

Engineer Department,
Washington, November 10, 1863.
Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck,
Genl-in-Chief, U. S. A.
Washington, D. C.

General:

In accordance with your directions of the 8th inst. to "report whether a road from the Dalles to Fort Benton or some other point in Idaho Territory has not already been examined and located under direction of the Topl. Bureau," I transmit herewith a portion of the map of the Western Territories, upon which are traced the general directions of the several wagon road routes that have been examined by orders of the War Department.

The wagon road from Fort Walla Walla to Fort Benton has been constructed by Capt. Mullan. The route proposed by Gen. Wright to be opened, has been partially explored, namely from the Dalles to Fort Boisse by Capt. Wallen; from Fort Boisse to Lemhi, by Lieut. Mendell;

and from the "Three Forks" of the Missouri to the mouth of the Big Horn, by Capt. Reynolds; leaving an unexplored portion from Lemhi, (a Mormon settlement) to the "Three Forks," over the great ridge dividing the waters of the Columbia and the Missouri. The route yet to be explored is also shown upon the Map herewith.

As soon as officers and troops can be made available for the purpose, I would recommend that the explorations be resumed, with the view of connecting the Surveys in that section of the country.

Very respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servt.

M. S. Totten

Brig. Gen. & Chief Engr

Totten

200. G. TOTEN
M. S. TOTTEN
USA