

Siletz Ind Agency Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>

1892

Sir

Your letter <sup>of 5<sup>th</sup> inst</sup> enclosing the written circular was received on the 20<sup>th</sup> inst. and I hasten to give the answers as far as circumstances will enable me to do so.

The unsettled condition of many of the Indians renders it difficult obtaining an accurate census - for those not engaged in agricultural pursuits are scattered <sup>located in</sup> through the mountains <sup>regions</sup> and along the streams <sup>mouths of</sup> and coast difficult of access - I have estimated that 250 reside outside the Reservation, ~~there~~ <sup>number</sup> may be a greater number - 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 quite a number are united in accordance with Indian custom to be ~~the~~ <sup>cut</sup> off at the will of their husbands ~~independent~~ <sup>perhaps</sup> they are marrying families - many of the <sup>relatives</sup> friends of such <sup>settled in</sup> abandon the Reservation to hang around <sup>to be seen there</sup> the settlements ~~where these parties reside.~~

We have had a minister residing upon the Reservation, <sup>who drew</sup> and ~~paid~~ him the salary of <sup>superintendent</sup> ~~agent~~ of from many for several months. That service requiring





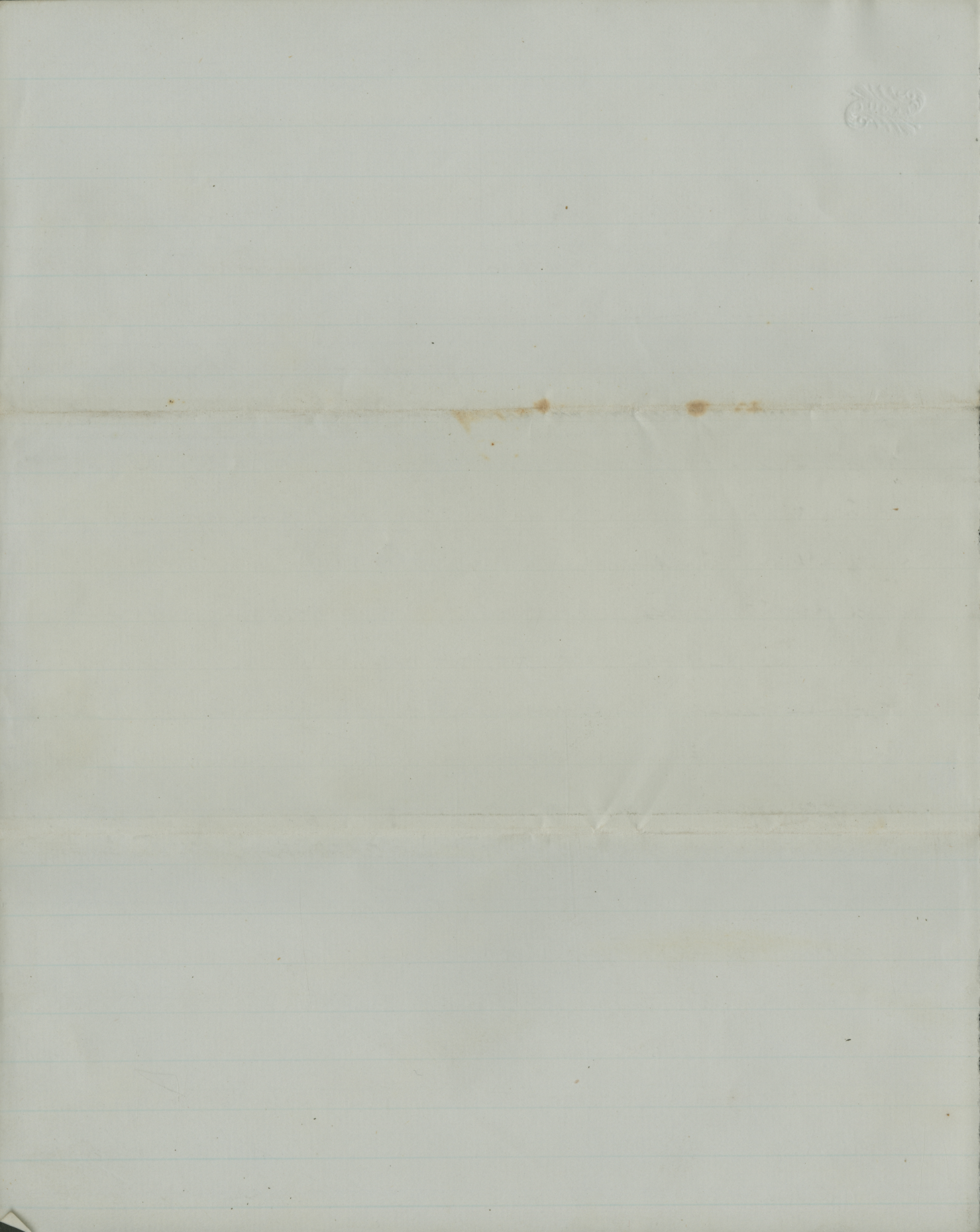
Copy of letter  
transmitted enclosure—  
answers to  
opinion of the  
best board and committee  
Washington D.C.



The exclusive attention of a competent person, he was discontinued and was employed for a time as teacher in our day school. The alarm consequent upon a few cases supposed to be small Pox, <sup>for a time</sup> broke up our school and he then took charge of our Polakowite shop. Experience convinced me that in his case at least, the two positions, as missionary and a regular employe of the government were not productive of good, and I suspended him from the service when he at once left the reservation. A minister ~~or missionary~~ man, however, I think, he employed as a school teacher. and we propose to place one in that position as soon as one can be found who will accept.

The principle settlements of the Indians <sup>settled</sup> along the banks of the Siletz, extend a distance of fourteen miles - the central or agency station being eight miles <sup>west</sup> from the eastern limits of the settlement - and about seven & half miles in a direct line from the ocean. The river at this point running North by it being six miles to the lower farming station - To accommodate these settlements we require four schools

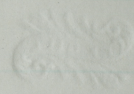






\* Great prejudices existed among the Indians at the time of taking charge  
against schools - said to be in consequence of the death of  
a large number of children placed in what purported to  
be a manual labour school established here a few  
years & subsequent to their settlement upon this reservation  
It was with great difficulty that parents could be  
induced to send their children to our first school  
but that prejudice is now <sup>newly</sup> removed but there is still  
a manifest indifference to its importance - as an  
incentive 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 I think justified the means for our rolls  
increased in numbers and were more punctual in  
attendance - we now have a number of adult scholars  
who attend punctually and manifest a great desire  
to acquire knowledge - \* The educational interests of  
these people have evidently been greatly neglected  
for we were unable to find above four, who  
could read and not more than six below the  
age of fifteen who could read the alphabet







In enable us 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 congregation, as  
one usually seen in such districts among our  
own people - It is observable also that there is  
a great falling off from boyish sports and  
games on the sabbath day - 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 remedied



