

west direction. There is a smaller lake to the northward, half a mile in length. The mountains were of granite. A large number of inhabitants were seen, who used canoes of bark. Lieutenant Johnson then returned on his path for a few miles, and afterwards pursued nearly the same direction that the party had done before him. It is therefore unnecessary to repeat what has been before said of this route. He made the latitude of Lapwai  $46^{\circ} 27' 00''$  N.; and measured the width of the river, which was found to be four hundred and sixty feet.

There are a number of singular customs prevailing among the Nez Percés, perhaps a greater number than in any other nation of savages. That of overcoming the "Wawish," or spirit of fatigue, if it may be so translated, is the most remarkable; for this is a ceremony to enable them to endure fatigue, that has long been practised among them, and is still kept up. The operation continues for three, five, and seven days, and is often repeated. It is begun on the first day by taking three or four willow sticks, eighteen inches long, and thrusting them down the throat, in order to cleanse the stomach by bringing up bile, blood, and coagulated matter; a hole is then prepared, of a sufficient depth for a man to sit upright, with his head above the ground. This is usually dug near a running brook.

On the second day they fast, and collect other willow sticks, of one-eighth of an inch in diameter, the distance of the navel from the mouth being their length. These are slightly rounded and made smooth, and are passed down to the bottom of the stomach, which causes a severe irritation and vomiting, and is continued until it produces a burning sensation: this is repeated from time to time until noon, and not unfrequently as often as eighteen or twenty times. The number of sticks is diminished as the throat becomes sore. When noon arrives, they plunge into cold water, and remain there till evening, when they take half a pint of porridge.

The third day, a similar course is gone through.

On the fourth day, after heating a number of stones, they get into the pit, the water in which is heated by throwing in the hot stones, until it is no longer to be endured; they then plunge into cold water, and remain there slapping themselves until they are quite benumbed; they then again resort to the hot bath, and continue to pass from the one to the other throughout the day, during which they are allowed to eat porridge, but to take no drink.

On the fifth, sixth, and seventh days, the same operation is repeated, until 2 P. M., after which hour they eat largely, and satisfy both hunger and thirst. This treatment is said to be gone through several times by