

No. 165.

FRESNO INDIAN FARM, *August 4, 1857.*

Sir: I have the honor to submit this my annual report for the year 1857.

Being at this time, to a considerable extent, personally acquainted with all the tame Indian tribes within this agency, I have thought it politic, as a means of information for the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to give, in detail, the names of the tribes, with the number and temporary residence of these wandering people, with such other in-

formation as might enable the department better to judge of their present condition and real wants.

The Wallalshim-mez live on Tuolumne river, are now very much scattered and dissipated, estimated at over one hundred	100
The Pcto-ancies claim the Merced river as their homes, but partially live there, estimated at.....	80
The Noot-choos and Tosemiteiz live on the headwaters of Chowchilla, much scattered and dissipated, often resort to the practice of peddling their women as a method of speculation, (which odious resort for profit the two first-mentioned tribes are not entirely free from,) estimated at.....	95
The Poho-Neeches live on the headwaters of Fresno, work on Upper Fresno farm, and conduct themselves well.....	100
The Chow-chillas permanently reside on this farm, concentrated, and not dissipated.....	85
The Chooc-chancies permanently reside on this farm, concentrated, and not dissipated.....	250
The How-a-chez live permanently on this farm, once the great ruling tribe, now only sixteen.....	16
The Pit-catches live on San Joaquin, much dissipated, mine and labor about Millerton and elsewhere; their women nearly all prostitutes.....	100
The Tallenches, (all that has been said of Pit-catches applies well to the Tallenches,) estimated at.....	80
The Coswas live on San Joaquin and Dry creek, not so much dissipated and exposed, are industrious, and pretty much support themselves.....	95
The Monos, (white, in English,) a nation consisting of many tribes, each having their respective names, live on Fine Gold Gulch and San Joaquin river; are industrious, peaceable, and not dissipated, pretty much supporting themselves; and, so far as I have been able to learn, there are of them who visit and recognize this reservation some three hundred and sixty.....	360
It is, however, well known that this is not half of the actual number of Monos on this side of the Sierra Nevada, within the bounds of this agency.	
The Wat-tokes, a nation of Indians, consisting of the Wat-tokes, Ituchas, Cho-kem-nies, and We-chummics, live high up on King's river, some distance from the white settlements, are peaceable, and pretty much support themselves, estimated at.....	225
The Wat-ches live on King's River farm, do all the labor required of them, and behave themselves.....	103
The Noto-notoos and We-melches live low down on King's River farm, one small community, are peaceable and well-behaved, and mostly subsist themselves on fish and fowls, and as yet have cost the government but little, estimated at	200

The Cow-illers and Tel-emnies live on Four Creeks, labor considerable among the citizens, behave themselves well, and as yet have cost the government but little, estimated at.....	225
The Tal-ches and Woo-wells live on Tulare lake, forming one small community, subsist themselves mostly on fish and fowls, selling some feathers occasionally.....	175
	<hr/>
Making a sum total of.....	2,289
	<hr/> <hr/>

That portion of these tribes of Indians being about one-fifth of the whole number, and consisting of the entire tribes of Chooc-chancies, Chow-chillas, How-a-ches, and a portion of the Poho-neechees, which have lived and labored faithfully on King's River farm, have conducted themselves in a peaceable and becoming manner towards both employés and citizens. They have also made fair progress in learning the use of all kinds of agricultural implements, and have acquired quite a knowledge of that kind of agricultural pursuits best calculated to enable them to sustain themselves in case they should hereafter be thrown on their own resources; whilst a fair proportion of the men not residing on the farms have sought for and obtained labor among the citizens, by which means they have acquired a very satisfactory support for themselves. All, seemingly, have cheerfully followed the good example set by those on the farm; have given to this section of country, so far as Indians are concerned, one year's peace and quietude, without one single theft having been committed in this agency that has come to my knowledge; and though it may have cost the government a fair item in dollars and cents, the bills come forth unstained with bloodshed or turmoil.

That portion of the Indians in this agency whose solicitations to become permanent residents on this farm having been modestly rejected, as a matter of policy, and for the want of means to subsist them, are still anxious to work for food and clothing, and desirous of having a temporary claim on the farm as a refuge in case they are crowded from their present homes by the white settlers, which emergency, from recent complaints, would seem to be fast approaching.

This country is fast becoming settled, and the face of the hills and plains is fast becoming covered with all kinds of stock, which arbitrarily coerce and drive the Indians from their native land and present homes, and, as a matter of course, is fast diminishing the former resources of Indian subsistence, aided by a succession of dry seasons, leaves the Indians here but little of the original gifts of Providence to fall back on. The wants of those Indians who do not permanently reside on the farms, but make frequent visits for presents and advice, for the present time, and until crowded from their homes by settlers, are simply a small issue of food and clothing occasionally, as much to sustain confidence as to appease their real wants.

The Indians residing within the bounds of this agency during the last season have enjoyed fine health, and are gradually wearing out and becoming otherwise relieved from that odious disease, syphilis, which has for many years been the main destroyer of their happiness

and posterity. The greatest obstacle that is now in the way of the Indian department's civilizing and moralizing the Indians in this section of country, is the rude and wanton manner in which their young women, who reside in unprotected rancheros and in the vicinity of mining towns, are sought by men who resort to the frequent use of ardent spirits to allure them into their evil ways.

This evil can only be obviated by their permanent residence on the farms, which would add but little expense to the department, if the women's time, under a proper instructress, was appropriated to the manufacturing of men's clothing.

Now that the season and the plan of catching and curing fish is all understood, it is believed that considerable Indian food may be obtained from that source this fall; in anticipation of which, I have engaged barrels and coarse salt, and am now making preparations for the coming fish season.

I am of the opinion that it is politic and best to retain this place this coming season as a home and place of resort for all the Indians north of San Joaquin and its vicinity.

The necessary ditches for irrigation now having been cut, and the training of the water and the practicability of its application being well understood, it is only necessary to commence in time and incur a small expense, and the certain irrigation of all the land desired is practicable; and there is no good reason why fears for the success of a crop on this place should be entertained, if I am instructed to proceed in time. By the first day of September next, preparations for the coming crop should have commenced.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your most obedient,
M. B. LEWIS, *Sub-Agent*.

THOS. J. HENLY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, San Francisco, California.

No. 166.

AGENCY, SEBASTIAN MILITARY RESERVE,
Tejon Valley, California, August 15, 1857.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the department, I have the honor herewith to submit my annual report for the current year.

The Indians under my charge have, during the past year, enjoyed the blessings of health, peace, plenty, and, so far as their dissolute habits would permit, contentment.

The early part of the past winter promised fair for an abundance of rain, and consequently favorable for an abundant crop. I therefore, at the proper season, used my utmost energies in putting in a plentiful crop of wheat and barley. I succeeded in seeding about six hundred acres of wheat and one hundred and fifteen acres of barley in good condition. This, in addition to the large quantity of volunteer grain, promised an abundant harvest and an abundant supply for