

er to have and hold
as he shall be in-
the intention of the
d, with its improve-

on, General Harney
title to the said land,
on's Bay Company,
which said land and
three thousand four

a, or if it be refused
ker and the soldiers
and deliver them to
authorities of the Hud-
d States a quit-claim
nd, then Lieutenant
the possession to Gen-
nt to receive them.
states do not purchase
ge or expense in con-

S. HARNEY,
United States Army.
WELCKER,
Lieutenant Ordnance.

NCOVER DEPOT,
y, October 15, 1859.

d my detachment are
rrangement has been
al. General Harney
said that his improve-
occupy the place at
would take the place.
ere paying rent in the
s the others were not
mentioned place, and
ng, I thought it well
on the condition that
ates. I enclose a copy

f the articles of agreement. The sum of money which is demanded by the owner for the place—\$3,480—was inserted since the articles were signed, as at that time he said he did not know the amount.

The dwelling-house is of fir timber weather boarding, and is in two parts: the main house and an L. The first part has two rooms below and two above, with a hall below and one above; two brick chimneys, and the rooms and halls papered. The "L" part has a large dining-room, a pantry room, kitchen, and servants' room, and detached sink.

The barn or stable is a plank house, 24 by 18 feet, and two stories high. About twenty acres are enclosed by a fence, which on two sides is plank, and the rest of posts, and poles nailed to them. There are about 98 acres (I am told) in all, with a considerable amount of timber upon it.

There is no water nearer than the river, which is the case with the whole military establishment here, town and vicinity. The quartermaster here, Captain Ingalls, tells me that he is going to undertake an artesian well, as the present well—which, I forgot to mention, is at Fort Vancouver—does not work well.

The house upon General Harney's place is not finished, there being no shutters to the windows, no mantel-pieces to the fireplaces, and some few other things to be done. I have one man, with his family, occupying the servants' quarters and kitchen of the house, while I have fitted up the building intended for a stable as quarters for the rest of the men.

I have done this with their own labor, and material left on the place by General H., with the exception of about a dozen planks. I need scarcely remind the department of additional and large appropriations for the arsenal here being necessary, for but little could be done with the amount on hand, wherever the site may be fixed. Not only is there an immediate demand for an arsenal here, but that arsenal should be a large one, and, as far as possible, self-sustaining.

There is, practically, no land communication with California, and the recent and still pending trouble out here with the British forces places in a strong light the great mistake of depending upon sea communication.

There is one more point to which I beg your attention. I have done everything in my power to raise the detachment to fifteen men since my arrival, but I have only seven, of whom one is now on his final furlough. The officers of the line will not consent to transfer any man who is of any account, and I can do very little enlisting. I cannot get mechanics, even the least accomplished, to think of it. I would consequently request you to have men sent out from the Atlantic side. And I think fifteen men are not sufficient for the guard and police of the establishment. If one or two men go on the sick report, there could be no means of keeping up a guard, even if I had fifteen men. My storehouse is in a very unsafe situation, and has been robbed once or twice. I think that forty or fifty ordnance soldiers could be employed in future at this station, to the interest and economy of the government. For the present, Major John F. Reynolds, of the artil-