

the south fork of the Umpqua, which is similar in character to the northern.

During this day's ride, they saw one grisly bear, and had an encounter with another. On the first being perceived, chase was given, but he escaped, and while pursuing him, the second was seen. He was of large size, and approached within one hundred yards of the party, in their usual slow pace. As they came nearer to him, he raised himself on his hind quarters, and looked, with a cool indifference, upon the party. Mr. Peale dismounted and fired at him, upon which he ran off, under a shower of balls from the rest of the party, many of which hit him. They did not, however, succeed in killing him, and he finally made his escape.

They encamped on the south branch of the Umpqua river, after having passed along its eastern bank for some miles.

On the 21st, their route along the bank of the stream was through a country of the same description as before. They were approaching gradually the Umpqua Mountains, and stopped at the place where it is usual to encamp, previous to making the ascent. During the day they passed several deserted Indian huts, and met with some Indians, who were desirous of joining the camp. They declared themselves friendly to the whites, and were anxious to obtain powder and ball, which, however, were not furnished them. They were armed with guns, bows, and arrows, and were very particular in their inquiries about the time that Michel's party was to be expected.

During the night, an armed Indian was found lurking about the camp. He was recognised as an acquaintance by Warfields, one of the trappers; and on expressing his desire to accompany the party to California, permission to do so was given him by Lieutenant Emmons.

It now became evident that the Indians were on the watch to take advantage of any want of vigilance. The trappers had all become contented, and seemed quite willing to do their duty. They well knew that they had now entered a hostile country, and that it would be dangerous for any one to straggle or desert.

On the 22d, they began their route across the Umpqua Mountains. The ascent was at first gradual and easy; the path was quite narrow, and lined with dense underbrush, through which they were at times obliged to cut their way. The party were obliged to follow each other, and formed a line of nearly a mile in length. The path was continually rising and falling, until they came to a steep bank, ascending very abruptly to the height of one thousand feet. This occasioned many of the pack-horses to stumble, but without any material accident.