

Copy: [pp. 1 - 76] Owen Granville Haller, 1819-1897

Haller Journal

"Journal of the Third Expedition Into the Yakima Country made in the summer of 1856 commencing in May"

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Notes on the Haller Expedition.

Haller, Granville O. (2d Lt 4th Inf. Nov. 17, 1839. Maj. 7th Inf., Sept. 25, 1861

Brevet Capt. Sept 8, 1847 for gallant and meritorious conduct at Molino del Rey. Brevet Maj. Sept. 13, 1847, for gallant and meritorious conduct at Chapultepec (the War with Mexico).

Haller was with ~~2nd~~^{4th} Infantry, commanded Ft. Dalles during the Indian Wars. He served on the staff of Gov. Squire during the Seattle Chinese incident. He was 1st commander at Fort Townsend in 1858. (state records attach him to ~~say~~ 9th Infantry, I'm sure that's wrong)

Records of War Department, Office of the Adjutant General. File No. 2076239. Copy. Headquarters Fort Dalles, G.O. Haller, Capt. 4th Inf. & Vt. Maj. Report of the Operations of the Troops of the Yakima Expedition. Received : Oct. 17th 1855. Recd. (Vancouver) Nov. 16, 1855. 1st sheet. Head Quarters Fort Dalles, O.T. Oct. 16, 1855

Sir:

I have the honor to submit a detailed report of the operations of the troops under my command since leaving Fort Dalles, giving an account of the reception of the troops by the Indians in the Sim-quo-ah valley, and the causes which induced me to hasten back to this post.

The Command marched from the north bank of the Columbia River on Wednesday the 3rd inst. The accompanying paper marked A gives a tabular statement of the force which accompanied me (not procured)..

Lieut Dearing, 4th Infy. found after marching, that he had received an injury, and reluctantly returned to the fort on the recommendation of the doctor. On Saturday afternoon the 6th the troops crossed the mountain range and descended into the valley of the Sim-quo-ah without having seen an Indian.

(I have a 1855 calendar - The days and dates here, check.)

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On advancing to the stream in view , we met a very fresh trail of a large band of horses, which came into ours and conducted us, perhaps designedly, to the point selected by the Indians to give us battle. The stream, I understand, is known among the Indians as the 'top-pin-ish and corresponds in position very nearly with the Pisco of Gov. Stevens "Preliminary Sketch of the Northern Pacific Railroad," distant from this post about 56 miles. At the stream our trail led down an exceedingly long hill stopping (sloping) towards the north with alternately steep then gentle descents until we enter the river bottom, but on the right and left of our trail the sides were almost perpendicular. This hill is called As-sim. The stream came from the west and benind northward passed near our hill, while on the other side of it and near it, the bluffs rose above us and afforded a fine view of the action to the lookers on. On our right stood a ridge shaped like a wedge, sufficiently elevated and near to enable the Indians to pick off our soldiers. Beyond the ridge , the land was elevated and presented a bluff edge for a long distance along the stream. About a mile to the north on the west side of the 'top-pin-ish the land sinks into a level plain wh ch extends to the north perhaps eight or ten miles.

As the advance guard were about to enter the bottom land from the last terrace of the As-sim an Indian chief suddenly appeared on the left bluff, and harangued his warriors who replied from the brush with the war whoop. The advance guard was drawn in and the troos ~~disarrayed~~ deployed as skirmishers. When the rear closed up, the action began. The great mass of warriors were seen moving about in the brush; a few crept up on the small ridge to our right. Lieut. Gracie's howitzers threw a few spherical case shot into the brush and alarmed the supports to the attacking party of Indians. Sergt. Roper of ' 'ompy. with a small party in our front descended the trail to skirmish w th the Indians , but his party

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failed to support him and he received two wounds in his arm. Capt. Russell on the left sent some of his men down the brow of the hill under Sergt. Bohasty, to drive them from the brush. At this point he met with a spirited fire, when the Indians fell back, and his men gained the bushes. On my right Corpl. McGrvey of C Compy. led a small party of skirmishers over the ridge to drive the Indians off, which he did successfully, having killed one Indian while in the act of shooting a soldier.

The enemy during this time assembling in great numbers from the plain before us, and clouds of dust in the distance showed more were coming. The ridges on our right and left were now full of warriors, who were slowly gaining our rear, which induced me to strengthen the rear guard, at all points the enemy were kept at bay, when I directed Capt. Russell to take his company into the brush and drive the Indians before him. This he did in gallant style. The warriors retreated and after a sharp fire from the bluffs, the enemy gave us up the field. Our loss was one killed and seven wounded.

The surrounding heights rendered this stream an unsafe camp, hence the Command advanced down (north) the stream until it passed out of the brush and ascended the heights on the left bank. While advancing on the hill we distinguished the voices of Indians talking, and heard their horses neighing near us, therefore we halted to avoid an ambush, but posted each soldier to guard against a night attack. Two Indians rode into our camp, supposing it to be their own and were only detected by their headress, when fired upon. Next morning one of their horses lay in the camp killed by our fire. The Indians kept up their parley to a late hour but finally withdrew ~~thax~~ from their position. The Command lay on their arms all night and obtained little rest or sleep.

(Penciled note Oct. 7)

At daylight I perceived the ground on which we lay was most capable of defence, although destitute of water, wood or grass, and apprehending a severe struggle made the necessary arrangements for it.

The key to our position was some small ~~knolls~~ on the summit of our hill. These extended from a point on the northwest towards the north, also from that point toward^s the east. In the east a bluff used by the Indians as a grave yard afforded shelter to a small party who guarded that side. Our ground sloped gradually towards the north, until it met the prairie or plain, a few of these knolls fortunately afforded shelter to a party guarding the north. Our lines extended over a circle about 400 yards diameter.

The Indians were in motion at an early hour and poured out in swarms. The point of rendezvous seemed to be a wood fire near our lines, in front of Captain Russell's position which was on the west side. As the numbers assembling became very great, Lieut. Gracie advanced his howitzer (note here reference to howitzer. First reference said howitzers) and threw a spherical case shot among them, which created considerable consternation. The enemy then scattered and took up their respective positions, surrounding us on all sides. There were then 600 or 700 Indians in view, occupying the heights beyond and overlooking us, or in the plain in the north or in the brush in the east. These are the supporting parties who in case the enemy falls back, charge them in the retreat. During the entire day fresh parties were seen approaching from the hills on the north side. Clouds of moving dust could be discerned far to the north and squadron after squadron poured into the plain before us, until sundown. The numbers probably had doubled.

As soon as the Indians had reconnoitered our position after surrounding us early in the morning their skirmishers advanced

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stealthily from cover to cover. They were armed with good rifles, had plenty of ammunition and fired accurately.

The soldiers were ordered to ~~conceal~~ conceal themselves until the enemy arrived sufficiently near to give the musket shot effect. This enabled me to economize our ammunition and in a measure make our shooting more certain. The enemy opened fire on Captain Russell's front, but the men being covered they produced no impression. When another party approached the skirmishers on the south side advanced so near as to disable some of them, a charge of the bayonet conducted by Acting ~~Ex~~ Master Sergeant James Mulholland of ~~Xxxxxxx~~ H Company and Corpl M. Ganuy of I Company drove off these, and during the remainder of the day they contented themselves with a fire at a distance. The enemy then approached on the north side, and here during the day they kept up a continual attack, relieving their skirmishers frequently. In the early part of the attack Lance Corpl McIntosh and Private Wilson of I Company with a small party charged and drew the Indians from their position, which during the day made them extremely cautious in their approaches, still they kept up their fire at this point until the close of the action.

As evening approached it was observed that great numbers of the enemy occupied the bluffs on the opposite side of the stream, as if resolved to keep us during the night from the water. As night came on, the arrangements were made to descend to the water, the advance and rear were marched on foot, ready for action. It was necessary too that my command get some rest and the force before them was entirely too great and too active to relax in the strict watch that has thus far been kept up. Retreat seemed to be the only means left us to save the little band from entire destruction, accordingly after reaching the water without opposition the command turned for the mountain pass and advanced with caution. Unfortunately the guide who accompanied us and was not qualified

for the duty and lost the road. This caused the rear guard who kept the old trail by which we entered the valley, to separate from us. As soon as we found the main trail, I ordered the guide to proceed after the rear guard and bring them to us. Having at 2 o'clock in the morning reached a grove of fir and built two fires as beacon lights for those in the rear and as cooking fires for the hungry soldiers. I learnt here that the howitzer carriage had become unserviceable and could not be pulled further, so had been abandoned, but the piece itself was packed and brought up. We rested here until the dawn of day. As soon as it was light we perceived the roads in the valley filled with Indians hastening after us. On packing up and mustering our force, we found that more than thirty of our men were absent and a large number of animals had not come up. With the glass I scanned the valley in all directions in hopes of seeing signs of our absentees, but everywhere I found Indians hastening toward us.

Before leaving, the guide joined us and reported that he had failed to find the guard. We then had about forty men to protect the wounded and our remaining animals, and with these we proceeded on our march, having burned up everything about to be abandoned. We had not proceeded far when found the enemy in considerable numbers had already gotten to our rear to oppose our march. As soon as the firing commenced, the rear guard deployed as skirmishers, and I availed myself of this moment while the enemy watched the guard, to dispatch the Indian John, to Fort Dalles, on my private horse, as most likely to take him through. The letter, however, had been written the morning before, as the date indicates, and before the vast numbers, which poured in from the north, on Sunday, had made their appearance. For six or eight miles the enemy attacked us with great spirit and a running fire was kept up. On the march the mule carrying the howitzer was much distressed from want of food and its heavy weight, and gave signs of ~~falling~~ failing. The saddle, too, turned and it was with great difficulty brought on. Seeing a cluster

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of bushes near at hand, I gave the order to cache it.

The men behaved with great gallantry and energy, and kept the Indians so far off as to do but little damage, only wounding two men. Having found a narrow strip of timber making out into the prairie, which left a comparatively small piece of wood to be guarded, I moved the command into it and allowed my weary soldiers a halt. The Indians after carefully reconnoitering on all sides tried to burn us out, by firing the grass in the prairie and wood, but our counter fires gave them little hope of success. They ~~then~~ then approached us in the woods and endeavored to pick off our men. By four o'clock p.m. they had obtained good positions and were doing some execution.

Capt. Russell who commanded this flank proposed another charge, and getting a few more men, I hastened to join him, when the charge was made and the Indians were driven completely and thoroughly out of the woods.

They did not return to molest us but contented themselves by starting a dozen or more of large fires in the woods beyond the prairie in various directions around us, as if to impede our progress through the woods, by fires, or to expose us to their aim in passing through. During the halt, the animals were fed upon flour and the men supplied with as much bread and sugar as they could (carry) thus consuming as far as practicable the few rations. The camp was too much exposed to the view of the enemy to destroy the provisions by day, and thus expose the extremity of our distress. Nor would it do to burn them by night, yet on marching it was found necessary to mount as many men as possible as their strength was gradually failing and during the night another separation might thereby take place. Accordingly the animals were taken for use of the troops and a few sacks, principally of pork, was abandoned. After getting beyond the fire of the enemy, the troops were all mounted and soon after daylight in the morning we reached our second night's

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camp where we found our rear guard in safety and halted to rest.

....Five killed and 17 wounded. It has been found that some of our men were twice wounded, although they are reported simply as wounded.

About sundown the troops resumed their march to Fort Dalles. On the way, Lieut Day's Comp. E, 3rd Artillery, which had promptly responded to my call, was found encamped, and, there being no occasion for his advancing further at the time he returned with his company. The whole command returned on the 10th instant.

It is still painful to reflect, that after my little command has fought successfully, in the three days, against great odds, and brought off all its wounded and buried the dead, and preserved its ammunition, it will still suffer the imputation of defeat. The losses of public property are considerable, and I feel that I am answerable for it. There may be and doubtless will be, doubts in the minds of many whether I have taken sufficient pains to preserve the public property, and particularly the howitzer, and for this reason I respectfully request that a court of inquiry may be convened by the general commanding the Dept. of the Pacific to examine into the facts and report their opinion.

I cannot speak too highly of the officers, including Dr. Hammond, who accompanied me. I feel very much indebted to them for their cordial cooperation. There being but two with me, besides the Doctor and being engaged constantly I found it necessary to rely upon Capt. Russell and his company in the more critical position and keep Lieut. Gracie and his howitzer, thus leaving many parts of the defense to non-com officers. Capt. Russell gallantly maintained his trust on all occasions. Lieut. Gracie had several opportunities to fire his howitzer with effect and produced much consternation, after which they watched the howitzer and retired from the point to which it advanced.

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Mr. Hammond was attentive to the wounded and bestowed every care which our position would permit. He also found opportunities to shoot, and on four occasions there is little doubt but that he killed and wounded his mark.

The non-com officers behaved most gallantly. The list of wounded speaks well of them. Both of my non-com staff were wounded. Sergt. Howland Cotton of K Company, acting sergt. major was shot through the left hand, and though wounded, lent me every assistance in his power. Subsequently, he discovered an enemy's ball in his breast pocket, which had indented itself in one of his rifle balls and lodged there. Sergt. James Mulholland of H Company, the acting quartermaster sergeant was wounded three times, the last was fatal and he fell at the final charge of the Indians which drove them off for good. From the first meeting of the enemy this non-com officer's conduct was conspicuous and distinguished.

Both the 1st sergeants of the companies set an example of gravity which reflects the highest credit upon them. Both were wounded. Two lance corporals were wounded. The men behaved with courage and energy, particularly after they had become accustomed to the war whoops and the crack of the rifle. In regard to the enemy before us, it is due to them to say that they fought with a courage far beyond my expectations, and continued their efforts with (without?) intermission for such a protracted period as to suggest most unpleasant ideas. It is proper perhaps to express my convictions that the conduct of the enemy was the result of frequent successes, and perhaps a part of of these successes may have been the overthrow of Lieut.

Slaughter's command.

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I am sir, Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servant

(Signed) G.O. Haller, Capt. 4th Inf. & Bt. Maj.

Com. of Expedition

Lieut. Henry C. Hedges, 4th Inf.

a a a to Head Qrs. of Dist.

Fort Dalles, O.T.

Haller, Granville Owen 1819-1897
Diary, 1896 / 1856

Notice : The troops will not march tomorrow. The Dragoons will leave today for reconnaissance at 6 1/2 o'clock am tomorrow. Reveille tomorrow at sunrise. Signed G.Wright.

Official G.W.Haller, Capt. 4th Infy bvt maj.comdy.

Camp June 22

Reveille tomorrow at 3 a.m. March at 5 No fire arms of any description will be discharged on the march. Signed G.Wright, Col commanding

June 25th 1856

Reveille tomorrow morning at 2 1/2 troops to be prepared to march as soon as possible thereafter. Signed G.Wright, Col. Comdy
official G.W.Haller.

HQrs Camp June 30, 1856

No soldier will go more than one mile from camp without the sanction of the commanding officer. Passes within the above distance will be regulated by battalion commanders.

The parties will go no more than one mile without being accompanied by a commissioned officer. Signed

G.Wright, Col. Comdy.

Official G.OH

Memo for the Dalles

Get 10 blank muster rolls

Letter paper and envelopes

My quarterly returns of ordnance cls
etc. company fund etc.

a few compy monthly returns

The papers in Genl Wool's case.

Muster rolls for the Dragoons

2 gals of whiskey for Capt. Fletcher

1 pr no. 7 boots for Capt. Dent (long boots)

See Tinner about Davidson's whiskey

Ask Lt. Allen if he brought ~~dragons~~ drawers for Lt. Howard? (drawers) If not buy 2 pairs of twilled cotton drawers size No. 3 Get Lt. Piper 1 pr drawers and 1 under shirt, both of flannel (white)

Enquire of Capt. Jordan again if he can issue clothing on requisitions?

Get one box of oysters and one of chicken or lobsters (Cushing)

Pay Cap. Jordan \$5.00 for Maj. Garnett

My bags of compy property etc. at the Nachess will be known by the gunny sacks having large blue flannel patches on them. There are two of these, a coffee sack with same marking and Mrs. Haller's things.

For Lt. Russell 1/2 doz yeast powders ???not very fine 2 pair stockings 1/2 hose service? ~~xxxx~~ col? a bill of items for the mess etc. of his account with the sutler.

Jordan's compy bill against Lt. Reynolds mess.

Tell Lt. Allen to get a pair of No 8 boots and bring over to Lt. Van Voast. Give Capt. Jordan \$20 for Col. Steptoe

If Lt. Allen brings out cattle, ask him to buy Lt. Carr a cow with young calf, limit \$40 to \$50.

If Prescott's Philip 2d or any new standard work can be obtained please get it for Lt. Carr.

Get for Dr. Brown and Lt. Carr 5 galls of whiskey from Sutler's store.
Get Col. Steptoe a pr of No.7 boots. Ask Mr. Shoal if he sent the yeast,
if not send 4 boxes by first opportunity.

Tell Lt. Allen to bring out for Capt. Woodruff and others molasses get
it of the commissary.

1856, April 14th.

Arranged with the following named Indians to go into the Yakima
Country to gain information as the enemy viz:

Skum_nowi-ish,	Colwash's
Why_see-kah	"
Too-noy-yet	"
Tock ma -yoa	Mark 's
Wah-tum-tlah	"

They left about sun down, to be gone they think about 15 days allowing
ten to get out there and five to return. Gave each a gun and 25 rounds of
ammunition.

They will carry a piece of white muslin as a flag, and each man have
a piece tied to his head in case of meeting the troops.

The cost incurred in fitting ou the party is \$11.50 as per acct.

O.Haller 4th Inf. Recruiting officer cr 1856

April 30th by cash rec from Lt. B.D.Forsythe \$212.50 recruiting fund.

Memoranda

Issued May 21st the following to Edw.A.Barnes K 1 pr boots 2prs drawers

P.Caroline L3d Arty 1 pr boots

Isaac Pilkington K Co 1 pr trousers

Post Orders No (blank) of Fort Dalles O.T. of May 18th 1856
directs
~~co~~xx~~xxis~~ Maj Haller to act as field officer to battn of Col. Steptoe's
expedition.

Pvt. Donnelly I Co 4th Inf. reported as having deserted from the gardens
at Fort Dalles on the night of the 22d inst; word came to Sergt Roper
I Co 4th I nf to Camp No. 1,8 mile Cr. May 24th

Journal of the 3rd Expedition Into the Yakima Country made
in the summer of 1856 commencing in May.

Friday May 23. Owing to the packers having to get many things for packing and arrange the bundles etc. the companies were not ready to march until 11 o'clock am. By request of Mr. Black, the ACS and AAQM ^{Maj?} we halted on the bank of the Columbia River, after crossing until 3 o'clock p.m. to let some of his animals go with us and made camp No(blank) at the 8 mile creek. We got into camp before seven o'clock pm, and had rested the men at the 5 mile creek half an hour.

Saturday May 24th Having been ordered to wait until the packs got up we lay at this camp all day. Sergt. Roper and Capt. Bowman joined. Col. Steptoe and the doctor (Brown) lost the trail and arrived late in camp. We sent out parties to look up Lieut. Black(sic) and the packs as we supposed they had also lost the way. This party too was off the road and arrived in camp after dark.

Spent the day in entertaining the officers, all of whom called and sat some time. I also found time to sleep a great deal and make up my loss at night for the last few days, while writing.

Sunday May 25th Rose early. Saw the men of my company getting ready for packing up their clothes etc. on the mules. Was ready to march but had to wait awhile for the supply train, as the pack animals viz it are very wite (sic) and delay the packers

Started at 6 1/2 o'clock am and ~~may~~ arrived at Hamilton's ranch in (7) seven hours notwithstanding the stoppages on the road to rest the men. I Co. men did remarkably well in marching and were sometimes ahead of the advance guard.

Soon after halting a thunder storm came up. The sutler's packer, Arch McIntosh was struck, but merely stunned, a tree near the camp also was struck. The rain pattered through the tent and annoyed me a little.

Monday May 26th Rose early. The tents etc. were wet from rain during the night. We started however at 6 o'clock and reached our camp about one o'clock. We encamped at a small stream in the woods on the eastern slope of

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the hill about four miles from Pilot Knob.

Tuesday, May 27th Rose early and started at 6 o'clock. Found distances different from my recollection of the road. Made the distance to the edge of the mountains on south side of the Simcooe Valley about 10 miles and about 8 miles to the camp opposite battle ground. We followed my first trail or left hand one, a good road until coming to the edge of the timber when the trail becomes exceedingly stoney, chiefly of small sharp rock. The descent from the mountain by this route is so gradual as to recommend it and the rocky road to condemn it. I found the company thinks the road much more to the east than I had anticipated. Our road must be at least N.N.E.

The company I, being in advanced, marched very well and got an hour ahead of the main column. It was nearly three o'clock when the troops got into camp. The rocky road and heat of the sun for the last two or three miles went hard with the men.

Wednesday May 28 Rose early and breakfasted at 4 o'clock. The company being on guard I sat up until 12 o'clock last night and wrote a long letter to Mrs. Haller and sent Lt. Hodges a return of deceased soldiers for 1st April '56 which I had forgotten to make out also wrote up my journals.

I forgot to mention in yesterday's diary that Col. Wright's express men Mr. Price and Cutmouth John joined us soon after we left camp to guide the colonel. They brought no no (sic) news of importance. John sticks to my company.

My company was the rear guard today and marched leisurely along and reached camp before one o'clock. Signs of Indians about 2 miles from yesterday camp--about 40 horse tracks, very fresh. Some of our men started some wild Indian ponies and chased them, which at first was supposed to be Indians, but we were soon undeceived. I accompanied the rear guard.

We encamped on the Attanham Cr while here Capt. Woodruff and myself took a bath and when sitting in the grass I got poisoned

Thursday May 29th. Rose early. Started at the usual hour. Passed over new ground to me. Our course lay nearly north through sagebrush, the trail

gradually ~~gaining~~ ^a higher ground for about seven miles where we reached a small bottom on ~~the~~ creek called Qui-wi_ches. On the banks of the Qui-wi_ches there is a very dense thicket, and on the north side of it the hills come close to the water, one somewhat bluff very broken and full of projecting rocks affording a good hiding place for Indians. At ~~this~~ creek the Indians had resolved to resist Col. Wright's march and had their warriors concealed in the brush and in the rocks. There were over 600 warriors and had arranged to attack in the rear and flank simultaneously so as to cut out the supply train.

Before coming to this point a talk had been opened with some of the warriors who had fired the grass at the Attanham Cr. and Col. Wright sent word through them that he wanted to speak with the chiefs. He again sent out word that he wanted to talk when Sk'luum said he came out to hear what he had to say, that he did not come out to fight as he had only 60 warriors. The colonel said he wanted to talk with all the Chiefs and that they should come over to him. Sk 'luum said he would send for them--but in fact they were then in his camp. It was arranged at last that the Indians would withdraw and let a small party guide the troops to the Nachess at their usual crossing. This too was craftily done for it was expected the colonel would cross over and they had a capital place to cut up the troops, if they did attempt it.

Affair of the Qui-Wi Ches Creek

Col. Wright however was in no hurry to advance but encamped on the river. He had encamped on the Qui-wi-ches and lay by there for a day. He waited now on the Nachess for the chiefs to come in but it was sometime before any dared to venture into camp least we should repeat the Peo-peo-mox -mox tragedy. Several talks, with no positive results have taken place, but when the only conditions which I imagine the colonel can offer are made known I feel confident the war will be renewed. A few of the frightened and disaffected will probably withdraw from the war party but enough will most likely remain to protract a tedious war.

On crossing Qui-wi ches Cr. which was deep and boggy, we ascended the hills by a stoney road and crossing over highlands descended by a steep trail to the bottom of the Nachess , where Col.Wright's camp is located. The distance is about 3 miles. The camp is securely located but in an alkaline and dusty soil, amidst the wild sage without anything to redeem its imprepossessing appearance as the hills are gloomy,rugged and ugly looking, and the Nachess River too cold to indulge in a bath.

The men came in early in good health and spirits.We lost no animals on the way but Se gt. Mc G arvey's horse,which ran away from several herders who pursued him and could not be caught.We found all the officers and men in good health and spirits and the former received us very kindly. Dinned today with Capt. Russell and Lt. Deartrip (?)

Friday May 30th 1856 Rose late ,after a long sleep and breakfasted. Soon after sat on a council of administration to fix the prices of the sutler ' goods.We allowed 75cts a bottle advance on a bottle of whiskey,5 0 cts on a can of oysters;25 cts on a pound of tobacco etc. yet the clerk seems to be dissatisfied,no matter as the officers even now do not like to pay so great an advance on the Dalles prices.

Visited the officers generally;saw the Nesqually Indian Nelson who talks of coming with his party, about 140 people--while at McKay's tent. Sent word to Stok_hote_ly and Old Ice to come and see me.Sat awhile at Col.Wright's tent,then went home to write to Mrs. Haller. Wrote a long letter,then prepared a sketch of my route as far as the Sim-coo-a river showing the topography, for Capt. J_o_rdan AQM.

Was officer of the day and sat up until after midnight. It rained and blowed and at a distance thundered and lightened, so we have more yet to prowl about our camp.

Capt. Patterson andLt. Black called to bid me good bye as they go off in the morning. Lieuts. Black and English are going off on the recruiting service, to New York. Cap. Patterson's company escorts the train to the Dalles to bring out more provisions. The express riders also go in to bring out the states mail.

Saturday May 31st Rose late and breakfasted, then wrote up my journal. While writing I received an order from Col. Wright which organized the two companies (I and K) of the 4th Infantry and Company L 3d Artillery into a battalion under my command. I went off to report to the colonel and thank him for his consideration of my rank. He was out fishing. While out William McKay wanted to visit the country on the north bank of the Naches, and applied through Cap. Russell to the colonel, who being absent put Bill in the humor to go without permission and away he went with John McBean and a packer. On passing it seems Bill's horse fell and wet his arms and he fired the pistols off to reload, which gave an alarm in the camp. Soon after I heard a rifle ball whistle near camp from the other side. I suppose the Indians had attacked McKay and party and sent Lt. Randolph down with the guard to see what ~~the~~ it meant. The men thought the Indians ~~had~~ had fired and taking McKay for an Indian, two muskets were aimed at him but fortunately the caps snapped. The colonel, when I reported, was indignant at such conduct.

I had resolved to send for whiskey to get up a treat on the battalion arrangement but the sutler's clerk wrote back "we have sold all of the whiskey to the packers etc." and I was deprived of the chance. Maj. Lugenbiel heard of it and asked me before Col. Wright about it and I told him when the Colonel sent for the clerk and closed his store.

Packers and train went to Dalles

I forgot to mention that about 4 o'clock am I rode to see Capt. Patterson's company start and turn over my letters for the Dalles. I gave my letter to Price who with Alex McKay ride express and will be back in three or four days. Bid Capt. Patterson and Lt. Dearing, also Lt. Black good bye. I did not see Lt. English to bid him adieu. The two last go to the states on recruiting service. I then returned to bed and slept some time.

Amused myself reading "Modern Flirtations" by Catherine Sinclair, had several calls from officers; Capt. Woodruff joined with us; Lt. Howard and Wm McKay (on his return) stopped in and eat a dinner; Capt. Archer (Copy's underline) took supper with us. It rained nearly all of the day.

John (Cutmouth) brought several Klickitat Indians to see me. They want to come in and be friends. One called himself Dido, is half of a Wishram, one of his parents being of Colwash's band. I think I have seen him at the Dalles often. They want permission to gather roots, else they will be very poor next winter.

From McKay we learnt that the Indians have withdrawn from the Wee-nass river and from an Indian looking up horses, he learnt that they had all crossed the Yakima River.

Month of June 1856

Sunday June 1st . A cold and cloudless day. Toward evening a very cold wind accompanied by rain set in and continued through most of the night. Made out the monthly return of the company and sent it over to the A.A.A.G. Capt . Bowman and Lt. Douglass were invited to dine with us, and after dinner sat awhile. Spent most of the day in sleeping and dreaming of home and my family. Read a good deal in "Modern Flirtations" The poison still bothers me and I find myself restless and desirous of being more engaged.

I cannot help feeling that our operations are likely to be fruitless or at least much less successful than they would be, with several companies of mounted men. We need a competent force to go out in different directions to ascertain the whereabouts of the Indians and their movements. A company of half breeds and Indians would be the very best as they look so much like Indians that they can approach without discovery as the Indians think it is some of their own parties. They also talk with their old acquaintances and learn much in the way of the intentions of the chiefs.

I understand that some of the Klickitats and their women and children came in today, Have not heard how many.

Laid down early tonight but read some time before extinguishing the candles. I could not help thinking of the comfortable home I have left at the Dalles and while musing about home and the family fell asleep only to wake at a late hour next morning.

Monday June 2

Windy but sunshine. Read much of the day. Slept and visited the ~~officers~~ upper camp and the field work. Capt. Russell and Archer and Lt. Carr ~~arrived~~ dined with us by way of lunch.

Was officer of the day from retreat. Visited the Indian lodge of prisoners and looked around the camp and the sentinels. Remained awake until 1 o'clock am, amusing myself principally with reading the "Modern Flirtations." Lt. Turner is the officer of the guard.

Tuesday June 3d A beautiful day. Continued reading "Modern Flirtations" aired all my clothes and blankets etc. Capt. Archer called and invited myself and Lt. Russell to dine at his mess at 3 o'clock PM. Allowed Lt. Turner to go with Capt. Russell and a small party to the Selah fishery. They came home about 4 o'clock, report that all the Indians appear to have moved away from the We-nas and the Yakima streams where they had been.

Capt. Archer and myself took a bath in the Naches River, find the water too cold to bear my feet in it for a minute, contented myself with dipping my towel into the water and then bathing my body. We then went to the captain's tent, had a brandy toddy and sat down to a good dinner and ate heartily.

Soon after coming home rain and wind came on making the place very uncomfortable. Continued at my book until sleep overcame me.

Wednesday June 4th. Rose late, soon after the the clouds dispersed and the sun shone. Hurried on with my reading, becoming more interested. Several officers called. Received an order today for a Sunday inspection which requires the men to have their hair and whiskers neatly trimmed. I regret that such a subject should at present engage the colonel's mind--war on the Indians, not a soldier's hair and bears.

Capt. Archer proposed walking up to see the bridge. Went along. While up the horses were brought to water so we gathered ours up to take a ride. Asked the captain to come and ^{dine} join with us before riding which he did. Lt. Davidson also dined with us. After a long chat we finally started. Capt. Bowman having in the meantime come with his horse to join us in the ride.