

Washington City May 16th 1857.

Sir

Previous to my departure from Oregon in January last, I visited the Indian encampments at the Grand Mound, and whilst there, had an interview with a large portion of the Indian chiefs - located upon the coast reservation, among whom were many who were engaged in the recent and previous wars against the white inhabitants of that Territory, and who are still unsettled, evincing greater ^{and why are still unsettled, evincing greater} distrust of our Government's means of prosecuting a war, and believe themselves abundantly able to wipe out, as they apprehend, the white population. They regard the statements of our people relative to numbers, and means of prosecuting a war, as designed to intimidate them, and as they have often been successful in their forays, against our troops - and very often go unpunished for crimes committed against our citizens, they regard us as second to themselves in the first place, and for the latter claim it as a weakness, or inability, to chastize them. The efforts of agents and others to persuade them into pacific measures, is often construed by them as evidence of fear and weakness - and these remarks are applicable to nearly all the Tribes in Oregon and Washington Territory. The general doubt among the Indians of the Pacific coast, as to the real intentions of the Government, and the little confidence they place in the statements of our people, and those of the Tribes who have occasionally visited the States with shades and trophies, with the influences at work among the Tribes, places it out of the power of Indian Agents to impress them favorably towards our laws.

Doubt as to their conduct

and customs - I have been acquainted with a number of individual members of different tribes, of what they call the common class, who have visited some parts of the States - and who told truthfully the condition of things they saw in their journeys - but they were not credited by the Whites and were charged with being bought up by the Whites. The insensibility of these Indians has undoubtedly had much to do in fostering a spirit of war and aggression - and diminishing them to yield to the overtures of the government and inducing a continuance of Petty thieving, annoying to the settlers, and which has often produced retaliatory terrorism in bloody encounters between the races. One very effectual means of disclosing the minds of these Indians - and convincing them of the folly of attempting to redress their own wrongs would be to select a few of the leading prominent chiefs of each tribe - and making a tour to ~~and through~~ the Atlantic ~~States~~ States - visiting the numerous cities and most densely settled parts of the country - the military stations, arsenals - ~~armories~~ depots of war - Public schools - churches &c &c traveling upon railroads, steamboats - communicating by telegraph their messages - in a word convince them of our prosperity and power -

The treatment they would receive too would favourably contrast with that shown many of their people by the Whites in their own country and convince them that our people are not what they charge them with, as ready to ride over and oppress their people and drive them from their homes without any adequate consideration. These chiefs would see with their own eyes instead of getting it by representation and interpretation

and would announce with ~~the~~ ^{the} effect of
 put down any spirit of resistance among their people
 as well as to resist the efforts of restless lawless
 whites and renegade Indians and half-civilized
 half-breeds who are constantly prowling about
 their villages to prey upon the credulity of the
 ignorant and superstitious natives.

There can be no doubt in the minds of those
 acquainted with the condition of things on that
 coast but ~~that~~ ^{with quantities of funds that could not be} ~~would~~ ^{would} ~~be~~ ^{to}
~~not~~ to suppress Indian hostilities and maintain
 the peaceful disposition of the Indian Tribes on
 the Pacific, there could be expected with ten
 times that amount expended in Powder and
 ball to prosecute a war against them -
 As an illustration of the beneficial results of such a
 monument I will cite one case in point - ^{about 17 or 18 years ago} ~~some~~ ^{some} ~~months~~ ^{months} ~~since~~ ^{since}
 such as on fourteen years since a lad, belonging to
 the Massapam Tribe of Indians who reside ^{at and}
 about the Falls of the Columbia River ^{in the States} came ^{as}
 a servant with some one ^{whose name} ~~name~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{is} ~~now~~ ^{is} ~~recalled~~ ^{is},
 and finally found his way to Philadelphia - the party
 having him in charge ^{took} ~~him~~ ^{to} Mr. Jarvis of
 that city who was teacher in a friends or ^{quaker}
 school - here the boy resided some six ^{or eight} ~~months~~
 making considerable proficiency in reading and
 writing - he finally returned with colored present,
 I believe in 1844 - he subsequently became ~~and~~
 is now the head chief of that Tribe - and among
 all the Indian wars which have ^{unhappily} ~~unhappily~~ ^{disturbed} ~~disturbed~~
 that portion of country, he has succeeded in restraining
 his people from uniting in a war against ^{us} ~~us~~ ^{the} ~~the ^{the}
 nine surrounded with powerful tribes - ^{poor} ~~poor~~ ^{of} ~~of~~ ^{means} ~~means~~
 and means of prosecuting a war - ^{and} ~~and~~ ^{notwithstanding} ~~notwithstanding
 rich bounties were offered for their aid and when~~~~

and when that failed to effect its object - sheets
of extermination were made against them and his
tribe - they resisted all overtures and even joined
with the whites in the war against the Dales
you said he "the Indians can't conquer the whites
for any white man that is killed ten will come
I have seen the land of the white man and know
their strength, it is useless to go to war against
them. they too make guns and powder as well
as King George People ^{in an English} let us be the friends of the
whites for they are many. I wish you full satisfied
would be the action of all the chiefs who might
come on this friendly visit. These chiefs delegates
by their people to come here and see for themselves
would carry back truthful history of the condition
of our country. and their statements would be
credited by their respective Tribes. The Indians in
those two Territories have but vague ideas of
our forms of Government. And yet many
of them wish to pattern after us and if they
could but see the workings of the system
they would the more willingly follow in
the same road to peace and quietude - for
many ^{of} the chiefs the illiterate and superstitious
have high notions of self respect and a
great desire to promote the peace and
happiness of their people - Another strong reason
favoring this project is that during the absence
of the chiefs we might have some guarantees
of peace ^{in that country} for they would act as hostages,
for the good conduct of their people during
their absence - These chiefs might come
prepared to entertain some arrangement
for the mutual benefit of all the Tribes -
and by conferring with each other and with

To Sen the President

The heads of the Indian department here, some general policy might be motivated securing the future peace of the Tribes on that coast. They have been told much about our great chiefs and the mode of ~~enacting~~ ^{enacting} laws - but so conflicting are the notions entertained by them that it is all a history and likely to be discredited by them unless convinced by actual observation. The expenditure of twenty fine ^{or thirty} thousand dollars in getting up and bringing here, those chiefs - and showing them our country and the advantages of civilization, and returning them safely to their people will do more to further the humane policy of the government than four times that amount in feeding - clothing and training them in the ordinary way. Great good may be accomplished by visiting our schools and seminaries of learning as it will give them an idea of the ~~purpose~~ ^{purpose} of training up our young and incline them to contribute largely to the support of schools for the education of their children. Quite a number have already expressed a desire to have their children brought to the States and educated - and I am fully convinced that the most effectual means of civilizing and enlightening those Indians would be to establish manual labor schools ~~in the~~ ^{in the} ~~side~~ ^{side} of the mountains where the children could be taken at from 4 to 10 years of age - fed, clothed, and educated in all the branches that constitute a civilized and enlightened community - separating them entirely from the contaminating influences sure to surround them if allowed to remain among their people. Let them be kept away until habits are formed - or until their

numbers

and experience would be able to exert a controlling influence over the tribes.

Schools established in that country would be surrounded by the influences sane to counteract all efforts at a wholesome moral education, for the majority of the adults in many of the Tribes are so contaminated as to be past moral reformation. Vice immorality and dissolute disease are sure to follow their train of their children unless separated from the parents.

The Tribes will be willing to contribute from their annuities a considerable sum in support of such a school. Philanthropists would aid in its accomplishment and Congress having the special guardianship of these unfortunate aborigines would make liberal appropriations to consummate so noble a work and the good likely to follow from the favourable result of the chiefs mission as indicated. In furthering this school would alone in my opinion justify the outlay in bringing them here. For whilst we may not ~~hope~~ to effectually enlighten the pervert adults (the mild judicious and kind hearted are only better than condition materially) we might hope to effect a permanent good to the rising generation. It is in my opinion the only hope for these Pacific Tribes and without the adoption of some similar system they are doomed to soon pass out of existence.

In accordance with your request I have submitted an estimate of the probable cost of collecting, clothing and transporting them and of such to their country. This delegation

of Indians - with agents & interpreters. ~~Present~~
 &c &c &c This estimate of course can only
 be regarded as approximating to accuracy -
 for it would be difficult to determine now the
 exact number of Indians to be transported -

Great care should be taken to have
 leading prominent men - such as would correctly
 represent the mind and sentiments of the Tribes - and
 who would exert a proper influence among
 them after returning - Councils would necessarily
 have to be held in different parts of the Department
 for it cannot be expected that such a delegation
 could be collected without a full and fair
 consultation among the different Tribes - for
 the benefit to be derived will depend very much
 upon the spirit and manner of making the selection
 of delegates - and the degree of importance and
 confidence attached to the mission by the various
 Tribes.

The probability is that nearly the entire
 summer season would be consumed in the preliminaries,
 but immediate action should be had so as
 to attract the attention of the Tribes, for by having
 something of this kind in anticipation they might
 be diverted from the war path - and this seems
 to be an important one in the history of our Indian
 relations on the coast - In these councils
 measures might be adopted respecting to
 a great degree the differences now existing between
 the whites and Indians which would tend
 to promote peace and save us from the
 horrors of an other Indian war.

The application of a part of the appropriation for
 maintaining the peaceable disposition of the Indian Tribes
 on the Pacific, on that of preventing outbreaks, could
 undoubtedly be more advantageously applied in

restoring

bringing this delegation to the States, than in any
 other way. ^{or some similar one} Without the adoption of this plan, ^{very}
 long ^{disbursements} ~~disbursements~~ must be expended annually in maintaining
 military Posts and supplying Indian hostilities; induced
 very much by a mistaken conception of their power
 to aid themselves of the presence of whites. It is not expected
 however that this would supersede the necessity of maintaining
^{military} ~~posts~~ Posts but it would doubtless be expedient to
 cut half the number, and effectually put a stop to
 this constant warfare - requiring the expenditure
 of large sums of money in purchasing equipments for
 field operations on the frontier of the country. and some
^{see plans of our routes} ~~the~~ ^{plans} ~~submitted~~ ^{submitted} contemplate collecting
 and transporting the Indians by steamer by way of the
 Isthmus of Panama and return the same way but
 in the event they could be supplied with transport
 from the military stations in that country to ~~transport~~
 the overland route the expense would be materially
 lessened. Very many of the chiefs would furnish
 their own horses - but the pack animals, saddles
 and subsistence &c would have to be furnished by the
 government. After making the trip across the Plains
 the animals could be retained until they found the
 homeward trip. In the event of being compelled to
 purchase the animals, equipments &c they could
 be sold after returning, and the amount ^{needed} credited
 the government. Many of the chiefs would ^{doubtless} prefer
 coming by land. and in the event of so doing
 the interior tribes, might be visited and induced to
 send delegations, that would not, if required to make
 the trip by water. I may add, that quite a
 number of the chiefs greatly desired to accompany
 me on my present visit to the States - It would doubtless
 be better for a portion of them to come by water and
 a portion by land. which by visiting again here would

give them some general understanding of our country, than they could have if all came the same route. If this mode of travel should be adopted it would be necessary to appoint two special agents - one in charge of either party, until a junction could be formed east of the mountains and the one land party might require a small escort between some of the military stations - should they start in season to accompany the 4th Infantry on any part of the trip - it might have a beneficial effect on following immediately after - would be desired from either of either of the mountains -

It is believed that the sum of twelve thousand dollars would equip and bring to the Atlantic state an delegation sufficiently large to fairly represent the Judiciary of these two Territories - The support of agents, subsistence and travel expenses of the delegation ^{which here} and the expense of retainer might be provided for in future - with these remarks I submit the matter to your consideration - fully convinced that the future peace of our country on that coast - the economy of the Government and the welfare of the Judicial Tribes as well as our citizens would be greatly promoted by carrying into effect the suggestions herein contained

I am, Sir,
 respectfully,
 Your obedient servant

Paul
 J. W. Deen
 Commissioner and Chief
 of the Territory
 D.C.

Estimate of expenses in collecting, equipping
 subsisting and transporting a delegation of Indian
 chiefs from the States in Washington and Oregon
 Territories to the Atlantic States for the purpose of
 exhibiting &c &c

Steerage passage on ocean steamer from Portland Oregon Territory to N York of 53 Indians & 2 Interpreters at 125¢ each	\$ 6875 00
Passage of one special Agent in first cabin	275 00
Pay of one Interpreter & assistant conductor	1000 00
Pay of one "	500 00
Presents & clothing for Indians	1000 00
Incidental expenses in collecting & consulting with Indians and subsisting before starting on the journey	2000 00
Pay of one special agent & conductor by air fare	3000 00
Subsistence for 55 persons for a period of six months whilst in the States at $\frac{25}{100}$ per day	12572 50
Other necessary expenses - Fare on railroads passage on steamboats &c &c	3000 00
Refuge of delegation, Interpreters & agent home	7150 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 37312 50

Copy of letter
to F W Devereux

Account of my
own submission

estimate for court

and in charge to
myself