

difficult to imagine how they were induced to suppose that they had reached the great river flowing to the west, so totally different is it from the Ohio and Missouri. The missionaries informed me, in explanation of this, that the Indians have names for all the nooks and points along the rivers, but none for the rivers themselves: they further state, in reference to these travellers, that when they made their appearance, the Indians for some time doubted whether they were really men, so overgrown were they with beards, and of course so different from this beardless race.

Mr. Spalding has built himself a house of two stories, with board floors, as well as a grist and saw mill. For these he procured the timber in the mountains, and rafted it down himself; in doing which he has not neglected to attend to the proper sphere of his duties, for his labours will compare in this respect with those of any of his brethren. His efforts in agriculture are not less exemplary, for he has twenty acres of fine wheat, and a large field in which were potatoes, corn, melons, pumpkins, peas, beans, &c., the whole of which were in fine order.

This part of Oregon is admirably adapted to the raising of sheep: the ewes bear twice a year, and often produce twins. One ewe was pointed out to our gentlemen, that had seven lambs within three hundred and sixty-three days. Horned cattle also thrive, but the stock is at present limited. The Indians have a strong desire to procure them. A party was persuaded to accompany a missionary, and take horses over to St. Louis, to exchange for cattle. When they reached the Sioux country, the chiefs being absent at Washington, they were attacked and all murdered, except the white man.

Mr. Spalding, during his residence of five years, has kept a register of the weather: this he was kind enough to present to the Expedition, and it will be found in Appendix XIII. Mr. Spalding regards the climate as a rainy one, notwithstanding the appearance of aridity on the vegetation. There is no doubt of its being so in winter, and even during summer there is much wet. A good deal of rain had fallen the month before our visit. The nights were always cool. The temperature falls at times to a low point. On the 10th of December, 1836, it fell to -10° ; and subsequently was not so low till the 16th of January, 1841, when it fell to -26° ; and on the 10th of February, it was as low as -14° .

The greatest heat experienced during his residence was in 1837: on the 23d July, in that year, the thermometer was 108° in the shade. In 1840, it was 107° ; and in the sun, it reached 144° . The extreme variations of the thermometer are more remarkable, the greatest