

K.H. OWEN

Sibley and Agency Dec 26<sup>th</sup> 1871

Dear Sir

We reached this Agency on the evening of 24<sup>th</sup> party all well but very much fatigued. The weather has been very inclement and the trail almost impossible on account of floods and fallen timber. Our animals have suffered very much - for we have generally been compelled to rely upon scanty grazing on ~~and on the southern half of the route~~ <sup>account of the</sup> herds of cattle and flocks of sheep <sup>have well nigh exterminated</sup> along the ~~southern~~ <sup>southern</sup> half <sup>of the</sup> ~~of our~~ journey. Two of our animals have perished, and five have been left at different points to recuperate ~~as to~~ <sup>as to</sup> enable them to make the trip <sup>home</sup> in the spring. We left here with eight animals, and purchased on the route ~~s. w.~~ The Indians had been heard

of their own, but were in poor condition to travel. They lost two coming up and left two on the trail. Should the winter continue severe it will be difficult saving any which have made the trip - four of those purchased are work horses, but were bought at low rates. We brought with us but fifteen Indians, and gave permits to twenty two, to remain until spring. There are fifteen others who have promised to come up in the spring, and there is reason to believe a number of others will do so. Those left are abundantly supplied with winter provisions, several families have among their number persons too sick to travel. The inclemency of the weather, the great expense of subsisting these people on the route and until an other harvest - for we had no means with which to transport their provisions, induced



induced me to permit them to remain until spring, besides no one could be found objectionable to their remaining - Upon the contrary, very many of the settlers desired it. The great hue and cry as indicated by the petition and correspondence - was gotten up by a very few either from spite or to realize something in the way of ferrying on the expenditure of a little public funds - There are a few humane well disposed people who believe their condition would be bettered by removing them to the Reservation, and who desire it - but a much larger class who are indifferent, an other class who connive to retain them in their midst. The latter throw great obstacles in <sup>the</sup> way of removal.

The expense incurred in making this trip will be set forth

Copy

in an other communication  
as soon as the account can be  
properly arranged. I have  
endeavored to economize as much  
as possible. Still ~~it~~<sup>the expense</sup> has been  
greater than I anticipated. The  
Trip has been a hard one hardly  
anything could be offered as an induc-  
ment to repeat it at this season of the  
year -

I have the honor to be  
your obedt servt

Joel Pabun  
and agent

Honr

A B Meacham  
Supt Ind Affairs

Salem

Oregou