
WASHINGTON SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 1.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Olympia, Washington Territory, October 1, 1871.

SIR: In accordance with the instructions of the Indian Bureau, I have the honor to submit herewith my fourth annual report on the condition of Indian affairs in Washington superintendency, a district of

country lying between $45^{\circ} 30'$ and 49° north latitude, and between 117° and 125° west longitude.

It is with regret I am compelled to state that upon assuming the duties of superintendent of Indian affairs, after reinstatement, a noted change for the worse was everywhere visible, there having been a retrograde movement in the last two years. I particularly refer to gambling, drinking, ta-man-a-mus, flattening heads, and polygamy; also slavery, all of which were again practiced. The military officers, sent here against their wish, in a service decidedly distasteful to them, as I have heard them repeatedly declare, and looking upon their stay as temporary, did not take the interest they should, or feel inclined to break in upon these tribal customs. In fact, many of the people of this Territory contend that no superintendent or agent has any right to interfere with the customs or tribal habits of the Indians. If they are correct, and this is the policy of the Government, it is folly to attempt to civilize them. My aim has always been to break down these barbarous customs, for as long as they exist nothing can be done toward civilization. Of course, this must be done in a way that will not do great violence to their feelings, but a commencement must be made and steadily adhered to, as a want of firmness and determination in this matter is construed as weakness, while nothing is accomplished and confidence lost. My object in this report will be to lay before the Department the necessities of the Indians, and what is actually essential in their progress toward civilization.

The present policy will, no doubt, prove a complete success, if care be taken in the selection of suitable agents and employés, as the example of men placed over them has a powerful influence, either for good or evil, upon the closely observant Indian.

The policy now pursued is similar to that recommended in my annual report of 1867, and I have always been thoroughly convinced that none but honest, upright, Christian people, full of the missionary spirit, could succeed in civilizing and christianizing these people; and, as an auxiliary to their labors, I would recommend that Congress enact a stringent law against the sale of all kinds of intoxicating liquors, including wine, cider, and beer. The two latter drinks are, perhaps, the cause of more drunkenness than whisky. Unprincipled persons have taken advantage of the fact that the sale of beer was not prohibited, and built breweries near reservations, and by this means induce the Indians to squander their money and become intoxicated. A number of Indians are killed yearly in drunken brawls in the vicinity of these establishments; some of the murderers are now confined on the reservations. I would also recommend the passage of a law by Congress for the punishment of crimes committed among Indians; for so long as an Indian is permitted to kill another without punishment, life has no safeguard. Murder should be made punishable by death.

The necessity of an agent having something like magistratic powers conferred upon him, I think, is very great, so that he may settle difficulties arising among them, and, when an important case arises, or a case between tribes under different agencies, that the agents and the superintendent may constitute a court for the trial or settlement of the difficulty.

SURVEY OF RESERVATIONS.

The need of an appropriation for the survey of the different reservations becomes more apparent every day; as railroads are tending this way, and settlers constantly coming in, disputes are continually arising

as to the boundaries. I would also recommend an appropriation (see my estimate for funds for first and second quarters, 1872) to survey in severalty the Tulalip and Lummi reservations under the Point Elliott treaty, the Puyallup reservation under the Medicine Creek treaty, also the S'Kokomish reservation, under treaty Point no Point, the Yakama reservation, Yakama treaty, and also the Chehalis reservation; the title to be vested in the Indians.

HOSPITALS.

I would urge the making of an appropriation for all the reservations (except the Yakama, that being supplied) of at least \$2,000 for the building and furnishing of a hospital, as it is almost impossible to administer medicine with any degree of success to Indians living in cold, damp huts; and not unfrequently the medicine is not taken, or not taken as directed, and the beneficial results expected are defeated when the Indian loses faith and returns to his sorcery or ta-man-a-mus. Hospitals are found absolutely necessary in cities, garrisons, and in the field; then why deny them to the Indian?

TREATY OF POINT ELLIOTT.

The reservations under this treaty are the Tulalip, Port Madison, Lummi, Swinomish, and Muckleshoot, and are under the supervision of the Catholics—Rev. E. C. Chirouse, sub-agent.

TULALIP RESERVATION.

At this reservations are the Government buildings, comprising agents and employes' dwellings, shops, schools, and a very neat church, where service is regularly conducted. The reserve consists of a little more than one township of land, valuable principally for the timber thereon; there is, however, about 1,200 acres of swamp-land, mentioned in my former reports, which, by proper drainage, could be made a productive farm, thereby placing these Indians forever beyond want. In order to reclaim this land an extra appropriation of about \$1,000 for this specific purpose would be necessary.

SCHOOLS.

The schools for the boys and girls, numbering full fifty scholars, are a complete success, and could be made more useful if an additional fund was appropriated; for, as it is, many who are equally entitled to the benefits have to be turned away simply because of the want of funds. Very great inconvenience is felt, and beneficial action restricted, by reason of want of room in the schools. It was hoped, from the tenor of the circular dated December 25, 1870, that an appropriation would be made for the improvement and enlargement of the agency buildings, not only here but elsewhere. I have no doubt that if the agent is properly supported by the Government it will not be long before a marked improvement is wrought.

PORT MADISON RESERVATION.

This reservation consists of about 7,000 acres, heavily timbered. The Indians are Catholics principally, are very industrious, attend church

regularly in a neat edifice erected by themselves, where service is conducted by one of their own number when a priest is not present. They own cattle, and are engaged in cutting and selling saw-logs on their own responsibility, Mr. G. A. Meigs, of the Port Madison mills, purchasing the same from them, he having, by his upright, honorable dealings, secured their entire confidence, and been of incalculable benefit to them, and also to the Department. No employé is stationed here for the want of funds. I would recommend an appropriation of \$1,000 for the payment of one.

LUMMI RESERVATION.

This reservation comprises a fine body of land, and the Indians are contented and industrious, raising every thing they need. Many of them work in the coal mines and hire out to the neighboring farmers, receiving the highest wages. They own a large number of cattle, horses, hogs, chickens, ducks, geese, &c. A good substantial church has been built, and daily service presided over by an excellent old chief, David Crockett; besides they are frequently administered to by different Catholic priests, nearly all the Indians being of that denomination.

This reservation should be given to the Indians in severalty, as they are entirely capable of managing a little farm for themselves, and all are anxious and eager to have their lands surveyed into small farms, that each may know what belongs to him.

SWINOMISH RESERVATION.

This reservation is described in the treaty as comprising the southeast peninsula of Perry's or Fidalgo Island, and has been, and is still, the source of much vexation and trouble, and voluminous correspondence with the Department. Taking the map of this reservation, as laid down by Governor I. I. Stevens, who made the treaty, there can be no doubt as to the boundaries; but it is asserted that the map, as made by Governor Stevens, and filed in the land and surveyor general's office, is incorrect. A survey has been made lately, which describes a bay never before shown, running far up into the island, (see accompanying map marked A;) and it is contended that this is the narrowest point, and that the initial point should be taken from the head of this bay. Accepting this as the boundary, it would throw all the settlers in the northwest portion of the peninsula off the reservation. I present this matter for the consideration of the honorable Commissioner, hoping that it may be speedily settled. I am of the opinion that Governor Stevens knew what he was doing, and had his map made in accordance with the understanding had with the Indians.

About seventy-five Indians live here, the most of whom are worthless and degraded. No employé resides there, as the agent was obliged to take him away for service on the Tulalip.

I repeat my former recommendation, that the reservation be surveyed and sold for the benefit of the treaty under which it belongs, and the Indians transferred to the Lummi, they being connected and well acquainted with the people of that reservation, and no difficulties would arise by reason of their removal.

I would also recommend, in justice to these old settlers, that they be given the preference over all others in buying their homes, many of them having lived there for the past ten years.

MUCKLESHOOT RESERVATION.

The title to this reservation is of a doubtful character. It consists of two sections situated near the forks of Green and White Rivers, and was formerly a military reservation; was transferred by the last commander to the Indian Department and has been held by it ever since. In 1868 many rumors came to me, by letter and otherwise, of anticipated trouble with these Indians, as it was in this section where the Indian war commenced before. On account of surveying this section of country, and the whites threatening to take claims immediately on the forks of these two rivers which was claimed by the Indians, I deemed it advisable to take the land in the forks of the rivers mentioned as an addition to the reservation, and by so doing, no doubt, avoided trouble. What I did I reported to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and it was apparently approved, as I heard nothing more about the affair.

Emigrants are now coming in and the same trouble is again threatened. I would ask some definite information on the subject.

A small church has been built on the reservation by the Catholics, and occasionally the people are gathered together for worship by a priest.

Sub-agent E. C. Chirouse, who is in charge of all the reservations under the Point Elliott treaty, has devoted the better part of his life to the amelioration of the condition of these Indians, and there can be no doubt of his integrity and honesty in conducting the affairs of his agency.

MEDICINE CREEK TREATY.

Under this treaty there are three reservations, viz: Puyallup, Squaxon, and Nisqually. I would again call attention to the fact that the Indians under this treaty are without an agent. After the resignation of Agent Howe the Point Elliott and Medicine Creek agencies were placed under the charge of one agent. It however was found impossible for a single agent to attend to the duties of both, and, therefore, the Medicine Creek was taken under charge by this office.

The last Congress appropriated funds for the pay of sixty-two agents, six of them for this territory, whereas we have only three full agents. I most earnestly recommend that an agent be appointed to this agency.

PUYALLUP RESERVATION.

At this reservation, on the Puyallup River, where it empties into Puget Sound, are all the Government buildings, and where the employés reside. It contains about 23,000 acres of land, much of which is excellent, and a portion covered with fine timber. Mr. B. Barlow, the farmer in charge, is an able energetic man, and has accomplished much more in the short time he has been there than I had expected.

SCHOOL.

The school, under the charge of Mr. Thompson, numbers at present only eleven; is quite creditable, the children having progressed quite rapidly. Arrangements are now being made to increase the membership to about twenty-four, taking an equal number of either sex. Great need is felt for a suitable house, the present structure being totally inadequate.

I would most earnestly recommend an appropriation of \$2,000 for the

building of a school-house. Many new buildings have been erected by the Indians during the past eight months.

SQUAXON RESERVATION.

This reservation is an island some twelve miles distant from Olympia; it contains but little good land, and is only valuable for its timber. About one hundred Indians live there and at Olympia, and, with a few exceptions, are degraded. No employé lives among them, it being thought advisable to concentrate all that force at one reservation.

As in my former reports, I would advise the survey and sale of this island for the benefit of the treaty to which it belongs, viz, Medicine Creek, and the removal of the Indians to the Puyallup, where there is plenty of land for all, and where their relatives reside.

NISQUALLY RESERVATION.

This reservation contains about 5,000 acres, which is principally prairie, almost useless for agricultural purposes, but affording good pasturage for sheep; there is, however, some good land in the Nisqually River bottom, where they raise wheat in considerable quantities, also potatoes, turnips, carrots, and oats. Many of the Indians are good workers, and are employed by the surrounding farmers. Others are shiftless, spending much of their time on horseback, wandering from place to place, visiting relatives and acquaintances.

YAKAMA AGENCY.

This reserve is by far the best in the Territory, being about forty by sixty miles in extent, and is well adapted for farming and grazing. It has been assigned to the methodist denomination, and James H. Wilbur, the agent, is an energetic, zealous man, well adapted, both mentally and morally, for the position which he occupies, his knowledge of Indian character having been obtained by long experience among the people of his agency. He has built churches, which are well attended, the service being conducted by native preachers. No school has been in operation since the reinstatement of Mr. Wilbur, for reasons given in his report, he, however, expects to reopen the school on an extensive scale, when much good will no doubt be accomplished. Although the reservation is far behind what it was two years ago, when Mr. Wilbur was relieved, (see Agent Wilbur's report,) I am satisfied that by his thorough knowledge and understanding of the situation all lost ground will soon be recovered, and the marked improvement made conclusively prove the present Indian policy a success.

I would recommend that the lands of this reservation be surveyed and given to the Indians in severalty.

SKOKOMISH RESERVATION.

This is the only reservation under the treaty of Point-no-Point, and is under the supervision of the Congregationalists, Edwin Eells, agent. It is well adapted to agricultural purposes and the Indians raise quite extensive crops; there is also an abundance of excellent timber, from which they are, under the direction of the agent, realizing handsomely from the sale of logs, they doing most of the work themselves.

I would call attention to letter, inclosing map, dated March 5, 1868,

in which I proposed a small addition to this reservation. The ground asked for is high land, situated along the water, and used by them for winter quarters, the ground on the reservation along the river overflowing at certain seasons and being damp and wet in the winter.

The school has not been a success, but I think under the management of the present agent, a zealous and earnest man, something will be accomplished.

I would recommend that this reservation be surveyed and given to the Indians in severalty.

MAKAH RESERVATION.

The only reservation under this treaty is situated in the extreme northwest of the Territory, and at present is presided over by E. M. Gibson, of the Christian Church, a very estimable gentleman, who, I think, is devoted to the business undertaken by him, possessing good health and full of the missionary spirit. I expect much good to result from his administration. The Indians are a bold, hardy race, getting their subsistence principally from the ocean, and caring but little about tilling the soil, and it is with the utmost difficulty they can be persuaded to work for the small wages of \$1 or \$2 per day, while they not unfrequently make as high as \$40 by taking the fur seal.

The buildings are good, but not of a sufficient number for the wants of the employés. The school building is ample and every way suited to a male and female school. So far the school is not a success, but Mr. Gibson is sanguine of making it so.

Much has been written and said about this reservation. Some ten persons have taken claims, and assert that it was by permission of the late agent, Captain J. H. Hays. Two of these claims are on the original reservation, and the balance upon the extension made by late Agent Webster, the same having been surveyed and reported to the Department. On this extension are all the employé buildings, farm, farmhouse, barns, roads, &c.; in fact, for years the Government money has been expended on this addition. The parties taking these claims cannot plead ignorance, for nearly all of them have been employés on the reservation, and are now attempting to appropriate to their own use the improvements that they have been paid by Government in times past to make. Without this is decided to belong to the Indians, there would be no land for cultivation or pasturage to graze cattle. I cannot think that Governor Stevens would so far stultify himself as to provide in his treaty with this people for an agricultural and industrial school, and give them nothing but barren rocks. For particulars I refer to the report of the agent, also the accompanying map.

QUINAIELT RESERVATION.

This agency is under charge of the Methodists, G. A. Henry sub-agent, an earnest, Christian man. It is progressing, though not enough time has passed to make any very marked change. The school is doing pretty well and bids fair to be successful. The strong prejudice against sending their children to school is being gradually broken down, and scholars are slowly coming in. The plan of trying to make a farm on the prairie, where the agency houses were first built, has been abandoned, it being found entirely too wet. Ground is now being cleared along the river bottom, and farming has been conducted with considerable success. I look for great improvement in the condition of these people under the administration of Agent Henry.

INDIANS PARTIES TO NO TREATY.

The Indians under this head reside in the northeast and southwest portions of the Territory, and those in the northeast are in charge of W. P. Winans, farmer in charge; an assistant farmer and a physician are also employed.

The importance of making some arrangement with these people for a surrender of their lands daily becomes more apparent as emigration sets in. Many of them have settled on valuable tracts of land and are good farmers, raise extensive crops, make good improvements, and own stocks of cattle and horses.

Peace has thus far been preserved by means of a liberal policy, distributing agricultural implements, blankets, seeds, medicines, &c., among them. With the influx of population these people are being crowded out, and some of them have had their places taken from them. I fear trouble will arise if some understanding is not had for a peaceful surrender of their lands, as constant rumors and complaints are reaching me.

The accompanying able report of W. P. Winans, farmer in charge, gives a full history of this people, and the map a correct idea of the extensive country now occupied by them.

In my annual report of 1869 I recommended as follows, viz :

That a tract of suitable dimensions, including the fisheries south and west of the Hudson's Bay trading-post, (Old Fort Colville,) be set apart, and in the event that the pending negotiations shall result in a surrender of the possessions of that company to the United States, that the buildings now occupied by the company be reserved as agency buildings. Kettle Falls, near this station, is a favorite salmon fishery, where thousands of Indians resort every year during the fishing season, and this fact makes the locality all the more valuable as an Indian reservation. This reservation should be at least forty miles square, and should be located west of the one hundred and eighteenth meridian, and north of the forty-eighth parallel.

Since that time the negotiations spoken of have been completed, and the Hudson's Bay trading-post now belongs to the United States, and I would urge the setting apart of this tract of land as a reservation.

CHEHALIS RESERVATION.

This reservation contains about 5,000 acres of land, most of which is excellent for agricultural purposes. It is situated in the forks of the Chehalis and Black Rivers. The Indians living on the reservation and on the Chehalis River and its branches number about six hundred, and have never been treated with. They are under charge of a farmer and an assistant farmer, and are rapidly advancing in civilization. They raise quite extensive crops of cereals, also potatoes, turnips, peas, &c.; have cattle and horses in abundance; are excellent field-hands, and are extensively employed by the surrounding farmers as laborers, getting the highest wages.

The school-house commenced in time past by myself, and nearly brought to completion by my successor, has never been occupied as a school, on account of the lack of funds. I would ask an appropriation of at least \$5,000 from the civilization fund, for the inauguration of a school for males and females.

I would also urge that Congress fix the status of this reservation. It was taken some eight years ago, surveyed, and all the settlers then occupying bought off by the Government, and has been used and improved as an Indian reservation ever since; notwithstanding, it has never been recognized as such by an act of Congress.

Emigrants possessing a knowledge of these facts have turned their attention to it, and threaten to lay claim to the same.

In conclusion, I would return thanks for the continuous courteous manner with which all communications had with the honorable Commissioner have been marked during my connection therewith.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. MCKENNY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Washington Territory.

Tabular statement of the Indians in Washington Territory.

Treaty.	Date.	Reservations.	Agents.	Tribes.	No.
Point Elliott...	1855. Jan. 22	Tulalip, Swinomish, Port Madison, Muckleshoot, Lummi.	E. C. Chirouse, sub-agent.	D'Wamish <i>et al.</i>	3,600
Neeah Bay.....	Jan. 31	Makah.....	E. M. Gibson.....	Makah.....	680
Medicine Creek	1854. Dec. 26	Nisqually, Puyallup, Squakson.	In charge of superintendent.	Nisqually, Puyallup, and Squakson.	1,210
Olympia.....	1855. July 1	Quinalt.....	G. A. Henry.....	Quinalt, Quillehutes <i>et al.</i>	560
	1856. Jan. 25				
Point-no-Point.	1855. Jan. 26	Skokomish.....	Edwin Eells.....	Skallams, Skokomish <i>et al.</i>	1,000
Yakama.....	Jan. 9	Yakama.....	J. H. Wilbur.....	Yakama Nation.....	3,500
No treaty.....		Chehalis.....	Farmer in charge..	Shoalwater Bay, Cowlitz, Chinook, and Chehalis.	600
No treaty.....		Fort Colville; East of Cascade Mountains.	Farmer in charge..	Colville, Pend Oreille, Oka-Nagan <i>et al.</i>	3,359
Total.....					14,509