

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58

Simcoe, W.T. 1858 January 30, 1858 G19. Garnett R.S. Major 9th Infy Comdy. Encloses letter addressed to the adjt. genl. for transmittal & post treasurer's statement for the 4 months ending Dec. 31, 1857. Disapproved and respectfully forwarded. Headquarters of the Army March 27, 1858, respectfully forwarded by commd. McDowell. Respcty. referred to the quartermaster general S. Cooper March 28 /58

Fort Simcoe W.T.

May 20th (Jany 20th ?) 1858

Major:

I present herewith a communication addressed to the adjutant general of the Army for transmittal through your office. Also the post statement for the four months ending Dec. 31, 1857. It should have been forwarded by the last mail.

I am sir, very respectfully

Respt. your obt. servt.

R.S. Garnett

Major 9th Infy, comdy post

Maj. W.W. Mackall

Asst. Adt. Genl

Wash., D.C.

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58

Respectfully returned to the Adt. General. Major Garnett is wrong in regard to cooking stoves. I enclose a copy of the communication on which the appropriation for stoves was made by Congress-a limited number of stoves was authorized for warming the quarters of officers and soldiers but they were stoves for ^(working) washing quarters, but for cooking. The quarter masters department has no means of furnishing anything for cooking except fuel and camp kettles and no account for cooking stoves can... because there is no appropriation to pay for them.

(Name undecipherable looks
like MA Jehip)

~~July~~

May 26/58

Fort Simcoe, W.T.

January 20, 1858

Colonel:

In the last Army appropriation bill congress appropriated the ~~tax~~ sum of twenty thousand dollars for the purchase of stoves for the quarters of officers and soldiers of the Army. As this provision was approved in general terms ,I did not presume that congress intended to restrict its beneficence in the matter of the use of any particular lot of stoves but to extend to the army all those comforts which are commonly derived from these conveniences in civil life at the present day.

Under the belief I caused to be forwarded in November last a requisition from the Deputy Quartermaster General serving in this Department for six cooking stoves for the use of the officers stationed at this post.

In a letter addressed by him to the A.A. Q.M. of this post under date of December 7, 57, he states that "as the quartermaster general pro-

hibits the purchase of cooking stoves for any purpose, the six called for by you for officers quarters cannot be sent."

I beg leave to say that if this decision of the quartermaster General is permitted to stand, the act of Congress will be restricted in a very essential degree in its object.

It is not perhaps for me to question the authority of the quartermaster General to make this decision but this communication is written for the purpose of requesting that the matter may be submitted to the Hon. Secretary of War and I may receive his authority for ordering the purchase of the stoves.

I consider them very conducive to the comfort and convenience of the officers of this post and what the act of congress fully contemplated they should have.

I am colonel

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

R.S. Garnett

Major 9th Infany. Comdy. Post.

Col. S. Cooper

Adt. Gen. U.S. Army,

Washington, D.C.

June 15, 1858 tele with 2120
Howard I.C. 1st Lieut. 9th Infy. comdy. Reports another attack made by Northern Indians in the vicinity of post views & suggestions thereon etc. Hq dept. of the Pacific respy. forwd. Head qrs of the

Army West Point N.Y. Aug., 1858. Indian affairs important. Respcty. forwarded to the General in chief see his endorsement of this date Letter of Lt. Col. Casey Ft. Steilacoom, June 15 for the consideration of the War Department. By Command of George W. Lay, Lt. Col. A.D.C.

Fort Bellingham

June 15, 1858

Major:

I have to report that the Northern Indians have again commenced their depredations in the Sound.

On Thursday morning they attacked a party of men on their way to the mines camped on the southern end of Orcas Island.

Mr. Geo.(?) Foster of Seattle, three Kanakas, one Indian and an Indian woman were killed. The others of the party, two white men escaped and arrived at this place this morning.

Much excitement prevails. I have been waited upon by a committee of citizens requesting that I should charter the steamer Constitution in the hope of overtaking them tendering if desired the services of 150 volunteers. I have not however adopted their suggestion or offer as from true knowledg of Indian character I deem that those committing their outrages have at ... safety by flight.

Mr. Lawson of the U.S. coast survey Brig Fauntleroy reports that on Thursday ~~xxx~~ noon eleven northern canoes containing 120 Indians amongst them was but one woman(sic) passed alongside of the Fauntleroy now at anchor off the north outlet of Runrise ~~river~~ (?) of (Sumrui) river going north- $\frac{1}{2}$ -they or part of their number were doubtless the parties connected in the murders. This is the third season they have visited these waters and committed depredations as yet without punishment--each year they come in increased numbers and ~~emboldened~~ emboldened by the success of the last. The numerous islands form

admirable hiding places from which they can pounce down upon the isolated settlements on small parties travelling upon the ~~isolated settlements~~ lower end of the sound.

In order to check this growing evil they will be punished severely--till then there will be neither peace nor security during the spring and summer months. In the fall they ~~go~~ northward to the homes of their tribes which are Queen Charlotte Island and in the neighborhood of Sitka.

I ~~unite~~ unite most earnestly with other officers in command of posts on these waters in stating the absolute necessity of a ~~small~~ small swift steamer to be at the disposal of the military authorities. If such was here now the Indians might be overtaken and properly punished. As it is the only means of conveyance I have is a whale boat. I am therefore literally destitute of the means of pursuit.

The Constitution draws too much water and is not sufficiently fast otherwise I should make the attempt to overtake them with her.

I report these facts for the information of the general commanding.

I am very respectfully

Yr. Obt. Svt.

John C. Howard

1st lieut. 9th Infy.

Comdy. Ft. Mellingham

Major Mackall

A.A. G.O.

San Francisco, Calif.

P.S. I have thought it well if I can obtain canoes.

Respectfully submitted: to the Secretary of War. The subject of placing a steamer on Puget Sound has been often before the Department and the great necessity for it is the only effectual means of restraining the Indians from the Northern (foreign) possessions, cannot be overestimated. E.D. Townsend, assistant adjt. genl. A. 658 Aug. 17, 1858 Adj. Gen. Headquarters of the Army, West Point N.Y. Aug. 14, 1858 Indian Affairs. Important. Respectfully forwarded to the general in chief for the consideration of the War Department in connection with the letter of Major Garnett, Fort Simcoe, June 26, and that of Lt. Howard, Fort Bellingham, June 15, both forwarded herewith. It will be seen that Lt. Col. Casey defines exactly the description of steamer needed. The General in chief is not informed that measures have been taken yet to send any steamer for the defence of Puget's Sound. By order George W. Lay, Lt. Col. S.D.C. Rec. AGO Aug 16, 1858.

Fort Steilacoom W.T.

June 16, 1858

Major:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th inst. I suppose that Lieutenant Howard, commanding at Fort Bellingham has ere this reported to the Dept. Head Quarters that five persons were killed the 11th inst. on Orcas Island, by the Northern Indians. I have learned today that these Indians have passed Simiahmoo, and are now very probably far away in the English or Russian possessions.

It is to be regretted that the government have not complied with the oft repeated application for a fast steamer of four or five hundred tons burthen to be placed on the Sound under the sole direction of the officer commanding.

It is in my opinion the only effectual method by which the invasions of these Northern Savages can be prevented.

It is extravagance in the end to neglect the proper means of defense for a remote frontier like this.

By an express from Muckleshute, I learn that two white men with Nelson as guide started two days since to cross the mountains--they were met by Kitsap who told Nelson he had better return as Owhi's son, a Klickitat chief, was trying to get up a war party against the whites and they would be killed. Leschi's death caused much

excitement amongst the Indians. The men returned .

I am in hopes to be able to keep the peace with regard to the Sound Indians--but with regard to the Northern Indians I cannot answer, until I am furnished with proper means, viz: a steamer of about four hundred tons capable of a speed of fifteen or eighteen miles per hour.

I respectfully request that Lieut. Harvie be ordered to join his company.

Very Respectfully

Your obdt. servant.

Silas Casey

Lieut. Col. 9th Infy.

Comd of Post.

Major W.W. Mackall

Assistant Adt. Genl. U.S. Army

San Francisco, Calif.

153G 1858 GI June 26, 1858

File with No. 212C. Garnett, R.S. Maj 9th Infy. Reporting an attack of Indians on a party of miners near Fort Simcoe, W.T. Hd. Qrs. Dept. of the Pacific, Fort Vancouver, W.T. July 4, 58. Respectfully forwarded Headquarters of the Army West Point N.Y. Agg. 16, 1858
Indian Affairs. Important. Respectfully forwarded by the Genl. in Chief see endorsement of this date on a letter of Lt. Col. Casey Ft. Steilacoom June 15, for the consideration of the War Department by command George W. Lay, Lt. Col. A.D.C.

Fort Simcoe, W.T.

June 26, 1858

Major:

In the early part of this month a party of seventy odd miners passed this post on their way to the gold regions on Frazer's River in the British ~~Columbia~~ possessions. As far as the Wenataha (sic) River they followed the route pursued by the expedition under Colonel Wright in 1856. After crossing this river, however, they were attacked by Indians, had one person killed, five wounded and lost a part of their animals and possessions. Their guide, the Klickitat Indian, Edwin Brown deserted them and they have seen fit to abandon for the present their attempt to reach Frazer's river by this route. They arrived here today on their way to the Dalles. Their estimate of the number of Indians engaged against them are various and very conflicting. There were probably not more than one hundred. ~~Qua~~ Owhai, his son, Qualchin, Quin-ti-neme, Kut-a-cote and Skloom are said to have been present in the fight. In my judgement the Indians had no just provocation for their conduct toward the miners. I report these facts and circumstances for General Clarke's information.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your obdt. Servant.

R.S. Garnett, maj. 9th infy.
commanding.

Major W.W. Mackall

Asst. Adt. Genl. U.S.A.

Fort Vancouver, W.T.

Fort Simcoe, W.T.

July 7th, 1888

Major:

Yours of the 4th inst has just come to hand. As soon as the means of transportation can reach me, I shall be ready to take the field. I have here 220 men now ready for this purpose. I shall want 250 rifles and 30 to 50 dragoons of mounted men for flankers, scouts, etc. in all over 300 men. I do not desire to take more men. The history of Indian hostilities in this region has convinced me that they can not be induced to meet a larger force in action or fight where there is anything like a parity of numbers. If we fight them at all, we must make up our minds to fight them at immense odds, and to fight them desperately. I mean that this is the case in the summer season, when they can disperse at pleasure and ~~am~~ ambush anywhere they choose if they don't chose to fight. Until the impracticability of winter campaigns in this region is demonstrated by actual ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ experience and I see few fuel difficulties to be overcome in such a campaign I am inclined to the belief that it is only during that season that we can ever get at them and effectively punish them.. The public .. of the country renders it necessary that we should at once go through with some such expeditions as those indicated in your letter and I beg to assure ~~xxxx~~ the general that I shall spare no ... to render them as far as my power goes, as effective and as the case will admit. The general must be prepared however to hear that region of country between us and the Blackfoot Indians their place of refuge when that country shall become filled with two or three strong military ..., we may begin to hold the Indians in this region in subjection at all seasons. Until then we must exert every ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ moment a recurrence of the events of the last two months. One full company, say 70 men with the sic etc. whom I shall be obliged to leave behind

will in my judgment be sufficient to guard this post in our absence.

I have 50 effective mules on hand and 20 pack horses. I shall want transportation for 50 days rations, as I take it, we shall be able in that time thoroughly to solve the problem whether we can get at this hostiles at all or not this summer. If there is any other purpose to be accomplished I hope the general will let me know it in time, allowing one packer to ten??

seven mules for camp equipment etc. one mule to every two men including company officers 8 mules for ammunition, 2 for hospital stores, the quartermaster dept. will have all the ...a...the quantity of ... taken required. As it is possible I may have to go up as high as Fort Okanagan or even further, I beg to urge that I may be supplied with this ... as soon as possible (blankets) The season is already well advanced.

Can I get another medical officer to take over in the field and to leave one at the post?

I am sir, very respectfully

Your obt. servt.

R. S. Garnett, Major 9th Infy. comd.

Major W. W. Mackall, asst. ad t. General US&.

Fort Simcoe, "T.

July 17, 1858

Major: There are several matters concerning the projected expedition to the north of this post to which I omitted to call your attention in my letter of the 7th inst. and to which I now take the liberty of referring, under the authority which the general did me the honor to confer upon me in your letter of July 4 to communicate my views in relation to it.

The expedition from "alla Walla and the one from this post ought in my judgment to leave their ^{stations} ~~said~~ at such relative dates that Colonel Wright's column might reach the Coeur d'Alene Mission on the point where he thinks it probable he may meet resistance at the same time that I arrive in Wenatcha. I do not know the exact route which it is contemplated that Col. Wright's column shall pursue, though it might be of advantage that we should both have an understanding in this respect. But I take it that it will not vary essentially from the route which Col. Steptoe originally proposed and which I believe was to have terminated at Colville. In going to this point by the Coeur d'Alene Mission you will see by reference to the map that his column has a ~~at~~ very large portion of the Spokane country on its left, and when he makes his deflection to the left at the latter point for Colville the route which he will then follow will tend to drive the larger portion of the Indians toward the north of the Spokane river and perhaps the Columbia ~~xxxx~~ upon my line of march. It would seem advisable then, if it be practical, that my column should advance to somewhere in that vicinity or region to arrive there or fall upon them before they could have time to organize with the hostiles on this side and make formidable resistance. I beg to be understood however as having no objection even to this latter condition of the case if it has been ~~also~~ contemplated by the general. I am prepared to undertake to overcome any combination they can make, though it is not the best of prudence to .. such a combination of it

can be prevented. My reasons for thinking it not impossible that the Spokans may take this course are these. The column with which Col. Wright enters that country is so large that unless some device is resorted to by which the Indians shall be deceived as to its numbers (which though difficult I think could be done) and thus enticed into action, they will simply retire and disperse before it, as they did in '56 when the Colonel's Column became too largely reinforced on the Nahatchee. Had he attempted to cross that river with his original force, it is my belief the Indians would have fought him. Again, I ~~learn~~ learn from Indian sources that the region of country around the head of Lake Chelan which lays between the Wenatchee and Fort O'Kanagan, is heavily wooded, abounds in berries and is annually much visited by the Spokanes to gather them. They are doubtless therefore well acquainted with its fastness and capabilities for defense or refuge. It is the country in which I expect some of the hostiles on this side of the Columbia River to take refuge if they fail to meet me on the Nahatcha and know that Colonel Wright's column is still in the upper Spokane Country.

Lastly the Spokanes have been strongly ~~appealed to~~ appealed to, it is said, by the relatives of Quintinine(?) to arrange his death. It seems to me therefore that every consideration would require that each column should reach its own issue of resistance about the same time whether they fight or fly before either or both columns they fugitives would then have no time or opportunity of combining as a more formidable residence to either.

Another matter to which I wish now to call the attention of the colonel is the policy which we are to adopt towards the Indians. I think that there may be some final instructions given to commanders as to the purpose of this war, ~~so~~ in order that uniform or consistent language may be held toward them on both sides of the Columbia and thus avoid the inconsistencies and difficulties which were entailed?)

upon us in '56 by a disregard of this precaution.. Let the Indians know fairly and distinctly and at once what we are fighting them for and what are our conditions of peace. I believe that the time has now come when we ought to let these people know clearly that since without provocation they have assumed to themselves the right to say when war shall commence, we shall reserve to ourselves the right to say when peace shall return, and that whether it takes us one or ten years, we shall not lay down the hatchet until we have caught and hung the instigators of this war, and until all murderers (including Dolon)s and stolen property be returned. The attack upon the miners in the Wenatchee was instigated by Owhi, Qualchin, Wkloom and Wuintanook--men who ~~were~~ were combined against the whites in '56. The friendly Indians ~~xx~~ say these men consider themselves forever combined against us, and that it is their constant dread of the white man's vengeance that induces them ever summer to attempt to drive them away. If this be the case hanging them is the only radical solution (?) for the case in my judgment. These men should have no peace, winter or summer. Whenever they come within our reach, should be seized and hung. Unless I receive instructions to the contrary I shall deal thus by every Indian I can catch on the expedition whom I know to have participated in the recent attack on the miners, or who murdered any whites in '56.

In this connection I beg to ask that I may be supplied by winter with six or eight Sibley tents for if I find any of these hostiles should undertake to settle this winter within reach of this post, I shall make an attempt to capture and hang them.

For the reasons which I have given above I think the general ~~xxx~~ will excuse me for again urging ~~xxxx~~ upon him the necessity of supplying me with all practicable disposal, with the transportation necessary to put my column in motion. The transportation is the only difficulty in this case.

My own calculation is that I shall want 355 pack saddles, 225 pack animals and 56 packers. If I am correctly informed the QMD on the Columbia river has ~~nearlly~~ been nearly exhausted as providing means of transportation for the heavy column under Col. Wright.

I have asked not to send up the three companies of Infantry until our means of transportation are furnished for I have not an over abundant supply of rations for them to consume while waiting here to ~~make~~ march. Of the three companies of infantry which it is proposed to send here, I ^{trust} think as many of them will be armed with rifles as practicable as this is the only arms I desire to take into the field against Indians. Muskets, though very effective against masses or crowds, is very indifferent weapon against Indians who fight in open order much after the manner of skirmishers. Had Col. Steptoe's column ~~have~~ been armed with rifles alone I believe the result would have been very different. I shall take the three companies of rifles now at this post into the field and leave muskets to guard the post-an arrangement that might be made at the Dalles in my judgment much to the advantage of both columns.

If it should be found impracticable to furnish me with the 300 dragoons asked for in time, I beg to say that I can supply their places if permitted by allowing that number of my men to provide themselves with horses for the privilege of riding on the march. But if this is to be done, please let me know at once.

Finally I hear that Forts Miller and Jones in Cal. have been broken up. If this be true, it may be found necessary this fall to quarter one or two additional companies here this winter. ^I this however can hardly be decided until the expeditions return but I write now to ask that should this measure be then adopted, orders may be promptly given to the ACS at Vancouver to hurry up immediately the additional subsistence that will be required for if that officer was to wait until my requisition came back it might be too late to get the supplies over the mountains. Respectfully etc. R.S. Garnett.

Fort Simcoe W.T.

July 28, 1858

Major:

I have the honor to acknowledge your communication of the 15th inst quoting General Clarke's instructions in relation to the projected expedition north of this post.

The copy of the Treaty to which you refer did not arrive with these instructions. I beg it may be transmitted by the first ~~communication~~ opportunity.

I shall endeavor to execute in good faith the genl's instructions as regards hostages. But it is my opinion that the jealousies and reckless and ... disregard of all moral obligations among these Indians ~~will~~ ~~undoubtedly~~ render such measures ineffective. I desire to adopt a measure of this sort some weeks since by capturing Skloom and sending ^{word} him to the hostiles under Owhi and Qualchien that if they molested the miners I would hang Skloom, but I was informed that nothing would gratify these chiefs as much as to hear that Skloom had been put out of the way, a feeling which Skloom ~~has been~~ fully reciprocated towards them. These ... extend to their immediate followers.

I ~~hated~~ am sir, etc.

etc. R.S. Garnett, Major 9th infy.

comdy.

Major W.W. Mackall,

Asst. Adjt genl U.S.A. Fort Vancouver, W.T.

Fort Simcoe W.T. August 10, 1858

Major:

Thought perhaps to report for Gen'l Clarke's information that unless I am much detained or diverted from my course by events which I cannot now foresee, I propose to pursue the following route with the troops under my command viz:

Follow the route of the expedition of 1856 to the Wenatcha and this was the route taken by the miners who were attacked--thence down the Wenatcha to its mouth, cross it at that point and proceed up the western bank of the Columbia to Fort Okanagen, thence along the northern bank of the Columbia until I get opposite the mouth of the Spokane River, cross the Columbia at this point and then strike for the Pa Quallan (?) or Tuckland Rapids of the Columbia, here ~~xxx~~ recross the Columbia and return to Fort Simcoe. If Col. Wright should first strike Lake Coeur d'Alene thence straight for Colville, thence down the southern bank of the Columbia to the mouth of the Spokane River and thence straight for Walla Walla it is my opinion that we will have traversed as much of the most important part of the hostile Indians as it would be possible for us to do with the quantity of supplies we take with us.

I remain sir etc.

H.S. Garnett

Major W.T. Mackall

Asst. Adjt. Genl etc.

Fort Simcoe, N.T.

August 10, 1858

Major:

I have thought it proper to forward for General Clarke's information a copy of the orders which I have issued for the government of the troops on the expedition which has this day set out under my command. As far as I have been able to conjecture our probable wants I have endeavored to provide for them

I regret that I have been unable to learn what route Col. Wright's column proposes to pursue. In certain cases this information might be useful to me.

Though I have received nothing in reply to my request for another company I still hope that one or a part of one may be sent to this post in my absence. I leave about 80 men all told, and if the entire companies are deemed necessary for the protection of Fort Dalles it certainly seems to me that at least the same number of men ought to be here as this post is in a more ... and exposed position.

I am sir

Very respectfully

Your obt servant

R.S. Garnett

Major 9th infantry, commdy.

H.M. Judah, Capt 4th infy.

commanding..

Sent to Mackall

Fort Simcoe, W.T.

August 14, 1858

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Sir:

I deem it my duty to present for the information of the general commanding what I deem to be the necessity of communication between this post and Fort Dalles and which a few hostile Indians have it in their power to close altogether(?) My command is scarcely equal to the requirements of the post and should it be reduced by sickness or any other cause I should be compelled to report it as inadequate to its necessity.

It is currently reported among the friendly Indians that the hostiles intend to make an attempt to fire the post although disposed to place but little confidence in the probability of such an event. I do not feel at liberty to suggest any precaution in view of even so improbable a contingency and am prepared to sustain if necessary and successfully a siege of fifty days.

I am apprehension that during the absence of Maj. Garnett (on or any) communication with Fort Dalles may be unusual if not altogether impracticable for a small party and in view of the ... of detaching any men from this post for recruit??? duty .have thought it proper thus to submit [sic ??] ... any)as I trust) ...to be no more than a habit. [Writing almost impossible to transcribe]

By an express account from Major Garnett last night I am appraised of the passage of a small party of Indians (probably marauders) across this valley in the direction of the Dalles. This same party was discovered earlier in the day and the fact reported to me . Since the communication I am somewhat apprehensive for an expressman who has not yet arrived with the mail now ...by from...as five days. .. Whether Maj. Lugenbeel has reoccupied the block house in the rear of this place or not I do not know

War Dept. Letters Rec'd. 54-58 193 G 1858 Camp on the Upper Yakima River W.T. August 15, 1858. 428903 Garnett, R.S. Maj. 9th Infy. Comdy. Copy sent to congress with scouting report, 758 Reporting attack on camp of hostile Indians and the death of 2 Lt. J.K. Allen 9th infy. and the capture of 21 warriors, 50 women and children, 70 horses and 15 head of beefcattle. Lt. Allen's death was announced in GO 15 Dec. 10/58. Lt. Allen's death was announced in Army register 1859. R2 DP Ft. Vancouver Aug 19, 1858 Head qrs. Dept. Pacific Fort Vancouver W.T. Aug 20, 1858. Respectfully transmitted for the information of the general in chief.

Hd. Qrs. Yakama Expedition

Camp on the Upper Yakama River, August 15, 1858

Major:

It has become my painful duty to communicate to you for General Clarke's information and that of the adjutant general of the army the sad intelligence of the death of 2 Lieut. Jesse K. Allen of the 9th Infantry who expired at this camp at half past 2 o'clock to day. Lieut Allen died the death of a soldier. He fell at 3 o'clock this morning at the moment of accomplishing a successful surprise on a camp of hostile Indians. There is reason however to fear that he was shot accidentally by one of his own men in the darkness of the hour.

I must be permitted here to express my own sorrow at the untimely end of this junior officer and to offer this officially. My tribute to his worth. He was an officer of rare ~~manly~~ energy and ~~his~~ zeal and an acquaintance with our army of seventeen years duration... me in ... the conviction that his place will not again be easily filled in our service. His loss to the command can scarcely be underestimated.

The remains will be taken back tonight to Fort Simcoe by his company commander and person frield, Capt. Frazer 9th infy who will take the charge of his effects required by the regulations.

proper
He It is probably ~~possible~~ to report in this communication that Lt. Allen's party (fifteen mounted men) captured the ... 21 men, about 50 women and children, 70 head of horses and 15 head of cattle besides considerable other ... property. ^{having} Three of the men ~~have~~ been recognized as participants in the attack on the miners, were shot in compliance

with my gen^eral instructions on the subject.

I am sir

Very respectfully etc.

R.S. Garnett, Maj. 9 infy.

W.W. Mackall

Asst. Adj^t. Genl USA

Fort Vancouver, W.T.