

have expanded their corollas; service-berries, choke-berries, the growth which resembles the beech, the small birch and gray willow have put forth their leaves.

Apr. 9. The vining [twining] honeysuckle has put forth shoots of several inches; the dog-toothed violet is in bloom, as is also both species of mountain-holly, the strawberry, the bear's-claw, the cowslip, the violet, common striped [so Lewis F. 151], and the wild cress or tongue-grass.

Apr. 11. The geese are in large flocks and do not yet appear to have mated; what I have heretofore termed the broad-leaved ash is now in bloom; (*p.* 517) the fringe-tree has cast the corolla and its leaves have nearly obtained their full size; the sacacommis is in bloom.

Apr. 12. The duckinmallard [*Anas boscas*], which breeds in the neighborhood, is now laying eggs; vegetation is rapidly progressing in the bottoms, though the snow of yesterday and to-day reaches within a mile of the base of the mountains at the rapids of the Columbia.

Apr. 16. At Rock-fort camp saw the prairie-lark, a species of the peaweeet, the blue-crested fisher [*Ceryle alcyon*], the party-colored corvus [magpie], and the black pheasant; a species of hyacinth, a native of this place, bloomed to-day; it was not in bloom yesterday.

Apr. 26. The last evening was cloudy; it continued to threaten rain all night, but without raining; the wind blew hard all night; the air was cold, as it is invariably when it sets from the westerly quarter.

May 1. Having left the river we could no longer observe its state; it is now declining, though it has not been as high this season by five feet as it appears to have been the last spring; the Indians inform us that it will rise higher in this month, which I presume is caused by the snows of the mountains.

May 3. The mountains on our right seem to have had an increase of snow last evening.

May 10. It began to rain and hail about sunset, shortly after succeeded by snow, which continued to fall without intermission until 7 a. m., and lay eight inches deep on the plain where we were; the air was very keen. A sudden transition this day; yesterday the face of the country had every appearance of summer; after 9 a. m. the sun shone, but was frequently obscured by clouds which gave us light showers of snow; in the after part of the day the snow melted considerably, but there was too great a (*p.* 518) portion to be dissipated by the influence of one day's sun.

*May 11.*⁷ The crimson hawk is not more forward now at this place than it was when we lay at Rock-fort camp in April.

May 20. A nest of the large blue or sand-hill crane [*Grus canadensis*] was found by one of our hunters; the young were in the act of leaving the shell; the young of the party-colored corvus begin to fly.

May 22. The air is remarkably dry and pure; it has much the feeling and appearance of the air on the plains of the Missouri; since our arrival in this neighborhood on the 7th inst. all the rains noted in the diary of the weather were snows on the plain, and in some instances it snowed on the plains when only a small mist was perceptible in the bottoms at our camp.

⁷ The station is Camp Chopunnish, May 14th-June 10th.