

lacerated from the sudden explosion of the gun. This accident put a momentary stop to the hilarity of the occasion. Dr. Fox, who was on the ground, thought that amputation of the arm above the elbow would be necessary, but it was deemed better to delay it for a time. The wound was dressed as well as it could be, and a litter was made, on which he was at once sent, under charge of his messmates, to the ship. Men-of-war's men are somewhat familiar with such scenes, and, although this accident threw a temporary gloom over the party, the impression did not last long, and the amusements of the morning were now exchanged for the excitement of horse-racing, steeds having been hired for the purpose from the Indians. This sport is always a favourite with sailors on shore, and in pursuit of it they had not a few tumbles, but fortunately none were seriously hurt. At sunset they all returned on board, in the same good order they had landed.

All the officers, together with Mr. Anderson, Captain M'Niel, and Dr. Richmond, dined with me at the observatory, and we were in hopes of having the company of Dr. M'Laughlin; but, owing to his having lost his way, he did not arrive until the following morning. He was gladly welcomed, and it gave us all great pleasure to acknowledge the attentions that had been heaped upon us by his order, and the kindness of the officers of the fort.

He paid me a visit on board, and felt greatly pleased with the ship, which was the first man-of-war he had ever been on board of. On his leaving the vessel, the yards were manned, and three hearty cheers given him by the crew, who were aware of his kindness in ordering them a supply of fresh provisions. He dined with us, and the next morning returned to the Cowlitz Farm, on his way back to Vancouver.

After the rejoicings were ended, the surveying party was again despatched to complete the survey of Puget Sound.

The height of Mount Rainier was obtained by measuring a base line on the prairies, in which operation I was assisted by Lieutenant Case, and the triangulation gave for its height, twelve thousand three hundred and thirty feet.

While engaged in these duties, I noticed from a point of the prairie, the white cones of both Mount St. Helen's and Mount Hood very distinctly. These mountains all resemble each other closely, and appear in some points of view as perfect cones. They give great interest and grandeur to the scenery. Mount Rainier is at all times a very striking object from the prairies about Nisqually, rising as it does almost imperceptibly from the plain, with a gradual slope, until the snow-line is reached, when the ascent becomes more precipitous.