

few boards, of native construction, placed as a kind of shed to protect them from the weather.

All along this river, from the Dalles up, there is not a piece of wood growing, and except occasionally a drift log, there is nothing larger than a splinter to be found. All the wood used for cooking is bought from the Indians, who will follow the brigade for many miles with a long pole or piece of a log, which they sell for a small piece of tobacco. The Indians also brought for sale several hares, which were large and of extremely fine flavour.

The country continues to be, as far as can be seen on every side, a barren and sterile waste, covered with a white sand mixed with rounded and washed pebbles. All that it produces is a little grass, some wood, and a species of small Cactus, filled with long white spines, so hard and sharp that if trodden upon they will penetrate the leather of a boot.

On the 6th of July the brigade reached the foot of the Grand Rapids, up which the boats were tracked. They afterwards passed along the foot of Grand Rapid Hills, which are composed of basalt, old lava, and scorix. These hills are steep on the river side, and are fast crumbling away and falling into the stream.

Eighteen miles below Wallawalla they passed the Windmill Rock, about which are a number of curious basaltic peaks. On approaching Wallawalla the scenery becomes grand: the country is broken into volcanic peaks, forming many fantastic shapes, resembling figures and colossal heads: many of them are seen either insulated or in groups; some of them are known under the name of the Nine-pins. Through this pass of volcanic rocks the wind rushes with great violence in summer, to supply the rarefied portion above. The current had increased very considerably: it often became necessary for the voyageurs to take a pipe, or in other words, a rest. When the brigade was in sight from the fort, the Company's flag was hoisted. Before arriving there, and within a mile and a half of it, the country becomes again flat, and rises very little above the river, when the water is high. The ground is composed of pebbles and drifting sand for several miles to the east and to the north, with little or no soil, and nothing grows on it but a few spears of bunch-grass, and wormwood.

The brigade reached the fort at sunset, when they were received by Mr. M'Lean, who was in temporary charge of the post: and who reported himself ready to proceed with his Indian wife and children with Mr. Ogden; and Mr. M'Kinley took charge of Fort Wallawalla.

Fort Wallawalla is about two hundred feet square, and is built of pickets, with a gallery or staging on the inside, whence the pickets