

on the 4th April & await your arrival/

I have furnished him with a horse and pack mule so that in returning he will not have to purchase his animals at Dalles.

Very respectfully, yours etc.

James Doty,

--

Misc. Papers LR, Roll 23 No. 5

Walla Walla Valley, March 26th, 1855

Gov. I.I. Stevens, Dear Sir:

Pierson reached Ft. Walla Walla last night at 11 p.m. in two days from the Dalles and ~~seven~~ from Olympia with letters etc. all safe.

I have not yet visited the Yakama country for two reasons. 1st extraordinary delays in reaching this point from Dalles. The horses strayed at nearly every camp and days were consumed in searching for them. One horse was stolen by Yeiss who keeps the ferry on John Day's River and taken high up that stream so that no me were occasioned three days hard riding to retake him.

2d Theboat, heavily laden with Indian goods and rations made very slow progress and I was determined not to leave until there was a fair prospect of it reaching this point. The boat with all the goods and men aboard is now at the foot of the rapids of the Umatilla and will reach this point in four or five days.

1st-In answer to your first inquiry I have to report that I have had a long conference with Lawyer, the acknowledged head ~~chief~~ and head chief of the Nez Perces and he has promised to bring all his people together at any time within four or eight weeks at such point as may be designated, though he prefers Craig's post. He comprehended the object of a council and is willing to dispose of his lands for a fair compensation. He is also willing to go to the Blackfoot Council and holds himself ready upon short notice.

I have had several conferences with Peopeokmox mox, the only chief

of the Walla Walla and find him rather difficult to manage. However in a long talk with him today he has ~~manifested~~ coincided (sic) in the opinion that it is better to sell out his lands now for a fair price and retire to a reservation than to be continually quarreling with the white men & in the end possess nothing. Much was said upon both sides but it is sufficient to state that he has agreed to meet the Cayuses, Nez Perces & Palouse Indians in council upon your arrival, at some point near Brooke & Bradford's and conclude a treaty for sale of his lands if fair terms are offered. This is a shrewd old chief who has unlimited power over his people & it required much argument & disabusing his mind of the false impressions derived from hearsay to induce him to agree to any treaty which had for its object the purchase of his lands. He gives no answer upon the proposition to attend the Blackfoot Council, but I am decidedly of opinion that it would be impossible to leave him behind. Lawyer, the Nez Perce chief and a number of his tribe will go as regards time and place of holding councils. They depend upon an important point yet to be determined, which is whether you will hold treaties with the Cayuses, Nez Perces, Walla Walla, Yakimas, Palouse, Spokanes & Coeur d'Alenes before proceeding to the Blackfoot council or upon your return from it. Briefly my opinion is (unless you have positive advice of the early shipment of goods per steamer up the Missouri) that in pushing on to Fort Benton before high water, you will reach there early in July, two months in advance of the party & goods from St. Louis & ~~consequently~~ those two months will be lost.

Therefore allow me to suggest that treaties be held with the above named tribes, Between this and the 1st July at which time it would be practicable to ~~cross~~ cross the Bitter Root Mountains. The Cayuses & Walla Walla have assumed to dictate to emigrants when & where they shall not settle in their country. Now if it is proposed

that the Walla Walla Valley be settled by emigrants crossing the plains the ensuing autumn these treaties should be concluded with them & their land purchased ~~providingxxxxxx~~ previous to the Blackfoot council because you could not return in time to conclude such Treaties. This strikes me as an important consideration, since the majority of Indian disturbances in this district arise from the encroachments of white immigrants.

Viewing the premises in this light, if you can be here by the 1st to 10th May I should think treaties might be held with these Indians & Fort Benton be reached in ample time for the Great Council.

As to plans of holding Treaties I think at present that the W. Wallas, Cayuses, N. Perces & Palouses can be brought together at Craig's on or before the 1st May. The Lawyer assures me that his people will assemble whenever notified. The Yakimas will have to be treated with separately, at a point ~~say~~ 20 miles above the Mission on the Atanum or joined with the Spokanes at or near the mouth of Spokane River. I apprehend no difficulty with the Yakamas. The chiefs are willing to attend the Blackfoot council & if one may judge from their generally unreserved expression of sentiment are not averse to selling their lands. I have dispatched messengers to them & they are all assembled within three days march of this point & Mr. Bolon and myself will meet them in four days from this.

The Coeur d'Alenes, Colville & ~~ex~~ Oakinagan Indians can be taken in afterwards. It is necessary to take these tribes in detail because, aside from their reluctance to holding a treaty far from home, they are engaged in digging roots & taking fish in their own lands & streams. at the times the Treaties will probably be held. Besides the Indians are under the impression that Treaties are to be concluded with them at an early period & the policy is to strike while the iron is hot.

All this, however, you will

will yourself determine upon, but my decided opinion is against pushing on to the Missouri unless you are sure the party & goods from St. Louis will reach Ft. B. at an early period

2d--Riding and Pack horses tolerably well broken can be bought here for \$25 each .

You have on hand at Fort W. Walla in hands of Mr. Sinclair, who now is now in charge of the post, 18 mules and 16 horses. Five mules are inserviceable, leaving 16 mules & 16 horses in fine condition. and seven horses purchased by me at Dalles & one mule lost, by Higgins, recovered by Craig & taken possession of by me , & you have 17 mules and 23 horses, in all 40 animals for active service. There are no animals at Coeur d'Alene , all having been sent to this point.

3d-I still hold to the opinion that goods can be packed from the Dalles to W. Walla or to a point between the mouth of Salmon River & the Yakima at less than \$100 per ton, by a small pack train under the supervision of Mr. Bolon who thoroughly understands the matter. S & H Anammason are making now an experimental trip and until it is concluded it is impossible to say whether they will take another contract or not, but I am of opinion they would as they have been to the expense of transporting a large boat overland to the mouth of the Des Chutes.

4th Herewith you have list of purchases etc.

5-The Indians have been informed that you will be in this country between the 15th April & 15th May. I have taken latitude in fixing time because with Indians it is required. It will not be necessary for you to reach this point before the 1st May 7 perhaps the 10th unless you push on to Ft. B.

6--Quarter masters property here is 2 In. R. boats, no frames) 10 g. pack saddles; 4 com. do; 6 lbs shoe nails; 8 p mule shoes and 12 1 spade 1 anvil, 1 ridg. saddle

7-Pierson has done well with the express this trip. He will reach Vancouver on the 3rd of April.

8-No ~~expenss~~ has yet been sent to Mc Adams but it will be dispatched immediately after the arrival of the ~~hark~~ boat. I have for McAdams numerous numerous letters & coming in the boat a box of magazines, rapiers etc.

9-Your remarks concerning changes of expressing are noted. At present ~~expenses~~ ~~expenses~~ & advances to Mr. Bolon and Dr. Lansdale are included in my journal acct of cash expended but can be separated at any time.

10-I have a limited supply of vouchers, but no accts. carried etc. etc. and you had better bring a good supply of them as also stationery pens, ink, black and red wax, tape, pen knives etc. --also a portable drawing table. It is very inconvenient using a field book for a table to write upon.

11-Quarterly acts. will be made ~~into~~ out after your arrival or after further instructions are received.

12-A very delicate question. Have presents been furnished for Treaties in Oregon? Has the superintendent been authorized to make Treaties? Or to constitute with yourself a commission to hold them? If not it is clear that you can only make treaties with such Indians as are within your superintendency for whom you have presents and to whom you can guarantee payment for their lands. If Gen. Palmer is authorized to associate with you in treating with the W. Wallas, Cayuses, & Nez Perces there will be no difficulty in holding a treaty; if not then you can only ~~trank~~ treat with those in your district; but if the members of these tribes living in Oregon appear at the Council and acquiescence in its decision they are not to be rejected because in the acquiescence they yield all right & title to lands in Wash. Terry. The ~~program~~ program of such treaties as has been concluded upon the Sound is a suitable one to submit to these Indians & it is what I have

prēpared them for. The main features are fair payment for their lands , , pasturage for their stock & fishing at accustomed places.

To conclude: My talk with Lawyer and Peopeok Mox a mox ~~am~~ equivalent to talking with the whole tribes for what these chiefs direct the nations will do. The Cayuse are very difficult to manage & especially as I find no chief upon ~~thaxxin~~ this side the line. They will however be brought in with the other tribes as they cannot stand alone.

You may rely upon my doing whatever lies within my power for the attainment of your views & the possible good and I am

very respectfully

James Doty

Secy of comm.

coast and their permanent location fixed by treaty stipulations.

An exception may however ~~be~~ with propriety be made in case of those of the Walla Walla~~x~~ tribe inhabiting the country in the immediate vicinity of the Yakamas, provided the consent of Yellow ^Serpent the head chief can be obtained which is somewhat doubtful, as he is a man exceedingly ~~tenacious~~ of his rights, and withal a man of influence and strongly attached to the Americans. In all the difficulties heretofore between the whites and Indians in that region he has uniformly been ~~friendly~~ found acting so far as his position in relation to the Hudson's Bay Company would permit on the side of the Americans. I refer to this as I am aware that interested parties have for this cause, endeavored to lessen his strength and importance and transfer it to others less friendly and over whom influence adverse to American interests can ~~be~~ be exerted.

I have recommended in my letters to the Indian Department the early extinguishment of Indian title to all the lands belonging to these three ~~tribes~~ tribes lying within this ~~the~~ territory as a measure important to the preservation of peace. The usually travelled ~~route~~ immigrant road from the Atlantic States to this territory passes directly through the country occupied by the Cayuses, much of which is also of that of the Nez Perces and Walla Walla, possess such attractions as an agricultural and grazing country as to render it ~~impracticable~~ impracticable much longer to restrain our enterprising citizens from its occupation. I have also suggested that a strip of country on each side of the emigrant road be purchased at an early day and the Indians removed from it sufficiently broad to place the immigrant effectually beyond danger of annoyances from the savages and ~~thus~~ ~~thus~~ thus prepare the way for a continuous chain of settlements wherever the country is susceptible of it, from the Rocky ~~Mountains~~ Mountains to this Valley. As I confidentially expect Cog

*Palmer to Stevens, 1-10-54 Misc. L R, Roll 23 Wa Sup.
No. 5*

Washington Superintendency, miscellaneous letters received, No. 5, Roll 23

Camp on the Wee-nass W.T.

August 22n 1853

Maj. I.I. Stevens, Gov. W.T. & Indian Agent

Sir:

The bearer, Kamaiacan is the head chief of all the Yakama Indians-- he is by far the richest & most influential chief in this part of the territory.

You will find him to be the most proper person with whom to make any treaty etc. that may be desired.

In addition to his country on the Yakama, he also possesses lands on the Pelouse River. While in this part of the world he is generally with the missionaries on the Atahnam, and is much under their influence.

He is very friendly & well disposed--and may I think be relied upon far more than the generality of the Indians, as an instance I will mention that some days ago I issued in my last camp some six days rations, to two guides that I had engaged for some reason or other they remained behind.--today Kamaiacan came to this camp & brought with him the rations in question--saying that as these men had done nothing for me they did not deserve the rations. All this was done by his own violation & not in consequence of any demand of mine.

I am sir, very respectfully, your obt. svt,

Geo. B. McClellan

Bvt. & etc.

Washington Suptcy. Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd. No. 5, Roll 23

Camp on the Atanum Valley, April 3d, 1855, Tuesday

Gov. I.I. Stevens, dear sir:

We reached here on Saturday the 30th ulto. Contrary to my information rec'd at Dalles & Walla Walla the Yakimas were not in their winter camp but were scattered in the mountains in four bands. Knowing that the first Sunday in April is a feast day with the Catholics on that day I called at the mission feeling since that some of the chiefs would be there & I was not mistaken for Camiack^u~~un~~ & Te-ay-ass were at church. In the afternoon a long conference was held with them & an invitation given to meet me at my camp as soon as the other chiefs--for whom messengers had been dispatched, should arrive. Camiackun flatly refused & Te-ay-ass accepted. Yesterday all the chiefs but one, ~~un~~ Ouw-hi & a large number of Indians were present but being determined to have all the chiefs present, the council was adjourned until today, when I am happy to inform you everything was concluded in the most satisfactory manner. The wish of the Gov. to conclude treaties with them & your views in relation to the manner in which they should be made was fully explained. They were also conscious of the falsity of the many stories told them by ignorant & designing white men. But briefly all the Yakimachiefs, viz Camiackun, Ti-ay-ass, Ouw-hi, Shaw-a-way & Skloom have agreed to meet you at Walla Walla bringing other people with them. Four of them expressed an earnest desire to hear what you wished to say to them & to conclude a Treaty which would place them forever on friendly terms with the whites. I am very favorably impressed with the character of these Indians. Many are already far advanced toward civilization. They have herds of cattle, they make butter and cultivate the soil as extensively as their limited means will permit. But above all they evince and express ~~xxx~~ an earnest wish to learn the ways of the whites.

I duly paid my respects to the priests at the mission & Father Pandosy has been very polite rendering me ~~my~~ every assistance in his power.

I now see the way clear for effecting the following arrangement one which I much wished to make. Bring together at Walla Walla the Cayuses, Walla Wallas, Nez Perces, Palouses, Okinagans, Pisquouseos, Yakimas & the Indians on the Columbia from the Cascades up. This can be done leaving the coast clear for taking next the Spokanes, Coeur d'Alenes, & Colville Indians. Messengers will go from here (Skloom volunteered to go) to the Oakinagans, Pisquouse and Palouses. I shall ~~leave~~ leave tomorrow, reach W. Walla on the 6th & ~~should~~ proceed at once to the Nez Perces. You can bring the Indians from above the Cascades. About the first May is the time, I think, for holding the treaty. But if possible send me word in advance of the day you will reach W. Walla so that I may dispatch trustworthy messengers to collect the Indians.

I learn that many Clickatats have gone to the Willamette Valley to reside temporarily at French's Prairie I think. Perhaps they should be sent for to join in the coming Treaty.

The charges against Mr. Bolon are, I have reason to believe, entirely groundless. Their truth or falsity must be proven by the Yakima chiefs who are the best informed as to Mr. Bolons conduct while among them. From motives of policy I have not pushed an investigation at present, but shall make a thorough one when the chiefs reach Walla Walla. I have no hesitation in saying that Mr. Bolon is an efficient agent & appears to have the confidence of the Indians.

This letter will be carried express by an Indian, to Vancouver & his pay is to be liberal in case he goes through in good time.

Respectfully & truly yours

James Doty, secty.

P.S.

Washington Supt'cy. Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd. No. 5, Roll 23

Portland, Oct. 6th, 1855

My Dear Sir:

I am informed by Capt. Shaw that your messenger will start for Fort Benton on Monday next and as Indian affairs in a portion of your superintendency has assumed a serious character~~xxxx~~ it may be well to advise you of a few details. News reached me on Saturday morning that Boland and seventeen men had been killed by the Yackamaw Indians and that Camiyackin with his Tribes, the Clickitats and all the bands north of the Columbia east of the Cascades in the flathead country had united in hostilities against the whites. I immediately repaired to the Dalles reaching that point on Tuesday. The reports ... as the death of Boland and the Indians of Yackimaws, a part of the Clickitats, Piscaus and a portion of the small bands along the Columbia. I found ~~them~~ them on at least every movement bent to establish that fact.

Boland left the Dalles on Tuesday ~~after~~ 1st. 18 Sept. for the Tustiaim (? country expecting that he would be absent but three days. Since which nothing had been heard of him prior to my arrival a messenger had been sent out who had returned with information that he had been killed by the Yackimaws. Various Indian reports continued to come in confirming this statement. Finally the priest at the Dalles sent a messenger to the ^(father) fiftu (sic) (scrawl) of the Yackimaw mission informing him of the reports and making inquiry upon the subject. The messenger returned after my arrival bringing a letter from father Bouien (sic ..but wrong) stating that Boland came in the mission ~~Monday~~ Monday (?) the 23rd inst direct from the Yackima country but that he remained but about two hours at the mission leaving in company with a son of the brother of Camiyackin for the Dalles. That he had heard nothing of him until the result of his father letter

four say (sic) he "how could I have ~~kk~~ known when there has not been any Indians at the mission during the month of September," " and if he is missing something must have happened him." (Sic.)

The letter states that the principal topic of conversation since the Wallawalla council the Indians has been ^a ~~xxat~~ war with the whites. That they have appeared greatly excited and in trouble. It also states that an Indian had reached the mission two hours before his writing stating that the whites had killed Father Mendozen (sic) and three Indians.

The father's messenger in the Yackimaw mission was met, as he alleges on the way by Camiyackin who disarmed him and for some time stood in the attitude of shooting him, but finally inquired where he was going. He answered to the mission,, his business there ~~in~~ take a letter (sic) see the father, inquire after his health as he was sick when last heard from, he was then asked if he was a friend of the father, he said yes, Camiyackin said "so am I" then extended his hand and so he proceeded to the lodge--during the night Camiyakin told him that they had resolved upon a war with the whites and that they would ~~continue~~ continue that war for five years if necessary. That ^{Boston Americans/[written in over]} the whites/should not have their country that they would give it to whom they pleased. He further stated that on his return from the Wallawall council the Clickitats, Piscus and others inquired why he had sold their country, that he was not their chief, that they had chiefs of their own. He replied to them that he ~~xxxxxxx~~ did it to get rid of the governor and others, ~~xxxxxxx~~ that him and that he did not suppose his signing a paper would amount to much. Camiyackin's[version] of the death of Boland as given to this messenger is as follows---Boland and Show-ah-way's son left the mission together for the Dalles. They traveled until ~~next~~ night and stopt to camp. Soon after four Indian women came along. Boland made

~~ARRANGEMENTS~~ and arrangement with one of them to remain with him during the night. The others then going on. Some time during the night this woman left and early in the morning five Indians came in their camp whilst were eating breakfast and stated that Boland had debauched one of their women and they had come to kill him. The ^{young} ~~Yackimaw~~ Indian tried to dissuade them from it and said it must not be done but they insisted and jumped upon him as he was sitting down. He called to this young Indian for help and he laid hold of one of the Indians to keep them off but he was overpowered by one of them and the other ... succeeded in killing Boland by cutting his throat. They ~~then~~ then buried his body and shot his horse. This ~~business~~ version however is believed a ruse to screen his brother's son as other reports equally reliable fixed the act upon this young man as first shooting him with a pistol which he had carried under his blanket when the others jumped upon him and cut his throat. There can be no question ~~of this~~ as to his death and that it was done by the Yackimaws. It is equally clear that they have resolved upon war. The particulars in reference to the action of the troops you will be advised of after. The Wallawallas, Cayuses, Umatillas and other Oregon Indians have refused to join them, but should they be successful in their attack upon the troops now in the field we may expect difficulty throughout the entire country. Major Hains now in command of the forces in this part of the country stands ready to call upon the governors for volunteers as soon as he is satisfied that a body of Indians beyond this ... of valleys have or in other words when ~~his~~ are half and an opportunity given for all the Indians in this country to combine against us. He is willing to allow the citizens to aid in doing that which they would rejoice to do at teach these rascals a lesson not to be forgotten. (four lines so badly scrawled as to take 25 minutes to "translate")

I.I. Stevens, Supt. Ind. Affairs W.T. Joel Palmer, Supt Ind. Affairs

Washington Suptcy, Miscellaneous Letters Rec'd. No. 5, Roll 23

[excerpt]

Colville, Jany 27, 1856

Gov. Stevens.

...The most unrelenting barbarities are told here of your volunteers. Tis said they murdered Serpent Jaune, scalped and skinned him, tur ed his ~~sk~~ skin into razor straps, disinterred him after

burrying him, then cut off his ears--preserved in liquor of which an American officer drank afterwards!!! by accident.....(dots

marked on paper* ~~Could~~ If this be true, if so as an historical fact, tis worth salting to show our progress...

I remain yours truly

Signed A. McDonald

Washington Suptcy. Letters Rec'd Miscellaneous-No. 5, roll 23

His Excellency, I.I. Stevens, Governor and superintendent of Indian
affairs, Washington Territory, Cascades, W.T.

Dear Sir:

April 14, 1856

On the 26th of March ult. a band of hostile Indians made an attack upon this place and the adjacent neighborhood killing our people, burning our homes and plundering our property. The attack was made simultaneous upon the different important points along the river. Cutting off all communication from one section to that of another and as we had not up to the very moment of attack the most remote demonstration of hostility from our own friendly Indians we were taken so completely by surprise that it was a matter of impossibility to save from destruction that portion of our property that was laid waste by those savage fiends. Many of our citizens escaped with nothing but the cloths that they had on at the time--families before in fair and comfortable circumstances were turned out of their houses and driven from their homes destitute and beggarly.

In behalf of these, as well as to get pay for my own property which has been burned and destroyed, I ask your advice and instruction as to the proper and legal ~~XXXXXX~~ course to be pressed to get remuneration at the hands of the general government for property destroyed in this manner. Your advice in the premises will be most gratefully received and remembered by your fellow citizens here.

I am sir, your most obt servant

C. J. Palmer

Washington Suptcy. Miscellaneous Letters "ec'd. No. 5, roll 23
Click Relander

Head Quarters Northern District,

Department of the Pacific

Camp on Naches River, June 8, 1856

Sir:

I have in my camp a large number of Klicatat Indians with their women and children.

It appears that these Indians previous to the Treaty on being in Oregon and at the request of Kamiacaken (who claimed them as his own people) General Palmer sent them all back to this country. They have been treated very badly by Kamiacaken and his people, and in my advance into the country they determined if possible to come in--many of them have succeeded in escaping the power of Kamiacken, some are still with him, and only await an opportunity of bringing away their families--I have some 70 or 80 of these people, they are perfectly friendly towards the whites, and I shall send them to the Dalles tomorrow. They are anxious to return to Oregon and that is unquestionably the best disposition that can be made of them. They can never reside in peace in this country and if we do not remove them, they may be driven to join the hostile Indians. I hope yourself and Gen. Palmer will concur in this view. We can do nothing else with them.

It is highly important to weaken the power of Kamiaken by affording protection for all who desire to abandon his cause. I would also request that Genl. Palmer would consider the propriety of removing all the Indians at Fort Vancouver, as well as those on the instant at the Lower Cascades, to the reservation in Oregon.

These Indians now wish me acknowledge (sic) Timi e tat as their chief, he is in confinement at Fort Vancouver more for his own safety than anything else. There are some other Indians also in confinement at that post all of whom should be sent off.

Please offer this letter to Genl Palmer if you cannot act in the matter yourself. G. Wright, Col 9th infy comdy. to R.R. Thompson, U.S. Ind. Agent Fort Dalles. O.T.

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll 17

White Salmon Indian Agency "T.

April 21, 1858

Sir:

Some two weeks since two Indian messengers, professing to be from Kamiakan arrived at this agency. They had ... chiefs and people nearby gathered together and told them that Kamiakan had resolved on recommending hostilities and that he had already caused two white men to be killed and their property seized.

This news was very exciting and alarming to the Indians hereabouts they at once informed Mr. Townsend, the local agent and soon after the messengers left the Indians had dispatched a messenger to Kamiakan's camp to ascertain the truth or falsehood of what had been told them. This man overtook the messengers who had brought the report, who now declared that they themselves with two or three others had killed the white men without Kamiakan's knowledge or consent and that he was very angry because of their bloody work.

The Klikatat messenger upon arriving at Kamiakan's camp was told the same story by Kamiakan and I have hasten to remark that when Spencer, a Klikatat chief and Sa-waw-a-tak, a Yakima chief visited Kamiakan early this spring he declared his purpose to be at peace with the whites.

The story told of the white man being killed was not believed by many of the whites at first, but it now appears to be true. Last night several gentlemen arrived from Walla, one being Mr. Walter Davis who confirmed the fact of two white men having been murdered in their camp on Two Canon Creek by five Indians whose names are known to Col. Steptoe, he having sent to ascertain the facts upon first hearing the rumor.

The white men killed are said to have been French ~~French~~

Canadians on route to Colville, names unknown .

The Indians lately have become so bold as to have driven off 21 head of cattle from Fort Walla Walla besides stealing horses and mules. Of the ~~mu~~ cattle stolen 12 belonged to the commissary at W. Walla and 18 to Mr. Davis. A troop of dragoons pursued the Indians soon-- the trail they took could be detected; the pursuit was hot but approaching the Snake River the Good Indians had just crossed the cattle and were beyond further pursuit as the dragoons had not boats or canoes.

I also learn that 3 companies of dragoons will at ... sent to ~~00~~ chastise the Indians beyond Snake River in the Palouse country for the murder of the two white men and for their thefts.

We are likely to have stirring living in the upper country soon. It is hoped the Indians guilty may be thoroughly chastised and taught to know and feel heavily the strong arm of government in punishing bad men, while we ... increasing the friendship with the good.

I cannot yet believe we are to have a general ~~combination~~ combination for hostilities on the part of the Indians as I cannot see any proofs of bad feeling, if any in my extensive district; but in the country and apprehension in the Indians lest the upper country brethren should do bad and they themselves be compromised by this guilt.

I am Sir, very respectfully

Your obt. servant.

H. H. Lansdale, Indian Agt. W. T.

Hon J. W. Nesmith,
Supt. Ind. Affairs
Salem, Oregon.

May 31st, 1858

Sir:

The interpreter from this agency, Indian "Joe," has just returned from an official scout to Simcoe and to the tribes living on north side of Columbia River above the Falls.

The Indians about Simcoe are peaceably disposed but about one half of the young men have gone to visit Owhi and Qualsheen, to consult upon the condition of things in the upper country. Owhi and Qualsheen his son, who is, as you will remember, one of the murderers of Mr. Bolon, are said to be much disposed to commence hostilities, but Owhi is inclined to wait till the upper country Indians are fully engaged beyond drawing back, before he begins war in his country.

Mowaway is neutral and is expected soon to arrive at the great Klikatat camash grounds where large numbers of Indians annually congregate.

The Columbia River tribes send me word that all those to whom I have given presents of provisions and agricultural tools and seeds are determined to remain neutral in the impending war, and express a wish to be allowed to withdraw into the Klickatat country out of the way of both the soldiers and the hostile Indians. I have sent them word that I wish to see them at their homes (in order that I may gather certain statistics) in one week and afterwards they may withdraw to the camash fields.

These tribes are in great commotion by reason of numberless ~~runners~~ runners and rumors from the Paloose country; and told the interpreter that rather than be again disarmed and guarded by our soldiers, they would go over to our enemies.

After one week I shall start on a visit to all the

Indians of the upper part of my district and shall see and talk with ~~xxxx~~ all who are accessible, not intending however to endanger the safety of myself and party. This visit I deem important at the present conjuncture of affairs.

The unfortunate results of the battle in the Palouse country are likely to involve all the upper Indians in a general war; at least that is my present conviction, for many Nez Perces and Spokanes ~~xxxxx~~ heretofore friendly were engaged in the late fight, of which doubtless you have before this, a fuller account than I am able to give.

I am sir

Very Respectfully

Your obt. Servant.

R.H. Lansdale, Ind. Agt. W.T.

Hon J.W. Nesmith

Superintendent Indian Affairs,

Salem, O.T.