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## OREGON PIONEER HISTORY.

SKETCHES OF EARLY DAYS.—MEN AND TIMES IN THE FORTIES.

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NUMBER XXIV.

### John Dunn's Views—Concluded.

Mr. Dunn goes through many and varied experiences on the far north coast, but that is not Oregon and we will not follow him. It appears from all writers that the north coast savages were far more dangerous and had more barbarous practices than the Indians had on the Columbia. Many of Dunn's experiences would be well worth alluding to if they came within the scope of Oregon history; but they do not. He concludes his book with a review of British and American claims to Oregon territory and a notice of some of the tribes of our section. As history will demand some account of the Indian race that preceded the civilized era in this region, I will notice what he says of many of these tribes as they then lived.

The Flat Heads were "very fair in complexion and remarkably well made and active; with oval faces and mild and pleasant expressions of countenance." "Collectively, as well as individually, as moral and honest in their dealings—brave in the field—amenable to their chief—fond of cleanliness and decided enemies of theft and falsehood." "The women are dutiful and affectionate as wives, mothers and conjugal infidelity is scarcely known among them." The hereditary chief rules the tribe and previous to every campaign they elect a war chief who leads in battle and is last in retreat. His rule is arbitrary until the campaign is over. This tribe rarely marries out of their own nation, and their women seldom marry white men. They are polite and very devotional and keep the Sabbath day inviolate and a part is spent in prayer and religious ceremonies.

The devotional feeling also prevailed among the Nez Percés and other midland tribes. Many points of similarity exist among them. The Nez Percés believed that beavers were once a race of Indians that had fallen. They are moral and honest and believe very rationally in a future state of happiness and misery.

The Blackfeet were a fierce people and mountain men called them very fiendish, but Dunn thinks them better than painted. They were austere and haughty. They charged the Americans with winning freedom for themselves and giving the Indians burning liquor to make them mad and enemies to each other.

The Snakes embraced many tribes and were migratory. They were pacific and hospitable as a race, and honest. They refused spirituous liquors from great motives, knowing that to use it made them unkind to wife and children.

Peter Skeen Ogden, a chief factor of long experience, told the following as true of many of the inland tribes, as a custom of initiatory probation for the young men, in the arts of pillage and war. When of age to bear arms and to be useful they assemble thirty to fifty in a band, in the spring, and taking formal leave of friends, depart to some secret place in the woodland, where they build a large tent of long poles covered with boughs so as to be impervious to human vision. The outside is hung with various articles, and the whole stands until it falls by time, as it is considered a sacred monument. After fasting and supplication there for three days they all sally forth to seek some enemy to flash their maiden weapon on, and cannot go on to their proper home until some act is performed that dedicates them to the god of war. The three days of fasting and religious incantations serves to infuriate if not to enthuse them, and they imagine they receive

messages and messengers from the spirit land.

Mr. Dunn stands out as a representative Briton, and no doubt there were many such, who opposed, and even bitterly condemned the course of Dr. McLoughlin as encouraging American immigration. Looking back on the past we are impelled to inquire: What could those immigrants have done if the Hudson Bay Company had let them alone? Not that they should have opposed such immigration, or even have refused it business favors; but simply asking what could they have done without the actual favors conferred?

McLoughlin let them have goods as they landed in Oregon, footsore and poor and without a home or an acre of land, and said: "Pay me when you grow wheat." This liberality was without example. He actually sold them goods cheaper than they had purchased them in Missouri. This fact was stated in a letter, now before me, written by Jesse Looney to his relative, W. C. Bond, as he tells him not to bring any surplus goods along, because he can buy them cheaper here. That fact we have never understood before, and it is an important one.

### Reminiscences of Dr. Elijah White.

In the year 1836, Dr. Elijah White and his family embarked at Boston for the Columbia river, as physician in connection with the M. E. mission to Oregon. As he neglects to give dates and only incidentally mentions that this occurred after the great fire in New York in 1836, we can only say that they went in the ship Hamilton, Captain S. Barker. The mission party consisted of Mr. Alanson Beers, blacksmith, and wife; Mr. W. H. Wilson, a carpenter; Dr. and Mrs. White, Miss Downing, Miss Pitman and Miss Johnson. Miss Downing was already engaged to Mr. Shepherd, who was at work in Oregon. Miss Pitman afterwards married Rev. Jason Lee, also a missionary in Oregon. They reached Astoria after various experiences, took boats for the upper Columbia, and were kindly entertained by Dr. McLoughlin at Fort Vancouver, where they found thriving orchards and gardens, to their surprise and satisfaction. Mr. Jason Lee met them there and was introduced to his intended bride, Miss Pitman, for the first time.

After a tedious canoe ride of seventy-five or eighty miles up the river, they reached the old mission on French prairie, where Miss Downing found Mr. Shepherd, her intended husband, in a brown linen frock, doing housework. He was caught unawares it seems. The double wedding took place soon after, but the marriages were not auspicious, as will appear.

Dr. White had a rough experience soon after, in trying to make his way by a new route from Oregon City to Champeog. He was directed by some one who knew and started to find his way, and, of course, got lost. He expected to get home that night, and should have done so, only he became bewildered in the wilderness. At night he tied the pony and climbed a tree, tying himself to the branches, and remained there until numbed and chilled, several hours. He could hardly revive the deadened circulation. It was still dark and wild animals' cries varied the monotony. He tried to retrace his steps, and six hours brought him to his first starting point. Waiting there he saw a canoe around the point and it proved to be a neighbor, Mrs. Blake and a half Indian boy, her nephew. By their assistance he reached home. In those days coyotes howled around the house frightfully for the situation was a lonely one. One day when he was out late the wolves made such a terrible noise that Mrs. White took the hired men and went out to meet him. They found the doctor up a large tree surrounded by howling coyotes.

In the spring of 1838 Thomas J. Hub-

bard went a second time to California after stock, and twenty other men for company. In three weeks word came that they were killed by the Shasta Indians. One day they heard guns firing across the river and found nearly all the party returned. They had been defeated by the savages, driven to the mountains, and some were badly wounded. Mrs. Lee's death occurred in 1838, hardly a year after her arrival. Mr. Shepherd died soon after. So the two marriages proved inauspicious, because both were so soon dissolved by death. Mrs. White had a terrible adventure when absent to the Dalles on a visit without her husband. The boat was upset at the Cascades on their return as they were following the example of some Indians in running the rapids sooner than they ought. Mrs. White was saved, her little babe was drowned and the body found under the boat. She was in company with Mrs. Leslie, who fortunately caught her and held her until Indians came to their rescue, though they floated a long way, clinging desperately to the capsized boat. They lost much valuable stuff that was in the boat. The chief threw his blanket over her shoulder and did all he possibly could for their comfort until they reached Vancouver, where Mr. Douglass showed them every attention. These facts show the vicissitudes the missionaries encountered in their work at that early period.

An incident is told that Dr. White was called in haste to prevent burying a woman alive. The deed was so thoroughly done before his arrival that he could not render aid to bring her to life. It seems that a young lady died and her mother threw herself on the corpse, demanding to die with it. Husband and children were all gone she said, and asked to be buried with the last one of her family. With all possible stoicism the tribe complied and placed the two in the grave together, and filled the earth in over them. This story was interrupted by news of the death of George, a young boy, adopted son of Dr. and Mrs. White, who was drowned in crossing the Willamette.

About this time Doctor Bailey, so long and favorably known in pioneer days as connected with the Hudson Bay Company, was married to Miss Smith of the mission. He had experienced a varied career. He was English and well born; had received an exceptionally good education in his profession, but had a terrible thirst for spirits. To cure this he went to sea and thus reached the Pacific. At San Francisco he joined a party coming overland for Oregon on a trapping excursion. It was probably the Jedediah Smith expedition. They were attacked by the Rogue Rivers and Umpquas, most of them killed and Mr. Bailey was wounded. The three or four who survived journeyed four hundred miles over mountains and through wilderness, and while Smith and Turner pushed on to Vancouver, Bailey went toward the mission. He related that they killed their only horse for food and lived on snails and insects. When opposite the mission he was so weak and emaciated that he could not swim. He tried, and came back to the same shore by a wonderful providence he was discovered and carried to the mission, where he was so kindly treated that he could scarcely find words to tell of it. He finally recovered under medical treatment at Vancouver, where he remained for some time after. The highly educated Englishman, when well enough to work, tried rail-splitting and wood-cutting, which was not suited to his strength. He returned to California with Ewing Young about 1840-1, on an expedition to buy cattle. Returning to Oregon again, Dr. White met him, and being interested to see that he was well educated, proposed to him to enter his office and renew his medical studies. This he did, and won great renown during a long experience as a practicing

physician at Oregon City. He again renewed his correspondence with his family and married Miss Smith. Dr. Bailey was elected one of three executive committee in the first attempt at self-government. Jedediah Smith, who was associated with Captain Sublette in the fur trade, was head of the company the Indians murdered in the Umpqua. One of three saved was John Turner, a man of adventures, and it was said he saved the others by seizing a pine knot, in absence of guns, and, like Sampson and Hercules combined, played such fury and havoc among the Umpquas that they were glad to leave them alone. Turner is said to have afterwards found an Indian wife and lived hermit-like near the settlement, associating but little with men.

### Fruit Growers Meeting.

PORTLAND, OR., June 28, 1886.  
Editor Willamette Farmer:  
The next regular meeting of the North Pacific Fruit Growers' Association will be held at the Council Chamber, in Portland, on Tuesday July 6th, at 10 A. M., and 7 P. M. The usual reduction of fares on east and west side railroads. Addresses by prominent fruitmen. All are earnestly invited to attend.  
A. F. MILLER, Sec.

### Registered Berkshire Hog for Sale.

We have for sale a Berkshire boar. He is by Registered stock, and a choice animal. Will sell for cash or approved security. Address at once:  
W. J. CLARKE,  
Salem, Or.

The annual catalogue of the State University is before us. For information regarding free scholarship address Hon. J. J. Walton, Eugene City, Oregon.

### INTERESTING ITEMS.

God sends His rain upon the just and the unjust alike, and He makes His seasons the same for all men; but tempered drought and lessened flood, earlier spring and later fall has the man with a well-drained farm.

A weed gone to seed in the garden is a speaking evil that cannot be stayed at once. In its increased magnitude it must be fought and not a whole year will conquer it. It is better to miss the morning nap than to allow one weed to mature.

Not one farmer in a hundred has enough large and small fruit on his place—not even enough to supply the wants of his own family. But it is safe to say that they who have an abundance appreciate its worth, and are both healthier and happier by its use.

The quicker a radish can be grown, the sweeter and tenderer it will be. Usually the early sowings are the best, and the seed may be sown as soon as the ground can be worked. Well-rotted chip dirt is the best fertilizer for radishes. Also apply super-phosphate.

As a rule the size of the seed will indicate the depth to plant it, starting with the smallest at one-half of an inch, such as celery, parsnips, etc.; while peas and beans may be put in one and one-half inches deep.

Short and stocky cabbage plants are the best, but if you have none except long legged, spindling plants, they may do well enough if planted deep and covered up to the heart. Go over the patch every morning for a week after planting to hunt up and dispatch the grubs. Replace the destroyed plants promptly.

"Tillage manure" is an axiom accepted as true by our best farmers, and it is also admitted by them that this tillage can be done the best and cheapest before the crop is planted, rather than after. A lister can do but little towards giving the soil the requisite pulverizing that is needed to reduce it to a condition that the plant food will be rendered tillable.

### NO DUTY ON WOOL.

There is a strong feeling in Congress for reforming the tariff on the ground, especially, of admitting free of duty nearly all raw material needed in American manufactures. As to wool, the claim of woolen goods makers is, that they cannot compete in the world's market with any other manufacturing nation because they need coarse and fine wools to mix with our valuable medium grades, to manufacture goods that the world will buy of them. Our wool growers produce the most necessary grades of medium wools, got by breeding our common flocks with the merino. This is the wool of commerce, but manufacturers also require very coarse wool, such as come from the Cape and South America, and very fine wools, such as come from Australia, to make the sorts of goods needed for their export trade.

These fine and coarse wools of foreign growth and product they must mix with our wools to secure the grades of woolen goods they would like to make. They hold that the duty on wool is inoperative as to our home wools, because no such wools are imported to any great extent. The duty simply applies—they say—on the wools our wool growers do not raise and have no interest in. To take this duty off will enable manufacturers in the United States to take advantage of their superior machinery and open the world's markets to them, which the present duty serves to prevent. It is well enough to take a fair view of this question and not be selfish or arbitrary. If American woolen manufacturers are thus hampered by a tariff that does not really favor our wool growers, then their argument is conclusive. We hear of a good price paid for wool this season, quite better than was paid in 1885. The wool grower has, as it is, a decided advantage over all other producers, not excepting stockmen generally. He finds, even at the reduced price of sheep and wool, more profit in his flocks and fleeces than the farmer or the stockman outside of his business can command. It is, of course, unpopular, (and perhaps it may be unwise) to take any fair view of a subject if it does not coincide with one's patrons views or ideas. But having watched the indications we expect to see the duty on wool removed, in whole or part, in the interest of the woolen manufacturers of the United States. They are numerous, persistent, energetic, and influential; have been so long and so actively at work and make so serious a showing in favor of protecting home manufacturers, that Congress may take action accordingly.

Since the foregoing was written the congressional news states that Wm. D. Kelly will bring in his tariff bill soon fixing a considerable duty on wool and woolen goods. Kelly represents the "protective" idea, while Morrison is the exponent of "free trade." It is possible that between the two nothing will be done, but it is more probable that Congress will reduce the duty on wool that that it will receive additional protection.

### Reduction to G. A. R. over the Oregon Pacific.

The Oregon Pacific railroad and Oregon Development companies have issued a circular giving round trip ticket rates from the principal points in Western Oregon to San Francisco and return for the grand encampment meeting. These rates are extremely low and extended only to members of the G. A. R. and their families, and members of the Woman's relief corps. Fare from Corvallis or Yaquina to San Francisco and return, \$16. If over 125 go a rebate of \$2 on each full ticket will be given, thus reducing the round trip rate to \$14. These rates can be obtained at the company's station in Corvallis upon presentation of proper certificates, for which apply to your post commander.

Port's squirrel poison is the best.