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Letter to Commissioner of Indian Affairs from Indian Agent Mallet

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Letter to Commissioner of Indian Affairs from Indian Agent Mallet

About

Government Relations with Native Americans, Office of Indian Affairs, Agency supplies

Identified Persons

E.A.Hayt; Major Edmond Mallet

Identified Places

Tulalip Agency

Recipient

E.A.Hayt

505 North street N.W.
Washington D.C.

Jan'y 31 1877.

Hon. E. A. Hoyt,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Sir:

In the settlement of my accounts, as Indian Agent, for the 1st 2nd 3rd and fractional 4th quarters 1877 exceptions have been ~~taken~~^{made} in the Indian Office to nearly all the ~~the purchases I made.~~ ~~following purchases~~ ^{certainty of my vouchers for the reason} because I have not received specific authority from the Hon. Secretary of the Department of the Interior, viz: before making ~~such~~^{the} purchases, viz: - The following is a list of the vouchers referred to, viz: -

No.	Number of Voucher	For who I drew	For what Paid	Amount
		To whom Paid		
1 st 1877	1	Bell Bay Coal Co	Nails	5.99
	No. 2	W. H. Pumphrey	Stationery	\$8.35
	3	L. L. Andrews	Oil	8.06
	4	Crawford & Harrington	Sundries	158.03
	5	Crawford & Harrington	Sundries	25.84
	7	Charles Joseph	Shingles	21.28
	8	G. O. Waller	Barley feed	15.96
	11	Crawford & Harrington	Sundries	21.16
	12	J. P. Comerford	Sundries	43.56
	13	Bernard McDonough	Seeds	15.61
2 nd Q.	15	G. O. Waller	Potatoes	
				20.50
				358.35

45
43
45
23

$$\begin{array}{r} 338.35 \\ 643.84 \\ \hline 982.19 \end{array}$$

				3 38.35 \$30.26
	18	J M Jeanne	Potatoes	
	20	Schwalbecker Bros & Co	Supplies	79.05
	21	M L Cavanaugh	Doors &c.	34.00
	22	Wurthoff & Walz	Hardware, &c.	58.35
	23	Crawford & Harrigle	Lumber	82.93
	24	J. M. Colman	Lumber	25.00
	25	W. H. Shandy	Wall Paper	54.50
	26	J P Comfort	Shingles	27.00
	27	Crawford & Harrigle	Horse &c.	109.13
	28	W H Shandy	Lumber	41.73
	29	M L Cavanaugh	Lumber	32.00
	30	C. L. Brownfield	Lumber	20.00
	34	Wurthoff & Walz	Hardware	11.89
4 gr	3	Wurthoff & Walz	Rope	1.50
	4	Wurthoff & Walz	Hardware	18.50
	5	Indian Tally	Feed	18.00
				988.18

In partial justification of my action in making the above purchases ~~with out first obtaining specific and full authority.~~ I beg to represent the following facts:

1. I was in the Indian service only one year and I was ignorant of the business methods of the Indian Department. The printed Instructions, ~~I found~~ were not so framed as to be perfectly ~~xx~~ comprehensible to one having no previous knowledge of the business methods employed in the Indian service.

2. I followed the precedents established by my predecessors and it was not until the end of my term of service that I discovered that ~~these precedents~~ ^{my action} was not regular and in conformity ~~with~~ the laws and regulations.

~~3. I presumed that~~ ~~my~~ ~~I~~ ~~when the purchase~~ ~~the~~
3 The fact that the money appropriated for the agency was sent to me ^{together with a letter stating} ~~together with the~~ ~~and that the~~ ~~together~~ ~~it was~~ to be used in the purchase of annuities the support of shops and schools ~~xx~~ &c. &c. led me to ~~suppose~~ imagine that I ^{had discretionary power} ~~was~~ to disburse it for the best interests of the Indians and of the service. ~~according to~~ ~~Being in the Indian country~~ ~~and knowing the wants of the Indians as well as being familiar with all the surrounding~~

~~4. I really fancied that I believed that~~ ~~that~~
~~I had actually received specific authority to disburse as much of the funds in my possession as was necessary.~~ ~~xx~~
~~xx~~ 4 Certain letters which I received from the Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Purchasing Officer

~~give me specific authority over~~ ~~me~~
were interpreted by me to mean that I ~~was~~ ~~authorized~~ to
exp^d so much of the money ~~as was~~ in my hands as was
necessary ~~for the purpose~~ to fulfil the terms of the treaty with
the Indians as to properly manage the affairs of the agency. I
attach copies of some of these letters to this communication, call-
ing specific attention to that of the Purchasing Officer dated
November 18, 1876.

I state on honor that every ~~purchase~~ ~~made by~~
~~me~~ ~~was~~ voucher in my accounts is a true and full exhib-
it of the transaction ~~the purpose~~ to represent and that all
my purchases were ^{necessary and} made with the single object of producing the
greatest amount of good ^{for the Indians - get some} ~~with the same expenditure.~~

~~I therefore respectfully ask that may~~

I therefore respectfully request that ~~Non Secretary of the~~
~~Department of the Interior to~~ ~~that~~ you obtain for me
~~from~~ from the Hon. Secretary of the Depart^{ment} of the In-
terior a confirmation of my action in purchasing without
specific authority and without first making contract, so that
the exceptions above referred to may be removed.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, Yours,

Edmond Mallet

Acting U.S. Specie Indian Agent for the Indians
at the Lipstick Agency, Washington Territory