

Snipes and Allen

Cattle. Unbranded Calves.

Miscellaneous Letters book , 1882-1885

February 16th, 1885.

Snipes and Allen, Yakima City, Gentlemen:

Several Indians from the Satass have just reported to me that your herders have gathered up every unbranded calf they could find on the Reservation and driven them over the Yakima river, separating the calf from the cow, whenever the cow had the brand of the United States or of any Indian.

Very many Indians declare they have lost calves, driven away from their mothers in this manner. John Lemley declares he has lost five calves--that everyone of these five cows had calves, but not one is with the cow now.

So many Indians have come to me with the same report that though I am p 651 well aware of their propensity to make a very large story from a small one, still I am forced to believe there is something in it.

They say the calves were driven off during the deep snow.

Of course I know that if your herders have done as the Indians say, it has been contrary to your orders.

Will you please investigate the matter and let me know the result?

Very Respectfully

R.H. Milroy, U.S. Indian Agent.

Miscellaneous Letter Book
1882-1885

Place Names. Gesner
Centerville

March 13th, 1885

Yakima..(Fort Simcoe)

H. Gesner, Esq.

Centerville, Wash Ter. sir:

Your favor of the 10th inst was received by this day's mail.

The charges of pasturing cattle on the Reservation have been fixed at one dollar per head per year.

The Indians have decided ~~they~~ that they do not wish any more cattle grazed on the reservation, but if you only wish to graze 15 or 20 head in the vicinity of the Finlayson Sheep range, I presume there will be no objection. Payment of grazing bills must be made in advance by special agreement.

Respectfully

R.H. Milroy, U.S. Indian agent.

Miscellaneous Letters book
1882-85

Coeur D'Alene. (Off Reservation)
Waters . Colville

April 17th, 1885

Sidney E. Waters, agent,
Colville Agency W.T. Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 5th inst. in reference to gathering up children belonging to this agency, but living off the reservation, and sending them to the Coeur d'Alene school came duly to hand.

I entirely concur in the views you express, and while believing it would be better, all things considered, to have the children attend the industrial school on their own reservation, yet will cooperate with you to the extent of my ability, to induce them to attend the school at the Coeur d'Alene, since they refuse to attend the school at this agency. The excellent training given Indian children at the Coeur d'Alene 676

school, is too well attested to admit of a doubt of the advantages the children would derive, could their parents only be induced to permit their attendance. My views respecting the education of Indian children, have been too often expressed to need repetition. I believe in education lies the only hope of the salvation of the race, and it has been my constant aim to impress that fact as strongly as possible on the minds of the Indians.

But while having the strongest desire for the success of the measure you propose, and every disposition to render every assistance in my power, my hands are so tied by specific instructions from the Indian Department that all the help I can give is my best wishes for the success of your efforts. The principal, in fact I think the only reason why so many Indians who belong to this Reservation are now living off it, is because they are unwilling their children should attend school. On the Reservation, the law, and Department instructions give the agent the right to compel attendance--

off the reservation, the instructions of the Department forbid me to meddle with them. Our Reservation school is a good one, the children are contented and happy, and are making rapid improvement; there is ample accommodations for nearly double the number we now have (about 110 children) and I have represented the impolicy of permitting so many children belonging here to grow up in ignorance and vice, and urged that authority be granted me to gather up these children, and place them in school--in reply the Department have given me explicit and repeated instructions to confine my supervision to the children living on the reservation.

Any assistance from me therefore, though it would be gladly given, is entirely out of the question except so far as advice and moral suasion may go, and this, I shall of course be ready to proffer.

I sincerely hope these foolish Indians may be persuaded to permit their children to attend the school at Coeur de Alene, but the experience I have had with them, in that direction, leads me to doubt if many of the outside children can be secured, unless the Department rescinds its (in my opinion) unwise order, and permits compulsion to be used.

Very respectfully

R.H. Milroy

U.S. Indian agent.

Railroad-Transportation

North Yakima. Freight

Miscellaneous Letters Book,

1882-1885

April 25th, 1885

H.S. Huson, Esq. Engineer in Charge of N.P.R.R. Construction Co.,
North Yakima.

Dear Sir:

I am much annoyed by complains made by Indians of this Reservation that they are compelled to receive any freight they may order from Dalles or Portland, at North Yakima instead of at stations on the reservation, and several miles nearer.

This causes them very great inconvenience and no inconsiderable extra expense, as they are required to pay ware house charges at North Yakima. If possible, will you kindly arrange so that in future freight for Yakima Indians may be delivered at Stations on the Reservation, as they may select, and oblige.

Respectfully etc.

R.H. Milroy

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