

Office Nez Perces Indian Agency

Lapwai W.T. November 20, 1861

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that at the council of the chiefs of the Nez Perces tribe, held at this agency on the 2nd and 4th inst. which was convened by me for the purpose of ascertaining their sentiments and feelings of this people on the present and increasing numbers of white men visiting the mineral and other lands of their reservation, all the chiefs present at the council, fifty in number, expressed the kindest feelings towards the whites, were perfectly content that the gold fields should be worked and only required that they should be protected in their farming and grazing lands and that spiritous liquors should be kept out of their country. All the chiefs that are on the reservation, except three participated in the council. These three named Big Thunder, Joseph and Jessie represent forty five lodges or about three hundred and seventy five souls and have persistently been exposed to the whites from the initiation of the treaty to the present time, but they are of a small force in the tribe that the loyal Nez Perce will not allow their nation to be judged from the action of these contumacious (sic) ones. Therefore it should be taken that as the chiefs in the late council spoke so is the sentiments and desires of this people.

The proceedings on the first day of the council you are familiar with as you was here in person. I will recall to your mind, however that in reply to the inquiry if they had objections to the whites working their gold mines on any part of their reservation they said no~~x~~ they were perfectly willing that the white men should dig the gold as they and the young men did not want to dig it adding, however that when the whites dug all the gold out of their ground they wanted them to leave their country.

On the same day you asked them, in case that the white men would

desire to build stores and trade at Lewiston if they would yield their consent and suggested to them to think it over carefully and give their answer to me at the next meeting of the council. They did so and on the 4th ~~next~~ inst. they stated that they had no objections to the white men trading at Lewiston provided they traded "under the law."

In reply to what articles they wished furnished them for their next annuities they mentioned teams and waggon and apple trees, they also desired some other things of a trifling character to notice.

If it my opinion that this convention of the Indians will prove of benefit to them and of importance to the whites as from the showing of their dispositions it will place the anomalous relations of the whites and Indians in the country in a more comprehensible and manageable position.

Very Respectfully etc.

Your obt. svt.

Chas. Hutchins,

Ind. Agent W.T.

To B.F. Kendall esq.

Supt. Ind. Affrs. Olympia, W.T.

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

Office Nez Perces Indian Agency

Lapwai W.T. January 4th, 1862

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the 1st inst. of your letter written from Portland on the 14th Dec. last wherein you state that you had heard that notwithstanding your verbal instructions to the contrary, that I had caused that part of the Nez Perce reservation known as Lewiston to be surveyed into lots. I herewith inform you that I have not surveyed nor have I directed or authorized any survey into lots on this reservation, neither at Lewiston nor at any other point.

I have, however, since you left this place received a number of applications for license to trade on this reserve and at the point of Lewiston and in instances where the applicants possessed the qualification required by law and complied with all the provisions of the statute I have issued licenses to trade with the Nez Perces Indians. The reasons that I understand for adopting the policy of issuing licenses to trade without regard to the number issued I deem it proper that I should submit to your office. I would say however before relating such reasons that if I rightly understand your letter of the 14th Dec. you when here gave me verbal instructions not to issue licenses to trade. I have not the slightest recollection of any such instruction so given nor of any conversation that we had that would be likely to elicit such instruction. In fact the only time the subject was before us, you expressed an opinion that it would be impossible to enforce the laws concerning trade on this reserve that it would be impossible to prevent the introduction and sale of intoxicating liquors, and that as trading would be done without any control parties would not be trammelled with a trading license. But perhaps you did not intend to state that you gave any instruction to that point. At least your letter is not clear on

this item.

About the 15th of October last a man by the name of Capt.

A. Ankeny whose business in these parts last summer was that of packer and trader at Oro Fino visited Lewiston and by his instigation and council to others survey and map off that point as a town and at sundry meetings of those having the affair in charge they established the size of blocks and lots, the condition of obtaining and holding lots and in short did all that was necessary to put the town in operation and throughout the whole organization and effecting the scheme the said Ankeny was the directing genius and aided the work by personally measuring the lands and establishing monuments of ~~xxxx~~ boundaries. The implication of Ankeny in this business I have from the most creditable persons in Lewiston at that time and who are willing to certify the above facts before any judicial tribunal. For the law on such infractions I ~~lax~~ refer you to Act App. June 20, 1834 Sec. 11

A portion of this reservatio having thus been invaded by men with lawless designs I repaired to the point at as early a day as I could leave the Agency and by written notices posted in conspicuous places in Lewiston warned all white persons from building any houses, fences, establishing any monuments designating boundaries of tracts of land or cultivate any portion of the lands on this Indian Reservation and informed violators that all infractions of the law governing Indian territory would be prosecuted according to law. This notice for a while suspended town site operations and continued in the state of abeyance until about the first of Dec. I would here mention that I encountered an obstacle in feeling obliged to give an emphatic denial to what I believe to be a misrepresentation of you by what you was reported to have said to persons there when leaving Lewisto, v z: Not to pay any attention to any ~~whitexaxtinxxtkx~~ notices that the Indian authorities might put up against

building at this point, but go on and build at your pleasure. Such a remark as that alledged to have been made by you was so out of character with anything that you expressed to me and so perfectly inconsistent with your position and views for the adjustment of the anomalous condition of affairs on this reserve, that I utterly denied that you made such statement and the remark was silenced but I regret to say is yet remembered.

About the first of December last above mentioned Capt. Ankeny again visited Lewiston and although it has not come to my knowledge that he personally did anything further in the Lewiston ~~at~~ townsite, yet it is an active coincidence that from that moment a determined action was felt from all quarters to hasten and obtain lots and in a ~~hurry~~ about two weeks near a square mile of town was staked and fenced into streets, blocks and lots and at this time there were erected about a dozen wooden houses and near fifty other tenements of cloth, each severally built on lots by the squatters with the view of holding the same as <sup>more</sup> townlots and ~~more~~ wooden houses would have been built but for the scarcity of material.

Such being the condition of affairs at that point I will now state the action I have taken in the matter. During the last half of November a number of persons made application to me for license to trade under the laws which govern trade and intercourse with Indian tribes. All the applications were to trade at the point of Skee-me-na-kih (Lewiston) and each of the parties applying represented that they were actuated in their application to do business in the Indian country according to the form and under the restrictions required by law. The policy of granting numerous licenses ~~presented~~ presented itself strongly to my attention and on the other hand to deny applications to persons who were desirous of complying with the utmost terms of the statute I duly considered. By referring to the law of congress, App June 30, 1834,

I found the contemplation (?) of the statute to admit of any number of licensed traders in Indian country and that licenses might be granted by any Supt. Ind. Affrs or agent or sub-agent and before any trading license be delivered it is required that they be transmitted duly executed together with applications and testimonials to the commissioner of Ind. Affrs. for his approval or disapproval.

My right to grant licenses thus established the policy of doing so was next considered. When the large influx of citizens on this reservation is considered for the purpose of mining and other branches of business connected therewith and the consequent necessity that they be permitted to have accessible depots for obtaining supplies. (if all permitted to be on the reserve) it is simple common sense law and equity that under the peculiar and anomalous condition of affairs that exist here that facilities for trade should be given to such citizens who ~~possess~~ possess the requirements and are willing to comply and obey the restrictions that the law imposes on licensed traders. The care with which responsible and proper persons can obtain such licenses would naturally throw the trading element in the hands of such citizens as would not only have a pecuniary but a moral interest in maintaining the laws and peace of the Indian country and the full force of such interest would be directed to that end.

Under this view of the case I thought it my duty to grant trading licenses to such as applied and executed their bonds according to law which I have done to the number of seven. The said licenses, applications and bonds I transmit this day through your office to the Commissioner of Ind. Affs for his approval or disapproval. Some of the parties to whom licenses thus granted, desired that I should assign to them a specific tract of land on the site of Leaviston for the purpose of their trade, upon their selection of particular sites I made such assignment until the license of the commissioner of Ind. Affs. was had thereon.

The only further action that I have taken concerning the settlement at Lewiston was to make on the 16th Sept. last a requisition on Maj. Steen commdg. Ft. Walla Walla for a detachment of troops, and a similar requisition on the 23rd November on Lt. Col. Lee, comdy. Ft. Walla Walla to preserve the laws of the United States and prevent infractions of the treaty of the United States with the Nez Perce nation. Neither of these requisitions have been supplied. Also in my letter to you of the 16th Sept. I invited your aid to procure troops for this reservation. Without the presence of troops it is impossible to enforce the laws of the United States on this Reserve. The town of Lewiston will be built despite the laws and proclamations of officers, the rivers and streams will be cut up with ferries, squatters will settle down on every part of arable land, the fences of the Indians will be burned for fire wood by travellers, their horses and cattle will be stolen without redress, whiskey is and will be sold to them without an effort at concealment and the Indians will be overreached, plundered and destroyed and but one defence, that of taking up arms for their very existence. If my first requisition for troops had been furnished the moral influence of their presence here would have been sufficient to keep all the current violations in check, but from the start the law breakers have got by such absence during the winter, it will take at least half a regiment to be as efficient in the spring coming as half a company ~~would~~ would be now.

I trust that the reasons herein given for issuing licenses to trade on this reserve will prove satisfactory to you ~~and that you~~ and that you will cooperate with me in the policy of requiring all trade on this reservation, at least outside of the mining limits and especially in the neighborhoods where the Indians reside, to be done according to law. Very respectfully, your obt. svt. Chas. Hutchins to B.F. Kendall, supt. Ind. Affs. Olympia.

File Microcopies of Records of the National Archives: No. 5

Roll 23

Records of the Washington Superintendency of Indian Affairs,  
1853-1874

Miscellaneous Letters Received August 22, 1853-April  
9, 1861. The National Archives. Washington: 1945

On this roll are reproduced the letters received from Isaac I. Stevens, Governor and ex-officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs of Washington Territory, and the letters relative to Washington Territory received from James W. Nesmith and the Reverend Edward R. Geary, superintendents of Indian Affairs for Oregon and Washington, from writers other than the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and officials or other employees of the Superintendency assigned to its local jurisdictions August 22, 1853 - April 9, 1861.

Most of the letters are from the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon (before June 1857), from officers of the United States Army and the Washington Territorial Volunteers, from applicants for employment, from friends or enemies of such applicants, and from citizens presenting claims, complaints or suggestions.

..... Since the letters reproduced on this roll are not numbered, they may be cited by writer and date, as follows: National Archives, records of the Washington Superintendency of Indian Affairs, Letters received (miscellaneous), John Doe to Superintendent, May 1, 1855

Application for licence to Gov. Isaac I. Stevens of Washington Territory to trade with the Flathead and Pend d'Orille Indians in the St Mary's Valley and the Coeur d'Alene and Spokane Indians on Spokane River hereby makes application to you for a license to trade with the tribes aforesaid. ~~He~~ He proposes to employ a capital of four thousand dollars and the following men, Francois Fader, Baptiste ~~Uaka~~ Lolo as laborers. Fort Owen, St. Mary's Valley W.T. (?) B. Owen, Sept. 29, 1852 (Sic)

(Copy of license tetc. to W.B. Owen, S. Mary's Valley, Oct 1, 1853 ( sic)

Washington Sup̄rintendency, letters received, no. 5, roll 23

Be it known that (Mas?) B. Owen at St. Mary's Valley having filed his application before me for a license to trade with the Flathead and Pend Oreille Indians in the St. Mary's Valley and the Coeur d'Alene and Spokane Indians on the Spokane River and having executed and filed with me a bond in the final sum of five thousand dollars with D.L. Arnold and (W or L) B. Lander as sureties conditioned as required by law for the faithful performance of all the laws and regulations ~~from~~ provided of the government, of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes and reposing especial trust and confidence in the patriotism humanity and correct business habits of the said applicant and being satisfied that he is a citizen of the U. States as required by law he is authorized to carry on the business of trading with the said tribes of Flatheads and Oreilles, Coeur d'Alene and Spokane Indians for the term of one year from the date hereof and to keep in his employ the following named persons or any of them in the capacities affixed to their names, respectively viz Francois Fader, Baptiste and Lo Lo laborers all of which persons I am satisfied from my own knowledge or from testimonials which have been placed in my hands sustain a fair character and are fit persons to be in the Indian country. Given under my hand and seal this first day of October, eighteen hundred & fifty three. Fort Owen St. Mary's Valley W.T.

Extract of a letter from Supt. Indian affairs, Oregon Territory to the Indian Bureau, Washington City, dated July 8, 1853

"The attention of the Department is solicited to the fact that the 46th deg of North Latitude -the designated boundary between Oregon and Washington Territories, traverses the territories of several Indian tribes-- the Walla Wallas, Cayuses, Nez Perces and others east of these, thus placing a ~~different~~ portion of each tribe in different superintendencies.

It is probable that the greater part of the Cayuse country is south of the territorial boundary while ~~an~~ large part of that of the Walla Walla is north.

The location of the country of the Nez Perces is not well ascertained, some contending that their whole country is north of the 46th parallel and others that a considerable part is on the south side.

Such instructions from the Department are required as may present a conflict of jurisdiction in the premises (?) between the superintendency & that of Washington Territory.

The boundaries between the Cayuses and the Walla Wallas are not well defined and a misunderstanding exists between them and in regard to a considerable tract of country within the limits of this territory. The interposition of the government to adjust the difficulty may be called for at an early day.

I would suggest the importance of early negotiations with the Walla Wallas, Cayuses, Nez Perces, Wascopams and Deschutes or Fall River Indians for the extinguishment of their titles respectively to the Territory held by them within the limits of this Territory. This would secure to us the country traversed by the route of emigration and include extensive tracts of country well adapted to pasturage

and agriculture which already attract notice and will be soon occupied by our enterprising citizens. The settlement of the whites there, without the consent of the Indians, would instantly provoke their hostility and legislation to provide for treating with these tribes on the subject of ceding their lands will claim the early attention of congress."

Extract of letter of July 8th, 1853 from Supt. Indian Affairs O.T. to Indian Bureau Dept. Washington City.

Office Superintendent of Indian  
Affairs, Dayton O.T. Dec. 26, 1853

Sir:

Your letter of the 7th instant inquiring whether I had received instructions from the Department to act as superintendent of Indian Affairs in Washington Territory till your arrival or had received an official notification of the removal of Mr. Starling from office, has this day been received.

In reply I beg leave to refer you to a letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs of March 6, 1853, a copy of which I inclose.

You will perceive that I was instructed in said letter to direct the predecessors of the respective appointees to turn over to them all moneys and other public property in their hands, upon...executing ~~expanding~~ to them the proper receipt therefor.

Mr. Thompson being absent in the states and the time of his arrival uncertain and believing it conducive to the general interest of Indian affairs under the authority of discretionary power granted in instructions of that office in regard to changing the designation of agents, I assigned Mr. Garrison instead of Mr. Thompson to relieve Mr. Starling as contemplated in the accompanying letter. Mr. Garrison accordingly called upon Mr. Starling, the result of which you are already advised. He then returned to this office for additional instructions but has subsequently resigned, leaving a vacancy in that district.

I am sir, very respectfully

your obt. servt.

Joel Palmer

superintendent.

His excellency

I.S. Stevens, Supt. Ind. Affairs.

Office Superintendent of Indian Affairs

Dayton O.T. Jany. 10th, 1854

Dear sir:

Your letter of the(?) instant requesting such information as may be in this office in respect to the management of the Indian tribes inhabiting the confines of the two territories in particularly in both jurisdictions, is this day received, and I cheerfully comply with your request so far as any statistical information desired from the records can be obtained.

The reports of General Lane and Lt. Dart late supt. differ in their estimates so materially in regard the numerical strength of the Walla Wallas, Nez Perces and Cayuses as to leave the subject in much uncertainty and the agent in that district has not yet reported to this office his estimate of the number of these tribes.

General Lane estimated the Walla Wallas at one thousand, Dr. Dart at one hundred and thirty! I am at a loss to account for such a discrepancy since no fatal malady raged in this tribe during the interval between the two enumerations to have so greatly reduced it, and my impression is that while the estimate of Gen. Lane is too high, that of Dr. Dart is too low.

The boundary between the Walla Wallas and Cayuses is not well definite but it is thought that but a small part of the territory of the former, if any, is within the limits of this territory. In General Lane's report the Walla Wallas are said to possess the country on the Columbia near Fort Walla Walla. Dr. Dart says they live principally on the waters of Walla Walla river.

My understanding of their boundary as derived from members of the tribe in 1848 is as follows:

Commencing on the south side of the Columbia river a short

distance above the mouth of the Uilla, it runs easterly so as to cross the Walla Walla about ten or twelve miles above Fort Walla Walla, thence northeasterly to the Snake river about twenty or twenty five miles from its mouth, thence down said river and across the Columbia to a point about 20 miles west of the last named river; thence southwesterly to the mouth of the first stream emptying into the Columbia on the north side, a little above the mouth of John Day's river.

In speaking of the Nez Perces Gen. Lane states that they "inhabit a large portion of the country on the Snake, Clear Water and Salmon rivers," and he estimates their total number at fifteen hundred. Dr. Dart says "they occupy a large tract of country north and east of the Cayuses and Walla Wallas" and "are divided into fifteen bands" which number in all 1880 souls." Their boundaries as I have understood them commenced on the south side of Snake river at the boundary of the Wallawallas, thence westerly with that boundary to the Too-shi or Toocannon river, I am not certain which, thence by the stream to the Blue Mountains thence crossing said mountains diagonally to Snake River about forty miles above the mouth of Salmon river, thence first in an easterly direction and then ~~northwesterly~~ northerly crossing Salmon river and Clear Water or KooKooskie river to the boundary of the Paloosies who inhabit the country in the fork of Snake and Columbia rivers; thence upon the boundary of the last named tribe westerly to Snake river ten or twelve miles below the Red Wolf's grounds which is about two miles below the Fluted Rocks. As to their numbers I do not think Gen. Lane's estimate sufficiently high. Their principal villages are south of Snake and Kooskooskie rivers. The largest band perhaps is known as Elli's band, till his death their head chief, reside on Salmon river. It is understood that the Nez Perces and Cayuses claim jointly the Grande Ronde, but neither tribe has unless

recently made any permanent settlement there. My knowledge of the country is not sufficient to warrant me ~~xx~~ in saying what portion, if any, of the Nez Perces are within the limits of this territory, nor how much of the country claimed by them lies within our boundaries.

In describing the country of the Cayuses Gen. Lane says "The Cayuse Indians inhabit the country from the foot of the Blue Mountains to within twenty five miles of "alla Walla" (meaning I presume the Hudson's Bay Co's Fort)" "This band consists of about eight hundred" Lt. Dart says the "Cayuses occupying the country south and east of the Walla Wallas number one hundred and twenty six."

I have understood their boundaries to be as follows, commencing on the left bank of the Columbia river near the mouth of Willow Creek thence up the river to the boundary of the Walla Wallas, near the mouth of Uilla river, thence easterly to the Too-she, or the Too cannon (not certain which) ~~thence~~ the western boundary of the Nez Perces; thence easterly with the boundary of that tribe to the summit of the Blue Mountains; thence southerly along said range to the head waters of the northern branch of John Day's river and thence in a direct line to the mouth of Willow creek. Of the number of this tribe I cannot speak definitely as no return is yet received of the census I ordered to be made. The Cayuses and the lower bands of the Nez Perces are closely united by intermarriage and identity of interests, but with the upper bands of that tribes they, though at peace with them ~~xxxxxxxxxx(1x2x2)~~ are not on the most cordial terms

In reply to your inquiry as to my views respecting the future government of these tribes I would suggest that in as much as they have heretofore been embraced in one agency and as their interests are so nearly identical, they continue under the supervision of one agent until the policy of the government be fully established in regard to the management of the Indian tribes inhabiting the western

coast and their permanent location fixed by treaty stipulations.

An exception may however ~~be~~ with propriety be made in case of those of the Walla Walla~~x~~ tribe inhabiting the country in the immediate vicinity of the Yakamas, provided the consent of Yellow <sup>S</sup>erpent the head chief can be obtained which is somewhat doubtful, as he is a man exceedingly tenacious of his rights, and withal a man of influence and strongly attached to the Americans. In all the difficulties heretofore between the whites and Indians in that region he has uniformly been ~~friendly~~ found acting so far as his position in relation to the Hudson's Bay Company would permit on the side of the Americans. I refer to this as I am aware that interested parties have for this cause, endeavored to lessen his strength and importance and transfer it to others less friendly and over whom influence adverse to American interests can ~~be~~ be exerted.

I have recommended in my letters to the Indian <sup>D</sup>epartment the early extinguishment of Indian title to all the lands belonging to these three ~~tribes~~ tribes lying within this ~~the~~ territory as a measure important to the preservation of peace. The usually travelled ~~route~~ immigrant road from the Atlantic States to this territory passes directly through the country occupied by the Cayuses, much of which is also of that of the Nez Percés and Walla Wallas, possess such attractions as an agricultural and grazing country as to render it ~~impossible~~ impracticable much longer to restrain our enterprising citizens from its occupation. I have also suggested that a strip of country on each side of the emigrant road be purchased at an early day and the Indians removed from it sufficiently broad to place the immigrant effectually beyond danger of annoyances from the savages and ~~thus~~ ~~thus~~ thus prepare the way for a continuous chain of settlements wherever the country is susceptible of it, from the Rocky ~~Mountains~~ Mountains to this <sup>V</sup>alley. As I confidentially expect Cong

Congress at this session to authorize Treaties for the extinguishment of title to their lands with the tribes in Middle Oregon, I would suggest it as best to make no change in the management of these tribes till the action of congress is known.

The Nez Perces have long desired the residence of an agent among them; the distance from their extreme eastern settlements to the Agency on Uvilla is not less than two hundred miles, hence it may be necessary ~~kn~~ ultimately to establish an agency or sub agency among the Upper Nez Perces.

The Nez Perces are at present without a head chief, and it is possible they may be induced to ~~next~~ divide so to place all on the North side of the Snake and Koos Kooskie rivers in a separate agency embracing all the country between these streams the Spokane and Columbia Rivers.

The organization of the Washington Territory and the great advantages held out to settlers will undoubtedly induce emigrants to seek a more direct and better route to the settlements than the circuitous and tedious old wagon road to Walla Walla. One of these routes will probably leave the old road at Fort Boise and by continuing down the north side of Snake river through the settlement of the Nez Perces on Salmon river cross to the Spokane or pass by a more direct route over the Spokane plains to the Columbia, the former however would most likely be taken as settlements will I doubt not, soon be formed on the Spokane. Another route will probably leave the old road as far back as Fort Wall and by a pass through Salmon River mountains arrive at the waters of Salmon river and thence to the KooKooskie and descending that stream to a convenient point pass to the headquarters of the Spokane. Explorations in that part of the country during the coming spring and summer might enable us to act more understandably in the establishment of agencies and determine the localities in which to colonize the Indian tribes should that policy be adopted

the government.

The rank of the incumbent at ~~Walla~~ Utilia is that of a full agent. The agency buildings erected by direction of my predecessor cost over three thousand dollars; it is a mere shell and the only advantage in its location is its being on the thoroughfare of emigration.

Should the three tribes spoken of be assigned to one agency the agent's residence should be as far east as the Tookannon or ~~Tushix~~ Tooshi.

I regard it of little consequence under which superintendency the agency is established, maybe placed and as it is believed the largest of these tribes resides in Washington Territory it would probably be better to place it under your jurisdiction. It is proper to say that these tribes are sufficiently distinct to be treated withal (?) separately if it be found desirable to do so.

The agency at Utilia is the only one in the Middle and Upper Oregon.

I enclose you an extract from my letter to the Department of the 8th inst. last on the subject of boundary between the two Territories and that of entering into treaties with the Indians of middle Oregon.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your obt. servant

Joel Palmer

Supt. Ind. Affairs

To his excellency

I. I. Stevens, Gov. Wn. Territory.

Ex-off & supt. Ind. Affairs.

Olympia, W.T.

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Washington Supt'cy. Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd. No. 5, Roll 23

Vancouver W.T.

Feb. 27, 1854

Dear Gov:

Spokan Gerry comes to my quarters--we of course had long talk respecting his tribe, his neighbors and the Blackfeet Indians, his enemies. I was glad to learn from him that every family of his tribe had a farm--and that many of the tribes around him were getting on the same way--and that there was a general feeling among them all for a mill to grind their wheat and to save them the distance and the delay dependant upon Fort Colville. Now they are willing, each man, to put in a horse toward the building of one. This ... shows a very strong want and ~~appetition~~ appreciation of its usefulness. Now that those immense herds of buffalo that once loaded the immense prairies have melted away to a few small bands & that even these meagre relics of the once apparently never ending herds will soon also have disappeared would it not be a perfect god send to encourage them in this happy and fortunate view they now take of their approaching destruction. Indeed Governor this is a subject worthy your most determined efforts & I do hope you will make the effort.

Yours truly

B.L.F. Bonneville

Ind. Affairs Col. Bonneville Vancouver, Feb. 27, 54. Mill for Spokanes

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Washington Supt'cy. Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd. No. 5, Roll 23

Steilacoom, June 8th, 1854

Hon C.H. Mason

Supt. of Indian Affairs

Sir:

The bearer Seelap loaned a horse a few days since and the horse was brot to this place and sold. I have recovered the horse for him. He wants his pay for damages. I have referred him to you or Mr. Simmons. Seelip has been four days looking for his horse.

A son of the Rev. Mr. Roberts ~~at~~ at Olympia is the person who sold the horse.

Yours

Henry C. Wilson

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Washington Suptcy. Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd. No. 5, Roll 23

Gov Stevens:

Sir: At a large meeting of inhabitants of Clarke county the following resolution was adopted--

Whereas Gov. Stevens has notified the Hudson's Bay Company that their trade with the Indians will cease after July 1st, 1854, therefore

Resolved that he be requested to enforce the laws governing Indian intercourse.

Vancouver, Dec. 16th, 1854

Levi Douthit, chairman

M.R. Hathaway, secy.

The proceedings of said meeting will be forwarded to the Pioneer & Democrat where you will probably see them in full with the above exception.

Very respectfully

M.R. Hathaway

Gov. I.I. Stevens, Olympia W.T.

Washington Suptcy. Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd.  
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Fort Vancouver, W.ty.

Feby. 7th, 1855

My dear governor:

Samuel Smith recently discharged as Qr. master sergeant of my regiment is anxious to join your expedition in the spring. He is a trustworthy intelligent person and one whom I know that you would be pleased with. Being a young man, an American and full of activity, I feel certain that he will ~~bring~~ do justice to any position that you may place him in.

Trusting that you family are restored in health, I am

Yours faithfully

H.D. Wallen

Gov. I. Stevens,

Washington Territory

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Washington Suptcy. Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd. No. 5, roll 23

Cascades, Feby. 17, 1855

Gov. I.I. Stevens:

My dear sir:

I reached this place yesterday and shall leave here tomorrow morning early with all my party and freight for the Dalles, arriving there tomorrow night and remaining there one day only, pushing on into the Yakama country, leaving some men at the Dalles to forward the freight.

My freight has been taken through from Portland to the Dalles at \$40 per tow. You will save time and expense by shipping your freight to Mr. Chenoweth & Seymour at this place who will carry it through to the Dalles at \$25 per ~~kaw~~ ton from the lower Cascades landing. There in yo (sic) you know Mr. Seymour is a gentleman & this is the best route for freight undoubtedly.

My maps, papers etc. have been sent from Vancouver. I shall write you fully from Walla Walla & the Dalles & meanwhile, am respectfully etc

James Doty

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Washington Suptcy. Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd. No. 5, Roll 23

Fort Vancouver, W.T.

March 3, 1855

Isaac I. Stevens, gov.

Supt. Indian Affairs W.T.

Sir:

Your letter of the 22nd inst. in regard to the receipt & storage of Indian goods has been received.

The goods have arrived as per bill of lading and endorsement made therein and returned to shipper.

The goods have been carefully stored in the store house of the Hudson's Bay Wharf and await your orders in charge of my former clerk, C.A. Eastman and who will remain at this post.

I am sir

Very respectfully

Your obt. servt.

Thomas L. Brant, captain.