

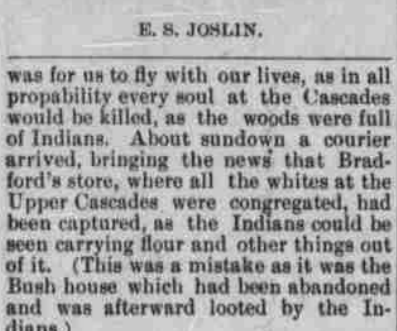
HOOD RIVER 50 YEARS AGO

(Continued from last week.)

On reaching home we found everything in commotion. The Indians had gathered in for council and were evidently much excited. The parties who were signaling across the river in the morning proved to be a buck and his squaw who had been held as prisoners by Showway; a brother of Kamiaken, because he had refused to let the chief have a rifle to which he had taken a fancy. They had been seven days coming from the Simcoe reservation and had experienced fearful hardships on the way over from hunger and fatigue; having come nearly all the way through snow, in some places many feet deep. They brought news that the hostilities were to start so as to reach the Cascades the very day that they reached the river. They had strained every nerve in order to reach us sooner and give the alarm, but were too late.

FIRST SETTLER AT WHITE SALMON

My brother Eugene immediately started for the landing to intercept the little steamer Mary, which was then coming in sight and communicate the news to them. Their reply sent a thrill of terror through every heart. They themselves had been in the fight and had by the greatest chance, barely escaped with their lives, and some had been seriously if not mortally wounded and were then on board. Their advice



E. S. JOSLYN.

was for us to fly with our lives, as in all probability every soul at the Cascades would be killed, as the woods were full of Indians. About sundown a courier arrived, bringing the news that Bradford's store, where all the whites at the Upper Cascades were congregated, had been captured, as the Indians could be seen carrying flour and other things out of it. (This was a mistake as it was the Bush house which had been abandoned and was afterward looted by the Indians.)

A council was at once called, Indians included. They on their part promised to station guards all along the river and to send couriers to the Cascades, and this promise was faithfully executed. After they had gone it was unanimously decided that we should at all hazards attempt to reach The Dalles. We had all confidence in the Klickitats; they had been proven to be well satisfied the others could not be trusted. Our only route was by the river, and the craft a large Chinook canoe which had been hid in the brush near where the present wagon bridge crosses Hood river, and was owned by an old Indian named Waucusha. This canoe was an exceptionally fine one, capable of carrying 30 or 40 passengers.

At about midnight the entire white population of Hood River left their homes and marched in single file to the river, where we met the canoe and started on our lonely journey. As we quietly paddled our canoe through the silent water we heard the Indian guards signaling along the shore from one to another until far up and down the river came the answering calls. We had been discovered, and in less time than it takes to read it, every camp had been apprised of our flight.

WIFE OF THE FIRST SETTLER AT WHITE SALMON.



MARY L. JOSLYN.

music to our care-worn ears. How fierce and brave and good they looked! Oh! would they be in time? About 3 o'clock we reached The Dalles, where almost the entire population turned out to meet us, inquiring for news. And there our journey ended.

I cannot close this article without a tribute of praise to those true and loyal Klickitats, who so bravely stood by the whites in that trying year. True-hearted men never lived. Tried by the test of battle, they proved themselves men even though their hearts beat under a dusky skin. They have nearly all passed over to their happy hunting grounds and scarcely a remnant of their race remains. Among the most prominent of them were Johnson, Greenup, Yallup, Susatpe and Johnnie. There were others that I cannot call to memory. Among the Hood River Indians only two or three remain—Old John Silbender and Charley Copiak, and both were unwavering in fealty to the whites. There is still another, whose character as a friend to the pale face is open to serious doubts. His own admission places him in the fight against Major Halker on Simcoe mountains. By the

evidence of all others, his hand applied the torch that fired the Joslyn houses, and by implication that same right hand was crimsoned with the blood of innocents at the Cascade massacres. I refer to Old White Salmon Dave, a notorious beggar and a would-be pensioner of Bro. John Cradlebaugh.

There is also a scrap of unwritten history concerning the plans of that wily old chief, Kamiaken. He had decided upon war, and his plan was first to capture the Cascades, then leaving sufficient force to hold that place, come up the river and attack The Dalles, compelling all the Indians to join him. And there is no doubt in my mind that, with few exceptions, all the tribes would have joined his standard. From The Dalles the movement was to continue eastward until the entire country east of the Cascades was clear of whites. The campaign was well planned but poorly executed. All that saved the Cascades, however, was a very fortunate accident, one of those happenings which seems to be the direct work of Providence. A large body of United States troops was on its way to the eastern part of the territory, and Kamiaken was fully informed as to the intentions of the troops.

Couriers on fleet horses waited the movement of the troops, and on their departure from The Dalles the horses of the couriers were urged to their utmost speed to Kamiaken's camp, who at once started his warriors for the Cascades. But the troops only made a three-mile march and went into camp to await the arrival of arms and ammunition which had been detained at the Cascade portage, and were to have been shipped by the steamer the very day of

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STEWART,
The House Furnisher.
PHONE 111.

the attack. So the detention not only furnished those in Bradford's store with an abundance of arms and ammunition, but detained the troops within easy reach of the boats. This information regarding Kamiaken all came through the Indians that had escaped from Chief Showway's clutches.

But my story must close. You who are now scattered throughout the length and breadth of this beautiful valley can but little realize the situation then or the constant fear that for over a year was in every breast. It seems to me now more like a dream than a reality.

Leaves from an Old Diary.

Our meteorological record commences February 1, 1857, but no family record was kept until June, 1858. I read from the record: "Sunday, October 15, 1857.—Thermometer broke by the first frost that touched it." This was a serious loss, as we were unable to obtain another one until the following June.

Almost the first entry I find is on June 3.—"Took 19 bushels potatoes to Dalles; sold for \$2.50 per bushel." Farm hands came high those days.

From an old account book I read: "William Paige, by work commencing May 1, 1857, to October 22—5 mos., 22 days—\$238.00" (or \$40 per month and board). This man Paige was an old English sailor whom my father picked up in Portland and hired for a year at \$40 per month and board. He afterwards obtained unenviable notoriety by his connection with the noted Magruder murders near Lewiston, Idaho, about 1884 or 1885. Paige, with three

others, brutally murdered a packer named Magruder and his entire party of five or six, for their money, and escaped to California. They were captured in San Francisco and taken back to Lewiston. Paige turned state's evidence and saved his neck; his three companions were hanged. He was afterwards shot dead in a saloon brawl.

August 10, 1858, a young man by the name of Arthur Gordon, who, with his cousin Henry, had been at work on the river, took up the claim afterwards known as the Peter Neal place, and my brother Eugene took up a claim he afterwards sold to Jesse Neal, a son of old Peter.

August 15, I read, "Peaches and plums begin to ripen." And on the 20th, "Took two bushels peaches to Dalles; these brought 25 cents a pound." Some time during the summer, S. B. Ives and family and A. C. Phelps moved up from the Cascades. Ives located on what we called Round Prairie, west and north of the Belmont church, and Phelps directly west, on the creek, later known as Phelps creek, Patton creek and Fall brook. Later an old sailor named Cowperthwaite took up the place south of the Ives place, afterward owned by Ward, Whitcomb, Pratt and others. Amos Underwood and John M. Marden also located on what is now known as the Haynes-Morton farm, and a man named Wilson on the Bar... place.

N. S. Benson, who went East in the early fall, to get him a wife, returned in November, bringing, also, Miss Maggie Williams, J. M. Benson's fiancée. These new arrivals made a welcome

(Continued on 4th page.)

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