
No. 10.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, Cal., April 12 1865

SIR: Some time since I received a petition, signed by many of the most prominent citizens of Los Angeles county, stating the necessity of appointing an agent to care for the Indians in that and adjoining counties, and recommending for the position Mr. J. Q. A. Stanley, of Los Angeles, representing him to be a man of undoubted loyalty and integrity, and well acquainted with the necessities of the Indians in that portion of the State. I wrote to Mr. Stanley that his recommendations were satisfactory, and I hoped soon to be able to appoint him. Upon the arrival of the last steamer from Los Angeles I received from him a letter (a copy of which I enclose) informing me as to the condition and present wants of the Indians in that section. From this letter, and other satisfactory evidence, I became convinced that much good could be accomplished by the expenditure of a small sum of money, and upon the return steamer, which left yesterday, I forwarded to Mr. Stanley the following articles which he had estimated for: 12 ploughs, 12 plough harness, 12 dozen hoes, 20 pounds melon seed, and 30 pounds pumpkin seed. I also authorized him to purchase 3,000 pounds of corn and beans for seed at Los Angeles, as these articles can be purchased at a much lower rate there than in the city. I am confident that the distribution of these goods will prove an act of excellent policy as well as pure justice. These

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Indians have been among the furthest advanced in civilization, but during the past few years have been badly imposed upon by a class of secessionists and outlaws, which, with the severe droughts, has brought them to want and suffering; a little assistance now will place them in a position to again care for themselves, and satisfy them that our government yet exists, and is not altogether unmindful of their welfare.

Mr. Stanley offered to undertake the distribution, without remuneration, and with this understanding I appointed him a special agent. Upon the arrival of our congressional delegation I will submit his name to them, and if it meets with their approval will recommend him for appointment. I sent him a small sum to defray his expenses.

Complaints have reached me of the action of some unprincipled whites in driving these Indians from their land, and I have taken measures to have the matter investigated, with a view to place the Indians in possession and protect them in their rights.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. Wm. P. DOLE, *Commissioner.*