

Microcopy 5, Roll 21

The United States to Samuel D. Smith

Date Nov. 15, 1860 " " " "

For transporting 4 4/8 tons of Indian Dept. Goods (as per bill) ~~km~~
from Old Fort Walla Walla W.T. to Lapwai on the Nez Perce
Reservation at \$120 per ton.

\$555.00

I hereby certify that the above account is correct and just, that
the services were rendered as stated and were necessary for the service
of the Indian Dept.

A. J. Cain, Ind. Agent W.T.

Copy

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 21

Fort Walla Walla, W.T.

Nov. 26th, 1860, 10 o'clock a.m.

Dear Sir:

I have just received your note of 25th inst. informing me that a party of miners are on the Nez Perce Reservation in violation of law, you will please inform them that Col. Wright orders are to the commanding officer to drive them off and to use all force at the post if required which order I certainly will execute and that I will send the troops as soon as you inform me of their stopping to work on the reservation or to trade with the Indians.

If those miners go on the reservation and make war they cant expect any assistance from the troops as the orders are positive to drive them off of (sic) and you will please inform me which is the move to send the troops, whether it will be best to cross Snake river by the road to ^{Mc}Elville and go up on the north side of Snake river or can a boat be had to cross horses and supplies to the near route that you travel to the agency. Please inform me as to the best route for the troops to march and can any forage be had for the horses etc.

And inform me as to the number of miners and about the ~~distance~~ distance to where they may be found and I will send the troops at once.

But certainly no miners will be willing to violate law by attempting to stop and mine ~~xxxxxxx~~ within the reservation when they know the order etc.

Respectfully yours

Signed E. Stein, major, commanding

to A. J. Cain, Esq.

Ind. Agent

Snake River.

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 21

Portland, Oregon,

August 21, 1860

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date directing me to proceed to the Nez Perce country and endeavor to prevent an invasion of the reservation by an armed band of gold hunters.

Owing to the intrusion of miners upon the Nez Perce reservation and the news which has just arrived and will soon reach those Indians that recently the whole of their annuity has been invested by the Department at Washington in goods without ~~knowledge~~ consulting the wishes or interests of those Indians as is provided in their Treaty. I entertain serious apprehensions as to their continued peaceable disposition, and fear that we are now on the eve of another Indian outbreak.

I shall proceed at once to the Nez Perce country and exert every effort to avert the threatened danger.

Very Respectfully

Your obt. servant

A. J. Cain,

Ind. Agent W. T.

Hon. E. R. Geary,

Supt. Ind. Affairs,

Portland, Oregon.

Notice

Information has been received that Capt. Pierce and his party of miners would attempt to seek for gold on the Nez. Perce reservation. In ~~addition~~ addition to information previously given the public I give a copy of instructions from the Com. of Ind. Affairs to the Supt. Ind. Affairs of Oregon & Washington upon the subject.

Copy Department of the Interior, Office Indian Affairs July 2, 1860
Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th May last, informing the Department that in consequence of the rumored discoveries of rich and extensive gold mines within the reservation of the Nez Perce, great excitement had been occasioned by the rush of a crowd of miners into the country of that tribe. The action which you have taken in the premises toward the protection of the reservation from the lawless invasion is approved and you will further instruct the local agents to give public notice to all parties concerned that the treaties with the Indians are paramount and the Government is determined to exercise its full authority to prevent intrusions upon the Reserves of the Indians, under all circumstances, as no person except the proper officers of the Department have any right whatever under any pretense to go upon said reservation.

Very Respectfully, your obdt. svt.

Charles E. Mix

Acting Commissioner

Signed

Edward R. Geary, Esq.

Supdt. Ind. Affairs

Portland, Oregon

A. J. Cain, Ind. Agt. W.T.

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 21

Indian Agents Office, Walla Walla

June 1, 1860

Sir:

Your communication of May 26 has been received.

I am happy to inform you that I have no further apprehension of any excitement about gold on the Nez Perces reservation that will interfere with the peace of the country or the operations of the Indian service. I have ... to mold public opinion properly in regard to a proper observance of the laws of the U.S.

I have succeeded in calming the minds of the Indians for the present and trust the immediate application of ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ funds recently appropriated for carrying out treaty stipulations to put matters on the most satisfactory footing.

To secure satisfactory results I have assumed no responsibility than your ... gave me authority to do.

I have been preparing the minds of the Cayuse & Walla Walla Indians for the change in their location and condition which may soon be expected. They express a willingness to do whatever may be desired of them by proper authority.

If you ~~xxxx~~ should proceed to the Snake country soon I regard it ... instant to the service that I have a personal interview before you depart.

I have the honor to be, very respty. your
Obdt. Svt.

A. J. Cain

Ind. Agent, W. T.

Hon E. R. Geary

Supt. Indian Affairs,

Portland.

Washdtn suptcy. No. 5, Roll 21

Indian Agents Office,
Walla Walla Valley W.T.

May 25th, 1860

Sir:

I am satisfied the excitement in regard to gold on the Nez Perce Reservation is allayed and no further attempt will be made to occupy it. I took the position that I would resist all such attempts with the full ... of the law.

The Indian minds are much excited and I have promised a large council soon.

Wats-hil has been down recently. The Walla Wallas are prepared to do whatever is wished of them.

I have the honor to be very resptfyl

Your obdt. servt.

A.J. Cain

Ind. At. W.T.

Wash'tn Suptcy. Roll ~~Six~~ 21, No. 5

Indian Agents Office

Walla Walla Valley W.T.

May 18th, 1860

Sir:

Although much feeling prevails in regard to the supposed gold discoveries in the Nez Perce reservation, yet no persons have attempted to locate there with exception of the first party that went up and who was sent off by Mr. Frush.

I feel confident of being able to control whites and Indians, that the laws will be enforced and the peace of the country preserved.

I will most respectfully request that as soon as official notification of the passage of the appropriation and instructions arrive from Washington that you will give me immediate information of the amount of funds that can be applied to the agency that I may make estimates of the ~~xxx~~ work that it is absolutely necessary to do immediately as I labor under many difficulties which nothing but great care and energy will overcome.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully your

Most Obedient

A.J. Cain

Ind. ~~Agnt~~ Agt. W.T.

Washn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 21

Portland, Oregon

May 8th, 1860

Sir:

Rumors have reached me to the effect that parties are organizing for the purpose of ~~xxx~~ seeking gold upon the Nez Perces Reservation. I will most respectfully request instructions for my guidance in the case such rumors are true.

I have the honor

To be very respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

A. J. Cain,

Ind. Agent. W.T.

Hon. E. R. Geary,

Supdt. Ind. Affairs,

Portland, O.

what one would naturally suppose they should.

Nothing but the most decisive policy on the part of the government will effect permanent peaceful relations as well as their advancement. Should their minds ever become fully impressed with the idea that they are being deluded with false hopes by the government until the whites should be too numerous for them to offer resistance, war would be inevitable.

I have the honor to be,

Very Respectfully your

Obedient Servant

A.J. Cain, Ind. Agent. W.T.

Hon E.R. Geary

Supt. Ind. Affairs

Portland, Oregon.

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 21

Office Indian Agency

Walla Walla Valley W.T.

Nov. 15, 1859

Sir:

Owing to sickness after my return from Colville I neglected to report to you that I had turned over to Maj. Lugenbeel, Spec. Agt. etc. the Spokane Indians, whose location~~x~~ being near to Fort Colville and being connected with other tribes in that vicinity made the transfer desirable for the Indians both for Maj. Lugenbeel and myself.

I am happy to report all the Indians in my charge perfectly quiet and well disposed. But owing to the peculiar state of affairs in this region of the country their management is not only an arduous but complicated duty as now of the existing laws contemplated the anomalous condition of our Indian relations at the present time--and the agent is compelled almost entirely to rely upon his discretion and personal influence to effect any good.

All of these tribes in the interior are decreasing rapidly and the principal cause is ~~dissipation~~ dissipation; as they have ample means from the sale of their horses to purchase liquor. Their great propensity for traffic and liquor traffic produces constant constant (sic) conflicts between them and the whites which requires almost the entire time of myself and employees to adjust independant of any other duty. I have of late adopted some very summary measures in regards to their evils which have proved effective.

The Indians are already aware of the fact that with the rapid increase of the white population their whole dependance will soon be upon the promised assistance of the government and the great object now is to prevent the discouragement of their hope. Even the most intelligent of them are very superstitious and have a great distrust of imposition and frequently arrive at entirely opposite conclusions from

Microcopy 5, Roll 21

Office Indian Agency

Walla Walla Valley, W.T.

Oct. 31st. 1859

Sir:

All the principal chiefs but one, and most of the petty chiefs of the Nez Perce tribe left here a few days since satisfied with their visit. Owing to the many demands upon my attention and the completion of my accounts I will not for a few days be able to report in detail.

I will however submit to you some views in regard to the final disposition of some of the Indians in my charge, which are the result of a careful and practical knowledge of Indian affairs in this part of the country.

The reservation upon the Umatilla in Oregon should be abandoned, not only as a matter of economy to the government, but for the promotion of the welfare of the Indian and the successful carrying out of the policy of the government. It is too near a public highway and neither the Cayuses, Walla Wallas or Umatillas would be satisfied there ~~xx~~.. with the establishment of a military post to protect them from the Snakes. The Umatillas should be sent to the Warm Springs Reservation.

The Cayuses are a very small tribe and not only speak the Nez Perce language but are being rapidly absorbed by that tribe and should be sent to the Nez Perce Res. The Walla Wallas are intermarried and affiliate with the Yakimas and should be sent to the Simcoe Res. The Palouses are a small tribe and speak the language and are being rapidly absorbed by the Nez Perce and should be sent to their reservation.

This change in the disposition of these Indians would occasion the government no additional cost in their removal and would be much more satisfactory to them; besides the reservations alluded to would not then contain as many Indians as were originally intended to be placed upon them owing to their great decrease within the past four years from war, famine and disease.

I have the honor etc.

A.J. Cain, Ind. Agt. W.T. to Hon E.R. Geary, Supt. Ind. Affairs, Portland, O

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 17

Office Indian Agency

Walla Walla W.T.

Oct. 17, 1859

Hon E.R. Geary, Supt. Ind. Affairs

Portland, Oregon.

Sir:

Owing to a severe attack of pñeralsy since my return from the Colville Valley I have not been able to report to you fully ~~oex~~ a complete account ~~for~~ the past quarter but will do so by the next express.

The Indians on the Spokane and in and about the Colville Valley ~~xxx~~ were all quiet.

Near all the Nez Perce chiefs are here under my direction for the purpose of holding a council that means may be devised for the purpose of holding a council that means may be devised to get all of the tribe living contiguous to the whites on this reservation.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully, your most obt.

A.J. Cain, Ind. Agent. W.T.

"ash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 21

(Copy)

Al-pow-wa, W.T.

August 18, 1859

A.J. Cain, Esq. Indian Agent, Walla Walla W.T.

Sir:

I arrived here yesterday ~~morning~~ evening, one and a half days .
from Lieut. Mullen's camp which I found about four miles below the
Mission on Coeur d'Alene river.

I found the Indians all quiet and Lt. Mullen progressing very rapidly
with his work; he expects to be in the Bitter Root Valley in three months.

"ith reference to the mile posts you spoke of in your instructions
to me, I found a few of them defaced but more of them entirely destroyed.
It seems to be a matter of doubt as to whether it was done by some unruly
young men of the Pelouse or by some white men that had left Mullens'
party. I think by the former.

Lt. Mullen informs me that the rumors of the Nez Perce tribe
being dissatisfied originated with "Meloons" (or Keloons") it seems ~~and~~
he he reported it to Colville and the Commanding officer immediately
apprised
~~apprised~~ Mr. Mullen of the report. Lt. Mullen assured me he never for
a moment put any confidence in the rumor but reported it to Col.
Wright as it was his duty.

Father Joseph informed me the Coeur d'Alenes are not altogether
satisfied with the road but now are perfectly satisfied; they seemed
more friendly than I ever saw them.

Lt. Mullen is constructing a good wagon road and deserves credit for
it. The Indians have given him the name of a "Little Man" with a Big
"Heart," and I think he deserves it.

There is nothing else of interest going on in the upper country.

Your obdt. Servt.

(sig) Thos. Hughes

breeds, as well as to cultivate fruit trees having ~~exactly~~ acquired a taste for the latter from observing a few bearing trees belonging to one of the chiefs, Timothy....

[no further reference of any kind to fish or roots, migrations etc.]
under recap of numbers:

Nez Perce, 800 men, 1,200 women, 1700 children, 3,700 total.

been properly treated by the whites. He said my talk was very good but he didn't know whether I was telling the truth or was afraid and wanted to scare them. He has always been opposed to the Treaty but has few followers and no influence with the tribe with whom he lives, but seldom spending most of his time in the Buffalo country with the Blackfeet. All the chiefs but Eagle from the Light came into council and the result was highly satisfactory.

Accompanying this report are the proceedings of the council.

Thos. Hughes, local agent and Jas. W. Craig, interpreter, rendered me very important service which it is due them to acknowledge.

The principal chiefs of the Nez Perce tribe are Lawyer (head chief) Looking Glass, who claims to be the hereditary war chief, Joseph, Uts-sa-malecam, Quil-Quil-Semeny(?) Spotted Eagle, Speaking Eagle, Billy, Ke-as-ka-sit, Timothy, White Bird, Three Feathers and Eagle from the Light.

All of whom with their bands reside in different parts of the country originally claimed by them where they have their separate gardens and farms, most of the tribe are now living upon the reservation.

They raise wheat, corn and potatoes and in the aggregate have about 640 acres under fence and in cultivation. With the encouragement to be given these Indians by the government by the confirmation of their treaty they will be able to attain (sic) a high degree of success in agricultural and mechanical pursuits.

I observed that an enterprising young man Reuben who had frequently visited the white settlements had built himself a comfortable cabin and by the sale of horses had been able to buy a two horse wagon and harness. This spirit of enterprise on the part of Reuben had stimulated many others who are desirous of following his example.

The tribe possessed a great many horses and quite a number of cattle and they evince a great desire to improve their stock with American

Wash. Suptcy. Microcopy 5, roll 21, letters from agts. and employees of Suptcy. Nez Perce and Umatilla Agencies, Jan. 24, 1856-May 15, 1864.

Office Indian Agency, Walla ~~Walla~~ Walla Valley, W.T. August 2d, 1859

Sir:

In accordance with regulations of the Indian service I herewith transmit this my annual report...

In assuming the duties of Indian (sic) in October last I was located in Shoal Water Bay in charge of the Coast Indians...

In accordance with instructions in January I proceeded to Walla Walla Valley and relieved sub-agent Craig and took charge of all the Indians east of the Columbia River ~~near~~ in Washington Territory with the exception of the Flatheads in charge of Sub-Agent Owen. Subsequently Major Lugenbeel was appointed Special Agent for the Indians located in the region of country near Fort Colville. The creation of Major Lugenbeel's agency left me in charge of the Cayuses, Walla Walla, Nez Perce, Palouse and Spokane Tribes.

Cayuses... Walla Wallas...3

Nez Perce

This tribe who have been the friends of the whites since the visit of Lewis and Clark to the country, having protected and saved the lives of Gov. Stevens and his party in 1855, organized a party who served with Col. Wright during his campaign against the hostiles last year and during every exigency where the whites have needed friends been their firm allies, are entitled to great consideration on the part of the government.

I have within a few days returned from "Weipie" in the Bitter Root mountains where near all the tribe assemble yearly to dig camas, where I remained eight days encamped with about 3,000 of the tribe.

...I had but little trouble in refuting these rumors withall but one chief, Eagle From the Light, who claimed to the last that they had not

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Saturday, July 23, 59

(Treaty council excerpts)

...Joseph, chief, spoke as follows: I want to tell you my heart. I am a red man. I have my opinion about this country. We should make up our minds before we talk. "hen we made a treaty with Gov. Stevens the line was drawn. I know where it is. You told us right yesterday. It is as you said. "hen Gov. Stevens made the line he wanted a certain chain of mountains. I said no. "e wanted it to hunt in, not for myself but for my children, but my word was doubted.

The line was made as I wanted it not for me but my children that will follow me. There is where I live and there is where I want to leave my body. The land on the other side of the line is what we gave the great father.

Washington Suptcy. Microcopy 5, roll 21, letters from agts. and
employees of Suptcy. Nez Perce and Umatilla Agencies, Jan 24-1856-May 15, 1860

Camp "Weipie"

Bitter Root Mountains, July 19, 1859

Hon E.R. Geary,

Supt. Ind. Affairs, Salem, Ore.

Sir:

I arrived here on the 17th inst. having found the distance
farther than I anticipated.

I have had interviews with Looking Glass, Joseph and Quie-quie-sten of
the party opposed to the treaty, and they express themselves perfectly
satisfied. I am of the opinion that the other chiefs of this party
except Eagle from the Light, who is hostile, will be satisfied with
full explanations made them. I don't know to what extent the dissatisfaction
exists amongst the young men. I will not hold a council until I learn
the feelings of the whole tribe.

An Indian came from the Flathead country (2)
last night and states there had been a fight betw en the Snakes and
soldiers somewhere near Fort Hall and that the Snakes had taken all the
horses of the troops.

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
your etc.

A.J. Cain, Ind. Agt. W.T.

Washington Suptc. Microcopy 5, roll 21, letters from agts. and employees of Suptcy. Nez Perce and Umatilla Agencies Jan 24, 1856-May 15, 1864.

Office Indian Agency, Walla Walla Valley W.T.

July 9, 1859

Hon E.R. Geary, Supt. Indian Affairs, Salem, Oregon

Sir:

Lawyer and a number of chiefs of his party visited me during the past week and I announced to them the confirmation of treaties at which they seemed much pleased. They have returned to take all their people to the root grounds to meet me upon my arrival there about a week hence. None of Looking Glass or Josephs' party have yet visited me (?) I learn they will be at the root grounds. Nearly all the Indians of this valley have gone there and will not express their opinions about the treaties until after they have conferred with the other Indians....

P.(2(

I received an express from Mr. Hughes this morning to the effect that dissatisfaction prevailed amongst a portion of the Nez Perce north of Snake river headed by Three Feathers, Skloom and Kamaiakun. I will learn the truth of this information during my absence. I expect to meet Kamaiakun and Skloom.

It will be about three weeks, the journey requiring five days going and five days returning.,,

I have directed that none but the chiefs of the Nez Perce should visit the agency and then only on business with a view to break up the illegal traffic with them [he refers to whiskey]

I have the honor to be

etc. A.J. Cain, Ind. Agent W.T.

Washington Suptcy. Microcopy 5, roll 21, letters from agts. and employees of Suptcy. Nez Perce and Umatilla Agencies Jan. 24, 1856-May 15, 1864.

Office Indian Agency

Walla Walla Valley April 16, 59

Hon J.W. Nesmith,

Supt. Ind. Affairs, Salem, Oregon

Sir:

Within the last three weeks Spokane Garry and several of the chiefs of the Spokanes have visited me and ~~xxx~~ expressed a great desire to be at peace and to make a treaty for the sale of their lands, that they may go upon a reservation. They say ~~they~~ have been much suffering amongst their people during the past winter for want of food, and that they are in a state of destitution; this statement is true but the spring is now opening and they will be able to get their summer supply of roots and fish.

All the chiefs and head men of the Nez Perce tribe have ~~xxx~~ either been, or sent delegations to see me to learn the intentions of the government toward them. They are anxious that (2) their treaty should be ratified and carried out. They have experienced a severe winter and lost a great deal of stock.

There is much evident dissatisfaction amongst the Indians of this valley, but I have been able to induce them to proceed as usual in the cultivation of their gardens and the collecting of their summer supply of roots and fish promising them protection for their gardens and stock.

....A.J. Cain, Ind. Agt. W.T.