

connected therewith. Hence but little has been done towards effecting the organization of this department.

Another unavoidable inconvenience that this agency has experienced, from its proximity to the gold mines, is the demoralizing influence on the employes, incident to the fabulous current reports of the vast wealth of the mines. It is not natural that men should remain contented in secluded and monotonous positions on limited wages—and even that pay interminably and hopelessly deferred—with the prospect of sudden riches in their imaginations almost within their grasp. For this reason, most of the employes that I originally selected have been allured away by the prevailing excitements arising from the gold fields. This fact will necessarily abridge the reports of the subordinates of the reserve to a degree rendering them more incomplete in details than the Indian bureau desires.

I respectfully refer you to such reports accompanying this, and, in addition, to the suggestions of the superintendent of farming, I would recommend that you procure from the Patent Office, at Washington, a quantity of seeds of cereals and vegetables for this agency, that the seeds, reproduced from such as prove to be adapted to this soil and climate, be introduced among the Indians. The farming operations of the reservation were, until the 31st May ultimo, immediately superintended by Mr. Robert Newel. The attention and zeal displayed by him in encouraging the Indians to industry, and the well-directed council that he imparted to them at all times to pursue useful occupations, were aided and rendered more effectual by his long residence and favorable acquaintance with them; and the result is, that this year the Indians are attending to their farms with increased vigor. During the past spring I have issued a quantity of agricultural implements to this tribe, and it is gratifying to observe that they are intelligently and profitably using them.

In restraining these Indians repeatedly during the past year from acts of recrimination and vengeance for aggravated outrages perpetrated on them by worthless white men, much of the credit is due to their head chief, "Lawyer," who has exerted the most salutary and effective efforts in preventing his people from resorting to personal redress. This venerable chief stands as a monument of unwavering loyalty to his treaty pledges; and the many timely instances of his good offices to the whites, as well as his guardian care of his own nation, entitle him to the generosity and esteem of our government.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. HUTCHINS,

*U. S. Indian Agent for Washington Territory.*

C. H. HALE, Esq.,

*Superintendent Indian Affairs for Washington Territory, Olympia.*

A.

NEZ PERCÉ INDIAN AGENCY, *June 2, 1862.*

SIR: I do hereby give notice that, by and under an act of Congress approved August 14, 1848, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions claim six hundred and forty acres of land, embracing the Clearwater or Lapwai mission station, situated on Clearwater river at the mouth of Lapwai creek, established for the benefit of the Nez Percé Indians, and during eleven years occupied by a missionary of said board, and upon which the Nez Percé Indian agency is established. I have come here for the purpose of establishing, by

survey, the metes and bounds of the claim of said American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and ask the privilege of performing this work.

Respectfully,

CUSHING EELLS,

*Attorney for American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.*

CHARLES HUTCHINS, Esq.,

*Indian Agent, W. T.*

B.

SIR: I hereby give notice to the Indian department not to make further improvements upon the land claimed by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, embracing the Clearwater or Lapwai mission station, situated on Clearwater river at the mouth of Lapwai creek.

Respectfully,

CUSHING EELLS,

*Attorney for American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.*

CHARLES HUTCHINS, Esq.;

*Indian Agent, W. T.*

C.

OFFICE OF NEZ PERCÉ INDIAN AGENCY,

*Lapwai, W. T., June 2, 1862.*

SIR: I am this day in receipt from you of a notice that you, on behalf of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, claim six hundred and forty acres of land, the same now embraced within and occupied by the Indian department as the Nez Percé Indian agency; and you state that you are now at this place for the purpose of establishing, by survey, the metes and bounds of the claim of said board, &c., and ask the privilege of performing this work. In reply, I would state that until this time no official notice has been given the Indian department that any title, or claim for title, for the tract of land now occupied as the agency, was held by any person or association, and, as the Indian department has been in undisturbed possession of these grounds for a term of years, I deem it my duty, before consenting to your request to be permitted to survey these lands, to submit your application and notice to the Indian bureau, and be governed by instructions as it shall direct.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES HUTCHINS,

*Indian Agent, W. T.*

Rev. CUSHING EELLS,

*Attorney for American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.*