

On the top was a small grassy plain, along which they travelled for a short distance, after which they descended rapidly into a valley where water was found. The most difficult part of the day's journey was the ascent from this valley, to effect which they toiled for three hours. The woods had been lately on fire here, and many of the trees were still ignited. This fire had evidently been lighted by the Indians for the purpose of causing the trees to fall across the path; they had also tied some of the branches together, and interlocked others. Every thing was charred, and the more annoying on that account, as our people were completely covered with charcoal dust. From the summit of this ridge, a view is had of a confused mass of abrupt ridges, between which lie small and secluded valleys. The whole range is thickly wooded, with a variety of trees, among which are the *Pinus Lambertiana*, (the first time it had been met with it,) Oaks, *Arbutus*, *Prunus*, *Cornus*, Yews, Dogwood, Hazel, *Spiræa*, and *Castanea*. In different directions, dense smoke was seen arising, denoting that these savages were on the watch for the party, and making signals to muster their forces for an attack, if a favourable opportunity should offer.

The *Pinus Lambertiana*, of Douglass, was not found quite so large as described by him. The cones, although fourteen inches long, were small in circumference.

They encamped on the plain of the Shaste country, which is divided by the mountains which they had passed, from the Umpqua Valley. The greatest elevation of those mountains, by the boiling temperature of water, was one thousand seven hundred and fifty feet. On reaching the encampment, it was discovered that Mr. Peale had met with the loss of a considerable part of his luggage, in consequence of the pack having been torn open by the bushes. It was therefore resolved to remain half a day at this place, in order to send back and seek for it, as well as to give the horses time to recover from the fatigue they had undergone. *The 23d was therefore passed quietly, while a small division went back to search for the missing articles; but the only one which they succeeded in finding, was the camera lucida. Some Indians were met with, who no doubt had picked up all the rest of the missing articles; but as their language was unintelligible to the guides, no questions could be asked, nor any information received from them.*

The rocks in this neighbourhood are here and there intersected with veins of quartz, and masses of that mineral are found strewn over the whole country. The soil that lies above the talcose rock is gravelly, and generally of a red brick-colour. Our botanists collected, during the day, many seeds. In the way of plants, they found the bulb which is used in California in the place of soap.