

## APPENDIX.

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The following letters, received since the foregoing was sent to press, will explain some things heretofore hinted at. The first was written by Dr. Whitman at the Shawnee mission, near Westport, May 28, 1843, to Mr. J. G. Prentiss, his brother-in-law. He says :

You will be surprised to learn that I am here yet. I have been, as it were, waiting for three weeks. When I got to St. Louis I found I had time and so I went to Quincy, [Ill.] and saw sister Jane, but Edward was not there. \* \* \* \* I shall start to-morrow or next day. Some of the emigrants have been gone a week and others are just going. The number of men will be over two hundred, besides women and children. This tells for the occupation of Oregon. A great many cattle are going, but no sheep, from a mistake of what I said when passing. Next year will tell for sheep. \* \* \* \* You will be best judge what can be done, and how far you can exert yourself in these matters, and whether the secret service fund can be obtained. As now decided in my mind, this Oregon will be occupied by American citizens. Those who go only open the way for more another year. Wagons will go all the way, I have no doubt, this year. \* \* \* \* Sheep and cattle, but especially sheep, are indispensable for Oregon. \* \* \* \* I mean to impress on the Secretary of War that sheep are more important to Oregon interests than soldiers. We want to get sheep and stock from Government for Indians, instead of money for their lands. I have written him on the main interests of the Indian country, but I mean still to write him a private letter touching some particular interests. I shall not be at all surprised to see some, if not all, of you on our side of the mountains. Jackson talked favorably.

(Signed)

MARCUS WHITMAN.

This letter shows that Dr. Whitman first came to St. Louis, then went back to Illinois and there waited some time for the emigrants; that the emigrants started along at different times; he was working for his friends to emigrate to Oregon; that he had said something about emigrants going there when he first passed through, as he was misunderstood about sheep; and that he was working with Government, especially the Secretary of War, about Oregon. More of the letter is taken up with the subject of sheep.

The other letter is written by Mr. J. G. Prentiss, as follows :