

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18

Fort Simcoe, W.T. Sept. 20, 1861

To B.F. Kendal~~x~~ Supt of Indian for "ashington Territory (sic)

Dear Sir:

The undersigned having learned that efforts were being made to have A.A. Bancroft ~~rem~~ our agent removed to some other reservation and believing that such a removal would be great injustice to him, and detrimental to all the interests of the Indians upon this Reservation would specifically ask you to consider that within nine months last past we have had four agents (with many under ones) on coming and becoming a little acquainted with the Indians and making them many, very many promises they did not stay to verify; then another and so on until the Indians say they ~~xxxxxxxx~~ have lost their heart.

Mr. Bancroft has been appointed and sent on by the new administration and the Indians have adopted him as their agent, and are looking to him as the good man, the new Tyee has sent them from the land afar off, and he has fairly entered into his work and the confidence that had been lost by the many changes, on the part of the Indians, being restored and business matters are assuming a better appearance in every department of the reservation.

Plans are made and being faithfully executed in providing for the approaching winter; and now with the change we have had, with the ~~near~~ near approach of winter, and the general condition of the Indians to make another change, we judge would result in incalculable harm and we fear in war.

We pray you therefore not to make a change, your servants truly.

James H. Wilbur, supt. of teaching; J.B. Dickerson, Alfred Hall, H.K. Shipley, C.W. Bryant, J.R. Stark, G. Ligget, William Wright, T.O. Jenkins.

Office Yakima Ind. Agency, Fort Simcoe

W.T. Sept 30, 1861

Sir:

In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Dept. I submit this my report for the fractional quarter commencing August 1st and ending September 30th, 1861.

The report of Mr. Snelling, supt. of Farming(a copy of which is herewith enclosed, contains a full statement of the farming operations of the fractional quarter and is recommended to your attention. The fence mentioned by him as being nearly completed was turned over by my predecessor as complete through nearly all of the labor of erection has been done since the 1st August the materials only being on the ground at that time.

I found on taking charge of this reservation the flour mill contracted for by Sub.Agent Gosnell in process of erection and the saw mill already built employed in manufacturing lumber for the flour mill and the flume attached together with providing for the wants of the Indians which have been satisfied to a considerable extent as will appear by my return of issues for this quarter.

I am glad to be able to report the Indians in my Agency district to be well disposed toward the whites and apparently desirous of carrying out their treaty stipulations which disposition the distribution of their annuities the last of which are now under contract for transportation to the post, will doubtless encourage.

A very small proportion of the Indians who properly belong upon this reservation, have as yet been settled here and I would respectfully recommend that steps be taken to carry the treaty into effect in this particular as early as possible in the coming spring.

The want of a head chief causes much inconvenience to this office

and I would recommend that some suitable chief be selected and that position be conferred upon him which would give him authority to settle disputes in reference to stock and other property among the Indians with which the agent is now continually troubled.

The only buildings which I found taken up as agency buildings on taking charge are three farm houses, old and much out of repair and the house at the mill which is not entirely completed. The

buildings at the post erected by Military Dept. and occupied by this agency are both numerous and capacious and admirably adapted for the purposes required.

The abundance of good arable land in the immediate vicinity of this agency is such as to render it quite practicable to make this reservation self sustaining so far as cereal and vegetable products are concerned and on the completion of the flour mill all the flour required for next fall and winter can be made on the reservation if sufficient crops of wheat are ~~made~~ raised. It may not be possible to carry into effect all the suggestions of the Supt. of Farming in this particular for want of sufficient means yet I expect to get in a good crop for the next harvest. I shall plough a considerable quantity of land for the Indians this fall if the season permits as I conceive that encouraging them in habits of agricultural industry is of paramount importance.

Yours Respectfully

A.A. Bancroft, Indian Agent for
Yakimanation

to Hon B.F. Kendall
Supt. Ind. Affairs
Olympia, W.T.

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18 Fort Simcoe, Oct. 12, 1861

To B.F. Kendall, supt. of Indian Affairs, W.T.

Sir:

I rec'd yours of the 10th containing my discharge from further service as supt. of teaching and an order to turn over the property belonging to the Indian Department in my charge to the agent which was done on the 11th inst.

I was appointed to this field of labor by the Oregon Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Is it permissible for me to remain here without expense to the government.

Yours Truly

James H. Wilbur.

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18

Office Yakima Ind. Agency

Fort Simcoe W.T. October 12, 1861

Sir:

Will you cause to be sent to this Agency, forty (40) stand of U.S. Rifle muskets with four thousand (4,000) pounds of ammunition for the same. In case the muskets cannot be procured, the rifle is next desirable.

Yours Respectfully

A.A. Bancroft

Ind. Agent for Yakima Nation

to Hon B.F. Kendall

Supt. Ind. Affairs, W.T.

"ash'tn Suptoy. No. 5, Roll 18

Office Yakima Ind. Agency

Fort Simcoe W.T. November 17, 1861

Sir:

Your communication of the 11th inst. have been recd.

Mr. M. Pope has not been continued on this reservation as sutler but as laborer, the only white laborer at present employed on the reservation.

In accordance with your instructions of 11th inst. I discharged Mr. Trevett, commissary having previously removed him from the position of clerk, under your instructions of 11th ult.

You are of course aware that there is at this time a very large amount of goods of various kinds at this agency forwarded for the first payment of annuities to the Yakima Nation under Treaty of June 9, 1855. The distribution of these goods has been delayed from time to time for reasons doubtless satisfactory to the parties giving them, but which have altogether failed to satisfy the Indians, who complain and in my judgment justly, that the goods have been kept from them too long. I consider it of the utmost importance that these annuities be given to the Indians soon as it is extremely doubtful if peaceable relations with them can be preserved through the winter if the distribution should not be made. To prepare and arrange so many goods and get them into a proper condition to issue, ~~organization~~ requires an amount of labor which I should be unable to perform having been deprived of the assistance of both clerk and commissary who were expected to attend to such duties and I have accordingly engaged the services of Mr. B.W. Sexton and Mr. B. Trevett for that purpose and desire continuing them on this capacity until the annuities shall have been distributed.

.....I would respectfully call your attention to the fact that in consequence of the discharge of several employees by yourself, together

with resignations, the number of whites on this Reservation is too small should any difficulties occur with the Indians which the weakness of the post invites. The vacancies referred to have existed now for more than one month and the interests of the reservation have suffered very much in consequence. I am in the utmost need of a carpenter, plough maker and blacksmith, and have been unable to ~~provide~~ furnish to Indians willingly and competent to plough their own lands the necessary farming implements for want of the two last named artisans.

I would again call your attention to the embarrassment I labor under for want of funds, both for present use and for payment of amount due Indian employes from agents Gosnell and Hutchins, as mentioned in my letter to you of the 2d inst. I presume from the fact that both these gentlemen retained all the certified vouchers of this class in this office, that this is the only place where they can be conveniently be paid and as these Indians depend entirely upon the proceeds of their summer labor for ~~the~~ their winter supplies, I would urge the transmission of these funds at as early a date as possible.

Under date of October 12th I requested that forty stands of arms be furnished for the use of this agency. If they are not already on the way, you will oblige me much by forwarding them at once as I am quite without proper means of defence should any such necessity arise.

Yours Respectfully

A. A. Bancroft

Indian Agent for

Yakima Nation

To Hon B. F. Kendall

Supt. Ind. Affairs, Olympia W. T.

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18

Office Yakima Ind. Agency

Fort Simcoe W.T. Dec. 12th, 1861

Sir:

I have determined to issue the annuities to the Indians under my charge, commencing on Monday, Dec. 30th and have accordingly sent word to the different bands entitled to receive them under the treaty.

It is quite probable that very many Indians will be prevented from attending ~~at~~ the distribution by the severity of the weather, if this proves to be the case, I shall retain a proper proportion of the goods for distribution at some time in the spring.

Owing to the non-arrival of the invoices of these goods, which were received from Rockland, I am obliged to make an invoice as I open them which I shall be able to do and also get the goods in order for issuing before the 30th.

Hoping this will meet with your approbation.

I remain,

Yours respectfully

A.A. Bancroft, Indian Agent for
Yakima Nation

to Hon B.F. Kendall,
Supt. Ind. Affairs,
Olympia, W.T.

Portland, Dec. 18th, 1861

Washn'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18

Mr. B. F. Kendle, Dear Sir:

I have been employed as head miller in the flouring mill at the Simcoe Indian Reservation. I put the mill in good running order and ground nearly all the grain of all kinds, including peas on the reservation and then concluded to leave the reservation and instead of getting my pay as I expected to previous to my employment the agent gave me a voucher for my time only when I was promised my expenses before I left to and from this place as I would not be wanted but for a short time at the mill. I have therefore addressed these lines to you to know whether you will pay the voucher and when and whether you are at liberty to allow me these expenses which I believe was about \$23 as I am in want of the money. I would be glad to hear from you by the first opportunity.

Yours Most Respectfully

Andrew Dray

Fort Simcoe, W.T. Dec. 20, 1861

Com. of Indian Affairs, Washington City, D.C.

Sir:

The form of oath received some time since I herewith return to you subscribed to by all the white employes on the Reservation and acknowledged before a Notary Public, a justice of the peace not being acceptable. Their transmission has been delayed a short time for the arrival of a notary. I have to state that the oath was cheerfully taken by all the employes with the exception of two, viz: Dr. P.H. Roberts, physician and B.F. Snelling, supt. of farming. After reading the circular they remarked in substance as follows (the views of the persons were substantially the same) that they would take the oath but not cheerfully, saying-they could not afford to lose the money due them, but if the funds were here to pay them off the Department might go to--said the oath was an imposition, denounced the act of Congress requiring it as foolish and nonsensical, calculated to make them aliens etc. After considering the matter a few minutes and the prospect of being reported they retracted somewhat and protested that they were Union men and would stand by the government and as far as the spirit of the oath was concerned they took it cheerfully, nevertheless considered the oath foolish and unnecessary. Without wishing to prejudice your mind or do injustice to these men I must say I believe their sympathies are too much with the south. Mr. Snelling is a Kentuckian, he openly denounces the war as unjust, uncalled for and cruel. In consequence of Supt. Kendall's position toward me and as these men are his friends I had deemed it advisable not to send this report through his office.

Very respectfully, your obt servant, A.A. Bancroft, Indian Agent

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18

Office of the Yakima Ind. Agency,
Fort Simcoe, W.T. Jan. 13, 1862

Sir:

On the 6th inst I suspended from duty Dr. S.H. Roberts, physician on this reservation on the following charges. That during the recent distribution of annuities at this agency he attempted to incite the Indians against their agent by ~~talking~~ stating to them that so long as he (the agent) remained here there would be no money sent to the reservation. That at the same time he induced many of the Indians to sign a paper or papers which he represented to them would have the effect to remove the agent, and attempted unsuccessfully to induce many others to do so, stating to them that the Agent was a bad man, and therefore unfit for the place.

All of which rendering him in my judgment a dangerous person to be upon the reservation. I accordingly suspended him from duty and directed him to leave within a few days.

Respectfully yours

A.A. Bancroft

Ind. Agent for Yakima Nation

To Hon B.F. Kendall, Supt. Ind. Affairs,
Olympia, W.T.

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18

Office Yakima Ind. Agency

Fort Simcoe, W.T. Jan. 13 th, 1862

Sir:

I have to report the completion, on the 6th inst. of the distribution of annuities to the Indians belonging upon this reservation, which I commenced on the 1st.

The Indians appeared to be very well satisfied with the goods, though at first declaring that they would not take them. I issued to (1458) fourteen hundred and fifty eight men, women and children. I will forward a more complete report with the abstracts of distribution copies of which are now making.

I rec'd from Rockland from Ind. Agt. W.B. Gosnell one hundred riding saddles which were purchased some time ago by Dr. Lansdale. Can you give me any information as to the proper disposition to be made of them.

Respectfully

Your obt. Servt.

A.A. Bancroft

Ind. Agent for Yakima Nation

Hon B.F. Kendall,
Supt. Ind. Affairs,
Olympia W.T.

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18 Office, Yak. Ind. Agency

Fort Simcoe W.T. Jan. 31, 1862

Sir:

I have to report the completion on the 6th inst of the distribution of the first pay't of annuities to the Indians belonging to this Agency, and you will herewith receive the abstracts of distribution in triplicate.

Owing to circumstances entirely beyond my control, the 30th Dec. ult. was the earliest period at which the Indians could be brought to this Agency to receive their goods, though I was very desirous that the business should have been completed before the winter was so far advanced.

On first coming together there was a very general disposition manifest by the Indians not to receive the goods. Many said that they were not consulted on the Treaty for the land and would not give it up and take pay for it, but upon being convinced that the land was sold and would not be given back to them, they concluded to receive the goods with which they appeared well pleased. Owing to the deep snow very many Indians who are entitled to annuities from this agency and who doubtless wish to accept them could not come for them this winter. In order to do justice to this class I have retained a portion of the goods for distribution in the spring.

Having no invoice of these goods I am unable to state what is the cost in money of the amt. distributed. It can doubtless be ascertained when the vouchers come to light. I observe from the copy of a report by Agt. R.H. Lansdale to Supt. Geary on file in this office that the total cost of goods purchased for the first pay't of annuities to the Yakima Indians, in the Atlantic States, comes short of thirty nine thousand dollars (\$39,000) By the treaty the first pay't was to be sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) to be expended in opening farms etc for the Indians and no part of the \$60,000 was to be expended in

transportation of any goods that might be procured as a part or whole of their pay. I would call your attention to this matter as if this report of the cost of these goods is correct there is yet some \$21,000 due to these Indians on the first Payt which could be expended in the manner contemplated by the treaties with very happy results.

In conclusion I would urge that the fund for payments of annuities for these people be put into the hands of the agent as he and he alone is aware of the manner in which the Indians with the money expended, concerning which they should be consulted in accordance with the plain terms of the treaty.

Yours Respectfully

A.A. Bancroft

Indian Agent Yak. Nation

To Hon B.F. Kendall,
Supt. of Ind. Affairs,
Olympia, W.T.

Fort Simcoe, W.T. March 25, 1863

~~Dear~~ Sir:

Please find enclosed a report of matters at this agency.

Capt. Harris, with 25 men, arrived here on the 15th and left yesterday for Dalles. While here he sent a messenger for Smoholly to come in, he refused and treated the messenger rudely. The capt. thinks he will be instructed to return with a stronger force and visit Smoholly. When the Ind. messenger arrived he found Quintal-quin (who formerly had been obnoxious to Smoholly and another chief in council with him which somewhat excites our suspicions. With regard to this whole movement of calling in troops at this time, I am well convinced that Session and malice have much to do with it. This knot of Sessionists on the Yakima have been working for this thing for more than three months. I would not willingly censure Capt. Harris but it is impossible to view what I consider a ~~so~~ correct view of the case without exhibiting partiality to the motives of this expedition. They called for the troops, they conducted them in, one of their number served as interpreter (although I offered them ours). I asked him when and where he would make his investigations offering him our office, he could not tell when and what business of that nature was done they would do it their which with one of our

[Note pasted on p. 1..25 this report from Smoholly came to Judge Thorp, he wrote to Capt. Harris and sent it here with all speed and the Capt. sent me the dispatch. My confidence in the correctness of it of late has become much ~~shaken~~ shaken]

large buildings. Hall, Thorp and Holt, managed the business entirely, drawing in different Indians such as they could muster and questioning them in private. I respectfully suggested to Capt. Harris that I was confident there was something wrong at the bottom of this affair and added we had many ~~Inds.~~ Inds. on the reservation whom we

put confidence in, who have repeatedly said they had no knowledge and never heard of murders or other outrages except from Mr. Hall. The capt. replied that one of our Indians told Mr. Holt yesterday that he knew as well as he wished to know that three white men had been murdered near us. I asked the Capt. who the Ind. was. Mr. Wilhem also pressed him, assuring him that we were deeply interested, but he replied he was not at liberty to give the name. "They have however, off, what they call testimony such as Holy says he will swear to and no man at the agency knows what it is, nor from whom taken. This sounds of the trial of witches in olden times. Mr. Wilhem advised me yesterday that he was not easily alarmed, not afraid of Indians but he was afraid of Sessionists. At Capt. Harris request I made out a report of matters at this agency as I viewed them, as he wished a copy to lay before Gen. Albord which I p^{ro} furnished him. Please instruct in the following cases: Three or four of these Yakama men claim to have their houses broken open and property to a large amount taken and wish to know what the agent will do with regard to compensation and punishing the Indians.

"ould earnestly solicit your instructions with regard to these cases as the clamor will soon be raised.

Last evening I ins^{te} invited all the employees into the office for an interchange of views. I think they were of one mind, that this was a complete farce, but it might be well to pur our firearms in order "Trust God and keep our powder dry." Also to employ Joe Twihold, a very shrewd and intelligent Ind. who served in the late war as scout and expressman, to watch our eastern border. I can prove that "all, the first named in this matter, said last Dec. t hat he would be revenged on thos d.d. Methodists at Simcoe because they would not let him keep a ~~sne~~ squaw nor sell whiskey. Judge Therp also says he wishes to break up this agency and turn it into a military post. Are

now having a very little grass in our valley, days pleasant but ground
freezes at night.

Very ⁿrespectfully

Your obt. servt.

A.A. Bancroft

^{Ind.} Agent

Hon C.H. Hale,

Supt. Ind. Affairs,

Olympia, W.T.

Smowhalia.

File: Microcopies of records in

National Archives No. 5, roll 18

(Letters from ~~E~~mployees Assigned to Yakima Agency, Aug. 16, 1861-Dec. 31, 1868)

Office Yakima Indian Agency

Fort Simcoe, W.T. March 20, 1863

Sir:

Please find enclosed a report of matters at this agency. Capt. Harris with 25 men arrived ~~here~~ here on the 16th and left yesterday for the Dalles. He sent a messenger for Smoholly to come in, he refused and treated the messenger rudely. The captain think he will be instructed to return with a stronger force and visit Smohally. When the messenger arrived he found Quintal-quin (who had formerly been obnoxious to Smohally and another chief in council with him which somewhat excites our suspicions with regard to the whole movement of calling in troops at this time. I am well convinced that Secession and malice have much to do with it. This knot of Secessionists on the Yakima have been working for this thing for more than three months.

I would not willingly censure Capt. Harris but it is impossible to give what I consider a correct view of the case without exhibiting partiality to the moves of this expedition. They called for the troops, they conducted them in, one of their number served as interpreter (although I offered them ours) I asked him when and where he would make his investigations, offering him our office, he could not tell when and what himself of that value was done, they ~~would~~ would do at their headquarters which was one of our large buildings. Messrs Hall, Thorp and Holt managed the business entirely, drawing in dissatisfied Indians (such as they could mould) and questioning them in private. I respectfully suggested to Capt. Harris that I was confident there was something wrong at the bottom of this affair and added we had many Indians on the reservation in which we put confidence who had reportedly

2
said they had no knowledge and never heard of murders or other outrages except from Wm ? Hall. The Capt. replied that one of our Indians told ~~him~~ Wm. Hall yesterday that he knew that three white men had been murdered near us. I asked the Capt. who the men were, Mr. Wilhelm also --- assuring him that we were all deeply interested, but he replied he was not at liberty to give the names. They have however offered ~~testimony~~ what they call testimony such as Holt says he will swear to and no man at the agency knows what it is nor from whom taken. This sounds of the trial of witches in olden times. Mr. Wilbur assured me yesterday that he was not easily afraid of Indians but he was afraid of Secessionists.

At Capt. Harris request I made out a report of matters at the agency as I view them as he wished a copy to lay before General Albert, which I furnished him.

Please instruct in the following cases. Three or four of those Yakima men claim to have their houses broken up and property to a large amount taken and wish to know what the agent will do with regard to compensation and punishing the Indians. Would earnestly solicit your instructions with regard to those cases as the clamor will soon be raised.

Last evening I invited all the employees into the office for an interchange of views and I think they were of one mind that has been a complete farce, but it might be well to put our firearms in order, "trust God and keep ^(Joseph) your powder dry." Also to employ Lae-twi-halt, a very shrewd and intelligent Indian who served in the late war as scout and expressman to watch our eastern border.

I can prove that Hall the first man in this matter said that he would be revenged at Simcoe because they ~~would~~ would not let him keep a squaw nor sell whiskey. Judge Thorp also says he wishes to break up this agency and turn it into a military post.

A. A. Bancroft to Hon C. H. Hale

Wash'tn Suptcy. No. 5, Roll 18

Office Yakima Ind. Agency

Fort Simcoe, Wash T. June 62

Sir:

Yours of 25th ulto was received on the 7th inst to which I beg leave to reply.

In the first place "you call my attention to the necessity of reducing the number of employees down to what is plainly authorized, and say that according to your understanding of the Treaty I have greatly exceeded what is allowed. If I have in any instance transcended my duty or authority, I certainly very much regret it. But believing as I do that I have in matters connected with my duty, as Ind. Agent acted within the pale, I remain without self reproach. You say "that the shepherd, teamster, clerk, laborer, cook and assistant in distributing annuities are wholly unauthorized.

In reply I would state that in entering upon the duties of this agency I found those positions occup'd and work for them to do. I found teams, both ox and horse, and a band of sheep from which no benefit could be derived without teamsters and a shepherd. The treaty provides for mills, but no miller, for the different shops and artisans but not for necessary materials such as coal, lumber, etc. Of course mills are useless without a miller, equally useless are teams without a teamster and shops without material to work them.

I think in regard to a cook there is great economy in time and provisions for one person to cook for all, than for everyone to cook for himself. When I assumed the duties of this agency I found in the office no forms or copies of the proper accounts for making quarterly returns, and having myself no experience in that kind of account keeping I could not get along without help in the office. I am confident sir, that no one man can discharge the duties of agent and clerk

clerk at this agency. I do not think I have, as that I shall have at the end of this quarter which will comprise one year, expended the amount appropriated for these purposes, or have I in my judgment employed more help than the nature of department requirements demanded.

"With regard to "Mr. Geo. Drew [sic] as miller I regret to state that in absence of my having any knowledge as notice of Mr. Drew's appointment to that station I had entered into necessary arrangements with another person who in addition to being a good grist and saw miller is also a competent millwright. I exceedingly regret the disappointment that Mr. Drew has been subjected to, for nothing can be further from my mind. In the concluding paragraph of your letter you tell me "you will bear in mind that you can neither appoint or discharge the regular employees." Upon this head, with the most respectfully difference for your opinion, I beg leave to differ. I claim it as a right, pertinent to me as the appointed and authorized agent of this Yakima Nation and ~~would~~ what I would wish to live for is the prosperity and efficiency of this agency.

Sir, permit me to say ~~xxxxxx~~ frankly that I have had some experience in months past of having employees forced upon me, over whom I could have little or no control and yet held responsible for their acts. Such a state of things would be sure to result not in harmony and ~~possibility~~ prosperity, but the reverse.

The view I have taken of this matter is that the Supt. holds something is that the supt. holds something like a veto power over the agent's appointments, and should he see ... to reject one, the agent appoints another and submits him also. If I am not right I would thank you to correct me for I intend to harmonise with those holding positions above me. Report says you are about to visit Simcoe which I trust you will do at your earliest convenience as you could then better understand our duties and our wants.

Will you please instruct me in one point. Mr. C.L. Reed was appointed supt. of teaching by Mr. Kendall last October. He remained here untill Jan 9th rendering no service whatever to the amount of one dollar per month. He left before light in the mornin taking Department property with him which has not been returned. For about one week before leaving he employed himself in drawing Indians into his room and inducing them by promises to sign a petition for my removal. After being absent for a few weeks he wrote me for his vouchers. I replied that if he would fill out vouchers that would tell the truth I would sign them. I wish to pursue a just and judicious course in this matter and would thank you for your views. Please bear in mind that we are at this agency destitute of the business of ...". Very respectfully

Your obt. servt.

A.A. Bancroft

Ind. Agent for Yakama Nation (sic)

to Hon C.H. Hale

Supt. Ind. Affairs W.T.

Olympia.

Smowhala.

File: Microcopies of records in

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(Letters from Employees Assigned to Yakima Agency, Aug. 16, 1861-Dec. 31, 1868)

Office Yakima Indian Agency

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A. A. Bancroft to Hon C. H. Hale

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Olympia

Port Simcoe March 20, 1863

(Note attached)

This report from Amohally came to Judge Thorp. He wrote to Capt. Harris and sent it here with all speed and the Capt. sent me the dispatch. My confidence in the correctness of it, of late, has become much shaken.)