

Oregon Superintendency Indian Affairs, 1848-73

Roll 12 Microcopy 2

Scanning report, exclusive of typescripts, but not a complete "index."

It will be noted that this volume is not paginated, but that location is found by inserted tabs at the bottom of each letter, the letters being arranged by years and then chronological. The first number represents the year, the second the letter number.

Index Book A page 6.

1848 no. 5, letter of transmittal re. census.

1849 no. 8, letter from Newark, ("ash. now) re attacks by Indians at Nesqually.

Book A p. 1, 1849 No. 13, Ind. in confinement charged with murder of "allace and re. the trial of same (Nesqually)

1849 no. 22, The Rogue R. murderers.

1849 no. 24, Schoolcraft re. transmittal of statistical and historical forms, 2 copies inquire respecting historical, present condition and failure or prospect of the Indian tribes of the U.S.; 12 copies, ancient sites of Indian occupancy in America 1/2 quire census forms; 12 copies census forms, 12 do comparative vocabulary of Ind. languages.

1850 no. 2-Tabular stat of tribes of the Second Sub agency (Sound and coast, Cape Flattery, Hood's Canal.)

1850 No. 5- Figures scribbled on ~~pink~~ plain paper unlabeled, tribes, main band of warriors, lists Wyampam 130, Yachmaws 1,500, Pischoose 350, Rogue River 700 to 800, Snakes 2,000, "alla "allas 1,000, Deschutes 300, Wiscopam 200, etc. total 13,000. "Lane's number of Indians."

1850 no. 6, McLean, Jan. 20, reporting killing of two of the murderers and escape of others of Dr. "hitman .

1850 no. 9-Letter from Nez Perce regarding "hitman murderers and Cayuse.

1850 no. 10, Gibbs to Dept. Interior regarding recommendations for reservation in present S Wash and NW Oreg. for Clatsops, Tillamooks, Chinooks,



and "Calams" and others.

1850, no. 19-Instructions to Anson Dart, re. mission claim.

1850 no. 33-Unsafe to travel south of the Umpqua River because of unfriendly and treacherous Indians.

1850 no. 35- Spalding gives description in tribes, history of etc. in W llamette Valley.

1851 no. 2- Census table of Clatsop tribe, listing individual's names together with specific residence or "customary" such as Col. River on So. side etc., 18 half breeds, 54 full bloods, eight slaves.

Do. of Chinook tribe, on Col. River below the mouth of the Cowlitz, individuals, places named such as Wah-kia-kum, Pillar Rock, Oak Point, Chinook Pt. etc. where specific individuals lived; 36 half breeds, 99 whole bloods, 36 slaves.

1851 no. 4-Act of Congress to adjust and settle with people of Oregon for cost of defending selves against Cayuse in 1847-48, \$100,000, approved Feb. 14, 1851.

1851 no. 15-Desire of trader to deal with Wamapam, Columbia River, Deschutes, Yakamas, Cayuses, Nez Percés and Clickitat tribes at place occupied by the said tribes, viz the Dalles.

1851, no. 33-Council held with Cayuse, 27 June 1851.

Government does not intend to buy any land east of the Cascades but leave Indians in possession.

1851 no. 53- H.H. Spalding's report, Aug. 25th, 1851.

1851 No. 40-E. Wampole, Uvilla Sept. 22, 1851 statements and particulars of depredations committed by the Snakes or Pannocks.

1851 no. 60-Gen. Hitchcock, Benecia, military expedition ordered to Port Orford, Oct. 17, 1851.

1852 no. 25- Elkanah Walker to replace Wampole.

1852 no. 26-45 Depredations and Indian troubles with whites over land, whiskey, etc.

1852 no. 76-<sup>H</sup>Reporting difficulties with Indians at Big Bend, out of  
Port Orford.



File Microcopies of Records in the National Archives: No. 2

Roll 12

Records of the Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs

Register of Letters Received Sept 30, 1848-January 14, 1873.

Letters Received, Sept. 30, 1848-December 25, 1852. The National Archives, 1844.

Introductory Note

At the beginning of this roll is reproduced a register of letters received by the Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs, 1848-47; by its successor, the Oregon and Washington Superintendency of Indian Affairs, 1857-1861; and by the reestablished Oregon Superintendency, 1861-1873. The register is contained in two volumes with the following backstrip titles: "Register/and /Index" and "Records/Oregon/ Superintency." The first extends from the beginning of the superintendency in 1848, through Marcy 1866, and the second from that date to the end of the Suprantendency in 1873. Each volume contains registers of both incoming and outgoing letters. The register of letters received occupies pages 2-230 of the first volume and pages 1-83 of the second. The register of letters sent, occupying other parts of the volumes, is filmed on Roll 2 of this microcopy. The register of letters received is arranged in chronological order, usually according to date of receipt.

As indicated in the introduction of Roll 2 the registers were begun in the Superintendent's Office long after 1848. Occasional omissions and other errors occur, and the brief statements of the subjects of letters are not always adequate.

...Letters relating exclusively to Indian Affairs in Washington Territory during the period of the Oregon and Washington Superintendency were filed separately and are not included in this microcopy. Since the letters of the Oregon Superintendency and a part of those of the Oregon and Washington Superintendency were filed and registered as a single unbroken group from 1848 to 1873, it is assumed for editorial ~~purposes~~ conveniences that the whole body of the letters thus registered may be described as records of the Oregon Superintendency.

The unbound letters received were given numbers, usually in red ink, corresponding to the numbers assigned to them in the register. The numbers for each year were continued to the end of the year, the first letter received in the next year being numbered 1. Most of the letters bear on the back a statement indicating the writer, the subject, the date of writing and the date of receipt...

...These records are among those of the Department of the Interior in the National Archives. The following is suggested as an appropriate method of citing an entry in the register: Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs, Register 1; 50, or Oregon SIA, Register 1: 50. A particular unbound letter may be cited by year and number as follows: Oregon Superintendency of Indian Affairs, Letters Received 1850, no. 10 or Oregon SIA, Letters Received, 1850, no. 10.



Oregon Superintendency Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Roll 12, Microcopy 2

1848- No. 5

War Department, Office Indian Affairs, August 3]4/184

Sir:

I transmit to you form for a census of the Indian tribes of Oregon which I will thank you to have filled up by the several agents under your jurisdiction and returned to this office at the earliest practicable period. These forms have been prepared under an act of Congress of the 3rd of March, 1847. They embrace perhaps a larger number of points of information than it might have seemed advisable to adopt if the Indians of Oregon alone had been contemplated in the returns. But such a scrutiny was necessary in order to judge of the advances of civilization of the most forward tribes as the Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws etc. In preparing the returns for more hunters or roving bands who are without cattle or agriculture, such as the tribes of the Columbia Valley are represented to be, a number of the columns of items will appear superfluous. It is essential in these cases however that a dot or dash should be used that the deficiency of negative

His Excellency the governor of Oregon Territory and ex officio supt Ind. Affairs  
[at bottom of page]

may rest on the authority of the agent or other officer filling the blanks

The Indian population of Oregon has been very variously estimated here by persons who have had considerable means of personal observation. The same disagreement as to tribes and numbers has been found to exist in the published accounts of travelers and explorers, which is probably owing in part to inexactitudi (sic) in the geographical area at the respective eras of computation or to errors in the actual location of some of the higher northern or northeastern bands.

Another cause of the great disparity of population between estimates of the earliest and the latest dates is to be found in the great depopulation which has occurred from epidemics or other calamities--over estimates of the Indian population on our frontiers appear to have been generally made in the first advance of our settlements. I will thank you to guard as much

as possible against these several causes of error, and to direct the agents employed to include only tribes who are actually known to reside between the parallels of 42 degrees and 49 degrees N. latitude.

The whole subject is important to the future legislation of Congress and the policy of the Department respecting the Indians of Oregon and I have the honor to press it on your early attention.

Very respectfully

W. Miolt (?) [Medill]

War Department August 31st, 1848, Indian Affairs relative to taking Census. W. Medill. Received Nov. 30, 1848.



Oregon Suptcy. Ind. Affairs, 1848-73 Roll 12 No. 2

1849- No. 2 Oregon City March 7, 1849, to His Excellency Gov. Lane

Sir: The liberality of your noble character and the beneficent intentions with which your excellency is animated for the welfare of this country encourages me to confide in the protection of your excellency in behalf of the Indians of the Rocky Mountains amongst whom our Society has with the approbation and by the authority of the government of the United States founded several missions since 1842, with the intent of civilizing that so interesting a portion of Upper Oregon.

From the very origin of our establishment we have always been under the necessity of furnishing our Indians with arms and ammunition, these being the only means of recompensating their labors and of procuring a livelihood both for themselves and for the missionaries. It was only last year that they ceased to enjoy this advantage of primary importance. Your excellency is well aware of the war in which the whites were engaged in with the Cayuse tribe last year, on account of the horrible massacre of Dr. Whitman and others.

It was only at this eventful crisis that the Legislature passed a law forbidding all traffic of ammunition with the Indians. This law although dictated by the prudence of the times still gives reason to fear on account of its generality as it equally regards all Indians, the hostile as well as the friendly, whilst it deprives the latter of an article of imperative necessity. The Indians of the Rocky Mountains cannot sufficiently provide for themselves by their agriculture, although they have already made great proficiency herein. They have not even any supply of salmon which is the ordinary diet of Indians on the borders of the Columbia and other waters. Hunting therefore being their only dependence for subsistence to refuse them powder is consequently to starve them. Moreover every one knows that the Indians are no means disinterested in their doings. Nothing for nothing seems to be their maxim and to induce them to do something it suffers to proffer a little powder as a premium for their labour because



with powder alone they can procure for themselves venison for their diet during the winter and the skins of beasts for their clothing. Those who have lived in the Indian country will assure your excellency that powder is to the Indians what money is to us in this providential country.

Besides who can be so hard hearted as to abandon the Flat Head Indians who have always distinguished themselves for their friendly attachment towards the whites as Clarke testifies when first he visited them, who I say so hard hearted as to abandon those poor and faithful Indians to the attacks of the cruel Blackfeet, the terror of the Rocky Mountains, who incessantly rove about anxious awaiting an opportunity to destroy them, so that the Flathead, whilst industriously engaged in ~~reap~~ reaping his harvest is obliged to have his gun near him and always in readiness against any sudden attack from the marauding Blackfeet, yet these blacket, enemies of humanity, can always be abundantly furnished with ammunition from the American and English trappers from the other side of the mountains.

Your excellency is sufficiently enlightened to understand how impolitic this law is on account of its generality because in punishing our enemies it also punishes our friends, not through any intent of benefitting them but to exasperate their feelings against us. Your excellency's human disposition fills me with confidence that some modification will be made in this law which deprives the well disposed Indians of their means of subsistence as well as of defence against their enemies.

With this confident assurance I have the honour to subscribe myself with the greatest respect your excellency's humble and obedient servant.

Me (Very much of a scrawl, looks like

Amolly &

Agent for the Catholic Mission at the Rocky Mountains

(From the Agent of the Catholic Mission, March 7, 1849) to Joseph Lane, governor of Oregon Territory.



1849- No. 3

Oregon City 9th of March 1849

Governor:

To His Excellency Governor Joseph Lane

I beg leave to represent to your excellency in the name of the bishop of Walla Walla that in consequence of the massacre of Dr. Whitman and others by the Cayuses and the subsequent war said bishop was obliged to quit the diocese with his clergy and abandon the mission in which he had already commenced his missionary labors.

As soon as the war seemed terminated he attempted to return in order to resume his missionary duties among the Indians who had not taken any part in the dreadful massacre. But no sooner had the bishop reached the Dalles that he received orders from the superintendent of Indian Affairs not to stir from there till further orders were given him.

Being however convinced that the Catholic missionaries risk no danger among the Indians and that religious instruction only tends to civilize them and to attach them more strongly to our free American government I humbly pray your excellency to be pleased to remove the prohibition against the bishop of Walla Walla and to grant both him and his clergy to go wherever they please in order to fulfill the duties of their pastoral charge.

With greatest respect I remain, etc.

L.N. Blanchet,

Archbishop of Oregon

Bishop Blanchet. Received March 9, 49. Asking permission for the bishop of Nasqually and his clergy to return to the Indian country.



1849-N. 4

To His excellency General Lane, Governor of Oregon Territory.

Today an affray took place here between the Hudson's Bay Co's people and some Northern Indians in which Mr. Wallace, an American citizen accidentally present was shot dead by a Snoquallmisch Indian who can be identified. A commencement having thus been made, we feel assured that unless prompt and energetic measures be speedily adopted, more of us will ere long fall victims to Indian treachery.

We have no ammunition and few firearms. We do not muster more than 10 or 12 men and there are some families in our midst whose natural protectors have left for California. The Indians ~~xxx~~ have since the opening of spring frequently visited us in war parties, as we think with a view to menace and intimidate and after the melancholy occurrence of today we do not know how soon they may be emboldened to attack some of the isolated settlers.

Hoping for an early reply and that your excellency can soon make it convenient to visit this quarter here in the Walker V. Very respectfully etc.: W.T.



Oregon Suptcy. Indian Affairs, 1848-73, Roll 12, Microcopy 2

1849- Enclosure to No. 6

Nesqually, April 31st, 1849

To The Board of Management Hudson's Bay Co., Fort Vancouver, Gentlemen:

I am sorry to inform you that an affray took place here about two hours ago with a large party of Stewhamish and Snoqualmish in which a young American named Wallace was shot dead. One Indian was killed to my knowledge.

The circumstances that led to this unfortunate event were as follows:

About noon a long file of Indians were descried coming along the plain on the north side of Sequallitch creek and immediately the women and children of the working Indians made with all haste for the establishment. Soon after the strangers arrived about 100 in number and made for Lahallets lodge where they had some dispute to settle. They afterwards clustered around the water gate of the fort and tried to force an entrance which was only granted to the chief. Having him inside I went to visit Mr. Forrest professional when the Indians made another attempt on the gate which was guarded by two men. Shots were then interchanged and Mr. Wallace who was unfortunately outside fell. A Mr. Lewis who stood near Wallace was grazed by a ball which perforated his vest and slightly wounded by another in the arm. The hostile Indians on being fired at from the bastion immediately fled out of gunshot range.

The Snoqualmish and Sheywhamish Indians have for some time past been very saucy and presumptuous both at this place and the different American settlements in the neighborhood and it is highly necessary that measures should be taken to keep them in order.

Since the affray the Snoqualmish chief Pattakynim has sent to know how my heart was and I have replied that the matter did not rest with me now but with the "great chief" to the southwest. I would endeavor to distinguish between the innocent and the guilty and that the steps taken by the authorities would depend greatly on the future conduct of the tribe implicated.

Messrs Simmons and Lewis were with me when the inquiry and reply were made.

I have the honor to be, gentleman, your very obt. servant

Signed; Wm. F. Tolmie



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1849- No. 9

To Joseph Lane, Governor of Oregon Territory  
Sir:

You have written to me what can I say. You stop me from making war. I am glad to follow your advise. Last year Gov. Abernathy and all the American chiefs spoke to the same effect. I was glad also to hear them speak thus.

You sir wish me to make peace. The Yakima Indians have killed one of my men whom I must now throw aside.

Since you stop me making wars I beg also you sir will forgive & forget what the Indians have done here. The difference between me and Skooloom commence little by little and altho it appears I have done much wrong still I cannot convince myself of its being so. I have a great desire to see you soon among us and that I have much to say.

When your soldiers shall have arrived I shall lose no time to give them a friendly meeting.

With respect I am sir, your obt. hum. servant

Y<sup>ellow</sup> his  
X Bird  
mark

his  
Witness Pete X Corison (?)  
mark

Ft. Walla Walla, 17th May, 1849



Vancouver, July 27, 1849

His Excellency, Governor Lane: Sir:

I herewith enclose a letter which I have addressed to General Adaire on a statement forwarded to me by the Rev. Father Cherouse of the Roman Catholic Mission dated from the Cascades imploring my aid and assistance in suppressing the sale of ardent spirits to the unfortunate Indians and on the score of humanity and duty we all owe as Christians to the unfortunate race has alone prompted me to write. I am fully aware it was my duty to have forwarded this communication to you in the first instance but as opportunity to Astoria are not frequent I have availed myself of one now starting to communicate directly with General Adaire leaving it with you sire to take any measures you may deem proper on occasion. In regard to your trip to Nisqually and from thence to Walla Walla I shall communicate with Mr. Roberts to keep his eye on two men who accompanied the officers of L. Wilkes expedition and I am almost confident he can secure them. I must here apologize for my abrupt departure from the city without paying you my respects but I must plead illness as my excuse and although at present suffering you will I trust accept my apology.

The bearer Thos. Fisk Kippling has orders from me on ~~his~~ his return from Champoege to call on you for my despatches you may wish to forward direct to Astoria as he will not come here on ~~his~~ his return.

Believe me to be

Yours respectfully

Peter Skene Ogden



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1850- No. 1

Number of Nez Perces or Sahaptain Indians

Lowest band on Snake River, 23 men, 20 women, and children.

Hai-kai -mash band on Snake River, total number 65

Next band above, total number 50.

Next band above, 29 men, 26 women, and children

Band on Clear Water opposite mission, 17 men, 20 women, 7 boys, 8 girls.

Upper Clear Water Band 11 men, 13 women, 9 boys, 3 girls.

Red Wolf's band , 64 men, 71 women, 22 boys , 18 girls.

Josephs band, total number 425

James Band, 20 men, 27 women, 9 boys, 11 girls.

Flint Necklace's band total number 137

Wah-as-tush-ti's band(Or Gall Bear) band ,34 men, 68 women, and children.

Upper Nez Perces 139 men, 255 women and children.

Three Feathers band 15 (written over 13) men 60 (written over 38 women and children.

total number Nez Perces 1797

Paloose Indians (Speak the Walla Walla language) 60 men, 62 women,

32 boys, 27 girls, 191







From the chiefs and council of the Nez Perces to his  
excellency Governor Lane

Governor:

Although far from you we take your hand and wish to see you, governor,  
very much. We are your good friends and we want to know you. What time  
are you coming up. At what place will you be that we can meet you? Ellis  
our head chief is dead, as you know, and we want to meet you to choose  
another. Our people are all scattered over our lands and we want to  
know when you can come so that we may call them together. We are all  
however of the same heart and want to see you much.

This is all we have to speak. When we heard that you taken the murderers  
& killed them we were glad. This is all we have to speak.

Your friends.

Richard Takahooatis

U. U. Alt alt who sault

U. U. Sin mulkin

Yoom tom a li kin

Bakut tash

Tip ya la na ti nam in

Hach has tom al we at



1850- No. 7

Walla Walla 7th February '50

Joseph Lane, Esq, governor

Sir: I beg once more to address you a few lines in regard to the murderers which I presume will not prove uninteresting.

The murderers whom we supposed to be far are near the Cayuse Camp starvation prevented them making their escape & forced some of them to surrender to the Young Chief. I had a visit from him recently and he told me that he fully expects to decoy the whole of them into his camp for the purpose of giving them up to be punished. His own nephew, (Moathy) among them rest whom he does not consider himself to be a murderer. Had not Raymond spoken to the Indians as he did it's possible that the murderers would have been killed some time ago. I am certainly of opinion that p 2 that if such be your intention to send a force hither, no time should be lost in doing so else they may possibly escape. Notwithstanding I have cautioned the Young Chief against the possibility of doing so, and to see that while in his custody they do not molest any one. He was also desirous I should appraise you sir that two of the murderers (Clough & Brother) are the Nez Perces own people say Looking Glass ' relatives. He is determined to have nothing else to do with the Nez Perces and will manage the murderers alone, for he says he is tired of asking them of assistance in vain (?)

With much respect

etc.

William W. McBean

William McBean, Fort Walla Walla, Feb. 7, 1850, received Feb. 28, 1850



1850-- No. 8

Oregon City, January 25th, 1850

To His Excellency Joseph Lane, Governor of Oregon

Sir: I hear just now that you are about leaving this country for the United States. As I am concerned in the Indian Catholic Mission business I beg leave to inquire respectfully from you who shall be the person interested with the conduct of Indian affairs in your absence -- "hat are the views of the government relative to the Cayuse affairs; is it expected that it will take a long time for their full settlement? What would be also the views of the government relative to the immediate going of the Catholic Missionaries among the Cayuses and their settling among them; would the government be opposed to it? Would he prefer that they should wait until the full settlement of the Indian difficulties?

(No signature )

Endorsement- From J.B.A. Brault, Jan. 25, 1850

Received same day

Proposing certain questions to the supt. and requesting an answer thereon



Dalles of Columbia, July 30, 1850

Sir:

I am in possession of positive information that the man by the name of Olney who has a hand at this point has contrary to law brought liquor up to this point and is selling the same to Indians and soldiers. I am aware of the power visited in the commanding officer of a military post which I assure you will be exercised in good faith and ~~without~~ not having any jail or safe place for keeping such a culprit till he may be brought to justice have taken this opportunity of informing you as Indian agent that you may direct the U.S. Marshall to proceed to this point when the offender shall be taken and turned over to him without delay being the proper officer to take him into custody and bring him before the proper tribunal for trial. If possible send M...k up at the earliest time possible when he should arrive there will be the time to proceed and send him immediately down to Oregon City as it will be impossible perhaps to keep him here if taken in custody. You .... the .... of such procedure and I hope will coincide with me in the measure as not only being best advisable altogether expedient for the good of the Indians and for the .. of Indians regulating such matters in the Indian country. Murk can come up with all his documents and report to me and take him into custody in safety.

I beg of you let there be no delay.

Truly yours

Maj. Tucker, U.S.A.

General I. Lane,

Oregon City

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1850 No. 18

Telegram

Morse Telegraph, the Magnetic Telegraph Company

Washington, August 12, 1850, to Anson Dart

To be left at office.

Instructions for the commission to ~~xxxxx~~ treat with the Oregon Indians  
will be sent to your address by tomorrow evening's mail.

L Lea

20/108

our long