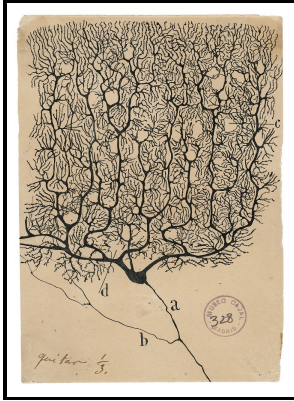


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Other parties left the cabins and made their way into the settlement, after losing a considerable portion of their number on the way.

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This house was a rude structure of one room, about sixteen feet square, with a clapboard roof, wooden chimney, and dirt floor. This conjectural explanation proved to be the true one. After the men had become too weak to carry the gun, it was carried by the women.

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I at once put a damper upon that cowardly proposition by stating to the fellow that if lie wanted to kill the Indian he could have a chance to do so in a fair and equal single combat with him.

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When they had reached the western side of the summit, they encamped, as usual, on the top of the snow. Who shall now read to me from the Bible, and wait upon me in my sickness? He was a pious and steady man; a profane oath had never escaped his lips, even from a boy; he was never found at the grog shop or the gambling table.

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The valley at this point was about a mile and a half wide, and without timber, and the descent into it was down a tall hill, which was not only steep, but heavily timbered.

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A law September 27, 1850, and it proved to be a dominant factor in the early development of the Willamette Valley. Without hesitation he replied that he thought we could succeed, and recommended old Thomas McKay for pilot.

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On the summit and for some distance beyond it, not an animal could be found, as the wild game always instinctively fled before the snows of winter to the foothills, where the snows are lighter, and they could obtain food and escape from their enemies in flight. They were unacquainted with the climate, could not well understand how snow could fall to a depth of twenty or thirty feet, and were so much worn down by the tedium of the long journey, and the absence of fresh meat and vegetables, that they were not prepared to decide wisely or to act promptly. Foster, and subsequently wife of Charles Coviland, one of the original proprietors of Marysville, so named for her.

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