chaulifoux at Sashes. Cowie and Keavhaccow commenced making an ox rack on one side of Stable. The "Alice" Captn. Cooper's has arrived from Victoria come for cattle for Dr. Kennedy settler at Victoria. An American Schooner called the "Harriett" Captn. Given is now at anchor at landing, she set sail about two months ago from the Columbia River to California, but experienced very bad Weather which drove them up Northward as far as 52½ lat. and after knocking about thus for some weeks at length found their way into the Straits. One

⁴⁵ A station on the plains, probably near Steilacoom.

of the Shooting⁴⁶ Horses named Kanboo died in the Stable to day opened him, found his inside full of Worms. Oxen sent out to Tlithlow for a load of Potatoes. Horse Cart carrying firewood. Dr. Tolmie rode out to Muck. Rabasca⁴⁷ returned from Vancouver, has brought a few articles also a packet of Letters.

Friday 5th. Rain. Snow disappearing fast. Hands employed The same as yesterday. 44 B. Potatoes in from the plains. A visit from Captains Bachelder & Wilson of Fort Steilacoom. [Ms. Page 49]

Saturday [6th.] Snow disappearing. Chaulifoux confined to his house Sick. Cowie & Keavhaccow making ox rack. McPhail & gang thrashing Peas. Barnes winnowing Peas. Sales cleaning out Stables. Oxen employed hauling Beef down to landing purchased by Captn. Given of the "Harriett."

Sunday 7th. Fine pleasant Weather.

Monday 8th. Fine. Snow entirely disappeared. Failed in driving Cattle for the "Alice." Chaulifoux repairing plain cart. The Kanaka Keavhaccow has left off working for the Compy. and has engaged with old Chambers.⁴⁸ Cowie getting drunk. Barnes cleaning out Store at beach. McPhail & gang variously employed. Oxen carting up goods from beach. Horse & cart bringing home firewood. 12 Bush Oats sown to day, 3 Harrows at work, plain wagon in with 40 Bushls. Potatoes. Received an order from Mr. Palmer of Port Steilacoom for \$600.00 worth of goods, he is to have them at 20 pr. cent discount.

Tuesday 9th. Fine. Could not succeed in parking sufficient cattle for a cargo for Captn. Cooper, gave him a cargo of Sheep (Ewe Lambs) at 62½ cents pr Sheep. The "Alice" set sail this evening about 9 o'clock. Chaulifoux variously employed. Cowie & Gohome at ox rack. 12 Bushls. Oats sown, 4 Harrows at work. Oxen carting up goods from beach. [Ms. Page 50]

⁴⁶ A horse used for hunting the wild cattle on the plains. Says Clarence B. Bagley: "The cattle, during the later years of the occupation by the Company, became very wild, and were shot by its employees, by the settlers, and by the Indians, so that it became almost impossible to handle them. In fact many of them became as wild as deer, and it took a skillful hunter to get a shot at them. They would hide in the woods in the daytime, and come out cautiously at night to feed on the bright prairies, and it became the custom to hunt at times of bright moonlight."

⁴⁷ A servant.

⁴⁸ Thomas M. Chambers.