

at the mission, to hold a consultation relative to the establishment of settled governments. Johnson, trapper-like, took what I thought the soundest view, saying that they yet lived in the bush, and let all do right, there was no necessity for laws, lawyers, or magistrates.

Having our camp equipage with us, together with plenty of provisions, our servant managed without putting him or his wife to much inconvenience; and although we passed an uncomfortable night, fighting with the fleas, yet we both agreed it was better than if we had been in our tents.

In the morning we found horses waiting, under charge of Michel La Framboise, who is in the employ of the Company, and was very happy to see us. He originally came out in the ship *Tonquin*, and was one of the party that landed at Astoria, where he has resided ever since, either in the employ of the Northwest or Hudson Bay Company. Michel is of low stature, and rather corpulent, but he has great energy and activity of both mind and body, indomitable courage, and all the vivacity of a Frenchman. He has travelled in all parts of the country, and says that he has a wife of high rank in every tribe, by which means he has insured his safety. From him I derived much information, and to him all parties refer as possessing the most accurate knowledge of the country. He generally has charge of a party, and was formerly engaged in trapping; but of late years passing through the country to California and back. Had it not been for his proneness to dissipation, I am informed he would have risen in the Company's service. To me he complained that he had not received what he considered his due, and that he was no better off than twenty years before, saying, "he was still Michel La Framboise, only older."

I was glad to meet with a guide of such intelligence; and having mounted our horses, we rode through the Willamette Valley. In it we passed many small farms, of from fifty to one hundred acres, belonging to the old servants of the Company, Canadians, who have settled here: they all appear very comfortable and thriving. We stopped for a few hours at the Catholic Mission, twelve miles from Cham-pooing, to call upon the Rev. Mr. Bachelét, to whom I had a note of introduction, from Dr. M'Laughlin, and who received me with great kindness. Mr. Bachelét is here settled among his flock, and is doing great good to the settlers in ministering to their temporal as well as spiritual wants.

He spoke to me much about the system of laws the minority of the settlers were desirous of establishing, but which he had objected to, and advised his people to refuse to co-operate in; for he was of opinion