

ABSTRACT: Only apparent pertinent citations, including NONE of the material appended in typescript.

pp. 1-32-Appointment of agents dealing with Umpqua etc. Letter regarding Siletz and Indians frequenting Salem area.

pp 37-38--Estimates of Oregon and Washington, 1959, requested.

pp. 41-43 Report of conditions on Klamath and recommendation for removal of Klamath and Modocks.

p. 48 Flathead and Upper Pend d'Orielle treaty of 15 July, 1855, ratified. Census quoted from Stevens.

pp. 58-59 Comments and reference to transmittal of Capt. Wallen's trip from the Dalles to Salt Lake, tribes and Indian character. Snakes and attack on Warm Springs Reservation.

p. 73 Capt. Black in command at Fort Dalles, March 3rd 1860.

p. 76 Mill partially erected on Siletz Reservation, Geary-Newcomb, sub Ind. Agent, Siletz, March 5, 1860.

p. 90-113 Annual report, Geary to Comm. Greenwood. (few excerpts taken therefrom only) but report contains much on reservation policy, including lengthy report on policy opinions.

pp. 107-8 Census, Umpqua bands and chiefs.

pp. 122-22 Preparation for visit by Supt. to Harney Lake to "confer and treat" with the Snake Indians.

pp 124-25- Preparations for military operations into Snake Country to relieve fears on part of tribes of Middle Oregon, also Walla Walla, Cayuse and Umatillas from raids and war by Snakes.

pp. 142-43-Geary to Daniel Stewart at ~~Umatilla~~ Umatilla, Sept 10 1860, regarding freight from mouth of Umatilla to agency, also cattle.

pp. 159-62 Letter of instruction to new sub agent re: treaty and money. Also cattle. Also cattle distribution for a short time to tribe in common and then to heads of families (policy) Religious culture of Indians countenanced. Geary to George H. Abbott, sub Ind. Agent, Umatilla.

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pp. 178-79 Letters of transmittal goods to Middle Oregon and Umatilla Reservations for annuity distribution in conformance with section 6 of revised regulations.

p. 187 Letter of transmittal of findings of board of appraisers re: land claims and improvements within boundaries of Tulalip Agency W.T.

pp. 189-93 Appointment of employees on Umatilla and Warm Springs reservation, scattering letters throughout this section of microcopy.

pp. 193-95 Details of massacre by Snakes on immigrants (29 killed) list of immigrants.

pp. 201-05 Deficiency bill estimate , schedule of agency, removal costs etc. Funds including those of "Yakama" Amount required for adjusting difficulties, preventing outbreaks, maintaining peace among tribes of Oregon \$12,000 and Washington \$12,000.

p. 211 Ref to authorization by Congress to prepare rules and regulations governing Indian Service.

p. 256, Geary to Wright: Continuation of military force at Warm Springs res. needed because of Snakes.

p. 267-69 Regarding discovery of gold on Nez Perce reservation, attempts of Agent and military to stem rush of miners; "Nez Perce a noble race" --- Geary to Comm. Dole, April 25, 1861.

Microcopy of Records of the Oregon Superintendency
of Indian Affairs, 1848-1873

Roll 8

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Contents: Index; copies of letters sent by Superintendent Edward
R. Geary to the close of his tenure of office.

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Office Supt. Indian Affairs,
Portland, Oregon, Sept. 20th-59

Sir:

On my return from San Francisco I found your interesting letter of this ult. on my file. I am happy to acknowledge my indebtedness to you for its interesting details and express the hope that you will find leisure for frequently communicating to this office such information respecting the various Indian^B Bands, their condition and prospects along the line of your operations as you may conceive to be important to ~~the~~ their welfare and conducive to the effective administration of the affairs of the Indian service and the peace and development of the country.

Accept my high appreciation of the important work in which you are engaged and most favorable regards,

I am etc.

Edward R. Geary,
Supt. Indian Affairs

Lieut John Mullen (sic)

U.S.A.

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Office Superintendent Indian Affairs
Portland, Oregon, Oct. 10, 1859

General:

I enclose herewith a copy of a communication from A.P. Dennison, Indian Agent in charge of the Eastern District Oregon in regard to the continuance of the small military guard at the Warm Springs Indian Reservation sometime ago placed there by your orders.

Believing the reasons urged by Mr. Dennison valid and the practicability of inducing the Indians to return to the Reservation dependent on the presence of a small military force at that point, I respectfully request that the troops be not withdrawn.

With high regards I am sir

etc

Edward G. Geary, 186 Supt. Ind. Affairs

to Bvt. Maj. General Harney

Comdng Military Department

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Office Supt. Indian Affairs

Portland Ore. Oct. 22nd, 1859

Sir:

An official note of the 15th inst. informs me that Genl . Harney declines acceding to the request to continue amilitary guard at the Warm Springs Reservation after the 6th ...? I shall again lay the case before the general hoping that a more extended view of the facts may lead him to a different determination.

Meanwhile I trust you will in no way directly or indirectly encourage any expedition of a hostile character on the part of the reservation Indians into the Snake Country as such a course is calculated only to disturb the quiet of the country and jeopardize the safety of the w ites on the frontier as well as foment feelings of deadly hate among the Indians themselves wholly subservice to the peaceful and humane policy of our government toward the original race.

I am etc.

Edward R. Geary

Supt. of Indian Affairs

To A.P. Dennison

Indian Agent for Oregon.

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

Office Supt. Indian Affairs

Portland, Oregon, Nov. 7, 1859

Sir:

You are authorized and instructed by this office to proceed without delay to the Dalles to relieve Agent A.P. Dennison and enter temporarily on the charge of the Eastern District of this superintendency.

You will receive from Agent Dennison all the public moneys and property in his hands and invoices of property in triplicate and will therefor execute to him triplicate receipts.

The absence of Agent Dennison will provably note extend beyond three months. While in charge of his district I wish you, if deemed safe, to reside at the Warm Spring Reservation and use all peaceful means for restoring amicable relations between the Snake Indians and those of the Reservation--and prevent all hostile forays in either direction. If possible to confer with the Snakes and endeavor to convince them of the folly of persisting in their hostile and predatory course and that the United States will most certainly punish them for their attacks on the Indians placed on our reservations and in amity with us, as promptly as if the offence was directly against our whitecitizens. Could you induce them to adopt the peace policy and restore the women and children captured from the reservation it will have the happiest effect on the Reserve Indians who could thus be readily induced to return to the reservation. But unless freed from their too just apprehensions of slaughter and robbery by their treacherous neighbors we can scarcely in good faith ask their return.

You will improve all opportunities to discover the state of feeling towards both whites and Indians on the part of the Snakes and to fathom their plans for the future and fully advice this office thereon, at the earliest possible moment. This will be important to make

enable the proper authorities to determine the amount of military protection that may be required

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You will also ascertain from time to time the conditions of the Cayuses, Walla Walla Indians who are within the eastern district.

As your care of this district is only temporary you will as far as may be in accordance with the foregoing instructions carry out the measures of Agent Dennison. You will be careful to keep this office posted on all important occurrences within your agency.

Yours etc.

Edward R. Geary

Supt. Indian Affairs

G.H. Abbott esq.

Sub Ind. Agent.

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

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Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, Ore.

Jany 12, 1860

Sir: In the absence of Supt. Geary from this office on a trip up the Willamette Valley it becomes my unpleasant duty to inform you that the U.S. Mail Steamer Northerner on her trip from San Francisco to this place was wrecked on the 5th inst. off Cape Mendocino.

A portion of the U.S. mail, that washed ashore after the steamer went to pieces, was saved and was conveyed to this place by the steamer, Columbia, which arrived here this morning.

I have to advice you that by the Steamer Columbia two letters from you were received at this office viz one of Dec2 ~~ultra~~ acknowledging receipt of letter from this office of 25th October enclosing Quarterly Report of Agent Simmons and one of Dec. 3rd acknowledging receipt of a letter from this office dated 11th October enclosing ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ statement of property destroyed by the Snake Indians If therefore other letters from you for this office were forwarded by the steamer which sailed from New York on the 5th of December they have failed to reach their destination, it is reasonable to conclude that they have been lost.

Very respectfully etc.

Quincy Brooks,

Secty to Supt.

Hon W.B. Greenwood,
Commissioner Ind. Affairs.
Washington City.

Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland,
Ore. Feb. ?? 1860

Sir: Your report of the 26th ultimo conveying important information in regard to the "Wam Springs" reservation and the cause of this hostile aggressions of the Snake Indians at that place as well as the present precarious state of affairs there, and the embarrassments in the way of securing military protection has been received at this office.

I will make the condition of affairs at the "Wam Springs" reservation the subject of a communication this day to the commanding general and urge the interposition of the military arm promptly for protection of that point.

Until the military aid is granted I trust you will not abandon the reservation only in the last emergency. I will at the earliest practicable moment visit the Snake Country with a proper military escort if obtainable p 66

and endeavor to bring these Indians to an amicable ... ? Should their claim to this territory including the "Wam Springs" reservation prove correct it is both equitable and politic to make them a proper and satisfactory compensation therefor. If safe and practicable ~~seek~~ seek an interview with Porquita (?) or some other influential chief among them and inform them that it is by no means the intention of the Great Father to take any part of their country without paying them a just compensation. Also that if they persist in their hostile aggressions on the Indians and whites on the reservation they will certainly be most severely punished and that it will be very greatly to their interests to heed our friendly counsels and no longer resort to arms which can only lead to their destruction

very etc.

Edward R. Geary

Supt. Ind. Affairs

Geo. H. Abbott esq.
Sub. Ind. Agent (to)

Office Supt. Indian Affairs

Portland, Oregon, Feb. ?? 1860

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that a communication from Sub Agent Abbott in temporary charge of the Warm Spring Reservation and residing thereon assures me that another attack of the Snake Indians at that point is impending and I am satisfied that at the earliest practicable moment of this opening spring a foray will be made and the reservation again desolated unless prevented by the timely interposition of a military force. Such an event is greatly to be deprecated as calculated to extensively embarrass our relations with the Indians and disturb the quiet of the sparse settlements in that direction.

I therefore respectfully press this subject on your consideration and request that a small military com and at least equal to that stationed there last fall be sent to that point immediately. The safety of the sub agent and employees, the protection of valuable public property and of the friendly Indians confiding their lives to our assurances of safety warrant and demand, in my judgment, the precaution of military interposition to prevent a catastrophe that recent experiences proves may occur soon and suddenly in that quarter.

I would here beg leave to ... my impression as to the real source of the inveterate hostility of the Snake Indians towards those placed on the reservation. It arises mainly from the fact that by some strange oversight this reservation secured to the Wascoes and other bands by treaty lies within the limits of the territory not only claimed by the Snakes themselves but admitted by the Indians, ~~part~~ parties to the treaty, to belong to them. The snakes claim that the whites had no right to give to their ancient enemies their p 68 favorite hunting grounds without consulting and compensating them, the true and original owners, therefor.

In order to reconcile the difficulty it is my intention as early as

practicable in the spring to endeavor to meet the Snake Indians in Council and affect some arrangement which will satisfy and quiet them.

In order to effect this desirable result your cooperation would be essential and I would suggest to your consideration a suitable military demonstration in their country as early as practicable in the spring in connection with the proposed peace mission from this office.

I remain etc.

Edward R. Geary,

Supt. of Indian Affairs

to: Brig. Gen. W.S. Harney

U.S.A. Commdy. Dept. of Oregon.

Office Supt. Indian Affairs,

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Sir: In the absence of the Supt. Indian Affairs, ^{Portland, Oregon, Feb. 8th, 1860} now on a visit to the Nez Perce country I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt at this office of your letter of 7th instant in reference to authorizing the commander at Fort Dalles to send a detachment to the Warm Springs Agency.

I have this day notified Sub Agent Abbott in charge of that reservation of your action in the matter and will call the attention of the Superintendent to your letter immediately upon his return

Very respectfully etc

Quincy A Brooks, Secty to
supt.

To Brig. Gen. Harney, U.S. A

Commanding Dept of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, W.T.

March 1st, 1860

Sir: On yesterday after an absence of twenty-four days I returned to this city from a tour of observation extending east to the base of the Blue Mountains, and north beyond Snake River to the Lapwai during which I visited and examined to a considerable extent the Nez Perce Reservation and that on the Umatilla River.

I found the Indians quiet and generally well disposed, though much perplexed to understand the cause of the long delay of the government in carrying into effect the existing treaties.

The Cayuses, ~~200~~ once wealthy and formidable are now comparatively poor and have ~~diminished~~ dwindled to less than a hundred souls and are rapidly losing the character of a distinct tribe. The Umatillas number about two hundred and the various bands of the Walla Wallas about three hundred and fifty, making an aggregate of 620 Indians for whom the Reservation on the Umatilla was provided.

This reservation is situated south of Wild Horse Creek on the Umatilla in Oregon and embraces an area of little short of a thousand square miles. A larger portion of the reservation is mountainous, diversified with prairies and forest, valuable alike for its pastures and the chase. Along the base of the hills skirting the Blue Mountains there is a belt ~~consisting~~ of varying width extending for fifteen miles watered by numerous mountain springs covered with a luxuriant growth of grass and giving indications of great fertility. I am of the opinion that a large portion of this tract would amply reward the toils of agriculture. As a natural pasture it could scarcely be excelled for beauty and productiveness.

The bottoms of the Umatilla are, to about half their extent, covered with a growth of ~~hickam~~ cottonwood and alder, affording but exceedingly fertile prairies with the exception of limited portions rendered

unproductive by the presence of alhali (sic) and are particularly adapted to the purposes of horticulture.

On the north side of the Umatilla the country rises into an elevated and ~~xx~~ to some extent rugged table land covered with luxuriant bunch grass, a broad pasture sufficient for thousands of cattle and sheep.

The snow seldom falls deep or lies long on the western districts of the Blue Mountains and vegetation is there considerable earlier than on the elevated plateaus spreading westward to the Cascade Range.

With the exception of the proximity of this reservation to a region rapidly filling up with white settlers, from p 85.

which it is separated by no natural barrier, no country could be better adapted to the use for which it is designed. The Indians however seem reluctant to go upon it. This feeling has its origin partly in the strong attachment of the Indians to their ~~own~~ haunts and their alliance with other Indian tribes. But the chief cause is their fear of the Bannack and Snake Indians whose marauding and treacherous character render them the dread of all neighboring tribes.

This main difficulty might however be abriated(?) by the establishment of a military post at Fort Boise or some other eligible front in the Snake country or by a proper military demonstration next summer among the Snakes to impress them ~~xxx~~ with respect for our power and ~~dedded~~ induce them to enter into and observe such treaty stipulations as would secure safety to the persons and property of neighboring tribes in amity with our government.

The eligibility of this Reservation has been questioned from the fact that two great thoroughfares the Emigrant road and that from the Dalles to Walla Walla traverse it. This objection however loses its force when as I am assured by most reliable information a more direct and better route for the immigration to the Pacific slope can, at nominal cost, be opened through the Blue Mountains south of the

reservation while no difficulty exists in locating the road to the Walla Walla beyond the limits of the reservation on the west.

It has been suggested that the affinities of the Cayuses with the Nez Perces, of the Walla Wallas with the Takimas and of the Umatillas with the Indians confederated on the Warm Spring Odd (sic) reservation render it easy and desirable to dispose of those tribes on the Reservations of the Indians to whom in character and pursuits they assimilate.

It must not however be forgotten that the Cayuses, Walla Wallas and Umatillas are in many respects homogeneous (sic?) in character and sustain to each other friendly relations more intimate probably than with the several neighboring tribes named above. Their best interests I believe therefore will be subserved (or subserved?) by placing them as the treaty provides on the Umatilla Reservation. I would also suggest that, as there is a great abundance of agricultural land on this reservation and as the Warm Spring Reservation is much restricted in this particular, and ~~xx~~ is moreover necessarily, from the character of the country traversed by the California trail to the Dalles and must always be a thoroughfare of travel by the whites, that ultimately the Indians of the Warm Spring Reservation together with the p 86 ~~Odd~~ Klamath Indians in Oregon might with much advantage to themselves and the white population, be removed and placed thereon.

By the proper disposition of a small military force, all the Indians could be easily into obedience to the authorities of the government and peace with one another, and be also protected from the incursion of hostile bands, should such continue to exist.

The Nez Perces Reservation is an immense tract of six thousand square miles a territory larger than the states of Connecticut and Rhode Island united. It extends 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. The chief ~~xxxx~~ rivers

are the Snake or Lewis River, the Clear Water and the Salmon River the two last named being tributaries of the Snake River.

The Snake to the mouth of the Clear Water and the Clear Water for fifty miles up are I believe navigable by small steamers and much better adapted to rafting than the Susquhanna or the Allegheny. At the head of navigation on the Clear Water there is a splendidly timbered region of cedar, larch and pine. Viewing the almost of timber in the immense country extending for hundreds of miles to the south and west, to which these forests are the most convenient source of supply, it cannot be doubted that the lumber trade might be made a source of large income to the Nez Perces for many years to come.

The Bitter Root and Blue Mountain ranges occupy a large part of this extensive reserve. Lumber, game and perhaps gold are their most valuable products. In many parts when they are of timber the pastures are excellent.

The western half of the reservation is chiefly an elevated table land frequently locked in by deep ~~snow~~ and precipitous ravines. The ~~principal~~ principal rivers flow through chasms and narrow valleys walled in with basalt at an immense depth below the general level of the country. Within these rock bound limits the margins of the streams seldom expand to any considerable extent and only at wide intervals is a fertile spot of a few acres found upon them. On the small creeks there are several narrow valleys of fertile land but in most of them the entire absence of fuel will to a great extent prevent their occupancy. The largest tract of agricultural land on the reservation west of the mountains is on the Lapwai a small tributary of the Clear Water at the mouth of which was located the once noted mission of the Rev. Mr. Spalding.

The choice part of this land however is the land claim of William Craig Esq. which is secured to him by express provision of the Treaty. All the tillable lands from the Lapwai to the Red Wolf Grounds

on the Snake River do not exceed an aggregate of two thousand acres. This Mr. Craig informs me is the chief agricultural district on the Reservation west of the Mountains.

At We ipe or the Root Ground about sixty miles east of the Lapwai there is said to be a considerable tract of fertile land which however from its elevation is subject to summer frosts.

Some of the soil on the Lapwai is extraordinarily productive and well adapted to both the cereal ~~and~~ (sic) and horticultural products Mr. Spalding informs me that while a missionary there he has known nine hundred bushels of potatoes to grow on a single acre and mellons to attain the weight of thirty pounds.

The western half of this reservation is a succession of elevated plateaus without timber, covered with bunch grass and affording inexhaustable pastures for the large herds of horses belonging to the natives. They have also some fine cattle. Salmon are taken on the rivers, and the smaller streams abound in trout.

Taken as a whole the Nez Perce Reservation has vast natural resources. The timber of its mountains which can be floated to a certain market on the river--its extensive pastures --its game and fisheries and its small but highly production tracts of farming land must prove under a wise and efficient administration of their affairs, unfailing sources of comfort and prosperity to this native tribe.

These people received their first lessons in civilization and Christianity from the Rev. Mr. Spalding. A considerable number of them are at present professors of religion and exemplary in their conduct. This is a remarkable fact and proves the depth of the impression made by the teaching of this missionary, as they have been now for thirteen years left without a white religious teacher. Their small fields are cultivated with considerable skills and care and yield a large part of their subsistence. They are proud of their large bands of horses and

begin to give attention to improving the breed. One chief is said to own eight hundred. Many of their young men ~~are~~ annually hunt the buffalo on the head waters of the Missouri. A few can read and write their own language--another fruit of the labors of the worthy missionary I have named. A part of the New Testament has been printed in their language which is said to be copious, flexible and expressive.

The Nez Perces are characterized by mental power, energy of will, bravely and docility and are larger and more muscular than most of the other tribes. The loathsome diseases, so common among the coast Indians are unknown among them. As a tribe they have ever been well affected towards our government.

Of late years the degrading use of ardent spirits has been introduced by unprincipled traders ~~xx~~ and unless vigorously checked the usual disastrous consequences must ensue. As the only way of easy access from the white settlements to the Indians on the Reservation is by the (Al pou wa)
St pou wa)?) a suitable person stationed at the mouth of that stream and authorized to examine all packs brought in might I believe place an effectual check on this iniquitous traffic. The Nez Perces at present are nearly all ~~xxx~~ residing on the Reservation. A few parties who went to the Buffalo country last fall have not returned.

In order to conciliate the good will of this tribe and encourage them in agricultural pursuits I am about to send to Agent Cain for their use a few steel plows, harness, oes and sets of harness all of a established ~~qxx~~ quality.

My tour embraced a journey of not less than 2 900 miles two thirds of the distance being on horseback. Had the snow been off the Bitter Root Mountains I would have proceeded to the Flat Head Reservation which could have been accomplished by the addition of twenty days ~~xx~~ in making the round trip. Reserving some other matters of interest for another communication I am sir, very respectfully etc.

E A (?) B. Greenwood, esq. commissioner.

Edward R. Geary, Supt. Ind. Af.

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

Office Supt. Indian Affairs,

Portland Oregon, March 12, 1860

Sir:

Ya ka tow it, a Klickatat from Vancouver tells me that he last fall traded his horse to an Indian residing on the Reservation named Sal ti a quin for a small girl, that Sal ti a quin has not yet delivered to him. I feel it important to put an end to this miserable traffic of their own flesh and blood and have accordingly forbidden the trade to be consummated by the delivery of the child to Ya Ka Tow it.

As he desires to recover his horse I have permitted him and another Indian to visit Grand Ronde for that purpose and have given him his note to ~~XXXXXXXX~~ present to you. If you find the case as I apprehend it to be and have stated above, I have no doubt you will accord with me in your views as to the impropriety of allowing the child to be transferred and carried by an Indian from the reservation. If the child is an orphan with none to care for her it would be a dictate of humanity to provide her a home ~~in~~ in a worthy white family.

Yours Respectfully

Edward R. Geary

Supt. Ind. Affairs

J.S. Miller, Esq.

Ind. Agent.

Portland, Oregon Sept. 1, 1859

..The plan of boarding the children instructed at the industrial schools seems to be the only measure promising success, amongst the Indians tribes west of the Cascade mountains and this remarks applies with nearly equal force to the Indians to be located at Simcoe and the Warm Springs on the east side of the mountains.

"With regard to the educational provisions of the treaties with the other Indians east of the Cascade Mountains, as they are but little contaminated with the degrading vices so deplorably extensive among those before referred to, I believe that the schools of ~~good~~ character provided for should as early as practicable be carried into vigorous operation and so located as to give 97

the fullest facilities to the parents to send their children

The boarding house system should however be regarded as inseparable from the industrial schools.

The labors of the missionaries, protestant and Catholic, have had a salutary influence on many of the Indian Tribes of the interior by which they have required a knowledge and appreciation of many of the arts and usages of civilization and not a few of the more enlightened strongly desire the education of their children and look forward to the establishment of the contemplated schools with much interest. In regard to the schools I have to say, as of those west of the mountains, their success and utility rests mainly on a embracing the and practice of the pure and elevated maxims of christianity.....

p/ 100 The Yakima agency has been removed to Fort Simcoe which has been abandoned as a military post and the buildings and p 101

the buildings and improvements turned over to the Indian Department. This is a valuable acquisition and will save a considerable amount of expenditure in the execution of the treaty stipulations with the Indians then to be collected.

The report of the agent and his subordinates in the district of Puget Sound....are detailed and instructive and evince an energetic administration.

The recommendation that the annuity provided in the treaty of ~~Med~~ Medicine Creek be increased from \$2,000 to \$6,000 is forwarded on the valid reason that the Indians embraced in that treaty are nearly threefold as numerous as was supposed when the negotiations occurred, their number being not less than fourteen hundred souls. I therefore concur in the request for its augmentation...

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Yours etc. Edward R. Geary

supt of Ind. Affairs

to Hon A.B. Greenwood, commissioner, Washington City D.C.

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-72

Roll 8, Microcopy 2

p. 113 Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, Oregon, April 16, 1860

General: The acknowledgment of the receipt of your letter of the 6th April referring to certain matters complained of by Sergeant Achimbeck in charge of military property at Fort Simcoe has been delayed till now by my absence, and the press of engagements.

I intend visiting the Yakama Agency in a few days and will carefully investigate the grounds, and advise you of my action therein.

I embrace the occasion to say that the saw mill at Fort Hoskins was on careful examination found unsuited to the water power designed to propel it, at the Selitz Agency, and that consequently the Agent declined the transfer.

Very respectfully etc.

Edward R. Geary, Supt. Ind. Affairs

Brig. Gen. W.S. Harney,

Commdy. Ore. Dept. Ft. Vancouver

Office Supt. Indian Affairs

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Portland, April 4, ~~1849~~ 1860

General: Captain Augur informs me that among the military stores at Fort Hoskins there is a portable sawmill which is not likely to be required for any use connected with the post.

The Selitz Agency is in pressing need of a saw mill and I write to request that if ~~in~~ in accordance with your views the machinery referred to may be transferred to the Indian department. It is intended to propel the mill by water power, consequently the horse power attached to the mill at the fort would not be needed. Any terms of equitable transfer will meet the concurrence of this office.

I expect to set out for Selitz tomorrow morning and will be obliged to you for a definite reply by the return of the bearer of this note. to Gen Harney..

yours etc. Geary

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

p. 121 Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland, Ogn. May 9, 1860

General:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the fifth instant informing this office that the two military positions at Forts Bellingham and Townsend have been withdrawn and that the buildings at both of those places are at the service of the Indian Department for Agencies etc.

As these places referred to are off the reservations provided by treaty for the Indians residing on the coast and Puget Sound I have thought it best not to receive or accept them for the purposes indicated, there being instructions from the Indian Office requiring agents when practicable to reside on the reservations.

I am etc.

Edward R. Geary, Supt. Ind. Affairs

Brig Gen W.S. Harney

Commnd Dept of Oregon, Head qu. Ft. Vancouver

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

p. 131 Office Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland Oregon, May 29, 1860

Butte Linn co Ogn. ?

Mr. James Knox of Knox ? ? and Co. Dear Sir

I wrote to you on the 23 instant informing you that I would take the hundred head of cattle on the terms on which you proposed to deliver them at the Simcoe Agency in Simcoe valley, 70 miles north of the Dalles, viz 50 yearling heifers at \$10 per head and ~~52 yearling~~ 50 two year old heifers at \$17 per head, the cattle to be appraised by me and paid for at this office on the presentation of the receipt of delivery from the agent.

I have now to ask that I will require on the same reservation in addition 50 cows and calves and 5 bulls all to be of good quality, the cows not over 4 years old, the bulls not over 3 years old.

Should you deliver these cattle at the same time and place as the others I will allow you for them at the same rates I shall pay for cattle delivered at the Warm Springs Reservation of similar kind.

You will observe in the public papers that proposals are invited to furnish cattle at the other reservations east of the mountains.

I am very anxious to have all the cattle purchased for the Indians of fair quality as I have no doubt that their circumstances will be much ameliorated by stocking the vast plains embraced in their respective reservations with herds and flocks.

Yours truly, Edward R. Geary, Supt.
Ind. Affairs.

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

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Dalles, Oregon June 1, 1860

Sir: In order to aid the Indians in your agency in laying up salmon at their fisheries for ~~the~~ winter use you are instructed to purchase for them one ton^e, or if required two tons of salt and fifty barrels for curing and packing the fish, to be paid for out of the appropriations under the treaty with the tribes and bands of Indians in Middle Oregon , when said funds shall be received, they are now appropriated.

Very respectfully etc

Edward R. Geary, Supt. Ind. Affairs

Geo H. Abbott,

Sub Agent Ind. Agent

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En route to Harney Lake

Dalles, June 1, 1860

Sir: I have carefully review d the facts which led me to issue the order for your removal from the position of physician to the Indians on the Warm Spring Reservation . The result of this reconsideration of the case is an increased conviction of the correctness and propriety of my decision and no valid reasons present themselves to my mind warranting a reversal of my action in these premises

Very respectfully etc

Edward R. Geary, supt. Ind. Affairs

Dr. Thos L. Fitch

Dalles, Oregon

Warm Springs Reservation

Middle Oregon

Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs , 1848-73 Roll 8, Microcopy 2
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Office Supt. Indian Affairs
Portland Ogn, July 5th, 1860

Sir:

...

I returned from the country of the Snake Indians on the 20th ult. They are as they have been for the last nine years , hostile and ready to .xxx seize on any opportunity afforded by the weakness or carelessness of parties passing through their country to commit rapine and murder. They have added to their recent offenses that of an attack on the expedition under Capt. Smith. They deserve and I trust will receive a signal chastisement ^{while} ~~whixh~~ the military is in their country. I was wholly unable to secure a conference with them.

Very respectfully , etc.

Edward R. Geary

Supt. Ind. Affairs

Gen. D. Newcomb
Indian Agent