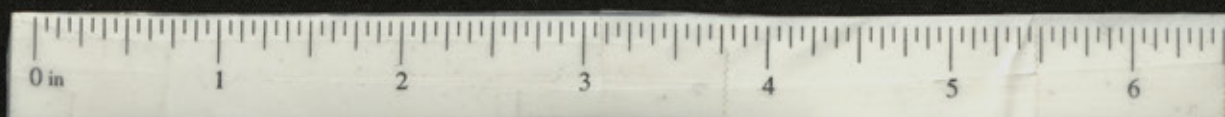
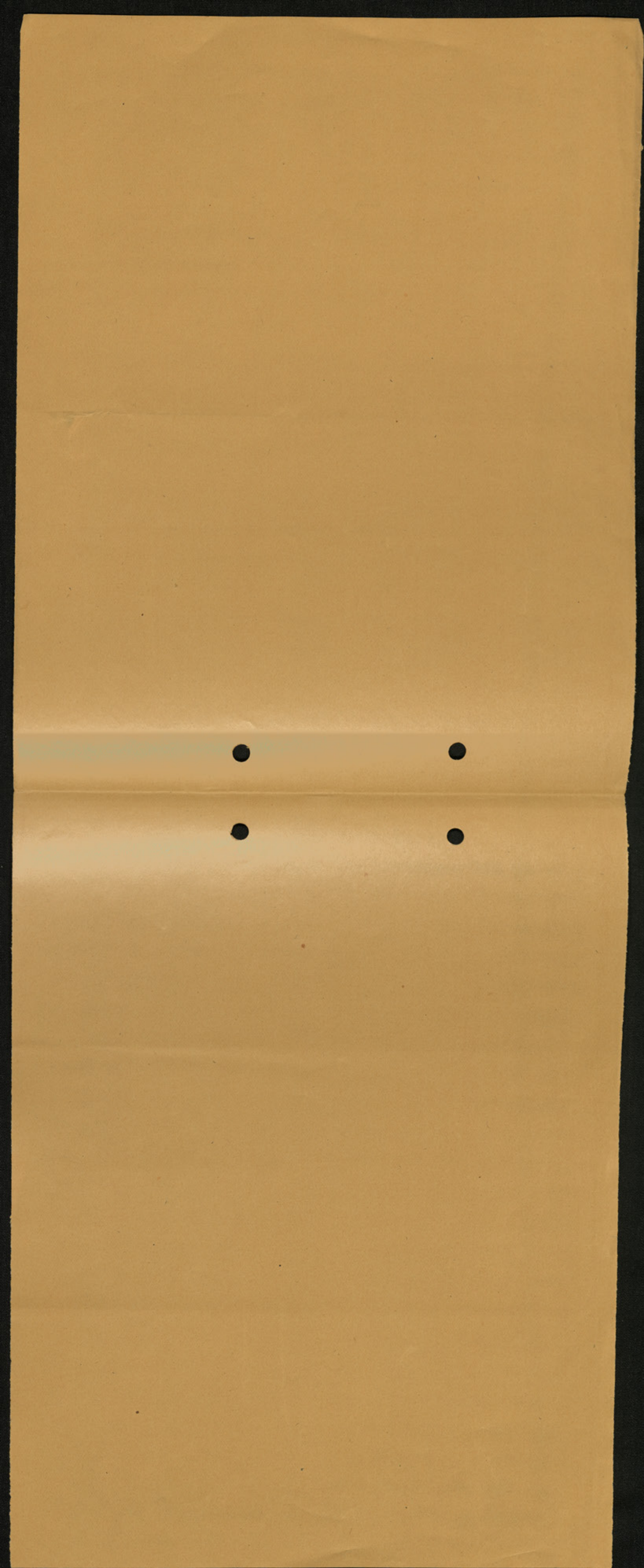


Indian
Account of a visit to Malheur
Agency.

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Account of a visit to Malheur Agency 0041.

Oct. 3^d I visited Col. Geo. W. Allen, 1st Cavalry, to accom-
pany me and we made the journey from
Camp Harney to the Malheur, ^{Indian} Agency (58 miles)
in one day. Mr. Samuel Parish, the Agent, had
kindly sent out his spring wagon & horses
driven by Mr. Deysman, the farmer,
as far as the west fork of the Malheur -
18 miles from the Agency. We left the
point of crossing at 4 P.M. & drove the
whole distance in ^{2 1/2} hours. The Otis Creek
runs into the Malheur, a tributary meeting
a very pretty valley, altitude above ~~the~~ water
about 3750 feet. This being so near the
Agency, 13 miles, and near the Canyon City
road would make a better location for
the Mil. Post on the reservation than
Camp Harney. The only thing ^{apparently} wanting
is a sufficiency of timber in the neighborhood.
The last descent into the Valley of the
East fork of the Malheur is very steep -
the road has been carefully cleared of numerous
stones large & small by the Indians under the
direction of Mr. Parish. but he proposes & I think

wisely to make another road which can be done by a little grading & blasting. The ravine to the south where the trail now is. Six miles out is a portable mill belonging to Mr. Robie, where a few ~~fine~~ pine trees of inferior quality are being cut & sawed into lumber for the use of the Agency. Good timber can be obtained within ten or twelve miles after a road is made. It was already dark when we reached the Agency last night. This morning ^{next} after sunrise a step out from Mr. Parker's office & behold a beautiful valley of at least a thousand acres capable of cultivation bounded in by hills & mountains open on basin like on every side - warm & fertile - last year has produced fine fields of cultivated ground - a nice garden of two acres containing every variety of vegetable production - cabbages, turnips, pumpkins, melons, peaches, carrots &c. On the other fields on acres of root-cabbages of large size already pulled & ready for eating, also ^{an} extensive plot of potatoes not yet dug, pumpkins in abundance ready to be gathered.

Near the Stables ^{are} large stacks of wheat cut for hay also ^{another} stacks - Some of the fields are already fenced

and some are partially fenced. The stacks for posts being ~~stack~~ ^{driven} into the ground or wharfed ready for the ^{construction} rails or strips of board. Then on right small buildings - the office, the stable, the meat house, the grain house the doctor's office, the carpenter's & blacksmith shop & two small dwelling-houses. A foundation is laid & the beams are for a corn-carrying storehouse & another ~~is~~ ^{stone} foundation for a house.

The Indians on settled ground living as they do elsewhere in the interior in temporary huts - made of brushwood - just enough brush to protect from the sun.

The feature of the valley is the beautiful stream of water, the Milk River. It ought to be called ^{the} Bear River. It is swift, clear & cool & ~~is~~ constant. A ditch has been taken out now extended a mile & a quarter - but can go on to supply the whole valley, run the necessary miles & afford all the water needed for the cultivation of the fields & gardens.