

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

Office Yakima Indian Agency

W.T. Jan. 26, 1861

Wilbur  
School  
Boundary  
mer 12 -

Sir:

In compliance with your instructions per your letter of Dec. 26th 1860 and Jan. 19, 1861, I have the honor after a close and careful examination to submit the following report on the condition of the Yakima Indian Reservation and Agency now temporarily in my charge, together with such recommendations as I think absolutely necessary for the welfare of the Indians and the interests of the government at this point.

Leaving Portland on the 28th Dec. 1860 I arrived at the Dalles the same evening, while there I examined the annuity goods for the Yakima Nation which were, with the exception of two small bales which had been forwarded to the reservation, all as yet at Rockland, W.T. opposite the Dalles, snugly stowed away in the government storehouse.

I left the Dalles on Jan. 1st, 1861 and arrived at this point on Thursday, Jan. 3rd. I presented your letters to the Agent Lansdale and took charge of the affairs of this agency on the 5th.

The buildings now used by the Indian Department are those built and afterwards turned over by the military and we found the Agent and his employees in the enjoyment of comforts seldom experienced by men living on the frontiers, and especially those staying on Indian Reservations. These houses are all in good condition and repair and need but little alterations to fit them in any respect for the purposes for which they are now used.

There is a house on each of the two farms which though small, answer well as residences of the farmers during the summer months, and toolhouses.

There is also a house on the Topanish river lately purchased from Mr. Meits, late the sutler on this reservation, which has never been

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Portland, Oregon,

January 10, 1861

Sir:

I demand of you copies, in writing of all statements, declarations and allegations upon which you have founded the false, malicious and calumnious charges contained in your letter to me, dated December 19, 1860. This demand is just; it is my right; and it is couched in ~~moderate~~ respectful words.

A failure on your part to send a letter reply, complying with my demand, will be considered a refusal to grant ~~that~~ what I have a right to ask.

I remain etc.

R.H. Lansdale

Indian Agent, "ashington Territory

To Edward R. Geary, esq.

Supt. Ind. Affairs,

Portland, Oregon.



the affair in a proper shape, I made a ... .. as these gentlemen had gone to work in good faith, a new contract with them.

W.B. Gosnell

Sub Indian Agent

W.T.

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This contract made at Yakima Indian Agency this 5th day of January, 1861 is witness that J.R. Stark and John W. Allen of the first part and Wesley B. Gosnell, sub Indian agent, acting for and on behalf of the United States of America of the second part, bind themselves as follows.

Said J.W. Allen and J.R. Stark agree to cut 100,000 (one hundred thousand) feet board measurement, of pine saw logs for the Indian Department, within four miles of the saw mill on the Yakima Reservation said logs to be of medium sizes and of lengths as may be directed by the agent in charge of the Yakima Agency, and to be delivered in the forest in place freely accessible to wagons.

W.B. Gosnell, of the second part, agrees to receive these logs, whenever the required amount is cut and to pay for them at the rate of three (3) dollars per thousand feet, provided that the provisions of this contract are fully complied with by the parties of the first part, said payment to be made whenever funds applicable thereto (?) shall have been received.

In witness whereof we have hereto set our hands and seals the day above mentioned.

Signed in presence of

William Kapus

L.H. Roberts

J.R. Stark

John W. Allen

Wesley B. Gosnell

Sub Indian agent

NB- A contract of the above intent was originally made between

Messrs Allen and Stark and R.H. Lansdale, the agent late in charge of this reservation when I took charge of this Agency, I found Messrs Allen & Stark at work in the woods, but the contract not being written or signed properly and as Mr. Lansdale refused to put the



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Copy

Fort Simcoe, W.T. Jan.?(4) 1861

W. B. Gosnell, Esq.

Indian Sub Agent

Sir

Your official communication of today is received.

The official action of the Supt. Indian Affairs is most unjust to me and injurious to the Indian service, yet I feel myself compelled to yield to his action, and will turn over the property, belonging to the Indian Department, as soon as the necessary papers can be prepared.

Very respectfully

Your obt. servant

(signed)

R.H. Lansdale

Indian Agent, W.T.

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Fort Simcoe, W.T.

Sir

I arrived here on Thursday evening, January the 3rd, 61.

I addressed to agent Lansdale and an official communication requiring him to turn over to me according to your instructions, all the Indian Department Property in his hands.

The enclosed is a copy of a note, received by me from the agent in which he declares himself ready and willing to comply with your instructions .

I remain sir, very respectfully

Your obt servant

W. B. ~~Cashell~~ Osnell

Sub Indian Agent

To the Hon Edward B. Geary  
Supt. Indian Affairs  
for Oregon and W.T.  
Portland, Oregon.



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Yakima Indian Agency W.T.

Fort Simcoe, November 30, 1860

Sir:

I have been formally applied to by Chushuskin and other chiefs and peoples living north of this reservation in Kitatass and other valleys, to write to the superintendent of Indian Affairs and to the president to represent the great desire of the chiefs and people mentioned for an additional reservation to include Kitatass valley.

As in duty bound, I have set before them in plain, intelligible language, the advantages of the Yakima reservation, and the benefits that may secure by removing to it as their future home and country. I have also told them their great father, the president, would <sup>be</sup> not likely to accede to their request. It may be proper for me to add that, as their agent, I cannot recommend their request to your favorable consideration, having brought the matter before you to gratify their wishes and to fulfill my promise to write to the President.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your obt. servant.

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

Edward R. Geary,

Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland

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Yatima Indian Agency W.T.

Fort Simcoe, Oct. 10, 1860

Sir:

Referring to seventh paragraph of your letter of instructions of Sept. 5th ultimo, I have to report the saw mill now being erected for this agency as well advanced toward completion. The remittance of \$3,500 received by me Sept. 4th inst. is exhausted, the balance required to complete the work is \$3,500 and I have to request you to procure the commissioner of Indian affairs a remittance to cover the balance of the appropriation of \$9,000 for the saw mill and the flouring mill, as it will be well to prepare for erecting the latter soon as the saw mill is finished.

Very Respectfully

Your obt. servant

R.H. Lansdale,

Indian Agent, W.T.

To Edward R. Gary, Esa.

Supt. Ind. Affairs, Portland, Oregon.



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Yakima Indian Agency, W.T.

Fort Simcoe, Oct. 10, 1860

Sir:

Referring to sixth paragraph of your letter of instructions of Sept. 5, ultimo, I have to report that the buildings at this post turned over by the War [sic] to the Indian Department, when abandoned by the U.S. troops, are sufficient in number for the purposer of an Indian Agency, and can be made suitable by ~~an~~ alterations and repairs, and by completing two partly built by the military. All the buildings need repairs, such as glazing and painting; some need alterations to adapt them to purposes of schools and shops.

The appropriation made by Act of 29th March, 1860 is \$3,500.00; the whole amount will be needed before the expiration of this year, and I have to request you to ask for a remittance of that sum. The buildings returned by me in my property return of 3rd qr. ~~xxx~~ 1859 are twenty one in number and were valued at \$31,250.

Very respectfully

Your obt. servant

R.H. Lansdale,

Indian Agent, W.T.

Edward R. Geary, esq.

Supt. Ind. Affairs,

Portland, Oregon.

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Yakima Indian Agency W.T.

Fort Simcoe, July 5, 1860

Sir:

In absence of the Agent I must acknowledge the receipt of the cattle delivered at this agency by A.S. Knox, viz; fifty one cows with twenty one calves, five bulls, fifty one heifers, two years old, and thirty-six yearlings.

Very Respectfully

Your obt. servant

Thomas A. Pope

Assistant to agent.

Edward R. Geary, Esq.

Supt. Ind. Affairs, Portland, Oregon .



Kamiakan, the head chief, does not yet return; he continues suspicious of the whites, and is afraid to trust himself on the reservation. I shall endeavor to hunt him up, the coming month, and try to induce his return.

Very Respectfully

Your obt. se vant

R.H. Lansdale

Indian Agent, W.T.

To Edward R. Geary, Esq.

Supt. Ind. Affairs,

Portland, Oregon/

Fort Simcoe April 2, 1860

Sir:

The first part of the quarter just ended was occupied by the men in Indian Dept. service in feeding and taking care of the animals belonging to the agency; the weather was not very cold, but there was a deep snow on the ground for thirty days. They were then put to procuring rails and poles for fencing, hauling fencing stuff, hauling manure for orchard and gardens, breaking up, fencing and planting out orchard. The orchard consists of some 300 trees, mostly apples, was set out in the old parade ground of this post; it will be a very valuable to the employee and the Indians of this agency.

After finishing the orchard the men were put to plowing for and sowing wheat and oats, it being necessary to have some provender for animals in actual service.

The wheat sown last fall has proved a total failure by reason of too much alkali in the soil, or too little rain to ~~sxxx~~ sprout ~~xx~~ the grain till it perished. I shall try a little this spring as an experiment. But little farming can be done this year for want of funds, besides the wheat and oats, I hope to have planted several acres of potatoes and an acre of garden vegetables.

The want of funds forbids my giving but very little assistance to the Indians in farming this season. This is to be greatly regretted as ~~ed~~ very many manifest a disposition to plant and sow wheat is the only seed I am able to furnish them, not having enough potatoes and peas for the service and not being able to purchase.

The disposition manifested by the Indians of this agency to cultivate the ground is very encouraging and gives assurance that when they receive the fostering aid of government in carrying into effect the Yakima treaty, they will advance rapidly



Eight Wedges

Five tongs

One tin iron

One Fuller

One set hammer

One soldering iron.

One grind stone and flangings.

Twenty eight hundred grain sacks

Sixty pounds of nails

Thirty eight feet of safety fuge (?)

Three hundred and fifty pounds of iron, assorted.

Two plows.

List of Quarter Master's property left at Fort Simcoe

Five cords, of five feet eight inches of wood.

Two tables

Three wagons, worn

Three log carts, worn.

One ambulance, old and much worn.

Three wagon hammers

Two king bolts

Twenty two pack saddles (incomplete)

Ten riding saddles, old and worn.

One riding bridle, old and worn.

One blind bridle, old and worn.

Four fifth chains.

Four spreaders.

Four double trees.

Fourteen single trees.

One ridge pole for wagon.

Three thousand six hundred feet of lumber

Forty two thousand bricks.

Two anvils

Three hand hammers.

Three buttress

Three pincers

Three blacksmith's chisels.

One monkey wrench

Two bellows

Six Pritchells

Two sco die

Two vices

One sledge hammer



Wash'ton Suptcy.

Yakima Indian Agency W.T.

Fort Simcoe, March 23, 1860

Sir:

The military, after turning over this post to Indian Department removed most of gr. ar. property yet left a few articles, mostly bulky and perishable; some of the property is exposed and liable to be picked up and used by any one, especially by employees of Indian Dept. and by Indians; other articles are stored in Indian Dept. house in the way.

The ordnance sergeant in charge has suggested that the commanding general of Oregon Department, if the facts were represented to him, would cause the property contained in the list I forward to be turned over to the Indian Dept. and I send the list to you as being the proper organ of communication with headquarters of the Department.

I am sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. servant

R.H. Daddsd Lansdale, Indian Agent, W.T.

to Edward R. Geary, Esq.

Supt. Indian Affairs, Portland.

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Yakima Indian Agency W.T.

Fort Simcoe, Oct. 25, 1859

Sir:

When we last conferred together upon the Indian service in my district, you spoke of adopting a rule of allowing Indian and other employees in Ind. Dept. service the privilege of buying Indian Dept. provisions and goods, to the amount of their wages, at final cost of such property at this agency.

If such be your system settled upon as applicable to this agency, I have to request you will furnish me with written instructions.

Respectfully

Your obt. servant

R.H. Landale, Indian Agent W.T.

To Edward R. Geary, Esq.

Supt. Ind. Affairs Portland, Oregon.



The Melans and Okanakaines are the two principal and leading tribes visited beyond those that were previously partially known to me. They number, I should judge, some 300 souls of each tribe.

I invited the chiefs and head men ~~tn~~ of all the bands and tribes I saw to visit me at this agency, promising them at such a visit such presents as their great father, the president, might bestow and likewise a fuller knowledge of his mind towards them.

The wealth of those visited consists in a few horses, ~~xxxxxxxx~~ one of the chiefs have a few cattle. They subsist mostly on fish to which which they add, in the season, roots, berries and ~~wixx~~ a little game.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully

Your Obt. Servant

R.H. Lansdale

Indian Agent, W.T.

To Edward R. Geary, esq.

Supt. Ind. Affairs,

Portland, Oregon.

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

Yakima Indian Agency, W.T.

Fort Simcoe, Sept. 30, 1859

Sir:

I have to report that on the 12th instant I left the agency with my interpreter and two men and with a few presents; on a visit to several Indian tribes in the northern part of my district and with whom I had no previous personal intercourse, none of the chiefs or head men of those tribes having visited this agency.

My trip was altogether safe. I succeeded in seeing and making the acquaintance of most of the chiefs and head men north of the Yakima Valley to the forty ninth parallel extending a little eastward of Okanakanie river.

All the chiefs and people visited professed a ~~friendly~~ feeling for the Americans and were very willing to receive such small presents as I was able to distribute in the name of the president.

Although some of the Okanaka Indians or such as rove through that part of the country are unjustly chargeable with hostile demonstrations last summer I have no question as to the friendly disposition of Too nas cut the present head chief of the ~~nakik~~ nation he having been constituted chief by the whites and having exercised his authority in punishing such of his people as were guilty of wrong doing last year.

Neither can there be any doubt of the friendship of In moo sects sah, the head chief of the Chelan-pam who lives upon Chelan lake and river. This is a large and influential tribe and I proceeded in allaying what little suspicion a few of them seemed to have of my object of visiting them.



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Yakima Indian Agency, W.T.

Fort Simcoe, Sept 1, 1859

Sir:

I have received your letter of August 8th ultimo referring to the case of Tooskanee.

Without my knowledge, Capt. Black, commandant of Fort Dalles, Oregon, when Tooskanee was confined, set him at liberty on the 18th of August, ultimo.

I am sir

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

R.H. Lansdale, Indian Agent, W.T.

To Edward R. Geary,

Esq. Supt. Indian Affairs

Portland, Oregon.

Syimmahen

of Klickitat bands

Joseph Twyhelat, interpreter.

4-The agent kept no records of the proceedings in the case and I cannot therefore furnish you with a copy.

5-Having accomplished all that I see possible in the matter of the killing of the son of Showaway I have turned over the accused to the superintendent of Indian Affairs; thus gladly getting rid of all responsibility in the case.

6-Toos ka-nee has had a more formal and equitable trial than sometimes falls to the lot of Indian murderers as vengeance is executed usually by relatives of those killers; this will no doubt be the lot of Toos ka nee when he is discharged.

I am sir, very respectfully

Your Obt. Servant

R.H. Lansdale

Indian Agent, W.T.

To Edward R. Geary, esq.

Supt. Ind. Affairs

Portland, Oregon.



Fort Simcoe, July 27, 1859

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 19 referring to the trial, conviction and sentence of Toos-ka-nae an Indian for the murder of Showaway's son.

I have this day notified Capt. Black of 9th Infy. commanding Fort Dalles, Oregon of your disapproval of the sentence of Toos-ka-nae and have requested him not to deliver said prisoner to be hanged on the 2nd of August next. I have also requested him to hold the accused in custody till the 15th of August proximo, subject to the order of the Superintendent of Indian affairs alone; and have authorized him to discharge the prisoner on that day, unless in the meantime he shall hear from the superintendent.

My letter of the 5th July contains all the facts known to me in the case of Toos-ka-nae.

1-<sup>st</sup> Hearing reasonable grounds to believe him guilty, I caused his apprehension.

2 -Convinced of his guilt I endeavored to have him tried by our courts.

3-<sup>rd</sup> Failing in that course for reasons given, I caused him to be tried according to the best usages of the Indians.

The names of the jurors are as follows:

Elit Pah-mah	chiefs of
Looney	Columbia River
Weesahnepats	bands

Supelia

Towata

Skamowa

chiefs of

Yakima

bands

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Yakima Indian Agency, W.T.

Fort Simcoe, July 27, 1859

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of this agency of a copy of your circular of July 6, 1859, notifying the the [sic] removal of the office of the Superintendency of Ind. Affairs of Oregon and Washington Territory [sic] to Portland.

I am

Very Respectfully

Your obt. Servant

R.H. Lansdale, Indian Agent, W.T.

To Edward R. Gary, Sec.

Supt. Indian Affairs

Portland, Oregon.



Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

Yakima Indian Agency, W.T.

Fort Simcoe, July 5, 1859

Sir:

Some two months since a young man of my district, son to Showaway, a sub chief of the Yakimnation, mysteriously disappeared in the Columbia river. It soon leaked out that he had been murdered by Toos-a-ka-na a Columbia river Indian of my district belonging to Mee-ne-nook's band of Skip-pah, and that he was killed in Wasco County Oregon.

At first I decided to have the accused tried by our laws at Vancouver, but when I became aware that the crime had been perpetuated in Oregon, I endeavored to turn Toos-ha-na over to Agent Dennison <sup>the</sup> that he might be tried in the proper county; ~~by~~ grand jury at that time in session refused to take cognizance of crime committed by one Indian against another.

In order that he might be punished if guilty, I caused a jury of eight impartial chiefs and head men to be impounded to day at this post for the trial of the case, according ~~to~~ to their own usages and they after investigation, having unanimously pronounced Toos-ka-na guilty of murder, have sentenced him to be hanged.

I have given four good men, selected by the jury, to hang the condemned, a letter to the commanding officer at Fort Walla Walla directing him to deliver Toos-ka-na to the four men to be by them hung in the presence of white witnesses on the second day of August next at 12 o'clock noon, unless you interpose your authority to forbid the execution of the sentence.

Very Respectfully  
R.H. Lansdale etc.

Edward R. Geary  
Supt. Indian Affairs.