[ 47 ]

and I would recommend him to the favorable notice of your excellency.

3

I have the honor to remain, sir, your obedient servant,

GEO. ABERNETHY,

Governor of Oregon Territory.

To his Excellency JAMES K. Polk, President of the United States.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

GENTLEMEN: It is made my duty to forward to your honorable body the memorial passed by the legislature of Oregon, and the papers containing the documents referred to in the memorial, all of which is enclosed herewith.

I have the honor to remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant, GEO. ABERNETHY,

Governor of Oregon Territory.

OREGON CITY, December 29, 1847.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of Oregon territory, would respectfully beg leave once more to lay before your honorable body a brief statement of their situation and wants.

Having called upon the government of the United States so often in vain, we have almost despaired of receiving its protection, yet we trust that our present situation, when fully laid before you, will at once satisfy your honorable body of the great necessity of  $ex^{\perp}$ tending the strong arm of guardianship and protection over this remote but beautiful and valuable portion of the United States dominion.

Our relations with the proud and powerful tribes of Indians residing east of the Cascade mountains, hitherto uniformly amicable and pacific, have recently assumed quite a different character; they have shouted the war-whoop and crimsoned their tomahawks in the blood of our citizens. The Kayuse tribe, after committing numerous outrages and robberies upon the late emigrants, have, without the semblance of provocation or excuse, murdered eleven American citizens; among the number were Doctor Marcus Whitman and his amiable wife, members of the American board of foreign missions.

Called upon to resent this outrage, we feel sensibly our weakness and inability to enter into a war with powerful tribes of Indians. Such outrages, however, cannot be suffered to pass unpunished; it will only be the commencement of further and more extensive

regon ld be zation ige of lation

usand umber in the which it to which of our

e subning a equate itants. tional rd the ed for unless oer inshort n will e land t that ber of n, and these m and

asures eason, crossf anive to

LK.

847. ed by carry s one,