

Yakama Agency

Minutes -

Of Council held at Agency

February 15th 1887.

Agent Priestley explained to Indians the law in regard to "Indians taking land in severally" And, that before anything could be done, it would be left to the Indians themselves by a commission appointed from Washington - They were advised to take the matter under consideration so that they might act or vote intelligently when the matter was properly brought before them

Indians were reminded that the Agent was the agent of the Government, and that he would gladly help them in all reasonable matters

Explained relation of Agency with Government.

Asked those present to make their wants or requests known - Was glad to have them express themselves freely -

Remarks by Joe Stoyne in native tongue -

Several others also spoke in Indian language

In reply to invitation to express themselves individually or otherwise, many came forward for a talk with Agent, & all expressed themselves as decidedly against a "survey" of their lands -

Eneas spoke of saw mill being built with pasturage money & thinks there should be a balance in this fund

& money due from R.R. was also spoken of

It was explained to Ind's. The object of Govt. in send
Surplus & Issues

Inds were assured that - They need suffer no uneasiness in regard to loss of any part of their lands - . And that the Govt had not decided in regard to new saw mill or repair Grist mill.

Standing of cattle herd also explained -

One Popnish Indian stated that he had lived on 4 or 5 different Agencies & had heard the law as claimed to be brought from Washington by a number of Agents - He was glad to hear the law as stated, or brought from Washington, by the present Agent - When heard the Washington law it would sink deep into his heart.

But every Agent gave him the law a little different - He had thought much on this matter - The second Agent was different from the 1st and the 3^d still a little different ~~all~~ ~~the~~ And so it was all the way through the list so he had made up his mind that there were a great many Washingtons