

the country a while with his eye, and then strike out on a course, and never fail to reach the place, although he had several hundred miles to traverse over a country which he never traveled, and to places he had never seen. To this seemingly intuitive knowledge of country, he adds the singularly retentive memory of peculiarities of every incident in his own history or that of his companions. In his own rude way, he can lay down nearly every stream that empties into the Missouri or Yellow Stone, that flows down the western slope of the Rocky Mountains, and describe how these streams interlock with each other. He showed us, and his information in this respect was confirmed by others, how it was practicable to go by water from the Missouri river into the Columbia river, or from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, without portage at any place except where the rivers are impassable because of rapids. There is a lake in the Rocky Mountains from which the waters flow on the one side into the Missouri, and on the other into the Columbia river. Every thing Bridger has seen, he recollects with entire precision, and in his wild life (he is now advanced in years) he has traversed the whole country in many directions.

Beside the assistance of these men, there was the aid of the Interpreters, and a number of traders and trappers, some of whom have been thirty years in the country. Each nation had a number of their most intelligent men, and they all seemed to fully understand the object of the map, as also the geography of the country. After much consultation, particularly of the Indians among themselves, the metes and bounds of the several nations were agreed upon. The limits fixed will be given when we state the provisions of the treaty.

September 12, 1851.

This morning, when the Council met, much difficulty was