

LONGMIRE, JAMES.

“Rough trip across the Mountains,” The Tacoma Herald. October 27, 1877.

Mr. James Longmire and family arrived home at Yelm Prairie on Friday last from a visit to Yakima Valley, coming across the Natches Pass, and having one of the roughest trip experienced. Mr. Longmire, wife and youngest son, a young lady, were together driving one hundred and twenty-six head of sheep, and were three weeks, making the trip. It commenced raining soon after starting and continued raining or snowing every day but one and every night on the trip. At the summit the snow was about six inches deep. The streams were very high and the mud and the water quite deep and bad in places. At White River, the rain had raised the river so that it was impossible to swim the sheep and a tree was felled across the river at the mouth of Boise River and a bridge made of it. At night the White River raised and took it away. The next day a second attempt was made by falling a tree, four feet in diameter from the opposite side, across the river and making a good bridge, by which the sheep, horses and all crossed over safely.

Mr. Longmire's boy started from Yakima with cattle at the same time he left with the sheep and leaving him on the way over they swam the White and Puyallup Rivers before the high waters. They brought about fifty head of beef cattle.

Mr. Taylor of Yakima is also on the road over with a hundred head of beef cattle for Mr. Barlow of Tacoma and was expected to arrive on Thursday. The flock driven by Mr. Longmire were mutton impurities. This notice will fit many other places. It is very difficult for merchants beyond Walla Walla to get teams to transport their freight. The unusual quantity of government freight to go forward had the precedence and low water prevented boats from navigating the Snake River.