

Yakima, Ft. Simcoe Wash. Ter Aug 3d, 80

Hon R.E. Trowbridge

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit the following report of operations at this agency for the month of July. An immense amount of work has been done in the harvest, and hay fields and in building houses for the Indians.

I have kept a large force of men under the foreman of the farm at work in the meadows while another force has been engaged in cutting and threshing grain. I am sorry to say that the yield of our grain fields will be less than last year, but I trust with the help of the large amount of potatoes planted, we shall be able to meet all requirements including subsistence of the Plutes. While the harvest and haying has been attended to I have by no means let the work on Indian houses drag, p 521

five neat comfortable cottages have been built for Indian farmers who highly appreciate them. Indeed I know nothing that more powerfully influences the Indian to follow the manners and customs of the whites than to install them in a good comfortable house with sufficient land allotted for their cultivation.

For information relative to the sanitary condition I refer to the report of Dr. Kuykendall, the agency physician.

The school was continued till the last of the month when it closed for the annual vacation. Many of the larger boys were required by their parents to assist in haying and harvest and the attendance has been light. Still good progress has been made. The good accomplishments of this school cannot be measured solely by the number attending. Each scholar on his return to his home becomes a center of influence. Others who have not enjoyed the advantages of school, copy from him and thus pick up many of the customs of



civilized life.

In my report for June I mentioned the unsatisfactory condition of the Piutes and the bad influence of Sarah Wimmerica through her intense desire to return to Walheur. About the last of June she left the Reservation, since which time her people have gradually quieted down, till now I am glad to say they seem in a good measure to have recovered their former cheerfulness and content.

Very many of them are industriously at work and should nothing again occur to excite them, I am not without hope that they may regain something of their former interest in plans exclusively for their benefit. Still it must be apparent to any who will give the subject a moment's thought how great an injury both to them and the Yakimas is their present unsettled status. The amount placed in my hands for their benefit \$3,000, has been expended in the purchase of clothing, groceries, implements etc. which have been distributed to such as are willing to labor, except a number of old and infirm and school children who have received necessary clothing gratis.

On the 26th of July three of the buildings here, used as dwelling houses for employes were unfortunately burned. This is quite a serious matter for us, as it will be necessary to replace, at least two of them before the commencement of the winter

I cannot close this report without again calling the attention of the Department to the simple justice of reimbursing the Yakimas for subsistence furnished the Piutes. From my knowledge of the circumstances I entertain no doubt but we shall have the Piutes on our hands for at least a year. As it seems the intention of the Department to eventually return them to Walheur it is altogether useless to make any plans or adopt any measures looking to their permanent benefit.

We have therefore only to look forward to feeding them another year, and as our stock of large beef steers is becoming exhausted must take younger cattle or purchase beef for them. May I venture to express the hope that if they are to remain with us another year the Department will furnish funds to supply them with beef.

Very respectfully etc.

Wilbur.

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Piutes

Pt. Since Wash Ter. Aug 5, 1880

Hon R.E. Trowbridge, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash.D.C.

Sir: I respectfully ask approval of the enclosed reports of irregular employes for the months of Feb. and March, 1879. The services rendered under these reports were solely and exclusively for the benefit of the Piutes & "an ocks. These people arrived here in the winter and were left in a camp on the Toponish some 20 miles from the Agency, destitute of shelter, fire wood and subsistence. It was necessary to remove them to a point near the agency where subsistence might be issued to them and to provide them with a shelter from the inclement weather.

Our Yakima Indians who owned teams were employed for this purpose and paid at the usual rates from funds allotted for "support of Indians, recently located at Yakima Agency," under the head of civilization. Perhaps it would have been better to pay from funds allotted for the same purpose under the head of "incidental" but as a charge now would involve the entire reconstruction of my accounts for the first quarter of 1879 and as the civilization fund seems to be properly applicable to the payment of this account, I trust it may be approved. Very respectfully etc Wilb.r



Takima, Ft. Simcoe W.T. Aug 18, 1880

Capt. John Smith,

U.S. Indian Agent, Warm Springs Agency, Oregon, Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 9th inst. which would have received earlier attention but for my temporary absence from the Agency. In his letter notifying me of the arrangement relative to the location of certain Plutes at Warm Springs, the Commissioner informs me that the "Agent at the Warm Springs" is authorized to take charge of said Indians and I have no funds in my account applicable to the transportation of these Indians and further than above noted have received no instructions relative to them and this I should hardly consider sufficient to authorize me to take the course you suggest.

Perhaps it might be well for you to ask the Commissioner for more definite instructions P 553 and funds to carry out the purpose of the Government.

Very respectfully etc. Wilbur.

Police P. 534  
Perkins murder

Yakima . Ft. Simcoe Wash. Ter. Aug 23d, 1880

Hon R.E. Trowbridge, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash, D.C.

Sir:

In compliance with instructions contained in office circular No. 58 I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations and efficiency of the police force at this agency during the period covered by my annual report of this date.

The police force at this agency was first organized July 12th, 1879 (1878) and consisted of one Captain, 1 sergeant and six privates. Five privates were added in December of that year making the entire force consist of ten men. From its organization its good effect became apparent in the suppression of crime and the prompt arrest and punishment of offenders. When in the fall of 1878 the Perkins family was murdered p 535

by hostile Indians the police force of this agency was detailed to accompany the sheriff's posse of Yakima county sent to effect the arrest of the murderers. This result was accomplished largely I think I may say almost wholly through the instrumentality of our police, who displayed a degree of courage and capacity that elicited warm commendations from all the whites who accompanied them.

August 1st, 1879 the force was increased by order of the Department to 50 men. A short experience satisfied me that so large a force was not required at this agency and on my recommendation it was reduced to its original number, Sept. 30th of that year. Subsequently to the capture of the Perkins murderers the captain of the force, Meas, through misrepresentation of evil disposed whites ~~and~~ became dissatisfied and untrustworthy and was removed from the ~~and~~ ~~and~~ and the present efficient captain, John Lumley appointed in his stead. During the past year the force has been very efficient, offenders are promptly arrested and so certain does detection



and punishment follow the commission of crime that offenses have become much less frequent. Twenty three arrests have been made during the year, all except one for petty offenses which have been dealt with by the I<sub>n</sub>dians in council assembled.

Since their organization the polic at this agency have been of great benefit , not only in the detection and arrest of criminals

but in the prevention of crime and I now regard them as almost indispensable to the proper administration of the agency. Owing

to the resignation of two of its members, the force at present consists of only eightmen, but nominations to fill the vacancies have been made and it is proposed to keep it at its original strength of ten.

Veryrespt.

)Wilbur)

Yakima. Fort Simcoe, W.T. Aug 24th, 1880

Hon R.E. Trowbridge

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash. D.C.

Sir: I have the honor to return claims made against the Indians of this agency for depredations as follows;

B.B. Bishop, amount claimed \$1,558

Chevalier & Avery \$288

Wm. Wilson \$2255

Soe Solomon B. Anthony \$50

Which having been submitted to the Indians as required by rule 4 are hereby returned no one having any knowledge of them.

With regard to the claims of Bishop and Wilson for property destroyed during the attack on the Cascades in March, 1856, the Indians say that while, such an attack was actually made and probably participated in by Indians p 539 who were parties to the treaty with the Yakima nation, they have no knowledge of the facts alleged in these claims.

Wilson's claim does not appear to have been signed by the clerk of the District Court, but were it properly authenticated, no information can be gained from the Indians respecting the alleged depredations. Even if any of these Indians participated in that attack they are probably dead, and I can find no one who can give any information on the subject. The same remarks apply to the claim of Chevalier and Avery and Solomon B. Anthony.

Very respectfully etc.

(Wilbur)



Yakima, <sup>F</sup>rt Simcoe, W.T. Aug 25, 1880

Hon R.E. Trowbridge

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of circular No. 41 in reference to issuing beef from the block and the disposition to be made of the hides. In reference to the latter <sup>portion</sup> ~~00000000~~ of the circular directing that the hides be issued to Indians, I have to ask that an exception be made at this agency.

The money received from the sale of hides constitutes an important part of the miscellaneous funds of this agency and being disbursed as at present for the benefit of all the Indians accomplishes much more for them than could possibly be the case were the hides issued and sold by the Indians as directed in said circular.

There is no trader at this agency and our (p. 540) hides cannot be marketed short of The Dalles, some 65 miles distant. By disposing of a large number at a time the agent is enabled to secure much better prices than the Indians would be by taking a few at a time, and instead of the proceeds being used to purchase some article that might please the fancy but is practically useless to them, as would be the case did the Indians themselves market their hides, the funds received are now invested in agricultural implements or other articles of permanent benefits to them. I trust therefore that this agency may be excepted from the operations of the circular in this respect. Very respectfully etc.

(Wilbur)



Employee, Abe Lincoln 544  
(half breed)

Yakima, Fort Simcoe W.T. Sept. 2d

Hon R.E. Trowbridge

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash.D.C.

Sir:

In compliance with instructions from your office I have the honor to enclose a list of employees required at this agency for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881. Indian employees, and teachers being reported separate from regular white employees.

I have employed, subject to the approval by the Department, Abe Lincoln, a half-breed, formerly blacksmith at this agency, at an annual salary of \$900, being \$100 more than he formerly received. I trust this action may be approved. It would be entirely out of the question to employ a white man equally competent, for less than from \$1,000 to \$1,200 and his services are really worth the amount paid.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

James H. Wilbur.

Hon R.E. Trowbridge, Sept. 6, 1880

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash. D.C.

Sir:

I respectfully ask approval of purchases made by me in open market of two combined reapers and mowers at a cost of \$180 each, paid from miscellaneous funds in my hands not required for other purposes. One of the machines was purchased June 7th per voucher 18.2d for 1880 and the other Aug 21st. Insufficiency of agricultural implements to finish the harvest was the exigency requiring the purchase.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

James H. Wilbur

U.S. Indian Agent.



Ft. Simcoe, Wash.<sup>Ter.</sup> Aug 31st, 1880

Hon R.E. Trowbridge, Commissioner of  
Indian Affairs, Wash.D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the following report of operations at this agency for the month of August. Our Indians have been generally busy harvesting and threshing their grain which yields considerably better than I at one time expected, so that I trust we may have sufficient to afford subsistence not only to the Indians properly belonging here, but also for the Piutes and Pannocks located here as prisoners.

This being the season of the year when our Indians are accustomed to make their annual trip to the mountains to gather roots and berries for their winter consumption many have finished harvesting and threshing are absent from the agency for that purpose as authorized by the treaty. ✓

I have consequently for the present suspended the work on Indian houses and employed one force of white and Indian mechanics in building a dwelling house at the Agency to replace one of those destroyed by fire, while another party in charge of the carpenter are building a dwelling house barn, stables etc. at the hay ranch some 25 miles from the agency where our herds of cattle and horses range for the winter. During the present season the reapers and threshing machine and mowers, engaged in harvesting and threshing for the Indians, have been operated entirely by themselves, no white employees having been engaged in such work except in grain belonging to the Department. The school has been closed for the month to allow the children their annual vacation but it is my intention to open the Piute school early in Sept. and the boarding school as soon as the people return from the mountains. The health of the

building. Hay ranch  
berrying.



reservation during the month has been satisfactory, more particular details of which will p 548 will be found in the report of the agency physician.

In addition to the work on buildings heretofore mentioned, we have this month finished harvesting and threshing our grain, which gave a much larger yield than expected, being about 2,600 bushels of wheat, 360 of oats and 750 of barley. I have also had not less than 750 tons of hay cut and put up for winter use which it is believed will be sufficient to carry all our stock through the winter. Of course this amount of work has involved considerable expense, but the greater part has been defrayed from issues of annuity goods.

I am glad to say that the Piutes manifest a much more satisfactory disposition than formerly, many of them being steadily at work, cheerful and apparently contented. Such would be the condition of all were it not for a few discontented ones who seek to influence the minds of the more quiet with their fancied grievances and even these are becoming much more reconciled to their condition than formerly.

Our interpreter, Stick Joe tells me that in p 549 a conversation with Leggins, who is the life and soul of the discontent, Leggins declared that if the authorities in Washington indicated their wish that the Piutes remain at Yakima, they would be contented to stay, but that it was their belief that the Department desired them to return to Malheur and they were consequently unwilling to remain here.



It will be remembered that I have repeatedly urged the importance, both to the Piutes and Yakimas of some authoritative decision by the department regarding these Indians. Till such decision is made all efforts to improve and elevate them are utterly useless and vain. It is a grave error to suppose the option can be left with them to go or remain. They are like children, and like children look to those in authority for advice and guidance, the question of their location must sometime be settled by the department and the sooner the better for all concerned. They cannot long remain as they are now situated, a continual expense to the government and a constant source of anxiety and annoyance to all whites and Indians on the reservation and with no hope of any improvement till their location is decided on. May I venture to hope that this matter may receive early attention and some definite measures determined on with regard to these Indians.

Very respectfully, your etc.

(Wilbur)

Yakima

Fort Simcoe Wash. Ter Sept. 17, 1880

Hon R.E. Trowbridge,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash D.C.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 31st ultimo marked in the margin "A Washington 1633 1880" Enclosing commissions for members of the police force at this agency viz: "John L<sup>U</sup>mley, captain, Pierre and Thomas Cree, sergeants,

Respectfully, (Wilbur)

Fairchild.

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(Cancelled)

Fort Simcoe W.T. Sept. 22d 1880

Hon R.E. Trowbridge

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to your two letters of .. 31st marked in margin "Washington 279 1880 " and "A Washington W-1633 1880" respecting approving nominations for the police force at this agency I have the honor to remark . The first mentioned letter notifies me of the approval of Oitz and Oscar Mark nominated by me Jan. 22d to take effect Jan. 1st. As no approval of these nominations was made till after the close of the fiscal year, neither received any salary and Oitz in fact did not enter on the discharge of his duties.

I have therefore reported him discontinued Jany. 1st on the proper blank herewith provided. Oscar Mark (p. 574) has performed service as policeman and should have been paid, but as he was not approved received no pay and the balance of fund for pay of police was returned to the treasury \$75. I have therefore to request that sufficient of the fund be returned and remitted to



to me to pay the back salary of Oscar Mark for the 1st and 2d quarters \$1880 \$30 , as per the list of liabilities enclosed.

Referring to the second letters mentioned containing approval of the police force at this agency as submitted by me July 6 I notice the name of Sharlo has been overlooked. I have therefore submitted his name for approval on the same blank with Oitz discontinued.

Very respectfully etc.

James H. Wilbur, U.S. Indian Agent

(Not Sent)

Surveys A<sub>1</sub>lotments 575  
purchases. Mill.

Hon R.E. Trowbridge

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington D.C. Sept. 22, 1880

Sir:

I respectfully ask that a copy of the survey of this reservation be made and forwarded me for use in allotting lands to these Indians. All the stakes and other evidences of the former survey have been removed and it is important that the several allotments to the Indians conform as nearly as possible to the legal subdivisions which cannot be done without the plot of the government survey.

Very respectfully  
etc.

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Fort Simcoe W.T. Sept 22, 1880

Hon R.E. Trowbridge, Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington D.C. Sir:

I respectfully ask approval of the following purchases made by me on open market, viz: One surveyor's compass, chain and staff for \$50, paid from miscellaneous funds in my hands not required for other purposes. ~~Good~~ The exigency requiring the purchase was; controversies and disputes among the Indians respecting the boundaries of their farms on which they desired to make improvements and the obliteration of all the marks or evidences of the previous survey necessitating running new lines and allotment of farms to individual Indians that they might proceed to fence and build this season. Also, approval of purchase of 1 doz mill picks, best quality for \$24.25 a four foot proof staff \$22.25 cartage 25 delivered at The Dalles Oregon....exigency: Need of the articles immediately to dress the stones in the grist mill and put them in condition for ~~grinding~~ grinding this fall  
etc. Wilbur.



Fort Simcoe, W.T. Sept. 30, 1880

Hon R.E. Troubridge, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash.D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the following report of operations at this agency for September. The month has been characterized by great activity, especially in farming and building operations, more having been actually accomplished than during any other one month since I have been here. We have put in over 200 acres of wheat and have a force of Plutes cutting wood for winter use, while another party are cutting and hauling saw logs to the steam mill in readiness for the work of another spring.

I have built one good comfortable dwelling house at the agency for employes to replace one of those destroyed by fire in P 585 July while the carpenter with a large force of Indian mechanics has been engaged in building Indian houses of which no less than three besides one large farm house with barn and stable for the farmer in charge of the cattle ranch have been built this month.

There are by no means cheap temporary structures but good, well finished houses that for the purpose intended would be considered first class anywhere. Many of our Indians availing themselves of the privilege secured them by treaty have been away this month to the camas grounds and the mountains gathering roots and berries for winter use. Many however have declined to avail themselves of this right and have remained at home steadily at work fencing in and breaking new ground and generally improving their farms. I have issued over 100 cows and calves to a number of those who are best prepared to care for them and it is my intention some time this fall to make a further issue of from one to two hundred p 586 head. In consequence of the absence of many of the Yakimas the boarding school has not been opened this month.

Simcoe, Oct. 6th, 1880

Capt. John Smith, U.S. Indian Agent, Warm Springs, Or.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of a letter from the commissioner of Indian affairs in reference to the removal of Oitz and other Indians from this agency to Warm Springs, directing me to correspond with you and stating that you would be at the Columbia river to take charge of them on their arrival there.

I have received telegraphic orders of a later date to report in Washington for consultation in reference to this and other matters pertaining to the Indians of this coast and shall start immediately, ie, as soon as I can make the necessary preparations for the trip and (p 594) shall be compelled to defer the transfer of these Indians for a short time.

I will give you due notice when I will send Oitz and party to the Dalles so that you may be ready to take charge of them there. With highest regards, I remain, very respectfully yours etc

Wilbur.

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Hon R.E. Trowbridge, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash. D.C.

Sir: Referring to your communication of the 18th ultimo in reference to the transfer of Oitz and other Piutes and Bannocks from here to Warm Springs Agency, I have the honor to state that at a council of the Piutes called yesterday Oitz and others expressed themselves as preferring to remain here for the present. I have therefore communicated these facts to the agent at Warm Springs and requested him to defer action till I can consult with you in person.

Very respectfully, etc.

James H. Wilbur.



Wilbur at Wash.

Conditions on Agency 598  
Oct. 1880

Yakima, Ft. Simcoe, Oct. 20, 1880

Rev. James H. Wilbur, U.S. Indian Agent,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear brother:

Presuming that before this reaches you, you will have left San Francisco, I address this letter to care of the commissioner of Indian Affairs. I wrote you in my last in reference to the loss of sugar in bringing in. I do not think so much was lost as I then thought. Not having received the vouchers from McFarland and French I do not yet know what articles were purchased. I enclose a list of purchases for which approval is needed. Invoices for some ten or fifteen tons of freight has reached us and we thought it better perhaps not to send teams till (P 599) more freight arrived and then Miller thought he could be spared to go out and load them. It seemed to me that this was the best plan.

The school promises well, 34 are there now and by the close of the week ~~one~~ we expect the number to be from 45 to 60 though not certain how many will come. Finished digging potatoes yesterday, there was in all about 1,800 bushels, though as they are not all hauled we do not know the exact number of bushels till they are got in.

Shusta

~~Squatter~~ declines to act as policeman.

Saturday the Indians are going to consult and submit the names of ~~30 good~~ 2 good men in place of Shusta and Hoptowit. I think Mr. Cox will improve on acquaintance. He seems to understand his business and everybody likes him. I am much afraid Sam Pedderson is going into consumption. He is still at (600) work but complains of pain in the side. Perhaps by not putting in any heavy work on him he will get along.

Bro. Kuykendall is very busy in the shop as a number of wagons are



coming in for repairs. The Nez Perce man is at work in the blacksmith shop and pleases Alec ? very much. Everything is going on all right and all seem to strive to do the best possible in your absence.

Your ~~refer~~ letter in reference to the deposit a French and Co bank came to hand. We shall have to have some hardwood lumber and the doctor says there are a few articles he cannot do without I suppose we can pay from miscellaneous fund as I am going to use these annuity supplies to carry on all the work this fall and winter and pay off what is now due and I think it can be done without touching a dollar of money.

Still I think it would be best to wait till we see what transportation bills we have (\$ 601) to pay before using any money to pay for other purposes. I mail today the accounts for the 3d quarter. I should have sent them a week ago but your absence throws a great many things on me and my time is to a considerable extent occupied with matters that you formerly attended to.

We all pray that you may have a safe and pleasant and profitable journey and that Sister Wilbur may have a happy time in visiting friends and acquaintances of her youth. My wife desires to be especially remembered to Sister Wilbur and wishes me to say that she will write soon. Everything is pleasant and all send love and best wishes. God bye. May God bless and keep you both.

Very respectfully  
J.W.(?) Fairchild.