

12, December 1855

Olympia

Ricard

Monsieur l'Administrateur:

The officer of the government and the governor himself I think will be of the party for it is certain that the best arms and the biggest quantity of ammunition that the savages have received come from the Americans themselves.

A person to whom we read the article in the Statesman laughed and said to be sure that ~~one~~ at the Dalles a merchant sold to one savage only, and in one sale for four hundred in arms and ammunition and after this there were many murders in Sept.

The Capt. McClellan in his journey to the Yakimas with other articles left to American himself left a large stock of shell and gunpowder(sic) I do not know what the other have received and what the government itself has given but to the old customs and old uses it is impossible to have anything according from the savages without so many shots that is so many shells and so much powder, figured in the sale.

On the other hand in four years we have bought 80 pounds of gun powder and this year in July Father Pandosy took only 10 pounds so that this would come to be 18 to 20 pounds a year. Now let the Nesmith live with the savages and we will see how he will come out of it. Moreover this accounting book most likely is not written by Father Pandosy but by Father D'Herbomez or Father Durieu. Then what shall they conclude when they'll see what the savages do or give for two shells and gunpowder either for a blanket or a shirt or anything which takes the place of money with them.