

Stick Joe who had been sent to ascertain the feelings of the Columbia River Indians towards the Whites, and in reference to coming to the Reservation reports

He found the trouble had grown from very small beginnings - the whites fear the Indians and the Indians fear the whites -

The Indians deny most positively having ordered any Settler to cease his work, or to leave his farm - they declare they never had a thought of going to war - that they are not fools and do not want to see their families scattered and themselves hanged - that say that the whites who have been most active in getting up the petitions &c for their removal have lied about them - They declare there has never been but one instance that any of them have had any words with any of the Settlers and that was as follows: one of the most active of the men who have tried to have them removed, poisoned considerable meat to kill Cazates which he left in various places in close vicinity to their camp - one of the Indians saw him doing so
and

remonstrated: that the grass would soon grow
and cover the poisoned meat, and the Indian
horses, as well as the white man might eat
the grass and get poisoned - this he said
made the white man angry and some words
passed between them, though nothing more than
a slight quarrel: they will come to the
reservation gladly to live, if some means
could be provided whereby they could be kept
from starving till they had time to raise crops -

Joe says he saw about 100 in all men
women and children - Walsie Highenry
Caribon Conipoo, Sweett, Pascappoon ^{Skumpkie}
are their chiefs - He saw and talked ^{with}
all the chiefs, and all expressed themselves
as willing and anxious to come to the Res-
ervation if they could be helped till they
had time to raise something to live on

Apr 4th 1883

Stick Joe's
Statement