

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING,

In response to Senate resolution of January 13, 1890, report relative to withdrawal of troops from Fort Klamath, Oregon.

JANUARY 23, 1890.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, January 22, 1890.

The Secretary of War has the honor to transmit to the Senate copies of correspondence and orders relative to the withdrawal of troops from Fort Klamath, Oregon, in response to resolution of January 13, 1890, as follows:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to transmit to the Senate copies of all correspondence and departmental orders on file in his Department within the past year relating to the withdrawal of troops from Fort Klamath, in the State of Oregon; and relating also to the proposed return of troops to said fort since the date of the order withdrawing same.

REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

ENGINEER OFFICE,
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash., April 1, 1889.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with S. O. No. 24, c. s., Headquarters Department of the Columbia, and letter of instruction of March 1, 1889, Assistant Adjutant-General's Office, Headquarters Department of the Columbia, I proceeded to Fort Klamath, Oregon, and made a resurvey of the post and hay reservations at that post.

Settlements were found on the west side of both reservations, as indicated on map of reservation submitted herewith.

There is an apparent discrepancy between the reservation as surveyed from the flagstaff (S. O. No. 30, series 1869, D. C.) and the reservation as indicated on the section map (land office). In this connection I would state that the section corners are not clearly and definitely marked, some having small pieces of lava lying on the ground, some having unmarked stakes, and some being without any mark at all.

The proclamation of the President of the United States of May 4, 1886, published May 6, 1886, released the reservation of Fort Klamath, Oregon. I find no record of this reservation having been re-announced.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. A. LOVERING,
First Lieutenant Fourth Infantry, Acting Engineer Officer.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash., April 1, 1889.

Acting engineer officer, Department of the Columbia, submits herewith map of Fort Klamath reservation resurveyed by him in compliance with S. O. No. 24, c. s. Headquarters Department Columbia and letter of instructions of March 1, 1889, Assistant Adjutant-General's Office, Department Columbia.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash., April 6, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Columbia.

From a letter addressed by the Quartermaster-General to the chief quartermaster, Division of the Pacific, dated February 5, 1889, I judge that the impression prevails at the Quartermaster-General's office that only the Hay reservation has been transferred to the Interior Department.

In view of this, and the encroachments on the western borders, I recommend that steps be taken to ascertain the exact status of both reservations.

J. G. C. LEE,
Major and Quartermaster, U. S. Army, Chief Quartermaster.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash., April 8, 1889.

Respectfully forwarded to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Division of the Pacific, and attention invited to the anomalous condition of affairs existing at Fort Klamath.

By the President's proclamation of May 4, 1886, the military reservation at Fort Klamath was directed to be placed under the control of the Secretary of the Interior, as having become useless for military purposes. As nothing has been received at these headquarters abrogating this proclamation or restoring the reservation to the military, it appears that the post of Fort Klamath is located on lands belonging to the Interior Department. The reservation, in any event, is largely in excess of the legal requirements—640 acres.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., April 12, 1889.

To the Engineer Officer, Division of the Pacific,

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC, ENGINEER OFFICE,
San Francisco, Cal., April 13, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Division of the Pacific; contents noted; tracing of map made and filed.

J. E. RUNCIE,
First Lieutenant, First Artillery, Acting Engineer Officer.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., April 15, 1889.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Sixth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 15, 1889.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

The commanding general, Department of the Columbia, forwards papers relating to the anomalous condition of affairs at Fort Klamath, Oregon, owing to the War Department having surrendered its control of the reservation to the Interior Department some three years ago, at a time when it was proposed to abandon the post.

In April, 1886, upon the recommendation of the department commander the Secretary of War authorized the abandonment of Fort Klamath, and at the same time recommended to the President that the military reservation be placed under the control of the Interior Department as being no longer required for military purposes. Agreeably therewith, by President's proclamation of May 4, the military reservation of Fort Klamath was placed under the control of the Secretary of the Interior for disposition under the land laws. Subsequently, and before the troops could be withdrawn, so many protests had been received from the citizens of Oregon against the withdrawal of troops from this section that the War Department directed its continuance as a garrison post until further orders, and under these instructions it has been continuously occupied since that date.

It now appears from the report of the engineer officer, Department of the Columbia, that the reservation is being encroached upon on all sides by settlers; that the hay reservation is still under control of the War Department, while the post reservation is under control of the Interior Department, and that both are largely in excess of the area allowed by law, viz, 640 acres.

J. C. KELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Seventh indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, *May 23, 1889.*

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant-General for full history of this case and the present status of the reservation as shown by the records of his office.

By order of the Acting Secretary of War.

J. B. RANDOLPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

[Eighth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 6, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Secretary of War, with full history of this case, and opinion as to the present status of the Fort Klamath military reservation, as required by preceding indorsement, accompanying.

J. C. KELTON,
Acting Adjutant-General.

[Ninth indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, *June 12, 1889.*

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant-General, for reference to the commanding general, Department of the Columbia, for report whether the time has not now arrived for the final abandonment of this post; or if not, to define on this map the land necessary for a military post, not exceeding 640 acres.

By order of the Acting Secretary of War.

JOH TWEEDALE,
Chief Clerk.

[Tenth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 13, 1889.

Respectfully referred to the commanding general, Department of the Columbia, through Headquarters Division of the Pacific, for report, as indicated by the preceding indorsement of the Acting Secretary of War. These papers to be returned.

By command of Major-General Schofield.

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

[Eleventh indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., June 20, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the commanding general, Department of the Columbia, inviting attention to the ninth and tenth indorsements.

GEO. D. RUGGLES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

4 WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM FORT KLAMATH, OREGON.

[Twelfth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash. T., June 25, 1889.

Respectfully referred to the commanding officer, Fort Klamath, for full report on the subjects presented, especially the danger of depredations and forays by Indians to be apprehended in the event of the troops being withdrawn.

By command of Brigadier-General Gibbon.

M. BARBER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Thirteenth indorsement.]

FORT KLAMATH, OREGON, *June 30, 1889.*

Respectfully returned. It was not known until this survey that settlers had infringed upon either reservation. Their fences seemed to follow lines of departure from section lines of Land Office surveys. Should a post reservation be retained, it is recommended that only so much of this be reserved as lies east of Wood River, and that the hay reservation be relinquished. This will give less than 640 acres and afford ample pasturage and target ground.

Within such lines there is and could be no question of boundaries or infringement. But I think the time has now arrived for the final abandonment of this post.

The Indians on the Klamath Reservation number about twelve hundred souls, are well civilized, have dwelling-houses in inclosed farms, raise horses, cattle, and grain, sell a considerable surplus of this each year, and have long ago discarded the blanket and breech-clout. They do not hunt, indeed practically have no arms, but do have schools and churches. Last year at the instance of the Interior Department they petitioned to have their lands segregated and to be endowed with the consequent citizenship.

They are in daily intercourse with their white neighbors, who are now settled on all sides of the reservation, but no quarrel or difficulty has arisen for years. Their reservation is almost touched by two daily mail lines which cross the Cascade range from the railroad, and is traversed by one tri-weekly line. In view of their industrious and pacific character (the Klamaths always having been allies of the whites), any apprehension of forays or raids from them seems silly.

All efforts heretofore to prevent the withdrawal of troops have been prompted by the Kahn Bros., of Portland, who are interested in the trader's store here, which gives them a base for commerce with the Indians and settlers in eastern and southern Oregon. The towns along the railroad are easily induced to protest because of disbursements brought about from the maintenance of this post. I see no reason for its continuance.

G. S. CARPENTER,
Captain, Fourteenth Infantry, Commanding Post.

[Fourteenth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash. T., July 6, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant-General, U. S. Army (through Headquarters Division of the Pacific), and attention invited to the views of Captain Carpenter, the post commander, with which I concur.

The post should be abandoned. There is no more need for troops on the Klamath Reservation than on any one of the other eight or ten small Indian reservations in this department.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Fifteenth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., July 9, 1889.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army, inviting attention to the previous indorsements.

In view of the expense of keeping up a post at Fort Klamath, I think a small detachment of troops will be sufficient to protect all interests and be far more economical.

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Sixteenth Indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, July 17, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Secretary of War. This office having, under date of May 15, reported the anomalous condition of affairs at Fort Klamath, Oregon, owing to the War Department having surrendered its control of the reservation to the Interior Department, some three years ago, at a time when it was proposed to abandon the post, and the consequent encroachment by settlers, the Acting Secretary of War directed, under date of June 12, that the matter be referred to the department commander for report whether the time has not now arrived for the final abandonment of the post; or, if not; that the land necessary for the post be defined on accompanying map.

The papers are now returned with the report of the post commander in which he remarks that "the time has now arrived for the final abandonment of the post; that the Indians on the Klamath Reservation number about twelve hundred souls, are well civilized, have schools and churches, and have asked to be endowed with citizenship; that no difficulty has arisen between them and their white neighbors for years, and that no apprehension of forays and raids for them need be entertained." He further remarks that "the opposition to the withdrawal of the troops from this point is prompted by a commercial house in Portland, which is largely interested in the trader's store at Fort Klamath, which gives them a basis for commerce with the Indian and settlers in eastern and southern Oregon; and that the towns in the vicinity are easily induced to protest against abandonment, because of the disbursements brought about by the maintenance of the post." The department commander concurs in these views, remarking that "there is no more need for troops on the Klamath Reservation than on any one of the other eight or ten small Indian reservations in that department." The division commander thinks that in view of the expense of keeping up a post at Fort Klamath a small detachment of troops will be sufficient to protect all interests, and be far more economical.

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

[Seventeenth indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, *July 19, 1889.*

The Secretary of War concurs in the views of the military authorities, and action will be taken accordingly.

By order of the Secretary of War.

JOHN TWEEDALE,
*Chief Clerk.*WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington City, July 20, 1889.*

SIR: I have the honor to state that the military reservation of Fort Klamath, Oregon, was transferred to the Department of the Interior under the provisions of the act of July 8, 1884, by executive proclamation of May 4, 1886, but at the instance of many citizens residing in that vicinity the Secretary of the Interior was requested by this Department to suspend any action looking to the sale of this reservation, and the order for the removal of the troops was on June 22, 1886, suspended until further orders.

This Department is now in receipt of a report, dated the 30th ultimo, from the post commander, in which he remarks that the time has now arrived for the final abandonment of the post; that the Indians on the Klamath Reservation number about twelve hundred souls, are well civilized, have schools and churches, and have asked to be endowed with citizenship; that no difficulty has arisen between them and their white neighbors for years, and that no apprehension of forays and raids from them need be entertained.

The department commander concurs in these views, and states that there is no more need for troops on the Klamath Reservation than on any one of the other eight or ten small reservations in that Department. The division commander thinks that in view of the expense of keeping a post at Fort Klamath a small detachment of troops will be sufficient to protect all interests and be far more economical. I concur in the views of the military authorities, and have directed that action be taken accordingly.

In view of the foregoing the reservation will be no longer needed by the military authorities, and orders will be issued for the removal of the troops.

Please designate an agent of your Department as custodian of the reservation and buildings, and advise me of the name of the person so designated.

Very respectfully,

REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
 ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.
 Washington, July 22, 1889.

SIR: Referring to your indorsement of the 9th of July, forwarding papers in the matter of the maintenance of the post of Fort Klamath, Oregon, in which the department commander recommends that the post should be abandoned, and to your remarks thereon, that "in view of the expense of keeping up a post at Fort Klamath a small detachment of troops will be sufficient to protect all interests, and be far more economical," I am directed by the Major-General Commanding the Army to inform you that the Secretary of War concurs in the views thus expressed, and directs that action be taken accordingly.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

The COMMANDING GENERAL,
Division of the Pacific, San Francisco, Cal.

[Telegram.]

ASHLAND, OREGON, August 3, 1889.

To Hon. JNO. H. MITCHELL:

Secretary of War has issued orders for immediate abandonment of Fort Klamath. Please make every effort to have order suspended, as we believe its maintenance is absolutely necessary to the protection of the citizens of southeastern Oregon. No time to be lost. Troops to leave next Thursday.

J. M. MCCALL.	C. B. WATSON.
W. H. LEEDS.	F. ROPER.
D. R. MILLS.	W. H. ATKINSON.
S. B. GALEY.	J. C. SELMAN.

[Telegram.]

LINKVILLE, OREGON, August 3 (via Ashland, August 4), 1889.

To Senator J. N. DOLPH:

The people of Klamath and Lake Counties earnestly protest against the abandonment of Fort Klamath, as it will leave the lives and property of many defenseless men, women, and children adjacent to the Klamath Reservation exposed to the treachery of the Modoc, Snake, and Klamath Indians. Secure suspension of order until we can be heard.

CHARLES S. MOORE.	J. T. FORBES.
F. A. COGSWELL.	G. W. SMITH.
J. H. HAMAKER.	W. S. MOORE.
GEORGE T. BALDWIN.	W. C. HALE.

[Telegram.]

PORTLAND, OREGON, August 4, 1889.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
 Washington:

Troops have been ordered withdrawn from Fort Klamath, Oregon. This is the only Government post in the State, and the safety of a large white and Indian population would be endangered by the withdrawal. We respectfully petition for the retention of the troops.

BOARD OF TRADE OF PORTLAND, OREGON,
 DONALD McLEAY, *President.*

[Letter.]

VINEYARD HAVEN, MASS., August 4, 1889.

DEAR SIR: I am just in receipt of a telegram from Portland, Oregon, informing me that Senator Mitchell and Representative Hermann have telegraphed you requesting that the order of the Department to remove the troops from Fort Klamath be rescinded.

If they have made such request, I join with them in it.

Yours truly,

J. N. DOLPH.

HON. REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.

[Letter.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 9, 1889.

SIR: Replying to your letter of the 4th instant, in the matter of the abandonment of Fort Klamath, asking that the order for the removal of the troops be rescinded, I have the honor to inclose herewith, for your information, copy of the telegram to the Hon. J. H. Mitchell, United States Senator, on the subject.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

Hon. J. N. DOLPH, United States Senator,
Vineyard Haven, Mass.

[Letter.]

ROSEBURGH, OREGON, August 5, 1889.

SIR: I beg to inclose various papers from our leading citizens in different parts of Oregon protesting against the order removing the troops from Fort Klamath in Oregon.

Much anxiety exists in the minds of our people as to this matter. It is regarded as a most injurious action to our State. This fort is the last one supplied with troops in Oregon and with their removal not a soldier will longer remain in our limits. We have five Indian reservations in the State and about 4,000 Indians, and the people along our frontiers justly feel that their further peace and security is now in peril, and they are accordingly protesting to us as their Representatives and asking us to appeal to the War Department and make explanation of their grievances and insecurity in the event of removal of troops.

I can concur in what is represented by our people, and earnestly request that the said troops be permitted to remain at Fort Klamath.

Very respectfully yours,

BINGER HERMANN, M. C.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

ASHLAND, OREGON, August 3, 1889.

Hon. B. HERMANN, Roseburg, Oregon:

The Secretary of War has issued an order to remove troops from Fort Klamath. Please make an effort to have order suspended, as we believe its maintenance would be detrimental to the safety of the citizens. No time to be lost as troops leave next Thursday.

J. M. MCCALL.
W. R. MILLS.
F. ROPER.

J. C. TOLMAN.
W. H. ATKINSON.
GALEY, and others.

8 WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM FORT KLAMATH, OREGON.

[Telegram.]

PORTLAND, OREGON, *August 3, 1889.*

Hon. B. HERMANN:

Order issued for removal of troops and abandonment of Fort Klamath. Please endeavor to have order countermanded.

KAHN BROS.

[Telegram.]

LINKVILLE, OREGON, *August 3, 1889.*

Hon. BINGER HERMANN:

The people of Klamath and Lake Counties earnestly protest against the abandonment of Fort Klamath, as it will leave the lives and property of many defenseless men, women, and children adjacent to the Klamath Reservation exposed to the treachery of the Modoc, Snake, and Klamath Indians. Secure suspension of order until we can be heard.

CHARLES S. MOORE,	F. A. COGSWELL,
J. W. HAMAKAR,	W. S. MOORE,
G. W. SMITH,	W. C. HALE,
GEORGE T. BALDWIN,	J. T. FORBES.

[Telegram.]

PORTLAND, OREGON, *August 4, 1889.*

Hon. REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War, Washington:

Intense excitement over proposed removal of troops from Klamath. On behalf of people I earnestly protest.

JOHN H. MITCHELL.

[Telegram.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 5, 1889.

Hon. JOHN H. MITCHELL,
Portland, Oregon:

Your dispatch received. Klamath was abandoned upon report of post commander to the effect that the time has now arrived for the final abandonment of the post; that the Indians on the Klamath Reservation number about twelve hundred souls, are well civilized, have schools and churches, and have asked to be endowed with citizenship; that no difficulty has arisen between them and their white neighbors for years, and that no apprehension of forays and raids from them may be entertained; and upon report of the department commander that there is no more need for troops on the Klamath Reservation than on any one of the other eight or ten small Indian reservations in that department; but in view of the public feeling announced in your dispatch, the Secretary of War authorized the division commander to retain a lieutenant and a detachment of non-commissioned officers and enlisted men, thirteen in all.

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

[Telegram.]

ROSEBURGH, OREGON, *August 6, 1889.*

To The SECRETARY OF WAR, *Washington:*

Much excitement prevails among our people on order removing troops from Fort Klamath. Suspension of order earnestly desired.

BINGER HERMANN,
Congressional Representative.

[Telegram.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 8, 1889.

Hon. BINGER HERMANN, *Roseburgh, Oregon* :

Your telegram received. Klamath was abandoned upon the report of post and department commanders that its further continuance was unnecessary, but in view of anxiety among the settlers the Secretary of War has directed the retention of an officer and twelve men at that point.

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, August 7, 1889.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of a communication of 5th instant from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with accompanying inclosure, calling attention to a telegram received from the Board of Trade of Portland, Oregon, wherein it is stated that the troops have been ordered withdrawn from Fort Klamath, and that the safety of the Indians imperatively demands their retention to guard against invasion of the reservation.

Concurring in the Commissioner's suggestion, I have the honor to recommend that the order for the complete abandonment of the post at Fort Klamath, Oregon (if any such order has been issued), be suspended until the report of the inspector shall have been received and proper action taken thereon by the Department.

A United States Indian inspector has been this day directed to make early report on this matter.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

JOHN W. NOBLE,
Secretary.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, August 5, 1889.

SIR: I have the honor to invite your attention to the following telegram just received from the "Board of Trade of Portland, Oregon, Donald MacSeney, president."

"Troops have [been] ordered withdrawn from Fort Klamath, Oregon. The safety of the Indians imperatively demands their retention to guard against invasion of the reservation. We respectfully ask you to intercede with the War Department."

The question of the abandonment of the military post of Fort Klamath has been under consideration by the War Department for several years, and heretofore this office has urged its continuance in the interest of the Indian service.

I find that on January 20, 1887, recommendation was made to the Department for an increase of the military force stationed there as a preventive of any hostilities that might otherwise occur.

The recommendation appears to have been based upon statements presented by Hon. Binger Hermann and the recommendation of Special Agent Parsons. (See office report to the Department of January 20, 1887, copy herewith.)

Later, on November 1, 1888, the attention of the Department was drawn to a report by Agent Emery in which he declared it to be impossible with the means at his command to protect the reservation from the encroachments of cattle-men, and requested the stationing of a company of cavalry at Fort Klamath, to remain until the Indians had received their lands in severalty.

This office then thought that the increase of force asked for would be of great benefit in protecting the reservation from encroachments and preventing the possibility of trouble between the Indians and whites, and accordingly recommended favorable action by the War Department, with the added observation that the survey of the reservation for allotments had been recommended to the Department and that when the allotments were made and the surplus lands disposed of the necessity for the continuance of the military post at Fort Klamath would no longer exist.

Since that correspondence was had the Department has declined to approve of the survey of the reservation for the purpose of making allotments, and there is therefore no likelihood of any early change in the status of the Klamath Indians, in respect of their land titles or their relations to the Government.

When the question of increasing the garrison was before the War Department the

commanding officer of the post, Capt. G. L. Carpenter, Fourteenth Infantry, to whom the matter was referred, said:

"The influence which obtained the suspension of the order for the abandonment of this post in July, 1886; the request for an increase of force here, made by Hon. Binger Hermann, to which the honorable Commissioner refers, as of date January 20, 1887; the request for the permanent retention of the cavalry troops here, referred to me from your office August 16, 1888, to which the letter sent to Hon. Binger Hermann by the Acting Secretary of War was an evident reply, and a copy of which I furnished you on the 1st instant; and now this super-anxious letter of Agent Emery, it is plain to me, all find their inspiration in the same source.

"The motive power is that of the Kahu Brothers, merchants of Portland, Oregon.

"They are the principals in the trader's store at this post, the only store on the Indian or military reservation.

"At this the Indians and people of the agency habitually trade, and the proprietors control the freight contracts and most others connected with the Indian and military service here. They seek by all means in their power to prolong the life of this post, increase the garrison, and thereby their own gains.

"I firmly believe in view of all circumstances and relations here that in case of future trespassing on the reservation, if there should be any, the agent has but to assert himself or invoke the powers of the civil law to find relief, and that the further retention of troops here is rather a detriment and a needless expense.

"Certainly cavalry will be of no avail until departing snows bring fresh grass."

Here the matter appears to have rested, and this office heard nothing further in regard to the proposed abandonment of the post until the dispatch above quoted, from the Board of Trade of Portland, Oregon, was received.

There has been more cattle trespassing of late on the Klamath Reservation, and only the other day, July 24, 1889, this office telegraphed Agent Emery to notify cattle-owners to remove trespassing cattle from the reservation, and upon failure to do so to report facts to United States district attorney, giving names of owners and of witnesses, and request him to prosecute offenders under section 2117, Revised Statutes.

It is hoped that the reservation can be protected without the intervention of the military, but should this appear impossible then the aid of the military would be required.

However, I am not prepared to say whether the military post could be abandoned with safety or not. The military officers appear to think it could, and from the dispatch received from the Board of Trade it would seem that the abandonment has been determined upon. On the other hand, Mr. Binger Hermann, member of the House of Representatives from Oregon, is, or was, very decided in the belief that it ought not to be abandoned.

The President has ordered the removal of the resident agent, Emery, although as yet no one has qualified in his stead, and there is no special agent of this office who can be sent to the agency to investigate and report upon the question of the propriety of withdrawing the troops from Fort Klamath, and I therefore have honor to recommend that an inspector of the Department be ordered to the Klamath Reservation, with instructions to make a thorough investigation of the situation there and report whether there is any actual necessity for the continuance of troops at Fort Klamath for the preservation of peace and good order, and for the protection of the reservation against unlawful invasion or intrusion from the outside.

I would also suggest the propriety of asking the War Department to suspend the order for the complete abandonment of the post (if any such order has been issued) until the report of the inspector shall have been received, and proper action taken thereon by this Department.

I inclose herewith a copy of this report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. MORGAN,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Inclosure.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 20, 1887.

SIR: Referring to office report, dated October 18, 1886, in which the maintenance of the military post at Fort Klamath, Oregon, was recommended, I have the honor to state that I am in receipt of a communication from Hon. Binger Hermann, dated January 3, 1887, in which he urges that an additional company be stationed at that post.

He states that one company (cavalry) was removed last summer, leaving but a small company of infantry, the detail of its members to the usual duties around the fort leaving none for active service in case of need; that a company of cavalry should by all means replace the company withdrawn; that, owing to the long intervals between towns and settlements, and between the main agency and the Yainax subagency and the roughness of the country, cavalry should be continually retained there; that infantry alone can not reach the remote points as expeditiously as cavalry; that two companies, one of cavalry and one of infantry, should be there; that the occasion for troops consists in the well-known hostile character of the Indians and the lawless character of the whites in the vicinity that the immense and rich grassy region known as the Klamath marsh is a constant temptation to lawless whites and cow-boys to encroach across the lines, giving rise to collisions between the two races; that the troops are a constant restraint to the Indians on the one hand and the lawless whites on the other; that Klamath is the only fort left in the State of Oregon; and that the major commanding the fort, as well as the Indian agent, the judge of the county court, the sheriff of the county, and leading citizens, personally and earnestly assured him that in the event of the removal of the troops the most calamitous results might be expected.

In view of the existing conditions which he found by personal observation and travel, he urgently asks favorable consideration of the demand for an additional company of troops.

In his report, dated November 2, 1886, Special Agent Parsons strongly recommended the retention of at least one company of troops at the fort.

He says the Indians are rapidly advancing in civilization and are learning to take care of themselves; that they are peaceably disposed and extremely anxious to keep out of difficulties, but that they are a brave and tenacious people and prompt to revenge injuries; that the whites surrounding the reservation are of the most lawless and turbulent character and only too anxious to fasten a quarrel upon the Indians in the hope that an Indian war will result in the opening of the reservation to settlement by whites; and that troops are chiefly needed to keep these lawless whites in subjection, although, in the event of hostilities, the troops would find work enough in preventing the Indians from indiscriminately massacring the whites.

A re-survey of the boundary lines of this reservation has been ordered, which will probably result in either making an addition to the reservation or in the restoration of a portion of the same, which will be a source of disappointment and resentment to either the whites or the Indians.

In view of the facts as represented and as a preventive of any hostilities that might occur in the absence of a sufficient military force, I am of the opinion that an additional company—cavalry—should be stationed at Fort Klamath, Oregon.

I inclose copies of the papers and of this report, and have the honor to recommend that the matter be referred to the Secretary of War, with the request that he give it favorable consideration.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. C. ATKINS,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Letter.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington City, August 14, 1889.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, inclosing a copy of one addressed to you on the 5th instant by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, relative to the abandonment of the post of Fort Klamath, Oregon, and requesting that the order of abandonment be suspended until the report of an Indian inspector, who will be sent to investigate affairs there, shall have been received and properly acted upon by your Department.

In reply, I beg to invite attention to previous correspondence relating to the subject in question, and to state that the order for the abandonment of the post was based upon reports and recommendations of the military authorities, it having been recently reported by the post commander that the Indians were now in good condition, and that the objection to the abandonment of the post came from merchants of Portland, who were the principals in the post-trader's store, the only store on the Indian or military reservation.

These views were concurred in by the department and division commanders, it being thought by the latter that a small detachment of troops would be sufficient to protect all the interests involved.

An officer and thirteen enlisted men have been retained at the post, and the post-tradership having been abolished it is believed that the objections heretofore urged will now become quieted.

From all advices received at this Department it would seem that the Indian agent would have no trouble in protecting the Indians, and the expense will be much less than would attend the keeping there of a force of troops.

I would be glad to be advised of the report of the Indian inspector when the same shall have been received.

Very respectfully,

REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Letter.]

LINKVILLE, OREGON, *August 31, 1889.*

DEAR SIR: Find inclosed protest against the abandonment of Fort Klamath, signed by the county and United States officials at Lakeview, which please forward with the other papers and oblige.

Yours, etc.,

CHAS. S. MOORE.

Hon. JOHN H. MITCHELL,
United States Senator, Portland, Oregon.

PROTEST.

We, the undersigned, citizens of Lake County, State of Oregon, earnestly protest against the abandonment of Fort Klamath for the following reasons: This county, as well as all the counties lying adjacent to Fort Klamath, are almost exclusively occupied by men engaged in the business of stock-raising, and have large bands of cattle and employ large numbers of men to care for the same, very many of whom range their bands in the vicinity of the Klamath Reservation. That said reservation is the very best stock-range in southern Oregon, and many of these stockmen during the past have encroached upon the Indian territory and to such an extent that the Government found it necessary, during the summer of 1888, to send a company of cavalry to this reservation to protect the Indians in their rights thereto. That we believe that if the troops are withdrawn serious trouble will arise between the Indians and these stockmen, and that many innocent people will suffer thereby.

C. A. Cogswell, State senator; Chas. Eshleman, recorder of Lakeview; C. A. Moore, attorney; A. McCallen, cashier, Lakeview Bank; W. A. Wilshire, county judge; Will. T. Boyd, county clerk; Wm. Carll, county sheriff; W. N. Sufton, postmaster, Lakeview; Bernard Daly, M. D., county physician, Lake County; W. M. Townsend, receiver, United States land office; Warren Truitt, register, United States land office.

[Letter.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, September 10, 1889.

SIR: In connection with correspondence in relation to the complete abandonment of the post at Fort Klamath, Oregon, I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a report from United States Indian Inspector Cisney, dated Klamath Agency, Oregon, August 29, 1889, in which he expresses the opinion that the troops should not be withdrawn and the fort abandoned, but that at least one company of cavalry should be stationed there.

The inspector states that since the removal of the troops a great number of cattle have been driven on the reservation, and that he is informed that they number at this time some 10,000 head; that the agent is not able to protect the Indians from these encroachments, and that it is only a question of time when hostilities will commence.

In view of the statements made by the inspector I respectfully request that sufficient troops be retained at Fort Klamath, Oregon, to prevent trespassing on the reservation and to protect the Indians in their rights thereon.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

GEO. CHANDLER,
Acting Secretary.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR.

KLAMATH AGENCY, OREGON, August 29, 1889.

SIR: In pursuance to your instructions of August 7, 1889, I have made a thorough investigation as to the necessity for the further retention of troops at Fort Klamath, Oregon, and I have the honor to make the following report thereon:

I find that the Indians on this reservation are peaceably disposed and are very anxious to keep out of trouble, and that there is no fear of any difficulty from them unless they are actually imposed upon by the lawless white cattle men surrounding their reservation by driving or allowing their cattle to be driven upon the reservation; and I do find that there is great fear existing among the Indians and the law-abiding whites surrounding the reservation that such will be the case should the troops be withdrawn from the fort and the fort abandoned.

I find that while the troops were at the fort (they all having been withdrawn except a small detachment) it was impossible to keep these cattle men, with the restraint of the presence of the troops, from encroaching upon this reservation and the rights of the Indians, and that since these troops have been removed a great number of cattle have been driven, or allowed by these whites surrounding the reservation to be driven, upon what is known as Klamath Marsh, which is an immense grassy region on this reservation, and I am credibly informed that there is not less than 10,000 cattle upon this reservation at this date belonging to whites surrounding it, and, with what I have seen myself, I believe such to be the case; and the agent, with the means at his command, is not able to protect the reservation and these Indians from these encroachments, and I am informed by the agent and Indians that the Indians would like to drive their stock on to this Klamath Marsh for summer pasture and save the pasture near their homes for winter, but they are afraid to do so for fear these white cattle men will drive them away with their cattle and that they will lose them entirely, and I am informed by the agent and Indians that they have lost a great many cattle in this way.

I find that both the law-abiding citizens surrounding this reservation and the Indians are becoming quite alarmed over the situation.

Should the troops be removed and the fort abandoned it will place the agent at this agency in a very embarrassing position, for in my opinion it would be but a short time until this whole reservation would be covered with cattle belonging to white men surrounding it, and then the Indians would undertake to assert their own rights, seeing that they had been abandoned by the authorities, and about the first move an Indian would make some cow-boy would kill him and then the fray would commence; and from the best information I can get there are many of these whites that are just waiting for such an opportunity to present itself, as they claim that they are just as much entitled to the grass that grows on this reservation for their cattle as the Indians are, and that an Indian has no rights that a white man is bound to respect.

There is only about 30 miles of the boundary line of this reservation that is protected by water, leaving about 160 at the mercy of these lawless whites.

Therefore, in my opinion, the troops should not be withdrawn and the fort abandoned. As the Board of Trade of Portland, Oregon, has well said, "The safety of the Indians imperatively demands their retention to guard against invasion of the reservation," and I believe there should be at least one company of infantry and one company of cavalry stationed at Fort Klamath, Oregon, and should there be but one company, in my opinion it should be a company of cavalry on account of the amount of territory and the roughness of the country, and I would so recommend.

Respectfully,

JAMES H. CISNEY,
United States Indian Inspector.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.

[First indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, September 11, 1889.

Respectfully referred to the Adjutant-General for reference of these papers to the Commanding General of the Department for report.

By order of the Acting Secretary of War.

L. W. TOLMAN,
Acting Chief Clerk.

14 WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM FORT KLAMATH, OREGON.

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, September 12, 1889.

Respectfully referred to the Commanding General Department of the Columbia, through headquarters Division of the Pacific, for report. These papers to be returned.

By order of the Acting Secretary of War.

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., September 19, 1889.

Respectfully transmitted to the Commanding General Department of the Columbia. By command of Brigadier-General Miles.

GEO. D. RUGGLES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash., September 21, 1889.

Respectfully referred to the commanding officer Fort Klamath for report, with return of these papers.

By command of Brigadier-General Gibbon:

M. BARBER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

FORT KLAMATH, OREGON, *September 26, 1889.*

Respectfully returned to the assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Army, headquarters Department of the Columbia, the report called for in preceding indorsement inclosed, marked A.

WM. W. McCAMMON,
First Lieutenant, Fourteenth Infantry, Commanding Post.

[Inclosure A.]

FORT KLAMATH, OREGON, *September 26, 1889.*

SIR: I have the honor, as directed on the fourth indorsement on communication from the Secretary of the Interior, dated 10th instant, to submit the following report, viz:

I am of the opinion that, whether or not the troops are removed from this post, the grass portion of the Klamath Indian Reserve will be occupied next season, as during the past and preceding years, by herds of cattle belonging to various persons, the effect of which will be to prevent the Indians from grazing their stock upon that which is understood by them to be held in reserve for them by the Government.

If it was right to remove the trespassers last year by troops (sent from Fort Bidwell, Cal.), the same necessity exists for similar action this year, and will next, and the Indians think so. They do not understand why it is that they are urged to take land in severalty, or where there is security if they do so, when the Government does not protect them in their rights upon that which is now called a reserve for them by the Government.

The Indians in this vicinity show a greater degree of advancement toward the industries and habits of civilized humanity than any that I have ever seen before, and to me it seems cruel and in bad faith to abandon them to the incursions of the enterprising cow-boy and his employers, and it is apparent, I think, to any observing person that unless some strong arm intervene between the Indians and the cattle men, it will not be long before the aggressiveness of the latter will excite the Klamaths to acts of retaliation, and then either the military or some power will have to force a peace.

The savage instincts are still alive in the Klamath Indian, and he does not feel kindly towards those who are fattening their cattle on his grass.

If the military is to assist in the eviction of trespassers from the Klamath Reserve it should be cavalry, as the infantry can not with facility operate against mounted intruders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. McCAMMON,
First Lieutenant, Fourteenth Infantry, Commanding Post.

The ADJUTANT GENERAL,
Department of the Columbia, Vancouver Barracks, Wash.

[Sixth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA,
Vancouver Barracks, Wash., October 9, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant General U. S. Army (through headquarters Division of the Pacific).

The records in this case are simply the repetitions of the oft-told tale of the encroachments of the whites upon the red man. They are essentially the same everywhere. The presence of troops at Fort Klamath can no more prevent cattle from going to graze on the Klamath Indian Reservation than on the Warm Springs Reservation farther north, the Umatilla Reservation, or on any of the eight or ten other reservations in this military department.

Unless all these Indian reservations are surrounded by Chinese walls, cattle will always wander on to them and off of them, and there is but one remedy that I know of, and this has been tried satisfactorily in Nebraska, where the cattle-owners have agreed with the Indians to respect each other's brands and to restore yearly to the rightful owners the stray cattle. Such an arrangement I have no doubt could easily be effected if the Indian Department would show the slightest effort in that direction.

Last year a company of cavalry was sent from the Department of California, and found no difficulty in removing all the cattle from the Indian reservation by simply notifying the owners, who themselves drove them off. The agent was then notified that he would be expected to guard against their return by means of his Indian police. That the cattle have now returned in such numbers argues one of two things; either this yearly inroad can not be prevented, or else the Indian Department has made no serious effort to continue the exclusion of the cattle inaugurated by the military.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Seventh indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., October 14, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant General of the Army.

In my opinion a small force of cavalry stationed at Fort Klamath would prevent any controversy between whites and Indians or serious trespassing on the Indian reservation.

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Eighth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, October 21, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Secretary of War, inviting attention to sixth and seventh indorsements hereon.

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington City, November 2, 1889.

SIR: In response to your letter of the 10th ultimo, requesting that sufficient troops be retained at Fort Klamath, Oregon, to prevent the trespassing of cattle on the reservation and to protect the Indians in their rights thereon, I have the honor to invite your attention to the inclosed copy of a report on this subject from the commanding general, Department of the Columbia. In forwarding this report the major-general commanding the Army, in whose views I concur, remarks: "It is believed that the Indian police could and should protect their own lands against trespassing cattle. This is hardly a proper service to require of troops. The small detachment now at Klamath will be sufficient to prevent collision between the Indian police and the white men whose cattle are driven off the Indian lands. The remarks of the department commander, General Gibbon, respecting management of the cattle interests of the Indians are recommended to consideration."

Very respectfully,

REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Letter.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
San Francisco, Cal., November 4, 1889.

SIR: During my recent visit to Fort Klamath on official business, I learned from observation and inquiry, aided by an intimate acquaintance of the country and the Indians living therein, a condition of affairs likely to arise at any moment, which I deem of sufficient importance to report especially for the information of the division commander.

The post has but recently been ordered abandoned by the War Department, and there were left there, at the time of my visit, a lieutenant and eight enlisted men. They were detached as a guard and to superintend the shipment of Government property during the transition state, prior to turning the reservation and buildings over to the Interior Department. Previous to the order of abandonment, and so late as the summer of 1888, a troop of cavalry was ordered from Bidwell, in northern California, a distance of 150 miles, to take temporary station at Fort Klamath, to preserve the peace between the white settlers and the Indians and to protect the latter in their rights from the trespass of herds owned by syndicates in the vicinity. The same reasons that dictated the presence of cavalry there during the summer of 1888, existed this spring and fall in a more forcible degree; as I was informed by reliable settlers that the herds above mentioned came on the Indians' lands in increased numbers, and the consequent aggravation and irritation between the Indians and the owners of said herds were more intensified by the absence of any force sufficiently organized to protect the Indians' lands from pillage.

On the northeast corner of the Klamath Reservation is a basin, or marsh, of about 100,000 acres of the finest grass land in the State of Oregon. This marsh, as it is called, is used by the Indians for summer grazing for their horses and cattle, whilst their home farms, or lands on the Sprague and Williams Rivers, are reserved at that season for hay for winter feed. Until a period quite recent in the history of this country, there were large tracts of outside Government lands unoccupied that furnished summer grazing for the few settlers or cattle raisers in the country, but within the past few years most of these lands have been taken up by immigrants and fenced in; hence this marsh offers tempting inducements for a few large syndicates for trespass. These people drive their cattle on the marsh in the spring, and threaten the Indians with bodily harm if they molest them. The Indians, on the other hand, are aggressive, and occasionally kill some of the cattle, and thus matters are tending from bad to worse. The Indian agent hesitates to use the Indian police to clean the land for fear of a collision, therefore, in my judgment, it would seem a wise precaution to keep one or two troops of cavalry at this post for a few years, or until the Indians take lands in severalty, and are induced to give up the portions not used or owned by them; on the consummation of this desirable result, the troops could finally be withdrawn without detriment to the country or the Indians.

Aside from the present military necessity for mounted men at Fort Klamath, it is one of the best fields for military instruction and economy of maintenance of any post in this military division. The grazing is most excellent for the animals immediately on the post reserve, and, in addition to this, is a hay reserve, where the very finest of wild hay can be put up by contract for \$4 or \$5 per ton. Two troops with an efficient and prudent field officer in command would be better in many respects; as a battalion could be kept under better military instruction than one company.

The Indians on the Klamath Reserve number about eighteen hundred souls, and are composed principally of Modocs, Klamaths, and Pitt Rivers. They are industrious, fairly intelligent, and are making a manly struggle to better their condition. They are just beginning to appreciate the value of cattle and many of them are getting little herds that bid fair to become the means of livelihood that will make them comfortable and prosperous in the near future. Their efforts, I think, deserve the friendly protection and fostering direction of the Government for a few years more, when, from present indications, they will be self-sustaining and beyond the needs of Government care.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. H. BURTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Inspector-General.

The ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Division of the Pacific, San Francisco, Cal.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC,
San Francisco, Cal., November 8, 1889.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army, inviting attention to my indorsement of October 14 last.

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, November 16, 1889.

Respectfully submitted to the Major-General Commanding the Army, with previous papers in the case accompanying.

J. C. KELTON,
Adjutant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C., November 19, 1889.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War. Referring to previous papers and the action thereon, in connection with the letter of November 2, from the Secretary of War to the Secretary of the Interior, a copy of which was sent to General Miles November 5, but not received by him November 8, when by first indorsement he forwarded this paper. I do not deem further action necessary.

The letter from the Hon. J. H. Mitchell, dated the 14th instant, is herewith returned.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Letter.]

UNITED STATES SENATE,
Washington, D. C., November 14, 1889.

SIR: I understand General Miles and Inspector-General Burton have recently been on a visit to Fort Klamath for the purpose of examining into the situation. While not advised as to the conclusions reached by these gentlemen, I can not but believe that a personal examination of the fort and of the country adjacent thereto would lead them to recommend the re-establishment of the post with at least two military companies. I beg to call your attention to the various communications on file in the Department from the different boards of trade and leading representative men of the State of Oregon in reference to this matter, and beg to be advised of what action has been taken, if any, recently in regard to the re-establishment of this post.

Very respectfully,

JOHN H. MITCHELL.

Hon. REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War.

[Letter.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, November 25, 1889.

SIR: The Department is in receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, in which you refer to a visit understood by you to have recently been made to Fort Klamath by General Miles and Inspector-General Burton for the purpose of examining into the situation, and request to be advised of what action, if any, has recently been taken in regard to the re-establishment of said post.

In reply, I have the honor to inclose a copy of a letter upon the subject, addressed to the Secretary of the Interior, under date of the 2d instant, from which it will be seen that in the opinion of the Department the small detachment now at Klamath will be sufficient to prevent collision between whites and Indians.

The subject has been further considered in connection with reports of General Miles and Inspector-General Burton, in submitting which the Major-General Commanding the Army reports that he does not deem further action necessary. In these views I concur.

Very respectfully,

REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War.

Hon. J. H. MITCHELL,
U. S. Senate.