

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

Salem, Oregon,

June 1, 1859

Edw. R. Geary, esq.,

Supt. Indian Affairs:

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following estimates of funds for operations of my district for the quarter and year ending June 30, 1859 to wit--

For pay of agents in Washington territory, three hundred and seventy-five dollars \$375.00

For general incidental expenses for Indian service in Washington territory, " four thousand dollars \$4,000

For defraying expenses for removal and subsistence of Indians of Washington territory, six thousand dollars \$6,000

For adjusting difficulties and preventing outbreaks among Indians of Washington Territory, one thousand dollars \$1,000

Respectfully submitted

Very respectfully

Your obt. servant

R.H. Lansdale

Indian Agent, Washington Territory.

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

White Salmon Ind. Agency, W.T.

June 1st, 1859

Sir:

May I ask to be favored with a copy of the Yakima Treaty now on file in your office.

Tomorrow, June 2d, I remove this Indian Agency to Fort Simcoe, W.T. where my office as Indian agent has been officially directed to be established. To that place you will please direct all official letters, via Dalles, Oregon.

Very Respectfully,

Your obt. servant

R.H. Lansdale

Indian Agent W.T.

To Edward R. Geary, esq.

Supt. Indian Affairs

Salem, Oregon.



Wash'ton supty. Roll No. 17

Salem, Oregon

June 1, 1859

Ed. R. Geary, esq.

Supt. Indian Affairs

Sir- I was instructed by your predecessor to break up and abandon the present Indian Agency of Columbia River District Washington Territory located at White Salmon and to remove my agency to Fort Simcoe and establish it on the reservation lately established by the ratification of the Yakima Treaty.

In order to make ~~this~~ the subsistence of Indians in my district as cheap as possible, I have also commenced farming operations on said reservation, <sup>as</sup> ~~00000~~ instructed , purchased crops of grain growing in the field and put in the ground for the use of the troops occupying Fort Simcoe previous to its abandonment by the military and its being turned over to the Indian Department.

These two undertakings, the removal of the agency and the carrying on of agricultural operations, necessarily make my expenditures heavy and they as ~~here~~ here stated as explaining my estimates of this date of funds necessary for the balance of the current year.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your obt. servant.

R.H. Lansdale, Indian Agent, W.T.

Wash'ton Suptcy. Coll No. 17

Fort Simcoe, W.T.

16th May, 1859

Copy

In pursuance of instructions from General Harney dated Head Quarters Department of Oregon April 18th, 1859, I have this day turned over all the public buildings at this post to R.H. Lansdale, esq. Indian Agent for Washington Territory, who is authorized by the superintendent of Indian affairs to take possession of the same for the use of the Indian Department

J.J. Archer,

Capt. 9th Infy.

Commanding



Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

Fort Simcoe, W.T.

May 16th, 1859

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Capt. Archer of 9th Infy. U.S.A. in command at this post has as ordered by Gen. Harney and as arranged by the general and yourself, turned over all the public buildings at this place to the Indian Department as will appear by copy of the transfer herewith forwarded. I have provided for taking care of the buildings untill [sic] such time as I shall be able to transfer the Indian Agency from White Salmon.

Lt. Alexander of the army with 15 men remains here temporarily in charge of the military stores till they can be removed.

Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servant.

R. H. Lansdale

Indian Agent, W.T.

Col. J. W. Nesmith

Supt. Indian Affairs,

Salem, Oregon.

Wash't'n Suptcy. Colville. Roll No. 20

Fort Dalles, Oregon, May 5, 1857

Colonel:

Your letter of the 28th ulto inclosing the appointment of George Montuos as interpreter at Colville was received by the last mail.

Permit me to thank you for the prompt and kind manner you have accorded to my request made through Governor Stevens.

I believe George Montuos is now in British Columbia but I have had several letters written to him informing him of his appointment and he will doubtless accept and be at Colville as soon as he can reach there.

I accept the appointment of Acting Agent and will endeavor to perform the duty in a ~~satisfactory~~ satisfactory manner and give you all the information you may require for your annual report.

The report referred to in your letter and the copy of regulations have not been received.

I ~~have~~ leave here on the 14th inst. and hope to be in Colville valley by the 10 of June.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your obt. servt.

Pinkney Lugenebeel

Brevet. Maj. Capt 9th Inf.

Col. J.W. Nesmith,

Supt. Indian Affairs, Salem, Oregon.



during the month. There are rumors to the effect that the Spokanes are becoming very much dissatisfied.

Mr. McDonald passed down the river not long since on his way to the sound, but I did not see him. You will probably see him as he passes through Olympia.

Col. Craig is entirely out of supplies. I am ready to start a small train to him as soon as I receive some flour.

In reference to supplies for Q4 the 2nd quarter I think there is both a surplus of goods at White Salmon sufficient to supply ~~that~~ Sub Agent Craig and myself.

As for provisions I trust the amount which you ~~intended~~ instructed Capt. ~~Craig~~ Cain to forward to me, namely 24,000 pounds flour, 100 pounds coffee, 500 pounds sugar, 500 pounds rice and 100 gals. molasses will be a sufficient supply for the 2nd quarter unless it should become necessary to .... the Indians and supply them regularly which .... may not be the case.

Respectfully

Your obt. servant

A. H. Robie

Special Ind. Agent

Wash. Territory.

by the Department so as to require their removal to any particular point I think they can be moved without difficulty.

I have purchased for them a few spades and hoes and some potatoes and have on hand some seed which I will issue to them the first of next month. I purchased them here as I thought it would be entirely too late to plant by the time I could get them by requisition.

...As regards matters in the Yakima I have authorized Mr. ~~Ille~~ I.C. Geer who is now living at Simcoe to temporarily take charge of the the friendly Yakimas and report to me further. I think Mr. Geer a reliable man and trust hereafter to get reliable information from that quarter.

About the 22 23rd inst. Skloom visited Fort Simcoe and turned over to the Q master some 5 or 6 horses in part payment for the horses and cattle he took last winter and promised faithfully to pay for all.

Ow-why is at ~~Kikx~~ Kititash plain as near as I am able to learn. He has with him about 200 of his people. He cannot be considered friendly. He has visited Fort Simcoe but once since the troops have been station there which was about the 1st of February. He promised to come ~~xxx~~ back again soon but nothing has been seen of him since.

There are 600 in the vicinity of Simcoe as I reported March 2. Their general deportment is friendly but you know enough of their character to know that their intentions cannot be judged by their professions. No supplies have been issued to them for some three weeks past. They are subsisting entirely upon roots and are doing very well. They are not suffering for want of clothing or provisions. I cannot conceive that anything can be done for them to advantage in the way of farming until permanent arrangements can be made and their reservation established.

I have not heard anything reliable from the Spokane country



Letters from the Dalles: Roll No. 17

Office Special Indian Agent, W.T,  
Dalles, March 31st, 1857

Isaac I. Stevens

Gov. Supt. of Indian Affairs, Olympia W.T. Sir:

...No previous return having been rendered for the two previous months, I cannot make one and any accuracy for this but will think that I have received during the month about 14,000 lbs of flour and 30 lbs salmon all of which together with the beef purchased has been issued to friendly Indians and employees with the exception of 1200 lbs flour forwarded to Sub Agent Craig

All my supplies have been received from Sub Agent Townsend except a small amount from Noble and those purchased.

I have made arrangements with Capt. Cain for what supplies I might require during the month as he told me that he had arrangements by which he could purchase more ~~xxx~~ economical than I and would forward with dispatch on my ~~xxxx~~ requisition but he has invariably disappointed me. I have received no supplies from him up to this date.

About the 8th of March I was compelled to purchase some 6,000 lbs of beef as the Indians were actually suffering and nothing else could be had at that time.

I have <sup>now</sup> ~~xxxxx~~ given them permission to range about roots, cultivate their grounds etc. I think that during the next month they will need but a small amount of supplies.

I have talked with the different chiefs frequently during the past month and have every reason to believe that they are reliable friends of the whites and will exert all their influence to preserve harmony among their people.

Should hostilities be resumed again I think they could be concentrated at Dalles on short notice or should say action be taken

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

Vancouver, W.T. March 4, 1857

Gov. I.I. Stevens...

4th graph p. 1....

An good reason I had for the purchase of the hard bread I had not the money to pay for flour and could not get it on time at all at that time. I then believed with some hard bread and sugar and molasses, rice, peas for supes, they could ~~gixxy~~ be got through the winter without much hurt the severity of the weather demanded the latter also ~~consulting~~ consulting acopy of Laws Regulations of the Indian Bureau 1850.

Page 48, Sec. 39 reads as follows, "The ration will consist of a pound of fresh beef or fresh porke, or of threefourths of a pound of salt porke and of threefourths of a quart of corn or bran(?) meal or of one pound of whea flour for each person and of four quarts of salt for every one  $\frac{1}{100}$  hundred persons," believing that keeping within the bounds and meaning of the above 39 section

.....



Washt'on Sup'tch. Roll 17

Vancouver W.T.

February 20th , 1857

Gov. I.I. Stevens:

Sir in reply to your letter of Feby 6th I ~~have~~ never had suggested the friendly Indians that you granted permission to remain at the Dalles to come to the White Salmon it was those who had been engaged in the war and had come in on the terms laid down by the Indian Dept. I should myself prefer the Dalles Indians of W.T. to remain where they are if they can be depended on to be friendly and I think they can from what I can learn, as their position would enable them to give much information as to the movements of the hostile Indians and the further removal from temptation and the influences the Indians who have come in the better. I never held any other views and ... in the subject.

In regards to the monthly reports in your letter of the 4th of Feby. I will have them full as you direct and will place before you the probable expenses of the first quarter of 1857.

I have sent forward my returns and you will receive them by the mail that brings you this letter.

Most truly and respectfully

Yours etc.

J. Cain, Indian Agent.

Wash'ton Suptcy. "oll 17

Vancouver, W.T. Feb 3, 1857

Governor I.I. Stevens:

Sir your several letters came to hand today bearing date Jany 21 and Feb 2d before this time the reports have reached you for myself and Local Agent Townsend, up to Feby 1st. In the future I will see that they made in due time [sic] As for Agent Noble I am looking for his returns. I learn that he has been absent endeavoring to help get a supply train to Col. Steptoe look for his accounts early. As soon as Capt. Robie gets to the Dalles the Dept. I hope will not want Mr. Noble assistance in the discharge of any of its dutys and I think matters can be made to go on much better order.

I remain yours

Most truly J. Cain Indian Agent

C.R. D

P.S.

All the rumors that reach this place ~~and~~ clearly indicates that the Indians will commence the war again at an early day. I give these things as I get them but I think there is much foundation for the reports and look to the month of March as the time the Indians will begin the war again.

Truly I... J. Cain.

N.B. Muchh of the reports may be any foundation [sic] but I shall give them to from time to time with facts as I get them

J. Cain



Washt'on Suptch. Roll 17

Vancouver W.T. December 17, 56

Gov. I.I. Stevens: Sir in reply to your letter of the 6th of December directing me to report to you the probable amount of funds would be required to meet the expenses of the district.

I have the honor to submit the following facts from the best information I am in possession of. There is at this time at the White Salmon reservation from 1,000 to 1200 Indians and about 1000 at the Dalles reservation and from 1,000 to 1200 at the Simcoe Valley, making in round numbers 3300 to 3500 and from information I am have the numbers may be augmented to 4,000, if so it will consume a larger amount of provisions.

I estimate that it will take at least 1500 pounds of flour per day, making say for Janry 46500 or 233 bls at a cost of say \$550 to \$700 making \$1631.00. It will take at least one beef a day costing say \$900 \$90.00 per head \$2790. Bills of freight per months will amount to \$1,000.

This amount by three the months of Janry, Feb and March will make \$16263.00.

Bill of clothing to meet the wants \$7,000. Some additional contingent compensation in putting up some 10 buildings at White Salmon reservation amounting to perhaps some \$500 to \$700 Amount \$23963.00. To foot up all the outstanding bills of the Indian Dept. and to place supplies at the Dalles and White Salmon to meet the demand and enough in case the river should close in will take from \$12,000 to \$15,000 on the acct of funds from the Dept and by the 1st of next month... .. J. Cain, Indian Agent

C.R. District

will be made to him to be disposed of to Indians at the Dalles other than those who had promises from you to remain on the camping ground you designated for them. All who had or should come in and surrender send them to the White Salmon and look to that point for provisions.

One great object I have always had was to get them from the influence of the Dalles out of the reach of liquor and more remote from the hostile Indians and impress their minds favorably in the mean time. And the post of the Dalles, and the Simcoe Valley and Cascades with a block house here at the White Salmon reservation it will enable the Indian Dept. to protect those who do really want to remain on terms of friendship with whites and convince their minds and at the same time you feed and protect them against the hostile Indians. [Sic] It is a living argument to the destitute who are yet hostile and will do much to induce them to come in and comply with the terms of the Indian Dept. I will look close to the accounts of the agent at the Dalles as well as others.

I have no doubt that there will be from 3,500 to 4,000 Indians to give food to before spring opens again. I am told many of them are in a starving condition east of the Cascade mountains and coming in and coming in small bands. My own opinion is now that the war is to a great extent over now in all that part of the country.

From the most recent information the gold mines at Colville is proving rich and good digging and a number of persons have come in with large amounts that fact made known by spring and men will go in numbers and in a manner to put an end to the war. Thousands and thousands will come from California and go Indians or no Indians.

I remain yours most respectfully

J. Cain, Indian agent.



Vancouver, W.T. Dec. 12, 1856

Washton Suptch. Nov 17

Gov. I.I. Stevens:

Sir your letter of the 5th came to hand on the 11th in reference to the action of local agent Noble I gave him no instructions as to the disposition he has made of the flour to go to the Yakima country and as a matter of case to a certain extent and for a time defeats the consumation (?) of bringing them to the White Salmon Reservation. I find it difficult to get his accounts or information from him in time to enable me to place before you such information as I deem proper and important. I have called his attention by letter to the fact and up to this time has proved of no avail. I called on him also for a statement of his business commencing from 1st of Oct to the last of the month. I have not received it I wanted to place before you the facts you have called on me for to wit the cost of the Indian appropriations for each month. I can not do it if persons incharge of the business will not transmit them when called on in a proper manner.

I had hoped before this time to have been able to have given you the estimates and will endeavor to do so very soon as I look for Col. Shaw here today or tomorrow.

From information received from Mr. Noble he has some 900 Indians. At ~~xxxx~~ White Salmon. Mr. Townsend reports about 1000 to 1100 and from the last information I can get some 1200 in the Simcoe valley making in round numbers something like 3,000 to 3300 all told up to this time and a prospect of more coming in. In view of this state of things I have shipped and am at this time shipping flour and clothing to the White Salmon to agent Townsend before the river closes and be ready to meet the great demands if the river should close. I have by letter notified Agent Noble by letter that no more shipments

Wash'ton Suptch. Roll 17

Salem, Oregon, March 19, 1858

Sir:

I hereby make application to you for a leave of absence from my official duties for the term of sixty days, to take effect from the 1st day of May next.

Respectfully, your obt. svt.

J. Cain, Indian Agent

C.R.D.

J.W. Wesmith, esq.

Supt. Indian Aff. O & W.



have him come to the Agency that I might see him and know his plans. On the 21st inst. I had an interview with him and learned from him that he intended to come upon the reservation and preach the Indians that he had taken steps to build a mission house a mile or two from the reservation where he expected to have a school and instruct the Indians young and old. I told him he could not be permitted to come upon the reserve as a teacher unless he had papers from the Supt. of Indian Affairs, or Commissioner, that his coming upon the reservation from time to time and not reporting himself or his business to the Agency was highly unx censurable--that while he had an undeubte right to build a mission for the whites off the reserve, he would not be permitted to take the Indians away from the reservation. My knowledge of Indian character induces me unwaveringly to believe that two teachers upon an Indian reservation differing as much as the Catholic and Protestant can never work anyt hing but evil.

Please instruct me upon this subject.

Yours truly, James H. Wilbur, U.S. Ind. Agent W.T.

"ash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 17

Office Yakima Indian Agency  
Fort Simcoe, Sept. 23rd, 1857

[found with  
Roll 17, 1867]

Genl. T.J. McKenny,  
Supt. Indian Affairs W.T.

Sir:

I have to inform you of an attempt on the part of a priest of the Catholic order to get up a division, and dissatisfaction among the Indians of this agency, and the course I have pursued with said priest.

His name (as I understand him) is St. O'Neal-this may not be strictly correct. H came upon this reservation about four or five months ago and quartered himself with the Indians of the reservation for ten or fifteen days. During this time he was having secret meetings with them, in which he was telling them that the teachings of Mr. Wilbur was good for nothing and that he had come to tell them the truth and what would be good for them for this world and the world to come. As soon as I learned he was upon the reservation I went to the place where he had been holding meetings to see him, but he had left that morning. When I was away three weeks ago gathering the Indians and getting in annuities the same priest came again among the Indians and wherever he found them, on the mountains or in the valley he was repeating the same things that "Mr. Wilbur's teaching was good for nothing," and urging those who had been loyal to such instruction to turn away from me and open their ears and hearts to what he was saying to them and then they would not go down to the fire world.

Having good evidence from my interpreter and others that he had said these things to them, and that his teaching tended to evil, making clans and divisions among them, I went to see him and found he had gone from the reservation. I left word that if he came back among them to



Letters from the Dalles: Roll No. 17

Office Special Indian Agent

Dalles, July 11, 1857

Sir:

Owing to recent conditions [?] all Indians in the Yakama district will be considered hostile and under the exclusive direction of the military except the Wishams \_ Clickitats which tribes will be under my immediate charge. You will therefore .... any authority you may have heretofore exercised over my Indians within the district.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

A.H. Robie

Special Indian Agent

Dalles, W.T.

I.C. Geer, esq.

Fort Simcoe, W.T.

Head quarters Fort Simcoe W.T.

July 31, 1857

"A true copy"

2nd Lieut 5th Infy.

Post Adjt.

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

White Salmon Indian Agency, W.T.

June 30, 1858

See pg 2 archer  
letter cross  
Reference  
(Simcoe)  
Owhi

Sir:

Since the opening of spring, so many events have transpired to excite the Indians of my district and to alienate them from the whites that I judged it best to visit them in their own camps and ascertain by personal ~~observations~~ observations the probability of any of them taking arms against us.

I started on the trip early in the current month, intending to proceed up the Columbia river on the northside, and hold communication with all Indians it should prove safe for me to visit. I did not proceed far however, the leading chiefs near this agency and as far up the river as ~~the~~ opposite the mouth of the John Days river warned me of danger and dissuaded me from going, saying that if anything befel my party, the friendly chiefs and their people would be censured for allowing me to proceed beyond those whose ~~friendship is~~ friendship is ~~doubted~~ doubted. The whites also, at Dalles, both military and others cautioned me not to adventure far beyond the Indians well known to be friendly.

As I proceeded up the river I soon found it would be impossible to advance far. The whole country was alarmed by rumors of what was to be speedily and surely done by the whites so that though wholly unaffected myself by such reports, every other person of my party became thoroughly alarmed and it became evident I should have to go alone if I went ~~outside~~ outside of well known friendly villages.

In this state of things all I could do was to call a consultation of the friendly chiefs, and leading men of the Columbia river tribes and assure myself of their continued friendship and good



dispositions. At the onset of his investigation it gives me great gratification to be able to say that the good will and peaceable disposition of those chiefs and tribes who have received benefits from the president, presents of clothing and agricultural seeds and tools may be fully relied upon.

A far different state of affairs exists amongst those who have never been fully pacificated since the war of 1855. So determinedly hostile are some of them toward the whites, that on the 20th inst. a large party of miners, some 79 men, with 94 pack animals, was proceeding peacefully, cautiously and ... all causes of offense, towards the northern gold fields, they were fired upon by a large number of Indians, just beyond the mouth of the Wenacha river. The whole party of men and animals would have been destroyed had <sup>Skamaw</sup>~~Skamaw~~ and his ~~00~~ ~~00000000~~ people who live at the crossing, proved faithful to their promises of friendship for the whites and afforded protection and assistance to the miners in crossing the Wenacha and starting them on their return towards Fort Simcoe.

Skamaw's friendship was unavailing to protect them after leaving his immediate village, for this party had to sustain a fatiguing retreat to Fort Simcoe, which took seven days, during four of which, marching day and night, they maintained a running ~~and~~ fight with harassing bands of Indians. This retreat was skilfully and courageously conducted and was very successful; the miners losing one man killed, five wounded with twenty six horses and most of their packs of provisions and goods lost whilst they did good execution upon the Indians, killing 10 or 12 amongst whom is the notorious Quintimelah, the man who, of all others may be said to have been most hostile to the whites, besides taking few horses.

The Indians engaged in this affair was Owhi's band of Yakimas, the Tsle d'pere Indians, and other bad Indians who are always hovering

about here and there, always ready to pounce upon the unprotected to rob and kill whenever they dare.

I have to asks you to use your influence in securing the  
 ..... punishment and lasting .... of all such bad Indians in my  
 district as are constantly seeking to disaffect the friendly ,  
 and preying upon many of our own people who have the undoubted right  
 to travel and explore in those countries subject to our own dominion.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your obedient sevt.

R.H. Lansdale.

Ind. Agt. W.T.

J.W. Newsmith, esq.

Supt. Ind. Affrs.

Wash. and Or. Tys.



Wash'ton Suptch. Roll No. 17

White Salmon, Agency

Thursday, Aug. 18, 1858

Sir:

A short dispatch received at Dalles yesterday from Lt. Alexander A.O. Q. .... Fort Simcoe, states that Lt. Allen who made an attack on an Indian ranch or village upon the upper Yakima; the Lt. fell in the first fire and never spoke; four Indians were killed, 50 prisoners were taken, also 50 horses & 20 head of cattle "this is the purport and these are nearly the exact words used by Lt. Alexander. He did not say where Maj. Garnett is, or how many men Lt. Allen had, but it is known he was assigned to command of 30 mounted men to act as flankers, pincers, etc.

I learn today from Mr. Thesum (?) of Dalles aboard Str. Hassalow, that yesterday a detachment went from Fort Dalles to apprehend stock thieft at De Shutes for many bad outrageous acts lately perpetrated by him. I learn from same authority that Col. Wright had been heard from at Col. Steptoe's old battle grounds.

In haste

R.H. Lensdale

To. Col. Nesmith

L.A. Salem.