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From information, and from what we have seen the country though much lowered, is still high dry country, covered with short grass, now faded for want of rain, the banks of the river are all of this kind of grassy ground, gently sloping from the interior, which is an undulating plain to the foot of the distant hills. And the soil everywhere appears poor and sandy, it may do for sheep, but what we see is not fit for any other animal. And we never see an animal of any kind; the few Trees are as usual stunted red Fir, the only Tree that will grow on these dry grounds, and the Natives wholly depend on the drift wood for all purposes. The Night being clear I observed for Latitude and Longitude; of which I make a constant practice, to correct the survey of the River and to give a true geographical position to every part, though of no importance to the general reader; and therefore not noticed.

July 11th. A fine morning, having proceeded three miles we came to a Village of sixty three families, with whom we staid smoking for near an hour; and went on our way, over many strong Rapids, some of them required all our skill to avoid being upset, or sunk by the waves; we passed two Villages but could not put ashore; At 2 PM we came to a Village of about three hundred families.¹ We put ashore close below them; they gave us a very rude irregular dance to discordant singing; several respectable Men, came and tried to keep order, which they barely maintained, we saw no person who appeared to act as a Chief, no speeches were made, and as my stock of Tobacco was diminishing every

¹ Having passed through the dangerous John Day Rapids and Hell Gate Rapids, and portaging over the "Great Falls" at Celilo, Thompson camped on the south bank of the river at the head of the upper Dalles (Ten Mile Rapids), at the Indian village of Echeloots (Klickitats), where is situated another great salmon fishery of the Columbia, rivalling that of Kettle Falls above. The Indians of this village were the first Thompson had met belonging to the Chinookan family; and here his Shahaptin interpreter left him, and returned to the village at Celilo, where Thompson found him on the return journey. [T. C. E.]