

COLUMBIA RIVER VALLEY HAS EARLY HISTORY THAT IS REPLETE WITH THRILLING TALES OF HEROISM

C. A. Wallace, who lives at 430 North Summer street, has had some exciting experiences during his life on the Pacific coast. He was an ex-pressman for Governor I. Stevens of Washington, when that state, then a territory, was wracked by Indian wars, and the red men terrorized the Columbia river valley. Where now there are fertile fields and productive orchards the tomahawk and firebrand then reigned. He tells some interesting tales concerning his adventures and says he figured in some of the incidents of the following narrative:

By E. James Jones.

It is hard to realize that the beautiful and productive valley of the Columbia, teeming with life and now in the full tide of commercial development, once echoed the Indian war whoop and was dominated by terror of the tomahawk and firebrand brands in harrowing tales of Indian wars, which for many years rendered settlement by the whites almost impossible. Dusky tribes of Spokane, Yakimas, Walla Wallas, Palouses, Cayuses, Nez Perces, Colvilles, Okanogans, Coeur d'Alenes, Pend d'Oreilles, Umatillas and Klikitans for many years held the valley in a reign of terror and the mastery of this region was only attained through the sacrifice of a heavy toll of human life and the loss of a vast amount of property, with all the hardships and dangers of pioneering incident thereto.

Even as early as 1792, when Captain Robert Gray entered the lovely river for the first time in the ship Columbia and gave it the name it now bears, a boat's load of seamen were captured from his vessel and held for a heavy ransom, at Tillamook. A short time afterwards the wily old chief Maquinna seized the ship Boston and her entire crew at the same point. In 1812 the ship Tonquin, first vessel of the Pacific Fur company, under command of Captain Thorne, was captured at a point north of the mouth of the Columbia, a curious known as Lynck Whoola on Newcaston bay, or Newby bay, or Newcastle. Every white person on board was eventually killed, but the adventure cost the Indians a heavy toll before the ship was finally blown up by one of the crew with hundreds of the looting and pillaging Indians on board. Washington Irving portrays this event very prominently in his interesting book, Astoria.

In the fall of 1817 the hostility of the red men broke forth in the massacre of Dr. Marcus Whitman and family and other inhabitants of the Waiilatpu mission, six miles from the present city of Walla Walla. An epidemic of measles had broken out in the lodges of the red men in that year, and they certainly had a unique if not successful method of treating the dread disease. Entering a pit of heated rocks, water would be thrown on the rocks and the patient enveloped in a cloud of steam, from which he would emerge and plunge into the icy waters of the river. As a natural result death generally ensued.

Massacre of Whitman. Dr. Whitman treated many of the natives and did all he could to relieve their sufferings, but many of them died in spite of all his efforts. At every failure the suspicions of the Indians became more fully aroused, who a half-breed, named Joe Lewis, who had been on the mission since his mind bent on slaughter, rapine and pillage, told the Indians the doctor was poisoning them, and a plot was formed to take the life of the great philanthropist, Islickew, or Sticcoo, a Chinilla Indian, who had embraced the Christian faith, warned the whites of this plot, and to allay the fears and misgivings of Mrs. Whitman, the doctor promised to go down the river to The Dalles, where he had acquired mission property. But the next day on looking out they discovered a vast number of natives gathered on the hill back of the mission.

As Dr. Whitman sat at his desk that afternoon Tamahas, an Indian, entered with the usual request for medicines, and was shortly followed by others. As the doctor was about to comply with the request he was tomahawked by Tamahas, Telankait, for whom the kind-hearted missionary had performed many deeds of kindness, rushed in with his knife and stabbed the doctor many times. Other men about the mission were slain. Mrs. Whitman and children killed and other women cruelly outraged and held in captivity. A few managed their escape to Walla Walla, but William McBean, in charge of the fort at that place, shut the door in their faces and would not admit any of them, fearing their presence would precipitate an attack on the fort. McBean, however, sent a courier down the river to convey the tidings to Fort Vancouver. Although the messenger passed Fort Dalles he gave them no warning, although fortunately that stronghold was not attacked.

James Douglas, in command at Fort Vancouver, immediately sent a detachment to rescue survivors of the massacre. With several hundred dollars at their command, 47 of the women and children were ransomed, 13 having been murdered.

Following close on the Whitman massacre came the fierce Cayuse war. The Oregon country, then under a provisional government, dispatched 14 companies of volunteers to Walla Walla, who had to leave their homes in mid-winter and start for the Upper Columbia. Cornelius Gilliam, an immigrant of 1845 from Missouri, was in command. The way was disputed at various points. At Sand Hollows, in Oregon, the Indians, under command of Five Crows and War Eagle, attempted to prevent the crossing of the Umatilla river. Five Crows claiming ability to stop all bullets and War Eagle saying he could swallow them. During the engagement which followed Tom McEay, a volunteer, fired at War Eagle, saying: "Let him swallow this," killing the boastful chief. Five Crows stopped several bullets, but was badly wounded. Having cleared the way to Waiilatpu, the remains of the murdered inmates were gathered and buried near the mission. Dragging along for more

than three years, the Cayuse War did not come to a close until 1850.

Fierce Warfare Breaks Out.

Refusing to join the Cayuses, the Nez Perces, Yakimas and Spokanes took no part in this struggle, although the Umatillas assisted the whites in bringing it to a close. In 1850 the friendly Umatillas captured the chief band of Cayuses under Tamasky, at the headquarters of the John Day river. Tamasky was killed in a desperate encounter. Five Indians charged with the murder of Marcus Whitman were brought to Oregon City, where they were hanged by the whites, June 3, 1850. This was the death of the great philanthropist partially avenged, although it is likely more of the Indians involved in the murder were unapprehended. The successful exploit of the Umatillas ended the Cayuse war, but the era of peace thus brought about in 1855 the savage flame of warfare broke out in the greatest and fiercest struggle in all Columbia river history. It was a movement on the part of nearly all tribes to drive the white intruder from the northwest. Isaac Stevens was governor of Washington Territory, embracing all of Washington and Idaho and portions of Wyoming and Montana. Great Indian leaders in this struggle were Chiefs Peupumoxox, of the Walla Wallas, and Kamiakin, of the Yakimas, the latter probably causing more trouble to the whites than any other Indian of the northwest tribes. The area of this titanic struggle was divided into three sections embracing, first, the Cascades, then the Yakima valley, Walla Walla and the Grand Ronde, and the third section Rogue river and Puget Sound, extending over so great a territory that intelligent co-operation on the part of the reds was impractical. Had it been otherwise the outcome would have been disastrous for the whites.

Governor Stevens was a brave and far-seeing man. His plan was to negotiate treaties with the Indians whereby they were to be allotted great tracts or reservations where they could roam and hunt at will, undisturbed by the white intruder. Successful negotiations with the Yakima valley, Walla Walla and the Grand Ronde, and the third section Rogue river and Puget Sound, extending over so great a territory that intelligent co-operation on the part of the reds was impractical. Had it been otherwise the outcome would have been disastrous for the whites.

With the country open to settlement development began in earnest, and settlers rapidly occupied the lands. Until 1877 there were no more Indian wars, but in that year they broke out what is known as the "Joseph War." Eagle Wing, or Hallakhtakeen, or Joseph, who had represented the faction of the Nez Perces opposed to entering into a treaty with the whites at the two great Walla Walla conventions, maintained the government had violated a pledge in not giving his people possession of the Wallowa country—and it is said his contention was right. However, it must not be inferred that all of the Nez Perces entered into this conflict. Lawyer and his faction remained ever true to the whites. In a fiercely contested battle at White Bird canyon Joseph defeated a detachment under command of Colonel Perry, capturing arms, ammunition and supplies. General Howard, in command of the Department of the Columbia, now began an elaborate campaign against Joseph, which was a series of rapid marches, counter-marches and hard-fought battles. Joseph, realizing resistance was hopeless, resolved to escape into Canada, and began a masterly retreat. Encumbered with women and baggage, harassed by the enemy, and obliged to hunt and forage for food along the way, his task was extremely difficult, and showed marked military skill. Joseph crossed the Bitter Root mountains by the Lolo trail, preparing to descend the Missouri. Cooper, Gibbon and Miles had been sent up the river to meet him, while Howard only pressed in the rear. The brave old warrior was finally captured at Bear Paw mountain, on the Milk river in Montana, after a chase lasting from July 27 to October 10, involving a march of 1922 miles on the part of Howard's command, and even greater for the old chief. Joseph and his followers were sent to Oklabona, but the "Wild Eagle of the Wallowa" pleaded so earnestly to return to his beloved country that permission was finally granted, but on account of the intense feeling of the settlers against this faction of the Nez Perces, they were transported to the Colville reservation in Northern Washington where the stalwart leader pined away and died.

Only one other conflict occurred with the Indians after Joseph's war. This was known as the "Bannock War," taking place for the greater part in Umatilla county. It was of short duration and resulted in the complete suppression of the Indians.

Thus closed the days of the tomahawk and firebrand, and the thrilling era of terror inspired by the war whoop, which shall be heard no more along the vast expanses of the Columbia river valley.

Phil Sheridan's First Fight. In March, 1856, the Klikitans wrought fearful destruction to the settlers between The Dalles and the Cascades, applying the torch to homes and horribly mutilating bodies of their victims. It was in the old blockhouse, which until recently stood, a time-honored landmark, just opposite the Locks, that General "Phil" Sheridan fought his first battle and was victorious.

In a rapid march across the Blue Mountains, from Walla Walla, Colonel R. F. Shaw, in command of the Washington volunteers, descended on the Indians and scattered them in every direction. With these victories the resolute Governor Stevens hoped to bring the Indians to terms without further strife, and resolved to hold another great council at Walla Walla. In August, 1856, the council convened.

But months of bloodshed and defeat had not served to crush the red men. Warfare had become a part of their daily existence and they were divided very much the same as before. Lawyer held the Nez Perces loyal, but the others would not come to terms. Kamiakin, Five Crows, Owl, Quelchin and others dominated the hostile spirit of the red men and the council was a failure. Governor Stevens started down the river, but another battle must needs be fought. For a time it looked bad for the whites, but at a critical moment Colonel Steptoe, for whom Steptoe Butte was named, came to the rescue, and carried far day. This ended hostilities for a time, but the savage spirit of restlessness still smoldered in the hearts of the aborigines.

Resulting from the discovery of gold in Eastern Washington and the great influx of settlers to the pleasant vales of Umatilla, Walla Walla and the Palouse, conditions soon arose precipitating the third Indian war of 1855.

Three campaigns marked this struggle. Colonel Steptoe was ordered to go with 200 dragoons to the Spokane region, and conquer the Indians gathering there. Their mission might have been successful had not a quartermaster who had partaken rather freely of intoxicating beverages, taken the responsibility of lightening the load by leaving out most of the ammunition. The plan worked very well until Steptoe's command came upon a large force of Spokane, Colville, Okanogans, Coeur d'Alenes and Pend Oreilles.

Steptoe thought best to enter into a parley before going to battle. The Indians informed him that if he turned back he would not be molested but if he pressed forward the way would be disputed at every point. Steptoe turned back, and the Indians, forgetting their promise, pressed on in hot pursuit. After a desperate fight in going through a canyon to Pine creek, near Rosalia, and at the expense of losing the rear guard, the weary dragoons reached Steptoe Butte. The hostile forces, sure of their prey, waited till morning before making an attack, but Timothy, a Nez Perce guide, showed the white men a trail through a rough canyon, and they escaped at midnight. Galloping night and day with the Indians at their rear, the Snake river was finally reached. Here the crossing was guarded by Nez Perces, and the command reached Fort Walla Walla. After Steptoe's defeat the Indians felt that they held the country, and were very confident. They were soon to learn that Major Garnett, in the Yakima valley, had delivered a crushing defeat to their forces in that section.

Colonel Wright, in command at Walla Walla, took up the trail covered by Steptoe, met the Indians at Four Lakes and Spokane Plains and completely crushed them. Treaties were now established and the Indians gathered on the reservations.

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News of Marion County

MACLEAY NEWS.

Mr. and Mrs. John Tenkenburg sustained a great loss by having some one enter their poultry park and taking about 250 young chickens that were large enough to fry. They are doing all they can to find out who the culprits were.

Mrs. H. O. Taylor was a Salem visitor June 12th. She went to get her daughter Marion who has been spending a few days visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Knight of North Salem.

Mr. Wm. Stapleton made a trip to Polk county to see about the farm of 200 acres he has just recently purchased.

Mr. R. W. Craig and Mr. Wm. Taylor are on a hunting and fishing trip in the Cascade mountains where they are enjoying a fine time.

Mr. J. D. Driver made a trip to Aumsville with strawberries. He has a very fine grade of berries.

Mrs. K. Pake of Los Angeles, Miss Ruth Erickson and Mrs. Edna Craig went to Portland to attend the Rose Festival. They left town on the Cherrian special Thursday, June 11.

Mrs. J. Oswald of Salem is visiting Mrs. H. O. Taylor this week.

A. C. Bohmstedt is in Portland this week to meet his mother who is from the East and is going to spend the Summer in Oregon.

Macley Grange had a very successful meeting Friday, had a fine dinner; also ice cream which one of the members brought as a special treat.

Mrs. J. M. Martin went to Stayton to be with her father Mr. Lake who is not expected to live.

Mr. Bert Patton is not very well as he has contracted a very bad cold.

Mr. H. E. Martin has purchased a new auto, this making the third one in the Martin family who has bought cars this Spring.

Mr. D. J. Miller is going to Salem every day with large loads of Strawberries he says the rain spoiled all his small berries by making large ones out of them.

Mrs. Ellis Edmonson is visiting Mrs. Mosa Miller this week.

Miss Ben Kaiser entertained the Shaw Embroidery Club June 11 at her home near Macleay. Mrs. Clara Waldo was present. Greenery from the woods and roses were the attractive decorations. There were fifty ladies present.

A carnival company will occupy the hall in the spacious dining room. Among the Macleay ladies who were present were: Mrs. E. E. Goodell, Mrs. R. M. Trestrahl, Mrs. J. D. Driver, Miss Ruth Erickson, Miss K. Pake, Mrs. A. C. Bohmstedt, Mrs. O. L. Martin, Mrs. Clara Howel, Mrs. Nina Taylor, Mrs. H. O. Taylor, Mrs. John Tenkenburg, and Mr. Harrison.

Frank Roberson have their orchards tract in a fine condition and the trees look very good.

WEST SALEM NEWS.

D. K. Brannon started Monday for an all summer's visit in South Dakota, Minnesota and Indiana.

The many friends of "Grandma" Chapman will be grieved to hear that she is seriously ill at the home of her son, George.

Miss Lightfoot, who taught the Eighth grade the last half of the year, has been recently bereaved by the death of her father in Portland.

Annual school election will be held June 15. A director is to be elected to take the place of George Gosser, who retires.

The stores are doing a good business. Eggs are firm at 20 cents, new potatoes are 3 cents per pound; dairy butter has a upward tendency and old potatoes are somewhat higher in price.

The main road leading through West Salem is to be oiled.

Work on the drier is progressing rapidly, from six to nine men working

busily at same. The machinery is being put in place and drying will begin soon. A number of West Salemites are looking forward to a long term of steady employment when it opens for business.

There will be an adjourned meeting of the city council Friday.

The boys and girls are improving their time picking cherries and berries or working in the cannery.

The sewer question was up for attention Thursday, the 11th. There was a tight vote, in which it carried by a small majority.

WOODBURN NEWS

Miss Lois Beebe spent Wednesday and Thursday in Portland as the guest of Miss Edith Altrow.

Ralph Palmer spent the week end in Portland and took in the Rose show while there.

Dr. Marsh attended the commencement exercises in Forest Grove this week.

Mrs. Galbraith, of Portland, spent the week-end with her daughter Mrs. J. L. Shorey. Mrs. Galbraith expects to leave the first of the week for Montana where she will visit another daughter, Mrs. D. Cowles, of that place.

Misses Nellie and Gladys Binkley spent Friday taking in the Rose show at Portland.

The Misses Berkeys and Frank Berkey of Portland visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Brune, Saturday and Sunday.

Pern Parr returned the first of the week from Corvallis where she has been attending school.

Mr. E. J. Starnard attended the Rose Festival the first of the week.

Miss Alpha Wilson returned after spending several days with friends and relatives at Dallas.

Roy Livesay spent the week end in Dallas with friends and relatives.

week-end as the guest of Miss Ester Plank.

J. F. Halon who was taken seriously ill with appendicitis was taken to the Hubbard hospital Thursday for an operation.

MAIL ORDERS AND IDLENESS.

(Portland Journal.)

Kelso, Wash., June 15.—To the Editor of The Journal:—I would like to reply to, or rather aid to, the letter of A. MeVey in The Journal of May 26. Mr. MeVey thinks it a great injustice that Portland does not buy its pipe at home, thereby causing a \$600,000 plant to lie idle and many men to lose the opportunity to earn a living. I want to say the \$600,000 idle plant is but a fraction of the harm done by unthinking men and women who do not buy at home. We may cry hard times and high taxes, and search for a cause, but I say the habit of buying away from home is one of the chief causes of high cost of living, high taxes and idle men. As a proof, let me state that one Chicago firm alone does more business in Kelso than the merchants of Kelso. This firm pays no taxes, neither does it employ any of Kelso's laborers. They say there are too many in business in Kelso! No, there are not enough. If all purchases were made in Kelso that should be made there, Kelso could support twice as many business houses, and there would be twice as many people employed, and five times as much money in taxes paid. Furthermore, prices of commodities would naturally drop to a certain extent, as there would be less expense attached in proportion to the amount of business done.

This matter could be discussed to such an extent that Mr. MeVey's \$600,000 idle plant in Oregon would compare like a drop of water to the ocean. But never mind; we will send for that stuff to New York city, anyway. They pay the express, you see, and we will miss our neighbor if he doesn't employ us. Otherwise we will join the I. W. W. FRANK.

KANSAS CITY III. IS ACCOUNTED FOR SATURDAY

Portland, June 15.—Word reached here late Saturday that the balloon Kansas City III, carrying John Watts of St. Louis, pilot, and Roscoe Fawcett, aide, had landed safely in Marion county, Ore., at 9:30 o'clock this morning. This accounted for three of the four balloons which left Portland Thursday in a long distance race under the auspices of the Aero club of America. Not since Thursday night has there been any word to indicate the fate of the Springfield.

The Kansas City III, descended on a rough mountain slope after a voyage without serious mishap lasting over 17 hours, at a point nine miles north of Cascadia, 78 miles on a direct line south of Portland. Watts and Fawcett were at a loss as to their location and did not reach a line of communication until they arrived late Saturday at Cascadia.

STONE UP THE BLOOD

Hood's Sarsaparilla, a Spring Tonic, Medicine, is Necessary.

Everybody is troubled at this season with less of vitality, failure of appetite, that tired feeling, or with bilious turns, dull headaches, indigestion and other stomach troubles, or with pimples and other eruptions on the face and body. The reason is that the blood is impure and impoverished.

Hood's Sarsaparilla relieves all these ailments. Ask your druggist for this medicine and get it today. It is the old reliable medicine that has stood the test for forty years,—that makes pure, rich blood—that strengthens every organ and builds up the whole system. It is the all-year-round blood-purifier and health-giver. Nothing else acts like it, for nothing else is like it; so be sure to get Hood's.



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