

## JOURNEY TO THE PACIFIC CONTINUED 491

Lodge for trading at the junction of the Rivers and many of the Natives would readily find their way to that place; he viewed all we had with great attention, but the women were most delighted with the Kettles, the Axe, the Awl, and the Needle; and I remarked in all their Speeches, they never mentioned Tobacco, or woollen clothing as necessities although highly desired, yet they were pleased when anything was paid for, to see blue beads, Rings and other trifles for the women form part of the payment. This Chief whom with his small party had come here to have space for fishing, had separated themselves from the others, were actively employed in cleaning, splitting and preserving the Salmon by smoke, using all the precautions which I have already noticed; he made a present of two good Salmon, for which I paid him five feet of Tobacco: he remarked to me, that they were obliged to be very industrious during the Salmon season, as it was the principal dependance throughout the year; for their only way of hunting the Deer was by surrounding them, which seldom gave all of them meat enough;

Hitherto the country has lowered much, and along the River when the water is low there must be much fine meadow, but on the upper banks, and to the foot of the Hills the land is too dry, the grass short and not tender, a hard soil with the trap rock in places, how far it is fit for the plough I cannot say, the climate is very fine and even. In this month of July the heat of the day is always tempered by the westerly winds which rise about 10 AM. and gradually increase to a Gale at 10 PM; then abate, and by 2 or 3 AM [there is] a fine calm and heavy dew, but at times the Gale continued all night; I remarked to the Chief the utter want of Forest Trees, nothing to be seen but a chance dwarf Fir, and their whole dependance was on drift wood, that in other countries there were Forests of various Trees which would require more than one Moon to cross them. He said that they had no Forests, that it was only in the countries of the