forms small pyramids. The hills between the Chimakane and the forks of the Spokane are of Syenite, decomposing freely on exposure to the air. South of the Spokane, basalt resumed its place as the primary rock, forming the high table land known as the great plains of the Spokanes and Nez Percés, and extending to the Columbia on the west and across the Snake river to the South. Near the Spokane

and even as far down as the camp of October 30th & 31st appears on the borders of a small lake lying to the east of the trail. The soil of these plains is generally thin and sterile, and coloured with oxide of iron from the decomposed basalt; but in the swales along the margin of the small streams, it is a rich black mould. Bunch grass grows plentifully upon them, and they afford a good range for the horses of the Indian tribes to which they belong. It is however to be considered that in all the stock ranges of this country, the scattered growth of the wild grasses, renders necessary a large comparative extent of country. These plains except on the northern skirts are destitute of timber, and are swept by high and piercing winds. This surface is generally undulating, with occasional hills rising to the height of 100 or 200 feet, some of which seem to indicate in their tabular summits, the former existence of a general covering of detritus, since swept away

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