

As a change is now to take place, I may remark in justice to the Natives we have passed, that however numerous and poor, not a single insult or aggression was attempted; everything we had was highly valuable to them, yet not a single article was stolen from us; they never offered us women, as is too much the custom of the Indians on the east side of the mountains; everything and every part of their conduct, was with decency and good order; they all appeared anxious to possess every article they saw with us, but by fair barter. And no doubt, a few years hence will find them cultivating the ground, and under the instruction of Missionaries.

Having proceeded sixteen miles, we saw the first Ash Trees¹ with Willow and Aspin a most agreeable change from bare banks and monotonous plains; continuing nine miles we saw two Mountains to the westward, each isolated and heavily capped with Snow; on each side of the River high hills are seen, their summits covered with Snow. Both sides of the River have woods of Aspin, Cedar, Ash, and Willow, but none of fine growth, they are full of branches: having descended forty miles, the greatest part fine steady current, we came to a Village of Houses built of Logs; the people of which are called Wawthlarlar;² on the left bank is a Village of Log Houses, the people of which are named Weeyarkeek. At the desire of the Chief of the Wawthlarlar we camped near his Village at 5 P.M. and bought two good Salmon. These people are a distinct race from those above the Dalles, they are not so tall, but strongly built, brawny, fat people, the

¹ Thompson is now on the stretch of river just below Lyle, Klickitat county, State of Washington. It is on the south side of the river just above this point that the ash and oak trees begin. [T. C. E.]

² These Indians were called by Lewis and Clark the Wahclellahs; and those on the south side, the Yehhuhs. Thompson is now at the head of the Cascades, the "Great Shoots" of Lewis and Clark, and the fallen "Bridge of the Gods" of Indian tradition. According to the text, he camped on the north side of the river, but his notes indicate that he camped on the south side just above the site of Cascade Locks, Oregon. [T. C. E.]