TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP

OF THE

ROAD FROM MISSOURI TO OREGON

COMMENCING AT THE MOUTH OF THE KANSAS IN THE MISSOURI RIVER

AND ENDING AT THE MOUTH OF THE WALLAH-WALLAH IN THE COLUMBIA

In VII Sections

SECTION VII

From the field notes and journal of Capt. J. C. Frémont,

and from sketches and notes made on the ground by his assistant Charles Preuss

Compiled by Charles Preuss, 1846

By order of the Senate of the United States.

SCALE — 10 MILES TO THE INCH.

Lithogr. by E. Weber & Co. Baltimore

October 25. Columbia River. Here we had the first view of this river, and found it about 1200 yards wide and presenting the appearance of a deep and rapid stream. We made our camp in a little grove of willows on the Walloh-Walloh, which are the only trees, so far seen in the neighborhood, but were obliged to carry the animals back to the mountains, for there is no water, and they had to be driven up and down the river for water. The point is on the bank of the Columbia, on a plain, or bare sand, from which the ... [illegible] ... Fremont's Report.

October 23. Dr. Whitman's Mission station. In six miles we crossed a principal fork below which the principal valley of the Wallah-Walloh-River is formed, and which we followed through very rough hilly country, for about eight miles further, to the missionary establishment of Dr. Whitman, which consists of a few houses, with a little garden, and a very small field of potatoes, in a very pleasant place, where we found a very hospitable reception. The Wallah-Walloh-River, which we crossed in the morning, is a very rapid stream, with a bed of gravel and stones, and a very cold water, which we found very refreshing after the hot day. The road ... [illegible] ... Fremont's Report.

October 22. Blue Mountains. The white frost this morning was like snow on the ground, the ice was a quarter of an inch thick on the creek, and the thermometer stood at 28° but, in a few hours, the day became warm and pleasant, and we had a very fine day for our journey. The trail passed sometimes through very thick young timber in which there was much cutting to be done, but after travelling about 12 miles we came to a place where there was a good spring of water, which flows in a very extensive view to the southwest. We were here on the western verge of the Blue Mountains, and had a very extensive view ... [illegible] ... Fremont's Report.

October 21. Large tree. Some of the white spruces which I measured in this neighborhood are very large trees, and I walked along an entire trunk from some current which of the size of the smaller. They which are about 100 feet in height, and perhaps 200 feet, and the trunks of the larches were sometimes 100 feet without a branch, particularly the lower ones, forming ... [illegible] ... Fremont's Report.

October 19. Grand Rond. About noon we reached a high point of the dividing ridge from which we obtained a grand view of the Grand Rond, a beautiful prairie valley, covered with good grass, on a rich soil, abundantly watered, and surrounded by high and well-wooded mountains, and we received a very favorable impression of the country. The grass which is suitable for hay, is very abundant, and the mountains are covered with good timber, which is suitable for building purposes, and for fencing, and for fuel. The valley is about 30 miles in length, and from 3 to 6 miles in breadth, and is very well watered by the Grande Ronde River, which is a very rapid stream, about 60 feet wide, and from 2 to 3 feet deep, and abounds with trout. The road ... [illegible] ... Fremont's Report.

October 18. Powder River. We travelled this morning across the affluents to Powder river, the road being good, firm and level, and the country because gently more pleasant and interesting. The soil appeared to be very deep, and of a black color, and covered with a luxuriant growth of grass, which, in the elevated folds in and the river valleys, is very good, and extends along the hollows of the hills. The greater quantity of this water was collected in a small stream, which was in good ground. The following analytical result shows the character of fertility which the eye attributes to it.

Analysis of Powder river soil.

Silica	72.30
Alumina	6.15
Carbonate of lime	4.48
Carbonate of magnesia	4.63
Oxide of iron	1.30
Organic matter	4.70
Water and loss	4.27
	100.00

Fremont's Report.

October 17. We were now about to leave the valley of the great southern branch of the Columbia river, to which the absence of timber, and the scarcity of water, give the appearance of a desert, to enter a mountainous region where the soil is good, and in which the face of the country is covered with a luxuriant growth of grass, and the mountains are well wooded with a fine growth of timber, which is valuable for building purposes, and for fuel. This mountainous region extends from the southward and westward with the divided country, belonging to the Cascade or California range, and, as will be remarked by the course of the rivers, it is the source of all the streams which water the country between the Rocky Mountains and the west range, containing many lakes, with the peculiar system of rivers and creeks, of which the Great Salt is the principal, and which have no connexion with the ocean, or the great rivers which traverse the country to the east of the Rocky Mountains. The Great Salt Lake, which is the principal, and which receives the waters of Bear and Weber rivers, which the network may be made, that, in this western valley, or our continent, the usual order or distribution of good and bad soil is often reversed, the river and creek bottoms being often stony, and deadened, with the gloomy and barren aromatics, while the mountains is often fertile, and covered with very great plantations of the grass, and good for fuel and timber. Fremont's Report.

October 12. The morning was clear and calm, and the thermometer at sunrise 27°. My attention was attracted by a smoke on the right side of the river, a little below the last bend, near the water, a considerable number of hot springs, in which the water was very hot, issued from the base of the hill, and covered down and below the springs with an incrustation of common salt, very white and good, and the ground. Fremont's Report.

October 10. Many little streams and scattered huts, together with an occasionally which I particularly acquainted of the modes of life, had left the aboriginal inhabitants of this vast region planted in my mind a place of people where great and constant occupation was the means of procuring a subsistency and though some of game and other animals will prevent me from detailing the many incidents which made these things familiar to me, this great feature among the characteristics of the country, which I have ... [illegible] ... Fremont's Report.

Latitude 44°

Longitude 117°

Longitude 118°

Latitude 46°

Longitude 45°

Fort Boisée

Fort Wallah-Wallah

Snake River or Lewis Fork of the Columbia

Lewis Fork, Shoshonee or Snake River

COLUMBIA RIVER

NEZ PERCÉ INDIANS

SNAKE INDIANS

Grand Rond River

Powder River

Burnt River

Umatilah River

Wallah-Wallah River

Dr Whitman

Malheurs River

Malheurs

Fourche River

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Date	Time	Thermometer	Altitude	Remarks.
1843 Octbr. 11	sunrise	33° Fahr	1398 feet	air from E. clear
	sunset	64°		clear and calm
12	sunrise	33°		do. do.
	sunset	62°		do. do.
13	sunrise	29°		air from W. clear
	sunset	59°		calm, clear and light clouds
14	sunrise	36°		clear and calm
	sunset	50°		do. do.
15	sunrise	40°		few light clouds do.
	sunset	61°		do. do. do.
16	sunrise	18°	3100 feet	calm and clear
	sunset	60°		Wind E. clear and clouds
17	sunrise	33°		calm do. do.
	sunset	62°		Wind S.E. cloudy
18	sunrise	48°		overcast rain calm
	sunset	47°		air from N. cloudy
19	sunrise	33°		misty calm
do.	sunset	46°		do. do.
20	sunrise	37°		clear and calm. clouds in S.E.
	sunset	36°		clear and calm
21	sunrise	38°	4989 feet, Blue Mount.*	do. do.
	sunset	31°		do. do.

Elevation above the Gulf of Mexico

REMARKS.

1. The figures on the road indicate the distance in miles from Westport Landing
2. Water Abundant
3. Grass Scarce in the bottoms (Grand Rond excepted) but fine bunch grass on the hill-sides
4. Fuel Sufficient in the eastern part, abundant in the west.
5. Game None
6. Indians Harmless

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