

Proposal for The Sea Runners, by Ivan Doig

Two anchoring scenes of history, like hands measuring a breadth:

"Last Sunday"--the sixteenth of January, 1853, near Astoria, Oregon--"as some of the settlers were crossing the bay, they found, drifting in a canoe, three men nearly starved to death.... One of the poor fellows was peeling the skin from off his hands and arms and eating it."

Six weeks before, four men had crept from the fort at Sitka, Alaska, headquarters of the Russian-America fur-trading company. Having signed on from their native Sweden for seven years' service at Sitka, the four chose to escape from their indenturement with the Russian frontier regime; all they knew of their chosen destination--the American fur-trading post at Astoria--is its direction, south along the wild coast of Alaska and British Columbia, and its means, an eighteen-foot canoe they have managed to steal.

What stretches between the historical scenes is a desperate voyage of a thousand miles, in North Pacific winter and through the waters of the premier seagoing Indian tribes of the world. The story I'll tell as a weave of history and fiction, The Sea Runners.

The record of that colossal journey exists now as a single six-inch newspaper item, reported to the Oregon Weekly Times by one of the settlers who stumbled across the three survivors in a coastal bay north of Astoria. Besides the above quote, the brief report tells that the voyagers and 17 other men from Stockholm had come to Sitka "in the ship Nicholas" in 1850 and that "after a residence of nearly three years, they found that they could not bear the ill-usage and tyranny which they were receiving, and determined to make their escape." It lists their resources: a couple of compasses, a chart, muskets, powder and shot, some fishing lines. All else of the story--the human components--I will retrieve by setting to work on it with history's exactness of detail and fiction's power of imagination.

The cast of characters:

Melander, the planner of the escape. Rebelling against the indentured life--"the Russians' oxen," he bitterly describes himself and the other Swedes--he has put together the escape as if he were a man piecing out a chess problem. Tall and museful, he is a commander who believes that events can be summoned under control by patience and preparation.

Karlsson is his first, carefully-chosen accomplice; a skilled canoeman, and a frontiersman who seems to Melander to possess useful depths of endurance. A taciturn figure who has not shown himself interested in much about Sitka life except the native women in the village outside the fort, Karlsson joins the escape mostly from curiosity, to see whether the deed can be done.

Melander's second selection, Braaf, is a thief, and chosen for that reason. He it is who in the months of preparation steadily compiles the necessary pilfered supplies. Braaf, at twenty, is much the youngest of the men, a Stockholm street boy who enlisted for Alaska a jump ahead of the law and is bored to his fingertips by Sitka life.

The fourth man is the wild card flicked into the escape scheme: Wennberg, a clever trapper who discerns the plan when he catches Braaf amid a theft of provisions, and thereby muscles his way into the escape. Wennberg is the most contentious and crafty of the four, a dangerous element for the original three to deal with.

The novel opens at a point several days into the escape, as the four are coming ashore to a dark-forested island for the night. A couple of taut introductory paragraphs introduce the men and the situation, building to a line something like:

"As the four men move from sight, another white wave replaces the rolling hill of water which brought them to this shore where they are selecting their night's shelter, and where one of them is to die."

From there, the storyline steps back to how the escape was plotted and achieved, follows the fugitives through the dangers of the first portion of their journey, then connects again at this major point, about a third of the way through the book, where the death is to occur. Thereafter the story runs a straight line of adventure through the rest of the forty days of voyage down the North Pacific coast.

Throughout the narrative, the sea runners face three constant adversaries: the weather, the Indian tribes spaced along the coast, and themselves. The principal plot developments are a decision to cross a treacherous breadth of water (Dixon Entrance) in hard weather; the death of one of the men at the hands of the Haida Indians; a showdown about leadership; the problem of skirting past the potent sea-going tribes of the southern portion of the journey, necessitating some dangerous travel by night; and the final struggle of the survivors to safety.

The best summary of the novel is that I intend it to be a page-turner. The pace will be rapid; I see this as a book of 65,000-75,000 words, perhaps fewer.

As to what the book will be "like", I might suggest Joseph Conrad's Typhoon; that is, a continuous action story keyed to one powerful element--the impossible escape--as his was keyed to the colossal storm at sea. On one point it might resemble too Guy Davenport's story of the discovery of the Lascaux cave paintings, "Robot": as the sense of prehistory emanates from the ochre wall animals "flowing in long strides down some run of time" in Davenport's story, the black-forested North Pacific coast will be the evolving universe of these men in the canoe.

Or perhaps I should leave it at this, that it'll be a novel of considerable compression, with its focus always on the actions of the men as they try to cope with ocean and wilderness. John Berryman wrote that a mark of modernity is that a person now can live his life without ever having the chance to know whether he is physically brave. Daily for some forty days, the sea runners are whetted against that question.

###

Proposal for The Sea Runners, by Ivan Doig

Two anchoring scenes of history, like hands measuring a breadth:

"Last Sunday"--the sixteenth of January, 1853, near Astoria, Oregon--"as some of the settlers were crossing the bay, they found, drifting in a canoe, three men nearly starved to death.... One of the poor fellows was peeling the skin from off his hands and arms and eating it."

Six weeks before, four men had crept from the fort at Sitka, Alaska, headquarters of the Russian-America fur-trading company. Having signed on from their native Sweden for seven years' service at Sitka, the four chose to escape from their indenturement with the Russian frontier regime; all they knew of their chosen destination--the American fur-trading post at Astoria--is its direction, south along the wild coast of Alaska and British Columbia, and its means, an eighteen-foot canoe they have managed to steal.

What stretches between the historical scenes is a desperate voyage of a thousand miles, in North Pacific winter and through the waters of the premier seagoing Indian tribes of the world. The story I'll tell as a weave of history and fiction, The Sea Runners.

The record of that colossal journey exists now as a single six-inch newspaper item, reported to the Oregon Weekly Times by one of the settlers who stumbled across the three survivors in a coastal bay north of Astoria. Besides the above quote, the brief report tells that the voyagers and 17 other men from Stockholm had come to Sitka "in the ship Nicholas" in 1850 and that "after a residence of nearly three years, they found that they could not bear the ill-usage and tyranny which they were receiving, and determined to make their escape." It lists their resources: a couple of compasses, a chart, muskets, powder and shot, some fishing lines. All else of the story--the human components--I will retrieve by setting to work on it with history's exactness of detail and fiction's power of imagination.

The cast of characters:

Melander, the planner of the escape. Rebellious against the indentured life--"the Russians' oxen," he bitterly describes himself and the other Swedes--he has put together the escape as if he were a man piecing out a chess problem. Tall and museful, he is a commander who believes that events can be summoned under control by patience and preparation.

Karlsson is his first, carefully-chosen accomplice; a skilled canoe man, and a frontiersman who seems to Melander to possess useful depths of endurance. A taciturn figure who has not shown himself interested in much about Sitka life except the native women in the village outside the fort, Karlsson joins the escape mostly from curiosity, to see whether the deed can be done.

Melander's second selection, Braaf, is a thief, and chosen for that reason. He it is who in the months of preparation steadily compiles the necessary pilfered supplies. Braaf, at twenty, is much the youngest of the men, a Stockholm street boy who enlisted for Alaska a jump ahead of the law and is bored to his fingertips by Sitka life.

The fourth man is the wild card flicked into the escape scheme: Wennberg, a clever trapper who discerns the plan when he catches Braaf amid a theft of provisions, and thereby muscles his way into the escape. Wennberg is the most contentious and crafty of the four, a dangerous element for the original three to deal with.

The novel opens at a point several days into the escape, as the four are coming ashore to a dark-forested island for the night. A couple of taut introductory paragraphs introduce the men and the situation, building to a line something like:

"As the four men move from sight, another white wave replaces the rolling hill of water which brought them to this shore where they are selecting their night's shelter, and where one of them is to die."

From there, the storyline steps back to how the escape was plotted and achieved, follows the fugitives through the dangers of the first portion of their journey, then connects again at this major point, about a third of the way through the book, where the death is to occur. Thereafter the story runs a straight line of adventure through the rest of the forty days of voyage down the North Pacific coast.

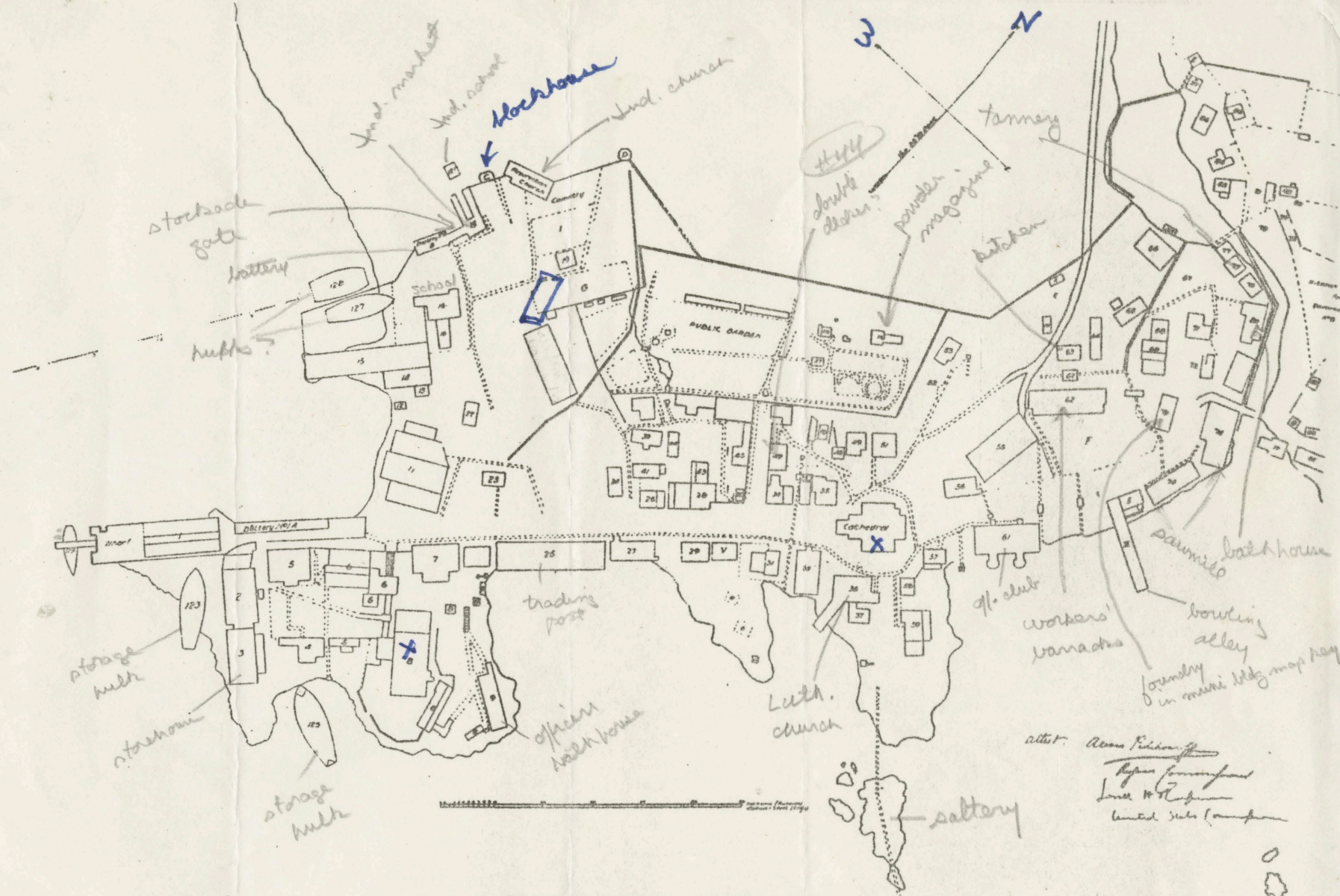
Throughout the narrative, the sea runners face three constant adversaries: the weather, the Indian tribes spaced along the coast, and themselves. The principal plot developments are a decision to cross a treacherous breadth of water (Dixon Entrance) in hard weather; the death of one of the men at the hands of the Haida Indians; a showdown about leadership; the problem of skirting past the potent sea-going tribes of the southern portion of the journey, necessitating some dangerous travel by night; and the final struggle of the survivors to safety.

The best summary of the novel is that I intend it to be a page-turner. The pace will be rapid; I see this as a book of 65,000-75,000 words, perhaps fewer.

As to what the book will be "like", I might suggest Joseph Conrad's Typhoon; that is, a continuous action story keyed to one powerful element--the impossible escape--as his was keyed to the colossal storm at sea. On one point it might resemble too Guy Davenport's story of the discovery of the Lascaux cave paintings, "Robot": as the sense of prehistory emanates from the ochre wall animals "flowing in long strides down some run of time" in Davenport's story, the black-forested North Pacific coast will be the evolving universe of these men in the canoe.

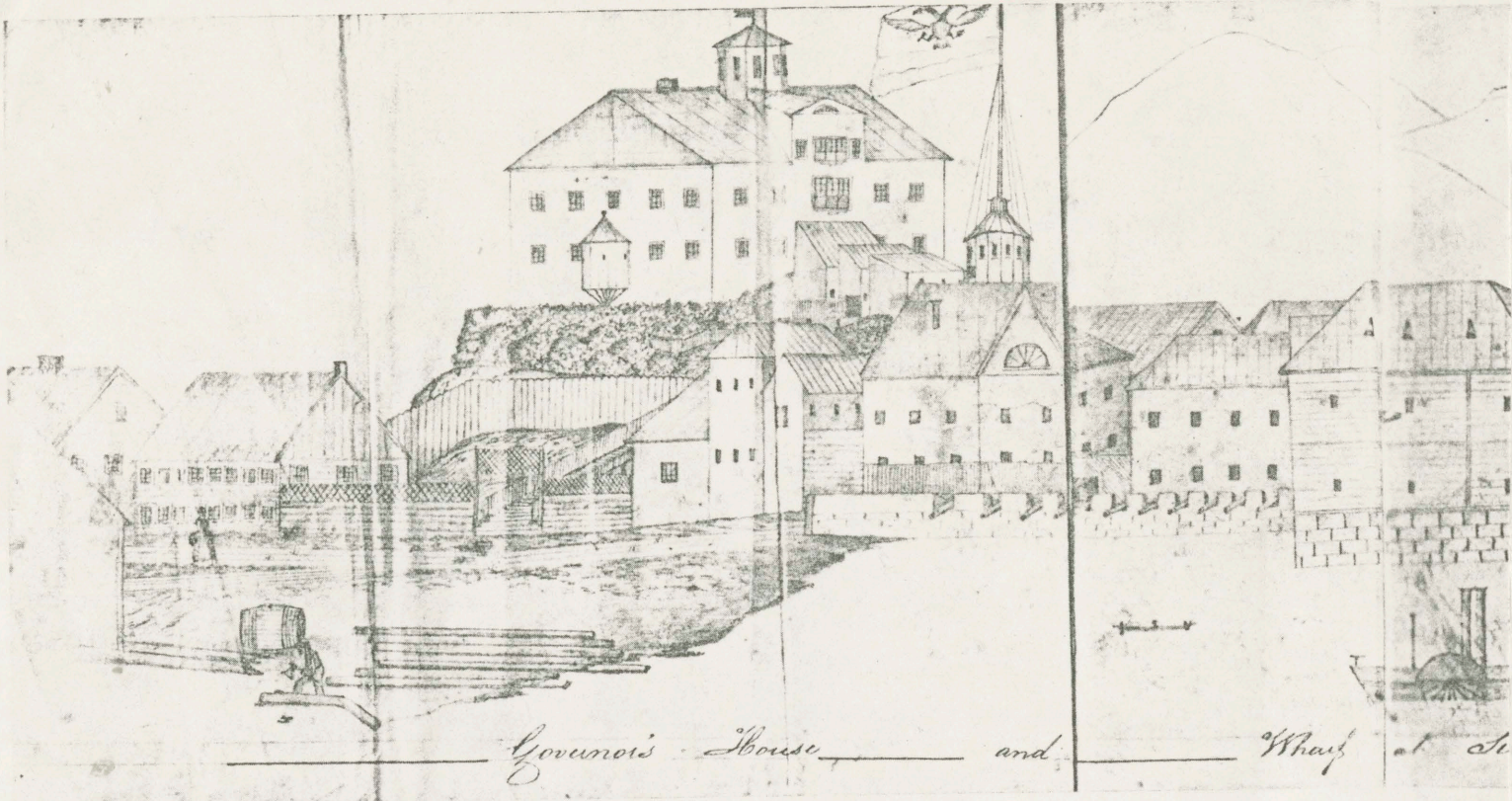
Or perhaps I should leave it at this, that it'll be a novel of considerable compression, with its focus always on the actions of the men as they try to cope with ocean and wilderness. John Berryman wrote that a mark of modernity is that a person now can live his life without ever having the chance to know whether he is physically brave. Daily for some forty days, the sea runners are whetted against that question.

###



MAP OF SITKA—OCTOBER, 1867

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>A. Battery No. 1.
 B. Battery No. 2, Vralaskian Battery.
 C. Blockhouse No. 1.
 D. Blockhouse No. 2.
 E. Blockhouse No. 3.
 1. Warehouse.
 2. Shop and Store.
 3. Subsistence Storehouse.
 4. Tannery for Furs.
 6. Barracks, three stories.
 7. Office Building, two stories.
 8. Governor's House.</p> | <p>9. Wash and Bath House.
 11. 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, and 23. Dock Yard and Buildings.
 16. School Building.
 18. Market for Indians.
 19. Lime Kiln.
 20. Unfinished Barracks.
 25. Bakery, Joinery, etc.
 61. Officers' Lodgings, two stories.
 66. Laundry.
 74. Sawmill.
 75. Tannery.
 76. Unfinished Bath House.</p> | <p>77. Water Flour Mill.
 96. Aleutian Dwellings.
 102. Bishop's House, two stories.
 103. Hospital, two stories.
 116, 117. Arbors on Public Gardens.
 119. Powder Magazine.
 121. School Building for Indians.
 122. Observatory on Japonski Island.
 123. House for Observer, Wharf, Garden, Hotbeds, etc.
 Cathedral of St. Michael.
 Church of the Resurrection (Koloshian Church).
 129. Hulk and Movable Bridge.</p> |
|---|--|---|



The Russian establishment at Sitka. From an unsigned, undated drawing in the H B C archives.

The Beaver, summer '55, pp 40-1

*NWC N 979.513
B*

John Work, who was in charge of the Fort Simpson post for a number of years at this time, has left in his *Journal* a full report of a trading trip to the Queen Charlottes on board the *Llama* commanded by Captain McNeill. They left the west coast of Vancouver's Island on the first day of May, 1835, and after trading around Laredo sound, the ship stood across to Charlotte's Island and in the evening was off Cape James. From the Indians they traded 29 beaver, 16 land otter, 60 martens and 74 mink. No mention of sea-otter is made. By the 10th of May, in spite of baffling winds the *Llama* managed to make Skidegate Harbour. Here a number of canoes came off to trade fish, bearskins and some marten skins. It was noticed that the Indians seemed shy of coming on board and Work soon realized the cause of their hesitation. 'Their shyness arose from the loss of the 'Vancouver' last year, as they are connected with the tribe who inhabit where she was lost, and who landed here ...'

any is found among them. They grow considerable of potatoes, they have several patches under cultivation about their village."

The trade in potatoes with the Company posts, here mentioned for the first time, might be called the beginning of agriculture on northern shores. Dr. John McLoughlin, for long the head at Fort Vancouver, and under whose jurisdiction all the forts on the coast fell, wrote to John Work concerning the same matter as follows:

"I hope every means will be used to increase our intercourse with the Indians of the Queen Charlotte Islands, and it will be proper to purchase potatoes and whatever property they may bring to induce them to visit the Establishments more frequently, as we will be eventually the gainers by such a course. The potatoes cost a trifle, and provided they are not required at Fort Simpson ... they may be sent to Sitka if they could be procured in sufficient quantities to fatten pork, swine may be sent in by our spring ship from which you might breed and kill for exportation, casks being provided at Fort Langley for that purpose."

It is by such glimpses as this that we get a picture of how the Hudson's Bay Company adapted themselves to chang-

OLYMPIA TRANSCRIPT.

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON TERRITORY, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1873.

of the Peace
Extra.
Cal.) April 11.
Yesterday af-
ns and four
our camp and
of clothing and
Commission-
sent out by the
for a talk this
e mile from our
orning Boston
old the Commis-
and five others
sioners outside
hour after their
y, Dr. Thomas,
and Mr. Dyar,
his squaw, for
the place ap-
rived at the
were closely
officer, Lieut.
ation on the
camp. About
party had ar-
station the
the Indians had
Commissioners,
it had commenc-
and Col. Ma-
troops were
mand of Col.
e given to for-
Very shortly af-
ed, and told us
ked them, and
s the only one
t in a few mo-
and his squaw
et lines. From
lowing account
commenced:
hort speech to
y Gen. Canby
pt. Jack made a
Creek and Cot-
ow occupied by
or a reservation.
k that it was
what he asked.
to say no more
I said enough
while Scouchin
k got up and
ars and turned
all ready" drew
a cap at Gun-
stol and fired.
shot under the
hen shot Mead-
head but he
Charley and an-
and killed Dr.
chased Dyar
t Dyar turned
l in hand and
Indian knocked
and took her
made him res-
or Indian chased
The last may
of salt.
a mile in the
ir arms and will
ght under cover
hundred troops
into active sur-
y will end the
ected to survive.
n., April 12.
murder of Gen.
as was received
row. The pub-

Latest News Items.

Forty-two snow-storms visited Boston during the season just closed. Boston is feasting on ripe strawberries, which can be had for \$2 a box. The Nevada Legislature has passed the compulsory education act. An Illinois Senatorial committee has reported in favor of abolishing grand juries. Last mail advices received give the Bank of England's rate of discount 4 per cent—an advance of 1/2 per cent. English papers state that after June, 1873, the French Government will adopt the English system of tonnage, for vessels. Forty-two railroad accidents have occurred since Feb. 8; by which twenty-six persons were killed and ninety-seven injured. The practicability of a ship-canal through Nicaragua has been settled by the labors of the present United States surveying party. The city of Boston has for 33 years supported its own insane, and now proposes to save about \$100,000 a year by calling on the State to support them. The Legislature of Wisconsin has censured Senator Carpenter and Representative Eldridge for voting in favor of the back-pay grab. Permits have already been issued in Boston for the erection of 163 buildings in the burnt district since the fire. When the building Acts are amended this number will be doubled. Two hundred tons of silver ore were shipped from Montana, on the 5th of February, to Swansea, England. The price paid for it ranged from \$30 to \$50 per ton. The strike of the colliers in South Wales is at an end. Only a portion of the colliery masters have yielded, and the ironworkers have gone in on the masters' terms. The strike has cost the mob not less than \$750,000. Edward P. Smith, who has just been appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was formerly a Congregational preacher, and during the war an active agent of the Christian Commission. Since that he has been an Indian Agent in Minnesota, and is said to be a thoroughly honest and competent man. The rapidity with which the comparatively new industry of building iron steamships on the Delaware is being developed, is attracting general attention, and the superiority of these vessels over the iron steamships constructed on the Clyde, in several important particulars, and especially in strength, has been demonstrated on several occasions. A gang of 100 colored miners are on their way from Richmond, Va., to Brazil, Ind., to work the coal mines in place of the strikers. A banker and his clerk are said to have disappeared from Denison, Texas, carrying with them the whole of the deposits, amounting to more than \$50,000. A San Francisco firm has contracted with parties in Providence for twenty-eight carloads of oysters of various ages, which are to be transplanted in San Francisco Bay.

Miscellaneous.

The Chicago relief disbursements last year were over \$2,000,000. The first production of coal on this coast was in 1852, at Newport on Coos Bay. Iowa had 5,663,994 acres of land under cereals and hay last year. "Beerbug" is what some of the sinful papers of the west call Milwaukee. A Wisconsin justice lately divorced an unhappy couple by repeating the marriage ceremony backwards. The new national flag of China is said to resemble an old bedquilt with lobsters running around on the edge. Tom Scott controls sixteen thousand miles of railroad and sixteen acres of legislature.—*Courier Journal*. A cotemporary speaks of a fashionable tailor as being "one of the old war horses of the trade." A heavy charger we suppose. The inmate of a boarding-house in Hoboken describes the programme of his breakfast as "bella, jangled out of tune, and lash." A young man in the ardor of his affection promised to cherish one of our young ladies with love that would survive an army over-coat. A Baltimore Jenkins tells us that the prettiest lady and the leading belle in society there just now is the daughter of a car conductor. Colfax is the first presiding officer of the Senate who has retired without a vote of thanks from that body. "Where was the fire" asked a lady of her beau, who rushed out of the opera-house the other night the moment the curtain fell on the first act. "It was a false alarm," said, he chewing cloves vigorously. The absorption of small farms into large ones is going on at a rapid rate in Bourbon County, Kentucky. One man has bought farms on which lived twenty-four families, consisting of one hundred and sixty one persons, nearly every one of whom moved west. For the first time since the organization of the city of Fort Wayne, the treasurer has placed money to its credit for sinking fund purposes; which will only be used for the redemption of bonds. The white marble statue of Queen Victoria, weighing seven tons, has arrived at Windsor Castle, and is to be placed in the vestibule of the State Department. The Queen is represented sitting on a chair, with a dog lying by her side. An Ohio man attached a medal to an eagle's neck and with much ceremony set it at liberty on Washington's birthday. Two days later the proud bird made a descent on a farmer's sheep-pen and its brief career was ended by a charge of buckshot. A Chinaman, being examined as to his competency to testify in court was asked what would be his punishment if he should swear to lies. "I shall never return to China, but always remain in New York," was the reply. He was at once sworn. The appointment of ex-senator Sawyer, of South Carolina, as assistant secretary of state, comes the nearest to a Cabinet honor that that state has

A Story of the Olden Time.

From the Oregon Bulletin.
Here is something that comes down to after the lapse of twenty years. We quote from a letter written at Astoria, January 22, 1853, and published a few days thereafter in the *Oregon Weekly Times*:
"Last Sunday, as some of the settlers were crossing the bay, they found, drifting in a canoe, three men nearly starved to death. They spoke to them, but could not make themselves understood. After taking them to their house they finally succeeded in conversing with them. Their history is as follows: They are Swedes, and belong to Stockholm. In 1850 they engaged to work for the Russian Fur Company seven years, and accordingly embarked, in company with 17 others, in the ship Nicholas, Captain Courad, and sailed for the northwestern coast, bound for Sitka. After a residence of nearly three years, they found that they could not bear the ill-usage and tyranny which they were receiving, and determined to make their escape. Of the whole number, but four had the courage to make the attempt. They have been a year and a half in making preparations. Every night they, with the other residents of the place, were in the habit of sleeping in the fort—being the rules of the Company. After obtaining a couple of compasses, a chart, some muskets, powder, shot, some fishing lines, and a few other articles, one dark night they succeed in getting the sentinel who was posted over the gate intoxicated, and one of them took his place, and answered the calls of the other sentinels; his comrades, in the meantime, had opened the gate, and were getting their things into a canoe. A short time before the relief came around, they got into the canoe and shoved off. They were soon missed, and a party of Indians sent in pursuit. When they came up with the fugitives, the Swedes laid down their paddles and seized their muskets, determined to die rather than be taken. The Indians, seeing they were armed, turned back to the fort. The Swedes continued on, and stopped at a place called Decouvre, where one of their number was killed by the Indians. They next attempted to land at Queen Charlotte's Island, but were compelled to leave amidst a shower of balls which completely riddled the sails of their canoe. After a passage of forty days they got into Shoalwater Bay, in a fog, and when it cleared up they were surprised to find themselves land-locked. When found, they had been in the Bay seven days—subsisting on roots and berries. They were much emaciated, and looked the perfect pictures of misery and despair. One of the poor fellows, when found, was peeling the skin from off his hands and arms, and eating it. Their canoe is about eighteen feet in length by three in width; and with this they have made a voyage of over 1,000 miles on one of the worst parts of the coast. They were well cared for by the citizens, and at present are comfortably situated at Chinook. Their names are Carl Grouland, Carl Wasterholm and Andrus C. Lyndfast.
CAPTAIN C. J. W. RUSSELL.

A Hazardous Voyage.

In about two weeks, it is expected, will be made from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic. It is the smallest sailing vessel of our bay. The sloop *Dolphin* is not an ordinary sized vessel of being open over the deck, one being in centre over what is intended cabin. The cabin is built in a forming the sides of the curvature, joining at the feet the base of the from side to side there is still one which and the base is barely room for man-holes in the stern of the aft provided for the deck is flush with the sea. The *Dolphin* is a small vessel, and is commanded by Davis. In her voyage will be manned by her commander, with water and provisions for six months, the amounting to the Her cargo will be coarse salt, imple sea otter and provisions for the This hazardous by these hardy purpose of hunt skin of which is count of the e The sea otter is the coast of Ja turers expect to full cargo of sh and fine weathe pects to make th time, as the *Dol* ing regarded vessels, large or coast. He has making a safe at little vessel is safer than a certainly as sta can be, and I overhauled for A few months ago cruising around *Sacramento*, off fore sailing for down to Encinae the Coronada isl party of official in the recent pu —*San Diego Un*
Another vessel fighter has exp been convinced the great Bendig record of at sea

MONTH Jan - Feb YEAR 1853

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					7 Jan.	8
					to New A	discuss - p. 83
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
along Baranof - p. 87 + ^{to N} Cape	along Baranof - p. 90	C. Gannaway p. 93	crossing to Kuiu p. 94 +	amid islands s. of Kuiu p. 96 +		anchors p. 99
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
M studies map p. 108	K deer p. 110		arr to Lams p. 112	along Dall p. 116	Kazari crossing p. 116 +	Tow Hill storm p. 132
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Tow Hill storm	Tow Hill storm p. 136 A	Hecate crossing p. 137	amid islands s. of Hecate M comment p. 138	amid islands s. of Hecate W comment p. 138	amid islands s. of Hecate W comment p. 138	arr. Anianakana K comment p. 138
30	31	1 Feb	2	3	4	5
Anianakana - M killed - K takes p. 152 +	head e. for channel p. 162	arr in channel	in channel - K's 3rd day p. 162			

See Runners plot calendar

MONTH Feb. - March

YEAR 1953

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 Feb	7	8	9	10	11	12
		in channel - deers p. 173	Milbank crossing p. 176	in channel		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
arr. Om Ch Smol = p. 177	Om Ch Sound crossing to C. Scott p. 181 +	begin Vovsi J.				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	1 March	2	3	4	5
			Strait to Shi Shi p. 194	SAI SAI to Ogelle p. 203 +	Ogelle H. - whaling	C. Johnson - 3 dies p. 215 +
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
at 3d Beach?					pass Brays Harbor, arr Crilly line	at Crilly line - storm K counts days

MONTH

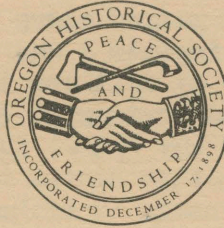
March

YEAR 1853

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
13 in for City line to Wilapa	14 K+B found	15	16	17	18	19
20 Cooley's letter	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1230 S.W. Park Avenue
(503) 222-1741



Portland, Oregon 97205
Cable: Histore

Mr. Ivan Doig
17021 10th Avenue N.W.
Seattle, Washington 98177

January 11, 1982

Dear Mr. Doig:

A postscript to January 8. Late that evening Colonel D. telephoned with a lengthy observation on Dostoevskii and the powers of the subconscious. The Colonel's subconscious had reminded him of a long forgotten couplet:

Из далека собаки вой,
А за стеной перекликался часовой.

Iz daleka sobaki voi,
A za stennoi pereklikalsia chasovoi.

From afar the dog howls,
And beyond the wall the sentry calls.

He added that he had also remembered that somewhere in literature the sentry calls, "Слушай!" "Slushai!", "Listen!" or "Harken!"

A little Monday morning ephemera...

S.V.

OVER

19 Jan. '82

Dear Elizabeth--

Having just received a letter from me declaring for "vniwani" when you'd just passed along S"slushai," you may be wondering what sort of ingrate I am. What happened is that I'd been out of town, my mail was being held at the post office, and I wrote you the "vniwani" letter during that. Yesterday your report from the nether regions of the Colonel's memory showed up, so I'd better hasten to assure you that "slushai!" it'll be in my book. A Sitka park ranger I've been corresponding with assures me that there's a Wa Blake quote that "art...cannot exist but in minutely organized particulars." In cases like this, I sure as hell hope so. Thanks again. All best.

OVER

16 Jan. '82

Dear Elizabeth--

Many thanks for your prompt response, and for your reassurance that there isn't, somewhere out there, a scholar of watch calls waiting to pounce on me. I think I'll likely stick with "vnimanie" and let it go at that.

I wish Golovin had been ten years prompter in his visit to New Archangel. From a lot of sources and some imagination I've assembled a New Archangel backdrop for my characters which I think is pretty accurate, but I've been nagged by the lack of some central gabby visitor who would have put into a diary or letters a detailed look at New Archangel exactly in 1852. I suppose working with James Swan's diaries, on my previous book, spoiled me. Anyway, I'm glad to have further verification of the siege mentality of the town; part of the plot of my novel turns on the point of the Russians being so wary of the Koloshes getting in, they overlooked my Swedes wanting to get out.

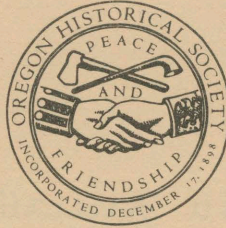
On the stray chance that his work hasn't reached you, I perhaps should pass along to you the name of: Victor P. Petrov, 5919 Battery Road, Alexandria, VA 22308. He "has published three historical novels on Russian America," and helped me by providing information on Russian Christmas customs. He also sent me one of his books, which my rusty college Russian isn't at all up to, but it's titled Kamerger Dvora-- something like Chamberlain?--and is about Rezanov.

I'll try cross paths with you next time I'm in Portland. Say hello to Dick Brown for me, when next you see him; he's been a marvelous salesman of my books.

very best

OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1230 S.W. Park Avenue
(503) 222-1741



Portland, Oregon 97205
Cable: Histore

Mr. Ivan Doig
17021 10th Avenue N.W.
Seattle, Washington 98177

8 January 1982

Dear Mr. Doig:

I am delighted to have your intriguing letter! In part, of course, because I am so pleased to think you are so much involved in an aspect of history that I find so utterly fascinating -- but also because your letter spurs me into action. Even since Dick Brown at the University of Oregon gave me This House of Sky I have wanted to tell you how immensely moved I was in reading it, both by the beauty and majesty of your western mind, and by the evocation of the sense of space and aloneness I summon up from memories of childhood summers in northern Wisconsin. A different landscape, but a well remembered awareness of solitude. And with your gift, you touch the memories of others with grandeur.

Well. On to your question. I don't have an answer. That is to say, I've not come across any mention of a watch call in the materials I've been working on. I'm just now preparing Golovin's letters to his mother and sister (written during that same visit to Russian America) for publication; he mentions that watch was constantly kept over the Tlingit/Kolosh village. But no watch call is mentioned. I called my favorite Imperial Russian cavalry officer to make an inquiry. After we had discussed Pushkin in some detail, with a couple of detours into Lermontov, and a foray into regimental life, he allowed as how sentries in his day didn't use calls. Each had a whistle, and in case of real trouble, he fired his gun. Not much help to you, I'm afraid. But then, life on the Polish border in 1915 was a far remove from New Archangel in 1852. I might suggest that your question is so distilled that it's unlikely anyone will challenge you. Successfully.

→
over

Please count me among your most ardent fans and do let me know if you have any more such rarified questions!

With much admiration, and a search of

With which are now incorporated The Battleship Oregon Museum, Oregon Geographic Names Board,
Oregon Landmarks Committee, Oregon Lewis and Clark Trail Committee,
North Pacific (Irkutsk) Archival Research Group

E. A. P. Crownhart-Vaughan
Russian Department

Elizabeth Vaughan

In his letters Golovin remarks that the Russian
cannon were trained on the Kotok village 24
hours a day, and that the Russians were
~~almost~~ in a state of siege: "The result is that
New Archangel is constantly in a state of
siege."

From a letter of 29 November/9 December
1860.

This volume will be out in mid-summer - title is
Civil and Savage Encounters.

E. V.

6 Jan. 1982

E.A.P. Crownhart-Vaughan
c/o Oregon Historical Society
1230 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon

Your volume of Captain Golovin's 1862 report on Russian America has been greatly helpful to me for the novel I've been working ~~on~~ for the past year and a half--the story, based on a historical incident of 1852-53, of four Swedes who flee their indenturement at New Archangel and set off by canoe for Astoria. I'm trying to be right about details of New Archangel life, and one item is proving especially elusive: I wonder whether you've come across it in your scholarship on Russian America. The newspaper piece on which I'm basing my story says that the Swedes escaped by getting a gate guard drunk, "one of them took his place and answered the calls of the other sentinels." The question being, what was the call? The best source I've come up with, the Bancroft Library's manuscript of an 1853 visit to New Archangel by an American merchant named James C. Ward, says that each hour the sentries called back and forth, "Attention!" I've accordingly put "Vnimanie!" into my imagined scene. One Russian America specialist I've checked with maintains "Vnimanie" is too awkward a watch call, it must have been something such as "Storoz!" Another such specialist says he sees nothing whatsoever wrong with "Vnimanie!" It's a small point, but one I'd like to have correct; do you recall any such mention of a watch call in your delvings into Russian America?

best wishes

~~Ed V. A.~~

~~1861 Century 9~~



Alaska



Imp
PRINTS[©]

56A-SE

Russian Church in historic Sitka, Alaska.

Photo by Mel Anderson

J & H SALES ANCHORAGE AK.
PRINTED IN AUSTRALIA.

16 Nov. '92--Trying to unclog the office, moving Heart Earth research material into retirement to make way for Bucking the Sun filecards and folders, today I winnowed The Sea Runners file cabinet drawer, disposing of about a foot of photocopied articles etc. on Sitka, Russian America, Indian canoes, Swedish background. Anything I thought of value, I consolidated into the file folder with checking copies and correspondence; that turned out to include notes on the writing and editing, 1st drafts of the book's lead, and similar items which ought to be looked at if I do anything with the Blue as the Odyssey filecard/diary of The Sea Runners.

Maledicta : the Journal of Verbal Abuse articles used for The Sea Runners,
transferred to "lingo" file folder in Nov. '92 winnowing of " " " research files.

FLora -- Sources: Food Plants of British Columbia, Part 1, Coastal Peoples,
B.C. Provincial Museum, Handbook #34
Flora of Alaska and Neighboring Territories, Eric Hulten

- Blueberries - Indian use: berries eaten fresh, or dried into cakes. Or preserved in oil.
- Devil's club - Common in ravines and openings. Young shoots browsed by deer. The Indians sometimes brew tea from the very bitter bark as a tonic, or may strip off the thorns and eat the green bark as tonic. (From "Alaska Trees and Shrubs," U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.
- Skunk cabbage - Indian use: leaves used to wrap fish with, and then cooked.
- Huckleberry - Indian: eaten in large quantities. Mashed and dreid into cakes.
- Salmon berry - both sprouts and berries were eaten in large quantitates by all coastal indian groups. The sprouts were picked in the spring, peeled and eaten raw. Usually eaten fresh because watery to dry into cakes.
- Rice root~~x~~ - The rice-like bulbs were dug and eaten. Boile d. Bitter.
- Indian celery - Marrow eaten raw; root boiled. Contains sugar.
- Red elderberry - fruit widely used.
- Thimbleberry - eaten by all coastal Indian groups.

FLORA -- list kept by National Historic Park
Sitka

Blueberries
Bellflower/bluebells of Scotland
Devil's club
Bunchberry
False lily of the valley/deerberry
Fireweed
False azalea
Goats beard
Indian cucumber
Huckleberry
Hudson Bay tea/ Labrador tea
Lambsquarter/wild spinach
Salmon berry
Rice root
Skunk cabbage
Sitka spruce
Spring beauty
Soapberry
Stream violet/yellow violet
Strawberry (wild)
Wild, or Indian, Celery
Trailing raspberry
Wild crabapple/ Pacific crabapple
Western water hemlock
Pacific silverweed
Western hemlock
Alaska, or yellow, cedar
Large-leaf avens
Common yarrow
Red elderberry
Sitka rose
Thimbleberry
Red Alder
Common foxglove
Mountain ash
Buttercup
Laceflower
Skunk currant
Single delight

"Last Sunday, as some of the settlers were crossing the bay, they found, drifting in a canoe, three men nearly starved to death. They spoke to them, but could not make themselves understood. After taking them to their house they finally succeeded in conversing with them. Their history is as follows: They are Swedes, and belong to Stockholm. In 1850 they engaged to work for the Russian Fur Company seven years, and accordingly embarked, in company with 17 others, in the ship Nicholas, Captain Courad, and sailed for the northwestern coast, bound for Sitka. After a residence of nearly three years, they found that they could not bear the ill-usage and tyranny which they were receiving, and determined to make their escape.

Of the whole number, but four had the courage to make the attempt. They have been a year and a half in making preparations. Every night they, with the other residents of the place, were in the habit of sleeping in the fort—being the rules of the Company. After obtaining a couple of compasses, a chart, some muskets, powder, shot, some fishing lines, and a few other articles, one dark night they succeed in getting the sentinel who was posted over the gate intoxicated, and one of them took his place, and answered the calls of the other sentinels; his comrades, in the meantime, had opened the gate, and were getting their things into a canoe. A short time before the relief came around, they got into the canoe and shoved off. They were soon missed, and a party of Indians sent in pursuit. When they came up with the fugitives, the Swedes laid down their paddles and seized their muskets, determined to die rather than be taken. The Indians, seeing they were armed, turned back to the fort.

The Swedes continued on, and stopped at a place called Decouvre, where one of their number was killed by the Indians. They next attempted to land at Queen Charlotte's Island, but were compelled to leave amidst a shower of balls which completely riddled the sails of their canoe. After a passage of forty days they got into Shoalwater Bay, in a fog, and when it cleared up they were surprised to find themselves land-locked.

When found, they had been in the Bay seven days—subsisting on roots and berries. They were much emaciated, and looked the perfect pictures of misery and despair. One of the poor fellows, when found, was peeling the skin from off his hands and arms and eating it. Their canoe is about eighteen feet in length by three in width; and with this they have made a voyage of over 1,000 miles on one of the worst parts of the coast. They were well cared for by the citizens, and at present are comfortably situated at Chinook. Their names are Carl Grouland, Carl Westerholm and Andros C. Lyndfast.

CAPTAIN C. J. W. BOWKILL

There at the last of the night and the first hours of

morning. The Grill found its customers--trucks on their runs

through. Make a picture in your mind of four canoemen borne atop a

in Helena or Great Falls, some of the Rainbow crowd trying wave, a sharp white hill of ocean which carries them up and up as to sober up on black coffee and T-bone. Steaks and hashbrowns

it laps toward the sky. Their high-nosed craft, buoyant as a seabird,

at last slides across the water's curled crest and begins to ride the surf to the dark frame of your scene, a shore of fir forest. Anthony

Island, this particular landfall is inscripted on modern charts

of the long broken coastline south from the Gulf of Alaska, but as these four voyagers are bobbing to its shore in mid-February of 1853 they do not know this name, and it would not matter to them if they did.

Now the men, Karlsson and Melander and Wennberg and Braaf.

For nineteen days they have been together in the slim cedar canoe, dodging from one of this coast's constant humps of fir-and-rock to the next. They have been afraid many times in those days, ~~and~~ brave almost as often. Here at Anthony they land wetly, heft the canoe

across the gravel beach into hiding within the ~~timber~~ salal and swordferns, then start off into the timber.

~~their search for shelter from the rain.~~ As they move from sight,

unmixed written into crumbled

now

as they alight.

as they alighting.

these closer shore nearer.

alighting

down H upper

turn

turn away

I remember that the two of them began to carve at one another before we were even out of the valley. The ranch itself nickered away at everyone's nerves. the four men to this shore where they are selecting their ~~night~~ night's shelter, and where one of them is to die.

The escape had been Melander's plan.

1st draft

58/201

Braaf proved so adept ^a provisioner that Melander was forced to ration assignments to him, lest the Russians become suspicious about the blizzard of thievery. By the end of July, the planners' cache held a compass, two tins of gunpowder, a 00 musket and 30 balls for it, several fishing lines and hooks, and a fire flint apiece. In

Sept's haul was a 2d compass. A wanted to be out of many a vital item - a small iron kettle of a water cork.

August Braaf added a coil of rope, three knives and a hatchet. ^{Early} In ^{met to talk o} ~~mid September~~, the plotters turned their attention to canoe equipment.

Karlsson, who rarely asserted himself, insisted on ^{put himself} ~~two~~ deft 00 paddles made by some tribe southward along the coast and which occasionally

were traded north. Braaf frowned. It took him ^{all of} a week to accumulate ^{a trio of} ~~the~~ 00 paddles from the native community.

when they met again. "Three?" said Karlsson ~~at their next meeting~~. "What if we lose one?" Braaf cursed ~~in~~ in his sweet voice, and went off after

^{Claygt} a fourth paddle.

original
4/22/80

Proposal for The Sea Runners, by Ivan Doig

Two anchoring scenes of history, like hands measuring a breadth:

"Last Sunday"--the sixteenth of January, 1853, near Astoria, Oregon--"as some of the settlers were crossing the bay, they found, drifting in a canoe, three men nearly starved to death.... One of the poor fellows was peeling the skin from off his hands and arms and eating it."

Six weeks before, four men had crept from the ~~fur-trading~~ fort at Sitka, Alaska, headquarters of the Russian-America fur-trading company. Having ~~signed~~ signed on from their native Sweden for seven years' service at Sitka, the four have decided to escape ^{from} their indenturement ^{with} to the Russian company; all they know of their chosen destination--^{Amputa port at} Astoria--is its direction, south along the wild coast of Alaska and British Columbia, and its means, an ^{manged to steal} eighteen-foot canoe they have stolen.

What stretches between the scenes is a desperate voyage of a thousand miles, in North Pacific winter and through the waters of the premier seagoing Indian tribes of the world. The story I'll tell as a weave of history and fiction, The Sea Runners.

The ^{need} ~~exploit~~ of ~~the following~~ their colossal journey exists now as a single six-inch newspaper item, reported to the Oregon Weekly Times by one of the settlers who found the three survivors in a coastal bay north of Astoria. Besides the above quote, the brief report tells that

By IVAN DOIG by Ivan Doig
BY IVAN DOIG BY Ivan Doig
IVAN DOIG
by Ivan Doig

Ivan Doig

17021 Tenth Avenue N.W., Seattle, Washington 98177
(206) 542-6658

April 21, '80

Dear Tom--

I appreciated your letter. There's little in the world a writer appreciates more than an enterprising editor, in fact.

About all I can say now, Tom, is that I'm going to have to see how things shake down at HBJ. Liz Darhansoff is becoming my agent, and I'll apprise her of your interest. As Liz sorts through the matter for me, I know she'll keep you in mind.

What stretches between the scenes is a desperate voyage of a thousand miles, in North Pacific winter and through the waters of the premier seagoing Indian tribes of the world. The story I'll tell as a weave of history and fiction, The Sea Runners. The episode of their colossal journey exists now as a single six-inch newspaper item, reported to the Oregon Weekly Times by one of the settlers who found the three survivors in a coastal bay north of Astoria. Besides the above quote, the brief report tells that

eighteen-foot canoe they have stolen. wild coast of Alaska and British Columbia, and its means, an chosen destination--Astoria--is its direction, south along the indentment to the Russian company; all they know of their service at Sitka, the four have decided to escape their very best

One of the poor fellows was peeling the skin from off his found, drifting in a canoe, three men nearly starved to death Oregon--"as some of the settlers were crossing the bay, they "last Sunday"--the sixteenth of January, 1833, near Astoria, two anchoring scenes of history, like hands reaching a promise:

the 12 voyagers and 17 other men from Stockholm had come to Sitka residence
"in the ship Nicholas" in 1850 and that "after a residence of

~~Captain Conrad,~~ in 1850 and that "after a residence of nearly three years, they found that they could not bear the ill-usage and tyranny which they were receiving, and determined to make their escape." It lists their supplies: a couple of compasses, a chart, muskets, powder and shot, some fishing lines. All else of the story I will ~~have to~~ retrieve, by setting to work on it with history's exactness of detail and fiction's power of imagination.

The cast of characters:

Melander, the planner of the escape. Rebellious against the indentured life--"the Russians' oxen," he bitterly describes himself

and the other Swedes--he has put together the escape as if he were a man ^{piecing} thinking out a chess problem. ^{useful} Tall ~~of patient~~, he is a

commander who believes ~~events~~ ^{events can be made to align themselves} by patience

Karlsson is his first, carefully-chosen accomplice; a skilled ^{of preparation} canoeer, ~~and~~ and a frontiersman who seems to Melander to ^{possess} have

useful depths of endurance. A taciturn man who has not shown himself interested in much about Sitka life except the native women in the village outside the fort, Karlsson ~~is~~ joins the escape mostly out of curiosity, to see whether the deed can be done.

~~Braaf~~ Melander's second selection, Braaf, is a thief, ~~and~~ chosen for that reason. He it is who in the months of preparation steadily compiles the necessary pilfered supplies. Braaf is the youngest of the men, a Stockholm street boy who enlisted for Alaska a jump ahead of the law, and ^{bored to his fingertips by} ~~is~~ finds the monotony of Sitka life.

The fourth man is the wild card ~~who~~ flicked into the escape scheme: Wennberg, a clever trapper who discerns the plan when he catches Braaf ~~in~~ amid ~~some~~ a theft of provisions, ^{and thereby} ~~Wennberg~~ ~~is~~ ^S muscle his way into the escape. Wennberg is the most contentious dangerous for the original three to deal with. of the four, ~~an added element the others must always deal with~~

The novel opens at a point several days into the escape, as the four are coming ashore to an island, a couple of taut introductory paragraphs which introduces the men and the situation, and builds to a line something like:

"As they move from sight, another white wave replaces the rolling hill of water which brought the ~~four~~ men to this shore where they are selecting their night's shelter, and where one of them is to die."

From there, the storyline ~~reverts~~ ^{steps} back to how the escape ~~came about~~, follows the fugitives through the ~~characterization of the escape~~ the ~~adventurous~~ dangers of the first portion of the ~~several days of journey~~, then connects again at this major ~~turning~~ point, about a third of the way through the book, where the death occurs; ~~from there on~~, ^{thereafter} it is a ~~continuous~~ ^{story runs} straight line of adventure ~~thru~~

out 7. 40 days of voyage along N. to coast

Thruout
Grand,

sea runners

The narrative will follow the men through the steps of their escape from Sitka, then plunge into the forty days of voyage along the North Pacific coast. They face three constant adversaries: the weather, the Indian tribes spaced along the coast, and themselves. The major plot developments are a decision to cross a treacherous breadth of water (Dixon Entrance) in hard weather; the death of one of the men ~~in~~ at the hands of the Haida Indians; a showdown about leadership; the problem of skirting past the potent sea-going tribes of the southern portion of the journey, necessitating some dangerous travel by night; and the final struggle of the survivors to ~~reach~~ safety.

The best summary of the novel is that I intend it to be a page-turner. The pace will be rapid; I see this as a book of 65,000-75,000 words, Perhaps fewer. As to what the book will be "like", I might suggest Joseph Conrad's Typhoon; that is, a continuous action story keyed to one element--the impossible escape--as his was keyed to the colossal storm.

too

On one point it might resemble Guy Davenport's story of the discovery of the Lascaux cave paintings, "Robot": as the sense of prehistory emanates from the ochre wall animals "flowing in long strides down some run of time," the black-forested North Pacific coast will be the universe of the men in the canoe.

Or perhaps I should leave it at this, that it'll be a novel of considerable compression, with its focus always on the actions of the men as they try to cope with ocean and wilderness. John Berryman wrote that a mark of modernity is that a person now can live his life without ever having the chance to know whether he is ^{physically} brave. Daily for some forty days, the sea runners are whetted against that question.

Make a picture in your mind of a cedar canoe atop a sharp white ridge of ocean. Carried up and up by the water's eager surge toward the sky, the high-nosed craft, buoyant as a seabird, at last sleds across the wave's curled crest and begins to glide the surf toward the dark frame of your scene, a shore of fir forest. Kunghit Island, this particular landfall is inscribed on modern charts of the long crumbled coastline south from the Gulf of Alaska, but the voyagers bobbing to its shore here in late January of 1853 do not know this name, nor would it matter to them if they did.

Now the canoeman as they alight. Karlsson and Melander and Wennberg and Braaf. For nineteen days they have been together in the slender canoe, dodging from one of this coast's constant humps of fir-and-rock to the next. They have been afraid many times in those days, brave almost as often. Here at Kunghit they land wetly, heft their ark across the gravel beach into hiding within the salal and swordferns, then turn away ~~in~~ to the timber. As the trees sieve them from sight, another white wave replaces the rolling hill of water by which the four men were borne to this shore where they are selecting their night's shelter, and where one of them is to die.

*earliest draft
of lead*

The Sea Runners

Make a picture in your mind of four men on a ^{white} dune, a sharp hill of desert which carries them up against the sky as if they are sentinels.

Karlsson and Melander and Wennberg and Braaf.

The dune is moving, for it is surf, the pressure of the North Pacific Ocean behind it...The water is bearing ^{these} the men to shore where OO, and where one of the four is to die.

...

The escape had been Melander's idea. (plan)

70 tons island where ~~there~~ shelter from night

& where ~~was~~ 1 of them is to die.
too?

They land wetly,

-OO, he says: earth-

are ashore here where shelter of a night's fire beach, & where

*suppose
pushing it
in a great
curl*

Hotel's past. The story was that someone had been killed diving into its swimming pool, that White Sulphur dwindled away from being a resort later that. The public beach of that diver

Make a picture in your mind of four men on a white dune, a sharp hill of desert which carries them up against the sky as if

they are sentinels. ~~As yet~~ ^{yet} ~~their faces cannot be seen, only~~ heads ^{and shoulders}

aslant

~~in a line,~~ ^{and} arms working back and forth across that line

inviting. This one was called the Old Auditorium--a sharp comedown from its original name, The Temple of Fun--and it had been built in the 1890's by a group of local businessmen who totally misjudged the town's need for a structure of that size. Probably there never had been enough people in the entire

Make a picture in your mind of four men being borne on a wave, a sharp white hill of ocean which carries them up against the sky as if they are sentinels.

exhausted bakers, although it was complete enough to use for school recitals and graduation ceremonies by the time the 1925 earthquake shook it onto the condemned list. A great red elephant of a building, it had been collapsing little by little ever since the earthquake; now the remains stood over us, roofless, ghost-like, magical.

I think it must have been not only the size and gape of the place, but the glacial spill of red brick that attracted us. Only a few buildings in clipboard White Sulphur were made

Canoe men borne by

Make a picture in your mind of four men being borne on a wave,

a sharp white hill of ocean which carries them up and up as it laps

high-moored
their
canoe craft

toward

at the sky. The canoe they ride at last sleds across the ^{water's} curled

over

crest of ~~the~~ ^{begins to} water and drops down surf toward another of the dark

dark

islands, ~~the~~ humps of fir forest and rock strewn steadily from

constantly

southern Alaska along the ^{vast} lengthy coast of British Columbia to the

Strait of Juan de Fuca, ^{among} which these four have been dodging ~~among~~ ~~nineteen~~

from
journeys

Journeys

~~eleven~~ days for nearly a month. Karlsson and Melander and Wennberg and Braaf.

this
Coming to shore

Make a picture in your mind of four men borne on a wave,

a sharp white hill of ocean which carries them up and up as it laps

at the sky. The canoe they ride at last sleds across the curled

crest of the waters and ^{drops} ~~slides~~ down ~~the~~ surf toward ~~another~~ another of

^{black dark} coastal ~~the~~ ^{steadily} and rock strewn from southern Alaska to the ^{du. long coast 7 BC} the Alaskan islands, ^{for} humps of forest ^{trying to shield the shore} like a fallen rock wall ^{strait,}

^{which these four} they have been ^{dodging} moving among for ^{nearly a month} twenty-seven days.

J de 7

Stockholm phone bk names

Carl

* Karlsson

Sten

Blomgren

Tage

Bokm

* Braaf

Bredelius

Brekn

Brevik

Broander

Brobeck

Brodin

Broberg

Brod

Brolin

Moberg

Mehelsson

* Melander

Mattsson

Möller

Wahlsten

Wahrveg

Werner

* Wennberg

Karlsson

a sharp hill of desert
which carries them up into
outline as if they were nests.

Melander

Wennberg

Braaf

comments before sending 1st $\frac{1}{2}$ ms to Liz, 5 June '81

- 1 - insert later & where, "Now it began, afraid & brave & ^(of being) lack of path ^{between. two "}
- 5 - " promyshlenniki " in M-W-B scene in parade ground
- 7 - white oxen?
- 8 - cut "no admirer..." because of p. 9 refer "... any Rn"?
- 9 - cut "on" from "dawdle on"?
- 13 - march of dwellings
- 15 - island-speckled, timber-maned
- 20 - "one day... one muff box"
- 21 - "one after - other"?
- 26 - mile of houses; repeat of p. 13 refer
- 31 - goddam - Good damn
- 34 - "Siberian port" repeat?
- 36 - proffering?
- 39 - add promyshlenniki
- 50 - cut "top of Africa"?
- 53 - 15th Nigrit?
- 60 - Fewer than fifty - change to 30?
- 61 - romag of course - reverse?
- 76 - first... first
- 77 - 25 mi; square < p. 72 distances
- 81 - map - mapmaker
- 88 - breaking - butting thru?
- 94 - now - just now
- 101 - market; add hum's birds & sticks
- 111 - Afloat - above - under
- 117 - Give - lend?
- 122 - low tide; square < hills of water?

More or less?

Too much metaphor?

Bot. ~~11~~ - he staid Melander?

~~12~~ - line 2 - times?

~~13~~ - lines 5, 6 - cedar repeated?

~~15~~ - 3rd bot - omit yet

~~16~~ - Dialogue among the 3 is terrific!

mid ~~21~~ - elsewise?!

top ~~24~~ - rough break between gobs?

~~31~~ - omit upward?

~~34~~ - salt for breakfast

X ~~38~~ - Luytjen map - stealing scene?

Bit more dialogue or?

bot 41 - saying -

Mid 43 - If gods have been warned, time (of 47D)
ought to be more than "A night later..."

top 45 - former version of mouse tracks?

— Weyenberg more belittled in former version?

— Does reader know what

time-frame is attempting for escape? (bot 47D)

47C - replace "staid"

~~bot~~ bot 48 - Is reader ready for Raelson's
missing?

49 - Escape day.

As a scene of Indians - how found?

~~top 73~~ | start | trends

~~top 73~~ - omit metaphor

spyglass

My mind is in two o'emo.

"Good." (No.) (Why?)

"Who is your idea of..."

"Those are..."

B: "A ^{stumble} 30, that's nothing", ^{said a 3rd voice} unless ~~we~~ have a noose ^{is} around us necks, at ^{time}

"You again forget..."

"Still,

"OO times have I told you..."

M: "Our com'g man, welcome. Let's hav - more thots than neeig
7 nooses & like, however. Who we need to talk of is
our duty of
tasks. U kno as I do mo omo damnable place has Ho
2 seasons, rain & sprinkle. We must decide how soon
to set our plan into action. My mind is in two o'emo.

B, we
are going
to need -
& here M
went into
a bit of.

gate weather route
canoe how to meet Rms
guns K changes mind?

"I a chere
anything in
can't lay in
hands on?"

It's there betn your legs.

"No. Some
nadar, some
easier. Ho no.

Good. I m. one "among us who works closest to. Carl Rms.
I'll post u, B, o ~~the~~ the comigs & goings
gange. time when it seems best

K: Those are

"We have 00," overseers began, & M knew it was going to be good.

Stegren - "informal sexists
& bit of hip and image
D ds rmo

10/10 ↔
handy - can present to - real life part

Friend said, we are going to give u a chance ..

move gun room material & W scene

sprinkle in dialogue

Besides,

Besides again,

bygger o inside than out.

N, calm in Yang, M, K reported

weather comments

we croaking like a raven down the Yangtze.

Something got in y. throat,

Nothing is drops won't cure.

~~no it wisdom - one of all cases.~~

^{Sip} Have is more for me & cure my ^{wor} ~~work~~ as well.

Merry X mo,

W

write blue

get cards ready in fileboxes

need to add to list 1/2: 12 more pp.

	Actual		est
- calculate where adds will be, & length: 1/8 - Brazil			1.5 pp.
Sat. morn: Maledicta notes	.25	26 - Kolosh	.5 pp
card game "	.5	31 - canoe	.5 pp
		36A - rain hats	1 p
	1	51 - W	1 p.
	1	50 - M, sea. sky	1.5 pp
	2	52 - K & B	2 pp
	1 1/2	53 - B	1 p.
	.5	75 - N. Pac.	.5 p
	.15	78 - huj. N	.5 p
		97 - sundage	1
		Kangani dialy	1
		also add: sleeping arngmts	
		- Tom Stuart overview	(p 7, 8?)

M had ' seen fit to mention maps; K not' either
if that much were to happen again...

ears in whiteness "

To see some it's life

canoe - pouch of stretched wood

• waters of earth, mankind's highway & pantry thru all ages.

What can any I do c a

• credence of it was terrible: that terrible credence & death

No.

Death's terrible credence.

pinions

bright watch

mussels - K & W don't know they're edible

all kinds of shore they've pulled up on.

describe day of paddling

Tell their woe in a word. OO.

A ^{love} word tells their woe here.

ending: shd it have revealn of some sort - how they survived Sh water?

- D: have W die, revealg some of K's name in last line?
- have K set fire atop cabin - log? D set signal-flag?

"Our attention is drawn in some way -"

- K c back agnst log; lights fire c maps by w-proof care
- W: we are dead men.

dreams: use only K erection scene

W & K on coast:

- his mind an orb globe c b mo OO skull.
- use M's head's "dreaming"
- have W ^{promise} threaten to kill K when they near goal.
- K: "You can make. try."
- W working at it in his head as a farmer pries at boulder

if there was a better man ^{at NA} than M, A've not met him.

For no matter, if ths was a better man than B who happens to be a thief, A haven't met him either.

Contrary another way,

writer have

- move sea-change section to 1st 1/2 of book?

you can make. try.

- you can lk us eyes out 7 us bed, for some of care.

Schroeders
Botwell
- 11:45

- 9A - sentence rhythm?
- ~~9~~ - descrip of NA: presened?
- ~~12~~ - adj e mtrns?
- 16 - expand imperial constelln, by as much as 2 pp.
- ? ~~17~~ - insert that sentence in K at beach? "He might have been..."
- 25 - more on T lings??
- ? 29 - more bathhouse dialogue?
- ? 31 - kind of sausage? (blood?)
- 52+ - add 2-3 pp. of descrip + dialog to escape
- 56 - more on paddling Sitka Sound; pulleys in arms?
- 57 - add "little wh father in P'burg"?
- ~~58~~ - rework Kolosh
- 65 - more o. Pac?
- 67 - revise paddler seqe explantr?
- ~~74~~ ^{add} _m henwork
- 75 - more M monologue?
- ~~77B~~ - smoothen "cross currents" section
- ~~86~~ - add "people of Pac" material
- ~~88~~ - add "moats"
- ~~99A~~ - expand droplet scene?
- ~~100~~ - "Tow Hill holeup: add long dialogue?"
- 103-107 - "shooting scene"
- C's comments:
- 38 - more in map-stee scene? + dialog?
- ~~41~~ - cut Matthew, Mark?
- ~~43~~ - "Some nights later"...
- strengthen W in 3mo scene?
 - Why is W still mulling to turn them in, if
hidley-hole change has been made: Delay hidley = hole?
 - ~~more~~ time - frame of escape more evident, thru a M saying?
 - How did Incls find them? Show - coastline set in?
 - ~~still~~ left: not building season
 - add scene of K still objecting to W?
- 63+68 change mileages

- ~~41~~ - cut Koloska from morning list?
- ~~42~~ - change "doing stork" to "storking"
- ~~43~~ - simplify "Circle of" - "W/nd only a"
- ~~52~~ - tone down "litt magnet" here - "storkeeper"; omit "B"?
- ~~53~~ - gun-ram OK, or gun locker?
- ~~54~~ - check "6 wks & 6 days" ~~No~~
- ~~55~~ - change "stallion" → "work stallion" ^{draft} work ok
- ~~56~~ - take hypens out of sea change?
- ~~57~~ - "sigtc" cross? **No**
- ~~58~~ - change handling of pellets
- ~~59~~ - chapters?
- ~~60~~ - change M & Ks "pained" - pinched y. foot
- ~~61~~ - show that M & K are in early morn
- ~~62~~ - insert M comment on Ind's ability to stand cold water; K needs
- ~~63~~ - change "tourage" from dialog

Fort Rupert - 1849 - Milestones on Vever J.

'Beaver 1946 - pp. 32-4

~~64~~ - invert - "Singing; damn Fern an. **No**

- Serdmole, 192 - add humming birds to coastal spring?
- check c. Mary Muller?

~~65~~ - invert S & P & Inhulak?

~~66~~ M-K seen: watch for too many "now"
K's calluses change

~~67~~ - salad okay?

~~68~~ - check birds of Finlayson et al

~~69~~ - change Ozyherstoi refce

- ~~71~~ - add R'bug keeping atomship at anchor. **No**
- ~~72~~ - check latitudes **OK**
- 74 - check paddle grip
- ~~82~~ - beyond reach 7. red t. **OK**
- ~~90~~ - N Cape **OK?**
- 95 - check Kuiu etc in Coastal Bde (of Alaska hiking bk.)
- ~~97~~ - insert M providing dried salmon?
- ~~103~~ - dogendays of Setka?
- ~~109~~ - check Amerosius
- ~~115~~ - check Nootkans
- ~~116~~ - check channel distances
- ~~120~~ - check banberries
- insert some closely-described scene (derived by B'mann)
as earlier counterpart to Tow Hill.
- ~~120~~ - check Tow Hill: hemlock?
- ~~125~~ - check lemmings in burrows? **OK** - Jean, Lemna's
enjoy
- ~~125~~ - " rjtsdalers
- 138 - glacier of slate **OK?**
- ~~139~~ - check Setka - Astoria distance
- 140 - check distance to canal
- ~~142~~ - red hames **OK?**
- ~~143~~ - insert "vaid up guts" **No**
- 168 - 3d day **OK?**
- ~~167~~ - salad **OK?**
- ~~170~~ - bottles: used at NA?
- 186 - check ck date
- 190 - half a mo **OK?**
- ~~191~~ - view of C. Battery **OK?** check UW
- 195 - salmon **OK?** instctual **OK?** Blossomings **OK?**
- ~~204~~ - Gzette hundreds of yds long. **OK**
- 204 - check Gz shore descriptn

~~213~~ - check Jane

~~220~~ - high tides of consec days spaced right?

~~221~~ - insert "park"

~~222~~ - bachelor seal

228 - add descrip of dusk paddling? K monolog after "this or that"

229 - " " of coast?

231 - add to 2 days' travel section?

~~232~~ - ~~3~~ days since B's death?

~~237~~ - check total days $\begin{array}{r} 28 \\ 35 \\ \hline 64 \end{array}$ OK

~~238~~ - check Varnland $\begin{array}{r} 28 \\ 35 \\ \hline 64 \end{array}$

~~240~~ - " Karlestad

~~246~~ - W spent; add 1d shortage?

~~247~~ - lengthen paddling?

251 - " canoe ride to beach? No

have W fall into mud? comment that he's wet?

~~252~~ - add K monolog?

- describe W shivering

~~253~~ - lengthen cabin desc'n & run?

~~254~~ - W shivering again

~~258~~ - insert earlier ref'ce to closeness to Astoria?

- have rescuers get hot 1d into them? - heated o K's fire?

cost of air is mortality.

a nut was in him (K)

a holiday for nose (after barracks smells) - B snuffling - nose run off e/dm

~~257~~ - ch break?

check ref'ce to SE al weather: make evident it does snow

add post to campsite morns? on tent canvas?

They did' need to link teacups & one another
wind scything tops of waves (Tow/Hill)

to despised injustice of it

K's eyes w/ right

Stewart letter

p. 7 - check with C

4 - " " "

37 - restore wanted ?

41 - gate wants open

44 - write a line : make it "single us" ?

77 & earlier : check usage of mustbet

- 136A -

read to 138

192 - no names for

p. 41 - set of maps mentioned

check pp. of why

106 - set of maps

point up importance of K withholding map info,
Inland Passage of Melbanke - show strain of K,
give W. last word sometime

19 scenes to write Cyellow pp.
make K not a hunter?

canoeing at UW

check Sw names @ UW & c Kathryn M's friend

heighten portrait of K in 1st pp. of 2d 1/2 - she ^{rethinking} apprehension,
get Defiant ones

have hunting difficult because of rain (& tides)

M: altitudinious

show K's appeal to women

p. 110 - coarsen W's language

have W say "careful of me, B - no tuggerd..."

have M worry of steership?

p. 47 - magnet shown in 1852.

K - particles of Sw dispersion

Those ones that - back at mo island, there.

"Those Kolosh -" W - "what in Christ kind of life d'you think they have?" ^{lead}
What d'you think they're in 'world /or?'"

"For?"

K: Hard to say

How do they spend their time, I mean?

^{guessed} B: Paddling their arms off, ^{same as} like we are?

Sit on mine ... I mean truth, here. I'ma bedamned

coast, like 40 kinds of a Finland, ^{amo's} use 7 some just-fuckers?

Why'n't it just empty?

scatting arnd here & there?

^{interior} K: We'd better hope it is, here on...

aland; Maybe peopl are like crops, come up everywhere. ~~A~~

~~and~~ B: Or weeds, if they're W's.

1st half, 8 Nov '81 - C's comments

- ~~W's wife~~: restore
- desire to escape
 - get into it, later find difficulties

9-10 - ignore margin notes

~~13~~ - bay: channel - inc Japanese

~~23~~ - has

25 - transition

~~26~~ - garish &

~~27~~ - bear &

~~37~~ - change desired

do more:

~~lengthen Ind. canoe scene~~

~~75~~ - warm Orinole digins - "fed my S Pac"?

~~75A~~ - going to be &

78 - expand: overview

83 - add dialogue

~~85A~~ - cut last line?

- add how weather feels

109 - K as figurehead

114 - W wife: need + bgnd?

126 - lengthen shots scene

- Coquer: have M concerned o steamship

insert refer to fur seals & sea otters

p. 9 - after "distance" - insert reason for discomfiture?

Strange, trucks miles played...

- ends of a spyglass

add paddling

"Banc quote

add blankets

2d half,

M has to get all maps there are

- lot p'clip: edit den "fit"
- work on food: have them catch some fish?
- dune grass: show its blades
- make Willapa time span indept.
- how far from Astoria? put in letter
- emphasize how they feel physically

Wickwire: why do people go off & do things?

- in context of: mention no people at time did go off ^{world} to

Blue
diary

Sat.

UW-HRAF research, Nootkas & Makahs
- photocopy ms pp.?

Sun.

fix up clipped pp.?

get ms to p. 55 ready for Marilyn?

→ show K's division of mind: in channel? or Qm Ch? ^{map scene?}

have B call K "ironhead"

A country; this. Not Smaland or N.K., say that for it.

He'd been a fool to think ~~country~~ agmt c W a political - a patch
c fester beneath,
+ like.

Trouble's deacon

not heaven-made for it all

A crime agnst gd meat.

Ironhead

Duping Bil'in was nothing to some endless piece of perfume
- use c p. 49? or Shi Shi?

canoe bottom / praying

- p 56 E - days of clearing weather - add to spring; add egnot?

57 - insert "stiff" back at rock cod scene

Rms had a flag of maj; An eagle, ^{two} 2-headed

- chambered

Terrible, & splendid, ^{Paddy} Mendon, & gd labor.

He wanted it not to end poorly.

- add little island

43 rough pp. = 10 pp/day, + 2 fresh ones

use dreaming c / og?

insert Pacific in last pp?

sails of Jane

- ship on wing

- Neptune

- sea worms

- rifle of vision

So you're lifting myself to it.

All. mandatory of Vever was back

Marilyn thru p. 178

scene of W over K after fight:

- daggers to bed:

dog skeletons on island:

more remorse for B

3 - were } placement
4 - was }

C's comments from
final read of ms,
wk of Jan. 25 '82.

p. 4 - prefer farthest

~~15 - led?~~

~~18~~

~~18 - restore comma~~

~~18 - led comma - omit?~~

37 - restore uninked?

58 - as

86 :

~~111 - bullion sp?~~

~~125-129 - canon?~~

~~164, line - would~~

164 - led - stay the ballus of heaven?

~~169 - selfful sp?~~

~~read to 177-204~~

~~228 - omit this and hat~~

244 - to steel wheels

2d day at Cnty line - calendar

+ trips to load canoe

by passes and ~~some~~ dried salmon

- a barrel w/ mining, & + of its contents

had started out w/ canoe & now were w/ canoe

* A chimney until fed

^{a part of his at}
Cnty line: K put stick in sand to be sure

tide not advancing beyond it.

copy made on
copy-edited ms,
March 8-10, '82

dedn - need permission?

~~5~~ - frontier sentence

~~6~~ - woodchipping

~~8~~ - indentureship OK

~~9~~ - was?

~~9~~ - last of

~~10~~ - was?

~~11~~ - lengthening eye: deleted first &

* ~~11~~ - Trondheim OK as part? OK

~~12~~ - murmur OK

~~18~~ - Athpkins, Bellecoolas, Gjelvras

~~19~~ - scintillas

~~19~~ - fishing netch

~~24~~ - part sentence:

~~27~~ - weather... for?

~~30~~ - dog robber

~~32~~ - steam thinned

~~42~~ - M's face

- K's lean head

~~44~~ - B waders

~~46~~ - too many metaphors? OK

~~50~~ - mouth clamped

→ ~~52~~ - duck's eye

* ~~59~~ - goodbye? OED - good-bye

~~60~~ - answer or not? unsure?

~~74~~ - add sentence

~~78~~ - canoe turn's

~~78~~ - such a one?

→ ~~86~~ - NPac & weather - rewrite

~~87~~ - appalled OK

retype
recheck

Swan
970.3
5972

* 92 - Little Father?
- cap Tsar

96 - platter - show of lesser plateau - N Pac & setting

97 - pink tag

* 97A - Joseph's robe: Jacob's?

99 - tennis OK, have held?

105 - Muslim & prayer rug OK - Web III

111 - enthused: attracted - paid
- mid pull

* 113 - Bellas

116 - Prod: strait

* 121 - onlooker: used too often?

122 - M watched

123 - needed decision

* 125 - cut Sahara etc.?

128 (+218) - meld

* 156 - new ch? no

174 - clear: add 2d shot

* 176 - show Qm ch still on map - last bit of map

183 - C. Scott

190 - Clayoquot tribe? ^{or BC place name} Kuyugnot Kuyugnot 970.1 D782

202 - K thank B?

R 970.004
H 236

215 - sd by

216 - whatever... strus OK?

221 - sketch sail, smaller boat? - make it sleep?

222 - velvet sand - used?

232 - flag at bottom

236 - know too well

- End of Curtains (Allen)

243 - Katya - Rm dies

254 - it whiles had

Book World / Robt Wilson 202-334-7884

John Hay - . East Beach
. Run

J Burroughs

3 Whsellers Conn. John King
TC Digest

phone call to Tom Stewart,
6 May '82

James Houston = Wk Dawn

~~John Gardner~~

~~Walter Lord~~

~~Paul Horgan~~

John Gardner

Guy Davenport

Shirley Hayyard

~~Wm Maxwell~~

Tom Keneally?

~~Paul Horgan~~

Barbara Tuchman

Alastair Cook

Wendell Berry

~~Samson Kuttler~~

~~John Jones?~~

press run? 3-4000 copies orders for / 15,000 guess

price? \$13.95

1/2 dozen bad galleys? with by

16 gals
18

Mae D Harris

Peter Mathen

Geoff Wolff

Ray Carver

M. Arlen

Mary Renault

John Harrison

Robert Stone

{ John Fowles

{ Tom Keneally

Evan Connell

Galleys map
U's

matte cover?

Ladonisque

S Crane

Conrad

notes during galleys rdg, May 2-4, '82

insert New Caledonia

- acknlgmts to: back

- insert New Caledonia >

41 - Kargani

~~- explain Kargani in acknlgmts?~~

49 - clothes as winter - state as tasks they were worn to...
~~now that~~ voyageing rhythm had worked its way into him,

52 - rhythm

- add B's hair color @ beards;

69 - add New Caledonia; check BC history

85 - initial

94 - non-ital

- ducks

- snake

- owls, parrots

- snake

major changes in copy-edited ms, March 8-10, '82

In a time and place earlier, Melander would have been the fellow you wanted to set a spire on a cathedral; in a later, to oversee a fleet of mail planes. But on an April day in 1851 at one of the rim-ends of the known world, what sat at hand was this squatty wonder of self-propulsion ^{This} and a proclaimed shortage of gifted seamen in these northern Pacific waters which the fur-trading Russians historically had navigated, pre-Nicholas and pre-Melander, like men lurching across ice.

"If the wind were clever enough," Melander observed to the baffled Finnish skipper upon taking leave of him, "it ought to snuff out these steamnorters before they get a start, aye?"

Melander maybe under different policy would have gone on to earn his way up the ranks of the Russian-American Company at New Archangel like a lithe boy up a schooner's rigging; become a valued promyshlennik, harvester of pelts, ^{for} of the Tsar's Alaskan enterprise in the manner, say, ^{of} ~~that~~ ^{whos} along the adjoining fur frontiers of northmost North America, occasional young Scotsmen of promise were let to fashion themselves into field captains of the Hudson's Bay Company by learning to lead brigades of trappers and traders, keep the native tribes cowed or in collaboration, deliver a reliable per-cent of profit season upon season to London; and, not incidentally, to hold those far spans of map not only in the name of their corporate employers but for the British crown which underlay the company's charter terms like an ornate watermark. ~~Simpson, McLoughlin, Douglas, Campbell, Rae, others: Finlayson, McLoughlin, Simpson, Mackenzie, Fraser, others:~~

change is OK. ID

(or delete "909")

("a reliable profit")

OK - ID

insert, p. 79

between existences. There was this and that to be said for courage and a calm death; life was tasked with a decent departure. But the fact was that here, straddled between the strange tribes of whitehairs and tsarmen, did not seem the ultimate site and audience a canoe warrior of his years had a right to expect.

insert, pp. 85-86

ocean. Even here at this farthest littoral, the furrowed southeastern archipelago which on a map dithers at the flank of the main Alaskan peninsula like a puppy shadowing its mother^M—even here, Melander and Karlsson and Wennberg and Braaf feel Kuroshio's shove against their journey without realizing it. Are touched too by the clemency Kuroshio brings from its origins near the equator, warmth being relayed along this portion of coast by a north-seeking offspring of Kuroshio, the Alaska Current. Snow can find southeastern Alaska and often enough visits it, but more commonly winter is moderated here to rain and fog. Not that these are small elements, tapping and sniffing at man as they do, as if deeply suspicious whether he is substantial. To the worst of Alaska's possible weather, though—¹true North Pacific storm, storm whirling down out of the Gulf of Alaska where the Alaska Current has collided with chill northern water, storm showing in full the North Pacific's set of strengths—fog and rain can be counted only as lazy cousins.

insert, p. lll

had been taken down.

After days of hovering gray and cloaking rain the sun seemed a new idea in the scheme of things. The fresh breadth of existence was astounding. The nearest mountains stood green as May meadows. The next, loftier group darkened toward black. Then the highest, horizon peaks farthest east and south, were a shadowed blue as though thinning of substance as they extended along the coast.

This fresh light and warmth replenished all four men. "Midsummer Day come early," Melander exulted. "Today we jump over our own heads."

pare of skin coiling from the blade's glide, the red-white-red-white spiral stair ever more likely to snap away: but yet is it, for each shaving of coil twirls a bond with all the others, the helix holding itself together, spin on spin, by **creational** grace. Just such an accumulating dangle this Milbanke voyage became. With each effort by Braaf and Karlsson the canoe sliced distance from the North Pacific, making the journey just that much more apt to sunder or just that much more cunningly pliant, persistent ¹/_M you would not have wagered which.

Q#

It was full dark when they tottered onto the shore.

"Tomorrow," came Braaf's voice. "What's the water tomorrow?"

Not another ocean like that, is it?"

"No," said Karlsson. "Channel again, tomorrow."

. . .and the day after that, and maybe another and another,

and then it's ocean again, Braaf, bigger yet. . . ©
 # And after that, Karlsson knew but did not say either, the expanse beyond the edge of the map, Q#

Days of rain, those four next.

Of channel water like a gray-blue field very gently stirred by wind.

Of clouds lopping the mountains, so that they seemed strange shagged buttes of green.

Of soft rattle of wings as gulls would rise in a hundred from a shore point of gravel.

Does this mean we're coming to the end of the map? Be a tad more explicit if over

let slump, in a half-fall rightward, into the water's trough. A new law of seagoing this seemed to be, stagger-and-dive.

Karlsson questioned to Wennberg.

Wennberg half-turned. He was grim but functioning.

Braaf, though, announced into the crystal air: "Might as well bail up your breakfast now as later, iron[#]-puddler."

"You crow-mouthed bastard," Wennberg husked.

Minutes later, he clutched the side of the canoe, leaned over, retched. Then grasped his paddle again, cast a glare around at Braaf, and ploughed^{ur} water in rhythm, more or less, with the other two.

Their crossing was seven hours of stupefying slosh, under the most winsome weather of the entire journey.

"Cape Scott, off there," Karlsson called as they were approaching the south margin of the Sound.

Across Karlsson's lap lay the fourth Tebenkov map, ^{with etchwork that} its lower ^{of an identifying silhouette} left corner presenting him a paper-mimicry of the cape ahead. Several inches of crinkled rock inked in series there, dragon's grin it might have been, precise miniature ^{profile} of the westward jut of shore now showing its ^{outline} profile in front of the canoe, and the broken rampart of sea^{rock} which ^{that} thrust beyond the cape.

"Cape Snot, may's well be," Wennberg retorted thickly. "That map quits off, you showed us. So where d've bear from here?"

A forcible part of Karlsson wanted to shout out and have done with it: . . . Wennberg, where from here isn't anything I can know, we've

right?
No, this silhouette identification is in lower left, the actual mapped portion of Cape Scott - Vancouver + at lower right.
17

Something flitted, was down among the shore rocks before Karlsson could distinguish it. Birds of this shoreline evidently had caught motion from the surf. Sanderlings, oystercatchers, turnstones, dowitchers, snipe, along here always some or other of them bobbing, skittering, dashing off; the proud-striding measured ravens of New Archangel were nowhere in it with these darters. Contrary another way, too, this southering coast was beginning to show itself. Its clouds were not the ebb and flow skidding about above Sitka Sound, but fat islands that impended on the horizon half a day at a time. Here it seemed, then, that you could navigate according to the clouds' positions, and that the routes of birds had nothing to teach but life's confusion¹/_M which it would be like both weather and wingdom to deceive you into.

With the glass Karlsson checked back on the villagers and their whale festival. Wood was being piled up the beach from the carcass. Evidently the celebration was going to rollick on into night.

Karlsson one more time put his attention south.

The withdrawing tide was lifting more and more spines of reef to view. But no beach was coming evident, just a broad tidal tract of roundish rocks, as if the farmfields of all the world had been emptied of stone here. Or, cannonball-like as ^{these rocks} they looked to be, it might be said battlefields.

Beyond the stone clutter no islands stood to sight, only the bladed outlines of seastacks. Many of them. All in all, Karlsson saw, this appeared the rockiest reach of coast yet, and it needed be

OLYMPIA TRANSCRIPT.

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON TERRITORY, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1873.

of the Peace

Cal.) April 11.—Yesterday afternoon four our camp and of clothing and Commission sent out by the for a talk this mile from our morning Boston old the Commis and five others Legioners outside hour after their y, Dr. Thomas, and Mr. Dyar, his squaw, for the place arrived at the officers closely officer, Lieut. station on the camp. About party had ar signal station the Indians had Commissioners, of had commenc and Col. Me troops were demand of Col. s given to for Very shortly afed, and told us elied them, and as the only one at in a few mo and his squaw et linea. From flowing account commenced: short speech to by Gen. Canby t. Jack made a t Creek and Cotow occupied by for a reservation. that it was what he asked, to say no more ad said enough while Scoulin eck-gut up and here and turned "all ready" drew a asp at Gen. pistol and fired. shot under the then shot Me and head but he and an and an-d killed Dr. chased Dyar ut Dyar turned ol in hand and Indian knocked a and took her k made him re-her Indian chased na. The last may n of salt. w a mile in the heir arms and will ight under cover ex hundred troops ht into active ser-hey will end the pected to arrive. gn, April 12.— a murder of Gen. was received news. The sub-

Latest News Items.

Forty-two snow-storms visited Boston during the season just closed. Boston is feasting on ripe strawberries, which can be had for \$3 a box. The Nevada Legislature has passed the compulsory education act. An Illinois Senatorial committee has reported in favor of abolishing grand juries. Last mail advices received give the Bank of England's rate of discount 4 per cent—an advance of 1 per cent. English papers state that after June, 1873, the French Government will adopt the English system of tonnage, for vessels. Forty-two railroad accidents have occurred since Feb. 8, by which twenty-six persons were killed and ninety-seven injured. The practicability of a ship-canal through Nicaragua has been settled by the labors of the present United States surveying party. The city of Boston has for 33 years supported its own insane, and now proposes to save about \$100,000 a year by calling on the State to support them. The Legislature of Wisconsin has censured Senator Carpenter and Representative Eldridge for voting in favor of the back-pay grab. Permits have already been issued in Boston for the erection of 163 buildings in the burnt district since the fire. When the building Acts are amended this number will be doubled. Two hundred tons of silver ore were shipped from Montana, on the 5th of February, to Swansea, England. The price paid for it ranged from \$30 to \$50 per ton. The strike of the colliers in South Wales is at an end. Only a portion of the colliery masters have yielded, and the ironworkers have gone in on the masters' terms. The strike has cost the coal not less than \$750,000. Edward P. Smith, who has just been appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was formerly a Congregational preacher, and during the war an active agent of the Christian Commission. Since that he has been an Indian Agent in Minnesota, and is said to be a thoroughly honest and competent man. The rapidity with which the comparatively new industry of building iron steamships on the Delaware is being developed, is attracting general attention, and the superiority of these vessels over the iron steamships constructed on the Clyde, in several important particulars, and especially in strength, has been demonstrated on several occasions. A gang of 100 colored miners are on their way from Richmond, Va., to Brazil, Ind., to work the coal mines in place of the strikers. A banker and his clerk are said to have disappeared from Denison, Texas, carrying with them the whole of the deposits, amounting to more than \$50,000. A San Francisco firm has contracted with parties in Providence for twenty-eight carloads of oysters of various ages, which are to be transhipped in San Francisco Bay.

Miscellaneous.

The Chicago relief disbursements last year were over \$2,000,000. The first production of coal on this coast was in 1852, at Newport on Coos Bay. Iowa had 5,663,994 acres of land under cereals and hay last year. "Boorbug" is what some of the single papers of the west call Milwaukee. A Wisconsin justice lately divorced an unhappy couple by repeating the marriage ceremony backwards. The new national flag of China is said to resemble an old bedquilt with lobsters running around on the edge. Tom Scott controls sixteen thousand miles of railroad and sixteen acres of legislature.—*Courier Journal*. A cotemporary speaks of a fashionable tailor as being "one of the old war horses of the trade." A heavy charger we suppose. The inmate of a boarding-house in Hoboken describes the programme of his breakfast as "bella, jangled out of tune, and hash." A young man in the ardor of his affection promised to cherish one of our young ladies with love that would survive an army overcoat. A Baltimore Jenkins tells us that the prettiest lady and the leading belle in society there just now is the daughter of a car conductor. Colfax is the first presiding officer of the Senate who has retired without a vote of thanks from that body. "Where was the fire?" asked a lady of her beau, who rushed out of the opera-house the other night the moment the curtain fell on the first act. "It was a false alarm," said, he chewing cloves vigorously. The absorption of small farms into large ones is going on at a rapid rate in Bourbon County, Kentucky. One man has bought farms on which lived twenty-four families, consisting of one hundred and sixty one persons, nearly every one of whom moved west. For the first time since the organization of the city of Fort Wayne, the treasurer has placed money to its credit for sinking fund purposes; which will only be used for the redemption of bonds. The white marble statue of Queen Victoria, weighing seven tons, has arrived at Windsor Castle, and is to be placed in the vestibule of the State Department. The Queen is represented sitting on a chair, with a dog lying by her side. An Ohio man attached a medal to an eagle's neck and with much ceremony set it at liberty on Washington's birthday. Two days later the proud bird made a descent on a farmer's sheep-pen and its brief career was ended by a charge of buckshot. A Chinaman, being examined as to his competency to testify in court was asked what would be his punishment if he should swear to lie. "I shall never return to China, but always remain in New York," was the reply. He was at once sworn. The appointment of ex-senator Sawyer, of South Carolina, as assistant secretary of state, comes the nearest to a Cabinet honor that that state has

A Story of the Olden Time.

From the Oregon Ballads.

Here is something that comes down to after the lapse of twenty years. We quote from a letter written at Astoria, January 22, 1853, and published a few days thereafter in the *Oregon Weekly Times*: "Last Sunday, as some of the soldiers were crossing the bay, they found, drifting in a canoe, three men nearly starved to death. They spoke to them, but could not make themselves understood. After taking them to their house they finally succeeded in conversing with them. Their history is as follows: They are Swedes, and belong to Stockholm. In 1850 they engaged to work for the Russian Fur Company seven years, and accordingly embarked, in company with 17 others, in the ship Nicholas, Captain Courad, and sailed for the northwestern coast, bound for Sitka. After a residence of nearly three years, they found that they could not bear the ill-usage and tyranny which they were receiving, and determined to make their escape. Of the whole number, but four had the courage to make the attempt. They have been a year and a half in making preparations. Every night they, with the other residents of the place, were in the habit of sleeping in the fort—being the rules of the Company. After obtaining a couple of compasses, a chart, some muskets, powder, shot, some fishing lines, and a few other articles, one dark night they succeed in getting the sentinel who was posted over the gate intoxicated, and one of them took his place, and answered the calls of the other sentinels; his comrades, in the meantime, had opened the gate, and were getting their things into a canoe. A short time before the relief came around, they got into the canoe and shoved off. They were soon missed, and a party of Indians sent in pursuit. When they came up with the fugitives, the Swedes laid down their paddles and seized their muskets, determined to die rather than be taken. The Indians, seeing they were armed, turned back to the fort. The Swedes continued on, and stopped at a place called Dequovre, where one of their number was killed by the Indians. They next attempted to land at Queen Charlotte's Island, but were compelled to leave amidst a shower of balls which completely riddled the sails of their canoe. After a passage of forty days they got into Shoulwater Bay, in a fog, and when it cleared up they were surprised to find themselves land-locked. When found, they had been in the Bay seven days—subsisting on roots and berries. They were much emaciated, and looked the perfect pictures of misery and despair. One of the poor fellows, when found, was peeling the skin from off his hands and arms and eating it. Their canoe is about eighteen feet in length by three in width; and with this they have made a voyage of over 1,000 miles on one of the worst parts of the coast. They were well cared for by the citizens, and at present are comfortably situated at Chinook. Their names are Carl Grouland, Carl Westerholm and Andros O. Lyndfast. CAPTAIN O. J. W. RUSSELL.

A Man

In about two be made from the Pacific Oc surpassed by accomplished Atlantic. It the coast of smallest sailing waters of our The sloop perilous voyage? fact? mere only thirty feet to stern, ten feet three inches built sharp at able of carrying *Dolphin* is no ordinary sized of being open over. There the deck, causing being in center over what is in cabin. The bunks built in forming the side ing the curvat joining at the the base of the from side to side there is still a which and the is barely room main-hold in eastern of the a provided for deck is flush w The *Dolphin* cisco, and is c Davis. In her will be manne her commands with water an six months, th amounting to Her cargo will coarse salt, im sea otter and provisions for This hazard by these hard purpose of bu skin of which count of the The sea otter the coast of turers expect full cargo of and five west pects to make time, as the 1 ing regarded vessels, large coast... He making a little vessel safer than a certainly as can be, and overhauled f A few months cruising arou *Sacramento*, before sailing down to Enci the Coronada party of offici in the recent —*San Diego* Another fighter has been convinced the great Bu record of

"Last Sunday, as some of the settlers were crossing the bay, they found drifting in a canoe, three men nearly starved to death. They spoke to them, but could not make themselves understood. After taking them to their house they finally succeeded in conversing with them. Their history is as follows: They are Swedes, and belong to Stockholm. In 1850 they engaged to work for the Russian Fur Company seven years, and accordingly embarked, in company with 17 others, in the ship Nicholas, Captain Courad, and sailed for the northwestern coast, bound for Sitka. After a residence of nearly three years, they found that they could not bear the ill-usage and tyranny which they were receiving, and determined to make their escape.

Of the whole number, but four had the courage to make the attempt. They have been a year and a half in making preparations. Every night they, with the other residents of the place, were in the habit of sleeping in the fort—being the rules of the Company. After obtaining a couple of compasses, a chart, some muskets, powder, shot, some fishing lines, and a few other articles, one dark night they succeed in getting the sentinel who was posted over the gate intoxicated, and one of them took his place, and answered the calls of the other sentinels; his comrades, in the meantime, had opened the gate, and were getting their things into a canoe. A short time before the relief came around, they got into the canoe and shoved off. They were soon missed, and a party of Indians sent in pursuit. When they came up with the fugitives, the Swedes laid down their paddles and seized their muskets, determined to die rather than be taken. The Indians, seeing they were armed, turned back to the fort.

The Swedes continued on, and stopped at a place called Decouvre, where one of their number was killed by the Indians. They next attempted to land at Queen Charlotte's Island, but were compelled to leave amidst a shower of balls which completely riddled the sails of their canoe. After a passage of forty days they got into Shoalwater Bay, in a fog, and when it cleared up they were surprised to find themselves land-locked.

When found, they had been in the Bay seven days—subsisting on roots and berries. They were much emaciated, and looked the perfect pictures of misery and despair. One of the poor fellows, when found, was peeling the skin from off his hands and arms and eating it. Their canoe is about eighteen feet in length by three in width; and with this they have made a voyage of over 1,000 miles on one of the worst parts of the coast. They were well cared for by the citizens, and at present are comfortably situated at Chinook. Their names are Carl Gronland, Carl Wasterholm and Andrea C. Lyndfest.

CAPTAIN C. J. W. RUSSELL.

35 lines
6.5" width
375
450
487

~~***North to Alaska***~~

Monday, July 21 - Seattle to Juneau

Alaska Flt #63, 9 a.m./arr. 11:05 a.m. 1-stop Ketchikan

lodging: with Sheila and Martinus Nickerson (907) 586-6553 on the 21st;
with R. Joseph Leahy and Betty Hulbert (get phone # from operator)
on the 22d, 23d, and likely the 24th.

Friday, July 25 - Juneau to Sitka

Alaska Flt #62, 1 p.m./arr. 2:30 p.m.

SHEE ATIKA LODGE

lodging: ~~Potlatch House motel~~ (907) 747-~~8611~~ **6241**

~~*Friday, August 1 - Sitka to Masset, Queen Charlotte Islands, British Columbia
probably by chartered float plane~~

~~lodging: unconfirmed, but try the Singing Surf Inn (604)626-3918~~

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

~~alternative plan:~~ Sitka to Ketchikan, Alaska Flt #60, 7:05 a.m./arr. 7:45 a.m.
Ketchikan to Prince Rupert, Trans Provincial Grumman Goose,
lv. 3:30 p.m. (MWF)/arr. 4:15 p.m. 6711

No confirmed lodging; try Prince Rupert Hotel (604)624-~~910~~

THURSDAY, JULY 31

Prince Rupert to Masset, Trans Provincial Ltd., lv. Seal Cove
~~9:45 a.m., 2 or 4:15 p.m.~~ **10:10 a.m. arr. 10:45 a.m.**
(CHSEN - 1st leg @ 9:15)

Monday, August 4 or Tuesday, August 5 -Masset to Prince Rupert

Trans Provincial Ltd., lv. 8:30 a.m./arr. 9:25

Lodging: unconfirmed, but try Prince Rupert Hotel (604)624-6711

Tuesday, August 5 - Ferry, Prince Rupert to Port Hardy, B.C.

Runs southbound on odd-numbered days, lv. 12:30 p.m.

No reservations required for passengers. \$45 per passenger.

Wednesday, August 6 - Arrive Port Hardy, 8 a.m.

To Victoria by bus, lv. 8:30 a.m., arr. 6 p.m.,

or Pacific Western Airlines, lv. 10:50, arr. 1:35 p.m.

(Pacific Western phone 433-5088; family plan \$102.26 T.I.;
later flight lvs Port Hardy 2:35 p.m., arr. Victoria, with
Vancouver stopover, 5:05 p.m.)

lodging: The Embassy Motel in Victoria, (604) 382-8161

Saturday, August 9 - Victoria to Seattle

Jetfoil

Monday, July 21	21	arr. Juneau 11:05	22		23		24	25	26
Tuesday, July 22	22		23		24		25	26	
Wednesday, July 23	23		24		25		26		
Thursday, July 24	24		25		26		27		
Friday, July 25	25		26		27		28		
Saturday, July 26	26		27		28		29		
Sunday, July 27	27		28		29		30		
Monday, July 28	28		29		30		31		
Tuesday, July 29	29		30		31		1		
Wednesday, July 30	30		31		1		2		
Thursday, July 31	31		1		2		3		
Friday, August 1	1		2		3		4		
Saturday, August 2	2		3		4		5		
Sunday, August 3	3		4		5		6		
Monday, August 4	4		5		6		7		
Tuesday, August 5	5		6		7		8		
Wednesday, August 6	6		7		8		9		
Thursday, August 7	7		8		9		10		
Friday, August 8	8		9		10		11		
Saturday, August 9	9		10		11		12		
Sunday, August 10	10		11		12		13		
Monday, August 11	11		12		13		14		
Tuesday, August 12	12		13		14		15		
Wednesday, August 13	13		14		15		16		
Thursday, August 14	14		15		16		17		
Friday, August 15	15		16		17		18		
Saturday, August 16	16		17		18		19		
Sunday, August 17	17		18		19		20		
Monday, August 18	18		19		20		21		
Tuesday, August 19	19		20		21		22		
Wednesday, August 20	20		21		22		23		
Thursday, August 21	21		22		23		24		
Friday, August 22	22		23		24		25		
Saturday, August 23	23		24		25		26		
Sunday, August 24	24		25		26		27		
Monday, August 25	25		26		27		28		
Tuesday, August 26	26		27		28		29		
Wednesday, August 27	27		28		29		30		
Thursday, August 28	28		29		30		31		
Friday, August 29	29		30		31		1		
Saturday, August 30	30		31		1		2		
Sunday, August 31	31		1		2		3		

Order to Alaska

Monday, July 21 - Seattle to Juneau

Logging: Mr. Shultz and Mr. Johnson (001) 250-0223 on bus 21:05

Friday, July 21

Logging: Mr. Johnson (001) 250-0223

Monday, July 22

Logging: Mr. Johnson (001) 250-0223

Thursday, July 23

Monday, July 24

Logging: Mr. Johnson (001) 250-0223

Friday, July 25

Saturday, July 26

Logging: Mr. Johnson (001) 250-0223

Monday, August 27 - Victoria to Seattle

Lu. Juneau 1 p.m.
arr. Sitka 2:30

1:50 - Sandspit - 1
Vancouver
arr 3:16
5 pm, Mt 365,
Vancouver -
Seattle, arr. 5:35

7:05 - Lu. Sitka
4:15 - arr.
Prince Rupert

10:10 a.m. -
Prince Rupert to
Masset

Mr. Iyan Doig
17021 10th Ave, NW
Seattle, WA 98177



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Queen's University
Kingston, Canada
K7L 3N6

8 Sept. 1987

Dear Mr. Doig:

Better late than never. We exchanged letters when you were writing THE SEA RUNNERS, concerning the factual basis for the report on which you based the story. I wasn't able to come up with anything then, but came across a reference to it recently in the voluminous Correspondence of the Governors of the Russian-American Company. It is unindexed and in handwriting frequently difficult to read, hence I didn't come through before.

In a copy of a dispatch #108, 15 May 1854, from the Governor to the Main Office, it is stated that one Efim Kuz'min had entered the colonies on Russian-American Company service on a false passport under the name of Kondratii Ivanov on the brig SHELEKHOV on 9 July 1853. When his deception came to light he was sent to the Ozerskoi (lake) redoubt, a kind of satellite of Sitka a few miles from it, to be kept under surveillance until he could be sent on the ship SITKHA to Aian (E. Siberia) in 1854.

On 3 May 1854 the manager of Ozerskoi redoubt, Iona Gavrilov, report^{ed} to the governor that Kuz'min and the company employees Aleksei Nikiforov and the Finlanders Tonia Mainder and Mat Roslander^{*}, being kept at the redoubt for slaying a Kolosh (Tlingit) had taken a 6 oared ialik (a smallboat, yawl) with arms and cartridges and departed.

That date must be reliable, but you cite the OREGON WEEKLY TIMES for 20 March 1853. Would that not have been 1855? Naturally, on reaching civilization they would not have given their real names nor have told the real story behind their flight.

So that is it. I realize that for you THE SEA RUNNERS was two or three books ago, but I thought you would be interested nevertheless. I hope the book did well, it was a very readable account, and I enjoyed it very much.

Last month I attended the 2nd International Conference on Russian America at Sitka (19-22 Aug.). Research on that period is increasing, and it was a very successful conference. And also fine weather, with a view of Mt. Edgecumbe every day.

A major novel of the Russian period of Alaska history has yet to appear. With the facility you showed in THE SEA RUNNERS I hope you will try a hand at the task someday.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Pierce
Richard A. Pierce

* Both Swedish-speaking Finns,
as the names show.



Mr. Ivan Doig
17021 10th Ave. NW
Seattle, WA 98177

Queen's University
Kingston, Canada

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

6 Oct. '87

8 Sept. 1987

Dear Mr. Doig:

Better late than never. We exchanged letters when you were writing THE SEA RUNNERS, concerning the factual basis for the report on which you based

Dear Dr. Pierce--

Better late than never, indeed, I'm quite entranced at hearing your discovery of what must be the actual story of the "sea runners." Needless to say, it also confirms me in being glad that I decided to do the tale as fiction rather than waiting for the actuality to come to light--it's nine years now since I first spied that old Oregon Weekly Times reference.

You're likely right that the newspaper item would have been 1855 instead of 1853, although I don't have conclusive proof and the circumstantial evidence indeed points to 1853. That is, the item as I saw it was an 1878 "25 years ago" reprint, and I was never able to find the original issue of the newspaper in the U. of Oregon microfilm--the Weekly Times was a broken series, the UO library then was notoriously one of the worst in academe, etc. to the point where there was no telling whether indeed that newspaper of that time was anywhere on the premises. Out of curiosity, I'll pursue this again sometime.

I truly do thank you for troubling to pass along the information; keen and dogged scholarship, truly, that you would remember my inquiry to you. I take your point that the ultimate novel of Russian America is yet to be written (you evidently share my hunch that Michener's big--and, interestingly, delayed--Alaska novel won't do the job). I'm now finishing up a Montana trilogy of novels, and have another book or two in mind beyond that. Whether I can muster myself to Russian America again or not, I really don't know, now. Certainly it would be an enticement if you and other legitimate scholars do the groundwork in the R-A Company papers, and if you or any of your colleagues ever shepherds that collection into English translation--or for that matter, into a complete index--I'd be pleased to hear about it. In the meantime, my best wishes to you in your own northern endeavors.

regards,

Richard A. Pierce
Richard A. Pierce

*last 2 weeks - speaking from
in the name of law

29 Nov. '82

Dear Lars--

I wonder if I can impose on you for one more quick favor. THE SEA RUNNERS will be read by the Radio Reader, Dick Estell, whose show is heard on KUOW and many other Public Broadcasting stations. When Estell read my book THIS HOUSE OF SKY on the air, he rather blithely mispronounced his way through various Montana place names. I'd like to provide him a basic pronunciation guide for SEA RUNNERS; would you look over my phonetic suggestions to him about the Swedish names and words, and improve any that need it?

Melander--Meh-LANDer

Wennberg--VENN-bairg

Braaf--Brawf

Gotland--sho~~uld~~ld this be GAWT-land or YAWT-land?

Smaland--SMOE-land

Slite--SLEET-uh

riksdaler--RIKES-dayler

fangelse--FEN-gel-suh

I hope I haven't mangled or oversimplified any of these too much. Dick Estell reads with what I would call a fairly neutral Midwestern accent, and concentrates on the drama of the story rather than niceties of pronunciation, so I want to provide him as basic a guide as I can.

best regards

Nov. 30, 1982

Dear Ivan,

I just received your note and will try to answer your questions. Delighted to hear that good ole Dick Estell is going to read THE SEA RUNNERS. My radio dial is permanently set at KUOW and I've listened to quite a few of Estell's readings. And now to the phonetics:

Wennberg-- VENN-bairj (the final g pronounced "soft" as the y in "yellow" or "canyon")

Melander-- Meh-LAND-er

Braaf--Brahv (just as in "bravo" without the o. The final f should be pronounced as a v. In older spelling the v-sound was often spelled with an f. The King spells his name Gustaf but pronounces it Gustav. Cf. Engl. "of")

Gotland-- GOTT-land (with a hard initial g, just as in Engl. "got." pronounced
Stress on first syllable GOTT-~~as~~ as in German "Gott.")

Småland-- SMOE-land

Slite-- SLEET-uh

riksdaler-- rix-DAHL-er (the daler sounds pretty much like Am. "dollar.")

fängelse-- FENG-el-suh (thus no "hard" g audible in the word)

That should do it! A couple of weeks ago we had a visit from the head of the Emigrant Institute in Växjö (Småland) and he was going to order THE SEA RUNNERS for their library. When will we get the film version?

Sincerely,

Sars

2 Dec. '82

Nov. 30, 1982

Dear Lars--

Dear Ivan,

Thanks very much for the help with the names. I've added the various Indian place names in the book, to further test Dick Estell's tongue, and sent off the pronunciation guide to him. I don't yet know when he'll read the book; I expect to find out by the next monthly schedule like anyone else, I'm afraid.

Alas, no prospect yet of Melander looking at us from the Technicolor wide screen! I'm told, though, that the book will be in this Sunday's New York Times Book Review as one of the "recommended" books of the year.

Very best

Wennergren-- (the final 'g' pronounced "soft" as the 'y' in "yellow" or "canyon")

Melander-- Mel-LAND-er

Gravel--Grav (just as in "grave" without the 'o'. The final 'l' should be pronounced as a 'v'. In older spelling the 'v' sound was often spelled with an 'f'. The King spells his name Gustaf but pronounces it Gustav. Cf. Engl. "of".)

Gotland-- GOTT-land (with a hard initial 'g', just as in Engl. "got". pronounced stress on first syllable GOTT-land in German "Gott")

Småland-- SMOE-land

Slite-- SLITE-up

Riksdaler-- rik-DALI-er (the daler sounds pretty much like Am. "dollar".) Fängelse-- FENC-el-ah (thus no "hard" 'g' audible in the word)

That should do it! A couple of weeks ago we had a visit from the head of the Emigrant Institute in Växjö (Småland) and he was going to order THE SEA RUNNERS for their library. When will we get the film version?

Sincerely,

W. S. 1982

try extend ms
to 130 pp.

go thru for verbs,
sentence patterns,
rhythm...

systemically add physical
details 7 NA, coast?

rude seas, tangled islands,
oo, maybe Kolosh.

vespers
viago

~~to~~ Zue up. samovar,
M gosh