

STANISLAUS RIVER, CALIFORNIA,
July 1, 1851.

THE UNITED STATES INDIAN DEPARTMENT.

To W. M. RYER, M. D., DR.

To medical services rendered by order of Colonel Adam Johnston, United States Indian agent, California, to the Indians of the We-chil-la, Sue-ca-ah, Co-ta-plane-mis, Chap-po-sans and Sage-nom-nas tribes, located on this reserve, in the month of June, for the vaccination of two hundred and thirty-six men and boys, and for the treatment of them during the different stages of the vaccine disease-----	\$ 172 00
For the vaccination of two hundred and four women and girls, and treatment during the vaccine disease-----	108 00
For the treatment of thirty-five cases of primary syphilis----	210 00
	1,090 00

In submitting this bill, I would very respectfully call your attention to the expenses incident to the treatment of the above. Thus, in addition to the medicines and adjuvants which I furnished for the curacion of disease, I have also found it necessary, because of the ignorance of the Indian, to employ persons as attendants upon the sick : so that I may be able to insure success to my practice and prevent accidents in the administration of the medicines. These and my individual expenses are so large, that I cannot, consistently with justice to myself, submit a bill of less price than the within.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. M. RYER.

STANISLAUS RIVER, CALIFORNIA,
July 1, 1851.

SIR: Obedient to your instructions, I have the honor to submit my first monthly report of the sick treated by me, among the tribes of Indians in the valley of the San Joaquin.

In the reservation between the Stanislaus and Tuolumne rivers, the most important disease among the Indians, and which cannot be treated by themselves successfully, is syphilis. This disease, affecting their constitutions, is too violent to be influenced by the simple remedies known among them, and generally progresses to a fatal termination. Incapable as they are of treating a disease so malignant in its character, it is left to the benevolence of the white man to save them from its ravages and prevent the decimation of their tribes.

According to my instructions, I have also vaccinated many of the tribes of the We-chil-la, Sue-ca-ah, Co-to-plane-mis, Chap-pah-seins and Sage-nom-nas, to the number of four hundred and forty, and treated them during the different stages of the vaccine disease. I find the Indians understand fully the object of the vaccination, and appreciate the interest taken in their welfare by the agents of the government.

It is but a few years since the ravages of small-pox was felt among the several tribes in this country, scattering and disorganizing them; and now,

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the cases that have occurred in San Francisco, and the fear that it will come again among them, causes them to manifest the greatest desire to be vaccinated.

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

W. M. RYER, *M. D.*

To Colonel ADAM JOHNSTON,
United States Indian agent.
