
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, February 5, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you, herewith, a copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, of the 31st ultimo, accompanied by a copy of a report to him from the superintendent of Indian affairs in California, dated the 18th December last, on the subject of the colonization of the Indians in that State.

The act of March 3, 1853, authorized the President of the United States to make *five* military reservations from the public domain in California, or the Territories of Utah and New Mexico, bordering on that State, for Indian purposes; said reservations to contain not more than 25,000 acres each. The act of July 31, 1854, limited these reservations to *three* in number, each to contain not less than 5,000, nor more than 10,000 acres.

For reasons stated in the report of the superintendent, it is suggested that the restrictions imposed by the act of 31st July last, be removed, and the provisions of the law of March 3, 1853, restored.

I concur in the propriety of these modifications of existing laws, except as to the location of one of the additional reservations east of the Sierra

2 COLONIZATION OF CALIFORNIA INDIANS.

Nevada, which I think, with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, is impolitic.

If you approve the present propositions, I recommend that the attention of Congress be called to the subject, and that the sum one of hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) be asked for the year ending June 30, 1856, for the two additional reservations.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. McCLELLAND,
Secretary.

To the PRESIDENT.
