

Vol L Pt II

Fort Steilacoom, Aug 15, 1862, report of G.W. Patten, Major Ninth Infantry to Hdqrs of Pacific on disturbances at Fort Townsend

Victor Smith, collector of customs, arrived at Port Townsend in the early part of the month for the U.S. revenue cutter Shubrick for the purpose of taking possession of the custom house at that port.

Lieutenant Merryman of the cutter Joe Lane, the acting collector during the recent absence of Smith. Washington declined turning over papers etc unless Smith showed authority, Lieut Merryman believing that Smith had not qualified according to law. Smith did not show authority and soon afterward returning on the Shubrick, an armed guard came from the vessel demanding that the custom house should be given up or it would be entered by force. Fifteen minutes allowed Merryman to make his decision.

It was stated at that time the guns of the cutter had been shotted and if any resistance was made it was understood the custom house would be shelled.

Under circumstances and to prevent bloodshed Merryman turned over the papers etc under protest, to Lieut Wilson commander of the Shubrick. To fire upon the custom house in the position in which the Shubrick lay was equivalent to firing on the town, principal street of the village was directly in the rear of the custom house..

citizens aroused, not taken part, sent to Governor

Packer arrived at Port Townsend accompanied by his private secretary (Mr. Evans) the U.S. marshal from Olympia and Mr. McGill acting U.S. commissioner and late acting governor. , came from Fort Steilacoom on steamer Eliza Anderson with Patten. Merryman had gone to Victoria, Packer to confer proceeded there with his secretary on Eliza Anderson. Next awaited arrival of Shubrick which was hourly expected with mail from Olympia, investigation held and because of guns being shotted



a warrant was issued by commissioner for a rest of the collector, Victor Smith, known to be on board the Shubrick and also the commander of the cutter, "Wilson. After dark signal lights of Shubrick denoted approach, she did not enter port, mail sent in one of her boats, she waiting a mile or more from usual landing; marshal summoned a posse to board her, served writ on "Wilson who promptly refused to obey warrant nor allow to go below who was known there as also the U.S. consul for Victoria, Mr. Francis..marshal directed to board again, and remain there unless ejected.., returned, wheels of the Shubrick were kept in constant motion preventing the boat from going alongside, soon afterward Shubrick steamed down sound for Victoria. Two days later in early morning returned to harbor, taking in tow the cutter Joe Lane which was left at Charburg, the new port of entry, left the for S.F., left the sound a present without naval protection, the Joe Lane on return of Shubrick having been put out of commission, all of her officers except Lt. Selden placed on leave and most of crew discharged

Pickering returned to Port Townsend on evening of the 14th and learning that the Shubrick had left the sound went to Olympia on Steamer Aliza Anderson accompanied by Patten to Steilacoom

During absence of the Shubrick the Eliza Anderson has authority to carry mails on the sound

Considered fugitives, regretted they did not come ashore to acquiesce in temporary arrest..

"I earnestly request that you will call the prompt attention of the general commanding the Department of the Pacific to this subject as the matter has assumed a character so serious as to threaten the peace and quietude of all the inhabitants of Puget Sound and of some of them perhaps even to affect their allegiance to the United States Government.



(War of the Rebellion Series 1, Vol L, in 2 parts, Part II, Wash .D.C.'97.

(Ranging off reservation.right.)

Relander, Click

p. 83

Headquarters, District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. August 20, 1862

Commanding Officer

Fort Walla Walla, Wash. Ter.:

Colonel: The general commanding the district made known to you verbally when you were here, his wishes that you should aid the p.84 Indian Department in requiring the Indians to reside on the Umatilla Reservation, so as not to interfere with the white settlers, and he approves entirely (as before communicated) of your prompt action in reference to the Indians at the Grande Ronde. Of course, proper discretion will always be exercised in reference to the visits at the right season of the Indians to places outside of their reservation for the purpose of fishing, hunting, and digging roots--that privilege being especially reserved for them by treaty. Herewith I enclose to you a copy of instructions issued today to the officer commanding the detachment at the Umatilla Agency, directing him to obey your instructions whenever you shall think proper to give him any orders. I also inclose a description of the boundaries of the Umatilla Reservation as given in the treaty concluded June 9, 1855, and ratified by the Senate on the 8th of March, 1859 \*(not found).

I am, very respectfully your obedient servant.

Federick Mears

First Lieutenant Ninth Infy. U.S. Army Act. Asst.  
Adjt. Gen.

Headquarters District of Oregon

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. Aug 20, '62

Commanding Officer, Umatilla Reservation:

Sir: The general commanding the district desires me to say that whenever

the commanding officer at Fort Walla Walla shall think it desirable to give you any instructions, you are hereby directed to obey them. Besides, the protection of the agency the chief object of your being placed there is to assist the Indian Department in requiring the Indians to reside upon the reservation so as not to disturb any settlement by the whites outside the reservation. Of course, proper discretion will always be exercised in reference to the visits at the right season of the Indians to places outside their reservation for the purpose of fishing, hunting and digging roots--that privilege being especially (reserved) for them by treaty.

I am sir, very respectfully your obedient servant  
Frederick Mears.

First Lieut. Ninth Infy. U.S. Army Act. Asst. Adj. Gen.



[p. 83]

Headquarters Department of the Pacific  
San Francisco, Cal. Aug 20, 1862

Brig. Gen. Lorenzo Thomas. Adjutant General U.S. Army. Wash, D.C.

General: On the 29th of April last I assigned Bvt. Maj. Pinkney Lugenbeel, Ninth Infantry, to duty according to his brevet rank, subject to the approval of the War Department. I telegraphed to you on the same day asking the Department to approve the assignment, but I have as yet received no answer. Major Lugenbeel is stationed at Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. at which point volunteer troops have been assembled under ~~ordered~~ officers of rank of major, but without any of the necessary knowledge or experience for commanding that important post. Under these circumstances I made the assignment of Major Lugenbeel, an officer of long service and of great administrative ability and if not inconsistent with the rules of the Department, I would again ask for approval.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant  
G. Wright. Brigadier General U.S. Army  
Commanding.

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Adjutant General's Office

October 2, 1862

Brig. Gen. G. Wright U.S. Volunteers, San Francisco, Calif.

Assignments to brevet rank as in case of Major Lugenbeel are not now sanctioned. Your action in case of Mullan's escort is approved.

L. Thomas Adjutant-general.

Click Relander.

(Fort Umpqua, Ore.)

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Salem, Oregon, August 22, 1862

Brigadier-General Alvord.

Commanding District of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter.

General: I enclose herewith please find a communication received at this office from J.W. Drew, esq. relative to the reoccupation of Fort Umpqua by U.S. Troops. Upon receipt of this letter I did not deem the subject matter of sufficient importance to call your attention to it. By recent advices, however, from the Coast reservation, I learn that many of the Indians are leaving the reserve and wandering toward their former country down the coast.. Sub-agent Brooks, who has without the aid of troops to restrain these Indians and keep them where they belong. In view of these facts I have respectfully to request that a detachment of troops be permanently stationed at Fort Umpqua. The Indians are at present prevented from leaving the reservation in greater numbers by the presence of a small detachment of troops temporarily stationed there.

I am etc.

Wm. H. Rector

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Ore.

P. 87. Fort Umpqua, Ore. July 29, 1862. Hon W.H.Rector.

Sir: The commanding general of the Department of the Pacific has withdrawn from this military post the detachment of California volunteers who have recently occupied it, and I am informed that an order for the abandonment of the post has been issued. I presume that you consider the occupancy of Fort Umpqua quite as indispensable for the protection of the interests of the Indian Department as is Fort Hoskins or Fort Yamhill, and I call your attention to what I conceive



to be a very unwise policy of the commanding general of the Department of the Pacific, in the hope that you will exercise your influence with that officer, or with the district commander (General Alvord) to have this post reoccupied with U.S troops. A full company may not be needed here, but a detachment of troops is most certainly required to be kept here for the present. Quarters, barracks and supplies of subsistence are here in abundance ; indeed there are good comfortable quarters for two full companies and subsistence sufficient to last two companies for six months. You are aware that the post is located within eight miles of the southern boundary of the Coast reservation.

I am etc.

Joseph W. Drew.

(Dreamer)

p. 92

Headquarters District of Oregon.

Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter Aug. 28, 1862

William H. Rector, Supt. of Indian Affairs, Salem, Oreg.

Sir: I have to acknowledge the reception of your letter of the 22nd instant on the subject of the reoccupation of Fort Umpqua and inclosing a letter of J.W. Drew, esq. on that subject. You will remember that I explained to you when here that Umpqua and Rogue River valleys were not in the district of Oregon, and thus General Wright at San Francisco is the proper authority to whom your application should have been addressed. When I was at Fort Umpqua on the 14th of April last, Mr. E.P. Drew, who was formerly Indian agent, said that the detachment of troops there was of no use; that there was no danger of the Indians returning via that route down the coast. Those who had returned had been treated so sternly by Mr. Ticknor, at Port Orford, that there was little likelihood of a repetition of the movement. I quoted his language often afterward as recommending

the evacuation of Fort Umpqua.

You say, "The Indians are at present prevented from leaving the reservations in greater numbers by the presence of a small detachment of troops temporarily stationed there." This is very satisfactory, for the truth is the post was entirely evacuated two months since.

The scout <sup>of</sup> Captain Currey to the Grande Ronde Valley resulted in a very satisfactory manner. In self-defense Captain Currey was compelled on the 14th instant to fire on the Indians, and the Dreamer and three others were killed. The effect will be very salutary on all our Indian affairs in that vicinity. I inclose herewith a copy of my instructions (See page 83) on the 20th instant to Colonel Steinberger, commanding p 93

officer at Fort Walla Walla in reference to his aiding your department in keeping the Indians from settling outside the reservation. Similar instructions went to the officer commanding the detachment at the Umatilla Reservation.

I am sir etc.

Benj. Alvord.

Brigadier-General U.S. Volunteers, Commanding District.

P.S.—A gentleman from Fort Umpqua who left when the troops left there, said that Mr. E.P. Drew asserted that he would make a two-company post of that ere long.

P. 95. Headquarters, Dept. of the Pacific, S.F. Sept. 1, 1862  
Capt. George B. Currey, first Oregon Cavalry volunteers.

Through Brig. Gen. Alvord, commanding, District of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, Wash Ter.) Sir—The general commanding the department has perused with much interest your report of operations in Grande Ronde Valley (See Part 1, P. 164) and desires me to express his satisfaction at and approval of the handsome manner in which the duties assigned you were executed. R.C. Drum, Assistant Adjutant Gen.



[I, L, II]

Columbia Fortifications

Pt 11 p 89

Headquarters District of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, Wash<sup>er</sup>, August 27, 1862

Brig Gen J.W Ripley, Chief of Ordnance, Washington D.C.

General I desire respectfully to call to your attention to two requisitions forwarded to your office from Vancouver Depot dated the 13th of October, 1860, pursuant to instructions from Col (Now Brig. Gen George Wright) then commanding the Department of Oregon. The receipt of said instructions acknowledged by Capt W. Maynadier under date of 28th of November, 1860. I have to request compliance with said requisitions. Also inclose a requisition in addition to above asking for thirty rifled cannon of the heavies caliber with all the necessary ammunition etc. The fortification bill approved 20th February, 1862, provides for the commencement of (p 90 defenses at or near the mouth of the Columbia River. In a conversation with Lieut Col R.E. DeRussy of engineers, of San Francisco on this subject who recently visited the mouth of the Columbia he recommended the above number of rifled cannon of heaviest caliber should be asked for. From Cape Disappointment, and indeed from all the three points selected by the engineers for fortification, guns of the very longest ranges can be brought to bear upon vessels in their progress through the channels. For this reason as well as on account of the present improvements in iron-clad vessels of war, he recommended that such guns should be furnished. Batteries would no doubt be erected under the direction of the engineers for the present use of these guns which might possibly constitute finally a portion of the permanent fortifications

I request a shipment of the articles called for ... as no doubt be wanted in this region in case of foreign war. It is the remotest and most vulnerable portion of all our territories. It will require many months to get them but here around Cape Horn. The best season



2 a vessel to leave in autumn..

Vessel should be chartered to sail to Astoria, Oreg

The only change which I could suggest ~~is~~ in the requisition dated Oct 13, 1860 is that the rifled cannon should be substituted. The requisition now sent contemplates ordnance of still heavier caliber if you can forward them, but the whole fleet called for will be but a small fraction of the final armament of permanent fortifications for the mouth of the Columbia. In any event they might be needed for Puget Sound if the government should contemplate any preparations for its defense....

Benj. Alvord, brig general u.s. volunteers commanding district.

Lieut G.H. Elliot of engineers in Oregon making an examination with view to such defenses (Oct 1860)

p. 96

Alvord to Hon Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, from Fort Vancouver, Sept 1, 1862

Commends to attention the importance of having built for the Columbia "river an iron-clad vessel of the character of the Monitor. If it is true you are having one built for San Francisco I trust you will certainly have another constructed for this quarter.

It should draw not more than twelve or fourteen feet of water. Not a dollar has ever been expended for fortifications either permanent or temporary on this river. In the meantime one or two monitors (1c) here would be an urgent necessity on the breaking out of foreign war. One on Puget Sound as well as one in this river would be desirable. There is near us Esquimaux Harbor on Vancouver Island, a naval depot of the British Government where several war vessels are always located. There is no doubt the day will come when Esquimaux Harbor will be the favorite post of the British Navy. These considerations cannot be



overlooked in all the preparations we may make for a period of foreign war. This region is the most remote, the most exposed and therefore in some respects the most vulnerable of our whole seaboard. I need not call your attention to the increasing importance of Oregon and Washington Territory where the frequent discovery of new gold fields is leading to constant accessions to the population and to the commerce of the Columbia River. These discoveries will make the country more inviting to an enemy and doubtless impose additional motives for the Government to provide adequate defenses. I do not know if you need any further action of Congress to secure the object mentioned in this communication

War of the Rebellion, Series 1, Vol L, in 2 pts. pt. II, Wash. D.C. 1897  
Columbia Navigation. Boats.

Click Relander

p. 96... Headquarters, District of Oregon, Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter.  
Sept. 1, 1862.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Wash. D.C.

Sir: I desire to commend to your attention the importance of having built for the Columbia River an iron-clad vessel of the character of the Monitor. If it is true that your Department is having one built in San Francisco, I trust that you will certainly have another constructed for this quarter. It should not draw more than twelve or fourteen feet of water. Not a dollar has ever been expended for fortifications either permanent or temporary, on this river. They will be the work of time, and no doubt will not be neglected. In the meantime one or two monitors here would be an urgent necessity on the breaking out of foreign war. One on Puget Sound as well as one in this river, would be desirable. There is near us at Esquimaux Harbor, on Vancouver Island, a naval depot of the British Government, where several war vessels are always located. On account of the excellence of the harbor, admitting vessels of the larger draft, the climate very salubrious and inviting, being much assimilated to that of England, there is no doubt that the day will come when Esquimaux Harbor will be the favorite post of the Pacific Squadron of the British Navy. These considerations cannot be overlooked in all the preparations we may make for a period of foreign war. This region is the most remote, the most exposed and therefore in some respects the most vulnerable to the increasing importance of Oregon and Washington Territory, where the frequent discovery of new gold fields is leading to constant accessions to the population and to the Commerce of the Columbia river. These discoveries will make the country more inviting to the enemy and doubtless impose additional motives for the Government to provide adequate defenses. I do not know that you need any further action of Congress to secure the object mentioned in this communication. But if it is needed, I desire



respectfully to urge upon your Department the propriety of obtaining such action at the earliest opportunity.

I remain etc.

Benj. Alvord

Brigadier General, U.S. Volunteers, Commanding District.

Click Relander

War of the Rebellion, Series 1, Vol L, in 2 pts. pt. II, Wash. D.C. 1897  
(Nez Perces Reservation.)

p. 98. Office, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Olympia, Wash. Ter.  
Sept. 3, 1862.

General Alvord, Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter.

Sir: I am in receipt of information from Charles Hutchins, esq. Indian agent lately in charge of the Nez Perce Indians that the officer in command of the troops now stationed on the reservation has declined repeatedly to furnish the agent with the aid required by him to protect the Indians under his charge, according to treaty stipulations and to preserve the faith of the Government.

The present agent, J.W. Anderson, esq., has also written to me on the same subject, and informs me that he has had an interview with Major. Rinearson on the subject, who informs him as he had previously informed the former agent, that under the instructions which he had received from you, he did not consider himself authorized to interfere with any parties who might be either trespassing upon the agricultural or other grazing lands of the Indians or engaged in introducing intoxicating drinks at numerous points along the various streams, roads and by ways within the bounds of the reservation. I feel satisfied that your instructions in these respects must have been misunderstood and I have respectfully to ask that you will without delay issue such orders and give such instructions as will secure the speedy removal of every trespasser upon the agricultural and grazing lands of these Indians, and the enforcement of the intercourse act outside of Lewiston and the mining towns, these having been excepted from the strict provisions of the treaty by consent of the Indians themselves. Inclosed is a copy of amendment (Not found as an enclosure) to the intercourse act, passed at the late session of Congress, to which your attention is respectfully asked. I have also inclosed a copy of the notice which has been posted at various points on the reservation besides being



published in nearly all the papers of the Territory. The importance of energetic and speedy action in the premises I doubt not will be apparent to you in view of the proposal to make a new treaty with these Indians.

If the Government does not keep faith under the present treaty but permits them to be robbed and murdered with impunity, what inducement is there for them to trust in the future?

What evidence can we furnish of our intention to comply with our solemn engagements? I am so thoroughly convinced of the necessity and importance of immediate and energetic action that I have further to ask that you would consider the propriety of strengthening the command by the addition of another company. Without some positive and speedy action in the premises there is reason to fear the enactment of a similar tragedy to that which has just occurred in Minnesota. There are traitors to the Government in that region who are only waiting a fit opportunity to create insurrection and raise the rebel standard. If your views in regard to duty do not correspond with those which I have herein expressed, or if a sufficient force to carry out the intentions of the treaty and the law cannot be furnished, I have to ask of you the speedy removal of the troops now there from the bounds of the reservation, feeling assured that their continuance as at present will have a most demoralizing effect. I have forwarded copies of the correspondence of Agents Hutchins and Anderson to the Department at Washington, that it may be seen upon whose shoulders these continued and outrageous violations rest.

I remain sir, your obedient servant

C.H. Hale

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Washington Territory.

[I, L, II, p. 99]

political

Sept 4, 1862, Sacramento, received 8 p.m. 8th

His Excellency Abraham Lincoln

Our general election was held yesterday. The result is a triumphant and overwhelming victory in favor of the Union and the National Administration. Leland Stanford.



p. 99

(indorsement)

September 7, 1862

Mr. Hale called on me today and promises to write today to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, recalling all their complaints. He will say that he is perfectly satisfied with the instructions heretofore issued to Major Rinearson, commanding the troops at Camp Lapwai, near Lewiston, Wash. Ter.

Benj. Alvord.

Brigadier General Commanding District.

p. 103

Headquarters, District of Oregon  
Fort Vancouver, Wash. Ter. Sept. 7, 1862.

Maj. J.S. Rinearson.

Commanding Officer, Camp Lapwai, near Lewiston, Idaho Ter.

Sir: The object of this communication is again to enforce upon you the necessity of protecting the Indians from the aggressions of the whites. I am today informed by C.H. Hale, esq. superintendent of Indian affairs for Washington Territory, that the Nez Perce Indians have given their consent to the occupation of Lewiston and the other mining towns by the whites, but outside those towns it is especially desirable to enforce the provisions of the treaties and the United States laws intended for the protection of Indians in the Indian country. I desire you to afford to the Indian Department every assistance in your power for that purpose. In cases in which white men have squatted on the agricultural and grazing lands belonging to the reservation, contrary to the wishes of the Indians and the express prohibition of the p 104

agent they should be removed. I desire you not to hesitate to break up any grogshops established in places which are evidently an encroachment upon the Indians and intended for the



for the sale of liquor to the Indians. When the letter was sent to you from these headquarters on the 30th ultimo, in answer to your letter of the 10th ultimo. I was not aware that the grogshops spoken of were in places regarded as an encroachment on the Indians. I am satisfied that the military authorities, upon the request of the Indian agent, will be justified in removing or destroying any fences, houses, or improvements which constitute aggressions upon the Indians. You may also be asked to assist the civil authorities or the Indian Department in the arrest of men who have committed crimes and offenses against the Indians. You will, of course, be expected to exercise a sound discretion in such cases, as I do not wish the military exercise a sound discretion in such cases, as I do not wish the military power used for any purpose of oppression. In any offense against the Indian intercourse act the military forces may in all practicable cases be employed to assist the Indian Department. See Section 23 of act of 30th of June, 1834. They can be removed by your orders to Walla Walla where they can be committed for trial before civil authority. If a U.S. commissioner resides on the reservation who has authority to commit, your action should be, so far as possible, in obedience to his mandate, or of the marshal or acting marshal of the Territory. As stated in my instructions of the 18th of July, I have a personal interest in the Nez Perce Indians, whose friendship for the whites has for years been so conspicuous and I shall therefore be much gratified if you can give them efficient aid and protection. Pray omit no fair opportunity of showing your wishes and intentions toward them. In any event which may possibly occur rendering a reenforcement desirable, you must apply to Col. J. Steinberger, commanding officer at Walla Walla for such aid, who has been instructed to furnish it. If he should himself at any time repair to your camp you will exhibit to him this letter, and also my instructions of 18th of July to the Indian Agent if you choose to do so. I am etc. Benj. Alvord. Brig. Gen, U.S. Volunteers, Commanding District. (Please send me, from time to time. reports in detail of your proceedings)



[I, L, II, p. 101]

Indian Abuses.

From Drum to Col Francis J. Lippitt at Fort Humboldt, Sept. 4,  
1862

Supt. Hanson, Indian department represents that outrages are being  
committed by the whites on the Indians in the vicinity of Round Valley.  
Desires examination and take steps to prevent further offenses of the  
nature complained of.

[1, 2]

Nez Perces

Pt II, p 103

Headquarters, Fort Vancouver, Sept. 7, 1862

Major J.S. Rinearson, commanding officer Camp Lapwai near  
Lewiston, Idaho Ter.

Sir: The object of this communication is again to enforce upon you the necessity of protecting the Indians from the aggressions of the whites, I am today informed by C.H. Hale, esq superintendent of Indian affairs of Washington Territory that the Nez Perce Indians have given their consent to the occupation of Lewiston and the other mining towns by the whites but outside those towns it is especially desirable to enforce the provisions of the treaties and the United States laws intended for the protection of Indians in the Indian country. I desire you to afford to the Indian Department every assistance in your power for that purpose. In cases in which white men have squatted on the agricultural and ~~the~~ grazing lands belonging to the reservation, contrary to the wishes of the Indians and the express prohibition of the agent, they should be removed (104)

I desire you not to hesitate to break up any grogshops established in places which are evidently an encroachment upon the Indians and intended for sale of liquor to the Indians.

I am satisfied the military authorities, upon ~~which~~ the request of the Indian agent, will be justified in removing or destroying any fences, houses or improvements which constitute aggressions upon the Indians. You may also be asked to assist civil authorities in or the Indian department in the arrest of men who have committed crimes and offenses against the Indians.. they can be removed by your orders to Walla Walla where they can be committed for trial before civil authority ... Benj Alvord