

ERLOWEN

Biletz Ind Agency June 24/72

Dear

J B Odeneal

Supt Ind Office

Dear Sir

Enclosed please

find a ^{copy of} letter from the house of East Bayley which explains itself -

Whilst at Portland I purchased a thrashing machine, nails, Medisons, and a few groceries - and had them shipped to the care of East Bayley, as I have been dealing with him considerably and having made an arrangement with him as I supposed to receive and forward our goods - I did not hesitate to direct to his care - and the matter of freight ^{money} was not thought of - As there was a little slack time with our teams - I sent out ten horses and four men, desiring to save ^{the time of hauling} the cost of hiring the freight ~~traded~~ the teams are now there, a messenger reaching me this morning with Bayleys letter

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Copy for Aunt
General

[Faint, illegible handwriting throughout the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

I have instructed the trustees to call upon
Mr Hamilton and say to him that we had no
funds on hand to pay the bill, but that it should
be paid from the first amount turned over - &
if he permitted them to take the goods to do
so, if not, return at once with the team.

We are greatly in want of those articles, and
we wish to get the stores here before the harvest
commences.

It appears to me a shortsighted
view of matters - for public carriers and ware
house men, and leading merchants to
thus array themselves against the government.

It is unfortunate that we have not the means
to pay the outstanding liabilities - but such is the
fact - ^{for leading men ought to consider} and if this narrow view of matters is generally
shared by the people of Cornwallis, we had better
change our point for receiving ^{& forwarding goods} freight,
as well as for purchasing, in future.

We are now engaged in working road to the
bay and opening on to Pioneer, on beach head
but if Cornwallis is closed to us, for receiving &
forwarding, we had better suspend, and open
a road direct to Kings Valley and on to
Bunimsta on some point below - and strike

the west side Railroad below Corvallis.

The route to Albany by way of Kings Valley is at least fifteen miles ^{shorter} ~~nearer~~ ^{to} than Corvallis by the present route - and we can make as good a road as their present one is.

If we work their road, the Indians will expect pay, but our road they will not, but must be fed, which had we better do! We must have a wagon road to the Willamette in some direction, and since necessarily this letter I am inclined to favour making our own road, and let Corvallis close her warehouses, and stores, as well as shops against us.

I had partially made an arrangement ^{ments} for the erection of a warehouse at Golds, that goods might be stored, but if we abandon the Corvallis route, we shall not require it, unless ^{goods} ~~freights~~ are brought by vessel, via Newport, in view of that it ^{may} ~~would~~ be well to put up some kind of a building to secure goods until they can be transported to agency - the entire cost of building and work will ^{not exceed} ~~be about~~ three hundred dollars &c;

Respectfully yours

Joel Palmer
and agent