

Office Superintendent Indian Affairs
Dayton O. I., January 5th 1854.

Dear Genl.

I have just learned from S. H. Culver Esq Indian agent
in the River district that, Pe-on-si-ent, the Indian in Tipton
ba who murdered Mr Edwards and others, has been deliv-
up by the Indians, through the influence of S. H. Culver
Mr Culver has also effected an arrangement with
Tipton and his people by which they are to reside with
on their reserve. This appeared to be the only means by
which their lives could be preserved, as they were continually
subjected to the attacks of reckless whites. This will give security
against Tipton's marauding band and have a favourable
influence with the surrounding Tribes. As you were
previously informed, much annoyance has been experienced
by the settlers and miners, from the Indians in the vicinity
of Illinois creek, but by the promptness and vigilance
of Mr Culver, supported by the military, and aided materially
by the Mague River Tribe, a peace has been established.

In a former letter I informed you of the
murder of a white man at the Wilbur Springs, by two Indians
who were given up to Capt Smith, by Jo and Sam. They
subsequently made their escape, but have since been
recaptured by the chiefs and delivered up to the Indian
agent, and with Pe-on-si-ent are in the land house

Mr. Culver informs me that there are a few reckless vagabonds loafing about that region of country, seeking to poison the minds of honest people, and splattering their filthy slime against you and all others who were favorable to the treaty. It is confined to a very few, for he avers that notwithstanding their efforts if you were again a candidate you would receive in that county a longer vote and majority than at the last election, of this there can be no doubt, the same may be said of every county in the Territory, and without wishing to attempt flattery; I am pleased to be able to say that at no time since you first came to Oregon, have you been so popular with the people of this Territory, as at this time. And your self sacrificing acts and devotion to the defense of the our scattered population in the late difficulties with the Rogue River Indians, has added not a little to that popularity, this is particularly so, with those who have been advised of the great obstacles which you had to contend against. But as I know you do not desire to be puff'd or flatter'd on account of your own acts, I will leave that to those who can best show their esteem by such empty trash, and yet it is causing to know, that amid all the jarring and clashing - interposition and abuse of designing & disappointed aspirants - with their stulid and retainer's that the great mass of the people have abiding confidence in his honest integrity of character - and his devotion to their interests. You will be pleas'd to learn that Ben arriv'd safely at home where his noble offspring

highly gratified with the result of his visit, It will undoubtedly have a happy influence over the actions of that tribe.

The Goods which I promised the Indians have been sent out to them; they were received with much satisfaction as they regarded them a guarantee that we were acting in good faith. The destruction of a large portion of their property during the late war, and the destruction of their ordinary supply of food - on account of the existence of the war at the time of gathering their seed has placed many of the tribe in a suffering condition. This has induced the agent to act liberally in regard to granting permits to leave the ~~Agency~~ ^{reserve}. Should the winter prove severe it will be necessary to supply them with food and an additional number of blankets. This however cannot be done to any extent without funds. And none has been allotted applicable to such purposes. In fact the amount sent affords me but little relief.

There is much suffering among many of the tribes, for food and clothing. I cannot urge too strongly the necessity of immediate steps being taken to perfect treaties with the tribes in Middle Oregon. Particularly the Cayuses - Wascoyans & Deshutes, as every day brings its additional difficulties and annoyances, and I fear unless prompt preventive measures be taken, ~~war~~ ^{war} can long eventually be a second war between the ~~tribes~~ ^{tribes}.

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