

viving threats on their lives was an everyday reality. Certainly after surviving this ordeal Sacajawea immediately went to work and attended to her baby and his need for warmth and dry clothes.

❖ The long tedious portage goes on with continuous torment from hordes of mosquitoes the entire route. High winds and storms come and go. Meanwhile the men toil on without complaint. They take time to celebrate America's twenty-ninth birthday on July 4 with a dram of whiskey and a good meal. Cruzatte takes out his fiddle and the men dance.

Twenty-eight elk skins and four buffalo skins are sewn together to cover the iron boat. Captain Lewis is dismayed when he sees a problem with the stitching. The beeswax and tallow are not sealing the seams. The great venture to have a iron-framed boat capable of carrying four tons of baggage fails miserably and is abandoned. After transporting the iron frame all those miles, the expedition members are greatly disappointed.

*Saturday, July 15, 1805 Captain Lewis
Lewis is happy to leave the portage camp. After
he sends the canoes on to meet Captain Clark,
Lewis, Sacajawea, and Private LePage (who
is ill) walk three miles to the next camp.*

Once again Sacajawea is with one of the captains. Also under the watchful eyes of the captains are members of the crew who are sick or disabled.

❖ Two new canoes are completed. One is twenty-five feet long and the other is thirty-one feet long. They are needed to replace the failed iron-frame boat.

On July 15 the expedition, including the two new canoes, is once more underway on the Missouri River. Total mileage gained in one month was twenty-five. It is critical now to reach the mountains and find Indian people who have horses, so badly needed to continue on to the Pacific Ocean.

Continually the captains see signs of Indian camps—but no people. Both captains write about their increasingly urgent desire to find the Shoshoni people and their horses.

Captain Clark takes three men and scouts ahead in the hopes of making contact with the Shoshoni.

Friday, July 19, 1805 Captain Lewis

Early in the morning Captain Clark finds the remains of several Indian camps. The shelters were made of willow branches and probably were used in that spring. Pine trees nearby had bark peeled from them about the same time the camp had been constructed.

Sacajawea told the captains that her people used the sap and soft wood for food.

Sacajawea's knowledge of shelters, food-gathering practices, and clothing making was very helpful to the explorers. They relied on her to interpret signs left by Indian people. (The captains shared their notes with each other. Periodically they took vacations from journal writings and caught up later as they shared experiences. That would explain Captain Lewis's account of the event even though Captain Clark discovered the camps.)

❖ Captain Clark knows he has been seen by Indian people some distance away. The Indians set fire to the prairie to warn their families of potential danger from intruders.

Sore feet and constant trouble plague Captain Clark as he works his way back to Captain Lewis and the canoes. The report is: "No success in contacting Indian people."

The expedition passes through a narrow canyon with sheer rock walls rising over one thousand feet. This spot, just north of Helena, Montana, is now called, "Gates of the Mountains."

Monday, July 22, 1805 Captain Lewis

It is eighty degrees, the warmest day of the summer. Sacajawea recognizes landmarks. She says the three forks of the great river are just ahead. This place is close to the land of her people. The men break into a loud cheer when Captain Lewis announces this news.

Each entry reveals how increasingly valuable is Sacajawea's knowledge of the land and Indian signs. She can't be credited with guiding the expedition all the way to the Pacific Ocean, but on this segment of the journey she plays an effective role in the route-finding activities. She could assure the captains the land traveled by the Lemhi Shoshoni people was the very land on which the expedition now traveled. President Jefferson's orders to follow the Missouri River to its source were being fulfilled. Captain Lewis had to be overjoyed with Sacajawea's news.

❖ When the canoes reach Captain Clark that afternoon, Lewis is shocked to find his friend with severely blistered and bleeding feet. Prickly pear cactus is the culprit. Captain Clark wants to continue on his mission to find the Shoshoni people and takes four men and once again goes ahead to seek out Indian people.

An abundance of delicious wild onions is gathered to add to the fresh venison and currants.

Wednesday, July 24, 1805 Captain Lewis

Towering mountains to the west now block the view of the expedition. Sacajawea assures him that no great waterfalls or other impassable obstructions remain

to stall the expedition but Lewis continues to worry. Surely these great mountains will present some type of obstruction.

Captain Lewis now realizes how vast and gigantic the Rocky Mountains really are. No wonder he fears some great obstacle. Nothing back east in the United States could compare with the mountains that now surround him and his small Corps of Discovery.

❖ On July 25 Captain Clark and his four men arrive at the three forks area and they begin to explore it.

Once more Charbonneau has a dangerous encounter with water. Charbonneau is accidentally swept away by the current of one of the small rivers and Captain Clark has to enter the river to save Charbonneau's life.

Three days later Captain Lewis and the main party arrive at the three forks area. Extensive exploration of the three streams begins.

Sunday, July 28, 1805 Captain Lewis

The expedition leaves the headwaters of the Missouri River and follows the river coming out of the southwest. The river is named the Jefferson River to honor President Thomas Jefferson. The middle river is named the Madison River in honor of the Secretary of State, James Madison. The third stream is named the Gallatin River in honor of the Secretary of the Treasury, Albert Gallatin.

The group arrives at the exact spot where five years earlier eleven-year-old Sacajawea had been captured by Minnetare warriors. Sacajawea said her people

retreated and concealed themselves in the trees when the enemy came into view. The people were followed, attacked, and some were killed. Others, like her, were captured.

Sacajawea shows no emotion and expresses no joy at returning to her homeland. She seems content wherever she happens to be. Having enough to eat and a few trinkets seem to make her happy.

Here Captain Lewis reveals the personality of Sacajawea. Accepting of her circumstances and easily pleased, Sacajawea appears to have submitted to her captivity. With a childhood background of hunger and fear of enemy attack, she has since come to enjoy having plenty of food and possessions she never dreamed of having. Now she has her own baby and a position with a group of powerful men. The excitement of returning to her homeland seems to be lost in all of this.

❖ Captain Clark is very sick with a high fever and aching bones. Still he continues to explore the three forks area. His illness continues into a second day. He takes medicine and soaks in warm water. His condition finally improves on the third day. During the time at the three forks area, Lewis ponders the critical need for horses and realizes that without the help of the Shoshoni people in procuring these animals, the expedition may have to turn around and head home.

*Tuesday, July 30, 1805 Captain Lewis
Captain Lewis, Charbonneau, Sacajawea,
and the two "invalid" men walk to the exact spot where
Sacajawea was captured five years earlier.*

Sacajawea's capture happened close to the present-day Three Forks, Montana. It would be interesting to know Sacajawea's inner thoughts as she stands at this point again. Today, looking east from this spot one can see the highest peak in the Bridger Mountain Range. The peak is named Sacajawea Peak.

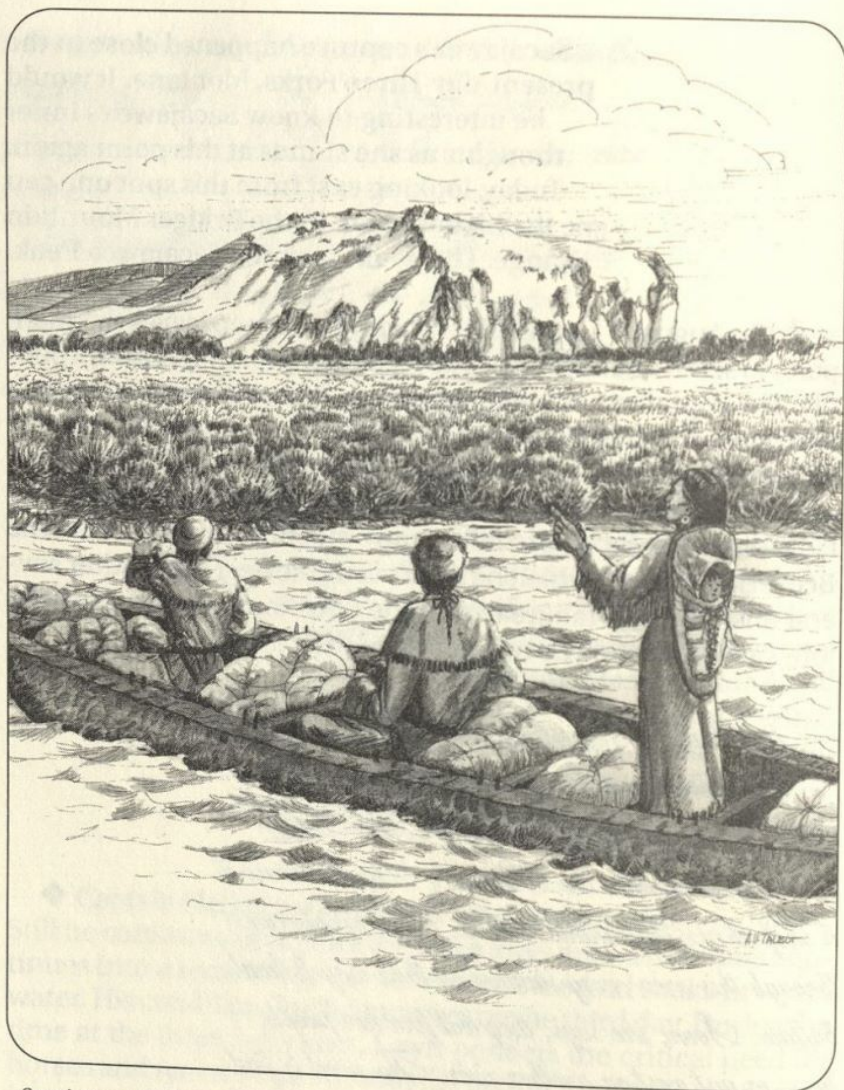
❖ On August 1 Captain Lewis with three men leaves the main party to scout ahead for a possible contact with the Shoshoni people. The captains and their men suffer from a variety of ailments and minor injuries. Boils are a constant problem, probably caused by poor diet, heavy with meat and light on fruits and vegetables.

Captain Lewis explores the Wisdom River, today called the Big Hole River. He decides to follow the other branch, now called the Beaverhead River, which he thinks is the correct route. After several mishaps and failure to find the Shoshoni, the two captains join each other for the next phase of their journey.

Thursday, August 8, 1805 Captain Lewis

In the evening Sacajawea points to a high formation jutting out on the valley floor. Her people called this formation the Beaver's Head because it is shaped like that animal's head. Her people come through this area every summer on their way to hunt buffalo. Soon, she says, they will find her people here, or just west on another river. The need to find the Shoshoni is becoming increasingly critical.

Sacajawea's information convinces Captain Lewis to once again leave the main party in search of Indian people. A highly excited and very worried Captain Lewis leaves the next morning. Having obeyed President Jefferson's orders to follow the Missouri River to its source, the explorers now face the seem-



Sacajawea tells the captains that her people call this rock formation "Beaver's Head."

ingly impenetrable barrier of the Rocky Mountains. If he is unable to secure horses and a guide, Captain Lewis knows he may have to turn back.

❖ Many geographic features in this area now bear the name Beaverhead: Beaverhead County, Beaverhead River, Beaverhead Mountains, Beaverhead National Forest.

Captain Lewis, Drewyer, Shields, and McNeal finally arrive at the source of the Beaverhead River. Clark's Reservoir now covers the spot. A dam, creating the water storage, was built on the Beaverhead next to Interstate 15.

From this point, Lewis and the men head west toward what is now called Lemhi Pass.

On August 11 Lewis spots a lone rider on horseback but is unable to get him to await his arrival. The man rode up and over the mountain, heading west. This is the beginning of a two-day struggle to come face to face with the Shoshoni people. There will be three sightings of Shoshoni people before Captain Lewis succeeds in making contact with an old woman and a young girl.

On August 12 Lewis and the three men cross the continental divide and unfurl the American flag. They are the first persons from the United States to cross the great divide.

On August 13 the four men are warmly welcomed by sixty mounted warriors, one of whom is a principal Indian chief named Cameahwait. The warriors had come out expecting to meet an invading enemy. Lewis was very fortunate that the Lemhi people looked on him as a friend and gave him a hearty welcome to their land. Now Lewis, through sign language expert Drewyer, would have to convince the Lemhi people to accompany Lewis on the forty-two-mile trip back to meet Clark and the rest of the men.

*Wednesday, August 14, 1805 Captain
Clark*

*Charbonneau strikes Sacajawea while the family
is eating the evening meal. Clark reprimands him.*

Both captains noted this incident in their journals, (Clark reported it to Lewis), indicating that both men were disgusted with Charbonneau for his abuse of Sacajawea. It probably was not the first or only time she was mistreated by her husband. This incident leaves Charbonneau with a tarnished reputation among journal readers and historians.

❖ Captain Clark and the main party continue pulling, poling, and dragging the canoes over rocks and gravelbars in the shallow Beaverhead River. Captain Clark joins the men in the water in the effort to move upstream.

The two captains had agreed to rendezvous at the source of the Beaverhead River. Captain Clark was doing everything he could to make it to the designated meeting place. Captain Lewis had left a note there for Clark to mark the meeting place and had asked him to wait there for Lewis to return.

Thursday, August 15, 1805 Captain Clark

While Clark was walking on shore he has two close calls with rattlesnakes. Sacajawea is nearly bitten by a rattlesnake. So the nearby mountain receives the name, Rattlesnake Mountain.

Sacajawea must have been aware of the dangers all about her. She would be on guard and especially alert to protect herself and Jean Baptiste from constant hazards.

❖ Meanwhile, in the Lemhi Valley Captain Lewis stalls for a few days, hoping to give Captain Clark and the canoes time to reach the meeting place.

There are detailed references to the interaction with the Lemhi Shoshoni. Using Drewyer's sign language, Captain Lewis speaks to them over and over about promises of peace, gifts of wonderful things, and no more hunger if only the people will help the expedition. He also asks many questions about the Lemhi River and a larger river to the north. Possible passages through the mountains by either water or horseback are also discussed.

The Lemhi Shoshoni are very suspicious of Captain Lewis's request that they leave the safety of their valley and follow him east to the Beaverhead River. The Shoshoni fear a trap and a sneak attack by their enemies. Only a month before they had suffered an attack. Finally a small contingent of Indian people set out with Lewis and his three men to find Captain Clark.

Friday, August 16, 1805 Captain Lewis

The Indian people become very nervous as the group approaches the Beaverhead River. They arrive at the announced meeting place and the canoes are not there. Cameahwait is assured that he will soon see that Captain Clark has a woman with him who is from the Lemhi Shoshoni nation. She had been captured by the Minnetares. This woman can speak Shoshoni and would help explain the purpose of the expedition.

Now with a meeting so close to reality, Captain Lewis fears the Shoshoni will withdraw and refuse to go on because of their suspicions of a conspiracy Lewis may have with their enemies. Only twenty-eight men and three women had dared to venture out of the Lemhi Valley with these strange men. Captain Lewis uses the presence of Sacajawea to pacify the chief and his people.

❖ When Clark was not at the designated meeting place, some of the Indian people back away and take up places of self-defense in case of attack. Captain Lewis gives his own rifle to Chief Cameahwait, telling him to use it to shoot Lewis if this is treachery. Lewis mentions York, describing his black skin and short curly hair. The Indian people decide to trust the captain and camp with him for one night.

That night Lewis and Cameahwait lay side-by-side to sleep. Lewis sleeps very little as he ponders the fact that the success of the expedition now depends on the whims of the Lemhi Shoshoni people. The next day will be a critical turning point in the great venture that had already required so much preparation and toil.

Saturday, August 17, 1805 Captain Lewis

Lewis arises early. Cameahwait and Lewis agree to send Drewyer and a Lemhi Shoshoni

warrior down the Beaverhead River to find Captain Clark and the main party.

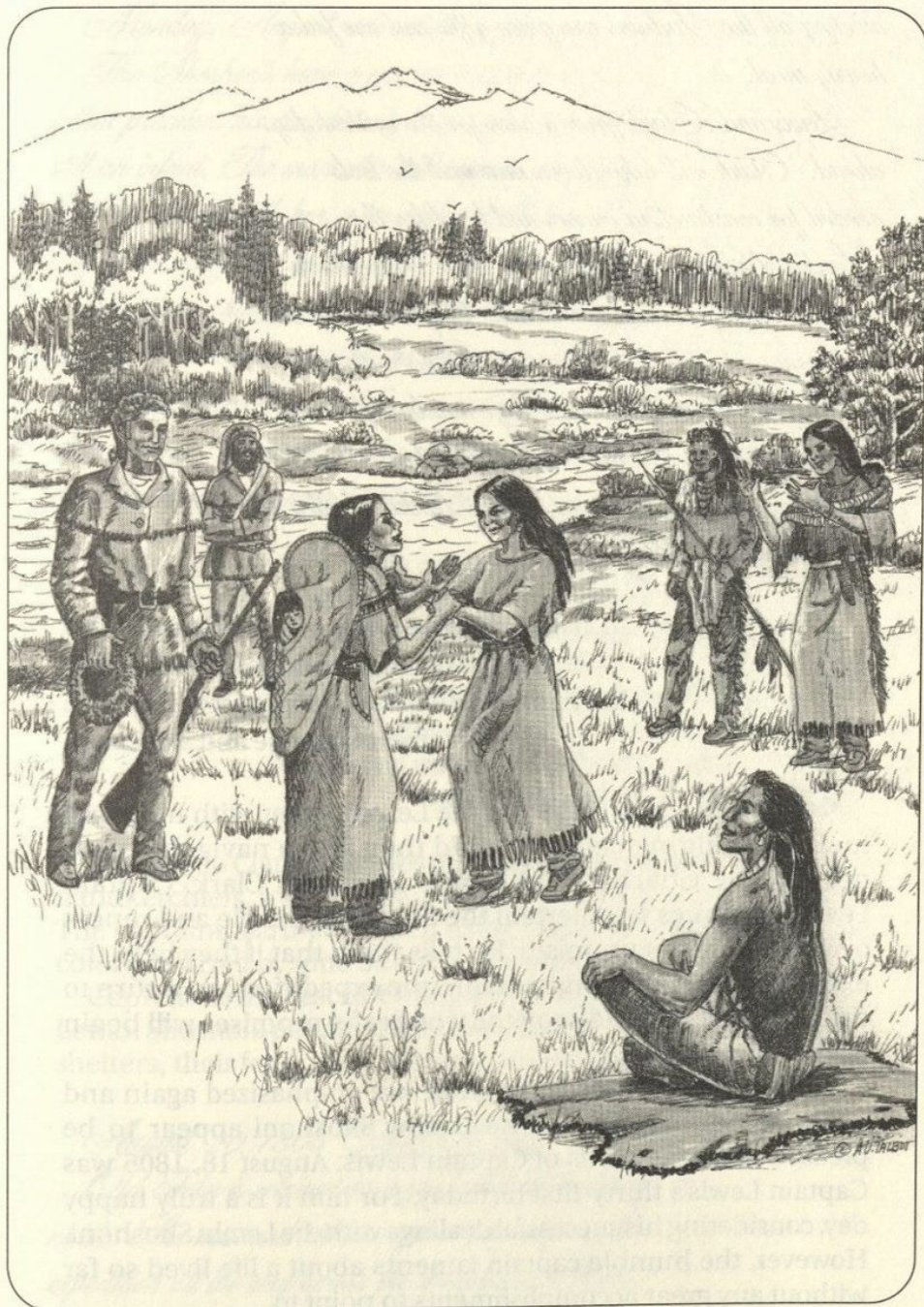
Two hours later the warrior returns and announces that the white men are close. Soon Captain Clark arrives with Charbonneau and Sacajawea.

There is an emotional reunion between Sacajawea and one of the Indian women. The two teenagers see one another and run to greet each other with great celebration. Sacajawea says that when she and her friend were eleven years old, they were captured by enemy warriors and taken to be sold as slaves. Her friend escaped and made her way home by herself.

The captains begin their meetings with the Indian people after a camp is set up. Sacajawea, Charbonneau, and Labiche serve as interpreters.

As Sacajawea begins to interpret, suddenly she recognizes her brother Cameahwait. She runs to him. They embrace. Sacajawea is in tears and throws a blanket over their heads. It is sometime later before she is composed enough to continue.

Once again the Shoshoni are told of the expedition's purposes and the need for horses and a guide. Over and over the captains promise the Shoshoni protection from their enemies, rifles for hunting, and all the wonderful things trade with the United States will bring. The captains promise to trade valuable items for each horse the expedition needs. After the



Sacajawea has an emotional reunion with a girlhood friend who also was captured by enemy warriors. They had not seen each other for over five years.

meeting all the Indians are given gifts and are fed a hearty meal.

Lewis and Clark form a plan for the critical days ahead. Clark will take eleven men and the tools needed for constructing canoes and head for the Lemhi Valley forty miles to the west. Sacajawea and Charbonneau will travel with Captain Clark and arrange to return to Captain Lewis with more of Sacajawea's people and a large number of horses. Captain Lewis will then trade for the horses, load all the baggage, and proceed to the Lemhi Valley to join Captain Clark.

This had to be a day of great emotion for Sacajawea. Her childhood friend, her brother, and all of her people greet her with great surprise and affection.

❖ Captain Clark leaves for the Lemhi Valley with men and tools for building canoes should they find a navigable river nearby. The Charbonneau family goes with Clark. Captain Lewis continues to entertain the Shoshoni people and repeat over and over his promises. He tells them that if they help the explorers through the mountains, the expedition can return to the United States and soon the wonderful promises will begin to come true.

The need for horses and a guide are emphasized again and again by Captain Lewis. The Lemhi Shoshoni appear to be pleased with the words of Captain Lewis. August 18, 1805 was Captain Lewis's thirty-first birthday. For him it is a truly happy day, considering his successful dealings with the Lemhi Shoshoni. However, the humble captain laments about a life lived so far without any great accomplishments to point to.

Monday, August 19, 1805 Captain Lewis

The Shoshonis have a custom that a young girl's father promises his daughter in marriage when she is still an infant. The man who will receive a girl pays for her, usually with horses or mules. At about fourteen years of age the girl is given to her purchaser.

Sacajawea had been sold as an infant. The man who purchased her is present when she returns with the expedition. He is twice Sacajawea's age and already has two wives. Since Sacajawea had a child by Charbonneau, the Shoshoni is no longer interested in her.

This could have developed into an awkward situation. Sacajawea's vulnerability is apparent. What if the man claimed Sacajawea? She certainly existed in a male-dominated society. First she is promised in marriage while still an infant, then she is captured and sold to Charbonneau. Now she could be claimed by another man.

❖ Captain Clark describes purchasing three horses with some handkerchiefs, a shirt, a pair of pants, and a few arrow points. The captains learn that when using beads for trade, blue is the color preferred by nine out of ten Indian people.

Captain Lewis describes in great detail, page after page, the Lemhi Shoshoni people, their dress, their physical features, their shelters, their food, their customs, and their beliefs.

August 20, 1805 Captain Clark

Old Toby is retained as a guide to lead the party north. The man and his son agree to accompany the expedition all the way across the mountains. Charbonneau and Sacajawea are sent back up over the

pass with more people and a good number of horses to carry expedition baggage into the Lemhi Valley.

The Charbonneau family is given a critical task by the expedition. Captain Lewis is in dire need of horses. The journey back to the Beaverhead River where he waits is a forty-mile trip.

❖ Captain Lewis describes the caching of excess expedition baggage, done in secret lest the Indian people help themselves to expedition supplies. The plan is to retrieve the valuable items on the return journey.

Lewis is impressed by how well the Lemhi Shoshoni conduct themselves. The women work hard repairing expedition moccasins and making new ones to replace those beyond repair. Lewis spends six days at the camp before he is ready to head west to meet Captain Clark in the Lemhi Valley.

*Thursday, August 22, 1805 Captain Lewis
Charbonneau, Sacajawea, fifty Shoshoni men,
and a large number of women and children arrive at the
Beaverhead camp and put up shelters nearby. The
men meet with Lewis and are given more gifts. After
the meeting all the people are fed a meal of beans, corn,
and squash. Cameahwait tells Captain Lewis that,
except for the sugar given him by his sister Sacajawea,
this is the finest food he has ever tasted.*

This must have been quite a scene. Well over a hundred Indian people were present. Giving gifts and feeding such a large crowd had to be a huge undertaking. Certainly Sacajawea must have been a key player in this impressive event. Captain Lewis named this place "Camp Fortunate."

❖ Captain Lewis on the Beaverhead River and Captain Clark in the Lemhi Valley each describe the preparations for the expedition's departure over land. The Shoshoni men tell Clark about the river heading north and joining a larger river which comes from the southwest. Then a larger river flows north and soon takes a sharp turn toward the setting sun. It enters a canyon that is impassable by land or water. This river is now called the Salmon River, which because of its wild rapids and narrow canyon has been nicknamed "The River of No Return."

Captain Clark explores the canyon and confirms the Indian report. Clark dispatches a letter to Captain Lewis to report his findings because they have implications regarding the number of horses needed for a long overland trip.

Saturday, August 24, 1805 Captain Lewis

Charbonneau is given trade goods to use to purchase a horse for Sacajawea.

The fact that Captain Lewis makes special provisions for Sacajawea to have her own horse is an indication of the high esteem she has earned in her own quiet way.

❖ Captain Lewis describes his party's progress in their move to Lemhi Valley. He notes that the Lemhi people already have a few out-of-date rifles, some metal knives, and a few other articles they obtained in trade with other tribes.

Lewis has high praise for the horsemanship skills of the Lemhi Shoshoni.

Sunday, August 25, 1805 Captain Lewis

Charbonneau casually tells Captain Lewis that he expects to see the Indian people leave to go on a hunt on the Missouri River. This shocks Lewis and means that he and his baggage will be left and the

expedition stranded without horses. A crisis of major proportions looms.

Sacajawea tells Charbonneau this disturbing news early in the morning but Charbonneau waits until afternoon to tell Lewis. After letting Charbonneau know about his unhappiness over the delay in receiving this critical news, Lewis immediately calls the chiefs together to pressure them to change their plans. He reminds them of their promise to trade horses and repeats all the promises of wonderful things which will come to them if they cooperate. Fortunately he succeeds in convincing them to stay, postpone their hunt, and help the expedition.

Sacajawea had heard her people planning their departure. She immediately tells her husband. After an inexcusable delay, Charbonneau tells Captain Lewis. A devastating disaster is narrowly averted.

Some historians have said the Lemhi Shoshoni plan to abandon the explorers is treachery. That might be the view of the non-Indian. As for the Shoshoni people, one month previous they had been attacked while trying to get to the buffalo hunting lands. Now with winter drawing near and the prospect of no buffalo meat for their families, they decide to give priority to the need for food. It was simply putting the welfare of their people first. Who could fault them for that? This is not treachery.

Cameahwait certainly would have understood who the informer was. Only Sacajawea understood the Shoshoni language. She was the only one that could have overheard the

Shoshoni plans to leave for buffalo hunting grounds. This means that Sacajawea has definitely severed her ties with her people and intends to remain loyal to the expedition. It was definitely a turning point for her and for the Corps of Discovery.

❖ Finally the horse trading is completed. Captain Lewis and the main party head north to meet Captain Clark. The men are elated to be finished with their upstream struggles. The captains describe their progress from the Lemhi Valley, up rugged mountains covered with thick timber, over a high pass now named Lost Trail Pass, and down into the Bitterroot Valley of present-day Montana. There they meet the Salish people who prove to be friendly and generous—some of the finest people they meet on the entire journey. Some splendid horses are added to the expedition's herd.

At Travelers' Rest, eighteen miles south of today's Missoula, Montana, the expedition pauses.

On September 11, the torturous trip over the Lolo Trail begins. This would prove to be the toughest part of the whole journey. The expedition was reduced to eating horses and dogs.

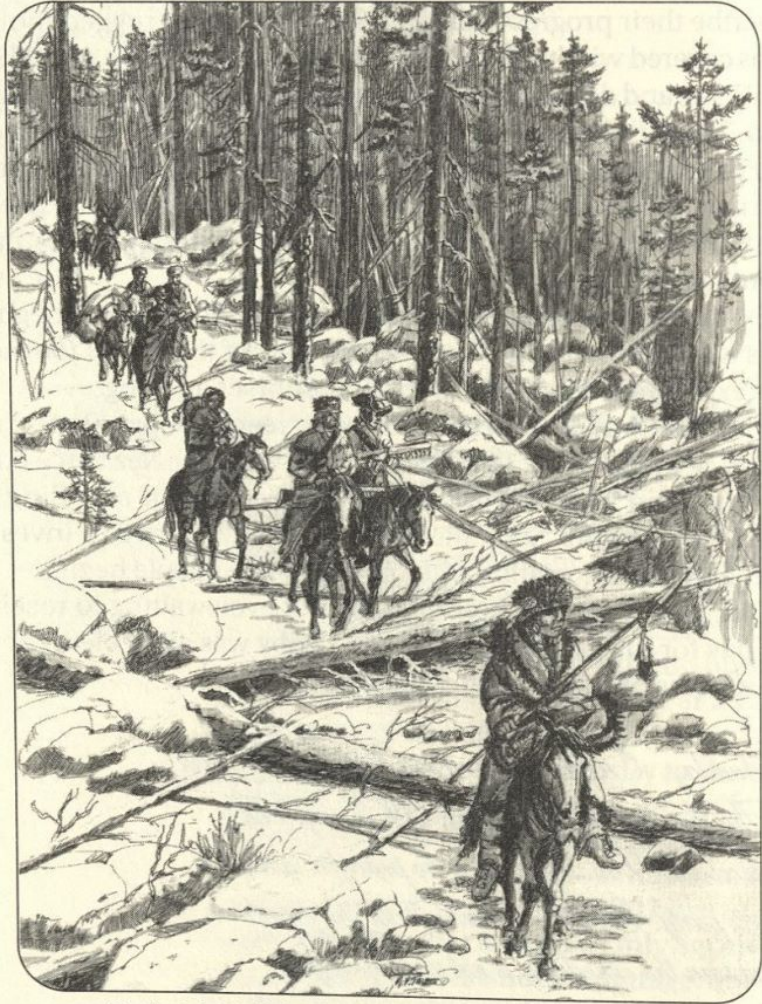
Captain Clark and an advance party reach Weippe Prairie on Friday, September 20, 1805. There Clark sees three Nez Perce boys who run and hide. Eventually the boys come out of hiding to receive some gifts. Soon the Nez Perce adults arrive to investigate, and the association with the Nez Perce people begins.

Old Toby is spotted heading east, not even waiting to receive the pay for his guiding services. Old Toby was a key element in the success of this great expedition.

Sunday, October 13, 1805 Captain Clark

The presence of Sacajawea with the expedition convinces all Indian people of the peaceful intentions of their party. Having a woman with the expedition is a sure sign the expedition is not a war party.

The explorers continue to note Sacajawea's calming influence on tribes all along their route. Without her, threatened warriors could easily have attacked impulsively. The small group of explorers could have easily been overcome by a larger force. And usually they were greatly outnumbered by native people. Taking the expedition's rifles and goods certainly would have been tempting to needy tribes.



On the Lolo Trail, the most difficult segment of the journey.

❖ From Travelers' Rest to Nez Perce country is 160 miles of torturous journey but the expedition makes it in eleven days. The Nez Perce people greatly assist the expedition. They give food, assistance in building canoes from large trees, and agree to take care of the expedition's thirty-eight horses over the winter months.

Many of the men experience stomach ailments and other assorted troubles. As the illnesses spread, the expedition has all the appearances of a hospital. Captain Lewis is completely disabled for days with an intestinal ailment.

On October 6 the canoes are finished. On October 7 the expedition is once more on a river and heads downstream on the Clearwater River to the Snake River, and finally to the Columbia River. Many Indian people are encountered along the way.

Saturday, October 19, 1805 Captain Clark

There is an extremely dangerous rapids on the Columbia River. To lighten the canoes, Clark has the people, including Sacajawea, Charbonneau, and two visiting Indian people, walk around the rapids.

Captain Clark approaches an Indian settlement with a pipe in his hands. The Indian people are terrified and are given a few trinkets to calm them down.

The instant Captain Lewis appears with Sacajawea, the people come out of the lodges and seem completely at ease. This made possible trade between the two groups.

From terror and fear to complete calm is the difference a woman with the expedition can accomplish. The captains made this observation again and again in their journals.

❖ Over a month passes before Sacajawea is mentioned again. The explorers describe their journey down the Columbia in their usual manner. Cold rains drench the travelers day after day. Buck-

skin clothing begins to rot off the wearer's body. Every expedition member, including Sacajawea and her baby, had to endure constant discomfort in the miserable weather.

November 7 is a memorable day. Captain Clark wrote, "Ocean in view! Oh, the joy!"

*Sunday, November 24, 1805 Sergeant
Gass*

The decision on where to camp for the winter is put to a vote. Captain Clark records the votes. In the list are written the votes of the black servant York and Sacajawea. Sacajawea's vote to camp near the best supply of edible roots is recorded under her nickname, Janey.

A black is given a vote. A teenage Indian woman is given a vote. This had to be a first for a United States Army Unit. Neither of these two people would ever be allowed to vote on anything back in the states. Anyone who has ever been on an extended isolated wilderness expedition, such as mountain climbing, backpacking, or the like, knows that such a group takes on its own character. A powerful bonding between the members takes place to succeed in reaching the group's goal.

❖ High winds, constant rains, and miserable cold make life almost unbearable. Visits from coastal Indian people are recorded. These tribes have many trade goods obtained from European sailing vessels which have docked in the waters off the coast.

Should a sailing vessel visit while the expedition is still on the coast, there will be the possibility that some or all of the expedition members will be able to return to the United States by sea.

The search goes on for a suitable winter campsite.

*Saturday, November 30, 1805 Captain
Clark*

Sacajawea gives the captain a piece of bread made of real flour. She had stashed some flour so she would have a food supply for nine-month-old Jean Baptiste. The flour became wet and had to be used before it spoiled. Clark has not had bread for months so this is a delicious treat.

Like any responsible mother, Sacajawea was always looking out for the welfare of her baby. This had to be a well-protected supply of flour. The expedition had long since used up its supply.

Sacajawea must have earned the respect of all the men for her devoted work to meet her baby's need for food, clothing, shelter, a cradleboard, and constant protection from the weather and the chance of injury. The growing infant must have given the men a warm feeling of a touch of home.

❖ Hunters find elk in abundance, but the terrain is covered with thick growth. Constant rain makes hunting miserable. Meat is often in poor condition and rots quickly.

*Tuesday, December 3, 1805 Captain
Clark*

Hunters come in with an elk. Sacajawea eats the bone marrow from two shank bones. Then she boils the bones and gains a pint of grease for her efforts.

Use of the complete animal was a skill all Indian people learned, especially the women. Men of the expedition would have discarded the bones. Sacajawea has shown

them the economic use of even the bones and for Clark this is a significant indication of her skills.

❖ On December 7 construction begins on the buildings to be used as winter quarters. The fort is named Fort Clatsop after the tribe living in the area.

Another pest bothers the explorers—fleas which infest their blankets and torment them all night. After a week of feverish activity, the log work is finished. Timbers are split into boards. Rain is almost unceasing.

December 16, according to Captain Clark, is one of the worst days ever, weatherwise. It is bitter cold, pouring rain, and wind so strong that trees are toppled.

On December 17 chinking of the logs begins. Charbonneau's hide lodge is in tatters. By Christmas Day the entire group is situated in the completed buildings—a welcome relief from utter misery.

Wednesday, December 25, 1805 Captain Clark

Christmas gifts are exchanged among the expedition members. Sacajawea gives Captain Clark twenty-four weasel tails.

A volley of shots fired by the men just outside the walls of the fort awakened the captains on Christmas morning. Following the shots, the men broke into song. This was an unusual Christmas celebration for a small band of explorers thousands of miles from home.

Where did Sacajawea get her twenty-four weasel tails? Did they have a religious significance for her? Had she carried them all the way from Fort Mandan? This generous gift from a woman who had very few possessions of any worth indicates her deep respect for

Captain Clark and the spirit of giving at Christmas time.

❖ Christmas dinner is rancid boiled elk, spoiled fish, and some roots. Captain Clark calls it a bad Christmas dinner.

On December 28 the men begin building a second camp right on the seacoast. A fire is built there to burn all winter long as sea water is boiled to obtain salt. For three months the fire is fed and precious salt is gathered for use by the expedition and as a trade item on the homeward journey.



Fort Clatsop, quarters for the expedition during the winter of 1805-6.

The new year is welcomed with another volley of rifle fire. The only beverage available to toast the new year is water. Every man feels the joy of knowing the new year will find them returning home.

Tuesday, January 6, 1806 Captain Clark

After breakfast two canoes are readied for a trip to the ocean. Sacajawea is eager to go with the party to see the "great waters." She has traveled a long distance and she wants to see the ocean and the enormous fish that live there. She is given permission to go.

Sacajawea shows a normal curiosity. Certainly she had come so far that another short canoe trip wasn't reason enough to miss such an opportunity. Seeing the ocean and whales would be a highlight of her life. Good fortune awaited the young mother. A giant blue whale's body over a hundred feet long had washed up on to the beach.

❖ Three months pass before Sacajawea is mentioned in the explorer's journals again. The captains make lengthy entries about Indian people, daily events, and the fact that they see no ships along the coast. The captains try to maintain a routine for the men and post a constant round-the-clock guard against theft by visiting Indian people. All visiting natives leave the fort at dark and the gates are secured for the night.

The men ache for the day the trip home will begin. There are only eight days of sunshine the entire winter. All the men are bored, many suffer illness, and their diet is the same day after weary day. Healthy men are busy preparing for the trip east.

Finally at 1 P.M. on Sunday, March 23, 1806, the expedition bids farewell to Fort Clatsop. Once again the group heads upstream with their canoes.

Indians along the way charge high prices for food, some Indians steal expedition property, and even Captain Lewis's dog, Seaman, is taken. An enraged Captain Lewis orders his men to shoot to kill to get his beloved dog back. Fortunately the dog is retrieved without a shot being fired.

The third week of April the expedition leaves the Columbia River, just east of a deep gorge now officially named The Dalles, and proceeds by land to Nez Perce country. The expedition is forced to pay high prices for horses to carry their baggage and to have a few extra horses for disabled men to ride.

*Wednesday, April 24, 1806 Captain Clark
The expedition meets with Indian people at the
Wah-how-pum Village. Charbonneau is able to
purchase a horse by giving a man his own shirt and
two of Sacajawea's dresses.*

This is an interesting transaction. Charbonneau probably was able to use two of Sacajawea's dresses in the deal without her agreeing to give them up. Such was the status of an Indian woman in Sacajawea's position.

❖ Dogmeat becomes preferred for food over horsemeat. Dogs were purchased all along the Columbia River as a food source for the expedition. Trades were made for additional horses along the way. Indian people bring their sick to the captains for medical treatment. A long line of those in need of help forms every morning at the explorer's camp.

*Monday, April 28, 1806 Captains
Lewis and Clark
A meeting is held with Walla Walla Indians. A Shoshoni woman is living with them as their
prisoner.*

Sacajawea serves as an interpreter as the explorers spend several hours explaining the purpose of the expedition's travels. The Walla Walla are pleased to hear the news brought by these strange men and they bring their sick and injured for treatment by the captains.

Here is another example of Sacajawea helping the explorers make effective use of their time communicating their purposes to Indian people, as President Jefferson had instructed them to do.

It was not uncommon for an Indian woman to be taken as a prisoner to be traded away as a slave.

❖ The expedition reaches the Snake River on May 4. They proceed on to Nez Perce country, only to learn that they must wait for nearly another month for the snows to melt to make the mountains passable.

Camp is made near present-day Kamiah, Idaho. Again Captain Clark becomes a popular physician for scores of Indian people with a variety of ailments.

Sunday, May 11, 1806 Captains Lewis and Clark

The captains and the interpreters have a meeting with the Nez Perce Indians who have a Shoshoni boy living with them. The translation went from Nez Perce to Shoshoni to Hidatsa to French to English and back. A half day is spent telling the Indian people the purpose of the expedition and what the expedition needs from the Nez Perce.

The son of a great Nez Perce chief says his father had been killed in battle. The young man believes the explorers' promises of peace among all people and says his heart is happy. In gratitude for their words, he gives the captains a beautiful mare and her new colt.

Translating back and forth through five languages was certainly slow and tedious but paid good dividends in the end. The patience shown by Lewis and Clark was rewarded time and again.

The young man is an example of most of the Indian people who listened to the captains' promises. The response was trust and hope. Certainly a teenager like Sacajawea also thought the captains were truthful and must have longed for the day her own people would benefit from all the good the great white chief in the United States would do for all people. Can anyone fault Sacajawea for her acceptance of the words of such powerful and compassionate men?

❖ The Nez Perce men begin the return of the expedition horses left with them the previous fall. Captain Lewis spends most of his time talking with Indian chiefs while Captain Clark serves as doctor for the long lines of sick waiting at his shelter each morning.

Friday, May 16, 1806 Captains Lewis and Clark

Sacajawea gathers a large supply of fennel roots (which were most likely Gairdner's yampah roots). The roots have an anise flavor and are tasty and nourishing. The great abundance of wild onions

make a healthy addition to their diet. The onions are boiled with meat.

These roots are plentiful today along the low meadows near streams in the Kamiah, Idaho, vicinity.

Sacajawea's food-gathering skills continue to impress the explorers. The food she finds is a valuable addition to the nourishment of the men and improves their general health.

❖ Snow is still falling in the mountains. Every warm day the river rises and hopes are raised for the signal to head east soon. The men can hardly contain their excitement and eagerness to get on with the trip.

*Sunday, May 18, 1806 Captain Clark
Sacajawea spends lots of time gathering yampah roots. She dries them so they can be taken on the journey through the mountains. The roots are tasty roasted, boiled, or dried.*

Even with fifteen-month-old Jean Baptiste to care for, Sacajawea finds time to gather, dry, and store food.

❖ The wait goes on for the snows to melt off the high ridges. The rain comes regularly. The men are forced to build watertight shelters of willows and grass. When the shelters are finished, Captain Lewis says they can finally sleep warm and dry for the first time since they left Fort Clatsop.

The Nez Perce horses impress the men. The Nez Perce selectively breed their horses for speed and horse racing is a number-one pastime of the young men. Foot races are also popular. One Nez Perce man was very fast and almost able to beat the expedition's fastest sprinters, Drewyer and Rubin Field.

*Thursday, May 22, 1806 Captain Lewis
Sacajawea's baby is ill. Jean Baptiste is cutting
teeth and has developed a high fever with a swollen
throat. The child is given a dose of cream of tartar
and flour of sulphur. A poultice of boiled onions is
applied to his neck.*

**This is the first indication that the
youngest member of the expedition is sick.**

❖ The captains do everything they can to help the young boy. Daily reports appear in their journals concerning his illness, treatment, and progress.

May 23—treatment for Jean Baptiste continues all through the night. His condition seems much improved in the morning.

May 24—the child has a bad night. In the morning the boy's throat seems more swollen than before, but his fever is down.

May 25—the child's condition is worsening steadily. In the evening the captains give him an enema.

May 26—Jean Baptiste's condition improves. His fever is gone and the swelling is down.

May 27—the child's health improves as treatment is continued.

May 28—all of the child's symptoms are disappearing. A full recovery is expected.

*Thursday, May 29, 1806 Captains
Lewis and Clark*

*The child is near complete recovery. Treatment
continues until June 8 when they finally declare him
healed.*

**The captains are up at night treating a sick
child. They record his daily condition, and
they try a variety of treatments to help him
recover. It is obvious that they have a great**

concern for the welfare of their youngest
expedition member.

Modern doctors reading the captains' description of the child's illness suspect he had mumps or tonsillitis. Fortunately the expedition was not moving during this time so Jean Baptiste could receive so much attention.

❖ During the child's illness, preparations for the expedition's departure and trip over the Lolo Trail continue. Dried meat and a good supply of roots are accumulated. Sixty-five horses are ready to go. So are the men.

Captain Clark continues to treat many Indian people who seek his help with their health problems.

On June 10 the expedition is finally on the move again, only to be turned back a week later by deep snow on the higher elevations. A discouraged Captain Lewis writes that this is their only retreat for the whole trip. The misery is multiplied by an all-night downpour of cold rain.

On June 24 the expedition starts east once more. Three young Nez Perce men are hired to guide the expedition over the Lolo. The guides prove their worth as the expedition reaches Traveler's Rest in the Bitterroot Valley in just six days.

*Wednesday, June 25, 1806 Captains
Lewis and Clark*

At this stop on the Lolo Trail Sacajawea gathers roots that her people eat. The root is similar to the Jerusalem Artichoke and has an excellent flavor.

This is another recording of Sacajawea's knowledge of edible plants. From the captains' description we believe it is the western spring beauty. The root is small and tasty. Later Captain Lewis collects a few specimens to take back with him.

❖ The highly motivated expedition members are up early every morning and on the way, headed home. The men push hard over the rough terrain and long distances are traveled each day. Finding grass for the horses is a priority. The snow-covered rocky areas, although slippery, protect the horses from the sharp rocks.

One camp is made at the Lolo Hot Springs, which is a resort today.

The young Nez Perce guides prove to be outstanding. Without them the expedition might have had to wait another month to cross the trail.

Tuesday, July 1, 1806 Captain Lewis

At Traveler's Rest plans are made for the expedition to divide into three separate groups for the return east.

Lewis will take six men and go northeast to explore the Maria's River drainage.

Clark will head south with the rest of the expedition members to retrieve cached supplies and canoes.

At the cache location Sergeant Ordway will take nine men and float to the headwaters of the Missouri River and down the Missouri to the confluence of the Yellowstone River.

Captain Clark will take the Charbonneau family and the remaining eight men. From the three forks area, the headwaters of the Missouri River,

Clark will cross overland due east to the Yellowstone River. He will follow the Yellowstone River until he finds trees large enough to make

canoes to use for the float on the Yellowstone to the Missouri River.

Just south of the confluence with the Yellowstone River, the three parties will meet and continue on together to St. Louis.

At Traveler's Rest the expedition takes a final rest, does some hunting, and prepares to separate and head for home. Lewis describes the bitterroot plant that grows in abundance in the valley. This beautiful valley in western Montana is now called the Bitterroot Valley.

The Charbonneau family stays with Captain Clark for the journey south. There would be no contact with the Lemhi Shoshoni people on their trip to the site of Camp Fortunate at the headwaters of the Beaverhead River, the place where Sacajawea first met her people on August 17, 1805.

Thursday, July 3, 1806 Captain Clark

The journey home begins with Captain Clark taking the Charbonneau family and nineteen men south up the Bitterroot Valley toward Lost Trail Pass. Sacajawea would once again prove her value as an interpreter.

Sunday, July 6, 1806 Sergeant Ordway

In the Lost Trail Pass area Sacajawea helps direct them east toward the Big Hole Valley.

Captain Clark's party would take a much shorter route east to the source of the

Beaverhead River and the expedition's cache. Here again Sacajawea's knowledge of the area helps save valuable time and effort.

❖ On July 7 Captain Clark's party stops in the Big Hole Valley at the site of a boiling hot spring. The area today is Jackson, Montana. The water is so hot (about 140 degrees) that meat can be boiled in it.

From the Big Hole Valley the expedition travels beyond present-day Bannack, Montana, over a pass, and into the Beaverhead River drainage.

On July 8 the party arrives at Camp Fortunate. Their canoes and supplies are in perfect order.

Wednesday, July 9, 1806 Captain Clark

*Sacajawea shows him an edible root which resembles a carrot (probably a *lomatum*).*

Most of the entries recorded about Sacajawea indicate her food gathering abilities.

In the journals she is often called "the Squar" (Clark's spelling of Squaw), a term which today would be derogatory and politically unacceptable. In 1806 it was common usage.

❖ Sergeant Pryor takes the horses as the party's baggage is put in the canoes and the group travels down the Jefferson to the three forks area. Pryor is told to try to make camp with the group each night.

The group passes camps they used in 1805 as they headed upstream for Camp Fortunate.

Sunday, July 13, 1806 Captain Clark

The departure of Sergeant Ordway and his nine men is recorded. Ordway takes the canoes and heads down the Missouri River. Clark takes the

remaining eight men and the Charbonneau family plus forty-nine horses and a colt and heads east over land to the Yellowstone River. A letter from Clark to Lewis is sent on with Ordway should Ordway meet Lewis before Clark does.

Sacajawea, as usual, accompanies one of the captains.

❖ Clark's party travels by horseback, but looks forward to the construction of canoes and a speedy comfortable float down the Yellowstone River to the Missouri. Soon the horses would no longer be needed. The plan was to drive the horses to the Mandan-Hidatsa villages for trade with the people there.

Captain Lewis continues his exploration of the Maria's River above the great falls. The group has an unfortunate skirmish with a party of Indians that results in the death of two Indians and a hasty retreat by the captain and his men follows.

*Monday, July 14, 1806 Captain Clark
Sacajawea says there is a large road leading through a pass and down to the plains where her people go to hunt buffalo. Her people would hunt for a few days and then quickly retreat to the safety of the mountains before their rifle-bearing enemies could attack them.*

Today this pass is called Bozeman Pass and is the site of Interstate 90 between Bozeman and Livingston, Montana. The young Sacajawea must have accompanied hunting parties to this area. On hunting trips girls and women would be required to help harvest the meat and hides from the kills the hunters would make.

❖ On July 15 Captain Clark's group arrives at the Yellowstone River near the site of present-day Livingston. On horseback they follow the river until they find trees large enough to use for the construction of canoes.

Thursday, July 17, 1806 Captain Clark

The party discovers an Indian fort, fifty feet in diameter, with five-foot high log walls. "The Squar" tells him her people made these structures to defend themselves from attacks by enemies who had superior numbers and rifles for superior fire power.

Sacajawea is again the source of information about an Indian site. She may have even had to take shelter in such a fort.

❖ Charbonneau's horse throws him during the pursuit of a buffalo. He suffers a badly bruised hip, shoulder, and face.

Private Gibson falls while mounting his horse and lands on a snag which goes two inches into his thigh. He suffers greatly while the puncture wound heals.

Captain Clark continues to treat the sick and injured as the expedition nears its final days.

On July 20 the work begins on building two large canoes. The plan is to lash the canoes together so the entire party can be carried safely down the Yellowstone River. The camp is located near present-day Park City, Montana, just west of Billings.

Sergeant Pryor loses all the horses to an Indian raiding party. The men hurriedly make "bull boats" by stretching buffalo hides over wooden frames. They launch them and float down the Yellowstone River in an all-out attempt to catch up with Clark and his flotilla.

Friday, July 25, 1806 Captain Clark

About 4 P. M. they pull the canoes over to the right side of the Yellowstone River. About two

hundred and fifty paces from the river rose a remarkable rock formation about two-hundred feet high. The circumference is about four hundred paces. The top can be reached only by climbing up the northeast side; all other sides are too steep. The rock is named, Pompey's Tower, and a nearby creek, Baptiste's Creek, after little Jean Baptiste Charbonneau.

Pomp was the name given to Jean Baptiste by the explorers. The toddler was now seventeen months old. Captain Clark shows his fondness for the little boy, naming this prominent geographic feature for him. Captain Clark chiseled his own name and the date into the rock wall. It is the only visible existing mark left by the Corps of Discovery for the entire length of the expedition's journey. This must have been a happy day for the child's mother. Today the Bureau of Land Management administers this popular tourist stop near Billings, Montana.

❖ The party is on the river every morning at sunrise. Smooth progress is made and many miles are traveled each day. The excitement of being on the way home and getting so close has everyone eager to get going every morning and willing to press on until late in the day.

True to pattern Clark records the land and its features and creatures in great detail every day. His skills add much to the record of the journey.

*Tuesday, August 3, 1806 Captain Clark
The group arrives at the Missouri River after
traveling an estimated 636 miles by canoe on the*

Yellowstone River. The Carbonneau family and five other men are listed as members of the group.

What a momentous day when Clark and his small party floated out of the Yellowstone River and into the Missouri. Clark could finally see familiar terrain again. The party



To honor Sacajawea's son, Pompey's Pillar, is named and "autographed" by Captain Clark, July 25, 1806.

was elated to reach this landmark on their
journey home.

❖ Captain Clark reports loss of sleep by everyone in his party due to hordes of mosquitoes attacking them all night long.

Wednesday, August 4, 1806 Captain Clark

Jean Baptiste has been bitten so badly by mosquitoes that the toddler's face is puffy and swelling badly.

Mosquitoes and prickly pear cactus tormented the explorers much of their journey.

Mosquitoes were by far one of their worst enemies. The child was not spared the hardships faced on the long wilderness journey but suffered only one serious illness.

In all of American history never has an infant been part of such a major exploration. Never has a teenage mother been asked to pack up a two-month-old infant and set off into the wilderness with a U.S. Army expedition.

❖ Sergeant Pryor's party, minus the horses which were stolen, catches up with Captain Clark on August 8. Clark places a sign on the riverbank for Captain Lewis and his men to see as they approach Clark's location on the Missouri River. Captain Clark is eager for his friend to return.

Monday, August 9, 1806 Captain Clark

Sacajawea gives him some large crimson gooseberries and some deep purple currant berries.

Clark records yet another instance of Sacajawea gathering food. As their hunters hunted, Indian women harvested edible plant parts for themselves and their families. The women were also experts at preserving food, mainly using the sun to dry meat, berries, roots, and seeds.

❖ On Thursday, August 12, 1806, Captain Lewis's party comes into view. Lewis lies in a canoe with a bad gunshot wound in his hip and buttocks. While hunting, one-eyed Cruzatte had mistaken Lewis for an elk and shot him. Clark tends to his friend's infected wound immediately.

The two captains share tales of the happenings since their separation on July 3 at Traveler's Rest. Now the expedition is back together. They proceeded on without incident to the Mandan-Hidatsa villages.

Saturday, August 17, 1806 Captain Clark

This is the day the Charbonneau family leaves the expedition (one year to the date Sacajawea met her people at Camp Fortunate on the Beaverhead River, August 17, 1805).

Charbonneau is paid \$500.33 for his services, for one horse, and for his leather lodge. Charbonneau indicates he wants to accompany the expedition to St. Louis. Because his services were no longer of use to the United States, Charbonneau is discharged. He will be allowed to accompany the group but no pay will be involved. Because there is no apparent way for Charbonneau to earn a living, he declines the captains' offer.

Clark offers to adopt Charbonneau's eighteen-month-old son and calls him a "butifull promising" child. Clark promises to raise the child in a manner he thinks best for him. The parents will agree to the adoption when their son is old enough to leave his mother—in about a year.

The expedition leaves the family and heads down the Missouri for St. Louis. On August 20, 1806, Clark writes a letter to Toussaint Charbonneau offering again to adopt his little son. Charbonneau is offered work and help with finances. Many good things are said about Charbonneau, Sacajawea, and Jean Baptiste, the little toddler who had given so much joy to the men of the expedition.

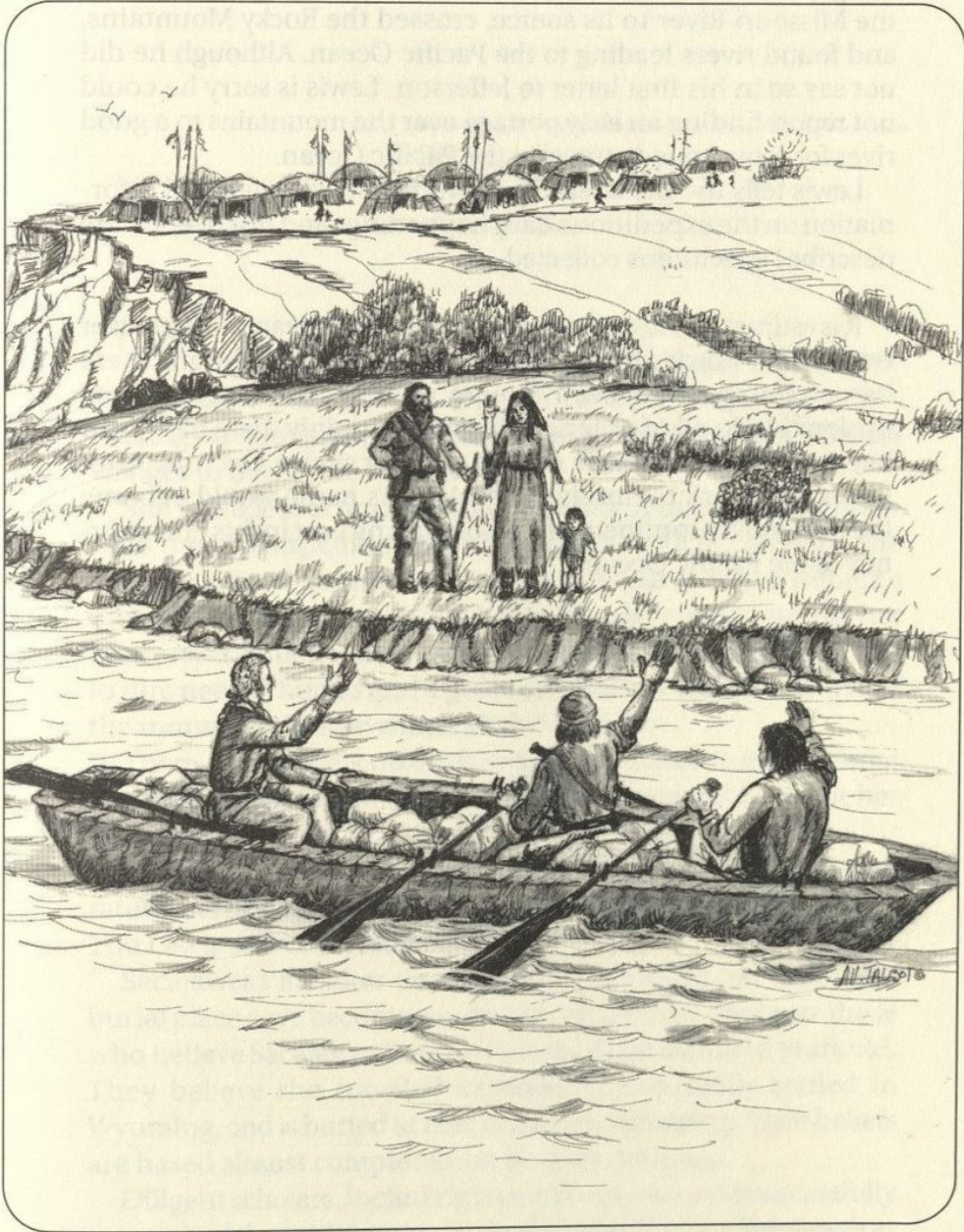
The time for separation had come. Captain Clark's love of little "Pomp" is obvious with his offer to adopt him as his own. Seemingly Charbonneau and Sacajawea felt this would be a wonderful opportunity for their child and agreed to the planned adoption. Eventually that adoption would become official.

❖ Along with the Charbonneaus, John Colter also receives his discharge at Fort Mandan so he can hire on with a trapping expedition heading up the Missouri River.

The explorers float down the Missouri River for more than a month and arrive at St. Louis at noon on September 23, 1806. The very much alive expedition members take out their rifles and fire a salute to the citizens of St. Louis who had given up hope for them and thought the entire contingent met with disaster.

Captain Clark makes the final entry in his journal on September 25, 1805:

"a fine morning—we commence wrighting."



The Charbonneau family leaves the expedition at Fort Mandan.

Now Captain Lewis can write his president to tell him that the assignment has been completed. The expedition had followed the Missouri River to its source, crossed the Rocky Mountains, and found rivers leading to the Pacific Ocean. Although he did not say so in his first letter to Jefferson, Lewis is sorry he could not report finding an easy portage over the mountains to a good river for more speedy travel to the Pacific Ocean.

Lewis tells the president he has returned with detailed information on the expedition's daily happenings and discoveries. He describes specimens collected.

It is estimated the two captains and three sergeants logged over two million words about their history-making expedition. There has probably never been a more meticulously documented exploration in all of American history. Certainly there has never been one with a teenage mother playing such a key role. After Lewis and Clark themselves, Sacajawea's name would become the next most prominent of all those taking part in this epic journey to the Pacific Ocean.

Epilogue

Sacajawea made a great contribution during the travel by The United States Army's Corps of Discovery and their history-making exploration of our continent west of the Mandan/Hidatsa villages to the Pacific Ocean.

She was adept at finding food. She was a symbol to native warriors that the expedition was a peaceful party of travelers. She was helpful as a source of information about the land from the Three Forks area to the Lemhi Valley. However, it is clear that her main contribution was as an interpreter when the expedition was in dire need of horses and a guide to make the critical traverse of the mountains before winter shut them off.

There is absolutely no evidence of any romantic involvement between Sacajawea and either captain or any man except her husband.

Confusion about her contribution to the expedition evaporates when the source of the facts about Sacajawea is consulted—The Lewis and Clark Journals.

Sacajawea's life after the expedition as well as her death and burial place have become a center of controversy. There are those who believe Sacajawea lived to be nearly one hundred years old. They believe she traveled extensively, eventually settled in Wyoming, and is buried at Fort Washakie, Wyoming. Their beliefs are based almost completely on hearsay evidence.

Diligent scholars, including Irving W. Anderson, have carefully researched the evidence and overwhelmingly place Sacajawea at Fort Manuel in South Dakota on December 20, 1812. The clerk

of the fort, John C. Luttig, kept a daily journal of events. His entry for December 20, 1812 reads,

This evening the wife of Charbonneau, a Snake Squaw, died of putrid fever. She was a good and best woman in the fort, age about 25. She left a fine infant girl.

The Fort Manuel site is on the National Register and is the recognized location of Sacajawea's death. There is no grave. Her final resting place was probably on a burial platform or in a dead tree.

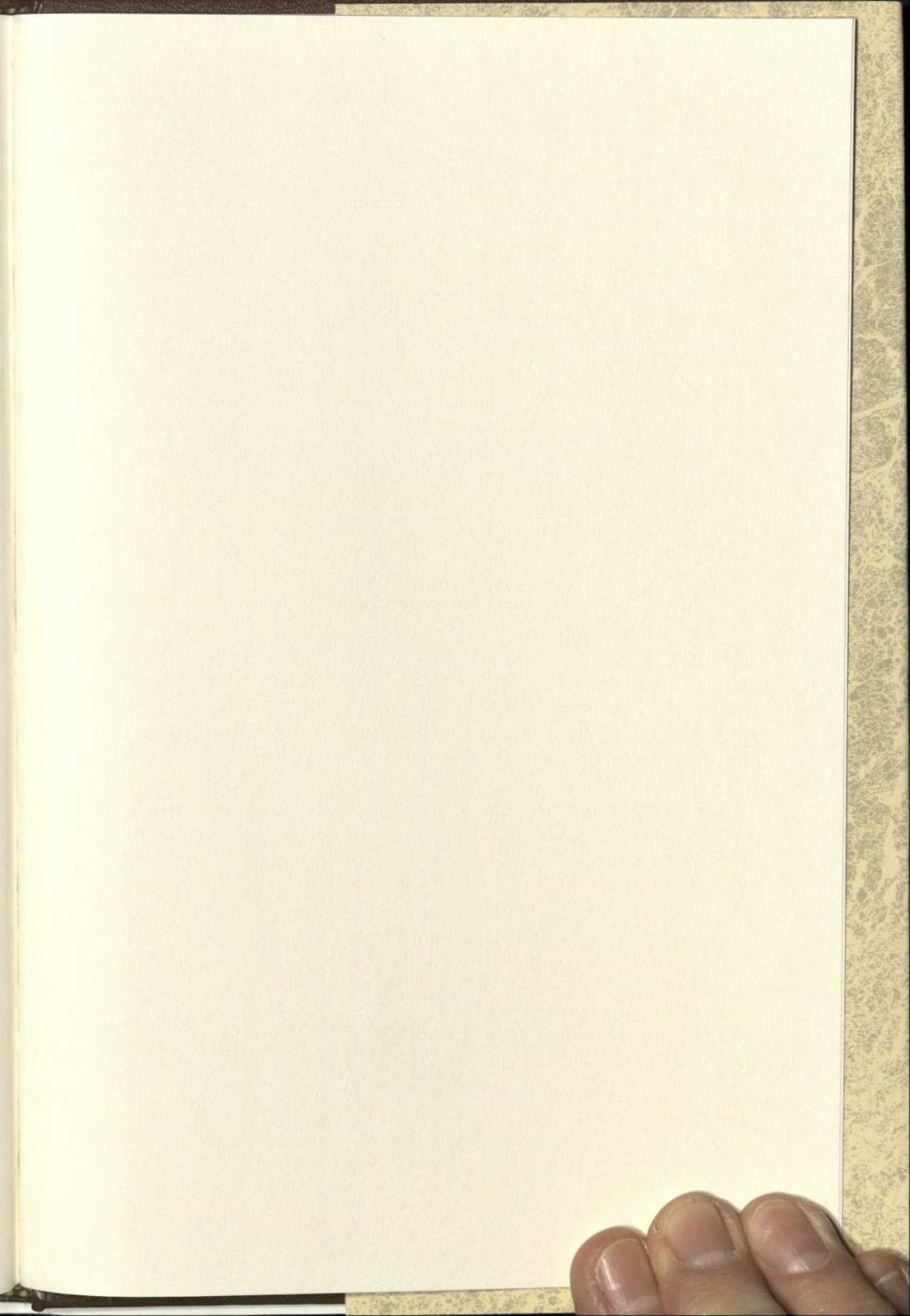
Four months after Jean Baptiste's birth Sacajawea lay near death at the great falls of the Missouri River. Captain Lewis is credited with saving her life. In 1812 at Fort Manuel, four months after the birth of her baby girl, Sacajawea dies of "putrid fever." If Captain Lewis had been in Fort Manuel in December 1812, could he have once more saved the young Shoshoni mother?

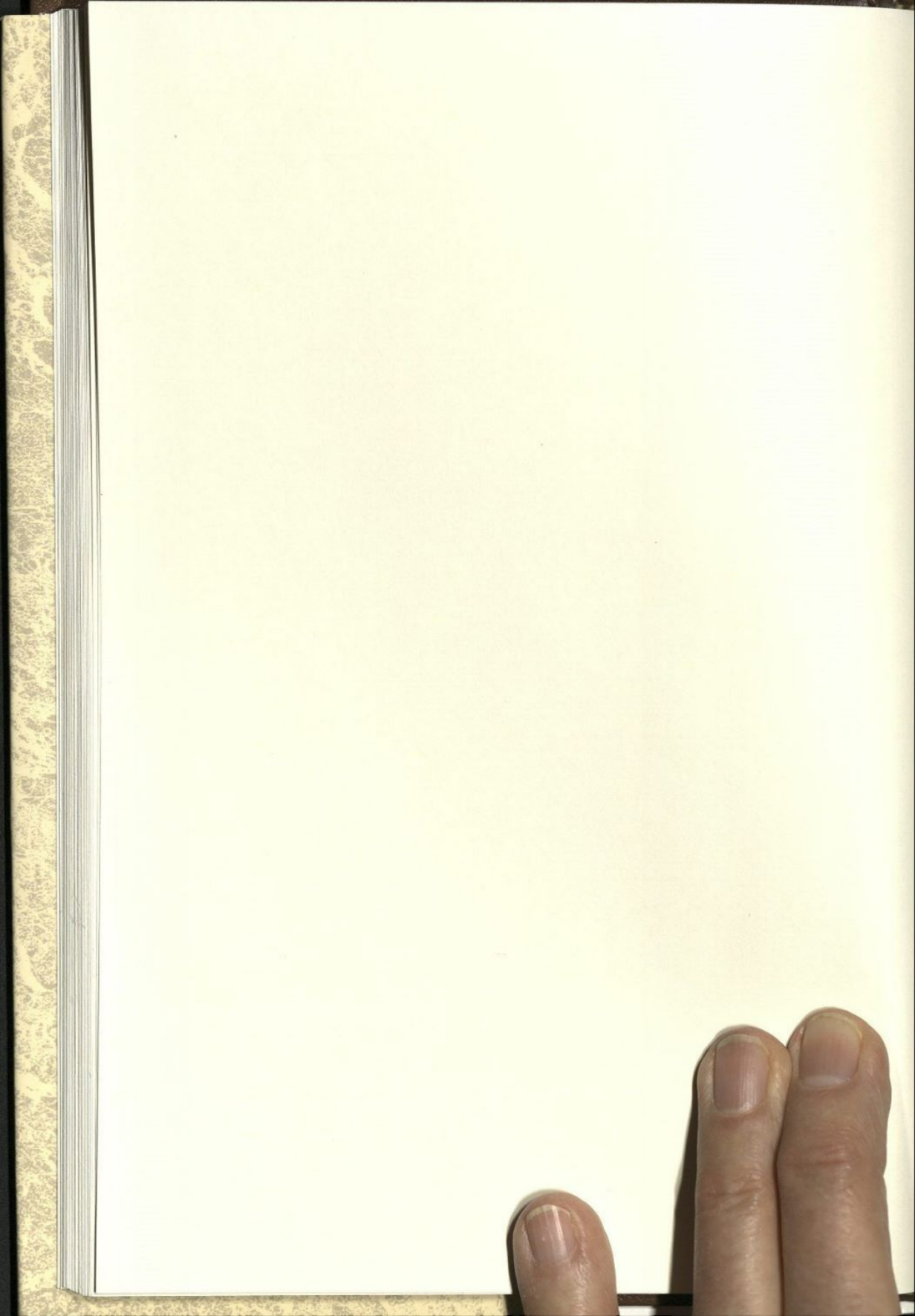
This important evidence of the time and place of her death was uncovered after well-meaning historians had already put forth the theory that Sacajawea lived to be nearly one hundred years old.

Court documents in St. Louis show that Captain Clark officially became the permanent legal guardian of Sacajawea's children. In a report made by Captain Clark in the 1820s regarding the whereabouts of each expedition member, Clark listed Sacajawea as "dead." His report has to carry tremendous weight since he had taken over legal responsibility for her children and would certainly have known about her status.

This is one of those controversies that will never see a meeting of the minds. There will always be different schools of thought on this Lemhi Shoshoni Indian woman who has stirred the imaginations and emotions of so many people since she played her role in this great exploration.

Little Jean Baptiste "Pomp" Charbonneau went on to become a guide, a mountain man, an interpreter, a forty-niner, and a magistrate. He was educated through the support of Captain Clark, became proficient in English, German, French, and Spanish, and traveled in Europe. While on his way to a gold strike in Montana, on May 16, 1866, at age sixty-one, he died of pneumonia near Danner, Oregon.





Ken Thomasma, a seasoned teacher, principal, and media specialist, now spends his time as a writing workshop leader and professional storyteller. He is concerned that children have accurate information about Americans who lived in the west before white settlers came. A careful researcher as well as a storyteller, Ken checks out details and descriptions with tribal leaders so that his material is not only historically accurate but also welcomed and appreciated by Indians themselves.

There are seven books in the popular Amazing Indian Children series. Three of the books have won the Wyoming Children's Book Award: *Naya Nuki*, *Pathki Nana*, and *Moho Wat*. The books have also been nominated for the Colorado Children's Book Award and the Colorado Blue Spruce Award. *Naya Nuki* was nominated for the Utah Children's Book Award. The books have been translated into Danish, Dutch, Norwegian, and Eskimo dialects for Greenland.

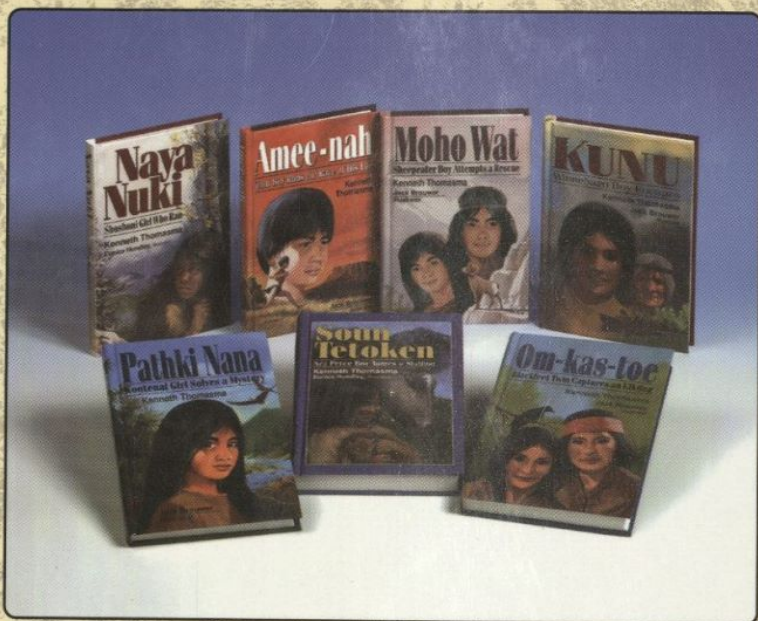
Ken, his wife Bobbi, and the younger Thomasmas—Dan, Cathy, grandson Oliver, and granddaughter Melissa—enjoy spectacular views of everchanging scenery from their homes located on the south border of Grand Teton National Park in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Agnes Vincen Talbot's love of the native American West began in her childhood days growing up in Boise, Idaho. After developing her significant natural talent, she moved to Connecticut, continued her art studies for fourteen years, and then returned to Boise. She is a disciplined art historian who insists on authenticity and demanding detail in her sculpture and western paintings. Her intricate illustrations in *The Truth about Sacajawea* reflect her love for the rich history of the American West.

She sculpted the beautiful bronze of Sacajawea, featured on the jacket front, for the Fort Lemhi Indian Community. It will be placed at the Sacajawea Cultural Interpretive Center in the Lemhi Valley, near Salmon, Idaho.

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