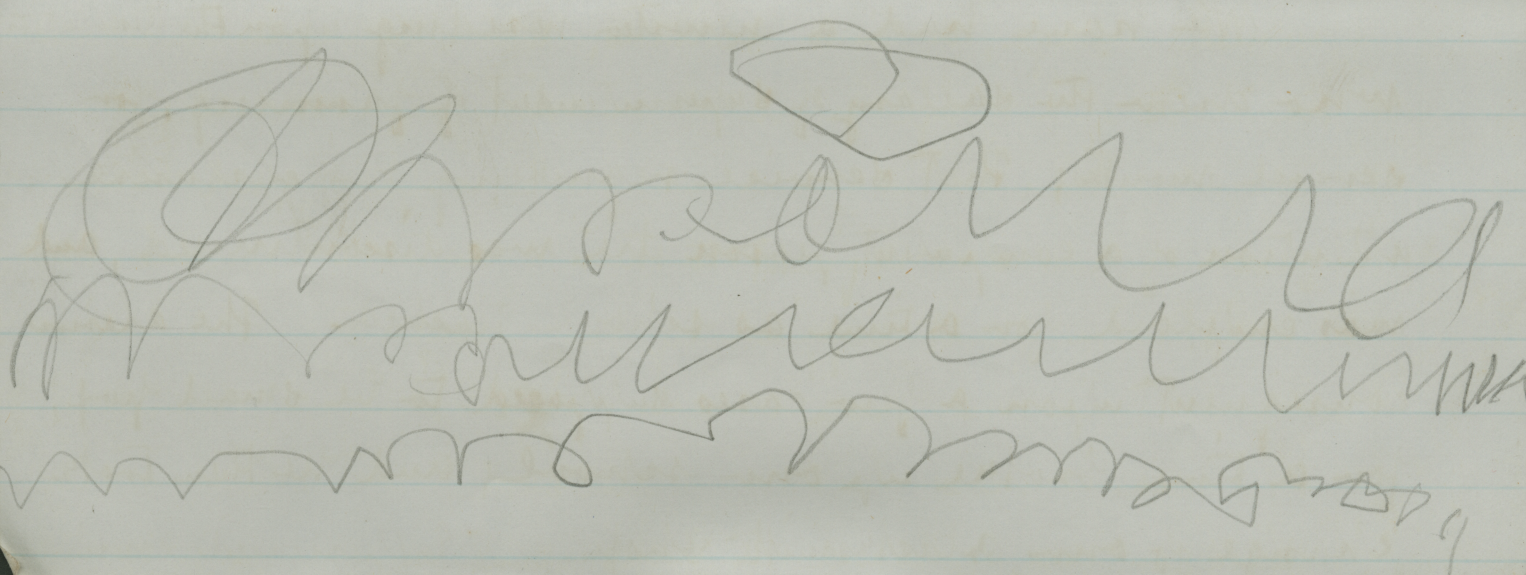
Siletz Ind agency Nov 23rd 1872

Sir

Your letter of 5th inst, enclosing the within circular reached me on the 20th, and I hasten to give the answers as far as circumstances will enable me to do so. The scattered condition of many of the Indians, renders it difficult obtaining an accurate census, for those not engaged in agricultural pursuits are located in mountain regions and along the margins of streams and the coast difficult of access.

I have estimated that 250 reside outside the Reservation the number may be greater. Quite a number of the women properly belonging here, are living with white men, in the Rogue River and Coos bay settlements, and along the sea coast between Yaquina and Crescent City; a portion of whom are legally married, but a large number are united in accordance with Indian custom, to be cast off at the will of their paramours without redress. tho many such are raising families. Many of the relatives of such, are seeks to abandon the Reservation to be near them.

We have had a minister residing upon the Reservation who drew the salary of superintendent of farming, for several months; that service requiring the exclusive attention of a competent person he was discontinued, and was employed for a time as school teacher. The alarm consequent upon a few cases supposed to be small pox, for a time, broke up our school; and he then took charge of our blacksmith shop. Experienced convinced



People

As an inducement, I purchased a quantity of crackers, that a few might be distributed, with a cup of milk, to each scholar, as a lunch, in the middle of the day; The result of trials, justified the means for our roll increased in number, and were more punctual in attendance. We now have a number adult scholars who attend punctually and manifest a great desire to acquire knowledge.

To succeed, we require a more commodious and comfortable building, and funds with which to pay the ordinary expenses.

Our meetings for worship as also the Sabbath schools, are attended with as orderly and well clad congregations, as are usually seen in rural districts among our own people,

It is observable also, that there are less boisterous sports and games on the Sabbath day than heretofore; and if the services of Divines and Missionaries can be secured, who will labour for the good of the cause, and not solely for the dollar, the idea of a christian Civilization among these people will be realized

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your
Joel Palmer
U S Ind Agent

Hon
Thomas J Cree
Secretary Board Ind Commrs
Washington D.C.