

Star Route
Naches, Washington
April 30, 1959

Mr. Click Relander
Box 736
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Relander:

I am writing a history of the Nile and Upper Naches. In your contact with the Wanapums, was there a mention of Tatah-num? Mrs. Splawn told me this was the Indian name for the Nile; that it was a popular camp because of the near-by root and berry grounds; that actually this was their meaning for the place.

She said that here grew the Indian hemp, called tahoos. I presume this is the same as that mentioned by you in Drummers and Dreamers called mook-see. You say it grew on Crab Creek, near Zillah and below Union Gap on the River. She said it was very scarce, one of the few growing places being Tatah-num; and that it is now extinct.

Yet Erna Gunther, anthropologist at the University, says she is surprised at mention of its scarceness, "for it is used so widely in the whole plateau region for cordage". The hemp she speaks of is *Apocynum cannabinum*; do you know whether this is the same?

I would very much like to see a specimen, as I have made quite a study of native flora.

About ten years ago I spoke momentarily to a woman picking service berries at Cottonwood Camp, near the Naches Ranger Station. She said she was of the River People and her people had gathered berries from that bush for many, many years. Could it be possible I was speaking to Amowy, head food gatherer for the Last Wanapums? When did she pass away?

When the Yakima Valley Historical Society meets on the Nile in June, I am to plan an itinerary for them; I have thought of showing them the original burial place of So-happy. Have you visited this spot? It is possible there are still undisturbed burials in the vicinity. Early residents say that So-happy's body was removed (you, too, say so), and that some of the others were when a road was built through the area. There are curious trenches in the "shell rock" with "paint" markings at intervals.

I have read of the Kettle Falls Indians rocking up circular pits of good size for baking camas. Have you seen any in the Yakima Valley? I have found a pit, as I remember it, about five feet deep and perhaps four in diameter, but I don't recall evidence of charcoal in the bottom. However it is located on a "hot ridge"; perhaps this is the reason for its being there.

On Alexander Ross' map he marked the E'yack-ema River; and the tributaries he had these tribes marked: Inas-petsum, Ilspege-chum, Incomecanetook. Do these mean anything to you?

And on McClellan's map he had the Tieton River marked Quai-wai-chess. Does this name strike any note?

Evidently Bumping Lake and Bumping River were called Taneum or Tanum. Do you know the meaning of this? Perhaps Tanum, Tatahnum and Nanum all pertain to meeting places.

Alexander Caulfield Anderson, HBC, when taking cattle over the range from Colville in 1841, said he was helped by Swanapums to gather cattle from the lower Yakima. Do you suppose this is the Wanapums? He said they went over the Snowhomish Pass; yet over the shoulder of Mt. Rainier. At that time it was not known by whites where the various rivers headed; yet it does seem that the Indians would have known the various passes. This was the year that the Naches had been explored for the HBC, so perhaps Anderson was calling the Naches the Snowhomish. McClellan was told by a guide that the Snowhomish and Kittitas were the same.

Have you ever heard it mentioned that the scaffolding for the execution of the Perkins' murderers was cut on the Nile and floated down the river? Some people think this was a far distance to take timbers; yet if some enterprising men, in the habit of cutting logs there, should undertake to supply the timbers, might you not think it plausible? The Ahtanum would hardly have been a stream fit for transporting logs, and I do believe the idea of log drives was just being initiated.

Perhaps you would care to come to the Historical Society meeting in June. The date has not been set, but it will be on a Sunday at the Nile Women's Club House. It begins at noon with a picnic. Should you be interested, let me know.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Norman Gossett

Star Route
Naches, Washington
May 7, 1959

Dear Mr. Relander:

I appreciate your kindness in answering so many of my questions. I have recently joined the Yakima County Historical Society and the Washington Historical Society, thanks mostly to your suggestion. The former is the one to which I referred in my last letter, but the meeting which I had hoped to have here in June has been postponed until August. However, I think I will make an attempt to gather as many old timers of the Nile for a meeting at the Women's Club House the second Sunday in June, which will be June 7.

I want to verify as much of my information as possible, though most of it has already been checked and double-checked. I am now working on pictures, and hoping to be through with it all this summer.

Mrs. Ann Smith is now working out a map of the old trails and also one of the early ditches, which she plans to finish soon.

I have gotten the Wilkes report from the State Library, and the Railroad Reports from various sources; and I have something even better. I was not satisfied with some of the things in the Railroad Report, so I got a photocopy of McClellan's Journal and Diary for the period he was in here. I believe the material was well worth the cost. Who am I to judge value?

I have been trying for a long time to run down the howitzer story. Milt Burge told me the tale, and that of John Edgar. Four men have reported finding the howitzer, but so far I haven't !

The "Giant's Place" or the "token leaving place" are completely new subjects to me. Splawn tells the story of So-happy's death in Kamiakin, p. 87-88. A similar story is told in The History of Central Washington, Ed., Schiach. The scene is laid at the mouth of the Nile. Old settlers showed me the cedar strips which they said had at one time been a half canoe; and that when the body (or remains) was removed the canoe had been split into strips and stuck into the rocks in a circle around the grave site, in the manner of fence palings.

As I looked over my notes from Mrs. Splawn, I found that she said Ta-tan-um was the spot chosen as homesite by Andy McDaniel because his Indian friends had suggested it, and that Tap-e-tas was the name for the Nile bottom. Could it be that this idea of "heartland" or "homeland" was applied by some of the Indians because of the burial (and death) of the chief there?

I don't want to disagree just for the sake of argument, but logs had been cut on the Nile and transported by water as early as the '70's, and from then on for quite a time. Some were floated to the Union Ditch, and on down the ditch. Many were sold to the NP. Hop poles had been cut in abundance, too. My point is: the men who were engaged in this were "on the ball"; probably they got a contract to deliver the poles, not because there were not

others available, but simply because they got ahead of other contractors. Milt Burge and Walter Lindsey told me about this, but I have never been able to contact the others to whom they directed me. They have either died or become too enfeebled.

The meeting at the Cowich Grange Hall last Sunday was most enlightening. I enjoyed it very much. I had not joined any group before because of my isolation (Lodgepole, the farthest highway camp toward Chinook Pass), but I can see where it could have been advantageous to me if I had done so sooner.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Norman Gossett

Mrs. Norman Gossett

Star Route
Naches, Wash.
Sept. 19, 1960

Dear Mr. Relander,

I am attempting a study of place names on the Naches, but have had no contact with the Indians to learn from them. Since you offered to assist me in my study I am eager to take you up. Since I live out sixty miles, and usually do not know in advance whether I shall be down or not, how will it be if I take a chance and call you when I am in town?

Whatever old names I have encountered have been from old maps; from Meany's Origin of Washington Geographic Names; and from talks with old timers.

For Bumping Lake and River I have found the names Tanum, Tannum, Taneum, Plenham. Perhaps it is not unusual that these names should be so similar to some on the Kittitas side of the spur. On the other hand, it is possible that early map-makers merely shifted the Indian names (or an Indian's attempt to differentiate a place where some event took place). Meany said the "Indians were industrious in applying names and inventive...they made special names for rocks and places...no names for mountain ranges and bays". I guess from what I have read that neither were they in the habit of naming full rivers, but only the portion to which a certain significance was applied. From your letter of last year I learned that Taneum signifies "homeland, fatherland, close-to-heart"; therefore probably the Bumping was a special place. I know that there are legends about it.

You mentioned a legend about the "Token Leaving Place" or "Giant's Place" in the vicinity of Edgar Rock. I would very much appreciate having this story. I have also been told that two Indian women first filed on a homestead (or timber claim) near the present Edgar Rock, across the river. I have not yet been able to learn who these women were.

Have you been told of the name Wapatox for the vicinity of Naches? John Beck says it means "warm valley".

Were you told the Indians' name for Pyramid Peak? On old maps I have found Ikes, Aiks/. Actually McClellan was naming that peak, Ikes; but somehow his name became attached to the peak up the Rattlesnake.

In Drummers and Dreamers, p. 180 I believe, you mentioned the quake of 1872 which caused slides along the Naches River, 80 miles upstream. Can you tell me of any specific locations?

One more question: may I borrow your Indian Agency microfilm for the period about 1862?

Sincerely,
Metta Gossett
(Mrs. Norman Gossett)

[Fort Simcoe]

Star Route, Box 143
Naches, Wash.
Oct. 31, 1962

Dear Mr. Relander,

As you probably know, the historical society plans to meet at White Swan on November 11 to form a caravan for viewing the Mill Creek sites--hope the weather holds up.

Our guide, John Shipocot, is the son of Cedar Valley homesteaders in 1904. The homesteaders used the military road; for this reason, and because of other activity, Shipocot knows quite a lot about Mill Creek.

He has shown me traces of the road, the sawmill site and the "brick yard;" also the source of raw material for the bricks. From the George Olney reminiscences I have gleaned information on the mill, but nowhere have I been able to find out about this particular brick yard.

Because I know that you are swamped with inquiries, and already have more than your share of work cut out for you, I hesitate to ask your assistance. Perhaps you can simply tell me of a source of information.

I have searched whatever written material I could find on Fort Simcoe and Father Wilbur; conferred with Ruth Mottley, Thelma Kimmell and Helga Travis; and talked with Ross Morris, Roscoe Hause and John Shipocot. Soon as I can get her address, I shall write Mrs. Bartholet. (I live sixty miles from town, far from a telephone.)

If you can give me a source of information on the Mill Creek brick yard I shall be most grateful.

It is hoped that you will be free to join us on Nov. 11.

Very truly yours,

Gretta Gossett

(Mrs. Norman Gossett)

P. S. In case you are interested, I have in my hands the Abstract of Title to a goodly portion of Union Gap real estate, dating back to 1875. I believe that permission for you to use this could be easily procured.

GG

Star Rt., Box 143
Naches, Wash.
Nov. 5, 1962

Dear Mr. Relander,

Thanks so much for your letter concerning the brick yards, and so forth, connected with Fort Simcoe.

As far as homesteaders on parts of the reservation which were at first incorrectly surveyed, I too think this is an interesting subject. But while some people tend to think that the homesteaders were at fault for usurping Indian land, there is another facet to the story. While I haven't spent much time in going into the background of this thing, I am inclined to believe that the same promoter--or group--who lured the French and Dutch settlers to the Moxee, also were responsible for the Cedar Valley immigrants, and perhaps others. With extravagant and false claims, and fictitious pictures, they dangled before the eyes of oppressed European emigrants then in Chicago such wondrous prospects that they scimped and saved in every way possible to get to their promised land. Such a letdown for those tenement dwellers when they, so inexperienced, tried to make a living from the soil on the slopes of Mount Adams!

I have lately been re-reading Lyman on this subject. Of course he agreed with Jay Lynch and others on the advisability of allotting lands in severalty to the Indians. And I am not so sure but what he sympathized with those who thought the good lands of the reservation were being wasted on the Indians; and that eventually the lands should be dispersed among whomever wanted them; and that the tribesmen should be amalgamated among the community.

One thing I do know: for the ~~many~~ few homesteaders who remained for a time in Cedar Valley, some of whom moved into White Swan, good relations and abiding friendship with the Yakimas were their lot. That is, after they had weathered the early period of resentment.

Sincerely,

Gretta Gossett

(Mrs. Norman Gossett)

Star Rt., Box 143
Waches, Wash.
Jan. 23, 1963

Gentlemen:

Please reserve for me a copy of "Strangers
on the Land."

Very truly yours,

Gretta Gossett

(Mrs. Norman Gossett)

enc/\$2.25

[Mrs. Norman Gossitt]

Star Rt., Box 143
Naches, Wash.
April 2, 1963

Dear Mr. Relander,

Please forgive me for asking so much of you. I have not yet been able to locate McWhorter's material on the death of So-happy, although I have searched diligently. I have at hand Nelson Ault's calendar of the McWhorter papers on file in Washington State University archives. If you have a notation on the file which the So-happy material has been placed, will you be so kind as to tell me.

In my local history I have cited THE YAKIMAS 1855-1955 as a source of information (providing I have your permission to do so,) in the following instances:

...Owhi trailed his cattle over Naches Pass. (p. 78)

Receiving goods in exchange for the land, which could be cut up into individual plots, was a new concept. Different too was the Indian way of parleying. This rush, rush, with no time for dickering or rebuttals, left them with a feeling of unfinished business.

Fort Simcoe had a flash in the pan when workmen dug up a twenty dollar nugget, but this soon subsided, and the men joined the dash to the north.

In 1836 McLoughlin traded some cattle to Kamiakin for "cayuses." These cattle were trailed over the mountains to Yakima.

In 1860 the Indian agent at Fort Simcoe contracted for 100 head of cattle to be driven up from Linn County, Oregon.

Also citing from DRUMMERS AND DREAMERS I have written:

Smohalla....never accept allotment...hoping against hope that the sacred ground at Priest Rapids would be left to his people. Even this finally went, even though there were only a small handful of the tribe left to oversee the removal of sacred objects when the Priest Rapids dam was built on the Columbia.

Also quoting you as an authority, from a letter to me:

[Tah-tanum]...said to mean "Fatherland" or "Place of the heart."

In a footnote I have written:

Click Relander, modern historian of the Yakima Valley, and particularly of the Indians, has written (Yakima Herald, 6/16/60) that sheep were brought to Fort Simcoe in 1857; and that Joseph Watt, Lucien Heath and R. P. Boise brought to the Yakima Valley in 1861 a large flock of royal lineaged sheep, but they could not endure the severe winter of that first season.

And in the text I have written:

(According to Click Relander, the first animosity against the introduction of sheep in the Yakima Valley was in 1871.)

Judging from the number of citations credited to your work, it would seem that I might be relying on you entirely, but I assure you that is not really the case. The work has dragged out to quite an extent, and references are primarily to documents, with also quite a number of reminiscences credited to personal interviews.

I would like you to know that I have a copy of STRANGERS ON THE LAND, which I treasure. I enjoy it very much.

Sincerely,

Bella Gossett

(Mrs. Norman Gossett)

Star Rt., Box 143
Naches, Wash.
April 8, 1963

Dear Mr. Relander,

Your letter of April 5 was most welcome.

Since you seem to be interested somewhat in the work I am doing, I shall try to explain: I call it a local history; perhaps more properly it is regional. It began as a club project: the women wanted me to collect reminiscences and write them up. Since I had not studied Washington state history (having been reared in Montana), I began to feel the need of background knowledge. This has led to fifteen years of study. I have no professional status as a writer, nor do I have any college degrees.

The bulk of my information has come from the State Library, but also I have much from the National Archives, Philosophical Society, various universities and a number of historical quarterlies. This I got to after perusing high school and college text books. One thing led to another.

I have attempted to be entirely factual, using copious footnotes, but have also included a modicum of whimsy (very slight.) An index is planned; many photographs have been collected (I learned to copy these with an 8 x 10 view camera); some drawings have been made (perhaps there will be more); and a number of historical maps will be included. Permission to publish various maps has been granted. Also I have permission from the Hudson's Bay people to use some hitherto unpublished material.

Ten chapters have been completed, and seven are in rough draft. These include: Northwest background, as it affected the Nile area and Naches headwaters; Naches Pass; Yakima War of 1855-58 as it touched this area (I am not attempting to fight the war over again); prospecting and mining in this area; short geological background; livestock industry, mainly here, but touching on all northwest; final Indian outbreak as it touched here; the railroad era; Nile settlement; mountain dwellers and Forest Service; hopes for highways and railroads; forest management and fire prevention; source of irrigation water; logging industry here; forest recreation; yarns both old and new (here I would like to include a few legends of the tribesmen); place names.

Several years ago Richard Berner, at the UW Library, suggested the University Press might be interested in printing a chapter from my work--sort of a sample. A short time ago I mailed to Doctor Gates my chapter on the livestock industry, which I call "Receding Ranges." That is the reason I wrote you for permission to cite your work. (There has not yet been time for a reply from Dr. Gates.)

I have made every attempt to keep my work entirely original, using only source material as far as possible. Where I did not have

access to the sources, I have in some instances, such as yours, asked permission to cite from the text of published material.

All in all, I finally feel that I am accomplishing a creditable piece of work; but it is hard for an amateur to judge his own work. I would welcome such advice as yours, but I hesitate to ask too much. I think perhaps the main criticism might be that I have gone at this too ambitiously for what is after all a territory of minor significance. But I feel that just as the Indians came here to a place "close to their hearts," the whites are in greater numbers seeking, for retreats away from the busy life of the valleys. Besides this almost spiritual seeking, I have the commercialized drive of people attempting, for more than a hundred years, to connect eastern and western Washington by way of Naches Pass. This is my theme.

You are kind to put so much time and effort to work for me; I surely do appreciate it. Really it is more than one could expect.

The reason I keep harping back to So-happy is that local legend has it that the original So-happy (I presume the original) (and I know this is not your pronunciation) was shot here on the Nile in 1858. I told you about the burial in slide rock supposed to have been his. It is possible the settlers here got their idea from Spawn's KAMIAKIN, p. 88. It would be interesting to read Louis Mann's Comment on Spawn's Kamiakin" (McWhorter Papers, 1548 (3)).

The word "Tah-tanum" (as well as Tap-e-tas) was given me by Margaret Splawn in 1948, with permission to quote her as an authority. She did not say she knew a meaning for either word; but she and Andy McDaniel, early Nile settler, and earlier in the Yakima, had often discussed the Indians on the Nile. Margaret Larson (Splawn) was the first Nile teacher in 1891. Several years ago you wrote me at length on your study with the Indians concerning "tanum" and so forth.

As to my study on the livestock industry, I have gone into some "ancient history," rather glossed over the beginnings in central Washington, and concentrated on this area. I would be most interested in your material on arbitration between the factions, but since I have already submitted that chapter to Dr. Gates, perhaps I am too late there. From your writings in the Herald I have gathered that you had some source material on the settling of range disputes on National Forest land. This is what I have sought for years, but I have worked around it. Much of the material for that chapter came from reminiscences; I know this is a doubtful source, but by interviewing countless people over fifteen years, there has actually been a great deal of cross examination which the interviewees would not suspect.

I do appreciate your typing the Archer material. Some of this I have clipped from your writings in the Herald. I had no intention of using your information however without permission. Of course direct reference to the Archer Letters in your possession, or the Dalles Mountaineer, is I know the best policy, and one which I

have generally followed.

I have typed material from a number of sources on the Johnson (Wilkes) expedition over Naches Pass in 1841; the Brackenridge journal I have copied in its entirety (the portion of this area). Also I have covered the Pacific Railroad Reports; and I have portions of McClellan's Diary and Journal from the National Archives. I have studied the Olympia Columbian, the Pioneer and Democrat, the Oregon Spectator and other newspaper files for Naches Pass material. Also have notes on Lt. Richard Arnold's report.

Shaw

On the war I have a copy of W. W. DeLacy's Diary of the expedition in 1856; "The Yakima Campaign of 1856", ed. Bischoff; copies of documents on file with Col. Field at Camp Murray, as well as his published material on the militia and National Guard. Also I have copied letters and reports from the Senate Executive Documents, 34th Congress, 3d session.

Among the latter is one from George Wright, dated 5/30/56, which states: "...throwing up a field work, of earth and gabions of dimensions sufficient to contain a company or two & all our stores. This Depot will enable me to move unincumbered with a large pack train."

On July 18th, Wright wrote: "Since leaving Fort Naches, this command has marched..."

I have also used Stevens' letters, and other sources.

Kennedy's The Pioneer Campfire I have not seen. I believe I have read your reference to it in the newspaper.

As to mushrooms, our own preference is to the Shaggy Manes which come with the warm fall rains, and grow through hard-packed borders of the forest roads. But I have happy recollections of gathering Morels. When the sun attains enough strength to bring about a heavy snow melt, then the rivers rise, and at the same time the Morels spring up in the woods from 2000 feet elevations to 4000. (usually May)
The woods species are generally much scattered, but some years in the meadows they can be gathered in abundance. By getting permission from Tillie Sprick, who lives on the ranch where the immigrant road came down into the Nile from the Wenas (her house is above the highway near Elkridge Lodge) you should be able to locate mushrooms on the river side of the field and pasture which lie between the highway and the river. Another likely spot is (or used to be) Quartz Creek (West), tributary to Crow C., which is trib. to Little Naches. Drive to Crow Creek Guard Station and walk up the creek. You can stop at the Naches Ranger Station for directions if need be, but I shall include a map.

My husband and I live on American River, sixty miles west of Yakima, at the Lodgepole highway maintenance camp. This is 7½ miles east of Chinook Pass on Highway 410. We would be most happy to have you visit us, but please let us know when to expect you so that we will be here. We are 25 miles from a phone, so I do not use one...

Again I thank you. If I should learn that the Morels are out, I will let you know. I am looking forward to a visit with you and Mrs. Relander.

Gretta Gossett

Star Rt., Box 143
Naches, Wash.
April 15, 1963

Dear Mr. Relander,

Partly at your suggestion, I became interested in tracing and mapping the old trails and early roads of this area. Last year Joe Slavin appointed me to head a committee in the historical society on the subject. The outcome has so far resulted in the society's caravan last fall to the Mill Creek district, where we viewed portions of the military road and the Eel Trail. I had also located the sawmill site on Mill Creek & the brick yard, but the date set by the society's board members was so late in the fall that mud prevented us from visiting some of the sites the day of the tour. (At the meeting I read a 26-page paper on the subject; this should be with the minutes at the museum.)

The board has now decided to repeat the tour (complete with invitations to the governor, etc.), this time to place markers at locations of interest. And a program is planned at Fort Simcoe. Date: May 19.

I know that you have done considerable research on the subject and would appreciate your cooperation. The foresters connected with the Indian agency have "from time to time, carried on some research on the old military road location but the pieces must be fitted together for coherence," writes Melvin Robertson. He continues with the hope that sometime during this winter he will have had time to assemble the desired data, but I have not heard from him since December 12. Have you worked with the Indian Service on this matter, or with the Indians themselves?

I tried last year to interest some of the Indians, but was unable to make connections. Ross Morris tells me that Billy Adams is a good source of information, that he has one daughter at the Indian Agency, and another with some government connection at White Swan. My information came indirectly from Eagle Seelatse, through John Shipocot, who directed me last summer.

Also I have used McWhorter material.

Joe Slavin, Homer Splawn and I, with John Shipocot if we can get him, plan to again reconnoitre the tour. (Splawn and Slavin still do not know the exact whereabouts of some of the sites.) If you could possibly accompany us, or if I could confer with you before hand, I would surely appreciate it.

Sincerely yours,

Gretta Gossett

(Mrs. Norman Gossett)

Naches, Wash.
Star Rt., Box 143
Nov. 12, 1963

Dear Mr. Relander:

Please forgive my stubbornness when I insist that Fort Naches was made of gabions. I have a copy of Wright's letter of May 30th from two different sources (Senate Ex. Doc. No. 5, 34th Cong., 3rd Sess.; Serial Set, No. 876) in which he states:

"I am now throwing up a field work, of earth and gabions of dimensions sufficient to contain a company or two & all our stores. The Depot will enable me to move unimcumbered with a large pack train."

My guess is that the above-mentioned "structure" was the actual fort as known by the earliest settlers on the Naches; and that the outposts as shown in Whiting's diagram were "fox holes" with a willow screen surrounding each. The mess I should presume to have been the bower type structure as mentioned by Archer. As for the stables, that has me stumped. To me a corral would have been more appropriate.

I am most eager to hear from Whiting as to his source of information on the diagram. One thing is certain: the property lines are accurate. The three river courses as depicted would also bear out the pioneer tales on the area.

Fifteen years ago Milton Burge was not only very sharp in describing situations and events of the past, but he was also keenly interested. As a nine-year-old lad he rode over the trail from The Dalles to the Naches with his father in 1870. His father apparently was a remarkable man (I have done quite a little research on the Burges) who did his best to explain to his son the details of the Indian war in which he had taken part; also the Naches explorations of 1853. The events of the period in which he did not participate were nevertheless told and retold to his son by acquaintances--men of his ilk.

Milton's recollections of the fort as he first saw it are of elliptical baskets filled with rocks and dirt, most of which were broken and awry, but some were still in position. The fort at that time sat "right on the river bank." High water wiped it out ten years later.

William Denton, in the first wagon train to the upper Naches in 1876, said that at the time of the "Indian scare" in 1879 many tales were related of Naches settlers going to Fort Naches for protection, but actually by then "there was nothing there but a string of rocks and dirt piled up." For one night the Denton's went to the home of Powell on the South Naches--then went home.

In one of your letters you said that I might borrow your copy of Kennedy's The Pioneer Campfire; if it is convenient I would very much like to take you up on the offer.

Sincerely,

Gretta Gossett

Nov. 13, 1963

Dear Mr. Relander,

Your letter and mine must have crossed trails enroute. You went to quite a lot of trouble to look up, and type, so much material on the nonexistence of Fort Nachess; and I certainly do appreciate all that you have done.

Possibly you have missed some of Wright's letters. The complete series of his letters, The Yakima Campaign of 1856, was published by William N. Bischoff, S.J., in "Mid-America", July, 1949, "for the first time exactly as it was written." Lyman Bissell's topographical sketch of the expedition (original in files of the Chief of Engineers, Cartographic Division of The National Archives) is included in the publication. On it is marked "Ft. Nachess".

I do not contend that the "fort" was meant to be permanent. Wright sent outriders up all the streams in search of building logs, which could not be found at any satisfactory distance from a spot which he might choose for a fort. He also wanted timber for "Block houses at the crossings." (5/6/56) Also he was anxious to "establish a depot," since "our large pack train requires a heavy guard, and my force is not sufficient to justify the separation." (5/11/56) On May 18 he wrote, "Good pine timber doubtless abounds in the mountains; but it cannot be floated down the Na-chess, as suggested by Capt. Cram."

After examining carefully the Simcoe Valley, Wright decided upon building there; and on August 3 wrote that he had "abandoned the Camp on the Nachess."

I hope to see Mrs. Little on this coming Saturday. From your Archer material and the Wright letters, and some drawings of arbors by Sohon and Stieffel, of which I have copies, perhaps she can visualize the scene.

I have a fairly extensive collection of maps, many of which I have simply traced from the Railroad Reports and so on. On maps which I have borrowed from the State Library, but only taken notes, I believe the Fort was marked, but cannot now be positive.

On an 1859 map compiled by the Bureau of Topographical Engineers for the Army is shown "Fort Nachess".

And on a J.K. Gill map of 1889 (which I do not find entirely accurate) is shown "Nachess" at the fort site.

As to my work for the historical tour and program, thank you. From notes in my files, a field day last July and correspondence it was planned and organized. Nothing to it. But it is nice to be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gretta Gossett

Nov. 16

Dear Mr. Relander,

Thanks for the book. I read it the first night, then took copious notes. It is very important to me. But I did not know what a valuable thing I was requesting. Am returning it today.

Also thank you for your interest otherwise. I shall write to Mr. Clark; had another question for him anyhow.

GG



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Click Relander
1212 N. 32nd Ave.
Yakima, Wash.

Star Rt., Box 143
Naches, Washington
Nov. 29, 1963

Mr. Click Relander
1212 N 32nd Ave.
Yakima, Wash.

Dear Mr. Relander:

Possibly Dr. Clark also wrote you re my search for information on Fort Naches. In case he did not, he wrote me:

"There appears to be no doubt whatever about the existence of Fort Naches, and also that it never was intended to be permanent. It is my opinion, based on information gathered during the 1930's, that the site of the encampment was eroded away by the river floods."

There was no mention of gabions because I had told him I have a drawing and information on constructing gabions from F.S. Trevelyan, Photographic History of the Civil War, Forts and Artillery, p. 207 (The Review of Reviews, N.Y., 1912).

He did suggest that it might be "barely possible that there be one in the National Archives in Washington, D.C." that is, there might be a sketch or drawing of the Fort Naches layout.

Sincerely,

Gretta Gossett

(Mrs. Norman Gossett)

Star Rt., Box 143
Naches, Wash.
July 10, 1964

Dear Mr. Relander:

Do you have a scenery picture, perhaps one with a band of sheep, which would represent a high Cascades ~~picture~~ view somewhere in the Naches drainage? The PNQ editor wants one for the July issue in which will appear a condensed version of my chapter on Receding Ranges. At this short notice I am at a loss. If you have something suitable will you please have an 8x10 glossy print made for me?

enc/\$2.00

Sincerely,

Gretta Gossett