2 ~~That~~ Of the existing route, only a portion is traversable by wagons; ~~That part between~~ at any season. That part between Vancouver ~~to~~ the ~~Cowl~~ mouth of Cowlitz is rarely used ~~except at times when the river is closed by & by for general travel~~, at all except by persons living upon it, ~~travellers for the Sound preferring or when the Columbia is closed by ice, pass~~ travellers for the Sound preferring to proceed ~~to~~ ~~each Monticello~~ by water, to Monticello ~~& Canoes are generally used even employed to ascending that stream, in consequence of the difficulty of the trail. Even so much as is practicable for~~

~~The importance of a good land or vehicles is so during but a~~ The importance of a good land communication between these sections of the territory for military as well as every day purposes ~~(between these sections of the territory)~~ has been rendered sufficiently obvious during the present winter; ~~all travel having~~ on the river being effectually closed at a most critical period, by the ice, and ~~the condition of~~ the trail ~~rendering~~ toward & the Cowlitz being next to impassable ~~even~~ for horses. ~~During the freshets of the Columbia which occur in June, & those of the its various tributaries which happen often twice in the winter season, travel is likewise stopped.~~

The route as it now ~~followed~~ exists leads down the Columbia bottom with occasional interruptions from the bluffs to ~~near~~ that ~~Cowlitz~~ stream, a distance of about 50 miles ~~with occasional interruptions from the bluffs at~~ on a ~~course apt~~ general course approaching North 25 west, it thence ascends the Cowlitz to the "Landing" about 27 miles, N. 15. East, then crossing ~~the dive~~ the ridge separating ~~the~~ its waters ~~of that stream~~ from those of Mid. Chiha