

[From the San Francisco National.]

INDIAN AFFAIRS:

I observe in the late message of Gov. Weller, that he thought proper, inappropriately, if not maliciously, to travel somewhat out of his way to assail the management of the Indian Reservations in this State. I therefore wish to make a remark or two, which seem to me to be justly called for, at this time. The Governor says that from the "most reliable information I can obtain, there are not, upon all these Reservations, more than three or four thousand Indians." In the report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, for 1857, I find that Major Heintzleman, Agent at Klamath, reports: "There are living at this Reservation about 2,000 Indians. They are peaceably disposed, and generally obey the orders of the Agent." He also reports in Hoopa Valley, 700. On Trinity river, above Hoopa, 500; and in the vicinity of Crescent City and Smith's river, 600; all under the control of the Klamath Agency. Capt. Ford, of the Mendocino Reserve, in his report, says: "Since my last annual report, there have been removed to this Reserve, 3,070 Indians. Of this number, 1,144 are adult males; 1,067 adult females; and 864 children. These, together with those previously here, make a total of 3,450, now under my care." Judge Lettis, of the Fresno and King's river Agency, reports 2,289 under his charge. Col. Vineyard, Agent at the Trjon, reports the number of Indians on that Reserve at 1,000. These are the reports made by the Agents, for which we have their official communications. But if Gov. Weller will accompany me to Nome, Lickee, I will show him a thousand Indians, comfortably clad and well

daily trip to some extent, I will show him a
thousand Indians, comfortably clad and well
fed. Equally as much so, if comparisons are
admissible, as the inmates of San Quentin.
And if he will go two days' ride further, still
in my Agency, I will agree to exhibit to him
2,500 Indians at one view; and in another
half day's ride, I can show him an additional
500; making a total of as many as he asserts
are to be found on all the Reservations.

In reference to the Governor's remark, which
seems to me to be quite gratuitous, that the
benefits of the Reserves are sadly disproportion-
ate to the expenditure, I have only to say that
while I may not have managed the affairs of
the Indians under my charge with as much
success as was desirable, I am quite willing to
enter a comparison with *his* expenditures in
subsisting the State Prison convicts, in refer-
ence to which the Governor modestly asserts
there will be no complaint from any quarter,
so soon as he has sent in his forthcoming spe-
cial message on that subject; in which the ex-
penditures will doubtless be paraded in as favor-
able and imposing view for him, as he has la-
bored to make those of the Indian Department
prejudicial.

The object of this uncalled for attack upon
the Indian service seems most difficult to di-
vine. If it were his purpose to prevent fur-
ther appropriations by Congress, break up the
system and turn the Indians loose (even the
4,000 he speaks of) to depredate upon the
stock and crops of the ranches and farms, and
disturb the peace and quiet of the country, he
has adopted a plan most admirably suited to
his purpose. The Governor has recently, and
it may be is now, engaged in a miniature In-
dian war, in which he captured some 200 of
these "red devils," and I have been intrusted
by the Superintendent to receive and provide
for them at the Nome Lackee Reservation.
Does the Governor wish to break up and de-
stroy the very place at which his prisoners are
to be provided with food, before they arrive,
so that I cannot take them off his hands, and
they be allowed to return to their old haunts in
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It may be that I will on some future occasion undertake to show some of the advantages which have already resulted from the Reservation system, as well as suggest some of the disastrous effects of abandoning the protection of the Indians by the Government, and again turning them loose upon the community.

V. E. GRIGER,

Nome Lackee Reservation.

ORIGINAL DEFECTI

SACRAMENTO DAILY

SACRAMENTO, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1859.

ARDS. SACRAMENTO DAILY UNION: two words that should be dearer to the ears of freemen than *Caveat Emptor*. They have much meaning in them and I verily believe that much of those qualities as far as in me lies, you will find extended to you same hospitality you have extended to me. Allow to give you as a toast: "The best bulwark of the right"