

THE WESTERN MAILS

Dear Walter Mr Perce
Mission Oregon. 10 Sept 1839

Sarah Gilbert White Smith, one of six white women to make the overland journey, over the Rocky Mountains to Oregon. A 1900 mile

"tour de force", for a female riding side-saddle on horseback, in 1838. Sarah writes to her brother on personal and religious matters, mentioning her husband, the Rev. Asa B. Smith and her longing for home and loved ones - that she may only see them again in heaven. Then she tells of what they are doing: "You will learn that we have spent the summer at the Kameah [Kamiah] - That is the inviting field for a station of any in the Mission, as a largest number of people can be gathered there than any other place, & some of the most influential of all the Nez Perces tribe are located here, & in no place is the language spoken so purely - for these reasons & that my husband may be of greater service to the Mission of translating &c. It is a beautiful valley 60 miles from Mr Spaldings [Rev. Henry Harmon] & about 200 from Wioletpoo [Dr. Marcus Whitman's Mission] . Mr S [Smith] has made most rapid advance in the language, is now the very first in the language - Br Rogers [Cornelius] will remain in our family this year that he may act as teacher. Mr S's time must be devoted to writing & translating as soon as we can get a little house to live in. In the summer the people [Indians] are absent & we can do little at teaching but in the autumn winter & spring they will be with us & we shall find enough to do . Probably our school will consist of some hundreds if we admit all who come. Mr Rogers has been with the people [Indians] to buffalo [hunt] this summer has just returned. he is next to Mr S in the language. On common subjects can talk better & understand them better, but in giving religious instruction Mr S is before him. You know it has been said that this language was very deficient in words. That faith & repentance could not be expressed &c &c. Husband says that when the language is sufficiently understood he thinks there will be no want of words to express any idea whatever. And now dear brother I must draw my letter to a close. . . . While you live may you be useful in the cause of Christ. May the smiles of heaven rest upon you. . . . That when we have done with earth we may meet in heaven. . . . Your sister Sarah."

This is one of three or four letters written by Sarah Smith from her Oregon days - 1838-1842., although she did leave a diary of her experience.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 10 no. 100



Ms. A. 9. 2. 10 no. 100

Sarah's letter was carried via the Sandwich Islands to New York, where it arrived as per postmark, NEW YORK/SHIP/APT/26 [1840], almost eight months in transit.

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BOSTON TO OREGON VIA CAPE HORN & THE SANDWICH ISLANDS 1838-1839

John C. Richardson writes to his sister Mary Richardson Walker, on April 15, 1838, just 30 days after she left home for Oregon. He directs this letter to the care of his father in East Baldwin, Maine, where it was forwarded to the Mission Rooms in Boston for delivery to the "Mission West of/Rocky Mts." It was then forwarded outside of the mails when the first opportunity arrived, by ship via Cape Horn and the Sandwich Islands (Hawaiian) to the Columbia River in Oregon.

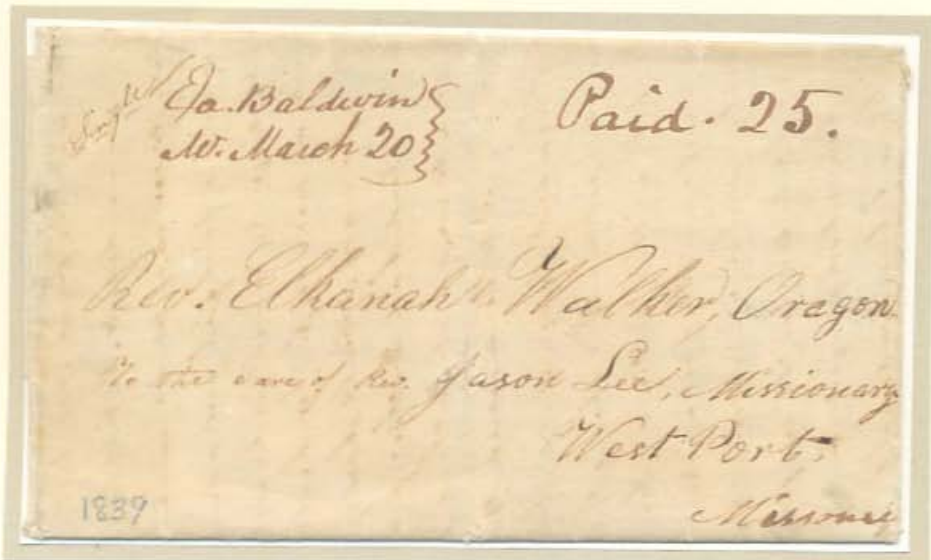
This letter was probably among those delivered by William Gray to Mary Walker on September 16, 1839 - the very same day that she received the overland letter via the Munger/Griffin party. See letter to Rev. Elkanah Walker in this exhibit.



*Mission West of
Rocky Mts.*

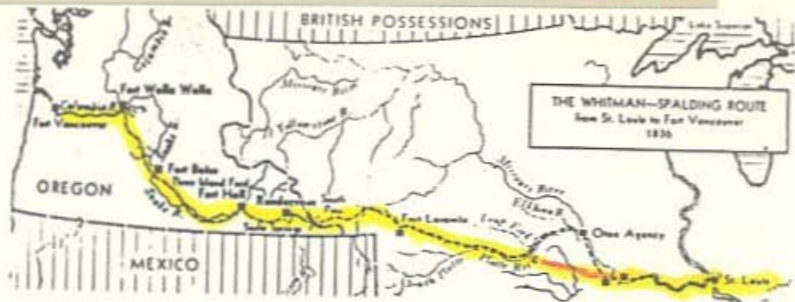


THE WESTERN MAILS



THE OREGON TRAIL
1839

The route followed by the Munger/Griffin party was almost the same as that taken by Whitman in 1836. They traveled with the annual fur trade caravan to the Rendezvous at the junction of Horse Creek and Green River in what is now S.W. Wyoming. Thence to Fort Hall and on to Oregon.



The following is taken from the diary of Mary Richardson Walker, the wife of Rev. Elkanah Walker: Mon. 16 (Sept. 1839) . . . Pretty soon Mr. Gray and wife arrived (Missionaries). They brought us letters from home from across the Mts. & by way of the Islands (Hawaiian). The intelligence they contain was much of it cheering tho they mentioned the death of many a friend or relation. The excitement felt was perhaps greater than on the day I left home . . .

The Editor of the diaries notes: "Gray carried letters that were brought to Oregon by sea and possibly some that might have been carried overland by the Mungers and Griffins, independent missionaries, who made the transcontinental journey in 1839. These were the first letters from her home that Mary had received since her departure about eighteen months previous."

Clifford M. Drury, *FIRST WHITE WOMEN OVER THE ROCKIES*, Vol. II, p. 175, A.H. Clark Co., Glendale, Cal., 1963.

Jason Lee had stopped off at the Shawnee Mission, near Westport, Missouri, on his way east in 1838 and the Munger/Griffin party started from Westport, on their overland journey to Oregon, in the spring of 1839.

From the above it is possible, and most probable, that the cover shown above was carried by the Munger/Griffin party, which arrived at the Whitman Station in the fall of 1839. The letter was written by Mary's father, Joseph Richardson, and her sisters and mentions many deaths of friends and relations.

16-4

May 13, 1842. Rev. W. Livesey / 8 3/4
PAID
Mr. Henry B. Brewer
Oregon Mission
Care of G. P. Disosway
N-York

WARREN
JUN 24
R.I.

OREGON MISSION MAIL via SHIP LAUSANNE 1841-1842.

Letter above originated at Providence, R. I. June 17th. 1841. Entered the mails at WARREN R. I. JUN 24 and rated PAID 18 3/4¢ to New York. It was delivered to G. P. Disosway, who directed it in pencil "For the Ship Lausanne". It's receipt in Oregon was noted by Henry Brewer "May 13, 1842 Rev. W. Livesey". All the above are on the address face of the folded letter. The Lausanne probably left New York about October 1st, 1841, as it was about a seven to eight months voyage

For the Ship Lausanne

around Cape Horn and the Sandwich Islands. This was the second voyage of the Lausanne, Brewer having come to Oregon on it's first voyage in 1839-1840. The Lausanne was owned or chartered by the Oregon Methodist Episcopal Mission. G. P. Disosway was a Methodist layman and secretary to the Mission. See the Brewer correspondence in this collection.

PAID
Mr. Walter Biddings
Norwich Town
Conn
U.S.

"Good news from a far country is like water to a thirsty soul"

In the above letter Henry Bridgeman Brewer writes under date of "Oregon Territory Waskopum Mission May 28, 1842, to his wife's parents back home. The above quotation is from the letter following his statement that on "The 13th inst the long expected package arrived containing the noble sum of 15 letters from our friends in the States" which included the letter from Rev. Wm. Livesey. Also the receipt of clothing, shoes and other needed gifts. Brewer reports on the activity of the missionaries and that "Br Jason Lee will soon send me a Sandwich Islander to assist me on the farm", as well as the death of Lee's second wife. We hope when all who must go [back to the states], are gone from the Oregon Methodist Mission, we who are left will do our duty to God, these Indians & one another as becometh the followers of the meek & lowly Jesus. - I have not said much about the Indians. They have just gone to the Salmon grounds (the Dalls) - We now have an abundance of Salmon for which we pay about 5 cts apiece - I have forgotten to mention the good camp meeting we had with the Indians - The Lord was with us of a truth. Since then there has been something of a revival among them." The letter was carried by a returning missionary, via the Sandwich Islands, Cape Horn, to Boston, where it arrived May 11, 1843 - almost one year in transit. It was rated as a SHIP letter at 14 cents.

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OREGON MISSION MAIL TO SOUTH AFRICA

Historical letter written by Myra F.Ells,wife of the Reverand Cushing Ells. from the Tshinakain Mission in the Oregon country,to Charlotte,the wife of Rev.Alden Grout,missionary to the Zulus in South Africa.

"Tshimakain Jan 20th

1840".....To give you a perticular account of our journey across the Moun-
tains would require a volume.Sufficent to say that it was one of great peril,
suffering & extreme fatigue.The danger is chiefly from unfriendly Indians,
scarcity of game consequently of food & the difficult passes in the Mts.where
one miss step might plunge both horse & rider to a fatal distance below. The
good creature upon which I rode with the exception of a few days brought me
from Independance to Dr Whitman's,Wailetpu(Wailatpu mission). All the ladies
except myself either fell or was thrown from their horses.Two or three times
mine refused to cross some deep ravine with her burden upon her back & I was
obliged to get off, let her leap & get across the best way I could.We never
slept under any covering but a cloth tent during the whole journey.There is no
mode of conveyance in this country except on foot or on horse back.We arrived
at Dr W's on the 29th of Aug.1838 having been 129 days from Westport,the West-
ern boundary of Mo. Mr Spalding was at Dr W's & a meeting was immediately hold-
den when it was voted that Mr W.H.Gray go to Mr Spalding's as an assistant
Missionary, the Rev A.B.Smith stop at Dr W's & the Rev Elkanah & Mr Ells were
left to explore & select a location somewhere in the Flat Head (Indians)lang-
uage. Without delay they started on their exploring tour. After riding about
400 miles & conferring with gentlemen of the H.B.Co.(Hudson's Bay)they selected
a spot which they tho't might be favorable for a location. With three or four
miserably poor oxes & the help of the Indians they put up the walls of two
small houses they then returned to Waietpu but it was late in the season
that it was not tho't prudent for us to move before spring. Accordingly we
spent the winter at Dr W's. According to agreement, our Indians came the last
of Feb.1839 to take us & our effects to their country.On the 5th of March we
mounted our horses & started for our field of labour. On the 20th we reached
what we now call our home. We found our houses as they were left. The work
of Missionarie ministers, farmers,mechanichs & scholars was all before us. No
interpreter - no help but of the.....Indians? Our first business was
to send to (Fort)Colvile for provisions. Then our houses were to be made
habitable & a little furniture - This done the ground must be prepared for
seed. Individual members had more than once given us to understand that we
must not entirely depend on the H.B.Co. for provisions. While all this must
be done - the Indians must have some instruction & we must pay some attention
to the language. Through the mercy of a kind Providence our life & health had
thus far been preserved & we now behold the long parayed for field.
Perhaps a few facts with referance to the location of the Mission may give
you some information. Fort Vancouver the principal post of the H.B.Co.
is situated on the Columbia River 100 miles from its mouth & is the head of
ship navigation. Fort Walla Walla is upon the same river 300 miles above
Vancouver & 9 below the mouth of Snake River.Wiiletpu is Dr Whitman's loca-
tion & is about 125 miles S.W.from W.W.(Walla Walla). The Rev.H.H.Spalding is
on the Kooskooskee(river) 19 miles from its mouth. Fort Colvile is upon the
Columbia 300 or 400 miles by way of the river above W.W. by land 150. We are
about 60 miles from Colvile, 190 from W.W., 180 from Dr Whitman's & 150 from
Mr Spaldings. The climate is said to be healthy. The Thermomiter ranges
between 50 & 90 degrees during most of the sumer. There was frost both here
& at Colvile on the morning of the 15th of May & again Aug.20th. The differ-
ence between morning & evening was generally from 30 to 40 degrees.The winter

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thus far has been mild tho it has been cloudy with some snow & rain for nearly two months past. Thermomiter between 20 & 40 degrees. We are situated on a large plain surrounded by Mts. & fine timber & are so far N. & so near the Mtn that we do not see the sun in winter till near ten oclock & it disappears again about three. It does not appear to be more than an hour or two high during the day. Respecting the number & location of the Indians we know nothing very definate. Mr W. & E.(Walker & Ells)have given it as their opinion that if we take a circle of 60 miles & let Tshimakain be the center there may be from 1500 to 2000 souls & that with some..... access can be had to most of them. It is thought that they are & have been for a long time decreasing. This is probably owing to their exposure & manner of living -their habits are migretory. They subsist upon roots game & fish,all found in different places.They clothe themselves with skins - they live in lodges made of rush mats,pine bark or bushes according to their necessities or tastes.They have no government. They have a kind of law that if any one steals or commits adultry they must be whiped but we have seldom seen their laws put in execution. Thieving is not common. The more wives they have the richer they are. The women do most of the drudgery such as building lodges, preparing wood for fire, digging roots &c. If a man gets tired of a wife as he says, he throws her away. And so with the women if they dislike their husbands they can throw them away. They appear cheerful & happy - they seldom show signs of anger. During the summer from 20 to 100 were under our religious instruction. They are now increased. In Nov. Mr W. & E. commenced teaching - They had about 30 scholars - They now have between 80 & 90. There is no want of ability to learn their own language but facts prove that they will never learn ours. What must greatly impede Missionary labour among them is that a days ride in almost any direction will take us among a people of a different dialect. The Flat Head and the Nez-perces are entirely distinct. Their philosophical constructure are wholly unlike. We have not found any one word common to both. Mr W. & E. hold worship morning & evening with the people & preach alternately. They give the children one, two, three or four words or a short sentence in their own language daily. Most of them will learn to read & spell their own words during the day. We find it quite a tax upon our hearing organs to get the right sounds of their words so as to spell correctly. There is a small printing press at Mr Spalding's but we have books yet prepared for the press. We have adopted Pickering's rules in forming an alphabet. Our progress in acquiring the language is slow. We have never had an interpreter.Our house for worship & school are the same. It is a large wooden frame covered with rush mats & was made entirely by the Indians. None among our people give evidence of a change of heart. Their motives for wanting Mission aries to settle among them as far as we can judge are selfish - they want to be clothed & be (sisitince?)that is powerful like white people. Our hope is in the school. Many things look dark for the poor Indians. There own destitution & the present resources of the country are such that they cannot very soon become a civilized people. Two Nez-perces have been added to the church. Two Catholic Priests are in this country. They are doing what they can to propogate their religion among the Indians. Now friend C.(Charlotte Grout) where are you? & what are you prospects? Are you among the heathen or are you still waiting in suapense for the movements of the churches? How is it like so fare with poor benighted Africa - From what we read in the Annual Report of the A.B.C.F.M. & Oct. Herald for 1838 as well as from your letter we have some fears for her! (Africa) She must not be given up.What will become of the promise "the heathen shall be given to Christ? Were it not for this & other equally precious promises we could (do) but little for the Indians. I should like to write much more but my paper is now full.Mr E wishes with me in love to yourself & husband. If I have hazared too much in addressing you as above I hope you will pardon me & believe me your friend Myra F Ells"

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NOTES "We received intelligence from the S.I. (Sandwich Islands) occasionally. The Catholics have forced open their doors (Up to 1839 they had been barred from the Islands by the Hawaiian government). We have not received any of our goods yet - The most of them are at W.W. the some remain at Vancouver. We can obtain most of the necessaries of life at Vancouver. The Gentlemen of the H.H.B.Co. (Honorable Hudson's Bay Co.) are very kind to us & treat us with great respect. Without their assistance we could not be sustained in this country.

My health during the past summer was very poor. Two or three times I thought myself within a step of the Eternal World. My complaint at first was spinal. Afterwards was affected with the fever & ague. Dr W visited me once. Mr E & Mrs W were my nurses for three months. My health is now feebly good. Mr Edwin O Hall & wife Missionaries at the S. Islands are now at Dr W's for the benefit of her health - her complaint is spinal (Sarah L. Hall suffered from a printing press from the Islands for Spalding). She has a little babe. (Sarah There is not much prospect for her recovery. Alice C. Whitman was mourned the 23rd of June 1839) Alice Clartissa, at the age of 2 years & three months tragically drowned on Sunday morning June 23, 1839). Mrs Spalding has two children, Mrs Walker one little boy, Mrs Gray one little boy. Rev Mr Griffin an ordained minister & Mr Mungler a mechanic came over the Mrs last summer as self-supporting Missionaries with their wives. Mrs Mungler is sister to Mr Hofsington Missionary at Mr. Smith (Asa B.) has gone to a new station (Kamiah) 60 miles above Mr Spalding. (she means "up Lapwai river" Actually southeast of Spalding's Lapwai mission which was on the Kooookske which is now called the Clearwater river. SEE map sketch of the area) Please write me a long letter I shall get it sometime if I live."



Folded letter addressed to the "Rev. Alden Groat/Missionary/Care of Henry Hill Esq/Missionary Rooms Boston/Mass U.S.A." It is dated "January 20th 1840" from the Tshimakain Mission near Fort Colville, Oregon country and received as per postmark at "NEW YORK/SHTP/FEB 5" and rated "27" cents. On arrival in Boston it was forwarded to "Port Natal/S. Africa". It was probably enclosed with other letters or by a missionary returning to Africa. No other postal markings and just over one year in transit to New York!

Henry Hill was treasurer for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions 1822 to 1854.

16-50

16-6



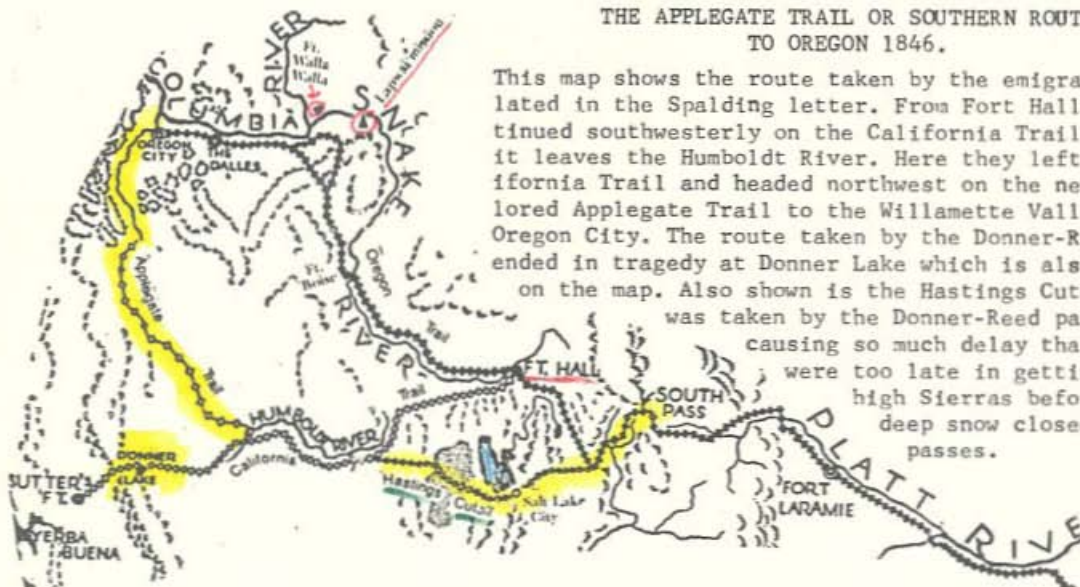
The settlement in the spring of 1844.

TSIMAKAIN AS SKETCHED BY CHARLES A. GREYER IN THE SPRING OF 1844
 At left, looking west, is Walker's second house with its fence and barn.
 Eells' second house is at center, with the two original cabins at its left.
 Eells' barn and the missionaries' cattle herd are at right.
 Courtesy of Washington State University, Pullman.

THE WESTERN MAILS

THE APPLIGATE TRAIL OR SOUTHERN ROUTE TO OREGON 1846.

This map shows the route taken by the emigrants as related in the Spalding letter. From Fort Hall they continued southwesterly on the California Trail to where it leaves the Humboldt River. Here they left the California Trail and headed northwest on the newly explored Applegate Trail to the Willamette Valley and Oregon City. The route taken by the Donner-Reed party ended in tragedy at Donner Lake which is also shown on the map. Also shown is the Hastings Cutoff which was taken by the Donner-Reed party causing so much delay that they were too late in getting to the high Sierras before the deep snow closed the passes.



TRAGEDY ON THE OREGON AND CALIFORNIA TRAILS 1846.

In the spring of 1846 a small party of men, led by Jesse & Lindsey Applegate, explored a new southern route to Oregon. They followed a pack trail south of the Willamette Valley to where they were able to cross the Cascade mountains and arrive at Klamath Lake to the east. Thence southeast to the big bend of the Humboldt River where they joined the California Trail. When the Applegates arrived at Fort Hall they met a large group of emigrants bound for Oregon and convinced them to follow the newly explored route instead of going north to the Columbia River. The tragedy that followed is explained in Eliza Spalding's letter. Also the tragedy that befell the Donner-Reed party of the same year is mentioned. This party had taken the Hastings Cutoff (see map above) and were so late in getting through the "Cutoff" that they arrived at Donner Lake too late to cross the high Sierras before the snow closed the passes. Although some of them were able to get over the deep snows of the high Sierras, and get relief parties, it was too late for some of them. Cold and hunger was taking its toll and some resorted to cannibalism in the last desperate attempt to survive. In one case charges of murder for food was made but never proven. It was April 21, 1847 before the fifth and final relief party arrived at the "camp of death". The official report of the eighty seven who arrived at the foot of the Sierras was that thirty five had died and forty seven survived.

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WHITMAN MASSACRE 1847

"Tualatin Plains, Oregon, Terr. April 8th - /48 (Number) 77. Dear H.D. Smith/Dr Sir/As I take my pen to address you I say (judgeing the future by the past) that it will be in vain for I have sevrial times written you, but have not as yet received a line from you. I must suppose that you have not received my letter. I am anxious indeed to hear from you and from many in the vicinity, who are so dear to me by a thousand time that can never be surrendered although it grieves me I must say that I know less about Gouverneur than almost any other place of my acquaintance, perhaps the fault is all on my part. if so can I remedy it? As a family we are much as usual, neither myself or Mrs Clark are in good health, but not sick. Our little daughter is not robust yet generally in tolerably good health - For a few weeks past our otherwise bright prospects have been darkned by savage cruelty and superstition. On the 29th Nov Dr Whitman and his wife and 12 white men Americans including two lads nearly grown were murdered at Dr Whitmans Station. It is utterly impossible to ascertain the whole truth on this meloncholy subject - The Doctors Indians (Kayus) were the only Indians engaged in this horrible affair. The two prominent causes (or so understood here by most who are best qualified to judge) are 1 Sickness Dysentery & Measles brought by the emigration - The Indians were sick and many dying perhaps 30 in a few weeks including young and old. The Doctor was all attention night and day. The Indians were told (as all accounts prove) that the Doctor was giving poison or bad medicine consequently they decided to kill the Do & Mrs Whitman. Why they murdered all the emigrants also who were at or about the station they could - we cannot say - Several men escaped. 2 The Roman Catholics had already commenced their labors near the Doctors Station, and were consulting with a part of the nation (Indians) & had obtained leave to build near the Doctors house. The Nez perce chief Ellis has some two years since told the Catholics that should they come and establish missions among the Indians where the protestans were it would be a declaration for war. but while they did not establish directly at Mr Spaldings or any protestant Station they did near them. The priests and the French (Canadians), as well as the H.B. Company (Hudsons Bay) were not injured or molested, but could come and go at pleasure. One of the Preists (J.B.A. Brouillet) assisted in burying the dead or throwing them into one common grave so lightly covered that soon the wolves dug them out and consumed them. Mr Spalding escaped after 6 days & nights of sever toil, and hunger. Mr Spalding was near the Drs Station when the murder took place, but fled to his people, and was conducted by them to (Fort) Walla Walla - this of course cost much property. Mr Spalding is now with me likewise his family. All praise is due to Hon H.B. Co. for their prompt and efficient action in delivering the captives, number perhaps 40 mostly women and children. This also cost many goods. An army has been raised and the Murderers have been driven from this country, but the war is not at an end and we fear it will not be at present. Most of the Indian tribes are yet at peace with the whites. The Gov't of U. States has long neglected this country and what will be the result who can tell. Were our hopes in mans lives should we fear but the Lord is our help and shield. O for rest in him. Our churches are somewhat prosperd but we are quite weak inefficient - We need much help - A superficial religion & Romanism seriously threatens the vital interests of Christ(s) Kingdom, must ruin many souls. We have begun an orpon asylum and boarding school in the plains, but it will cost severe effort to sustain it unless we can get help from some foreign source an where shall we look but our own beloved land. If we cannot get help we must strive alone for the sight of our eyes and what we hear truly affects our hearts. The two last emigrations especially were very sickly - and many orphans the result - Where shall they be educated and taught to love God, "Come over and help us". The course of temperance has for a year or two past been much neglected, but a new spirit is now prevalent. We hope at the coming election to have the law on this subject altured, it now stands regulate, altered to prohibit introduction, manufacture & sale (of liquor), schools are existing much interest here at present. We need books & clothing for our orphan asylum so write me all the news, especially about churches and my old friends. Mrs. Clarke joins me in love & respect.

Yrs Truly (Rev.) Harvey Clark"

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THE WESTERN MAILS

Tualatin Plains, Oregon. ¹⁴ See April 8 1848

Dear Mr. D. Smith

77

Dear Sir

As I take my pen to address you I say
 (judging the future by the past) that it will
 be in vain for I have several times written
 you, but have not received a line from
 you. I must receive my letter
 to hear from the vicinity
 a thousand other things
 although it gives me
 know less about the plan of
 the fault is all on my part. I
 I journey it as a family reason must be
 usual. With myself or Mr. Kellogg in



H. D. Smith Esq
Governor

St. Marys Co
New York

OREGON TRAIL 1848

TUALATIN PLAINS, OREGON TER. APRIL 8, 1848. Letter written by Rev. Harvey Clark relating the Whitman massacre as told to him by Rev. Henry Harmon Spaulding. Although Spaulding was an intended victim he and his family escaped the Indians and were staying with Clark at this time. A detailed first hand report on the tragedy which wiped out the Protestant Mission of Dr. Whitman.

Letter was carried overland and placed in the mails at Savannah, Missouri on July 27, 1848 as per postmark plus the collect rate as noted by the handstamp numeral 10.

and his wife and 12 white men Americans including two boys nearly grown were murdered at the Whitman Station. It is utterly impossible to

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THE OREGON MISSIONS



HENRY HARMON SPALDING

A wonderful letter written by the Reverend Henry Harmon Spalding, to the American Home Missionary Society in New York City, regarding his present situation and labors among the Indians of the Old Oregon Country. He wants their continued support to his church among the Indians and that he is the only person living who can write and preach to them in their language. Spalding vividly describes toil and hardship of a pioneer missionary and the bitter competition between the Catholics and the Protestants in their efforts to civilize and christianize the Indians. SEE opposite page for content of the letter.

Wallepta W.S.
Feb'y 4th / 60



WALLEPTA, WASHINGTON TERRITORY. Post office established June 3, 1858 and the name changed to WALLA WALLA on September 8, 1862.

THE WESTERN MAILS

16-8A

FORT WALLA WALLA WASHINGTON TERRITORY 1860

"Fort Walla Walla W.T. Jan 2 1860/To the Sectrs. of the A.H.M.S. N.Y.
Dear Brethren/The first quarter of my labors in this field of wild conflict between the powers of darkness & of light, between the armies of the civilized world & the savage hosts, between the hords of bold blasphemers, baptised sabbath breakers, open libertines, & devoted gamblers on the one side & a small band of the followers of Jesus on the other, a field however deeply interesting to the friend of Missions by reason of haveing been consecrated to Christ by pray & by the blood of God's Saints. Every day the interest of this field desposes as its future prospects become more clear. It (this region) is evidently destined to become the center & governing point of a vast sweep of country around. No other country between the Rocky & the Cascade Ranges has water courses so frequent with skirts of timber & great quantities of the best of land for cultivation and inexhaustable prairies of the finest grass, and blessed with so mild a winter climate. It must soon become the vast North American store house for untold herds of cattle, sheep & horses. It must become the supplying point for the multitudes that will flock every year from the Wallamette & Rogue river vallies & from California to the northern mines, which are likely to become as extensive & as rich as the California mines. The northern route over the Rocky Mountains from Minnesota via Fort Benton terminates at Fort Walla Walla. The old Immigrant route through the South Pass leads directly through this field. This route is made sacred by the names of the first ladies (white women) who in obedience to the last command of Christ "Go into all the world" committed their lives to Him & were the first to cross the Rocky Ridge (mountains) & settled the question to which has proved of such untold value to the U.S. viz that famalies could reach the Pacific Coast by waggon rout over the Rocky Mts. & that females could endure the hazerds, the privations & the toils of the long rout which till then had been pronounced by all who had any knowledge of the country, insurmountable by ladies & only possible by hardy trappers or mountaineers. The route from Salt Lake also passes through this field. This post is the center of the military operations in Oregon & Washington. The town of Steptoeville (first name of Walla Walla), is half a mile from the garrison, already contains 10 stores, 2 hotels, a dozen gambling & drunken Saloons, with but 5 white married ladies. The great mass total are unmarried men from all parts of the world. Many have been living with the vilest of Indian women, but have lately sent them away..... Many are gamblers from California, having fled from the Vigilance Committee in Cal but many are industrious, moral, church going citizens, determined to stand by the two preachers in the efforts to establish a healing christian influence. A great change has, indeed, come over this town. I can hardly beleive my own eyes, as I now enter the town at the hour of Devine Service. Instead of two or three fights, amid yells of blasphomy & obscene language & furious riding of horsemen & reeling & tumbling drunkards, with scenes natives are standing around, upon horses, looking on with amazement, there is now but few people in the street, no noise & the doors of shops & stores remain closed during service. There have been no fights for several of the last Sabbaths. When I commenced there were two or three every Sabbath & on one Sabbath seven, accompanied with the usual wildness & blasphemy. Last Sabbath, I was greatly delighted, on entering the main street, to hear the voice of singing & learned that a number of youg men & the ladies had resolved to meet twice a week & improve the church musick. A day school is taught, a school house, designed also for public worship, is in process of building, my horse is cared for & I am very welcome wherever I call. I usually arrive at the Garrison Saturday eve. My horse & that of my daughter if she is with me are taken to the Quater Masters stable & we are very kindly entertained at any of the famalies at the Fort. Col. (George) Wright, commanding officer, Maj (John ?) Green, Capt (Frederick Tracy) Dent & Capt (Ralph Wilson) Kirkham with several Lieutis & soldiers & employees have famalies. Several are members of the Episcopal (Methodist ?) church & Col Wright's wife is a member of the Prebyterian Church. Most of the officers with many of the soldiers are constant attendants upon the Protestant Service & none of the officers & but few of soldiers attend upon the Catholic Service which indeed is no more attended in

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the Garrison but only in town. A good room is well seated & warmed every Sabbath & with the aid of one of the ladies of the Fort I have secured the aid of a melodian & good player, a lady living 2 miles who is sent for by the Quater Master every Sabbath morn. The officers have seen much of the iniquity of the Catholic Missionaries among the Indian tribes. Make no hesitency in giving it as their opinion openly that they were the cause of the bloody Tragidy of Whitman in 1847. This noon Mrs Wrigl: made me a present of some 15lbs of flour, a few lbs of tea & sugar & a boiled ham. This long spell of severe cold weather has been a draw back to meetings - I preach half of the time at the Garrison & town & the other half on the Tusha.² I have suffered severely & frozen myself some in passing from home to my appointments. Never has there been known such a winter. The cold has continued for 65 (days) & no prospect of a change. There is great danger that many of (the) cattle will die not having recovered from their severe journey over the Cascade Mts. Soon after cold weather set in Mrs Spalding & my son arrived bringing flour from home, a most timely relief. They brought some clothing & bedding but not a supply. We have learned however to do with little. The expense of bringing flour 375 miles is about equal to the cost here viz \$12.00 pr hundred, corn \$2.50, potatoes \$2.00. We made some 20 lbs of butter & sold it for \$1.00 pr pound & got a few necesseries before the severa cold dried up our cows, we now have neither, butter, milk or meat. The few cattle I brought up are too poor for beef or sale. As soon as my wife arrived we applied ourselves to the erection of a house on my claim. It is a rude affair 4 X 15 split logs chinked & mudded, earth roof & floor, no sawed lumber can be had, or shingles. The earth roof is sustained by poles laid close & covered with grass, when the earth is laid on a foot thick & it will not leak. The earth floor is frozen 15 inches except around the fire, & is very cold & will be till thawed out. I have covered it with grass & a few Gunny sacks given to me by a friend in town. Chimney mud.....& stic & mud flew. Bed stead a few poles fastened in the walls of the house with split.... for cords - door of the same. Settee & chairs of split cotton-wood with legs. Candle 4 neils in a cotton(wood) block. my daughter has dug out a washtub, pig trough, & wash pan out of cotton wood. Often when out upon my preaching tours I sleep upon the ground as there are almost no beds, or floors in the country. I am in debt for corn & I hope the quarterly remittance will soon arrive. I am entirely willing to fore go the comfort of our house, garden, barn, orchard & pasture & endure this rough living for a 9 months or a year, if I may by thus being on the ground head off the Papal agencies & be appointed teacher to the Nez Perces Indians & in the mean time be of some use to the white population. I have preached to the Indians in their own language before vast crowds of whites - Can converse as readily & write about as correctly as when I left 12 years ago. The Indians are highly delighted at this & have expressed their strong desire that I should be their teacher, all the principle men (Indians) have called upon me frequently as they pass from their country to their agent at the Fort. The agent (Hutchins) & also the Superintendant has pledged their word that I shall be appointed (SEE note below).³ All the white population around except the Catholic portion are anxious that I should be. But the opposition is strong & the Catholic vote is a strong Nothing will be known or done till appropriations to carry out the (Indian) treaties are made, which will not be till last of this Session of Congress. I seek this place not from pecuniery advantage for I have already been at great expense & must be at much more; but no other person living can write & preach in their language,⁴ & it has always been my desire to return to this interesting people (Nez Perces) & to my native church. I hope my reappointment for 6 months or a year will soon arrive. If not I see no way by which I can hold on till the question is settled, for I am much in debt. I am confident if you could see this field as it is you would not hesitate. Please send me a draft for \$200.00 due foe last quarter, with best wishes
H.H.Spalding"

1 See historical note on Spalding and Whitman.

2 Touchet River. Spalding always spelled it Tucha.

3 Agent Charles Hutchins and superintendent C.H.Hale did not keep their promise. Hutchins died in 1862 and was replaced by J.W.Anderson who then hired Spalding as Interpreter and teacher to the Nez Perce Indians at the Lapwai Agency. SEE historical note on the Oregon Missions.

4 Spalding's statement is a fact.

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Oregon Territory Waskopam Mission Jan 21. 1842.

OREGON TRAIL, 1842

On January 21, 1842 Henry Bridgeman Brewer addressed his parents from the Waskopam Mission (The Dalles) in the Oregon Territory. He reports on the country in general; the weather; the mission work; the Hudson's Bay Co. and the Indians. In particular he gives the account of an attack by the Cayuse Indians on Dr. Whitman which did not result in serious injury, but did foreshadow the Whitman massacre in which 14 whites lost their lives, including the Doctor and Mrs. Whitman, at the hands of the same tribe of Indians in November of 1847.

In closing he gives directions for sending letters overland via the express boats of the Hudson's Bay Company: **Please write every year - by way of Canada. Send letters to Lachine, U.C. by the first of March (post paid) to the care of the agent of the H.B. Company & in Oct. following we shall receive them. The express passes hereabout the 20th of Oct. You can send letters or packages to the S. Islands (Hawaiian) almost every month in the year. I think vessels come from the Islands here very frequently . . . This leaves us in March by the express boats.**

At the very end he adds: "Feb. 23, 1842 I have an opportunity of sending this direct to the States." Then crosses out the directive, **Pr H.B. Co. Express**, on the lower left hand corner of the cover. According to Brewer's journal, in the Oregon Historical Society, this letter was carried overland by a Mr. Fowler and deposited in the mails at Westport, Missouri on December 7, 1842.



NARCISSA WHITMAN MEETS THE HORRIBLES oil, 24 x 48 inches 1971

Narcissa Whitman Meets the Horribles

The Whitman missionary party, en route to Oregon, traveled with the fur caravan of 1836 which was on its way to the summer rendezvous at Horse Creek and the Green River. In the party were two missionary wives, Narcissa Whitman and Eliza Spalding, the first white women to cross the Continental Divide.

Just after they crossed the Divide at South Pass a savage-looking group of mountain men and Nez Percé Indians, attracted by the rumor of the arrival of white women, burst upon them, riding at full speed, yelling and whooping, showing off feats of horsemanship and firing over the heads of the company in a noisy mountain welcome.

what I could instruct her in, he invited her to come & spend a few months with us
 she will probably spend the coming winter here & find it difficult to get along
 without some help, for we generally have only 2 sometimes more besides our own
 family - Two young men are but now studying the native language -
 Our family are well - Eliza is studying Smith's Geograph & Grammar, Henry,
 Peter & Bailey's - Martha Jane was two years old last March, Amelia Lorena is
 seven months - In the letter I wrote to you last April, Eliza wrote a little
 to her cousins, Jane, & Eliza, I hope they will write - We should be most
 happy to receive letters from you all - I hope Howard will write to you
 by this opportunity - If you write to him you had better direct his letters to the following
 Affectionately yours E. H. Spalding

12

Miss Lorena Hart
 Highland Street
 (Prussia Co. N. York)



I will try to write to them in the earliest opportunity, tho' I think they
 may have received my former letter in this. I also remember
 to them in love, to all my dear friends - I am writing
 in great haste & must omit many interesting items - we have now
 eleven in our family, the last is very expensive, which makes it
 tedious to take stock in the morning - I have the help of
 a good girl, whose parents spent the past winter at East Windsor's
 place - the Spalding part of that winter at the time they were about to
 leave for the Antislavery, I learning that she was desirous to attend to some

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ELIZA HART SPALDING LETTER 1846

Historic letter written by Eliza Hart Spalding, the wife of Henry Harmon Spalding, from the Lapwai Mission, "Clear Water July 22nd 1847", which was located on Clearwater River in what was then the Oregon Country and now in present day Idaho. The following extracts are taken from the letter: "A gentleman arrived here from Wallamette a few days since, whose business is to obtain the Printing Press for an association who wish to publish a Temperance Paper. Many of the settlers in Willamette are from the borders of the States, & while there, were much addicted to drinking. Their afflicted families have cheerfully consented to undergo the perils & hardships of a long journey to this region, hoping to find a humble home where ardent spirits could not easily be obtained. But they have found themselves sadly disappointed, for it is manufactured in Willamette. This gentleman informs us that there are several American ships in the River (Columbia), that a new superintendant has arrived for the Methodist mission & Rev Mr Gray (William H.) is soon to return to the States... We are writing a few letters to send by this gentleman, hoping he may reach Wallamette before Mr G. leaves..... Last season (1846) a party from the settlements in Wallamette surveyed a route for the Immigrants far south of this. They pursued their way till they reached the old route (Fort Hall, Oregon Trail) where they met with the Immigrants, & reported to them that they had found a new route which was more direct & much preferable to the old one, & induced over 100 waggons to

make a trial of it. A party of 18 wagons who were on this route, have not been heard of since they entered upon it. It is supposed that they have all perished from want or have fallen into the hands of the savages. Another party of ninety wagons suffered indescribably from the roughness of the route. Forty of these wagons, it is stated lie in scattered fragments upon the hills & mountains & rocky glens, a great portion of their cattle also perished. Nearly all came in on foot. The earliest arrivals were about the last of Nov. Others did not get in till the middle of January. Many of these were brought in on horseback by some of the settlers who went out with supplies in order to assist them. A party (Donner party) who left the route this side of the Rocky Mts. for California were overtaken by deep snows in (the) California Mts. & 38 out of 81 perished. The dead bodies of those who perished was all the food that some of these unfortunate persons had for many days. The immigrants suffer much on the latter part of the route. The country between this & the Willamette is very rough, & their teams are generally worn out before they reach the most difficult part of their journey. We surely have much to show us that we are dying creatures, may we live in habitual preparation for death..... Affectionately yours E.H. Spalding."

The letter is addressed to Eliza's sister "Miss Lorena Hart/Holland Patent/Oneida Co. N. York". It was carried by a ship and entered the mail at Fall River or Falmouth, Mass. on "May 1" 1848, where it was stamped "SHIP" and rated "12" cents collect. It was over nine months in transit.

HISTORICAL NOTE: In 1836 Eliza Spalding and Narcissa Whitman, the wives of the Reverend Henry H. Spalding and Doctor Marcus Whitman, were the first white women to cross the American continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Sciats.

Among those who made up the number of principle men at our station [Waskopum] was Sciats. He was called one of the chiefs. He was second among our good natured sort of men, though he was peculiar. He always would be among the first to give us to understand that he was a praying man. My friend said he I always pray to my family & I don't neglect to go away & pray in secret. He seldom called for a favor, but when he did call he always wanted it granted him for he was "one of the chiefs". After a sub Indian agent was appointed to the Oregon Territory & had arrived there he visited our station at the Dalles [Columbia river] & called the Indians together to give them some rules or regulations for their own benefit as a tribe & their conduct to the Americans, & Sciats was appointed master whipper in this office he was raised considerably in his own estimation & in the estimation of others. He was now considered second in rank or next to the first chief. In his new office he excelled not infrequently as he called upon us to let us know he got along, frequently his report would be like the following, why friend I killed two this morning, but did you really kill them I inquired; I whipped until they lay upon the ground as lifeless though afterwards they came too. What was the offence I enquired? a man & his wife quarrelled. At another time he called & said I whipped four today I killed them, but said I, did you really kill them? Well in one way speaking I whipped them as this whip can testify showing a heavy riding whip, until they lay on the ground as dead. What was the crime friend said I? Adultery. In this way we rather thought Sciats did considerable good as the people began to stand in fear of him, or the consequences as if they did wrong. But Sciats had his failings as well as others. At the time the mania for getting slaves prevailed Sciats appeared at our place in his regimentals or as every Indian when they go to another tribe have something peculiar in their dress, so in this case Sciats had a profusion of feathers stuck in his hair which made him appear hideous. Mr P. [Rev. H. K. W. Perkins] remonstrated with him upon the sin of holding slaves & as he was considered a leader of his clan others would follow him & go off to the Clamath [Klamath Lake] tribe as he was about to do & purchase slaves. The conversation did not please him at all, but in his rage he appeared in Mr. P's room & threw down his whip & rope & with all the authority of his office demanded that Mr. P. should be whipped, your talk addressing himself to Mr. P. is not good, I am about to whip you & commenced tying Mr P's legs - in short however his conscience I suppose smote him, he probably thought he was going too far & left Mr. with the rope still upon him * Mr P. threw the rope off & Sciats soon appeared & took his rope & whip & mounted his horse & away he went to the Clamath tribe ten days ride & purchased two slaves for two horses & brought them here. He had cause to regret his course afterwards for both his slaves ran away to their own country & he never was able to get them back again. I shall speak of slavery among the Indians in another place. After this the Agent was at our place when he was told of the improper conduct of Sciats towards Mr P. & it was judged proper that the case should be looked into, the Indians ceremoniously declaring that he ought to be punished. The Agent ordered him whipped twenty five lashes whereupon the Indians declared that as he the Agent had made Sciats master whipper & now he had transgressed it was altogether proper that the Agent the great chief should take the whip into his own hands. Accordingly Sciats was striped for Indians don't hold to whipping clothes, & twenty lashes applied to his bare back. A little while after this he came into our house & addressing to Mrs. B. [Laura Brewer] said, do you know what is being done about this time? Sciats has been whiped. Ah we replied, we knew it. Well said he, I hope I shall be a better man after this. I think I shall. Paul was a good man, they abused they whiped him & Sciats served the same way was his reply. We all thought the whipping humbled him & did him good. The next Sunday morning early Sciats appeared with his testament & requested Mrs. B. to find the places [of Paul being whipt in the Testament?]. The Indian Agent had talked with the Indians to encourage

them to turn their attention more to agricultural pursuits, & we all did what we could. I assisted them in building log houses, & ploughed their land, gave them seed to plant &c, &c. Sciats among the number was foremost to till the ground, & being a chief he wished me to do more for him than for common individuals. I told over & over again the necessity of building a house near the crops to protect them for said I you will feel bad to have your crops destroyed by neighbors horses or our cattle. But he thought he could take good care of them if his family did live at the Salmon fishers [at] the Dalles, his boy or himself would be there every day to watch them. Time passed on until his wheat was nearly ripe & his corn potatoes &c looked well, when as I feared our cattle broke his sham fence & entered his field & trode down his wheat eat up all his corn &c. Poor Sciats felt down cast. I felt sorry but to remunerate him I knew would not answer in that case. I might give to all the Indians more or less as the case might be. No Indian ever paid me for damages done to our Mission crops. As I expected Sciats soon appeared with a long tale of his misfortunes & losses, & wished me remunerate him for his losses by my cattle. I told him I could not & then cited him to my losses in past days, & asked him whoever paid me any thing - he went away & then again requested of me to pay him. I sent him away. He appeared again I put him off this time his demands were not large. but it was the example I thought of - but Sciats was not to be put off so easily - Sept. 2, 1845 Quite early this morn Sciats ra at our door & came in & demanded a shirt I told him plainly I could not give him one. Upon this he became very angry & stamped about the floor & looked about for something on which to spite his vengeance upon. He cast his eyes on the book case & the cupboard & then the clock. This was something he thought we considered very valueable & he looked as though in a moment he would dash it to the floor. We very soon took our position between him & the clock (& with hatchet in hand, for we had not laid it down as we were at work with it when he came in) & took hold of him & soon led him out of doors, here he became cool & promised to do better if I would let him go but I told him no. He deserved punishment & we would go over to Mr Wp ?* & have him whiped. Mr W. was busy then & could not assist then. In a moment he became again enraged & said " Have I no gun at my house. I will get it and upon this he turned & ran & as he passed the corner of the house he caught a large stone & threatened to throw it but durst not. He flew to the shore [Columbia river] to his house in great haste as though the Deable himself was at his heels, probably expecting that I should follow him. Now what is to be done, he may return in a few moments & attempt to kill me. I first resolved to sit down calm as I could & eat my breakfast. Next my doubled barrel gun was behind the door. I resolved to let it be & not load it & wait the result. The neighboring Indians gathered around, some loaded their guns determed to shoot him if he should make his appearance. Especcially my friend Sumaton [Indian] took his position right in the road determed to shoot him if he approached. The day passed off & no Sciats appeared. Early next morning he came around by another road to Mr W, & requested him to come over with him & interced for him & ask my forgiveness, for said he I felt bad all day & all night that I had used you so bad, & I thought you would forgive me. I promised in future to do better & if ever your cattle eat up my crops I will never ask you for any thing. I forgave him & recommended him to ask mercey at the hands of God. I will said he, I ever mean to pray & live a good life. We shook hands & parted in peace & from that day forth Sciats was one of our most firm stanch friends.

(See second page)

In the testament where Paul was whipped, They were found & shown him. He appeared very much pleased, turned down the leaves & said Paul was whipped, Paul was a good man. Sciats was whipped comparing himself & the trials he had passed through with Paul.



OREGON MISSIONARY MAIL VIA SANDWICH ISLANDS AND CAPE HORN.

ASTORIA OREGON postmark on Missionary letter datelined "Salem July 11th 1847", with postscripts dated "July 25" and "Aug 4". At this time there was no post office in OREGON, but John M. Shively was well on his way, in a wagon train, with his appointment as Deputy Postmaster at Astoria, Oregon. He arrived at Astoria about the 9th of September. THIS letter had apparently laid at Oregon City or Astoria until he arrived. SEE letter carried by Shively in this collection. Both letters are postmarked in the hand of John Shively. This letter was most likely carried by ship, via the Sandwich Islands and Cape Horn to New York, as per red postmark NEW YORK/SHIP AUG 6/7 cts

Salem Letter, 1847

Addressed to: Arba Lankton
Hartford
Connecticut

Manuscript postmark "Astoria Oregon"
NEW YORK SHIP 7 arrival marking of Aug 6 (1848)

Salem July 11th 1847

My Dear Parents

About 2 weeks ago I had the pleasure of receiving letters from you, from Elizabeth, Hasmie (?), and both Sister Marys - With the date of Feb and March 1846. Last Thursday I received another package from you with one from Elizabeth, one from Mary and a few lines from Ursula Palmiter, being dated Oct. Perhaps you can judge something by experience of the pleasure we take in receiving letters from those we love. The Missionaries have arrived. Brothers Roberts, and Wilbur, Mr. Carter was at the Falls last week, and saw them and their families. He was pleased with their appearance - Brother Roberts delivered an address at the celebration at Portland on the 5th which was highly approved by all present except a few drinking characters, of which unhappily there are some in this country - Brother Wilbur spoke of the bundle you mention, in your letter said it was in a box - and that he would bring or forward it soon. I doubt not that I shall get it - accept our hearty thanks for this additional proof of your love and kindness to us - We should be glad to make some suitable return for all your favors. We would like to give you a hog or cow, or some thing that we could spare for your comfort - The Lord has given us many good things, for which we desire to praise him, and to render him the tribute of our hearts, I find upon examination that I have not all the meek patience which I ought to possess - I have of late suffered little perplexities to engross my thoughts too much, but I have this day been enabled to realize that God hath permitted to try my patience and my grace, and to show me my own heart - I trust I feel humbled in view of my own want of conformity to the example set before me, and have been enabled to approach the mercy seat - and plead successfully the merit of his death - O that I may be enabled in patience to possess my soul, and not fret because my girl strives to afflict and perplex me - We had a camp meeting which commenced the last Saturday in June and broke up on Wednesday following - We had a large congregation on Sabbath, many left on Mon - others on Tuesday so that there were comparatively few at the close - But some were converted. There was one at the Twality Plains the week previous - Near the close several were awakened and some converted - A camp meeting will commence on the 16th inst at Yam Hill. I shall not be able to go but hope much good may done - A Cumberland Presbyterian minister by the name of Cornwall attended our Camp Meeting. He is a good preacher and I think an excellent man. He came the southern route, wintered beyond the Calapooyah Mountains and came in last spring - the Campbellites are making quite a stir - They have three or four preachers and are gaining proselites very fast - I believe the Dalls station is to be broken up unless Dr. Whitman takes the place, Brother Gary some times since gave Brothers Waller and Brewer leave to come into the lower country this fall. I think probably they will come near the Institute. Brother Brewer has a claim near it and Mr. Carter is building him a house. Brother Gary leaves the falls this week for home, he was at our

Camp Meeting but left I think on Sabbath evening to meet the Missionaries - So that I did not get opportunity to speak with him. I have not seen him to speak with him for the last two years. I am very sorry that I missed sending my letter by Brother Gary but business pressed so hard that I did not get it finished, but I will try to write a few lines more that I may send it by the next vessel - There have been 3 or 4 in the River, but they come to Portland and discharge their cargo and are off before I get a letter ready - Formerly they had to anchor in the River, and bring their goods up 12 miles in boats to the Falls, and take in their return cargoes the same way so that they remained much longer than they do now. I suppose you would like to come and see us if the distance was short, I would like to show you our house although it is yet unfinished - our place is a very pleasant one - We get the sea breezes which make it generally comfortable in summer. Mr. Carter is building a barn and some other small buildings this summer - Our prospects are not favorable for a large crop of wheat - but we hope to have plenty for our own use, our potatoes look pretty well, we have a good garden - shall have several bushels of onions, we have several sows with pigs great and small numbering about 60. 5 years ago last fall Mr Carter bought three cows with their calves and two yearlings - Which are now increased to about 70 head. We have 2 yoke of oxen, 14 cows, one heifer to come in next spring, the rest young cattle except one steer 3 years old just. We have over 70 chickens, 2 horses, 2 mares and 2 colts. Mr. Carter is in debt some 4 or 500 dollars, but he hopes with the blessing of God to get clear in one or two years. I thought I would let you know so that you may feel happy that we are comfortable. As to the substantial of life, they are making some leather and shoes now in the country. More goods have been brought this season than before, but not enough to supply the increased demand. But we hope that there will soon be a better supply. There are a great many wedding in these days. Our three boys are doing pretty well. David reads in the testament, Joseph talks pretty well, and Samuel creeps and is an excellent child. I expect we are about as happy a family as you commonly find. I want to see my little boys walking in the way to heaven and expect I shall live long.

Much love to all
David and A Carter

July 25 - There was a good Camp Meeting at Yamhill. I think about 10 or 12 were converted and joined society. After the Camp Meeting closed the Missionaries came to the Institute and we had the privilege of hearing Brother Roberts - I am sure that when I come to you I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ. I felt that it was good to be there. He preached very well. Brother Wilbur is to be our preacher. I hope that he may prove to be a great blessing to us here. I want to be quick (?) (?) more and more. I must close, much love to all.

Aug 4 - We are all in usual health, we remain, yours most affectionately. Mr. Carter says if he is prosperous he thinks he will come and see you in three or four years.

Your children
David and Orpha Carter

NOTES: David Carter and Orpha Lankton, Henry Bridgman Brewer, Alvin F. Waller, all came to Oregon on the first voyage of the ship LAUSANNE, which arrived in May 1840. Carter had joined the ship at the Sandwich Islands and in February 1841 he married Orpha Lankton The others are Rev. Geo. B. Roberts, Rev. Wilbur, Dr. Marcus Whitman and Rev. Geo. Gary. SEE brewer letters in this collection.

OREGON MISSION MAIL WESTBOUND.



Henry Bridgeman Brewer was born at Wilbraham, Mass. on July 7, 1813 and died Jan. 24, 1886. On Oct. 9 1839 he sailed with the Methodist Episcopal Mission, on the LAUSANNE, via Cape Horn, arriving off Ft. Vancouver June 1, 1840. He served as farmer, teacher, translator, at the Wascopum Mission, at the Dalles of the Columbia river until 1847, when the mission was transferred to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. He returned to Wilbraham in January 1849.

Henry's brother, under date of Wilbraham April 25, 1842, writes about the people back home - marriages, church meetings, conversions, crops, gardens &c. The following extracts are from the letter: "We learn from the Herald & Journal that the Sarah & Abigail will sail from Boston tomorrow. And Br Wright expects to go to B. tomo-

row morning* We have been waiting for such a package [letters] it being 16 months since you last wrote. O how tardy the ships and mails are!" He then lists birth dates of the Brewers from the family Bible. "We hear the [railroad] cars on their way to Boston &c.



OREGON MISSION WASKOPAM STATION.

NOTE* There was a ship named SARAH ABIGAIL operating out of Boston in the 1840's. This letter was placed in the Post Office, as per postmark WILBRAHAM APR 25 [1842] PAID 12½ and directed to the care of "D.S. King Boston Bookseller". King would then forward it by the first ship going to Oregon via Cape Horn and the Sandwich Islands. Brewer wrote the receiving date, May 29 1843, on the back of the letter. It may have gone on the SARAH ABIGAIL? It was over a year in transit.

THE WESTERN MAILS

ON
THE
COLUMBIA
RIVER



RANSOMED
FROM
THE
GRAVE

OREGON COUNTRY COLUMBIA RIVER 1844

"Oregon Territory Columbia River Sept. 27, 1844 Dear Parents

I am now on my way to Willamette assisting Br (Rev. H. K. W.) Perkins & family down & also Br & Sister (Rev. George) Gary who have been up to our place on a visit - When I return I shall take supplies for our station - salt, Molasses, flour &c. &c. - We are now wind bound & have been for two days past ten miles below the Cascades. I left Laura (L. Brewer) & the children at the station (Dalls or Waskopum mission) & hope to get back to them again in three weeks from the time I left them - Br (Rev. Alvin F.) Waller & family are there having recently been appointed to fill the place of Br Perkins, although Br Gary designed him to go to the States but when he Br G. heard that Br Perkins had concluded to go to the States he requested Br Waller to go immediately to Wascopam & fill Br Ps place. You no doubt have been apprised that Rev Geo. Gary has been appointed to supercede Br (Rev. Jason) Lee in the superintendency of the Oregon Mission, the board no doubt made a good selection. Br Gary is a good Father to us all. He is now 51 years old & a man of much experience. The board authorized him to dismiss all of the secular men of the mission except myself & sell all the farms mills &c &c of the mission except the Wascopam farm, as they knew not enough about that station to determine. Br Gary has acted accordingly. The three farms on the Willamette are sold. The Indian school is given up, the store at Wallamette Falls is sold &c. Last month I took Laura & the children down to Wallamette to visit our friends - we saw for the first time Br & Sister Gary who appeared very glad to see us; when we returned they went up with us & also Br Waller & family. We were gone from home 5 weeks and now as I said I am going to Wallamette with Br Gary & Br Perkins & Their families. We are now in camp on an Island, in rear of us, on the mainland the fire is raging with unabated fury in the woods for ten miles the scene is terrificly grand beyond description - the fire has reached the highest peak & every little while I hear the fall of trees. Were I an artist I would for once try my skill at sketching but unfortunately I am not. After we returned from Wallamette we found our children had brought with them the seeds of the Ague. They were attacked severely but before I left they were better. Br Gary is quite encouraged in reference to our station, he thinks great good may be done among the Indians. Because Br Perkins leaves more will devolve upon me. I must attend to my farm & Br Gary wishes me to keep school & make books too for we have no books in their (Indian) language - Laura is an excellent printer with the pen - I now can converse in the Walla Walla considerably well. While we were on our visit to Wallamette a circumstance took place which shows that heathenish practices are not all done away. It may be a good story for a sabbath school. Sinimsh an Indian who lives not far from our house had a little boy who he loved dearly; the Father's heart was set upon him. This little boy was taken sick and died. The Father had a little slave that used to wait upon his little son in his life time. The Father thought for the love he had for his son he ought to sacrifice the slave at his death, accordingly the deceased child and the living slave were taken to the sepulchre of the dead - (The Indians of the Dalls bury their dead in houses made of boards on an Island in the Dalls, to keep them from the wolves) - The slave is probably eight years old. he made no resistance - they bound him hand & foot & laid him upon the bodies of other deceased persons who had been recently placed there, with his face downward & the body of the deceased

THE WESTERN MAILS

child placed upon him, just as they were about to leave him he called to them to loose the cord that bound him but they heeded not his cries. In this awful situation he spent one long dismall night though before morning he shook the corpse off from him - he said he heard the dead singing (the Indians believe this to be really true) one of the chiefs was in at Br Perkins & was mentioning the circumstance & said he tried to dissuade them from doing as they did. Br P. tried to have them bring him (slave) away that night but in vain. The next day Br Perkins ransomed him from the grave by paying three blankets & a shirt which are to be placed in the room (in place of) of the slave, so that the dead may not be robbed - Br P. has named him Ransom for he was ransomed from the grave. The little slave is a bright active little fellow. The sores where he was tied have not quite healed. Br P. has him along & will probably put him out to some good pious man at Wallamette as an apprentice -

Wallamette Falls Oct 3. I am now here - we all got down safely though a long jorney & tommorrow I hope to start back, if all is well - By Br Gary we received a box from (you) containing Shoes, clothes, letters & c - It was just what we needed. Laura, the children & myself are now wearing some of the shoes, they fit well. we feel under great obligation to you for your kindness to us not forgetting Joshua, Chandler,

Letter carried by "Rev. Mr Perkins" via ship around Cape Horn to FALL RIVER Ms where it was placed in the post office as per postmark on July 9, 1845 and rated as a SHIP letter 7 cents collect.

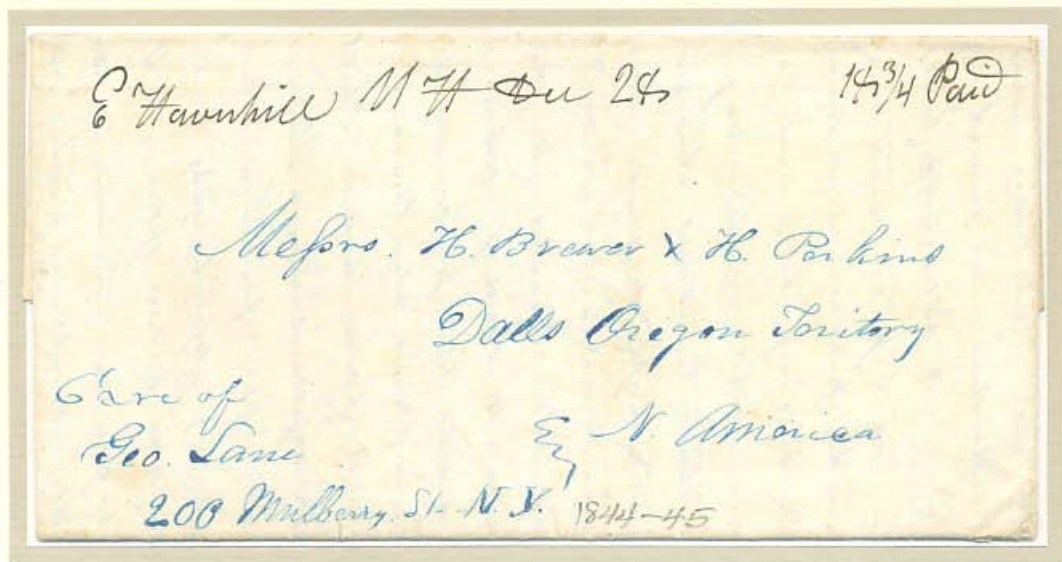


Wesly & all for what they sent. The specta(c)les Joshua sent to Laura give her as it were a new set of eyes. She now can see as far as I can I think - You will excuse I trust if I should write some things Laura does, as we are seperated & I wish to leave this with Br Perkins before I return. I have written an introductory letter to you, which I expect Br Perkins will carry to you, when he visits you as I think he will - You may wish to leave particulars concerning us. Laura's health for the most part, for the past year has been good, she appears happy and I may say she ever has been contented, she has a growing & increasing interest for these poor Indians, & the probability is now that we shall stay our time out at least. when the mission has done with us we intend to go home. For the past year we have lived happily together; by this I do not mean we have ever lived unhappily since we were married; but we now know each other better than. She knows my ways & I know hers & we have a spirit of forbearance which is very necessary to get along well. We get along better with the Indians than formerly & we have much hope concerning them. Kladicula the Indian who abused us last spring was shot by a Cayuse Indian a few days before I left home. The Indians all seem to rejoice for they feared him. Thus you see vengeance belongs to God. I have felt for some time as though he would be cut off (from God ?) for his sins. Susan Jemina & little Walter Giddings, are little consolations to us. No one enjoys the society of children better than we do. We need it in this heathn land, Still write in your familiar way, be particular. Pray much for us. Tell Mary to be faithful in serving God - Our love to all not forgetting uncle Aina Ziah. I remember the visit there - The things from Mahala were rec. Yours affectionately Bridgman (Henry Bridgman Brewer) Mr W. & Mrs L. Giddings. (Laura's father & mother)
We are collecting specimens of rock stones....."

THE WESTERN MAILS

1844 Oregon Mission Mail 1845

The cover shown below originated at East Haverhill, N.H. on Dec. 28, 1844 where it was placed in the mails and rated 18¾ cents. It was delivered to Geo. Lane in New York to be forwarded to Oregon. The cover was probably carried by ship and arrived at the Dalles on Nov. 15, 1845 as noted by Brewer. It was almost 11½ months in transit.



In the letter Daniel Lee reports on the people and the affairs of the Missions. He thinks that religion is needed as much or more back home than in far away Oregon: "Millerism [William Miller, a U.S. preacher who declared the end of the world and the second coming of Christ would occur in 1843] has been raging and foaming against the church — calling the churches 'Babylon' and crying 'come out of her my people' 'The spirit has left the church!' 'There will be no more conversions!' Expecting the world to end, and Christ to come Oct. 23rd. We have preaching woman, and antipreaching, antipraying man. Some of whom are roaming from place to place, and proclaiming the clergy of the U. States 'A brotherhood of thieves.' Nonresistants 'Away with the laws!' 'All things common!' 'Your wife is my wife!' Yet for all this there is some religion here, but as great need of more as in any place." He reports that Jason Lee "Since going to Stanstead [Canada] he has been confined by sickness ... He took a hard cold and it was feared that consumption had marked him for a victim ..."

Consumption had marked Jason Lee and he became its victim and died on March 12, 1845.

Jason Lee and his nephew, Daniel Lee, had led the first Mission to the Indians "beyond the Rocky Mountains." The Lees were both ordained ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church and made the journey overland to Oregon with Nathaniel J. Wyeth's second expedition in 1834.

Jason Lee

Mr.

Henry B. Brewer
Wilbraham (Mass.)

VOYAGE OF THE SHIP LAUSANNE TO OREGON.

Rev. JASON LEE gives his advise to Brewer on the forthcoming voyage of the Methodist Mission to Oregon via Cape Horn. Under date of "New York August 15, 1839" he writes "Dear Bro. I think the 10 Sep., will be in time. Individuals must furnish their own saddles, bridles, stoves &c. and the society will pay the freight to Oregon, of any thing they need to furnish their houses, or make them comfortable. All will be furnished by the Society, with the Tools necessary for their work. Money is of little use in Oregon at present. The Settlers want goods, tools &c for whatever they have to sell. We shall take out a supply of goods and hope to be able to keep a supply on hand. Bro. Perkins [H.K.W.] who went around Cape Horn says, "each person should have 25 changes of raiment, for to wash is out of the question". It may be well to have 25 shirts but I shall not have 25 changes of other raiment. They say "light material such as duck is best for the voyage, and that all clothing should be changed once a week". Each must judge for himself. You will require about the same proportion of woolen and cotton there as you do here. Think I have answered your inquiry and being pleased with business I must by wishing you much joy in your success, in that most necessary part of your outfit. Praying that a kind Providence may smile upon you and abundantly bless you and make you a blessing to many. I subscribe myself."

Jason Lee

NOTE: Jason Lee and his nephew, Daniel Lee, had led the first Mission to the Indians "beyond the Rocky Mountains". The Lees were both ordained ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church and had made the journey overland to Oregon with Nathaniel J. Wyeth's second expedition in 1834. Jason returned overland in 1838 and then went back to Oregon on the Lausanne with Brewer in 1839.

The LAUSANNE left New York on Oct. 9, 1839, on the long voyage of Twenty Two thousand miles, via Cape Horn and the Sandwich Islands, arriving off the mouth of the Columbia River on May 21, 1840.

Jayson Lee was born June 28, 1803 and he died at Stanstead, Canada on March 12, 1845 - a short but eventful life working for Oregon in the vinyard of the Lord. His remains were taken back to Salen, Oregon sixty one years after his death.

THE WESTERN MAILS

Dear Br. Brewer - Your welcom letter came to hand a few days ago and I imrose this afternoon in replying to it. And first I would say, welcome home again! I have thought of you a good deal for a year or two, fearing that thw Indian troubles would distress, & perplex you, & from not knowing what you would do I am glad you was drivin off on one account, and that I may see your face once more. And now Br. what will you do? Buy a farm in Wilbraham & I shall feel anxious to find your location that I may come & see you. Sister B. & the little ones, I persume are in fine spirits, and a year or two will be required to sober down into the staid and sober business habits of old New England. At least, it has been so in my case. I am hardly cured of my Oregon feeling yet. Of course you will not then wonder that I have taken the world for my parish. You write that you have another boy; our youngest is a girl two years old next month. We call her Laura Brewer Perkins. My wife and children enjoy excellent health this winter. My own, too, has been better. I preach from four to six sermons per week. For two years past I have attended the Eastarn Camp meeting, & shall probably be present next fall. Will you go! My wife has been both years. Last year I tented with the East Boston folks, where it is likely I shall find a home again. And was having gone through the catalogue of general items I will conclude by one more reference to my poor self. My religious views, & feelings are pretty much the same as when in Oregon. Present salvation is all that I consider of much account in Christian experience. This I have preached most of the time since I resumed my place in the travelling connection. Last year especially, I insisted upon this point strongly, and as a consequence, some were offended. Toward the close of the conference year the Presiding Elders of my district became acquainted with my views, & manners of preaching, and concluded that I ought not to be tolerated as a Methodist Preacher any longer. The matter was refered to the Annual Conference held in Bangor, and an opportunity was given me of presenting my . Finding that they were not satisfactory to that august body I withdrew my name, and have since stood untrammelled & alone. I immediately removed my family to this village and set up for myself. Sabeth before last I preached out of town for the first time since I came here, and that was at the earnest desire of my old friends in Vassalboro [Maine] where I labored two years ago. Hallowell is a large village, two miles below Agusta at the head of ship navigation on the Kennebec. It is easy of access from all parts of the State. The Steamboat Depot is a few rods below my house and the Rail road will pass right through my garden. I can school my children here the year round. House rent \$35 per year. How long my family will remain here is uncertain, but probably for some years to come. I am not confined to any particular place, but preach wherever & wherever there is a desire manifested on the part of the people to hear. My receipts for the time I have preached independantly have been small, but enough to render us comfortable. I am entirely satisfied that I am in the path of duty, and that is enough. My religious enjoyment has never been greater than for the past six months, and at present I feel that all is peace. What the Methodists call "entire sanctification" I consider only common gospel salvation. Any thing short of this will never answer the purpose of Christianity. Without holiness no man shall see the Lord. Keep in the light Brother, and then you will constantly feel that the blood of Jesus Christ cleaneth from all sin. Your Sister was a friend indeed when I was in Wilbraham. The Lord reward her a thousand fold for all her kindness to me and mine. I believe I never wrote you, that she went round and collected for me about twenty dollars. I shall ever remember her kindness. As for Laura Brewer, I shall leave my wife to write to her what she pleases. Remember me to your

THE WESTERN MAILS

father & mother. When you write again be sure & tell me where our good friend Daniel Lee is. I have lost his track. Dr Babcock [Ira L., physician came on the LAUSANNE with Lee & Brewer to Oregon] I have not heard from since we parted company on our arrival. Dr White [Elijah P., physician, came on the first reinforcement in 1836 via Cape Horn, on the Hamilton], too, is out of my line of observation. Pray tell me if the report I heard a year or two since of his death was true or not. I heard that he was killed on his way to Oregon, but did not believe it. I want to hear about Br Leslie [Rev. David, came on the second reinforcement in 1837 on the ship PERU], & Br Wilson [Wm. H., carpenter on the HAMILTON in 1836] & Br & Sister Raymond [W. W., farmer, on the LAUSANNE with Lee & Brewer, Abernethy [Geo., also on the LAUSANNE] & c & c - what changes have taken place in Oregon - population - towns - Oregon City - H. B. Company & c & c I want to ask a hundred questions, about the Indians & you must guess what they would be & believe me as ever your Affectionate H. K. W. Perkins

Were is William & Ransom my two Indian boys"

H. K. W. Perkins



NOTE: Clifford M. Drury, author & authority on the Oregon Missions, told the the writer that Rev. Perkins was "the best of the lot". SEE Brewer's letter to his father-in-law, Walter Giddings, under date of September 27, 1844, for the story about Ransom the Indian boy, in this collection. No record of Dr. White being killed by the Indians.

THE WESTERN MAILS

LOWELL SMITH'S LETTER TO HENRY BRIDGEMAN BREWER

Honolulu Nov.14th/49

Dear Br.Brewer, When you left us last year(1848), I proposed to correspond with you. Perhaps you are waiting for me to begin. Well, our harbour is well filled with ships, & quite a number of them are bound to the U.States this fall. The merchant ship, Montreal, Capt, Chadwick, is takeing in the last of her cargo, & expects to sail in a few days. She is bound first to New Bedford & then to Boston. She takes quite a number of passengers, mostly missionaries, & ex missionaries & their children. Rev. J.D.Paris & his two motherless daughters - The widow Richards & her two fatherless daughters - Rev. C.B.Andrews, who goes after a wife - A son & daughter of Rev. Mr. & Mrs Clark - two daughters of the widow Chamberlain - a son of Rev Mr. & Mrs. Alexander, & a son of Rev. Mr. & Mrs. Hitchcock. & also two or three passengers not connected with this mission. Our good Brother Chamberlain died last July. A year ago this nation was visited with the measles & whooping cough, which proved to be a most distressing & fatal epidemic. It swept off I presume at least ten thousand of the poor natives, embracing nearly all the infants & young children. Some seven or eight infant children of foreingers also died, among whom was our youngest daughter Ellen Amelia. She was a bright, lovely child, & the bereavement was most heart rending, especially to Mrs. Smith. She well nigh sunk under it, & her health has been, & still is very delicate. Our only surviving daughter, Emma Louisa, is in perfect health, grows rapidly, & is making rapid progress in her studies, considering she is only 5 1/2 yrs.old. My own health is pretty good.

The state of things in the Sandwich Islands Mission & also in the nation seem to have come to a grand crisis. By order from the Providential Committee of the A.Board (American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions), we held a special general meeting in this mission last April, & we took some important steps towards bringing the work of this mission, as such to a close. We presented our mission Seminary at Lahainaluna to the Sandwich Islands government, & they accepted of it, with a pledge that they will carry it forward according to the plans & intention of the A.Board, or pay them the sum of fifteen thousand dollars. The expenses of that Institution therefore are hereafter to be sustained by this government.Rev.Mr.Clark & Rev. Mr. Bishop have asked their dismission from the A.Board, & expect to get their support from their congregations & other facilities at their command. Rev. Mr. Armstrong you know has accepted office under this government. Mr. E.O.Hall, one of our secular agents, has also accepted of an appointment from this govt., & has become the Editor of the Polynesian, the govt.paper.

Mr.Diamond, our book binder, has built a store in town, & become a retail merchant, in company with his wifes brother, & Mr.E.O.Hall. Some others are makeing preparations to obtain their support independent of the A.Board. Our good Mr. Parker, over at Kaneohe, is very uneasy, & I presume he will soon return to the U.States. Moreover, we are expecting a great rush of foreigners here this winter from California. It is impossible to tell what will be the state of things here a few months hence. The mission families here on Oahu are in usual health, & also the family of Rev.Mr.Damon. May we not hope to hear from you soon? My sheet is full, & I must close. Mrs.S. our daughter joins me in sending much love to yourself & family.

Yours very truly

Lowell Smith

P.S. In August the French came on shore here & took possession of the fort, spiked all the guns on the fort, broke open the magazine & destroyed all the muskets & powder - Smashed in the doors & windows of the gov's house - took the Kings yacht, worth \$10,000 & then cleared out.And Dr.Judd & two young chiefs have gone to the U.S. & England, & France to get redress.

P.S. I send you 9 No's of "The Friend", Mr.Damons paper.But the post office law may prevent their being forwarded to you till the postage shall be paid.

The mail will be left at New Bedford.

an axe, which was aimed at Doct. W. Reed, but he avoided the blow & wrenched
the axe from the man's hand & his wife conveyed it from the crowd. Mr. Seay was
surrounded by a crowd in another part of the house & attacked by a man who
he succeeded in taking from the man, a gun was aimed at one of them, but prob-
ably was not loaded. Four white men fortunately coming in, partly rescued
the fugitives having accomplished their wish (viz. entering the house as they pleased)
retired. The families did not flee & when I arrived all was quiet. The Doct. house
has since been entered by some 6 or 8 with a war club & paper, but after a short
talk they retired without attempting to enter. These latter were W. S. Parsons. At
the station was the exception of two attempts to strike Mrs. Spalding, which
by young, painted boys from the Buffalo country, my life has not been
threatened, nor has violence been used upon either of us. Not because I
possess more patience than my Mother, for I can sure give out as much, but
because I have learned (though I dare not say very willingly) that it will
do no good to oppose a crew of painted boys who may come up &
perhaps corner myself or others I out of the door to make their way
into the house. They must go in & examine every closet, & trunk I
not locked, they may choose; though perhaps with their muddy feet & neck-
less hands they are undoing work on which Mrs. Spalding's best
strength & the only 2 or 3 hours she could command for a school of
a hundred scholars & the cares of the family. Should I attempt to prevent them
by any other than my soft words, I should only endanger my life & probably the
safety of the family. But there has been much property maliciously de-
stroyed at this place, such as the tearing away of the mill-dam, taking away
the cap of gate, breaking fences &c. much of this however was doubtless done
through the influence of a white man, who has a native inf. & arrived at
this place strongly prejudiced against the missionaries, which is a matter
of course. He had much about purchasing land, & the impropriety of a
minister's supplying labourers whereas, if you see a teacher of good ground
not only on my own work, but would do all the work of the poor peo-
ple among whom I am, instead of selling clothing & food for which
I would feed & clothe the people with my own hands. Such notions are
perfectly adapted to the selfish hearts of this people & the consequence
is the people almost to an individual shape all their move-
ments with me to get property, no matter how much or how unjustly,
was joined by Messrs. Parrot & other missionaries, & Gray-mechanic.

Char Water Aug 17 1842

To Mrs Hinsdale
Winchester Litchfield Co Conn

Dear Sister, the valuable donation of clothing from the Winster Soc. was received at this Station one year & four months from the date of your kind letter accompanying it. Our yearly opportunities of sending letters by ship from this country occur only in the fall. Last fall was the proper time to have answered your letter, but during the period I set apart for answering numerous letters I found myself so overwhelmed with the care & labors of the Station, that I was obliged to lay aside several letters unanswered among them yours was numbered. But as a kind of at at for that neglect, I will say it is the first one selected from the bundle to answer & forward the coming fall; & I have commenced writing some 4 weeks earlier than usual that I may be able to speak a word to all who may be looking out for a letter & finish my writing before the people return from the Buffalo country, their root grounds & fisheries, which will commence in about 4 weeks. It is that the clerks of the Station will allow me all this time for writing or one quarter of it; still I have never seen a time since we arrived in the country when so few things demanded immediate attention as at the present, & apparently for the fall & winter to come. The business now is almost exclusively difficult to obtain stations, & when ever furnished Chapman saw the this way to the sand-mills or business. The 1500 feet a day cut from a...



Mrs Hinsdale
Winchester
Litchfield Co Conn

THE WESTERN MAILS

Clear Water Aug 17 1842

To Mrs Hinsdale)
Winchester Litchfield Co Conn)

Dear Sister, the valuable donation of clothing from the Winsten Soc. was received at this station one year & four months from the date of your kind letter accompanying it. Our yearly opportunities of sending letters by ship from this country occur only in the fall. Last fall was the proper time to have answered your letter, but during the period I set apart for answering numerous letters I found myself so overwhelmed with the cares & labors of the station, that I was obliged to lay aside several letters unanswered among them yours was numbered. But as a kind of set off for that neglect, I will say it is the first one selected from the bundle to answer & forward the coming fall; & I have commenced writing 4 weeks earlier than usual that I may be able to speak a word to all who may be looking out for a letter & finish my writing before the people return from the Buffalo country, their root-grounds & fisheries, which will commence in about 4 weeks. Not that the duties of the station will allow me all this time for writing or one quater of it; still I have never seen a time since our arrival in the country when so few things commanded immediate attention as at the present, & apparently for the fall and winter to come. The buildings are now comfortable & convenient. They are almost exclusively the work of my own hands. Hired help being very difficult to obtain in this country, especially at this retired state, & when procured often of the poorest kind. Providence however furnished a very good mill wright, in one of men from Arkansas who spent a few months with me two years ago on his way to the lower Columbia & so far advanced the flour & saw-mills that they have been completed since & now are very good business. The buildings consist of a saw-mill capable of cutting 1500 feet a day, & flour-mill - with stones 32 inches in diameter, cut from a granite boulder near by, which make good flour, a dwelling house 20 x 30, school house, weaving & spinning room, store house, & barn. Through the blessing of a kind Providence some 250 bushels of wheat, corn & peas are gathered & stored, so that but little more than a garden will be needed for the next year or two. We have beef, pork & fowls, milk & butter more than we deserve. All greens & roots grow well in this country & especially in this valley come to maturity only by reason of the great heat. We are obliged to resort to irrigation more or less. Herds of all kinds increase rapidly & feed out through the winter without care except sheep which need care to protect from wolves. Sheep produce regularly twice a year, which I believe is an exception to all other countries. This country will evidently become an extensive grazing country either in the hands of the natives or whites or both. It can never become an agricultural country by reason of the scarcity of tillable land which is confined to the small streams & probably does not constitute one five thousandth part of the whole. Though it is thought by good judges that many of the high plains might produce wheat. Consequently the country can never become thickly settled even should Government be disposed to extend its judicial policy west of the Rocky Mountains. Should this ever take place or in other words should settlers flock in under the protection of the Gov, I fear the ruin of these poor tribes will commence. Unless the Gov be timely

arrived from the Board, but none suitable, the shuttles are for Factory looms & can not be used. No. two harness are alike consequently not a set. The coarsest reed is 36 the finest perhaps over 100 at least fine enough for cambric. I have taken out every other reed from the 36 which makes an 18 suitable for coarse woolen.

You very kindly express a willingness to aid us by occasional donations & wish to know what things are needful. Should your benevolent Soc. after reading what I have written, be still disposed to confer their favors upon us the following things may be named as particularly useful. Coarse cotton shirts for Indian trade ie to pay for labor. do handkerchiefs, do calico. Smallbait Fish-hooks, smallest kind of beads white, needles, all for Indian trade. 1 pr of coarse boots for myself No 8. a pr of Flannel wrappers & drawers for myself. Some woolen clothing for our two children, who if she lives will be 7 years old in the fall of 1844 the other a little boy who 5 at the same time. Mrs. S has clothing & bedding for a long time. As yet we have almost nothing in the shape of chairs. I think some substantial chairs could be made & taken apart & boxed or barreled, the latter is preferable as tight bound but are invaluable for meat, with the above named articles, or whatever you may think proper to select, & come without much expense. I could make them but know not when I can command sufficient time. A little dried fruit would come safe & remind us of past days. Writing paper, mbs will be needed if we continue to print with the pen. But I am taking too much liberty with your kind offer.

May we all so prayer & labor in our respective fields that we shall meet in heaven.

Yours in the gospel of Christ H H Spalding.

H H Spalding

In the above I have attempted to comply with your request, & at the same time give a faint idea of our trials as well as our joys, that your prayers & your alms may not be thrown into the dark. Should you conclude to direct your alms another way in future I shall certainly honor your judgment. The Lord remember you for your remembrance of us & give you strong faith.

(Envelope)

New Bedford
Ms
May 4

4 OZ 52

Mrs. Theo. Hinsdale
Winchester
Litchfield Co Conn

I feel very thankful for the interest you take
in my well-being. Read all the books you can, Oregon
Magazine, some of them will be found in the
book I will send you. I am sure you will
keep me thinking all part in your own words
center your light - Good night 25 12 72



Mr. William E. Brewer
- Suffield
- Conn

I have purchased the books except the "Young
Motto" I have obtained some extra books I will send
Sick books, "Western Conventions" dinner tickets
History, + some others which I shall probably purchase
in N.Y. Have you done with my little book
"Graham on Liberty" any other book which I sent
to you please say for me if I will pay you

When you shall give at your next place-remember me to
 Sister Wm. Th. With her also I have spent many days at the
 Mrs. Cole has the most interesting for me, there is a great
 interest shown, she is awaiting the return of of the
 for the church of the same. Her husband is from the
 The Disposition of some days, but after have I know
 of him. This at home I have never had the pleasure of his
 former residence, with my father & mother & his family
 acquaintance, he has been the blessing of my father's

Dear Sir
 I have the pleasure
 to hear of your
 well being
 and hope
 you are
 still
 in the
 same
 health
 as
 ever
 I am
 your
 friend
 Wm. Th. With

Charles Johnson
 Mrs. Campbell
 Mr. W. Bridgman Brewer
 New York City
 N.Y.



Jan 10 1840

mind I will accept them. I have often thought of
 and prayed for them. For the number of five a ship
 certificate. I have not yet left home - has for me to
 her if our friends upon the other of human goods.
 Mrs. I imagine you are taking her, and hoping
 the best for a year more than there shall any
 hand - ever find a letter, favorable to the knowledge
 a pressing business I cannot give you further leave -

Wesleyan University Sept 21 1834

Dear Dr. Brown,

Not having the privilege of shaking with you the parting hand ere you leave your native shore, and learning that you are to remain in N.Y. until the first of Oct. I thought I could address you by letter, ever expecting to have another so favorable an opportunity. When it made the notice in the paper that you had given yourself up for the Oregon, I enquired is it so? Had Dr. B. come to the noble determination that he will leave home & friends and happy Mid-England, probably to find his grave in the soil lured by the Pacific's waters? What has induced him thus to do? Is it for worldly honor? For better society? For the wealth of earth? I answered no, no. Something other than these had inspired his bosom. He had long felt the fire of love burning upon the altar he had erected to God. Often had he felt the spirit of self-sacrifice; often had I listened to his songs of devotion, and fervent supplications - his testimonies to the cause he loved.

What other than, than his pure love for God, and his punishing fellow men, had thus enabled ^{him} to say, in his heart, to the dear ones of home, "adieu"; to home itself and all its charming endowments "adieu"; to land, lastly, as he steps on board, leaving for the last time the prints of his feet, my native "adieu". I go in the rolling billows to your brethren there and bear the Gospel and civilization to the distant "Red Men". Ye winds bear me on; safely may I reach those Pacific shores, there will I labor, toil and lay down my mortal frame for the Saviour and my God. When the judgment scene shall unfold the scroll of Time, I shall see the names of the little number, through the



Occupied by Fremont, Jan. 11, 1847. — San Fernando.
 Occupied by Mackay, Dec. 10, 1847.
 Taken by Fremont, Aug. 10, 1847.
 Taken by Fremont, Aug. 10, 1847.
 Taken by Fremont, Aug. 10, 1847.

Los Angeles

San Gabriel, Jan. 8, 1847.
 Battle of San Gabriel, Jan. 8, 1847.
 Chino, Surrendered, July 1847.
 Santa Ana, Los Angeles, Los Angeles.

Occupied by Fremont, Aug. 6, 1847.
 Occupied by Fremont, Aug. 6, 1847.

Kearney's skirmish, Dec. 7, 1847. — San Bernado

Kearney's battle, Dec. 6, 1847. — San Bernado

Occupied by Fremont, July 25, 1847, attacked by Fierste and
 attacked by Am. 1847, occupied by Am. Oct. 1847.

Santa Margarita, San Luis Rey, Buena Vista, San Bernado, Santa Ines, Santa Maria, Rancho, Santa Ines, Rancho, Santa Ines, Rancho, Santa Ines, Rancho.

INDIAN WARS

IN THE

WEST

AND

CONQUEST OF CALIFORNIA

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