

The field notes of the public surveys of this territory of every kind, that were destroyed when the surveyor general's office was burned at Olympia September 12, ~~1884~~ 1883, have been recopied from the records at Washington and are now returned to the office there.

They make 60 large volumes and cost an immense sum to prepare. Transcriptions of the same can be obtained by applying at the surveyor general's office. It is one of the regulations of the department that copies of all papers, maps and records shall be sent to Washington as soon as possible after being filed or prepared in the local offices throughout the states and territories and by this means losses similar to this one can be made good in the course of time. The fact above mentioned will be good news to hundreds throughout the territory--The Washington Farmer, North Yakima, Feb. 28, 1885.

Priest Rapids

An appropriation of \$6,000 has been made and is now available for a survey of Priest Rapids on the Columbia River.

This work has been authorized and will soon be commenced under the supervision of Major Jones of the U.S. engineer corps.

As the season has far advanced a complete surveying party will not be detailed. It would be impracticable to attempt to accomplish a survey of the channel during the annual flood of June.

A partial and imperfect examination has been made but no definite results have looking toward an early improvement of the channel have been reached. The purpose of the appropriation is to enable a thorough survey to be made and an estimate of the cost of improvement will be prepared by Major Jones and submitted to the department.

Priest's Rapids are on the Columbia river some 200 miles above Dalles. They consist of a succession of rapids extending a distance of about eleven miles. It is thought by engineers that the rapids may be so reduced as to enable steamers to pass up and down.

The channel is filled for miles with huge boulders over and around which the waters pour and whirl with great force and fury.

These obstructions can be removed by means of blasting and a channel deep enough for the passage of boats torn through. However the feasibility of this plan will depend upon the angle of the river bed. It may be in places so steep that the removal of obstructions will only augment the swiftness of the current- The Washington Farmer, March 7, 1885.

Priest Rapids

A townsite has been laid out on the Columbia river
at Priest Rapids.

-- Portland Oregonian, July 10, 1863 ?

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