REST RESERVES IN OREGON

J. S. Stevens.
County Judge.
Lewis Bernstein.
E. H. Ring.
E. H. Stepnenson
Ed Washburn.
R. I. Scott,
T. D. Arnold,
M. W. Scott,
Daniel Lavery.
Fred Currey,
Disk Dearmond,
Henry A. Smith,
Kenneth, Murray,
William Murray,
Jesse Thompson.

THEIR AUTHENTIC HISTORY AS COMPILED IN THE GOVERNMENT ARCHIVES AT WASHINGTON # FIRST ARTICLE # THE BLUE MOUNTAIN RESERVE

J. L. Seris.
W. Cramer.
J. B. Johnson.
Philip Pfelffer.
Alfred Mullen.
L. B. Caster.
Frank Sayles.
M. J. Brown.
Walter Covisess.
Dell Overton.
Wm. L. Johnson.
J. W. Westfall.
John Napton.

John Napton. John Cannon. Croses Hart.

Croses Hart.
C. E. Oliver.
P. H. Hand
Julia M. Kime.
F. A. Kime.
J. L. Hocker.
I. P. Ross.
John Zimmerman.
J. S. Branson.
Henry Stephenson.
H. F. Stevens.
Ross Draper.
A. L. Nolan,
C. C. Kilburn.
A. J. Sevey.
A. J. Flaych.
W. W. Akers,
Geo. Dickinson.
B. Harris.
Maching.

Baker City, and was entative Moody, Ormsby, who suggested en-Colonel Rizer, of the ical Survey, suggested a basis ange with the railroad company. Mays was very active on behalf reserve, and so was Representa-Williamson, who made light of opposition to the reserve policy. angille made recommendations which a fiterward reversed. Senator Mitchell

REGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash-AN Ne.

Am A. Richards, Comm.

eneral Land Office, The Ore
C. F. McLand
Drew Hodges,
H. Rumsey,
Drew Hodges,
H. Rumsey,
E. A. Nearman,
J. W. Owen,
J. W. Cowen,
J. Hoks,
H. M. Cooper,
Dand Marchael
Land Office, The Ore
eneral Land Office, The Ore
C. F. McLand
Drew Hodges,
H. Rumsey,
Drew Hodges,
H. Rumsey,
Drew Hodges,
H. Rumsey,
Drew Hodges,
H. Rumsey,
E. A. Nearm ngthy, and go much into detail, but this tail is deemed necessary in making the

ort complete and final. assist in giving to the people of Orenot show everything, they do lay bare inal evidence which was at hand the Secretary of the Interior orwithdrawnis. "Such matters as ought not to be withheld from the ," said Commissioner Richards. people are entitled to know why e areas of public land are withdrawn, ling examination, to determine the disability of creating forest reserves. C. c. records in these matters cannot be en too much publicity." And then he orders which allowed your correswhich have heretofore been success-In presenting these facts, it is explained

mt the records are exploited fairly and ipartially, without fear or favor. If of the disclosures reflect on certain dividuals, that is not the fault of the ient. He presents the facts as e found them, and leaves the public to raw its own conclusions.

Because of the extent of the records,

onsideration in this article will be given uly to the Blue Mountain withdrawal. ers will be treated separately.

An examination of all papers of record in the General Land Office pertaining to this proposed reserve shows that this ithdrawal was based on three recom-endations: That of Forest Superintendat Ormsby, a general recommendation made by the Geological Survey, and peti-ions from citizens of Harney and Malear Countles, which petitions were filed Benator Mitchell. The Senator himself not on record as favoring or opposing is reserve; his letters are all letters of nsmittal, without recommendations or con. The strange disclosure is that ureau of forestry of the Department Agriculture took absolutely no part stever in bringing about the with-wal of lands, with a view to creating a Mountain reserve. There is not a agle communication from that bureau ertaining to this project. Aside from the papers above enumerated, there are of the reserve, largely from mining and ock interests, and an interesting letter w taken up later.

Originated at Baker City. project for the creation of a Blue

sintain reserve originated with the reimpter for the creation of an Elk Creek rest reserve, lying between the two ties, and embracing four or five town This reserve was asked for, and ras recommended by Congressman loody, with a view to adequately protecting the headwaters of the streams from which Baker City and Sumpter desurrounding the source of water supply of these two cities had been withdrawn, temporarily, there was a manifest de-sire on the part of the citizens of Mal-heur and Harney Counties to have the reserve extended, to take in practically the entire Strawberry Mountain region, and on January 21, 1902, Senator Mitchell forwarded to the Interior Department the petitions of these people. The citizens of Harney petitioned in the following words: "We, the undersigned, citizens and property-owners in Harney County, Oregon, do most respectfully represent that there is a great and urgent need for an early esiblishment of a forest reservation in Oregon, to take in, cover and include all the land embraced in the following contiguous localities (being parts of Grant, Malheur and Harney Counties), to wit:
"The entire watershed known as the

Strawberry Mountains; the headwaters of the North and Middle Forks of the Majheur River and their tributaries; Silvies River and tributaries; Silver Creek and tributaries; and the South Pork of the John Day River and its tributaries all the said lands contained therein to consti-tute and comprise one compact and complete reservation.

"We further represent that the said districts are made up of a virgin country, beavily covered in whole or in part by a timber growth; that said timber as yet remains untouched for commercial pur-poses, and that (owing to the general arid nature of the country in all directions) it is all important to every interest that said timeer be, in every possible way, preserved and protected.

"That at the present time the Spring floods in the streams to be included within such reservation are protected from May until the latter part of June, but nevertheless these streams run dry in the late Summer and Fall and the water supply is wholly inadequate for the irrigation of the sarge areas of arid land bordering th streams along the lower stretches of the

"We further believe and represent that such a reservation would also be especially beneficial to the very large stock-growing interests in that and the adjoining portion of Oregon, and would most harmoniously promote the grazing (without conflict) of all kinds of stock thereon.

"Wherefore we, your petitioners, re-pectfully ask that you declare the estab-Astraient of a forest reserve within the limits above set forth, under and by vir-tue of the authority granted you by section 24, of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1891, entitled, 'An Act to repeal Timber Culture Laws, and for other pur-poses, and we will ever pray, etc."

The foregoing bett	tion was signed by t
following:	mon man engages by t
Wm. Altnow. I. F. Walsh. C. M. Prine. G. E. Altnow. W. J. Altnow. J. Altnow. J. Altnow. I. R. Johnson. I. R. Johnson. I. R. Johnson. T. H. Curi. W. J. South. F. H. Howard. I. A. Bartlett. Bart Cronin.	E. Olson, J. A. Weatherby, Geo. McDowell, Geo. L. Haker, S. D. Mebdell, W. S. Thibsult, M. J. Masika, W. H. Gearhart
Geo. W. Thompson	n.Geo. T. Casey.
Carl T. Riley.	Bha Rubler.
Geo. Joselam. N. E. Duncan. Chas. Move. L. W. Gearhart.	Jacob Wright
Chas, Move.	I W Nelson
L W. Gearhart.	F. Smith.
Geo. Sebring.	Geo. Shelley.
C. B. Ausmua.	Sheriff.
I' M Higgs	I W Duchanan
Lum Mortunhead.	Assessor,
17 C Disday	T D October

R. B. Johnson, L. B. Springer From Malheur Also. The petition of the citizens of Malheur | Total tonnage in port, 28,756

Senator Mitchell asked that the "matter was worded exactly as that of their neighbe investigated with a view to determining ors, and bore the following signatures: A. G. King. A. G. King.
County Clerk.
B. W. Mulkey.
Deputy Co. Clerk.
J. E. Lawrence,
Sheriff.
Frank Toney,
Deputy Sheriff.
J. S. Stevens.
County Judge.
Lewis Bernstein.
E. H. Ring.
E. H. Ring.
E. B. Stephenson.
Ed Washburn.
Ed Washburn.
Ed Washburn.
R. I. Scott,
T. D. Armold.
M. W. Scott.
Daniel Lavery.
Fred Currey.
Disk Dearmond.
Henry A. Smith.
Kenneth Murray.
Adam Murray.
Adam Murray.
Adam Murray.
Losse Thompson.
Lexic Co. Com'r.
Ex-Co. Com

the propriety of taking action" according to the request of the petitioners. The record next shows that on June II, 1902, George H. Cattanach, of Canyon City, entered a protest against the creation of such a reserve as was recommended by such a reserve as was recommended by the Maiheur and Harney citizens, basing his protest largely on the ground that it would shut off valuable Summer ranges, and in Bear Valley alone deprive 100,000 head of sheep and 10,000 head of cattle of Summer grazing. To this protest Com-missioner Hermann replied with a per-sonal letter, asking Cattanach if there were any further objections to the rewere any further objections to the reserve, and stating that those he advanced "do not seem sufficient." Cattanach later submitted three or four additional protests, all of which were duly acknowl-

Then came the Ormsby report, un date of June 21, 1902, in which the Forest Superintendent stated that he had examined a large area in the Strawberry Moun tain country, which he found to be covered more or less with valuable timber, and which he thought should be immediately withdrawn, pending further investigation to determine the exact lands that would be essential in creating a permanent reserve. Shortly after that, on July 3, 1962, he submitted a fuller report and recom-mended the withdrawal of additional lands. With this last recommendation came a report stating that the entire area examined was more or less timbered. area examined was more or less timbered, although studded with some valleys, notably Silvies Valley, Bear Valley and Logan Valley. "All of these lands," said Ormsby, "are better adapted to forest uses than other purposes, though they are largely used for the pasturage of stock in the Summer time. For this purpose all the natural meadows and prairies are owned by stockmen. To conserve the water supply is the paramount reason for the establishment of this reserve. The the establishment of this reserve. The timber also is valuable, and unless secured

soon, will soon be removed, "There are probably 100 homestead en-tries on the lands," he continued, "but not all are permanent residents. Many have made entries merely for the purpose of controlling the Summer range. These lands have been entered for several years, there being few entries of recent date, no

is there likely to be any further locations unless for timber, as all meadows and prairies are owned by stockmen."

He declares that the then existing en-tries were not made for speculative pur-

tries were not made for speculative purposes, but to derive advantage in pasturing stock. "If the lands are included in a forest reserve, I believe few reconveyances will be made." he says.
"No interest but the stock interest would be injured by including these lands in a reserve, and this would depend upon restrictions that would be imposed upon the grazing privilege. If prohibited altogether, every settler now upon the lands would be obliged to surrender his claim and seek another location. Properly regulated, however, no detriment to the reserve would result."

Superintendent Ormsby closed his re-

Superintendent Ormsby closed his re-port with the recommendation that the

A. J. Flaych. W. W. Akers, Geo. Dickinson, R. Harris. Jonas Micklund. Andrew Jensen, W. B. Hoxie. L. B. Teter. Ed Jackson. A. R. Mopherson, Fred Gellerman, Vede. John Doran. Sam Peterson, Val Geo. Paderson, Val J. C. Johnston. J. R. Hawarth, Finley McDonald. Walter Kelly, Walter M. Grover. Arthur Robblins. H. O. Stacey. Carson McDonald. Geo. McLaughlin. John F. Maddock. John McLaughlin. E. R. Hamilton. N. C. Long. Bert Blackwell. John Q. Adams. D. W. Leaman. H. P. Stacey. C. E. McCumsey, H. W. Anderson. C. E. McCumsey. H. W. Anderson. C. E. Pollock. Batach. A. Baston. A. N. Linebarger. H. P. Stacey. Martin Hanson. T. A. Barton, Co. Commissioner. H. W. Anderso G. W. Blanton, Commissioner. O. E. Pollock. Commissioner. O. E. Pollock. In transmitting the foregoing petitions, TONNAGE EN ROUTE AND IN PORT

Vessels Chartered or Available for Grain Cargoes From the Northwest.

FOR PORTLAND

Salled	Name,	Flag and rig.	Maeter.	Tons	From,	Days out.	Consignees,
June 16 May 21 April 16 May 8 May 24 Sept. 15 May 24 Sept. 19 July 16 June 11 Aug. 21 June 21 June 21 July 19 Sept. 4 July 19 Sept. 18 Sept. 18	La Bruyere Marechai Turenné Manteaim Professor Koch Amiral Halgan Cressington East African Europe La Fontaine Artiur Filger Christel Germaine Francisco Guiseppe (Cromartyshire Berangere Marie Eugenie Fautrel Armen Nantes Emelle Gen. de Sonis Invermay Clan Mackenzie Laennec Marchal Noailles Rajore Elfrieda Glenessiin		Legoff Pelicgro Johnson Muller Haumon Denker Wurthmann Medcr	1711 1744 1257 1746 2963 1588 2070 1739 2666 1688 1331 1702 1738 1742 1738 1743 1743 1743 1743 1744 1844 1846 1846 1846 1846 1846 1846 18	Newcastle E Antwerp Swansea Hamburg London Antwerp Newcastle Hamburg Antwerp Hamburg Antwerp Hamburg Newcastle P. L. Angl's Cardiff Hamburg Antwerp Shleids Antwerp Honolulu Antwerp Hamburg Antwerp Hamburg Antwerp Honolulu Antwerp Hamburg Newcastle Antwerp Hamburg Newcastle Antwerp Last London	110 126 174 149 123 15 161 80 125 115 44 99 30 77 94	Meyer Taylor Girvin Taylor

GRAIN TONNAGE IN THE RIVER

Arrived	Name.	Flag and rig.	Master.	Cons	From.	Agents or Charterers.	Berth.
Aug. 14 Aug. 25 Aug. 25 Aug. 26 Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 25 Sept. 25 Sept. 25 Sept. 25 Sept. 25	Strathdon Vermont	Br. ship Ger. bark Fr. bark Br. ship Br. ship Br. bark Br. ship Br. bark It. ship Br. bark Fr. bark Fr. bark Fr. bark	Catrhis Rowbi Guirin Porter Jean Livingston Korff Gray Nichols Ogert Lauro Walker Haynes Mace	2796 1564 1564 1565 1682 2087 1612 1631 1717 1988 2088 2728	Rotterdam Hamburg Shields Newcastle Swansea P. L. Angl's Shanghai Newcastle P. L. Angl's Sourabaya P. L. Angl's Nagasaki San Fran.	P. F. M. Co Baifour N.W.W.Co. Disengaged Kerr P. F. M. Co Kerr Lusengaged P. F. M. Co Baifour Disengaged Bairour Stevens N.W.W.Co.	Astoria Irving Elevator Astoria Flour M. Astoria Bunkers

Total tonnage in port, 26,659.

GRAIN TONNAGE EN ROUTE TO PUGET SOUND						
Name.	Flag and rig.	Master.	Tons	From.	Days out.	Consignees,
May 8 Thaiassa Apr. 30 Crompton May 20 Eskasoni June 22 Forteviot June 15 Chile July 21 Thistlebank July 6 Octavia June 17 P. Killicerankie Mar. 17 Wilkommen Sept. 1 Urania May 19 Scottish Moors July 1 Ecuador June 14 Marguerite Dollfus Lodore Mozambique Sept. 20 Barcore Aug. 5 Clan Robertson Netherby April 27 Thirimere Aug. 12 Ventura Aug. 12 Ventura Aug. 15 Pass of Brander Aug. 12 Col. Ville Marenii Iverna Heatndene Beschbank Sept. 7 Brunel Nile Hougomont July 12 Adolf	Br. ship Br. sark Br. sark Ger. ship Br. bark Ger. bark Ger. bark Ger. bark Ger. bark Ger. bark Ger. bark Br. bark Br. bark Br. bark Br. bark Br. ship	Christiansen Hume Townsend Pitz Kidd Spille Perry Butz Vint Freeze Wachter Todford Diechmann McCrone Forbes Kelley McCutcheon Thomnson Chellew Radcliffe Rehburg Ryder Quemper Hodge Milburn Bremmer Mille Symons Lowe Schitoman	2717 1715 2106 2882 2664 2832 2008 1009 1109 2289 2158 2306 2301 1540 1162 1162 1172 2007 2174 1165 2017 2017 2017	Antwerp London Antwerp Newcastle Antwerp Newcastle Antwerp Antwerp Antwerp Antwerp Liverpool Hamburg Cardiff Hull Cardiff Cardiff Cardiff Cardiff Cardiff Cardiff Cardiff E. London Pt. Elizabeth Shanghai San Fran. St. Rosalla Honolulu Chefoo Liverpool Liver	104 111 135 106 115 128 128 128 111 14 60 160 51	

mehr w	STATE CO.	Leader to	sets (vroceres		NAME IN COLUMN	14 AA	***********
Tota	al tonnage en rou	ate and lis	ted, 61,911.		81		il prili-
	GR	AIN TON	NAGE ON 1	PUG	ET SOUND		
Arrived.	Name.	Flag and rig.	Master,	Tons	From.	Agents or Charterers.	Berth.
June July 17 July 31 July 31 Aug. 18 Aug. 9 Aug. 9 Aug. 9 Aug. 9	Belford SLamorna Chiltonford Port Stanley Dunstaffinge Laureston Leicester Castle Sirene Cambronne Sardomene	Br. ship Br. ship Br. ship Br. ship Br. tark Br. bark Br. ship Ger. ship Br. ship Br. ship Br. ship	McKinnon Cormack Atkinson Williams Forbes Latta Beattle Sauermilch La Gloahe Patterson Dexter	2198 2198 2187 2133 2009 1410 1420 1861 1997	Antwerp Greenock Yokohama Hamburg Hiogo Hamburg Liverpool Rotterdam Antwerp Dunkirk Yokohama	Disengaged Disengaged Disengaged Disengaged Disengaged N.W.W.Co. Balfour Disengaged	Victoria Victoria Tacoma Tacoma Tacoma Tacoma Tacoma Tacoma

Sept. 16 Alice | Fr. ship | Langiots | 1508 Antwerp | | Tacoma | Sept. 25 Dunfermilne | Br. ship | Woodward | | Shanghai | | Pt. T'w'd

and duly of record within the statutory nds examined by him be immediately created into a forest reserve, the lands being described as follows: T. 13 S., R. 35 and 35½ E. Sections 13 to 35 inclusive in T. 14 S., R.

2 and 33 E. • S. ½ of T. 14 S., R. 34 E., and all of T. 14 S. Rs. 25, 254, 36 and 37 E. T. 15 S., Rs. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 354, 6 and 37 E. T. 16 S., E. 14 R. 27, and T. 16 S., Rs. 28, 29, 30, 22, 33, 234, 34, 35, 354, 35, 37, E. T. 17 S., Ra. 36, 29, 30, W. 4, of 31, 12, 23, 234, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 E. T. 18 S., E. 4, R. 25 and T. 18 S., Rs. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, E. 4, 32, 33, 334, 34, 35, 35, N. T. 19 S., Rs. 15, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 E. 14, 32, 33, W. 14 of 3314 E.
T. 20 S., Rs. 25, 28, 27, 28, W. 14, 29, E. 14

T. 20 S., Re. 25, 28, 27, 28, W. 4, 29, E. 4, 21, 23, 33 E.

All east Williamette meridian.

E. 14 T. 18 S. and Ts. 19-20 S., R. 25 E.

Ts. 17-18-19-20 S., R. 25 E.

Ts. 15-16-19-20 S., R. 28 E.

Ts. 15-16-17-18-19-20 S. and W. 4, T. 20 S.,

28 29 E. R. 29 E Ts. 15-16-17-18 S. and W. 1/2 T. 19 S., R. T. 15 S., W. 1 T. 17 S., and E. 1/2 T. 20

S. R. 31 E. S. 2-2 T. 14 S., Ts. 15-16-17 S., and E. 3 Ts. 18-19 S., and T. 20 S., R. 32 E. S 2-3 T. 14 S., and Ts. 15-16-17-18-19-20 S. S. 2-3 T. 14 S., Ts. 15-16-17-18 S., and W.

% T. 19 S., R. 334 E.
Ts. 13-14-15-16-17-18 S., R. 24 E.
Ts. 13-14-15-16-17-18 S., R. 35 E.
Ts. 14-15-16-17-18 S., R. 36 E.
Ts. 14-15-16-17 and W. ½ T. 18 S., R. 37 Ts. 16-17 S., R. 38 E. Exchange With the Railroad.

Under date of June 21, 1902, H. C. Rizer cting director of the geological survey filed his recommendation for the estab-lishment of the Blue Mountain forest reserve proper. The reserve recommended by Ormsby, while a part of the proposed Blue Mountain reserve, was, strictly speaking, confined to the Strawberry Mountains, and embraced far less land than the Blue Mountain withdrawall proper. The latter lies adjoining the Strawberry withdrawal, on the north, and proper are the latter lies adjoining the Strawberry withdrawal, on the north, and extends northward to the Umatilla Indian reservation. Colonel Rizer, it will be noted, embodies in his letter to Secretary Hitchcook recommendation for the creation of two new reserves in addition to the Blue Mountain. The letter recom-

That there be a reserve created in the southwestern part of the State of Oregon, in the Counties of Coos, Douglas, Josephine and Curry, to be known as the Rogue River forest reserve. These lands are fairly well timbered, principally with yellow pine and fir, and most of them are unsurveyed. In part this tract lies within the land grant of the Oregon & California Railroad Company, and it is recommended that before the reserve is declared a basis of exchange be agreed upon with

tains and the region stretching westward therefrom a reserve be created extending from Southeast Washington to a point north of Prineville, but broken on the line of the Oregon Railway & Naviga-tion Company's railroad. This reserve to be known as the Blue Mountain forcet reserve. The timber consists almost entirely of yellow pine in an open forest, and its protection will be an aid to the mines in the vicinity of Baker City and to

agricultural interests in the valley, whose water comes from these mountains. "I recommend that a reserve be created in the Wallowa Mountains in Wallows and Union Counties, in the northeastern part of the state. Most of this land is unsurveyed. The timber consists almost exclusively of yellow pine stands, and the protection of the timber is needed for the supply of the mines on the south side of the range, and for the needs of agriculture, both north and south of the range."
In the letter there was absolutely no description of the lands, but a map showing the outlines of the reserves recom-mended was forwarded to the Secretary, and, be it noted, that map has since been lost from the files. But not until after the Land Office had made copies.

In the foregoing communication Colonel Rizer also recommended against the creation of a reserve in the Warner Mountains, and against the Goose Lake forest reserve (for which withdrawals bave subsequently been made), on the ground that there is very little timber in the region, and that much of the that the addition of three sections of land drawals because such a course

recommended that the proposed Elk Creek reserve be included in the Blue Mountain reserve, when created, as the lands are adjacent and there was apparently no need of separate reservations.

Pierce Mays Gets Busy.

In the meantime, a few protests against the creation of a part or a whole of the Blue Mountain reserve were received, and anally under date of July 12, 1902, F. P. Mays, of Portland, addressed a letter to Commissioner Hermann, urging imme-diate action on the Blue Mountain and Strawberry Mountain recommendations.

"On the 3d instant Superintendent Ormsby forwarded you his report in connection with the proposed Strawberry Mountain forest reserve, and at the same time, or previous thereto, requested you to make temporary withdrawal of the lands to be included therein. As a great rush is being made for the timber in Crook and Lake Counties, and as the rush may soon extend to the proposed reserve district, I feel that it is highly important that a temporary withdrawal be promptly made, so as to prevent any filings therein ing withdrawal. which would have the effect of embar-rassing the making of a reserve. I will thank you very much to let me know when such withdrawal is made, or if it has already been made, to so advise me, giving the date thereof."

Three days later Mr. Mays forwarded to Commissioner Hermann a dispatch that appeared in The Oregonian announc-ing a rush for timber land near Baker City, immediately adjoining the proposed Strawberry reserve, and renewed his pre-vious recommendation for an immediate

order of withdrawal. letter from Mays, on July 22, to be exact, Commissioner Hermann transmitted to the Secretary the recommendations of Ormsby and of the geological survey, and in recommending immediate with-drawai, said:

"In view of Superintendent Ormsby's ort and the statements contained in ... Mays' letter, I respectfully recom-

tion was acted upon promptly, for on July 24, 1992, Acting Secretary Ryan directed the temporary withdrawal of lands that had been recommended for segregation by the Geological Survey on June 21, and by Ormsby on July 3.

Four days later, on July 28, 1902, Com-missioner Hermann addressed letters to the register and receiver at La Grande,

drawal made on recommendation of the Geological Survey had included, within its northern boundaries, certain lands belonging to the Umatilia Indians, and on August 25 authority was granted for the exclusion from the withdrawal of all such lands. On August 27, 1902, the Geological Sur-

In August it was found that the with

ey notified the General Land Office that had men in the field examining the lands that had been withdrawn on recom mendation of Superintendent Ormsby.

Williamson Urges Prompt Action It was on September 23, 1992, that Representative-elect Williamson first went on record regarding the Blue Mountain forest reserve, and in a letter to Commissioner Hermann, written at The Dalles. on that date, expressed himself pointedly on the reserve policy generally, and on the Blue Mountain proposition in particular. "I find," said Mr. Williamson, "the opposition to the creation of the reserve to be settling down to the mining interests

in and about Sumpter, in Baker County.
"Now, as I understand it, there are plenty of safeguards relative to the protection of mining interests inside the forest reserve, and if such safeguards were not in existence, it would be an easy matter to create them. It has been my impression all along that it is the policy Impression all along that it is the policy of the Government to promote, not not re-tard, the interests of the mining industry where such industry occurred inside the forest reserve. After a thorough analysis of the situation I think most of the ob-jection from that source will disappear. "Inclosed you will find a slip which con-

tains a description of a number of com-paratively small additions that should be made to the present withdrawal in the Blue Mountain Territory, that is if it is the purpose of the department to include all of what is really the watershed of the Blue Mountain range. If this reserve is finally proclaimed these additions are essential in their different sections of country in order to fulfill the purpose for which the reserve was created. From my personal knowledge of the situation I do not believe there will be the slightest objection to the additions suggested. The largest addition suggested is in my home county, and to my positive knowledge every one in and about that section is in favor of such an addition to the reserve would put a stop to it all being gobbled up by the timber sharks. "I will say further on this subject that

if these additions are ever made to the reserve, they should be made at once, for the reason that these lands are being secured by the timber people, and if the withdrawal is not made soon there will be a large percentage of it filed upon under the timber and stone act by species. the timber and stone act by people from Minnesota, Wisconsin, etc., which is noth-ing more nor less than the initiatory step towards large holdings by a few wealthy lumbermen who are behind the move-ment. What claims are now located in the proposed additions, if such filings were stopped at once, would be so isolated that they would not pay for making final proof, and most of them would lapse back to the Government.

"If, on final examination, it appeared that any portion of the proposed addi-tions should not be taken into the reserve they could be excluded in the final proclamation. They evidently should be with-drawn from settlement pending examina-

tion, as a proper territory, to be included in the reserve. "I have also consulted with a number of prominent citizens of Wallowa recently and I am reliably informed that the sentiment among those who have given the ment among those who have given the subject any thought is strongly in favor of the proposed withdrawal in the south-ern part of Wallowa County. I have taken pains to talk with a number of peo-ple from that section of the country about the boundary of the proposed with-drawal, and after compiling with Rartdrawal, and after consulting with Bart-lett of the Le Grande land office, I would suggest the following boundary as may be seen in inclosed alip. In the descrip-tion I merely bound the territory for the reason that it is largely unsurveyed, and I can do it more easily and accurately in that manner. From conversations with Bartlett I am satisfied that this bounda-

"It would be entirely impracticable to to the Ashland did not appear desirable, simply be serving notice on the timber This is the sole recommendation, aside sharks that such tracts were labeled to from that of Ormsby, upon which the be withdrawn, which would result in re-Blue Mountain reserve withdrawal was newed activity on their part in order to based, and the above furnishes all the details that were supplied to the Interior withdrawn. I make this suggestion in the Interest of the public service, and because drawal was made.

On June 28, 1992, the geological survey to the proposed areas want those tracts to the proposed areas want those tracts. inclosed in the Government forest-reserve system in order that they shall not fall into the hands of large Eastern timber

into the hands of large Eastern timber speculators.

"The way things are going, it will only be a question of months when all our timber areas will fall into the hands of the few large timber dealers, who will have the entire control of our mountain. have the entire control of our mountain ranges, outside of our forest reserves. I feel confident that such a condition of affairs justifies prompt and decisive ac-tion on the part of the Interior Depart-ment in setting aside sufficient of our mountain ranges for the preservation of our main watersheds, and for such other purposes as may redound to the public good."

Hermann Investigated Carefully.

It is but fair to all concerned to call attention to the fact that Commiss Hermann devoted very careful attention to Mr. Williamson's recommendations. He gave them more scrutiny than he did any other recommendations that had been made concerning the Blue Mountain withdrawal, and went to the extreme of withdrawal, and went to the extreme of having his office prepare for him a plat of each of the 14 townships mentioned by Williamson, showing the disposal of each 40-acre tract therein. This is a precaution that had never before been taken regarding recommended forest reserves, at the time withdrawal only was being considered. But the Commissioner evidently felt well repaid for his search, for he found that some of the townships he found that some of the townships referred to by Williamson in his letter were thickly covered with entries or pat-

were thickly covered with entries or pat-ents. The Wagon Road Company had secured title to considerable areas in every township mentioned, and the state selections were always in evidence. A combination of wagon road lands, lands that had passed to the state under its Mr. Mays' letter, I respectfully recommend that I be directed to make immediate temporary withdrawal of the lands covered by Superintendent Ormsby's recommendation as well as the lands covered by the recommendations of the acting director, and that Superintendent Ormsby's report be forwarded to the geological survey for consideration by that bureau with regard to the advisability of permanently reserving the additional lands therein recommended for reservation."

Commissioner Hermann's recommendation was acted upon promptly, for on July of the extensive private holdings in the of the extensive private holdings in the townships which he had recommended for withdrawal, he must refuse to recomm to the Secretary that the lands be with-drawn. As stated above, the scrutiny displayed by the Commissioner in this instance was unprecedented, and there is nothing of record to show why this unus-

ual precaution should have been taken in this instance.

Mention should be made, however, of the register and receiver at La Grande, at Burns and at The Dalles, directing them to make temporary withdrawals as ordered by the Secretary. His letter to each office closed as follows:

"This temporary withdrawal or any permanent reservation which may follow will not affect any bona fide settlement or claim on the lands, which is properly initiated prior to the date hereof (July 20)

The register and receiver at La Grande, all precaution should have been taken in this instance.

Mention should be made, however, of another entry in the files, which shows a letter, dated Pilot Rock, September 24, 1992, in which Douglas Belits advised the Oregon Woolgrowers' Association at the convention at Pendleton, September 16, woted in favor of a reserve, providing the

present policy of the Government is con ed in allowing all kinds of stock to

graze in the same.

Another interesting disclosure in the files of the Land Office is a petition of

the Crook County Cattlemen's Associa-tion, which was sent to the Secretary of the Interior December 5, 1902, by Forest Inspector H. D. Langille, in which pa-tition the signers asked that certain lands in Crook County be added to the proposed Blue Mountaip forest reserve. In trans-mitting the petition, Langille said he had no personal knowledge of the character of the lands described, except portions that were shown him from a distance. "I was assured, however," he says, "that all of the land is timber-bearing, and that many streams find their sources in the townships named. I recommend that the townships named be temporarily withdrawn until such time as a detailed exami-

The townships referred to are practically the same as were recommended for addition by Williamson, and are as fol-

lows: S. ½ T. 11, R. 16, T. H. R. 17, T. 11, R. 18. T. 14, R. 19. T. 14, R. 20. T. 15, R. 19. T. 15, R. 20. T. 15, R. 20. S. 1/2 T. 15, R. 23, S. 1/4 T. 15, R. 24.

The petitioners asked that no forest lieu lands be allowed for lands owned within the Blue Mountain reserve. Commissioner Hermann replied to this petition, stating that an examination of

the records disclosed the fact that much of the land had been alienated, and it was not deemed advisable to withdraw it. This case is typical of the slight ground on which field officers have been in the habit of recommending forest reserve withdrawals. Langille, without any per-sonal knowledge of the character of these lands, hastened to recommend their immediate withdrawal. Yet this same Langille, when he was in Washington last Spring, frankly told the Land Office that he had erred in making that recommen-dation, for he had subsequently learned, upon examination, how much of the lands referred to had passed from the Govern-

This practically closes the records re garding the proposed Blue Mountain for-est reserve, to date. Above has been given every paper of record that has had an influence for the creation of the reserve, and mention has been made of protests. The records will ultimately be greatly expanded, when the Land Office receives reports of field agents who have been making personal examinations of all lands. that now stand withdrawn, and to these will be added reports from field repre-sentatives of the bureau of forestry, who have been at work in Oregon during the

past Summer.

The lack of definite knowledge that has marked the making of withdrawals will be compensated for before any definite reserves are created, and as explained neretofore, the character and status of every 40-acre tract will be known, and be plainly shown on a large-scale chart before the final boundaries of a Blue afountain forest reserve are drawn.

There may have been other recommen-dations in favor of the Blue Mountain Reserve than those given above, but if so, they were never entered in the Gen-eral Land Office docket, for your correspondent not only had access to the pa-pers on file, but to the official docket showing entries of all communications received and sent, that had a bearing on this reserve. And it is reasonable to suppose that all official records are pre-

which the Geological Survey makes its recommendations that is not beyond cen-sure. Nowhere did that bureau designate, except by map, the lands which it believed should be reserved. Those lands ought to have been described in letter, as well as that would have to be thrown out on final examination. This area should be withdrawn at once from settlement and entry for the same reasons I have stated in reference to the Blue Mountain reserve additions.

"It would be say that the chart actually conforms to the ideas of the survey men who favored a reserve? There is room for serious blunders in the old method, but appar-ently Geological Survey recommendations are no longer taken in the initiative this shortcoming may be considered as rectified by elimination.

Wilson S. Bissell Very III. BUFFALO, N. Y., Oct. 4.—Wilson S. Bissell, Postmaster-General in the Cleveland Administration, is seriously ill. Mr. Bissell recently returned from a long va-cation in the East, and resumed his law practice. His physician declined to con-firm or deny a rumor that Mr. Bissell is suffering from an internal cancer.

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