

adapted to putting them in an industrial train, and being able to make himself understood, to explain to them the teachings of that Holy Book to which we all should look for instruction. Hence, I repeat, to your proposal to change the management of the school, I should deem it an act of injustice to remove Mr. Swan, a gentleman more successful than any teacher, starting a year before him, among Indians of the coast tribes, and that too with the most difficult tribes to manage. His only means of obtaining attendance at school are those of such *attraction* as he may offer, and has had no force to compel attendance. Incidental to the agricultural and industrial pursuits taught, an effort is made to teach the fundamental doctrines of the Christian religion. They are hardly capable of understanding the most simple moral and religious truths taught by our Saviour, and much less to comprehend denominational doctrines. By degrees, however, they may comprehend and practice Christianity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WEBSTER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. W. H. WATERMAN,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Washington Territory.

No. 6.

FORT COLLVILLE, W. T., *August 12, 1866.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th instant enclosing copies of correspondence concerning a treaty with the Spokane Indians.

I am quite certain that Gary misrepresented the sentiments of his people when he informed Mr. Chapman that it was the wish of the Spokanes to remove to and settle upon the Flat-head reservation.

I have conversed with several leading men of the tribe upon the subject of a treaty, and their removal to reservations, and while many of them are in favor of a treaty, they have invariably expressed the wish that their reservation be within or convenient to the country they now claim and occupy. They reside on the Spokane river, from its mouth to the 117th meridian, having no permanent homes or improvements of any kind east of this meridian, and are in Washington Territory instead of northern Idaho, as stated in Mr. Chapman's letter to the department.

I propose starting for the Upper Spokane in about ten days to meet the Indians in council; take an accurate census of the tribe; ascertain the feeling in regard to a treaty, and collect such other information bearing upon the subject of the correspondence as will enable me to report fully on my return.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE A. PAIGE, *Acting Indian Agent.*

W. H. WATERMAN, Esq.,
Sup't Indian Affairs, Olympia, W. T.

OREGON SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 7.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 15, 1866.*

SIR: In making my annual report for the current year, at a distance of many thousand miles from the Indian superintendency which I have the honor to represent, and while suffering from severe illness, it will be impossible for me to be as minute in detail as if I were at home.

The full reports of the several agents, however, render it unnecessary for me to go as much into particulars as has been usual. With a few brief remarks about each reservation, I shall, then, confine myself to some general matters which do not properly come within the purview of the agents.

GRANDE RONDE RESERVATION.

This reservation consists of two townships and two fractional townships of land adjoining the Coast reservation, withheld from sale by an executive order, and upon it is located the oldest Indian agency in the superintendency.

The tribes located there are those who earliest came into intercourse with white people, and they therefore exhibit most completely the effect of civilization upon the savage. There has been among them a steady progress in useful arts; a constant though slow advance in education, and a regular diminution in numbers. They are always peaceable and well-behaved when whiskey can be kept away from them. Most of them are industrious and thrifty.