

Daily Mountaineer.

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 19, 1866.

WANTED.

A BOY TO WORK IN THIS OFFICE. No boy taken for less than one year.

The stage for Canyon City will leave the stage office to-morrow (Friday) morning at 7 o'clock.

The office of Wells, Fargo & Co., in this city, was closed yesterday and crape hung on the door, in respect to the memory of the late Captain S. Knight, Superintendent of the Company, who was killed by the explosion in San Francisco on the 16th inst.

MORE INDIAN DEPREDACTIONS.—The stage from Canyon City arrived here yesterday, having left Canyon on Thursday last. The mining excitement still continued unabated and parties were leaving for Olive Creek daily. The diggings on Canyon Creek are paying well, and everything looks favorable for a rich yield the present season.

On the 11th inst. Mr. Fielle, living twenty miles this side of Canyon City had twenty-one head of cattle stolen from him by the Indians. The cattle were driven across the John Day river and down the south side of that stream on the barricaded trail mentioned by us a few days since.

We hope that when Gen. Halleck gets through with his Chico speculation he will devote a little of his time and a few of his troops to this section of country. The last four years have certainly learned some of our Major Generals some very bad speculative habits.

CAPT. SMITH'S LETTER.—We publish elsewhere a letter addressed to J. W. P. Huntington, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon, by Captain John Smith, the present Agent at Warm Springs Reservation. The Agent deems it essential to the well-being of the Reservation, and the protection of the public property there, that U. S. troops should be stationed in the neighborhood. In this we think he is right. Having been stationed, while in the military service, on that reservation, we are personally acquainted with the dangers not only to the public property there, but also the lives of those employed by the Government to look after the well-being of the Indians. In 1859, the Snakes attacked and drove the employees from the reservation, and almost every year from that time up to 1864, they have visited the Agency and stole large bands of horses from the Indians located there. The treaty with the confederated tribes on the reservation, guarantees to them military protection against the Snake Indians, and it was with this understanding that they consented to be located on the reserve. The country is claimed by the Snakes as being a part of their territory, and hence their constant depredations upon the friendly Indians. Whether or not Agent Smith can be furnished with troops he can judge from the conversation Mr. Catley had with Gen. Steele while in Vancouver a few days since. General Halleck needs all the troops in this Department to open his Chico route, and the protection of the Indians and Government property on the Warm Springs Reservation is an after consideration.

LETTER FROM CAPT. SMITH.

WARM SPRINGS AGENCY, }
April 11th, 1866.

Sir:—I have the honor to submit the following for your consideration, concerning the Snake or Shoshone Indians, and the necessity of military protection for the Reservation now under my charge, and for the various white settlements and the routes of travel leading to them. It is not necessary for me to describe in detail the several bands or tribes of Snake Indians: their numbers, condition and disposition, are quite as well known to yourself as to me. It is merely with reference to their relations to the Warm Springs Agency that I now address you.

The Agency, as you are aware, is located on the edge of the Snake country, and beyond it, in an easterly and south-easterly direction, are no settlements for several hundred miles.

The Snakes or Shoshones who inhabit this region are a fierce, predatory race, whose nomadic habits, superior vigor, and intense hostility to the whites, render them a dreaded enemy. Their hostility is of the most malignant and uncompromising character, and extends not only to the whites, but to all Indian tribes who are in relations of amity with the whites.

The whites now under my charge are especially objects of enmity. They have at various times within the last eight years committed depredations upon the Reservation at Warm Springs. In each of the years, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1862 and 1863, they made a raid upon the Agency, and drove off each time a large amount of stock. In 1859, they took from the Indians and the Government at this place, seven hundred horses and all the cattle then upon the Agency, in number, I believe, about twenty. In that year they not only drove off the loose stock within reach, but they also drove the whites and friendly Indians from the Agency, and kept possession of it for several days, with the arms and other Government property; several of the friendly Indians were killed by them, and several children taken prisoners, who, if they are alive, are now in the Snake country.

In 1863, the last raid they made, they captured about two hundred horses, although thirty soldiers under command of Lieutenant Halloran were stationed at the Agency.

Since that date they have not visited the Agency, but the recent very bold depredations upon the great road leading to Canyon City, are such as to excite apprehension that we may again be troubled with their presence.

They have within the last two months not only stolen horses and cattle from several stations on the Canyon City road, robbing and breaking up completely several stage stations, but they have come to Trout Creek, within twelve miles of this Agency, and robbed the ranch of the Messrs. Scott of a large number of cattle and horses. I do not undertake to recount the immense loss of property in other localities, or the many barbarous murders of whites committed by them. Of these you are doubtless as well informed as I am, but I do ask your earnest attention to the exposed condition of this Agency.

The troops at Camps Polk, Wright, Curry, Logan and Watson, are all ordered in, and these posts are to be abandoned. When this order is carried into effect (as it will in a few days) there will be absolutely no barrier between the Warm Springs Reservation and the Snake country of the south and south-eastern portion of the State.

The small number of employees at the Agency are quite inadequate for protection, and the friendly Indians are from their vocations so necessarily scattered, that they cannot be relied upon for defense. Twenty resolute Snake Indians can at any time take possession of this Agency, and they are fully aware of its exposed condition.

The remedy for this exposed condition of affairs, in my judgment, lies wholly with the military.

A small military post established at some point between Crooked River and the Canyon City road, and west of the Blue Mountains, could afford protection not only to the Reservation and Agency, but also to the Canyon City road and the McKenzie's Fork road, all of which connects the Willamette Valley with the vast range east of the Cascade Mountains and south of the Columbia River. Fifty men stationed at Willow Creek, Tecoye, or even directly upon the Canyon City road, would be of more advantage in opening the vast interior of Oregon, than five hundred men located in the vicinity of Harney Lake, or other points where Indians are seldom or never found. Indeed, I question altogether the policy of permanent military posts any where. In my opinion a small detachment not encumbered with

transportation, and not confined to any particular locality would be of more benefit than a half dozen such companies who are located at established posts, and who chiefly look to quartermaster and commissaries for supplies. But, whether the idea is accepted or not, I beg that you would call the attention of the military authorities to the imminent danger of a repetition of the former raids upon the Warm Springs Agency, and the totally inadequate protection afforded by troops stationed at such illly located posts as Camps Polk, Curry, Logan and Wright. Troops stationed there are of no use,—they might as well be in Austria or Siberia.

This somewhat lengthy communication is designed to call your attention to a branch of the Indian service, which is in my judgment very important, while at the same time it has been very much neglected. If its result shall be to afford adequate protection to the white settlements east of the Des Chutes River, I shall be more than repaid for my labor, and at the same time, I will have the satisfaction of having performed a duty hitherto ignored. If my suggestions are unheeded I will rest in the proud consciousness that my warning voice has interceded to shield the helpless, the innocent and the ignorant from the knife and the tomahawk of the merciless savage.

Trusting that you will direct the attention of the military authorities to this matter, I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully, your Ob'd Serv't,
JOHN SMITH,
Indian Agent.

Hon. J. W. PERRY HUNTINGTON,
Sup't Indian Affairs.

Columbia Lodge, No. 5, I. O. O. F.— Meets every Friday evening at 7 o'clock, in Gates Hall, corner of Second and Court Streets. Brothers in good standing are invited to attend. By order. N. G.

Wasco Lodge, No. 15, A. F. & A. M.— Holds its stated Communication on the First and Third Mondays of each month, at their hall, in Dalles City. Brethren in good standing are invited to attend. SETH L. POPE, Sec'y. By order of the W. M.

DENTAL NOTICE.—Being about to make a professional tour to the towns and settlements up the Columbia, I respectfully call the attention of those of my patrons who are in need of Dental Operations of any character, to the fact, so that they may have an opportunity to avail themselves of my services before my departure. If so desired, I will leave about the 20th of March, and return to this place to resume my practice, about the 18th of June. [257] J. W. GURLEY.

LOST.
A PAIR OF GOLD SPECTACLES, in a German silver case. A liberal reward will be paid to the finder on leaving them at this office.

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J. W. GURLEY, DENTIST,

Main St., Dalles, Oregon.

WOULD RESPECTFULLY INFORM the citizens of this place and vicinity, that having returned from a professional tour through the mines, he has again resumed the practice of DENTISTRY, in the room formerly occupied by him, in the building occupied by Wood & Butler, Photograph Artists, and adjoining Walden Bros' Drug Store. He takes this method of extending thanks, for the liberal patronage heretofore extended to him, and solicits the continuance of the same.

LIST OF PRICES: Entire Denture on Gold Base.....\$180 to \$225 " Upper Denture, Gold Base..... 90 " 120 " Denture, Vulcanite Base..... 70 " 125 " Upper Denture, Vulcanite Base..... 35 " 45 Gold Fillings inserted from one dollar upward. Children's Teeth extracted free of charge. 60-14

Treasurer's Notice.

THE FOLLOWING COUNTY ORDERS will be paid upon presentation at my office:

When Registered.	Class.	No.	In favor of.
July 14, 1865	5	155	R W Crandall.
" 15 "	5	152	" "
" 17 "	5	159	" "
Aug. 9 "	5	180	J B Harford.
" " "	5	181	" "
Sept. 7 "	5	232	T M McAustin.
Sept. 8 "	5	248	" "
Nov. 6 "	5	262	T M McAustin.
Nov. 10 "	5	301	C R Meigs.
Nov. 10 "	5	370	J B Harford.
Dec. 8 "	5	307	" "
Dec. 12 "	5	171	Jesse Neal.
Jan. 5 1866	5	454	J B Harford.
Jan. 15 "	5	446	J E Helt.
Feb. 9 "	5	454	B W Mitchell.
1865			H. J. WALDRON, Treasurer.

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO COHN & BOHM must pay up by the 25th inst., or legal proceedings will be had. This is the last notice. COHN & BOHM.