Portland O.T. May 13th 1856.

Dear Sir

From the news I get by this steamer I am induced to go at once to Fort Orford, by return trip: And therefore wish you to remain at the Grand Ronde until Mr Raymond's arrival, when you will turn over to him all public property belonging to that Sub agency - on which may be in your hands, not required for the service to which you are herein assigned - and his receipt will be your vouchers for the same. You will then proceed to visit such of the Indians as may be found in the Rogue River district and express to them my wish that they at once go to Fort Orford where they will join the emigrating party and proceed to the coast Reservation, under an escort of U S Troops. After ascertaining their whereabouts and if practicable visiting them in person, and giving such directions as you may deem proper to accomplish the object, you will visit the Indians, if there be any, in the Illinois Valley which that in the Rogue River district may require a separate consideration. The known hostility of old John and a part of his band, and the fact

that they were the first to take up arms against our people. tho' they may have had cause of complaint, requires an unconditional surrender of that chief, and such of his men as were engaged in the first outbreak on Rogue River and turn off to Coast. The whole tribe must be required to give up their arms and agree to go and remain at such place as may be required. The chief and forty accused may be guaranteed a fair trial by the court martial of U S Officers or by the civil authorities as may be determined upon. They may be assured also of the protection from lawless persons, by U S troops and be rights secured in their just rights. In lieu which they must deliver up all fire arms on other terms at such place and at such time as you may agree upon. And proceed with you on such distant persons as you may direct to Port Orford or at such point as the U S troops may be stationed and be subject to such orders as may be given touching their transit to and deportation from such camp. In other words it is the object to close the war in Southern Oregon and every energy of those entrusted with the management of Indian affairs in the Territory must be

devoted
~~Bent~~ to the consummation of that object. The safety of the settlers the peace of the country and the voice of humanity demand that it should be done. Tho' we might conquer a peace, it would be at the sacrifice of many valuable lives, and of an enormous expense to the government and a blight upon the prosperity of our country and which peace is desirable and important, it by no means follows that we should secure it on discreditable terms, but demand a rigid compliance with such reasonable and just terms as will be likely to insure a continuation of it ~~peace~~ in future and giving such guarantees of protection as the circumstances in which you are placed will warrant. The only hope of securing peace is by removing the intruding population from that country and in thus attaining it ~~by thus securing peace~~ we are promised a sufficient number of troops to fully guarantee any terms requisite to insure their safety. On my arrival at Port Orford I will proceed to Rogue River and advance as far into the country in the direction of the Meadows or into the Illinois Valley as practicable meeting the Indians on the way and with such an escort as will be likely to secure a safe passage to Port Orford

Capt Raymond will be directed to proceed to Fort Orford with thirty horses to aid in the transportation of subsistence and baggage from that point to the coast reservation. The saddles for such use ~~[illegible]~~ go down by this steamer as does also six tons of hay.

I gave instructions to Mr Ambrose to send a messenger to George W Limpy and direct him to go to Fort Orford — or if they prefer it to Fort Lane — but that I prefer them to go to the former place.

You understand the object to be attained: Peace in Southern Oregon! There may be those who will oppose the policy of negotiation but it is useless to try to please all: if peace is not made before the drought comes on the entire country is ruined.

There is more at stake than the gratification of satisfying the whims of fault finders: the lives of our citizens will be sacrificed unless the war can be closed — and I cannot but believe that all good men, lovers of justice and those desiring the real welfare of the country, will approve the course ~~of Blanchard who is instructed to assume to call upon Mr Palmer and report~~ ~~For such service from the amount of funds placed by me at my disposal. [illegible] necessary to meet the expenses.~~

N.B. (Note)

I make this suggestion supposing that Mr Blanchard will have left - as he designed doing so - on my return from Portland but having to go below, presume he will leave before my return.

I shall be under the necessity of engaging Mr Chamberlin as secretary in my office - and desire you to see effects if to him - and wish him to come down as soon as you can spare him - and make himself acquainted with the books and papers in the office and arrange letters &c as far as he can until my return - His acquaintance with accounts - and knowledge of business generally will enable him to understand the duties and should Mr Blanchard leave, he will take the key of the office, receive and acknowledge any official communication requiring such action, which may be addressed to me. I hope to return by the next steamer but may not until the one after.

* Should you need funds for your travelling expenses, call upon Mr Blanchard, who will advance you such amount as may be necessary, provided he has any on hand. The recent heavy expenditures may, however, have nearly exhausted the funds on hand, but a remittance is anticipated the next thaw.

I will add in conclusion, that I much rely upon you for the prompt and discreet performance of the important duties herein assigned, and hope to meet you well and hearty at Portland, or vicinity.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Joel Palmer
Supt. Ind. Affs.

To
R. B. Metcalfe Esq
Sub Ind. Agent
Grand Ronde Reservation

I have instructed

~~It is my wish that~~ Capt Ingraham at once disarm the men under his charge - retaining Mr Clark, Mr Fleming and ~~four such~~ three others of the men of his ~~as he may choose~~ selection to aid him in taking the horses to Fort Orford - ~~The others will be paid off by the Rebel Ind he leaves if this orders are presented in time - if not they will be compelled to await my return~~ - W.

~~I have directed~~ Capt Taylor has also been directed to purchase Twenty fine horses, during your will turn over to Capt Ingraham any horses on hand belonging to the Indian department, which with these to be purchased will be branded and taken to Fort Orford - Should you find it advisable to take any Indians with you from the Rogue River country with you as messengers - it would be well ~~to~~ not to allow them to carry guns - but they might have revolvers if deemed safety; ~~but~~ have a keen look out for them - however I would think it well to have at least one white man with you.

Be discreet, use no waste - but hurry and meet me at Fort Orford.

Yours &c &c
Joel Palmer
Supt Ind Affs

Lt. B. Metcalf
Sub Ind Agent O.T.

May 13/56

To R. B. Metcalfe
Sub Ind Agent

Not for entry.