

thirty. The same signs of intense grief followed the mention of each name, presenting a scene which, accustomed as I was to Indian life, I must confess affected me deeply. I stood close by them, on a log, with the interpreter of the Fort, who explained to me the Indian's statement, which occupied nearly three hours. After this the excitement increased, and apprehensions were entertained at the Fort that it might lead to some hostile movement against the establishment. This fear, however, was groundless, as the Indians drew the distinction between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Americans. They immediately sent messengers in every direction, on horseback, to spread the news of the disaster among all the neighbouring tribes, and Mr. McBain and I both considered that Dr. Whitman and his family would be in great danger. I therefore determined to go and warn him of what had occurred. It was six o'clock in the evening when I started, but I had a good horse, and arrived at his house in three hours. I told him of the arrival of the messenger and the excitement of the Indians, and advised him strongly to come to the Fort, for a while at least, until the Indians had cooled down; but he said he had lived so long amongst them, and had done so much for them, that he did not apprehend they would injure him. I remained with him only an hour, and hastened back to the Fort, where I arrived at one o'clock, A. M. Not wishing to expose myself unnecessarily to any danger arising from the superstitious notions which the Indians might attach to my having taken some of their likenesses, I remained at Fort Walla-Walla four or five days, during which the war party had returned, and I had an opportunity of taking the likeness of the great Chief Peo-peo-mox-mox, or the Yellow Serpent. Nothing of consequence occurred whilst I remained at the Fort, and in a few days I resumed my journey to the mountains.

It was about two months afterwards that I first heard news from Fort Walla-Walla, by some men of the Hudson's Bay Company, who had overtaken me; and my grief and horror can be well imagined when they told me the sad fate of those with whom I had so lately been a cherished guest. It appeared that the war party had brought the measles back with them, and that it spread with fearful rapidity through the neighbouring tribes, but more particularly amongst the Kye-uses. Dr. Whitman, as a medical man, did all he could to stay its progress; but, owing to their injudicious mode of living, which he could not prevail on them to relinquish, great numbers of them died. At this time the Doctor's family consisted of himself, his wife, and a nephew, with two or three servants,