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Journal of David Thompson

Beginning of course see the Blue Mountains...(apparently the first name Blue as applied to these mountains) between the Shawpatin and Snake Indians bearing S 60 degrees E 40 m. Course S 72 and the Snake Indians bearing S 60 degrees E 40 m.course S 72 E 1-2 min. S 85 degrees E 1/4 m.

At end of course put ashore at the mouth of a small brook 92 (After three days travel up the monotonous Snake River Mr. Thompson arrives at the mouth of the Palouse river (Lewis and Clark's Drewyer's river) This was an established Indian crossing and camping place and latter became the crossing of the famous Mullan Road, surveyed by Capt. John Mullan, ~~and crossed~~ U.S.A. ~~dated~~ afterwards Lyons Ferry and now the site of a steel railroad bridge. Here John Clarke of the Pacific Fur company in the summer of 1812 introduced corporal punishment in "Old Oregon" by hanging an Indian who had committed the crime of petit larceny. Consult "Adventures etc. by Ross Cox.) and camped as this is the road to my first Post on the Spokane lands. Here is a village of 50 men and they had danced till they were fairly tired and the ^halfs had bawled themselves hoarse. They forced a present of eight horses on me with war garment.

...It was late before the horses could be collected (August 9, Friday) and I left one they could not find. They declared they did not wish for any return for the present of horses but ~~that~~ they knew the nature of a present. I gave each of them Notes for the horses to be paid when the canoes arrived.

...(the established Indian trail of later years coincides exactly with Mr. Thompson's description. It followed the Palouse river for a mile, then crossed and ascended the steep ridge and cut across the bend

of the river. ^{NIGHT} The camp that ~~was~~ was near the mouth of Cow Creek.

It is a little uncertain whether Mr. Thompson followed up Cow creek or Rock creek in Whitman county, Washington but his camp at evening was southeast of the town of Sprague, Lincoln county. In the summer of 1812 Ross Cox lost his way on this trail.

Following closely what afterward became the wagon road from Walla Walla to Colville Mr. Thompson reaches the timber ~~bar~~ belt south of Cheney, Washington and camps some distance southwest of that city.)

(Our transcript of the journal ends with the entry of August 13th, 1811, After spending four days at Spokane House Mr. Thompson continued on overland to Ilthkoyape or Kettle falls where he proceeded to build another canoe of cedar boards. It may be remarked that when at Spokane House in June, 1811, he had given instructions to his clerk, Finan McDonald to explore the Columbia from Ilthkoyape north during the summer which Mr. McDonald did as far up as Death Rapids, Dalles des Mort, ~~it~~, to Fort ~~McDonald~~ 40 or 50 miles above Revelstoke, B.C. Spokane House was located nine miles northwest of the present city of Spokane and had been erected there the previous summer, 1810, presumably by Jacques Finlay who is in charge.