

Wanapum research by Click Relander.

Letter in L.V. McWhorter collection, Washington State College,  
Pullman, Washington:

1941: Land treaty

Letter from Commissioner E.J. Armstrong in reference to letter  
of ~~February~~ January 11, February 20 . "...no treaty made with  
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determine what if any lands were claimed by them.

The area around Priest Rapids was ceded by the Yakima Indians  
in the treaty of June 9, 1855 (12 Stat. 951).

They are in the same position as the Wichita Indians who  
claimed land in Oklahoma ceded to the United States by the  
Quapaw tribe , treaty of August 29, 1818 (7 stat. 176)  
suit , Wichita, decided adversely to claim Nov. 6, 1939  
(89 cts CIS 378) see syllabus and decisions, office of Indian  
affairs.)

Death of Yo-Yonen Chief of the Wana Puyms

(From L.V. McWhorter collection, "Washington State College.")

On the 22 December 1917 was buried Chief Yo-yonen at Priest Rapids on the Columbia river. He was the son of the late Chief Smoholla of the Priest Rapids Indians, usually known as the Sokults (copy) somewhat renowned in the history of that part of the Columbia.

Chief Yo-Yonen in company with two hunters of his band and two or three women were camping in the Ellensburg Mountains toward the Columbia and about seven days before the date of his burial all these men left their camp on foot for a hunt and were advised by the women to ride horses; but they replied that they would not go far and would go on foot. They were dressed lightly, wearing perhaps sweaters over their shirts only and they wore the customary moccasins. They went further into the mountains than intended, having found signs of deer and late in the evening succeeded in killing one. They hanged it up and started for camp. It had been raining for some time. It soon grew dark and turned colder with a cutting wind. The darkness became impenetrable blackness and travel was slow and painful. They cut sticks or staffs with which they felt their way over the broken ground. At one time they came out on a bluff and found with the aid of their sticks that they were on the verge of a high precipice. They were acquainted with the country and knew their location, having missed the trail only a short way. Circling the bluff they went down the canyon a distance then left it, crossing other canyons, holding their course to camp. The sodden ground and sharp stones soon ruined their moccasins and they were traveling with little or no protection to the soles of their feet. Moccasins as made by the Columbia River Indians soon go to pieces in excessive wet weather. Chief Yo-yonen complained of being tired and wanting to smoke. They sat down and struck their last match in lighting their smokes. All efforts at building a fire had been futile, no

wood sufficiently dry for kindling, and indeed their matches were nearly all ruined by the pouring rain.

After smoking and a brief rest the hunters proceeded on their way but could ~~not~~ make but slow progress. The chief began to lag and complained that he could go but little further. Urged by his companions he continued walking for a time and finally said: I am all in. You go on and leave me. His companions then got under either arm and helped him for some time, their progressing growing slower and slower. The chief was shivering with cold and exhaustion and the older of his two helpers began to show signs of physical weakness. At length the chief could be kept on his feet no longer and again made the appeal: "Go on and leave me. Get to camp soon as you can and tell the women to find a horse and come for me quick as they can."

So the two hunters having no other alternative left the exhausted Chief, cold and shivering in the driving rain and increasing cold. They hurried as much as possible but it was not long until the older man had to be helped along by his younger companion. He grew weaker as time dragged and it was with the greatest difficulty that he was brought into camp by his more rugged friend.

The women hastened to find the horses, taking pitch faggots and not until some time had been wasted in futile search did the girl stumble onto one of them. Taking lighted pitch sticks the young men hastened with the women back over the trail in search of the chief. Arriving where he had been left, no trace of him could be found. Finally after considerable search they came upon him lying near the creek and on the trail to camp. They had passed him. He had evidently roused himself to a final effort and succeeded in making some headway and then fell from utter exhaustion. They built a fire alongside him and sought to discover some spark of life but he was dead, beyond all hope.

The hunting party carried the body on a pack horse out of the mountains and was met by a relief party, members of the Sohappy



family with a hack and brought the remains to Priest Rapids where they were buried.

Legends. Louis Marm in M Whorter archives.

(Copy-  
spelling etc.)

Long time ago there were birds and beasts in America were people that the lands were governed by Eagle and Coyote was a big chief and big prophet.

His wife died and all of his children died and he was left all alone so he said to himself I must go and find out my love ones gone to way back east so the prophet made his journey He went over the mountains great five mountains he crossed over the back end of the world here-Heed there he the prophet arrived to the place where all the dead go and the king of the dead asked him what he wanted and the chief Coyote told the king he wanted his wife and children who have died and left him friendless way back in the west and the king of the dead ask him five questions and the great prophet answered the king he wanted to recover his family and all the dead loved friends who have left and died and the king told the chief coyote all right I will do the best with you you stay with me and I will fix you up and so the prophet coyote stayed with the king there and the king fixed up a bundle of his family in a cloth tied and the king told the chief Coyote to carry this bundle until you get home to your country then you will untie this bundle so the prophet started come back home with his bundle in his back and he crossed over four mountains and the last mountain he was climbing to cross over there he met a skunk and Mr. Skunk asked him what have you got on your bundle and the prophet told skunk I have some things and it is costly things and Mr. Skunk ordered him to untie it up but the chief refused but skunk told him if you will not obey my orders I will kill you right here and so the prophet coyote got scared so he untie his bundle and as soon as the bundle loose all bunch of the deceased



come out his bundle and rushed out his wife and all his children and loved ones that have died all went out out from his bundle and rushed out with singing songs which coyote never heard it before all said good bye to him and left him behind and went back to same direction from which Prophet Coyote came so he lost his people by the order of the skin-skunk.

You see in them says Mr. Skunk was a bad doctor he was to kill people when the people do not obey the the (copy) orders of Mr. Skunk he surely kill them.

All at once with his poison so every nationality was afraid of the skunk and you see the prophet coyote loose his people which he carried back with him on his back you see the bad skunk met him and ordered him to loose the bundle and see what was in it and as soon as the bundle loose all went out and went back to the chief coyote lost it all it was not his fault if the coyote had brought this bundle back to his place his family was to resurrected and come to a natural life again but the skunk made him loose it and so the chief coyote came back crying as it heard today so this story ends for another nationality to come after so long and good bye to all Louis Mann.

Coyote went back east on a traveling to see the country as he was traveling he seen many curious things and at last he came to a place and Fox was his companion on this trip of a traveling over the world there was a place where the rock lay near the trail and the rule was when anybody passes this trail they always give some thing to this rock or stone and little fox told his companion coyote as there is a general rule everybody concern go by this rock and give some thing and the coyote laughed at his cousin Mr. Fox and said it is all foolish to give something to the rock and fox told the coyote now my cousin if you are going to pass and give nothing to this rock we will be killed and coyote laughed at the fox he told the fox I will have a war this with rock and fox told the coyote you can not do nothing to rock the rock is very dangerous we will be killed and the coyote laughed so on their travel they was nearing the place where the Mr. Rock lay when they arrived there Mr. Coyote told the rock you a damn fool I will never give you nothing so they went on pass the rock and as they went about 5--- five hundred yards they heard the noise they turned anback and seen the rock rolling along the trail of fox were they came and the told the coyote now see his is now coming and he will kill us and the coyote swung around his bow and arrow sheath where he carried the arrows and bow well this time coyote allowed and said this is what I am looking for I must get in to trouble somewhere with some one so the coyote went shooting his arrows but everytime he shoot the rock but his arrow slipped until the coyote shot all his arrows then he ran but the rock followed them behind at last his cousin Mr. Fox got give out so he tried his best to get



away and he seen badger hole so he the fox flet in to the badger hole but he got stuck d d not goet down in so the ro k crushed him and killed the fox and then the rock fol followed the coyote and the brave warr or Coyote run all he could and made turns everyother way and the rock missed him several times and he heard some o e hallowed at the coy te come on this way six so the caoyte made a run from which a voice came come this way six and when cayote qarrived there t wa a mud hole that called him so coyote jumped ac o s this mud hole and the ock followed him but he rock fell in to this mude hole but went down for goo the rock never got out and the coyote laughed a and said to the rock well done you are killed at last now there af er you will never be a dangerous thing.

There is a new people coming to this country and when this new people roll y ou down the h ll you can roll but you will never be like a e person you are a rock children wll play wity you and this is way you be and so the coyote went back where his cousin fox was killed he came there and he pulled him out and lay him there and he steped over him ive times so the little fox come to life again and they went again on th ir journey.



Legends. Louis Man. McWhorter collection.

King had a wife and five children in this place in America King left his wife and his five children and got a new wife and his former wife took care of the five children she sent them children to school way back ea these five children remained in school eight years all learn good education and everyone learned the trade the oldest learn to be a blacksmith next second son of the king learned to be a carpenter third son of the king learned to be a harnessmaker and saddler and the fourth son of the king learned to be a farmer and the youngest fifth son of the king he learned to be a thief smart to steal from his education and when all returned back from school king learned his children returned back to their mothers place and one morning king came to see them and asked them questions what kind of education they learned and what kind of the trade each one of them oldest son told his father he learned to be a blacksmith well king told his oldest he would give him a job in his blacksmith shop and the king asked his second son what his trade was and the second told his father he was a carpenter so he the king gave the second son a job on his carpenter shop and the king asked his third son what was his trade his third son told him he was a harness maker and a saddler and the king told his third son he told him he would give him a job on his harness shop and the king asked his fourth son what was his trade fourth son answered his father he was a farmer so also he got a job on his father ranch and the king asked his fifth son what he was his trade so the youngest fifth son answered his father he learned a good trade he was a thief and a grafter so the king



was mad and told his youngest son I will give you a good job  
 I have a race horse in my stable but if you will steal  
 that you will live and if you will not steal that horse  
 I will hang you in the morning and so he told his father well  
 my poor mother go around on foot and I am glad she will have  
 a horse tomorrow morning and the boy laughed so the king  
 left him and when the king at home he wear a black robe and  
 when king arrive at home he told his soldiers servants to  
 watch close the race horse in the stable he put his men all  
 around the horse one riding on the saddle one man on front  
 hold on the bridle reins and one behind holding on the  
 tail and two men on each side five soldiers men with the race  
 horse and three men stationed outside the stable on the yard  
 and the boy know how to fix himself up so he can steal  
 the race horse that night. He put on the black robe of the  
 king was dressed and he took along some wine and a paper  
 book and he kneel down close where the guards were three  
 soldiers and after the guards seen the king was kneeling then  
 one of the guards came to the boy was he was  
 kneeling and praying and drinking wine he told the guard that  
 he was praying so the thief will be caught easy and he told  
 the guard he wanted a win he would give him a glass full  
 so the guard took a glass and he told him get the other guards  
 to come and take a drink so they will keep awake all night  
 and when all the guards came he give them more wine and told them  
 to have a very strict watch for the thief but the soldiers  
 did not know that he was the thief himself. And when he  
 got all of them drunk he took the race horse  
 and where his mother's place was when morning came the king went  
 to the stable and found his men drunk and asked them where the  
 horse was and the men told the king he is  
 one was riding but the boy put saddle to railing in the stable



and tie ropes aone hol on front and one behind and  
one rising on e saddle and so the king told the men  
that the horse was gone and the men told the king here is  
the horse but tha ropes wre tied to the rai ing in the tabl  
so the kin went to the b and mother p ee when he came ther  
he found tha thehors w there he stole it and the king  
told the boy nowif you are good thief you will  
steal my sh et out of my cover .... on and on..

legends. Louis Mann. McWhorter archives

Coon and the grandma lived and coon cried all day long  
grandma asked the boy why he cried and the coon answered  
that he wanted acorn and grandma told the little coon  
go and get some in the bucket you know coon and grandman had  
bucket made out of cedar roots so the little boy coon went out  
to get some acorn and the boy coon came to where the  
acorn was under the water mud cellar and grandma told the boy  
not to go out on the trail but the boy coon forgot all about  
this and the coon got out on the trail he left his  
businesses on the trail and when the boy coon was coming back  
he hit his business with one of his leg and he fell  
down and spilled all of his acorn when the acorn spread on  
the ground it all split and so the boy coon eat all that  
acorn there is so he had nothing to take home so the boy coon  
went back to get some more acorn he done this five times but  
every time he had to eat all the acorn

Now there were five holes full of acorns which belonged to him  
until now when coon became bad so he ate four holes full  
of his uncle's acorns now grandma of the coon went to  
look for him and see what was the matter She took along in  
her hand a stick out of a burning fire and this wood had a coal  
on one end of the stick when she came there where this  
acorn was stored and she discovered that the coon boy had eaten  
four holes full of this acorn now the grandma took the coon boy  
by his tail and pulled him out and began to whip the boy with this  
stick she held in her hands she began to hit the coon  
boy on his tail first and on his body until she  
hit she made on his nose and killing the coon boy she  
laid the dead coon boy there and she went home to her tepee  
crying on her way and when she arrived she cried all  
the time on killing her grandchild little coon boy and the coon



boy lay there and the coon boy recovered to life again  
 and he went along the river when he came to edge of water  
 he looked under water was a shadow funny looking and finally  
 the coon boy noticed that this was his own shadow well so the boy  
 got hungry and he looked for some thing to eat so the  
 coon boy looked under water for crabs and he found them  
 and he ate them and the coon boy made a belt out  
 a hazelnut bush and the coon boy took the bush and  
 twisted them and he used that as his belt when the boy found  
 some flint rocks he picked them and use them for his knife  
 he found five of good ones and the coon boy put them  
 in his belt now there came on the other side of the river grizzly  
 bear and the bear told the coon boy where did you went across  
 the coon boy told the grizzly bear on the fifth question  
 I came across where the grizzly bear asked hole under them  
 riffles the coon boy made this answer five times so the grizzly  
 bear made a start for him across the river by swimming after  
 him and the coon said big sturgeon swallow the grizzly bear  
 and when the grizzly came near the coon boy he began to say  
 swim hard big sturgeon will swallow you my brandpa coon  
 boy wanted to let grizzly bear hear him what was said by the  
 boy so grizzly bear would take pity on the coon boy  
 and do him no harm you see how smart the coon  
 boy acted but grizzly bear had no pity on him all he was  
 an awful mad at the boy and when the grizzly bear landed on the  
 shore he asked the boy what said to him while he was  
 swimming the coon boy said to the grizzly bear I said this this  
 to you swim hard grandpa big sturgeon will swallow you and the  
 grizzly bear said to the coon boy you never said such a thing  
 I will swallow you alive so the Mr. Grizzly bear swallowed the  
 coon boy so when the coon boy came to the stomach you know that

coon n y had some flint knife on his belt he had five flint  
 knives in his belt well when the coon boy was there ingri ly  
 bear stomach he pulled out one of his flint knife and the coon  
 boy began to cut the heart of the grizzly bear and the bear  
 began to feel pain at his heart and he said this coon is a  
 painful food so he said I had better throw him out so he  
 throw the coon boy out on his hind hole you know well when the  
 coon boy roped to the ground he jumped and stood on the ground  
 and he laughed and the big grizzly bear said I will  
 swallow you again and boy said all right and the grizzly bear as  
 awful mad don't you see and so grizzly bear swallow  
 the coon boy again for the second time you see and the coon  
 boy landed in the stomach of grizzly bear he began getting another  
 flint knife and began cutting grizzly bear heart second  
 time well this time bear began to feel pain again in his  
 heart and he said this damn little boy is a painful food so  
 the grizzly bear throw the boy out second time you see on  
 his hind hole you know and the coon boy jumped to the ground  
 and he laughed and this made the grizzly bear mad worse  
 so he grizzly bear swallow the boy the third time and the coon  
 boy was working with his flint knives so he the coon boy  
 began cutting grilling bear heart and so grizzly bear feel awful  
 pain so he throw out the boy third time out to the ground went  
 the coon boy and he made a big laugh that made the big  
 grizzly bear mad worse and he told the boy I will swallow  
 you again and the boy said all right so the bear swallows the  
 coon boy fourth time and as soon as the coon boy gets to  
 grizzly bear's heart he begins his work cutting his heart right  
 at his job the coon boy and the grizzly bear feel awful  
 pain he throw out the coon boy and the coon boy laughs  
 this makes the grizzly bear an awful mad this is fourth time



and again the grizzly bear tells the boy i will swallow you  
 for food for me this time and the boy says all right I  
 am not afraid so the grizzly bear swallows the coon  
 boy fifth time and when the boy gets to the heart  
 of the grizzly he begins to cut his heart for the last time  
 you see with his last flint knife and this time coon boy  
 finishes his job he cut off the heart of the big grizzly  
 bear now when the boy finished cut the heart of the big grizzly  
 the coon boy jumped out of grizzly's hole you see and  
 that time poor grizzly staggers around and dies you see what  
 a brave work coon boy done he has slain the big powerful  
 huge grizzly bear now the coon boy begins skinning the bear  
 for his food you see when the coon boy finished skinning and  
 butchering he finds this meat right there and he remembers his  
 grandmother and says to himself he must go and tell my  
 grandma and we will pack this grizzly bear meat  
 Coon boy said he will have this meat to eat for a long while  
 so the boy went home to his grandmother's tepee as he went alone  
 he sang a song I have killed the big grizzly bear that was  
 his words he used in his song and grandmother was crying in  
 her tepee all the time and the grandmother heard thenise and  
 she listen and heard the words that was said in the song and  
 the coon boy came in to the tepee and told her grandmother I  
 have killed the big grizzly bear and I come after your grandmother  
 you get ready and we will go after the grizzly bear meat and  
 grandmother don't believe the boy and grandma told him you quit  
 that talk that is a very dangerous thing you are talking  
 about my boy and the coon boy repeated saying I have slain  
 the huge big grizzly bear and the coon boy told his grandmother  
 five times then grandma believed him and the grandma got ready  
 took her pack rope along when they arrived there the  
 boy told the grandma to pack neck part but grandma refused and

and told the boy your deceased grandpa forbid me not to  
 pack such part and then at last he told her to pack hind  
 quarter she said all my dearest little child so  
 she happily packed the hind quarter and she put them behind her  
 back and went on a hurry left the boy behind and she made a h  
 a haste steps I do not know how many steps per hour and  
 she arrived to the sweat house and she made herself a home whe  
 with this hind quarter of grizzly bear part she took this to  
 sweat house to enjoy herself there laughing inside the sweat  
 house when the boy found the grandmother this way he took her  
 outside the sweat house and club her to death there the young  
 boy took the hind quarter home and so this story was told by  
 my grandmother when I was a little boy and I here told for the  
 the other nationality to come here after this so  
 the story ends and Senator Wesley L. Jones works very hard to  
 steal the Indian rights and their country for the sake of his  
 hungry people in state of Washington he has worked 12 years  
 solid. B Louis Mann.



When I was littl boy I seen the sun and moon and  
the stars, moun sins and the hills. Today they stand just  
the s me but he white man laws are getting worse..

Louis Mann

legends. Mcwhoter archives

There swas once in his earth people who are flying birds and creeping animals thishas been told of n timesby our fore parents Until this day now who does know where did red people originat d from. White pe le claim our race come from a people wandered across bearing strait b t thi guess of a casian is not right and not true well I must say who does know where the red people came from it wuld be a wise thing if we had our foreparents a witten book now to consider our race where did we come from who does know every author is writter of the study in this continent has made guesswork.

Mr. Louis Mann study of a white man book a morman book all cultus all hayous wind

There are people of all grades of races and to analyze them how they came here in to America There are many people who study the history of this earth and no every human being lives and get old and die and ae bur ed in underground and rot away and next life they go to a good land and those that die bad they go to a distruction of their souls in bad land where they will get punishment forever. I believe that it is sure place for our last punishment is down in a cultus place down way in hell where no human being soul is forgiven as let us try our best to be good while we live This is my ways of study inthis world while I and living and I found out all live human being in this world are bad onaccount of want of money ad riches. Louis Mann.



Wanapum research by Click Relander.

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