WASHINGTON, D. C., *January* 1, 1867.

SIR: In accordance with instructions conveyed in the letter of your predecessor, the Hon. Commissioner D. N. Cooley, a copy of which is herewith presented, informing me of my appointment as a "special commissioner to investigate and report upon Indian affairs in California," received on the 4th of August last, I proceeded west on the following day with the intention of making the journey overland, but at Harrisburg, on information then received, concluded it would be better to proceed by sea. Therefore I went to New York and took passage from there on the 10th instant on the steamer Arizona for San Francisco, at which point I arrived on the 3d day of September.

I was soon waited upon by Mr. Maltby, the then superintendent of Indian affairs, and soon after by Mr. Wiley, his predecessor, also Captain Fairfield, agent at Round valley, then on an official visit to look after his expected goods, and just on the eve of returning. From him I received much useful information by which to guide my journey to the different reservations and the interior of the State.

I was anxious to time my visit so as to be present at the distribution of the annuity goods or presents, in order to see as great a number of the Indians as possible; but learning from Captain Fairfield of the non-arrival of the goods, I concluded to change my original plan of going immediately into the interior, and first took up the examination of the accounts of Messrs. Wiley and Maltby, in San Francisco. This, with other government business—I was charged by the Treasury Department with letter to J. J. Knox, special agent to investigate the recent robbery and other irregularities in the United States branch mint, San Francisco—to advise and inform him in regard to mint matters detained me in San Francisco until late in the month of September.

My report upon the account of Superintendent Maltby will be found in its proper place under "Remarks upon officials;" that upon the accounts of Mr. Wiley in an appendix containing the copy of official schedule furnished me with my instructions.

Proceeding from San Francisco, via Petaluma and the Russian river, I passed through Healdsburg, where I first saw Indians, a few here and there domesticated, mostly under the age of 15 years. On inquiry I found that it was not uncommon for residents in want of a servant to *buy*, of a degraded class of mountaineers known as *squaw-men*, children of tender years, who must have been stolen from their parents by these reckless outlaws. I believe that these involuntary wards are generally well treated, but learn that they almost invariably die at an early age, or, if they attain maturity, they abscond to their native mountains. At Cloverdale there were a few of these children, and some half-breeds; also at Ukiah. At Clear lake there were a few Indians, peaceable, docile, and in good condition. They had been at work harvesting for the surrounding settlements. Some of them had been upon reserves, the most of them had not. They appeared self-dependent, but "the whole race are improvident and liable to fall into the *habit of starving* at any moment," as was remarked to me by a communicative farmer in this vicinity.

I left instructions for them to go to the nearest reservation, Round Valley.

At Little lake, about four days' travel from San Francisco, where there are some scattered settlements, found, in the valley of that name, and Walker's valley adjoining, the first considerable body of Indians—I should think 300 or 400. I was informed by a very intelligent gentleman named Bichtel, whose house was near, and who has for ten years past pursued here the business of stock-raising, with his three brothers, that these Indians had gathered there recently, from different points, where they had been engaged as harvesters. Could not learn that they were under the supervision of the Indian department of the State, in any way; was informed that they were of the tribes or

families known as "Little Lakes" and "Redwoods;" that these valleys and the adjacent-counties is their native home.

Deferring further action until I should have seen the condition of affairs at Round valley, I pushed on for that place, via Cahto, which is the *ultima thule* of wagon travel in that direction; a small place, with a tavern, store, and a few houses. Stopped there one day and night; took mule the next morning at sunrise, and an hour before sunset—not having seen an Indian since leaving Walker's valley, save the two or three domestics lounging about the inn at Cahto—arrived on the crest of the inner range of mountains that encircle Round valley; the result of my investigations and impressions of which will, I judge, be best given by the following extract from my journal minutes, made the night before leaving that place:

NOME CULT, OR ROUND VALLEY.

This valley is situated in the interior of the State, in the northeast corner of Mendocino county, and about forty miles east of the cape of that name; separated from the Sacramento valley by about 50 miles' travel over mountains almost impassable in winter.

It is about nine miles long and seven miles broad, and completely surrounded by a double barrier or chain of the Coast range mountains, each chain of uniform height, the inner range being somewhat lower than the outer. Between these two ranges, nearly encircling the valley, flows the Eel river; in the rainy season, or winter, a rapid and dangerous stream, but at the time of my visit, scarcely affording water for my mule. The sand-bars and heaps of boulders in its rocky bed, however, bear testimony to its force and power, when filled by the winter rains, and melting snow of the spring.

This triple barrier forms a natural fence, hardly to be surpassed by any effort of art, and completely isolates the valley, which it seems formed to protect. With the exception of a very imperfect path on the southeast side over the Sacramento *divide*, occasionally traversed by light wagons, mule trails are the only roads over the mountains these pass through occasional groves of the mountain laurel, manzanita, madrona, and more rarely the majestic redwood, again through a mountain plain of a few acres, a little valley, or a hillside slope, in no case tillable, but suggestive of pasture. A few cattle, and not unfrequently a distant deer, alone give life to the scene, which, in its inanimate life, is one of unequalled beauty and sublimity. As the brow of the inner range is reached, the broad plain below, here and there dotted with timber, level as a lake, lies spread out before you, a grateful and wholesome sight. The large and substantial granaries, the workshops and barns of the reservation, the thrifty though unpretending dwellings of the settlers, the long lines of well-kept fence, the numerous stacks of wheat and hay, the modern implements of husbandry, the droves of fat cattle and fatter hogs, the well-conditioned work oxen and horses, all told of well-ordered industry and attendant thrift.

A little apart, and a short distance from the western base of the foot hills, the neat white barracks of Fort Wright, with its prim enclosure, spoke of military precision and discipline. Over all, promising protection, peace, and plenty, floated the bright stars and broad stripes of the "flag of our Union."

The valley, within the foot-hills of the inner range, contains 25,017 acres, 5,000 acres of which comprise the reservation, or that part which is now in use for Indian purposes; 1,400 acres are under cultivation. All of it is well fenced. The soil yields bountifully, of cereals particularly. A plentiful supply of vegetables is also raised—pumpkins, carrots, onions. Potato crop not so favorable this year. Sorghum a failure, on account of bad seed. The attempt to grow tobacco has not yet promised to be a success. The melons are of a very superior quality. At the time of my visit the grain crop had almost all been harvested, and the large and substantial granaries were literally groaning with their abun-

dance. Among the new buildings I noticed one barn that would have done honor to a New England farm-yard; it must have been at least 60 by 50 feet, and of the most approved modern construction; also three granaries, 30 by 30 feet, well constructed, and other additions to, and renovations of, old buildings, the newness of the work about which showed it to be quite recent. All of the fencing about the property has been done in a superior manner, and nearly 2,500 acres have been newly enclosed. I was assured by Captain Fairfield, the agent, who has been in charge about two years, and under whose zealous care, and the initiating supervision of late Superintendent Wiley, the recent improvements have been projected and perfected, that the actual outlay to the government from all these very necessary works was but trifling, merely for nails, hinges, and other such small articles that could not be made upon the farm or in the workshops of the reservation. Everything else, lumber, labor, plans, designs, &c., were of home production, to wit, the well-guided ability and industry of the employés and Indians. In the meat-house I saw a quantity of bacon and hams, such as can be seen nowhere else, the hams, particularly, without having the flavor of, are, I think, superior to, the far-famed Westphalia's. Next to the meat-house in the quadrangular enclosure, on which stands the reservation house, I visited the medicine house, or apothecary's shop. Captain Fairfield is, by the way, both apothecary and doctor of this reservation, his experience as an old shipmaster having given him sufficient knowledge of *materia medica* to treat the cases, uniformly and comparatively simple, of which his patients most do complain.

It is, perhaps, only just to state here that he receives no extra compensation for this unusual service.

The altitude of this beautiful valley is several hundred feet greater than the Sacramento valley. For the most part of the year its genial climate is unsurpassed, the cold of winter is not severe, nor the heat of summer oppressive. Snow sometimes falls in the valley, but seldom remains long. About one-third of the valley is arable land; the wet lands produce abundance of grasses. There is plenty of white oak and other timber, and the whole is well watered. All the cereals and most vegetables thrive here; the grass seeds, roots and bulbs, *camas* and *cous*, of the Indians, are plentiful. The adjacent mountains supply, amply, acorns, nuts, and berries; also wild game, both great and small, from the huge fierce grizzly to the shy mountain quail.

Fish are to be had from the adjacent waters of Eel river, though not in abundance, and salmon have been taken during the spring run.

It was first established as a reservation in 1856, by Colonel T. J. Henley, then superintendent of Indian affairs. Some hunters from Nome Lacke reservation, from the top of "Summit," a high point on the coast range, discovered this valley and reported to Superintendent Henley, who sent out a party to examine and report. On their return he took possession of it, in the name of the Indian department, finding it admirably adapted for the purposes of a reservation. The law at that time limited the number of reservations to five, and as Mendocino, Tejon, Fresno, the Klamath, and Nome Lacke were already established, Nome Cult, as the newly-found valley was called by the Indians, was only attached to Nome Lacke, and considered an additional farm of the reservation, and as such placed in charge of three of its employés. Considerable government property was also transferred here.

At this remote point in the unsettled condition of affairs, at this early period, it was necessary to have some protection. After several fruitless attempts to procure a military force, Colonel Henley—public attention having by this time been attracted to this point by report of its exceeding fertility—for reasons of convenience and protection, informed those parties desirous of locating in the valley that he should not extend the government rights over the whole valley, and that they were at liberty to locate or occupy outside of the 5,000 acres then

laid off, which comprise the present reservation, advising them, at the same time, that the government might at any time call upon them to vacate, in which case, as he informed them, it would doubtless compensate them fully for the value of their improvements. These settlers, therefore, appear to have located in good faith, and in no sense as trespassers or interlopers. Colonel Henley meantime notified the department of the understanding between himself and the settlers, and recommended, nevertheless that the whole valley be reserved for Indian purposes, and that the proper steps should be taken in conformity with such recommendation.

In December, 1857, he was instructed by the department to issue a proclamation declaring that the whole valley would be held by the government, which was accordingly done, by posting written notices at different points in the valley, which notices informed the settlers simply that the government intended to assert its right to the entire valley. Nothing further was done in the matter up to the close of his superintendency in 1859.

In 1860 the entire valley was surveyed and formally reserved for Indian purposes, by order of the then Secretary of the Interior, Jacob Thompson. These instructions were dated May 3d of that year.

The foregoing history of the valley was taken down, nearly word for word, as related to me by Colonel Henley, in Nome Cult, a few weeks since, and is mainly substantiated by others of the settlers.

I append here a list of the settlers and amount of acres enclosed by them respectively, with particulars. Those that set up the "swamp and overflowed land title" are so marked.

W. P. White—Geo. E. Agent	1,600	acres.
The four brothers Henley—farm	1,200	"
Samuel S. Davis	640	"
Witt William H. Johnson (S. & O.)	560	"
D. C. Dorman	320	"
W. M. Johnson	320	"
M. Corbett, (S. & O.)	320	"
J. A. Wiltsey	240	"
H. Schenck	100	"
J. H. Thomas	180	"
S. M. Smith	2,000	"
J. A. Owen, (S. & O.)	320	"
C. H. Bourne, (S. & O.)		
R. Rice	160	"
S. C. Moore	160	"
S. M. Gambrel	80	"
S. C. Lawrence	40	"
Antone Legar	160	"
S. Hornbrook	160	"
C. H. Eberle, (inside reservation limits)	150	"
Updegraff, (Wiltsey's ranch)		
Griffin	160	"
Chandler	320	"
Morrison, (quarter section)	160	"
Parnell	320	"
Gray, (grist and saw-mill)	320	"

The above all fenced. There are also some fifteen or twenty persons, with a small cabin and enclosure, each claiming a quarter section.

During Hanson's superintendency, there were some further steps taken towards assuming the entire possession of these lands, of which the archives of the department doubtless have full particulars.

Notice of the government assuming possession of the valley for an Indian reservation was duly posted by Superintendent Henley, and also by his successor, J. Y. McDuffie, in 1859.

The information that I obtained in this quarter was vague and unreliable. There was also, about this time, considerable difficulty between the settlers and the reservation authorities, and I am constrained to believe that some of the former behaved very badly; but I am happy to be able to assert confidently, that now, and for some time past, their conduct has been without reproach, and the best relations have prevailed. They have for a long time been considerably exercised about the intentions of the government with respect to their interests, and have awaited with anxious expectancy for its decision; and so they still remain.

Among them are some who located with their families at the very outset, ten years ago, and who have seen trying times in the early conflicts with the Indians. They are very warmly attached to their homes and averse to leave. They say they have borne the brunt and hardship of the days of doubt and difficulty, and now, just as time has brought security and comfort about their homes, so long toiled and struggled for, it is hard for them to leave. Others, again, and those, too, mostly old settlers—there are comparatively few of recent date—seem apathetic and indifferent. They claim only to be interested in the speedy solution of the question, which they allege has been so long mooted, "to be" or "not to be" whether the government will claim the whole of Nome Cult, pay them for their improvements, and dismiss them to seek other homes, daily becoming more difficult to find, as they claim; or, by a declared policy, allow them to become possessors of those places by an assured tenure, that they may go on and improve with a fixed future.

They assert that the projected occupation by the government has been under consideration for a long time, and that meanwhile they have been left in suspense, not daring to improve their present abodes, entered upon in good faith and under an understanding with the government, and not liking to seek others in a country so rapidly filling up. All the detriment or damage of this condition of things, with the usual fairness of men in such circumstances, they charge to the government.

The Indians and their homes are the only things in and about the valley not pleasant to contemplate. They are, to be sure, well fed, but not well clothed. Some of them are sick—many troubled with *scrofula*, *diseased eyes*, &c. Their habitations are mere *campoodies* of brush tents, which they prefer to well-built log huts, of which there are many untenanted. They are under tolerable discipline, and work pretty well under overseers.

There are five distinct families or clans, as follows: Ukies, 430; Wylackies, 400; Pitt Rivers, 300; Con-Cous, 240; Trinity Rivers, 30; total, 1,400. This enumeration is received from Agent Fairfield, and not from personal count, it being impracticable to gather them for such purpose. At no time during my stay in the valley would they have numbered 1,000, according to my best estimate. It was stated that they were hunting or acorn gathering on the adjacent mountains.

The grain on hand was estimated at 10,000 bushels—oats, corn, barley, and wheat; 250 tons of hay, 200 barrels of potatoes, 25 or 30 acres of pumpkins, not gathered.

Of government stock there are, 21 horses, 30 pack mules, 10 yoke work oxen, 20 milch cows, 400 hogs, and over 500 head of cattle, including those at large, all in thrifty condition; and by efficient and honest management susceptible of being increased ten-fold, with but little additional outlay, both stock and produce.

In closing my remarks upon this reservation and its surroundings, I desire to submit my opinion that if its limits can be enlarged so as to embrace the sum-

mit of the inner range of mountains that encircle the valley, with boundaries as indicated on the topographical map now in your office prepared by Superintendent Hanson, and recommended by him, and also by Superintendents Wiley, Steele, and Maltby, his successors, it will be amply capable, under good management, with a little larger force, of subsisting all the Indians that can be gathered upon it from different points in northern California, including, of course, those from the other two reservations, say seven thousand or more, and that such a concentration of them is practicable.

The objection urged against it on account of unfitness of climate for Coast Indians, and the disturbing effect liable to be produced by their removal from their present location, I do not regard as insuperable, and the area contemplated I judge to be sufficiently wide to allow, with a little management and increased discipline, of their being placed so as to avoid any collision by reason of feuds that may exist between different bands.

As to the change of *locale* affecting the Indians unfavorably in a sanitary point of view, the change is certainly not so great as that contemplated by the reservation system itself, which is to change their entire mode of life. As to the liability of a disturbance, should it be found necessary to resort to any stringent measures in removing them from other points, the fact cannot be overlooked that in their *present* proximity to the whites—many of whom esteem the life of an Indian of such slight account, and in view of the Indian's religion of "blood for blood" indiscriminately—the liability amounts to a *probability* that may evince itself at any moment.

It has been said that this valley is too good for the Indians. They once had the whole length and breadth of the State to roam over; let them have, then, this one desirable spot of all their "happy hunting grounds" of old. They must have long occupied this valley, as their frequent *tumuli* bear testimony. Here it was not necessary that they should be provident, or "have a care for the morrow." Each week bountiful nature, without assistance, provided ready to their hands, and in turn, the "food meet for the season."

In this place, then, enclosed by uninhabitable mountains for 20 miles in every direction, secluded and remote, shut off from the encroachments of the bad, where good influences may work unmolested, with everything native to the Indian indigenous, they should be gathered and cared for. What more suitable home for a patriarchal and primitive people can be imagined? and where could it be found?

The reservation house here is utterly unfit for a human habitation. Partly of adobe, partly of wood, it is damp and dilapidated. The materials for a proper one are at hand, and the agent should long ago have constructed a proper habitation. He asks for authority. I recommend that it should be given.

It is also represented that the Dorman's saw and grist-mill, in the northwest edge of the valley, is very much needed for the reservation, and that a special appropriation of $5,000 will be asked for the purpose of purchasing it. I should think the sum ample, but concur in the advisability of the purchase.

NOME LACKE.

One of the earliest Indian reservations was established by Superintendent Henley, in 1854, at this point. It lies one day's mule travel nearly due east from Nome Cult, and about 20 miles west of the town of Tehama, on the Sacramento river and at the foot hills of the Coast range, nearly rectangular in form, about six miles across north and south, and five miles across east and west, between two considerable rivulets, known as Tom's creek and Elder creek.

In 1855 it was a military post, with a small force there stationed, which the remains of an adobe fortification of some size still attest. There are also some three adobe houses, a flour-mill, and fourteen frame houses, all more or less dilapidated, and only occasionally tenanted by shepherds or wandering squaw-men.

Of the 25,000 acres regularly surveyed and laid out under the supervision of Superintendent Henley, there are 2,000 acres of arable land. The remainder is fine grazing and pasture land, with water plenty, suitable for stock—for house use not so good. The place never was well or thoroughly fenced, and has not been cultivated for several years. It was finally abandoned as a reservation on recommendation of Superintendent Hanson in July, 1861.

There are no Indians here, and in fact no permanent denizens, the few shepherds and others that sometimes avail of the shelter of the buildings being but temporary pilgrims and wayfarers.

Here are two sulphur springs that are somewhat noticeable, said to be used medicinally by the Indians.

The sale of this property under the most favorable division and exposition would hardly bring more than $40,000. There are a few ranchmen in the neighborhood, and also about Clear lake, that have an eye to some of the choice spots, but their ideas and means are both moderate.

In case of the occupation by the government of the whole of Round valley, a favorable disposition of these lands would perhaps be practicable by an arrangement of exchange of them with the settlers there, for their improvements. Perhaps they might be favorably disposed of in the eastern States, Atlantic border, or in the western, by proper notice. Doubtless some intending emigrant would be glad of finding his home in the far west partly improved for a moderate price.

FROM ROUND VALLEY TO HUMBOLDT.

On the eighth day after entering Round valley left there for Mendocino and Humboldt, via Long valley. By the Humboldt trail it opens out of the valley nearly opposite to the point where I entered. Some miles on the way passed Summit valley, a beautiful mountain plain of about 160 acres, at an altitude of 350 feet above Round valley. It is cultivated by Mr. S. Arsdel. From this until we bivouacked at sunset the route was much the same as from Cahto into the valley. Met one or two Indians and two or three stock-men in the day's ride, and near our camping ground found the first cabin, occupied by a hunter with three or four squaws and as many half-breed children.

The next day at 3½ a. m. lighted fires and breakfasted, and were in the saddle at sunrise. This day the same as yesterday, up and down mountains, over rivers, and through gigantic timber, the scenery always grand and striking. Did not reach suitable camping ground until 8½ o'clock in the evening; lost the trail in the timber. The next and following days were without noticeable features, about the same as before described, rarely meeting any person or signs of civilization, and as it is scarcely necessary to follow and particularize my journey unless something noteworthy or of new character occurs, I shall hereafter omit it.

A word here about my Indian guide Oy-ga-chee, who was a Trinity River Indian, and had been living latterly at Round valley. He was one of the best Indians that I met in all my journey, and seemed to present a very hopeful case as an example of the possible thorough civilization of the Indian races. He was, I believe, full-blooded, but from a short stay in some town had acquired an unusual control of our tongue, which he spoke like a white man; his knowledge of wood-craft was astonishing, and would, I believe, have surpassed that of the celebrated Natty Bumpo of Cooper. His knowledge of all the forest trees and vegetation, of the habits of the wild animals, and of the fish of the rivers, and the quickness with which, as we emerged upon an opening, he would descry a distant deer, or notice upon the trail the track of the bear, elk, or antelope, was wonderful. With all this admirable qualification for a scout or guide, the ambition of this young man was to be a small farmer; this I discovered before I parted with him, and hope, and doubt not, his desires may yet be gratified.

MENDOCINO.

The reservation here was abandoned in March last. The location was made by Superintendent Henley, in 1855. It is a strip of land extending from the Noyo river—which empties at a point about 50 miles south of Cape Mendocino—on the south, to one mile above Ten-mile river, on the north, through which several small rivers take their course, from which, during most of the year, a plentiful supply of fish can be taken. The shoaly coast and beach also yield an apparently inexhaustible supply of muscles of a superior quality.

Comprised in the reservation, about 3,000 acres are productive. These will yield favorably wheat, oats, and barley, and are peculiarly prolific of vegetables of almost every kind.

THE MILL STATION.

The noticeable features here are the fine steam saw mill and improvements, belonging to Mr. A. W. McPherson, of San Francisco, and the adjacent magnificent forests of redwood. The mill is known as the Noyo mill, and was erected in 1856, by permission of Colonel Henley, then superintendent of Indian affairs. Mr. McPherson, the builder and owner, has long been known to me, in fact since 1849, as he is a pioneer, and a very enterprising gentleman. He would be glad to purchase of the government, contiguous to the mill property, at a fair price.

The Indians here and hereabouts are supposed to be at *Nome Cult*, and subsisted from there. Many of them find occupation at the timber mills at one dollar per diem. Others find labor as fishermen and oystermen, both pleasant and remunerative. They like the place, and do not like to leave their native salt air and fish of the sea-shore for the dry air and unaccustomed food of the interior.

It seems, by the concurrent testimony of Colonel Henley and other more recent superintendents, that the establishment of the mill was a considerable convenience to the department, and it is urged, on behalf of the owner, that he be allowed to acquire possession whenever these lands shall come into market, by a special arrangement with the government, by purchase, on appraisement, and not be subjected to ordinary competition. This matter was strongly represented to me, and I deem it only proper to submit it with the remark that it would seem but an act of justice, if, in the division of these lands for sale, his claims and convenience be somewhat considered.

The reservation effects here are inconsiderable, consisting only of a few deserted buildings and fencings.

At Be-da-tah, Upper or Ten-Mile station, and at Bald Hill station, the fencing and buildings enhance the value some few thousand dollars. All of these improvements, however, are rapidly deteriorating, with time and lack of care.

The farm, containing most of the arable land of the reservation, viz: the land lying between Pudden creek and the northern boundary, comprising some 2,500 acres of fertile land, and some pasturage, with a tolerable dwelling-house, stable, barn and out-houses, has recently been leased to Mr. E. J. Whipple, at a yearly rental of $600, which I consider about one-half of what might be deemed a favorable disposition of the same.

The whole of the improvements at this reservation cost the government about $40,000.

FORT HUMBOLDT, EUREKA AND ARCATA.

At Fort Humboldt was the guest of Major Bowman, ninth infantry, commanding. Stopped here one day. This gentleman is an old *regular*, and has been a long time on the frontier at different points, and is well acquainted with

Indian character and habits. He gave much information about them. His opinion was very positive against removing the Indians in this section, at this time, unless they were entirely willing to go. He urged that the recent difficulties had just been quieted, and that matters were now on a basis that it was highly injudicious to disturb, and finally said he thought any forcible attempt to remove them would probably be the cause of another war.

The major dwelt strongly on the rapid diminution of the race in general, and particularly in this State, and the improbability of their being long a charge upon the department, and the consequent discontinuance of the necessity for any extensive provision for their future. He spoke earnestly in favor of a plan for protecting them from the aggressions of the bad white men who are so frequently the cause of Indian difficulties, by setting apart a tract of country for their exclusive use, to be held under military protection, selecting some point suitable for them, but unfitted or undesirable for white settlements. Such a region he describes as bordering on the banks of the Klamath river, for some miles above its mouth. Of this I will speak again when I have reached that point.

At Humboldt, Eureka, and Arcata, many citizens, by delegations and individually, called upon me. Some of them were opposed to the removal of the Indians; others, again, were quite desirous that the settlement which was broken up at Hoopa by the purchase of the lands by the government should be re-established. A hasty and informal meeting of citizens was held at Eureka. After some discussion it was adjourned, in order to give time for a greater number of them to assemble and give their views. As I was leaving, I was earnestly requested to defer making my report, for a little time after reaching Washington, in order to give an opportunity for the proceedings to reach me. I have not received them up to this time. Should I hereafter do so, and deem them of sufficient importance, I will submit them in a supplementary report.

I deem it but just to state, that the impression left upon my mind, as to the desires of the majority of the people of Eureka, Arcata, and neighborhood, was, that they were opposed to the removal of the Indians at present, although they, at the same time, advanced the belief that a proper occupation by white settlers of the Hoopa valley would be vastly more to the true interests of the government through the local advantages to be derived, and this inclination would throw their suffrages in favor of the establishment of a military protectorate on the Klamath, as suggested by Major Bowman.

Popular sentiment here is not friendly to the Indian; he has too frequently shown his worst side. Hostilities have been too recent.

HOOPA VALLEY.

From Fort Humboldt via Eureka and Arcata, two days' mule travel northeasterly over mountain trail, through immense forests of redwood, occasionally grazing land, with few signs of habitation, and fewer of cultivation, brought me to Fort Gaston, at the southern side of the valley, toward sunset of the second day. I was hospitably received and handsomely entertained by Captain Edward Pollock, ninth infantry, in command, whose guest I was during my stay, and from whom I learned many useful and interesting particulars of the habits and condition of the Indians. There are two companies here, and the daily drills and exercises showed a high state of discipline.

This valley, the part of it in which the reservation lies, is about five miles in length and two in width, and lies each side of the Trinity river. The reservation was located here by Superintendent Wiley, in August, 1864, after his treaty with the hostile tribes in the northern coast counties.

There are here some dozen farms, with orchards, vineyards, and improvements. The buildings, originally very good dwelling-houses, and much superior to those in Round valley, are now somewhat dilapidated. The fencing

is in pretty good condition. The settlers located here some six or eight years since. Government has recently paid for their improvements, and everything is surrendered to the reservation at a cost of a few dollars less than $60,000. Some of the settlers claim a balance, some $1,000 due yet, for tools and farming utensils not included in the sale of the fixtures.

Mr. Robert L. Stockton, the agent, called upon me in the course of the evening and gave me a full history of the reservation and its present condition, and the following morning we took horses and visited all parts of the valley. The Indians here are of a higher grade than those at Nome Cult; more ambitious, warlike, and intelligent, and superior in every respect. The Indians of this valley were conspicuous with the Klamaths and Humboldts in the war of 1855–'6, and claim that they whipped the whites in almost every fight; and I am not sure that they did not sometimes. They are the most warlike of the California Indians, particularly the wild Klamaths of the river banks. They have been hostile and unruly at times, until the fall of 1864, when, through the address of Superintendent Wiley, whose long acquaintance with them enabled him to treat knowingly, a peace was concluded that, up to this time, has been faithfully kept. Their lodges are also better, and they were separated into little communities or clans, living at some distance apart from each other, under a sort of chieftainship. I met here also a greater number of prominent Indians, not chiefs in the old understanding of the word, but men who aspired to be mow-e-mas or captains, and who, because of their wealth or popularity, and not because of birth or age, claimed influence and importance with their race. The younger Indians, those too who have had considerable intercourse with the whites, seem to prevail "in council." The elders are fast losing their hereditary importance. Here, too, more respect is paid to the dead. In every little clump of cabins three or four cemeterial enclosures were seen, within and on the railings of which were deposited the effects of the deceased, exposed to sunshine and storm, accompanying the body below in its elementary resolvence. This custom is only strictly observed by the "better class." Their sanitary condition here is somewhat better than that of those at Round valley, although the vicious disease, common to all of them, prevails here extensively. Consumption, and other kindred ills aggravated by this, and their naturally scrofulous tendency, often terminates fatally. The deaths during the past year have been 12, and the births the same, in a population averaging not more than 400. Observed here a greater number of children than among the Indians at Nome Cult or elsewhere.

The crops here had also been harvested, consisting principally of 200,000 pounds of wheat, 40,000 pounds of oats, 12,000 pounds of peas, and a quantity of corn and beans, also potatoes and some carrots.

There are here eight horses, seven mules, and two yoke of oxen for farming purposes—a larger number is requisite—30 head of cattle, and the same number of hogs.

The last of the twelve farms or estates before alluded to, purchased by government, had just been given up, that of Garrett and Campbell, (not included in first appraisement.) All these places had been but recently turned over, and Mr. Stockton, the faithful and industrious agent, was busily occupied in reorganizing the entire concern. Among them are some superior dwelling-houses, which, after selecting suitably for the agent and employés, their present residences being quite inferior, can by a little reconstruction be improved into hospital, meat-house, storehouses, and workshops, all of which are much needed.

Mr. Stockton has the Indians under very good control by his kindly though firm treatment. He is daily improving in the hold he has over them, and he assures me that they are for the most part docile and apt at the field labors, only needing the personal supervision of himself or the employés in the care and management of the implements of the more complicated order.

On the second day's circuit we visited the flouring mill, a very good one, which we found in operation. Here I noticed an instance of care and attention on the part of the agent. The fine flour served out to the Indians is generally carelessly baked by them, and the bread or dough so eaten is the cause of sickness. This is remedied by mingling more of the husk in bolting, which is well liked by them, and is not nearly so unhealthy even if carelessly cooked. This day we visited also the well-filled granaries, cattle yards, and hog-pens, all of which showed thrift and care.

The vineyards are not thrifty; some of the orchards are.

Among the settlers who called upon me in the evening were some with claims for farming utensils; others about claims for supplies formerly furnished the Indian department previous to the Wiley superintendency. I referred them to the superintendent at San Francisco, considering it beyond my instructions to entertain them, although in many cases I could not avoid receiving memoranda to be submitted to the department.

I took occasion to get their views upon Indian matters. With regard to the removal of the Indians, most of them seemed to agree in the belief that it might cause disturbance. The majority of the Indians are natives of the valley and surrounding mountains, and are much attached to the locality. Others, again, regarded their removal as a simple and easy matter, and some of them I found very desirous of repurchasing their improvements and resuming their homes. Two or three of them told me that the government could "get back in gold what it paid in greenbacks." I think $75,000 could be realized from this property.

During my stay in this valley I saw comparatively few Indians, not over 400 in all. They are reported out hunting, visiting, or acorn gathering, or perhaps working for some of the distant settlers towards Humboldt or Arcata.

FROM HOOPA TO SMITH RIVER, VIA TRINITY RIVER AND KLAMATH RIVER.

From Hoopa to the mouth of the Klamath I took the "water-trail," sending my escort over the mountains with instructions to meet me on the ocean shore. I entered a frail canoe on the Trinity river, manned by two Humboldt Indians, early on the morning of the 10th of October, and darting down the swift river by afternoon of the same day shot into the Klamath. Here the Trinity empties itself with such volume and force as to resemble a culminating breaker, and great care is necessary in the guidance of the canoe, even more than in the passage of the frequent rapids and narrows; but the well-skilled natives were fully competent to the task. Their dexterity was admirable.

Up to this time nothing more worthy of note was apparent on the shores of the river than an occasional village of some half dozen lodges, a deserted mining claim, or a solitary canoe "in *ordinary*." The river itself was full of interest, because of the numerous rapids and the weird monoliths that project here and there many feet above the surface. It, as well as the Klamath river, throughout all its course, is a swift torrent, full of cascades, falls, and narrows, sweeping the bases of an almost endless succession of precipitous mountains, which rarely recede from it a sufficient distance to allow a pathway between them and its margin; hence the *trail* must pass over their summits, or thread their nearly perpendicular sides.

The *bars* that were deemed so rich in gold have not, on the whole, proved very remunerative, particularly in view of the great risk and expense attending transportation of supplies. It will be inferred that the river, although deep and wide, is not navigable save by canoes, and not by them in winter.

On the banks of the Klamath the villages were more numerous. Most of them I visited. Their lodges were generally of log slabs, only one room, usually 10 by 12 feet, board floor, excepting in the centre, where a square place for fire

was left, with no other place of ingress or outlook than a circular hole about 18 or 20 inches in diameter, and about three feet from the ground in a corner of the front side, looking like the *eye* of the house, a very inconvenient sort of door for a white man. A tolerable pavement adorns the front. The natives here appeared superior to those on the reservations, more manly and independent in their bearing. Their hovels were well supplied with dried salmon, acorns, *cons*, and *camas*, and other Indian food, piled away in their peculiar, conical, water-tight baskets, in the loft or garret of the hovel.

The salmon fisheries of the river have been very much injured by the former mining operations. Only now and then one of their ingenious *weirs* is seen.

At Weitspeck, near the mouth of the Trinity, took a large canoe. The canoes are of peculiar construction, of hollowed trees, alike at stem and stern, both being square and very solid, manned by four Indians, one of whom spoke a little English. The other three spoke different dialects. I endeavored to get some idea of the relationship of these dialects by asking each of them the name of some prominent object; for instance, the sun. The Klamath Indian called it *wan-aus-lak*; the Hoopa Indian called it *quak*, and the Humboldt Indian *pe-que*. A further trial showed a like dissimilarity. At this village, and at Pee-tow, opposite, there are some 200 souls.

Passing McDonald's ferry, and Young's ferry, the next village is called Nah-rip, numbering 25; at Wa-a-sa, 125; Moruk, and Capel, 200; Nox-co, 60. At Mah ta, near Young's mining claim, there are about 100; at Shrir-goin, two villages, upper and lower, about 150. These are very vicious, often fighting among themselves. At Pee-wan there are 300. Near this point is the Klamath gold bluff mining claim, belonging to Andrew Snyder, esq., by whom I was very hospitably entertained, passing part of a day and one night at his place. He was formerly an officer of the Indian department, speaks several dialects, and has much influence over the Indians. From him I received considerable information concerning them and the adjacent country.

The following morning continued down the river, passing on the right and left the villages of Cor-tet, where there are 200 Indians; Waugh-tee, 100; See-tow, 25; Seh-pur, 35; Tuh-rip, 75; Sa ac, 30; Ala-a ca, 30; Wau-kel, 20. Here was formerly the Klamath reservation, as it was called, and the military post of Ter-wan. Both were swept away by a tremendous freshet in December, 1861, and not a vestige of either remains. Passing Hop-pow and Wilsch-kow, containing respectively 70 and 35 Indians, we reached Re-quoi, which is on the right or northern bank of the river, at its debouchment into the ocean.

The foregoing enumeration was obtained from Mr. Snyder, and verified, so far as practicable, by personal observation. The count of Indians on the Klamath, made officially, but little over a year previous to my visit, gave a census of 2,217 *below* the mouth of the Trinity.

At this point I wish to submit my observations as to the character of the country through which flows the Klamath river. For 10 miles or more on each side to a point about 30 miles above its mouth, following its course, it is unsettled and wild, peopled almost exclusively by Indians, to whose wants and habits it is well adapted, supplying wild food and fish in abundance. Very little of it is tillable land, and whites will never care to settle upon it.

My attention had been particularly directed to this region by Major Bowman while with him at Fort Humboldt. The following is his suggestion:

Extend the Hoopa reservation on its northern boundary, so as to include not less than six miles along the northern bank of the Klamath to the sea-shore, thence down the sea-shore to the mouth of Redwood creek, thence up Redwood creek to the point nearest to the head of Willow creek, thence down Willow creek to the boundary of Hoopa reservation.

He adds:

Very little of this tract is suitable for cultivation, and consequently not desirable for the settlements of white men, but will furnish sufficient tillable land, I think, for the wants of

all the Indians that may be placed there, and range for necessary stock. Within the limits of this tract are comprised coast and hill climates, so that the Indians will find within this range the same character of climate from which they are removed. It will also be large enough to establish them, so that their proximity will not be such as to foment the feuds which exist between the small bands.

The miners engaged on the river banks within the described limits are but few, and are daily diminishing in numbers.

If this tract should be set apart as an Indian country, it would be necessary to have two or three companies of troops stationed within it. Captain Appleton, commanding at Camp Lincoln, who, with late agent Bryson, was on the Klamath at the same time with myself, while examining the country with a view to its adaptation to Indian purposes, in reference to my inquiries for the most suitable military stations, suggested that there should be three, each of one company—one at Peck-wan, one at Capel, and the third at some point near the mouth of the river.

From Fort Humboldt to Smith river the route lies through the field of the principal recent and former Indian depredations. Everything appears quiet now, in fact too quiet, for as I approached Crescent City an occasional deserted house and some burned buildings showed traces of the devastating warfare of the red man, but not one did I meet on the *trail* during the entire journey from the mouth of the Klamath to Crescent City.

I may as well say here that there were at the time of my visit but five companies between San Francisco and the northern boundary of California—one at Humboldt, one at Round valley, two at Hoopa, and one near Smith River reservation, Camp Lincoln. That at Humboldt was under orders to Steilacoom, Washington Territory.

I have endeavored to describe this tract of country sufficiently to show and leave without question the inference and impression that in case of any military movements against the Indians in this region *they would be made at east odds*. The dense redwood forests in the river bottoms, and the high, craggy, precipitous mountains back, with the swift river rolling through the cañon below, make it an almost impregnable fastness. It will of course occur to the most superficial observer that, for military purposes, a small picked band of mountaineers, officered in all cases by regulars, are the most efficient. They require no heavy ammunition or subsistence trains; neither of these necessities of civilized warfare are wasted by the pioneer or frontiersman—neither bread nor bullets. They do not require the "regular ration" of the "enlisted soldier," who for the most part is as helpless as an infant in these solitudes. A small bag of *pinole* (pulverized parched corn or wheat) and a few yards of *charqui* (jerked beef) at the saddle-bow, or packed upon their backs, is their subsistence train. The pouch and flask contain their ammunition. They *dine* to-day or to-morrow, as convenient.

The officers should be well chosen. There is no service requiring the *élite* of the army more than does the Indian warfare. Well followed, it demands all the wits that nature and experience have given the best of us.

SMITH RIVER RESERVATION.

From the mouth of the Klamath to this reservation the journey was much the same as previously described; up and down mountains and through forests of gigantic redwood timber—trees often over 200 feet high, and from 15 to 20 feet in diameter—but diversified by occasional glimpses of the Pacific ocean, the last few miles by zig-zag trail along its mountainous coast.

There are no settlements until the immediate neighborhood of Crescent City is reached. The Indians in and about this place are quite numerous. The reservation lies about ten miles northeasterly from it, (wagon road) near the Oregon line, and four miles from the ocean. It is quite in the midst of a set-

tlement, there being in the valley some 30 good dwelling-houses, two school-houses, a store, flour-mill and a saw-mill. There are here 75 voters. It was located by Superintendent Hanson on the occasion of the destruction of the Klamath River reservation at Wankel, previously mentioned.

The valley proper, both sides of the river, contains within the foot-hills about 6,000 acres of arable land, well watered and surrounded by excellent timber.

The fishery at the mouth of the river, which flows through the valley about midway, supplies an abundance of fine salmon, also smelts, which the Indians are very expert in taking, and consume in preference to beef.

The reservation house and farm attached are rented of Messrs. Darby and Saville, of Crescent City, at $1,200 per annum. It is a very good house, with garden, and orchard containing 800 fruit trees, apple, pear and plum.

The farms of D. Haight, 37 acres; H. Smith, 118 acres; and L. W. Jones, 32 acres, are also hired at $400 per annum per acre; total yearly rent paid by government $1,948, in coin.

The average soil is fair, and produces tolerably. The crop, as far as harvested, consists of 240,000 pounds of oats, 720,000 pounds wheat, 843,200 pounds potatoes, 89,100 pounds peas, 100 tons of timothy hay, and some 15 acres of vegetables. There are here 65 good cabins for the Indians, 8 large granaries, 2 potato-houses, (built of logs,) 1 large hay shed, 40 by 100 feet; blacksmith's shop, bake-house, 160 head of cattle, and as many hogs, 10 horses and mules.

The agricultural implements and tools are in a worn-out condition; a supply of small-size planters' hoes are particularly needed; those last sent were much too large.

The Indians here are mostly native to the place; also Klackes and Humboldts. Their physical and moral condition is about the same as heretofore described, the same diseases and lack of clothing. Reported number 750, mostly absent, I should judge.

There is an excellent wagon road from the reservation to Crescent City, from whence, by the steamer which leaves three times a month for San Francisco, the surplus proceeds might be easily transported if due diligence were exercised, as the bad weather does not begin until November. At the latter place a ready and remunerative market would be found.

Mr. George Kingsbury, the energetic special agent, offered me every facility to pursue my investigations, and was indefatigable in his endeavors to supply the information herewith given, which was corroborated as far as possible by personal observation. He was but recently put in charge by Superintendent Maltby on the removal of Agent Bryson.

TULE RIVER FARM.

This reservation is located in a narrow valley, on each side of a small stream, some 30 miles from Visalia, in the southern part of the State, in a sheltered nook, green and smiling, with a decidedly tropical semblance, heightened by some handsome fig trees and grape-vines, and the extreme mildness and geniality of the atmosphere, although the summits of the surrounding mountains are whitened with the first snow of the season. It was established in July, 1863, by Superintendent Wentworth, on the occasion of the surrender of Tejon, some 120 miles below, to General Beale. The Indians were then brought here in charge of the efficient agent George L. Hoffman, who is now in charge of this place.

The farm, consisting of 1,280 acres of cultivable land, is hired of the owner, Mr. Thomas P. Madden, at a rental of $1,000 per annum. Mr. Madden offers this farm to the government at $10 per acre. It produces well. Last year 100,000 pounds of wheat, 5,000 pounds of barley, 15,000 pounds of beans and peas, 200,000 pounds of sweet potatoes, 20 tons of pumpkins, and 70 tons of

hay were raised here. This year's crop, just harvested, consists of (estimated by Agent Hoffman) 600,000 pounds of wheat, 50,000 pounds of barley, 10,000 pounds of rye, 1,500 pounds of beans, 5,000 pounds of turnips, and 90 tons of hay. There are now, November 4, on the place, of government property, 28 fine mules, 30 horses, and a quantity of agricultural implements, the latter mostly inferior.

The only improvements on the place are, one miserable adobe house—three miserable rooms and a loft; the residence of the agent and employés, and occupied as a granary and storehouse—and some 30 Indian cabins.

An enlargement of the productive limits of the reservation is contemplated, and steps taken to attach the contiguous lands, occupied in townships Nos. 21, 22, south, 38 east. They will increase the lands to about the legal limits, as it will then be about 12 miles long, and 6 miles broad. Of this prospective addition, about 5,000 acres are tillable soil, and the remainder very good grazing land. Through this neighboring land, the energetic agent has just completed a water-ditch five miles in length, for purposes of irrigation, costing some 2,000 days' labor. He has also recently constructed a wagon road from the reservation—25 miles—into the mountains to the timbered regions, for the purpose of procuring the much needed fences and building materials. These are really *works of magnitude for Indians, and reflect much credit upon their industry, under* the ability to guide them, that long experience and native character have given this gentleman.

There are some 25 or 30 settlers near the reservation, and two or three actually on the tract that is proposed to be added, but it is believed that the government right is the prior one, and that no cost will accrue to it by the retention of the whole of the intended increase.

The Indians, adults and children, male and female, actually in the valley, will not number 300. I am informed, as usual, that there are many absent in *the mountains and elsewhere. They seem more cheerful, happy, and contented,* and are, on the whole, rather better clad than any reservation Indians I have seen. There is a strong Mexican cast about them, and many of them converse fluently in the Spanish tongue. The lodges and utensils of the better ones are as good as any I have yet seen. Among them were two artisans, a spur-maker, and a saddle-maker. Many of them had money. I was asked here for the first time by an Indian in good Spanish, to change a $20 gold piece.

Like all of their race, they are inveterate gamesters; they use the inevitable bundle of sticks, cards, and other games peculiar to themselves.

Many of them obtain employment of the neighboring settlers at harvest time, and more of them in Visalia.

Their sanitary condition here was perhaps an improvement on either of the other reservations, and yet there is no physician here—possibly because of that fact (?) There never has been any physician at this farm, and most of the time since its occupation there has been but one, and never more than three employés.

The same common disease, the same immorality, superstition, lack of religious or marital rites or ceremonials of any kind, with the same strong local and family ties, prevail here as elsewhere. The only marked difference in observances or customs, noticed here, was in their manner of burying their dead, over which ceremonial they generally exhaust all of ceremony there is in them. Their habit here is to carry the dead a distance of some three miles up the river, and there dispose of them. The greater part of the Indians in northern California bury their dead close by their lodges, as has been before described in the earlier pages of this report.

There are but three employés on the place, a carpenter, blacksmith and assistant. A fourth, Mr. Stanley, is engaged most of the time among the Mission Indians, and makes his headquarters at Los Angelos.

Mr. Hoffman informs me that he has been five years in charge of these Indians;

that he has but little faith in his ability to improve them; that he is heartily disgusted with the business under the disadvantages with which he has labored, and is anxious to be relieved. He has tendered his resignation some time since. His opinion of the Indian's capacity to improve is less hopeful than that of any man—having so intimate a knowledge of them—that I have met.

I have not heretofore spoken of the climate and weather I have had upon my trip in the northern country. I can best dispose of it by saying that the average temperature has been 60° Fahrenheit, and the weather during all my journey most delightful, there being only one slight rain on the Tlamath or Klamath, and one more disagreeable in coming over the mountains skirting Tulare plains, through Pachecos pass. To the southward of this, as I progressed, the aloes, mezcales, tuñal, orange, olive, fig, and vine, and the still milder temperature, all speak of a more tropical region. And this is the nearly uniform temperature of the country, the rains being the only winter.

Estimate of the number of Indians in the State, and exhibit of their apparent decrease within the last fifteen years, with some remarks upon the Mission Indians, in response to letter of Commissioner Cooley of August 8, received in San Francisco September 6.

From personal observation I can say nothing assuredly under this head. To take a reliable census it would require three months at least, and that, too, of rapid travel, in order to avoid counting the same Indians in different places. Assiduous inquiry of persons long resident, living in different parts of the State, and highly competent to form a correct opinion, has produced various data, from which, after a careful collation, I assume to place the grand total, in round numbers, including those on reservations—3,000—at 21,000, distributed throughout the State as follows:

Reservation Indians	3,000
Mission Indians	3,000
Owen's river and neighborhood	1,600
Colorado river Indians, Cohuillas, Yumas, and Mohaves, &c.	2,800
Remainder of southern Indians, Pintes, &c.	2,600
Klamath, Trinity, Scott, and Salmon rivers, and valleys	3,300
Remainder of northern Indians, S-yars, Modocs, &c.	4,625
Total	20,925

These are, however, but approximate estimates. If they are, as I judge they are, nearly correct, they show a wonderful decrease in the number of Indians in the State since the beginning of its existence, if the estimates then given in high quarters were even approximately correct.

In 1851, John McDougal, the second governor of California, in his inaugural, spoke of the Indians then in the State as numbering 250,000.

Wm. Medill, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, which were then under control of the War Department, writing under date of July 26, 1848, to Secretary of War Marcy, adopts the estimate of Colonel Don Antonio De Alcedo, who in his "Geographical and Historical Work on America," published in Madrid, 1810, places the Indians in upper California at 13,930. The northern boundary was then no higher than Cape Mendocino, and he does not, I judge, include the Mission Indians

Superintendent E. F. Beale, writing from Los Angelos, August 22, 1853, estimates them at 100,000.

W. W. Mackall, A. A. G., U. S. A., writing to Superintendent Henley, from Benicia, California, August 5, 1856, says: "It is said that there are 60,000 Indians in California, and not more than 2,000 of them are on reservations."

Superintendent Henley, in a very carefully prepared report to Commissioner Manypenny, made under date of September 4, 1856, makes a general total of 61,600.

Superintendent Maltby's report, ten years later, made to myself personally, says 24,548.

The last official census, 1862, gives 17,562, exclusive of San Diego county.

I do not think I have understated them. It is very certain that they are *rapidly disappearing, from casualties of various nature*, and it is the opinion, strongly expressed, of many intelligent gentlemen with whom I have conversed, that in twenty years they will have become almost extinct.

As illustrative of the favorable working of the old Spanish reservation system, as it may be called, I insert here some facts gleaned from the old missions archives:

In 1790 the number of registered Indians was	7,748
In 1801 the number of registered Indians was	13,668
In 1802 the number of registered Indians was	15,562

Since the foundation of these missions, or between 1769 and 1802, there were in all, according to the register parochial, 33,717 baptisms, 8,009 marriages, and 16,984 deaths.

We must not attempt to deduce from these data the proportion between the births and deaths, because, in the number of baptisms, the adult Indians, *los neofitos*, are confounded with the children.

In 1791 the Indians sowed 874 bushels of wheat, which yielded a harvest of 15,907 bushels. The cultivation doubled in 1802, the quantity of wheat sown being 2,089 bushels, and the harvest 33,576 bushels, or 2,014,560 pounds.

The live stock at that time was 67,782 oxen, 107,172 sheep, 1,040 hogs, 2,187 horses, and 877 mules.

These missions then stretched along the coast, from Mission San Francisco north* to Mission San Diego south. There remain of their descendants now about 3,000, scattered through the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Los Angelos, San Bernardino, and San Diego, still somewhat under the paternal care of the zealous padres, whose influence over them is great and good. They are known as the Mission Indians, and are well advanced in husbandry and the commoner pursuits of civilized life, comparing favorably with the Cherokees or Chickasaws. Many of them speak both English and Spanish fluently.

Under the Mexican rule, by the secularization laws of August 17, 1833, the lands and cattle which they had previously owned in common under the church administration were divided among them, but the declared independence of the State some three years after, and the continual changes for the last three decades, have impoverished and demoralized them. Their property is trifling, and they have much to contend with in the lawless character of many of the whites in that portion of the State.

Messrs. Stanley and Lovett, two very energetic and intelligent employés of the department, have more than a year since taken measures, through the proper official channel, to have Governor Low's attention attracted to these aggressions. I had a conference with his excellency, but it did not appear that anything had resulted from their faithful and laudable endeavors.

These gentlemen also recommend a moderate special appropriation in behalf of these Indians, to be expended in seed, implements of husbandry, and in

* The Mission Dolores de San Francisco was founded in the year of our declaration of national independence, at the instance of Father Junipero Serra, with the reluctant consent of the visitor general, Josef de Galvez. This church and many buildings still exist about three miles from the great city of San Francisco, now numbering a population of between 130,000 and 140,000 souls. There is a steam railroad, the first constructed in California, connecting it with the city, and it is a popular place of Sunday resort.

restoring their dilapidated places of worship, in which recommendation I heartily concur, and indorse it with an entire belief that it will prove highly salutary. Here, too, I believe an appropriation for schools would be judicious. Elsewhere they (the Indians) are too wild, and should be further tamed by a few more years of instruction in the arts of husbandry, and by industrious associations.

I cannot better express my opinion on this subject than by quoting the recently declared conclusions of Superintendent Huntington, who has been some six years in charge of the Indians in the adjoining State of Oregon, namely:

In my judgment, the mistake is in supposing the savage mind capable of comprehending or containing, not alone the exalted teachings of Divinity, the abstruse subtleties of theology, or the pure morality of the Bible, but the lesser ethics which children of enlightened society imbibe unconsciously with their mother's milk, and teach each other with infantile prattle. These things to us are trivial and insignificant. The grown-up savage can easier be taught the *differential calculus* than brought to a faint conception of them. The first efforts with an Indian child should be through the stomach; give him plenty of wholesome, nutritious food; then let him be warmly clad. The next step is to teach him to labor, instil habits of industry, and associate him with industrious people. He may then be approached cautiously with books. Such a system, carried out with patient labor and with earnest energy, can be made to improve and elevate the race. Reverse it and put the book in use at the beginning, and the result will not only be useless, it will be absolutely pernicious. In a word, the hoe and the broadaxe will sooner civilize and Christianize them than the spelling book and the Bible.

By reference to the report, with estimates for 1867–'8 of late Superintendent Maltby, I see that he has asked for nearly $12,000 for the support of schools to be established at the different reservations. This is, in my judgment, utterly useless until the great mass of the reservation Indians shall have become a little further humanized by systematic labor.

He has asked nothing, to my surprise, for these Mission Indians, who are for the most part amply prepared to receive the benefits of education; and this opinion I understand to be coincided in by the present Superintendent Whiting. In fact many of them even now read and write, particularly among the aged. They have seen happier times, which, I trust, may be at least renewed to their children.

In the time of Governor Figueroa, 1832 to 1835, they numbered 20,000 baptized, registered, Christian Indians.

The prosperous condition of these Indians might be easily renewed and repeated in the future by a fixed unchanging policy and continuous rule of an efficient and faithful head.

Under the old Spanish dominion there were no changes of officials. Fathers Carron, Juan Crespi, Junipero Serra, and other pious Franciscans, in the same year that Napoleon and Wellington were born, were initiating this early reservation. It required then, through the regular official routine, about *four years* to receive an answer from communications to Madrid. They were consequently not much instructed by the home department, and had a tolerable certainty of at least getting in their crops before they were superseded.

How different has been the Anglo-Saxon rule. Since the arrival, in 1851, of Commissioners Redrick McKee, Barbour & Co., who found Sub-agent A. Johnson on the ground, there have been some 12 superintendents, 11 reservations, and probably not less than 50 agents and supervisors, sometimes under a divided and again under a consolidated superintendency. During a large portion of this time a war has been raging in the northern, middle, and extreme southern parts of the State. During almost all of it bands of gold seekers have been "prospecting" every mountain gorge, cañon, valley, and river-bed. Stockmen, mountaineers, settlers, and squatters have all considered that "Uncle Sam," in his beneficent care for the red man, was rather an interloper, and his ward entirely worthless, and have paid but little respect to the rights of the ward, or the metes and bounds of his allotted home, so often feebly and inefficiently maintained by the authorities. Small predatory bands are not uncom-

mon nor highway robberies infrequent in the upper and lower parts of the State, and the aggressions and encroachments of these predatory and proletarian stragglers are also among the obstacles that the department has to encounter in the yet unsettled and lawless condition of things at the remote points where the reservations are located. In fact the reservation system has had every opposing element to contend with, save unfavorable climate and soil.

The commonly received notion which calls the Indians of this State "diggers," and seems to class them as all of one tribe, and that of the lowest order of humanity, is, in my opinion, a most mistaken one. I have endeavored to show that there is a diversity of tongues, and character, and observances, and that many of them who were to the best of my knowledge full-blooded—besides the Mission Indians—were of a much higher order of intelligence, physique, and appearance than the creature I have often seen written of as the "digger," and who is simply one of the lower class of the Indians, like the "lepero" of Mexico, the "chiffonier" of Paris, the "bummer" of San Francisco, or "vagrant" of New York.

It is true that the women of almost all of these Indians do, at the proper season, dig the edible bulbs and roots of which certain portions of the State are so prolific. It is true, also, that the men hunt the grizzly, the puma, the deer, elk, and antelope, and that, until recently, with no other weapon than those of their own manufacture, ash bows, the backs of which are strengthened by a veneering made of the sinews of the deer, and arrows headed with obsidian.

As for their origin, I believe it the same with the Toltecs and Aztecs of Mexico, which many of their observances and customs go to prove, being the same as those of the ancient Jews. To call them diggers gives an incorrect idea of a people among whom the mechanic arts flourish to a certain extent. There are canoe-makers of no mean order, bow-makers, arrow-makers, saddlers, carpenters, tanners, and tailors, and moccasin-makers. They get on the Klamath from $50 to $100 in gold for a well-finished suit of dressed deer-skin, embroidered with beads. And among the women there are milliners and mantua-makers.

The "Root-diggers" proper, Sho-sho-koes, are an offshoot of the great Snake tribe that are found principally in Oregon.

Mr. J. H. Riley, an old resident of this coast and an experienced and cultivated traveller, with whom I am well acquainted, has been much among the Indians, from those inhabiting as far north as the British possessions, south, through Oregon, California, and Mexico, to Central America, having at times made considerable stay among different tribes, and acquired familiarity with several dialects. He asserts, positively, that the northwest portion of this continent was first peopled by Asiatics who crossed Behring's straits in canoes.

OFFICIALS.

They are, I believe, without exception, men of integrity, and worthy of the confidence of the department A little more efficiency and capacity is, in most instances, desirable; this, I suppose, time will give, if they are retained. And here I wish to impress upon the department the manifest impolicy of frequent changes. The uncertain tenure of office is very well known to the Indians, and, as a consequence, the importance of the officials is much lessened. It is contrary to the Indian notion to pay much respect to "a chief of a day." It is, in fact, highly demoralizing and destructive *on all accounts*. The uncertainty of tenure tends to make the agent less zealous. Every agent also has his own plans, the foremost of which generally is to change everything his predecessor has inaugurated, no matter however so judicious.

The agents, at least, who are thrown into daily contact with them should be

retained during good behavior. At Round valley there have been five agents within a less number of years, and the same may be said of other places.

The relations between superintendent and agent should be more clearly and positively defined by departmental decision and instruction. There should also be some improved reservation regulations, defining the duties of the employés, and they should be strictly enforced.

The farmer should be charged with the duty of keeping a record of the number of acres cultivated, and the returns also of all the crops, volunteer, &c., hay and straw. *He should also make periodical reports to the superintendent* through the agent, certified to on oath, of the condition of the crops, and, after harvesting, of the actual amount, whenever possible, in bushels, and the estimate of hay, &c., in tons.

The judiciously timed visits and critical examination and memoranda of the superintendent should constitute a check upon the integrity of these reports, which would, I think, secure to the Indians the full benefit of their labors.

The surplus hay and grain, often in large excess, might be exchanged favorably with the War Department for clothing.

The system of "property returns," is an old relic of old army routine, which is susceptible of great improvement. A large quantity of very superior hams and bacon can be produced at Round valley, and might be very favorably disposed of at San Francisco, and the proceeds expended in clothing, blankets, &c.; in fact, almost all the necessary supplies for the Indians can be procured most advantageously at this latter place, particularly blankets.

The duties of herdsman* and blacksmith are obvious. The latter should also look after the guns in the armory, which I consider it important to be established and kept on every reservation. It should be located in the house occupied by the agent, and no Indian should be allowed to have access to it on any account.

There is neglect in this particular on every reservation, except Round valley, and even there, there is room for improvement.

There should be some legislation to provide for cases of murder and other capital crimes committed within the reservation limits. The recurrence of cases like the recent murders at Round valley and Smith river, or at least the disturbance and liability to danger of outbreak created by them, might be prevented if the laws allowed some more positive and prompt mode of trial and punishment than at present permitted. As it now stands, the murderer or criminal is arrested and delivered over to the nearest civil authorities, if they can be prevailed upon to take him. If they do take charge of the accused it sometimes occurs that he is never afterwards [illegible]d of. In other cases he attempts to escape and is shot down on the road. [illegible]e county does not like the expense of the trials; they say "it will cost $1,[illegible] to hang an Indian."

In view of the present irregularities and uncertainty, I venture to suggest that the ends of justice would be best served, and outbreaks prevented, by a law allowing a mixed commission consisting of the agent of the reservation and chief of the employés, the nearest justice of the peace, and the commissioned officers from the nearest military post, to try, after the manner of a court-martial, and dispose summarily of the party accused, if proven guilty, for promptitude is the great necessity for moral effect upon the Indians. It is very important for discipline to impress upon the Indian mind that there is a power in the authorities about the reservation to punish promptly all crimes, and particularly the greatest of crimes. And the Indian would be more likely to get justice

* As herdsmen, some of the Indians might be advantageously employed, in accordance with the act of June 30, 1834, which provides, "And in all cases of the appointments of interpreters or other persons employed for the benefit of the Indian service, a preference shall be given to persons of Indian descent, if such can be found."

tried by a court constituted as above, than if tried before a jury, in a locality where his human rights are not highly appreciated.

The civil courts also would gladly be relieved; the counties in which the reservations are situated are very thinly settled, and the expenses of a trial bear very heavily upon the settlers.

The liability to lose the prisoner in conveying him to the county towns for trial, sometimes distant two or three days' march through a wild country, is also great, and there would probably no safe place of confinement be found when arrived at destination.

Pains should also be taken to disabuse the Indians of the false impressions they entertain that the care taken of them by the government, and goods given them as presents, is done through fear and to avert war, and not from a magnanimous and benevolent spirit.

The agents would also acquire and preserve a stronger influence over the Indians, by abstaining from any familiarities with them, and on all occasions preserving a dignified deportment; and they should by all means be careful about making promises that they may not be able to fulfil literally and exactly.

There should be kept on all the reservations registers, in their native appellation, of all the adult Indians; also of the number of children, female and male, and of births and deaths. They should not be allowed to travel to and from outside of the reservation limits without a written passport. The universal "sweat-houses," instead of being abolished, should be improved by the reservation, by the addition of proper cold baths near them, when they are not contiguous to a brook or rivulet. They are, properly used, conducive of cleanliness and health. The observance of the Sabbath should be enjoined. All these things promote subordination and civilization.

Referring to my remarks upon discipline and subordination necessary upon the reservations, and also to the necessity for prompt punishment of crime, on the preceding page of this report, I cannot better illustrate the subject than by giving a brief account of the recent murders committed by Indians upon Indians on the reservation at Smith river—the last one but a few days before my arrival there—and the general uneasiness and disquiet thereby occasioned. The last murder was committed by a noted Indian of the "Smith River" family, called I-las or Hi-las, a chief or *mow-e-ma*, upon a poor, solitary Winchuk River (Oregon) Indian, named Us-tas-en or Wis-tas-en.

On the road from Camp Lincoln, where Captain Appleton's company, of the 9th infantry, are stationed, when within a few miles of the valley, I began to meet occasionally a settler, and always stopped to converse and inquire about Indians and matters pertinent to my mission. All of them were somewhat exercised about the recent murder, and it was from them I first heard of it. They seemed to have a fear of a disturbance among the Indians; not so much a "rising" against the whites as a fight between opposing clans. I was not, however, much impressed with any apprehension of this nature, even after meeting, as I did upon nearing the reservation-house, a squad of some eight or ten Indians mounted, with bow and quiver at their backs and war-paint on their faces.

In the course of the day's ride through the valley on an inspecting tour with Special Agent Kingsbury, as all of the residents we met were full of the topic, I began to think there might be some cause for their apparent uneasiness; and, after leaving one man who was more talkative and more scared than the others, I asked Kingsbury if he thought there was anything in the forebodings of our voluble friend. He replied, attributing the talk to "vapors" arising from alcoholic stimulants. It occurred to me that alcohol did not generally make men cowardly; but, in the multiplicity of other topics, the matter passed out of my mind.

In the evening, however, shortly after our return to the reservation-house,

Dr. Wright, the physician, sent to request an interview, which was immediately accorded. From the communication he then made, it appeared that he entertained the same apprehensions previously evinced by the other parties, as before stated, and had so entertained them for two days, but had not mentioned them to the agent or to any others, hesitating to do so in the uncertainty of the matter, and fearing that he might be considered an alarmist. But he had that afternoon been visited by a squaw, who was in confidential relations with the reservation authorities and one whom he deemed friendly and faithful and specially attached to himself through gratitude for careful attention during a recent illness. This woman had stated to him her belief, and her reasons for the belief, that the Smith Rivers and Humboldts outside, leagued with a portion of the reservation Indians, were determined to rise, and, first, to burn the reservation-house and kill all the officers and employés, except the doctor. Then parties were to be sent to attack the distant houses of the settlers simultaneously. She also cited numerous recent occurrences and appearances, suspicious in their character, which were known to the doctor, and which strongly tended to corroborate the probabilities of her story. After the doctor had given me all the details of what he himself had seen, and what he had heard, bearing on the matter, I asked him his opinion as to the probability of an outbreak and how immediate. In reply, he stated most earnestly that he deemed a rising quite probable that very night! It was then ten o'clock. I immediately sent for Agent Kingsbury. He was close at hand and arrived instantly. The doctor repeated his statement. Kingsbury then admitted several other suspicious circumstances—the insolent conduct of several of the prominent Indians within a day or two, a delegation of Humboldts that had waited on him the day previous to demand that something should be done with the *Ten-a-gua*, (Devil,) who they claimed had lately been unusually hard upon the Indians, and other like indications of intended mischief.

Here it is necessary to explain that, for some six weeks previous, a considerable mortality, somewhat of the nature of cholera, had raged among the Indians of the valley, caused undoubtedly by eating unripe fruit; but the Indians, who are always exciting and pampering their own superstitions, claimed that it was the result of charms, and accused the solitary old Winchuk River Indian—the last of his clan, who was without friends and who had formerly been a medicine-man, but had "fallen from grace"—of causing the sickness, by a peculiar way of breaking twigs with both hands in front of his eyes and throwing the pieces behind him, &c. Much excitement prevailed, the sickness increased, and finally the principal head-man Hi-las—incited thereto partly by his jealousy of a rival chief, who had insinuated that he (Hi-las) was, in this emergency, unequal to his position, and in subservience to his construction of public opinion and his native bloodthirstiness—murdered Us-ta-sen, but not until some of his tribe had already seized and bound him—whether under the instructions of Hi-las or not, I could not learn—under pretence of conveying him to the Scooeoom house—prison—of the reservation. Cleaving his head with an axe, he then threw the axe into the river, and, with his accomplices, repaired to their respective lodges and burned them, as they claimed, to exorcise the evil influence of Us-ta-sen, he having, at some former time, "sat"—been a guest—in said lodges.

No steps were taken for the arrest of Hi-las by the agent, nor was anything done until Dr. Wright preferred a complaint before Justice Van Pelt, who sent a messenger inviting Hi-las to come and see him. The latter, at his convenient leisure, rode over to his honor's store one evening, a *nolle prosequi* was entered for want of evidence, and the murderer returned to his hovel, and when I saw him, the day after the doctor's developments, was at the point of death with the prevailing epidemic.

Mr. Kingsbury was hardly blamable in the premises, as, independent of the

ordinary difficulties and uncertainties as to a proper course of conduct—hereafter to be adverted to—he was simply "acting agent," expecting to be relieved every moment by Mr. Orman of Crescent City, his successor, whose appointment had been for some days heralded.

Dr. Wright assured me that he should follow the matter up, and cause his re-arrest, calling in the aid of the military authorities if needful.

The killing of Us-ta-sen had another disturbing effect, inasmuch as it was the cause of a claim on the part of the Klamaths, who live about a day's march below on the Smith rivers, for "*blood money*," they setting up a plea of relationship to Us-ta sen through the marriage of his grandfather, some fifty years before, to a Klamath squaw. They demanded five hundred strings of aliquacheek or blood, as indemnity for his murder. The Yon-tockets, another neighboring tribe, also put in a claim of the same nature, but not being so powerful or warlike as the Klamaths, had not as yet made any threats. The expected invasion of the Klamaths was therefore the cause, or at least the alleged cause, of the warlike guise of the Smith Rivers and Humboldts.

The arrest of Hi-las greatly outraged public opinion—Indian. They considered that he had done a most praiseworthy deed, and were much incensed against the reservation authorities for their part in the matter, mild as it was. They were also discontented at the non-arrival of expected goods and presents, and at the wide-spread rumor that they were to be immediately removed to Round valley. Added to this was the want of respect for the authority of the temporary agent, consequent upon the news of his supersession.

After all these disclosures were made it really seemed a summary of annoyances, which, acting upon the impulsive, capricious character of the Indian—as incapable of reason, when excited, as a mad dog—might lead us to expect any madness at any moment, and I was forced to believe the doctor's apprehensions well founded, and with this view, on my instance, we adjourned to the armory. There we found a miscellaneous collection of seven pieces, an Enfield, a Springfield, a Mississippi Yager, good arms, *but so rusty as to be unfit for immediate use, the others all out of repair, no balls and no powder.* We were in a bad condition for a siege, our revolvers being the only weapons. However, the night, which was well advanced, wore off without any attack. In the morning the blacksmith was set to work on the arms, given charge of them, and a room ordered to be properly fitted up and retained as an armory.

This day I received the delegations of Indians, who through their spokesmen made various representations, the gist of which was that they wanted their old agent Bryson back, and that they did not want to leave the valley. The spokesman of the Humboldts, Ta-to-leh, an intelligent, bright fellow about twenty-five years of age, had a great deal to say, and volunteered advice very freely as to the general management of the reservation. His speech was divided into four heads, and very coherently and lucidly delivered in intelligible English. He concluded as follows:

And one more thing, big Captain: Humboldt Indians no like Kingsbury. Kingsbury plenty bad man.

This with extraordinary frankness and simplicity, Kingsbury being seated exactly opposite to him. The facts are that the latter has been very kind to the Indians, and treats them with greater consideration than they deserve.

Ta-to-leh lived some years while quite a youth in the employ of a man in Sacramento named Kneeland, and there acquired his knowledge of our tongue. He rejoices in the *soubriquet* of "Kneeland Jack."

The "talk" had a quieting effect, and the reservation had resumed its normal condition when I left Crescent City, some three days later, for San Francisco.

I have given the foregoing to illustrate the liability of an outbreak at any time with such capricious and excitable elements, and also to show the entire

unreadiness of the authorities to meet promptly and at once quench the first spark of disorder.

The previous murder was much more summarily dealt with by Agent Bryson. In this case the murderer—an Indian—had killed one of his fellows, and also dangerously wounded one of the employés who was endeavoring to arrest him. The murder was committed on April 22, and on the next mail day, April 24, Agent Bryson reported the circumstance to Superintendent Maltby, at San Francisco, detailing the facts, and asking for immediate instructions, the Indian being still at large.

I extract from the letter of Agent Bryson all that is important, to show the custom that had formerly ruled, and to the present statement:

Heretofore I have acted upon my own responsibility in cases of this kind, the military concurring, and had in one case an Indian executed, and I know it had a very quieting effect over the rest of them.

He concludes thus:

I shall not take any decisive action in this case until I hear from you, *unless, in my opinion, our safety require it.*

Shortly after this the murderer was arrested; some 10 days elapsed with no instructions from Superintendent Maltby, and the excitement being very great, Bryson felt that he had no alternative, and had the murderer executed; the reservation "safety requiring it."

He then writes to Superintendent Maltby, under date of May 8, 1866, informing him that he had "hung the Indian in the presence of all the Indians of the county and restored peace to the reservation;" "the military concurring," doubtless. At a subsequent date the superintendent's answers to these two letters arrived. In the first of them he says to Agent Bryson:

You must be the judge of the criminality and of the punishment which should be inflicted, and if justice and the safety and preservation of good order on the reservation demand it.

And in the second he says he has no doubt the Indian referred to was guilty and deserved the punishment he received, but that he cannot approve of it, and will forward the correspondence to Washington. He did so; and the result proved unfortunate for Bryson. For doing the right thing at the right time, as all, settlers and Indians, agree that he did, he was removed. Had the facts been properly represented to the department, I am satisfied it would have overlooked the want of legality of action for its great justice and expediency.

The action of Agent Bryson was to the full as meritorious and praiseworthy, and more necessary than the extra-judicial executions of the vigilance committee of 1856 in San Francisco, which seem to have won such wide commendation.

The civil authorities, I am credibly informed, are notoriously averse to receiving such criminals, mainly because of the expense to the county.

In such cases *justice* should not be too severely hampered by the requirements of *law*, and the superintendent should be a man of position, experience, judgment, and decision of character, such as would qualify him to take the responsibility on such occasions, by a course entirely legal in all but the *letter*, to prevent a punishment still less legal in its mode and more demoralizing, or an outbreak, and this particularly in view of the wild and unsettled condition of the portion of the State in which the reservations are located. In fact, the superintendent should be so on all accounts, and not among the least, because of his having the almost exclusive, moral, and physical care of 20,000 fellow-creatures.

The Indians all through the valley, and along the coast, know that Bryson was removed for hanging one of their number. The intricacies of the legal question are utterly incomprehensible to them; the most intelligent of them cannot understand it. They prefer to think the government is afraid of them, and that fear caused its action. The salutary effect of Bryson's prompt action is obliterated thereby, and Hi-las murders Us-ta-sen, and a general outbreak seems for the time imminent.

INDIAN CHARACTER, HABITS, ETC.

Of the Indian character so much has been said that it seems almost useless for me to submit any extended remarks on this subject. Therefore, merely to show that it is much the same in this region as elsewhere, I shall briefly dispose of it.

Impulsive and unreflective, they are in many respects simply children. They know no danger, save what is immediately before them; no guidance, but the ungoverned prompting of the moment. They readily contract the vices of the white man; his virtues they have little opportunity to imitate.

Almost creatures of instinct, with inferior reasoning powers, their habits of life make them shrewd, close observers. With a natural habitual tendency to respect authority—see their docility to their chiefs. When first thrown in contact with the department officials sent to govern and care for them, their feeling is one of confidence. By care on the part of such officials this feeling could be strengthened, and great supremacy attained, but the slightest derogation on their part is instantly observed and treasured, and their respect for them immediately lessened. Human weaknesses seem to be more despised in others by the Indians than by the veriest ascetics. While they regard lying among themselves as a rather trivial offence, it is a terrible crime in the white man. Their hero, or perfect man, is the one brave, open-handed, but, above all, without the "forked tongue," and any failure to keep the word to the letter is hardly susceptible of being excused to them by the most reasonable explanation. All punishments should be with them sudden and severe, and any delay weakens the effect.

Their superstitions are boundless; their religious rites few. They endeavor to conciliate the evil rather than seek to worship the good spirits. Their gratitude consists of "a lively sense of favors to come." Treaties, bargains, agreements with them should be made as plain as possible, and fulfilled to the letter, and that promptly.

Their form of government, as far as it exists, is patriarchal. They acknowledge the hereditary principle; their chiefs mainly hold their title and state by right of birth. They are, however, under pressure of white innovations, fast getting away from these time-honored trammels. It is not uncommon now to meet a headman, Mow-e-ma, or Kle-nah-tau, who will admit that he is not a "born chief," and others who are struggling to become by force of popularity "captains."

They have very strong family affections. Members of the same family, however distantly related, always claim of each other the rights of hospitality whenever they meet, and they are cheerfully accorded.

Their local attachments are very strong; and they entertain largely that feeling, which is, I believe, common to all humanity, the wish to end their days in the place of their nativity.

As to marriage, they are polygamists. There is but little sentiment or ceremony about the marriage rite. The father—not the mother—arranges it all. He endeavors to secure either an influential or wealthy son-in-law. Much as in highly civilized circles, it is a question of bargain and sale. The girl is paid for, and taken to the wigwam of her lord. Infidelity is punished with death, at his option and pleasure, and such are the only cases where crime of this character is severely punished.

They are not ignorant or stupid. It is true, they do not take readily to husbandry or the mechanical pursuits, but they are susceptible of being made both farmers and mechanics. In the field, at wheat-binding particularly, they excel, and some of their habitations on the Klamath, among the wild—if I may so term them—as well as at Smith river, among the reservation Indians, built en-

tirely by themselves, with inferior tools and material—slabs and logs—provoke admiration; as does also the nerve with which the untutored squaw will cut into a piece of calico, and the rapidity with which she will have it on her person—not ill-fitting. So, also, do the industry and patience displayed in the saucer-shaped bonnets—not unlike the present vogue—woven of fine straw, with the colors ingeniously arranged, which the amber-colored Min-ne-ha-has of the Klamath and Humboldt most do delight in.

The females are well formed, with remarkably small feet and hands, and, in some cases, not ugly faces.

Their feet are noticeable as having the high, arched instep, for which the Scotch highlanders are noted.

The males are erect and muscular, with fine, full chests, and well-limbed, especially the mountain tribes, who are larger and finer looking, with fairer skins and higher cast of features, more nearly approaching the bold, clear contour of the aborigines of New England.

They die easily. Possessed of only a low degree of vitality, they succumb quickly to sickness, although, if tractable under treatment, disease will yield with them as quickly as with the white race. They are all more or less scrofulous, and the disease which has depopulated the isles of the Pacific—introduced, as alleged, by the whites—finds ready victims among them. Ophthalmia is also very common.

Their decrease is sure, and not gradual. The percentage of propagation is less, year by year. It is rare for a female to bear more than two children—they nurse them a long while, even to the age of six or seven years. They still cling to their own medicine-men, or women, for all the doctors I saw were females. Their practice consisted of fumigation, manipulation, blistering by suction, and charms. As formerly, they murder a medicine-man, occasionally, for malpractice. This does not deter frequent aspirants for medical honors. The position is sought with more avidity, I believe, because it combines considerable political influence. The whites mingle church and state—*they* physic and politics!

Here, as elsewhere, the various dances prevail at their proper seasons, and in these the Indian appears, outwardly at least, to the best advantage—gayly arrayed with brilliant panache, amulets, paint, and all possible Indian adornments. In this holiday attire, he presents a vivid contrast to his squalid everyday appearance.

The sudatory houses, or vapor baths, in which *they all so much delight*, are used on all the reservations, and, much as with us, for health or pleasure.

The "tattooing"—solely with the females—seemed more universally prevalent at the north than in the southern part of the State.

During my short stay at Smith river, I saw many funeral ceremonies. There was no procession The dead were buried close to their wigwams.

With all deference I must admit that, with the exception of the din, the hideous howling of the female mourners reminded me of the hollow "mute mourning" of England. They seemed, many of them, professional. The mourning of the widows must be sincere, as they cover their faces and parts of their persons with some black "tarry" substance which they do not attempt to remove until after the feast is given, which absolves them. I observed more of such cases among the Indians at Tule river than elsewhere; perhaps, however, because it happened to be Sunday when I inspected them. On the Sabbath there is always a more general congregation of them, and they don their best attire. Agent Hoffman assures me that he has here some 750 souls at distribution time, and at working seasons some 200 bucks.

The Commissioner's letter requires that I should give my views "as to what law can be enacted, or what regulations established, &c." I have examined

with some care the laws now on the statute-books on Indian matters, and believe that with the single exception, suggested hesitatingly and with a ful knowledge of the grave objections that exist, in my remarks upon the necessity of prompt punishment of murder, &c., there is no further necessity of legislation; it is only requisite that the existing laws shall be enforced. The subject of reservation regulations has already been adverted to.

As is well known, there have been no formal ratified treaties with the Indians, or extinguishment of title in this State, any more than by the inherent extinguishment conferred by the natural rights of man, evolved in the necessities of the continually incoming emigrants, who wish to occupy and develop the soil. The rolling tide of emigration in the westward course of empire must have room and verge; the old nomadic hunter state must no longer be considered; it is absolved in the requirements of the universal civilization of the age. I have as much sympathy for the red man as his warmest friend. I could wish him the entire enjoyment of all his sylvan sports, his happy hunting grounds, even his occasional war pastime, polygamy, and all else that is not wickedly barbarous, but the progress of events' "manifest destiny" has made these things incompatible. Before setting apart yet unclaimed territories for him I must remember the crowded purlieus of our large cities on the Atlantic coast, thronged with starving adventurers from the more crowded cities of the mother country. Prolific mother! A race of agriculturists who would subsist and spare from the hunting ground of one Indian tribe.

The men of the past must give way to the men of the present; to a race superior in adaptation to their surroundings, and who are, withal, active and industrious, and willing "to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow." After all, nations die like men. Where are the great nations, of whom these are an offshoot, whose ancestors built the ancient cities of Uxmal and Palenque, Tenochtitlan, Cholula, and those other cities lying under the shade of the mighty Orizaba? Their successors have been, until recently, travelling rapidly towards extinction. And where, as a nation, are the ancient Hebraic race, to whom all these were allied? for they are, no doubt, the descendants of the "lost tribes of Israel."

As for treaties, there would seem to be no authority in behalf of the Indians that could be erected into a "high contracting power," acting on behalf of any important number of them; there is no considerable number of cognate tribes even. The agreement made by Superintendent Wiley, a proper thing under the circumstances, was hardly to be so named. These Indians are inhabitants of a portion of the United States, and it is not easily seen how a treaty can be made with a people who are within our governmental area, inhabitants known in legislative parlance as "Indians untaxed." If admitted to be an *imperium in imperio*, they are still not foreign or independent, and what have they really to treat for?

In place of any poor views of mine, I trust I may be excused if I insert here a few words from an undoubted authority, quite relevant—Vattel, chapter 18, pages 160, 161. His opinion on the validity of Indian titles is thus recorded:

> The law of nations only acknowledges the property and sovereignty of a nation over uninhabited countries of which they shall really, and in fact, take possession, in which they shall form settlements, or of which they shall make actual use. A nation may lawfully take possession of a part of a vast country, in which are found none but erratic nations, incapable, by the smallness of their numbers, to people the whole. The earth belongs to the human race in general, and was designed to furnish it with subsistence. If each nation had resolved from the beginning to appropriate to itself a vast country, that the people might live only by hunting, fishing, and wild fruits, our globe would not be sufficient to maintain a tenth part of its present inhabitants. People have not, then, deviated from the views of nature in confining the Indians within narrow limits.

And again, this admirable extract from the eloquent oration delivered by John

Quincy Adams, on the anniversary festival of the Sons of the Pilgrims, December 22, 1802. He says:

There are moralists who have questioned the right of the Europeans to intrude upon the possessions of the aborigines in any case, and under any limitations whatsoever. But have they maturely considered the whole subject? The Indian right of possession itself stands, with regard to the greatest part of the country, upon a questionable foundation. Their cultivated fields, their constructed habitations, a space of ample sufficiency for their subsistence, and whatever they had annexed to themselves by personal labor, was undoubtedly by the laws of nature theirs. But what is the right of a huntsman to the forest of a thousand miles over, which he has accidentally ranged in quest of prey? Shall the liberal bounties of Providence to the race of man be monopolized by one of ten thousand for whom they were created? Shall the exuberant bosom of the common mother, amply adequate to the nourishment of millions, be claimed exclusively by a few hundreds of her offspring? Shall the lordly savage not only disdain the virtues and enjoyments of civilization himself, but shall he control the civilization of a world? Shall he forbid the wilderness to blossom like the rose? Shall he forbid the oaks of the forest to fall before the axe of industry, and rise again transformed into the habitations of ease and elegance? Shall he doom an immense region of the globe to perpetual desolation, and to hear the howlings of the tiger and the wolf silence forever the voice of human gladness? Shall the fields and the valleys which a beneficent God has framed to teem with the life of innumerable multitudes be condemned to everlasting barrenness? Shall the mighty rivers, poured out by the hands of nature as channels of communication between numerous nations, roll their waters in sullen silence and eternal solitude to the deep? Have hundreds of commodious harbors, a thousand leagues of coast, and a boundless ocean, been spread in the front of this land, and shall every purpose of utility to which they could apply be prohibited by the tenant of the woods? No, generous philanthropists! Heaven has not been thus inconsistent in the works of his hands. Heaven has not thus placed at irreconcilable strife its moral laws with its physical creation.

Beyond the tracts actually occupied by the Indians, the vast territories of North America yet unsettled by the dominant race, known as the Indian country, belong to them by a tenure scarcely more reasonable than one which might claim the whaling resorts of the north Pacific for the exclusive use and undisturbed possession of the hardy mariners of Nantucket and New Bedford, by whom they were, through lack of competition, so long mainly monopolized.

Nevertheless, this benevolent and bounteous government has from the outset accorded to them the rights of possessors, and extended over them a paternal care which is most simply and admirably acknowledged in their appellation which styles the government "the great father."

The treaty of Fort Pitt with the Delawares, concluded September 17, 1778, provides that the Delaware nation shall as allies be furnished "with all the articles of clothing, utensils, and implements of war." It also guarantees to the aforesaid nation of Delawares, and their heirs, all their "territorial rights;" and further it contemplates joining them with other tribes "to form a State, whereof the Delaware nation shall be the head, and have a representation in Congress."

The treaty of Fort Stanwix, concluded October 22, 1784, with the Six Nations, secures to them the peaceable possession of their lands, which are thereby bounded and defined.

The following treaties, and those of Hopewell and Holston, providing for payment of annuities, &c., fully inaugurated the settled policy on the part of the government, which time is improving and developing in the present reservation system, the only practicable and just one now to be pursued.

In the care and culture of the Indians this government has expended, since 1778 to the present, more than $100,000,000; up to June 30, 1866, the amount was $99,692,073 50; and so efficiently, that, with a few exceptional cases only, there has been no suffering among this improvident race.

I cannot avoid here expressing the reflection that contrasts so unfavorably the condition of the Indian races which should be under the care of the enlightened and wealthy kingdom of Great Britain; I mean those in her East Indian colonies, where not unfrequently *whole districts* perish of famine, if the reports of the journals of the day can be credited. But I feel that I have already digressed too far.

The honorable Commissioner asks: "Which of the present reservations should be retained?" I answer, in the northern part of the State, *Nome Cult*, with the limits before stated.

He asks: "What will it cost in the way of purchasing improvements of the settlers to enlarge one of the present reservations to a sufficient size to support the Indians?" and, "What can probably be realized from the sale of the reservation, or reservations, which may be vacated?" These two questions are difficult to answer with desirable accuracy. I can do no better than state my belief that a judicious disposal of Hoopa, Mendocino, and Nome Lacke, with the government improvements thereon, ought to provide a sufficient fund to compensate the settlers in Round valley for their improvements; and by improvements I mean to include a fair allowance for breaking up the soil, and to transport thither the Indians, as well as to purchase in the southern part of the State a proper location for a reservation. Among offers of locations for this purpose I remember one from Albert Packard, esq., of Santa Barbara, which seemed favorable; but having no time to examine any of such places I merely referred parties to the department.

The Tule river farm, at a reasonable figure, should have preference, principally because of Agent Hoffman's valuable improvements on government lands contiguous. But it should be remembered that there is no lack of spots quite as favorable in the broad area still unsettled in the lower part of the State.

In connection with the foregoing I would state that I can see no reason why the present is not the proper time to place *all* the abandoned reservations, with their improvements, in the market, in accordance with provisions of section 3 of act of April 8, 1864.

I desire to recommend also that the department take measures to withdraw from the public domain for its own uses, not only the tract on the Klamath, as recommended by Major Bowman, but an enlargement thereof to be governed by the natural boundaries, that a more critical examination would define as correct in view of all the interests concerned.

I have stated that the military force in the northern part of the State seemed inadequate, and upon this subject I had a conference with General Halleck, commanding the division of the Pacific, who agreed with me, but explained that representations to that effect had already been made, and that a regiment, the 8th cavalry, was in process of filling for service on this coast.

FINANCIAL.

In my letter of instructions the Commissioner says:

> It is the policy of this department to make the Indians self sustaining. Those in California have reservations that are represented as being very fertile, and producing abundant crops, and it is thought that with proper management and due economy, the expense to the government of sustaining them would not be considerable; that nothing but clothing and agricultural implements need be purchased.

After a pretty thorough investigation I must acknowledge concurrence in the above opinion.

All the improvements, repairs, fencing, and materials used on the reservation are mainly the product thereof, and the labor that of the employés and Indians, with the horses, mules, oxen, and teams of the government, so that very little expense would seem to accrue on this head.

The subsistence is in large excess. The property returns from July 1, 1866, to the close of the year show the produce of wheat to be 1,605,156 pounds; this at three cents per pound would be $48,154 65. About the time of my visit to the Tule River farm 100,000 pounds of wheat were sold to Mr. D. R. Douglas, a merchant of Visalia, deliverable at the farm, for $2,500. This was a portion of the surplus products of that farm from the last harvest.

There would seem to be then only necessary an outlay for clothing and agricultural implements, and some smith's and carpenter's tools, in addition to the salaries and travelling expenses of superintendent and agents, and pay of the employés. Under efficient management and a continuous control of one capable head, the consequent increase of the surplus products faithfully and judiciously disposed of might be made to meet this outlay.

As to the expenditures for the years 1866, they have not "exceeded the appropriation," as I am informed and believe. I did not succeed in getting from Superintendent Maltby an account of that period until after my return from my southern trip and only three days before my departure from San Francisco, as the account was not ready upon my previous application. The account shows an unexpended balance of $5,654 71 on the 30th day of September; but, as the last quarter's appropriation is not yet credited—it not yet being received or due—nor the amount of unpaid indebtedness entered, I could, of course, form no exact idea of yearly expenditures. I was unable to see Superintendent Maltby again, after having examined the account, as he was over the bay at a camp-meeting, and did not return previous to my departure for this city.

In default, therefore, of an explanation and an exact exhibit, the following is submitted as an approximate. Wherever the sums are exact it will be stated.

Estimate of receipts and expenditures, year ending September 30, 1866.

RECEIPTS.

The annual appropriations for California are as follows:

For superintendent, his clerk, and four agents	$12,600 00
For general incidental expenses, including travelling expenses of the superintendent	7,500 00
For the purchase of cattle for beef and milk, together with clothing and food, teams and farming tools	55,000 00
For pay of one physician, one blacksmith, one assistant blacksmith, one farmer, and one carpenter on each of the four reservations	12,000 00
Total appropriation, exact	$7,100 00
Total receipts from sales of excess products, with the rent of abandoned reservations, and all other sources; receipts from hire of government teams, mules, &c., at $9,000 gold, or say in currency, estimated	12,900 00
Total available for Indian service	100,000 00

By this it would seem that the entire amount available for the year's service is $100,000, currency.

EXPENDITURES.

Of this is expended for salaries of superintendent and clerk, agents and employés—omitting pay of physicians where none are employed—exact	$23,400 00
For the purchase of cattle for beef and milk, supposing a considerable natural increase and considering the quantity of fish and other food, the apparently small amount of beef killed and the few Indians to eat it—estimated	10,000 00
For clothing, in view of the naked condition of the Indians generally and the character of that worn by those who were tolerably dressed (cast-off white)—estimated	10,000 00

For teams and farming tools, including smith and carpenter's tools, upon careful inventory—estimated	$11,500 00
For rent of farms at Tule river and Smith river—exact	2,948 00
The next item, for general incidental expenses, including travelling expenses of the superintendent, &c., being the only other item remaining, must be charged with the balance—exact	42,152 00
	100,000 00

MEMO.—Of the $2,948 item, $1,948 is coin; and I should explain that, in estimating the price of wheat at three cents per pound, I have had in view, to arrive at an equitable valuation, what government has been obliged to pay. About two years since 40,000 pounds of wheat, purchased under proposals and contract for use in Hoopa valley, for Indian service, cost the government *four dollars in coin* per bushel, or, as nearly as I can estimate, *twelve* cents per pound in currency, and there was only one proposal received at that! It is my impression that there was at the time a surplus on hand, both at Round valley and at Tule river reservation. Also, in estimated "receipts," I have omitted mention of sums received for the Indians' service from neighboring settlers, or by the Indians themselves for such service, which, in either case, should prove a *credit* to the government against the cost of their care, as should any sums received for range and pasturage upon the reservation lands of stock belonging to individuals. The contracts for employment of the reservation Indians (and, as far as possible, also the outside Indians) with settlers and others, should be made only through the agents, who should charge themselves with the interests of the Indians, and see that they get fair wages and payment.

In the estimate of consumption of "cattle for beef and milk," I have considered the facilities that apparently exist for their favorable purchase in this cattle country, in the lower or southern portions of which hundreds of thousands are still annually slaughtered for their hides and tallow alone, and where often large droves of them are driven into the ocean and destroyed simply to save pasturage to sustain the remainder of the innumerable herds.

As for clothing, I was surprised to see so many of the brighter young dandy bucks on the reservations, particularly at Hoopa, dressed in shabby genteel black suits, not ill looking but for the incongruity of a bunch of bright feathers in a stove-pipe hat, or two or three gay cravats or neck-ties worn necklace-wise. I presume this must be a portion of the old clo' procured by proclamation of Superintendent Hanson to the good people of California in 1863.

They are very fond of dress, and I think would be more careful of the clothing provided by the government, if it were of brighter and more attractive colors. This is another of Major Bowman's suggestions, supported by military reasons which it is not policy to publish.

In submitting this hasty collation of "field-notes," taken *en route*, and mainly written upon the steamers during my homeward voyage, I cannot forbear expressing my regret that time did not serve to enable me to have paid more attention to the manner as well as the matter thereof, by revisal and arrangement, which I had intended to make after reaching this point. But, in compliance with the desire expressed by you in our interview on Saturday, that I should render an account of my stewardship at the earliest practicable moment, I present it at once, with this apology only for its crudities, and fearing that there may be errors of omission in the overlooking of some important items, and of commission in the, perhaps, prolixity of others. I can only add that I have industriously endeavored to comply with my written instructions and the verbal addenda in explanation by the office, to give as exact a picture of affairs and the country as possible; and I am sure I have spared no pains either in the

prosecution of my mission or in this attempt to convey the impressions I have received.

Before closing, I would beg permission for myself and on behalf of the department to return thanks for the uniform attention of those with whom my duties brought me in contact. To my old friend J. Ross Browne, to Major Bowman, for various suggestions, information and facilities; also, to Captains Pollock, Jordan, and Appleton, for ready and prompt facilities; to Judge Wyman and Messrs. Westmoreland, Crane, Martin, and Middlemas, of Eureka; Messrs. Reason Wiley, Greenbaum, Brizzard, and Van Roseum, of Arcata; Andrew Snyder, of Klamath river; Dugan and Wall, and Darby and Saville, of Crescent City; Colonel Curtis, of Los Angeles, commanding southern military district; to the department officials of the State generally; and also to General Halleck and E. B. Vreeland, esq., of San Francisco.

I have the honor to be, Mr. Commissioner, your obedient servant,

ROB'T J. STEVENS,
Special Commissioner, &c.

Hon. LEWIS V. BOGY,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

APPENDIX.

Abstract of indebtedness incurred by Austin Wiley, superintendent of Indian affairs for California, and remaining unpaid at the close of his term of office, May 5, 1865; rearranged for convenience of examination.

Vouchers.	Name.	For what object.	Amount.
1	William Bryson	Services	$625 00
24	J. C. Carey	do	126 00
25	J. A. Whaley	do	135 00
26	B. P. McConnaha	do	130 00
50	George Dalton	do	100 00
51	N. A. Potter	do	15 60
53	Wm. E. Lovett	do	335 00
55	George L. Hoffman	do	980 00
84	Austin Wiley	do	1,987 40
87	C. A. Murdock	do	750 00
2	Darby & Saville	Rents	555 55
3	L. W. Jones	do	127 77
4	Henry Smith	do	218 50
5	Henry Smith	do	66 00
82	A. B. Hotaling	do	1,661 66
86	M. Ullman	do	238 08
54	California Steam Navigation Co.	Travelling expenses	35 00
56	George L. Hoffman	do	139 00
88	Wm. E. Lovett	do	338 00
85	J. Holladay	Transportation	125 62
89	A. W. McPherson	do	71 00
6	Gordon & Dickenson	Sundries	54 45
7	M. Smythe	do	25 65
8	Selig & Brother	do	51 46
9	F. Van Pelt	do	53 50
10	Jasper Houck	do	28 00
11	Kingsbury & Malone	do	28 00
12	Dugan & Wall	do	18 00
13	Jasper Houck	do	14 00
14	Kingsbury & Malone	do	14 00
15	D. M. Dorman	do	217 00
22	Robert White	do	430 86
23	Do	do	70 30

Abstract of indebtedness incurred by Austin Wiley, &c.—Continued.

Vouchers.	Name.	For what object.	Amount.
28	A. Goldsmith	Sundries	889 07
29	Do	do	63 75
30	J. H. Blair	do	58 00
31	James Johnson	do	240 00
32	Wm. M. Scott	do	1,420 62
33	H. W. Lake	do	807 25
34	T. G. Campbell	do	683 00
35	T. J. Newkirk	do	2,055 10
36	A. Norton	do	5,425 66
37	B. Adams	do	142 80
38	J. McGregor	do	2,142 00
39	L. C. Beckwith	do	1,455 96
40	Do	do	1,373 34
41	R. Wiley	do	53 20
42	B. Lack	do	1,525 28
43	Campbell & Johnson	do	759 50
44	H. W. Lake	do	138 75
45	S. Bolls	do	13 25
46	John Magee	do	252 00
47	J. Goller	do	40 50
48	John Wilson	do	45 00
49	H. J. Yarrow	do	90 00
52	Tomlinson & Co	do	14 25
57	D. R. Douglas	do	133 02
58	T. P. Johnson	do	480 00
59	T. R. Lavers	do	56 00
60	H. Cooker	do	24 12
61	W. Mathews	do	30 87
63	McFarlane, Pass Road	do	21 33
64	Do	do	23 33
65	Thomas Boyce	do	27 00
66	D. E. Gordon	do	45 00
67	Wyman & Bohall	do	54 00
68	F. McCrellish & Co	do	43 00
69	J. M. Wilkinson	do	41 67
70	Dodge & Phillips	do	1,089 16
71	Crane & Brigham	do	189 00
72	Do	do	88 80
73	Do	do	87 10
74	H. P. Wakelee	do	57 45
75	J. Stratman	do	6 00
76	Hucks & Lambert	do	17 28
77	G. B. Hitchcock & Co	do	37 55
78	C. Clayton & Co	do	200 32
79	Main & Winchester	do	392 37
80	J. D. Arthur & Son	do	599 15
81	N. O. Warhouse	do	13 80
83	R. T. Reynolds & Co	do	10 50

With regard to vouchers Nos. 1, 53, 55, 84, 87, they seem to be for regular salaried services under the law. I am satisfied that the persons whose names are attached did perform the services. If they have not been paid, they should be.

Vouchers 2, 3, 4, 5, 82, and 86, for rents. All these claims have about the same merit, voucher 82 being the only one needing special mention. Storm's ranch was, I am informed and believe, a necessity at the time it was taken. I do not consider the rental under all circumstances unreasonable. It appears that Superintendent Maltby did not, upon assuming his position, annul the contract, as would have been his duty if it seemed to him unnecessary or unrea-

-able, but continued it until the expiration of the lease, thereby indorsing its propriety. I therefore feel obliged to class it with the rest. All of these it seems to me are just claims, and should be paid.

Vouchers 24, 25, 26, services as appraisers. I judge these to be the parties, Messrs. Carey, Whaley, and McConnaha, appraisers, appointed by authority of the government to appraise at Hoopa valley, and they should be paid.

Vouchers 54, 56, and 88, for travelling expenses, have the same merit. If there is any technical obstacle in the way of their payment the department can judge better than myself of its force.

Vouchers 85 and 89, transportation same as above.

Vouchers 50, 51, 60, 69, services same as above.

Voucher 6, to close of list, embracing all the remainder, (except 70, which I failed to examine,) I have classed under the head of sundries. These were the most difficult and tedious. I examined books for original charges whenever I could do so. In many places in the interior they kept no books, and there was no record, as far as the creditors were concerned, of indebtedness save their memory. Some of the creditors in the interior I could not meet; to cover these cases, I had only the books of the late Superintendent Wiley, his explanations, and the statements of Mr. Murdock, his clerk; also the opinion of Superintendent Maltby, and his clerk, in regard to prices, and the probable necessity that existed for the purchase, and other responsible parties, merchants, and others who have corroborated testimony as to value. The creditors, so far as I know them personally, are highly respectable. Many of them, like Main and Winchester, and J. D. Arthur and Son, have sold the government hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of goods. They say that they have been obliged to put on an increased price in the same ratio with the depreciation of "greenbacks," everything being on a gold basis in the State. The claims are all just, and should be paid.

I append here, as pertinent to the foregoing, the following copy of a letter furnished me by Mr. Wiley:

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, Cal., October 27, 1865.

SIR: In transmitting a list of the indebtedness remaining unpaid at the expiration of my term of office, I deem it but just to myself to offer some explanation concerning it.

The amount by the abstract herewith transmitted is $35,607 12. Had the appropriation from the 1st of January been placed at my disposal the proportion to May 5, when I was relieved, would have been $26,909 72, which would have reduced the indebtedness to $8,697 40, and if the amount of the expenses necessarily incurred since May 5, in settling up my business, ($2,368 40,) be deducted, $6,329 will remain as the actual amount of indebtedness incurred in excess of the anticipated appropriation. To this should be added $150 paid for salary of clerk for the month of April by my successor.

By reference to the list, it will be seen that over $20,000 of the indebtedness was incurred at the Hoopa reservation, where the expenses of the service have been unusually large, as we were obliged not only to purchase provisions for the Indians, but buy seed for the new crop, and to hire teams to put it in.

I would respectfully refer you to my letter of January 12, 1865, which accompanies the estimate of funds required for first and second quarters 1865, in which I stated the demands for funds in Hoopa, and specially estimated for $24,000 for this purpose. The establishing of a reservation necessitates a considerable outlay of money, and though in the case of Hoopa it has been from a variety of causes extraordinarily large, it has been legitimately incurred, and has by reason of the cessation of hostilities which followed as a result, saved for the government ten times the amount, and established a peace that has given new life to that portion of the State, and security to a community which before was waste and desolate from Indian hostilities. Had it not been for this unusual event my appropriation, with the funds received from sales of produce, would have proved sufficient to have met the demands of the service.

Again, I was relieved at a most unfavorable time for a fair showing of my indebtedness, for the expense of putting in the spring crops and furnishing the summer supplies had all been incurred. As one instance, at Hoopa reservation, 41 head of beef cattle had been purchased on the 4th of May, at an expense of $1,373 31, and only three head of the lot had been slaughtered when I was relieved. Similar instances might be cited to more than cover

the balance of my indebtedness. I consider it safe to say that had I received the funds appropriated for the first and second quarters 1865, and been relieved at the expiration of that time, I should not have owed a dollar.

I can see no reason why the appropriation for my portion of the first and second quarters could not have been placed in my successor's hands for the payment of the accounts incurred by me as far as it would go. The delay has worked injustice to the creditors, and injured the standing and credit of the department, which I have labored to build up. I again urge in the strongest terms that immediate provision be made for the payment of the indebtedness embraced in the accompanying list. The accounts are all certified to as being correct and just either by commissioned agents or myself; they were contracted in good faith, and should be paid at once. If any of the accounts are found incorrect or unjust the officer certifying to them and his bondsman are liable and should suffer, but not the private individual who has sold his goods or performed the service, trusting to the faith of the agents of the government.

Any additional proof required to any of the accounts can be obtained, and will be forwarded when applied for. I would beg leave to refer to any or all of our delegation in Congress. These gentlemen are more or less familiar with the condition of affairs in this superintendency, and I would be pleased to have them examine my accounts if it is thought desirable by the department.

Trusting that this matter may receive the early attention of your office, and that no additional delay may occur, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Late Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. D. N. COOLEY,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

The schedule of suspended accounts of the late Superintendent Wiley, with his explanations thereof, I have already handed in, with my remarks and certificate of indorsement.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT J. STEVENS,
Special Commissioner Indian Department.

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

ARIZONA SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 32.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS, ARIZONA TERRITORY,
La Paz, October 2, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following as my annual report for 1866, of the condition of Indian affairs in my superintendency:

COLORADO RIVER INDIANS.

The Indians on the Colorado are now composed of the entire tribes of Yumas and Mojaves, and a portion of the tribe of Yavapais, or Apache Mojaves. I will briefly allude to the condition and operations of these tribes separately.

The Yumas.—This tribe occupies the left bank of the Colorado, from the southern boundary of the Territory to about 30 miles above Fort Yuma, but are concentrated mostly at Arizona City, thence crossing to Fort Yuma.

They have participated in the distribution of goods, agricultural implements, and seeds made during the year past, but their portion was so meagre as to be of little service to them. They have been thoroughly peaceful and quiet during the year past, no suspicion of duplicity ever having attached to them. They have raised this season a considerable quantity of corn, pumpkins, and melons, for all of which they find a ready market at the fort, too ready, in fact, for in disposing of their corn they deprive themselves of the better portion of their winter supplies. Many of this tribe gain their livelihood by the performance of menial services for the officers and soldiers at the fort, or by the prostitution of their women to the baser passions of the whites generally. This latter degrad-