

1212 N. 32nd Ave/
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

March 27, 1954

Mrs. Harold Webb,
2121 Sacramento Street,
San Francisco 9, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Webb:

It has been over a year since I corresponded with you regarding Fort Simcoe in general and General Robert Selden Garnett in particular.

We are still pegging along. The State Parks Commission has a good start on the restoration work and while it will take several years to complete, because the state is spending the money out over some 20 projects throughout the entire state, it at least is being preserved.

I am enclosing a brochure issued last fall by the local committee.

H. Dean Guie, who prepared the brochure, is employed on the Yakima paper, but has long been interested in the restoration.

I am also enclosing a recent newspaper article concerning the Indian situation. My own manuscript, Drummers and Dreamers has passed the editorial board (Caxtons) and they are working out plans for publication now, but there is nothing to be announced as yet. I have insisted on a low-priced book as possible, but in any edition short of thousands and thousands, a publisher must charge twice as much as ordinary.

I am writing at this time to ask if you can give me a hand on Garnett in California. I hope you have prepared, and published, your material on him concerning the California Seal, and that it is now available for our files.

Most of my work in research has been from microfilm and I have some two dozen rolls I have been making typescripts of. A big part of these concern the Army in the Northwest, and there are scores of Garnett letters. Because of the magnitude of the work, I have not yet got into the microfilm concerning the Army---I would estimate there are some 500,000 or more words on this phase alone.

We are anxious to acquire all authentic information we can concerning Garnett in California, especially his work concerning the seal; where is the original seal now, and a picture of it or a replica of it, such as you mentioned as was spotted in the old Ferry Building.

If you have not published your material, you will be assured that the material will be for the research files alone and will be "classified," not to be released for publication. If you have more extensive plans for publication please let me know. I know of several people working on Fort Simcoe material, the Army background etc/, all

with a view toward publication. But, there is certainly enough material there to satisfy everyone. My manuscript has three or four chapters on Simcoe, because of its influence on suppressing the Dreamer religion among the Indians.

Incidentally, the Rev. James H. Wilbur, mentioned in the brochure, came to San Francisco in 1847, holding the first Sunday school there ever held in California. He remained in San Francisco several weeks and also spent some time at Monterey. I have a typescript of his journal, 46-57, a six-months journey from New York to Oregon, and it contains some 20 pages of Californiamaterial. I strongly suspect that others who accompanied him, remained in San Francisco, and that in itself bears checking with some Methodist historical source in San Francisco one of these days. I wonder if there is such.

Incidentally, too, when and if Drummers and Dreamers is issued, I am going to need all the names of people interested in good Indian source material. I am confident the book will move, in a limited way to a limited number of people, but how much further I know not, but want to give it every opportunity. It is a story of a remarkable Indian leader and the remnant tribe that resides at Priest Rapids. Incidentally that fight over construction of a big power dam in the 300 million dollar class, is warming up and will soon be strong in congress. It is proposed as the first dam to be constructed under the new program of individual organizations, rather than the government. It is remarkable that these people, unlike the reservation Indians, do not want to "sue" the government etc. for their old land, although they still maintain their home on the very site on which the dam will be constructed. The book is my only way to get these people's story over and get a small acreage of worthless land for them along the river, their old burial ground etc. The government owns hundreds of thousands of acres of land there but there is so much red tape it is like butting your head against a wall. If this book doesn't shake them loose, nothing will.

Right now the government is condemning some 32,000 acres of land across from their village, for a game preserve, and intend to pay big money for it from the cattlemen, sheep men etc. Yet, they won't do a thing, give an acre to a human being, and that being, one of a nearly extinct race!

So much for the rambling. I didn't intend to but it will give you some background. My main purpose was, and is, to inquire about the Garnett situation and the Great Seal of California. Your help will be appreciated.

We would wish a photo negative, not a print, of the seal, and I would pay for that, of course.

Sincerely

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