

Montialh [?] Feb. 6 55

Hon I.I. Stevens, Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs W.T.

Dear Sir:

I have just concluded my second talks with the Indians in this neighborhood for several days I endeavored to get all the bands together so that a general council could be held but the scarcity of camas and a reluctance in the past has prevailed and this reluctance is in a great measure occasioned by the mischievous influence of the whites who are determined that they shall not be moved if they can help it And with that view they represent that it is the object of the government to ~~make~~ get together (after the lands are bought) all the tribes in both territories and put them on board of a great ship which is to come for the purpose and all to be transported to an island in the sea ~~where~~ where they will die of starvation or be eaten up by monsters. So many have made this representation that they have confidence in that it is extremely difficult to remove the ~~impression~~ impression. ✓

Those at the landing and above on the same side wish to sell their land but will not listen to any proposal to move farther than the Camass Prairie (a few miles east of Jackson) those on the east bank object on the ground that the land is too low, subject to overflow they propose another place. At the forks they do not wish to sell if they must move at all. At this place they are willing to sell but by no means are they willing to leave. I have tried every plan that I could ... but I cannot get them to consent to go any place that will answer as a reserve for more than one band.

I know of no other way than that of selecting a place yourself and moving them to it. I can see no chance of it being done with their consent.

Those upon the Cathlapooh I have not talked with as so many of

the principal men are absent. But as soon as I return I shall see them.

I have used all of my blank vouchers.....

Respectfully your most obt servant

W.H. Tappan

Sub Agent Southern District W.T.

Washt'on Suptcy. Roll 17

Office Indian Agency C.R. District
Vancouver, W.T. January 3d 1856 [sic]

Act. receipt.

Jan. 31, 1857

Governor I.I. Stevens. Subject. Ind. Affs. Olympia W.T.

Sir:

Your letter of Dec. 28th countermanding recent instructions to reduce expenses to former standard etc. has been received.

Had the previous instructions of the Dept. been insisted upon unless the officers ~~of~~ in command of the regular army had taken upon themselves the responsibility of continuing to protect the Indians from starvation, the war would ~~of~~ ~~it~~ had been renewed with a desperation never witnessed before upon this coast.

The necessary instructions have been issued to Local Agts. Noble and Townsend and sent them by the military express, there being no communication by water.

Respectfully

Your most

J. Cain

Indian Agent. C.R.D.

Letters from the Cascades,

Jan. 15-August 1, 1856 ... Roll No. 17

Lower Cascades, W.T.

January 15/56

Gov. I.I. Stevens

Supt. Ind. Affs.

Dr. Sir--I am informed that Genl. Palmer is absent
in the south of Oregon.

Should you administer a rebuke to Mr. Jenkins and request the
immediate removal of Walatchin and his band, no doubt they
will comply. These have come in.

Your obt. servt.

Geo. B. Simpson

[Simpson was local agent]

Letters from The Dalles

[Wash Sup. Roll 17]

January 24, 1856-July 19, 1858

Dalles, O.T. Jan. 24, 1856

His Excellency I.I. Stevens:

Sir

I received your letter dated Jan. 17

Myself and your oldhands were glad to here[sic] of your safe arrival at Vancouver.

Gov., I thankyou for my commission as captain. I will proceed to Vancouver and ~~wa~~ await your orders. I have discharged the Stevens guards and send to the Ad't Genl. the enlistment paper and muster roll of the company. I send Hazard his discharge. I hope he is in good health after his long journey. I also send Lenaie r's discharge.

We left Walla Walla on the 5th and arrived at the Dalles on the 14 Jan. We had about 4 inches snow since we came down which is verry bad for the poor animals. They are now in good grass and will ~~XXXXXXX~~ improve as soon as the weather opens.

I have the honor to remain
your obdt servant.

C.P. Higgins

Capt. S.G.W.T.

Letters from the Dalles Roll No. 17

Dalles , O.T. March 12, 1856

His Excellency Gov. I.I. Stevens:

Sir:

I respectfully tender my
resignation as Captain in the W.T. Mt. Volunteers.

With regard to my duties in the Indian Department I have turned over
the property mules & horses to H.H. Robie on the 12th of March, 1856.
I expect my pay and expenses up to the above date as I have not yet been
discharged or any settlement made since I was last employed.

I have made out invoices and receipted similar to those made out
when Col. Doty was at the Dalles. I would have willingly remained in
your employ in the Indian Department but I was obliged to go to work
having no funds to support myself longer. I wish you would let me
know when you can settle my account. I expect my account to be
settled at Ft. Vancouver or the Dalles. If I have to go to Olympia
I will expect my expenses paid to Olympia and back to Vancouver the
point that employed at[sic]

Respectfully

Your obdt. servt.

Capt C.P. Higgins.

Letters from the Dalles: Roll No. 17

Office ? M _ Comdy. W.T.

Dalles, March 21, 1856

Isaac I. Stevens

Gov. and Supt. Ind. Affairs.

Olympia, W.T.

Sir:

I have the honor now to acknowledge the receipt of your favor dated Olympia March 12/56 requiring a report of the condition of animals now in my charge belonging to the In. Department I have altogether 45 mules and 32 horses. Out of this number there will be fit for service by the 1st of April thirty nine mules and twenty nine horses.

Awaiting your further orders.

I am sir

Most respectfully

Your Hblt & Obt. Svt.

A.H. Robie

Qt Master W.T.V.

Dalles, O.T.

Letters from the Dalles: Roll No. 17

Office Qtm ? ? WT: Vol

Dalles OT April 17, 1856

Isaac I Stevens, Gov. and Supt. of Ind. Affairs, Olympia

Sir:

Mr. A.J. Lockwood, a young gentleman residing for the present at the Dalles is desirous of obtaining some employ in the Indian Department. ~~He mentions~~ He mentions the agency of some of the tribes or the bands that reside below the Dalles, "Colwash's" band.

Mr. L. is a gentleman of merit and the appointment of such I think never would be regretted. I speak from the facts.....

....

I am sir

Most Resptt. yo r obt. svt.

A. H. Robie

Wash'ton Suptey Coll No. 17

Portland, May 5th, 1856

Gov. I.I. Stevens:

Sir I think today I will close contracts for some 3 to 500 barrels of flour. This market was out at the time I came here and the ... so bad much cannot be got in. I think I will get a good amount of it from Oregon City and perhaps some farther up.

Up to this moment things look bad here, in all directions an attack on the Dalles is believed by many good judges will be made and things look bad in the upper part of this valley according to reports. My belief is that you can get more men in this Territory if you should want them many now mutch [sic] regret that you were not at home in the beginning of the war to have led the troops east of the mountains.

in most

truly yours

J. Cain

Vancouver, May 26 56

Gov. I.I. Stevens:

As regards news in general things are about as they have been for some ~~ten~~ ten or fifteen days past. The news from Col. Wright's camp last night is as follows, as I leave Col. Wright is preparing trusels to make a bridge to cross the river by the time his reinforcements came up, no definite news from the upper country in general, common rumor has it that the Indians east of the Cascades mountains cannot be trusted at this time, a priest and a number of chief half breed French have come in today. They had feared to live out about "alla Walla any longer. I will go in a day or two up to the Dalles and see how the condition of things stand and will give you the information I can and learn fully as possible the feelings of the Indians on the reservations and report to you fully on my return.

I remain yours with

high regards

J. Cain

Indian Agt.

C.R.D.

Letters from the Dalles: Roll No. 17

Office Qt. M and Com. W.T. Vol.

Dalles, O.T. May 30, 1856

Isaac I. Stevens,

Governor _ Commander in Chief

Sir:

Accompanying this I forward to you some letters which reached here on last evening by express from Col. Craig. The express was brought down by four Nez Pierces, Jesse, Levis and two young men.

Capt. Chase informs me that they are constantly being threatened with an attack from the Spokans, Paloose, Ceyuses and Snakes Indians

H [sic] remarks that he fears that they will be forced to abandon the country.

He makes a requisition for ammunition which I will forward on tomorrow morning by express.

There are a great many rekliis (?) about the Dalles, consequently I think it prudent to start the four Nez ~~Pierces~~ Pierces back as soon as possible.

George Montiu (?) arrived here a few days since from what he says the Spokanes are as yet friendly disposed. However I suppose you have received the information which he brought down ere this.

A portion of Capt. Gibbs command arrived here today.

Most Respectfully

Your Most ob and Mblt servt.

A.H. Robie

Wash'ton Suptch8

Roll 17

Vancouver, W.T. June 7th, 1856

Govv I.I. Stevens:

Sir: Some time last winter I got this letter from
Jude Chenworth [?] and believed it would might be of importance some
time as showing the fact that the war feeling existed before you
made the Treaty, and long before and the cause of the war was not your
treaty!

I have refered to it in an article in the Times this week. I send
it to you to file. It may be well to have it. No one knows when such
papers may answer a good and valuable purpose. I will keep an eye on
this part of the Territory and keep the Times posted. On one thing
you may depend upon, publish opinion in all thispart of the country
is as fully with you as the Scound is and I will from time to time
furnish them through the Times arguments to meet the opponents.
There is now but one course to pursue and that is to go forward,
sink or swim, go forward and I do believe it will all
come up well yet. Gov. Curey has lost all because he would do
nothing. As I before wrote you he is down.

Your friend

J. Cain

"ash'ton Suptch. Roll 17

Vancouver, W.T.

June 8th, 1856

I have been to the Cascades and found things in good condition. Called and [sic] Capt. Winder at Camp Cascades and communicated fully with him and appointed W.R. Lear local Indian agent. on the 3d of June. The Indians have provisions enough to last them furnished by Cap. Winder until the 20th or 25th After that the Indian Dept. will furnish the agency.

Yours Most Truly

J.C. Cain, Indian Agent.

C.R.D.

Gov. I.I. Stevens.

Letters from the Dalles: Roll 17

Ft. Dalles, O.T.

June 24, 1856

Governor...

p. 2... 700 Ingins have come in & surrendered to Col.
Buchanan (?) and has come up to this ... from Cal... under Genl
Palmer--also 500 others have surrendere d and are on the way to the
reservation under Capt. Smith, supt.

in fast. DBN LFW

Letters from the Cascades. Vol No. 17

Local Agency

Cascades W.T., August 1st, 1856

Governor:

Enclosed you will find my bond for \$2000 which I am in hopes you will find all correct.

I am in hopes you will soon be over this way as I wish to see you and make some arrangements about moving these Indians. I have had a great deal of trouble, on account of white men, at this place who have made a great deal of trouble among these Indians. If you will allow me to move them to the mouth of White Salmon it would be better than it is at this place as they can provide much better for themselves. The whites at this place will not allow them to fish on the river.

I have been so much ~~anoyed~~ ^{anoyed} ~~xxxxxx~~ that I have given up the control of these Indians to Capt. Winder who is in command of this place but still ~~xxxxxx~~ I attend to the other duties of my office. If you will allow me to move them, and you do not come over shortly, write soon and let me know what your views are upon the subject.

To his excellency Isaac I. Stevens

I am very respectfully

Your obdt. servant W.K. Sears (?)

P.S. I have this moment had a talk with the Indians. All of the Indians belong to White Salmon except two families and they belong to the Dalles and Dog River. I have asked them how they would like to leave this place. They, at least a majority of them seem much pleased. I was careful not to mention any one place that they might be moved to. There is much to be gained by moving them above and from any white settlement and I am in hopes you will allow me to move them to White Salmon soon.

Very respectfully,

Your obt. svt. W.K. Sears

His excellency

Isaac I. Stevens, etc.

Governor and supt. of Indians of Washington Territory.

Letters from the Dalles, Roll No. 17

Ft. Dalles, O.t. August 26, 1856

Dear Gov.

On the 22nd inst. Eilit Palmer and Tah Kill band came into this post and gave themselves up to Col. Wright. He had a long talk with them etc. He took their arms from them both ~~bands~~ bands number about 250 or 200 souls. As most of them are Indians belonging to "XXXX" Washington Territory I have ... up to them as they are entirely destitute of the necessities of life. Wm. Thompson, Ind. agt. will also make an issue to them doing it as many of them belong to his Lenty [sic] (O.T.) Today we shall send them all up together this side of the river at least for the present. Yise still remains firm and will not come in. I thought it best not to make any further disposition of them until things are a little more settled and as they will be in camp from time to time hereafter. Hereafter they can be supplied much better than at present and then it might alarm them to so soon. Wm. Thompson says he will act with me in this matter so as to make everything satisfactory.

Nothing new. No mail yet.

F. Robie

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll 17

Vancouver, W.T.

Sept. 2d 1856

Gov. I.I. Stevens:

Sir your letter of August 25th came to hand in due time by express dated Camp Walla Walla.

On the 28th of August I commenced to remove all the Indians at this place to their new home.

At the cascades some impediments was put in the way. Many of the whites in that quarter in my opinion gave them bad advice but it is enough to say they have all been moved to the point designated under the charge of Alfred Townson of this place. He was well known to the Indians and I think the Indian dept. can depend on him to discharge the duties of this office. It is understood by Mr. Townson that if Col. Shaw should take the genl. charge of the reservation, then he, Townson, to yield to Shaw.

Should you get a large number of Indians to go on the reservation it will become important to have for a time at least, furnished with some beef and I have made arrangements with the contractor of U.S. troops to furnish 30 head to the order of the Indian Dept. at the same price he gets from the army.

I will have my report made out fully by the time you ~~will~~ reach this place ^{place} ~~see~~ plan matters and things in their true light as warranted by the facts in the case. At this time I cannot this side of Portland get you as full a file of papers as I would wish to send you and have not time to send for them before the express leaves. The last mail from the states was not at all important for news. I asked A.J. Cain to give you all he could in a letter before he left for the Sound which he did by

I remain your friend
Most truly etc. J. Cain.

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll No. 17

Yakima Indian Agency W.T.

Fort Simcoe, Sept 5, 1856

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that on the 12th instant I shall leave this agency on a trip to the northern tribes of my district, to be absent twenty days.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Your obt. Servant

R.H. Lansdale

Indian Agent, W.T.

Edward R. Geary, esq.

Supt. Indian Affairs

Portland, Oregon.

Washt'on Suptch. Roll 17

Vancouver W. T.

Sept. 11th ,1856

Gov. I.I. Stevens:

Sir the morning Dunn left with the express I was so much engaged in getting all the information I could about your matter that the inclosed letter I omitted to send as I should have done. I send it to the care of Mr. John F. Noble at the Dalls to either send it to you or deliver to you at the Dalls [sic]

I am more and more convinced that Genl. Wool has gone by the board and that you will have a full hearing before anything will be done in your matter. I send you the New Orleans Delta of August 7th, 1856 that contains the latest news. I can find in all the papers that came by the last steamer.

The game is not lost by no means. I think if you play your hand well you will win.

Yours most Respectfully

and truly

J. Cain

Indian Agent

Washton Suptch. Roll 7

Copy

Vancouver W.T.

Oct. 7, 1856

This article of agreement with H. Fields of Vancouver W.T. of the first part and John Cain of the second part as follows. The said Fields agrees to sell to John Cain for the Indian Dept. of W.T. 400 boxes of hard bread or 40,000 lbs at 8 cts per pound, said Field agreeing to keep it stored free of cost and subject to the order of the Indian Dept. and look to the Department for payment, the said Cain to have the disposal of all or any part of it for 30 days at the above rates.

Signed

H. Fields

J. Cain , Indian Agent

Wash'ton Suptcy. Roll 17

Vancouver W.T., Oct. 29, 1856

Gov. I.I. Stevens:

My dear sir:

Your letter of the 22d of Oct. came to hand in due time.

I have all the returns of the local agents in except Agent Nobles at the Dalls and that I am looking for each steamer. As soon as it comes to hand I can send forward my returns without delay in time to reach you to go forward by the next mail steamer at Portland.

But for the delay of the returns of some of the local agents, could have sent forward my returns some three weeks since. I was short of blankets to furnish them with and that in part delayed them completing there returns. I hope by next Monday's mail to send them forwd.

I am inclined to the opinion that the reservation at the White Salmon will meet with favor from the Indians and they will come to that place with cheerfullness as far as I am at this time advised. I will be able to do in some 6 or 8 days to report to you more fully as I will have learned by that time more facts touching the matter.

I remain yours most

Respectfully

J. Cain, Indian agent.

Most Respct Yours

Signed J. Cain

Indian Agent

C.R. D

P.S.

Let me know from time to time the kind of goods you may want and provisions and I will send to you, do all in your power to keep them on good terms with the Dept. and see that none suffer or want for food , who come under your charge and properly behave themselves

Signed J. Cain

Wash'ton Suptch. Roll 17

Vancouver W.T., Nov. 20, 1856

Gov. I.I. Stevens: In reply to your letter of Nov. 14 in relation to the action of Col. Wright I have no means of knowing the facts. As to his having been attacked by the Indians on his return this rumor was at one time current and by many believed but in a few days was contradicted and on what grounds I have not learned.

Col. Wright I understand is at this place. I have not met him. I have had no business at the Fort and never go there unless I have.

I will take the most prompt measures to learn if there is any truth in the rumor of the Indians intending to attack the settlements from the Columbia and give you all the correct information in my power.

Your friend most truly

J. Cain

Indian Agent

CRD