

~~Ahtanum~~ York- Lynch
Seed wheat

762

Yakima (Pt. Simcoe) March 27th, 1881

Mr. Lynch

Ahtanum: Sir:

Mr. York of Yakima C. ty informs me that you have seed wheat which you proposed to sell at the rate of \$1.00 per bushel delivered at your place.

I am in need of 50 bushels and will take that amount at \$1.00 per bushel. I am not in funds just now, but will personally guarantee that payment shall be made within six weeks.

Very Respectfully

James H. Wilbur

U.S. Indian Agent.

Please let me know by the bearer if you can let me have the wheat on the terms named above and I will send over for the wheat.

James H. Wilbur

U.S. Indian Agent

Powell..Cattle

Yakima Indian (copy)

Fort Simcoe March 30, 1881

Hon David Powell, Dear Sir:

I arrived here on Saturday last. Find the weather very fine, grass quite good. Hay at the ranch both on the hills doing well. ~~Tantantant~~ Those that have lived will all get through alright now. When you chose to come up and look for your live cattle the way is open. I think it would be better for you to delay about two weeks as the Department Cattle could at that time be gathered and counted and you could work in with us in the gathering.

The grass of the agency has never looked better. Hope the gathering ~~will show~~ and counting will show the loss that has been reported (copy) written in margin.

Yours Very truly

James H. Walbur Etc.

Purchases 786

April 19, 1881

Flour Saunders Yakima City

Mr. Saunders,

Grist Mill, Yakima City

Sir:

Please send me 25 bbls flour at \$5.50 per bbl in addition to that purchased by me yesterday.

Very Truly yours

James H. Walbur

U.S. Indiana agent.

Yakima Indian (copy)

Fort Simcoe W.T. May 31st, 1881

Dr W. Rinehart, esq. Farmer at Malheur Agency, Oregon

Sir:

On the 12th instant I wrote A.R. Smith special agent that in about ten days I thought I could start our teams for the goods and supplies at Malheur agency. My plans was to start about 30 four horse teams and go in company with them--attend to the loading and then return with them. Yesterday all the teamsters were here and when I told them I had rec'd a letter from the commissioner, there was no money to pay transportation on said goods and the Indians could be paid out of said supplies, the Indians without an exception said they would not go for goods. If they could have the money they would start p 827

at once. Having no money here to pay transportation . . . and incidental expenses by the way I am compelled to defer until a telegram can be sent and an answer obtained from the commissioner. If ~~some~~ funds for the transportation and other needed expenses for the work are placed at my disposal, there will not be a day's delay in starting teams.

I am etc.

828

Yakima, May 20, Agent. Western Union Telegraph Co. The Dalles, Ore.
Sir: Please send the enclosed dispatch to the commissioner of Indian affairs, Washington, payment to be made at that office.

(Wilbur)

Official-collect. Commissioner of Indian Affairs Washington.

Cannot transport supplies from the Malheur without funds. Distance three hundred miles. Tolls and ferriages must be cash. Have not near enough Department teams and Indian teams will not go without half money. Will start at once on receipt of telegram that funds will be furnished.

Wilbur--Agent.

Hon H. Price

Yakima May 28, 1881

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Sir: Approval is respectfully asked of the purchase of eleven hundred and fifty ~~dollars~~ (1150) bushels of charcoal at 15 cents per bushel making \$172.50 of which \$72.84 was paid in supplies, leaving \$100 1090.16 paid in cash from miscellaneous funds class 2 in my hands not otherwise required.

Very respectfully etc

(Wilbur)

Antanum

853

wheat. Bland
Grist Mill .

Yakima June 6, 1881

Mr. Bland, Antanum, sir:

Rev. Mr. Roe, the presiding elder of this district informs us that you have some wheat to sell. If you will deliver 50 bushels at the Reservation Grist Mill on Simcoe Creek at \$1.00 per bushel we will take it provided it is delivered immediately. We are about out of flour and must have it by Saturday at the latest.

If 40 or 50 bushels could be delivered this week the rest might remain till next week. The purchase has been authorized by the Department and requisition for funds for the payment made, but the money has not come yet, though expected every day. As soon as the funds arrive we shall be prepared to pay for the wheat. Please let us know if you can supply us on these terms, by Mr. Hadley. We must have at p 854

least 40 or 50 bushels delivered this week in time to have it ground so that we can get the flour Saturday by noon.

Very respectfully etc.

James H. Wilbur etc.

by Fairchild

Clerk and ~~agent~~ act. agent.

Yakima June 11, 1881

Hon H. Price, commissioner of Indian Affairs, Wash. D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose receipt for circular no. 67 relative to the suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquors. I regret to say that there is more drunkenness among these Indians than ever before, and desire to use every effort for its suppression and the punishment of offenders. It is difficult to secure evidence sufficient to convict of this offense, unless it is made the sole and particular business of some one of more than average intelligence and energy. I have recently organized a portion of the police force under an Indian in whom I have much ~~for~~ confidence, with special reference to suppression of this great evil, and if possible securing sufficient evidence to convict some of those engaged in the traffic.

p 861

(Fairchild for Wilbur.)

Office Yakima Indian "agency"

Pt. Sincce, W.T. January 31st, 1879

Hon E.A. Mayt, commissioner:

Sir: I have the honor to submit my report of this agency for the month of January, 1879.

The work of the agency has greatly increased this month. The keeping of Moses and the Mohalla people numbering over 250 and the Indians from Rock Creek on the Columbia, about as many more require constant attention, personal attention of the agent to look after and supply their wants.

These have been moved to the agency with a very trifling expense and I hope with wise management they may be settled on farms and cultivate the soil--my prime object is to educate them to work. If this is done the foundation is laid for them to be self supporting.

p. 107

The carpenter, tld Mr. Miller is doing a good work instructing the ~~Orinda~~ Indians in his department.

The schools are doing bet er this winter than last season.

H.S. Powell (?) the supt. is doing good service both in and out of school hours. The boys of the schools are very industrious and systematic in their work.

Miss Lewis, who is in charge of the primary class is apt to teach, patient and persevering in her efforts and the children have made marked improvement the past month.

Mrs. Miller who is in charge of the boarding house and who with the help of the girls is making the clothes for the children of the school is constant in her efforts to instruct the girls when out of school in those things that will make them efficient when they leave the school. This important department is well managed and the children ~~have~~ happy and healthy

The blacksmithing is done by Abe Lincoln and helpers, all

all native Indians and this department is worked satisfactorily.

Dan Boone, who has been educated here as a harness maker having an apprentice, mending and making harness and doing excellent work.

Smith is a practical saddler. Makes his saddles and covers them with raw hide and then with leather, he purchases, finishes them up equal to any saddler in the country.

The Indians now in our employe doing work outside of the shops are engaged in taking care of Department stock and getting work of butchering, all this outside work is done by the Indians under my personal supervision.

During the month there has been but little work for the Indian police. Every thing in connection with the Indians of the agency is moving along as quietly and prosperously as in the past. The health of the Indians I think has never been better than during the present month. Our medical supplies said to be purchased and sent have not arrived and not heard from.

Rumors says the Snake and Piute Indians are in route for this agency. I think there must be some mistake about it as not a word has been rec'd at this office of such a design from the government.

I am etc.

P. 110

Office Yakima Ind. Agency

Ft. Simcoe, W.T. Feb. 3d 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner: Sir.

543 Snake and Piute Indians arrived yesterday without official notice of their coming in a destitute condition, nearly naked.

Something must be done immediately to ~~thru~~ feed and clothe them.

Answer by telegram.

James H. Walbur, U.S. Ind. Agent.

P. 111

Office Yakima Indian Agency, Ft. Simcoe, W.T. Feb. 6, 1878

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner:

Sir:

I have the honor to report the arrival of Captain W.W. Winters 1st cavalry with the Snake prisoners and the Piutes, five hundred and forty three. Seeing ~~to~~ they were on the road to this agency and having no instructions from the department that it was the design to remove them here, I took my head chief, interpreter and one police man and went out 60 miles to meet them and then for the first time learning from the captain's papers the orders and destination of said Indians they arrived 30 miles below the station on the evening of the 2d. The captain desired to turn them over to me at once, but being wholly unprepared to receive and take care of them I agreed to receive them on the 10th at his camp. I immediately returned home, selecting a place for their temporary location, engaged eight Indians men with their teams to go the next day to the ~~see~~ steam saw mill and get lumber to build a shelter. The lumber was drawn on the 4th and on the 5th I put men to work building their houses and they completed a house in one day of 150 feet long and 17 feet wide which will give them comfortable quarters during the winter. It affords me pleasure to say the Indians of the

agency did not revolt but took hold with a will to help locate and make them comfortable, hauling the lumber and wood without charge. On the 8th I go down to the camp on Topnish where the 2 companies of soldiers are with 18 or 20 Indian teams and waggons to receive the Indians and move them within six miles of the station where I can exercise a personal supervision over them and if possible open a school. I gave you a telegram sent two days ago some account of their destitute and immediate wants which I doubt not you will take immediate measure to relieve.

p 113

Sarah Winnemucca came in with the soldiers as their interpreter receiving a salary of five hundred dollars per annum. I must keep her for a time at least as interpreter and if I can open a school may use her as a teacher and interpreter. I must feel my way along among the Snakes until I get to know them.

The teamsters and Indian teams that I employ in moving said Indians I shall have to pay about five dollars per team.

As soon as I get them settled my possible plan is to put as many to work as possible, that they may have the double advantage of experience in work and pay for the same.

I am etc.

114

Office, Yakima Indian agency

Pt. Simcoe, W.T. Feb. 20th 1879

Gen. O.O. Howard, Commander of the Department of the Columbia.

Sir:

I have the honor to request the two companies of cavalry now in camp on the Topnish upon the Yakima agency, W.T. may be ordered to remain on, or about the reservation until the Snakes and Piutes become permanently settled on the reservation and until Chief Moses and his people are settled on some agency.

I deem the presence of the soldiers at this particular time

important as keeping peace between the whites and the Indians.

I am sir, etc.

P. 118

Office Yakima Indian Agency

Ft. Simcoe, W.T. Feb. 24th 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner:

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that with the addition of the Snake, Piute and Spokhalla Indians that have recently been moved to this agency it became necessary for me to make a purchase of flour. I purchased three tons of sugarwith the privilege of three tons more at Six 50 dollars per bbl. also fifty bbls of P.T. Gervis at the same place. The purchase was made in open market at the cash price and since the purchase was made, flour has advanced one dollar per bbl. I respectfully...

p 120

Office Yakima Indian Agency, Ft. Simcoe W.T. Feb 26, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that we are getting out of supplies for our schools, shops, mills and hospital. I am pleased to say we have funds on hand to make purchases to the amount of fifteen hundred dollars. I ask permission to purchase such things as we are under the necessity of having immediately, in open market,

I am sir, etc.

Office Yakima Indian Agency.

Ft. Simcoe, W.T. March 5, 1879

Gen. O.O. Howard,

Brigadier Gen. Comdg. Dept.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your official letter of Feb. 26th relating to the dreamer leader Oites and the Indian prisoners claiming that a mistake had been made in selecting the selection of the bad Indians. I have no information in regard to the bad, and but little in reference to the good in the past. I have consulted Capt. Winters and he informs me that he sees no reason to change his mind from what he explained to you when at the Dalles when the prisoners were turned over to you.

I am sir, etc.

132

Office Yakima Indian Agency

Ft. Simcoe, W.T. March 7th 1879

Capt. John Smith, U.S. Indian Agent.

Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter with 1000 one you recd from Gen. O.O. Howard. Gen request that Hey-ha-ny and Walsack may be permitted to return to the Warm Springs Agency. I have no objections and you may take your own course in getting them there.

I am sir,

Yours truly

James H. Wilbur, U.S. Ind. Agent.

Office Yakima Ind. Agency

Ft. Simcoe, Wash Ter. March 7, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner

I have the honor to ask the approval of Rufus Butler, temporarily employed in wagon shop at \$600 per annum from Jan. 1, 1879 also Thomas McKay temporarily employed in butchering and issuing to Piutes and Snakes, recently brought onto the reservation, salary \$600 from Feb. 10, 1879.

I am your obdt. servant

James H. Wilbur,

U.S. Ind. Agent.

Office Yakima Indian Agency,

Ft. Simcoe, W.T. March 7, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner

Sir:

I have the honor to request permission to purchase from one to two hundred bushels of potatoes for Ind. The addition of Indians added to this agency makes our seed short for planting. The potatoes would cost about one dollar per bushel and if purchased in season for planting the purchase must be made in open market, I am etc.

Office Yakima Indian Agency, Ft. Simcoe, W.T. March 8, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner:

Sir: I have the honor to call your attention to a letter I wrote Feb. 6th in which I stated that Sarah Winnemucca came in with the soldiers who brought the Snakes and Piute prisoners as interpreter receiving a salary of five hundred dollars per annum and that I must keep her for a time until I became acquainted with the Snakes. I request she may be appointed interpreter at a salary of five hundred dollars per annum, services beginning Feb. 10th 1879. Please do me the favor of answering immediately.

Office Yakima Indian Agency

Fort Simcoe, W.T. March 15, 1879

Gen. O.O. Howard

Commandant of the Department of the Columbia

Sir:

I send out by Captain Winters one of the Smohala Indians to be taken to Vancouver--He has been all the winter sewing seeds of discord among the Indians urging them not to remain on the reservation. I want him kept while Moses is gone to Washington. His name is Hah-ah-Sawuni (?) and ~~there~~ then we can determine what disposition is to be made of him.

I am sir

Your obedient servant

James H. Wilbur.

Office Yakima Indian Agency, Ft. Simcoe, W.T. March 24, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner, sir:

I have the honor herewith to submit an estimate for supplies for the Indians recently brought to this agency from the Malheur agency and turned over to me on the 10th day of February 1879. They were turned over in the most destitute condition of any Indians I have ever known in this or any other country. Some of them are literally naked. I have made up the estimate from the time they were turned over 10th of Feb. to the first day of July the things asked are ~~now~~ needed today to make them anyway comfortable and to wait to advertise, purchase, ship and transport said supplies to this agency would leave them in this destitute condition to the end of this fiscal year p 155

I ask permission to purchase said supplies in open market and request said permission may be given me at once by telegram.

I am sir

Your obedient servant

James H. Wilbur, U.S. Indian Agent.

Office Yakima Indian Agency .

Fort Simcoe, W.T. March 28, 1879

Captain John Smith, U.S. Indian Agent.

Sir:

Two of your Indians from Warm Springs Agency have just come here to the office and informed me there is trouble with ^hHigh-ne-a and Skimiah. High-ne-ah had the choice of living upon this agency . It seems to me there is no need of trouble. When you requested him to come to your agency and I gave my consent and it was satisfactory to him and the agent. I had no objection.

I think he should be allowed to come here with his wife and family.

Yours truly, James H. Wilbur, U.S. Ind. Agent.

Wilbur Letters

Repository: Agency, Toppenish

p. 157

Researcher and typist:

Click Relander 3/3/53

Subject Piutes

Office Yakima Agency

March 31, 1879

Gen. O.O. Howard

Commander, Dept of Columbia

Sir:

I have the honor on the 20th of Feb. to request you to order the two companies of cavalry then in camp on the Topnish to remain on or about the reservation until the Snake and Piute Indians became permanently settled and until Chief Moses and his people were settled upon said agency.

The inclemency of the weather rendered the companies in camp very uncomfortable. The command has moved with my consent to the station and here remained during the inclement season.

The snow is gone, the weather is warm and the ground is becoming dry so the command need be quiet comfortable in camp as here at the station and if moved would especially accommodate our service as I want the places occupied by the soldiers for the employes of the agency. Will you please give us the room at your earliest convenience.

I am sir, your obedient
servant

James H. Wilbur

U.S. Indian Agent

Sarah Winnemucky who is interpreter for us to them and to use her in a two-fold capacity, interpreter and teacher. She is quite well educated and with George Waters in the school room with her I think we can make a success.

The farming interest among the Indians of the agency is above anything we have had in the past. The Indians of this agency have learned that land cultivated is a great deal more productive than digging roots and going on the chase or going to their fisheries. I am by every possible influence I can command ~~to~~ bare upon them putting them to cultivate the soil.

The school and shops are quite as thrifty as in the past p 162

The Indians from Rock Creek on the Columbia river who have recently moved to the agency are farming. Some of the Smohalla band are putting in a crop.

The mark to which I am working is to get all the Indians of the agency self supporting. I believe with a steady hand and a little help in giving them a start with seed, tools and stock that in three years they may be made to take care of themselves.

~~Woodchuck~~ There are no signs of war on the North side of the Columbia and if the whites can be kept from breaking out I think we shall have a summer of quite.

I am sir etc.

Office Yakima Indian Agency

St. Helens W.T. May 14, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner:

Sir:

I have the honor to request authority to purchase in open market the following goods

Six two horse wagons not to exceed one hundred and twenty dollars each, 3 1-2 inch spindle; twenty plows not to exceed twenty dollars, 1,000 lbs tanned leather to cost thirty five dollars per hundred; 4 dozen chopping axes handled at \$16.50 per doz. 200 lbs rope \$16.50 per hundred; two hundred burlap sacks; twenty five dollars per hundred; three tons of nails at \$3.75 per hundred; 2,000 lbs of iron not to exceed four dollars per hundred lbs. 50 bls. flour at six.50 per bl. There is an imperative necessity for having the above mentioned articles immediately--the addition of Indians to the agency makes a demand for the wagons, leather, plows, axes, nails, sacks etc. etc. There is now on hand funds at this agency beneficial and miscellaneous to more than pay the above amount. Please authorize the purchase by telegram so I can purchase before the close of the fiscal year.

I am sir etc. etc.