

Head Quarters Dept. of the Pacific,
San Francisco, September 14, 1854.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that a Military Post is now being built at the Cañada de las Uvas, fifteen miles southwest of the Tejon Indian Reservation, which is to be called Fort Tejon, to indicate its location. I have assigned Bot. Lieut. Colonel B. L. Beall, Major, 1st Dragoons to the command, and Company A, 1st Dragoons is now there as a garrison. The recent reduction of the limits of the reserve prevented the post from being placed within its limits. Santa Barbara, Cal.^a is now the nearest Post Office.

Having, in June last, heard reports of Indian hostilities near Whidby's Island, W. I. I sent instructions to Lieut. Col. Bonneville at Fort Vancouver, to render any assistance in his power in that section. I have just received, in reply, a report from Lieut. Russell, commanding Fort Meilacoons, in which he states that the difficulties are for the present settled. The disturbance had its origin in the supposed murder of

"two or three white men by the Indians." "The Chief ones
"engaged in those outrages have been apprehended and
"are now in confinement in the guard-house at this
"post, awaiting trial by the civil authority of the
"Territory." "The most recent difficulty was occasioned
"by a descent of a party of Northern Indians residing
"in the Russian Territory, upon the settlements in Belling-
"ham Bay. This is the most Northern portion of Washington
"Territory being within a few miles of the 49th parallel.
"The settlers there are more liable to the incursions of the
"tribes beyond the jurisdiction of the U.S. who are able
"to make a descent in their canoes and retreat before
"any force can be brought against them. The only sure
"method of effectually checking these Indians, at
"the same time giving additional security to the settle-
"ments between this post and that point, would be
"in my opinion, to establish a Post of one company
"at Bellingham Bay, or in that vicinity."

Lieut. Col. Bonneville remarks, in addition to
this, that Acting Governor Mason thinks "the only
"effective" method to check the incursions of the Russian
"Indians is to have on Puget Sound a Steam Revenue
"Cutter", to pursue them in their canoes. I have not
now an available company for the new post
suggested by Lieut. Russell, but shall take this

measure into consideration by the time Lt. Colo.

Steptoe arrives with his battalion. He ought soon to be here.

In reply to a communication to Captain A. J. Smith, 1st Dragoons, Comd'g. Fort Lane, in which I called his attention to apprehended difficulties with the immigrants and the Indians near Goose Lake, he informs me that all necessary measures have been taken in that quarter, and he is on the alert to prevent disturbances. It seems a company of Volunteers has been mustered into service by authority of the Governor of Oregon, but Capt. Smith is of opinion that they were not needed, and that it was done upon the representations of speculators who expect to be benefited by furnishing supplies.

* Reports from Major G. J. Rains, 4th Infantry Commanding Fort Dalles, O. T. inform me that "on the 20th August, the Emigrants en route for the west "were attacked on Boise River, a branch of the Snake River, and 8 men killed and 4 women & 5 children "carried away captives with all their property.

"assistance was asked for by the Indian Agent (Mr. R. R. Thompson) and others, and I (Major Rains) "despatched 13th Major Fuller, Lt. Macfeely and aft. "Lieutenant Buckley with 26 soldiers to the scene of dif-

"ficulty." Major Haller left August 30, and "since,"
"a company of Volunteers having offered, 30 strong,"
"their services were accepted, and they were furnished
"with arms, horses, ammunition & rations, and left
"here (Fort Dalles) yesterday (Aug. 31)."

The scene of this outrage was 15 miles from
Fort Boise, and about 300 miles from Fort Dalles,
the nearest Military Post. The Win. Map Indians,
who were ~~those~~ concerned are said to number 600
warriors & are believed to be all hostile.]

Lieut. Col. Bonneville has sent company
L. 3^d Artillery from Fort Vancouver to the Dalles,
with 6000 rounds of cartridges. A Mr. John F.
Hoble, living on Malheur River, 20 miles west
of Fort Boise, who appears to have influence with
the Indians, has also gone out with a half-breed
Snake Indian, to endeavor to recover the captives
and their property.

Colonel Mansfield Inspector General
happened to be at Fort Dalles when the informa-
tion arrived there. He writes from Fort Vancouver,
the 4th instant, that "Major Raines has acted
"promptly and efficiently. He was able to mount
"all the Infantry and Volunteers, and Colonel
"Bonneville has sent the Artillery company from
"this post to Fort Dalles. No further steps need

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"Bonneville has sent the Artillery company from
"this post to Fort Waller. No further steps need

"now be taken as to movement of troops at this
"season of the year till further developments."

Enclose, herewith a copy of instructions
sent to Lieut. Colo. Bonneville to use all dili-
gence which the means at his disposal will
permit.

A part of the office furniture attached
to the Department Head Quarters, was sent up
to Bencia some two days ago. I am only waiting
for the return of the transport to move the
remainder. An accident which happened to the
vessel has detained her.

As will be seen by Special Orders, No. 86, I
have sent a Detachment from the Company at the
Resido to Fort Buford, to relieve the Detachment from
the Company at Bencia Barracks, this arrangement
appearing to be more in accordance with the views
of the Hon. Secretary of War.

I am Sir, Very Respectfully,
Yrs. &c. Genl.

John Wool

Major General

Lieut. Colo. L. Thomas

Asst. Asst. General

Head Quarters Army

New York