

7th. Tu. Officer of the day. I was quite busy writing all morning. In the afternoon we were gratified by the arrival of Dr. Craig and Mr. Ackley in a sail boat. Mr. A. brings funds to pay the troops. Mr. Crosby came with them as far as Bottens point but he wished to avoid Steilacoom in consequence of his difficulty going down with Mr. Bradley whom he stabbed with a small knife. Dr. Craig has volunteered to go up the mountain with me.

I drew \$708.80 from Mr. Ackley being the pay due me to the end of June. Lieut. Gooch, Crosby, and Ackley go with McKibben to Muckleshute tomorrow. The weather is not very favorable at present for climbing the mountain. I hope it will improve as I go up.

8th. W. It was after twelve before the Dr. and I could get started, I had a great many things to order and all my preparations

for the trip. Leshi<sup>30</sup> volunteered some information towards the last that determined me to go up the Nesqually and the Dr. and I rode to the Nesqually reservation whilst four men with pack animals went on to Wrens. I found old Wapowety, an old Indian, who had once been up the Nesqually when a boy with his father. He agreed to go with us as a guide. We supped at Wrens.<sup>31</sup> The weather was showery all day but the evening promised to clear up.

*9th. Th.* We got off by seven o'clock and without much delay rode through by the little prairies to Tanwut<sup>32</sup> and on to Mishawl Prairie<sup>33</sup> where we camped for the night. Here we are to leave our horses. The weather was fine today. The trail is not so bad as when we scouted over it fifteen months ago. We saw no Indians by the way, and but little game. I killed three grouse with my pistol.

*10th. F.* We got started about eight o'clock. We took twenty-four crackers each and a few pounds of dried meat. We each took a blanket and I had several other things besides for making observations, consisting of a field glass, a prismatic compass, a thermometer, and spirit lamp besides a large revolver. One of the men, Dogue, carried a coil of small rope and Carroll a hatchet.

We all started each with his pack and crossing the Mishawl river ascended the ridge which overlooked the whole country. By three o'clock the Dr. was exhausted and turned over his pack to the Indian who is to carry it up the mountain and back for ten dollars. We continued on the ridge four or five miles farther and camped without water except what we had in our canteens. We find the way much obstructed with sticks and fallen timber. The Indian does not know much about the road. The weather continued fine and very warm. I perspired very freely, and drank much water. The Dr. had some whiskey but soon poured it out for water.

*11th. S.* This morning we changed to southeast course which we had been following for an easterly course but it soon brought us to a sink in the ridge and there being another immense hill before us we changed our course down to the Nesqually river where we arrived about three o'clock. We ascend about six miles and camped on the bank of the River.

The ascent of the river is very laborious, except occasionally where we can travel on a bar in the river. We make about ten miles per day, and are exceedingly fatigued at that. Already our diet begins to disgust us. It is with much difficulty that anything will go

down. I chew away at the dried beef but it is with the greatest difficulty that I can swallow. We get wet wading the Nesqually in some places where the stream divided and small enough to permit us to do so; generally the stream is not fordable.

*12th Sunday.* We got a good start this morning, but the Drs. appetite having failed him his strength did also and before the proper time we were compelled to camp. We cannot make more than ten miles per day. Our course was east along the river. We met with no streams of any size putting into the Nesqually, there may be one of some size on the opposite side of the river; our course has been on the north side mostly.

The hills opposite our camp indicate a large branch opposite our present camp.<sup>35</sup> We have seen no game so far; we saw a large red wolf yesterday but he got out of the way as soon as possible. We see plenty of signs of deer and bear, but met with only one or two grouse. The Indian and the men get along very well so far. The Dr. does not bear the fatigue well.

*13th. M.* We were all much gratified that the Indian killed a deer this morning which he brought in and of which we eat plentifully. We spent the morning in drying the remainder of it and by eleven o'clock were on the march again. The valley of the Nesqually has narrowed down very much, the hills come clear to the river. Our camp was immediately at the foot of one of the spurs that came down to the river. Mt. Rainier is in sight and seems very close. The weather however promises to become bad tomorrow.

*14th. Tu.* As was expected the sky became overcast and we could not tell how we were approaching the mountain. Immediately above our camp a muddy branch poured down and we were in doubt whether we had not better follow it up but finally followed the main stream up to where it seemed to issue from the mountain. As we ascended the stream the current becomes more rapid, the bed of the stream presents an inclined plain of boulders of basaltic and granite rocks. It rained in the evening and I fear we shall have an unfavorable time for ascending the mountain. Our camp is in a narrow canon at the foot of an immense glacier from which the river emanates in a muddy torrent.<sup>36</sup>

*July 14th, 1857. W.* The weather was very unfavorable this morning, foggy and rainy and occasional snow and hail. We however started up the glacier and travelled until nearly noon. But

surrounded by immense chasms in the snow and ice, enveloped in fog, unable to see our course we with some difficulty made a camp up on the side of the mountain among some scattered pines. The glacier seems to be very large, several miles in length and half a mile to a mile in width, with immense furrows, and a ridge of boulders on each side. The whole thing seems to move at times. Loud reports and crushing and grinding of rocks is often apparent. Our camp seems about 7,000 feet above the level of the sea. Water boiled at 199° and the thermometer stood at 36° when we went to sleep.<sup>37</sup>

*16th. Th.* This morning it snowed until eight o'clock. Our blankets were covered with snow when we awoke. By eight we started up the mountain as the wind and the lifting of the clouds showed a clear up. I had gone up the mountain a long distance yesterday afternoon and at a favorable time saw the top of the mountain and thought we should have no trouble in ascending the mountain. I estimated that I should not require more than three hours to go to the summit. I was much mistaken. We travelled very constantly until six and were still not at the highest point. The morning was cloudy, were enveloped in clouds until near noon, when we got above them.

Towards evening the Dr., the Indian, and Carrol began to be behind. I saw that it was necessary to hurry in order to reach the summit and return before dark. Dogue followed me closely to a point which he supposed was the top, and said he could go no further.

I was now alone and none of the others were in sight. I continued on for half an hour or more; a strong gust of wind carried away my hat. I saw that if I visited the top, I should be in the night returning, and there was one point where it was exceedingly dangerous at any time and which I could not pass in the night. I determined to return and if the weather promised fair try it again tomorrow.

When I got back to where the man Dogue was I was surprised to see the Dr. coming on. He told me that the Indian and Carrol had given out and turned back. We had discussion about what to do. To stay on the mountain without blankets was impossible on account of the cold wind; as ice was forming in my canteen, and we had not time to go to the peak unless we travelled after dark and to return after dark was impossible. We saw how much I had been deceived

and that we had started too late. We turned back and it was nine o'clock at night before we reached camp. We found the Indian evidently very anxious about us.

I was not much fatigued and would have travelled many hours longer but the others are undoubtedly much fatigued. I fear we shall not be able to try it tomorrow again. I could not make any observations with the thermometer as it was too cold and the wind too strong to build a fire. Besides we had no wood except what the Dr. brought, a single stick of pine that would have made a cup of water boil in a quiet place but not in the wind. I lost my hat and had to come back without any as it went down a deep chasm. We have however been much more successful than I anticipated when we left Steilacoom.

*July 17th, 1857. F.* This morning the Indian was snow blind and had evident inflammation of the eyes. An examination of our stock of provisions showed the men to be out and we had barely sufficient to take us back to camp with the greatest economy. The hope of getting something to eat is pretty well cut off by the Indians misfortune and we found it necessary to commence our return about ten o'clock.

I made a cap of red flannel shirt to replace my hat. We came down much more rapidly than we went up. We travelled until dark and passed two of our camps made going up, and encamped where we had found a great many black berries.

We lighted a dead tree which afterwards proved a great annoyance as it had us moving about out of the way for a long time after night. The Dr. was exhausted with today's march and had much difficulty in keeping up.

*18th. Sunday.* We still kept on the Nesqually today, going five or six miles below where we came upon the river coming up to a point where the hills come down very close. Here we will leave it in the morning and go across the hill.

*20th. M.* We had but little to eat today and a very hard march. We picked berries by the way. We were pleased however to be able to reach the Mishawl by dark. We lay down without any supper. We hoped to make camp but it is still two miles off. The Dr. has travelled better in the two days past as he has no pack to carry.

*21st. Tu.* This morning thinking we were too low down on the Mishawl we started up the stream but soon discovered our mistake.

We returned and found that we were nearly two miles above the point where we had crossed before. The Mishaw is low showing it to be a short stream and not coming from the snows of Mr. Rainier.

We reached camp by 6 o'clock. We found Doneheh and Bell still asleep and all the horses on the prairie. We were very hungry and made all haste to breakfast. I however, cautiously ate a half cracker with a little butter and afterwards took a more substantial breakfast. I suffered much from costiveness owing to the astringency of the black berries that I have eaten.

The Dr. and I started at half past nine for Steilacoom where we arrived at dusk having ridden steadily all day. The men were left behind to come on at their leisure. We found our friends somewhat anxious about us. They talked of sending some provisions for our relief. They gathered about us to hear our story, and laughed heartily at our tattered appearance. Nothing occurred on the road except that the Dr. was quite used up. I suffered all day from the piles for the first time in my life. All well in the garrison.

*July 22, 1857. W.* I found besides a great many letters on official business one from Albert. He is in the midst of his examinations. He expected to get through. Mendell also writes me a friendly letter, and says Sheridan has transferred to Jones company, the Genl. Clark expects to break up Port Townsend and Bellingham Bay and Fort Simcoe. Walker is to be married on the 23rd, Mendell expects to go to Southern Oregon during the wedding. We have heard nothing sure about the erection of the quarters for this post. Quite a number of men have deserted, some belonging to McKibbens Co. have been caught. Two men have died from deliriemn tremens, Privates Hunter and Wallace<sup>38</sup> of Company A of the 4th Infantry.

The Dr. and I rode to town, and attracted some attention by our reduced appearance. I have lost fourteen pounds and the Dr. 20 during the trip. I was busy attending to various matters. I commenced moving over to the Drs. place to live. I had hoped that the trouble would be saved me as I gave orders to have the things moved during my absence. Capt. Hyde is here. He is much disappointed that he could not be with us.

*23rd. F.* Officer of the day. Completed moving today though I am not quite fixed yet. My employees do not seem to get along very well, at least not very rapidly. Received a States mail. I got a letter