

Dear Sir

Upon the return of Mr Howard from the conference I was strongly impressed with the idea that he had sought to convey to the members of that body an unfavourable impression in regard to the manner of conducting affairs upon this occasion and that more than an ordinary zeal had been manifested in placing his own penetration as well as his devotion to the cause in which we were all engaged. Upon reaching Dayton where I still have a few friends, that fact was made more apparent and I became satisfied that a kind of conspiracy or combination had been formed between Mr Howard and Post Shipley with direct reference to displacing me and securing the position for himself. It is needless now to go into detail in setting forth all the circumstantial and direct evidences of this conspiracy. To my mind it is conclusive and whilst I am free to admit that the employees are not all such as might be desired or such as one hopes to secure. They are not by any means that class of desperately wicked men that appears to have been represented and whilst the complaints may be just in some respects, has he fulfilled in all things the obligations resting upon him if not he should not be the medium through which to give

so dark a cubbing to the short comings of others
It was well known & presume, to those attending my appointment
that I had not been accustomed to take a leading part
in religious exercises: I felt this lack of competency
and hence sought to select a person well qualified
to do that service. Believing Mr Howard to be such
I unhesitatingly gave him the best position at my disposal
It was expected that he would take the lead in all religious
exercises - aid the arrangement and insoucagement of schools
and the general moral training of all upon the reservation
Thus far we have had no preaching to whites or Indians
except one sermon by father Doan. no prayer meetings
or class exercises - we have established a Sunday
school to which Mr Howard has been present three
times. Now if there has been an omission or failure
to carry out the expectations of the church on my part
or their employees should not that fact have
urged him to pushed forward and laboured harder
to turn the tide in a proper direction and thus
at least ^{perform} the duties expected at his hands, rather
than to make that omission the basis of complaint
against others? He claims to have done but his

duty and it may be that my mental faculties are so greatly impaired as to incapacitate me to judge correctly of ones duty but it does appear to me that duty did not require him to give publicity outside of the conference or members of the church to unfavourable representations not only in a religious point of view but in the certainty of having managed the finances in a way to swamp us and leave the employees without means of redress besides seeking to create an impression in my mind that the line of policy to be marked out by the committee to whom the whole subject had been referred, as well as the declarations of Mr Harris and Foster Willber, would be such as that, with my former conversation with him I would feel compelled to resign and thus leave him in charge - for by his representations he was placed here as missionary with an understanding

that in the event of my withdrawal he was to supersede me and he felt so sure of ^{that} event, that he even ventured to have an interview with my secretary Mr Chapman, to inform him that if he assumed duties he wanted he retained, altho he is not a member of any religious denomination and in conversations with Indians intimated that it was possible he might be their Glee - now aside from the humiliating fact that our every word and act is watched and paid into and probably with a view to give an unparagonable coloring, it is mortifying in the extreme when that part is played by a former friend and brother, not only in the church but in nearly all the Societies or organizations established for the purpose of enlightening and benefiting his fellow man - one almost loses his confidence in human nature. - The position of an agent here

under the most favourable circumstances, is a trying and
labourious task, a constant strain upon the mental as
well as the physical faculties. And ^{the reason} why so many are
labouring for these positions can only be accounted for
upon the ground that they are ignorant of the duties
imposed, or indiffrent to the objects to be attained.

The almighty dollar, appears to me to be the controlling
element, cover it up and plaster it over as we may,
that lies at the foundation. I have no wish to
magnify the causes of complaint against these parties in
fact so far as Mr Howard is concerned I myself am ready
to forgive and forget and labour to work in harmony
and peace. but it is questionable whether my family and
friends here will do so - and as to & acter shiply,
my only reason for tolerating him one hour, is
the fact that we have no other one to fill his place
and there are quite a number of sick.

I commen his letter on Saturday. On Sunday for the first
time Mr Howard preached for us at 12 - in connection with
the Sunday school, notice was given and at 4 P.M. he
preached to the Indians. we had a large congregation
and an interesting time and a work inaugurated that
I hope and believe will eventuate in much good -

Now under all the circumstances and surroundings

I am forced to esmate the conclusion that it would be better for me to withdraw from the service. I learn the reports put in circulation as to my being in my dotage may be verified. I know my inability to do all I could wish and as I attach no pecuniary or political importance to the position and feel that I can enjoy life better without than with it, I hope and trust your committee will take immediate steps to relieve me. For I have no wish now would it be just to ask me to remain the first year and labour under all the disadvantages and do the amount of work required to inaugurate the new policy, passing the way for some one to step in and reap the harvest after the fields have been gleaned. I am not now disposed to make any apology for not securing the services in all cases of religious or profiting christians other than to say I never not wished to put my hand upon the proper material - persons look at qualifications from a different stand point. In some instances names were assigned why positions were sought that were consistent with me that they were disqualified or unsuited for the positions. But time will remedy these evils if reason and justice be the rule of action.