JOURNAL OF VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY -GASS

On the bank opposite our camp is an ancient fortification

or BREASTWORK, similar to those which have

been occasionally discovered on the western waters.

The two ends run at right angles to the river, and

the outside, which is 2500 yards in length, parallel to

it : there is no breastwork thrown up next to the bank as is supposed, serving as a sufficient defence on that side.\* P.35

\* The description of this Breastwork corresponds exactly

with the accounts given of numerous antient fortifications

discovered in the Western Countr)^, which are known and

represented to be generally of an oblong' form, situate on

string and well chosen giX)ur!d, and contiguous to water.

These works from the examinations whic h have been made,

are supposed to have been erected more than 1000 years ago ;

or 700 before the discover)- of Americaby Coluipbus. They

appear to have existed about the same period, thrnog-iiouti

ail, or the greater|part of that vast tarct of Covmtry bounded

by the Alleghany Mountains on the east and ihe Rocky

Mountains on the west, and including the most favourable

latitudes of North America. Pej liapssome have been found

east of the Alleghany Mountains. Have numerous antient

nations, more civilized and disposed to labour than any of,

the m.';derji Indian tribes, inhabited this Country ? And have

these fortifications been tiieir hir.>ible substitutes for the

walled and fortified Cities of the old world in remote ages ?

Or, has this been the Roman Enipire of rhe N-^w World I

and has it been destrr.} ed hy other hoi-des of barbarians^

as f erce and cruel as those who destroyed that of the old

We encamped on an island covered

w^ith timber ; and having alnumber of buffaloe on it.

Captain Lewis who had been out with some of tli.e

men hunting informed \is he had passed a trading

hou^e, huilt in 1796. P.37

At 12 we came to black sulphur bluffs on the

south side. On the top of these bluffs ^sIvg found the skeleton

or back bones of a fish, 45 feet long, and petrified

: part of these bones were sent to the City of

Washington.

At 2 we proceeded

again on our voyage, and passed a long chain of

bluffs on the north side, of a dark colour. From

these and others of the same kind the Missouri gets

its muddy colour. The earth of which they are

composed dissolves like sugar y every rain washes

down great quantities of it, and th@ rapidity of the

stream keeps it mixing and afloat in the water, until it

reaches the mouth of the Mississippi. P.41

p83

The hills here are

very high and steep One of our men in an attempt

to climb one had his s^houlder dislocated ; it was

however, replaced without much difficulty. These

hills are very much washed in general : they appeaF

like great heaps of clay, washing aw^ay with, every

shower ; with scarcely any herbs or grass on any of

them. p.89

we have before heard of timt animal, and from Mr. CassV

verbal description, we are led to belie> e, that it much

more nearly resembles the wild sheep, called the Muffion

or Mosmon, to be found in the uncultivated parts of Greece,^

Sardinia, Corsica andinth.e desart of Tartaiy ; and which

is thong-htto be the primitive rare and the real sheep in its

wild and savage state. Perhaps it may be found to be exactly

the same. p.90

Fridaxj 3 Is/. We embarked eaily in ?i cloudy

iiiorning ; passed through a mountainous country,

but the game is more plenty? and we kilied sorae tuiffaioe

in our way. About 1 1 o'clock it bei^aa to rain

slowly, and continued raining two hours, wiicn it

cleared up. We passed some very curious cliffs and

rocky peaks, in a long range. Some of them 200

feet high and not more than eieht feet thick. They

seem as it built by the hand of man. and are so

numerous that they appear like the ruins of an ancient

city. We went 17 1/2 miles and encamped at

the mouth of a handsome creek on the North side. p.93

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This band is on its way over to the Missouri or Yellow-

stone river to hunt buffaloe. They are the whitest

Indians I ever saw.

Friday 6th, A cloudy morning. We exchanged

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passed a small river on the south side, and soma

banks of very white clay. We encamped on an island,

having made 24 miles. P.113

About th»

middle of the day Capt. Clarke's blackman's feet became

so sore that he had to ride on horseback. P.130

This band is on its way over to the Missouri or Yellow-

stone river to hunt buffaloe. They are the whitest

Indians I ever saw. p.133

This band of the Flatheads have a great many

beads and other articles, which they say they got

from white men at the mouth of this river ; or where

the salt water is. They have a large stock of horses.

Their buffaloe robes and other skins they chiefly procure

on the Missouri, when they go over to hunt, as

there are no buffaloe in this part of the country and

very little other game. The most of the men of this

band are at present on a war expedition against some

nation to the northwest, that had killed some of their

people ; p.143

Two chiefs of the upper village joined us

here, and proposed to go on with iis, until we should

meet with white people ; which they say will be at

no great distance. p.145

The accountshe

received after arriving at it, t/iere called the Great j-iver,

or Tacoutche Tesse, also stated that it ran towards the MIDDAY SUN ; and that at its mouth, as the natives said they had

been informed, **WHITE people were building houses**. p.150

At noon

we came to mi Indian camp on the point of a large

island, where we stopped and got some fish and other

provisions. VVe here saw some articles which shewed

that white people had been here or not far distant

during the summer. They have a hempen seine and

some ash paddles which they did not make them\*

selves. p.153

THESE FUCKS WERE KILLING EVERYTHING IT COULD ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY THEN STARTED EATING DOGS THEY GOT FROM INDIANS. WERE THESE KIKES LIKE THE COLUMBUS COLON? ARE THESE SICK FUCKS ACTUALLY KIKES, EATING DOGS LIKE DOTHEADS, AND CHINKS. KILLING LOT OF DOGS THESE FILTHY FUCKS ARE FILTHY KIKES.

We went about 7 miles and came to a largr

Indian village, where they informed us that in two

days we would come to two ships w ith white people

in them. The Indians here have a great deal of neW

floth among them, and other articles which they

got from these ships. P.160

S men took a canoe,

which we govf^^om the\* Indians of a kind excellent for

riding sweji^) and set out to go to the point on the

sea shorp<i:o ascertain whether there were any white

people there, or if they were gone. P.163

In the evening Captain LeAvis with 4 men

started by land to see if any white people were to be

found. p.164

WE are now at the end of our voyage which

has been completely accomplished accordini^ to the

Intention of the expedition, the object of which was

to discover a passai^e by the way of the Missouri and

columbia rivers to the Pacific ocean ; notwitlistand"

ing\* the difficulties, privations and dangers, \ybich we

had to encounter, endure and surmount. p.165

Abou\*t the same time Capt. Lewis^

and his party returned. They had been round the bay,

and seen where white people had been in the course of

the summer : but they had all sailed away. p.165

In the afternoon 10 of the Ciat-sop nation, that

live on the south side of the river came over to our

camp. These are also naked, except the small robes

which hardly cover their shoulders. One of these

men had the reddest hair I ever saw, and a fair skin

much freckled. p.169

Our hunters killed

three elk. On my way with a party to bring iu

the itieatof these, I saw some amazingly large trees

of the fir kind ; they are from 12 to 15 feet in diameter. P.181

We then gave them some presents and took a friendly

le^^e of them : and it is but justice to say, that

the whole nation to which they belong, are the most

friendly, honest and ingenuous people that we have

seen in the course of our voyage and travels. After

taking our farewell of these good hearted, hospitable

and obliging sons of the west, we proceeded on up

Isquet-cO'qual-la through a handsome prairie of about

10 miles, after which the hills come close on the river,

ou both sides, and we had a rough road to pass. p.235 Flatheads?

Sunday 1 3^^^. The morning was pleasant, and we

moved about a mile up to our old encampment

;

opened a deposit we had made here and found some

things spoiled ; and the other man that went to look for

the horses not being returned we remained here all

day airing and sunning the baggage and stores. The

musketoes torment us very much, and the wolves continually

howl night and day around our camp. p.241

killed seven more of these mountaiii

sheep. There are few other animak in this range

of high country. In the. evening we encamped

opposite the mouth of Slaughter river, and Captain.

Lewis had four of those animals skeletonized, to take

with him to the seat of Government of the United

States\*. p.246

At noon we dropped down to the village of the Big-

White : and he, his wife and a child, with Geesem the

.

interpreter for the Big-White, his wife and two children

embarked in two of our canoes to go to the

United States. p.253

In our way

here we met three Frenchmen in a canoe ; one of

them a young man, who formerly belonged to the

North West Company of traders, wished to go with

us to the United States p.254

The 19th, was a fine day, and at day light wc

continued our voyage ; passed the mouth of Mine

river; Saw several turkeys on the shores, but did

Mot delav a moment to hunt : beii«g so anxious to

reach St. Louis, where, Avithout any important occurrence,

we arrived on the 23rd and were received

with great kindness and mark§ of friendship by the

inhabitants, after an absence of tw.e years, fouT

months and ten days.