

Messages of the Governor of Washington Territory, Olympia, Edward Furste,
Public Printer, 1867.

p. 163 (No 82) Roman Catholic Mission, Yakima, Camp No. 11, Monday,
Nov. 11, 1855

Acting Governor C.H. Mason, Olympia W.T.:

Governor:—Here we are without a battle except a skirmish four days
since, ~~with~~ with some forty Indians, who dedied us as we approached the ~~X~~
Yakima river. We thought at first it was the prelude to the bit b ttle
with the whole of their force, andforded the stream to an island with our
mountēd troops, eighteen dragoons and eight pioneers. Here we commenced the
action, , firing on the enemy and ordered up our artillery and infantry
to ford the stream. Our troops made a rush into the water, but being on
foot, tried again and again to cross ~~thade~~ the river but failed, the rapid
current sweeping away two ~~men~~ of our best men, who were thus drowned;
~~whereupon~~ whereupon I sent back to Col. Nesmith x for two companies of
volunteers, which with our dragoons, drove headlong into the foaming
torrent and reached the opposite shore, charged the enemy, who fled away
over the hills, one of their balls striking but fortunately not wounding
Col. Nesmith's horse.

Late in the afternoon, after recalling all our force to the south
bank of the Yakima river, we heard, some distance on the plain, the
reports of small arms (indication of a fight) and taking two companies
we proceeeded in that direction until some time after night, when the
firing ceased, we returned back to the edge of the ~~xxx~~ timber and
bivouacked for the night. Next day we found a number of Indians around us
on swigt horses, which were driven off by our mounted volunteer
companies, and as we approached the mountain gorve, foundthe Indians
about three hundred in number on the hill topsbeating their drums and
shouting defiance. These were soon driven from their position and
scattered by discharges from ourhowitzers. We cut off some of them by

a proper disposition of our troops , and two or more were ~~xx~~ killed.

We continued our march to this place, sweeping the plains with our cavalry, dispersing , killing and wounding all the enemy we saw, and found the mission abandoned , apparently precipitately.

Capt. Maloney not having arrived in conjunction with Col. Nesmith (who went himself in command) we dispatched one hundred and ~~sixty~~-eight volunteers and regulars, on our best horses, to proceed in the direction of the Naches pass, and ascertain his whereabouts. We are awaiting their report, for we cannot tell where the large body of the enemy is unless gone that way to attack Capt. Maloney's command.

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Our force has alarmed the enemy so much that they may be scattered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant

G.J. Raines.
Major U.S. Army and Brig. Gen W.T.B.

(Haller)

Messages of the Governor of Washington Territory, Olympia, Edward Furste,
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p. 160 Headquarters Columbia River and Puget Sound, Dist. Fort Vancouver,
October 9, 1855

Hon. Thomas H. Mason. Acting Governor of W.T.

Sir-Information has been received this day from Major G.O. Haller who was ordered into the Yakima country. He states that he met the enemy about 3 p.m. on the 6th inst, and fought them at skirmishing for some time. Finally charging them, he drove them out of the brush. From the nature of the country he was obliged to take possession of the heights surrounding the Pisco River for the night. He was surrounded, and in that position has called for a re-inforcement. All the disposable force in the district will at once take the field, and I have the honor to make a requisition upon you for two companies of volunteers to take the field at the earliest possible moment.

The composition of these companies will be as follows: One captain, one first lieutenant and one second lieutenant; two musicians, four sergeants, four corporals and seventy-four privates.

The greatest exertions should be made to raise and equip these companies at once.

Orders have been sent to Capt. Maloney to take the field with all the disposable force, and it is expected that the regulars and volunteers will act in concert.

As soon as the first company is raised the command of regulars and volunteers should take the field without waiting for the other company.

~~xxxxx~~ This latter company can start out as soon as raised and equipped.

I am, sir, very respectfully

Your obedient servant

G.J. Raines, Major 4th commanding.

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p. 160 162- (no. 80* Head Quarters Fort Vancouver, W.T., October 17, 1855
Acting Governor C.H. Mason, Olympia W.T.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your two communications
of the 14th inst.

So soon as the company of volunteers from this county is organized and
mustered into the service, it will be armed and equipped and furnished
with subsistence and transportation.

If I am correctly informed, a company will soon be organized, the
members of which will be mostly men who are residing on claims within
twenty miles of this post, and who, from their knowledge of the
country will be ~~xxx~~ of very great assistance in thoroughly chastising
the hostile Clickatats and Yakimas.

I am, Governor, very respectfully.

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Withers

First Lieut. 4th Infantry, commanding

Post.

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No. 11 (document) Executive Office, Terr. Wash. Olympia July 7, 1856
Hon Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, Washington, D.C.

Sir:--Two columns moved from the Sound over the Nachess Pass, and from
the Dalles up the Columbia, are probably now assembled in the ~~Walla~~ Walla
Walla Valley. They are well mounted, are in a good condition of discipline
and have one hundred days' supplies.

The force from the Sound, under the immediate command of Lieut Col.
B.F. Shaw, moved from Camp Montgomery on Wednesday and Thursday
June 11th and 12th, and crossing the mountains with the loss of only one
animal, camped on the Wenass on the 20th. ~~At that point Lieut Col Shaw~~
~~received orders from me to push to the Walla Walla, unite his force with that moving~~
~~from the Dalles, and take command of the whole.~~ At that point Lieut Col. Shaw received orders
from me to push to the Walla Walla, unite his force with that moving
from the Dalles, and take command of the whole.

The force from the Dalles moved from the camp five miles beyond
the Des Chutes river on Wednesday, June 25th and was expected to reach
the Walla Walla on the 4th of July.

Each column numbers nearly two hundred men. The whole force consists of
350 enlisted men, and about one hundred quartermaster and Indian employes.

From the Walla Walla, Indian supplies will be pushed to the Nez Perces
and Spokanes, and an escort will accompany them, should the simple
presence of a force in the Walla Walla valley be not sufficient to
insure the safety of the train protected, as it is expected it will be, by
Indian auxiliaries.

Letters have been received from Lieut. Col. Wm. Craig, agent of the
Nez Perces, of the 29th of May, and 8th June, speaking more favorably
of the condition of things in the interior.

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(undated)...A temporary quiet undoubtedly now exists in consequence of the regular service having surrendered to the demands of the Indians. That quiet may continue so long as the regular service continues to be the ally of the ~~Indians~~ Indians. But call upon Indian to surrender the murderers--call upon them to give free passage to all whites passing through the country--call upon them to molest no white settling anywhere in the country except on the lands set apart as reservations. and the ~~quasi~~ quasi peace will be broken and the tribes will again appear in arms.

These facts have been presented to me to the authorities at home. I have earnestly called for some action of the government. I have recommended that all the hostile tribes be planted by the strong arm of the (p. 13) military power on reservations to be established by act of Congress.

Under the donation law, the whole country is now unquestionably open to settlement, and there is no authority short of a law of Congress or of the sanction of the Senate to a treaty with the Indians which can say to the settler, thus far shall you go ~~and~~ and no further. But in the case of claims actually taken, where the provisions of the donation law have been complied with, not even Congress can take away the right therein vested in the citizens without compensation; much less can a military officer in the plenitude of his power, issue his edicts whipping out the entire country of "alla Walla.

....Pg. 16...as there were 2,000 Indians known to be hostile, and some 8,000 ~~others~~ others wavering, active and decided measures were necessary to subdue them, and overawe those who were apparently only awaiting the chance to join whichever party proved the stronger. One thousand men were raised and subsisted for nine months by the patriotism and devotion of the scanty population

Kamiaken, at a council held with the Spokanes on the 2~~x~~ 25th May, wherein he urged that tribe to join the war, received a negative to his proposition. The Spokanes, however, harbor the hostile Cayuses, which has caused me to be somewhat apprehensive of the sincerity of their professions.

I was at the Dalles from Saturday, June 14th to Monday June 30th, getting the expeditions off and collecting information in relation to the Indians. At that time the hostile bands were much scattered, Some three hundred hostiles were at the head of John Day's River; a large camp of hostiles, supposed to be the Walla Wallas under the son of Peu-pee-mox-mox, were at Fort Walla Walla. The cayuses were on the Snake. The Clickatata and Yakimas were on the Pischouse River, and (p 84 probably small parties at Priest Rapids. The large camp reported by Lt. Col. Craig in his letter of May 27th and composed of individuals of several tribes including the Snakes, I have no information that they have moved from the place where they were when Col. Craig wrote.

∴ the decisive policy is ~~xxxx~~ believed by me indispensable to secure the permanent peace of the Indian country.

Very truly and respectfully, your most obedient servant, Isaac I. Stevens, Gov. Ter. Wash.