

lower down we came to about twenty families, with whom was the Chief¹ of all the Shawpatin Tribes ; he received us in manners superior to all the other Chiefs ; he appeared about forty years of age, say six feet in height of a mild manly countenance good features and every way a handsome man, clean and well dressed ; we found him an intelligent friendly man, he made no speeches, but discoursed with us as man with man ; I found my Interpreter to be a person much noticed by him ; he had several active men about him who acted as Couriers to the other Tribes ; others as soldiers without arms, while we were there two old Chiefs made their appearance, upon which he sent some of them about one hundred yards to meet them ; upon explaining to him the object of our voyage, he entered into all our views in a thoughtful manner, pointing out to us their helpless state, and that under their present circumstances they could never hope to be better, for we must continue in the state of our fathers, and our children will be the same, unless you white men will bring us Arms, Arrow shods of iron, axes, knives and many other things which you have and which we very much want ; we informed him that we had armed all the Natives, particularly the Saleesh and Kootanaes and that as soon as possible we should do the same to all his people, that the way we brought the Goods at present obliged us to cross high Mountains, and through hostile people, that we now sought a short safe way, by which all the Articles they wanted would come in safety. He requested we would make a

¹ Chief Yellepit, of the Walla Walla tribe, which occupied both sides of the Columbia for thirty miles below Snake river, as well as the country about the Walla Walla river. Thompson says in his notes that "he had an American medal of 1801, Thomas Jefferson, and a small flag of that nation." The medal was given him by Lewis and Clark, who describe him as a "bold, handsome Indian, with a dignified countenance, about 35 years of age, about 5 feet 8 inches high and well-proportioned" (see Thwaites, *Original Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*, New York, 1905, vol iii. p. 134). Alexander Ross also mentions him, under the name Allowcatt. [T. C. E.]