

**THE TELLER.**

**LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.**

**WHERE DID THEY GET ARMS.**—It has often been asked where did the hostiles get all their Henry rifles and other good guns and ammunition? The Indians themselves say they bought three of their good guns of soldiers at the Walla Walla garrison, that many of their Henry rifles they obtained of traders at Walla Walla, and ammunition they had bought from nearly all of the traders, that they also bought many cartridges of soldiers at Walla Walla, and some were obtained of soldiers at the last council held at Lapwai when Gen. Howard was present. Of course these are Indian statements, but there may be more of truth than fiction in them, and for the sake of white humanity we hope the order lately issued by the President forbidding the sale of arms and ammunition to Indians will be strictly enforced, and every man who violates said order be dealt with without mercy. Men who for the love of gain will so jeopardize the lives of innocent men, women and children by placing in the hands of Indians the implements of their savage butchery deserve no mercy.

**NOR SO.**—Some person is reported to have informed Gen. Howard that he had been hung in effigy at Lewiston, and that one of our prominent merchants participated in offering this indignity. Said merchant sent a letter of inquiry to learn the author of this libel upon his character, and denying the soft impeachment. Adj. Wood replied expressing pleasure at the denial, but declining to disclose the author of the libel. The facts are that no effigy of Howard or any other officer of the army has ever been suspended in this town, nor any attempt to suspend such, and we doubt that ever any one of the bitterest opponents of Howard's war policy meditated any indignity. Howard's strikers seem to be trying very hard to prejudice Howard against the people of Lewiston. More than the effigy of such men should be suspended.

**HOW ARE WE TO DISTINGUISH.**—The order is for all the outside bands of Nez Perces who hold tribal relations to go upon the reservation, and Gen. Howard at the council in May said that his troops would see that this order was obeyed. What do we observe now? Wherever our citizens go outside the reservation they see Indians who claim to be friendly, yet they are without permits from the agent. In a few cases passes are shown. But in many others they have no permit and one is left in doubt as to their friendly character, unless he knows them. It is possible that these Indians do not know better. If they do not they should be soon taught better.

**AGRICULTURAL FAIR.**—We have received premium list of the Walla Walla Agricultural Society to be awarded at their Third Annual Fair, commencing Sept 18th 1877. The list is quite full and well classified under the management of competent Superintendents. From the showing in their prize list this society will withhold no proper exertion to make the occasion of their fair in September more attractive and interesting than any heretofore given.

**LEWISTON VOLUNTEERS.**—Seventeen men of Capt McConville's company left on Monday for the Cottonwood house, there to act as guard for the station and do patrol duty along the Stage route. If signs are peaceful in that vicinity they will scour the Salmon river country for a few days. McConville himself went up on Tuesday to join his company.

**FROM CAMAS PRAIRIE.**—The stage with mail and express arrived Thursday eve. All quiet there and citizens engaged harvesting their crops. A portion of Green's command were camped near Mt. Idaho. Three companies were at the meadows beyond Elk City. The Lewiston volunteers were camped at the Cottonwood house.

**FROM GREEN.**—Messenger Young arrived from Green's command on Monday. The news is that Green had a strong force 30 miles beyond Elk City on the southern Nez Perce trail, with rations to last them till the 17th inst.

**FROM WHEATON.**—F. Holt left Wheaton's command on Wednesday. Chief Moses had not then come to Watkin's council. But few Indians from all the tribes had put in an appearance at the council although it was set for the 10th inst.

**NO PARTICULARS.**—As we go to press Friday afternoon no particulars of the fight in Bitter Root had arrived. Should they be furnished us we will issue on extra slip containing them.

**STEAMERS.**—The *Almota* has made its last trip of the season to Lewiston. So says Capt. Baughman and Naggs. Capt. Stump's new boat is expected here in about two weeks. It is nearly completed.

**OATS.**—We learn that a government pack train left yesterday morning with 9,000 lbs. of oats for Green's command. What is the trouble with Camas Prairie oats?

**INDIANS IN TOWN.**—We notice quite a number of Indians and squaws in town this week with produce for sale. Some come with permits and some have papers as citizens.

**FRUIT.**—Mr. Lindsey is selling fruit in this market at quite low prices compared with former years.

**CURLIBELLORS.**

Inspector WATKINS, writing from the Nez Perce reservation to the Indian Bureau, says the Indians coming from Joseph report that while all the soldiers whom Joseph captured were killed, none were scalped or mutilated—a new feature in savage warfare and that he said he "does not expect assistance, but intends to fight to the end, and kill as many soldiers as possible; and that he wants to be killed in the Walla Walla valley, where his home is, and to be buried there." The agent adds that the first white citizen killed was shot by a son of an Indian that the citizen himself had killed several years ago; his wife was told this and then set free unharmed. We must not credit too freely the stories of Indian agents, but there are enough reports afloat of this kind to indicate very clearly that Joseph is acting from a sense of injustice, and that his first acts, at least, have been less those of plunder than those of revenge.—*N. Y. Sun.*

It is said in the above that the "Agent adds that the first white citizen killed was shot by the son of an Indian that the citizen himself had killed several years ago." In calling attention to Watkin's letter a short time ago we said that Watkin's must have been told his tale by the agent as no one else believed the tale but the agent. It seems here that the *Sun* has learned that the agent has added this bit of information charging the outbreak to an individual revenge. There was no such fact in existence at the time the agent added this information. Nothing but his diseased imagination against the settlers could have created this charge, and he must have been in great haste to send the charge to the public mind the causes of the war. Well may the *Sun* say, "we must not credit too freely the stories of Indian Agents." Now Timothy, Joseph and Whitebird all have said that they would have gone and lived upon the reservation peaceably if a good man had been there as agent instead of Monteith, and their testimony does not stand impeached by the facts the same as Monteith's does in the above case of the killing. The *Army and Navy Journal* has the right of it when it says "The United States finds itself confronted with a new Indian war, through a series of blunders and crimes on the part of its own agents."

**THE WHEAT CROP AND MARKET.**

The farmers throughout the State are busy gathering their grain crops. In Wasco county our farmers are all about through and the result is an average of 15 to 20 bushels per acre. This has not been a very favorable year in this county. The surplus yield this year of the State is estimated at about 5,000,000 bushels—this does not include Eastern Washington which will swell the amount to 6,000,000 for export. Throughout the Willamette valley the crop will yield per acre about 25 per cent, more than 1875, that being the year of Oregon's largest crop.

The present quotable rates at Portland are \$2 per cent, and at San Francisco \$2 25 to \$2 27, a difference of 25 cts. per cent, or 15 cts. per bushel, while the freight per steamer is only six cents per bushel. This is a fact which the farmers are already noticing, deeming, as they assert, that 9 cts. per bushel is too much for expenses of middlemen for commissions, etc. The indications now are that heavy shipments will be made to San Francisco unless ship owners shall reduce the difference on charters for direct freights, or higher rates be charged per steamer when the harvest is over.—*Mountain-ecr.*

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