

Copy

Department of the Interior,
Office Indian Affairs.
February 20th 1854.

Sir,

In relation to the communication addressed to you by Hon: Joseph Lane, dated the 11th instant, and by you referred on the 14th. I have the honor to report that there is now a balance of \$6000, in the Treasury of an appropriation made by an Act of Congress entitled "an Act authorizing the negotiation of treaties with the Indian tribes in the Territory of Oregon for the extinguishment of their claims to land lying West of the Cascade Mountains and for other purposes" approved June 5th 1850.

If this balance, on the final adjustment of the accounts of Abuson Dart, late Superintendent in Oregon, the sum of \$1350, be to be charged to this appropriation, on account of expenditures incurred by him in negotiating treaties, which sum will be credited to other appropriations under which Mr. Dart stands charged at the Treasury, and thus the above balance of \$6000 will be reduced by the amount so to be charged.

It may also be found, when Superintendent Palmer renders his accounts for recent expenditures in negotiating with the Rogue river and Cow creek bands of Wmpqua Indians, the treaties transmitted to you on the 24th ultimo, that a further charge will have to be made against the appropriation alluded to.

I have reason to believe that Superintendent Palmer is a gentleman possessing every qualification necessary to enable him to negotiate wisely and satisfactorily; but in view of the facts above stated, and also of the recent estimate, transmitted to you, of an appropriation required for treating with the Indians in

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Oregon on both sides of the Cascade Range, the propriety
of awaiting the action of Congress on the estimate referred to
before giving specific instructions on the subject of treating
with the Indians in that territory is respectfully suggested.

The communication of Genl. Lane is returned herewith.

Very respectfully

Your Ob't Servt.

(Signed)

Geo. W. Marcy (Secretary)

Mr R. McClelland

Secretary of the Marine

In view of the importance of Oregon, and the wants of
the country, it is proposed that the sum of \$100,000 be
appropriated for the purpose of equipping and fitting out
one vessel of war, to be named the "Oregon", and that
she be sent to the Pacific Ocean, and placed at the disposal of
the commandant of the naval forces there, to be used in
protecting the coast of Oregon, and the rights of the
United States in that quarter.

It is further recommended that the amount of \$100,000
be increased to \$200,000, and that the same be
appropriated for the purpose of equipping and fitting out
one vessel of war, to be named the "Oregon", and that
she be sent to the Pacific Ocean, and placed at the disposal of
the commandant of the naval forces there, to be used in
protecting the coast of Oregon, and the rights of the
United States in that quarter.