

# BELLE VUE SHEEP FARM POST JOURNALS

## 1858

### JANUARY

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> I returned in the "Otter" this evening having been about at Victoria since the 31<sup>st</sup> of last month. I arrived about 1 pm -- found all well -- See Invoice Book of this date for property received.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Cloudy with occasional showers of rain and snow--  
Loma & L'Gamine ploughing new land. Aleck, George & Leroux clearing field of stumps roots &c Robillard putting some new chairs together legs arms &c. Napoleon salting pork. Antoine carting stone -- shepherds are with their respective flocks.--  
Steamer "Beaver" arrived on Monday she is cutting wood at the Fishery.--

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Blowing a strong S:E: gale.--  
Loma & L'Gamine ploughing, Aleck, George, Robillard & Leroux cutting new[?] logs for fencing, Napoleon killing and salting a pig.--  
"Beaver" still here.--

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Wind blowing light from West until sunset since then it has been blowing gale.-- Showers of rain during the day.--  
Five men threshing oats. 4 oxen with Loma & L'Gamine ploughing. 4 oxen with "Joe" hauling logs -- Antoine carting firewood, & stones out of field.-- Napoleon salting pork.--  
Steamer "Beaver" left for Fort about 11 am.--

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Mild calm & clear  
All the men as yesterday, Napoleon serving out rations to all hands.--

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> A beautiful fine clear day with very hard frost during the night.--  
Visited stations found all well.--

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Very hard frost during the night, the day beautiful fine & clear.--

Loma & L'Gamine ploughing, Napoleon with Aleck, George, Antoine, Robillard, & Leroux fencing one of the potato pits in the field, cleaning the potatoes & carting them to the cellar.--  
Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--  
A canoe /Napn: bro. in law/ arrived from Langley.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Cloudy & overcast & very chilly --  
Napoleon & the others with him finished potatoes this evening.--  
The others as yesterday.--

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Weather continued cloudy with a fresh S:E:[?] breeze. --  
Aleck, Robillard & "Joey"[?] threshing oats, George Leroux & Antoine cutting logs for fencing.-- Loma & L'Gamine ploughing.-- The others as usual.--

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> A beautiful fine clear day with a fresh S:W: breeze.--  
All hands as yesterday, except Antoine pulling down rail fencing & carting it to big field.--

Friday 22<sup>d</sup> Weather much as yesterday, afternoon fine & calm.--  
Aleck, George, Robillard, & Leroux pulling down & putting up rail fencing in big field. Antoine with horse & cart hauling rails, L'Gamine & "Joe" with 2 pr. oxen each hauling logs from forks of the road.--

Saturday 23<sup>d</sup> Heavy fall of snow during the night, but the warm sun, and strong southerly breeze cleared it away during the day.--  
Men processing firewood, feeding cattle & horses &c.--

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Blowing a strong southerly gale without intermission for the last 36 hours --  
All quiet--

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Calm fine & clear --  
Napoleon with George, Aleck, Robillard, & Leroux at fencing round big field.-- Antoine hauling rails &c.-- L'Gamine with four oxen "Joe" likewise with four oxen hauling logs for fencing--  
Shepherds all with their respective flocks -- Loma making harness[?] &c. to continue ploughing with horses.--

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Blowing a strong westerly gale until about 5 pm calmed.--  
Men forenoon threshing oats, afternoon employed as yesterday.  
Antoine went with horse & cart to bring John Bulls family & baggage to

Port L'Enfer where he will remain for the present. Loma trying to find the "chocolate" brown mare but could not see any --? of them.--

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>      Blowing a fresh S:W: breeze with heavy rain more or less all day.--

Men threshing oats, Loma found the brown mare & tied her in the cart she went very kindly -- tomorrow put her & "Blanc Cauder[?]" harrowing manure.

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>      Calm, with heavy rain all day.

Men at fencing for a short time but owing to heavy rains obliged to go in to barn<sup>1</sup> threshing oats -- Loma & Napoleon breaking in the brown mare to plough.-- Antoine cutting rails. L'Gamine with the cart carting away dung &c.--

Friday 29<sup>th</sup>      Cloudy but calm & mild --

Men at log fencing. L'Gamine carting manure Loma with two horses & Antoine with two d<sup>e</sup> ploughing.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>      A beautiful fine calm clear day . --

All hands employed as yesterday. L'Gamine carting firewood for all the houses.--

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>      Cloudy & overcast.--

All quiet.--

## FEBRUARY

Monday 1<sup>st</sup>      Cloudy & overcast but calm. --

Loma & Antoine with a pair horses each ploughing -- Aleck George & Leroux cutting more logs for fencing. L'Gamine with 4 & "Joe" with 4 oxen hauling d<sup>e</sup>.-- Robillard baking bread &c.--

Steamer "Beaver" arrived between 4 & 5 of the pm.--

Tuesday 2<sup>d</sup>      Weather much as yesterday.

Early this morning sent George, Aleck, Robillard, L'Gamine, Leroux & "Joe" to Oyster[?] Lagoon<sup>2</sup> to cut wood for Steamer "Beaver". Remained with them all day. Loma & Antoine ploughing. Napoleon & "George" hauling with oxen 2000 feet lumber brought by the "Beaver".

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<sup>1</sup> A large (70-80 feet long) barn was constructed to the east of the Establishment in 1857.

<sup>2</sup> Oyster Lagoon has not been identified.

Wednesday 3<sup>d</sup>      Weather continues cloudy & overcast with occasional showers of drizzling rain.-  
All hands as yesterday, my men employed cutting wood for "Beaver" remained on board all night so as to lose no time.--  
"George" carting firewood. Napoleon out searching for Page who did not make his appearance last night, it seems he & his son got lost in the woods searching for new felling grounds & he returned to day all well--

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>      A really beautiful fine & calm.--  
All hands as yesterday, finished wooding the steamer.--

Friday 5<sup>th</sup>      Foggy but calm.--  
"Otter" arrived about 7:30 am. M<sup>r</sup> Douglas & M<sup>r</sup> Clough[?]<sup>3</sup>, who landed here, whence the "Otter" proceeded on to "Nanaimo" & about 11 am the "Beaver" left with M<sup>r</sup> Douglas & M<sup>r</sup> Clough for Fort Langley.--

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>      Weather much as yesterday.--  
Men procuring firewood &c.--  
Sent Napoleon over to the Fort with letters &c. left here by Mr. Douglas, & likewise to procure supplies for men and Indians.--

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>      Weather beautiful, fine & clear.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 8<sup>th</sup>      A beautiful fine calm clear day.--  
Loma & Antoine ploughing. Robillard, L'Gamine & Aleck squaring wood for a new house 20X30. "Joe" hauling logs for fencing.--  
"Plumper's" two boats arrive this forenoon with Messrs Maine[?] & Blunden[?] to survey<sup>4</sup> &c.-  
Napoleon returned from Fort about 8 pm -- All well.--

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>      A fine day but overcast.--  
All the men employed as yesterday.--

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>      Fine calm clear day.--

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<sup>3</sup> Mr. Clough has not been identified.

<sup>4</sup> The ship *H.M.S. Plumper*, along with two boats (*Shark* and *Whale*), was assigned the task of surveying the coastal waters in the region. Lieutenant Richard Charles Mayne and Staff Commander (later Captain) Daniel Pender served under Captain George H. Richards; Mayne Island and North and South Pender islands, in the Canadian San Juans, were named after each of them.

Men's employment unchanged.--

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Blowing a fresh westerly breeze & heavy rain until about 2 pm cleared up fine.--

Men also squaring, threshing oats -- Antoine sick, likewise Napoleon.--

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Blowing N: & W: commenced from 9 o'clk. a.m. snowing & ceased at 7 am -- very chilly.

Men threshing oats.--

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Northerly breeze with very hard frost & excessively cold.-- All hands cutting & carting firewood.--

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Wind still northerly & very cold, the snow still on the ground & very crisp.--

All quiet.--

"Plumber" --? left for Esquimalt<sup>5</sup>--

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Weather much as yesterday.--

Robillard, L'Gamine & Aleck squaring house beams &c. Antoine carting firewood. Loma feeding cattle horses &c.-- George & Napoleon on sick list.--

The "Plumper" called en passant from Port Townsend to Victoria.--

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Weather still unchanged, more snow, & a little milder[?].--

L'Gamine & "Joe" carting peas straw out to Port L'Enfer for John Bull's sheep.-- Robillard & Aleck cutting house beams.-- Loma & Antoine attending to stock. George & Napoleon on sick list--

Visited John Bull & Friday, all well so far.--

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Blowing fresh S:W: with a rapid thaw & mild, snow nearly all disappeared.--

Men at fencing-- Antoine carting firewood. Loma attending cattle & horses &c.--

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Fresh southerly breeze and showery until sunset began blowing hard.--

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<sup>5</sup> Esquimalt, located on Vancouver Island near Fort Victoria, was the local naval base for the Pacific Station of HM Royal Navy.

Loma, Robillard & L'Gamine digging &c. -- in garden. Loma & Antoine attending to stock, cutting & carting willows for garden walk[?].-- George Beuche[?] left for Victoria to bury his child.-- Napoleon sick.--

Friday 19<sup>th</sup>            Fine clear beautiful day, wind west.  
All the men working in garden.--  
Went out & visited Friday.--

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>            Weather much as yesterday Sol<sup>v</sup> breeze.--  
Men cutting & carting firewood &c.--  
Napoleon sick, George returned from Fort.--

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>            Cloudy & overcast.--  
Visited Willy's, Friday's & John Bull's all well.--

Monday 22<sup>d</sup>            Dull & showery with a fresh S:E: breeze.--  
Took all my men out to summits new station to assist Men a war[?]  
cutting down trees.--  
"P – all[?]" with Lt.[?] Bedwell<sup>6</sup> returned from Fort about 5 pm.--

Tuesday 23<sup>d</sup>            Weather much as yesterday cloudy & dull.--  
Loma, Antoine & Aleck each with a yoke of oxen ploughing --  
Robillard in garden.--  
Napoleon & George on sick list.--

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>        A beautiful fine calm clear day --?.--  
All the men as yesterday.--  
Napoleon killed a pig for next weeks rations 173 lbs.

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>            Blowing a strong northerly[?] breeze but fine.--  
Men finished ploughing big field this evening. George & Loma  
with horse & cart clearing out barn yard.--

Friday 26<sup>th</sup>            A beautiful clear day with a south westerly breeze.--  
Men ploughing in field before my garden.--

## MARCH

Wednesday 3<sup>d</sup>            Fine clear calm day until about 5 pm a fresh N:E: breeze  
sprang up.--

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<sup>6</sup> Lt. Bedwell has not been identified.

Returned from Fort about 8 pm -- found all well here.--

- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Beautiful fine clear day.--  
L'Gamine & Loma with the cart hauling gravel. George[?] carting away rubbish & hauling gravel. -- Aleck moving out of his ho:- & cleaning it out &c.-- Antoine assisted by Robillard clearing cook ho:- fitting up shelves<sup>7</sup> &c.-- Napoleon variously occupied. Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Raining more or less all day with a strong southerly breeze.--  
L'Gamine as yesterday likewise Antoine & Robillard. Leroux[?] with two Ind<sup>s</sup> I sent for shells to Lopez Island make lime -- Page carting gravel, Napoleon killing a pig &c.--
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Cloudy & showery all day. Calm.  
Men procuring firewood &c.--
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Clear fine day & warm.  
All quiet --  
Peltier<sup>8</sup> & others arrived from Fort en route to Fort Langley.--
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Returned from Victoria in "Beaver" -- I left yesterday morning.-- M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> Dallas<sup>9</sup> arrived here likewise in steamer.--
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> A beautiful fine calm clear day--  
Robillard & Aleck in garden. Napoleon & George killing a pig &c -  
- L'Gamine & Joe out at Port L'Enfer ploughing. Antoine cook & steward for M<sup>r</sup> Dallas.--
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> A beautiful fine calm clear day.--  
Men as yesterday. Napoleon & George cleaning oats.--
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged.--  
Sent Napoleon to Fort with letters &c from M<sup>r</sup> Dallas. -- Mens employment unchanged. George & all Indians cleaning oats.--  
Napoleon returned about 7 eve: --
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Fine clear day with a fresh westerly breeze.--

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<sup>7</sup> Archaeological evidence at the site of Belle Vue Farm reveals a structure that was probably a kitchen/dining building..

<sup>8</sup> Peltier has not been identified.

<sup>9</sup> Alexander Grant Dallas (1816-1882) was a Governor of the Company west of the Rockies as well as James Douglas' son-in-law.

Mens employment as yesterday. --

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Fine clear day with a fresh southerly breeze.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Unsettled weather cloudy --  
Loma & L'Gamine with Page & Ind<sup>s</sup> off cutting a new road from  
Grande Prairie to another prairie more inland. Aleck & George threshing  
wheat. Loma looking after herds.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Douglas arrived from Langely in "Beaver" 6 pm.

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Blowing a fresh westerly breeze weather strong[?]  
continual[?] showers rain[?].--  
Men cutting wood for "Beaver" -- M<sup>r</sup> Douglas left for Victoria  
about 3 pm.--  
H M S "Plumper" arrived about 3 pm: - & anchored in harbor.--

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> A beautiful fine calm clear day.--  
Aleck, George, & Robillard threshing wheat. Road makers  
returned home this evening.-- The others as usual.--

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged.--  
Men as yesterday. Road makers returned again to new prairie to  
assist in building a log house out there.--  
Accompanied M<sup>r</sup> Dallas, Cap<sup>t</sup> Richards<sup>10</sup> &c out to Summit<sup>11</sup>  
returned about 6 pm.--

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Weather fine & clear little or no wind.--  
Men threshing &c.--

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Weather unsettled, cloudy with a fest westerly breeze. Now  
9 pm blowing very hard.-  
Men threshing cutting & carting firewood &c.--  
Steamer "Beaver" arrived about 4 pm with M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> Young<sup>12</sup> -- M<sup>r</sup>  
& M<sup>rs</sup> Dallas returned to Victoria in her[?] immediately.-- "Plumper" left  
Griffin Bay.--

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> A beautiful fine clear day.--  
All quiet.--

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<sup>10</sup> George H. Richards was captain of the *HMS Plumper* (see f.n.4).

<sup>11</sup> This summit could either be Mount Finlayson or Mount Dallas.

<sup>12</sup> William A. G. Young was Colonial Secretary of Vancouver Island (Miller 1940:59).



- Monday 22<sup>d</sup>            Blowing a strong westerly breeze.--  
Men cleaning wheat &c.--
- Tuesday 23<sup>d</sup>            Blowing a strong southerly breeze.--  
Men threshing wheat & procuring firewood.--
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>        Wind still continues blowing strong from the southward &  
cold.--  
Napoleon commenced sowing peas. L'Gamine, George, Aleck &  
"Joe" with a yoke of oxen each -- Antoine & Robillard cutting wood for  
two new carts, a horse cart and an ox cart.--  
[*marginal note* Comm<sup>d</sup> sowing peas.]
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>            Wind calmer & weather more settled.--  
All the men as yesterday.--  
A canoe arrived from Victoria with letters from M<sup>r</sup> Douglas &  
Angus Macdonald a passenger.--
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup>            Weather continued unsettled very dull, with a fresh S:E:  
breeze.--  
Men harrowing.--
- Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>            Fine & clear with a light S:W: air[?].--  
Four of the men threshing wheat. Antoine & Robillard making two  
new carts -- L'Gamine & "Joe" hauling firewood.--
- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>            Blowing a strong S:W: breeze & clear--  
All quiet.--
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup>            Fine clear day with a gentle w: breeze--  
Loma & Antoine with horse & cart out on Prairie du Chine<sup>13</sup>  
cutting oak for axletree[?] &c -- Aleck & "Joe" ploughing up small  
enclosure behind mens houses for carrots &c. -- George making field  
gates. L'Gamine cleaning wheat.--
- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>            Fine, calm, clear & warm. --  
Loma leveling[?] in fields with L--? -- the others making carts, gates  
& harrowing. Napoleon sowing oats.--
- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>        A fresh westerly breeze fine & warm.--

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<sup>13</sup> Prairie du Chine appears to be the pasturage at the north end of the island, near Roche Harbor.

"Otter" arrived about 9 am: -- discharged what property she had for here & left about 12 o'clock. M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> Young left in her for Victoria.-- Men forenoon assisting to get property up from bay.-- Afternoon employed as yesterday.-- L'Gamine & "Joe" with 6 oxen carting up plank from bay.--

## APRIL

- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>            Fine calm clear day.--  
Aleck, L'Gamine & "Joe" harrowing. Loma rolling with horses.  
Napoleon sowing oats. Antoine & Robillard making an ox & horse cart.  
George making a gate for ram[?] yard[?].--
- Friday 2<sup>d</sup>            Showery all forenoon with westerly breeze. Afternoon fine,  
warm & calm.--  
All men employed as yesterday.--  
Last night the "Shark"[?] arrived from "Semiamoo" Bay. Messrs.  
Hawkins & Hills[?]<sup>14</sup> remained in Griffin Bay all night & left this morning  
for Victoria.--  
A boat with American deserters arrived about 2 pm from the other  
side en route to Victoria.--
- Saturday 3<sup>d</sup>            Blowing a strong S:W: breeze & very cold--  
Men procuring firewood &c.--
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>            Fine, warm, calm day.--  
All quiet.--
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup>            Weather fine with a light westerly air, one or two slight  
showers of rain in afternoon.--  
Robillard, Antoine & George building a new dairy<sup>15</sup>, Aleck, "Joe" &  
L'Gamine with oxen harrowing, Napoleon sowing oats, Loma with horse  
rolling field.
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>            Beautiful calm warm day.--  
Robillard & Antoine at dairy, George, L'Gamine & Napoleon  
sowing potatoes, Loma & Aleck ploughing drills for potatoes.--

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<sup>14</sup> Hawkins and Hills have not been identified.

<sup>15</sup> The rapidity with which this new dairy went up (it was finished two days later) suggests that it was not a regular, enclosed log structure like the men's houses and the granary, the building of which is described a few days later.

HM:S: "Plumper" arrived about 6 pm.-- Cap<sup>t</sup> Richards visited estblmt.--

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>      Blowing fresh west & showery.--  
All the men as yesterday.--  
Supplied 7 wethers to "Plumper" .--

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>      Fine warm calm day.--  
Men finished dairy.-- Aleck reploughing a portion of home[?] field.  
L'Gamine harrowing d<sup>e</sup>: -- Napoleon laid up with Rheumatism[?].--  
"Plumper" left 8 am this morning for Orcas Bay.--

Friday 9<sup>th</sup>      Blowing a breeze south? & very chilly.--  
Aleck & L'Gamine out at Port L'Enfer sowing & harrowing oats.  
Robillard George & Leroux cutting blocks & laying sols for grainary<sup>16</sup>.  
Napoleon & Loma left this morning for Cowitchin to trade potatoes for seed. Antoine whose contract has expired left for Victoria.--

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>      Showery all day with a cold southerly breeze.--  
Aleck & L'Gamine cutting & hauling firewood for all the houses. --  
Robillard & the others two with him laying & placing sols blocks &c.--  
Last night Cale, John Bull & two kanakas<sup>17</sup> just engaged at Vic:  
arrive at Fridays.--  
These men are engaged as shepherds. Went out there myself, &  
sent John Bull to his own ho: --"Lawary"[?] in charge of wethers at Port  
L'Enfer & the other kanaka remained with Friday.--

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>      A beautiful day, very warm & calm.--  
All quiet.--  
Visited Young Page's new station, John Bulls passing round[?] by  
Grande Prairie.--

Monday 12<sup>th</sup>      Forenoon fine, calm & clear, afternoon showery with a  
strong westerly breeze.--  
Aleck & L'Gamine ploughing & harrowing a small piece behind  
Napoleon's ho:- & hauling firewood &c.-- George, Robillard & Leroux

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<sup>16</sup> This, the beginning of the granary, is a good description of construction in the 'Canadian', 'Red River', or Hudson's Bay Company style.

<sup>17</sup> Kanakas were Hawaiians of lower class who were engaged by the Company to work in the Pacific Northwest (Tom Koppel, *Kanaka: The Untold Story of Hawaiian Pioneers in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest* [Vancouver: Whitecap Books, 1995]; Jean Barman and Bruce Watson, *Leaving Paradise: Indigenous Hawaiians in the Pacific Northwest, 1787-1898* [Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2006]).

laying lower beams of granary.-- Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--

Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> A fine day with a gentle westerly breeze.--  
Aleck & L'Gamine left early this morning for John Bulls to plough up some land there. The others as yesterday.--  
Antoine returned from Fort to get his things he leaves in the morning.--  
Napoleon & Loma returned from Cowitchin they succeeded in getting enough potatoes<sup>18</sup> for seed.--

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Very warm fine & calm--  
Antoine left early this morning.-- Napoleon & Ind<sup>s</sup> cutting potatoes. -- The others as yesterday.--

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Another beautiful calm warm day.--  
All hands sowing potatoes except Robillard & George, grooving posts for grainary. --

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Weather cloudy but calm. --  
All hands sowing potatoes.-- Page cut his hand very severely.--

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Cloudy with a chilly westerly breeze.--  
Finished sowing potatoes  
Rations served to all hands say 215 lb mutton.--

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Fresh southerly wind & heavy constant rain.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Beautiful fine warm, calm day.--  
Napoleon sowing peas & carrots in field in front of estlmnt.--  
Aleck, L'Gamine & "Joe" with a yoke of oxen each harrowing.-- Loma with two horses rolling land. George, Leroux & Robillard weeding garden &c.-- Sent four Indians out to John Bulls to split shingles for a shed to be built there in the course of the summer to house the crops sown there.--  
Old Page on the list with a bad hand.--  
Shepherds all with their respective flocks. Ewes nearly finished lambing.--  
"Plumper" passed here thru Inner? Passage from Victoria to "Orcas" Island<sup>19</sup>--

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<sup>18</sup> See 1854, f.n. 10.

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Heavy showers of rain all day -- tonight (9 pm) blowing a strong westerly breeze.--

All hands weeding & working in garden. Loma & L'Gamine cutting & bending yoke[?] bows.-

Napoleon out all day with Ind<sup>s</sup> splitting shingles at John Bulls.--

Page hand much swollen & causing a great deal of pain.--

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Fine, with a strong westerly breeze.--

Robillard, George & L'Gamine squaring posts other end of prairie.

Aleck attending on Old Page, whose hand is much swollen & inflammation setting up the arm. I sent Loma off this evening to Orcas Bay to try to find the "Plumper" to get one of their doctors here.-- I wrote to Cap<sup>t</sup> Richards.

Napoleon clearing store &c.--

Thursday 22<sup>d</sup> A fine calm clear day.--

George, L'Gamine & Robillard squaring posts & framing --

Napoleon rolling fields.-- Loma returned with "Plumper" this morning -- the two doctors saw Page & strongly recommended my sending Page to Victoria, as mortification seems taking place.-- So sent Aleck & Napoleon with him in a canoe--

The "Plumper" left again for Orcas bay about 2 pm: --

Friday 23<sup>d</sup> Cloudy but calm.--

George & Robillard grooving posts. Loma & George putting up a park[?] for calves.-- "Joe" hauling firewood[?].-- Angus killing sheep for rations tomorrow.--

Napoleon & two others returned from Victoria about 6 pm.--

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Calm & warm.--

Men all variously employed. --

A schooner arrived from Port Townsend with some[?] U.S: soldiers looking for deserters.-- Another boat arrived from same place with two Americans who had a quantity of liquor on board.-- the Indians /Clalams/ here in the camp bought some & were all intoxicated -- fighting among themselves & some attacked the soldiers on shore here we had great difficulty in quieting them fired[?] in Hubb's house?, the ball passed thru the window & lodged in the pillow on the bed.-- they likewise seized the boat having the liquor, after she had left them, --?, forced the men in her to return here, & stole their liquor. -- which we seized on their

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<sup>19</sup> Orcas is the largest island of the San Juan archipelago.

landing here, & broke the keg open & destroyed it.-- As soon as the men could get on board their boat they left for Port Townsend.<sup>20</sup> 192 lb. mutton for rations.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>            Another very calm, warm day.--  
All quiet.--  
A canoe with 3 kanakas arrived from Steilacoom[?] this evening. --

Monday 26<sup>th</sup>            Fine calm clear day.--  
George & Robillard at granary, Loma & "Joe" Aleck & L'Gamine with 4 oxen to a plough each breaking up a new piece of land other side of Hollands Bridge for turnips.-- Napoleon & Leroux cutting willows to put around my garden fence to keep hens &c out.-- Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--  
Harris arrived from Port Townsend.--

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>            Weather continued warm & calm.--  
George hauling posts & rails for fencing beyond Hollands bridge, 4 men & eight oxen ploughing there.--  
Leroux putting willows round garden fence to keep hens out of garden.-- Napoleon at odd jobs.-- Robillard sick.-- Hills left with Harris last night for Port Townsend.--  
"Plumper" arrived this evening about 6 pm.--  
Clalams all left their lodges.--

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>        Cloudy westerly wind fine.--  
All hands as yesterday, Napoleon weeding in garden.-- Robillard ill.--  
"Plumper" here. Cap<sup>t</sup> Richards working ?? ?? all day -- measuring base line &c.--

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>            Very warm, fine & clear.--  
All hands at new field. Loma & "Joe" harrowing. Napoleon making pegs. George with horse & cart carting railing. Aleck & L'Gamine boring holes in posts & afterwards with Leroux splitting cedar posts among drift wood on beach. We require 208 posts.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs returned from Port Townsend with Harris this evening.--

Friday 30<sup>th</sup>            Blowing a chilly westerly breeze, cloudy.--  
All the men as yesterday.--

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<sup>20</sup> This incident precipitated a flurry of correspondence regarding protection from Indians; see May 26th.

Harris left for Victoria.--

MAY

- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>            Fine clear day, warm & calm.--  
Men all employed as Thursday.  
Killed 180 lb. mutton for rations.--
- Sunday 2<sup>d</sup>            Weather much as yesterday.--  
All quiet.--  
Two boats with Americans from Langley in one of which was Mr.  
Olney<sup>21</sup>.--
- Monday 3<sup>d</sup>            Fine clear calm day.--  
Loma, Aleck & George putting up new fence. "Joe" hauling rails.  
Two Ind<sup>s</sup> cutting d<sup>o</sup>: -- Napoleon transplanting cabbages in my garden.--  
Willy[?], L'Gamine, Friday & Leroux left for Victoria their contracts  
having expired.--  
Mr Olney & the other boats left for Port Townsend.--
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>           Fresh westerly wind, fine & clear.--  
Men & Ind<sup>s</sup> all as yesterday. Nap. collecting all the empty salmon  
barrels & storing them away in one of the empty stable for safe keeping.--
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>           Fine, calm & warm.--  
Men finished fence this evening.--  
Young Page ~~& his master~~, Friday & his son / eng<sup>d</sup> for 1 yr. at £5/ &  
"Joey" arrived from Victoria.--
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>           Very warm & calm. --  
George & Aleck cutting wood for another bridge above Hollands  
old bridge.-- Loma hauling d<sup>o</sup>.-- Ind<sup>s</sup> raking, collecting & burning fern  
roots in new field. Nap. with latter.--
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup>            Very warm all day & calm. --  
George, Aleck & Nap. at new bridge. Loma hauling wood for d<sup>o</sup>.--  
Ind<sup>s</sup> collecting & burning fern roots in new field.--  
Two boats from Port Townsend.--
- Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>           Continues very warm & calm.--

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<sup>21</sup> Mr. Olney has not been identified.

All the men & Ind<sup>s</sup> as yesterday.--  
H.M.S: "Plumper" arrived in the bay about 8 am.--

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>            Weather cloudy, warm & calm.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 10<sup>th</sup>            Weather much as yesterday with a fresh N:W: breeze.--  
Aleck & Angus[?] killing sheep for Man a War say 13 -- Nap. &  
Loma cutting a spar for "Plumper".-- George at bridge.-- Ind<sup>s</sup> weeding.--  
Accompanied Cap<sup>t</sup> Richards to summit.-- One of the "Satellites"<sup>22</sup>  
boats with M<sup>r</sup> Reed<sup>23</sup> arrived from Esquimalt.-- The American steamer  
"Panama"<sup>24</sup> passed thru Griffin Bay for "Semiamoo"<sup>25</sup>--

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>            A fresh westerly breeze. Cloudy & chilly.--  
George & Aleck at bridge.-- Napoleon with Ind<sup>s</sup> out at sheep wash  
cutting rails &c.-- Loma making two new ox yokes.--  
"Plumper" left this morning for "Destruction Passage"<sup>26</sup>.  
"Satellites" boat with M<sup>r</sup> Reed left about 10 am: for Victoria.--  
A boat /Straffords<sup>27</sup>/ arrived from Port Townsend going to  
Langley.--

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>        Fine day, calm & clear.--  
George & Aleck cutting & squaring filling up logs for granary.--  
Nap: with Ind<sup>s</sup> as yesterday. Loma making ox yokes.--

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>            Weather fine warm & clear.--  
George, Aleck, L'Gamine & Pakee squaring filling up logs for  
granary. Loma with Indians cleaning out sheep shed.-- Napoleon with  
Ind<sup>s</sup> out at sheep was putting up a new park &c.--

Friday 14<sup>th</sup>            Extremely hot & calm.--  
George & the others as yesterday.--  
Loma & Nap: with horses for the fourth time ploughing of new  
field.--

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<sup>22</sup> HMS *Satellite*, a 21 gun steam corvette, was one of the Pacific Station's five warships.

<sup>23</sup> Mr. Reed has not been identified.

<sup>24</sup> The steamship *Panama* was one of the original three ships built for the Pacific Coast trade after the discovery of gold in California (Tacoma Public Library, Northwest Room, Ships and Shipping Database [[www.tpl.lib.wa.us/cgi/shipcgi2.exe](http://www.tpl.lib.wa.us/cgi/shipcgi2.exe)]).

<sup>25</sup> Semiamoo, located on the mainland north of Bellingham Bay, was the base camp established by the American Northwest Boundary Survey team.

<sup>26</sup> Destruction Passage has not been identified; may be Obstruction Pass southeast of Orcas.

<sup>27</sup> Strafford has not been identified.



Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>            Weather calm & warm until about 4 pm commenced  
                                 blowing a breeze from Westward. --  
                                 Men & Ind<sup>s</sup> washing wethers. George & others as yesterday. Nap:  
                                 sowing turnips. Loma harrowing.--  
                                 90 lb. mutton killed for rations.--  
                                 "Plumper" arrived about 6 pm:-- leave for Victoria tomorrow.--  
                                 Harris arrived from Fort.--

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>            Weather fine calm & clear.--  
                                 All quiet.--

Monday 17<sup>th</sup>            Very warm & calm.--  
                                 George L'Gamine & 3 Ind<sup>s</sup> cutting & squaring filling up logs for  
                                 granary. Loma with oxen hauling d<sup>o</sup>-- Napoleon with Ind<sup>s</sup> hoeing  
                                 potatoes. Aleck with Angus bringing gimmers in to Little Mountain.--  
                                 Young Page left with his mother for Victoria.--

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>            Very warm & not a breath of wind.--  
                                 Aleck & Angus commenced shearing wethers. Kunua[?] tying  
                                 fleeces.-- Sent for Friday & John Bull to assist at shearing.-- Pakee[?]  
                                 working in the garden. George & L'Gamine with 3 Ind boys cutting &  
                                 squaring filling up pieces.-- Loma carting firewood, & brought John Bull  
                                 & his family here.-- Young Page & Robillard returned from Victoria.--

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>        Weather much as yesterday.--  
                                 Friday & John Bull with the other men shearing. All the other men  
                                 as yesterday.--  
                                 About 3 pm: "Otter" arrived with M<sup>r</sup> Douglas & M<sup>r</sup> Dallas &  
                                 Golledge[?]<sup>28</sup> -- Old Page returned in the "Otter" -- Loma left to  
                                 accompany M<sup>r</sup> Douglas to Nanaimo & Fraser River.-- "Otter" left again  
                                 about 5 pm:--

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>            Weather cloudy & threatening, fresh westerly wind.--  
                                 Two M<sup>s</sup>Donalds & the two kanakas shearing. Kunua[?] tying wool  
                                 &c.-- George, Robillard, L'Gamine & 3 Ind<sup>s</sup> squaring filling up pieces.  
                                 Pakee working in the garden. Charley & Leroux hoeing potatoes in field.-  
                                 - Napoleon with horse & cart, carting away rubbish from yard.--

Friday 21<sup>st</sup>            Weather much as yesterday.--  
                                 All hands as yesterday.--

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<sup>28</sup> Golledge has not been identified.

Saturday 22<sup>d</sup>            Left for Victoria

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>        Fine clear warm day with a gentle S:W: wind.--  
Returned from Victoria about midday found all well.-- Men all at  
their various occupations.

It seems on Monday the "Sea Bird" with Major Haller<sup>29</sup> & a few[?] soldiers from Port Townsend arrived here with the intention of ascertaining full particulars relative to the recent disturbance here between the "Clalams" & a party of soldiers sent some time ago in pursuit of deserters & likewise about the insults made to M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs, it seems they received a severe reprimand & a caution that a second attempt of like nature would meet with most severe & summary punishment.--

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>            Rain more or less all day with a fresh S:W: wind.--  
George, Robillard & L'Gamine fitting in filling up pieces in granary.-- Pakee in garden. Shepherds finished shearing wethers & waiting for a fine day to wash them in tob<sup>o</sup> water.--

Friday 28<sup>th</sup>              Blowing a strong westerly gale & chilly.--  
George, Robillard & L'Gamine out at sheep wash laying a flooring in Park to keep dust & dirt from falling into the water.-- 2 Ind<sup>s</sup> putting up a fence in the water all around the wash.-- Pakee in garden. Nap: painting & putting iron work on new cart &c.--

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>            Weather much as yesterday.--  
Men procuring firewood &c.--  
Shepherds washing wethers in tob<sup>o</sup> water.--

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>              Fine, warm & calm day.--  
All quiet.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs returned from Victoria.--

Monday 31<sup>st</sup>              Fair all day, warm & clear -- after sunset commenced raining heavily.--  
Shepherds & Ind<sup>s</sup> washing young ewes.-- George, L'Gamine & Robillard squaring filling up logs for granary.-- Napoleon putting axletree on --? cart.-- Pakee working in garden.--

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<sup>29</sup> The *Sea Bird* was an Eastern-built, 450-ton, sidewheel steamer that arrived in California in 1851; she came north to the Sound in 1857, but only stayed until 1858 (Tacoma Public Library, Northwest Room, Ships and Shipping Database [[www.tpl.lib.wa.us/cgi/shipcgi2.exe](http://www.tpl.lib.wa.us/cgi/shipcgi2.exe)]). Captain Granville O. Haller was commander of Company I, Fourth Infantry, based at Fort Townsend.

## JUNE

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>            Fine, warm & calm.--  
All hands as yesterday. Napoleon carting water for boiling tob<sup>o</sup> --  
Shepherds out at John Bulls putting up a park &c.--
- Wednesday 2<sup>d</sup>        Calm warm & clear.--  
Mens occupations unchanged.--  
Quite a number of sailing vessels & steamers passing up & down  
the straits.--
- Thursday 3<sup>d</sup>           Very warm all day & calm.--  
Robillard, L'Gamine & George putting in filling up pieces in  
granary. Napoleon making a new wheelbarrow. Pakee working in  
garden. Ind<sup>s</sup> hoeing potatoes.--  
Shepherds commenced shearing young ewes.--
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup>            Weather much as yesterday, every warm.--  
All the men as yesterday.--  
A canoe arrived late last night from Victoria with a man by name  
Thomas Jones engaged for 1 year at 50/p<sup>r</sup> m<sup>o</sup> as laborer.--
- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>           Weather unchanged.--  
Mens occupations unchanged. Jones hoeing potatoes.--
- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>            Weather continued the same.--  
All quiet.--
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup>            Oppressively warm all day not a breath of wind.--  
Napoleon & Jones ploughing potatoes instead of hoeing. Robillard  
& George cutting couples[?] for roof of granary. L'Gamine with oxen  
hauling d<sup>o</sup>[?]. Ind<sup>s</sup> cleaning & sweeping around estblmnt & hoeing in my  
fields.--  
Shepherds finished shearing young ewes.--
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>           Very warm & calm. --  
George & L'Gamine squaring couples[?]. Robillard making a horse  
cart. Napoleon & Jones ploughing potatoes. Shepherds tying up wool in  
bales.-- Pakee in garden.--
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>        The warmest day I have experienced this spring -- not a  
breath of wind.--  
Men as yesterday.--

Shepherds washing Friday's flock of old ewes.--  
Several canoes & boats arrived from Victoria & the other side.--

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>      Another very warm day & calm.--  
Shepherds washing young ewes in tob<sup>o</sup> water. The other men  
ploughing potatoes & working at granary.--

Friday 11<sup>th</sup>      Weather unchanged.--  
Shepherds washing Friday's band of old ewes.-- The other men  
weeding in fields &c.--  
H:M:S: Plumper arrived about 1 o'clock p.m.--

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>      Weather unchanged, dense smoke from fires all over the  
country.--  
Men's occupations as usual.--  
Shepherds commenced shearing Friday's band of old ewes.--

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>      Weather unchanged.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 14<sup>th</sup>      Cloudy with a S:W: breeze.--  
Robillard & George making doors for granary. L'Gamine & Jones  
with Ind<sup>s</sup> weeding potatoes in field. Pakee in garden. Shepherds shearing  
Friday's sheep.--

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>      Raining heavily during the night & cool this morning . All  
day blowing a strong westerly gale.--  
Robillard & all the others cutting logs to repair cattle park & make  
it higher. -- Shepherds finished shearing Fridays band ewes.--  
H:M:S: Plumper left about 12 o'clock for "Saturna"<sup>30</sup>--

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>      Fine warm calm day.--  
Robillard & others putting up cattle park. Shepherds packing wool  
sewing[?] bales &c.--  
Sent Napoleon to Victoria with letter & to get supplies for Estblnt &  
men & Ind<sup>s</sup>--

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>      Weather unchanged.--  
Men as yesterday.--  
Shepherds commenced shearing John Bulls sheep.--

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<sup>30</sup> Saturna Island is located just north of Haro Strait in what are currently named the Gulf Islands or Canadian San Juans.

- Friday 18<sup>th</sup>            Weather unchanged.--  
                          Robillard, L'Gamine, Jones & George cutting filling up pieces for  
                          barn, the pieces during last year having shrunk very much.--  
                          Shepherds as yesterday.--
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>            Weather fine with a fresh westerly breeze.--  
                          Men as yesterday. Shepherds finished shearing John Bulls flock.--
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>            Dull & cloudy, one or two slight showers of rain[?].--  
                          Clalams all in a fearful state of drunkenness all day, murdering each  
                          other & fearfully excited. Clalam "Doctor", his father "Tarpaulin", & a  
                          slave girl killed & 2 lodges[?] burnt to the ground.--
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup>            Blowing a fresh westerly breeze.--  
                          Shepherds washing Willy's sheep.--  
                          John Bull went out with his sheep to his house to remain.-- Jones &  
                          L'Gamine ploughing up behind Page's house which is overgrown with  
                          weeds. -- George squaring wood for filling up pieces for barn. Napoleon  
                          with Ind: women weeding turnips. Robillard sick. Pakee in garden.--
- Tuesday 22<sup>d</sup>            Early this morning we had a heavy shower of rain, --?, fine  
                          warm & calm.--  
                          George, L'Gamine, Jones, Friday, two "Lamanies?" & 2 Inds out  
                          cutting a road from prairie to Old Fishery Ho: for driving sheep there for  
                          shipping &c.-- Page, Angus & Aleck :- packing wool -- Nap. with Ind<sup>d</sup>  
                          women weeding & thinning turnips.--  
                          The dead body of a white man was found in the salt water below  
                          the big field -- I had it brought here & buried -- the body was so much  
                          decayed & eaten nothing could be recognized. There was a ball mark thru  
                          & thru the body below the chest -- a guernsey shirt & a blue shirt with a  
                          silk worked chain was found on the body & a cord round his neck --  
                          evidently after being murdered he must have had a weight attached to  
                          drown him -- a mark on his left cheek apparently a blow, as the blood was  
                          black on the part, must have occurred [?]dently before death.--
- Wednesday 23<sup>d</sup>        Fine clear day forenoon pm few drops of rain.  
                          All hands, shepherds & all, out at Fishery Store[?] putting up a log  
                          park for shipping sheep &c.--  
                          Last night M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs returned from Victoria.--  
                          Another body was found today quite close to the place where the  
                          one was found yesterday. -- only[?] more eaten & decomposed -- several  
                          shot & ball marks to be seen on the arm & chest & a rope similar to that

found round the neck of the body found yesterday wound the neck of this one.--

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Raining heavily forenoon, afternoon fine & clear.--  
Men weeding in fields &c.--  
Shepherds commenced shearing Young Page's band of old ewes.--

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Fine clear day. --  
Sent Napoleon this morning to Victoria for flour &c. -- he returned about 2 pm: --  
H:M: Ship "Plumper" launch arrived from "Saturna" this evening about 7 p:m: -- M<sup>r</sup> Bedwell[?] en route for Victoria.--

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> Fine calm clear day.--  
Men repairing fencing &c. -- procuring firewood. Shepherds shearing Willy's sheep.--

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Fine with a gentle westerly breeze.--  
Robillard painting store doors & shutters doors of men's houses, windows.-- Jones clearing away weeds &c.-- L'Gamine out at John Bulls with oxen carting shingles. -- Shepherds shearing Young Page's sheep.--  
A boat from Bellingham Bay with Am<sup>ns</sup> &c. -- & another /Mike[?]/ from Victoria.--

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> Blowing a fresh westerly breeze & very chilly.--  
L'Gamine & Ind<sup>s</sup> weeding amongst oats & potatoes in home field.--  
Robillard painting &c.-- Jones sick.-- Shepherds finished shearing Young Pages sheep.--

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged.--  
L'Gamine hauling logs. Jones & Robillard cutting logs for fencing round stables &c.--  
Shepherds baling up wool.--

## JULY

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Fine calm warm day--

Napoleon, L'Gamine, Jones & Robillard out at Port L'Enfer cutting logs for a fence round oats out there. Ind<sup>s</sup> cleaning out barn yard round houses & yard &c.--

Young Page left with his flock for Grande Prairie.--

Friday 2<sup>d</sup>                    A fresh westerly breeze fine & warm--  
All the men as yesterday.-- L'Gamine with "Lamane"[?] &  
"Charly" & a yoke of oxen each hauling logs.--  
Friday left for Port L'Enfer to remain there for the present with his  
flock.--

Saturday 3<sup>d</sup>                Warm calm & clear--  
Mens employment unchanged.--

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>                Weather warm with a light westerly breeze.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 5<sup>th</sup>                Warm, calm & clear.--  
All the men & Ind<sup>s</sup> out at Port L'Enfer cutting logs for fencing. 8  
oxen hauling d<sup>o</sup>:--  
Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>                Weather warm but cloudy & unsettled.--  
All the men as yesterday.--

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>            Cloudy all day little or no wind.--  
All the men, except two M<sup>c</sup>Donalds & Robillard, out at John Bulls  
splitting cedar to begin building a shed there for oats, peas &c.--  
Two M<sup>c</sup>D<sup>s</sup> & Robillard left for Fort to get house supplies for  
themselves &c.--

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>              Showery nearly all day & warm.--  
Men out at John Bulls shingling on a shed.-- Two Indians cleaning  
out sheep shed.--  
About 9 pm Henry M<sup>c</sup>Neill<sup>31</sup> arrived from Victoria en route to  
Point Roberts to await the governor[?] who come tomorrow on the  
"Satellite" for this place.--

Friday 9<sup>th</sup>                Fine, warm & calm.--  
Men as yesterday.-- Johny "Kanaka" & "Charly" with ox cart,  
carting the manure taken out of shed in the field behind Pages Ho:--

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<sup>31</sup> Henry M<sup>c</sup>Neill has not been identified.

Henry McNeill left early this morning.--

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>            Very warm & calm. --  
Mens employment as yesterday.--  
Two McDonalds & Robillard returned from Victoria.--

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>[?]            Blowing a fresh westerly breeze but fine.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>            Blowing a strong westerly breeze -- fine --  
All hands, men & Ind<sup>s</sup> out at Port L'Enfer putting up log fence out  
there round oats.--

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>            Fine, calm & warm.--  
Men finished fence at Port L'Enfer forenoon.-- afternoon out at  
Fishery building a stage &c. --  
Separated 356 wethers  
57 rams  
ready for shipment to Victoria.--

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>        Calm, warm & clear.--  
Men out at Little Mountain commencing another sheep station.--  
One of the "Plumper" boats with M<sup>r</sup> Pender arrived this afternoon.-

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Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>            Fine & clear & calm.--  
All hands as yesterday.-- out at Little Mountain, Indians carting  
manure, repairing fences, clearing around the estblmt.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Pender left early this morning for Henry's Island.--

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>            Very warm & calm.--  
Men's employment unchanged.--  
Ind<sup>s</sup> cleaning up barn threshing some rubbish[?] still remaining  
there.--

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>            Another warm day with southerly air.--  
Men procuring firewood & variously employed.--

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>            Very warm & calm.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 20<sup>th</sup>            Weather unchanged.--



Robillard, George, Aleck, L'Gamine & Jones out at Little Mountain erecting a shepherds hut.-- Pakee attending cows & working in the garden.-- Napoleon will start cleaning out barn & making a stack of some wheat & pea's straw of last year.--

Shepherds all with their respective flocks.-- "Moribeau" foaled, a -- ? foal.--

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Fine with a strong westerly breeze.--  
All the men & Ind<sup>s</sup> as yesterday. L'Gamine with horse cart, carting [insert cedar] shingle lath from near John Bulls ho:- to Little Mountain.--

Wednesday 22<sup>d</sup> Fine warm day, calm--  
Men's employment unchanged.-- L'Gamine carting shingles to Little Mountain with horse & cart.--  
About 8:30 pm "Otter" anchored in Harbor & immediately landed  
50 bags flour  
1 chest tea  
1 bl soap  
100 lb grease  
carted up & stored,

Thursday 23<sup>d</sup> Very warm & calm.--  
All hands putting sheep on board "Otter".--  
350 wethers  
56 rams  
"Otter" left for Victoria about 4:30 PM:--

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged--  
Men out at Little Mountain laying flooring, roof &c.  
"Plumper" boats "Shark" & whaler[?] arrived this evening.--

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged.--  
Men's employment as yesterday.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs returned in Rev: Cutter from Port Townsend.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Pender & boats left early this morning. --

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Weather as usual -- slight showers of rain before day light.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Very warm & calm.--  
George, Robillard & Jones out at Little Mountain shingling gable side & laying flooring in log ho: -- L'Gamine cutting & making fence[?]

&c. -- Aleck with horse & cart carting manure &c. Ind<sup>s</sup> cleaning out parks at sheep shed.--

Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--

Young Page brought his flock in tonight from Grande Prairie.--

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>            Weather very warm & calm.--

Men as yesterday, L'Gamine out at Little Mountain with oxen hauling more[?] wood for flooring.-- The others as yesterday.--

Old Page & Angus culling old ewes out of Willy's[?] flock & weaning his lambs.--

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>        Very warm & calm.--

George, Robillard, Napoleon & L'Gamine making cradles<sup>32</sup> &c. -- preparing for harvest.-- Aleck cutting ox collars.-- Jones at various occupations around the estblmt. "Charly" with young lambs just weaned on Home Prairie.-- Old Page & shepherds weaning Friday's lambs & culling his ewes.--

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>            Dense fog all day calm & warm.--

Men as yesterday. Aleck & Jones out on Oak Prairie cutting two new axletrees[?].--

Weather permitting intend leaving for Victoria in the morning.--

## AUGUST

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>            Arrived about 3 pm on the H:M:S: "Plumper" found all well here.--

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>            Heavy rain during the night & a few slight showers during the day -- fresh S:W: wind.

Men arranging their cradles &c.--

Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>                Raining more or less all forenoon, evening fine & calm.--

Men's employment as yesterday.--

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>            Fine, warm, calm day.--

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<sup>32</sup> Cradles are scythes with finger-like attachments used for harvesting grain crops (Eric Sloane, A Museum of Early American Tools [New York: Dodd, Mead & Company 1964] p. 103). Fort Vancouver converted from scythes to cradles as early as 1841 (John A. Hussey, The Fort Vancouver Farm, p. 160).

Men cutting & hauling firewood &c.--

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Cloudy but very warm & calm.--  
All quiet. -- "Marois"[?] calf died inflammation of the wind pipe.--

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Cloudy with heavy showers of rain.--  
Men commenced cutting oats, but were compelled to stop on  
account of rain.--  
All my Fort Hope Ind<sup>s</sup> deserted last night.--  
H:M:S: "Plumper" left early this morning for Smith's[?] Island &  
Fraser's River.--

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Cloudy & overcast with a fresh S:W: breeze--  
Men cutting oats.--

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Fine calm clear day.--  
Men cutting oats.--  
Page & his son left for Victoria, the latter I have discharged having  
refused to work.-- The old man has gone to get some advances for  
himself.--

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Fine calm & warm.--  
Men cutting oats.--  
Indian dog killed a young wether lamb.--

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged.--  
Men tying up oats.--  
Lame[?] cow lost her calf, seemed to have died from a disease of  
the heart & lungs.--

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Oppressively warm & calm.--  
Men tying up oats.--  
At midnight a boat arrived from Victoria with six men /vide  
contracts/ engaged for 2 mos: to act as shepherds or laborers.-- two I this  
morning sent out in charge of young Pages sheep, one with Friday &  
another with Angus' sheep.-- The other two working with the men at  
harvest.--  
Old Page returned from Victoria about 5 pm:--

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Weather continues very sultry[?] & calm.--  
All quiet.--  
"La Laima"[?], the young "Kanaka", deserted with some  
Americans today. --

Monday 16<sup>th</sup>            Weather unchanged. --  
                          All hands carting in oats, Ind: women & boys hauling peas.--  
                          L'Gamine & Aleck:- with each a yoke of oxen & hay carts.--  
                          M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs left for Victoria.--

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>            Weather unchanged.--  
                          Six men cradling oats, 2 men & Ind: women & boys hauling peas.--

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>        Cloudy & overcast & very sultry.--  
                          All hands & Ind: women & boys gathering peas & carting into  
                          barn.--  
                          M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs returned from Victoria.--

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>            Weather fine warm & clear.--  
                          Six men cutting oats forenoon, & 3 men & Ind<sup>n</sup> boys & women  
                          hauling peas.-- afternoon all hands carting peas & oats into barn.--  
                          I sent Angus M<sup>r</sup>Donald over to Victoria this morning with my stock  
                          account<sup>33</sup> &c.--

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>            Weather continues unchanged. --  
                          All hands as yesterday during forenoon, afternoon carting in peas.-  
                          -  
                          Angus returned about 6 am: from Victoria.--

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>            Weather unchanged.--  
                          All hands tying up oats.--

Sunday 22<sup>d</sup>            Cloudy & very chilly with a strong S:W: breeze.--  
                          Last night during the entire night we had one of the severest  
                          thunder storms ever experienced since I have been on the coast, with  
                          pouring rain.--  
                          All quiet.--

Monday 23<sup>d</sup>            Raining heavily all day without intermission.--  
                          Men unable to do any work.--

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>            Warm & calm but foggy.--  
                          Men untying bundles of oats that remained in field, which we had  
                          not time to cart in before the past heavy rains.-- turning over what was

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<sup>33</sup> Several accountings were sent by the Chief Traders to the Company headquarters (in this case, Fort Victoria) during the year. A full inventory of stock and supplies was taken during November.

not tied &c -- & sent three men out to the field at Port L'Enfer likewise, there it was all cut & tied ready for carting.--

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Fine, warm, calm day.--

Five men cutting oats in home field, & the other men & Ind<sup>s</sup> hauling peas & turning oats in big field.--

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged.--

Men tying & carting oats.-- L'Gamine with an Indian & horse & cart out at Port L'Enfer carting oats into shed.--

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Dense misty fog nearly all day.--

Men forenoon packing oats in barn, afternoon tying oats in home field.-- L'Gamine finished oat at Port L'Enfer.--

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Forenoon fine & clear. Afternoon showery with fog & chilly westerly wind.--

Finished carting in all our oats, the harvest here, except potatoes, is nearly completed.-- I have still some peas & oats out at John Bulls to gather in.--

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Fine, calm, warm day.--

All quiet.

M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs left for Port Townsend.--

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged.--

All hands out at John Bulls cutting oats & gathering peas &c.-- finished both this evening but still too green to be put in shed.--

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> Weather unchanged.--

All the men with 3 yoke of oxen cutting & clearing a road right thru from Oak Prairie lamb station thru Oak Prairie on to Leroux's Prairie & from thence on to Park Hill the other side of harbor<sup>34</sup>.-- Napoleon & Paris arranging our nets &c. preparatory to our beginning Sal: fishing.--

## SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Fine, warm, calm day.--

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<sup>34</sup>Although the exact location of Leroux's Prairie is not known, Park Hill is a small rise to the west of present-day Jackson's Beach and "Bald Hill", which would become the Gravel Pit.

Let out net this morning at 9 am:- & left it until 8 pm:- in the water without the smallest success -- although salmon were jumping all round it & even over it! Pakee with a canoe attending the net<sup>35</sup>. -- Napoleon & Aleck: out at John Bulls turning peas & oats.-- George, Robillard & two frenchmen cutting wood for a temporary wharf at landing place in harbor<sup>36</sup>. L'Gamine with two yoke oxen hauling logs on to Prairie out of the woods.--

- Thursday 2<sup>d</sup>            Weather unchanged.--  
All hands working at slip, building abutments & hauling stones  
&c.--  
"Lamaree" with 2 Ind<sup>s</sup> left with wethers & rams for Park Hill.--
- Friday 3<sup>d</sup>            Weather unchanged.--  
All hands working at slip -- making abutments, cutting & hauling  
wood, stones, &c.--
- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>            Weather unchanged.--  
Men's occupations as yesterday.--
- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>            Weather continues fine warm & calm.--  
All quiet.--
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup>            Weather excessively warm & calm.--  
All my men at work at the slip, cutting logs squaring do: & Aleck:  
& L'Gamine with oxen /3 yoke/ hauling d<sup>o</sup>: -- Napoleon with 2 Ind<sup>s</sup> out at  
John Bulls with horse & cart carting in peas & oats.-- Shepherds all with  
their respective flocks.--
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>            Weather continues warm, calm & clear.--  
All the men as yesterday. Napoleon making an ox yoke.--
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>        Very warm & fine calm weather.--  
All the men as yesterday, laying flooring on slip, cutting cedar logs  
for the splitting, &c.-- Aleck: & L'Gamine hauling out cedar.--  
Page & shepherds washing ewe lambs /Jo: Bulls' / in tob<sup>o</sup>. water.--
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>            Weather unchanged.--

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<sup>35</sup> Although salmon fishing -- the original cause of a Company establishment on San Juan Island-- had certainly been successful in the years prior to this, yielding about 300 barrels of salted fish per annum, apparently they were unsuccessful in both this and succeeding years.

<sup>36</sup> This is the beginning of the Company wharf that would later be used by American troops to occupy the island.

Mens occupations unchanged.--

Friday 10<sup>th</sup>            Weather continues the same.--  
Finished flooring on slip, laying upper logs &c.--

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>        Weather unchanged.--  
Men cutting more wood for slip out near Cowitchin Road.-- Aleck:  
& L'Gamine with 3 yoke oxen hauling d<sup>o</sup>.--

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>         Weather unchanged.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>         Weather fine, calm & clear.--  
Men at wharf. Aleck: & L'Gamine with 2 yoke of oxen hauling  
wood for posts rails &c. -- for wharf.--  
Pakee repairing pig styes. Shepherds all with their respective  
flocks.--

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>        Weather unchanged.--  
Finished the slip this evening, all but the steps, the tide will not  
permit working out so far there is only half ebbs at present.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>    Weather unchanged.--  
Men variously employed.-- making a ladder for wharf splitting  
shingles for pig styes &c. --

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>      Very warm & calm.--  
Went out with all hands to Park Hill to cut two roads, one to spring  
& the other thru --? to Prairie extending round the south side.--

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>         Cloudy & chilly with occasional showers of rain.--  
George & Chapuis[?] splitting shingles. Robillard making a horse  
for planing shingles. Victor making window frames for sheep station at  
Port L'Enfer. L'Gamine out at John Bulls putting up a chimney. Aleck  
with oxen & cart hauling water for Page to boil tob<sup>o</sup>.-- Napoleon variously  
occupied.--

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>        Fine & clear warm.  
Mens employment forenoon much as yesterday.--

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>         Very warm & calm.--  
All quiet.-- Visited all the stations found them all well.--

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Forenoon cloudy & thick afternoon fine & very warm. calm-  
-

All hands digging potatoes.-- 90 bus: today.--

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Forenoon cloudy, midday a very heavy shower of rain,  
lasted about 20 min:-- cleared off fine & very warm & calm.--

All hands digging up potatoes -- 105 bus:- today

Wednesday 22<sup>d</sup> Raining more or less all day -- very heavy rain indeed  
towards daylight.--

Some of the men making fencing round potatoes patch, others  
cutting logs to alter[?] root ho:- two others threshing oats &c.--

Thursday 23<sup>d</sup> Fine, calm & warm day.--

All hands digging potatoes -- 60 bus:-

Two men in two skiffs were murdered about 1 mile or 1 1/2 miles  
off the island opposite the estblmnt, the body of one was found dead in  
his skiff, the other had no one in it.-- both skiffs were brought in here by  
Mike who was coming from Victoria at the time & saw the boats  
apparently with no one in them & brought them here, he leaves in the  
morning for Whatcom & takes the two skiffs & the body with him.--

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Fine all day until 4 pm: when we had a heavy shower of  
rain.--

Men digging up potatoes 108 bus:-

We were obliged to bury the body found yesterday, as Mike  
disliked & was afraid taking it to Lummi. I had a coffin made & the body  
decently buried.--

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> All forenoon dense fog & thick mist.--

Men digging potatoes 66 bus:-

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Heavy rain throughout the night, today fine, calm & clear.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Heavy rain with a strong southerly breeze all night which  
lasted without intermission until midday when the wind  
shifted Neast still very strong but fine.--

Robillard & Victor repairing roof of root ho:-- Angus & L'Gamine  
cutting & hauling turf to put over d<sup>e</sup> -- Aleck: hauling wood for another  
root ho: -- from fork of Cowitchin road.-- Nap:, George, Chafin & Pakee  
threshing oats in barn. Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--



Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Fine, calm & clear.--  
Men at new root ho: -- cutting & laying turf on old one, hauling d<sup>e</sup>  
&c.--

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> Weather much as yesterday -- a magnificent comet<sup>37</sup> which  
has been seen here for the last 15 days tonight shone beautifully.--  
All hands as yesterday.--

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> Forenoon cloudy, afternoon showery with heavy dark  
clouds, it is now /10 clk. pm:/ blowing a gale of wind west.--  
Men finished potato cellar & put 26 bus. pt:[?] in it, some that have  
been left in bank of the field from last week.--

## OCTOBER

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Forenoon thick with light showers of rain. Afternoon fine  
beautiful clear weather.  
All hands digging up potatoes 44 blls at 132 bus:- put into new pit  
this day work.--  
The comet now shows magnificently it is nearly a month since we  
first noticed it.--

Saturday 2<sup>d</sup> Weather dull & cloudy, no rain until sunset when we had a  
small[?] shower.--  
Men digging potatoes 75 bus.- put into pit.--

Sunday 3<sup>d</sup> Fine, calm day.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Blowing a strong southerly breeze & heavy rain forenoon,  
afternoon wind veered to the west stilling[?] blowing hard but fine.--  
Forenoon men threshing oats, digging drains &c. -- afternoon  
digging up potatoes 63 bus:- in new pit.--

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Calm, beautiful day.--  
All hands digging up potatoes 168 bus. in new pit.--

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Beautiful, warm calm day.--

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<sup>37</sup> This comet, named after Giovanni Battista Donati, was first reported by him on June 20, 1858, and subsequently viewed throughout the world. With a triple tail that reached almost half the distance from horizon to zenith, it was the first comet to have been photographed ([http://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/great\\_comets.html](http://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/great_comets.html)).

All hands digging up potatoes 102 bus: in new pit.--  
Lieut: Mayne[?] & M<sup>r</sup> Blunden[?] arrived about 1 pm: in one of the  
"Plumper" boats from the Gulph[?]<sup>38</sup>--

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>            Weather much as yesterday.--  
All hands as yesterday say 93 bus: in new pit.--  
The "Shark" (H:M:S: "Plumper's" boat) arrived about 11 am:- with  
M<sup>r</sup> Bedwell[?] --

Friday 8<sup>th</sup>            Beautiful, fine warm calm day.--  
All hands digging up potatoes 99 bus: in new pit.--  
H:M:S: "Plumper" came down the Canal D'Arro about 10 am:  
signaled for the two boats which arrived here yesterday & Wednesday  
waited for them & then striked[?] almost immediately for Esquimalt.--

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>           Cloudy & overcast, calm.--  
All hands digging potatoes 129 bus: old[?] cellar.--

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>           Weather much as yesterday.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 11<sup>th</sup>           Cloudy, heavy weather & chilly wind light so:--  
All hands digging potatoes 120 bus:- in pit in field.--

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>           Forenoon as yesterday, afternoon fine wind north.--  
Robillard & George digging drains in ram yard. L'Gamine with  
oxen & cart hauling stones &c. for drain. Aleck:- milking cows &  
assisting[?] the others. Pakee shepherding. Angus & an Indian out with  
his sheep -- the other shepherds as usual.-- Napoleon left this morning for  
Victoria with the Beaver[?] engaged for 2 mos:- from 13<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> last.--

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>       Fine, calm & clear.--  
Men finished drain &c. -- forenoon, afternoon Robillard & George  
repairing rack[?] for cattle in barn yard. L'Gamine with ox cart hauling  
potato tops &c. out of field. Aleck: hauling firewood &c.--  
M<sup>r</sup> McNeill<sup>39</sup> & others arrived from Fort going deer hunting.--

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>           Strong westerly breeze with heavy rain all forenoon,  
afternoon fine wind still strong.--

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<sup>38</sup> Probably the Gulf of Georgia.

<sup>39</sup> William McNeill (as opposed to Henry) has not been identified.

George & Robillard making 3 gates for wharf & park at d<sup>o</sup>. Aleck:  
& L'Gamine carting potato tops out of field.--

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Cloudy & dull, calm.--  
Robillard & George covering[?] pig styes. L'Gamine & Aleck:  
cleaning potato field. --  
Napoleon returned from Fort about 5 pm: -- all well -- two out of  
the first --? returned with him. The other two are coming with Hulk in a  
boat.--  
M<sup>r</sup>. Olny[?] arrived from Lummy[?] --

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Weather much as yesterday.--  
Men variously employed.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs arrived about midnight.--

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Weather continues cloudy & dull.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Forenoon cloudy, afternoon heavy rain, no wind.--  
Napoleon, George & L'Gamine took Angus & his things by canoe  
out to station at Freezie's[?] Village. Victor commenced making a cart  
wheel. Robillard, Paris[?] & Cura[?] making a bridge across swamp in  
Norwegian road<sup>40</sup>. Aleck: hauling firewood. Shepherds all with their  
respective flocks.--

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Raining more or less all day. Calm.--  
Nap:, George threshing peas. Robillard, Paris & Cura cutting  
wood, squaring /1 side/ &c, for swamp Norwegian road. Victor making  
a cart wheel. Chapuis[?] gathering onions & stringing d<sup>o</sup>. Aleck: &  
L'Gamine ploughing.--

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Weather fine with but little wind.--  
Nap: George & the other men working bridge No: Ro: -- the others  
as yesterday.--  
H:M:S: "Plumper" came to anchor in the harbor about 5 pm:--

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Blowing a gale S:W:, fine.--  
All the men as yesterday.--  
H:M:S: "Plumper" left early this morning.--

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<sup>40</sup> Two Norwegians were hired as shepherds on July 18, 1854 (see Journal). However, where they were stationed, and how a road came to be named for them, is not clear.

- Friday 22<sup>d</sup>                    Fine, warm & calm day.--  
 All the men employed as on Wednesday, except Nap: & George  
 who I sent out to look for "L'Bruin" who has been missing for some days  
 now.--  
 M<sup>r</sup> Pender arrived this evening between 6 & 7 pm:--
- Saturday 23<sup>d</sup>                Cloudy & stormy, with a strong westerly breeze.--  
 Men finished bridge in the Nor: weg: road.--
- Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>                Fine forenoon, afternoon strong westerly breeze & showers.-  
 -  
 H:M:S: "Plumper" arrived 3 pm:--
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup>                Fine clear day.--  
 Nap: & George cleaning & deepening well. Robillard assisting  
 Victor making cart wheel, Aleck: & L'Gamine ploughing. Chapuis  
 digging up potatoes in garden.-- Shepherds all with their respective  
 flocks.--  
 H:M:S: "Plumper" left early this morning for Esquimalt.--
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>                Blowing a S:W: gale showery & very chilly.--  
 Nap: & George taking inventory of articles in use[?]<sup>41</sup> &c.-- Victor  
 finished wheel &c. Aleck: & L'Gamine ploughing. Chapuis, Paris & Cura  
 working in garden.--
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>        Fine, calm, warm day.--  
 All the men as yesterday. Robillard commenced making a door for  
 part of my ho:- Victor procuring wood to make a wheelbarrow.--
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>              Fine, calm day.--  
 Men's occupations unchanged.--  
 M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs left late this evening for Victoria.--  
 M<sup>r</sup> Powell[?] arrived from Fort.--  
 Napoleon finished taking inventory.--
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup>                Blowing a strong S:W: wind but fine.--  
 Mens occupations unchanged. Robillard sick.--
- Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>              Hard frost during the night, today fine, calm, & clear.--  
 Mens occupations unchanged.--

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<sup>41</sup> See f.n. 34. A draft of one of these inventories of articles is included in the Post Journal of 1854, and lists ??.

Put the **Rams** with the ewes 35 each band 105 in all.--

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>            Cloudy & chilly but calm.--  
All quiet.--

## NOVEMBER

Monday 1<sup>st</sup>            Raining all day & dull.--  
Men threshing peas. L'Gamine making ox collars. Victor making a  
wheelbarrow. Robillard making a door. &c for my house.--

Tuesday 2<sup>d</sup>            Fine calm, clear day.--  
Men cleaning, weeding &c.- no- garden. Aleck: carting gravel, the  
others as usual. -- Robillard making a patio[?] --? for my house &c.--

Wednesday 3<sup>d</sup>        Weather much as yesterday.--  
Mens employment as yesterday.--  
Nap: accompanied by Aleck: George & Robillard sent to Victoria with my  
inventory &c.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Hubbs returned from Fort.--

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>          Fine, calm, clear day.--  
Victor & L'Gamine with oxen & cart went to Prairie du Chine to cut  
wood /oak/ &c -- to make a new truck[?]. Chapuis & Cura working in  
garden.--

Friday 5<sup>th</sup>            Beautiful fine clear day, calm--  
"Otter" arrived about 10 am: -- Sent off in her  
                         145 old ewes  
                         55 wethers  
                         200  
Men employed shipping sheep.--

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>          Weather unchanged.--  
Men variously employed.--  
Napoleon returned from Fort about 6 pm:--

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>            Beautiful calm, clear, warm day.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 8<sup>th</sup>            Weather cloudy & dull.--

Sent all hands, except Napoleon, out to cut a road thru from  
"Leroux's" Prairie /off Prairie du Chine/ on to the Channel Plains<sup>42</sup>--  
Mr Powell[?] arrived from Victoria.--

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Weather forenoon as yesterday, afternoon heavy rain which  
continued throughout the night.--  
Men all out at road making.--

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Heavy rain more or less all day.--  
Men finished road late this evening.-- I was out there & saw them.-  
-

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Fine calm clear day.--  
Robillard & Cura hanging gates on ram yard granary & a door to  
my ho:- George & Chapuis cutting drains in barn yard & outside sheds  
&c.-- L'Gamine with ox cart carting firewood & clearing away manure  
&c.-- Napoleon repairing fences &c.-- Paris assisting Victor making truck  
wheels -- Aleck: forenoon making butter[?] &c. afternoon with L'Gamine.-  
-

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Weather stormy, heavy showers of rain all day.--  
All hands as yesterday. Aleck: with horse & cart cleaning away  
manure &c -- L'Gamine with ox cart carting stones for drains.--

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Fine clear day, calm.--  
Mens occupation unchanged.--

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Fine clear day light southerly breeze.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Weather cloudy & overcast fresh S:W: breeze.--  
Napoleon & George I sent out with potatoes & salmon for one  
week[?] to Angus Indians, in a canoe.-- Robillard making stalls &c- for  
cows. Victor making spokes &c- for wheels for an ox truck.-- Chapuis &  
L'Gamine making & filling drains with stones &c- in barn yard & inside  
d<sup>o</sup>. Paris sick.--

Yesterday when out riding on my horse "Blanc Cardue", I saw  
what I thought a wolf at Port L'Enfer. I chased him with my dogs, where  
unfortunately my horse stumbled & in so doing, broke a blood vessel. He  
died before I scarcely had time to recover from my fall. I to day had him

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<sup>42</sup> Channel Plains have not been identified.

examined & found the main artery broken in several places & the blood gangrened around the legions of the heart.--

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>            Heavy dull weather & cloudy.--  
Robillard, George, & Chapuis commenced cutting logs for fencing.  
L'Gamine hauling manure, --? &c. -- Cura repairing old fence. The others  
as yesterday.--

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>        Fine clear calm day.--  
Mens occupations unchanged.--

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>         Weather unsettled, strong S:E: breeze.--  
Mens occupations unchanged.--

Friday 19<sup>th</sup>            Blowing a S:W: gale & heavy rain.--  
Men threshing peas in barn.--

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>         Weather stormy strong S:E: wind & showery.--  
Robillard & Chapuis out at Prairie du Chine cutting oak for ox  
yokes with horse & cart. L'Gamine & Aleck: with 4 yoke oxen hauling  
logs for fencing. George making a gate for cattle park. Victor making  
hubbs for truck wheels[?]. Cura repairing old fence. Paris sick. Napoleon  
serving out rations.--

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>            Wind continues strong & more to the eastward.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 22<sup>d</sup>            Fine calm clear day.--  
Robillard making a yoke for small oxen. Chapuis, Cura & George  
cleaning out park, making drains &c- at sheep shed. Aleck: with oxen &  
cart hauling away dung, rubbish &c- from d<sup>o</sup>.-- L'Gamine with 3 yoke  
oxen hauling out fencing logs. Victor making butts, tenons in d<sup>o</sup>.-- Paris  
sick. Napoleon variously employed.--  
Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--  
Old white backed cow calved -- heifer.--

Tuesday 23<sup>d</sup>            Blowing a gale S:W: heavy rain forenoon, afternoon fine.--  
Robillard, Cura & Chapuis splitting shingles & repairing sheep  
shed. George, Nap:, L'Gamine & Aleck: threshing peas. Victor as  
yesterday --

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>        Wind continues S:W: & moderate, fine.--

Robillard, Cura & Chapuis squaring battens to support shingles in sheep shed, the side shingles<sup>43</sup>.-- L'Gamine & Aleck: with 2 p<sup>r</sup> oxen each hauling out logs.-- Victor & George at truck wheels.-- Paris sick.--

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Fine calm clear day.--  
Nap:, L'Gamine & Aleck: threshing peas. Robillard, Cura & Chapuis placing battens round sheep shed.-- The others as yesterday.--

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Weather much as yesterday.--  
L'Gamine & Aleck: with 2 yoke oxen hauling out logs.-- The other mens occupations unchanged.--

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Blowing a strong S:W: breeze & showery.--  
Mens occupations unchanged. Aleck: & L'Gamine hauling firewood.--

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Cloudy & overcast, calm.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> Cloudy, overcast & foggy, calm--  
Robillard, Chapuis & Cura repairing sheep shed. Victor & George making truck wheels. L'Gamine & Aleck: gathering & carting turnips. Napoleon arranging a place for d<sup>o</sup>. in stable. Paris sick.--  
Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> Weather unchanged & very chilly.--  
All hands except Victor digging up & hauling turnips.--

## DECEMBER

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Blowing a strong northerly breeze fine but chilly.  
Men's occupations unchanged.--

Thursday 2<sup>d</sup> A beautiful day cold calm & clear. We had a very hard frost during the night indeed all day.--  
Men cutting more[?] logs for fencing.--  
M<sup>r</sup> Powell left for Victoria.--

Friday 3<sup>d</sup> Blowing a strong gale S:E:- rain & snow.--

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<sup>43</sup> This passage indicates that construction of some outbuildings, such as this sheep shed, differed from the methods and materials used for the men's housing.



Men threshing peas in barn.--

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>           Blowing a northerly gale excessively cold.--  
Men as yesterday & cleaning d<sup>o</sup>.--

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>           Weather continues the same, very cold at night particularly;  
scarcely any thaw all day.--  
All quiet.--

Monday 6<sup>th</sup>           Calm fine & clear air still cold.--  
Robillard, George, Chapuis, Victor & Cura sent out to John Bulls, to  
make racks for sheep & to thresh oats & peas. L'Gamine & Aleck:- with  
all the oxen hauling out fence logs.-- Napoleon variously employed. Paris  
very ill. Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>           Calm with a little snow & cold.--  
All hands as yesterday.--

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>       Quite a fall of snow during the night. Today calm &  
cloudy.--  
Mens occupations unchanged.-- Robillard & others finished out at  
John Bulls. L'Gamine & Aleck:- & Nap:- hauling out the last of the logs  
now cut with all the oxen.--  
Page brought the rams /100/ home from the different breeding  
flocks<sup>44</sup>.-- Mr Powell returned from Vic.--

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>       Heavy fall of snow, all night & without intermission  
continued all day, but being very mild & calm it thawed very fast & thus  
is not so much on the ground as otherwise would be.--  
Men threshing peas, hunting up cattle, horses &c. herding[?] them  
in barn yard.--

Friday 10<sup>th</sup>       Heavy rain all day with a fresh S:W: wind.--  
Men threshing peas in barn.--

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>       Blowing a strong westerly breeze, fine, snow all entirely  
disappeared.--  
Men cleaning & threshing peas.--  
Kauna[?] started with his band of ewes from Port L'Enfer to  
Channel Prairie<sup>45</sup> station.--

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<sup>44</sup> Rams were usually introduced to the ewes for breeding in late October or early November, as a ratio of about 1 ram to 35 ewes. The rest of the year they were kept separate.

<sup>45</sup> Channel Prairie may have been the same as Channel Plains (see footnote 43 above).

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>            Light northerly air, cold, & occasional light showers of snow.--  
                               All quiet.--

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>            Blowing a strong northerly breeze snowing nearly all day.--  
                               Men threshing peas in barn. Victor making a window &c for house at Channel Prairie station. L'Gamine hauling firewood. Paris sick.--  
                               Mess<sup>rs</sup> Powell & Hubbs left this morning for Port Townsend.--

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>            Blowing a fresh westerly breeze, fine, snow again disappearing fast.--  
                               "Otter" arrived about 10 am: with prov[?] &c left again in about an hour. Men landing & carting up prov[?] &c ( see Invoice Book<sup>46</sup>) from wharf.--  
                               Afternoon threshing a few oats. Robillard & Victor cutting a beam & posts[?], the former to put across the whole length of store inside, to support the beams of upper flooring.--

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>        Wind squally S:W:, cloudy & dull.--  
                               Mens employment as yesterday.--

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>            Blew a perfect hurricane all night westerly, moderated[?] during the day.--  
                               Men threshing & cleaning peas.--

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>            Wind continues fresh from West with occasional heavy showers of rain.--  
                               Men at wharf putting in more rails at the sides, to prevent the sheep from squeezing thru.--

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>            Blowing fresh westerly, fine.  
                               Men as yesterday.--  
                               Served out 18 rations salt pork = 162 lbs.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>            Still blowing a gale from the westward & raining almost incessantly tho not heavily, from the commencement of the mth: we have had much tempestuous weather, similar to my first winter /53/ here.--  
                               All quiet.--

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<sup>46</sup> Although there is no extant Invoice Book for Belle Vue Farm, careful accounts of items received and sent were obviously kept.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Still continues blowing strong S:W:, cloudy.--  
 Men finished wharf. Robillard & Victor commenced making halves[?] for horse collars. L'Gamine assisted by Nap: hauling out fence logs. -- Shepherds all with their respective flocks.--  
 Mess<sup>es</sup> Hubbs & Powell returned from Port Townsend.--

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Without exception the severest gale of wind I ever remember experiencing in the Far[?] West[?]<sup>47</sup>. --  
 Men threshing in barn, the others as yesterday.--

Wednesday 22<sup>d</sup> Wind round to the southward & still blowing a perfect gale.-  
 -  
 Mens employment unchanged.--

Thursday 23<sup>d</sup> Fine day gentle westerly wind forenoon, in the eve.g wind veered[?] round to S:W: showery & threatening.--  
 Mens employment unchanged.--  
 Nap: killing 2 pigs for Xmas.--

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Calm all day until about 4 pm commenced blowing hard from south -- last night we had rain here, but the hills & country all around is covered with snow, none here.--  
 Men threshing peas.--  
 Served out Xmas regal to all hands, 18 rations, & the fresh pork each & half over & above their usual weekly rations of flour, sugar & tea.--  
 M<sup>r</sup> Powell left at 3 am for Fort.--

Christmas Day Weather showery all day, dull & cloudy with a fresh S:W: breeze.--  
 Men enjoying a holy day.--

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Raining more or less all day, S:W: wind.--  
 All quiet.--

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Fine calm day cloudy & threatening towards sunset.--  
 All hands commenced putting up log fence home field beginning from corner of my garden round to Ind<sup>n</sup> graves<sup>48</sup>.--

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Fine, clear day light air west.--  
 Men occupied as yesterday.--

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<sup>47</sup> This underscores the fact that Griffin was originally from Montreal.

<sup>48</sup> One map—drawn ca. 1860 by Lt. James Forsyth—indicates a gravesite or yard to the southwest of the Establishment; whether this is the one referenced here is not clear.

Powell returned from Victoria.--

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>      Weather much as yesterday.--  
Mens occupations unchanged forenoon, afternoon threshing oats.--  
L'Gamine sick.--

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>      Blowing a strong S:W: wind chilly & cloudy.--  
Men threshing oats.--

Friday 31<sup>st</sup>          A strong westerly breeze very cloudy with occasional heavy  
showers of rain.--  
Men forenoon threshing oats & cleaning d<sup>o</sup> 21 bus: -- afternoon  
cutting & hauling firewood.--  
Served out New Years regal to men the same as at Xmas. 1 pint  
rum each man.--