

Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, July ? 1860

Sir:

I have this day inspected and approved the cattle that Mr. J. Lamson has contracted to deliver for the use of the Indians at the Warm Springs Agency in accordance with the following schedule viz:

Schedule No. 1, Warm Springs(sic) Agency

50 yearling heifers.

50 two year old heifers.

50 cows now over 4 years old with calves.

10 bulls now over (3 or 5, faded) years old.

To be delivered to the Warm Springs Agency on or before the (20th or 30th) day of July next.

You will give Mr. Lamson a certificate stating the number of each description of cattle delivered, the time of delivery and the condition of the cattle, Should there be a few over the number you will nevertheless include them in your certificate.

On account of the risk of keeping the cattle at the agency on account of the predatory habits of the Snake Indians and the loss of good grass in that vicinity, you will I believe find it best to herd the cattle in the vicinity of Oak Grove on this side of Mutton Mountain. p 141

You will be careful to place the cattle in the care of reliable herders.

On the receipt of your certificate from Mr. Lamson I will send you the proper schedule to accompany your accounts--also blank forms of receipts which you will date sign and return to this office.

Very respectfully etc

Edward R. Geary, Supt etc.

Geo H. Abbott Esq.

Sub Ind. Agent

Warm Spring FRes.

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73 Roll 8, Microcopy 2

p 157 Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, Ogn. Sept. 6th, 1860

Sir:

The vouchers signed by you for the money paid you at this office for the cattle delivered by you at Fort Simcoe were found to be defective. I therefore return them to you and request you to attach your name to the blank receipts of the vouchers which I have herewith enclosed. You will sign your name to each of the four and mail them to this office as soon as practicable. Those first signed you will retain and destroy.

Very Respectfully

etc. Edward R. Geary

Supt. Ind. Affairs.

Mr. James Knox son

Linn Co. Oregon

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73 Roll 8, Microcopy 2

p. 169 Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, Oregon, Oct 2d, 1860

Col. George Wright, U.S.A.,

Commdy. Dept. of Oregon.

Ft. Vancouver, W.T.

Sir: I have to enclose you a copy of a communication this instant received from Agent A.P. Dennison advising me of the ???? aggressions of the Snake Indians on the Warm Springs Reservation and that an attack by a large body of these marauders is seriously apprehended by the Indians collected there, to be impending.

It is quite evident that no protection from these often repeated aggressions of the Snakes will form adequate but the constant ??? of a body of mounted troops. I have therefore to request that you will immediately make such a disposition of a portion of the forces under your command as will preserve the Indians and property on the Warm Springs (sic) reservation from the impending danger and that you will make early arrangements for the stationing of such a command at that point as will be a guaranty of safety to those employed in the Indian service and the Indians on said Reservation for the future.

Without such protection there appears to be no alternative but to abandon a reservation whereon constant disaster from a stealthy and mysterious foe thwarts all our efforts and subjects to destruction the property and lives of the whites and Indians who attempt to reside upon it.

I am, etc.

Edward R. Geary,

Supt. Ind. Affairs.

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Roll 8, microcopy 2
p. 170- Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, Oct. 2d, 1860

Sir:

I have this instant received your letter of the 28th ultimo advising this office of the ????? aggressions of the Snake Indians on the property of the Indians located on the Warm Spring(sic) reservation and of the apprehensions of the Indians that an attack on the reservation by a large force of these marauders is impending, also pressing the importance of having a company of mounted soldiers immediately stationed at that point for the protection of the employees of the government and the Indians thereon, together with the property.

I have just written to Col. Wright enclosing him a copy of your letter and urged the necessity of immediately interposing an adequate force for the defense of the Reservation and the early establishment of a military post to secure its safety ^{for} ~~from~~ the future from the predatory and murderous forays of the "Snakes."

I regret to inform you that a letter received this morning from Col. Wright advises me that he cannot aid the Indian Department in the manner proposed of furnishing the means of transportation to the Warm Springs Reservation, having determined to winter the train at Walla Walla, it cannot be recalled to the Dalles without much expense and inconvenience to the service.

Very respectfully etc.

Edward R. Geary, Supt. Indian Affairs

Col. A.P. Dennison,
Indian Agent,
Dalles, Oregon.

Orgn. Oct. 4th, 1860

Sir:

It is my painful duty to communicate to you that reliable intelligence has reached this office of the massacre of a large company of immigrants near the Salmon Falls of Sal (xed out) Snake river by the Digger Snakes. The company consisted of forty six persons, men, women and children on route for Oregon, of whom forty five are supposed to have fallen victims to savage barbarity. Mr. Shuder (?) alone escaped and after enduring the greatest privations and travelling day and night for a whole week succeeded in reaching the camp of Mr. Geo E. Cole on Willow Creek about 100 miles East of the Dalles in Middle Oregon p 177

The Command of Major Stein (2 companies of Dragoons) spent several weeks in the region where this tragedy is alleged to have occurred without finding the Indians anywhere in force or discovering evidence of their ~~large~~ being numerous in that vicinity---. Supposing the immigration to have generally if not entirely passed the region of peril he returned with his command to their quarters at Fort Walla Walla . Scarcely had his return been accomplished before the occurrence of this barbarious slaughter of our citizens who after accomplishing their long pilgrimage over the plains were destined to fall by the murderous hand of the relentless savages on the confines of the country of their destination.

I may here also state that the command of Major Stein had only a few days returned to Fort Dalles from the campaign into the Snake Country in the vicinity of Harney (Malheur) Lakes before the aggressions of these mauraunders were commenced in the Warm Spring Reservation and forty horses belonging to the friendly Indians at that point driven away.

Apprehensions are now seriously entertained by Agent Dennison that an attack by a large body of these mauraunders is impending and that unless military protection be speedily afforded, the reservation will be desolated.

I have already communicated with Col. Wright commanding the Department in regard to these frontier troubles and have no doubt his expression and energy will prompt him at the earliest moment practicable to make such a disposition of his forces as will prevent further disaster and ~~fix~~ punish these miscreants.

I am sir etc.

Edward R. Geary

Supt. Ind. Affairs

to A.B. Greenwood,
Commissioner Ind. Aff.
Washington City, D.C.

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Roll 8, Microcopy 2

p. 176

Office Supt. Indian Affairs,

Portland Oregon, Oct. 4th, 1860.

To the Rt. Rev. A.M.A. Blanchet, bishop of Nesqualy

Sir:

In reply to your note of yesterday just received I would respectfully say that I am advised though not officially, that the Rev Mr. J. Wilbur a minister of high character in the Methodist Episcopal Church has received from Dr. Lansdale the Agent for the Indians to be located on the Yakama Reservation the appointment of superintendent of teaching in accordance with treaty provisions.

The name of Mr. Wilbur has not yet been submitted to this office for confirmation in the position to which I am informed he has been designated by the agent. But as I can officially make no distinction on account of religious tenents or connections in appointing persons to positions and as Mr. Wilbur has high intellectual, social and moral qualifications fitting him for the position of a teacher I shall most ~~respectfully~~ ?? confirm the appointment when submitted to me by the agent as it is his duty to do without delay.

There is no authority or intention on the part of this office to interfere with the religious tenents of the Indians, when happily they have any, or to debar them from the privileges and consolations to be obtained through the ministers ??? of the religion of their choice

Very respectfully, etc.

Edward R. Geary, supt. Ind. Affairs.

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, Roll 18, microcopy 2 (about 196 in order)

Quartermaster Genl's office, Washington City July 17, 1860

Sir:

A letter has been received at this office from the Head Quarters Dept. of Oregon recommending that the quartermaster's property which had been left at Fort Simcoe on the abandonment of that post and which is "not worth the cost of transportation elsewhere" be sold to E.R. Geary, esq. Supt. of Indian Affairs for Oregon and Washington who is desirous of purchasing and will pay for it a reasonable price.

The subject is referred to you for your examination and for such action as in your opinion the interests of the Dept. may demand.

Very respectfully your obt. svt.

signed E.E. Johnson, qm. gen.

Major E.B. Babbitt, asst. qm. USA, Fort Vancouver, W.T.

Received Fort Simcoe W.T. September 24, 1859 of Lieut J.B.S. Alexander 9th Infy A.A. qm the following M's property:

5 cords 5 feet 8 inches wood, \$1.50 per cord
2 tables , \$5.00 each
3 wagons worn , \$200
3 log carts do \$25
1 ambulance old much worn, springs, axles and wheels good \$100
3 wagon hammers 75 cents each
2 king bolts do
22 packsaddles incomplete \$10 lot
1 a ridin do old, worn worthless
1 riding bridle old and worn
4 Fifth chains , 16
4 spreaders \$1 each
4 double trees \$1 each
14 single trees \$1 each
1 ridge pole worthless

3,600 feet lumber \$200 lot
 4,200 brick \$200 lot
 2 anvils \$50
 3 hand hammers 75 cents each
 3 brechstrops 000
 3 pincers 75 each
 1 monkey wrench 50
 2 bellows \$50 lot
 2 pritchels
 2 stock dies
 2 vises \$5 each
 1 sledge hammer \$1
 8 wedges \$1 lot
 5 tongs 75
 1 jew iron 75 cents
 1 fuller 25
 1 set hammer \$1.50
 1 soldering iron 75 cents
 1 grind stone hangings \$30
 2,800 grain sacks
 60 lbs of nails \$6
 38 feet of safety fuse ~~\$0000~~ \$3.80
 350 lbs iron \$35
 2 plows \$35

Office of the A.A.QM Fort Simcoe W.T. Sept 24, Signed Henry Achenback
 Ord Sglt. U.S.A. Fort Dalles August 28, 1860 Signed J.B.S. Alexander
 2d Lieut 9th infy U.S. infy.

Oregon Supt. Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Roll 8, Microcopy 2

p. 213

Office Supt. Indian Affairs

Portland, Oregon, Dec. 5th, 1860

Sir:

I enclose you a letter received at this office from Capt. Alex Ankeny relating to and describing five horses which he alleged were stolen from him ~~near~~ on or about the first of October last, opposite White Bluffs on the Columbia river near the camp of an Indian named Smoke Hollow (the same known as the Dreamer on Seven Mountains) of

The Indian is represented as being notoriously bad character and having gathered about him a number of renegade and thievish Indians who are a great annoyance to settlers and parties passing to and from the northern mines. He is also said to be prominent among those who are exciting the Indians of the interior to the renewal of hostilities against the whites.

You will use your influence to have the horses of Capt. Ankeny restored and will also inquire into the character and conduct of Smoke Hollow and if you deem it necessary in order to disperse the band of thieves and desperadoes he is gathering around him you will cause him to be arrested and turned over to the military for safe keeping.

Very Respectfully etc.

Your etc. Edward R. Geary,

Supt. Indian Affairs

Geo H. Abbott esq.

Indian Sub Agent

Umatilla Co. es.

Oregon Suptoy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Roll 18, Microcopy 2

p. 214-- Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, Ogn, Dec. 18, 1860

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the application , license and bond of Charles Pope to trade with the Yakama Nation of Indians on the Yakama Reservation for your approval or disapproval in accordance with the provisions of the act of June 30th, 1860.

No testimonials of unsuceptionable (?) chareacteras o fitn ss)???
to be in the Indian country accompanying this application and I have no personal acquaintance with Mr. Pope. He however bears the reputation of a worthy and peaceable citizen and his social standing has been such as as to create a strong presumption in his favor. Allegations have nevertheless been made to this office in regard to the official conduct of Agent Mansdale who is the son in law of Mr. Pope that deserve (?) an early investigation and I have therefore to request that you will defer action in regard to the above named application till further advised thereon.

I am etc.

Edward R. Geary, Supt. Ind. Affairs

Hon A.B. Greenwood

Commr. Ind. Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

p. 223 Office Superintendent Indian Affairs, Portland, Ogn. Oct 1st, 1860

Sir:

The pressure of business connected with the inauguration of ten treaties with tribes of Indians in this superintendency, ratified in March and April, 1859 but for fulfilling of which no ~~appropriate~~ appropriations were made at the last session of Congress has compelled delay in rendering my annual report beyond the prescribed period.

The length of time intervening between the negotiations and ratification of these treaties being a period of over four years naturally produced much dissatisfaction and distrust in the minds of the Indians. In the meantime the country east of the Cascade Mountains ceded by these treaties ~~was~~ being ~~rapidly~~ rapidly filling up with settlers and traversed in all directions by large parties in search of the precious metals served especially to arouse the apprehension of the large and warlike tribes of the interior that their country was about to be occupied by the whites without their receiving the consideration agreed upon.

So intense had this feeling become that I have no doubt the peace of the country has only been preserved by the presence and conciliatory courses of the several agents and the awe inspired by the military force of the country.

Among the tribes referred to, no overt act of hostility has occurred and I cherish the confidence that the measures already taken to carry the treaties into effect will not fail to allay the feeling of discontent and restore relations of the most amicable character.

The Indians in this superintendency do not exceed thirty eight thousand souls; seven thousand being in Oregon and thirty one thousand being in Washington Territory.

Dividing the superintendency by the Cascade Mountains about fourteen thousand souls are found between that range and the Pacific ocean and twenty four thousand in the interior.

In Washington territory over 12,600 Indians and in Oregon over 3,700 Indians are not embraced in the existing treaties.

The Indians formerly inhabiting the Valley of the Willamette, Umpqua and Rogue River and the sea coast in Oregon do not at present exceed 3,000 in number. Of these all except the Tillamooks, Nehalins and Clatsops numbering together but one hundred and seventy persons are now collected on the coast reservation. ~~ixi~~ 1,134 of these Indians are provided for by treaties and 1866 are without such provision.

A treaty was made with ~~these~~ these latter in 1855 by General Palmer then the superintendent, containing many liberal provisions in pursuance of which they relinquished their omes and the larger portion removed to the coast reservation, but this treaty has never been ratified.

Most of those Indians referred to as not embraced in treaties were collected on the Coast reservation and at Fort Umpqua during the hostilities of 1855 where for a time they were clothed and fed from the ample provisions of the government, made p 224 during the period and for two years subsequent. These appropriations being now discontinued and that for general purposes being so meager as to be scarcely adequate to meet the current administration expenses of this extensive superintendency leaves me without the funds applicable to supply their necessities.

Owing to the abundant crops harvested at the Grand Ronde and Siletz agencies the present season the Indians in the respective districts of Agents Miller and Newcomb can be subsisted at little cost to the government. But the ~~Coos~~ Coos Bay Indians and Umpquas recently removed to the Alsea by Sub Agent Sykes, in pursuance of instructions from the Indian Bureau, owing to the entire failure of the crops at that point must be fed. If this is not done these Indians will be driven to the alternative of starvation or in obedience to the strong instinct of self preservation of begging and stealing their subsistence in the

neighboring settlements. Adequate clothing at least equal to that supplied to the Indians embraced in treaties must be given to the other class or discontent and the abandonment of the reservation will be the consequence and deprived of this supply they can not endure the rigors of the approaching winter without being decimated by the disease and suffering that most inevitably results from such misfortune(?) I have accordingly authorized the several agents on the Coast Reservation, having this class of Indians in charge, to make purchases adequate to relieve their urgent(?) necessities, believing that so clear a dictate of humanity and justice will have the favorable consideration of your office and that appropriations will be made by congress at an early day to discharge the liabilities ~~their~~ thus incurred.

[Siletz millets.]

p 225

... The Warm Springs (sic) reservation receiving its name from the existence of several springs upon it of a high temperature was designated for the use of the Indians ~~from the~~ in Middle Oregon parties to the treaty of June the 25th of June 1855. This reservation extends from the Mutton Mountains on the north to the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ a tributary of the DesChutes river on the south, a distance of about fifty miles to the ~~the~~ crest of the Cascade Range of mountains. The ... is about eight hundred square miles. The general surface is rugged, mountainous and barren and unless found to unobtain the precious metals is not likely for ages to come to tempt the cupidity of the white man. It contains however extensive natural pastures capable of sustaining numerous herds and several narrow valleys separated by elevated table lands and mountains are fertile and well adapted to the production of the cereal and garden vegetables. Game abounds in the mountains also nutritious roots and berries and the streams are well stocked with fish.

though ~~this~~ the treaty was not ratified till April, 1859, this tract has been occupied as a reservation since 1856.

Under the supervision of ?? Dennision the~~x~~ agent, extensive farms have been opened on the Uhetike and its branches and many of the Indians induced to cultivate the soil in which the more industrious have had encouraging success. A commodious structure built for defense in the form of a block house affords comfortable quarters for the resident employes.

Notwithstanding the difficulty of reaching this reservation with wagons and its remoteness from the salmon fisheries secured to the Indians by the treaty, it would now be impracticable to find another location less objectionable and better adapted to promote their physical, ~~and~~ social and moral welfare.

The more intelligent Indians regarding this reservation as an asylum from influences which if not arrested will speedily effect their ruin, were generally contented and erected their rude but comfortable cabins ~~and~~ with confidence feeling appraised of their fostering care and protection of our government.

It has been however their misfortune to ~~encounter~~ encounter ... the ...connected with the long delay to ratify the treaty but also the ~~the~~ loss of life and property by the frequent forays of the Snake Indians who may be regarded as their hereditary enemies. and have long been noted for their provakory and treacherous character. Failing to receive the adequate protection of the troops though often solicited by the agent in attempting to recover their stolen property they came in collision with the mauroaders a number of whom were slain in the encounter the effect on the Snakes was to superadd (?) the spirit of revenge to the desire of booty.

At a time when all except a few women and children were absent hunting and gathering berries in the mountains the enemy ~~approached~~

appeared in strong force , killed or captured the women and children drove off the cattle and horses belonging to the Indians and the government, compelled Dr. Fitch then in charge and the employes to escape for their lives, plundered the Agency and the huts of the Indians and left p. 226

the reservation a desolation.

It is useless in this connection to dwell more ... on the causes which led to this disaster. Property authenticated, statements of the loss sustained by the government , the agent and employes and the Indians were duly rendered by Agent Dennison under instructions from this office and forwarded to the Indian Bureau.

The spoliation of the private property of the persons in the Indian Service is clearly the basis of an equitable claim on the Treasury of the United States and an act for their indemnity should be passed by congress at an early day. The duty of the government to ... the Indians for their loss property appears equally clear as they were on the reservation in obedience to the requirements , and with the guaranty of its protection.

When Sub Agent Abbott took temporary charge of Agent Dennison's district in December last during the absence of that gentleman in the United States, I directed him to procede to the Reservation and if practicable fix his headquarters there. This was done to protect the buildings and fencings from destruction and maintain possession. Many of the Indians were thus induced to return with their remaining horses and resume (?) the cultivation of their fields. Their confidence was so far restored that they erected several comfortable houses in the vicinity of the Agency. The Snakes however did not cease from their incursions. Alarms were frequent and on one occasion a small body of troops were sent out from Fort Valles but the stealthy enemy being no where visible they immediately returned. No

were
less than eighty Indian horses stolen during the spring and summer
... A constant guard by day and corralling by night alone available to
save any ?

Impelled by a desire to discover the rendezvous of these ~~myxxx~~
mysterious maunders and if possible establish amicable relations with
them by which they might be induced to desist from their ... incursions
on this reservation and on Indians in amity with our government I
availed myself of the presence of a military force ~~xxxxx~~ traversing their
country to ... accompanied by Sub Agent Abbott and mine, five of whom were
Indians, in search of the maunders.

We left the Dalles on the first of June. After a fruitless journey of
three hundred and fifty miles through the wilderness in which we found
not an Indian though we frequently placed fires by night on the hills
the usual signal for a conference we overtook the command of Major
Stein on Buck Creek a small tributary of Crooks river about forty miles
west of Harney (Malheur) Lakes.

Here we had the first intimation of the presence and hostile attitude of
the Snakes. They had attacked the camp of the military guide near
this place two nights previous to our arrival. From this point
~~onward~~ onward (.) we had almost daily indications of the vicinity of
the hostiles but not in great numerical force. On the 14th of
June our Indians brought in two stolen American horses. On the
following evening we were pitching our tent two men rode into camp. They
p 227 belonged to a company of fifty four men from the Willamette
Valley who while enroute for the Owhhee river to prospect for gold had been
attacked by the Snakes at a creek about 30 miles south east of Cas...?
Lake and robbed of seventy horses. Being on foot with only animals
enough to pack their provisions they commenced a retreat. The next
day they were intercepted by the enemy when a battle ensued in which one
of the white men was severely wounded and six or seven Indians
killed. The pre... continued their retreat without further

molestations from the Indians ~~and~~ but after much suffering with~~out~~ from hunger and fatigue all succeeded in reaching their homes.

On receiving this intelligence Major Stein immediately sent a messenger to advise Capt. Smith who with his company had left... to proceed to the ~~city~~ City Rocks on the route to Salt Lake. The next day Major Stein with his command proceeded to Stampede Lake a little north of Lake Harney in order to be nearer the scene of the late disaster and the more readily to communicate with Capt. Smith. Here we spent two days recointering without discovering any indications of Indians in the vicinity.

Lake Harney is in length seventeen miles from east to west and about 12 miles at its greatest width. The elevation is over ??? feet above the sea level. It is fed by two small streams, Moose Creek flowing from the West and Willow Creek through a succession of tule lakes and marshes from the north. Harney Lake has no outlet, the waters contain salt and salaratus in strong solution and are exceedingly offensive in odor and taste. The immediate surroundings are ?? and barren in the extreme. No fish live in it though its tributary, Willow Creek, contains immense numbers. This stream drains a beautiful valley commencing twelve miles north of the lake, having an area of not less than fifty square miles; it is a luxuriant meadow bounded by cliffs of basaltic rock on the west and the timbered slopes of the Blue Mountains on the east. Its great altitude renders this beautiful valley wholly ~~inadequate~~ unsuited for agriculture yet its luxuriant pastures may some day allow thereon the hardy adventurer with his flocks and herds.

It is not a suitable site either for a military post or an Indian Reservation

No enemy ~~having~~ being discovered on the (blank) Major Stein set out to accomplish the chief object of his expedition, the opening of an emigrant (wagon) road into the Willamette Valley by the way of the

Middle Fork of the Willamette river. p 228

On our return to Buck Creek urgent business demanding my ~~return~~ presence at an early day in Portland I left my party and the military and returned with the express man, a distance of two hundred and sixty miles to the Dalles which I accomplished in five days without seeing an Indian.

Two days after I left Major Stein's command, Capt. Smith was attacked by a large band of the stealthy Snakes and Major Stein was recalled from his road survey to cooperate with Capt. Smith against the enemy.

These troops have but lately returned to the Dalles after a toilsome campaign of over 3 months in which from the rugged nature of the country they have been able to effect but little in the way of chastising the enemy.

A reliable report has just reached me that these ... thieves following close on the rear of the returning troops have made a sudden descent on the Warm Spring Reservation and drive off all the stock found there. These repeated ... on this reservation leave no alternative but the establishment of a permanent military post for its protection or the ~~total~~ its abandonment. The establishment of a post at that place is evidently the true course

These Indians, though known as "Snakes" are by no means to be confused with the Bannocks and Shoshones of the Rocky Mountains. The latter are well mounted and annually hunt the buffalo with head waters of the Missouri and Yellowstone, while the former are a miserable race clad in skins without houses or enclosures, hiding like wild beasts in the rocks or covering beneath the sage bushes and deriving a precarious subsistence from roots and insects and occasionally small game except when their predatory forays effect them better fare. Stealthy as the f// and fierce as the wolf they seize the unguarded moment to pounce on their prey and bear it away in triumph.

There are no indications that the Snakes are numerous; few trails and seldom an old camp are found. Having but few guns and being generally armed with bows they cannot be formidable yet are the terror of the surrounding tribes and alike a mystery to the red man and the white. As to the country they inhabit with the exception of an occasional valley and the declivities of the Blue Mountains it is a barren desert. Our government could well afford to permit them to possess it without molestation would they but cease their incursions into more forward regions and suffer the traveller to pass unmolested. To this however they will not consent ~~until~~ till overtaken and caught by severe chastisement the white man's /????? When made the recipients of our bounty they may be brought to ?? and enjoy the benefits of peace and honest labor.

p. 229

As to the Indians embraced in the treaty of the 15th June (sic) [25th ??] they are among the most docile of their race and adopt with facility the ~~new~~ dress and habits of civilized life. Removed from the ~~evil~~ evil influences that so often degrade and ruin the Indian, on a reservation remote from the course of transportation, the ~~the~~ efforts of the government in their behalf will not fail to ameliorate their condition and elevate their character. Every dictate of humanity and justice therefore forbids that they should any longer fail to receive adequate protection in the home which by solemn treaty our government has allowed them.

Since the return of Agent Dennison Sub Agent Abbott who was in temporary charge of the Warm Spring Reservation has been ^{assigned} ~~appointed~~ to duty on the Umatilla Reservation and charged with the care of the tribes and bands embraced in the treaty of 9th June, 1855. Their as nearly as can be estimated numbers one thousand and fifty. The Cayuses and Umatillas once ... and powerful tribes are now greatly reduced in numbers and wealth which ~~consisted of a few bands of~~ consisted

consisted chiefly in great hordes of horses. They are still comparatively free from the degrading ices to which the Indians ~~I~~ have so generally fallen victim ~~OdOadOadOad~~ and it is hoped that ~~now~~ ^{under} a wise and judicious administration of the existing treaty they will make rapid advances in civilization

The chief of the Umatillas is an intelligent ~~man~~ man, a christian ~~in~~ in profession and deportment and is very desirous that his people should adopt the habits and customs of the whites.

The Wallawallas have less marked characteristics and are much deteriorated by vicious indulgences.

The Umatilla reservation situated south of Wild Horse Creek on the Umatilla river was estimated by General Palmer to contain an area of 800 square miles.....P. 230... The distance of this reservation from the Dalles is about 125 miles by an excellent natural road

The Reservation provided for the Nez Perces is an immense tract extending from the Palouse on the north to the crest of the Salmon River mountains on the south, over one hundred miles and has an average width of sixty miles from east to west.

p . 232 The reservation provided for the roving bands and tribes confederated under the name of the Yakama Nation is situated east of the Cascade Mountains in a north westerly direction from the Dalles of the Columbia. ✓

It contains an area of about 800 square miles, the chief habitable part of which is the Simcoe Valley which extends fifty miles from east to west and averages twenty miles in width. Large portions of this valley are rocky and sterile; in other parts the pastures are extensive and luxuriant, and are adapted to cattle and sheep. In the lower locality alkali abounds leaving the tracts suited to agriculture of limited extent. Enough of arable land will be found however to produce all the cereals and vegetables required by the Indians. Springs of remarkable beauty

rise in many place and supply the valley plentifully with pure water. Many nutritious roots are found here rendering the valley a place of common resort by many bands and tribes for the purpose of laying ~~in~~ up their supplies of subsistence. Timber of excellent quality is found in the mountains. Numerous bears, a few deer and elk, ducks, geese, grouse and curlew constitute the game. Beaver and other animals valuable for their fur are said to be rapidly increasing in numbers.

This is probably the most isolated of the p 233 reservations being surrounded by a wide belt of country that will not soon attract the settlers. But it is of easy access by a well constructed military road excepting in the winter season when communication is cut off by the deep snows that fall in the mountains.

This valley was the home of the noted chief Kamiakin, the leading spirit in the late Indian war and was the scene of many of the most marked events of its history.

The entire Yakama tribe proper and most of the other bands confederated in the treaty of 9th June, 1855 were to a greater or less extent among the hostiles. The disaster of their infatuatid (? sic) outbreak fell heavily upon them; the survivors are well satisfied of their folly and the benefits of peace. Henceforth we may regard them as wholly subdued and subservient to every reasonable behest.

Kamiakin is now a fugitive and has declined to return to the reservation, though offered by the agent a full amnesty for the past and the chieftainship of the confederated bands, with the salary and emoluments provided in the treaty. He ~~resented~~ distrusted the white man and is more intent on personal safety than official em...lian? honor. Regarding him as of a suspicious and treacherous nature and strongly attached to the habits ~~and~~ and customs of savage life I have at no time ~~offered~~ approved the policy of making him head chief and have temporarily designated Spencer, an intelligent and friendly Klickitat chief to that

position. He has always been well disposed to the whites, ready to adopt their ways and customs and noted for integrity and temperance.

The buildings at this agency are of a superior construction and well adapted to all the uses required.

They are those of the military post established in that valley during the Indian war of 1855-56 and afterwards turned over to the Indian Department. On my visit there last spring I found the agent occupying the house erected for the commanding officer and in the enjoyment of comforts and conveniences seldom found in an Indian country.

Though the Indians to be collected on this reservation are in their physical and mental developments and in their habits generally greatly inferior to most of the interior tribes, their location ... so many advantages that a judicious administration of their affairs by the agent of the government in accord and with its adopted policy can scarcely fail of marked success. p. 234

Having carefully explored the several reservations east of the Cascade mountains to which I have referred and finding them all peculiarly adapted to grazing business I am fully convinced that the interests of the Indians will be permanently advanced by encouraging the rearing of sheep and cattle, an occupation more consonant with the character of their country and their previous pursuits than agriculture. I have accordingly purchased under contract a few hundred cows and heifers for the Nez Perces and the Indians on the Umatilla and Warm Spring Reservation and placed them in the hands of the referred to agents. I also authorized the agent at Simcoe to make a similar purchase of cattle and also of about 600 sheep which he has accomplished.

These purchases have given the highest satisfaction to the Indians and I believe that a large portion of their future annuities would be judiciously expended in a similar way....

p. 235 Major Lugenbeil, U.S.A. in charge of the Colville Depot

who has kindly acted as a special agent for the Indians in his vicinity at the latest advices represents them as well disposed but suffering much from the influences of unprincipled whiskey traders whom it is difficult to reach with the law or to restrain. Major Lugenbeil has been authorized to employ an interpreter and to pay a physician a limited compensation for services and medicines rendered to Indians. ... west of the Cascades...

p. 238

The necessity for treaty stipulations with the remaining tribes east of the mountains in Oregon and Washington is daily becoming more manifest. The settlements are extending, exploring parties are abroad in search of mineral treasures, the Indians are uneasy and excited their apprehensions are evinced that their country is to be wrested from them; the long delay attending the ratification of treaties already made fill all with distrust as to the fidelity of the government to its contracts and engagements, unprincipled traders cheat them of their possessions and give them their ^{sullenness} ?? with rum and their and indisposition to communicate with the whites for several months past and councils held for secret purposes among themselves impress many most conversant with Indian character that hostilities are meditated and another war on the threshold.

Such indications are not to be disregarded as a savage and now extended frontier however brief would fall with terrible disaster on the families of our hardy pioneers.

Apart from this consideration the including of all the tribes of the interior in similar treaties at an early day is essential to the system of ^{Indian} policy now adopted by the government. While the dissatisfied and insubordinate on the reservations can fly to these outside tribes for refuge or they in turn can visit the reservations

an influence of evil tendency will be constantly reciprocated between the two classes and the benovelent plans of the government continually thwarted .

The prosperity of the state and territory in wh ch these Indians .. the development of their resources and the augmentation of their population hinge in a great de... on the prefecting of treaties with these tribes by which they may be withdrawn from lands needed for new settlements.

I therefore respectfully recommend through you to the consideration of the President ~~xxxx~~ the importance of authorizing additional treaties with the natives at an early day and that congress be asked to make such appropriations at the coming session as may be required to meet the necessary expenses p 239

I would further recom end that as few additional reservations as possible be made. Those already provided are more than ample in extent and recources and by consulting the habits and affinities of the Indians there is not a tribe to be treated with that cannot find a congenial and advantageous home on some one of them

p. 241.

I am etc. Supt. Edward R. Geary

Supt. Indian Affairs for Oregon
and Washington

to Hon A.B. Greenwood

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Washington City, D.C.

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Roll 8, Microcopy 2
p 250 Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, Oregon, February 27, 1861
Sir:

With the view of securing the more efficient and beneficial administration of Indian affairs and promoting the purposes of the government regarding the Indians within this superintendency, I have to submit the enclosed draft of a proposed act of Congress designed to regulate the Indian service in Oregon and Washington Territory

Being about to retire from my present position with neither the expectation nor desire of again holding a place of official trust I do not regard ~~my~~ any preliminary explanation or apology as necessary.

The first section of the act abolishes the office of sub Indian Agent in this superintendency and replaces the six officers of this grade with seven additional full agents ~~ff~~ four from Washington Territory and three for Oregon.

The distinction between agents and sub agents is not only unnecessary and absurd but unjust. Whatever propriety for the distinction there may be elsewhere it certainly does not exist in this superintendency. The title sub agent p 251 ~~add~~ would seem to indicate that officer as being under the control of the agent an arrangement which the interests of the service here does not admit of. The great extent of country embraced in this superintendency inhabited by 38,000 Indians requiring each sub agent to be placed in charge of a ~~distinct~~ distinct field of duty and that he like a full agent be under the immediate ~~xxxx~~ direction and control of this office.

Even with such arrangement the entire number is inadequate for the proper occupancy of the whole field and to day three agencies involving important interests and grave responsibility are of necessity in charge of so called sub agents.

Should the proposed act become a law the several Indian agents then provided for and by the acts respectively of June 5, 1850 and July 31, 1854, might be assigned to duty as follows viz:

For Washington Territory

One agent for the Indians on the Yakama reservation

" " " confederated as the Flathead nation

" " " on the Nez Perce Reservation

" " " Spokane and Coeur d'Alenes Pend D Ore lles, Colville and Okinkanes with an agency at Colville.

One agent in charge of the central agency at Nisqually (??) on Puget Sound

One agent in charge of the Nisqually, Puyallup Squaxin and Skohomish reservations and also the upper Chehalis, Cowlitz and Vaitinamand treaty with, this field to be called the Squaxin Agency.

One agent for the Indians on Warm Springs Reservation.

One for the Snake Indians. One for the Nez Perce Reservation.

One for the Grande Ronde Agency, One for the Selkowitz and Aleca and one for the Klamath, Modocks and adjacent bands of the Digger Indians.

p 252 ..The 6th and 7th sections provides for the removal and consolidation of other tribes not parties to any treaty and makes specific provisions for placing them upon a footing of equality with those who are beneficiaries of the government under treaty stipulations

This policy was recommended in my first annual report and subsequent observation has confirmed my first convictions as to the propriety and practicability. This justice of the provision is obvious and they commend themselves to all intelligent persons comprehending the true interests of the country and desiring the welfare of the Indians

I am etc.

Edward R. Geary, supt Indian Affairs
to Hon ? R. Greenwood, commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City D.C?

N.B. I inadvertently omitted to call your attention in the body of the foregoing letter to the 19th section of the proposed act providing for the appointment of a commission to negotiate treaties with the Snake Indians and other tribes.

This provision for reasons given in my last annual report and especially in view of the hostile attitude of many of these tribes is highly important and necessary to the peace of the country, the safety of the immigrants and settlers on the frontiers and the early development of the mining and other resources of Oregon and Washington

Supt.

p. 263

Office Supt. Indian Affairs
Portland, Oregon, April 25, 1861

Sir:

Your statment on duplicate of employes on the Umatilla reservation of March 31st has been received and is today forwarded to the Indian Bureau.

When at Walla Walla a few days ago I learned that Homley, the Walla Walla chief had visited Major Stein, whether with or without your knowledge and permission, I did not learn, and had complained of not receiving sufficient rations for himself and band on the Umatilla Reservation. I mention this matter to you to direct your attention to the this alleged grievance feeling assured that nothing in your power will be omitted to render the reservation attractive to all the Indians.

He also complained that the Umatillas were unwilling to permit his tribe to have lands on the reservation.

You can readily enlighten him on this matter.

Very respectfully etc

Edward R. Geary,

Supt. Indian Affairs

G.C. Abbott esq.

Sub Ind. Agent