

Umatilla Agency Oregon

January 5, 1861

Sir:

Your communication of 5th December I found in my office on my return from "alla Walla yesterday together with the enclosed letter from Alex P. Ankeny

Whilst at Walla Walla I learned from Vansycle the quarter master agent at the old fort of the robbery referred to by Capt. Ankeny with other depredations committed by Smo-kol-lah or Big Talk on Four Mountains, who is also known as the "Dreamer" and his renegade followers.

The party is made up by disaffected Walla "alla, Cayuse, Yak-i-mah and Palouse Indians and probably a few Nez Perces. They are the nucleus around which all dissatisfied rebellious Indians who feel disposed to resist the authorities of the United States gather. They are temporarily located near the White Bluff and refuse to recognize the agents of the government and can only be reached by the military arm. Major E. Steen commanding Ft. "alla Walla assured me that he will send an armed party of sufficient strength to arrest the leaders and disperse the party as soon as the weather will favor.

I expect to accompany the expedition for the purpose of requiring and enforcing if necessary the removal of the "alla Walla and Cayuse Indians to the Reserve

Smo kol lah is a bad character and the peace of the country depends on the capture of him and his party in my opinion.

It will be impossible to recover Capt. Ankeny's horses for the present and we will be fortunate if we ever succeed in their recovery.

I will bring the case of Capt. Ankeny before the commanding officer of Ft. "alla Walla at an early day and urge the departure of the contemplated expedition at the earliest possible practicable moment. Very respect etc.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, Roll 19, microcopy 2, letter 36

Umatilla Agency, Oregon, February 15, 1861

Sir: I wrote to you on the 6th inst. relative to certain depredations committed ~~by~~ on the property of citizens of the United States by Indians living along the north bank of the Columbia River. I also enclosed the correspondence between me and the commanding officer of Fort Walla Walla on the subject.

I have now to report that in compliance with the arrangements then made a detachment of forty dragoons with ten days supplies under command of Maj. Grier encamped about six miles below the agency in Umatilla Valley, On Thursday 7th when I joined the party and started to the Columbia on Friday morning. I took with me my interpreter and three Indians from the reserve. We reached and crossed the Columbia in the night and went on foot twelve miles up the river before day light to a point at which the party of depredators, six in number, were known to be encamped a few days before but found the place deserted.

We then sent the interpreter and Indians to search for the ~~camp~~<sup>camp</sup> of the outlaws further up the river. They returned about nine o'clock a.m. with intelligence that they had discovered them about four miles above.

We started in pursuit immediately dividing our party four men guided by an Indian taking a trail back from the river succeeded in getting ~~above~~ above the Indians. The main party following the river trail approached the camp from below. The Indians finding that they were surrounded attempted to break by the four men up the river; the men fired on them when a brisk skirmish followed which lasted until the approach of the main party compelled the Indians to retreat up a mountain which was very precipitous and rocky. The skirmish continued at long range about two hours, but the Indians finally escaped in consequence of the exhausted condition of our party. ~~Several~~ A few Indian horses were found near the camp but the only stolen property recovered was a pair of saddle bags and a pocket book containing business papers all the property of



Mr. Grover

Our party returned to camp at the mouth of ~~Wmak~~ the Umatilla and sent messengers to the different Indian camps along the Columbia to direct the removal of all either to the Umatilla or Simcoe reservations as they belong respectfully. The Indians removed accordingly, some en route to Simcoe and others to this reserve where they have since arrived. Thus the rendezvous of the outlaws along the Columbia between Old Fort Walla Walla and Willow Creek has been broken up I learned that one of the thieving party drove the stolen horses toward Simcoe reserve where he probably arrived on or about the 10th of the month. It is said that he also took the money about six hundred dollars stolen from Mr. Grover, with him. I will write the agent in charge of that reserve to institute inquiries on the subject among his Indians.

A few hours after my arrival at the agency on Tuesday last I received a letter from Mr. I.M. ~~Ladegaded~~ Vansycle of Old Fort Walla Walla to whom I had written regarding the depredations, reporting the arrest and execution of two of the depredators by Lieut. Reno, U.S.A. near that place, a copy of which I enclose for your information. These Indians have set the authorities at defiance and have forcibly resisted whenever an attempt was made to arrest them. They have stolen horses and cattle from the settlers, broken into and plundered houses in the boldest manner threatening the owners and in one instance shot a white man on the Touchet in Washington Territory. They resisted fiercely when finally arrested. I am therefore of opinion that the extreme punishment inflicted was richly deserved and that it will tend more to the peace and security of this position than any other course that could have been pursued.

I had almost forgotten to state that I was wrongly informed relative to the theft of horses at Willow Creek. The Indians did not get any there with the exception my report was correct as far as it went but I ha



I have reason to believe that when all is developed I will have to report more extensive depredations.

"While writing the foregoing I received a letter from Capt. I.W. Whitley of Fort Dalles commanding a detachment of Dragoons from the post in pursuit of the Indians reporting the arrest of one more of the party of outlaws. The captain has been wrongly informed regarding the nationality of the thieves.

You will find by reference to enclosed copy that he reports four Umatillas and two Walla Wallas when in fact it is the reverse, four Walla Wallas and two Umatillas. This is of importance to the respective tribes as it is highly probable that indemnity will be claimed from their annuities and it should be apportioned according to the number of each tribe implicated.

You will perceive that the military have displayed a highly commendable zeal in this affair which is the result of the wise policy of Col. Wright the efficient commanding officer of the late Department of Oregon.

Etc.

G.H. Abbott, sub Indian agent to Edward R. Geary  
supt. Indian affairs.

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Walla Walla ~~Supt~~ Feb. 11, 1861

Friend Abbott:

The next day after your messenger Pierre left here early in the morning--I was called up on to go to the assistance of Chief Homlie that those dam scoundrels (Indian horse thieves and general desperadoes) had come to Homlie's camp during the night and cleaned out the institution--had fired several shots and beat Homlie over the head with a double barrel shotgun. I sent out for Mr. Pamburn to come in--lives about 2 1/2 miles from my place and to bring in half dozen horses. I had written



to Maj. Stein the night before telling him in answer to a verbal message from him that I had heard nothing of the thieves. My oldest son was ready to start for the fort when the news reached me of Homlie's troubles. I made a note on the envelope to the Major in brief telling him I would go up and see about the trouble and report that he had better send me a few soldiers and we would try and take the whelps -- raised a party of five white and three Indians and went up to Homlie's camp about four miles above on the Columbia River. The whelps got wind of our coming and fled across the Columbia we came in sight however just as two of the party were returning to this side for the balance and two more horses. The horses and Indians were on an island between which and the shore next us, ran a sheet of water about 100 yards wide and about belly deep to a horse in the shallowest place. We left one of our men on the bank so he could overlook the movement of the whelps and give us the sign, we when pushed across the sheet of water when about half way over our sentinel motioned us to "hyack" we did so and as soon as we got through the water jumped off our horses and ran across the island is covered with round boulders horses could not travel well on it just as we reached the other side of the island the Indians reached the opposite side of the Columbia but in their haste however they left one of their horses on the island. They jumped out of the canoe and commenced blacky winging us calling us all sort of old women etc. my party were armed with Mississippi Yagers, thinks I old fellows (four in no) I'll just show you that we have got the little do-fimmie that will reach you and teach you that you are not even safe on the other side of the Columbia so I let drive at them, elevating my piece so the ball would go over them that they might hear the whiz. They did hear it and such doging behind rocks and breaking for the sage brush was beautiful to behold even at so great a distance. The shot was promptly returned however but it fell far short, and we then all blazed away at them but did not hit any of them they kept



shooting at uall the time and now and then popping away at us. After looking ~~sadd~~ around for a canoe and not finding any we recrossed the island took to horse, took in charge the left critter and returned home. The horse we captured is rather a large size Indian horse dark chestnut color two or three white feet bald face and has a very sore back.

Saturday evening my son returned from Walla Walla bringigging letter from Maj. Stein that he had started Lieut Reno and Kellog down to my place with a small command and that he wished I would render them all the assistance in my power towards taking those cultus whelps.

The command arrived here Sunday morning about 10 o'clock and started immediately on up the river. I sent out for Mr. Panburn to go with us to act as interpreter, he did so. We stopped at all the Indian encampments along the river but could hear nothing of the whelps except that they were seen Saturday evening on the rocks just below the mouth of the Walla Walla about a half mile below my place. The command passed on past all the Indian camps about a mile then came to a half and camped. Reno sent for Homli to come up and have a talk, he came and Reno informed him among other things that he wanted him to render him all the assistance he could to arrest these dam scoundrels but they must be somewhere in that vicinity. Homli promised to do so, would send out all his available men in parties of two, see if they could get any traces of them, did so and before I left the camp for home about 4 o'clock p.m. information came in that the Indians were on trail. Arrangements were made for communicating during the night and I left for home. This morning early a messenger came in and informed me that two of the whelps had been arrested during the night by Reno had a pretty good skirmish with the largest one, they showed fight though surrounded in a lodge. Reno grabbed him and the Indian tried to use his gun, the sergeant coming in prevented him, he then drew his knife, this was wrenched away from him, he then fell back on (to me a new weapoin for an Indian to carry) a sling shot, a round stone



covered with hide, handle to it and a strap to go around the wrist; by this time however he was overpowered; the other was arrested just outside the lodge as he was endeavoring to escape, the third got away. The command this morning (Monday) moved down to my place with the prisoners and camped in a willow grove on the Walla Walla about a quarter of a mile from the old fort, here Reno inquired into the character of the two whelps. They proved to be grand scoundrels had been in the guardhouse at Fort Walla Walla, had been stealing horses and threatening the lives of both whites and Indians etc. but as I am ~~worn out~~ writing this letter too long will not give full particulars. Suffice it to say Reno swung them to a limb of one of the willow trees this morning about 11 o'clock in the presence of most of Homli's tribe and everybody said amen. Well gone good and faithful Reno. Reno will remain here a few days longer and try and nip the other two whelps the Indians are on their trail.

Reno has <sup>not</sup> ~~next~~ enough rations to reach Big Talk or he would have him. I wish he could get him.

Yours truly J.M. Vansycle

P.S. The whelps stole a ~~hopped~~ horse we captured and another out of Panbrun's band Saturday night.

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Columbia River at mouth of

Mow ow way creek

W.T. February 13, 1861

Sir:

I deem it my duty to put you in possession of certain information touching the depredations recently committed upon settlers at Bitter and Willow Creek, obtained by me since leaving Ft. Dalles four days ago. The offenders it seems certain are a band of robbers six in number whose names and nationality are as follows:

1-Culpas, a Umatilla of William Smoolia band.



2-Lack cheleen-A Umatilla

3-How dee doo, a Umatilla.

4-Haleese, a Umatilla, now a prisoner in my hands.

5-Wee loo la cupe, supposed to be a Walla Walla.

6-Tui-a con-~~an~~ do do do

This information I have obtained from various individuals this side of the river and it was confirmed by the confession of Haluse who seems to be the chief of the Gadd party. He was delivered to me this evening by the ~~Indians~~ Indians of this vicinity after he ~~had~~ an attempt which I made by a night march to surround and surprise their camp at daylight and which was not successful in its object. The attempt was made by me, ~~with~~ with 20 dragoons, accompanied by Judge Hamson, Fairchild and Mr. ~~Sydney~~ VanSycle volunteers and two friendly Indians. I hope will have a good and durable effect.

Culpas has gone to Simcoe and perhaps one other of his party, of which I have notified the Indian agent there... The others are on your side of the river and I doubt not you will be able to bring them to justice without or with the aid of troops at Fort Walla Walla.

...Haleese says that of 14 horses and mules stolen by him 10 got away before they reached the river which may be true, will afford a clue for their recovery

I am J.B. Whitley capt etc.

to Mr. Abbott, Indian Agent, Umatilla Agency.



Roll 19 , microcopy 2, Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs.

Incomplete abstract. Only pertinent material noted. Typescript material enclosed not included in abstracted work.

1-Umatillaagency letter req. purchase of clothing.

2-Appointment of W.B. Gosnell to succeed Simmons on Puget Sound.

3-110,695 requested, treasury notation for Indians of Oregon and Washington territories ~~for~~(satisfying treaties with Yakimas included) ✓

6-Appraisal by commission of land claims and improvements, Tualip Reservation.

(in between much routine correspondence, acknowledgments etc)

122-Appointment of W.H. Rector to succeed E.R. Geary as supt. of Ind. Affairs.

121-Re Settlement at Snake and Clearwater rivers in violation of U.S. laws and Indian Rights. ✓

144-White man killed by Indian in ~~Washedd~~ Thiah Valley, Indian ~~xxxxxx~~ killed ~~ddddd~~ during arrest

156-Agent Dennison 3 pp rpt. on murders of whites by Indians upon his return from "arm Springs Reservation.



Roll 19, File Microcopies, records of National Archives No. 2,  
Records of the Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs.

Letters received January 3-December 27, 1861

On this roll are microcopied the unbound letters received by the Oregon and Washington Superintendency of Indian Affairs, January 3, -July 31, 1861, and by the Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs, August 1 -December 27, 1861. The letters are numbered approximately in order of receipt from 1 to 217. . At the end of the roll are 12 unregistered letters arranged by writing date, August 13-December 17, 1861. These include annual reports from the agents in charge of the Alsea, Siletz, Umatilla and Warm Springs Agencies.

( Citation suggestion) National Archives, "Records of the Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs letters received 1861 No. 22.

Unregistered letters: Records of the Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs 1861. ~~OR~~ The superintendency may be briefly designated as the Oregon SIA. In strict accuracy all citations for the earlier part of 1861 should refer to the Oregon and Washington Superintendency of Indian Affairs; but as explained in the introduction to Roll 12, good reasons seem to exist for ignoring this distinction.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs roll 19, microcopy 2 Letter 3

Quar. Mrs. Office

Jany 12th, 1861

Dear Sir:

A certified account for the Fort Simcoe property amtg. to \$836.15 was left me by direct Dr. Lansdale on 15 Dec. last. Allow me to ask you what is the probability of your receiving funds for payment of said voucher.

I am etc.

E.B. Babbitt

Maj. and qmrs.

Edward R. Gear esq. Supt. of Indian Affairs, Portland, Oregon.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, Roll 19, microcopy 2 Letter 8

Fort Walla Walla W.T. Dec. 23, 60

Dear Sir:

There is some difficulty between your Indians in this valley and the citizens. They have two of the Indians in confinement and will hang them unless you come up immediately and remove the Indians who wish to move and are to leave in 7 days. I wish you to come up as soon as you can,

The Indians say that they want about 6 waggon to have their corn and potatoes and one for their sick.

The citizens say rather than have any difficulty they will furnish a few wagons. Come yourself if you can.

E. Steen, Major U.S.A. comdy.

Mr. Abbot, Indian agent

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Umatilla Agency, January 5th, 1861

Sir:

I returned yesterday from Walla Walla Valley where I have been engaged in the removal of the Cayuse Indians or a portion of them, to the reserve.

I received a letter by special express from Maj. E. Steen commanding Fort Walla Walla on the 24th December and went over ~~next~~ on the 25th. I enclose the letter which will explain itself.

When I arrived in the valley I found that nothing would quiet the feeling that existed with the white population but the removal of the Indians.

I therefore notified the chiefs that I would expect them to be ready to start to the reserve in a few days and as they told me that their means of transportation was insufficient to remove their supplies of corn, wheat, potatoes etc. I promised such assistance of wagons and teams as I could procure.

My instructions were a barrier to the hire of wagons for the removal of Indians and I therefore applied to Major Steen who kindly



furnished four wagons, teams and drivers. I used two of the agency wagons and hired one with which I was enabled to remove the heavy freight.

The Indians started en route on Monday last and the last of them will be here tomorrow.

The two Indians held as prisoners by the whites mentioned in Maj. Steen's letter were released and the difficulty is happily settled.

I am indebted to Maj. Steen for courteous cooperation and assistance.

The total expenses incurred amount to about ninety dollars (\$90) including my traveling expenses all of which I think can be paid out of the fund for general incidental expenses.

Very respectfully etc

G.H. Abbott, sub Indian Agent

E.R. Geary, supt. of Indian Affairs.



Umatilla Agency, Oregon, February 6, 1860

Sir:

I have to report that the Indians on the north bank of the Columbia have committed several depredations on the property of the whites on this side recently and in such a bold manner as to lead to the belief that serious trouble is to be apprehended.

As far as I have been able to ascertain by the reports that have reached me the following are the facts:

About ten days since a party of Indians drove a ~~band~~ small band of cattle from Umatilla Valley across the Columbia River for their own use. This was reported by the Indians on the reserve.

Last Saturday morning a party of six armed Indians took from Mr. Boggs and other citizens of Butter Creek Valley fourteen head of horses in broad day light and before their faces threatening to kill them if they interfered.

This was reported by two respectable gentlemen who came to the agency for that purpose on Sunday.

I wrote to Maj. Steen on the subject requesting him to send a force of sufficient strength to arrest and punish the offenders and compel the removal of all Indians that are along the north bank of the Columbia. The correspondence find enclosed ~~to Maj. Steen~~ and you will perceive that the Maj. responded to my request with remarkable promptness.

After the express messenger started to Fort Walla Walla about nine o'clock Mr. Stevens who is a sufferer to a small amount and another man whose name I have forgotten arrived at the agency and reported that the Indians or another party after driving off the horses returned to the house and took every thing in it.

Yesterday evening a report reached me that that (sic) about the same time a party of Indians took forcibly from Mr. Richmond of



"Willow Creek a band of horses in day light and robbed the house of Mr. Grover of "Willow Creek of the entire contents including six hundred dollars in cash.

The citizens of Umatilla Valley are building a fort and preparing for serious trouble.

The foregoing are the reports that have reached me up to the present date. The detachment referred to in the letter from the post adjutant of Fort Walla Walla will probably reach here today and I have no doubt that the perpetrators of these outrages will be brought to justice

If on investigation the report above mentioned from time to time I suppose that a military force will be sent to break up the camp of "mo kol low or Big Talk on Four Mountains known as the Dreamer who encourages or furnishes a rendezvous for thieves and outlaws near the "White Bluffs.

I take pleasure in reporting all the Indians on this reserve perfectly friendly. The Cayuse tribe held an election for head chief last Monday which resulted in the choice of How Lish Wam Poo, whose friendship to the whites has never been shaken.

There was a nonfriendly Indian named at a council which is unusual.

Nearly half of the lawless Indians on the north side of the Columbia belong properly to the Simcoe Reservation and I would suggest that the agent in charge of that reserve be directed to cooperate with me in removing them and to keep a close observation of the movement of the Yak-a-mas and Klick-a-tats. Very respectfully, G.H. Abbott

Sub. Indian Agent

Edward R. Geary, esq. Supt. Indian Affairs.



Umatilla, Feb. 12, 1861

Friend Genzy:

Dear Sir: The dragoons under Major Greer has returned from a short exursion in search of those Indian depridators. They found the robbers on the north side of the Columbia. The Dragoons had left their horses on the south side of the Columbia. The soldiers ~~and~~ surrounded one village at the brake of day after a short parley they ascertained that the depridators were ~~samt~~ about three miles off. They made there way to the camp but were discovered by the time they got within gun shot, the Indians left their icktas and made good their escape. The soldiers got six horses one of which were stolen from Butter Creek, there was one horse ~~heda~~ killed (sic) by the soldiers. There is talk here that Mr. VanSickel at old Fort Walla Walla and some others had caught two of the robbers and had gave them the benefit of a hemp rope. I think it is reliable. Mr. Abbott is moving all the Indians that is disposed either to the Umatilla or Simco reserve. I think there is nothing to fear from these Indians on the Umatilla Reserve.

The famalies would feel more secure if there were part of a company of soldiers stationed near the reserve. It would protect us from those predatory excursions of the Snakes and would be ~~an~~ a wholesome restraint on all restless spirits that should be on the reserve. If there is no expedition against the Snake Indians I do not consider property safe here.

Please write to me and let me know how soon there will be any money subject to draft at Portland for the Indian department. I have some eight or nine hundred dollars to pay soon and the most of it is due. I shall be in Portland in April if no unforeseen accident befalls me.

If you want to know how I stand positively my simpathies is with the south in the present crisis. I think they may be a little hasty. Be assured of my best friendship and esteem. I am your most obedient svt.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs. Roll 19, microcopy 2 letter 48

(Confidential)

Olympia W.T. March 13, 1861

My Dear Sir:

We are doing all we can to procure the administration of our friend Gov. Stevens, and I think we will succeed though it will be by a tight squeeze.

If it were possible for you to spare Gosnell from Fort Simcoe it would help us much to have him put in charge of all the Indians on the Sound including his old district and that of Col. Simmons.

You may rest assured the Democratic party here will sustain you in your course with Mansdale.

Simmons is now a candidate for congress himself.

I have several letters from Stevens to night. He will be here in April. Your friend W.W. Miller

Hon. E. Geary

Endorsement: (Pertaining to renomination of Gov. Stevens as delegate in Congress and discussing the return to the sound of sub-agent Gosnell.



To Edward Geary, March 24, 1861

Dear friend:

Permit me to trouble you with these lines. This is Sunday morning. This is the second time that I have been at the post since I arrived here. I am in good health which is the greatest blessing that we can enjoy and I hope this may find you the same and Mr. Brooks and likewise his family. You know when I left Portland which was on Friday I stopt at the Cascades untill the Monday following then to the Dalles it rained for three days all the time and on the fourth night it snowed and was very cold that day. I saw a man who came from the Klickitat badly going to the mines who had to come back to the Dalles. He said it was all most impossible to get along and as Mr. Peck said that he expected the pack train in every day as it was difficult to get my horse back I concluded to wait one or two days longer and it did arrive. I then paid the Indian five dollars for a horse to ride over we was four days in coming and you might well say I had a hard time at that the last two days I had but little to eat and when we got in about 18 miles of the post one of the pack horses gave out so that I had to give up my horse and take it a foot this was a tiresome job and when I got to the Topnias I could go no further, it did appear to me I had good luck to get there and good luck too I got an Indian who took me on his horse to the post here I found all the boys who welcomed me with great friendship and provided me with a good supper and as for sleep you may think I lost no time that all treated me kindly I think Mr. Cosnell ~~has~~ bears the recommend that you gave him. I can't say too much in his praise I still have not him but a short time with him but from the short acquaintance I must speak highly of him he put me on the farm the second day after my arrival I can't have such things on the farm as I should like to have if in fact I ~~had~~ have hardly enough to get along still I think that



Kapus will do the best he can. I suppose he has the charge in the absence of Mr. Gosnell as for our superintendent and myself we get along very well he and I will get along. I think very well for ~~he~~ he don't appear to know it all and am very .... he says nothing in opposition to my business at this time we was short of oxen on the farm still I think we shall soon have some soon for if I am not mistaken Mr. Kapus expects some soon ~~thaxxwaxx~~ if th s was not the case I should write to have you send up four yoke of good oxen for the farm but I am in hopes to get them soon.

I don't have much chance to now so that I can inform you all the particulars as you expect me to do. Still I think and this I know there is more all ready down at ~~xx~~ this time than ever has been done in the one season before up to this time. Mr. Elder works very hard all the time to hard for his good all the time for the Indians and ~~s000~~ I am to or three more one plowing. (? Seems to be copy awful ~~s000d00d~~ scrawl)

I have no reason do do but that all things go on fine except mine I shall not speak to my own merit still I do the best I can. I have but few things to do with which I hope will do better I will wite as often as possible so I delay at this time.

I remain your obedient servant Charles E. Place.



White Bluffs, Washington Territory

March 6, 1861

Mr. Geary: Supt. Indian Affairs Sir. We the undersigned residents of Washington Territory would respectfully call your attention to the following facts. There is an Indian belonging to the Priest Rapids Tribe known as Dreamer, The White Mountain or the Prophet but known here as Smohala who is continually trying to raise trouble between the whites and his people. He demands pay from us for the permission to live here threatens us if we do not pay him with war. He has exercised a great influence over his tribe and other Indians as a Medicine Man and is therefore more dangerous. Now we are keeping a ferry on the Columbia at this place on the main route to Fraser River and Rock Creek from Dalles City for which we have a charter from the legislature but are in danger of having our property destroyed at any time and perhaps of our lives as he has at all times the most desperate Indians in the country around him and the hanging of two Indians at Walla Walla recently has had the effect of making his band worse than before.

Hoping that you will relieve us from him in some way we remain your most obedient servants.

James Ritchie

Thomas Howe



Umatilla Agency Oregon May 15, 1861

Sir:

Enclosed find an estimate of annuity funds required to pay for property stolen and destroyed by Indians of the Walla Walla, Cayuse and Umatilla Tribes of this agency parties to the treaty of 9th June 1855 together with affidavits of witnesses.

The property was stolen in February last and by the party whose depredations were duly reported by me under date of February 6th and February 15. Some of the property that was stolen at the time has been recovered but none for which indemnity is claimed.

The claims for payment is made on the annuity of the Indians under the provisions of the 8th article of the Treaty 9th June 1855.

I am satisfied that the claims are just that the property was stolen and the Indians on the reserve all agree that certain Indians of the Walla Walla and Umatilla tribes were the offenders.

The aggregate amount necessary to pay for all claims heretofore presented is one thousand twenty eight dollars and seventy five cents and should the Department approve the claim they should be paid from the annuity of the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1862

Very respectfully

Your obdt svt. G. H. Abbott Sub Indian Agent

(Name of claimants included Noah Pines, T. I. Woolley, David J. Mitchell, Alfred Jobe, John French, Daniel Steward, Gordon B. Reeder.)



Oregon Suptcy Indian Affairs, Roll 19, microcopy 2 Letter 101

Portland O. June 3, 1861

Edward Geary Esq. Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon and  
Washington Territory

The undersigned learning that a special agent is to be appointed for  
the Simcoe Agency in Washington Territory respectfully recommend  
Charles Hutchins as possessing the proper qualifications for the  
appointment.

Simon Francis, Thos. J. Holmes S. Coffin, G. Collier Robbins, Dr.

G. T. Burnside, H. D. S. . . . my B Tuitling, Saml. W. Smith, H. W. Corbett

Port Simcoe W.T. June 17th, 1861

Mr. Geary Dear Sir:

I hope this will not offend you. I write to you for a little information to know what is best for me to do.

I am a member of two lodges in Portland formerly, the A.F.M and the I.O.O.F. I am in arrears one year to both these lodges and I am out of money. Now if I leave here and come down to Portland can you pay me any for my service as blacksmith at Port Simcoe . I am in debt to those two institutions and that covers all my debts. Now I shall have to pay those if I have to work for 50 cents per day to pay them.

I wish you would write to me and inform me what to do. I shall wait with patience until your answer is returned. Firmly relying on what you say as a friend and brother

Joseph Spink



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, Roll 19, microcopy 2, Letter

Office Indian Agency

Fort Simcoe W.T. June 29th, 1861

Sir:

I learn with the greatest astonishment that you have again returned to this reservation. After my ~~fully~~ fully stating to you both in person and by letter that you were required to remove from this reservation without delay and your apparant compliance with that order now to return I regard as a flagrant violation of the legal orders of those having the reservation in charge. I have previously conceived that your self respect would have induced you to avoide a course which is certain to entail upon your ignominimious results and permit me to assure you (~~sirs~~ crossed out) that the order of the superintendent of Indian affairs for Oregon and Washington Territory is for you to remove from this reservation, must and shall be obeyed both in the letter and observance

Respectfully yours

Chas Hutchins, special Indian agent for  
Yakima Nation

To Dr. R.H. Lansdale

Ft. Simcoe W.T.



Yakima Indian Agency W.T.

Fort Simcoe June 28 1861

Sir:

I informed you in my letter of 10th instant that the president had superseded Edward R. Geary late supt. Indian affairs for this territory by appointing William W. Miller esq supt. for Washington Territory. I was justified in that declaration by the following facts: On Feby. 8th 1861 the president approved an act of congress enacting the Territory of Washington into a separate superintendency of Indian Affairs and authorized him to appoint a superintendent and three additional Indian agents. In pursuance of that law the president commissioned Genl. Miller as above stated. Genl. Miller accepted the commission, has executed bond and been sworn into office and by letter of May 17th, 1861 notified Edward R. Geary that he had entered upon full discharge of the duties thereof. Geary refused or failed to turn over the files, records, funds and property belonging to the superintendency but that fact is very far from continuing him in an office constituted by express act of congress and given by the present to another person.

The proviso to the second section of the act of congress indicated is in the following words: Provided that no agent or sub agent either special or temporary or otherwise shall be appointed, employed or continued in employment in Washington Territory except only the three agents and two sub agents provided for by existing law and the additional agents provided ~~for~~ by this act."

I remain etc.

R.H. Lansdale, Indian Agent

W.T.

Charles Hutchins esq.

Ft. Simcoe W.T.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, Roll 19, microcopy 2 Letter 122

Office of the Supt. Indian Affairs Olympia  
Washington Territory, July 8, 1861

Sir:

As you were my predecessor in office up to the 14th of April unto  
on which day in accordance with instructions from the department at  
Washington I entered upon my duties as superintendent of Indian  
Affairs for the Territory of Washington I deem it a proper act of  
courtesy to inform you that I have required the Indian agents throughout  
the superintendency of Washington Territory to ~~render~~ render their  
reports and estimates to this office and have directed that all  
their official correspondence therefore be transacted with and through  
this superintendency.

I am sir very respectfully

W.M. Miller

Supt. Indian Affairs Washington  
Territory

Edward R. Geary esq.

Supt. Indian Affairs, Oregon.



Oregon Suptc. Indian Affairs, Roll 19, microcopy 2, letter 122

Office of the Supt. Indian Affairs

Olympia W.T. July 18th, 1861

Sir:

I have to inform you that under instructions from the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Washington City I have assigned Mr. A.A. Bancroft to the charge of the Yakima Indian Agency as Indian Agent over the Indians parties to the treaty made between the United States and the Yakima Indians concluded June 9, 1855; and that I have directed the agent in temporary charge at Simcoe to turn over to Mr. Bancroft all the public property belonging to that agency district including money, correspondence, books accounts, files etc. etc.

I am sir, very respectfully

W.M. Miller

Supt. of Indian Affairs

Washington Territory

Edward R. Geary esq.

Supt. of Indian Affairs

Portland, Oregon.



Oregon Suptc. Indian Affairs, Roll 19, microcopy 2, Letter 147

Office Yakama Indian Agency, Fort Simcoe, Aug 12 1861

Sir :

In the residence formerly occupied by Agent Lansdale there are some household effects , that me at loss (sic) in deciding whether they are Indian Department property.

Now sir have you at hand that will throw light upon the subject say of mirrors, chairs, tables, bedding , carpets, sofa etc. etc.

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If so will you please forward us.

Respectfully A.A. Bancroft

Indian Agent for Yakama Nation

to Hon Wm.H. Rector

Supt. Ind. Affairs, Portland.

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, "oll 19, microcopy 2, letter 148

Department of Interior

Office Indian Affairs, July 13, 1861

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from your predecessor Supt. Geary dated June 1st, 1861 advising this office of the appointment by him of Charles Hutchens esq as special agent to take charge of the ~~Yak~~ Yakima agency and transmitting the official bond of said Hutchens

I have to inform you that before the reception of Supt. Geary's letter Mr. Hutchens was appointed agent vice A. J. ~~Smith~~ Cain.

No action therefore will be taken upon Supt. Geary's appointment

Very respectfully etc.

Wm. P. Dole, commissioner

Wm. H. Rector esq.

Portland, Oregon.