

THE COUNTRY SOUTH OF US—V. B. Geiger,
Indian-Agent of the Nome Lackee Reserva-
tion, in an article published in the National
in reply to Governor Weller on the subject
of Reservations in this State, furnishes some
interesting statements respecting the country
lying between us and the waters of San Fran-
cisco Bay. Omitting his tilt with the Gov-
ernor we extract the following:

At the date of the location of the Nome
Lackee Reservation in 1854, the entire valley
of the Sacramento in the west, from Cache
Creek to the waters of the Curran woods was
infested by hostile Indians, inhabiting the
foot hills of the Coast Range of mountains,
and there was no safety for stock in any por-
tion of that extensive region of country.
Visits to the mountains, even to explore the
country, often resulted in the death of the
prospecting parties. The present site of the
Reserve was the abode of a large tribe, num-
bering near a thousand, whose depredations
upon the stock in the valley was a source of
serious annoyance and loss to the settlers
and was moreover the scene of the death of
Lieutenant Russell, who was killed by the In-
dians, while on an expedition for their subju-
gation, fitted out from Fort Bidwell, in the
fall of 1853. Now, the Indians in this region
are all quietly enjoying the blessing of peace,
and the fruits of industry at their home at
Nome Lackee; while the stock of the ranch-
eros graze undisturbed, even upon the very
limits of the Reserve; and the foot hills and
the adjacent valleys are the residence of hun-
dreds of industrious and worthy settlers, and
the undisturbed pasture grounds of thousands
of cattle. From the foot hills to the Pacific
Coast, and from Napa Valley to Humboldt
Bay, embracing a district of country two
hundred miles in length by one hundred in
breadth, three years ago, was almost an unin-
habited and unexplored wilderness, occupied
by not less than 15,000 wild and hostile In-
dians, and death was the fate of almost every
party who visited that region without a suf-
ficient force to protect themselves. That vast
extent of country, of such immense import-
ance as a grazing and stock-raising region,
was entirely excluded from the use of the en-
terprising and adventurous settler. Now,
how stands the case? An Indian "farm" has
been established at Nome Chalt, on the waters
of Eel river, and two thousand Indians remain

claims, and doubtless will do so, but at least every party who visited that region will not find a sufficient force to protect themselves. That vast extent of country, of such immense importance as a grazing and stock-raising region, was entirely excluded from the use of the enterprising and adventurous settler. Now, how stands the case? An Indian farm has been established at Nome Cult, on the waters of Bel river, and two thousand Indians are now provided for at that place, while the influences of the Reserve are extended to all the surrounding country. A road has been opened from Telama and Red Bluffs to the coast; and a road has also been opened from Cloverdale and Russian river to the Nome Cult Farm. A trail is also opened from Nome Cult to Weaverville, and from Nome Cult to Humboldt Bay, on which it is now proposed to carry the mail weekly from Petaluma to the latter place. The valleys in the Coast Range, as far as Bel river, are all now inhabited, and the hills covered with cattle. All this has been done in a quiet way, without war and without expense, save the appropriated for the Indian service.

