

with Indian labor. I have a twofold object in this: first, it gives employment and pay to those who are most needy; and secondly, it holds the young men of the nation, who have set out to be something above wild savages, to habits of industry and useful labor, which is indispensable to the moral well-being of all men of all races.

I remember the fact that the treaty with the Yakama Indians will in a few years expire, when it will be expected of them that they will be capable of taking care of themselves. I hold the same thought in mind in the direction given to the mechanical labor. We are educating young men in our shops to make harness, build houses, work in the mills and on the farms, so as to make them capable in every department of business of taking care of themselves. We have already young men that are capable of building houses, making boots and shoes, making harness, doing good work in the blacksmith-shop, and are good helpers about the mills.

If the remaining installments of money that will be due this nation under the treaty could be invested in cattle, a herd could in a short time accumulate upon the reservation that would yield an annual revenue, greater by far than all that is paid them by the Government. The grasses are spontaneous and very abundant, producing the finest beef on the coast. Cattle generally live and remain fat through the winter by grazing; so the cost of raising a cow or a steer three years old in the range is not as much as to feed the domestic fowls about our doors. These need to be fed, while the cattle feed themselves. The investment of the remaining appropriation due them in cattle, with judicious management on the part of the officers in charge, could not fail to make the whole nation financially independent in a few years.

I have consulted the head-men of the nation, and they are agreed that the annuities as now given by the Government do them very little good, while an investment in cattle would do them and their children good in all time to come.

Suppose \$3,000 was invested in young cows, at \$30 per head, this would buy 100 head; these, with their increase, in two years would be worth \$6,000, in four years they would be worth \$12,000, and in six years \$24,000. In the light of this calculation it is easy to see that all the annuity-money that will be due them for the remaining time of the treaty could be made to accumulate into vast proportions, making them capable of taking care of themselves; while under the present system of payment the poverty of the Indian is not relieved to any perceptible extent, and no provision is made against future want. In view of the fine facilities for stock-raising that the Indians have, and in view of the profitable employment this investment would give them, I consider it of great importance that this change be made in the use of their money appropriated for beneficial objects, and that it be done immediately. I earnestly recommend that their land be surveyed.

In conclusion, I call the attention of the Department to the money that was due this agency from the late Superintendent W. H. Waterman, (deceased,) who owed this agency December 31, 1866, \$7,250, and professed to pay said amount in drafts, which were protested when presented to the assistant treasurer at San Francisco, California. A particular account of said transaction was given the Department by me in my "account-current," and statement therewith, for the month of July, 1867. This \$7,250 embraced the salary of the agent for the quarter ending December 31, 1866. No part of the above money has been received.

For further particulars of information relating to the interest and wealth of this nation, I respectfully refer you to the accompanying blanks, which have been filled, and are herewith sent forward.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES H. WILBUR,

United States Indian Agent, Washington Territory.

T. J. MCKENNY, Esq.,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, Olympia, Washington Territory.

No. 71.

FORT COLVILLE, WASHINGTON TERRITORY,

September 1, 1872.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Indians under my charge in Northeastern Washington Territory have made, during the past year considerable progress in farming and in the arts of civilized life.

Since having the supervision of these people it has been my constant endeavor to promote harmony and industry amongst them, to assist them in cultivating old and opening up new farms, and to make them generally independent and self-sustaining. They were informed that it was the wish of the President that they should make permanent homes for themselves, and derive their subsistence from cultivating the land

instead of roaming through the country and getting a precarious living by digging roots, picking berries, &c. Some of those who have within the past two years fenced in and cultivated lands are now much disquieted, for fear they will be obliged to leave them and go upon the reserve. They say, truthfully, that they were told that the land they would fence, cultivate, and live upon should be theirs, and that they should remain in quiet possession thereof. In some cases, where considerable improvements have been made, it certainly would be unjust to force the Indians away from their farms and take them upon the reservation.

The Colvilles, Spokanes, and Calispels have exchanged over 2,000 bushels of wheat for flour at the mills in this valley during the past season.

In the councils I have held, all the Indians, except the San Poels, have expressed a willingness to be on a reservation, but they wish to be consulted in respect to its boundaries and the places that would be assigned them thereon—each tribe desiring that the reserve should include its own especial territory.

Taking into consideration what these people were, the very meager assistance they have received from the Department, and the excitement and suspense occasioned by the proposed abandonment of Fort Colville, and the rumors that have reached them from time to time of the establishment of a reserve in this quarter, implying no settled policy of the Government in their regard, it is very creditable to them that they have done as well as they have. This unsettled policy has not only been damaging to the Indians, but has retarded the settlement of the country by the whites.

If those Indians who now have farms among the settlers shall be permitted to remain where they now are, and be assisted by the Department with agricultural implements, &c., I think they would improve much faster than they would to be removed to a reservation. The Indian farmers who live among the whites cultivate their land much better, have better fences, and raise better crops than those engaged in the same business surrounded by Indians.

I have to recommend, first, a fixed policy in respect to these Indians, so that they may know what to rely upon; secondly, that those who have farms and cultivate them be permitted to remain where they now are, and be assisted with farming implements; thirdly, that the roving Indians, who make all the trouble, be gathered on the reserve; fourthly, that the lines of the reservation be so changed as to include both sides of the Columbia River at Kettle Falls, in order to take in all of that important fishery; fifthly, that the purchases and distributions be largely of agricultural implements, as one plow will do more toward civilizing these Indians and making them self-sustaining than five hundred blankets.

Reservation.—The reservation set apart by Executive order of April 9 was unsuitable, for the following reasons: first, it was too small for so many Indians; the country being mostly mountainous, it did not contain sufficient grazing area for their horses and cattle; secondly, the arable land being nearly all occupied by whites who had been settled on it for ten years or more, it would necessitate their removal before the Indians could occupy it.

The advantages of the reservation made by Executive order of July 2, over the former one, are as follows: First, that it is much larger; that there is an ample area of grazing-land; that its tillable land is not occupied by whites, there being but two or three settlers on the whole reservation, and the value of their improvements inconsiderable, whereas on the reserve of April 9 there are improvements to the value of two or three hundred thousand dollars; secondly, the San Poels live within its boundaries; they are the most intractable and independent of all the Indians in this Territory, and would fight before leaving their country; thirdly, it has natural boundaries, is more isolated, is not on the line of travel or likely to be crossed by railroads, and includes the territory of those tribes which would be the most difficult to move.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. P. WINANS,
Farmer in Charge.

R. H. MILROY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Olympia, Washington Territory.

No. 72.

PUYALLUP INDIAN RESERVATION,
Washington Territory, September 15, 1872.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor herewith to transmit this my second annual report.

The Indians on this reservation during the past year have made commendable progress in industry and civilization. The following are the number of acres cultivated by the Indians and the estimated products: 40 acres wheat, estimated 760 bushels;