Governor Isaac I. Stevens
Commander-in-chief
W.T. Volunteers, Olympia

Sir:

On the 24th I arrived here in the evening and found that Mr. Robie had just preceded me from the Nez Perce country by about two hours. He brought me the disagreeable intelligence that the Nez Perce had shown a hostile disposition—said that they wished no white men in their country and moreover that the treaty was broken.

Pearson informed me that they were painting, beating their drums and dancing war dances all night.

Pierre Monteu, Howlish #ampool and several Nez Perces accompanied Mr. Robie.

I had a talk with these men and then sent "Capt John" with a message to the Nez Perce chiefs.

I told them that I did not come to fight the Nez Perces, but the hostile Indians. That I was tired of persuading people to be peaceable and that if these drums beat for war we would parade for battle. That we would be friendly if they were friendly and if hostile we would be hostile too. That they had said that they were willing for Gov. Stevens to send men through their country and that if he thought proper he would do so." I am expecting his (Capt John's) return every day.

Respectfully

(Signed) D.F. Shaw
Lieut. Col. commanding
Expedition to Walla Walla
Hon. Jeff Davis, Secretary of War, Washington City, D.C.

Sir:

In my last communication relating to the Indian war in this territory I dwelt upon the proposed Walla Walla expedition as absolutely indispensable to preserve the peace of the Indian tribes of the interior and I expressed the opinion that the indecisive and procrastinating course, pursuing and pursued in the Yakima country had brought or nearly brought about a general combination of the tribes Eastward—That combination I hoped to break up.

The Walla Walla expedition has been completely successful. Col. Shaw was on Mill Creek Walla Walla valley on the 8th of July with all his command except a force of 75 men under Capt. Coff who in conjunction with Maj. Laight of the Oregon Volunteers had ascended John Day's River and was then actively in pursuit of the enemy. On Mill Creek were assembled on that day 190 men who crossed the Cascades over the Naches under the immediate orders of Lt. Col. Shaw—100 men from the command of Coff who escorted the wagon and pack train from the Dalles and the Nez Perce auxiliaries 60 strong under the command of the chief, the Spotted Eagle and accompanied by the Agent, Lieut. Col. Wm. Craig.

Supplies were immediately sent forward to the Nez Perce country. Special Agent Robie taking there 100 pack animals without one lost. An escort
Col. Shaw learning there was a large force of hostiles in the Grand Ronde determined to attack them. Moving in the night of the 14th he struck them on the 17th and after a running fight of some 15 miles he entirely defeated them, captured a large number of their animals, destroyed nearly all of their provisions and also got possession of about one hundred pounds of their ammunition (sic).

The loss of the enemy was about forty killed on the field of battle. This gallant fight of Shaw has broken up the combination, for on his return to Mill Creek he found there Special Agent Robie who had almost been driven out of the Nez Perce country.

He brought back the words of the chiefs, ordering white men out of their country. Robie on his return from the Nez Perce marched one hundred miles without halting.

Lieut. Col. Shaw immediately sent the Nez Perce Chief Capt. John to the Nez Perce with this message. "I am your friend. I have not come to fight you, but the hostiles. But if you beat your drums for war I will parade my men for battle."

On the arrival of Capt. Shaw the Nez Perces had heard of Col. Shaw's defeat of the Indians in the Grand Ronde and they immediately sent back the most friendly messages.

Thus here the vigorous movements of the volunteers of Washington under Lieut Col. Shaw secured the fealty of the Nez Perce and prevented a general combination of the interior tribes.

I enclose a copy of Lieut. Col. Shaw's report of this engagement with the Indians at the Grand Ronde and also a copy of his letter stating the message he sent to the Nez Perces by Capt. John.

Also the records of three councils held with the Nez Perce and one by Lieut. Col. Shaw on his arrival at Mill Creek--one in the Nez Perce country by Capt. Robie, one by Lieut. Col. Craig when they
received Shaw's message.

On an interview held yesterday with Col. Wright I learn that he designs sending forward a force of four campaigns to occupy the Walla Walla under the command of Lieut. Col. Steptoe. I shall accordingly raise no more troops. The terms of service of those under Col. Shaw will expire on the 8th September on being relieved by the command under Col. Steptoe they will be withdrawn and mustered out of service.

All the troops on the Sound have been mustered out of service.

I push forward in person to Walla Walla tomorrow to meet the Indians and establish relations of friendship with the tribes generally and especially with those struck by Lieut. Col. Shaw.

Very Respectfully, etc.

Isaac I. Stevens

[Endorsement, on last page]

520 W

Vancouver, A.T. 14, August, 1856

Isaac I. Stevens
Governor of Washington Ty.

Operations of Washington Territory 3 enclosures

W 240

30 September, 1856

S 350—Oct. 31/56

Adjt. Genl.

3 enclosures (3 enclosures)

Read (ACO) October 31, 1856
War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-59

270 Pacific (Dept. of the) p. 78 Hq Dept. of the Pacific, Benecia, Cal. Augt. 30, 1856

Department of the Pacific Genl. Wool by A.A. Genl. Mackall to Major G. Rains 4th Infy In answer to his application for a court of inquiry Rec. Hq Sept. 29, 1856


Major Genl. Wool replies to a request for a court of inquiry made direct to the War Dept. & thence sent to the Genl.


Respectfully forwarded to the adjutant general L. Thomas.

Head Qrs. Dept. of the Pacific

Benecia Cal. Augt. 30, 1856

Sir:

Major General Wool directs me to return the enclosed application received by the last mail from the east and to say that he has had no reason to doubt the justices of the conclusions to which he came at the time of writing the report, of which you complain, viz.: that Major Rains partook of the alarm in the country, or in other words that the danger from the Indians and the force required to resist them were magnified in his eyes, by the excitement in the country and that the call for Volunteers was injudicious and unnecessary.

The general however feels it due to himself to say, that if the word "alarm" used in that report is supposed by you to be an imputation on your personal courage, he emphatically disdains any such intention and would be much pained to believe it could convey such an impression to others and hopes it may have received this construction only from your very natural ...sitiiveness.

It has been and still is his intention to investigate by a General Court Martial at the earliest practicable period the charges made against you while commanding the Yakima Expedition.

It would be difficult if not impossible before that period to spare officers of sufficient rank for a court of inquiry. But on the adjournment of that court the three senior members would make the investigation and will be authorized and directed so to do if you still desire it. I am etc. W.W. Mackall... Major G.I.(?) Rains, 4th Infy. Comdy. Fort Humboldt, Calif.
War Dept. Letters Rec'd.

Pt. Simcoe, W.T. September 18, 1856, Joseph B. Brown, asst. surgeon
Details the circumstances attending the loss and death of Capt.
Francis L. Bowman, 9th Infy.
503 13th ACO) Oct. 29, 1856.

Fort Simcoe September 15, 1856

Sir:

In obedience to instructions from the commanding officer of
the post I have prepared the following narration of the loss of
Captain F.L. Bowman.

On the afternoon of the 4th inst. I was directed by Major R.S.
Garnett commanding the post to conduct Capt. Bowman, who was in a state
of lunacy, to the Dalles. We started on the morning of the 5th about
4 a.m. accompanied by two men of Co. G who were detailed as escort.
The Capt. had to be lifted upon his horse as he was suffering
considerable from the effects of a severe sprain of the right ankle
which he received the night before in pursuing a man whom he fancied
to be guilty of riotous conduct toward him. Upon leaving camp he
immediately pushed through the oak timber instead of taking the proper
trail. I followed him directing the escort to proceed on in advance
upon the trail. After some difficulty we succeeded in effecting a
passage through the oaks and soon found the road. The captain took the
lead at a fast gallop for a quarter of a mile when he leaped from his
horse saying that he was tired. After waiting for a few moments he mounted
again. He would not receive any assistance in mounting from us as he said
that his ankle was well now. He proceeded in this way alternately
putting his horse to a gallop and then suddenly dismounting for a few
moments, till we reached the Hopinish. There he rested some twenty
minutes when we proceeded again, after mounting the captain turned
directly back and was returning to camp when I recall'd him to the
proper direction. He had already diverged from the trail many times
but always returned immediately when I called him. He went up the steep
hill without dismounting, sometimes urging his orse to a trot.
Of course when I reached the top of the hill he was considerably in advance of me. It was now getting light enough to see the trail quiet distinctly and I found that the escort which I had supposed to be in advance had not passed. I accordingly pushed on rapidly and overtook the captain after going about half a mile. I endeavored to induce him to wait for the men but with avail, his whole mind being absorbed by the idea of reaching the Dalles without delay. I finally succeeded in persuading him to go slowly for the purpose of favoring his horse which was much heated. We proceeded for several miles at a moderate pace the captain occasionally urging his horse to gallop, but always at my remonstrance checking him and begging my pardon for forgetting his promise. He had been hitherto silent and indisposed to converse, but he now told me that he had arranged everything properly, that he had made a signal to his wife, who was now expecting him. He said he had been praying for two hours, and advised me to pray so that I might be able to let my wife know that I was coming. He now commenced to tell me the circumstances of his conversion and call to preach the Gospel to the Indians. He said that he was the Messiah and had received his instructions from Heaven which he had visited in person; he gave me a description of what he saw. He now appeared remarkably well. His eye was gleaming with brilliancy and his countenance was lighted up with an expression so much that he scarcely seemed like the same individual that we had known. He sat erect in his saddle and declaimed or preached at the top of his voice of the glories he had witnessed and of the results to be accomplished by his mission. Part of his conversation was exceedingly humorous and he laughed very heartily at some of the funny conceits which crossed his fancy. As we were crossing the Top of the Skow mountain he began to urge his horse again from a trot to a gallop. I told him that we were going fast enough to reach the Dalles before dusk and that greater speed would
surely break down our horses. He replied that I did not know; that he must get there by 12 o'clock at noon for the purpose of taking the boat to Portland in order to see and compare notes with the bishop there. But he finally consented to go slow and at last consented to stop; saying he was very tired. I told him we would stop and rest at the first water which was only about a mile in distance. Accordingly when we reached the little stream just before entering the long woods which extend near the naked knob on the Show (or Snow) mountain to Hamilton's valley I told him we would rest here and dismounted. He said let us rest for three or four hours. He rode on some thirty yards and dismounted proceeding at a fast walk at once towards the ravine on the right. I caught his horse, dropped the picket rope and loosened the girth so that he might graze and then started after the Captain whom I supposed had gone after a drink of water, or to obey a call of nature. It was certainly not five minutes from the time he went into the ravine until I reached the spot where he had disappeared, but, when I reached the creek he was not to be seen. I called to him but received no answer, I continued calling more loudly when still receiving no reply and knowing that he could not possibly be beyond the reach of my voice, I began to feel some alarm that some accident had befallen him. I searched the jungle in the ravine up and down continually calling his name. At last thinking that he might have crossed the ravine and gone up the other side I looked for him in that direction. I mounted my horse and crossed the hill on the other side. I rode down the ravine for a mile or more on that side and finally returned and searched the jungle again on foot still fearing that some fit or convulsion had seized him and that he was unable to answer my calls. It was about eleven o'clock a.m. when he left me. I continued the search till nearly 2 p.m. when the men being still behind I left a note directing them to remain there till I
returned. I then rode down the ravine on this side for a mile and then crossed over to the trail, leading to the Dalles on which I almost immediately recognized the print of the heel of the Captain's India rubber overshoes. I followed this trail as rapidly as possible for about three miles when I lost it, he having apparently wandered from the road into the woods. I spent some time looking for the trail and calling for him. I went down to the creek near which it was afterwards found that he had slept that night, and called along it. Here again he must have been within hearing of my voice. Receiving no answer and seeing no indication of his trail I returned to the road and proceeded towards the Prairie hoping to see him as he emerged from the woods. Then within about a mile of the Prairie I met the expressman Mr. Price who said that the Captain could not come into the Prairie unless he had left the road on the east. I judged it still advisable therefore to return again to the place where the Captain's track was last seen. With Mr. Price's assistance it was with some difficulty discovered that he had left the trail on the east and we succeeded in trailing him some distance into the woods. As it was becoming to dark to prosecute the search any farther with advantage I returned to the place where the men had been directed to remain. We arrived there about 7 1/2 p.m. and found the men waiting. I directed them to return to Ft. Simcoe in the morning with a note relating the escape of Capt. Bowman to Maj. Garnett. After resting about an hour, taking Mr. Price with me I proceeded to the Dalles for the purpose of procuring assistance from there as soon as possible. The night was intensely dark and our horses fatigued so that our progress was slow but we reached the Dalles at about 8 a.m. A party was immediately sent out from there by Lt. Bissell. One also under Lt. Douglass left Fort Simcoe on the same evening. The party from the Dalles were conducted by Mr. Price to the place where the trail was last seen, and by the aid of some Indians they followed it to nearly
the edge of the woods where they entirely lost it. One of the Capt's overshoes was found where he had slept the first night. The party from the Simcoe had already joined the other party and they together continued the search till their provisions were exhausted when the party from the Dalles under Mr. Lear returned, arriving on Wednesday. Lt. Douglass with his party struck across the Prairie from the Klickitat to the Columbia river above the Dalles and down the river to Fort Dalles arriving on Thursday. On that day another expedition consisting of twenty-six Indians was organized by Mr. Gibson and on Friday they proceeded to the ground to renew the search. On Friday evening a trail was discovered by one of the Indians on the south side of the Klickitat and on the west of the Dalles road. This was taken up on Saturday morning and eventually led to the spot where the skeleton of Capt. Bowman lay. The flesh had been entirely eaten off by wolves, tracks of which with signs of the dragging of the body were very distinct. None of the captains' clothing was discovered although the backtrail was followed quite to the Klickitat. No tracks except those of wolves were discovered near the place where the skeleton was found. It was recognized as the remains of Capt. Bowman by known peculiarities of the teeth; from the cotton remaining in his ears; from the moustache that remained upon his lip, from portions of his hair found, and from the general correspondence of the skeleton to the size of the figure. I thought that he had been dead from the condition of his remains, at least three days when he was found and should therefore think that he died not from starvation or exhaustion but from congestion of the brain or apoplexy.

The motives which led to his resolution to escape from me must ever remain a matter of conjecture. His anxiety to reach the Dalles in the shortest possible time, which was his absorbing idea, may have induced him to think that there was little premeditation about it.
but that some sudden unaccountable delusion may have induced him to flee as soon as he found that I was not in sight. He had shown no disposition to escape from me before, but appeared to rely greatly upon my guidance and assistance and therefore I am inclined to believe that his flight was only an instinct, indicating the hopeless character of his insanity.

Very respectfully your Obt. Servt.

Joseph B. Brown
Asst. Surgeon, USA

Lt. Henry Fouglass,
Post adjutant.
Olympia W.T. 601.WW November 21, 56 Gov. I. I. Stevens, reports sale of property on hand at the disbanding of the volunteer forces. 224 Arm. 30 56 Adj. Genl. Rec. 31, 1856

Executive Officer Ter. Wash.

Olympia Nov. 21st, 1856

Hon. Jefferson Davis,
Secretary of War, Washington City, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report for the information of the Dept. that the sales of property remaining on hand at the disbandment of the Volunteer forces of the Territory have been made, and have resulted in the cancelling of about one thousand and fifty thousand dollars of script. The sales in the aggregate excluded the original cost particularly as regards animals which it has been alleged have been purchased at extravagant rates. I trust that hereafter in view of the fact, that our transportation has cost us nothing, that our people have let their animals go into the service from three to nine months and have taken them back at a premium, the enemies of the Territory will be more guarded in their speech.

All the papers have been kept with regularity, both as regards the service of and issue to Volunteers, and purchases and sales by the Quartermaster Dept.

Our whole script will not exceed nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars which deducting the cancelled script will leave not exceeding fifty eight thousand dollars to be redeemed.

But some seventy or eighty thousand of this will be charged upon the muster rolls reducing the script that amounts in the estimates for pay of the volunteers.

I indulge the hope that Congress will at this session authorize the payment of the war debt of both Territories. The people
deserve well of the nation. They have protected their families and vindicated the honor of the American flag. The war has been especially disastrous to this territory and the people need prompt payment of their claims.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your Most Obedient

Isaac I. Stevens.

Letters Received 54-58

H. Dean Guie Collection

245 W. Washington, D.C. June 24, 1854. W.H.T. Walker, Bvt. Lt. Col. 6th Infy. Sec. of War Directs that he be placed in command of Corps of Cadets to relieve Major Garnett, etc. 103-June 24. Rec'd June 28, 1854

[sheet 2]

The Secretary directs that Bvt. Lt. Col. Walker 6th Infantry be detailed as commandant of the Corps of Cadets to relieve Major Garnett on the 21st.

A. Campbell

War Dept. June 24/54/

chief clerk
Sir:

Your two letters of August 31 in relation to Indian difficulties on Puget Sound and Boise River have been received.

The general commanding entirely approves the measures taken by yourself and Major Rains, and he desires you to omit no proper expedient to maintain peace in the territories of Washington and Oregon. The troops and Depot at Fort Vancouver are intended to operate in any quarter where they may be needed, and the general relies upon your energy and judgment to turn them to the best account. He desires you to send a mountain howitzer to Fort Dalles if there is not already one there, and if occasion should arise you will not hesitate to forward any ammunition or other stores to any post within your range.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your obt. servt.,
B.D. Townsend (?)
Asst. adj. genl.

Lieut. Col. B.L.E. Bonneville
4th Infantry,
Fort Vancouver, W.T.
Hd. qrs. Dept. of the Pacific, San Francisco, Sept. 16, 1854


A.667, October 16, 1854. Respectfully submitted ?? ?? ?? Re: Inquiries will be made as to the cause of the small limits of the reserve. The posts designed to protect and control the Indians to be collected on the military reserves should certainly be on the reserves. The want of troops in Oregon is apparent and will be remedied as soon as possible. Jeffn. Davis. Sec. War. War Dept. Oct. 13, 54 Rec. Adjt. Gen. Oct. 14, 54.

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Head Quarters Dept. of the Pacific
San Francisco, September 16, 1854

Sir:

I have the honor to report that a military post is now being built at the Canada de las Umas [grapevine canyon] fifteen miles southwest of the Tejon Indian Reservation [30 miles south of present Bakersfield, Calif. on Ridge Route] which is to be called Fort Tejon, to indicate its location. I have assigned Bvt. Lieut Colonel B.L. Beall (sic) major 1st dragoons to the command and Company 1st Dragoons is now there as a garrison. The recent reduction of the limits of the reserve prevented the post from being placed within the limits. Santa Barbara, Calif. is now the nearest post office.

Having on June last heard reports of Indian hostilities near Whidby’s Island, W.T. I sent instructions to Lieut. Col. Bonneville at Fort Vancouver to render any assistance in his power in that section. I have just received in reply a report from Lieut. Rufell commanding Fort Steilacoom in which he states that the difficulties
are for the present settled. The disturbance had its origin in the supposed murder of two or three white men by the Indians. "The chief ones engaged in these outrages have been apprehended and are now in confinement in the guardhouse at this post awaiting trial by the civil authority authority of the territory." "The most recent difficulty was occasioned by a descent of a party of Northern Indians residing in the Russian "territory upon the settlements in Bellingham Bay. This is the most northern portion of Washington Territory being within a few miles of the 49th Parallel." The settlers there are more liable to the incursions of the tribes beyond the jurisdiction of the U.S. who are able to make a descent in their canoes and retreat before any force can be brought against them. The only sure method of effectively checking these Indians, at the same time giving additional security to the settlements between this post and that point would be in my opinion to establish a post of one company at Bellingham Bay or in that vicinity."

Lieut. Col. Bonneville remarks, in addition to this, that Acting Governor Mason thinks "the only effective method to check the incursions of the Russian Indians is to have on Puget Sound a steam revenue cutter" to pursue them in their canoes. I have not now an available company for the new post suggested by Lieut. Russell [old style double s, written like 1], but shall take this measure into consideration by the time Lt. Col. Steptoe arrives with his battalion. He might soon be here.

In reply to a communication to Captain A.J. Smith, 1st dragoons, comdg. Fort Edward in which I called his attention to apprehended difficulties with the immigrants and the Indians near Goose Lake he informs me that all necessary measures have been taken in that quarter and he is on the alert to prevent disturbances. It seems a company of volunteers has been mustered into service by authority
of the governor of Oregon, but Capt. Smith is of the opinion that they were not needed and that it was done upon the representations of speculators who expect to be benefited by furnishing supplies.

Reports from Major G.J. Rains, 4th Infantry commanding Fort Dalles O.T. informs me that on the 20th August the emigrants en route for the west were attacked on Boise River, a branch of the Snake River and 8 men killed and 4 wounded women & 5 children carried away captives with all their property.

"Assistance was asked for by the Indian agent (Mr. R.R. Thompson) and others and I (Major Rains) dispatched Bvt. Major Haller, Lt. Macfeely and Asst. Surgeon Suckley with 26 soldiers to the scene of difficulty. "Major Haller left August 30 and since a company of Volunteers 30 strong, having offered their services, were accepted and they were furnished with arms, horses ammunition & rations and left here (Fort Dalles) yesterday (August 31)"

The scene of this outrage was 15 miles from Fort Boise and about 300 miles from Fort Dalles, the nearest military post. The Win-nass Indians who were those concerned, are said to number 600 warriors & are believed to be all hostile.

Lieut. Col. Bonneville has sent company L 3rd Artillery from Fort Vancouver to the Dalles with 6,000 rounds of cartridges. A. Mr. John F. Noble, living off Malheur River, 20 miles west of Fort Boise who appears to have influence with the Indians, has also gone out with a half breed Snake Indian to endeavor to recover the captives and their property.

Colonel Mansfield, inspector general, happened to be at Fort Dalles when the information arrived there. He writes from Fort Vancouver the 4th instant that Major Rains has acted "promptly and efficiently. He was able to mount all the infantry and volunteers and Colonel Bonneville has sent the Artillery company
from this post to Fort Dallas. No further steps need now be taken as to movement of troops at this season of the year till further developments."

I enclose herewith a copy of instructions sent to Lieut. Col. Bonneville to use all diligence which the means at his disposal will permit.

A part of the office furniture attached to the Department Head Quarters was sent up to Benecia some ten days ago. I am only waiting for the transport to move the remainder. An accident which happened to the vessel has detained her.

As will be seen by Special Orders No. 36 I have sent a Detachment from the company at the Presidio to Fort Orford to relieve the Detachment from the company at Benecia Barracks, this arrangement appearing to be more in accordance with the views of the Hon. Secretary of War.

I am sir, very respectfully
Your Obed. Servt.

John G. Wool
Major General

Lieut. Col. L. Thomas
Assistant Adj. General
Head Quarters, Army
New York.
General Orders No. 20

War Department, adjutant General's Office,
Washington, November 7, 1854

The subjoined statement of the allowance of clothing to each soldier during his enlistment, and his proportion for each year respectfully as established by the Secretary of War under the regulations of 1851 is published for the information and guidance of all concerned. Until further orders, clothing will be settled for at the prices set forth in General Orders No. 7, of May 12, 1854.

By Order of the Secretary of War,

S. Cooper, adjutant general

Statement exhibiting the allowance of clothing to each soldier during his enlistment and his proportion for each year respectively as established by the Secretary of War under the regulations of 1851 for five years total in the years

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<th>Clothing</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
<th>5th</th>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; overalls</td>
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Mounted men may receive one pair of "boots" and two pairs of "bootees" instead of four pairs of bootees. As the Metallic shoulder scales, letters, numbers, Castle and Flames, will last for many years, they will be borne on the returns as company property, in the same manner as are sashes, knapsacks and straps, haversacks, canteens and strps, and other articles of camp and garrison equipment and will be charged to the soldier when they are lost or destroyed through neglect.