

pleased them very much. The Two Bears then discoursed to his men on the importance of our mission, and requested them to relate the words of the Medicine Man "Verbatum et verbatum." Which were as follows: viz., I have come my brothers among you; as I had promised you all last Summer and of which I also apprised you of several times during the Winter. I am now with you. I come, not as a servant of man, but of God; and, as a Servant of him my great desire is, to do all good I can to fellow men. Your Great Father and the White's mean you no harm. The President wishes peace with all mankind, and I, am sure the Great Spirit does. Tell your people, the troubles past can easily be settled, but, the past must be forgotten; and better and wiser plan adopted for the future. The Great men of the Whites, now waiting at the Fort to meet with you, are men like yourselves - and all men of wise minds and deep thoughts, let us then meet them as they desire, and have the past veiled: You shall have the benefit of my councils, etc. There is no lack of water and grass. We travelled over a high and level plateau, the soil is sandy with no change in its productions; the same varieties of flowers are seen. Wood is scarce. Our hunters still bring plenty of fresh meat. Horse racing was the sport of the day with the Indians.

Tuesday, 9th

We made as early start as usual, and are again blessed with fine weather, but with rather heavy roads. As some majestic giant to dispute our passage, we could see in the far distance, the peaks of the Rain Bute, gradually becoming more distinct as we advanced, rising from the banks of the Cannon Ball. (* Rain Bute cannot be found on the early maps consulted. Perhaps it is the one known today as Bearhorn Butte.) It derives its name from the vapory appearance it presents to the eye. In the distance it resembles masses of clouds, separated by partial openings. It was truly a welcome and majestic view to us, who had seen nought but one unbroken appearance to all the country we had travelled over, or one level sameness that was not at all interesting. Today the soil seems more impregnated with clay, the pools give every indication of it. At 2 P.M. we camped within eight miles of Rain Bute, having come due west, thirty two miles. Our delegation to the Camp started at break of day. A council was held during the night, the Indians came to the conclusion that with more men, there is more wisdom, saying of meaning, ten heads are superior to four; therefore, our delegation consisted of the larger number. Our Camp is quite near if not on the very Source of the Cannon Ball River, about one hundred and sixty miles from its mouth. Petrified Stumps and pieces of wood are plentiful, with a good supply of Pomice Stone, also, fine specimens of Lava, with every indication of recent burnings and cropings out of the lignite beds. We made a due West course today, making about thirty two miles. We camped about eight miles from Rain Bute. An amusing incident occurred, which created some merriment. Blue Thunder one of the Indian teamsters, came to the tent with a woful face, announcing his intention to return to the fort. When questioned as to this strange proceeding: he stated that, some one had accused him of stealing a leather sack, containing an antelope punch: He seemed very indignant, at having his character trifled with. His swollen face did not present a very pleasing appearance. Anger had changed his countenance. Father De Smet told him that he had seen many an innocent man accused wrongfully, and recommended a good night's sleep, as a soother of such wrong.

Wednesday, 10th

At our usual hour we were again on our way, taking a direct course for Rain Bute,