

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs 1848-73 Roll 12 Microcopy 2

1852- No. 20

This chief, the Yellow Serpent wishes to see the S.I. A for Oregon, if any there be. He the Yellow Serpent, let A. Dart have a horse and a boat (boat?) for which, he promised to pay him when ever he, the said Yellow Serpent, should come to Oregon City

N. Olney

Dalles, 11, Feb. 1852

correctness of said testimony? Ans. I fully concur in said testimony.

Signed Jas E. Alsop

Before leaving this subject (The claim on the government for property at the Dalles, I would call your attention to the great difference between the amount paid or to be paid by the American Board and the amount (\$4,130) charged in the account. The purchase was made within a few days of the time the massacre took place, therefore it is reasonable to suppose that there could be any change in the value of the property. It should also be observed that the property taken away by the claimants or their agents does not appear to be credited) Sic) in the account I can see no justice in the charge for cultivating and making an earth embankment (for a fence) upon grounds ceded to the mission by an act of Congress.

Upon entering the ground the grounds once occupied by the flourishing mission of Dr. Whitman, the mind is deeply impressed with the melancholly stillness that prevails in this upper valley of the "alla" alla. Nowhere is heard the voice of the savage, nor are their cattle or horses to be seen, as they are not allowed to graze upon this portion of their immense territory. All is still as the murdered ones who sleep on an eminence some twenty rods to the east of the ruins. I visited the place with P.B. Whitman, a nephew of the late Dr. W. who resided here some four years and was able to describe everything as it formerly was. From examination made here and at the Clear Water Station I was fully convinced as before stated that many charges in the account were much much too high. The "grist mill" as it is called at Waillatpu is a very small affair, not at all entitled to the name and would not have cost in the States three hundred dollars. I think it may have cost five hundred dollars. The sawmill charge I think is equally too high. In regard to the cattle charged for in the account it seems from the statements of William Craig and Robert Newell that in the early part of 1848 H.H. Spalding sold to these gentlemen all the cattle belonging to this mission and that at Clear Water and



and received a sum that was agreed upon as full for the cattle that could be found.

The sheep, or a large portion of them were driven down from the upper country by P.B. Whitman and delivered to Mr. Spalding.

A charge is made of fifteen hundred dollars for merchandise not opened, no invoices having been ~~received~~ seen, no knowledge of the cost of the goods in Boston; why is fifteen hundred named? Why not say two hundred or even two thousand in absence of all knowledge of their value or cost.

The foregoing statements are made to show the great difficulty there is in getting at a correct estimate of what ought to be paid in this case. I am fully persuaded that the American board have no knowledge of any error in making out this account. I am informed they have repeatedly written to those having this p 59 matter in charge here to guard against overcharging for anything. Whatever conclusion therefore may be arrived at as to what is just and proper to be allowed on this claim, no censure should be cast upon the American Board of Missions.

In reporting upon the Clear Water mission property I have to state that nothing appears to have been destroyed by the Indians at this place. These Nez Perces informed me that they would protect (sic) Mr. Spalding and family ~~and~~ had they remained at the station under any and all circumstances

I cannot therefore see any reason why the government should be held responsible for this property not destroyed any more than for the property of Messrs Walker & Ellis Mission Station in the Spokane Country.

I do not suppose I am called upon for an expression of opinion as to what obligations may rest upon the government to make good the losses set forth in these accounts. It has been said that a treaty was once made with the Nez Perce tribe by Dr. White who acted as Indian Agent in Oregon in which the Indians agreed to protect the mission establishments in their country and therefore if the mission property was lost or destroyed they would be bound to make it good. Admitting this to be true I do not see why they should be



held responsible held responsible for property abandoned and left to decay, without the least effort on the part of the owners to take care of it. It may be said the ~~missionaries~~ missionaries were compelled to leave their station in obedience to an order issued by the then existing government of Oregon. This order I believe was issued early in 1848, not until after Messrs Spalding, Walker and Eels had left their stations. How far the general government is bound to make good, losses p 60 sustained by the abandonment of property in consequence of an act of the Oregon government at that day is I trust no part of my duty to determine.

That  
The serious losses have been sustained by the Mission establishments in upper Oregon there cannot be a doubt but that the Indians now occupying that part of the country should be held responsible for them would in my judgment be inflicting a wrong upon them, that the American board with its strict sense of justice could not readily consent to. I am however of the opinion that the general government should pay a just and reasonable sum and inasmuch as there is granted one square mile of land to each of these stations which embraces all the property not destroyed I would think that twenty thousand dollars would be a reasonable amount to be paid on the whole of their accounts.

(Undated and unsigned) but precedes letter of date,  
April 11, 1852.)

1852 No. 48

Dalles, June 17th 1852

Hon J.P. Gaines, Gov. of Oregon:

Sir: A number of Indians of this place have desired me to inform them if they would ever be paid for horses a cattle(sic) used by the whites during the Cayuse war, as some of them are going to the Willamette valley I have advised them to call and see you in reference to it.

Those reported to me as having due them for animals are Kashkilla's wife, one mare & colt, a boy 5 horses, Eamiuse, 7 horses, Esquean 2 horses and Yafainets brother sister and a girl ? horses, they say they had due bills for them but they have lost them. Mark one of the Indians going down will exhibit to you the papers given to his brother Homas, the former chief Teclie also 3 horses

Very respectfully etc

I.I. Woods, 1st Lt 1st arty.

Comdy post

P.S. I should be pleased to see you at my post at any time it might suit your convenience to favor us with a visit you shall find the latch string at though there may be but little within.

I.I.W.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs 1848-73 Roll 12, Microcopy 2  
1852 No. 50

Dalles 17th June 1852

Gov. Jno . P. Gaines:

Dear Sir: I intended coming down to Oregon City to  
see you (sic) and have a talk with you , but I have had a series spell of  
sickness and am not able to travel so I must defer my visit until an other  
time and content myself by writing you a letter by my brother.

My people have held a council and after talking the matter over they have  
requested me , as their lawful chief , to make the following request  
of you.

Living as we do , <sup>on</sup> ~~and~~ the high road between the Wallamette & the  
States, we are liable to have diseases of all kinds brought amongst us  
by the emigrants & we are also liable to the diseases incident to the  
country, besides that loathsome disease brought amongst us by soldiers &  
sailors called venereal.

We have no knowledge of medicine and therefore have no means of stopping  
the ravages of the numerous diseases which are fast sweeping us unto  
eternity-- Now to remedy this evil and save us from entire extermination

(endorsement ) Kaskillah 1852, Chief of the Dalles ~~Indians~~  
Indians June 17 /52 Received June 25th Letter requesting ~~of~~ the  
Gov. to send a doctor among his people]

Next letter is No. 51, 1852. Second page or additional pages not  
immediately following and no explanation as usually attends in typed  
explanatory note. ~~such as~~ such as "this copy not located, but 100-100-100  
is copy of one found in such and such a place.



1852 No. 52 1/2

Circular

Department of the Interior Office Indian  
Affairs, May 31, 1852

Sir: Enclosed are printed forms for a census and also for vocabularies and numerals of the several Indian tribes under your jurisdiction which you will please fill up and return to this office at the earliest practicable time.

I also forward to you copies of the historical inquiries which have been prepared under an act of Congress to obtain more complete information than is now possible respecting the various subjects embraced by them. Reliance is placed on your judgment and experience in forwarding such replies on the manners and customs, ideas and religious opinions and practices of the Indians together with their past and present condition and relations to each other, as it may be in your power to procure.

Whatever tends to illustrate their origin general history, prospects of success or decline will be received with interest, but you are requested to take particular care that any traditions transmitted may have the sanction of your best judgment that they have been deemed directly from the Indians. Facts vaguely reported by persons little acquainted with the Indians have led to serious misconceptions.

If there are tumuli or other works or remains of an antiquarian character in the area of country possessed by the Indian tribes which are ascribed to their ancestors, or to other tribes formerly living in the districts now occupied by them, I will thank you to furnish drawings and descriptions of such vestiges. Please to note in all such cases whether such works appear to confirm or not with the customs etc with the present or former tribes.

In fine this office is desirous to obtain as full and complete accounts of the numbers languages etc. of each of the Indian tribes of the newly acquired territories of the United States as can now be given, and the subject is presented to your special attention.

It is recommended that the collection of information acquired be connected as much as possible with the ordinary exercise of the duties of your office. Special journeys for the object to remote distances are not contemplated for this object alone, as they ~~would~~ would lead to expense which are not provided for by existing appropriations.

Very Respectfully etc.

L. Lea, commissioner

Anson Dart, esq.

Supt. Indian Affairs.



Wilbur

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73 Roll 12, Microcopy 2  
1852 No. 57

Wilbur

Clatsop, July 12, 1852

Dear Sir: I have not yet learned whether your ~~letter~~<sup>Father</sup> came in the last mail steamer or not. I went to Astoria on Tuesday the 6th instant in order to be there when the steamer came in but as she did not come in till next morning I failed of seeing her. If the doctor has already arrived I hope he will write to me in advance of the next mail

Rev. Jas. H. Wilbur of Portland will come down the first of next week and will come directly to Lexington so that a letter to me would come without delay if deposited with him. He lives at the Academy at Portland. I desire that you will write if your father has not returned and let me know if you have secured any certain ~~infirm~~ information when he will be in and if he has returned. I hope he will write immediately and let me know what we may expect in reference to the treaties down here and how soon the annuities will be paid. I hope your father will be able to furnish me with a full copy of all laws relating to Indian affairs. The Indians are still able to get liquor and I do not know how I am to prevent it yet I am doing what I can to collect evidence against next court.

Yours truly

L.H. Judson, sub. agent, Clatsop

Putnam C. Dart, esq.

Acting Supt. Indian Affairs, A.D. Interim.

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73 Roll 12, Microcopy 2

1852 No. 58

Office of Sub Agent , Indian Affairs

Portland, 29th August, 1852

To

Dear A. Dart, Superintendent Indian Affairs, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

I understand that from the non acceptance of Mr. Walker of the appointment of agent at the Uvilla Station that that place is vacant. Please therefore do me the favor to recommend my appointment as agent on that station. Should the department see fit to give me that appointment you may expect that I will enter upon its duties at once as soo as they so signify. I am sir etc.

J L. Parrish , Sub Ind. Agent



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73 Roll 12, Microcopy 2

1852 No. 65

Tualitin Academy, Tualitin , August 17, 1852

Dr. Dart

Dear Sir:

Will you please inform me if the treaties made with the Tualitin Indians and the reservations allowed them, have ever been confirmed, and if not is there any law to prevent my taking a claim upon land said to be reserved to them, (or the treaty made with the Clatsats.)

I am sir, yours respectfully

Thomas G. Harmon

Oregon Suptoy. Indian Affairs 1848-73 . Roll 12 microcopy 2  
1852 No. 66

August 9th, 1852

Doct. Dart: Dear sir: The Spokane chief wishes to say to you the Cath preast are making trouble with his tribe the preast tells the indians the american religion is not good there is a great many indians here who was taught by Doct. Whitman. The american religion was good. the cathl priest are making the indians quarling all the while I want to you to say to the priest they must stop quarling with my people I wish you would say to the priest at Oregon city to attend to their own people and I will to mine.

There are 7 Spokans Indians who want to work for you or some one else to get them some cloths.

There are a great many Indians who come down to see you calls themselves Spokans Indians who are not. these 7 Indians are the first that has come down this seson they are all good indians if they stop about you have them go to church every Sunday.

Spokan Garry chief

August 9, 1852 received August 27, 1852



1852 N . 68

Columbia Barracks, Oregon Aug. 31, 1852

My dear sir: Mr. George C. Bomford who ~~has~~ will hand you this is desirous to locate in the Indian country between the Cascade and Blue Mountains. If you deem proper Mr. Bomford would like you to afford your authority for trading purposes.

Mr. <sup>B</sup> has long been in the public service--is a gentleman highly esteemed by us all, is of most unexceptional character of good education et.

May I hop you will extend to Mr. <sup>B</sup> whatever assistance you can consistent with the interests of the service. He has been a member of my family for a long time and I feel great interest in his success.

I send by Mr. <sup>B</sup> the receipt you gave me for tents etc. I am now turning over my property to my successor. It will be necessary that you return the tents to me soon or make an arrangement with my successor to retain them longer.

I am sir, respectfully yours etc.

Rufus Ingalls, Capt.

Dr. Anson Dart, supt. Indian Affairs Oregon Territory



1852 No. 69

Steilacoom, O.T. August 13, 1852

Dear Sir: Seeing your arrival announced in the papers I take an early opportunity of reporting some of my doings and asking instructions as to how I should proceed in other case. I enclose you a letter addressed to me by Mr. Brumfield of New Dungeness in the Strait of Fuca. I have received several other letters of similar import in regard to the difficulties between the ~~kat~~ settlers and Indians of the vicinity and also as regards the Indians on Whitby Island. The difficulties seem to be principally with the Klallums, the branch Klallums, the fals Klallums and the Macaw or Flattery Indians, on the straits and the Skagits and Kickullis tribes on Whitby's Island. I have been busy in this vicinity since my return from the valley, so much so that I could not untill lately visit the country low down the sound where the Indians were represented as being troublesome. When I received Mr. Brumfield's letter I was preparing to visit that section of country and considering as was the case that exigencies might arise that would make it necessary to use prompt measures I applied to Capt. Hill commanding at this post for a small force to accompany me. He very readily detailed seven men under command of Lieut. Demerst (or Dement) I hired of Indians two canoes for our transportation and seven Indians and left Steilacoom on the 31st of July after stopping at Port Townsend for half day we arrived on the fourth day at New Dungeness. I remained there two days and succeeded in establishing good feeling between the settlers & Indians of which there was much need. The Indians complained of by Mr. Brumfield had intended while ... his house with the intention of stealing liquor. He had obtained liquor of a man by the name of Madison. There was no evidence that Brumfield had ever given or disposed of liquor to Indians. I didn't consider the offense of sufficient magnitude to apprehend him; and it would I judged have been impolitic to attempt to punish him. The chief of the tribe (Lord Jim) agreed to deliver him to me as a prisoner, which he



did, and liberated him with the agreement of all, that the promises of the whites should under no pretense be invaded against their wishes. I explained to them as I had done before to Lord Jim when he visited me at Steilacoom the relation in which I stood with them, and that their lands would certainly be bought of them at some time, when I couldn't tell. They seemed to be satisfied. I think the principal cause of the trouble is the liquor. They have it sometimes in large quantities but when and of whom they get it is in a measure mere conjecture as they are exceedingly cunning in evading information. My impression is that the greatest quality of it is obtained from vessels trading in the sound. They touch on the shore when there are no ~~times~~ whites, sell it and are off and the Indians there I think traffic it among themselves. While at New Dungeness I arrested Mr. Madison and destroyed all the liquor in his possession, some four or five gallons in the presence of the Indians and settlers. I also destroyed three barrels of whiskey I found on board the brig Daniel lying in Skagit Bay on testimony hardly sufficient to indict him. As I intended visiting the Skagit and other tribes of Indians on my return and would therefore be necessarily detained some time I sent Madison to Steilacoom in charge of two soldiers by permission of Lieut Denant with letters to Capt. Hill requesting him to detain him at Steilacoom and dispatch another letter to the sheriff at Olympia. The sheriff delayed a long time for some cause and Capt. Hill doubted his authority to detain one under such circumstances any great length of time released him, consequently he was not at Steilacoom when I arrived. I will however have him apprehended and prosecuted. In returning I visited the Skagit, Kikuallim, Snohomish, Snoquamish and Duwamish tribes and the settlements; and settled many trifling misunderstandings and arrived at Steilacoom yesterday having been absent 13 days.

This is the fourth trip I have taken down the sound on account of the application of settlers for assistance but it is the only time I have applied to or been accompanied by a military or any other force, the other three



trips were during your absence. The difficulties were at the time trivial, but unless attended to would I think have been serious. The Indians in every case were perfectly willing to leave the settlement of the disputes to me and I have as yet had no serious difficulty in settling all such ill feelings and disputes without resorting to force, in an amicable manner. Unless however treaties are made with them or some method adopted to stop entirely the use of liquor among them and for which the present laws are inapplicable I apprehend considerable difficulty between ~~and~~ them and the settlers. The introduction of liquor in this part of Oregon ought to be prohibited entirely. But there is the same difficulties here to contend with as you have in the southern part of Oregon, the obligations of American citizens. Will you please instruct me how to proceed with vessels bringing liquor into the country; they claim the right to trade it with American settlers; and of course deny trading it with the Indians, although there is circumstantial evidence that they do and can I seize the vessels as well as indict the captains. As these trips down the sound are very expensive I have to pay every Indian a dollar a day and half a dollar for canoe besides feeding them. Will you instruct me how far I am to regard these repeated calls from the settlers.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain

E.A. Starling, Indian Agent

Hon Anson Dart, Dept of Indian Affairs for Oregon

Wilwaukie, O.T.



1852-- No. 73

Department of the Interior, Office Indian Affairs

September 3d, 1852

Sir; I have just received your letter of the 25th July last in which you ask that the amount appropriated in the deficiency bill for the Indian service in Oregon may be remitted to you and in which also you express a desire to learn the decision of the Senate on the treaties made by you with the Indians in the bounds of your superintendency.

In reply to your inquiry I have to ~~adddadddddd~~ state that I have just been notified that the treaties negotiated by you and which were submitted to the senate to ratification were on the 31st ultimo ordered by that body to "lie on the table." I have not been advised as to the reasons which influenced the senate in this course, which is probably equivalent to a rejection of the treaties, and until the general policy of the government respecting the Indians in Oregon shall be more definitely understood I have to advise that you will enter into no treaty stipulations with them except such as may be imperiously required to ~~annul~~ suppress hostilities or to preserve peace.

With reference to your request that funds may be transmitted to you I have to state that a remittance of ~~"\$13,400x"~~ \$13,400 will be made to you from the Treasury for which you will account under the following heads of appropriations, to wit: Expenses of negotiations with the Indian tribes of Oregon, lying west of the Cascade mountains \$6,000

For the completion of buildings for the use of superintendent and Indian Agents in Oregon, \$3,000.

For clerk hire, office rent, fuel, stationery etc. for superintendent, \$2,000.

For travelling expenses of superintendent and Indian Agents in Oregon, \$2,000.

Per act 21st July 1850 \$13,400.

To supply deficiencies etc. Of the five thousand dollars transmitted to you to be expended under the first head of account named in the foregoing

you will be careful after paying the expenses already incurred in negotiating the treaties not to expend any portion of the balance which may remain in your hands unless as before remarked that such an expenditure ~~may~~ be imperiously required to suppress hostilities or to preserve peace with the Indians

Very respectfully

etc.

L. Lea, commissioner

Anson Dart esq.

Supt, etc. Milwaukie, Clackamas County, Oregon.



1852 Document B of No. 80

Know all men by these presents that we William McBean and Rev. Father Casimere Cheroise ~~mak~~ both of Williamstown O.T. are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the sum of one thousand dollars lawful money of the United States for the payment of which well and truly be made we bind ourselves and each of us, our heirs, executors and administrators ~~OdaddyOdaddyOdaddyOdaddy~~ jointly and severally firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals and dated this tenth day of June one thousand eight hundred and fifty two.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas Elias Wampole Indian Agent for Upper Oregon Umatilla Agency hath granted to the said McBean a license dated the tenth day of June one thousand eight hundred and fifty two to trade for one year with the following named tribes, Walla Walla, Nez Perces, Spokanes, Pelouse, Chamnapums, Snakes and Cayuse at Williamstown, within the bounds of the country occupied by the Cayuse tribe of Indians.

Now if the said William McBean so licensed shall faithfully conform to and observe all the laws and regulations made or which shall be made for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian Tribes and in no respects violate the same and shall trade at the foresaid place and no other and shall in all respects act conformably with the license granted to him, then this obligation to be void else to remain in full force and virtue. Signed and sealed in the presense of Celestine Voiney.

William McBean  
I certify the above ... to be ample, your humble C. Chirouse  
servant Elias Wampole. to the Hon L. Lea, Commissioner Ind. Affairs.

Be it known that William McBean, having filed his application before me for a license to trade with the following tribes of Indians, viz: Cayuse, Walla Walla, Nez Perces, Spokan, Pelouse, Yakimas, ~~Stu~~ Chamnapum (or Chamnapuin) and Snake Indians at Williamstown within the



boundaries of country occupied by the said Cayuse tribe of Indians and having executed and filed with me a bond in the sum of one thousand dollars with the Rev. Father C. Chrouse as surety conditioned as required by law for the faithful observance of all the laws and regulations provided for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes and reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, humanity and correct business habits of the said applicant and being satisfied that he is a citizen of the United States as required by law he is hereby authorized to carry on the business of trading with the said above named tribes of Indians at the above named place for the term of one year from the date hereof and to keep in his employ thereat the following named persons or any of them in the following capacities , viz son John McBean as interpreter, Toupaint Morrisett, herdsman, boy (David) a cook, all of which persons I am satisfied from my own knowledge and certificates before me sustain a fine character and are fit persons to be in the Indian country. Given under my hand and seal this 10th day of June eighteen hundred & Fifty Two Elias Wampole Indian Agt. in Upper Oregon O.T. Umatilla Agency.

(Chrouse

Spelled at

end of doc E



1852 No. 82

Stellacom Nov. 1st 1851 (sic)

Dear Sir: The last mail informed you of my arrival and location at this post. Since then I have had three tribes with their chiefs to call upon me to whom I did all the honors usual upon such occasions. They all seem to be very well disposed, but seem to think they have been much neglected. They all have an idea, how they got it, I can't account for, that the government intends to drive them from their possessions here, beyond the Cascade Mts. I have upon all occasions told them that, they would not be required to leave unless they desired it themselves, but would be permitted to make reservations. I also have told them that they would certainly be treated with next summer.

I think it would be advisable to send over more presents than I have with me contrary to my expectations they are very anxious to receive and set very high value on all kind of presents and as one of the Indians remarked to me, I think it would be better policy to give each individual of a tribe some present than to confine ourself exclusively to the chiefs. This Indian I allude to said that King George (A chief of the Klallam tribe) did not care for the blankets and calico I gave him because he had plenty, but they would have been of a great benefit to him because he was not poor. The tribes here in government are exceedingly domestic generally I am entirely out of tobacco "ould it not be best for me to buy some here ~~todesdodOdesdoddd~~ if you think not I think it would be well to send me some three or four kegs of it. It is much valued by them. Probably I will not be able to go about much this winter on account of the boisterous weather on the Sound and the want of roads on land.

I would like to have your opinion ~~ex~~ as regards the following.

Whether a white killing an Indian would be liable in a pecuniary consideration to the tribe.

Whether I would be justified in selling an Indian, he being a notorious



rascal , in order to get him out of the country.

Whether I should report to you quarterly or annually or both;  
and whether these reports should include accounts.

So far as I have seen the best point for a permanent agency  
would be either at Olympia or this place on account of being most central.

I will write again soon. I see you have been catching a newspaper notorie  
from the pen of old Chapman. He is a great old ass. I would be glad to hear  
from you often/

Very truly

Your obt. svt.

E.A. Starling

Anson Dart, esq.

Supt. of Ind. Affairs,

Oregon City , O.T.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73 Roll 12, Microcopy 2

1852 No. 86

Sir

Dalles, Columbia River, Oregon

28, Nov. 1852

I write to request that if you have any to dispose of you will con~~firm~~  
confir the favor to transmit to me by mail a copy of any public document  
you may have embodying the laws rules and regulations reg~~ulations~~  
relating to the Indian tribes, especially such as might concern this frontier.

I regret to see that the senate has rejected the Indian treaties  
relating to Oregon and that thus you are not empowered to open similar  
negotiations on this side of the Cascade mountains. It would undoubtedly  
be wise for the United States to make treaties with the tribes at an  
early date before the crowding in of the whites (now threatened by the  
large emigration of this year) produces collision and war.

Very Respectfully

etc.

B. Alvord

Capt 4th Infy.

B. Major U.S. Comdy.

Anson Dart, esq.

Supt. Indian Affairs, Oregon

Milwaukee (sic) Oregon.



Oregon S ptey. Indian Affairs, 1848-73 Vol 12, Microcopy 2  
1852--No. 94

Olympia, Pugets Sound, June 8, 1852

Friend Dart:

As the mail is no doubt in by this time from the states I wish you would be kind enough to take my letter from the office and forward them by mail to me. if you get can get them ready to send when the Willamette goes down with the mail for the ocean steamer. If you will take the trouble to put them in at Portland I think it will be more certain unless you are sure you can get up to Oregon City before the mail is sent from there. Any expense you may be at in getting them forwarded by mail I will of course pay you for. If any thing should happen that you do not get them into the mail in time you will please send them by the Gov. (Gaines) if he is coming our way soon or by Mr. Dryer of Portland. There is no other way of getting letter to the mouth of the Cowlitz except by the regular mail. They must be put into the office with the same promptness that letters destined for the states would be as they go down by the same steamer and can go at no other time.

I am giving you as many instructions as a charg' Affairs would require from the Department at Washington on the eve of leaving for some foreign court but I know so well how mail matters are managed in this country that I am always fearful of some mishap. I hope however that I shall get my letters in due time.

I presume that by the steamer just arrived your friends are with you. I hope so at any rate.

I have just returned from down the sound, have been looking at the country. More magnificent bays and harbors I do not think can be found any where.

After my return from my visit here you will recollect my speaking to you of some complaints having been made by some persons down the sound in regard to the usage they have received from the Indians. In my recent



trip below I have heard other complaints made by persons who have been subjected to treatment from the Indians which would make the blood of a decent white man boil. The country down below is yet but sparsely settled and the Indians are quite numerous and knowing as they do that the lands are theirs ~~and that they have not been treated with for them~~ they take advantage of this fact and are as impudent as you please. I met with several very respectable and intelligent females during my stay and have been informed by them that the Indians have entered their dwellings during the absence of their husbands and taken whatever they wished, threatening to kill them if any opposition was made. Even drawing their knives on them. Now my dear sir, how would either you or myself feel to have any female members of our respective families treated in this way. Would we not think you be disposed to resent it in a pretty summary sort of manner. So far as I am concerned I will pledge you my word that the first Indian that presumes to take the least liberty with my wife will soon start on a journey to the happy hunting grounds. There is a spirit brewing around among the people that will visit with fearful retribution <sup>upon</sup> ~~the~~ the red rascals the ~~payment~~ payment for their frequent acts of aggression.

There is a determination to bear with their impudence no longer and as the incoming immigration will very much strengthen the present population I should not be surprised if a war should be the consequence of the frequent acts of depredation committed upon the families already here.

If the Indians were treated with for their lands I think the matter would be got along with but as long as they know that they have a right to the laws just so long will there be more or less trouble. Making them presents prior to treating with them for the lands hoping thereby to appease them and gain their forbearance is a great humbug for they will most certainly commit a greater rascality in the hope of receiving more ...?? rewards. This is the true and real character of all the Indians this side of the Rocky mountains and particularly on this coast.

A very different ... from some of the noble tribes who formerly lived

upon the Atlantic Coast. If the Indians ~~xxxx~~here were given to understand that for any liberties taken with white families they should receive a good drubbing in place of blankets and other icts. I think the case would be a different one.

Let me hear from you soon

R.M. Walker



1853 No. 41

Department of the Interior

Office of Indian Affairs, June 7, 1853

Sir:

I enclose herewith a ~~copy~~ copy of a communication referred to this office by the secretary of the Interior from Brv. Maj. Alvord, U.S. Army respecting the importance of entering into Treaties to extinguish the Indian title to lands in Oregon and Washington territories east of the Cascade Mountains Congress (Session 1850-52) authorized negotiations on this subject to be entered into with the Indians in Oregon west of the Cascade Mountains and appropriated \$12,000 for that object but there is no ~~authorization~~ authority for and no funds at the disposal of the Department applicable to the object of treating with the Indians East of the Cascade Mountains, you ~~are~~ therefore directed to consider the expediency of adopting the suggestions of Bvt. Maj. Alvord so far as they apply to the Territory of Oregon and report your opinion thereon together with your own suggestions to this office as early as practicable so that if deemed advisable the subject may be brought to the attention of Congress at the next session.

You will also submit an estimate of the amount of money which will be required for the negotiating of any treaties which you may deem necessary or advisable.

Very respectfully etc.

Geo Mannypenny, commissioner

Joel Palmer, Supt. Indian Affairs

Milwaukie, Oregon Territory.