

DOCUMENTS

DIARY OF WILKES IN THE NORTHWEST

[Continued from Volume XVI., Page 301]

[June, 1841.]

The Willamette is generally about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile wide for about 4 miles from its entrance into the Col^a. the banks are low and during the freshet overflow the water was backed into the Willamette & we found little current to contend with. Afterwards they became high and precipitous, in very few places susceptible of cultivation. At Sunset we encamped on one of the Island (Oak Island) Near by the Young Americans who are building their boat who had crossed the country about a year since & resided in the Willamette They were 8 in numbers, and are disgusted with the country and determined to quit it at all hazards everybody that I heard speak of them gave them a good name. They are now building their boat, one among them having served sometime at that business The rest all assist in it. They have chosen a good spot for it in an oak grove, and their cedar of which the planking is made is also near at hand. They seem industrious and full of spirit and although difficulties apparently the most insurmountable are before them yet they have no fear but what they will all be overcome. I found them in difficulty with Dr. McL. as when one had gotten articles under false pretenses and he very properly refused to let them have any more. I represented this in its proper light and justified Dr. McL. and also advised them if it were true as they expressed that they have had no hand in the deception to call [Ms. P. 87] and tell him so, and I was sure he would do everything in his power. This they subsequently did and received every assistance that lay in his power to give.

I felt proud to witness the spirit they evinced & the buoyancy of spirit with which they carried on their plan so truly in character with their countrymen.

Subsequently to my leaving the Col^a. they wrote me asking a sea letter for their protection and informed me their boat was

launched, met their expectations and was called the Star of Oregon.⁹¹

There is large quantities of this oak (white) in about the Willamette Valley and is applied not only to the use for which we apply oak but also to those of hickory it is the only timber that is considered here durable enough its specific gravity is much greater than that of water.

5th June.

We reached the Willamette falls here we found another of the Missionaries settled and in competition with the H. B. Co. in putting up salmon for the market or sale his name is Mr. Waller.⁹² He does little from his own account with the Indians and is at war with the Catholic priest about the . . . the latter having from his account gotten the ascendancy. Mr. W.'s wife is one of those peculiar bodies that will not suffer any part of her house to be soiled many minutes, although all is of the roughest material. Her management of her cooking stove fairly excited my admiration, no engineer ever knew his engine better or could manage it with more adroitness. She well knew on which side the heat was operating & by a proper turning gesture &c. &c. dinner was served consisting of salmon, Tea & bread & butter it evidently showed the woman's determination to carry what she had been brought up to along with her [Ms. P. 87a] in whatever part of the world she might go. After we had partaken of this our repast, Mr. Waller took me to see the falls & the situation for—mills that had been selected by the Company who have gone to considerable expense in blasting the rock for a mill race, for what reason I know not but the work has been left untouched as I understand for some years.⁹³ Mr. Slacum has had a house built at this point to secure the mill site. An old man

91 The story of the *Star of Oregon* is an interesting chapter in Northwestern History. It is beautifully told in *Bancroft's History of Oregon*, Volume I., pages 247-248. The names of the eight young men are Joseph Gale, Felix Hathaway, Henry Wood, R. L. Kilborne, Pleasant Armstrong, John Green, George Davis, and Charles Matts. One of the number, Henry Wood, seems to have given offense and was expelled from the company. Wilkes succeeded in compromising matters and persuaded Doctor McLoughlin to sell the necessary rigging. A successful voyage was made to California where the schooner was sold, cattle was purchased and the young men returned to Oregon driving the cattle with them. The leader or captain was Joseph Gale. Two years later he was one of the Executive Committee of three serving in place of a governor under the Provisional Government of Oregon. His daughter, Mrs. Frances Ellen (Gale) Page, after a remarkable life of many years, died in Seattle in the present year, 1925. Her biography was published in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* on May 29, 1920. On that occasion she related much of the history of her distinguished father.

92 Rev. Alvan F. Waller, one of the large reinforcement that had arrived on the *Lausanne* in 1840.

93 Frederick V. Holman has discussed definitely and at length Dr. McLoughlin's Land Claim in his *Dr. John McLoughlin*, beginning at page 101. The injustice involved is a sad memory for Oregon pioneers. Mr. Holman has there rendered a real service in setting down the record after the manner of a trained lawyer.

by the name of Moore had effected what he terms the purchase of the opposite side of the River.

The falls of the Willamette are 20 feet in height and the water is sometimes so high in the river as to make it possible to run them [the falls] with canoes but this must be seldom the case. We were much diverted with the salmon leaping the falls it is inconceivable how they have force enough to stem the water. about one in 10 would succeed leaping out of the foam beneath and jumping about $2/3^{ds}$. up passing as it were the apex of running water those that did so got by, but all who fell short, were thrown back into the Basin beneath.⁹⁴ Great knots of Lamprey eels were to be seen worming themselves up the rocks.

The scenery here is pretty, the Rocks are all volcanic scoria & pudding stone mixed with trap many quartz crystals are found in the rocks.

Mr. Moore took this rock for veritable Iron ore and was making his boasts of the prize he had got & of his intention to erect Iron furnaces, &c, &c.

At the falls we made a portage & took another boat similar to the one we left below the falls. [Ms. P. 88]

We embarked in a heavy shower of rain for Camp du Sable,⁹⁵ but we found the current very different from what we had hitherto experienced and made but little progress unless in the eddies which we crossed & recrossed the river to take advantage of. The river is from 1000 to 1200 feet in width at this part of it with its banks high—we encamped just beyond the Stony Islands about 5 miles above the falls. Several mosses and flowers were picked up here which were new.

6th June

We proceeded on about 7 o'clock and did not beach untill about 4 P.M. The current we found strong some 3 miles an hour and our boat heavy. The river was not high although the late rains had swelled it a little its usual time of flooding is early in

⁹⁴ This account of the salmon overcoming a natural obstruction is the more interesting now as fish ladders and fish elevators are being built to help salmon over dams built for power and irrigation projects.

⁹⁵ The place is later referred to as "Camp Maude du Sable or Champoing," evidently the famous Champoing where Oregon pioneers, led by George H. Himes, have erected a monument marking the place where the field meetings decided in favor of the Provisional Government of Oregon on May 2 and again on July 5, 1843. The place is on the Willamette River about 32 miles above Portland. As Judge Charles H. Carey, *History of Oregon*, page 418, points out, the "Maude" is superfluous and arose from a misunderstanding of "Campement du Sable" when spoken by French tongues.

the Spring Feby. and March when it rises to a great heighth as also all its tributaries of which it has many. It was raining when we arrived and we went to a house of Mr. Johnston⁹⁶ and although at another time we should have refused his hospitality yet the wetness of everything and the discomfort in encamping out in such weather, which overcame all our scruples of fleas, &c. &c. Johnston gave us a warm welcome and all he could do was done to make us comfortable. I found he had been in the Constitution during the last war and was anxious to peruse his letters over again. he has a picture of Old Ironsides hung up in his house also. He is married to a full blood Indian whom he calls his woman & has several children by her, and is extremely useful about the house but little or no cleanliness is evinced. he has 2 slaves of what tribes of Indians I did not learn. all his neighbors some half a dozen in number called to see me They are what one might expect to see in this country. I found them all agog about laws & legislatures, with [Ms. P. 88a] governors, judges, & the minor officers all in embryo and understood they were only waiting my arrival to act in the business & that they had appointed a Committee to wait upon me.

Cannon, one and I believe the only remaining one of the followers of Lewis & Clarke⁹⁷ that is in the country was here. He likes the country but "thinks there is no necessity for Dr. McL. authority or laws to govern it." Old Moore⁹⁸ exceedingly talkative has sense, or shrewdness and much information about the country he has passed through. He crossed the Mountain last year, says he found no difficulty in the trip, and intends to return, & bring out his family—is of opinion the country is a fine one and exceedingly healthy, and will compare with Missouri & Illinois in parts the great want in the upper country he thinks is wood.

I found this as I said before a dirty house and idle people it

96 Probably William Johnson, who had served as High Sheriff in the attempted Provisional Government of 1841. The crisis bringing forward that attempt was the necessity of probating the estate of Ewing Young, who had died without known heirs, in February, 1841. After that business was satisfactorily adjusted the settlers were doubtful about continuing their government. As here related they were anxious to obtain the advice of Captain Wilkes.

97 This seems to be an error. William Cannon was probably the only American who had remained in Oregon after Astoria had been sold to representatives of the North West Company of Montreal. H. H. Bancroft, in *History of Oregon*, Volume I., page 74, after mentioning a number of French Canadians of the Astor expedition who had remained in Oregon, says: "William Cannon, a Virginian, and a soldier from Fort Mackinaw, settled on the west side of the Willamette River, opposite the falls, and lived to the age of 99 years, dying in 1854." The statement by Wilkes that Cannon was of the Lewis and Clark party has been followed by others, but reference to the Elliott Coues *Lewis and Clark*, Volume I., pages 253-258, shows that the complete roster of the expedition includes no one of that name.

98 For a study of this pioneer see "Robert Moore in Oregon History," by J. Orin Oliphant, in the *Washington Historical Quarterly*, Volume XV., pages 163-186.

is said to be the best in the Settlement, however passed an uncomfortable night, felt the fleas & other vermin. Drayton uneasy but we were forced to put up with these quarters all the settlers, I have yet seen are uncombed, unshaven, and a dirty clothed set.

Found this country well timbered from the falls up to the camp Maude du Sable. it may be said here that the Willamette Valley begins as the hills were made—on either side leaving the prairies which form it— It appears a fruitful country and the soil a rich clayey loam & capable of producing anything with industry. [Ms. P. 89]

7th [June]

We found horses here in waiting for us under charge of Michel La Framboise⁹⁹ who was exceedingly civil and perhaps better acquainted with the country than any one in it. He originally came out in the Tonquin and has been residing here ever since in the employ of the Company. He has travelled in all parts, among all tribes and says he has a wife in every tribe. From him I have derived much information and all agree that he well knows the country. I was therefore glad to meet with him again, and we rode off through the settlement of the valley towards the Mission. We stopt, for a few hours at the residence of Mr. Bachlet¹⁰⁰ the catholic priest who received us very kindly he has a large farm under cultivation and may be termed the head of the Canadians &c in the Valley to whose spiritual & temporal wants he pays great attention to and from the appearance that exist discernible in and about the habitations of these people I believe he is doing much good. We spoke about the Laws that they were desirous of establishing (but he objected to them and having much the largest numbers refused to cooperate, and was of opinion that the numbers and country embracing the Willamette could not warrant the establishment of them.

We dined with him on porridge venison strawberries & cream which though simple country fare was given with so much good feeling & kind deportment that it made it doubly welcome—even to a hungry person. The Chapel is here established & capable of containing the congregation. The country is too level for beauty and as rich an alluvial soil as can well be conceived. After leav-

⁹⁹ H. H. Bancroft, *History of Oregon*, Volume I., page 74, lists Michel La Framboise as one who remained from the Astor expedition and calls him "the leader of the southern annual trapping parties to California, who was so attentive to Kelley when sick. He settled on the west side of the Willamette."

¹⁰⁰ Evidently Father (afterwards Archbishop) Francis Norbet Blanchet.

ing the Mission we rode through the line of Settlements to the American Mission at its extreme and there we were kindly received by Mr. [Ms. P. 89a] Mr. Abernethy¹⁰¹ the Secular Agent of the Mission—he is living in the Hospital or what is known as such though it appears to have been converted in dwellings now for the Missionaries. in passing to it we went past the Mission so termed or the first log huts put up by the [illegible] near this were some work shops & some large fields enclosed that I was told produced about 25 bushels to the acre, but I was very much struck with the want of repair in which I found all the premises even to the Hospital the best building in all the Territory and I felt no little concern to see the threshing machine that had been furnished by the community at home lying stowed in the public road over which all the travel passed.

Mrs. Abernethy we found pretty & pleasing & gave us such hospitality as we would receive at home. I thought her rather out of place in this country & community. Dr. Babcock¹⁰² the Physiⁿ. lives near by to whom we paid a visit in the Evg. he appears to be comfortably lodged. He stated to me the country was in his opinion healthy that during this season they are subject to the ague & fever on the low grounds but the high & dry situation, he believed free from it, few other diseases existed and those of a mild character and easily yielded to simple remedies.

A committee waited on us of 5. principally the lay brothers of the Mission to consult and ask my advice relative to the establishment of the Laws after hearing attentively all the arguments that were produced in favour of it, and which as I think might be summed up in a few words having no substantial reasons for it, crimes do not appear to have been committed as yet & the [Ms. P. 90] persons & property of the settlers is fully secure it appeared to me that their reasons were principally that it would give them more importance in the eyes of others and induce in their opinion settlers to flock thereby raising the value of their farms and stock. Seeing this view of the subject I disagreed with them entirely in the necessity and policy of adopting any

- 1st. Because of their want of right, and those wishing for laws were in fact a minority of the settlers.

- 2nd. By their own accounts they were not necessary yet.

¹⁰¹ George Abernethy, who, in 1845, became Governor under the Provisional Government of Oregon.

¹⁰² Dr. I. L. Babcock as Supreme Judge under the Provisional Government of 1841, had successfully probated the estate of Ewing Young.

- 3rd. They would be a bad substitution for their moral code, which they now all follow, and that few who were disposed to do wrong would be willing to settle near a community of whom a large portion was opposed to evil doing.
- 4th. The great difficulty there would be in enforcing the laws, and defining the limits over which they should extend. would the Hudson B. Company be willing to enter into their enactment? Respect the Laws? No.
- 5th. Not being the act of the Majority, & the larger part of the population being Catholics they must at once produce discord, & be of great detriment or injury to the settlement.
- 6th. Besides I thought it would produce an unfavorable impression at home hearing the missionaries were alone in making the request for laws thereby admitting that in a community avowedly brought together & under their control they had not enough moral force to prevent crime, & therefore must have recourse to a criminal code.¹⁰³ From my observation I was well satisfied they were unnecessary and could not avoid drawing their attention to the fact that after all the various offices were filled there would be no subjects for the law to deal with. These arguments had the desired effect, for I understand [Ms. P. 90a.] they have been entirely dropped since.¹⁰⁴

8th [June]

Dr. Babcock and others called upon us this morning tendering an invitation from the settlers of the Willamette to the Squadron to celebrate the 4th of July with them. This was declined by myself on account of the various duties and impossibility of complying with it.

We were shown the Missionary garden but it appeared to me to want attention and that great requisite to a kitchen garden labour. Vegetables appear to grow here well—and very early.

The best garden in the territory or this Valley that I saw belongs to Dr. Bailey, who told me it was the work of his wife it gave me a better idea what could be done in this country by attention and moderate labour than anything I have met with. The whole premise bespoke industry Scarcely witnessed elsewhere.

¹⁰³ Judge Charles H. Carey, in his recent *History of Oregon* (1922) on page 372, discusses this interview and adds: "Wilkes here curiously overlooked the civil aspect of government, which was indeed the phase that had been called to critical attention, and he dwelt exclusively on restraint of crime, that was the matter of relatively lesser moment."

¹⁰⁴ Such efforts were dropped for a time but were renewed in 1843 and the Provisional Government then continued until the United States established Territorial Government in 1849.

After Breakfast the gentleⁿ. of the Mission proposed a ride to the Mill some 9 miles in a N. E. direction which I was glad to take. We rode over several fine prairies the high & low the soil varies considerably from clayey loam to a gravelly & light soil on the upper prairies the whole however may be termed good land though not as well timbered as I was led from description to suppose. Several fine views of Prairie Scenery but inferior to those about Nisqually in Beauty. At noon we reached the Mill where I was told I should see the Missionary operations Indian school &c. &c. which was in fact my principal object in making the visit. I was greatly disappointed. Some 25 ragged & half clothed Indian boys of large size were lounging about under the trees. Their appearance was anything but pleasing. A small mill [Ms. P. 91] worked by a small stream together with a small frame 2 story house occupied one corner of an extensive Prairie surrounded by some fine old oaks gave the whole at a distant and first view the appearance of an old settlement and a thrifty one from the numerous piles of lumber that was seen about the mill for in connexion with its run of stone they use it as a sawmill also The whole is quite small but fully adequate to the extent of power they have 15 bushels a day is as much flour as they can grind. This however supplies all their wants & part of those of the Settlement. I understood this is contemplated as the permanent settlement of the Mission being considered more healthy removed as it is on the high prairie & in this part the missionaries have as they told me marked off their 1000 acres in prospect of the country falling under the protection of our laws, and the Bill of Mr. Linn¹⁰⁵ or some other passing giving them a gratuity it

The mill I understood was under the charge of Mr. Raymond¹⁰⁶ I was told by the Mission that he was the greatest ranter among them. I was extremely desirous of hearing but I had no opportunity of doing so.

We were invited to stay dinner which we accepted and it would be difficult to give an idea of the repast without having been present. We dined a la Methodist on Salmon, Pork, potted cheese, and strawberries, tea & hot cakes,¹⁰⁷ they were all brothers

¹⁰⁵ United States Senator Lewis Fields Linn, of Missouri, whose advocacy of his "Oregon bill" has been remembered through the naming of Linn County, Oregon.

¹⁰⁶ W. W. Raymond and wife were members of the Methodist reinforcement that arrived in the *Lausanne* in 1840. He was listed as a farmer. He met a tragic death on February 4, 1843, while trying to save others from drowning. See Bancroft's *Oregon*, Volume I., pages 199-200.

¹⁰⁷ If Wilkes had only a little of the spirit of the pioneer, he would not write thus about the feast.

and sisters some with coats, some without, red flannel shirts, and dirty white arms, higgledy piggledly. I shall not soon forget the narrow cramped up table, more crowded round it than it would hold, with the wooden benches, high backed chairs & low seated ones, perchance all the tall ones seized the high seats and the low in stature were even with the well filled board. The meal was eaten by us all in brotherly love, but hunger assisted me or I never should have been able to [Ms. P. 91a] swallow mine. I rode with the Rev^d. Mr. Hines¹⁰⁸ to his quarters or farm to which he had just removed his wife & child & his worldly goods. I found them in a shanty of boards in the center of a fine prairie of which he informed me they had taken possession. They had the ordinary comforts about them that one would expect in this country.

He pointed out to me the position of the scite for their Seminary which is to be occupied by their scholars. I could derive little or no satisfactory information relative to their views and prospects in forwarding the education of the Indians from what tribe they proposed taking them and the manner of teaching &c. &c. from all that I did hear however my impression is that there is no field for the numbers that are now attached to this mission & in a very few years none of this army will be left. They seem not to wish to push their Missionary operations to the North where the tribes are numerous and extensive & the climate healthy. Dr. Richmond it is true is settled at Nisqually but he is doing nothing. As the holder of a charge in which their particular denomination of Christians at home are greatly interested, I view it as a great neglect on the part of this mission if they have not made true representations at home respecting their prospects & it seems to me unaccountable how they can have received so large an amount of funds without having done more than is apparent or acknowledged by themselves. The amount of Indians now included within their limits is as follows, viz—Nisqually Clatsop 209 Chinooks 220, Kilamouks 400, Kalla- [Ms. P. 92] puyas 600, Dalles 250—in all the country say 2000 of these they have under instruction if so it may be termed 25—and at the Dalles I believe is the only place where divine worship is attempted. Something may be said that these Missionaries came out under the idea that they are to settle and afford the necessary instruction if possible, but they are to colonize under the christian religion as their law

¹⁰⁸ Rev. Gustavus Hines, who later wrote two books about his missionary experiences and observations.

and guide & give the necessary instruction to the tribes they settle among to train them up in good habits, &c. &c. how this is to be done without exertion and strenuous efforts I am at a loss to conceive and it strikes me as obligatory on these Missionaries to state the facts they one and all admit.

At Mr. Hines I again had a long conversation with the Missionaries and stated the same objections I had given them before but more fully & I found them well satisfied. They [his objections to the Provisional Government] were too strong to be resisted, since the foundation of the Settlement but one horse had been stolen and a settler had been detected in stealing a neighbors pigs by enticing them to his house dropping them into a cellar where they were slaughtered & eaten which was at last discovered by the bones around his premises & he was made to confess & pay their value simply by the force of public opinion.

We rode back towards the Mission or Hospital the Mill being the most remote part of the Willamette Settlement, and occasionally on these fine prairies had a hard race, the horses are fine & from the quantity of pasture throughout the year in good condition. After taking leave of Mr. & Mrs. Abernethy we continued our route crossed the river at the Old Mission house. The river has here considerably worn the banks and if it goes on to the same extent it will not be many years before the richest portion of the Willamette Valley is lost. The river at the pass is about 200 yd^a. wide & the current 3 miles. [Ms. P. 92a]

We passed over in a crazy canoe with our traps & saddles and afterwards our horses swam over one or two being led by the canoe the animals are so well accustomed to this that they take the water very readily. At sunset we reached our camp which I had ordered to be pitched near O'Neil¹⁰⁹ farm, and received an invitation from the Rev. Mr. Leslie¹¹⁰ to take tea with them he a short time since lost his wife leaving several children—one of whom it is understood is engaged to be married to O'Neil.

O'Neil's farm is situated in a beautiful prairie of small extent with a fine forest encircling it & bordering on the river, it is gently undulating which takes away from its monotony. He had between 30 & 40 acres of wheat growing in fine order. It shows what ordinary industry will do in this Country 3 years since he

¹⁰⁹ James O'Neil, who was converted at revival meetings held by Leslie in December, 1839. O'Neil was a member of the Provisional Government in 1843 and became Justice of the Peace for the Yamhill District.

¹¹⁰ Rev. David Leslie, who had arrived with his wife and three daughters on the *Sumatra* in September, 1837.

came to the Valley with but a skin (as he expressed it) to his back. he worked a part of this farm, obtained the loan of cattle from Dr. McL. has repaid him out of his crops and is now in possession of this farm 100 head of cattle, good suits of clothes all by his own industry & now he feels it only necessary for him to work one month in the year to make a living the rest of the time he may amuse himself. he spoke in the kindest terms of Dr. McL. & the assistance he had afforded him in his outset. I was much amused by my f^d. Mr. D.¹¹¹ being sadly affronted by the Rev^d. Mr. L. carrying him to his wife's grave, but I could not prevail on him to repeat the conversation that occurred.

9th [June]

The next morning we were doomed again to breakfast with Mr. Leslie, who showed us all the attention in his power at 9 we started for the Yam Hills [Ms. P. 93] in order to get a view from there of the whole country particularly the Tuallaty¹¹² Valley to the west'd of the Willamette which these hills divide. They are of a reddish clay loam and have no marks of any wash from the rains however steep the banks, they are clothed to the very top with a fine sward and afford excellent pature numbers of cattle are seen feeding on them—from the top of the Yam Hills we had a beautiful view of the surrounding country, it put me very much in mind of the Connecticut Valley from Mt. Hope¹¹³ the extent of country under view is 25 miles in extent, and extends to the different mountain ranges on the horizon. The wood as I remarked yesterday does not strike me as sufficient for the wants of the settlements. The oaks spread over the prairies in cluster gave them the appearance of orchards.

On our return towards the river road we passed the farm of One of Dr. McL. sons whom has settled here and has an extensive portion of prairie fenced in. One of the most striking appearances of the Willamette Valley is the flatness of its Prairies in some instances a dead level for miles in extent—and it becomes a problem of some difficulty to solve how they have been produced. Fire is no doubt the cause of their being kept clear of an under growth and may have been the original cause of them but the way the forests are growing round them would almost preclude this supposition as but thin belt of wood frequently occurs between exten-

111 Joseph Drayton, artist, a member of the scientific corps of the Wilkes Expedition.

112 A local use for Tualatin. His notes here and later are indistinct as to this name and his published *Narrative* gives it Faultz.

113 A peak in New Hampshire. In his published *Narrative* he changed it to Mount Holyoke in Massachusetts.

sive ones. Since the country has been in the possession of the whites it is found that the wood is growing up rapidly a stop having been put to the fires so extensively lighted throughout the country every year by the Indians. They are generally lighted in Sep^t. for the purpose of drying the seeds of the [blank] (sunflower) which is then gathered and forms a large portion of their food.¹¹⁴ [Ms. P. 93a]

As respects the Climate it may be termed mild it is however difficult to get any good data for these results few have paid any attention to the meteorological phenomenon some have no instruments others have lost them and omitted to take those that are now deemed essential viz., the night observations.

The rains are mild seldom any hard showers the winter of 1840 was thought to be the most severe of any yet known by the oldest white inhabitant. They had a foot of snow it laid but a few days, the coldest time of the year is said to be the end of Jany. or by beg^s of Feby. The Thermometer has been known to fall as low as -8° zero but for a very short time the N.E. & Easterly winds are the most unpleasant coming from the mountains, but a short dist. they produce sudden and great changes in the temperature. The S^a. & SW^d. winds are the warm winds although they generally bring rain or mist. Those from the N^a. & W^d. fine clear weathers. Westerly winds are the most prevalent.

On our route through the Yam Hills we passed many settlers establishment but they were but lately established and did not in consequence show much improvement I find in the Willamette a great difference in the two classes of Settlers Those composing the Canadian Population & the American cheerfulness and industry are well marked in the appearances of the former while neglect & discontent, with lou[n]ging seem to infect the latter.

The best farm I saw on my route was that of La [Ms. P. 94] Bontés.¹¹⁵ having heard that the late Mr. Young's¹¹⁶ farm was the most beautiful spot in this section of country I determined to visit it and therefore again crossed the Yam Hill and the River of that name in order to do so. I found it situated in a valley running East & West conncting as it were the two V. of W. & Faulity.¹¹⁷ It by no means acceded my expectations being

¹¹⁴ One other tradition is that the Indian fires were made to facilitate the grazing and also the hunting of deer and elk.

¹¹⁵ Louis La Bonte, one of the Astorians who settled on the west side of the Willamette in 1833.

¹¹⁶ Ewing Young, frequently referred to in this narrative.

¹¹⁷ See note 112,

situated in a low, wet & marshy plain some three miles in extent. The premises were very much out of repair, no one at home two persons were in charge of the farm on wages at \$1 per day.

On looking about the premises Johnston found a sick Kana-ka¹¹⁸ lying in a bunk and $\frac{1}{2}$ a Pig roasting hanging by its hind legs over a slow fire. Mr. Young appears to have been one of the first pioneers & settlers in this valley, was desirous at one time to establish a distillery but through the influence of Mr. Slacum¹¹⁹ he was diverted from it & engaged to go to California for cattle in order that himself and others belonging to the Settlement might be supplied with them the Hudson's Bay Co^r refusing to sell any. Mr. Slacum invested some money in Cattle also Mr. Young taking the charge of them during my visit at the Columbia both Mr. Slacum & Young had died & Youngs property falling into the hands of hunters I thought it advisable that Mr. Slacums nephew should receive for his uncles estate the proceeds of them—and as this whole transaction came under my immediate knowledge I am satisfied of its correctness as regards the increase of flocks & herds in this country. Mr. S. share on their arrival from California in 1837 amounted to 23 at this time Dr. McL. purchased of Mr. May¹²⁰ 86. Several having been accounted for as lost & killed by accident making the whole numbers of increase in 4 years about [Ms. P. 94a] 400 per Cent. from Youngs farm we passed to his Saw Mill now quite in ruin it was erected at much expense and badly located, little timbers in the neighborhood. Shortly before Youngs death the Mill dam was washed away, and it is now deemed an unprofitable business to erect it again. I regretted the disturbed stream as I was desirous of making further explorations after the Bones of a Mastodon which had been given to me at Oaks by a Capt. Gouch but I found on inspecting the locality that the whole course of the current had been changed and the materials of the Dam of the saw mill had created such an obstruction as to have caused a large mass of alluvial deposits to be heaped upon the position to remove which would have been an herculean labor. besides it was doubtful if the remaining bones had not prior to the flood of waters been

118 In the published *Narrative*, Volume IV., page 359, this word is translated into "a native of the Sandwich Islands."

119 William Slacum, who made a tour of inspection for the United States Government in 1837.

120 In the published *Narrative* he refers to Mr. Slacum's nephew as "a midshipman on board my ship." Here in the diary he refers to Mr. May. Reference to the roster shows William May as midshipman on the *Vincennes*. Doctor McLoughlin paid over \$860 for the young officer as the purchase price of the uncles cattle.

carried down the Stream and lost. The bank in which the bones were found was of red marl & gravel.¹²¹

The creeks of this country in the spring Feby—swell suddenly and cause much damage to the farmer.

The Yam Hill River is about 60 or 70 yds wide but too deep for the Horses to ford La Bontes farm joins on it it is susceptible of navigation with canoes. After a long and tedious ride we reached the Willamette opposite to the Camp Maude du Sable¹²² or Champooying where we took up our quarters in a house belonging to George Gay¹²³ who after this became my guide George is full as much an Indian in habits as a white can be & bears them no love & is a terror to them having not infrequently taken the law into his own and applied it after the Lynch fashion. George is of that easy [Ms. P. 95] kind of lounging figure so peculiar to an Indian or backwoodsman has a nice & useful Indian woman who does his bidding and takes care of his children horses & guards his household though his property does not consist of many valuables, superfluities with him are not to be found, and when you see George & his woman & child travelling you may be sure his all is with him but George is a useful member in this small community. he gelds & marks cattle, breaks horses, and cows for milking, assist in finding them, in short he undertakes any and all irregular sort of business, and few things with him are deemed impossibilities and in the words of one of the settlers George was not a man to be trifled or fooled with. he afterwards became my guide and I had much confidence in him.
10th June.

This morning we were disturbed by the Indian slaves of Johnson who came to look for the milking Pans Drayton pelted them well with his shoes whilst I search in vain for my pistols They took the alarm & ran off very much frightened shortly after breakfast we crossed the river to Johnston no one can conceive the filth all these people indulge indoors and out though one is sure to receive a hearty good will to supply all your wants; it is extremely to be regretted that an example of one good farmer should not root himself here. I am fully persuaded it would do more than all the Missionarys could possibly effect, by example. One month in the year is all that is required of labour viz for

¹²¹ For a discussion of Oregon fossils see Thomas Condon's *Two Islands and What Came of Them*, or the later edition entitled *Oregon Geology*.

¹²² See note 95.

¹²³ George Gay became a member of the Provisional Government and later joined the gold rush to California, 1848-1849.

putting the wheat &c. &c. into the ground and when it is ripe enough reaping it. the Harvest generally occurs in July and August the rest of the year can be passed in comparative idleness, their cattle need little or no attendance & thus their time is fully at their disposal. I cannot but view this as likely to become one of the great evils of the country. a man becoming as it were rich by comparative idleness—and it will always be an easy matter for the community to be led away by vices. [Ms. P. 95a] Spirits introduced into this Settlement would very soon destroy it altogether.

This morning I left Mr. Drayton to go to the Willamette farm by the boat and took the route by land in order to visit other portions of the Valley that lie in a N. E. direction from Champooya after crossing a ridge of trap rock for about one mile we again entered on the Prairie & stop'd at Dr. Bailey's¹²⁴ farm. This was the nicest house I had seen in the Territory and under the superintendance of a good Yankee wife.¹²⁵ I staid to dinner and it was indeed a pleasure to see every part of an establishment in such order. Mrs. B. garden I have heretofore spoken of. all that appears to be wanting here is the society necessary to interest one altho' Mrs. B. said she had neighbors but they were not neighbors in Oregon she was formerly of the Mission & regretted that the field to the north among the various tribes was not occupied. Dr. Bailey is the practicing phyⁿ. he stated to me that the country for whites was very healthy and would be so for the natives if they could be persuaded to take care of themselves. The ague & fever was not of a dangerous type. He stated to me there had been but one surgical operation to his knowledge in this country. The Fever & ague was very destructive to the Indians at least *one* fourth died off yearly, when an Indian is sick and considered beyond recovery he is poisoned by the medicine man, for

¹²⁴ Dr. William J. Bailey, one of the most interesting Oregonians of that day, was an English surgeon who had come to America to break away from habits of dissipation. He became a sailor and made his way to California where he led a roving life until 1835, when he joined seven others to seek out Ewing Young in Oregon. On the way their camp was visited by Rogue River Indians, who were allowed liberties that led to tragedy. Four of the party were killed. Dr. Bailey, though frightfully wounded, made his way to Fort Vancouver where he was cared for in the Hudson's Bay Company hospital. John K. Townsend was at Vancouver and wrote: "This is certainly by far the most horrible looking wound I ever saw, rendered so, however, by injudicious treatment and entire want of care in the proper apposition of the sundered parts; he simply bound it up as well as he could with his handkerchief and his extreme anguish caused him to forget the necessity of accuracy in this respect. The consequence is, that the lower part of his face is dreadfully contorted, one side being considerably lower than the other." *Townsend's Narrative* "Early Western Travels" edition, pages 328-331. The missionaries encouraged Dr. Bailey, who built up an important practice and became an honored member of the Provisional Government. He died at Champoeg on February 5, 1876, aged about 70 years. Bancroft's *Oregon*, Volume I., pages 96-97.

¹²⁵ Miss Margaret Smith had come on the *Sumatra* in 1837 and was a teacher in the Methodist Mission before she became the wife of Dr. Bailey.

this purpose a decoction of the root of the wild cucumber is given him. Some of this—roots grow to a very large size. I saw one at Mr. Walters at the falls of 3 [feet] long about 12 inches diameter. Dr. Bailey accompanied [Ms. P. 96] us as far as the falls on my route I stopt at a Mr. Walkers¹²⁶ who came from Missouri by the mountains with all his family last year. He does not like the country and will go the first opportunity to California. He said the climate was too wet for business that the land is good for crops but only for small grain—corn cannot be raised—and a first rate grazing country—he is a good specimen of a border man and appears to think nothing of a change of domicil although he is much passed the middle age.

He says (which is true) there is no market for grain—nor is there likely to be, and if he should not like California he will travel home again. Mr. Walker subsequently joined the party & went across to California from the Willamette river and I believe entered into the service of Mr. Suter located on the Sacramento and of whom I shall hereafter in treating of that part of the country speak.

I rode on after leaving Mr. Walker with Gay in advance at his own pace having made up my mind to move rapidly notwithstanding all the obstructions I expected to meet with. He told me he was of English Parents but now he was more than $\frac{1}{2}$ Indian & I will add fully equal to them in all artifice. He passes for the best laso thrower, always ready to eat, sleep or frolic. His woman & 2 children are to him as his trappings, and he is to be seen roaming the country far and wide and is ever on the alert to help the weary or those who may be in want of aid. I have seen him while with me dash off for half a mile for a poor indian's horse he was unable to catch and then return this was done in a manner that showed it was his practice.

We had to cross the Powder river about $\frac{1}{2}$ way [Ms. P. 96a] to the falls, and finding the usual ford entirely closed with drift wood George set to work to endeavor to find a place where our horses could get across which he soon did. Swimming them was but a few moments work and we passed over the fallen trees and joined him on the opposite bank. The Powder river or rather

¹²⁶ Joel P. Walker, born in Virginia in 1797, was a typical frontiersman, moving ever westward. He came to Oregon with his wife and five children in 1840 and is counted the first, not a missionary or fur trader, who sought the home lands in Oregon promised in the Linn bill. When Lieutenant George F. Emmons, of the Wilkes Expedition, led an overland party from Oregon to California in 1841, the Walker family joined the emigrants that accompanied the party. He returned to Oregon with cattle for sale and in 1845 became one of the judges in the Provisional Government for Yamhill County. Later he returned to California and remained there.

Creek is about 200 feet wide and almost 20 feet deep in this quarter, in some places it has a rapid run.

The country now became exceedingly rough & the low places wet and miry and can be of little use for agricultural purposes at times when the river becomes choked with timber and there is sudden rise the prairies are all inundated that border on it. its course was W. N. W. & E. S. E. a few miles farther we forded the Little Powder and they join each other just before entering the Willamette & form an Island at their mouth.

All our way to the falls was through a broken trap country with some large timber but it would be impracticable to remove it. We reached the falls at Sunset and considering the road we had travelled I could not help congratulating myself that we had reached our destination before dark the last few miles of route was a sort of a break-neck one.

I found here Mr. Drayton & the tents all comfortably prepared. Here I again saw Mr. Waller who was literally uncombed, unshaven and dirty both in appearance and person.

These missionaries are very far from what they ought to be low, vulgar and unclean. I am invited to partake of their hospitality including all those about us. I have seldom if ever until [Ms. P. 97] I came here witnessed so much uncleanliness, & so little regard paid to proper decorum if they were Christian men and readers of their bible, they ought to practice cleanly habits. Mr. W. was as filthy as any Indian I have met with in appearance & taking our nation into consideration more so They are sent out to show an example but how little they do in this respect and how little they earn their wages in preaching the Gospel a higher and Just God will determine from this I must exempt the wives who I must say are in a great degree the honor of their husbands & my only wonder is that they dont insist upon the adoption of their habits by them.

Took leave of Mr. Drayton whom I desired to stay here a few days for him to get the salmon & drawings of the various objects pointed out & to collect specimens having embarked all our traps I seated myself in the large boat and began the descent of the Willamette. A 11 reached the boat builders camp whom I found progressing well and who appear to work with much unanimity the land across the Willamette appears to be good & well wooded with oak, fir and cedar about 3 miles from its mouth where i[t]s delta begins found the waters much higher all the low

land overflowed & I understood if I had been in a canoe I might have gone in a direct course for the Fort. at sunset after a hard rowing we reached the Fort w[h]ere I was again kindly received by Dr. McL. and Mr. Douglas & all the gentlemen then among them Mr. Peter S. Ogden¹²⁷ of the N^{on}. district who had arrived a few days since he is a chief factor in the Company. Mr. Ogden is a Brother [Ms. P. 97a] of Harry Ogden of New York of the family of Ogden of Montreal. he has been stationed at Fort Simpson but now at Fort St. James, in Stuarts lake (he has been 32 years in the country) and has 6 posts under him in New Caledonia, but from his having passed a huge portion of his time with trapping parties he possesses much knowledge of the country he represents the country in the northern section unsusceptible of cultivation, on account of the proximity of the mountain-range all the year covered with snow producing sudden changes in the heat of summer that would destroy the crops. His post is amply supplied with salmon (dried) on which they live the greater part of the year their stores flour &c. &c. are all taken from the Colville districts and that of Vancouver. Furs are very abundant and are purchased at a small price his return this year was valued at \$100,000. This he informed was a great falling of—indeed, I am informed that the trapping in the southern section is scarcely worth the outlay for a party.

I have been exceedingly amused since my return to the fort with the voyageurs of Mr. Ogdens party. They are to be seen lounging about in groups decked off with feathers ribbons &c. &c. with the conceit and flaunting air of a finely dressed country girl evidently looking down upon all those employes who with their somber and business like air are moving around the fort as if they were total strangers to the pelasure of life while these jovial fellows seemed to have naught to do but att. [Ms. P. 98] to the d[eco]rating of their persons and pleasures

Mr. Ogden represented to me that the object in establishing the Pugets Sound Company¹²⁸ was to derive profit from the agricultural labours & the raising of cattle for Hide, Horn & tallow that their ships now went home almost empty & the cost would

¹²⁷ Peter Skeen Ogden, an officer of the Hudson's Bay Company, for whom a city, river, canyon and valley in Utah have been named. Recent interest has been aroused in his career notably in *Hidden Heroes of the Rockies*, by Isaac K. Russell. Ogden's grave in Oregon has been found and appropriately marked.

¹²⁸ Puget Sound Agricultural Company shared with the Hudson's Bay Company in claims for property and improvements after the boundary treaty of 1846, and received for its share \$200,000 on September 10, 1869. See *Treaties and Conventions, 1776-1887*, pages 469-470.

be little besides they had the feeding of all the Post & the packing of Beef, butter, Pork &c. &c. They now have entered into a contract with the Russian Company¹²⁹ to supply them with their provisions I cannot but view the Industry and labours of this Company but as tending to forward greatly the advantages to be derived from it by the future possession of the soil—enabling emigration to go on with much greater ease profit and rapidity. From the nature of the country its peculiar adaptation to grazing, mildness of its climate, and the little attention required for the care of Herds I am satisfied that this must become one of the richest cattle countries in the world and go far to compete with any portion of it, in its salted beef, Pork, & for which the climate is deemed exceedingly favorable. It now contains about 10,000 cattle though it is but a few years ago that the first were introduced from California.

The Price of wild cattle may be quoted now at \$10 a head but those that are broken in for labour or milch cows bring in some cases enormous prices some milch cows in the Willamette valley have been sold for 70\$ and an endeavor has been made to keep the price of cattle up as labour is usually paid in stock. The price of labour for a mechanic may [Ms. P. 98a] may be set down at \$2.50 to 3\$ and difficulty to get them at that. This is the Spanish \$ which is however worth in consequence of the exchange but 40 cents. The wages for a common labourer 1\$—

The price of wheat is fixed by the company at [blank] cents for which anything but spirits may be drawn from the Stores at 50 percent on the London cost. This is supposed all things taken into consideration to be about equal to 1.25/100\$ a bushel, but it is difficult for the Settlers so to understand it, and they are by no means satisfied with this rule although it is for their benefit.

There is a description of money here called Beaver money which is that of skins which are valued at \$2. throughout the Territory.

During my absence the water of the River had risen 3 feet & again fallen 18 inches and the fears of the farmer in relation to the crops have in a measure subsided. I hear however that the wheat on the lower prairie near the fort has suffered considerably—although it will produce a large yield.

We have had frequent showers & much rain this last few weeks I was led to believe that they were subject to draught but

¹²⁹ The Russian American Company, of which at that time Lieutenant Etolin was Governor.

am inclined to believe it may rather be classed as a wet climate Those better acquainted with the seasons differ so much in their opinions and indeed are so opposite that it is difficult to get at anything that would appear facts from Experience Dr. McL. thought it a wet Season but Mr. Douglas on the contrary thought [Ms. P. 99] there was less rain than usual. Wm. Bruce the gardner somewhat of a judge from his plants said it was about the time of year for showers & that he had not been obliged to water much. Bruce is somewhat of an oddity after his service was out he desired to go home & accordingly left in one of the Company's vessel arrived at London & then accidentally met Dr. McL. in the street whom he joyfully recognized and on being asked how he got along, he said not at all he wished to go back to Vancouver, for there was nothing there to be compared to it he was ill at ease the ship being not quite ready & wishing to get him instructed permission was obtained for him to work in the Duke of Devonshire's garden. When he left he was questioned what he thought of it, he said sure Sir it is not to be compared to Vancouver Bruce & myself had many a chat at Vanc^{er}. and there are few happier or more contented persons. I can vouch for it that Billy Bruce the gardner at Vancouver is of some extent & most of the Horticultural plants thrive well the climate is well adapted for fruits particularly apples pears & grapes have been tried but do not yet yield well figs are grown also, and some very fine melons rasberries currants & strawberries are also fine.

Though the garden is not quite equal to that of Chiswick¹³⁰ I can agree very readily it is by no means contemptible under the constant superintendance of Bruce.

Potatoes are planted in the fields & enormous crops had. The gentlemen of the Company are industrious in introducing new plants but their hopes have often [Ms. P. 99a] often times disappointed from the seed turning out defetcive much good must result to the country and they who introduce new seeds or plants that add to the comfort as well as food of man ought to be classed among the benefatcors of a country. One of the gentlⁿ Mr. D— introduced Hops by bringing a few living plants with him from Canada some 3000 miles & the plants now are to be seen in abundance in their gardens.

In speaking of the Willamette Valley I have viewed its ad-

¹³⁰ Defined in reference works as a "suburb of London where Hogarth was buried." It probably possessed a famous garden.

vantages as to raising grains & the facility afforded for the Settlers to become wealthy. There are some objections to the formation of a large settlement there in consequence of the interruption in its river at all season of the year and which must make it labour under disadvantages in getting to a market or in receiving their supplies. The Columbia being their only outlet for the farmer, there would be little or no difficulty in locking at the falls & from appearances I would think the Rock well adapted to it—but a young settlement cannot contend with such expense.

Salmon fishing in the Willamette does not extend above the falls great quantities are here caught The season is the month of June it is scarcely possible to estimate the amount of salmon that are caught at these falls it varies in different years but they are considered among the finest at this distance from the sea.

The H. B. Co. have an establishment for [Ms. P. 100] the purchase of salmon from the natives at these falls and also the Missionaries. I would suppose many 800 bls. were taken by the Company sup't. & Indians and this is after the Indians mode of catching them.

The fisheries at the Dalls, Cascades, & several places along the River also produce large quantities—as high up as Colville.

Frazer's River is supposed to Yield even a larger quantity than the Col^a. though they are not so large and fine The Chikiles, Muqua & all the small streams, on the coast are much frequented by them, and to these may be added the Sacramento & its branches. The resources of these Rivers cannot well be estimated in their salmon and would afford a large source of profit to its Settlers. The Salmon do not pass up the Cowlitz in the Spring I can see no other reason for it than that the waters are muddy. The fall salmon however frequent it in October—

The finest salmon are those caught nearest the Sea near the mouths of the Rivers¹³¹—

14th. 15th. & 16. [June]

I was very busily employed in writing orders for the Peacock & Flying Fish¹³² which I put in charge of Mr. Waldron whom I sent to Fort George to await the arrival there—

¹³¹ In the published *Narrative*, Volume IV., page 366, he expanded this praise: "The fish of the waters are said to be hardly edible, and compared with those caught at the mouth of the Columbia, are totally different in flavour. The latter are the richest and most delicious fish I ever recollect to have tasted: if anything, they were too fat to eat, and one can perceive a difference even in those taken at the Willamette Falls, which, however, are the best kind for salting."

¹³² The ship *Peacock* and the tender *Flying-Fish*, of the squadron, had continued their work in the South Seas and were expected at the mouth of the Columbia. The *Peacock* was wrecked on the Columbia River bar on July 18, 1841, and subsequently the *Flying-Fish* was sold at Singapore in February, 1842.

Mr. Ogden kindly informed he intended to take me as far as the Cowlitz farm in one of his boats previous to leaving for his Northern trip having nothing for Mr. Drayton to do particularly I accepted Mr. Ogden's offer to give him a passage as far as Walla-Walla. On the morning of the 17th the Fort was in a stir at an early hour, and preparations were making. Now and then we saw a voyageur decked out in his ribband, & feathers all [Ms. P. 100a] attention to his duties. about 10 o'clock we were all summoned by Dr. McLaughlin to the Hall to take a parting cup customary in this country and observed as far as I could learn throughout among themselves. All were present Missionaries and all the household, the former ought to have staid away for if they had been at my funeral instead of leave taking they could not have been so repugnant to good fellowship & feeling.

Some no doubt think this piece of Scotch politeness would be better in the Breach than observance but I was of a very different opinion it whiles away that part of leaving of ones friend that is always the most painful the pledging of each other, and the good wishes one takes with him are all pleasant and give a warmth to recollections of by gone days that is by no means disagreeable, one feels and loves the kindness, and attention of one's friends to the last, & enables one to bid goodbye with more courage—I like this hanging to old customs in the Scotch, perhaps more attended to than any other nation, and there is always a warmth of feeling thrown into its observance that cannot but be felt Off we marched for the River Side accompanied by the whole establishment forming quite a cavalcade. On our arrival there we found one of Mr. Ogden's boats decked out with Mats, and Manned by 14. Voyageurs, all gaily dressed with their ribbands and plumes of various colours tied in large bunches over the oil skin covered Hats. with another warm shake of the hand we embarked & off we flew against the Stream under the fine chorus of a Canadian Boatsong, and gracefully swept round [Ms. P. 101] until we reached its centre when the boat seemed a fit object to grace this beautiful River now at its height. On we merrily went and in about 2½ hours we reached the Mouth of the Cowlitz a distance of about 35 miles—There we had a strong current to contend with and at night fall we had progressed up the Cowlitz about 12 miles when we encamped, the weather had changed & we had a wet night of it, but laughing and jokes made our time pass merrily and we found the sun far above the horizon

when we struck our tents after noon showers came on again and struggling with the strong current prevented us from making our destination, and we encamped within about 3 miles of the forks. The management of the Boat in the rapids (though on a small scale) of the men truly surprised me and how well trained & dexterous the Canadians are in using the Pole & paddle and withal so jovial singing almost the whole time one or the other of them, & then all joining in chorus¹³³ gives them spirits & serves to keep them awake, & make the time pass quickly. about every half hour they take a spell or a smoke¹³⁴ with one having his pouch bag ornamented *ala* Indians and containing his fine implements tobacco & Pipe. without this no one can trade in an Indian country.

At noon on the 19th we reached the Farm landing & after getting on top of the light bank & finding the road muddy we took the Chariot that had come for our luggage & drove up in style to the House—much to the wonderment of Mr. Forrest¹³⁵ the overseer. On the 20th I regretted extremely to part with my friends at day light, the many hours I have passed in their Company will long be associated with that of the territory in my recollections. I had almost forgotten to mention that under the guidance of Mr. Ogden [Ms. P. 101a] I made a visit to the Catholic Priest Mr. [blank]¹³⁶ who has this as his Station several Canadian families were here whom he has under his charge We found all of them quite flourishing and apparently happy and enjoying plenty—the land of this Section is good though I should say the soil was not so deep as in the Willamette but more serviceable in raising all kinds of crops from 15 to 20 bushels of wheat is raised to the acre. The Pasturage for cattle is not so good, but still the Cattle require no housing—

133 Collections of the Canadian boat songs have been published.

134 Distances of river points were sometimes given in terms of "smokes" or "pipes."

135 Charles Forrest was succeeded as superintendent of Cowlitz Farm in 1847 by George B. Roberts.

136 The name of the priest was apparently not ascertained. Fathers Francis Norbet Blanchet and Modeste Demers had first settled there in 1838. Father Blanchet was mentioned as in the Willamette Valley. See note 100. The one on Cowlitz Prairie in 1841 may have been Father Demers, who continued his work north of the Columbia River, mainly along the shores of Puget Sound and Vancouver Island.