

under the fostering care of the government until such time as the white man should want them to move on again.

These matters are treated at length in the annual reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the accompanying reports of superintendents and agents in charge of the reservations concerned, from 1870 to 1875. With regard to the Umatilla reservation, to which most strenuous efforts were made to remove the "renegades," as they were called, Agent Boyle reports in 1870 (*Comr.*, 9) that the Indians are "dispirited . . . in consequence of the oft-repeated theme that their farms are to be taken from them and given to the white settlers." He continues, "It is hardly to be expected that the Indians can retain this reservation much longer unless the strong arm of the government protects them. Daily I am called upon to notify the white settlers that they are encroaching upon the Indian lands." He advises their removal to a permanent reservation, "knowing as I do that they must go sooner or later." Again, "The agency has been established for the space of ten years, and I regret exceedingly that I have been most completely disappointed with what I see about me." In discussing the removal of the Indians to a new reservation, Superintendent Meacham says of a considerable portion of them that it "would suit them better to be turned loose to look out for themselves." (*Comr.*, 10.)

In 1873 Agent Cornoyer reported that the Indians numbered 837, by the census of 1870, which he believes was as correct as could then be taken, but "this number I think is now too high." He continues:

Of the appropriation of \$4,000 per annum for beneficial objects, not one single dollar of that fund has been turned over to me since September, 1871; and of the appropriation for incidental expenses of \$40,000 per annum for the Indian service in this state, only \$200 of that appropriation has been turned over to me during the same period of two years. . . . I would also beg leave to call your attention to that portion of my last annual report wherein I called the attention of the Department to the unfulfilled stipulations of the treaty of June 9, 1855, with these Indians. (*Comr.*, 11.)

Commissioner Brunot, in 1871, stated that the estimated number of Indians coming under the provisions of the treaty at the time it was made in 1855 was 3,500, and "by the census taken in 1870 the number was 1,622"—a decrease of nearly one-half in fifteen years. Of these only about half were on the reservation, the rest being on Columbia river, "never having partaken of the benefits of the treaty." On the next page he tells us what some of these benefits are: "Maladministration of agents, and the misapplication of funds, the failure of the government to perform the promises of the treaty, and the fact that the Indians have been constantly agitated by assertions that the government intended their removal, and that their removal was urged for several years in succession in the reports of a former agent, thus taking away from them all incentives to improve their lands." (*Comr.*, 12.)

In 1871 a commission was sent to Umatilla and other reservations, which gave the Indians a chance to speak for themselves. The Cayuse

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