

TERRORISTS--TURKEY--BIOGRAPHY

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Wilbur to Hon. H. Price, Yakama March 31
(report for month of March)

...Since the 20th I have been on the ground nearly all the time, camping with the ~~XXXXXX~~ men and directing the operations. Little more was done the first week than make a commencement so that nearly all the work has been done from the 27th to the close of the month, when the whole force of the Piutes were present. We have cleared over 50 acres worth at least ~~\$700 per acre~~ \$7.50 per acre to clear, have plowed and seeded the same, built a substantial heavy corral some sixty feet square, erected two small buildings, one 16 x 16 and one 16 x 20 for temporary store houses and have nearly completed a good comfortable farm house 28 x 16 with wing 20 x 16, intended for the employee in charge of the Piutes.

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...In this connection I ask indulgence for referring to a statement of Gen. Miles dated Jan. 7th addressed to the Commander of Division of the Pacific, a copy of which was forwarded me by the Department. After referring to the number of Piutes originally brought here "many of whom were "always loyal to the government" he says, "Since they have been on that reservation they have been living in a wretched condition, with very insufficient food and clothing," etc. No doubt General Miles repeated the information precisely as communicated to him, but the statement is nevertheless incorrect. I have not furnished the Piutes with first class hotel fare, neither have I employed a French cook for them, but they have p 237 always had sufficient food. I have not supplied them with luxuries, nor given them flour and beef to sell to the less fortunate Yakamas, but none of them have suffered from hunger. I have graduated my issues according to my knowledge of the supplies they had of their own and while it may be possible that sometimes a family through failure

to be present at the issue, may have been on short rations for one or two days, such cases have been rare and there are none who have had "insufficient food." When hauling their camps to the new farm I was surprised at the amount of flour they had laid up. Some camps had no less than four or five large 135 lb sacks, some two and three and some one, but there are a few that have a greater or less amount.

Some possibly may be without, but if so, it is because they neglected to harvest the grain offered them. All this flour is besides the regular weekly issue. As for clothing, they have had it, as I have had it to give them.

A number of their camps are women and children, the men having been killed during the war or having abandoned their families. Some of these older people are doubtless in want of clothing. I have many times issued clothing and blankets to such pg 239

and perhaps the next day they would come for more saying that the younger men had robbed them and it was impossible to ascertain whether such was really the case or whether the story was a mere pretense to obtain a new supply. If they have not sufficient clothing, it is owing to causes entirely beyond my control. When estimating for supplies for the current fiscal year, the quantity at Saline was kept steadily in mind and it was not expected the Piutes would require anything further, so that no particular reference was made to them in the estimates.

When however I was compelled to pay more than two thousand dollars for transferring these supplies for them, the amount remaining for the Piutes was considerably diminished. Until they have received a large quantity, and I do not believe any have really suffered from a lack of clothing during the past winter....

made. I sawas prepared for a great loss of stock but it was even greater than I had anticipated.

"e should have by the papers 2112 head. We only found 987 ahead showing a loss of 1125 which added to 138 reported for March make the entire loss during the winter (blurred) or about 60 per cent of the herd. ... of this loss may be traced directly to the course pursued by Inspector Pollock will be the subject of a future communication.

Interest at the school continues unabated and the progress of the pupils has been highly satisfactory. I have made arrangements to start up the steam mill early in May. During the winter several of the more industrious Indians were busily engaged getting logs to the mill and there are enough now on hand, nearly all belonging to the Indians, to keep the mill employed at least two months.

The shops have been busy repairing wagons, stocking plows, making harrows etc. As considerable doubt has been expressed in a certain quarter with respect to the accounting of my estimate of the amount of wheat raised on the reservation, I may say that the Miller, Mr. Ross, who took charge on the 1st of Sept. last reports the amount ground at the Department Mill since he took charge as follows:

From Sept 1st to Dec 31st 1880 10,400 bush.

" Jan 1st to Mar 31st 1881 1662 bush.

Note during the 1st quarter 1881 the roads were for a great part of the ..impassable so that scarcely any p 804 wheat was brought forward till nearly the middle of March.

"mount ground from April 1 to April 30, 589 bush making in all 1265 bushels ground for Indians. I have purchased from Indians 179 bushels. The employees have purchased about 30 bushels for their own personal use, making nearly 13000 bushels from the Indians beside the amt ground in August which could not well be less than 2.000 bushels. The amount taken to the mills at Yakima and

Antanum and the amount fed the stock and sowed , so that the total amount cannot fall bar below my estimate of 3,500 ~~bushel~~ bushels for last year.

The information relative to the sanitary condition I restpfully refer to the report of the agency physician

Etc.

Wilbur

H.J.Swinney is quite scholarly, knows his research.
He is director of the Idaho Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.
There is reference, by letters from Idaho "governors" regarding ~~Paiutes~~
Paiutes from the Yakima Reservation in the ~~Bruneau~~ country.
It is possible some Idaho Historical Quarterly, ~~of~~ which would be indexed,
had historical Duck Valley story with names (these articles are footnoted
for reference sake).

And as he corresponded with the Washington Territorial Governor
of that period regarding the Paiutes , frequently called "Snakes,"
in that region, therein might be your references. I don't recollect seeing
anything especially in material at Olympia in Indian War cannister,
which I scanned hurriedly once, and which there might be a reference or
so in the ~~binder~~ Paiute binder.

October 8,1963

Click Relander

Material on loan:

- 1-Binder, typescript copies of Paiute material , Yakima Letter Record Books, War of Rebellion, miscellaneous sources.
- 2-Book. Sarah Hopkins(Winnemucca) Life among the Piutes.(rare book)
- 3-Book. Brimlow. The Bannock War. Out of print book.
- 4-Book. Brimlow. Harney County, Oregon. Out of print book.
- 5-Clipping. Yakima Republic,May 12,1955. Agency records called into archive files. (Reference to National Archives repository should be construed as 'In Channel.' Routine, as explained upon my inquiry at that time and recollection was a-To Seattle. b-To St. Louis.c-Eventually, as called in weeded out etc. for conversion into microfilm, to Washington D.C., National Archives)

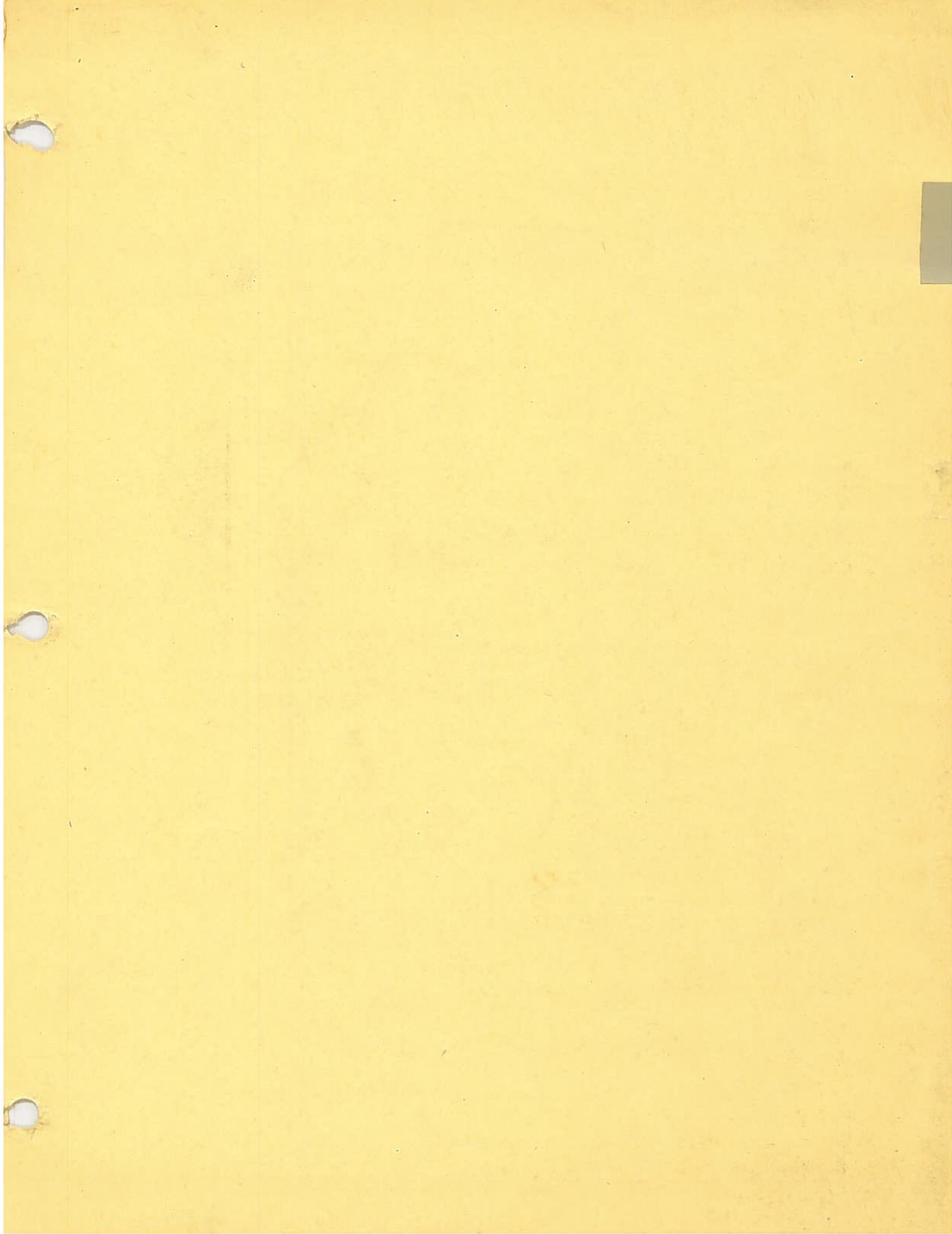
For Informative:

I have had on order, and expect arrival of the same through California Book Dealer in near future

Messages and Documents, 1880-81, Interior Department, Part 1. This contains, according to dealer who is obtaining it from some of his sources, 321 pps. of report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Also on order of long standing, book expected before long:

Vol 2, for 1881-82 which contains Indian Affairs.



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 ~~find~~ feed and clothe them. Answer by telegram.

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

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Office Yakima Indian Agency, Ft. Simcoe, W.T. Feb. 6, 1878 1879?

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 ~~that~~ 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 ~~saw~~ 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.

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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 ~~purpose~~ 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.

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Office, Yakima Indian agency

Ft. 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 white and the Indians.

I am sir, etc.

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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 Smohalla 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 summerwith 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...

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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. Feb. 28th 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner.

Sir:

I have the honor to ~~inced~~ submit my report for this month.

On the 2d of the month Captain Winters of the 1st Cavalry arrived with the Snake and Piute Indians on the lower part of the reservation, wishing me to take immediate charge of them. I received them on the 10th and moved them within six miles of the station where I have been taking care of them, issuing daily rations. On the night of the 10th we had a very heavy fall of snow and it continued for 36 hours and covered the valley with about three feet of snow. The providing for the cattle and horses of the agency with the Indians above named took all the men I... p. 122 lay under construction.

The snow lasted two weeks and then went off rapidly raising the streams of the agency higher^{eighteen} than I have known them in ~~nineteen~~ years..by putting men at the water mills and cutting a channel above the dams so as to let a flood of water out of the streams we saved the dams and mills. Our bridges were washed away and great danger was done to our roads. With constant effort we saved our stock. I had laid up straw for three years and gave the Indians who were not provided with pay, free access to the straw stacks which saved their stock with but little loss. The two companies of cavalry that brought in the Snake and Piute Indians are here at the station. I requested Gen. O.O. Howard to order them kept on, or about the reservation until the Snake & Piute Indians with Chief Moses people and the Moholla bands were permanently settled upon the agency. This order has been given. page 123

After receiving your telegram to send Moses to Washington with Agent Connoyer from the Umatilla agency, I allowed Moses to return to his people with a promise that he would be back in thirty days

and sooner if I want for him to go to Washington. He seemed pleased to go and I think will keep his promise and bring his people to this agency. This he has most faithfully promised to do and I was persuaded I could not get him and his people here without allowing him this privilege. I shall send out my interpreter and one of my reliable men in two days to have him return and then I shall know whether he keeps good faith or whether there is trouble in having him and his people settle according to promise.

The water is subsiding--the snow is gone through the valley--the ground in some places is getting dry enough to plow new lands and our Indian men are making fence and some of them plowing

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the work of this agency is going fine, as well as could be expected with the pressure we have had with snow and water.

I remain, sir, etc.

Office Yakima Indian Agency

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

to Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated January 14th with claims in favor of Bart Cush(?) and P.C. Davis \$725 and \$803.40 respectfully for depredations alleged to have been committed by the Bannock and Piute Indians on or about the 1st of July, 1878. Requesting me to make a full and thorough investigation of these claims in accordance with department rules and regulations, submitting the same to the Indians in council and report the proceedings to your office.

I have to inform you that I am at least 200 miles (P 126 from the place mentioned where said depredations are alleged to have been committed--that it has been impossible for me toI called the Indians into council and from them cannot gain any information.

The depredations at the places mentioned .. they state they neither ~~de~~ stole property or killed whites in that vicinity (rest illegible.) (looks like Fire Valley)

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.

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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 you 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 Indian Agency, Ft. Simcoe, W.T. March 31, 1879

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

Sir:

I had 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 Inds. become permanently settled and until Chief Moses and his people were settled upon said agency.

The inclemency of the weather rendered the command in camp very uncomfortable. The command was moved with my consent to the station and have remained here during the inclement season. The snow is gone, the weather is warm, the grass is good and the ground is becoming dry so the command would pg 158

now be quite as comfortable in camp as here at the Station and if moved would essentially accommodate our service as I want the place occupied by the soldiers for employes of the agency. Gen. will please give us the room at your earliest convenience.

I am sir , etc.

Cattle

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Office Yakima Indian agency, Ft. Simcoe, W.T. March 31, 1879
Jack Morgan, Esq.

Sir: Something over two weeks ago I wrote you that the moving of the Indians from other agencies made it necessary that we should have this reservation clear ? I requested you at your earliest convenience to leave your reservation with your stock

I am persuaded this season of the year is the time for you to make new arrangements so you might lay up hay for the winter. I expect to build a farm house at your place this summer. Trusting you will respond immediately, and I am sir

Your obedient servant

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

Office Yakima Indian Agency, Ft. Simcoe, Wash., Dec. 31, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner:

I hereby request authority for the payment to the following named per the amounts annexed to their names for transportation of Piutes and for hauling wood, lumber etc. said payments to be made on the "Civilization Fund."

Charley Olim 5 days at \$3, \$15.

Hoptowit 6 days at \$3 \$18

Edward 6 days at \$3, \$18; Homer James 3 days at \$3, \$9;

Peer, 3 days at \$3 \$9; Joe Stwire 3 days at \$3 9; Pack with

?? \$5, \$5; Thomas Cree 6 days at \$3; Peter Klickitat 3 days at

\$3; Yesmowit 3 days at \$3; Jno Lumly 3 days at \$3; Billy Antanum 2 days at \$3; Chillens 3 days at \$3 p 169

Stick Joe 2 days at \$3; George Boone 4 hours 2 days \$5;

Jim Sattas 1 12 days at \$3; Dewy Settass 1 1-2 days at \$3; Abraham

2 days at \$3; Peter Neuben 2 days at \$3; Charley Mann 2 days at \$3;

Tom 3 days at \$3; Little Henry 2 days at \$3; Snelling Peter 2 days

at 3; Sam 1 1-2 days at \$3.

The services were rendered necessary from the fact that the Piutes were, in midwinter, turned over to me at the Government ranch on the Topnish 25 miles below the agency at a place where it was impossible to feed them and where no shelter could be provided and where wood was very scarce. They were transported to the school Farm near the agency to which place wood and lumber had to be hauled to make provision for their comfort. It is perhaps needless to state that the services rendered were absolutely necessary in order to prevent suffering.

Your obedient servant

James H. Wilbur etc.

Office Yakima Indian Agency

Ft. Simcoe W.T. April 17, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner:

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have opened a school 7 miles from this station for the Piutes, recently moved to this agency and employed Rev. George Waters, a native preach as teacher at a salary of five hundred dollars per annum.

Water was educated here in our school years ago and I believe will do well. The school was opened on the 1st day of April with 35 schollars. Not as yet a boarding school as we have not the accommodations.

Please approve his appointment and let his services begin April 1st at said salary.

Etc.

Office Yakima Indian Agency

Ft. Simcoe W.T. June 5th, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner, sir:

I have the honor to call your attention to a letter from this office dated Feb. 6th, 1879 announcing the arrival of the Piute and Bannock Ind. and requesting permission to keep Sarah Winnemucky and educated Indian woman as interpreter and if I could open a school for said Indians I could use her in the double capacity of interpreter and teacher and to pay her at the rate of five hundred dollars per annum.

The school has been opened (see report of Supt. of teaching) and Sarah is so employed. I again request she may be approved as teacher and paid from the fund appropriated for the support of schools from this 10 day of Feb. 1879. If not p 225 approved as teacher, let her be approved as interpreter and inform me what fund I shall use in paying her.

An answer is requested and requested immediately that I may pay at the end of the quarter.

I am sir, your etc.

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Offic Yakima Indian Agency, Ft. Simcoe W.T. June 5th, 1879, Hon. E.A. Hayt, commissioner, Sir:

I have the honor to request the approval of an open market purchase of flour of six tons not to cost more than six and a half dollars per bbl. An answer by telegram is requested as we are now near out and the Piutes and Bannock Indians require rations with our schools daily. I am sir, etc.

P.S. The sixty barrels would cost three hundred and ninety dollars.

July 9th, 1879

Hon E.A. Hayt, commissioner

Sir:

I have the honor to call your attention to a letter written to you on the 6th of March and your reply dated March 17th, 1879. You say the matter in regard to the employment of Sarah Winnemucea (sic) as interpreter and teacher will form the subject of an ~~another~~ communication, "that other communication has not been rec'd." She was employed on the 10 day of Feb at a Salary of Five hundred dollars per annum out of what fund is she to be paid? She has done a noble work in the school room, out at the school, instructing the Piute women and girls how to cut and make garments for the children of the Piute school and themselves and doing me essential service as interpreter.

Please approve her appointment or rather her employment at said salary and instruct me out of what fund I shall pay. I want the instruction. So she may be properly reported with my quarterly papers now being made up.

I am sir, etc.