Collector's Office, Custom-house,  
San Francisco, July 11, 1851.

Sir: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, requesting me to advance the amount of the appropriations for the service of the Indian department, made by Congress at its last session, amounting to $31,750, or so much, not less than $5,000, as will enable you to proceed on a mission to the Indians in the northern section of this State, to endeavor to stifle the difficulties now existing in that region.

I must decline to advance the whole sum appropriated without some directions from the Treasury Department; but the circumstances of the case, supported by the opinions of Messrs. Hall, S. D. King, Wilson, and Gwin, induce me to consent to advance to you the sum of $5,000 on your draft on the department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. Butler King,  
Collector.

Redick McKee, Esq.