

No. 30.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, NORTHERN DISTRICT CALIFORNIA,  
*San Francisco, April 25, 1863.*

SIR: After leaving New York I heard of the defeat of the bill in the House providing for the sale of the Nomo-Lackee and Mendocino Indian reservations, and for the payment out of the proceeds thereof of the settlers in Round valley, for their improvements made on the lands set apart for an Indian reservation.

Since my return home a letter has arrived from Supervisor Short, of said valley, informing me that one Bowers had been killed by an Indian with an axe, and that said Bowers had killed two Indians on the two previous days, while coereing them to go with him in search of a squaw, by whom he had a half-breed child.

I merely name this as another instance of accumulated testimony, showing the impossibility of ever living and prospering in peace while the races are permitted to remain together.

Mr. Short also informs me that the military have taken two or three as hostages, (of the same tribe of Bowers's murderer,) until he, the murderer, is delivered, saying, "If the guilty one is not found the hostage will be hanged." I have written to forbid it, and will go in person next week, as soon as I can complete my first quarter's returns.

I am now greatly perplexed to know what course is best for me to pursue in view of success in Round valley. The supervisor says, "the troops that were sent there are discasing all the Indians," and that he "is heartily sick of them."

Now question: Had I not better try and purchase their crops and part of their stock, and agree to pay them a certain rent until Congress appropriates to pay for their improvements, and in this way get clear of both the settlers and roops?

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. 211

If any other place could be had to suit, I would at once remove the Indians, but this I cannot find anywhere on United States land.

Hoping to be instructed in this matter very soon, I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

GEORGE M. HANSON,  
*Superintending Agent, &c.*

Hon. WILLIAM P. DOLE,  
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs.*

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