

PAUL  
MS. III

SKarra letter Sept 9  
Justice certifies - to  
the documents -  
originals & or  
typewritten -

S.W. July 8 = 1880  
via Walla Walla

12 copies -  
& the ppt agent took  
March 31 - 1882 =  
Copied files of your  
agency -  
The eyes next  
week.

to supply themselves, bedding, wood and blankets must now be furnished by the employes. Tables, bedsteads, wash tub, water buckets, cook stoves and furniture, parlor stove, and chairs, I will supply, also one or two cows a pig and a garden spot for yourself. I inclose check for \$60. I shall send out a team that will be at Rockland by Thursday, May 11, or Friday noon the 13th which I wish you to drive in. I intend to send a man with 4 horses and you can take two of them for your light wagon for your family and he will load with your goods.

Should there be more than you can well bring with you, leave such as will not be immediately required till our teams go out which will be soon. You can store them on this side the river.

Hoping you will be at the Dalles by Friday night (the 12th)  
I remain

Very truly yours

James H. Wilbur

U.S. Indian Agent

per JHF



Miscellaneous Letters Book  
1881-82 (1882)

Piutes  
Tumwater and The Dalles

Fort Simcoe, July 24, 1882

J.S. Storrs, Esq.

Sheriff of Wasco Co. Oregon, The Dalles

Sir:

I am informed that one David, a Piute Indian from the Warm Springs is now at the Dalles engaged in persuading the Piutes now at the Tumwater Fishery to cross the river and strike out for their old homes.

By orders of the Department of Indian Affairs, all Piutes both here and at Warm Springs are placed under the jurisdiction of this agency. I therefore request that you arrest David (who will be pointed out to you by the bearer) and hold him till I can send for him.

p 258

Piute Louis is also reported to be at the Dalles engaged in the same business. Should he be there, you are requested to arrest him also.

For any expenses, or charges, please send your bill to this agency and I will make immediate settlement.

Very respectfully

(Wilbur)

by JHF  
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July 24, 1882- Capt. Johnson, Agent, Rockland Ferry

Sir: Information has been brought me that some nine or ten families of Piutes have crossed the Columbia River ferry on their way to Warm Springs. The orders of the Indian Department are positive to refuse permission for them to leave this agency. You are requested under no circumstances, to permit any Piutes to cross at your ferry. Orders have been sent them, all to return, so that they have no legal ground on which to stand right off the reservation. (Wilbur) etc.

that the department has definitely and positively declared that the Piutes shall be permanently located on this Reservation, you will at once see the importance of gathering them all in one place as early as possible, in the spring, that their idle rambling habits and propensities may be discouraged as much as possible.

An early reply is solicited

Very respectfully yours

James H. Wilbur, U.S. Indian agent.



Miscellaneous Letters Book

Piutes -location

1881-82

J.B. Dickerson, Esq.

The Dalles, Oregon March 20(1882 )

My Dear Brother:

Your letter to me and the letter to Mr. Wilbur came duly to hand. I gave the pattern of the chandelier to some men at the church that they might make up their minds what kind they would prefer.

... 175

All well except the agent who is complaining, but who has nevertheless gone to superintend the location of the Piutes on the land assigned to them, excepting to be gone nearly the whole week and

p 176

to camp out all the time.

He has selected a bend in the Topnish near the mouth of the Simcoe has taken a large force of men and teams and is going to start them on their own lands. I hope he may not break himself down entirely

Very truly yours

J.F. Hairchild.

p 84

Fort Simcoe, April 3, 1882

Rev. H.S. Powell, East Portland, Oregon

My Dear Brother: Having removed the Piutes to a location some 6 miles below the church and built a good house and started a farm, I require some good man to take charge of them. Rations etc. will be furnished to them there. Mr. McDonald who with his family lives at, and has charge of the cattle ranch, will drive up and slaughter the cattle and assist in the issue. I propose to turn to build a school house where a day school will be taught, not to exceed three hours

per day and want a teacher to live there, teach the children in school to read and write and above all to work. p 85

To spend the time out of school in instructing the Piutes to work and carry on a farm. I have asked the Department for permission to employ a man for that position at a salary of \$1,000 per annum. In reflecting on who would fill the position to the best advantage my mind has fixed on you, and the object of this letter is to ask if you would come provided I get permission to employ a teacher and instructor as above stated.

I shall receive a reply soon, and if the Department respond favorably to my request (as I feel confident they will) I shall need a man immediately. Please answer without delay. Would you like the Work? Would you come on short notice? I would furnish you transportation from Rockland without expense to you, and if you require funds, can advance what you may p 186 need for expenses in here, and deduct it from your first quarter salary.

Please answer by the next mail

Very truly yours

James H. Wilbur

U.S. Indian agent

per J.H. Fairchild.

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Rev. H.L. Powell, Yakima, May 4

East Portland, Or. Dear Brother

Having been authorized to employ a teacher for the Piutes, who shall act in the double capacity as teacher and farmer at an annual salary of \$1,000 I am prepared to offer the place to you and the sooner you are ready to enter upon your duties the better. I should inform you that since you left the treaty with the Indians has expired, and some articles formerly furnished the employees they are now required to



Yakima Agency-Unfiled

Paiutes

United States Indian Service

Warm Springs Agency, December 20, 1881

Rev. J.H. Wilbur, U.S. Indian Agent, Yakima Agency, W.T. S.<sup>r</sup>:

Your letter of 10th inst is hereby acknowledged. In answer I would say that the first information you speak of as having been received from the Hon. Commissioner in September last and which you "communicate" to me was never received, at this agency.

The letter of Hon. Commissioner dated Sept. 7 80 ordering me to return the Piutes you speak of I received about the same time as you. My reasons for not complying with his instructions were that the order didn't apply to the 24 Renegade Piutes which came from your Agency. The Hon. Commissioner seems to have lost sight of the fact that there were 49 Piutes here and that the 25 belonged here. That under date of June 28th, 80 I was authorized to settle them and you were instructed to bring their families to The Dalles where our teams were to meet them. The order of Sept. 7 stated that the 25 Piutes didn't belong here 800 and I immediately telegraphed back that there were 49 Piutes here, 25 of whom had been here nearly two years and asking that the order of Sept. 7 might be modified. Under date of Oct. 10 the answer came by telegraph "Order of Sept. 7" was intended only for the twenty four renegade Piutes. By the time I received this telegram the unprecedented storm of rain and snow set in which for a time stopped nearly all transportation. I waited for a time, but as it continued to be unfavorable weather under date of Oct 31 I informed the Department of the difficulties in the way of returning the Indians and asked that they ~~be~~ be allowed to remain until Spring. To this I received a letter dated Nov. 18, 1881 answering that they could remain but they should be given to understand that as soon as return is practicable they must leave your reservation and go back to Yakima. The latter clause I expect to carry out so that I hope you will need to have no



further trouble or anxiety in regard to them. You ask me to cooperate with you. I shall be glad to do so, for I never have wanted them to stay here. They were not welcome when they came and only the lateness of the season prevented my immediately insisting upon their return.

In this connection I would call your attention to the order of June 21, 1880 and your promise given over a year ago to transfer those Piute families you have never given me any explanation nor have I been advised that, that order was revoked. But I would long ago have recommended that all the Piutes upon this reservation should be transferred to you only that they were so unwilling to go.

Why they have such a prejudice against your Agency I cannot tell, only from their own words. They have declared time and time again that they would rather stay here without assistance from the government

than go over there and be provided for. In my letters to the Hon. Commissioner I have more than once said that either the families of those belonging here should be allowed to rejoin them, or else all the Piutes should be taken to the Yakima Reservation. I am sure you are heartily welcome to all of them and I hope to be furnished a copy of the last instructions you speak of as having received and ordering me to transfer all the Piutes to you. Please understand that I have never considered the 24 Piutes as under my authority any more than other outside Indians and I have never assumed any control over them, but I have urged them time and time again to return. As they ran off from your reservation it is not unlikely some of them may steal away from this reservation before spring, now that they know they must return to your agency. They have had to subsist themselves by hunting and some may run off, unknown to me or my Indians, until some time afterward. Still I hope next spring will find them "all present or accounted for" and I can have the pleasure of returning them to you.

Very respectfully

Your obt. se vt.

John Smith, U.S. Indian Agent.

Paiutes

Yakima Agency: Unfiled

L 15.706 82

AMTH(?) 4579

Department of the Interior  
Office of Indian Affairs  
Washington, Sept. 9th, 1882

J. H. Wilbur

Indian Agent, Yakima Agency, W. T.

Sir:

Referring to your letter dated the 10th inst in which you report the indebtedness incurred in the recaptured and return to your agency of the Piute Indians who escaped and were on their way to the Warm Springs Agency, you are informed that the Hon Secretary of the Interior has approved your action in the premises and funds will be included in your next remittance with which to pay the following bills: Services of Joseph Parriks \$28; services of D. B. Rowland \$40; services of 3 special Indian policemen \$18.00; services of two other Indians \$6; hire of horses \$10; Sheriff of Washo county for arresting and keeping 2 Piutes in jail for two weeks \$26; J. B. Dickerson for supplies furnished the pursuing party \$31.19; traveling and other expenses of your check \$25.75. Total \$175

Very Respectfully H. Price  
Commissioner

Pugh.



Paiutes

Letter 921421

Miscellaneous-unfiled.

1882

Washington, 20th

(Department of Interior

Office of Indian Affairs)

James H. Wilbur, Esq. U.S. Indian Agent, Yakima Agency, W.T.:

Sir:

Your monthly report for April has been received and I desire to express to you and through you to the Piutes at a favorable opportunity the gratification of this office at the report of their industry and progress in the home selected for them on your reservation and the hope they may not "weary in well doing" but show to those around them, and all who come in contact with them, that they are determined to settle down to the work of making comfortable homes for themselves and their children. What they have done only shows that they can, under judicious guidance, very soon become self supporting and in the not very remote future become an example worthy of imitation by other Indians. Say to them that this office expects them to look to you for council and advice and to no one else and that if mischievous persons (no matter what their profession or calling may be) advise them otherwise, it is their duty to report the fact to you so that you may take steps to prevent them from being misled.

Very Respectfully

E.S. Stevens

Acting Commissioner

(Stoeke)

the claim of R.B. Hay for depredations committed by the Piutes and Bannocks during the outbreak of ~~1878~~ 1878

In accordance with instructions I convened the Piutes in Council who admitted the depredation, but could not tell the number of sheep, p 47 destroyed or the ~~amount~~ amount or value of the stores taken. "ith reference to this particular depredation they seemed to think that the greater portion of the property was destroyed by Bannocks not located on this reservation. From all the information I have been able to gather, I am inclined to adhere to the opinion expressed in my letter of the 19th that \$1,500 or ~~\$16000~~ \$1,600 would be ample compensation for the loss. very resptctfully.

Your obedient servant

James H. Wilbur, U.S. Ind. Agent.



Letter Book Aug 21, 1881, Oct 1, 1882

Oct 27, 1881

Hon H. Price, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash. D.C.

Sir: I have the honor to report that Mr. Arthur Chapman, Indian interpreter (under the War Department I presume) presented himself at this Agency yesterday, with an order from Gen. McDowell, indorsed by Gen. Miles, directing him to visit this Agency and ascertain the wishes of the Piutes located here relative to a return to their former country, and to escort such of them as wished to return to the Columbia river, where he was to report to Gen. Miles if further escort was needed, etc. Said order alleged that the consent of the Interior Department had been given to the proposed removal.

I have no personal wish in this matter.

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These Indians were brought here contrary to my judgment and have latterly owing to sinister influences, been a constant source of annoyance and anxiety. To be rid of them would be an inexpressible

relief to me; yet notwithstanding the trouble, labor and anxiety they have caused me, I have faithfully tried to carry out what I understood to be the wishes of the Department in relation to them, and place them on a foundation, that in a few years will enable them to care for themselves. But I respectfully suggest that unless some line of policy is adopted and adhered to, all efforts to assist and improve them either here, or elsewhere, must result in failure. Tall Sarah Winnemucca visited Washington in 1879-80 and obtained from the Hon Secretary Schurz that unfortunate permission for her people to return to Malheur, they had no expectation of returning. They knew they had forfeited their reservation p 53 and expected to make this their future home.

I do not include Leggins and his band who claim to have been brought here under a specific promise from Gen. Howard that they should be



Letter Book Aug 21, 1881-Oct 1, 1882

Piutes 32

location

1 Interpreter

Sept 221, 1881

Hon H. Price

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash. D.C.

Sir: In view of the contemplated location of the Piutes on lands of their own on this reservation, I respectfully ask permission to employ an interpreter for them at a salary of \$300 per annum.

The constantly increasing intercourse with them, instructions in farming and labor etc. renders an interpreter a necessity.

Very respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

James H. Wilbur, U.S. Ind. Agent.

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(To Price. Report, Oct 1, 1881

....

The permanent location of the Piutes, now principally engages my attention. I have made selection of a suitable tract of land where they will be comparatively isolated from the Yakimas, and it is my intention hereafter to devote my energies principally to their improvement and civilization.

Your obedient servant

James H. Wilbur

U.S. Indian Agent.

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Fort Simcoe, Oct 22, 1881

Hon H. Price, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash, D.C.

Sir: Respectfully acknowledging the receipt of your communication marked Civ. 17506 dated the 6th inst. I have the honor to return



The Exchange Hotel, Walla Walla,

Thos. O'Brine, proprietor, July 8, 1880.

J. Wilbur, Sir:

I have been waiting for that letter which you promised to send here to your friend. It has not come yet. If you will be so kind as to send it down to Vancouver right away as I am going down there to act as interpreter-that is if they pay me well for it. If not I will go to Washington. I will spare no agent. I know what they do to my people. I have seen great many persons who you think are your best friends say they know why you want to keep my people there. You know you are receiving money for the goods which is sent there for my people. If the agents want me to keep still they must pay me.

S.W.

Piutes.

Miscellaneous Records Book  
Dec. 1878-Feb. 1881

Civ. Wash.

Department of the Interior, Office of Indian Affairs,

Washington, June 28 , 1880

James H. Wilbur, U.S. Indian Agent

Yakima Agency, Fort Simcoe, Wash Ty.

Sir:

As the Piutes sent by General Howard to the Warm Springs Agency have expressed a willingness to remain there, the agent by letter of this date has been authorized to take charge of them permanently and assign them lands and their families at your agency will be permitted to join them. Otis, their chief, who is at your agency on a visit , desires to make Warm Springs Agency his home and these families can accompany him on his return to that agency.

Very Respectfully

R.E. Trowbridge, Commissioner

Yes.



Yakima Fort Simcoe June 2d , 1880

Maj.Gen.O.O. Howard, U.S.A. Vancouver, W.T.

Dear General;

Your favoring ~~ing~~ enclosing slip from the Oregonian is just received. A correction has already been sent to the Oregonian which I have no doubt will appear soon. So far from the truth is the statement that it is the opinion of the Agency Physician who ought to be well informed on the subject, that the Piutes now number fully as many as when brought here.

Various circumstance have prevented our taking a regular census since the 18th of October last at which time 445 were present by actual count and somewhere about 80 more were known to be employed on the Reservation or elsewhere absent, so that their whereabouts were definitely known. I am confident that since that date the births have fully equalled the deaths. We p 486 are now issuing rations to eighty heads of families--number of rations three hundred and ninety one and children under 1 year receive no rations from 1 to 12 years 1-3 to 3-4 according to age.

From the above statement you will see that there can be no great diminution of numbers -in point of fact I am satisfied there is none.

Thanking you for the interest manifested by you, I remain.

very respectfully etc.

Fairchild, clerk.

Piutes

Unfiled: Yakima agency

"Extract from 1639 D 1880

Fort<sup>u</sup>arney, Oregon

May 1, 1880

Assist. Adjutant General Department of the Columbia  
Vancouver barracks, W.T.

Sir

X

X

X

X

Sarah Winnemucca and her sister arrived here from  
Winnemucca a few days ago. She intends to go to the Yakima reservation  
as soon as she can get over the road to conduct such of the Indians  
who formerly lived on and desire to return to it, to this reservation

X

X

X XZ

X

Very Respectfully

Your obedt. Servant

Signed Thomas Drury

Captain 2nd Infy. Commd. post.

Headquarters, Vancouver Barracks, W.T. May 15, 1880

Respectfully referred to Agent J.H. Wilbur:

My anxiety is very great concerning this proposed movement of 360  
miles back to Malheur. The Indians will be forced to depredate or to  
starve. It is too late for crops this year. Individual farmers might go  
like the whites early enough to work their land for next year but if they  
take their families when there is nothing to eat, among a hostile  
white people, the same old troubles must be brought on. Your own  
good sense will surely prevent the doing of what I am sure  
Secretary Schurz never once intended to do.

O.O. Howard, Brig. gen commanding.



Simcoe, Oct. 6th, 1880

Capt. John Smith, U.S. Indian Agent, Warm Springs, Or.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of a letter from the commissioner of Indian affairs in reference to the removal of Oitz and other Indians from this agency to Warm Springs, directing me to correspond with you and stating that you would be at the Columbia river to take charge of them on their arrival there.

I have received telegraphic orders of a later date to report in Washington for consultation in reference to this and other matters pertaining to the Indians of this coast and shall start immediately, ie, as soon as I can make the necessary preparations for the trip and (p 594) shall be compelled to defer the transfer of these Indians for a short time.

I will give you due notice when I will send Oitz and party to the Dalles so that you may be ready to take charge of them there. With highest regards, I remain, very respectfully yours etc

Wilbur.

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Hon R.E. Trowbridge, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash.D.C.

Sir: Referring to your communication of the 18th ultimo in reference to the transfer of Oitz and other Piutes and Bannocks from here to Warm Springs Agency, I have the honor to state that at a council of the Piutes called yesterday Oitz and others expressed themselves as preferring to remain here for the present. I have therefore communicated these facts to the agent at Warm Springs and requested him to defer action till I can consult with you in person.

Very respectfully, etc.

James H. Wilbur.



Yakima Feb. 26, 1881

W.V. Rhinehart, esq. (could be Rhinehardt)

Farmer in charge of Malheur agency, Or.

Sir:

Your favor of the 4th inst. enclosing schedule of public property at Malheur agency and requesting information etc as to steps to be taken for the transfer of said property to this agency is received.

Agent Wilbur is in Washington and will probably not return before March 15th. Still I have no doubt but he will be here in ample time to make all necessary arrangements for the transfer. Our instructions direct the employment of Indians as far as practicable and I judge it to be the intention of the agent to start out with a number of teams from this agency, as early in the season as the mountains can be crossed.

Very etc.

Fairchild.