

DOCUMENTS

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[March, 1852]

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Wednesday 10th. Fine Frosty Cold air. Sales¹ & Smullas (a recently engaged Indian) ploughing a patch of land Swamp Park, for Potatoes. Chaulifoux² glazing window Sashes. Barnes³ cleaning out Stores. Mr. Tawai⁴ and part of gang opening drains in Swamp. McPhail⁵ with remainder of gang picking potatoes. Oxen hauling firewood. plain wagon in with 50 Bush Potatoes.

*Friday 12th.*⁶ Cloudy. Wind S. E. Indian gang opening a new main-drain across swamp. Cowie⁷ & Gohome⁸ setting a new pair of oars for canoe. After dinner Mr. Huggins⁹ started with the large canoe full of potatoes for a Mr. Lowe¹⁰ at Duamish River¹¹ who agreed to give a dollar a bushel for them delivered there.

Saturday 13th. A little snow on the ground this morning and showers of snow during the day. A pretty brisk trade with persons bound for Q. C. I.¹² in the Schooner Franklin.¹³

Sunday 14th. Showers of snow. Indians report that Mr. Huggin's canoe having grounded during the night at Tukumalie¹⁴ near the narrows, he had to have it repaired before proceeding on his journey. Pretty gloomy weather yesterday and today. [Ms. Page 51]

Monday 15th. a keen frost during night. Ploughmen unable to work till the afternoon. Chaulifoux, Cowie and several employed at Squally¹⁵ bottom in making a county road. They will not be home till tomorrow evening. A good deal of trade today with the gold hunters but for small amounts.

Tuesday 16th. No change in the Weather. The "Franklin" Expedition to Queen Charlotte's Island knocked on the head.

1 A servant.

2 A servant.

3 A servant.

4 A servant.

5 A servant.

6 The entry for *Thursday 10th* was not made.

7 A servant.

8 A servant.

9 Edward Huggins, clerk, keeper of the Nisqually Journal.

10 John N. Low who, with C.C. Terry, had a general store at what is now known as Alki Point, within the limits of the city of Seattle, but called by them "New York."

11 Now spelled "Duwamish."

12 Queen Charlotte Island.

13 The schooner *Franklin*, Captain Pinckham. See this *Quarterly*, Volume XIV, page 303, note 41.

14 Identity not ascertained. The Narrows are between Steilacoom and Tacoma.

15 Nisqually bottom, at the mouth of the Nisqually river.

Wednesday 17th. A Hard frost during night. two Carts at work carting Wheat from C Ross Farm. The wheat is payment of an old bill of J. Ross's contracting. Chaulifoux repairing an Ox Wagon. Cowie & Gohome at Ox rack. McPhail & gang ditching and draining in Swamp. Oxen employed carting dung from Sheep parks to garden. The "G. W. Kendall" has arrived at the landing. Had some little trouble to day with four Soquamish¹⁶ Indians who drew their Knives & attempted to Stab me in the trade Shop without my giving them any provocation whatsoever. gave chase to them but they contrived to get away. Dr. Tolmie¹⁷ wrote and acquainted Mr. Starling¹⁸ the Indian Agent with the whole affair. Adam Beinston¹⁹ in from the plains, his term of service having expired he has taken a claim on the Puyallop River.²⁰ [Ms. Page 51a]

Thursday 18th. Showers of Snow. Chaulifoux Stocking a plough for A. Beinston. Barnes cleaning out Stores. Young making Candles. Gang variously employed. Montgomery in from the plains with a pair of Wild Oxen for the yoke. Oxen hauling firewood. Sales with Horse & Cart bringing Wheat from C. Ross's. Mr. Ross's²¹ leg is progressing favorably, he is now enabled to walk with the assistance of Crutches.

Friday 19th. damp Foggy Weather. Chaulifoux fixing a plough for A. Beinston. Cowie & Gohome making Oars pr Canoe. Gang clearing in Swamp. Oxen & Horse Cart out after Beef 5 killed. Indians endeavoring to tame Wild Oxen. Cows beginning to Calf. Tapou returned from Vancouver bringing a Mail. McPhail on the Sic list. Barnes with three Indians delving in garden. Cross one of the laborer's at Mr. Dean's²² has been drunk for the last two or three days & has behaved very unruly. The Am Brig "Leonorsa"²³ is reported to be in the Sound. Captain Gove²⁴ of the Kendall up endeavoring to make a bargain for Potatoes offers 80 cents pr Bushel.

¹⁶ The Suquamish. A Salish division on the west side of Puget Sound. They claimed the land from Appletree cove in the north to Gig harbor in the south. Seattle, who gave his name to the city, was chief of this tribe and the Duwamish in 1852.—*Handbook of American Indians.*

¹⁷ William Fraser Tolmie, superintendent of the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, and chief trader of the Hudson's Bay Company. He had charge of Fort Nisqually.

¹⁸ Edmund A. Starling.

¹⁹ A servant.

²⁰ Now spelled "Puyallup."

²¹ Mr. Ross, clerk, in charge of the posts on the Nisqually Plains. His residence is at Tlithlow, near Stellacoom.

²² Thomas Dean, foreman of operations on the Nisqually Plains. He resides at Tlithlow.

²³ Leonesa.

²⁴ Captain A. B. Gove.

Saturday 20th. Fine Sunny Weather. Hands employed as yesterday. Dr. Tolmie rode out to Tlithlow.²⁵ Capt'n. Gove has given an order for 1000 Bushels Potatoes. [Ms. Page 52]

Sunday 21st. Dull Gloomy Weather. Sales dispatched to Victoria with a packet.

Monday 22nd. Signs of rain. Chaulifoux repairing Wagon. Cowie making oars pr Canoe. Barnes & gang of Indians delving in Garden. A gang of Women in charge of Tawai sent to Muck²⁶ to pick potatoes. Two ploughs at work preparing land for potatoes. Oxen hauling rails to build a new Cow park. Two loads of Potatoes in from the plains. Dr. Tolmie off to Olympia on Custom House business.

Tuesday 23rd. Fine pleasant Weather & very Warm. Chaulifoux & Cowie as yesterday. Two loads of Potatoes in from Tlithlow. Fort Wagon brought a load of potatoes from Muck.

Wednesday 24th. Fine a strong wind blowing all day from the S. East. Chaulifoux cutting Wood pr a new Wagon. Barnes with three Indians delving in garden. One Horse & Cart at work transporting fodder from Barn to Stable, plain Wagon in with a load of potatoes. Fort Wagon fetched a load of feeding Potatoes from Muck, sent McPhail to Muck to see what potatoes are there. Two ploughs preparing potatoe land. Sowed some garden seeds. Blue Partridges seen. Frogs have been croaking for the last 8 or 10 days. [Ms. Page 52a]

Thursday 25th. Showery. Chaulifoux & Tapou²⁷ making ox Bow. Cowie making oars. Gang clearing in Swamp. ploughs at work in Swamp plain. Wagon in with a load of potatoes. Fort Cart & Wagon fetched a load from Muck.

Friday 26th. Showery. Cold strong winds from N. East. Chaulifoux mend[ing] a Wagon for an American. Cowie preparing Wood for a new Cart. Gang jobbing about Fort. Oxen & Horse Cart fetched a load of Potatoes from Muck. plain²⁸ Wagon in with a load. ploughs at Work in Swamp. Tapou out all day with

²⁵ A company station near Steilacoom, originally settled by the Red River (Canada) immigrants in 1841. After their departure in 1842 the place was taken over by the Company and shortly after 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 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.

²⁶ A company station near the present town of Roy, Pierce County.

²⁷ A servant.

²⁸ The wagon used on the "plains."

Charles Ross getting drunk. The "Exact" which started in November last from the Columbia for Q. Charlottes Island has arrived in the Sound after a cruise of 4 Months round the Island, they bring favorable reports of the gold there, intend returning as soon as they get provisioned.

Saturday 26th. [27th.] Fine pleasant Weather. Montgomery²⁹ drove in all the wild Horses to Inventory. Hands employed as before. Early this Morning Dr. Tolmie returned from Newmarket.³⁰ Afternoon rode out to Steilacoom.

Sunday 27th. [28th.] Fine Clear Weather. took an Inventory of the Horses. Tapou drunk again. Three men discharged latterly from the U.S.A. Steilacoom having taken claims on the Compnys. lands. [Ms. Page 53]

Monday 29th. Fine a Slight Frost in the F. Noon. Myself, McPhail & gang of Indians down putting Potatoes on board the Franklin. Chaulifoux making a cart. Cowie, Tapou & gang of Indians commenced cutting a new road for Cattle driving it is to lead to the beach through the wood in a direct line from American Plain.³¹ Oxen carting firewood &c. Commd. planting Potatoes 9 Bushels in to day. Sargt. Hall up settling accounts.

Tuesday 30th. Fine. Work the same as yesterday. The Californians here endeavored to make a bargain for Sheep. An Express³² arrived from Victoria. An American vessel will be here shortly for a Cargo of Cattle pr Vancouvers Island.

Wednesday 31st. Fine. Chaulifoux finished Horse Cart. Cowie & gang at new Cattle road. Oxen hauling sticks out of road course. Tawai & gang of Women planting potatoes. Two Indians breaking in Wild Oxen. A load of Potatoes in from Tlithlow. Dr. Tolmie road out to Tlithlow. Mr. McNeil³³ late Clerk at Cowelitz Farm,³⁴ arrived this afternoon, he is for Victoria. Linklater³⁵ & Glasgow³⁶ in from Tenalquot.³⁷

[To be continued.]

29 A servant

30 A former name of Tumwater, above Olympia.

31 A plain just north of the Fort so called because the American missionary Richmond settled thereon in 1839. Another plain near Tlithlow was called Canadian Plain, being settled by the Red River (Canada) immigrants in 1841. American Plain was called Mission Plain by Wilkes in 1841.

32 Regular express and mail service was maintained by the company between Nisqually and Victoria, and Nisqually and Vancouver on the Columbia.

33 Captain William Henry McNeill. He was once in charge of the steamer *Beaver*, but after 1844 entered the land service of the company and in 1856 became chief factor. McNeill island, opposite Fort Nisqually, is named for him.

34 A company station on the Cowlitz river.

35 A servant.

36 Thomas W. Glasgow, an American settler of 1847.

37 A company station on a prairie of the same name, now in Thurston County.