

THE CANADIAN JOURNAL.

NEW SERIES.

No. V.—SEPTEMBER, 1856.

NOTES OF TRAVEL AMONG THE WALLA-WALLA INDIANS.

—
BY PAUL KANE, TORONTO.
—

Read before the Canadian Institute, 5th April, 1856.

In former selections from my notes, made during years of travel among the Indians of the North-West, I have communicated accounts of two Tribes presenting the most striking elements of contrast: the Chinooks, one of the numerous Tribes of the Flat Head Indians, inhabiting the tract of country at the mouth of the Columbia River; and the singular tribe of Half-breeds to be found in the Hudson Bay Company's Territory, in the vicinity of the Red River. For the present communication, I have selected from my Journal notes relating to the Walla-Walla and Kye-use Indians, as possessing a peculiar interest, from the fact that I was present at some of the scenes in which the present war between these Tribes and the settlers in Oregon originated.

On the 12th of July, 1847, on my return journey up the Columbia River, I arrived at Walla-Walla, about five hundred miles from its mouth. It is a small Fort, built of *Dobies*, or blocks of mud baked in the sun, which is here intensely hot. Fort Walla-Walla is situated at the mouth of the river of the same name, in the most sandy and barren desert that can well be conceived. Little or no rain ever falls here, although a few miles lower down the river it is seen from hence to pour down in torrents. Owing to its