

monthly change being 72° ; while the greatest daily range was 58° . Mr. Spalding remarks, that, since his residence, no two years have been alike. The grass remains green all the year round. In their cultivation, irrigation is necessary; and the wheat fields, as well as those of vegetables, &c., were treated in this way. Indian corn succeeds well.

Among the other duties of Mr. Spalding, he has taught the Indians the art of cultivation, and many of them now have plantations. The idea of planting seeds had never occurred to the Oregon Indians before the arrival of the missionaries. Mr. Spalding kindly lends them his ploughs and other implements of husbandry: and on a difficulty occurring with some of them, he had only to threaten them with the loss of the plough, to bring the refractory person to reason. One of the Indians had entirely abandoned his former mode of life, had built himself a log cabin, and both himself and wife were neatly dressed in European costume. The women are represented as coming a distance of many miles to learn to spin and knit, and assist Mrs. Spalding in her domestic avocations.

Mr. Spalding gave his assembled flock some account of the Expedition, and a short sketch of the people we had seen, which the Indians listened to with great interest, and appeared to comprehend perfectly, with the aid of a map.

Mr. Spalding stated, that the number of Oregon Indians whom he had ascertained to have visited the United States was surprising. He informed our gentlemen that he had sent letters to Boston in eighty-one days from the Dalles, by means of Indians and the American rendezvous; and, what was remarkable, the slowest part of the route was from St. Louis to Boston. The communication is still carried on by Indians, although it was generally supposed to be by the free trappers. He considers that these tribes, both men and women, are an industrious people.

Our thanks were due to Mr. Spalding for his kindness in exchanging horses, which enabled our party to proceed more comfortably, and to carry forward their collections.

On the 26th, they left the mission at Lapwai, accompanied by the missionaries and their ladies, intending to visit some of the rude farms of the natives. These are situated in a fertile valley, running in a southerly direction from the Kooskooskee. The farms are from five to twelve acres each, all fenced in, and on these the Indians cultivate wheat, corn, potatoes, melons, pumpkins, &c. One of them, in the year 1840, raised four hundred bushels of potatoes and forty-five bushels of wheat. With part of the potatoes he bought enough buffalo-