Manilla sugar wheat a year ago bear meat & acorns & salmon & roots were the only articles of food. To give you an idea of this wonderful traffic, a single town, started into existence a year ago was accustomed to pack 100 tons of flour a month to the miners on the lower parts of the river. The vicissitudes which follow individuals have thrown around that place, almost all the miners having been driven from there by violent diggings recently found here & in the neighboring streams, & three thousand men are now at work upon the mountains around. The extent of their operations would astonish you. Scotts river for three miles above its mouth is turned into canals built of stone & earth, ranging from one to two hundred yards long and ten wide & dammed more than thirty times. All this has been done in one summer. There are in this district a great number of Indians who have been very troublesome, being for that matter often pressed, & the miners had determined this winter to revenge the deaths of their comrades by a general war of extermination. We hope to avert this entirely & Col Mc Kee in convening the Indians has also invited delegates from all the mining parties to be present in council. The leading men who have visited our camp have all promised their influence to bring about a peaceful settlement. I have prepared a pretty full map of our route & added all the information I could collect about the adjoining country, & I think that in my own track of a geographer, I shall succeed pretty well. My journal is also full & will contain a good deal of valuable information. Col Mc Kee expects to go on to Washington himself & has promised to get the maps & sketches properly executed & I shall write Schoolcraft to see that the vocabularies are split right. Of these I have ob-