

Mich. 1879. Feb. 3. 1879.

File

419

Portland Feb. 1st 1879.

Genl. Howard Dear Sir I have been reading in this morning's "Oregonian" an article entitled "The Indian Situation". I think that there is too much delay. There are a few vexed questions which in my opinion should be decided before next May 1879. First some competent man should go to Washington, with three or four Umatilla Indian Chiefs, as they are expecting to go, and come to some understanding concerning their future. If a portion of them are to remain upon the Umatilla Reservation, and another portion of them taken somewhere else they should know it. I was asked by these Indians last fall how long it would be before they would go to Washington. It is well known along the Columbia River above Wallula, as far as the mouth of the Wenatchee River that nearly all of Moses' People have gone north, and they

are very unsettled because they don't know
whether Moses will come back to his Country
or not. "Measure" are in progress to collect
certain lands together and keep them under
control. If the above is to be carried out it
should be done before Spring and only the Officers
in Command should know it. The same as in
"Moses" part of the "Umatilla" and the "scattered
Bands". When the decision comes from
Washington let it be what it will, the Government
should have some very shrewd and reliable man
to report to the Commanding General any
maneuvers that they might make. I think if
they have any bad intention, they will show
it when they hear that Chief Moses will not be
released again. Genl Howard read a Petition
for your removal from this Department. It is
simply too ridiculous, especially when it is
considered who is at the bottom of it. I have
traveled considerable in the "Upper Country", Eastern
Oregon and Washington Territory. Of course we
meet with some people who are dissatisfied with
themselves. Such people are very fault-finding.
But the good people of this Community -

everywhere like you, very much, and say that
no other General could have done better under
the same circumstances. The following note I
quote from a Walla Walla paper, which appeared
about the time this Petition for your removal
was being circulated. "The Olympia Courier" says,
(from which we can always gather a few ideas in
speaking of Genl Howard's actions during the
late excitement) "The General evinced the most
commendable spirit, and will do everything
that he can to overcome the Indians and prevent
any disturbance. he is a hard fighter, but
prefers peace to war, and if his plans are not
thwarted by his superior, he will have affairs
in a condition before Spring that will render the
eastern part of our Territory comparatively safe
from an Indian uprising." Perfectly correct and
give the old man his just due, he has a hard
task before him but we are even inclined to
think he would a little rather fight than
anything else." Not wishing to wear out your
patience, I will bring my letter to a close.
I remain - Your Truly
Ored.

Goldendale, W. T.
Feb 1st 1879.

Gen Q. B. Howard
Vancouver
W. T.

Dear Sir

Enclosed you will find a petition that has been in circulation in this part of the country, for your removal. Not being acquainted with you only by reputation, I deem it nothing more than my duty as a Christian to forward the same to you, that you may know what is going on by some of your enemies in this section. As far as I can learn there has been one of those petitions been forwarded to pretty near all the country Postmasters, for to get signatures. who forwarded them to the Postmaster I cannot tell, the petition came into my possession by being left at my store for to obtain signatures.

Respectfully Yours

Thomas Johnson

Confidential)

Recd Dec 3, 1879.

W. H. Black
Orville Black
D. H. Black

Inches

1

2

3

4

5

6

Recd by Alex Feb. 15. 1879.

your Will pardon Me for
 Troubleing you at this time
 But I have felt My Duty together
 With the Settlers here home
 I have bin reperted to Drop you
 this line you can rely
 upon us in this Matter
 & Every thing that we can
 do for you we shall be glad
 to further our mutual
 interests hoping to hear from
 you & the Military part in
 good time I Am respectfully
 yours. J. G. Olmstead
 P. M. & Trader Pittsburg 1879

Pittsburg N. B.

February 3/79

General O. O. Howard
 Vancouver

Dear Sir I have just
 Learned that there has
 bin a petition surrenda
 red in these parts for
 your Removal as Command
 er of this Division this
 we regret much as we
 of East Pittsburg have
 All ways bin satisfied
 with your course & more par
 ticular as to the Establishing

of our Military Post
As near as I can probe this
matter is this the people of
Yakima City After your agent
Locate the post in our valley
& where I think it should
be they be come hostile to
you be cause you did not
Locate it at that place
hence this sup for your
Removal the people here
Refused to sign it & I learn
that but 2 or 3 signed it
& they live in East of
Hittitop & are not recognised
by us as citizens of our valley

in fact the hole pit
including the Sheriff
Schubly of Yakima are
I Dis grace to the County
& are ~~not~~ worthy of
this notice & holdy good
by sinister motives &
We feel here that we
live on the front tier &
are holdy unprotected of
all places for the post it
should be where they have
located it & we hope & trust
that you will use all
legal means to give us
the protection this coming
spring

Recd. 27th. Feb. 4. 1879.

From Feb. 4. 1879.

421

Portland Feb. 4th 1879.

Genl. Howard Sir

Enclosed you will please find two paragraphs which I cut out of the "New York Weekly Tribune". My children got this newspaper at Sunday School Feb. 2nd. I send you this simply to show you how few people understand the Indian situation, and how many there are who sympathize with them, and are willing to acknowledge that they are most unmercifully dealt with. We all feel that there is a wrong somewhere, and as the U. S. A. and its officers have broad shoulders it is put upon them. The whole thing is wrong. Our Friend Shuman (Shy-lon) letter dated Kittita Valley W. S. Jan. 28th. I read very carefully. He knows Morse very well. he was with him (Morse) 52 days last summer, during your trouble with other Bibles. I think I know who he means when he speaks of those "tyes" "understanding each other" and dare not "divulge" &c &c. He is like a good many others that don't know

understand
the "Indian Situation". He is very much
mistaken. — no more

Yours Truly
A. B.

A. B.
Please take care of these clippings
and much oblige

(A. B.)

J. C. AINSWORTH, Pres't.
S. G. REED, Vice Pres't.

J. W. SPRAGUE, General Supt.
G. J. AINSWORTH, Asst. Gen'l Supt.

THEO. WYGANT, Sec'y.

422
Oregon Steam Navigation Co.,

OFFICES COR. FRONT & ASH STREETS.

Portland, Or., Feby. 5. 1879

Genl. O. O. Howard
Dept Columbia

My dear General

Your note with
check for \$6.²⁵ mcs is
at hand - I beg that
you will give yourself
no further trouble about
the matter and consider
it closed and on our
part entirely satisfactory

With sincere regards

Yours friend

J. W. Sprague
Genl Supt

Filo.



Inches 1 2 3 4 5 6

+24

United States Marshal's Office,

E. S. CHASE, U. S. MARSHAL.

Boise City, Idaho, Feb 5 1879

Deft Comdr. Brig. Gen O. O. Howard.

Dear Sir.

You may remember last Summer giving me a letter to the Dept of Justice relative to "Illegal Trafficking with the Indians." In response to your letter about Dec 10th the Atty Gen placed two men at my disposal. And I immediately put them on the trail. They have found several cases where it was evident that arms had been sold to the Indians & report to me one case where the proof is undoubted. I could have had several other cases if the Dept would have authorized me to visit these men, examine their proofs & lay traps. But I presume that some clerk in the Dept thought he saw in this a job not put up to

United States Marshal's Office

E. S. CHASE, U. S. Marshal

John Ellis, John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

John Ellis, Jr.

get my actual expenses in one of these
expeditions out of the Govt. I only asked
reasonable compensation. In his mind's
eye he saw a Congressional Committee
in reality he would have seen a mule
& "solitary horseman". They are unwilling
to pay a dollar that I might be near, post,
& direct - these men. Preferring rather that
these men wait - sixteen days to communi-
cate with me. Fourteen dollars a day is
nothing so it be regular. I should judge
from their letters that they expected me to
combine in one man a first-class lawyer,
an excellent scout, Indian interpreter, and
hardy mountaineer.

I do not write this as complaining
for Federal officers never have reason to com-
plain. But fearing that you might have
known of these men having been put in the
field by me. You would be looking for
better fruits. My men are at present
between Ft. Hall & Salmon City - & I am

United States Marshal's Office,

E. S. CHASE, U. S. MARSHAL.

Boise City, Idaho,

187

expected to advise, order and direct
them from Boise City. I do wish that
Commissioner La Due would do some-
thing to encourage the cultivation of that
rare plant - "Common Sense"

I beg your pardon. I sat down to tell
you that my men (H. M. Price & Andy
McQuaid) report to me that they hear
through Indians that quite a band of
hostiles are on one of the forks of Salmon
River with large band of horses.

They also report ammunition among the
Indians plenty & that they are procuring
some very fast. That in their opinion the
young men are preparing for war in the
early Spring.

Very Respectfully

Should any remarks in this
letter seem to reflect on the Hon.

Atty Gen. I wish to assure } A. S. Marchal
that nothing of the kind is meant - } Deit. of Idaho
as I presume he really knows no more what
instructions have been sent me than you do.
I am shooting at that omnipotent Peter



United States Marshal's Office,

E. S. CHASE, U. S. MARSHAL

March 1st 1879

Boise City, Idaho,

187



at home
1802 - met now.

JOHN H. COOK,

425

Attorney-at-Law,

Le Droit Building, 520 Eighth Street,

Washington, D. C., Feby 6th 1879

Francis W. Smith, Esq.,

Dear Sir:

In considering carefully the deed in trust from Genl Howard to myself, it does not seem perfectly clear that I have power to convey as the Genl desires. I have power to convey in fee, or to mortgage or give deeds of trust. I have therefore prepared deed from myself to Capt Sladen in fee, and a deed from him to you transferring the same property to you in trust as desired. My deed is fully executed so that if misfortune should come to me in the spring months, no embarrassment can result to the General. Both deeds must be sent to the Pacific Coast, mine to receive the General's written authority ~~at~~ just below my signature, and the other deed of course to be executed by Capt Sladen and wife. This course is suggested to prevent embarrassment to you from defective powers in handling the property hereafter.

Respy

John H. Cook

The time has
come itself. I find
I now will have the
two birds recorded
referred to me. I will
have them recorded
over

J. H. Smith

Quoted by me.

March 21, 1899. And
needs. Study required
thinned.

Washington D.C.

February 6. 1879.

Dear General.

A few days since I
mailed to you a copy of the Contri-
bution & By-Laws of the Army Aid Asso-
ciation, & before this reaches you I hope
you will have made quite familiar
with the objects of the association, & the
means by which they are to be secured.

If you have done this I feel assured
our purposes must commend themselves
to yr. judgment, & I trust had you to
give the scheme the benefit of yr. sup-
port, not simply for the immediate attain-

426
task of adding another member to the
association, but also for the benefit of yr.
Example, for the influence it would
exert upon those immediately around
you.

The extent of the aid the Association
will be able to extend, will depend upon
the no. of its members, & for this reason
it is desirable to have officers generally join
it, & I hope its objects will be generally under-
stood & approved, for I believe it will be the
means of doing great good, & will exert
a most effect upon the Army.

You have my friend, Genl. Santelle,
with you now. I shall be surprised if he
does not join the Association.

The House to day discussed the Manning
Munroe bill. The bill is quite general that
it will be rejected, but no one can tell what
is in store for us, tho' it seems to me, some
reorganization provisions will finally be incorpo-
rated in the Army Appropriation bill.

Yrs. very truly,
R. Jones.

H. Genl. Howard,
U. S. Army,
3^d Van Courer.

J. C. AINSWORTH, Pres't.
S. G. REED, Vice Pres't.

J. W. SPRAGUE, General Supt.
G. J. AINSWORTH, Asst. Gen'l Supt.

THEO. WYGANT, Sec'y.

430 Oregon Steam Navigation Co.,

OFFICES COR. FRONT & ASH STREETS.

Portland, Or.,

July 6th 1879

Gen O O Howard U.S.A.
Port Vancouver

Dear Sir -

Your favor of 4th
is received enclosing check for
\$6.25 -

I am directed to request you
to give yourself no more trouble
in this matter -

Very Respectfully
Theo Wygant
Sey



Talles Oregon Feb 7th 1879

To Gen O. O. Howard Sir
I meet my old friend Alfred
Pingstone Capt of the Spokane
who has just arrived from
Fort Colville.

He says he was there when Indian
Sa-lu-Shin was arrested and
made his Confession.

But says not much excitement
yet. He reports Snow deep &
Cold weather.

I have Secured My Horse &
will start in the Morning.

I think I will go from Takanawa^{to}
Walla & see Chief Hornily
myself.

Remain Your Humble
Reservant Ned Chamberlain

file

inches 1 2 3 4 5 6

428
Wilbur, and I don't think
that the opinions of army
officers, when not in accord
with the agent, have much
weight with him. Certainly
mine would have no greater, if
as great, as yours. -

Gen Sherman is about
I suppose to get rid of the
amalgams growing out of
the Army Bill - - the next
six weeks are likely to be
eventful ones to us.

With kind regards to

Mr. Sherman - Yours sincerely
John McDowell

Hqrs. Mil. Div. of the Pacific & Dept. of California,

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 8, 1879

My dear General

I have yours of Jan.
29th. I do not doubt I
have, in the course of conversation,
said I might go
north and see your
department and it would
certainly be a most
interesting trip to make

I have also thought

of going this winter to
Arizona - and I may
get done, but the re-
invested means with years
and I do not find
I am as enterprising
as I was three years
ago. And then it is
not so easy for me to
be away from Lead-
springs now as it was
when I was here before.

As to advice to the Government
at Washington I do not see
that I could possibly do
more or other than I have
done. Your aid-de-camp
and the copies of my letters
and telegrams, which my
ad. Genl. has sent you
have kept you informed
of my course in the matter
of Moses and your news
respecting him. - Mr. Schuss
has great faith in agents

429 I saw Wilson (our packer
and telegraph operator)
and he says the ^{Yakimas} ~~Huachilas~~
are rather restless and
discontented since the
arrival of the prisoners
and the probability of
new comers on the
reservation. They are
gathering in their ponies
and herding them.

This doesn't amount to
much of course.

Capt. Gray (our Capt's brother)
says the ~~road~~ country
between Yakima and
Wallula is filled with
Indians, but anyone
traveling casually through
the country would never
know it as they are
hidden in the hollows

Dalles. Oregon.

Feb. 9. 1879.

My dear General.

Major Canby had
written to Winters for
transportation and Stevens
(Harney's Past Trader) just
in told us last night that
Winters would not get the
letter in time to start the
ambulance before Friday
or Saturday. It is now
2 o'clock P.M. and we are
hourly expecting it.

Hood had just arrived
from the Camp also and
agreed with Stevens in
giving rather bad accounts
of the roads, deeming
the short route over the
mountains rendered

impassable since
their arrival by the
last fall of snow.

As we could make no
satisfactory arrangement
with citizen transportation
and as you had indicated
you did not specially
desire me to travel today
I remained over till tomorrow
But will start on horse-
back tomorrow morning
if no better mode be available.
I cannot believe the country
worse than I have gone
through before now, and
my experience is that a
road is always a little
worse by reputation than
it is in fact.

They tell me they doubt
my being able to get
from Yakima to Wallula.
I myself have not the
slightest doubt that I
can. Impassable roads
are few and far between,
I never saw one. But
if I am compelled to abandon
that route I will return
to Dalles and thence to
Wallula. However, you
will hear from me.

Winters was to turn
over the Indians to
Wilbur tomorrow (Monday)
and move his camp
next day to the Yakima
river (nearer the City than
his present situation)

From the time made by
stages and mail carriers
I will be very slow.

Ordinary rates are slowed
down about one half,
and I cannot complete
this circuit under two
weeks, Grain and forage
are scarce and high,
hauling is difficult.

Prixton says a band of
Indians who last summer
escaped across the Columbia
are now wintering in the
Okanagan country.
Very peaceable and inoffensive.
Chambreau got his horse
and left here Saturday
morning.

Give my love to Mrs
Howard and to the
children.

Yours always affectionately
Wood.

2
and sheltered places.
He says he was in one
camp of about 60 on
the river's edge, and
one fellow stepped up
and showed him a
wound in the arm
which he received last
summer from the steatont
sharpshooters.

Prixton — (The Captain
who was with us at Priest
Rapids) has just come
in from Colville and
says old Tonasket
was the chief who sent
the Indians over into
British Columbia to catch
Salushkin. \$60. was
paid for the capture.
Prixton says he himself

had a talk with Salushkin who told him that at the time of the Priest Rapids Council when Mores was aboard the steambout and promising to help you catch the Perkins murderers, two of the murderers were right there in the crowd on the steamer and Mores knew it. He also told Pinxton that Mores sent him word to escape as he could not protect him. Pinxton says he knows Shewood, that he is a very reliable man. Speaks the Indian tongue ~~for~~ perfectly. is intelligent

and would reply to any letter addressed to him. Pinxton himself, as you know is not an intelligent man. I merely got these facts from him in conversation. He had no idea I was specially interested, till afterwards when in order to stir him up and see if anything was left I told him I was going to an interview with Mores. I saw Closter our Nez-Perce' Chief Tracker, and Holland the Operator, neither gave me any information of value. I believe I have given you about all that is worth anything.

Seattle, Wash Ter.

Feb 10th 1879.

General:

Rev. Mr. Ellis has just shown me a letter from you in which you seem to fail to remember me. I was ordered to report to you for duty at the commencement of the Bureau. By you I was sent to Gen Terry, Richmond, Va. By him to Major Johnson, Fredericksburg, Va. by him I was sent to Warsaw, Richmond Co Va. where I was 2 years, being Military Comr & Freed man's Bureau Agent. From there I was sent to Petersburg Va. and was under Maj. Stone, from there I was sent to Yorktown, Va. under Genl Armstrong at Hampton Va. I saw you last when you laid the corner stone of the Woman's Bazaar. (That is when the build-



ing was already erected. I remember you made a remark about it at that time. I believe I was one of the few whom I knew in the Bureau, that sent in on the Monthly report "Of the existing feeling between the Whites and the Blacks: a true statement and got raps for it at my station, as extracts from my reports were published in the N. Y. Tribune and reached my constituents. I built up the Republican party in my district and sent Capt. Ayer to the Constitutional Convention, and him to Congress afterwards, for which I got no thanks (of course) When the Bureau expired I also ex-frised and was given a deputy Col of Customs at Georgetown, and remained in it for 15 months and then they appointed an ex-rel collector and he gave me my walking papers and thus ended my 8 or 9 years service to my country.

I hope this will refresh your memory and that of your dis-cher-compass as

to me.

If you remember I once called on your mother an old gentleman from Va who wanted to start a Freedman's School at Fredericksburg. Also I sent to you a colored man named Ruffin from Georgetown.

Very respectfully &c
H. K. W. Hayes.

I should like to know where Gen Brown is.

Genl Stoneman did not like me very well, because I did not side in with the rebels enough to suit him. I remembered his wedding at Baltimore when I was stationed at Fort Mc Henry under Genl Morris (old boats as we used to call him) and of his wife wearing a "secess" rosette upon that lovely occasion. He did not like that much talked about either.