

Astoria And Captain Bonneville Washington

reproduction of the original the adventures of captain bonneville by washington irving

benjamin louis eulalie de bonneville april 14 1796 june 12 1878 was a french born officer in the united states army fur trapper and explorer in the american west he is noted for his expeditions to the oregon country and the great basin and in particular for blazing portions of the oregon trail during his lifetime bonneville was made famous by an account of his explorations in the west written by washington irving

excerpt from the adventures of captain bonneville seton was one of the american youths who were at astoria at the time of its surrender to the british and who manifested such grief and indignation at seeing the ag of their country hauled down the hope of seeing that ag once more planted on the shores of the columbia may have entered into his motives for engaging in the present enterprise about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

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the amount of fame that benjamin bonneville received during his lifetime is owed to this work presented and authored by washington irving in 1837 the biography of captain bonneville provides an amazing account during his expeditions and adventures as a captain of the united states army providing a grand historical account as he explored the uncharted regions of the rocky mountains and his encounters with not only the various native tribes in the country but famous historical figures as robert campbell and nez perce these adventures detail accounts of death hunger and the dangers of ambush but also depict the legends and tales of brave indians the strange mysteries of an unknown landscape we here learn of the wars between natives and the battles between trappers and hunters this volume is indeed a historical treasure

when captain james bonneville left for california in may of 1832 his motives were mixed officially the french born officer was on a two year leave of absence from the u s army but he carried orders to collect information on the geography geology and topography of the country within the limits of the territories belonging to the united states between our frontier and the pacific no one heard from him for five years and he was assumed he was dead or awol but bonneville had befriended a mountain man named joseph rutherford walker in 1833 and the two men became the first white men to see yosemite they returned by a more southern route discovering walker pass the southern route across the sierras the salt flats in utah are named in bonneville s honor upon bonneville s return washington irving by

then an internationally famous writer met him in the home of john jacob astor the fur baron washington was fascinated by bonneville s tales of exploration finding them full of interesting details of life among the mountains and of mountain men and native americans that he had met it bore too throughout the impress of his character his bonhomie his kindness of spirit and his susceptibility to the grand and beautiful according to irving bonneville s journals formed the backbone of irving s work which was widely lauded upon its publication in 1837 it has remained a classic ever since capturing a long lost era of rugged mountain men and the thrill of being the first to view the expansive landscapes of the american west washington irving april 3 1783 november 28 1859 was an american short story writer essayist biographer historian and diplomat of the early 19th century he is best known for his short stories rip van winkle 1819 and the legend of sleepy hollow 1820 both of which appear in his collection the sketch book of geoffrey crayon gent his historical works include biographies of oliver goldsmith muhammad and george washington as well as several histories of 15th century spain dealing with subjects such as alhambra christopher columbus and the moors irving served as the u s ambassador to spain from 1842 to 1846 he made his literary debut in 1802 with a series of observational letters to the morning chronicle written under the pseudonym jonathan oldstyle moving to england for the family business in 1815 he achieved international fame with the publication of the sketch book of geoffrey crayon gent serialized from 1819 20 he continued to publish regularly and almost always successfully throughout his life and just eight months before his death at age 76 in tarrytown new york completed a five volume biography of george washington irving along with james fenimore cooper was among the first american writers to earn acclaim in europe and irving encouraged american authors such as nathaniel hawthorne henry wadsworth longfellow herman melville and edgar allan poe irving was also admired by some european writers including lord byron thomas campbell charles dickens francis Jeffrey and walter scott also as the united states first internationally best selling author irving advocated for writing as a legitimate profession and argued for stronger laws to protect american writers from copyright infringement

in a recent work we have given an account of the grand enterprise of mr john jacob astor to establish an american emporium for the fur trade at the mouth of the columbia or oregon river of the failure of that enterprise through the capture of astoria by the british in 1814 and of the way in which the control of the trade of the columbia and its dependencies fell into the hands of the northwest company we have stated likewise the unfortunate supineness of the american government in neglecting the application of mr astor for the protection of the american flag and a small military force to enable him to reinstate himself in the possession of astoria at the return of peace when the post was formally given up by the british government though still occupied by the northwest company by that supineness the sovereignty in the country has been virtually lost to the united states and it will cost both governments much trouble and difficulty to settle matters on that just and rightful footing on which they would readily have been placed had the proposition of mr astor been attended to we shall now state a few particulars of subsequent events so as to lead the reader up to the period of which we are about to treat and to prepare him for the circumstances of our narrative in consequence of the apathy and neglect of the american government mr astor abandoned all thoughts of regaining astoria and made no further attempt to extend his enterprises beyond the rocky mountains and the northwest company considered themselves the lords of the country they did not long enjoy unmolested the sway which they had somewhat surreptitiously attained a fierce competition ensued between them and their old rivals the hudson s bay company which was carried on at great cost and sacrifice and occasionally with the loss of life it ended in the ruin of most of the partners of the northwest company and the merging of the relics of that establishment in 1821 in the rival association from that time the hudson s bay company enjoyed a monopoly of the indian trade from the coast of the pacific to the

rocky mountains and for a considerable extent north and south they removed their emporium from astoria to fort vancouver a strong post on the left bank of the columbia river about sixty miles from its mouth whence they furnished their interior posts and sent forth their brigades of trappers the rocky mountains formed a vast barrier between them and the united states and their stern and awful defiles their rugged valleys and the great western plains watered by their rivers remained almost a terra incognita to the american trapper the difficulties experienced in 1808 by mr henry of the missouri company the first american who trapped upon the head waters of the columbia and the frightful hardships sustained by wilson p hunt ramsay crooks robert stuart and other intrepid astorians in their ill fated expeditions across the mountains appeared for a time to check all further enterprise in that direction the american traders contented themselves with following up the head branches of the missouri the yellowstone and other rivers and streams on the atlantic side of the mountains but forbore to attempt those great snow crowned sierras

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preface the author of this very practical treatise on scotch loch fishing desires clearly that it may be of use to all who had it he does not pretend to have written anything new but to have attempted to put what he has to say in as readable a form as possible everything in the way of the history and habits of fish has been studiously avoided and technicalities have been used as sparingly as possible the writing of this book has afforded him pleasure in his leisure moments and that pleasure would be much increased if he knew that the perusal of it would create any bond of sympathy between himself and the angling community in general this section is interleaved with blank sheets for the readers notes the author need hardly say that any suggestions addressed to the case of the publishers will meet with

consideration in a future edition we do not pretend to write or enlarge upon a new subject much has been said and written and well said and written too on the art of fishing but loch fishing has been rather looked upon as a second rate performance and to dispel this idea is one of the objects for which this present treatise has been written far be it from us to say anything against fishing lawfully practised in any form but many pent up in our large towns will bear us out when we say that on the whole a days loch fishing is the most convenient one great matter is that the loch fisher is dependent on nothing but enough wind to curl the water and on a large loch it is very seldom that a dead calm prevails all day and can make his arrangements for a day weeks beforehand whereas the stream fisher is dependent for a good take on the state of the water and however pleasant and easy it may be for one living near the banks of a good trout stream or river it is quite another matter to arrange for a days river fishing if one is looking forward to a holiday at a date some weeks ahead providence may favour the expectant angler with a good day and the water in order but experience has taught most of us that the good days are in the minority and that as is the case with our rapid running streams such as many of our northern streams are the water is either too large or too small unless as previously remarked you live near at hand and can catch it at its best a common belief in regard to loch fishing is that the tyro and the experienced angler have nearly the same chance in fishing the one from the stern and the other from the bow of the same boat of all the absurd beliefs as to loch fishing this is one of the most absurd try it give the tyro either end of the boat he likes give him a cast of ally flies he may fancy or even a cast similar to those which a crack may be using and if he catches one for every three the other has he may consider himself very lucky of course there are lochs where the fish are not abundant and a beginner may come across as many as an older fisher but we speak of lochs where there are fish to be caught and where each has a fair chance again it is said that the boatman has as much to do with catching trout in a loch as the angler well we dont deny that in an untried loch it is necessary to have the guidance of a good boatman but the same argument holds good as to stream fishing

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