

---

No. 30.

SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,  
*Southern California, March, 1867.*

SIR: Having completed the distribution of the goods for the Mission and Coahuilla Indians, I have the honor to submit the following report:

After making arrangements for the transportation of the goods to the points of distribution, I received them from Tomlinson & Co. on the 21st of January, 1867, and on the 28th despatched teams with the goods designed for the Indians of Cabeson valley. Two days later, I left Los Angeles, and, taking an interpreter with me, proceeded to Agua Caliente, in Cabeson valley, and reached that point on the 4th of February.

At Agua Caliente is a small Indian village, containing about 20 families. It is on the main road to La Paz, and is a point at which travellers and teams have to stop, as there is no water for several miles, either way.

This place receives its name from a large spring of quite warm water, but which, when cooled, is very good to drink.

On my arrival, I immediately sent out runners to notify the captains of the different villages to come in and receive, for their people, the goods I had for them.

Many of the Indians being absent from their villages, I was delayed, and could not complete the distribution until the 6th.

I found the task of distribution quite difficult, there being so large a number of villages that it made the amount for each very small. I, however, accomplished the work, and distributed to the captains of 12 villages, with instructions to them to divide the goods among the most needy, and the tools to be used in common.

At Agua Caliente I found the principal chief of the Chemehueves, a tribe that had been living on the west side of the Colorado river, above La Paz.

These Indians having engaged in a war with the Mojaves, (also living on the Colorado river,) were beaten, and after the loss of many of their number, were obliged to flee for protection to the Coahuillas, of Cabeson valley, and were living on the mes-cal plant, and such other food as they could pick up.

I found them very destitute, and very anxious to settle their difficulties with the Mojaves, so that they might return to their homes on the river. I gave them some blankets, a few yards of calico for the women, and a few hoes, and the chief a letter, addressed to Superintendent Dent, asking him to use his influence that they might not be molested. They appeared well satisfied, and promised not to molest or interfere with any one, whites nor Indians, should they be permitted to return to their homes. I found it necessary to furnish something for the Indians to subsist on while assembled, and purchased of Mr. James Waters some beeves for distribution among them.

After distributing the goods designed for the Indians in this locality, I returned to Los Angeles, where I arrived on the 9th of February.

Immediately on my return, I made arrangements for the transportation of

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. 115

the goods designed for the San Luis and San Diego Indians to Warner's ranch, an intermediate point, which had been selected for making the distribution to those Indians, and started the teams on the 11th, myself and interpreter starting on the 13th.

On my arrival at Temecula, I sent to Manuelito Cota, the head chief, requesting him to call the Indians together at a small Indian village called Puerta Cruz, and proceeding on to that point, reached there on the 18th. The evening of my arrival it commenced raining, and continued for two days; the consequence was the Indians were prevented from coming in, thereby causing a delay of two days. On the 20th, however, the storm ceased, and the Indians began to arrive. I ascertained from Manuelito (the chief) the number of villages from which we might expect delegations, and found there would not be less than twenty.

I accordingly divided the goods and tools, as nearly as possible, into 20 parts, and as fast as the captains came in, I distributed to each the portion designed for his village, and, on the 21st, completed the distribution of all the goods and tools.

After completing the distribution, I had the captains all called together, and endeavored to impress on them the advantages that would result from building better cabins, planting fruit-trees and grape-vines—thus making permanent homes for themselves and children.

During the last year, in several instances, the whites have induced Indians to abandon their little farms for the purpose of obtaining possession themselves; as an inducement giving them trifling presents. I told the Indians, by doing so, they could never again occupy their lands, and consequently would be without homes for their families, and told them they ought not to sell or give up their farms to any one.

The fact is, however, the whites are pushing back on the frontier, and unless lands are reserved for the use of the Indians, soon they will have no place to live.

Without a reservation, nothing can be done to prevent the sale of intoxicating drinks to the Indians, unless a State law could be passed to reach the case.

The Mission Indians, at this time, are very well supplied with provisions, and have sufficient farming tools to answer for two years, and if whiskey sellers could be kept away, they would raise more than enough for their support.

I feel it my duty to again urge on the department the great benefit that would result to the Indians by the appointment of a special travelling agent, whose duty would be to visit, as often as necessary, all the principal villages, direct and instruct the Indians in their labors, and prevent, as far as possible, intoxicating drinks being sold to them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. Q. A. STANLEY,  
*Special Indian Agent, Southern California.*

Hon. B. C. WHITING,  
*Supt. Ind. Affairs, San Francisco, California.*