

government will be a large gainer; for, if they are driven off and turned loose upon the Territory, it would cost more to subject them to control again than it would require to support them five years in their present condition. I cannot too earnestly call your attention to this point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HUMPHREYS,
Indian Agent, Utah Territory.

HON. CHARLES E. MIX,
*Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.*

No. 77.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Portland, Oregon, October 1, 1860.

SIR: The pressure of business, connected with the inauguration of ten treaties with tribes of Indians in this superintendency, ratified in March and April, 1859, but for the fulfilling of which no appropriations were made till the last session of Congress, has compelled delay in rendering my annual report beyond the prescribed period.

The length of time intervening between the negotiation and ratification of these treaties, being a period of over four years, naturally produced much dissatisfaction and distrust in the minds of the Indians. In the meantime, too, the country east of the Cascade mountains ceded by these treaties being rapidly filling up with settlers, and traversed in all directions by large parties in search of the precious metals, served especially to arouse the apprehension of the large and warlike tribes of the interior, that their country was about to be occupied by the whites without their receiving the consideration agreed upon. So intense had this feeling become that I have no doubt the peace of the country has only been preserved by the prudence and conciliatory course of the several agents, and the awe inspired by the military forces in the country.

Among the tribes referred to no overt act of hostility has occurred; and I cherish the confidence that the measures already taken to carry the treaties into effect will not fail to allay the feeling of discontent, and restore relations of the most amicable character.

The Indians in this superintendency do not exceed thirty-eight thousand souls; seven thousand in Oregon and thirty-one thousand in Washington Territory. Dividing the superintendency by the Cascade mountains, about fourteen thousand souls are found between that range and the Pacific, and twenty-four thousand in the interior. In Washington Territory over twelve thousand six hundred Indians, and in Oregon over three thousand seven hundred Indians are not embraced in the existing treaties.

The Indians formerly inhabiting the valleys of Willamette, Umpqua, and Rogue rivers, and the sea-coast in Oregon, do not, at present, exceed three thousand in number. Of these, all except the Tillamooks, Neha-

lins, and Clatsops, numbering together but one hundred and seventy-nine persons, are now collected on the Coast reservation. Eleven hundred and thirty-four are provided for by treaties, and one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six are without such provisions. A treaty was made with them in 1855, by General Palmer, then superintendent, containing many liberal provisions, in pursuance of which they relinquished their homes, and were removed to the Coast reservation; but this treaty has never been ratified. Most of the Indians referred to as not embraced in treaties were collected at Fort Umpqua and on the Coast reservation during the hostilities of 1855 and 1856, where for a time they were clothed and fed from the ample appropriations of the government made at that period, and for two years subsequent. These appropriations being now discontinued, and that for general purposes being so meager as to be scarcely adequate to meet current administrative expenses of this extensive superintendency, I am left without funds applicable to supply their necessities.

Owing to the abundant crops harvested at the Grand Ronde and Siletz agencies the present season, the Indians in the respective districts of Agents Miller and Newcomb can be subsisted at little cost to the government; but the Cooses and Umpquas recently removed to the Alcea by Sub-agent Sykes, in pursuance of instructions from the Indian office, owing to the entire failure of the crops at that point, must be fed. If this is not done these Indians will be driven to the alternative of starvation, or, in obedience to the strong instincts of self-preservation, of begging and stealing their subsistence in the neighboring settlements. Adequate clothing, at least equal to that supplied to Indians under treaty, must be given to the other class, or discontent and the abandoning of the reservation will be the consequence; and deprived of this supply they could not endure the rigors of the approaching winter without being decimated by the diseases and sufferings that must inevitably result from such privation.

I have accordingly authorized the several agents on the reservations having this class of Indians in charge to make purchases adequate to meet their emergent necessities; believing that so clear a dictate of humanity and justice will have the favorable consideration of your office, and that appropriation will be made by Congress at an early day to discharge the liabilities thus incurred.

As mills have been erected and expensive farms opened at the Siletz, which, together with the schools, hospitals, and mechanic shops will enure to the benefit of these Indians, as well as to those embraced in the treaties, I do not regard it as desirable that the Coast treaty should be ratified; nor do I regard the formality of another treaty as necessary. Yet permanent provisions should be made by congressional enactment extending to them annuities, to be paid in such articles as their necessities may require, and for the payment of such additional employés and the erection of such buildings as will in all respects secure them equal advantages and comforts with those under treaty. If some provision of this kind is not made it will be exceedingly difficult to restrain them from leaving the reservation; and should they escape to their old haunts, besides the injuries they would doubtless inflict on the settlements, the cost of again subduing them will be immensely greater

than that of supplying their few simple wants. This measure of simple justice will inspire the Indians with confidence, and cause them to yield cheerfully to the restrictions and instructions so essential to their physical welfare and moral and social elevation.

For a detailed view of the operations of the Indian service on the Coast reservation, I would direct your attention to the reports of Agents Miller and Newcomb, and Sub-agent Sykes, herewith transmitted. The Warm Springs reservation, deriving its name from the existence of several springs upon it of a high temperature, was designated for the use of the Indians in Middle Oregon, parties to the treaty of 25th of June, 1855. This reservation extends from the Mutton mountain on the north to the Metolins, a tributary of the Des Chutes river, on the south, a distance of about fifty miles; and from the west bank of the Des Chutes to the crest of the Cascade mountains, the area is about eight hundred square miles. The general surface is rugged, mountainous, and barren, and, unless found to embosom the precious metals, is not likely, for ages to come, to tempt the cupidity of the white man. It contains, however, extensive natural pastures, capable of sustaining numerous herds, and several narrow valleys, separated by elevated table lands and mountains, are fertile, and well adapted to the production of the cereals and garden vegetables. Game abounds in the mountains; also nutritious roots and berries, and the streams are well supplied with fish.

Though the treaty was not ratified till April, 1859, this tract has been occupied as a reservation since 1856. Under the supervision of Colonel Dennison, the agent, extensive farms have been opened on the Chiticke and its branches, and many of the Indians induced to cultivate the soil, in which the more industrious have had encouraging success. A commodious building, built for defense in the form of a block-house, affords comfortable quarters for the resident employés. Notwithstanding the difficulty of reaching this reservation with wagons, and its remoteness from the salmon fisheries secured by the treaty to the Indians, it would now be impracticable to find another location less objectionable, and better adapted to promote their physical, social, and moral welfare.

The more intelligent Indians regarding this reservation as an asylum from influences, which, if not arrested, would speedily effect their ruin, were generally contented, and erected their rude, but comfortable, cabins, with confidence, feeling assured of the fostering care and protection of our government. It has been, however, their misfortune to encounter, not only the vexations and annoyance connected with the long delay to ratify the treaty, but also the loss of life and property by the frequent forays of the Snake Indians, who may be regarded as their hereditary enemies, and have long been noted for their predatory and treacherous character. Failing to receive the adequate protection of the troops, though often solicited by the agent, in attempting to recover their stolen property, they came into collision with the marauders, a number of whom were slain in the encounter. The effect on the "Snakes" was to superadd the spirit of revenge to the desire of booty.

At a time when all, except a few women and children, were absent

hunting and gathering berries in the mountains, the enemy appeared in strong force, killed or captured the women and children, drove off the cattle and horses belonging to the Indians and the government, compelled Dr. Fitch, then in charge, and the employés to escape for their lives, plundered the agency and the huts of the Indians, and left the reservation.

It is useless in this connection to dwell more minutely on the causes which led to this disaster. Properly authenticated statements of the losses sustained by the government, the agent and employés, and the Indians, were rendered by Agent Dennison, under instructions from this office, and duly forwarded to the Indian Bureau. The spoliation of the private property of the persons in the Indian service is clearly the basis of an equitable claim on the Treasury of the United States, and an act for their indemnity should be passed by Congress at an early day. The duty of the government to remunerate the Indians for their lost property appears equally clear, as they were on the reservation in obedience to its requirement and with the guarantee of its protection.

When Sub-agent Abbott took temporary charge of Agent Dennison's district in December last, during the absence of that gentleman in the Atlantic States, I directed him to proceed to the reservation, and, if practicable, fix his headquarters there. This was done to protect the buildings and fencing from destruction, and maintain possession. Many of the Indians were thus induced to return, with their remaining horses, and resume the cultivation of their fields. Their confidence was so far restored that several comfortable houses were erected in the vicinity of the agency. The "Snakes" did not, however, cease from their incursions. Alarms were frequent; and, on one occasion, a small body of troops were sent out, but the stealthy enemy being nowhere visible, they immediately returned to the Dalles. Not less than eighty Indian horses were stolen during the spring and summer. Indeed, a constant guard by day and corralling by night alone availed to save any.

Impelled by a desire to discover the rendezvous of these mysterious marauders, and, if possible, establish amicable relations with them, by which they might be induced to desist from their predatory incursions on this reservation, and the Indians in amity with our government, I availed myself of the presence of a military force, traversing their country, to proceed, accompanied by Sub-agent Abbott and nine men, five of whom were Indians, in search of the marauders. We left the Dalles on the 1st of June. After a fruitless journey of two hundred and fifty miles through the wilderness, in which we found not an Indian, though we frequently placed fires on the hills, the usual signal for a conference, we overtook the command of Major Stein, on Buck creek, a small tributary of Crooked river, about forty miles west of Harney (Malhuer) lake. Here we had the first intimation of the presence and hostile attitude of the "Snakes." They had attacked the camp of the military guide near this place two nights previous to our arrival. From this point onward we had almost daily indications of the vicinity of the hostiles, but not in great numerical force. On the 14th June our Indians brought in two shod American horses. On

the following evening, as we were pitching our tents, two men rode into camp; they belonged to a company of fifty-four men from the Willamette valley, who, while *en route* for the Owyhee river to prospect for gold, had been attacked by the "Snakes" at a creek about thirty miles northeast of Harney lake, and robbed of seventy horses. Being on foot, with only animals enough to pack their provisions, they commenced a retreat. The next day they were intercepted by the enemy, when a battle ensued, in which one of the white men was severely wounded, and six or seven Indians killed. The miners continued their retreat without further molestation from the Indians; and, after much suffering from hunger and fatigue, all succeeded in reaching their homes. On receiving this intelligence, Major Stein immediately sent a messenger to advise Captain Smith, who, with his company, had left us two days previously, to proceed to the City Rocks, on the route to Salt lake. The next day Major Stein, with his command, proceeded to Stampede lake, a little north of Lake Harney, in order to be nearer the scene of the late disaster, and the more readily to communicate with Captain Smith. Here we spent two days reconnoitering, without discovering any indications of Indians in the vicinity.

Lake Harney is seventeen miles in length from east to west, and about twelve miles over at its greatest width. The elevation is over 4,000 feet above the sea level. It is fed by two small streams—Moose creek from the west, and Willow creek flowing through a succession of tule marshes from the north. This lake has no outlet; the waters contain a mixture of salt and salaratus in strong solution, and are exceedingly offensive in odor and taste. The immediate surroundings are dreary and barren in the extreme. No fish live in it, though Willow creek, its tributary, contains immense numbers. This stream drains a beautiful valley, commencing twelve miles north of the lake, having an area of not less than 5,000 miles—a luxuriant meadow, bounded by cliffs of basaltic rocks on the west, and the timbered slopes of the Blue Mountains on the east. The great altitude renders this beautiful valley wholly unsuited to agriculture, yet its luxuriant pastures may some day allure thither the hardy adventurer with his flocks and herds. It is not a suitable site either for a military post or an Indian reservation.

On the 19th June Major Stein set out, no enemy having been found, to accomplish the chief object of his expedition, the opening of an emigrant wagon road into the Willamette valley, by the way of the middle fork of the Willamette river. At Buck creek, urgent business demanding my presence at an early day in Portland, I left my party and the military, and returned with the expressman, a distance of two hundred and sixty miles, to the Dalles, which I accomplished in five days, without seeing the vestige of an Indian. Two days after I left Major Stein's command, Captain Smith was attacked by a large body of the stealthy Snakes, and the Major was recalled from his road survey to cooperate with Captain Smith against the enemy. These troops have but lately returned to the Dalles, after a toilsome campaign of over three months, in which, from the rugged nature of the country, they have been able to effect but little in the way of chastising the enemy.

A reliable report has just reached me, that these adroit thieves, following close on the heels of the returning troops, have made a sudden descent on the Warm Springs reservation and driven off all the stock from there. These repeated disasters on this reservation leave no alternative but the establishment of a permanent post for its protection, or its abandonment. The establishment of a post at that point is, evidently, the true course.

These Indians, though known as Snakes, are by no means to be confounded with the Bannacks and Sho-sho-nees of the Rocky Mountains. The latter are well mounted and annually hunt the Buffalo on the headwaters of the Yellow Stone, while the former are a miserable race, clad in skins, without houses or inclosures, hiding like wild beasts in the rocks, or cowering beneath the sage brush, and deriving a precarious subsistence from roots and insects, except when their predatory forays afford them better fare. Stealthy as the fox and fierce as the wolf, they seize the unguarded moment to pounce on their prey and bear it away in triumph. Their country has no indications that they are numerous; few trails, and seldom an old camp, are found. Having but few guns, and being generally armed with bows, they cannot be formidable; yet, they are the terror of the surrounding tribes, and alike a mystery to the red man and the white. As to the country they inhabit, with the exception of an occasional valley and the declivities of the Blue Mountains, it is a barren desert. Our government could well afford to permit them to possess it without molestation, would they but cease their incursions into more favored regions, and suffer the traveler to pass unmolested. To this, however, they will not consent till overtaken and taught, by severe chastisement, the white man's power; then made the recipients of our bounty, they may be brought to appreciate and enjoy the benefits of peace and honest labor.

As to the Indians embraced in the treaty of June 15, 1855, they are among the most docile of their race, and adopt with facility the dress and habits of civilized life. Removed from those evil influences that so often degrade and ruin; on a reservation remote from the scenes of temptation, the efforts of the government, in their behalf, will not fail to ameliorate their condition and elevate their character. Every dictate of humanity and justice, therefore, forbids that they should any longer fail to receive adequate protection in the home which, by solemn treaty, we have allotted them.

Since the return of Agent Dennison from the Atlantic States, Sub-agent Abbott, who was in temporary charge of the Warm Springs reservation, has been assigned to duty on the Umatilla reservation, and charged with the care of the tribes and bands embraced in the treaty of June 9, 1855. These Indians, as nearly as can be estimated, number one thousand and fifty. The Cayuses and Umatillas, once proud and powerful tribes, are now greatly reduced in numbers and wealth, which consisted chiefly in immense bands of horses. They are still comparatively free from the degrading vices to which the Indians have so generally fallen victims, and it is hoped that, under a wise and judicious administration of the existing treaty, they will make rapid advances in civilization. The chief of the Umatillas is an intelligent

man, and is very desirous that his people should adopt the habits and customs of the whites. The Walla-Wallas have less marked characteristics, and have been much deteriorated by vicious indulgences.

The Umatilla reservation, situated south of Wild Horse creek, on the Umatilla river, was estimated by General Palmer to contain an area of 800 square miles. A large portion of this tract is mountainous, diversified with prairie and forest, and is valuable for its pastures and the chase. At the western base of the Blue Mountains a belt of land of varying width, extending from ten to fifteen miles, and well watered by mountain springs, contains much fertile land, which would, I have no doubt, under proper culture, well repay the labors of husbandry. As a natural pasture it can scarcely be excelled for beauty and productiveness.

The bottoms on the Umatilla are, to about half their extent, covered with a thick growth of cottonwood, alder, and birch.

The remaining half is open prairie, much of it very fertile, though portions are rendered unproductive by the presence of alkali. These fertile spots can be readily irrigated, and are well suited for gardens.

On the north side of the Umatilla the country is an elevated table land, swelling into rugged hills towards the east, which are skirted by a limited tract fitted for agriculture. Covered with luxuriant bunch grass, it affords a pasture ample for thousands of cattle and sheep. The winters are said to be mild, the snow never falling to a great depth or lying long.

The emigrant road now traversing this reservation can, it is said, be easily diverted to the south, passing the mountains by a shorter and more eligible route. The appropriation already made will, it is believed, be ample for its survey and construction.

The distance from the Dalles to the reserve is about 120 miles, by an excellent natural road.

Having explored this reservation twice, first in February and afterwards in July last, I feel confident that in regard to soil, climate, and the extent of the hunting and root grounds, it has peculiar facilities for becoming self-sustaining at an early day. Being in immediate contiguity to the settlements, especial vigilance will be required to guard the Indians from the corrupting influence of unprincipled white men. Military protection, both to the reservation and the white settlements, may also be required against the predatory forays of the Snake Indians, whose country lies contiguous on the opposite side of the Blue Mountains.

The reservation provided for the Nez Percés is an immense tract, extending from the Palouse on the north to the crest of the Salmon River mountains on the south, over 100 miles, and has an average width of sixty miles from east to west. The chief rivers are the Snake or Lewis river and its tributaries, the Clear Water and Salmon rivers. The Snake river to the mouth of the Clear Water, and the latter for fifty miles up, are navigable for batteaux and probably small steamers, and are quite eligible for rafting purposes. A finely-timbered country is found on the Clear Water, consisting of pine, cedar, and larch; of which the country for hundreds of miles south and west is almost destitute. The lumbering business might, therefore, under judicious

management, be made a source of large permanent income to this tribe. About one half of the country on the east is made up of rugged mountains; the remaining portion is an elevated plain, often divided by deep chasms. It is untimbered, and abounds in grass. The principal streams flow through ravines and narrow valleys at an immense depth below the general surface. They are usually walled in by massive rocks of columnar basalt.

Within these rock-bound limits the margins of the streams seldom expand to any considerable extent, and only at wide intervals are a few acres found of fertile soil.

A few wider valleys are found having a fertile soil, but the destitution of timber renders their occupancy to a great extent impracticable.

The largest tract of agricultural land west of the mountains is on the Laproai, a small tributary of the Clear Water. On this creek was located the once prosperous mission of Rev. Mr. Spalding. The Weipe valley, about sixty miles east of the Laproai, has a fertile soil, but the elevation subjects it to summer frosts.

As a whole this reservation has great natural resources, the timber of its mountains can be floated to a certain market on its rivers, its extensive pastures are adequate to sustain numerous flocks and herds; game and fish are abundant, and its valleys, though limited and widely separated, are fertile and productive, and capable of supplying the agricultural wants of the tribe.

This people received their first lessons in civilization from the Rev. Mr. Spalding. A considerable number profess Christianity, and are exemplary in their conduct; this is a remarkable fact, proving the depth of the impression made by the teaching of the missionary, as they have been now for thirteen years without a white religious teacher. Their small fields are cultivated with considerable skill, and irrigation is often resorted to for the maturing of their crops.

They have large herds of horses, and begin to give attention to improving the breed. A few of them also own cattle. Many of their young men annually hunt the buffalo on the waters of the Missouri. A few can read and write their own language, which is said to be copious, flexible, and expressive.

The Nez Percés are characterized by mental vigor, energy, bravery, and docility, and are larger and more muscular than most of the surrounding tribes. The loathsome diseases common among the coast Indians are almost unknown.

It is to be regretted that since the extension of our settlements into the interior, the degrading vice of intemperance has extended among them, and unless arrested, it will produce the same disastrous consequences so often witnessed among the Indian race.

The main pass into the Nez Percés country is by the Elpowwa, and I have instructed the agent to place a suitable person at that point to examine all packs brought in, hoping thus, in a great measure, to break up this traffic, and avert the destructive evil.

The expression of a determination on the part of an armed company to enter their country in search of gold, created a great excitement among the Indians, and would certainly have been resisted by them, had it been attempted. The judicious measures of the agent, with the

concurrence of the military authorities, has happily averted a disastrous collision, which at one time seemed imminent.

A faction in the tribe, who appear to have never cordially approved the cession of their lands, has at various times evinced a spirit of insubordination and sullen opposition to the wishes of the agent, and made vigorous efforts to spread disaffection through the tribe, on account of the long delay attending the ratification of the treaty, but the friendly party has remained firm, and continues to command a controlling influence.

As remarked before, these Indians have large bands of horses, which they sell to the traders, or drive to Walla-Walla and the Dalles, and exchange for blankets, clothing, and groceries. They have generally adopted the American costume, and evince their progress in civilization by attaching comparatively little value to the gewgaws and trinkets that so commonly captivate the savage. This reservation has the advantage of an isolated position, and there is but one eligible pass into their country in the direction of the settlements, that is, by the Elpowwa, already mentioned.

The reservation provided for the various bands and tribes confederated under the name of the Yakama Nation is situated east of the Cascade mountains, in a northwesterly direction from the Dalles of the Columbia; it contains an area of about 800 square miles, the chief habitable part of which is the Simcoe valley, which has an extent of fifty miles from east to west, and averages twenty miles in width.

A large portion of the valley is rocky and sterile; in other parts the pastures are luxuriant and extensive, and are adapted to the rearing of cattle and sheep. In the lower localities alkali abounds, leaving the tracts adapted to agriculture of limited extent. Enough of arable land will be found, however, to yield all the cereals and vegetables required by the Indians.

Springs of remarkable beauty rise in many places, and supply the valley plentifully with pure water. Many nutritious roots are found here, rendering the valley a place of common resort by many bands and tribes, for the purpose of laying up their supplies of subsistence. Timber of excellent quality is found in the mountains. Numerous bear, a few deer and elk, ducks, geese, grouse, and curlew, constitute the game. Beaver and other animals valuable for their furs are said to be largely on the increase.

This is probably the most isolated of all the reservations, being surrounded by a wide belt of country that will not soon attract the settler, yet it is of easy access by a well-constructed military road, except in the winter season, when communication is cut off by the deep snows that fall in the mountains.

This valley was the home of the noted Kamiakin, the leading spirit in the late Indian war, and was the scene of many of the most marked events of its history.

The entire Yakama tribe proper, and most of the other bands confederated by the treaty of the 9th June, 1855, were, to a greater or less extent, among the hostiles. The disasters of their infatuated outbreak fell heavily upon them: the survivors are well satisfied of their folly, and the benefits of peace. Henceforth we may regard them as wholly

subdued, and subservient to every reasonable behest. Kamiakin is now a fugitive, and has declined to return to this reservation, though offered by the agent a full amnesty, and the chieftainship of the confederated bands, with the salary and emoluments provided in the treaty. He distrusts the white man, and is more intent on personal safety than official honors. Regarding him as of a suspicious and treacherous nature, and strongly attached to the habits and customs of savage life, I have at no time approved the policy of making him head chief, and have temporarily designated "Spencer," an intelligent and friendly Klickitat chief, to that position. He has always been well disposed to the whites, ready to adopt their dress and customs, and noted for integrity and temperance.

The buildings at this agency are of a superior construction, and well adapted to all the uses required. They are those of the military post established in that valley during the war, and afterwards turned over to the Indian department. On my visit there last spring, I found the agent occupying the house erected for the commanding officer, and in the enjoyment of comforts and conveniences seldom found in an Indian country.

Though the Indians to be collected on this reservation are, in their physical and mental developments, and in their habits generally, greatly inferior to the other interior tribes, their location combines so many advantages that a judicious administration of their affairs, in accordance with the present policy of the government, can scarcely fail of marked success.

Having carefully explored the several reservations east of the Cascades, to which I have referred, and finding them all peculiarly adapted to grazing purposes, I am fully convinced that the interests of the Indians will be prominently advanced by encouraging the rearing of sheep and cattle, an occupation more consonant with the character of their country and their previous pursuits than agriculture. I have accordingly purchased, under contract, a few hundred cows and heifers for the Nez Percés, and the Umatilla and Warm Springs reservations, and placed them in the hands of the respective agents. I also authorized the agent at Simcoe to make a similar purchase of cattle, and also of about six hundred sheep, which he has accomplished.

These purchases have given the highest satisfaction to the Indians, and I believe that a large portion of their future annuities will be judiciously expended in a similar way.

Owing to the troubles in the Snake country demanding my presence in that direction during the late military expeditions, I have not been able to visit the Flathead reservation this summer. I am, therefore, indebted to other sources than my own observation for my information in regard to the condition and prospects of that agency.

The reservation provided for the tribes confederated as the Flathead Nation is situated in the remote interior, about 650 miles from this office, and can only be reached by a toilsome journey of at least twenty days.

The main reservation provided for these Indians contains about 2,000 square miles, and is nearly equally divided by Clark's fork of the Columbia. The general characteristics of this tract conform to those

of the reservations in the interior already described. It is well timbered and watered, and contains an ample amount of good soil and valuable natural pastures.

At the negotiation of the treaty the Flatheads proper, occupying the Bitter Root valley, expressed an entire unwillingness to remove from their old homes, to which they are strongly attached. A conditional reservation was accordingly provided in the eleventh article of the same treaty for said tribe, on which it was agreed to permit them to remain, if after proper examination it should be found better adapted to their wants than the general reservation. This tribe still adheres pertinaciously to their original desire, and I do not think it would be judicious at present to coerce their removal to the general reservation. All the permanent improvements, however, provided for by treaty, should be placed thereon; and it is hoped that they will, at no distant day, be induced to remove of their own accord. I have no doubt their general welfare will be most promoted by their removal, as the general reservation is ample for the accommodation of all the confederated tribes; and as the Bitter Root valley is desirable for the purpose of a white settlement, being traversed by the military road to Fort Benton, recently opened, I would recommend that measures be taken for its evacuation by the Indians at an early day.

The Flatheads and the cognate tribes are a noble race, magnanimous and brave. They have been for twenty-five years under the spiritual direction of the Catholic missionaries, and all profess Christianity. They have abandoned most of their savage customs, and may, indeed, be regarded as a partially civilized people. They have been taught to cultivate the soil, which, besides the hardier vegetables, is well adapted to the production of oats, barley, and peas. Wheat also yields a fair crop, but is liable to be affected by smut. They are less attached than formerly to the precarious fortunes of the chase, and disposed to look to the more certain and ample resources of agriculture. Grass abounds, and the rearing of cattle and sheep should be assiduously fostered and aided by the government.

It is to be regretted that the character and wants of this people had not been better known to the authorities at Washington prior to the late purchase of annuities, as a much more judicious one might have resulted. As it is, many articles purchased will inure but little to their benefit, while the large appropriations, which properly expended would have tended to the most beneficial results, are now exhausted.

Major Lugenbeel, United States Army, in charge of the Colville depot, who has kindly acted as a special agent for the Indians in his vicinity, at the latest advices, represents them generally as well disposed, but suffering much from the influence of unprincipled whisky traders, whom it is difficult to reach with the law, or restrain. He has been authorized to employ an interpreter, and to pay a physician a limited compensation for services and medicines rendered Indians.

For a detailed account of the condition of the Indians west of the Cascade mountains, in Washington Territory, you are referred to the reports of Agent Simmons and Sub-agent Gosnell.

The Indians embraced in the treaty of Medicine creek are in charge of the last named officer.

These Indians occupy the three reservations of Squaxin, Puyallup, and Nesqually. There has been a marked improvement in the habits and circumstances of these Indians. They have generally comfortable houses, and their farms and fisheries afford them ample subsistence.

The recommendation of Agent Gosnell to so alter the boundaries of the Nesqually reservation as to include an addition of about two sections of pasture land is judicious, if this reservation is regarded as permanent. But, in view of the policy of ultimately collecting all the Indians west of the mountains at Puyallup, I deem it inexpedient to make the proposed change.

I would, however, urge the propriety and justice of increasing, by at least \$3,000, the annuity of the Indians embraced in the treaty of Medicine creek, which is wholly inadequate—the number of the Indians being much larger than at first estimated—even to afford them a decent blanket apiece.

The school would be of much greater utility if located on the Nesqually reservation.

The extensive report of Agent Simmons contains much valuable information and important suggestions. His remarks as to the inadequacy of the appropriations for the last year should have careful consideration. It is difficult to improve the character and condition of the Indians when the means afforded are so limited as to compel the abandonment of farms and other improvements, already provided under more liberal appropriations of former years. The meager provisions for the inauguration of the treaties with the Indians on Puget's Sound and the coast, and for incidental purposes, unless relieved by the early passage of a deficiency bill for the current year, will leave that important district still embarrassed by difficulties similar to those now the subject of just complaint.

The incursions of the Indians from beyond our national boundary lead to constant collisions with our Indians, and place even the lives and property of our exposed settlers in jeopardy. Some effective measures should be taken to exclude these formidable free-booters from the waters of the Sound.

The employment of a small and swift war steamer for this purpose, heretofore repeatedly recommended, is again respectfully urged on your consideration.

The liquor traffic, especially on the island of San Juan, despite the efforts of the Indian service and the military, receives but little check. In the words of Captain Pickett, of the Army, commanding at that point, "the consequences are but too obvious—robbery and even murder." Counteracted by such influences, all efforts to elevate and improve the Indians are almost wholly ineffectual, and their progress to utter extinction is accelerated.

I would gladly appoint a special agent for duty at San Juan had I the means to spare from even more pressing claims, to meet the expenses incident to the undertaking.

It is hoped that under the operation of treaties about to be initiated many of the Indians may be induced to fix themselves permanently on the reservations, and thus be withdrawn from influences ruinous to themselves, and rendering them the pests of society.

The failure of Congress to provide for additional agents west of the mountains in Washington—a measure of great importance to the service—has led me to transfer the Quil-lai-utes and Qui-nai-elts, and a part of the S'klallams to the care of Sub-agent Gosnell, and also the bands and tribes, not embraced in treaties, found west of the mountains. In other respects the district of Agent Simmons remains as heretofore.

I have directed this officer, as soon as practicable, to establish his agent at a suitable point on the central reservation of Puyallup, and to have regard in the location to its eligibility for the industrial school, shops, and dwellings provided for in the fourteenth article of the treaty of January 22, 1855.

Also, in view of the policy indicated in the third article of the same treaty, I have directed that as few improvements as practicable, of a permanent character, be made on the other numerous reservations.

This consideration is not, however, intended to preclude the opening of farms and the erection of necessary buildings at any of these places, that the present wants of the service may require.

For a detailed description of the special reservations and information as to the changes in their boundaries and locations, recommended by the agent, see his report.

Less than two employés on each special reservation would not answer the demands of the service.

The purchase of a small schooner of seventy or eighty tons, recommended by the agent, I would regard as a judicious and economical arrangement, and well adapted to subserve the various objects to which his report refers. I accordingly recommend that the purchase of such a vessel be authorized.

I fully concur in the observation of the agent in regard to the payment of annuities. Goods and gew-gaws are little less pernicious than the payment of money. Let the money be expended in the opening of farms and the purchase of stock, in accordance with the wise intentions of the treaties, to aid the Indians in procuring their own subsistence. Such investments cannot be squandered, and will be a permanent source of income. Their farms and possessions thus made constantly to accumulate, will be a check on their wandering propensities. It will give them a fixed home, with its attending moral and social benefit.

I again present the recommendation contained in my last year's report, that the Indians west of the mountains, not embraced in existing stipulations, be immediately treated with, and confederated with the Indians on the reservations already designated. They are entitled to the care of the government, and our citizens justly complain of the annoyance and demoralizing influence of their presence among them.

Their demand is one to which a just public policy requires a favorable response, and the voice of humanity calls with equal cogency for the rescue of the Indians, if possible, from the blighting influences so destructive to their race.

Public sentiment is so aroused to the evils attending the presence of the Indians among the whites, that I believe a bloody catastrophe impends, only to be averted by the prompt action of the government.

The necessity for treaty stipulations with the remaining tribes east of the mountains, in Oregon and Washington, is daily becoming more manifest.

The settlements are extending; exploring parties are abroad in search of mineral treasure; the Indians are uneasy and excited; their apprehension is aroused that their country is to be wrested from them; the long delay attending the ratification of treaties already made, fills all with distrust as to the fidelity of the government to its contracts and engagements; unprincipled traders cheat them of their possessions and fire their passions with rum; and their sullenness and indisposition to communicate with the whites for several months past, and councils held for secret purposes among themselves, impress many most conversant with Indian character with the fear that hostilities are meditated, and another war on the threshold.

Such indications are not to be disregarded, as a savage war on our extended frontier, however brief, would fall with terrible disaster on the families of our hardy pioneers. Apart from this consideration, the including of all the tribes of the interior in similar treaties at an early day, is essential to the system of Indian policy now adopted by the government. While the dissatisfied and insubordinate on the reservations can flee to these outside tribes for refuge; or they, in turn, can visit the reservations, an influence of evil tendency will be constantly reciprocated between the two classes, and the benevolent plans of the government continually thwarted.

The prosperity of the State and Territory in which these Indians are found, the development of their resources, and the augmentation of their population hinge, in a great degree, on the perfecting of treaties with these tribes by which they may be withdrawn from lands needed for new settlements. I therefore respectfully recommend, through you, to the consideration of the President, the importance of authorizing additional treaties with the natives at an early day, and that Congress be asked to make such appropriations at the coming session as may be required to meet the necessary expenses.

I would further recommend that as few additional reservations as possible be made. Those already provided are more than ample in extent and resources; and, by consulting the habits and affinities of the Indians, there is not a tribe to be treated with that cannot find a congenial and advantageous home on some one of them.

I regret to say that education on the existing reservations has made little if any progress. In most cases, the efforts in this direction have been crude and ill sustained. The schools have failed to be attractive, and the indolent and wandering habits of the parents have prevented the punctual attendance of the children. They soon weary of the restraint, and the parents have too low an appreciation of the benefits to be obtained to use coercion. There is no want of capacity in the Indian, yet, for the reasons assigned, none have made any available progress in education. The civilizing influence of the school room, great in itself, is wholly counteracted by the associations of their savage homes.

Industrial schools, where the most promising children may be placed, boarded, and brought under proper discipline, away from their

homes and savage associates, presents, in my judgment, the only feasible plan for the accomplishment of valuable results. The success, however, of this system, will depend on the wisdom, religious sentiment, and devotion to the enterprise of those to whom its operations are intrusted.

The educational interests of the Indians should be placed in the hands of those who from a sentiment of humanity, guided and energized by the strong convictions of moral obligations, have devoted their lives to the efforts of Christian beneficence. In this connection, I am also impelled to express the conviction that too little regard has been paid to moral and religious influence, in the efforts on this coast to ameliorate the condition of the Indians. So far as I am advised, no stated religious services have ever been maintained on any of the reservations.

The Indians have the moral faculties common to the human race, and while their moral culture is neglected, no effort for their elevation and social improvement will be marked by distinguished success.

Missions should be encouraged among all the Indians of this coast, and the way fully opened for their cultivation in Christian sentiment and obligation.

Reference to the several lately ratified treaties made with the Indians in the interior of Washington and Oregon, shows that the chief objects to which the large sums embraced in the first payment for their lands ceded to the United States, are applicable, are such as "providing for their removal to the reservations;" "breaking up and fencing farms;" "building houses;" "supplying provisions and a suitable outfit," &c.

The aggregate amount of these first payments, to be expended for such objects as above specified, under the five treaties with the Indians east of the Cascade mountains, and appropriated by Congress at its last session, is \$231,000. Of this, the sum of \$111,000 was expended in the purchase of dry goods, groceries, and hardware on the Atlantic side. This expenditure does not appear to be in accordance with the spirit and intent of these treaties; nor does it meet the just expectations of the Indians.

The whole amount appropriated for first payment of annuities to the Indians, embraced in four treaties, in Washington Territory, west of the mountains, is \$26,500; of which the entire amount has been expended in the purchase of goods in the same market as above.

These purchases, by which large sums have been diverted from their original intention, have greatly embarrassed the operations of the agent, and occasion a loss to the several tribes that can only be made up by a remunerative appropriation. If this is not done, many of the benefits expected to result to the Indians from these treaties are already irretrievably lost.

Some of the dry goods are not adapted to the condition and habits of the Indians on this side of the Rocky Mountains, and one half the amount would have sufficed for their present wants.

Suitable goods of the best quality can be purchased in this market at prices ranging but little above those paid for similar articles shipped from New York. Thus the freight might have been saved, and the

risk and exposure avoided, by which many articles have been damaged in the transportation. Had one half of the amount laid out in these purchases been expended in opening farms on the reservations, and the buying of stock cattle and sheep, it would have inured vastly to the benefit of the Indians, and thus have been made a source of permanent income, going far to aid them "to subsist themselves" in accordance with the express object of the treaties.

The tendency, too, would be to lead the Indians to the pursuits of industry and domestic habits, going far to break up their wandering propensities, and create a love of home, without which, efforts for their civilization will avail but little.

Their acquisition of this kind of property is also a guarantee of peace, both among the several tribes and with the government, for without peace there would be but little security for such possessions.

Peculiar circumstances will alone hereafter justify purchases, without first ascertaining the necessities and wishes of the Indian, and with the exception of those for the Flatheads, the supplies required can be more economically and judiciously purchased hereafter in this market, without incurring the risk attending their transportation on the ocean.

The duties of agents and sub-agents in this superintendency are identical—equally onerous and responsible; while the salary of sub-agents is only one thousand dollars per annum, or five hundred dollars less than that of an agent. This discrimination is inequitable. I therefore recommend that the sub-agencies be changed to full agencies, and that in lieu of the present sub-agents four additional agents for Washington and three additional agents for Oregon be authorized: their fields of duty to be assigned them as the service may require, and their salary to be at the rate of fifteen hundred dollars per annum.

I cannot close my report without expressing my high appreciation of the prompt and efficient manner in which Col. Wright, the commanding officer in this military department, has responded to every call from this office. I also feel under many obligations to Major E. Stein, and Capt. A. J. Smith, of the first dragoons, for kind attentions while in the Snake country last summer.

I remain, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

EDWARD R. GEARY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs.

HON. A. B. GREENWOOD,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 78.

INDIAN AGENCY, OLYMPIA, W. T.,

July 1, 1860.

SIR: Since my report of last year, dated July 1, 1859, the Indian affairs in this district have been almost at a stand. Totally so, I may say, when referring to any improvement among the tribes. This I presume will not be wondered at when I state that less than \$9,000