[illegible] improve in a [illegible]

[illegible] Ogden's River, 200 Miles
[illegible] miles from where [illegible] first crosses Ogden's [illegible] handsome little stream [illegible] Martins' Fork, comes in [illegible] the North, below this [illegible] the road leaves the river, [illegible] passes over the hills [illegible] miles, at about half-way, there is water in three [illegible] springs about a mile apart and grass for encampments. [illegible] this the road in cutting across bends, is sometimes off the river for considerable distance. Emigrants may easily regulate their travel to suit their needs. The Oregon and California roads fork at a large [illegible] east of the river, where the river turns directly south—the Oregon road here leaves it and [illegible] on a west course towards [illegible] in the mountains.

[illegible] in the pass,	12	"
[illegible] Hole Springs,	13	"
Black Rock,	20	"

From Ogden's river to the Black Rock, is known as "the dry stretch" and to perform the journey in safety, emigrants should send a party 2 or 3 days in advance to dig out large reservoirs for the water at the springs, by which means water may be had for their animals.—At the first springs there is some grass, at the second there is little or none, but at Black Rock there is abundance.

Emigrants should encamp at the first springs, and perform the journey from there to the Rock in the next day and night. The loose animals should be driven ahead as fast as possible until they reach the Rock, and not suffered to drink at the second springs as the water should all be reserved for the teams. Care should be taken to prevent the loose animals from leaving the road during the night travel, as many have been lost by neglecting this precaution.

From the Rabbit hole springs, Black Rock is in sight in a N. W. direction across a level plain, it is the south east of a range of naked burnt mountains and all the water in the vicinity is nearly boiling hot. ☞There is about [illegible] south of the Rabbit hole springs a hot spring and [illegible] of grass, if the road [illegible] that way it would be [illegible], but a night drive would be required, it is worth examination.

First Fine Spring,	5	"
Pole Valley,	20	"
First camp in High Rock Canon,	10	"
By High Rock Canon,	20	"

The High Rock Canon is a great natural curiosity, a good road, handsome little meadows and excellent water inclosed by towering cliffs, rising in places hundreds of feet perpendicular.

Little Mountain Pass,	18	"

Four miles from the last water, of high rock creek to a good camp at a running brook, two miles further there are springs left of the road, fine grass and water at the pass on both sides of the ridge.

Warm Springs,	12	"
Summit of Sierra Nevada,	18	"

The road in 1846 ran directly across the dry lake to plum creek about 12 miles from the warm springs.—The front company last year, having crossed at the warm springs—left the road, and struck off to the left for the foot of the mountain in order sooner to make a camp, the rest of the emigrants followed—the old road is 3 or 4 miles shortest. Plenty of grass and water all along the mountain sides on both sides of the pass within half a mile of the summit.

☞Keep close watch here the Indians are very mischievous.

Goose Lake,	10	"

Immigrants to California, should follow the Oregon road to this point, and turn down the foot of the mountain, by doing so they would avoid those tremendous mountains so difficult on the present route.

Around the Lake,	20	"
Canion Creek,	8	"
Down Canion Creek,	10	"
Goff's Springs (warm water,)	8	"
Big Spring,	4	"
Shallow Lake,	10	"
Sacramento river (long drive,)	20	"
Crossing of Sacramento, (Rock Bridge,)	4	"
First camp on Klamet Lake,	10	"
First Creek,	7	"
Second Creek (Fish Creek,)	3	"
Third Creek, (Big Spring,)	6	"
Leaving of the Lake,	6	"
Crossing of Klamet river,	10	"
First water in Beaver Creek,	18	"

At the leaving of the Klamet river, the road enters the timber of the Cascade Mountain, and from Beaver Creek is the first water, parties should make an early start and the first one,

[illegible] road. Good grass on [illegible] creek.

Crossing of Beaver Creek,	6	"
Mouth Prairie (good camp,)	2	"
Head waters of Rogues river,	8	"
Down South Fork,	20	"
Rogues river,	15	"
Umpqua Mountain,	35	"

First 14 miles, good road, next 14, very hilly, last 7 up the valley of a creek, good road.

Through Umpqua Mountain.	12	"

Send a party before you to open the road, make an early start and you will get through in a day—you go over other mountains, this you go through.

Down South fork to crossing of Umpqua river,	30	"
Scott's Farm,	20	"
Calapooia Mountain,	5	"
Over the mountains to Willamette valley,	10	"

From the Siera Nevada, to Willamette valley, there is no scarcity of grass or water—camps may be had every few miles except as before noted.

As the Emigrants may be days without seeing an Indian, the indolent and incautious may think there is no necessity to keep a strict watch over their animals.

And the humane may think it wrong to refuse a poor Indian a piece of bread.

To the first I would remark that it is better to spend a few hours every second or third night in guarding their cattle than to be left in the desert without a team, or arrive in Willamette without a cow to give them milk, *the people here are poor and hard hearted.* The humane I would remind, that gratitude is a sensation unknown to a savage; the beings you would tame by kindness, will take the life of the living, or disinter the dead for the sake of the clothes that cover their bodies.

And as they give only to those they fear they ascribe your charity to the same motive. Fear in you encourages aggression in them.

In 1846, Mr. Newton gave to a *poor Umpqua*, some powder and balls to kill a deer, the Indian returned the same night and murdered him with his own ammunition. When you see the bodies of your deceased friends torn out of their graves and stripped by these Goules, you will not consider the sentence a harsh one which keeps them at a distance.

JESSE APPLEGATE.

THE SPECTATOR.

AARON E. WAIT, EDITOR—W. P. BURSON, PRINTER.

Oregon City, April 6, 1848.

☞The present number of our paper is clothed in mourning for the late Colonel CORNELIUS GILLIAM, Commander in Chief in the field, of our little Regiment of patriotic volunteers. His obituary communicated by a friend, will be seen upon another page.

☞Several communications of importance appear in the present No. of the Spectator; to which we call the attention of our readers. Several other communications have been received, the publication of which are necessarily deferred to another time. Our attendance upon the courts, we hope, will be received as an excuse for lack of matters of editorial interest in this paper—and also that attention to communications, which they would otherwise have received.

☞The citizens of this valley, residing in the neighborhood of Pudding river, have recently had some difficulty with the Clamet Indians. We have not been able to learn the particulars of the difficulty, but understand that several of the Indians were killed. The white people in Oregon should constantly bear in mind the critical situation in which they are all placed. No cause of offence should be given, by the whites to the Indians. Bear with them until forbearance shall cease to be a virtue. We cannot believe that the friendship of, or peace with the Indians is to be secured by submitting to wanton and repeated aggressions; but every man should be deeply impressed with the importance of avoiding even the appearance of infringing upon the rights of the Indians.

From our Extra of the 3d inst.

News from the Army, by Express.

Treachery of the Indians—a battle—want of more men, ammunition and provisions.

The following letter was received in this city yesterday afternoon, from Captain Maxon, by express, borne by Mr C. W. Cooke of the army. The news of the melancholy death of Col. Gilliam, as it passes from mouth to mouth, casts a deep gloom over the countenances of the citizens of this valley. This infant government has lost a truly worthy citizen, and the immediate commander of its little Regiment of Patriotic Volunteers. The volunteers have lost their commander, but they have not lost their patriotism. Mr. Cooke was in the engagement mentioned in the letter below, and represents the suffering of the little party which pursued the enemy, as immense, and the conflict at the Toosha ford as terrible! Capt. Maxon calls for men, ammunition, and provisions. There is considerable ammunition in the country, and it should be freely advanced for the use of the army. There is sufficient wheat and flour in the country to supply with bread, until the next harvest, every white person in Oregon. We have several times called upon the people through the columns of the Spectator, *for bread for the army.* Capt. Maxon now calls, and may his call touch chords which ours failed to reach.

Gentlemen of the Hudson's Bay Company, in rescuing the unfortunate prisoners from the Indians, performed an act worthy of eternal gratitude, the expense of which we hope will some day be cancelled. Very much of the ready means of the Country, is in the hands of British subjects. Will not they render further assistance in the present crisis? We remember to have read:—"Cast thy bread upon the waters and after many days thou shalt find it." If the bonds—the promises of the territory are not satisfactory—take the promises of the great Jehovah.

We hope most sincerely that the rumor among the volunteers, that their claims are being taken by persons in this valley is utterly untrue. We trust that there is no person in Oregon, so wholly wanting in self respect, common honesty, and decency as to interfere with the claims of those who are fighting the battles of their country. Let it be said of the people of this valley; (if it must be so) that they allowed the defenders of their property, their lives and their honors to suffer for the want of the necessaries of life; but do not let a truthful history of the present war record the stealing of a land claim by one whose life and property were being protected by him whose claim was stolen.

Capt. Maxon asserts that "Major Lee" possesses the confidence of the army, and we are happy in being able to announce, that this gallant officer has received and accepted the appointment of Col. of the First Regiment of Oregon Riflemen, in the place of Col. Cornelius Gilliam, deceased. Col. Lee has also received and accepted the appointment of Superintendent of Indian Affairs, in the place of Gen. Palmer, who has resigned this office. Clothed with the powers of a civil and military office, Col. Lee will return to the army, with increased influence with the Indians, and increased powers to serve his country. That he will serve his country faithfully in future, is guaranteed by his past services—that he serves his country effectually, in a great measure, will depend upon the approbation of Him whose approval, we trust will be sought.

WASKOPAM, MARCH 28th, 1848.

ADJT. GEN. LOVEJOY,

Sir:—It becomes my painful duty to communicate to you the sudden and unexpected death of COL. CORNELIUS GILLIAM, who was shot by accident on the 24th inst. whilst on his way to this place. I was at a distance from the wagon where the accident occurred, and therefore refer you to the notes of his brother in law and son in law for particulars. The notes are herewith transmitted.

The remoteness of superior officers; the seniority of my commission in this division of the service, together with our present critical situation, make it my duty also to report to you the recent proceedings and present condition of the army.

You are doubtless advised of our proceedings up to the 10th inst. at which time we left fort Waters with about 200 men, and proceeded in search of the enemy as far north as the Toosha river; at which place we met Stiocas with a portion of Dr. Whitman's property that he had induced the murderers to give up. Some 50 head of cattle, half that number of sheep, a dozen horses, $200, worth of clothing, and $56, in cash, was all he could obtain. On the morning of the 13th Capt. English with a number of others, whose horses were too much reduced to continue the pursuit, were ordered back to the fort with the property—and the remainer 158 men continued the pursuit 'till 2 P. M. when we encamped at a spring in the vicinity of the river Two Cannon. There Johnson, Weteploleske's son, came to us with assurances of friendship from the *young Chief*, and solemn declarations that he would have nothing more to do in this matter. Johnson informed us that the young Chief was encamped on the river, a short distance above us. The enemy divided and dispersed—Tam Sucie gone to the land of the Red Wolf.—Tiloquoit, and the remainder of the murderers gone the preceding day down to the mouth of the river (Two Cannon) to cross Snake river into the land of the Pelouches.

At dark we mounted, proceeded to the mouth of the Two Cannon, in the vicinity of which, we arrived about two hours before day, when discovering we were amongst their stock, we rested 'till daylight, when we moved down upon them wholly unperceived, until within half a mile of their camp.

Though their surprise, dismay and consternation were indescribable, it nevertheless failed to deprive them of their long sighted policy of cunning and deception, by which they have so often escaped our vigilance; and upon which, without a hundred advantages, they had always rather [illegible] than upon the force of their arms.

When within 400 yards of their camp, we were met by an old man unarmed with one hand on his head, the other on his heart assuring us they were friends, the people of the Yellow Serpent, and would not fight us. That the murderers were gone, and our only resource would be to take their stock, with which the hills around were covered.

We went into their camp—found the men all painted and armed but from their repeated assurances of friendship were ordered not to fire, but to proceed to the hills and collect in their stock. When we reached the highlands, we saw Snake river just below, full of their stock, swimming over and thousands ascending the opposite bank. We succeeded however in securing about 500 head of horses and cattle, and proceeded about one mile on our route to the fort, when we were attack'd in rear by a large party of Indians—those we had just spared, and Pelouches to the number of about 400. We continued a very warm marching fight till about dark, when we encamped on a small stream without food or fire. They were shooting in our camp all night and annoyed our guard so much, that we turned out the stock. At daylight we renewed our march and with it the fight, as vigorously as the day preceding, until within about 2 miles of the Toosha river, where the enemy charged at full speed to the river, to get possession of the brush at the ford, in which, owing to the swiftness of their horses they partially succeeded.

The history of Savage warfare contains few instances of greater Indian prowess and daring, than the scene which followed. The struggle for the ford was obstinate for some time, the fire of the combatants mingling together evinced the obstinacy of the combat. And here I must say had it not been for the bold and decided stand of a few young men at the most vulnerable point—the army must have sustained a heavy loss in crossing the stream, perhaps been thrown into confusion and cut to pieces. In an hour, the sound of our rifles had hushed. The long battle was ended. We were all over the river alive, and but 9 or 10 wounded, none mortally. It was not so with our enemy. The deafening roar of their musketry which had been sounding in our ears for 30 hours had died away—their shrill war whoop was changed to the melancholy death song—while a number of their lifeless brothers who lay on the field, heard not their mournful elegy.

They called off their warriors—more anxious to leave the ford of the Toosha than they had been to gain it. We moved on to the fort, at which place we arrived on the evening of the 16th., worn down with fatigue and hunger, having eaten nothing but a small colt for three days. Two days after, a council of officers was convened, in which it was resolved that we had accomplished all we could without more men and ammunition, and that it was best for 150 of us to proceed forthwith to this place, and remove up a sufficiency of ammunition, and confer with you on the further movements of the army. Col. Gilliam was accompanying us in pursuance of this resolution when the fatal accident of his death occurred, at the spring this side of Umatilla river. We brought with us all the wagons but two, and find here about 50 men, no ammunition, and little provision.

Something must be done—and done at once, or abandon the war and have the Indians in the Valley in a month, stealing our property and murdering the frontier settlers. We want an, want very much a good commander. Col. Waters will not accept the chief command. We must have a commander of prudence, wisdom and perseverance, and above all he must possess the entire confidence of the Regiment. You have three there, either of which has the confidence of the Regiment; Major Lee as fully as any other man. A force of less than 600 men cannot successfully carry on offensive operations, as the enemy have that force or more in 50 miles of Fort Waters. What men we have are in a destitute situation. Some almost without clothing, many without horses, as the principal portion of the horses we have taken, have been claimed by friendly Indians and given up to them.

What few remain not worn out, are in the hands of a few and cannot be used.

The army threatens soon to be disbanded on account of the expiration of the time of many who made short enlistments.—Captains McKay and English's companies claim to have enlisted for but 3 months. Capt. Thompson but 4 months; this should be investigated. There are 150 of our boys in the very heart of the enemies country, almost without ammunition—wholly without bread.

I shall be constrained to remain here until I receive further orders from you, for which I shall look with all possible speed. There situation is truly a critical one, and there is no ammunition here to take to them.

If there is a continuation of operations I hope there will be more patriotism shown in the Valley of the Willamette—Indeed there must be or we are lost.

Fathers! Please evince your patriotism by sending a little bread to him who is fighting thro' cold and hunger to protect your warm and comfortable hearths.—Mothers, evince that pure and noble patriotism characteristic of your sex, by sending up a few warm garments—and daughters evince your angelic influence for your country's good, by withholding your fair hand, and fairer smile from any young man who refuses to turn out to defend your honor & your country's rights. Was this universally adopted in the valley, there would be old Bachelors enough to close this matter at once.

Mr. Magone is elected major, to fill the place of major Lee, if he does not return. Major Magone will probably need a commission,—as we have suffered much for want of one.

The Spokane and Pondoras have sent us word they would join us. The Col. wrote to them if they would deliver him up the murderers, he would give them the property.

The DeChutes and Walla Wallas both would help us if necessary, were the proper course taken with them.

Several of the boys are quite anxious to return home to save their farms, learning that some men who have staid at home, have been so unmanly as to occupy them in their absence. A decided stand of the citizens, as well as an assurance from you, that their rights will be protected, would be productive of beneficial results.

Yours,

H. J. G. MAXON,

Capt. 4th Company, O. R.

GEN. A. L. LOVEJOY.

Statement referred to in Capt. Maxon's Letter.

FORT WASCOPAM, MARCH 28th, 1848.

We were within fifty yards of the deceased Colonel when he was shot. We heard the discharge of a gun, and some one said "there is a man shot." We went on and were told that it was Col. Gilliam.

When we arrived at the spot, we enquired how it happened, and were informed that the Col. went to the hind part of the wagon to get a rope, to stake out his horse with; that California remarked that he would get it for him, and went to the fore part of the wagon for that purpose, and caught hold of a mat and pulled it, when a gun in the wagon discharged; and that it was supposed that the cock of the gun caught in the mat, which was the cause of the discharge.

A. GAGE,

WM. SHAW.

Report of Commissioners, Correspondence, &c.

OREGON CITY, 3d February, 1848.

SIR—I have appointed Major Lee and Robert Newell, Commissioners, to act with Gen. Palmer, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, for the purpose of settling the present difficulty with the Indians in the upper country. I have ordered them to hold a Council with the field officers of the army, to decide on the steps necessary to be taken, as there should be entire unity, between the Officers and Commissioners. If you think it best to proceed at once, with the main body of the army to Waillatpu, do so; selecting immediately on your arrival, the best point in your judgment, for erecting a fort. Grass, water, and wood, will be the principal objects; the Indians have no canon and could not annoy a fort from a distance.—Should the tribes combine together, and refuse to comply with the requisitions of the Commissioners, I leave the field in your hands; respecting however, the lives and property of all friendly Indians. I shall wait with much anxiety to hear from you, until when, I remain,

Sir,

Your Obd't Serv't.

GEO. ABERNETHY,

Gov. Oregon Ter.

Col. C. GILLIAM,

1st Reg. Oregon Riflemen.

OREGON CITY, 3d Feb. 1848.

Gentlemen—The object of appointing you as Commissioners, to treat with the Nez Perces and other tribes, is to avert a general war with the Indians of the upper country, and to prevent a union among the tribes as far as possible. To effect this, every effort should be made on your part as far as is consistent with the honor of American Citizens. There are some requisitions that must be complied with on the part of the Indians, and must be insisted on by you, viz:—All the murderers and those that forced the young women, must be delivered up for punishment; the property taken delivered up, or an equivalent given, and restitution made of the property stolen from the immigrants last year, this you cannot ascertain, but it can be so arranged, that the persons who had property stolen from them can get it hereafter, or an equivalent. I am aware the greatest difficulty will be in obtaining the persons of the murderers, but the Indians must be given to understand in the commencement of negotiations, that this must be done; that no compromise can be made. There may be some among those that are implicated in this affair, around whom some palliating circumstances may be thrown, these you will take into consideration; but the principal actors should be executed in the presence of all the tribes.

You will hold a council with the Field Officers of the army, and decide in council, what steps shall be taken to accomplish the much desired object; restoration of peace. You will use every exertion to have the property and lives of our fellow citizens that may be hereafter travelling through the Indian country preserved, the chiefs are able to govern their own people.

Make as advantageous a treaty with them as you can, binding them to use their influence to protect American Citizens.

On your arrival at the Dalles, you must be guided by circumstances, as to the time and place of meeting the Chiefs; but let runners be sent among them informing them of your intentions and object.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEO. ABERNETHY,

Gov. Oregon Territory.

To THE HON. COMMISSIONERS, appointed to treat with the Nez Perces, and other tribes.

OREGON CITY, MARCH 6TH, 1848.

SIR,—The undersigned, Superintendant of Indian Affairs and Commissioners appointed to visit and treat with the various Indian tribes East of the Cascade mountains, beg leave to submit the following joint report of their proceedings.

On the receipt of our commission and instructions, we proceeded immediately to Wascopam, where according to our instructions, we held a council with the field officers of the army, and it was agreed in council, that we should go in advance of the army, taking with us Capt. McKay and his company, so soon as he should arrive at that place, with as many others as might be deemed necessary for a safe escort, including Mr. Meek and his party, first to Fort Walla Walla and then if necessary, to the Nez Perces country, in order to prevent an alliance of those tribes with the Cayuses, in the war against the Americans.

Capt. McKay did not arrive till the evening of the 18th Feb. In the mean time we saw and conversed with many of the Indians about that place—They were evidently alarmed at seeing so many armed men in their midst, and feeling guilty, perhaps, of having mistreated the emigrants. We made them acquainted with our business, as Commissioners, and Gen. Palmer was pointed out to them as superintendant of Indian Affairs. On the 14th, two of the Yakamas came to the fort, saying they were sent by their chiefs to learn the truth as to the intentions of the whites—that the Cayuses have been several times to see them since the massacre, and had offered them horses and cattle if they would join them, telling them the whites were coming to kill them all. They had not joined the Cayuses, but wished to know the true intentions of the whites. They said, they had never troubled the whites—that the whites did not pass through their country, because it was not on the road travelled by the emigrants—and finally, they thought the Cayuses had done very bad in killing Dr. Whitman.

We gladly embraced this opportunity to form an acquaintance with these people, and to give them correct information as to the object of the present campaign; and hearing they had a priest with them, we wrote to the chiefs—sent them a flag and some tobacco as a mark of friendship. To day the regiment was ordered to be in readiness to take up the line of march for Walla Walla to-morrow at 10 o'clock, and we were informed by the Commander that he could not furnish us an escort to go in advance—as he thought it unsafe to divide his forces. On the morning of the 15th, before we marched from this place, two of the De Chute Indians, came in for peace. They belonged to Sue, Seletsa's older brother—is quite an old man and had not been in battle against us, though some of his people had, but said they were forced to do so in order to escape the same treatment from the Cayuses, that Seletsa had received. We spoke to them about as we had done to the Yakamas the previous day and sent the old Chief a similar present, with a request that he should meet us on the road, as we could not wait at the Fort.

Disappointed in our wish to go in advance of the Regiment and fearing the Nez Perces and Walla Wallas might be driven to hostilities, we determined to despatch a messenger to them. Old Elijah, an Indian professing to be a Nez Perces, who had accompanied Messrs. Newell and Palmer from Oregon City, was thought to be the most suitable person at our command; accordingly on the 20th. from the upper crossing of John Days river he was sent forward with a letter from Rev. H. Spaulding to the Nez Perces chief—a flag and some tobacco to them from us and a letter to Mr. McBean, to whom he was directed to deliver the package. He, however, unfortunately (or designedly) fell in with the Cayuses before he reached Walla Walla, and was retained as prisoner, the flag and tobacco appropriated to their own use, but the package, being directed to McBean, was sent to him by young chief, who afterwards intercepted and destroyed his reply to us. Fortunately two Nez Perces, Timothy and Red Wolf, arrived at Walla Walla just as McBean received the package, he made known to them the contents of our letter to him, in which, Mr. Spalding's letter to them was mentioned, he gave it to Timothy, who readily opened and read it aloud; after which these two men immediately set out for their own country, bearing with them Mr. Spaulding's letter and also the information they had gained through our letter to McBean, which was also communicated to Yellow Serpent, (Walla Walla Chief). To this fortunate occurrence we owe, perhaps, much of our success in preventing a general combination of the Indian tribes against us. On the 23d. Sue, the De Chute chief came to our camp on Willow Creek, bearing the flag we had sent him, accompanied by 12 of his men as an escort. We had a friendly talk with him, and Capt. T. McKay, received by him a fine horse as a present from Waluptoulookt, from whom Col. Gilliam received a message by the same; saying he would bring in all the property left with him and all that had been taken from the immigrants by his people, and deliver it up to the Col. on his return to Wascopam, if that would make them friends. The Colonel replied it would. We all sent some word to the same effect, and requested Sue to meet us