

January 3, 1948

Superintendent,
Northern Idaho Agency
Lapwail, Idaho

Dear sir:

I am writing another history ^{book} and need your help. I should greatly appreciate it if you will be kind enough to have the words listed below translated by some of your Nez Perce Indians and let me hear what they make of these terms.

(1) ~~Kow-e-so-te~~. This is given as the name of a Nez Perce chief who was living somewhat more than 100 years ago. What does this name mean?

(2) ~~Musk-a-moots~~. This word apparently refers to some kind of saddle horse equipment used by an Indian woman. But from the context, which I quote, it seems clear that Musk-a-moots does not refer to the saddle itself or to the bridal.

I should be grateful for your assistance in this matter and of course will take pleasure in mentioning your name in the acknowledgements of my book if you can help me.

Cordially yours,

W. S. CAMPBELL

WSC:m

Victor: "The saddle, crupper, and bust virths cost one hundred and fifty dollars; the bridle fifty dollars; and the musk-a-moots- fifty dollars more. All these articles were ornamented with fine cut glass beads, porcupine quills, and hawk's bells, that tinkled at every step."