

Oregon Suptcy. Ind. Affairs Roll 14, Microcopy 2

1856 No. 157

Head Quarters Fort Vancouver W.T. April 15, 1856

Sir:

Your express (Mr. Ewing) has just arrived with a communication for Genl. Wool and one for the Indian Agt. at Fort Dalles.

On the afternoon of the 13th the General accompanied by Col. Wright left here for the Cascades and Fort Dalles. I do not know when he will return but think he will be back on the 17th or 18th. Lieut. Colonel Norman of the artillery will leave on the Bell today for Fort Dalles and will take up the two communications and have them delivered as soon as possible.

I am etc.

T. Morris,

Lt. Col 4th Infy. Commdy.

General Joel Palmer,

Supt. Ind. Affairs, Dayton O.T.

1856 No. 160

Benecia Head Quarters Dept. of the Pacific

Fort Vancouver, 19th April 1856

Sir:

On my return to this post from the Dalles in the evening of the 17th I received your communication of the 13th instant. Expecting every hour ~~your~~ your expressman I have delayed a reply. He has not yet made his appearance.

I have ordered Lieut. Sheridan with a small detachment of Dragoons to join the detachment ordered for the protection of the Indians on the Coast Reservation. As soon as you will send an agent for forty stand of arms they will be sent you with a due proportion of ammunition. This is all I can do for you at the present moment. As soon, however as the war is brought to a close in Southern Oregon I will be able to send you a company and if necessary two to protect both the ~~xxx~~ inhabitants and Indians from attacks of either Indians or white men.

The news from Puget Sound is highly satisfactory. From the information received from Colonel Casey I think peace and quiet will soon be restored to the inhabitants of that region. It would seem that the hostiles have passed from Puget Sound to the Yakima country.

Herewith you will receive a requisition for forty stand of arms and receipt you will please to sign and send with the agent you may send to receive the arms and ammunition.

I shall probably leave on the Steamer Columbia on her downward trip about the 27th instant previous to which I would be much pleased to see you in order to confer with you on several subjects.

I am etc.

John E. Wool, major general

To General Joel Palmer, Supt. Indian Affairs O.T. Dayton, O.T.



[Roll 14 micro 2?]

Dalle, April 17th, 1856

Oregon Suptcy. Ind. Affairs

Dear Sir: Your note of the 6th inst requesting receipt for goods was received this evening and will be attended to without delay. Will you send me the amount and date of the receipt I gave you for the first flour received last fall.

Cornelouses command are yet on the north side of the river opposite this place. On last night they lost 25 head of horses.

The opinion here is that as soon as the volunteers are withdrawn from the field, this place will be attacked by the Indians (clonas)

Everything comparatively quiet with the friendly bands in this vicinity through the press and otherwise I remain informed of the difficulties you are compelled to meet. ~~Odadadob~~ If I can be of service to you in any way please inform me, for I assure you it will give me pleasure if I can in the remotest degree assist you.

Respectfully etc.

R.R. Thompson

Joel Palmer esq.

Dayton O.T.

In haste.

Suptcy. Indian Affairs, Ore. Ty. Roll 14, microcopy 2

Vancouver, 27th April 1856

(un-numbered)

My dear friend:

I have the most favorable news from southern Oregon.

Much has been done by the troops since I came here. Now is the time.

Can you not come down with me to meet Col. Buchanan at Fort Orford. Go with me if it is possible. Do not fail and I think we will put an end to the war in Southern Oregon.

Most truly Yours

John E. Wool

Major Genl.

To Joel Palmer,

Superintendency Indian Affairs in Oregon.



1856-No. 193

Dalles, May 1st, 1856

Sir:

The friendly bands of Indians within this district are all quiet. The local agents are all performing their duties faithfully and I believe that the Indians are unshaken in their fidelity toward us, notwithstanding the many results and wrongs they suffer from our people.

I am making my arrangements to have but one fishing station for them and that to be on the Columbia extending from the falls below the mouth of DeShutts river, to the Dalles. I have assisted the band at Olney's place to bring from the Tyeh a quantity of potatoes which they had at that place and am having some ground fenced and plowed at Mr. Olney's for them to cultivate. You are fully acquainted with all the circumstances in relation to this band and it therefore deemed unnecessary (sic) to go into details to give reasons for this expenditure of funds.

I have received a communication dictated by How-lish -wum-poo ~~to~~ & Tin-tin-met-sa in which they inform me that they want to the Nez Perce country at my request and will remain until I may so prefer (?) to order them away, also that there are two parties among the Indians that section of country, one claiming Gov. Stevens the other Genl. Palmer as their chiefs. They state that they are extremely desirous that their people should make peace, but fear it will be difficult for them so to do as their head chief with a small party are now on the Spokan country with Gary. Others of their people are at Colvill, some have joined Owhi and are with the hostile party. That the Palouses claim that they have not fought and will not fight. The DeShutts with Willuptalike and his Brothers are with Kamiakin in the Yackimah as are the Utilias and Walla-wallas.

Two or three days ago the hostile party made a descent on the Volunteer camp opposite this place and drove off four hundred head of horses, the next evening they showed themselves in the vicinity of their camp and again on the following morning to the number of thirty or more coming close to their camp. Today several companies left for the Willamette to be followed by the remainder with the exception of one company which is to be left in the Walla Walla country, and one somewhere in this vicinity.

Col. Wright with five companies of regulars have taken the field and are marching for the Yackamah.

Great alarm is felt for the safety of this town and the settlements adjacent many are of opinion that so soon as the Indians find the regulars in the Yackimah and the volunteers withdrawn that they will make an attack and burn the town which could easily be done and the Indians make a safe retreat before the regulars could get to the village. Off (sic) this you may rest assured that should the hostile party make a successful attack on this village, the next place you will hear of them will be on the west side of the mountains.

Respectfully etc.

R. R. Thompson, Indian Agent

Joel Palmer esq.  
Supt. Ind. Affairs,  
Dayton, Oregon.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Microcopy 2, Roll 14

1856-230

Dalles May 22, 1856

Gen. Palmer, Dear Sir:

The boat leaves in a few minutes and I improve it in writing you. The French settlers of "alla Walla are now at this place. Father Chirouse says the friendly Cayuses are not ~~xxx~~ well satisfied with their residence among the Nez Perces ~~xxxx~~ that they are treated as intruders and with coldness. Heymo and others affirm the same thing.

I have moved the band of Inds. which I have charge off to the fishery. All quiet with them. They greatly need fishnetts and twine to make them of. I have purchased a small quantity enough to make a few netts for them. I understood nets are to be furnished them, but have not come up. (sic) Is there not a great chance of these nets not being suited for thier (sic) fishery? would not twine and let them make their own nets be cheaper and better. Holland twine to be had of the HB Co. is a good article for netts (sic) An express arrived from Col. "right last night. The command are encamped in the Naches-- whites on one side, inds. on the other--have been there for 10 days--had several talks with the Inds. that is the petty chiefs and cultus tillicums, but not Kamiakin. Many of the Inds. would prefer peace.

Stockwhitley is tired of the war has been in the Col's Camp. Wright tells him if he want peace to go off somewhere (I forgot where) and keep quiet and wait until he gets time to talk to him. Spokane Gary has sent in a messenger. Says he has sent a messenger to Kamiakin warning him if he does not make peace where an opportunity ~~xxx~~ occurs he will pitch into him with all his ~~people~~ people. He says this war annoys ~~would be a good thing~~ the Spokans, that they are wanting many things but cannot go down after them on account of this war and he wont stand it. McKay gives me this information.

Maj. Haller will leave in a few days with four companies to join Wright.

One Ind. (Wasco tribe) was killed by sentinel on duty at the garrison.

Some say the soldier was to blame. The matter will be investigated I presume.  
P. Humason etc.



Dalles June 3, 1856

Dear Sir:

I have but a moment to write you before the boat leaves. An express from Col. Wright's camp arrived last night, reports the positions of the hostile camps as being in status quo. The col. is building a block house on the south side of the Nachess River while the opposite bank is occupied by the hostile Indians. The river is impassable for our troops. They are building a tressel bridge and when completed will be able to throw it across the stream in a few hours. Kamiakin is said to have come to the Nez Perce to consult with old Looking Glass. He claims that it was Looking Glass that first raised the cry for war and that now if he says peace, there will be peace, if war there must be war. This is Indian news in Col. Wright's camp.

There are four Nez ~~xx~~ Perces here who report the Spokans unfriendly to them and also to the whites. I have information which satisfies me that it is false. Many Snake Indians are seen in the Cayuse country. The Cayuse who are in the Nez Perce country are dissatisfied and are badly treated by the Nez Perce.

I am getting along with the friendly bands here very well. Respectfully

F.F. Thompson, etc.

to Joel Palmer, Esq.

Supt. Etc.



Oregon Supety. Ind. Affairs, Roll 14, microcopy 2

~~Nax~~ 1858 No. 235

Agency Office, Dalles, O.T.

June 13th, 1855

Sir:

Enclosed you will find a communication from Col. Wright in relation to Klickitat Indians. On receipt of which I immediately addressed a note to Capt. Gordon (or Goowdin) who is in command of the fort at this place informing him that however desirous I might be to comply with the wishes of Col. Wright, yet knowing his circumstances and reasons which induced you to send the Klickitats from the Willamette to their own country on the north side of the Columbia River, I was compelled to decline receiving them until I could correspond with you and ascertain your views in relation to them.

From the tenor of the Col's letter I conclude that he has lent a willing ear to ~~xxxxxxx~~ the representations of these Indians and has suffered himself to be imposed upon by them. In charge of the military here, I am fearful they will be permitted such liberties as will compromise the friendly bands under my charge. The person in command has intimated that he will permit them to go to the fisheries, to this I have protested and shall insist upon it.

The news from Col. Wright's camp is that he has ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ completed his block house and built a bridge across the Nachess river. The Indians still continue to come into his camp and talk peace--It is reported that they are fast deserting the cause of Kamiakin which I think is correct as it corresponds with information I get from Indians. But the desertion is only to get food--those Indians are not humbled and a peace made with them now without a fight will cost us more than to continue the war a year.

Messrs Humason, Jenkins and Hale, local agents are active in the ~~discharge~~ discharge of their duties. The Indians under their charge are all quiet and apparently well contented.

Respectfully, etc. R.R. Thompson  
Joel Palmer, Esq., Supt. Ind. Affairs.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, Vol 14, Microcopy 2

1856 Enclosure to No. 235

Head Quarters Northern District

Department of the Pacific

Sir: Camp on the Na-Chess River, W.T. June 8th, 1856

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

It appears that these Indians, previous to the treaty, were living in Oregon, and at the request of Kamiakin (who claimed them as his own people) General Palmer sent them all back to this country. They have been treated very badly by Kamiakin and his people and on my own advance into the country they determined if possible to come in--many of them have succeeded in crossing from the power Kamiakin. 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 to morrow. 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 both yourself and General Palmer will concur in this view; We can do nothing else with them. It is highly important to weaken the power of Kamiakin by affording protection for all who desire to abandon his cause.

I would also ~~xxxxxxx~~ request that General Palmer would consider the propriety of removing all the Indians at Fort Vancouver as well as those on the island at the lower Cascades to the reservation in Oregon. These Indians now with me acknowledge Timitas as their chief. He is in confinement at Fort Vancouver more for his own safety than any thing else. There are some other Indians also in confinement at that post, all of whom should be sent off. Please refer this letter to Genl. Palmer if you cannot act in the matter yourself. Very Respectfully etc, G. Wright, Col. 9th Infy. Comdy. to Mr. R.R. Thompson, U.S. Indian Agent, Fort Dalles, O.T.



1856 Unregistered

Dalles, June 21st, 1856

Sir:

I have the pleasure to report to you the continued good conduct of the friendly bands of Indians within this district. They are not only friendly toward the whites but zealous in rendering service to our cause. A short time since a party of eighteen were dispatched to the east side of DeShutts river for the double purpose of watching the movements of a party of white men and also to discover the whereabouts of the enemy's camp which was supposed to be in that vicinity. They discovered the trail of the white men and followed for five days when they came upon them engaged with the enemy in a brisk skirmish. the whites, (ten in number) had taken a position on a high plateau of land containing about forty acres which was surrounded by a perpendicular ledge of rocks, having but two or three passes by which it could be approached on horseback. The Indians to the number of two hundred had collected and were about to make the attack on foot, when the timely arrival of the friendly Indians brought about a parley and the whites were released from their perilous situation/

The Indians comprising this party are first the "iach band, a portion of which are now on their way to this post, their principal man is "he Ko Mah. Second, Yice, "ish-och-nip-its and "litpoimer, The last named was the leader of the party who killed Capt. Hembree and the same who succeeded in taking the volunteers horses opposite this place. There are also thirty five Snake warriors with them.

Yice dictated a letter the substance of which is that at the breaking out of hostilities they were not thinking of war, that he desired to live with the whites, but the Cayuses took him away by force. At "alla Walla he went out to see the fight and was shot in the heel also through the leg and one shot struck the back of his saddle, that he does not feel very well about it. That while they were in the Cayuse country they were made slaves of, and after going to the Yackimah he was afraid to come to the Dalles for fear the



the whites would kill him.

These Indians are determined to fight and have sent to the Snakes for reinforcements. They are gaining accessions to their numbers daily. The Indians who have been talking peace to Col. Wright have all left and the Col. thinks it very strange as they seemed very desirous of peace. He has advanced into the Yackimah Valley.

Gov. Stevens will have his train ~~for~~ start for the Nez Perces country in a few days.

A few days ago Capt. Goff, W.T. vol. made a scout on the north side of the River and succeeded in capturing four Indians one of whom was subsequently hung.

I have refused to receive or act in any wise toward Indians who have been ~~engaged~~ engaged in hostilities until they have been disposed of by the military and declared to be friendly. Then I will receive them provided they originally belonged to this district. In regard to this class of Indians who may be turned over by the military I would suggest the propriety of your giving some instructions as to their treatment and the most proper disposition to be made of them. There should certainly be a distinction between them and the Indians who have remained faithful.

You will do me a favor by having some person take my place on the first of July as that is the time my resignation is to take effect. Should circumstances prevent you from complying at that particular time I will act until you can and hope it will be at the earliest possible day.

Respectfully etc.

R.R. Thompson, Indian Agent.

Joel Palmer, esq.

Supt. etc. Dayton, O.T.



Oregon Suptcy. Ind. Affairs Roll 14, Microcopy 2

1856 Document [A] of No. 317 (The clerk who made the entry in the register overlooked the fact that a letter of Oct. 8 was filed with the following letter)

Agency Office

Dalles, Sept. 24th, 1856

Sir:

Your communications relative to the conditions of the Indians under my charge, is before me, and in answer thereto I would inform you that during the present hostilities there were within this district about two thousand Indians who remained friendly toward the whites. About one thousand of those who properly belong to this district joined the war party the greater part of whom have already returned and the remainder may reasonably be expected within the next three months. Those who come in from the war party are very destitute and the season for catching salmon is so far advanced, that they will not be able to cure half sufficient for their winter supply.

The condition of the friendly Indians is somewhat better yet owing to the war they were deprived of many of their ordinary resources and consequently have not as full a supply as they otherwise would have had. Their general health has been moderately good, with the exception of the past three months dysentery prevailed to a considerable extent and some have died. A physician has been furnished them during the greater portion of the summer which has had a very good effect as it demonstrated to them the oft repeated fact that we were their friends and desired to do them good.

In accordance with power delegated by the late Supt. Genl. Palmer I appointed three local agents whose services have contributed much in maintaining order and quiet within the district. Recently I have dispensed (sic) with the services of one, the two remaining in service are O. Hummason, who is on duty at this place and Wm. Jenkins, who is acting at Dog River.

I am much flattered with the order and good conduct of the Indians under my charge, which has become a matter of public notoriety.

By order of the then Supt. in March last I made a reconnoissance of the "arm

Springs reservation with a view to select a proper location for the improvements stipulated in the Wasco Treaty. A stream known as the Whit-tike was selected as a proper place and preparation made to remove the Indians there when the attack was made on the Cascades and our plans for a time frustrated. Col. Wright thinks he will be able to furnish a force of one or two companies to go there in February.

Respectfully

etc. R.R. Thompson,

A.F. Hedges, esq.

Supt. I.A. O.T. Oregon City.



1856 Document [B] of No. 317

Agency Office, Dalles Oct. 8th, 1856

Sir:

In addition to the information given in my letter of the 24th ultimo I would inform you of the arrival of Sym-tes-tus, head chief of the Tiach band of ~~the~~ DeShutts, his followers who came with him will number about eighty souls. Stoke-ote-ly, chief of the Lower Band of DeShutts is on his way to this place, being tired of the war. Wen-nem-snoot, chief of the Umatillas is also reported coming in.

All those Indians who have been hostile and are now surrendering themselves are in a very destitute condition, being ~~nearly~~ nearly naked and without provisions of any description and will have to be fed during the winter on their necessities will drive them to commit acts of depredation on the property of the whites. My course of policy with them would be as follows: to feed them as little as possible and thusly compell them to part with the horses they now possess this would secure their good conduct beyond all done as they would thusly be entirely dependent on the whites. This object will be accomplished in six or eight weeks from this time.

In event of the absolute necessity for issuing a large amount of subsistence during the coming winter as also the difficulties and risks attending the transportation of freight during the winter around the Cascades I would suggest the propriety of shipping at as early a day as possible all such articles as must come from the Willamette And in this connection I would remark that in my opinion the best way to supply the Indians of this district with flour is to purchase it in the market in the Willamette and ship to the agent at this place. Beef will be required but not much at present. The price of beef on foot at this place has ranged from ten to fourteen cents per pound. Estimate for the present quarter. Salary of agent \$375; interpreter \$125; two local agents \$500; incidental expenses \$500; salary of physician ~~\$500~~ \$250; clothing for

Indians \$4,000, carried forward \$575; brought forward \$575; beef during the month of Dec., \$1,000 , \$6,750.

Estimates for the first quarter \$1857; salary of agent \$375; two local agents \$500; interpreter \$125; physician \$250; incidental expenses \$500; clothing for Indians \$1,000; beef \$5,000 , \$7,750 , total for half year \$14,500,00

The above estimates do not include anything for flour or the transportation thereof but is made upon the presumption that the flour and transportation will be paid by the superintendent.

It is very difficult to make an estimate with any degree of accuracy as it is ~~max~~ uncertain how many Indians may come in during the winter. I am satisfied the above is not too large.

Very Respectfully etc.

R.R. Thompson, Indian Agent

A.F. Hedges, esq. Supt. Ind. Affairs, Oregon.



1856 No. 367

Agent's Office, Walla, Dec 8, 1856

Sir: I would report to you the fact that a large number of the Indians under my charge residing in this vicinity are in a very destitute condition, having neither food nor the means with which to buy.

Many of them have sold or exchanged their horses for provisions, horses are daily offered at very low prices but purchases are becoming exceedingly scarce. Quite a number of horses have already been killed for food. And unless these people are relieved before long their necessities will drive them to acts of depredations which will result in our people declaring war upon them.

For seeing this state of things I brought the fact to your notice when you were here, and urged upon you the importance and propriety of at once forwarding to this agency at least 25 tons of flour, which you promised to forward immediately on your return to the superintendency. At the time of your visit you requested me to furnish you estimates for the present and succeeding year and you would promptly remit the necessary funds to meet the expenses of this agency. The estimates were made and forwarded to your office, but I am sorry to say that I have received no flour or funds not even an acknowledgement of the receipt of my communication.

The weather at present is very severe for this season of year, the snow at this place is now about six inches deep and still snowing from the indications it is probable the river will close in a few weeks.

Should I receive no assistance from your office I will purchase such supplies as I may be able to get at this place on the credit of the Department.

I have had ~~xxx~~ an interview with Col. Wright in reference to obtaining a command to go to the Warm Spring reservation in the spring. The Col. informs me that he communicated the wish of this Dept.

]Communication ends here. Endorsement follows on

next page]



## Scanning Report

Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Letters Received,  
January 4, December 31, 1857 Roll No. 15, Microcopy 2.

[Includes material not in typescript]

1857, Document A of No. 1-Estimate for funds required for maintaining  
peace.

1857, No. 4-Abstract of Indians engaged in Indian War in Oregon, Miller,  
Grand Rond agency. Indians listed by name, men and women and children of  
each band, name of leader only, Shasta, Umpquas, 1 p.

1857-Letters 6 to 31 of little consequence, Umpqua, Grand Rond etc.

1857, No. 35-Monthly report of Grand Ronde Hospital, Jan, 1857 w/remarks.  
This hospital report carried throughout microfilm at periodic intervals.

1857 No. 36-Schedule of goods required for use of the Indians of  
Ore.Suptcy.

1857 No. 123-Request that ~~Sam's~~ Sam's Band be removed to the Siletz.

1857 No. 144-Appointment of J. Moss Browne.

1857, No. 148-Siletz funds estimated.

1857 No. 165-Record of Shore line "on the Waters of Washington  
Territory," June 19, 1857.

1857 No. 183-Withdrawal of land for Indian reservation on order of the  
President, townships 5 and 6, S.R. 8 west and parts of tps. 5 and 6 S of R,  
7 West.

1857 No. 189-Klamaths not on reservation, kept to selves in mts.  
during war, now bothering settlement of Winchester, Ore.

1857 No. 190-198 inc. Letters, Sheridan and others re- removal  
of Ind. to Coast Agency.

Feb 20 1857 No. 250-Grand Ronde hospital reports, Coquille affairs,  
beef accts. miscellaneity of little consequence.

1857 No. 253-Letters and enclosures relating to traders and liquor in  
Colville country.

1857 No. 272- Statement of persons (employees) North East district  
of Oregon.



1857 No. 283-Medical report of broncho pneumonia epidemic at the Dalles.

1857 No. 289- Letter from Jacksonville, tells of miners exploring mountains back from Goose and Klamath lakes and finding there bands of Modocs and Selacks, the latter of 700 warriors. Friendly but have signed no treaties and do not wish whites in their extensive country.

1857- 290 to end of roll...estimates, letters of transmittal, medical reports, first letter showing "Seattle" on letter date so far observed.