12 ~~stream~~ being insufficient to drain off its accumulated waters until it turns westward round the foot of the Black hills towards the sea. The soil is the same tenacious clay of that at the Lakamas. (2) The old wagon road, which is not passable in the rainy season, traverses the valley of the Nawankum, but another has been laid out ~~cut out~~ along the edge of the hills which though somewhat more circuitous avoids the overflowed lands for much of the distance. ~~but~~ Even this will require corduroy throughout most of its length. Between Saunders' and the Skookum chuck, a small prairie, half or three quarters of a mile in length is sometimes overflowed to the depth of several feet, by a ~~slough~~ creek which passes near it, ~~It is proposed to avoid~~ and other parts of the road are in like manner submerged. ~~in order~~ These interruptions occur often two or three times during the winter, passage being at such times impossible & travellers taking canoes from the ~~ho~~ mouth of the Nawankum down the Chihalis ~~to Ford~~ as far as Ford's prairie. To avoid these, the most practicable method ~~seems to be~~ is to keep round the foot of the hills, crossing ~~the~~ ~~slough~~ ~~and swamps which they traverse~~ that and a small lee creek, together with the swamps which they traverse, on raised causeways, to the Skookum chuck prairie near Cochrans. This will ~~render~~ involve ~~necessary~~ a very considerable amount of work but in no other way can a road passable during the winter be secured. ¶

The Skookum Chuck in its general character resembles the Nawankum, but is yet more rapid. ~~A bridge~~

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