

interview with the waiakin or wolf. When they return, they relate the conversation they have had with him, and proceed to effect cures, &c. They are looked upon as invulnerable, and it is believed that balls fired at them are flattened against their breasts. If affronted or injured, they predict death to the offender, and the doom is considered inevitable. They use the same means of extricating diseases that have been before described.

Wild animals are now comparatively few, when compared with their former numbers. They consist of wolves, large and small, who prowl around the dwellings; lynxes, bears, of the gray, brown, black, and yellow colours, the former of which were the most numerous. Beavers and otters are now both scarce. Rats, both water and musk, are seen in numbers.

Mr. Hale, the philologist of the Expedition, who was left in the Oregon Territory, passed from Waiilaptu, the mission station of Dr. Whitman, to Chimikaine and Fort Colville, by the Peluse river, crossing the country over the middle sections of Oregon, about half way between the route the party under Lieutenant Johnson pursued to Lapwai. Mr. Hale describes the country as an upland plain, covered with herbage, but without trees. There were no running streams, but numerous ponds of fresh water. This is the most direct route to Fort Colville, and is that usually chosen by the servants of the Hudson Bay Company. It passes by the Peluse river, and follows its windings.

The falls upon this river are of some note, and are called Aputaput; and they will hereafter be an object of interest to travellers in this country. The river pours down, in a cataract of foam, through a perpendicular descent of one hundred feet, and is received in a basin, surrounded by basaltic walls, between two and three hundred feet in height. These falls are celebrated in Indian mythology. Among other legends, it is related that a woman of gigantic size lived in that part of the country, with four brothers of equal stature. She became very desirous of obtaining some beaver's fat, but whether for a delicacy or cosmetic is not known. At this time there was only one beaver, and that of enormous dimensions, inhabiting the banks of the Snake river. The brothers hunted him for a long time without success: many places along the river, in which he could harbour, were searched, but without finding his hiding-places. Finally, the animal was surprised at the mouth of the Peluse, which was then a peaceful stream, winding through an even channel. As the beaver retreated up the stream, he was pursued, and overtaken two miles from its mouth. At first they pinned him to the earth with their spears, but