

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., October 31, 1865.

SIR: Having assumed the duties of Commissioner of Indian Affairs after the beginning of the third quarter of the year over which this annual report extends, and having been necessarily absent a great portion of the time since, upon public business in the southwest, I have been unable to obtain that familiarity with the details of business, or to gain that acquaintance with the condition of Indian affairs generally, which a longer time would have allowed. I present herewith a summary of such information in regard to the interesting people who are by law placed under the charge of this office as I have been able to obtain from the current correspondence and annual reports of superintendents and agents, and other employes.

Before proceeding to refer to the various superintendencies and agencies in detail, and to make such suggestions as seem to be called for in reference to each, there are sundry matters of common interest to the whole Indian service, or relating to several agencies combined, which I deem worthy of special notice.

First among these is the neglect on the part of many of the officers responsible to this office to forward their monthly, quarterly, and annual reports at the proper time, in disregard of repeated directions from the office. Some of them appear to have imagined that circulars of instructions were mere matters of form, with which a compliance was not expected, or as applying to everybody but themselves. Nor are they sufficiently careful to make these reports complete in detail, as required, where they are made. The consequence is that each year, notwithstanding every endeavor on the part of this office, its annual report fails of completeness somewhere, by the neglect of its subordinates; and its statistical tables do not give that fulness of information for which they are designed. I confess that I do not know of any way to remedy this difficulty except by reporting to the department each case of delinquency, and relying upon it to seek a remedy by a change of officers. It is an injustice to those who are prompt and thorough in their reports to allow them to fail of usefulness because the reports of others, necessary to completeness, are not sent, or are deficient in essential particulars.

It has been customary, I have learned, for agents who are superseded by others to take away from the agency the papers and books properly belonging there, thus removing the history of the past transactions, and preventing their successors from explaining matters which must be, and often are, necessarily referred to them. I have endeavored to correct this evil by a circular requiring all agents to preserve and leave as public property duplicate copies of all important papers and vouchers, &c., as well as a complete daily record of all agency transactions; and shall observe as a rule of action by this office the suspension of the accounts of all retiring agents who, after knowledge of the circular above referred to, shall fail to show that they have passed over to their successors the books and papers of the agency.

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To the subject of traders' licenses, circumstances have caused me to pay special attention, and I have come to the conclusion that a radical change in either principle or practice, perhaps both, is necessary. I suppose that I am not making a remark which will startle the department by its novelty, when I suggest that there is reason to believe that agents are too often in some manner interested with or for the traders. Certainly there can be no doubt that if such combination of interests should exist, it can only exist to the injury of the interests of the Indians, and consequently of the government. It is not uncommon to hear the apparent rapidly increasing wealth of employes of, or officers subordinate to, this office, spoken of as a reproach to the service. I have no idea of undertaking a Quixotic attempt to correct the manners or morals of public officers; but in this particular matter I have been led to believe that an improvement can be effected, partly by the adoption and enforcement of new and stringent rules by the department, and partly by the aid of congressional enactments. I presume that the presence of traders upon most of the reservations, under proper guards and restrictions, is a benefit to the Indians, enabling them to obtain, in exchange for their furs and other articles furnished by them, such things as they need for their comfort, and I propose to continue to grant licenses to traders as heretofore; but, with your concurrence, to annex such conditions to the approval as will compel them to an exchange with the Indians at fair prices, to be established from time to time, according to circumstances. This has already been done in several cases by your direction, and I propose to make the rule a general one. I have also issued an order or circular requiring hereafter the agent or superintendent who approves a license (in analogy to the law requiring such certificate on all contracts made by them) to make the following affidavit on every license which they may approve, to wit:

"I, (name of agent,) United States Indian agent for the (name of tribe) Indians, do solemnly swear (or affirm) (or where there are no magistrates accessible, certify on honor) that the license hereto annexed and granted by me has been granted without any agreement or understanding with the party so licensed, or any other person or persons on behalf of the party so licensed, for any benefit or advantage to myself, directly or indirectly, present or future, nor to any person or persons on my behalf, in any manner whatever; and that no arrangement for such benefit to myself or other person on my behalf is in contemplation in case this license shall be approved."

With a view to the correction of such wrongs as may exist, and the prevention of others in future, in relation to a combination of interests between agents and traders or contractors, I suggest an application to Congress for the passage of a law which shall make it a penal offence for any agent or other officer in the Indian service to be in any manner, directly or indirectly, interested in the profits of the business of any trader, or in any contract for the purchase of goods, or in any trade with the Indians, at their own or any other agency; the same penalties to apply to the licensing of any relative to trade, or to purchasing goods or provisions for the use of the Indians of any firm in which they or any relative may be partners or in any way interested. I do not desire to push legislation to a point where it cannot be enforced, but I think that in this matter the most stringent measures are necessary.

In connexion with this subject, I feel called upon to suggest that, in order to obtain the services of a class of men who may be expected to keep aloof from the reprehensible conduct which appears to call for such legislation as is above suggested, there should be an increase of salary provided for the agents. Fifteen hundred dollars per annum is now the established rate of pay, whatever may be their duties or responsibilities, the amount of their bonds varying with the amount of money annually placed in their hands. The fact that innumerable applicants stand ready to take any places which are vacated is not, in my judgment, an argument against an increase of pay; it is simply a proof of the

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commonly received idea of the outside profit of the business. As we propose to cut off this profit, it is but just that we give to the thoroughly qualified and honest guardian of the interests of the Indians, who is willing to leave the comforts of civilized society and devote himself conscientiously to his work, a compensation which shall be adequate to the service which we expect from him. For similar reasons, I make the same recommendation as to increase of pay of superintendents, with gradations, &c. There might reasonably be a gradation in the salaries of the agents, those who have the greater responsibility and labor receiving the greater compensation. I submit the subject for your consideration. I also take this opportunity to suggest that the labor and responsibility necessarily devolved upon the office of Commissioner of Indian Affairs are, in extent and importance, second to those of no other bureau in the several departments of the government; and while several of the heads of bureaus organized since that of Indian Affairs have been provided with salaries in some degree commensurate with their responsibilities and with the enormous cost of living at the seat of government, the salary attached to this bureau remains still inadequate to what I can but deem its just demands.

Should you concur with me in this view of the subject, I recommend that application be made to Congress for such increase of the salary of this office as will at least place it upon an equality with other bureaus requiring no more responsibility or labor.

The question of the reorganization of the working force of this office was brought to the attention of the department in the last annual report, and a special report, with a rough draught of a bill containing the proposed changes and additions, was subsequently prepared, and, with some modifications, submitted by your predecessor to the finance committee of the Senate, but no action was taken upon the proposition. I beg leave to renew the recommendation referred to, deeming it of essential importance to the efficiency of the bureau, and will submit a special report, with my views of the changes and additions required.

Questions of much importance to some of the tribes in Kansas have arisen, and are likely to arise in the case of others, as to the right of the State authorities to tax the lands of such Indians as have taken their lands in severalty and hold them by patent from the United States. A case in relation to the Miami Indians of Kansas has recently been decided by the supreme court of that State in favor of the right of the State to tax the lands, although the Indians still reside upon lands reserved to them by treaty. Measures have been taken to obtain the opinion of the Attorney General upon the subject, and it is confidently expected that the right of the Indians to be exempt from taxation until they shall assume the duties and privileges of citizens will be vindicated.

The supply of copies of the laws and regulations governing the Indian service is exhausted, and as the lapse of time has developed the necessity of some changes in these matters, and as there is a sufficient fund appropriated by Congress for the purpose, I propose to have the code of regulations revised for publication, so that the new appointees of the department may be supplied.

In regard to the subject of education, inasmuch as experience has developed the fact that, in the majority of cases, manual labor schools for the Indians are productive of greater benefit to them than day schools, for the reason that in the former a more constant and thorough control of the pupils can be obtained, and they can be instructed and practiced in habits of industry useful to both males and females, I propose to aid in the establishment and support of these schools so far as the funds appropriated, under treaty stipulations or otherwise, at the disposal of the department, will allow.

Some years since an application was made to Congress for an appropriation, to be placed at the disposal of the Department of the Interior, to provide for such expenditures as might be necessary to obtain and preserve in the department such memorials of the Indians, whether portraits, implements of industry

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or of warfare, specimens of apparel, &c., as would be valuable for preservation. I beg leave to call your attention again to the subject. The Indian race, by what seems to be the law of its existence, is fast passing away, and in contact with the white race the tribes are rapidly losing their distinctive features, in language, habits, customs, &c. A moderate appropriation, judiciously expended, would enable the office, through its agents, teachers, missionaries, and others interested in the various tribes of red men, to collect annually a large and increasingly valuable collection of the memorials referred to.

It is gratifying to notice, in the examination of a number of the annual reports of the agents, an increased willingness on the part of the Indians to labor, and a greater number of cases where they are employed and paid regular wages upon the reservations. Instructions have been forwarded to give them the preference in all cases where they are willing to work.

Another evidence of progress in the right direction is the request made by several agents, on behalf of the Indians, that the kind of goods furnished to them may be changed from the blankets, bright-colored cloths, and various gewgaws, which have from time immemorial gone to make up invoices of Indian goods, to substantial garments, improved agricultural implements, &c. Of course this office will take pleasure in responding to all such demands.

Particular reference to the subject of the rights and interests of the orphan children of the Miamies is made in connexion with that agency, but the principle in question touches a number of other tribes. I am fully convinced of the duty, on the part of this office, of the adoption of some policy which will sufficiently protect the interests of such orphans, in securing their education, their rights to the lands intended for them, and to their annuities, which last I propose to retain and invest for them, unless some better plan can be devised after receiving the report of Superintendent Murphy, to whom the subject has been referred.

The subject of control by the agents over the missionaries who labor among the Indians has presented itself in the case of the Catholic priest among the Menomonees, which is fully detailed in Agent Davis's report. The influence of the priest at that agency over the Catholic portion of the tribe appears to have been very objectionable; and, in the matter of his conduct at the time of the prevalence of the small-pox among them quite outrageous, and the agent's course in excluding him from the reservation was fully approved. Fortunately, such complaints are very rare, and I trust this case may have no parallel elsewhere. The same priest is charged by the agent with obtaining or endeavoring to obtain from the relatives of deceased Indian soldiers, of whom there have been many among the Menomonees, a large share of their arrears of pay and bounty, to pay for masses for the souls of the deceased. At the hazard of being charged with interfering with matters of religion, I have, by special report upon this subject, taken steps to prevent the consummation of this wrong, by having these payments made through this office.

Some action is necessary on the part of Congress to provide a remedy, by a revision of the list of authorized Indian agencies, for the confusion which has gradually arisen out of the division of the old established Territories. The case of Washington, Idaho and Montana is in point, where, out of the number originally provided for Washington Territory, two are now on duty in Idaho and Montana, while one is assigned to duty in Oregon; and lately an agent was appointed, under a commission for Indians in Idaho, to take charge of the Flatheads in Montana, and who must be paid from the appropriation for Washington, to which superintendency the Flatheads originally belonged. Several other changes will doubtless be found necessary on the receipt of the reports of the commissions now engaged in making treaties with various tribes, the final adjustment of matters with the southern Indians, and the ratification of certain other treaties which will probably be laid before you during the approaching session of Con-

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gress. A special report on this subject will be presented when the required data reach this office.

During the past summer there has occurred much correspondence with the military authorities in command in the west, with most of which this office has become acquainted through copies furnished by your department, and instructions have been forwarded to the various superintendents and agents by your direction, requiring them to observe carefully the policy adopted, which may be briefly stated thus: that where Indians are hostile, the civil authority is to be held in abeyance until the measures taken by the military authorities for quelling the outbreak have been concluded; that where the Indians are generally quiet and peaceable, but require prompt action to quell disorders among themselves, or to prevent unlawful interference of white persons with them, the military are to render assistance when appealed to by the agents; and at all other times the military are not to interfere with the civil control of the Indians. Such a policy as is above indicated is the plain dictate of common sense, and if all officers will but exercise it, there need be no difficulty. Upon some points, however, there may be a variance of opinion, which must be settled by superior authority; as, for instance, the question as to when military force is to commence its operations and take the complete control, when the civil agents are of opinion that *peaceable* measures will prevent bloodshed; and, again, as to where, short of extermination, the exercise of military authority is to stop, when the civil authorities have reason to believe that the hostile parties are sufficiently punished. No such difficulty has as yet arisen, and a frank and candid interchange of views on such points will, I am confident, continue the present harmony of action, and there is no reason to apprehend any other course from the distinguished officers in high command in the west, with all of whom the relations of this office have been most cordial and pleasant, though some of their subordinates, in cases which have been from time to time laid before you, have doubtless exceeded their authority and caused some trouble.

Several important treaties have been transmitted to your department from this office during the past year, which should, I think, meet with the early attention of the Senate, and the necessary appropriations be promptly made without waiting for the general appropriation bill. Among these are the treaty with the Klamath and Modoc tribes in Oregon, and those with the Omahas and Winnebagoes, all of which were transmitted to your department shortly after the adjournment of Congress. The last two, especially, require attention, in order that the measures proposed for the Indians may be put into operation at once; and indeed the other is scarcely less pressing. Besides these treaties, there is one lately forwarded, and of much importance, concluded with the Utah Indians by Superintendent Irish, extinguishing their claims to the occupancy of nearly the whole of that territory. Mr. Irish's report, sent with this treaty, is very interesting, and is presented in the accompanying documents.

There is one treaty before the Senate unconfirmed, that last made with the Nez-Perces, which should *not*, in my opinion, be confirmed, as will more particularly appear in remarks under the head of the superintendency of Idaho; circumstances in regard to the rapid settlement of that Territory having made other arrangements necessary.

The various treaties made by the several special commissions during the present autumn will also come before you for action.

For convenience of reference I recapitulate here, in brief, the various points alluded to in this report as requiring action by Congress, to wit:

Legislation with reference to a more strict control of traders, requiring them to conform to just schedules of prices in their sales to and purchases from the Indians, and providing penalties for connivance with agents.

In regard to prevention of and punishment for the connivance of agents with

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traders or contractors, or the being concerned in any manner in the profits of transactions with other parties on behalf of government.

A more stringent law to prevent cattle-stealing in the Indian territory.

Increase of pay and gradation of salaries of agents, superintendents, &c.

Reorganization of the working force of this bureau, and increase of salary of the Commissioner.

Protection of Indian lands from taxation by State laws.

An appropriation for the collection and preservation of information relative to, and memorials of the various tribes of Indians.

Revision of the list of agents, and provision for new ones, where changes of boundaries or new treaty provisions require it.

Action upon the several treaties herein referred to.

Provisions for houses for agents at posts where no dwellings are now furnished for them.

Appropriation for payment to Pottawatomies, who have taken steps to become citizens, of their *pro rata* share of the funds of the tribe.

Legislation, if necessary, in the interests of the orphan children in the various tribes who receive annuities.

Provision for the purchase of land for reservations in California, and for the extinguishment of claims to improvements thereon.

The organization of a territorial government for the Indian territory, and settlement of friendly Indians therein.

Encouragement of a railroad from some point on the Missouri river to Galveston, Texas.

The special reasons assigned for the above action will be found under their proper heads in the course of this report, and the papers referred to are transmitted herewith.

I deem it unnecessary, in these general remarks, to make any particular reference to the subject of the several treaty commissions which have been or are still engaged in the duties assigned to them. Such reference as I have deemed appropriate will be found under the heads of the several superintendencies within which their sessions were appointed to be held, particularly the southern superintendency. I cannot, however, refrain from congratulating the department on the great success which is attending the efforts made to restore peace and amity between our people and these "children of the forest." It can certainly add nothing to our glory to vanquish so weak an enemy, even if there were no doubt that we were in the right; and to wage a merciless war against them, when it is doubtful who was guilty of the first wrong, is the most wanton cruelty.

What has already been accomplished is a restoration of peace with the various hostile bands of Sioux in Dakota, and with all the Indians between the Platte and the Arkansas, on the great travelled routes across the plains.

The difficulties in the former case seemed to be almost insuperable. A military campaign in the Indian country had just closed without such results as would tend to impress the Indians with our power; they were widely scattered, and being familiar with the horrible transaction at Sand creek, were naturally suspicious of our designs. But, by the latest advices, the efforts of the commission sent to treat with them seemed likely to meet with success; and such progress had been made as would undoubtedly result in peace and tranquillity in all that region.

In the latter case the difficulties were not so great, but the success has been signal. A treaty was made with such of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes as have remained south of the Platte, and they had sent their young men to convey the glad tidings to their northern brethren and induce them to come in.

The Apaches, too, had joined in the treaty with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, and gladly accepted its terms, and the Comanches and Kiowas had made

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peace and entered into a treaty. All of these tribes had accepted reservations south of the Arkansas, and far from the great thoroughfare where they had been so troublesome.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

The Indians of this superintendency consist of a large number of small bands; with names of infinite variety, but almost uniform uncouthness, apparently taken from the rivers, mountains, or bays where they resided. I find it impossible to ascertain the exact census of the various tribes, as the superintendent and agents appear to have systematically overlooked that essential particular in their reports. By a careful collation of former reports with those of this year, which occasionally make mention of the number of particular tribes, I have prepared the following estimate, arranged in the usual method practiced in this superintendency, of classing together the tribes who were included in the various treaties made with them by Governor Stevens:

Treaty of Point Elliot, Tulalip agency, Agent Howe: Tulalips, Skokomish, Lummis, &c. Population about 1,900.

Treaty of Point No Point, Skokomish agency, Sub-Agent Knox: Sklallams, &c., 1,500.

Treaty of Neeah bay, Makah agency, Agent Webster: Makahs, &c., 1,400.

Treaty of Medicine creek, Puyallup agency, Agent Elder: Puyallups, Nisquallys, Squaksins, and Ohchalas, (the latter tribe not treated with, and in charge of same agent,) 2,000.

Treaty of Olympia, Quinaielt agency, Sub-Agent Hill: Quinaielt, Quillehutes, &c., 600.

Treaty of Fort Simcoe, Yakama agency, Agent Wilbur: Yakamas, &c., 3,000.

Besides the above, Special Agent Paige has been sent by the superintendent to look after the condition and wants of certain tribes in the northeast part of the Territory, and reports the number as follows: Spokanes 1,200, Colvilles 500, Pend d'Oreilles 800, Okinukanes 500, other small bands 400—say, 3,400 in all.

Grand total in the Territory, as estimated above, 14,800.

From the reports of Agent Howe of the Tulalip agency, and Mr. Finkbouer the farmer in charge of the Lummis reservation, we learn that the Indians exhibit a marked improvement in some respects; have been quiet, and somewhat industrious, successful in their crops, and have added twenty-five houses for their comfort. The school, long under the charge of the devoted Father Ohirouse, has produced good results; but he pleads for means to provide better accommodations, subsistence, and clothing, so that the school may be of more service. The superintendent estimates that \$5,000 would be sufficient for these purposes, and I refer to the report of this earnest laborer for the welfare of the Indians for the good reasons given for his request. The superintendent thinks that a competent miller should be employed to keep the saw-mill running, so as to furnish lumber for houses for the Indians. He also suggests the necessity of a definite survey and location of the lines of the reservation.

From Sub-Agent Knox, in charge of the Skokomish reservation, we get accounts of but little improvement by the Indians, who seem to be in bad health, owing to the effects of whiskey, which is furnished them in spite of all precautions. Still, something has been done, against great obstacles, in clearing up a farm, setting out orchards, &c. The Sklallam Indians refuse to live on the reservations, but the Skokomish do, and will improve when sufficient land is cleared of its heavy timber for their use. There is no school on the reservation, and the superintendent states that, deeming the amount provided so small that its expenditure for the purpose would avail nothing, he has retained

it for the present, unexpended, to be used when the condition of things at the agency shall be better prepared for its profitable use.

Agent Webster has charge of the tribes parties to the treaty of Neeah bay his labors being principally confined to the Makahs, numbering 675, in regard to whom his report is quite full. These Indians have seventy-three frame and plank houses, and raised a good crop of potatoes last year, besides obtaining and curing one hundred tons of fish, ten tons of which they sold for \$1,000. The farming operations at this agency are limited, very little land being cleared, the Indians preferring to fish in the convenient waters of Puget sound, to devoting themselves to agricultural pursuits. The agent, therefore, recommends that a change of policy be adopted towards them, and that they be encouraged to enter into the business of fishing as a means of livelihood. He thinks that, by furnishing them with a small schooner, of forty or fifty tons, they could do a successful business in catching and curing for market the fish which abound in the wide straits of Fuca and in the waters of the Pacific, near Cape Flattery. In regard to the school, the building for which is, according to Superintendent Waterman's report, sufficient to accommodate two hundred children in a thriving New England town, it appears to have been, thus far, of very small avail in the education of the children, who cannot be induced to attend in any considerable number, or with any degree of regularity. The teacher, however, appears devoted to his work, and indefatigable in his efforts to induce the children to come in, and writes hopefully that some good will soon be accomplished. The agent thinks that injustice has been done in not forwarding for the use of the Indians the funds for farming purposes; but this complaint, unless it refers to the inadequacy of the appropriation, seems to be unfounded.

Agent Elder's report as to the Puyallup agency, comprising several tribes and reservations, is favorable on the whole, and he represents the people, under the improved state of things which he has inaugurated, as more prosperous than ever before. The Puyallups, besides subsisting themselves, have sold produce to the amount of over \$6,000. From the agent's report it would appear that eleven years of the treaty payments have passed with but little benefit to the Indians. Under present regulations, and with a class of employes more faithful to their duties, he hopes that the remaining nine years will witness such improvement that the Indians will in that time be abundantly capable of caring for themselves. To this end he is causing the Indians to be taught mechanical arts, and finds them apt to learn.

The Chehalis Indians, numbering about 600, are under charge of this agency. No treaty has ever been made with them, but a portion of them have been concentrated upon a small but fertile reservation reserved from sale by the General Land Office, and are doing well. These Indians are industrious, and are raising an ample subsistence, but they fear that, having no treaty, their lands may be taken from them; and they say, too, that they cannot understand why they should not have the benefit of schools, mechanics, and other helps to civilization, as well as other Indians. I recommend that the superintendent be authorized to treat with these Indians, as I anticipate that not only will this peaceably disposed tribe be satisfied and improved thereby, but that a moderate appropriation for their benefit will have the effect of concentrating other tribes upon their reservation, to their great advantage.

Sub-agent Hill has in charge the Quinalt reservation, newly located, a change from its former location having been found necessary on account of a prevalence of poisonous plants. Slow progress is being made in clearing off the heavy timber, and not much can be done in the way of raising crops until an opening is thus made. A school is desirable, but the superintendent, with good reason, I think, deems it best to await operations in getting the Indians somewhat comfortably situated upon the reservation.

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The Yakama reservation, under charge of Agent Wilbur, is an illustration of what may be done under favorable circumstances by an efficient agent, towards the real, permanent benefit of the Indians. The early history of this reservation does not indicate on the part of former employés of the government such conduct as would entitle them to a diploma for honesty and integrity, if the facts are as stated in Agent Wilbur's report; but at present the Indians appear to be making rapid progress in every essential element of civilization under the system adopted, by which every employé is conscientiously devoted to his work. The reservation is favorably situated in the southern part of the Territory, on the east side of the Cascade range of mountains, and is quite extensive, fertile, and enjoys a mild and healthy climate. Buildings of the various kinds necessary for agency purposes are provided, of good character, and the mills are kept in good repair. On the agency farm 100 acres were under cultivation, though with fears of a light crop on account of drought. Only one white farmer is employed, the compensation provided for the other being used in hiring Indian labor. The school farm has eighty acres under fence, and thirty acres cultivated by the Indian boys and young men of the school; the total average attendance at the school being twenty-nine, male and female. Particular attention is paid to teaching the boys trades, and the girls the arts of housewifery, and to such advantage that the results of their labor in the manufacture of shoes, harness, clothing, &c., and in the sale of farm produce, has amounted to over \$1,500, besides their own subsistence. Besides this, the Indians themselves cultivate over two thousand acres of land, and are becoming independent in every respect. It is as gratifying as it is uncommon to be able to record thus the complete success of an Indian agency, where every feature of its annual report is favorable, no complaints are made, and no changes asked for.

In reference to the remaining Indians of the Territory who have heretofore been under the general charge of the commanding officer at Fort Colville, in the northeast, but to whom Mr. George Paige was sent as special agent, some general information is given in Mr. Paige's report. The Spokanes are the most important tribe, as well in number as in character. Their chiefs speak English well, and the people raise very fair crops here and there, but spend much of their time in fishing. They are a self-sustaining people, jealous of their rights, and for the most part disinclined to any treaty involving a relinquishment of territorial rights. Their country, however, is being traversed by the inevitable gold-seekers, and unpleasant collisions, arising from the reckless and unscrupulous manner in which the property and rights of Indians are trampled upon by the whites will doubtless compel a resort to the usual plan of reservation and concentration. The Indians about Fort Colville are well disposed and quite intelligent, and there is a good account also of the Pend d'Oreilles, west of the Bitter Root mountains; but the Okinakanes are represented as a vagabond, thieving race, living partly across the British line, and making much trouble by robbing settlers or travellers, and then escaping across the border with their plunder.

OREGON.

The annual summary from this important superintendency did not reach this office until the moment of closing this report, and too late to allow of any digest being made of its contents. It will be found, with the reports of the several agents, in an appendix to the accompanying documents.

We have at hand no accurate statistics of the present population of the Indians of Oregon. There are four agents and two sub-agents in service in the State, having charge of the Indians gathered upon several reservations, to wit:

Umatilla reservation, in northeast Oregon; agent, Barnhart; the *Cayuses*, *Walla-wallas*, and other small tribes; total number on and near the reservation,

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as reported last year, 1,021. Owing to the inadequate number of agents provided for Oregon, Agent Barnhart, appointed for Washington Territory, is assigned to duty at this agency.

Warm Springs reservation, in the northern part of the State; agent, Logan, (recently deceased;) the Wascoes and others, 1,066.

Grande Ronde reservation, in the northwest; agent, Harvey; having in charge fragments of numerous tribes or bands, estimated a year ago at 2,300.

Siletz agency, and *Alsea* sub-agency, along the Pacific coast, in charge of Agent Simpson and Sub-agent Collins, and numbering at the last accounts about 2,800 in all.

Klamaths and *Modocs*, under charge of Sub-agent Applegate; a treaty having been made with them last year, but which has not yet been acted upon by the Senate. This proposed reservation is in the southern part of the State, near the California line; they number about 2,000.

Besides the above, there are tribes of Snakes or Shoshonees in the southeast, with whom a treaty has recently been made, and other tribes of various names, supposed to number about 1,000 in all.

In relation to affairs in Oregon, two important reports have reached this office since its last annual report, in reference to which allusion should be made. Under date of June 22, 1864, instructions were sent to Superintendent Huntington to proceed to the negotiation of a treaty with the Klamaths, Modocs, Snakes, &c., in the southern part of the State, and the sum of \$10,000, being one-half of an appropriation made by Congress for the purpose, was placed at his disposal. On being advised by the superintendent that all of the tribes referred to could not be comprised in one treaty arrangement, he was directed to proceed with the Klamaths and Modocs alone, and the balance of the appropriation was sent to him to use in his negotiations with the other tribes. The treaty with the Klamaths, &c., reached this office too late for action by the Senate last winter, having been transmitted to your department February 24. By it the Indians cede their claims to about twelve million acres of land, and concentrate upon a reservation of moderate but sufficient extent. This treaty, as will be seen by Superintendent Huntington's report, has been negotiated at a very small expense, and much below the amount placed at his disposal. Its provisions are regarded as very favorable to the United States, and the appropriations required being small, it is hoped that the treaty will be ratified, and the means of carrying it into effect provided at an early day; at all events, in time for spring operations on the reservation.

In regard to the treaty with the Snake Indians, full particulars will be found in the superintendent's annual report in an appendix to the accompanying documents.

The other subject referred to above is that of providing a small appropriation to enable the superintendent to make a treaty with the Indians comprised within the Siletz agency and Alsea sub-agency along the Pacific coast. Some years ago a treaty was made with these Indians, by which they agreed to cede a large body of land under certain conditions. They did give up the possession of their lands, and retired within limited boundaries at two points of their old country, where they have received from time to time some assistance from government. But the treaty referred to was never ratified by the Senate, though the Indians fulfilled *their* promises strictly. It now appears that it is important to the interests of the white population, while it will be no prejudice to the Indians, that the former should obtain access to, and possession of, the country about the Yaquina bay and river, where there is a good harbor and site for a commercial town; it and the neighboring region being comprised within the Alsea sub-agency. A very full report from the superintendent, submitted herewith, proposes to make a treaty with the Indians referred to, under which the four tribes about Yaquina bay will be concentrated at a point further north, and

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thus leave the coveted territory open to settlement. Under this arrangement, one sub-agency would be dispensed with. The estimated expense of the removal of these Indians is given by the superintendent at \$16,500; and he suggests that the town site at Yaquina bay would, at public sale, more than reimburse the government for the outlay. I suggest the policy of early action upon this subject.

CALIFORNIA.

Under date of April 1, 1865, a report from late Superintendent Wiley furnished this office with information of the general condition of the Indians upon the reservations, and of the progress thus far made in the reorganization of Indian affairs in California under the law of 1864. At that time it was expected that a very large surplus of grain and vegetables would be raised upon the reservations; but, as will be seen by the report of Superintendent Maltby, who succeeded Mr. Wiley about the first of May, those expectations have not been realized. Before Mr. Wiley retired, however, he was able to report many changes for the better in the condition of affairs. Up to the date of the report above referred to, but two of the four reservations to which the act of Congress limits the superintendency had been definitely settled upon, being those at Round Valley and Hoopa valley.

It was intended to remove the Indians from the Smith River reservation, and place them at the old Klamath reservation, still owned by government, but to place the occupants under the charge of an employé of the Hoopa valley agency. No definite suggestions were made as to the selection of the other two permanent reservations.

By the annual report of Superintendent Maltby, of recent date, we obtain quite full information of the condition of affairs in California, the superintendent having but lately completed an extensive tour of observation, made in company with Hon. Mr. Higby, one of the congressional Committee of Investigation. In regard to the disposition of the Indians upon the reservations, they are said to be everywhere well disposed and peaceable, and willing to labor for their own support; and many who have not hitherto come under the care of the agents are seeking permission to come in and share the labors and benefits of the policy adopted upon the several agency farms. The superintendent represents them as very destitute of clothing, supplies of which must be purchased for them, until such time as they can raise a surplus of produce to be disposed of. The additional numbers coming in every year to the reservations will probably postpone all sales of surplus produce indefinitely, as the new comers must be supported till they can raise a crop.

Superintendent Maltby desires to discontinue, as soon as practicable, the system, still to some extent practiced, of renting lands for Indian reservations. In this desire I readily concur, and it is hoped that such practice will soon cease, either by adopting the suggestions of the superintendent's report, which proposes to purchase the necessary lands at a fair appraisement, or by removing the Indians to lands already owned by the government.

There are no schools upon any of the reservations in California, and the suggestion of Superintendent Maltby, that Congress be requested to make provision for at least one good school upon each reservation, meets with my hearty concurrence, and I trust that this small chance of intellectual life may be vouchsafed to the poor remnant of the tribes who once occupied as their own a country so prolific of wealth, and who have been compelled to yield possession without any stipulations for their benefit.

The four agencies referred to in the annual report are those of *Round valley*, in northeastern California, *Hoopa valley* and *Smith river*, in the northern part of the State, *west* of the mountains, and *Tule river*, in the extreme south, *east* of the mountains.

Round valley comprises a tract of about 25,000 acres, containing land of remarkable fertility, both as to the arable and pasture land. Under the charge of Agent Fairchild, the measures taken for the care and support of the Indians at this point have been carried on with energy, and 2,700 acres have been enclosed with a good fence, while preparations are far advanced towards the fencing of 3,000 acres more. Over 1,000 acres have been under cultivation this year; but the crops are light as to all kinds of grain, though vegetables were plentiful. The occupants of this reservation comprise the following Indians: Pit Rivers 320, Wylackies 80, Ukies 300, Onocows 240, making an aggregate of 940; to which would be added immediately 370 of the Indians who have been kept at Humboldt bay, under charge of the military; the remaining 400 of those prisoners being at the old Mendocino reservation, at present under the charge of an employé from Round valley. The agent also expects to receive some 800 of the Clear Lake, Ukiah and Redwood bands, who have expressed a desire to come into the valley, and thinks there will be no difficulty in subsisting all of them. The superintendent has terminated a lease of certain lands which were no longer needed, and which was costing the government \$3,350 per annum. He recommends the purchase of the improvements of the white settlers remaining in the valley, but gives no estimate of the cost of such purchase.

Hoopla valley was selected last fall by late Superintendent Wiley as a reservation, and possession taken under an arrangement with the settlers that their improvements should be purchased. Upon his suggestion that these improvements would not cost more than \$60,000, an appropriation of that amount was made by Congress, and a board of appraisers designated. An appraisal made under directions from this office, by parties represented to be disinterested, was already in progress, and their report reached this office before the instructions under the act of Congress were sent out. It made the valuation over \$116,000, besides a large quantity of agricultural implements, amounting to over \$8,000. The appraisal by the new board has just reached the office, and is within the amount appropriated for the improvements, while the valuation of the implements is about \$4,260 in coin. Upon the payment of the amounts so returned, the reservation will be entirely in the hands of government, and all white persons excluded, except the necessary employés.

Superintendent Maltby does not represent the capacity of the reservation for sustaining a large number of Indians in as favorable terms as his predecessor. There are now 600 upon it, under charge of Agent Stockton, and 1,800 Klamaths are expected, this being, as now stated, about the capacity of the reservation.

No trouble is found in getting all the necessary labor from the Indians, an overseer only being needed to direct them. Much expense for transportation of supplies is necessarily incurred until sufficient crops can be raised to subsist the Indians.

Smith River reservation is upon the coast, and consists of one farm of 1,200 acres, besides adjoining lands, rented at a cost of \$1,948 in gold per year. Upon it are 700 Humboldt and Wylackie Indians, quietly and industriously occupied; and they have raised this year an abundance for their subsistence. The superintendent recommends the purchase of these lands, and more in the vicinity, if necessary, as he thinks the cost of removing the Indians and putting up the necessary buildings at any other point would greatly exceed the cost of such purchase. He will be called upon for an estimate of the cost of the land referred to, as well as of the remaining improvements in Round valley. The Tule river farm, in the southern part of the State, under the charge of Agent Hoffman, contains 1,280 acres, and is also rented at \$1,000 a year. There are upon it 800 Owen's river and Tule river Indians, who, though the crops were light, have raised enough to subsist them. The superintendent makes the same recommendation as to purchase of this farm as in the case of Smith river, and

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thinks that sufficient land can be had at fair rates in the vicinity for other southern bands who will soon have to be brought upon reservations.

With Superintendent Maltby's report he has forwarded the statements of two special agents sent by his predecessor last spring, with instructions to visit and inquire into the condition of, and furnish seeds and a supply of implements to, the Mission Indians, located in small settlements near the southern line of the State, from Los Angeles to San Diego. These reports are full of interest, and the visit appears to have been of benefit to the Indians. Unscrupulous white men seem to be interfering with their rights in a very unjustifiable manner, and it was time that protection was extended to them.

The total number of Indians upon the reservations named above is, by the superintendent's report, 3,860; while he estimates the whole number in the State not on reservations, and including the Mission Indians, (who live upon and cultivate their own lands,) at 30,000, which is much beyond any other late estimates of the population of the California tribes.

ARIZONA.

After the resignation of Superintendent Poston, on the occasion of his election as a delegate to Congress last year, he left Mr. G. W. Leihy, whom he had designated as assistant superintendent, in charge of Indian affairs in Arizona, and Mr. Leihy was subsequently appointed superintendent. His annual report did not reach this office in time for notice in this report, but will be found in the appendix; but by a letter received, under date of September 27, he gives some important information in regard to the tribes on and near the Colorado river. The letter, which came too late for further notice, is among the papers submitted herewith.

From Mr. J. C. Dunn, who was among the persons appointed by Mr. Poston as agents, as referred to in the last annual report from this office, advices were received during the last summer of hostilities having broken out among the Indians along the Colorado river, but no details have been forwarded. Mr. Davidson, who was designated by late Superintendent Poston as agent for the Papagos Indians, in the southwest part of the Territory, has furnished much valuable information in regard to that interesting and thoroughly loyal people. In order to place in permanent form such information as to the character, history, and traditions of the Indian tribes as can be obtained, I have included Mr. Davidson's report among the papers to be published with this report. The Papagos occupy villages and the adjacent country, in the southwest portion of Arizona, having for their centre and most important point the old mission church of San Xavier del Bac, and number some 5,000 souls. The Pimos and Maricopas (confederated) are an independent and industrious people, living further to the north and west, and number, according to late Superintendent Poston, some 7,500. Over these two tribes Mr. Davidson was, on the occasion of his late visit to the east, and after your conference with him, appointed by the department as a special agent, and furnished with such portion of funds from the appropriation for Arizona as was deemed applicable to the Indians assigned to his agency, which also includes the Tame Apaches, a small number of well-disposed persons of the extensive tribe which causes so much trouble in that region.

The Papagos have from time to time furnished soldiers to aid the whites against the inroads of the Apaches, and have been very efficient.

Their friendship has been fully recognized, and it is hoped that, under the teacher to be provided, and by means of the agricultural implements and other really valuable articles to be furnished them, they will make rapid improvement in civilization. Indeed, from the accounts received from Agent Davidson they

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appear to be even now fully equal to the ordinary Mexican population of the country in all the elements required to make good citizens.

Of the Cocopas, who live near the mouth of the Colorado river, upon Mexican territory; the Yumas, numbering some 1,500, living further north, along the same river; and the Mojaves, Yavapais, Hualopais, and Chemihuevis, who number about 8,000, and live near the Colorado river, between Fort Yuma and Fort Mojave, we have literally nothing during the last year. Whether or not they have been engaged in the hostilities referred to above is not known; but the probability is that the war party was composed of a band known as Apache-Mojaves, neither belonging to the one tribe nor the other, but vagabonds from both. Still, it would appear from Mr. Dunn's letter that the whites were the aggressors; and this may be laid down as a general rule in regard to the Indians of the western slope, that unless provoked by wanton outrage, or driven by starvation to plunder, they are a quiet and peaceable people. Nothing has been done in regard to the proposed reservation lying between Corner Rock and Halfway Bend, on the Colorado, which was authorized by act of Congress last winter. The reservation, it is understood, can only be made available for the Indians by an extensive irrigating canal, estimated to cost some \$100,000 in currency, for which Congress made no appropriation.

Besides the tribes above mentioned, there are in Arizona a large number of Apaches, roughly estimated at 4,000, and the Moquis, who are village Indians, living in a half civilized state, in the northeastern part of the Territory. Some account of these interesting villagers was given in the report of last year from this office, but no agent of the government has visited them. They are allied by language to the Pueblos, of New Mexico, and having suffered greatly from starvation, a delegation visited the nearest Pueblos last winter, having travelled hundreds of miles to obtain relief, which was given to them by Agent John Ward, as stated in his report upon the subject.

If it proves, upon examination, to be impracticable to attach this people to any of the Arizona agencies, measures will be taken to supply their moderate wants from New Mexico, if Congress will provide the means, though it seems doubtful whether the dry plains upon which they live will long sustain them. The want of water for crops and stock is the principal difficulty, and to the gradual drying up of the streams and decreasing average of moisture is ascribed by many the gradual diminution of the population of this whole region, which, as is evident from the many remains of extensive buildings and settlements, once teemed with busy life.

The Pai-Utes extend their range into northern Arizona, but are mostly in Nevada since the change of the boundary of that Territory one degree to the eastward. It is very much to be regretted that goods sent for the Arizona Indians from New York as long ago as the early fall of 1864 had not at last accounts reached their destination. They have travelled to San Francisco, thence down the coast again, and up the California Gulf to Guaymas, where it was found impossible to land them, owing to the French siege then in progress. At last accounts, I understand that the goods have gone back to San Francisco upon a United States vessel, and will probably be found there by Mr. Davidson, who has recently returned to his post.

A recent communication received from Mr. H. Elhrenberg, who was for some time acting as Indian agent in Arizona, submits certain plans for the benefit of the Indians. It will be seen that he opposes, for reasons given, the project of a reservation for the Indians along the Colorado river.

NEVADA.

Indian affairs in Nevada, or rather our advices in regard to them, have been and are in a very unsatisfactory condition.

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Since the last annual report of Governor Nye, ex-officio superintendent, we are almost without a word of information in regard to the condition of the Indians of that State. It was not until July last a superintendent was appointed, and the appointee, Hubbard G. Parker, esq., did not enter upon his duties until September. The goods for the Nevada Indians were forwarded last spring, with the expectation that they would be taken in charge and distributed by Agent Lockhart, who was at Carson City, to which place they were shipped. The appearance in this city of Agent Lockhart in June, and his subsequent resignation, disappointed this hope; for Mr. Burch, the local agent at Ruby valley, had also left his post, or resigned, and no person was left in Nevada to attend to Indian affairs. Senator Nye, who, as governor and superintendent ex-officio, had been very successful in his administration of Indian affairs, was appealed to to assist, so far as he could make it convenient, in regard to several matters of importance; and, although no advices have been received, I entertain some confidence that the interests of the service have not seriously suffered. There has been, from the first, very little difficulty with the Indians of Nevada, partly because they are a very peaceable people, and partly because of the judicious course taken by Governor Nye in establishing efficient special agencies to look after them, and prevent difficulties and disturbances, rather than to await their occurrence.

Agent Lockhart had general charge of the Indians, branches of the Pai-utes, and a portion of them known as the Carson valley Indians, who had reservations surveyed in the western part of Nevada, including Walker lake and Pyramid lake; and a smaller reservation for a farm and mill and timber had been selected on the Truckee river. Last year the necessary expenditures for this mill and for an irrigating ditch for the farm had been made, but the failure of water in the river disappointed for a time the hopes raised as to both mill and farm.

I cannot dismiss with this brief reference the subject of this mill and reservation. The reservation was selected with a view to give the Indians a home, and to furnish, in its very valuable timber, stock for the costly mill to be erected upon it. To justify such a cost (about \$25,000, including stock of logs already cut) it was undoubtedly contemplated that, beyond the very moderate wants of the Indians in the way of lumber for houses, sales of lumber to a large amount were to be made for the benefit of the Indians of the agency. I know not what other object there could have been for either reservation or mill.

From papers in this office, both original and copies from the files of the department proper, it appears that, under date of March 31, 1865, a letter of instructions was given by your predecessor to Clark W. Thompson, then superintendent of Indian affairs for the northern superintendency, to sell this mill in Nevada; a blank contract for the sale accompanying the instructions. I refer to both of these documents as published among the papers accompanying this report. The reasons for the sale, as stated in Secretary Usher's letter, were briefly these: That the Pacific railroad would pass near the site of the mill, and make the locality unfit for an Indian reservation; and that the expense of the mill having been greater than was expected, and it being considered injurious to the Indians and the public interests to have the Indians so near to the "settlements attending the construction of the railroad," it was contemplated to reduce the reservation by about five miles, "which would make it proper and necessary to sell the mill property." A Mr. W. N. Leet was suggested as a person who would be likely to purchase the mill, and Mr. Thompson was authorized to execute a contract on the part of government with the purchaser. The contract enclosed provided for the sale of the mill, with all the logs then cut upon the reservation, and the privilege of cutting logs upon the even-numbered sections of the reservation for ten years, paying for the whole \$30,000 in lumber, delivered at the mill, at the lowest cash prices prevailing at the time of delivery, and in instalments of \$5,000 for the first year, and \$2,500 for the succeeding ten years.

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This contract was executed by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Leet on the 27th day of May, 1865, and a copy, one of three originals, only reached this office from Mr. Thompson in the month of August, just before I left this city on public business. I at once disapproved the contract, and directed Mr. Leet to be informed of such disapproval. But, upon more careful examination since my return, I am satisfied that in case you concur in my views of the nature of the transaction, some active steps should be taken to prevent a gross injustice.

I cannot see, in the letter of instructions referred to, any satisfactory reasons for selling the mill. On the contrary, the fact that it had cost a great deal of money appears to me the greater reason why it should have been put at work at the earliest day possible, for the benefit of the agency, upon the large stock of logs already provided. Neither can I appreciate the reasoning in the case of the Indians referred to, (however it might apply to others,) that they should be required to remove back from the line of the railroad. On the contrary, being willing to labor, as was shown by their industry in constructing the irrigating canal referred to above, they could have secured employment for a long time upon the railroad work. The sale appears to me to amount to little more than giving Mr. Leet the mill, with timber of immense value with which to run it for ten years. But, even if it had been proper to make this sale, it seems strange that a superintendent should be sent from Minnesota, where his services were needed, to Nevada, at great expense, to effect it, when it could have been done as well by the agent at Carson City, or the superintendent of California. I confess that I am groping somewhat in the dark in considering this subject, but I am sure I cannot be wrong in checking the consummation of the project; and I have instructed the superintendent to take immediate possession of the mill and logs, and all property purporting to have been sold; and, unless otherwise directed by your department, I shall in no manner recognize this singular transaction.

Special Agent Burch, who had charge of the Humboldt and other Indians, with agency at Ruby valley, gave assurance last year, on the part of his Indians, (numbering about two thousand,) and of the Pannakies, further to the north, that they would not molest the travellers who were expected to crowd the emigrant routes from California to Idaho and Montana, and it is presumed that they have kept their promise, as no complaints have reached this office.

When Agent Lockhart was here he represented that a portion of the Carson Valley Indians, who had given up their lands without receiving any consideration therefor, and who were peaceable and industrious, obtaining their living by labor about the towns and diggings, asked that a small tract of land might be given them, upon which they might have a right to settle their families, as they had not a foot of land of which they had an unmolested occupation. This modest request was granted, and action taken by requesting Governor Nye to make the necessary selections, the department also directing the selections thus made to be respected at the district land office.

Allusion is elsewhere made to the fact that the Pai-Utes, to whom Mr. Sales was sent as special agent by Superintendent Irish, of Utah, at the instance of settlers in Meadow valley and the vicinity, were, by the placing of the boundary of Nevada one degree further east, thrown mostly into Nevada. Meadow valley is in Nevada, and is understood to be the centre of a rich mining district, where, if we are to credit the accounts given to Mr. Sales, fabulous amounts of gold and silver are to be found. By what routes the hardy and adventurous miners have found their way thither does not appear, though it was Mr. Lockhart's opinion that they had come from the northwest, by way of Esmeralda. It seemed very desirable, in order to prevent difficulty between the settlers and the Indians, that a special agency should be established at or near Meadow valley, but it was impossible to decide whether, for facility of communication, the agency should report through Utah eastward, or through Nevada, via San

Francisco. Superintendent Irish thought that it should report through him, while Mr. Lockhart thought that communication would be more certain and speedy through Esmeralda and Carson City.

Into this subject, as well as in relation to the other matters concerning Indian affairs in Nevada, Superintendent Parker has been directed to make immediate inquiry and to report as soon as possible. His report will be laid before you when received, and it can then be decided what is necessary to be done for the Indians of that State.

It has been ascertained that certain packages of goods destined for Nevada, amounting in value to about \$4,600, and which, if sent by the best route, should have reached their destination in time to be distributed to the Indians early this fall, were sent to Nebraska City for transportation overland, and by some blunder, the responsibility for which this office has not yet been able to fix, were left behind by the contractor for transportation. As soon as this fact was discovered, steps were taken to place these goods in the hands of Superintendent Murphy, of the central superintendency, and it is proposed to use them for the Indians of that or neighboring superintendencies, and make their equivalent value available for Nevada. The total population of the Indians in Nevada, aside from those whose range extends into that State, but who have been estimated in other superintendencies, is supposed to be about 8,500.

UTAH.

We obtain from the annual report of Superintendent Irish a clearer idea of the numbers, location, character, and condition of the Indians of Utah Territory than has heretofore been furnished. They may be classified as follows:

Eastern bands of Shoshonees and mixed bands of *Bannacks* and *Shoshonees*, numbering about 4,000, under the chief Washakee, a true friend of the whites. They range through northeastern Utah and southeastern Idaho; were parties to the treaty of July, 1863; regard the Wind River region in Idaho and the country about the upper waters of the North Platte as their residence, and desire a reservation there. Governor Lyon, of Idaho, will probably make a treaty with them for the purpose.

Northwestern Shoshonees, numbering 1,500, ranging about sandy valleys in and near the Goose Creek mountains, but being mostly in Idaho; were parties to the treaty of Box Elder of July, 1863; are poor, and suffered from hunger last winter, but kept their promises, and did not disturb the emigrant routes. The superintendent assisted them to a small extent, and secured employment for many of them as herdsmen.

Goshuts, (or *Goshute* Utes,) numbering about 800, ranging west of Salt Lake, were parties to the treaty of Tuilla Valley of October, 1863; are very poor; and depend for subsistence upon roots and nuts, and their resources are disappearing as the white population advances. The treaty provides a yearly present of \$1,000 in goods or provisions, and the superintendent says this amount should be considerably increased.

Weber-Utes, numbering eight hundred, living in the Salt Lake, Weber, and Ogden valleys, and in the neighborhood of the towns. They are a mixture of Utes and Shoshonees, and are represented as an idle, shiftless, and vagabond tribe, giving much trouble by petty depredations.

Utahs.—These are divided into several bands, as follows:

Timpanog, a small band of three hundred, inhabiting the Utah valley and neighboring mountains.

Uintah Valley Indians, numbering three thousand, occupying northeastern Utah and the Green River country.

Pah-Van's, numbering fifteen hundred, and ranging through Pah-Vant and Sevier valleys, and west to the White mountains. A very favorable account is given of them. Their most influential chief, Konosh, has induced them to pay

attention to farming, and his good offices will be availed of to induce a more ready compliance with the policy of the department, in the removal of all the Utahs to the Uintah Valley reservation.

San Pitches, numbering about 500, and live in the San Pitch valley and along the Sevier river. They are very poor, and live upon fish, roots, nuts, &c.

Besides the above Utahs, there is a large number of Indians, estimated at 6,000, called the *Pi-Edes*, allied in language to the Utahs, but very poor, and obtaining a precarious living upon a barren region in the southern part of the Territory. They cultivate here and there a few patches of grain or vegetables, but are often reduced for subsistence even to feed on lizards, toads, and insects. The superintendent hopes to induce them to accept a better home upon the Uintah Valley reservation, as soon as the preparations at that point are sufficiently advanced.

The *Pak-Utes*, who formerly constituted a considerable portion of the Indian population of Utah, have, by the late change in the boundary between this Territory and Nevada, been thrown for the most part into that State, although they have been visited and looked after by Special Agent Sales, sent to them by Superintendent Irish, at the urgent appeal of citizens, indorsed by the late governor, Hon. J. D. Doty. In Governor Doty this office has lost an able and willing adviser and efficient aid in developing its policy and obtaining an influence over the Indians; while the latter, as well as the white settlers, have lost a true friend.

Governor Doty returned to this office, under date of 18th of November, 1864 the treaties with the northwest Shoshonees and the Shoshonee Goships, with the amendment of the Senate ratified, and those treaties have been proclaimed; but he was not able to get the northeast Shoshonees and mixed Bannacks and Shoshonees together.

Much correspondence has taken place between the superintendent and this office in relation to the proper plans to be pursued in regard to preparing the Uintah Valley reservation for a home for all the Utahs who can be induced to remove to it, but not much has been done until recently towards accomplishing the desired end. Both the superintendent and Agent Kinney presented plans for the expenditure of the appropriation for the purpose made by Congress, but both, especially the latter, contemplated the use of a considerable part of the funds in expenses of removal, or clothing, or subsistence.

As the decision of Secretary Usher was that no portion of the funds could be used for these purposes, and that they could only be used in preparing the reservation to receive the Indians, it was deemed advisable to expend the funds in such preparations no faster than there was a reasonable hope of getting the Indians to avail themselves of the advantages offered to them; the theory adopted being that after a portion of the Indians had removed to the reservation their labor could be availed of to assist those who were to follow, and thus a large expenditure for labor be saved to the government. I am now inclined to think that perhaps it would have been well to push these preparations forward more vigorously, as it would seem from Superintendent Irish's special report relative to the treaty referred to below, that the Indians show much more willingness to remove than was expected. Agent Kinney has gone upon the reservation, and a full report from him was expected, but has failed to arrive. The examination made of the Uintah valley, which is ample in extent for all of the Utahs, showed it to be abundantly fertile, well timbered and well watered, and measures have been taken to warn all white persons away from the tract reserved. The people of Utah have been anxious to obtain possession of the several small reservations heretofore withheld from sale, particularly the one at Spanish Fork, none of them being at present occupied and cultivated by or for the benefit of the Indians. The superintendent represented that, as to some of these reservations, the Indians objected to their survey and sale till they were paid for them

or provided for elsewhere; and, at all events, suggested that their consent ought first to be obtained before any survey should be made. The subject having been submitted to your department, it was determined that an attempt should be made to obtain the formal consent of all of the Utah bands, on consideration of substantial and permanent benefits to be received, to remove to the Uintah valley, and cede their right of occupancy of all other lands in the Territory. Accordingly, instructions to this end were sent to Superintendent Irish in the spring; and during the month of June he succeeded in convening the leading men of the tribes at Spanish Fork, and making a treaty which has received the assent of all the Utah bands above named, and which has been recently laid before you. The superintendent's interesting report, which accompanied the treaty, gives ground for hope that a great work is well-nigh accomplished for the Territory, in throwing its lands open to settlement, as well as for the Indians, in providing for them a comfortable home.

The treaty cedes nearly the whole of Utah Territory, excepting only the Uintah valley, and a strip along the southern end of the Territory, and if the superintendent is successful in his attempt to bring the Pi-Edes to agree to the treaty, that strip also will be ceded. It may be observed by those critical in geographical lines that the northwestern part of Utah is also covered by claims made by different bands of Shoshonees in the treaties of amity with them; but as the last-named tribes will soon be under treaty in Idaho, where they properly belong, no conflict of jurisdiction is likely to arise.

I recommend that medals and presents be given to Washakee, chief of the northeast Shoshonees, and to Konosh, chief of the Pah-Vants, as a special testimonial of appreciation by the department of their good conduct and good influence over their people. Washakee recently asked permission to take part in the campaign against the western Sioux, and this was granted, subject to the arrangements to be made with the military commander of the district of the Upper Platte.

There has been, as appears from the superintendent's report, considerable uneasy feeling among all the Utah Indians, resulting from representations made to them by disloyal whites as well as by Indians, that the white troops were not succeeding in their campaign against the Sioux, who were represented as fighting for the rights of the whole red race, and to save themselves from extermination. Still further cause of dissatisfaction occurred in the delays incident upon the delivery of the goods promised to the Indians, which delay was caused by the goods being turned back by the military officers in command along the overland route, after having been started in good season from Nebraska City; but in spite of these untoward circumstances the Indians have behaved remarkably well.

The superintendent suggests that hereafter the goods be forwarded over the plains by mule trains, instead of by oxen, so that, by being started in good season, they may with some degree of certainty be expected to arrive at their destination in time to be distributed to the Indians before they leave for their winter hunt.

NEW MEXICO.

But three of the Indian agents in New Mexico have made their annual reports this year—Agents Ward, Archuleta, and Labadi. Those of the two former are somewhat meagre. That of the latter is more full, and gives some interesting information in regard to the tribes now and heretofore under his charge; but it comes at too late a day to receive any extended notice.

It is understood that most of the agents appointed in New Mexico can neither read nor write in the English language, which may account for the slowness of some and the delinquency of others in furnishing reports. I have some information in regard to the present condition of Indian affairs in New Mexico, from the superintendent's annual report, but he states that he is obliged to present it

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without assistance from the agents, although, like them, he speaks the Spanish language. In order to give an intelligible summary as to matters in this Territory, I am obliged to rely much on previous reports, and upon information obtained from the late superintendent, Dr. Steck, on his late visit to this city.

The Indians of New Mexico may be best divided into four classes, to wit:

Apaches, of which there are four divisions, the *Mescaleros* and *Mimbres*, whose range was, and for the most part still is, the southeast quarter of the Territory; the *Jicarillas*, numbering, according to Agent Labadi, 987 souls, ranging in the northeast portion—these tribes or bands, together, being estimated to number some 3,500; and the *Gila Apaches*, in southwest New Mexico, estimated at, say, 4,000 or 4,500.

Utahs, being the *Mohunches*, a small band of some 500, who range along the northend of the Territory, partly in Colorado; and the *Capotes* and *Wannemuches*, living in the northwest, numbering some 2,500.

Pueblos, or "Village Indians," occupying some nineteen villages, scattered for a long distance along a line drawn northeast and southwest through Santa Fe, holding their lands by grants from the Spanish government, confirmed to them by the United States, and numbering about 7,000 souls.

Navajoes, taken prisoners by the military forces, and removed to the reservation at Bosque Redondo, on the Pecos river, in the eastern part of the Territory in 1863-'64, and numbering, at latest accounts, a little over 7,000; their original home being in what is now Arizona, though ranging into northwestern New Mexico.

Of the *Apaches*, my information, through Superintendent Delgado's report, is meagre. The reservation at the Bosque Redondo was (by recommendation from this office of January 14, 1864, laid before the President of the United States, and approved by him, as appears from department letter of January 16, 1864) set apart for the *Apaches*, it being intended to colonize all of the various bands of that tribe upon it; and as it was estimated to contain about 6,000 or 7,000 acres of arable land, it was deemed sufficient for the purposes. A beginning was made with a portion of the *Mescaleros*, who were represented as progressing with their agricultural operations in such a manner as to give good reason to hope that the remainder of the bands could be induced to come in. The removal of the *Navajoes* to the reservation, being old enemies of the *Apaches*, and so largely outnumbering them as to nearly monopolize the reservation, is understood to have checked the further concentration of the *Apaches* at that place, and the number upon the reservation has remained about the same as last year, the superintendent reporting it at 472. The *Jicarilla Apaches*, who are supposed to be cared for by the agency situated upon the Cimarron river, in the northeast, are represented by Agent Labadi as being further advanced in civilization than the other wild tribes, having been more in the settlements, and many of them speaking the Spanish language. From other sources they are represented as hard cases—worthless vagabonds—concerning whose improvement the superintendent suggests their removal to the Bosque Redondo, where I doubt if there is room for them, or if they could be induced to go and remain. The agent recommends that they be established on a good reservation in their own country, and says that if this were done, and some assistance afforded them by the government, they would raise good crops, establish schools, and learn to obtain an honest living.

Of the *Gila Apaches* very little is known. Some years ago they were visited, and exhibited a disposition to concentrate upon a reservation, which was at that time selected by Superintendent Steck, on the dividing line between New Mexico and Arizona, in a fertile and isolated valley, but nothing further has been done in regard to them.

In regard to the *Utahs*, the small band of *Mohuaches*, being allied to the *Tabaquaches* of Colorado, should, it is thought, be turned over to that superintendency, and concentrated with them on the proposed reservation on the San Juan river,

in southwestern Colorado. They and the Jicarilla Apaches, having long been neighbors and intermarried, expressed to Agent Labadi a strong desire to continue united, which desire should certainly be gratified.

The Capotes and Wannemuches (Guiguimuches) are represented as friendly tribes of the great family of Utahs, powerful, warlike, and independent.

Agent Archuleta represents them as a wandering people, living partly by the chase, partly by the aid of government, and partly by stealing and begging; that they are utterly debased, and of the lowest grade of intelligence. They are disinclined to settle upon any reservation, and the superintendent appears to think that such concentration is unnecessary at present; and that when the progress of white population shall demand it, it can be effected without serious difficulty.

The Pueblos Indians, concerning whom an elaborate report was furnished last year by Agent Ward, showing their number in the different villages, with much other valuable information, remain in much the same condition, except that two or three of the villages or settlements have suffered greatly from drought, and from sudden overflow of streams, destroying their crops of grain and fruit, so that relief is necessary to keep them from starvation. Such directions have been given as will enable this office to know to what extent relief is necessary, and such relief will be given as the funds at hand will allow.

These Indians are a quiet agricultural people, industrious and self-sustaining, and need only, in ordinary circumstances, aid in the way of agricultural implements; but they are very desirous to have schools established among them, and this will be done as soon as it can be ascertained where, among the many villages, schools can be established to the best advantage, as it is apparent that the funds at the disposal of this office will not allow of provision for a school at each of the nineteen villages.

In regard to the Navajos, now established at the Bosque Redondo reservation, the accumulated testimony is so conflicting, derived from sources equally entitled to credit, and from persons who should have, and, so far as appears, have had but one object in view—the best interest of the government and of the Indians, that I am reluctant at present to express a decided opinion in regard to the permanent policy to be adopted. The difference is wide between the views of the late superintendent, Dr. Steck, who urged, and was supported by excellent authority in urging, that the Bosque Redondo reservation was barely sufficient for the Apaches, for whom it was set apart—that the Navajos and Apaches could not live together upon it; that the Navajos could best support themselves upon a reservation in their own country, where they had always been an agricultural and pastoral people, raising large crops, and making their own garments from the produce of their own flocks, and that the enormous expense of feeding them at the Bosque Redondo, counting by millions almost, was an unnecessary expenditure—and those of General Carleton, the military commandant of the district, who insisted that, for the sake of permanent peace, the Navajos must be taken entirely away from their own country, and that when once settled upon a reservation they would provide for their own support.

General Carleton took the responsibility of testing the question by removing the Navajos to the reservation; and this being done, they have been supported there by the War Department, with the aid of an appropriation of a comparatively small amount by Congress, placed at the disposal of the Interior Department. An attempt was made late in 1864, by sending a special agent to the Territory, to obtain such definite information as to the case as to enable Congress to act finally upon the subject, but the report of the agent did not reach this office in time for action; and, indeed, while much valuable testimony was furnished on both sides of the mooted question, and much light thrown upon both sides, it seemed as difficult as ever to make a just decision. On the whole, inasmuch as the Navajos are at the reservation, where, as appears from Superintendent Del-

gado's report, the most of them are quietly, under military supervision, working the land, cultivating 3,500 acres this year, raising good crops and having some supply of stock of their own, and on the whole are doing well; and inasmuch as their removal from the former scenes of their predatory warfare has resulted in giving quiet and security to a considerable portion of the Territory, it has been deemed best to accept, for the present at all events, the location at the Bosque as a settled fact, and an agent has been appointed, with special instructions to take charge of the expenditures of the department on their behalf, while a special agent has been charged with the duty of purchasing and conveying to the reservation a large quantity of useful implements and articles, having reference to their becoming self-sustaining at the earliest possible day. These articles are now on their way across the plains in a train of wagons, which, with the stock drawing them, will be needed upon the reservation. With a fair season for crops next year it is expected that the Navajos, by their agricultural labor, will relieve the government of the cost of subsistence after next year; and if they can be supplied with sufficient stock, will manufacture a good share of their own clothing.

The special agent, Mr. J. K. Graves, is instructed to inform himself fully, and report at the earliest possible day, in regard to the facts necessary to a conclusion as to retaining the Navajos at the Bosque permanently, and as to the cost of providing for them there, with allotments of land, &c.; and he is also to make examination and report as to the condition of affairs at each of the other agencies, in regard to which this office is lamentably deficient in information, knowing neither what has been done, nor what ought to be done, in behalf of the Indians. Almost immediately after the last adjournment of Congress, a change was made in the superintendent, and four new agents appointed, three of whom can neither read nor write the English language, and not assigned to any particular agencies.

It is a fact, that, with the exception of Agent Archuleta, who is mentioned by Superintendent Delgado as having charge of the agency of Abiquiu, for the Capote Utahs, &c., and Agent Labadi, in charge of the agency on the Cimarron river, this office has no knowledge, and has been unable to obtain any, as to the location of the several agents since last spring. It is confidently expected that from the report of Special Agent Graves some definite information will be obtained. I trust that I shall not exceed my proper province in this report when I suggest that hereafter, whenever the subject of a change of persons charged with the management of Indian matters is proposed, your department, at least, may be consulted as to the propriety or necessity of any change, or at all events, as to the existence of vacancies, and their location and circumstances. I feel confident that if this course had been always taken, and the information easily furnished had been laid before the appointing power, some of the changes of the last year would not have been made; or if it was deemed advisable to make them, this office would have been furnished with more accurate information in regard to the changes intended, and thus with more certain means of conducting the public business intrusted to it. It appears, from the information which my brief tenure of this office has enabled me to obtain, that it has always been difficult to obtain the services, as Indian agents, of persons who are willing to accept the very moderate salaries paid by the government as their remuneration, and to be content with acting as the conscientious guardians of the Indians, as well as the economical agents of the government expenditures in their behalf, without supplementing their salaries by conniving with traders, contractors, or other parties; and when such agents are found, I can but feel that any change must be for the worse. I trust that such agents may be supplied, if it is possible, where we do not have them now; and should be pleased, and am sure that the interests of the government would be subserved, if such as we now have could be retained.

I should mention, before leaving this superintendency, that during the last winter one of the agencies was visited by a delegation from the Moqui village Indians, living in northeast Arizona, who had come, at the peril of their lives, a distance of several hundred miles to obtain food to save their people from starvation, their crops having failed last year for want of water. Some relief was given them, and they returned rejoicing. An interesting account of these Moqui Indians has been given in previous reports, and their country abounds in remains of large buildings and populous towns, the relics of old Aztec times. Their country appears to be gradually drying up, and becoming unfit for the habitation of man. They number about 2,500, and, as they belong to Arizona, the attention of that superintendency will be called to their condition and wants.

COLORADO.

Affairs in this superintendency, on the eastern side of the mountain range which occupies the central ridge of the Territory, have been in a very unsettled condition throughout the year. We are without any annual report from Governor Evans, *ex officio* superintendent, but those of Agents Head and Oakes have been received, and from these, and from the correspondence of the office since the last annual summary, the following state of affairs appears:

There are now but two established agencies in Colorado, to wit: Tabeguache Utes, at Conejos, in the southwest, Agent Head, numbering about 4,500; Grand River and Uintah bands of Utes, Middle Park agency, having headquarters at present at Denver, and claiming a large district in the northwest, Agent Oakes, numbering 2,500.

The agency for the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, established under the treaty of Fort Wise, in the southeast part of the Territory, had under charge about 1,500 Arapahoes and 1,600 Cheyennes, and was known as the Upper Arkansas agency, having its headquarters at Fort Lyon.

The northeastern portion of the Territory was within the limits of the region claimed by the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, who were considered as being, with two bands of Sioux, under charge of the Fort Laramie agency, now included within the northern superintendency.

From Agent Head's report in regard to the Tabeguache Utes, we learn that those Indians have been very quiet during the past year, making no trouble, except in one instance, where a portion of one of the bands took forcible possession of a few sacks of flour, to save themselves from starving. The agent took immediate measures to supply their pressing necessities, since which occasion they have been quiet, although there were reasons for discontent in the unavoidable delay in the delivery of the goods promised them by treaty. That treaty provides that whenever their chiefs shall express a desire, on behalf of their people, to settle down into cultivation of the soil, certain supplies of stock, &c., shall be furnished to them. The agent states that such is now the desire of the chiefs, and urges the fulfilment by government of this provision of the treaty. A detailed estimate of the amount required for the purpose will be called for, and transmitted for your information when received. Governor Evans, during the month of August, represented the tribe as very uneasy at the failure of their goods to arrive, and expressed fear that hostilities would break out, but there is no mention in their agent's report of any such excitement. However, steps were taken to push forward the goods as rapidly as possible, and advices of their arrival have recently been received. Occasion is elsewhere taken to refer to the subject of transportation across the plains. Delays and failures in the delivery of annuity goods are a fruitful cause of trouble with the Indians, who yield the occupancy of portions of their ranges, on consideration of the receipt of sundry articles necessary to their comfort, and expect to obtain them in due season in the fall, so that they can leave for their winter hunt. The suggestion that hereafter, if it could be accomplished at a reasonable price

these goods should be forwarded by mule trains instead of by oxen, is considered a good one, and by adopting this course, and by greater care in the shipment from the frontier, I think that all cause for dissatisfaction can be avoided.

Agent Head is of the opinion that ultimately the bands of Utes, now in New Mexico, can be concentrated with the Tabeguaches to advantage.

Agent Oakes's report as to the Grand river and Uintah bands is very brief and unsatisfactory, his connexion with them having been very short. He had charge of a small number of friendly Arapahoes at Camp Collins before being appointed to this agency, but the Arapahoes left him and joined the war parties to the north in the early spring. He represents the Indians of his present charge as very peaceable and friendly, and anxious to go upon a reservation. At the latest dates he was engaged in exploring the country in search of a suitable place for such reservation.

A new agent has been appointed by the President to the Upper Arkansas agency, heretofore filled by Mr. Colley, until it was finally broken up a year ago last summer by the Indians of his charge joining with the northern Sioux and others in hostilities against the whites. The various circumstances leading to this disastrous occurrence were detailed in the annual report of last year, but no official account has ever reached this office, from its own proper sources, of that most disastrous and shameful occurrence of all, the massacre of a large number of men, women and children of the Indians of this agency by the troops under command of Colonel Chivington, of the United States volunteer cavalry of Colorado. Certain facts are apparent from the documents accompanying the report of last year, and others have been detailed in a report to Congress, and these show that during the spring and summer of last year persistent efforts were made by a part of these Indians to make peace, which efforts were repelled by some of the military officers; and that when several hundred of them had come in to a place designated by Governor Evans as a rendezvous for those who would separate themselves from the hostile parties, these Indians were set upon and butchered in cold blood by troops in the service of the United States. The few who escaped to the northward told a story which effectually prevented any more advances towards peace by such of those bands as were well disposed, except that during the last spring Roman Nose, an Arapahoe chief, sent word to an officer at one of the posts that he was anxious to obtain permission to live with his people in a locality in the vicinity of the Little Chug river. Governor Evans advised this office of the fact, and some correspondence took place upon the subject, but before any interview could be had with the chief, General Connor's campaign commenced.

A considerable amount of money had been expended at the last mentioned agency for permanent buildings, and for an extensive *acequia*, or ditch, for the purpose of irrigating the lands for cultivation. How far this expenditure has been made unavailable for agency purposes in future by damages done by the Indians or others we have no means of knowing at present. Several bands of these Arapahoes and Cheyennes went south and east, and took refuge among the Kiowas and Comanches, of Agent Leavenworth's charge, and were represented at the council which was held at Bluff creek, in southwestern Kansas, in the early part of this month. That commission, the history of which is more particularly given under the head of the Central Superintendency, after being in session about a fortnight, had succeeded, as stated in another part of this report, in negotiating a treaty with the Arapahoes and Cheyennes of this agency, numbering 2,800; and they have agreed to use their utmost endeavors to bring in those of the Upper Platte who have been associated with the Sioux and other hostile Indians in the northwest, having already sent out runners to inform them that peace had been offered them. The Apaches, too, leaving the Kiowas and Comanches, had given their assent to this treaty, and confederated with the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, the new combination being designated as "the confed-

erated tribes and bands of Cheyennes, Arapahoes and Apaches." This treaty will soon be laid before you, with a special report in reference to it.

The new agent, Mr. Taylor, who was lately appointed to the Upper Arkansas agency, was directed to report to Governor Evans, or to his successor, Governor Cumming, for assignment to such duty as he should designate in connexion with the Indian service. As the Indians, under arrangements made at the council above referred to, are to reside temporarily on the reservation made by the treaty of Fort Wise, and at the place where the improvements were being made for them, this agent has been sent to that point to remain with the Indians there until the necessary steps can be taken to remove the latter to their new reservation south of the Arkansas river.

The report of the commission above referred to will be found among the documents accompanying this report.

DAKOTA.

This superintendency, comprising the Territory of Dakota, has been for a considerable time the scene of interesting events, it being the region in which General Sully has carried on his campaigns against the Sioux Indians of the upper Missouri and country adjacent thereto; while General Conner's operations against the Sioux and other Indians of the upper Platte, whose agency was at Fort Laramie, have driven those Indians far up into the region attached to Dakota for judicial purposes, but lying west of that Territory, and between Colorado on the south and Montana on the north.

There are five agencies in this superintendency, viz:

Yanctons, at their reservation on the Missouri river, near Fort Randall, and near the southern boundary of the Territory; P. H. Conger is the agent, the number of Indians being 2,300.

Poncas, near the Yancton reservation, on the Niobrara river, which forms part of the boundary between Dakota and Nebraska; Agent Potter has them in charge, numbering at the last census 1,100.

Crow Creek Agency, near old Fort Pierre, on the Missouri. This is the point selected for a home for both the Winnebagoes and Sioux of the Mississippi, who were removed from Minnesota. The Winnebagoes have gone down to the Omaha reservation, in Nebraska Territory, leaving the Sioux, numbering 1,039, by a late enumeration, under the charge of Agent Stone.

Upper Missouri Sioux. This agency has scarcely a local habitation; Mr. S. N. Latta, who held, until recently, the office of agent, and who has from time to time distributed the annuity goods due to the Indians, having had of late very little to do with them, as they have for the most part been included among the hostile tribes. Governor Edmunds, *ex-officio* superintendent, estimates the number of the various bands as follows: Two Kettles, 780; Minnecongos, 2,220; Yanktonnais, 4,200; Uncpapas, 2,400, and Blackfeet Sioux, 1,200; Sioux of the Mississippi (not on the reservation) about 800, making a total of about 11,690.

Upper Missouri. The tribes held as belonging to this agency, having its headquarters at Fort Berthold, far up on the Missouri river, under the charge of Agent Wilkinson, are the Gros Ventres, Arickarees and Mandans, together numbering 2,500; the Assinaboines, estimated at 3,280; and the Crows at 3,500; the latter tribe, however, ranging into what is now Montana Territory.

New agents have, during the past season, been appointed for the Yanctons, Poncas, and Sioux at Crow creek, the commission of Mr. Burleigh at the first-named agency having expired, the second having been vacant for a year, and Agent Balcombe who had charge of both the Sioux and Winnebagoes, having gone down to the Omaha reservation with the latter tribe. Special reports, required by the superintendent of each of these new agents, in regard to the condition of affairs as they found them, were forwarded to this office, and from these and the monthly reports since sent in we obtain much valuable information.

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Agent Conger found the Yanctons in a very unsatisfactory condition, and expressing much discontentment, and complaining that government had not kept its promises to them, as made in the treaty by which they ceded what is now the settled portion of Dakota. He reported the agency buildings in a dilapidated condition, and everything run down; no cattle or stock, farming tools few and in bad condition, and very small preparation for a crop this year. It being already the 1st of May when Mr. Conger took the agency, but little could be done towards getting in a crop, and, for want of good seed, that little for the most part failed. The Indians are represented as being very idle and improvident. There is no school on the reservation, and none has been in existence, although the treaty provides liberally for one, and the vouchers of late Agent Burleigh are on file for the expenditure of considerable sums of money for the purpose; and there are no missionaries or teachers, though the Indians express a desire for their services.

It being considered that the annuities of the tribe are sufficient, under proper management, to place these Indians in a much better condition, and that they ought to be at least as well provided with the comforts of life as the neighboring tribes of Nebraska, the superintendent and agent are doing everything in their power to accomplish this end. On account of the failure of crops, special supplies of food must be furnished to the tribe for the coming winter, and with this fact in view I have been husbanding the funds applicable to them; but as nearly one-half of the appropriation for them for the current fiscal year had been used before the year commenced, it is doubtful whether the amount on hand will be sufficient to prevent suffering among them. The cause of this deficiency, and the remedy proposed for it, are stated in that part of this report relating to "Finances."

It is hoped that another year these Indians, being better provided, and influenced by pressing necessity, will be found cultivating good crops. The agency farms, at all events, will be under cultivation.

The Poncas, who had been without a regularly appointed agent for some time, but who were under the charge of a person specially detailed by the superintendent, were found to have some 250 acres under cultivation, with a prospect of an abundant crop. This hope has been fully realized, and the tribe, with the proceeds of a successful hunt, is in a comfortable condition for the winter, and, as appears by the report of Governor Edmunds, *ex officio* superintendent, they are affording aid to their neighbors the Yanctons. The buildings of the agency are stated to be much in need of repairs, being built of cottonwood, which makes very poor lumber. There is no school upon the reservation; the treaty requires one, and money to a considerable amount has been forwarded from time to time, on the requisition of former agents, for school purposes. Special inquiry has been directed to this point. The agent proposes to employ Indians to do the necessary labor upon the reservation, and finds them willing to work for reasonable wages, and anxious to increase their stock of teams, wagons, &c. We shall, I am confident, find matters much improved also at this agency another year, if the season is favorable for crops.

Attention was called last year to the fact that the murderers of several of this loyal and friendly tribe had not been discovered and punished. I trust that, as there seems to be no probability that this will be done, a special appropriation may be made for presents to the relatives of the deceased.

Considering the character of the soil at the Crow Creek agency, the fact that the Sioux removed thither were mostly old men, women and children, who had been taken captive or given themselves up soon after the Minnesota massacres, and the further fact that their small attempts at hunting had been frustrated by their parties being turned back by the military forces, these Indians are in as good a condition as could well be expected. They are provided for out of an appropriation of \$100,000 made by Congress, all treaties with their tribe having been

declared abrogated, and of course all annuities stopped. Agent Stone found many things needed, which, with good management, the funds appropriated to their use ought to supply, particularly working cattle and cows. The buildings also were in poor condition, and the tribe ill provided as to shelter. Measures were taken towards an improvement in these matters. The Indians were somewhat afflicted with scurvy, and, on the recommendation of the superintendent, and at the suggestion of Hon. Mr. Hubbard, of the congressional committee, who visited the agency, an ample supply of potatoes has been provided.

The schools at the agency are in a good condition, and the Indians appreciate their advantages.

The able-bodied adult males belonging to the families at this agency are, for the most part, still confined, under charge of the military, near Davenport, Iowa. The only offence of which many of them appear to have been guilty is that of being Sioux Indians, and of having, when a part of their people committed the terrible outrages in Minnesota, taken part with them so far as to fly when pursued by the troops. At all events, as soon as the troops came near enough to give them protection they came in, and brought with them, rescued from the horrors of Indian captivity, a large number of white women and children. Their reward appears to have been a sorry one, but they have patiently endured their captivity. It is believed that measures are about being taken to release nearly all of them and send them to their people at Crow creek, where the addition of their labor will be an important help in farming operations.

In this connexion allusion may properly be made to certain Sioux Sissetons, it is believed, who were occupants of land in western Minnesota who, being either captured or having voluntarily surrendered, have been supported mostly by issues of supplies from Fort Wadsworth, in exchange but partly by cultivating some crops in that vicinity. A part of them have rendered faithful service to the government as scouts along the frontier. Congress has made special provision for such of these Indians as were known to have exerted themselves to bring in the captive whites, by setting apart eighty acres of land for each, in their old country. Steps were taken by some of these Indians last spring to avail themselves of this provision, though not without strong opposition on the part of whites who had already occupied much of their lands.

Returning to the Missouri river, the next agency above Crow creek is that to which the various tribes of Sioux belong, lying on both sides of the river. General Sully, having placed sufficient garrisons in the posts along the river and in the line of posts nearer the Minnesota frontier, has, with his movable column, been in search of the hostile Sioux during most of the spring and summer without being able to bring them to action. It was thought, at the last session of Congress, upon representations made to and through this office, that nearly all of the hostile Sioux would be glad to make peace, having suffered enough. Indeed, the same opinion was entertained the previous year, and an agent of this office, Rev. Father De Smet, was sent up the Missouri to get access to the tribes, but he was not allowed by General Sully to communicate with them.

Last winter Congress appropriated \$20,000 for the purpose of paying the expenses of negotiating a treaty with these Indians, and that amount, in goods and money, was placed at the disposal of Governor Edmunds, to enable him to proceed in the discharge of this duty; but the governor found the military officers still disinclined to act in concurrence with him, and determined upon another campaign as necessary to subdue the Indians, and the attempt to make a treaty was, for the time, abandoned.

General Sully followed the Indians as far north as the British possessions, and thence followed the course of the Missouri river down until, at last advices, he was at Fort Sully, not very far above the Crow Creek agency. Several interesting reports of the general's marches have been transmitted to this office, and it would appear that while at Fort Rice, on his way down the Missouri, a

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large force of the hostile Indians, too large to be attacked with safety, were in the country to the eastward of that post. The general's report estimates the number at ten thousand warriors, but this is probably the error of a copyist, as the total population of the hostile tribes would scarcely afford so many able-bodied men, and it is understood that a large number had already separated themselves from the bands so hotly pursued. The general was under the apprehension that his failure to attack and continuance of his march down the river would be considered by the Indians as a retreat.

In the latter part of August, under the direction of the President, a commission, comprising Governor Edmunds, Major General Curtis, Superintendent Taylor, General Sully, and Hon. Orrin Gueansey, was appointed to go up the Missouri to endeavor to meet and negotiate with these Indians, and this commission is now at its appointed rendezvous.

No report has yet been received from this commission except such as is contained in the report of Governor Edmunds, herewith, under date of the 14th October, and in other advices referred to in the preliminary part of this report. They had, on the 10th, signed a treaty with the Minnecongos, numbering, as represented by their chiefs, three hundred and seventy lodges. This band was represented by eight of their principal chiefs—including One Horn, head chief—and twenty-three warriors. These claimed also to represent ten other bands of Sioux, nearly all of whom have been hostile; all of whom, they said, were anxious for peace, and would willingly treat on the same terms as offered to the Minnecongos. It is highly probable that other treaties have ere this been entered into with other bands, and that we are now actually at peace with this numerous and troublesome people. In case the report of the commission reaches this office in time, it will be published among the papers accompanying this report.

Treaties cannot, however, be completed at this time with all who are anxious for peace. This is owing to the lateness of the season, and the very widely scattered position of the Indians. I am satisfied that, with the opening of spring, the Indians being accessible, treaties of peace can readily be effected with all the tribes of the southwest; and when it is considered that ten years of such peace will be much less expensive than one year of war, I cannot but congratulate you on the abundant success of your earnest efforts in this behalf.

General Sully states, in a recent report, that he thinks that at least two-thirds of the tribes originally hostile will have, by this time, either given themselves up or detached themselves from the remainder. The cost of these military campaigns is enormous, and it still remains doubtful whether a reliable peace could not have been made last year at infinitely less price. Every possible effort, under your instructions, has been made, during these operations, to prevent the occasional differences of opinion between civil and military officers from affecting the efficiency of military operations; and if they have not fully succeeded in accomplishing their end, no fault can be found with subordinates of this department; while, if they are successful, their success will be highly gratifying to this office.

Governor Edmunds has felt it to be his duty, as governor of the Territory and superintendent of Indian affairs, to call attention to sundry irregularities, of which he considered the proof to be ample, in the conduct of parties connected with the military posts on the Missouri river, in furnishing the Indians with articles contraband of war, in exchange for articles which they had for sale. Doubtless these transactions, if brought to the knowledge of the commanding officer, have been checked. General Sully has exhibited every desire to have his operations interfere as little as possible with the intercourse with and supplies for the friendly tribes in the northern part of the Territory.

The Gros Ventres, Arickarees, and Mandans, to whom distribution of annuity goods is made by Agent Wilkinson at and near Fort Berthold, were supplied satisfactorily, except that the diminution of the quantity, caused by depreciation of the currency, was difficult of explanation.

These friendly tribes have for a long time expressed an earnest desire to concentrate upon a reservation near Fort Berthold, where they cultivate successfully a large body of land; and to receive the benefits of a treaty, in instruction in labor, agricultural implements, and particularly in schools for their children.

It is hoped that, either by the commission now up the Missouri, or by others, such a treaty may be made with these Indians. The appeal of the old Arickaree chief, White Shield, published in the annual report last year, and the statements made by Rev. Mr. De Smet, also published in that report, are fully confirmed and strengthened by the statements of Agent Wilkinson this year. I trust that action in their behalf may not be longer delayed.

Of the Assinaboines, no advices have been received, except that they were, about September 1, below Fort Union, at some distance north of the Missouri, divided into small bands for hunting, quite poor, but friendly.

Agent Wilkinson represents the Crows as behaving well, friendly to the whites, keeping out of the way of their old enemies, the Sioux, and anxious to have an agency established among them some seventy-five miles above the mouth of the Yellowstone, but thinks that they would consent to remove to reserved lands north of the Missouri river.

Measures should, in my judgment, be taken to compel the permanent residence of the agents with the upper Missouri tribes, of whom they have the charge. Of course this cannot be done as to the Sioux until a final arrangement is made with them; but as to the Indians about Fort Berthold, there seems to be no good reason why the agent should not be with them. The law of Congress requires it, and it is every way desirable, for the benefit of the Indians and their protection from the effects of unlawful traffic.

IDAHO.

This office has been without authentic intelligence in regard to Indian affairs in this new Territory for many months, sundry reports forwarded by Governor Lyon, *ex officio* superintendent, having failed to come to hand. But one agent has been on duty in the Territory, Mr. O'Neill, in charge of the Nez Percés, a large and friendly tribe, numbering 2,830 by a late census, and located in various bands within seventy-five miles of the agency. Through failure of the mails, Mr. O'Neill's bond, which had been forwarded by Governor Lyon, did not reach this office, and no funds could be forwarded to him for the necessary expenditures under the treaty with those Indians. Much dissatisfaction was the necessary result; but through the influence of Lawyer, the faithful head chief, the efforts of those anxious to commence hostilities have been defeated, and no outbreak had occurred at the latest dates. The causes of dissatisfaction have certainly been great. The first treaty made with these Indians, which was satisfactory to them, had been superseded by another, made by Superintendent Hale, of Oregon, of which Idaho was formerly a part, and this has not yet been ratified by the Senate. Meantime the promised payments under the first treaty were delayed, and disloyal persons were not wanting to persuade the Indians that the government was acting in bad faith towards them. However, as stated above, the efforts of the head chief, Lawyer, and others, with those of the agent, were successful in preventing any outbreak, and funds have recently been forwarded to make the deferred payments. Agent O'Neill's report sets forth the condition of things among these Indians very clearly. The rapid increase of the white population, now numbering, by Governor Lyon's estimate, nearly fifty thousand in the Territory, and the influx of a mining population, extending their prospecting tours in every direction, has still further tended to render it difficult to preserve peace.

Advantage has been taken of Governor Lyon's recent visit to this city to obtain much valuable information in regard to the Indians of Idaho, and he has returned with funds to pay the sums past due under treaty stipulations with the Nez Percés, and with authority to conclude a new treaty with that tribe, which, it is hoped, will reach this city in time to be ratified by the Senate instead of the one now before that body. Authority has also been given to Governor Lyon to conclude a treaty, if possible, with the Kootenais and Cœur d'Alene Indians in the extreme northern part of Idaho, and it is expected that very large tracts of mining and agricultural land will be opened to the public by these treaties, while the Indians will be rendered secure from molestation upon their diminished reserves. From the report of Agent Hutchins, of Montana, it would appear doubtful whether many of the Kootenais, beyond those who are already included within the provisions of the Flathead treaty, can justly claim any rights this side of the British line, and the attention of Governor Lyon will be called to this point.

In the course of the governor's extended tour through the Territory, he met, at a point not very far distant from the present capital, Boisé City, the chiefs of the Boisé Shoshonees, and made with them a kind of preliminary treaty agreement, by which the Indians agreed, on the fulfilment by the government of certain rather loosely defined conditions, to cede to the United States an extent of country estimated at many millions of acres, and comprising a large part of southern Idaho, and to concentrate upon a reservation of moderate dimensions. This treaty not being in a condition for submission to the Senate, authority has been given to Governor Lyon to conclude a formal treaty with the tribe referred to, upon the general basis of the arrangement above mentioned.

In the region about Fort Hall, in southeastern Idaho, and bordering upon and occupying the northern part of Utah, so far as their limited numbers and migratory habits allow them to occupy any territory, is another band of Shoshonees, understood to be one of those with whom the late Governor Doty concluded treaties of amity, providing for unmolested travel through the country by the whites, and a small annual payment by government to offset the necessary limitation of the means of subsistence of the Indians, resulting from the driving off of game and destruction of nut-bearing trees, &c. These Indians are called by Governor Lyon the Kammas Prairie tribe, and are represented by him as desirous of being concentrated upon a reservation of limited extent; and the necessary powers for the purpose have been given to him.

The Nez Percés are supposed to number about forty-five hundred, the Cœur d'Alenes, Kootenais, &c., some two thousand, the Boisé Shoshonees one thousand, and the Kammas Prairie Indians about two thousand; and if the proposed arrangements with these tribes are successfully made, the whole Territory of Idaho will be thrown open to settlement, except the limited reservations above referred to.

New mail routes have just been opened, greatly facilitating the communications between the capital of Idaho and San Francisco, and this will probably be for some time to come the shortest route for letters and supplies.

MONTANA.

The Indians within this superintendency are comprised in two divisions, the Gros-Ventres of the mountains and the various tribes or bands of Blackfeet Indians—all east of the Rocky mountains, and whose numbers are estimated as follows: Gros-Ventres, 1,800; Piegans, 1,870; Bloods, 2,150, and Blackfeet proper, 2,450, the last three making the Blackfeet nation; and west of the mountains, the confederated tribes represented at the Flathead treaty, and numbering as follows, according to a census taken last spring: Flatheads, 551;

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Pend d'Oreilles, 908; Kootenais, 273; total, 1,732. Agent Upson, at Fort Benton, has charge of the tribes east, and Agent Hutchins of those who are west of the mountains, Mr. Chapman having been appointed to succeed the latter.

Whether or not there are any tribes or bands who range in the mountain country now being overrun in the search for gold in the southwestern part of the Territory, we have no means of knowing, as we have no report, either this year or last, from Governor Edgerton, *ex officio* superintendent.

Provision was made by Congress at its last session by which to effect a treaty with the Blackfeet nation, having for its object the cession of their right to occupy all lands south of the Missouri river and the Teton, one of its upper branches, the object being to throw open to settlement by the large number of emigrants that region, supposed to abound in gold; and the sum of \$15,000 was appropriated for the purpose. Under date of March 24, instructions, prepared under the direction of your predecessor, were given to Agent Upson for his guidance, and the funds placed at his disposal. No report has been received from him, except that on the 12th of June he had arrived within the bounds of his agency, and was met with reports that a portion of his Indians had broken out into hostilities. His information was that the Bloods and Blackfeet proper were the hostile bands, but that the Piegaus and Gros-Ventres were still friendly. Should this latter statement be correct, the conduct of those tribes may justly be ascribed to the pains taken last year by Agent Upson to bring about a peace between them and a friendly feeling towards the whites. Nothing further has been heard from the agent, the means of communication between this city and his post at Fort Benton being irregular and precarious. As a confirmation, however, of this unpleasant news, we have a letter from Agent Hutchins, dated August 3, in which he gives some information, obtained from a Flathead Indian of much intelligence, who had just returned from a hunting tour east of the mountains, to the effect that the Blackfeet had broken out into war with the whites, but that the Crows, under the influence of the good treatment which they had received last year at Fort Union, would remain at peace.*

Agent Hutchins's annual report, dated June 30, gives a favorable idea of the Indians under his charge. He had distributed, partly last fall and partly in the early spring, the goods which were sent out the previous year, being useful articles and mostly agricultural implements; and the Indians, who are decidedly improving in attention to cultivation of the soil, expressed themselves as delighted with these goods. The Flatheads live mostly in the valley of the Bitter Root river, outside of the reservation, the Pend d'Oreilles upon the reservation a few miles from the agency at Jocko, and the Kootenais just outside of the reservation, but intend to remove upon it and open farms. A portion of the Kootenai tribe, which lives principally beyond the British line, did not share in the distribution of goods. The agent thinks that the Flatheads ought to be required to remove upon the reservation, to withdraw them from the influence of and from trouble with the white population which is "prospecting" the country, but suggests that justice to the Indians requires that if they do remove, some remuneration should be given to them for their improvements, the work of their own hands.

There is now no school at this agency, a report made by Agent Hutchins, which reached this office last winter, showing the one in operation to have been so useless that he had closed it, and submitted a plan for re-establishing it on the manual labor plan. He was directed to forward estimates for this purpose, and these have but recently come to hand. They appear to be quite reasonable, and within the means at the disposal of this office. Meantime a new agent has been appointed to succeed Mr. Hutchins, and the agency has been transferred

* See Appendix for Agent Upson's annual report.

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to Idaho, for greater facility of communication; and the subject of the school has been referred to Governor Lyon, with instructions to cause the plan to be put in operation, if, after inquiry, he shall deem it advisable. The Flathead agent has recently been directed to report to the governor of Idaho.

A year ago last July Mr. O. D. Barrett, under a special commission from your predecessor, and with instructions to report to Governor Edgerton, of Montana Territory, was intrusted with a quantity of goods for the Indians of that region, and provided at St. Joseph with an excellent four-mule team and wagon in which to convey the goods with himself to his destination, and a sufficient sum was advanced to him for his expenses. Governor Edgerton was advised of his appointment, and directed to discharge him upon his arrival and delivery of the goods, if his services were not needed. Mr. Barrett was heard from late in the fall, having had bad luck in his journey; again in the spring, having left his goods at Salt Lake City, and borrowed \$50 of Superintendent Irish to get them out of store; and again, two or three weeks since, having arrived in Montana with neither team nor goods. At about the same time Governor Edgerton advised this office of Mr. Barrett's arrival, and that he had notified him that his services were not necessary, and that thereupon the agent declined to be discharged, claiming to hold a commission irrevocable by the governor. Governor Edgerton has been directed to "stop the supplies," and pay over no money to Mr. Barrett, on any account, until all money and property placed in his hands shall be fully accounted for.

SOUTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

At the period of the last annual report from this office, affairs in this superintendency, comprising what is known as the "Indian country," south of Kansas, together with the Osages along the southern border of that State, were still in the confused and discouraging condition which necessarily resulted from the war. Portions of the country about Forts Gibson and Smith, and the travelled route for government trains from the north to those posts, were held by United States troops; and a portion of the Indians, who had remained loyal to the government, were attempting to subsist themselves in the neighborhood of the above forts. Many of the able-bodied men of the loyal sections of the tribes were in the United States service as soldiers, but many thousands of the people were, in Kansas and portions of the Indian country, subsisted at the expense of the funds which, if the tribes had remained steadfast to the Union, would have gone to them as annuities. Serious complaints were being made to the department that stock owned by Indians, and necessary for their subsistence, and the small crops of corn raised by those who had been able to till the ground, were being taken from them by unprincipled speculators. Some of the military officers had laid the blame for this state of things upon the Indian agents, but an investigation of these charges showed them to be without foundation. The most stringent rules and regulations in regard to the sale of stock from the Indian country were adopted and issued, but it is apparent that the practice of running stock out of the country has continued, the keeness of the speculators enabling them to elude the vigilance of the officers, and it is believed that an immense amount of such stolen stock has been purchased at large prices by the government. The information obtained by Superintendent Sells, as given in his report, furnishes some idea of the enormous extent as well as profit of the business, where contractors obtain ready sale for the plunder at such rates as they have received from the government. The reports of Agents Harlan and Reynolds throw further light upon the subject, and it is gratifying to know that by their efforts, aided in good earnest by the military force put at their disposal by Major General Mitchell, who has shown every disposition to assist them, much has been done towards breaking up this nefarious traffic. It is manifest, however, that

something more is needed in the form of legislation. Superintendent Sells informs us that the system of plunder is thoroughly organized, having its grade, of agents and participants, from the reckless and daring scouts and drivers, who are well acquainted with the country, and who steal and run off the cattle to the Kansas line, up through the agents of the contractors, who receive and arrange fraudulent bills of sale for them, to men of higher position in the social scale, who, incited by avarice, have seized with avidity this disgraceful means of gain. In fact, it appears as if an obliquity of conscience had affected the whole community on the border, for the great majority of the people seemed to favor the speculation, or regard it with indifference.

In confirmation of the estimate made by the superintendent as to the extent of this traffic, the position and influence, civil and military, of the persons engaged in it, the difficulty of preventing its continuance and of punishing its operators, I here subjoin brief extracts from a report which has just been received from Lieutenant George Williams, who was some time since detailed by the War Department to investigate these matters, under instructions from this office.

After alluding to the large number of persons who have made independent fortunes in the business, he says :

"Not content with having this odium attached to their own names, having carried it on so successfully and without interruption from those in authority, who knew of the whole transaction in this line; but who were too deeply interested themselves to try any measures to put a stop to it, they have induced men by the hundred to go down into the Indian territory and steal and drive out cattle," &c.

Again : "The military force sent into this State for the protection of these Indians have been the agents through whom a great portion of the stealing has been accomplished," &c.

After giving the names of some thirty or forty prominent men, merchants, military officers, Indian agents, traders and others, whom he charges directly with being implicated in this traffic in one way or another, Lieutenant Williams says :

"The above-mentioned parties and their allies, the cattle thieves, have been engaged in the business since 1862, and I have evidence against most of them in my possession, but there is scarcely if any use to attempt to prosecute them before any court in Kansas, because they openly make their boasts that they can buy men enough to swear anything they want them to, and I know they speak the truth from experience."

As to the extent of the business : "In my opinion, during the past four years there have been at least 300,000 head of cattle stolen from the Indian territory, a country at one time rich in their cattle possessions, and now scarcely a head can be seen in a ride of 200 miles."

The very late arrival of Lieutenant Williams's report, just as I am about closing this paper, makes it impossible for me to give it, with the voluminous accompanying testimony, sufficient examination to enable me to form a judgment as to whether the testimony fully supports the sweeping charges made by him, and I do not therefore feel at liberty to incorporate his report and testimony among the documents to be published with this report, but submit the papers for your information, and for such directions as you may see proper to communicate after having given them examination. I will only remark, that so far as the charges implicate any of the agents or employes of this bureau, every possible effort will be made to ascertain their truth, and bring to justice any that are found guilty.

The law enacted by the last Congress on this subject provides only for the punishment of those who actually drive or remove "any cattle, horses, or other stock from the Indian territory for the purpose of trade or commerce." This does not seem to reach the case of those who deal in the stolen property, and

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it is to be hoped that the wisdom of the next Congress will provide a more stringent act, reaching all concerned in the transaction, and making the possession of Indian cattle *prima facie* evidence of their larceny; or in some other manner provide a more effectual remedy for this great evil, by insuring severe and certain punishment to the guilty parties.

Hopes have been entertained that, when the war was ended, such arrangements could be made with the tribes occupying the Indian territory as would enable the department to find room within its ample bounds for many of the tribes in Kansas, or such portions of them as did not choose to abandon their tribal relations and become citizens, and that affairs in that country might be re-organized in such a manner as to render such an arrangement highly advantageous both to the Indians and the government. It was therefore with great satisfaction that I learned, through your department, early in July, that a council had been held on the 24th of May, by the tribes of the southwest, lately allied with the rebellion, at which delegates had been appointed from each of them to visit this city for a conference with the government.

It was at first contemplated to allow these delegates to come to Washington, but subsequent correspondence resulted in the designation of a board of commissioners to proceed to the Indian country, and meet them at Fort Smith, Arkansas, and the President appointed a commission comprising the following persons: D. N. Cooley, Commissioner of Indian Affairs; Hon. Elijah Sells, superintendent southern superintendency; Thomas Wistar, a leading member of the society of Friends; Brigadier General W. S. Harney, United States army; and Colonel Ely S. Parker, of General Grant's staff. As a prominent part of the history of Indian affairs during the past year I have included the report and official record of the proceedings of this commission, which was continued for thirteen days, among the documents accompanying this report, and need only notice briefly here the results which are more fully detailed in those papers.

The council assembled at Fort Smith, September 8, and delegates were present in the course of the sittings (though not all in attendance at first) representing the Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Cherokees, Seminoles, Osages, Senecas, Shawnees, Quapaws, Wyandotts, Wichitas, and Comanches. Immediately upon the opening of proceedings, the tribes were informed generally of the object for which the commission had come to them; that they for the most part, as tribes, had, by violating their treaties—by making treaties with the so-called Confederate States, forfeited all rights under them, and must be considered as at the mercy of the government; but that there was every disposition to treat them leniently, and above all a determination to recognize in a signal manner the loyalty of those who had fought upon the side of the government, and endured great sufferings on its behalf. On the next day the delegates were informed that the commissioners were empowered to enter into treaties with the several tribes, upon the basis of the following propositions:

1st. That each tribe must enter into a treaty for permanent peace and amity among themselves, each other as tribes, and with the United States.

2d. The tribes settled in the "Indian country" to bind themselves, at the call of the United States authorities, to assist in compelling the wild tribes of the plains to keep the peace.

3d. Slavery to be abolished, and measures to be taken to incorporate the slaves into the tribes, with their rights guaranteed.

4th. A general stipulation as to final abolition of slavery.

5th. A part of the Indian country to be set apart, to be purchased for the use of such Indians, from Kansas or elsewhere, as the government may desire to colonize therein.

6th. That the policy of the government to unite all the Indian tribes of this region into one consolidated government should be accepted.

7th. That no white persons, except government employes, or officers or em-

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ployés of internal improvement companies authorized by government, will be permitted to reside in the country, unless incorporated with the several nations.

Printed copies of the address of the commissioners involving the above propositions were placed in the hands of the agents, and of members of the tribes, many of whom were educated men.

On the third day the delegates from the loyal Chickasaws, Choctaws, Senecas, Osages, and Cherokees, principally occupied the time with replies to the address and propositions of the commissioners, the object being partly to express a willingness to accept those propositions, with some modifications, if they had been clothed with sufficient power by their people, but chiefly in explanation of the manner in which their nations became involved with the late confederacy. The address of the Cherokees was especially noteworthy, inasmuch as they attempted to charge the causes of their secession upon the United States, as having violated its treaty obligations, in failing to give the tribe protection, so that it was *compelled* to enter into relations with the confederacy. The next day the loyal Seminoles expressed their willingness to accede to the policy of the government, and to make peace with those of their people who had aided the rebellion. The president of the commission then read a reply to the address of the loyal Cherokees above referred to, showing, from original and official documents, that, *as a tribe*, by the action of their constituted authorities, John Ross being then, as at the time of the council, their head, they had, at the very opening of the rebellion, entered into alliance with it, and raised troops for it, and urged the other tribes to go with them, and that they could not now, under the facts proven, deny their original participation in the rebellion. (The documents establishing the bad faith of John Ross had but recently come into possession of the department. They are very interesting, and taken in connexion with his course at Fort Smith in keeping aloof from the council, but exercising his powerful influence to prevent an amicable settlement with the hitherto disloyal part of the nation, will be found fully to justify the course taken by the commission in refusing to recognize him in any manner as chief of the Cherokees.)

The loyal Creeks on this day presented their address of explanation, setting forth the manner in which their nation, by the unauthorized action of its chief, entered into treaty relations with the confederacy, and the terrible sufferings which the loyal Creeks endured in battle and on the march to Kansas seeking protection from the United States, and asking "to be considered not guilty."

It being certain that no final treaties could be now concluded with the tribes represented, for the reason that, until the differences between the loyal and disloyal portions were healed, there could be no satisfactory representation of most of them, it was determined to prepare for signature by the commission, and by the delegates representing all factions and opinions, a preliminary treaty, pledging anew, on behalf of the Indians, allegiance to the United States, and repudiating all treaties with other parties; and on the part of the United States agreeing to re-establish peace and friendship with them. This was considered essential as preliminary to the main business of the commission, to wit: to make peace between the several tribes, and negotiations as to purchasing lands, territorial government, &c. This work was diligently pursued until, on the breaking up of the commission on the 13th day, all of the delegates representing the following tribes and sections of tribes, in the order given, had signed treaties, (some of them holding out for several days until they could agree among themselves:) Senecas, Senecas and Shawnees, Quapaws, loyal Seminoles, loyal Chickasaws, loyal Creeks, Kansas, Shawnees (uncalled for, but asking to be permitted again to testify their allegiance,) loyal Osages, tribes of the Wichita agency, loyal Cherokees, disloyal Seminoles, disloyal Creeks, disloyal Cherokees, disloyal Osages, Comanches, disloyal Choctaws, and Chickasaws.

Friendly relations were established between the members of the various tribes hitherto at variance, except in the case of the Cherokees. The ancient feuds

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among this people are remembered still, and the Ross, Ridge, and Boudinot difficulties have never been healed. This portion of the nation was ably represented in council by Boudinot and others, and having learned from the action of those representing the loyal party that if they came back it must be as beggars and outlaws, asked the protection and good offices of the commission. Efforts were then made on the part of the commission to effect a reconciliation, but all that could be brought about was a promise upon the part of those representing the loyal party to present the question to their council, which is now in session, and I entertain the hope that soon I shall be able to furnish you a report of their proceedings, in which they offer fair and honorable terms of adjustment. If, however, I should be disappointed in this reasonable expectation, I trust the government will take the matter in hand, and, by a just and equitable division of their property, make a final settlement of all their difficulties.

When the majority of this nation returned to their allegiance to the government, in 1863, action was taken by their council, under direction of John Ross, confiscating the property of those who still continued in the service of the confederacy, thus cutting off about five thousand five hundred of the nation, leaving them homeless and houseless. This destitute portion of the tribe are still refugees on the Red river, suffering from the want of every necessary of life, and existing only upon the charity of the humane people of northeastern Texas. The department has, however, sent a special agent to look into the wants of these refugees, and must rely upon Congress for the necessary means to relieve their necessities.

The commission did not adjourn without having made valuable progress towards the consummation of treaty arrangements with several of the most important tribes. With the Osages a treaty was made, signed by the lately disloyal party at the council, and by the loyal chiefs afterwards at their agency, by which they cede to the United States a very large area of valuable land, which may be used for colonization of other tribes if it shall be needed for the purpose, or sold for their benefit. That treaty has just reached this office by the hand of Superintendent Sells, and will be submitted to you with his report.

The terms of a treaty were agreed upon with both parties of the Creeks, whereby they cede to the United States, for the use of the friendly Indians from Kansas or elsewhere, all of their lands north of the Arkansas river, and one-half of the remainder lying south of that river, on terms which I trust will meet the approval of the government. This treaty is to be signed in this city by delegates properly accredited by the united Creek nation.

With the Choctaws and Chickasaws a treaty was agreed upon, upon the basis of the seven propositions heretofore stated, and in addition to which those tribes agreed to a thorough and friendly union among their own people, and forgetfulness of past differences; to the opening of the "leased lands" to the settlement of any tribes whom the government of the United States may desire to place thereon; and to the cession of one-third of their remaining area for the same purpose; the United States to restore these tribes to their rights forfeited by the rebellion. This treaty, after its approval by the councils of the Choctaws and Chickasaws, is to be signed in this city by three delegates from each nation sent here for that purpose.

It is not intended to hold any general council in this city, but it was understood that delegates would, if necessary, visit Washington on behalf of any of the tribes owning lands in the Indian country which the government might desire to purchase for the use of other Indians, so that, by properly accredited delegates, all necessary arrangements with the several tribes might be made.

It became sufficiently evident, in the course of the council, that one great object in view by the government, the colonization of such of the tribes or portions of tribes from further north as should desire a permanent home in the Indian country, would be secured when the policy of the government in regard to them

was fully understood; and it was gratifying to notice that the subject of the organization of an Indian territory, with provisions securing a certain degree of individuality to the various tribes—indeed, based upon the admirable form of government of the United States, and with a representative delegate in Congress—although at first distasteful to the leading spirits among the Indians, gradually increased in favor by the study of the few copies at hand of the bill proposed by yourself in the Senate last winter, until, near the close of the council, Mr. Boudinot, a man of education and ability, speaking on behalf of the Cherokees and others who had taken part in the rebellion, (his remarks being assented to by all present,) declared in a speech, a note of which is preserved among the records of the council herewith, that the plan was eminently satisfactory, and would entitle its projectors to the everlasting gratitude of the Indians. We may, then, reasonably hope to see this admirable project carried into operation at no distant day.

From the able and elaborate report of Superintendent Sells, and the several agents in charge of the tribes within this superintendency, we obtain much valuable information as to their present condition, in reference to both the loyal portions of them, who have been refugees from their homes during the war; and the disloyal, who made treaties and engaged actively with the late "southern confederacy." The contrast between their condition now and before the war, whether we refer to either loyal or disloyal, is sad indeed. Most of these tribes had advanced far in civilization, and their country was well provided with good schools and academics. Many of their leading men are to-day thoroughly educated men, of statesmanlike views, fully able to express those views in our language, in a manner which can be excelled in few of our deliberative assemblies. Their people were rich in real and personal property, living in the enjoyment of every thing needed for their comfort; and considerable wealth had accumulated in the hands of some of them—the slaveholders—so that they lived in a style of luxury to which our thriving northern villages are mostly unaccustomed. Their crops were abundant, but their chief element of prosperity was stock-raising, and vast herds of cattle were in their hands as a means of wealth. The change is pitiful. Their land has been desolated by the demon of war till it lies bare and scathed, with only ruins to show that men have ever dwelt there. A perusal of the reports herewith will satisfy you that these remarks are no exaggeration, particularly as to the Cherokee, Quapaw, and part of the Creek bands; the condition of affairs in the Choctaw and Chickasaw country is not so serious, for the reason that those tribes went almost unanimously with the rebellion, and of course had no object in destroying their own property; though even there the effects of the war are distinctly visible. But in the Cherokee country, where the contending armies have moved to and fro—where their foraging parties have gone at will, sparing neither friend nor foe—where the disloyal Cherokees, in the service of the rebel government, were determined that no trace of the homesteads of their loyal brethren should remain for their return, and where the swindling cattle-thieves have made their ill-gotten gains for two years past, the scene is one of utter desolation. Of course, the loyal portions of all of these tribes have suffered most; for they became refugees from their homes, leaving them in the hands of their enemies, and everything that they left was destroyed. A large number of the loyal Indians of all the tribes entered the service of the United States, and many of them sealed their fidelity with their life-blood, while many others are maimed for life. Now that the war is over, the survivors of these loyal bands claim the sympathy and aid of the government. They are anxious to return to their country, but they have no homes there, and no subsistence. They are utterly destitute, and entirely dependent upon the government for food and clothing. In another season, if timely assistance in the way of agricultural implements and other aid is afforded them, they may become self-sustaining by

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tilling the ground; but for the present, at least, they must be dependent upon the government.

Let us glance at the condition of the several tribes as portrayed in the report of the superintendent and agents:

The Seminoles numbered before the war nearly 2,500, of whom more than half came out with the loyal Creeks and took refuge in Kansas, their able-bodied men joining the United States army. There are about 2,000 of the tribe left. Some 500 of them were furnished with seed and a few agricultural implements last spring, and, upon land near Fort Gibson, in the Cherokee country, labored diligently and with some degree of success for the means of subsistence, having raised produce to the value of \$2,500. The records of their old agency have been preserved through the war, and are safe at Fort Washita. They are anxious to go to their own country south and west of the Creek region, but matters there are not sufficiently settled as yet, and the agent thinks that they should be removed to some point among the Creeks and subsisted there, to be near their own lands at the opening of spring. About 1,000 of them are now drawing rations from government. They are very poor and destitute, and must be fed and clothed, or suffer and starve. Agent Reynolds says that they wish to settle upon individual lands, where they can own and enjoy the fruit of their own labors. As they are closely allied to the Creeks, and speak that language, they might perhaps be consolidated with them; or, if not, it is thought that they would be glad to dispose of the western portion of their lands, to be used for a home for other Indians, and thus procure the means for establishing themselves again in a condition to become self-supporting, and educate their children.

Agent Reynolds has been especially active in efforts to stop the plundering of Indian stock, and thinks that his efforts have been successful.

Of the Cherokees, all of the nation at first joined the rebels, including all factions, of full and mixed blood. Regiments were raised by the order of the party in power, then and now the majority, called the Ross party, which regiments fought against the Union forces at Pea Ridge and on other occasions. All seem to have agreed as to their course of action down to the fall of 1862, when a portion of the troops, under Colonel Downing, 2d chief, and a majority of the nation, abandoned the rebel cause and came within our lines. About 6,500 of the more wealthy portion still continued to co-operate with the south till the close of the war; and about 9,000, early and late, came back to their allegiance.

Two regiments of these people, numbering 2,200 men, deserted the rebel cause as above stated, and since that time, to the end of the war, have fought on the side of the Union. The total population of the nation is now estimated at about 14,000.

Bad as is the condition of all these southern Indians, that of the Cherokees is much worse than the remainder of the tribes. They have a domestic feud, of long standing, which prevents them from coming together for mutual aid and support in their manifold troubles. In 1863 a portion of them had gone back to their country, expecting to be protected by the United States troops in raising a crop for their support; but they were driven from their fields by rebel parties; and while their former brothers were plundering them from one direction, their white friends from Kansas were stripping the country of their stock from the other. The account given by Agent Harlan of the *modus operandi* of the cattle-thieving business would be amusing, if the thing described were not outrageously criminal. Some idea of the extent of this business may be obtained when it is seen that the agent estimates the losses of the Cherokees in stock alone at *two millions* (\$2,000,000,) while Superintendent Sells thinks that the losses of *all* the tribes have amounted to full *four millions*.

About 9,000 Cherokees are now receiving rations from government, and a large portion of those lately disloyal are suffering greatly for the necessaries of life. They need food, clothing, tools, everything in fact, to begin life again;

and their condition must be that of extreme destitution until they can again realize the fruits of their labor upon their own soil. The Cherokees own a tract of 800,000 acres in the southeast corner of Kansas, which should be made available for their benefit; and have, besides, a vast tract of land below the Kansas line, very largely beyond their possible wants. All beyond those wants should be purchased by government, and the avails used for the benefit of the whole people. Superintendent Sells doubts whether the loyal and disloyal Cherokees can ever live in friendship together, and suggests that in case this proves to be impossible, the latter can easily make terms with the Chickasaws to join with them. I have already alluded to the condition in which this southern portion of the nation is left by the action of the party in power, and will only add here, that the sweeping act of confiscation passed by the council takes from them every acre of land, and all their improvements; and that by the hasty action taken under the law, everything has been sold for the most trivial consideration, improvements which were worth thousands selling often as low as five dollars; and when the repentant rebel party, no more guilty at first than the Ross party, came back and proposed to submit and live in peace and harmony with them again, they were told that they might all return, except their leaders, and go upon new lands and begin the world again; but no hope was held out to them of any restoration of property. They are thus left entirely dependent, being stripped of everything by the act referred to.

The Creeks were nearly divided in sentiment at the opening of the war; about 6,500 having gone with the rebellion, while the remainder, under the lead of the brave old chief Opothleyoholo, resisted all temptations of the rebel agents and of leading men, like John Ross, among the Indians, and fought their way out of the country northward, in the winter, tracked by their bloody feet upon the frozen ground. They lost everything—houses, homes, stock, everything that they possessed. Many joined the United States army. A large number have been constantly subsisted, often with scanty rations, by government. A part having gone this year to the Indian country, have raised some crops under many difficulties, and about one half of those who thus went south again will have enough corn to carry them through the winter; the others must be subsisted by government, while 5,000 are now receiving rations. A large number of the southern Creeks are in the same deplorable state. The aggregate number of the tribe is now stated at 14,396. Agent Dunn says that the buildings of the old Creek agency are in ruins, but the valuable mission buildings are standing, though badly injured. He thinks that a new location should be selected for the agency, at a point where there is water and timber; but as there may be other arrangements made as to the final settlement of the tribe, he suggests that such temporary shelter for the agency as is necessary should now be provided.

The Choctaws and Chickasaws, who now number respectively about 12,500 and 4,500, or 17,000 in all, are supposed to have had a population of 25,000 at the beginning of the war, including 5,000 slaves. They have regularly organized governments and legislatures, written laws, and a regular judiciary system. They possessed admirable schools, and education had made great progress among them. Nearly the whole of these tribes proved disloyal, under the various influences brought to bear upon them. Agent Coleman ascribes their disloyalty, in a great degree, to the influence of the whites living among them, some of whom have had the assurance to apply for licenses to remain in the country as traders; but I am entirely satisfied, as the result of my inquiries when lately in the Indian country, that the disloyal action of these tribes is mostly, if not altogether, to be ascribed to the influence of the then superintendent, Mr. Rector, and the agents appointed by the United States government. The tribes are educated to respect the authority and be guided by the directions of these representatives of the government; and when, in the spring of 1861, these men, appointed under President Buchanan, came back from Washington and told the

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Indians that there was no longer a United States government to protect them, that its organization was broken up, and that they must join with the new government, (which by its location and its slaveholding basis would be in sympathy with them,) or be ground to powder, they readily acceded. They now see their error. No men were ever more penitent; and since they learned at the Fort Smith council the wishes of the government, their own council has met and taken prompt action upon the proposition submitted to them, and appointed a delegation to visit Washington to sign a final treaty. This appears more fully in the despatch from General Hunt, commanding at Fort Smith, dated October 24, communicating a letter from Governor Colbert, of the Chickasaw nation, which despatch will be found among the accompanying documents.

Only 212 persons belonging to these tribes are known to have remained loyal to the government. The disloyal portion need some help to get through the winter without suffering, but their country having been held by the rebels all the time during the war, and not traversed by the contending armies, and rations having been issued to them till last March, they have not suffered as much as the other tribes. Two thousand of both tribes are now receiving government rations. I have elsewhere referred to the propositions in regard to a cession of a portion of the Choctaw and Chickasaw lands.

Agent Snow has in charge the Neosho agency, comprising the Osages, and the small bands known as the Quapaws, Senecas, and Senecas and Shawnees.

The Osage lands are in Kansas, and comprise about 4,000,000 acres. In 1859 they had a population of 3,500; the agent thinks that their number does not now exceed 2,800. About 1,000 of the tribe joined the rebellion. Some two hundred and forty of their warriors were at one time in the service of the United States, but left from some difficulty with their officers, and cannot understand the propriety of the rule by which they have forfeited their pay. The report of Superintendent Sells is very full in its information as to the habits and mode of life of this tribe, which is entirely nomadic in its character, using the bow and arrow in the chase, and hunting the buffalo in the ranges southwest of their country. Their special home is near where the Verdigris river crosses the Kansas line. The sad example of the whites, who steal their stock, leads them to retaliate, and frequent collisions and difficulties with the settlers are the consequence. By the recent treaty with this tribe, their factions have become reconciled; and by the cession to the United States of a large body of land, it will be open to settlement, and they obtain from its avails the means of becoming civilized. In view of their nomadic habits, however, Agent Snow suggests their entire removal from Kansas and the neighborhood of the whites, and settlement upon lands in the western part of the Indian country, near the buffalo range; which suggestion I approve, and trust that within a few months their country will be so far at the disposal of the government, through the operation of the treaties now in progress, as the result of the recent council, that these and all of the other Kansas Indians who do not elect to become citizens may be removed into the Indian country.

The Quapaws and other small tribes of this agency, numbering only 670 in all, never showed any sympathy with the rebellion, but came north, abandoning their homes, and continued as refugees upon the Ottawa reservation until last spring, when they were removed to a point eighty miles further south, where they have raised some small supply of vegetables this year. An exploration of their former reservations, just below the Kansas line, exhibited the usual desolation of war; and everything must be provided anew for them. They had attained a fair degree of civilization, and were prosperous and comfortable before the war; and they, like the other loyal Indians, think that the government for which they suffered the loss of everything should in some degree compensate them for such loss. These people all receive rations at present from the United States.

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The Catholic mission school at the Neosho agency has been continued in operation, though under great difficulties. On the occasion of the recent visit of Superintendent Sells to the agency, the school had in attendance sixty-five Osage and Quapaw boys, and fifty girls. The Indians regard this school with great favor.

The Wichita agency (Agent Gookins in charge) comprises about 500 Shawnees, absentees from their tribes in Kansas, and who, it is probable, will not return to that State to remain permanently, but who are now in Osage county, Kansas; and the Wichitas and fragments of the Caddoes, Comanches, and others, amounting to about 1,800. These last were, before the war, settled upon lands leased from the Choctaws. They have never had much attention given them by the government, and were driven from Texas by the greed of white men. Thus they have not for years had a settled home. About 1,000 of them are now near Fort Washita, having done but little towards subsisting themselves, a flood having destroyed most of their crops. They are very poor and miserable, and must have help; and they ask to be placed somewhere, where they can feel that they have a permanent home, and go to work in earnest next spring. Rations are issued to 1,400 of the Indians belonging to this agency.

After a careful consideration of the facts set forth in these reports, and from my information obtained while in the Indian country, I am prepared to recommend prompt and liberal action on the part of the government in providing food, and necessary clothing, and shelter, and the materials for commencing early next spring the labor of getting in the crops which must feed them. In regard to food and clothing, the demand is immediate and pressing; as to the other, it must be provided in good time, and the sooner and better it is done, the sooner will the people relieve the government of the necessity of feeding them. It needs no argument—the bare suggestion is enough—to show the duty of the government towards the loyal and friendly portions of these tribes, who have sealed their devotion with their blood; but the necessity is none the less pressing on the part of many of the others. They *must* be fed and clothed, or their sufferings will surely lead them to steal; and difficulties will at once arise, out of which will come the necessity of stationing several regiments of troops in the country, with their concomitants of contractors, supply trains, &c., &c., the cost of which would amount to double what is needed to take care of these Indians till they can be re-established. The principle that it is cheaper to feed than to fight Indians is illustrated daily, and the cost of sustaining a small army in the far west in a campaign against the Indians, or even at posts where no speck of war ever appears on the horizon, is greater than the whole annual expenditure of the Indian department. On every account, then, of patriotism, humanity, and economy, I trust that there may be quick and liberal action in reference to the wants of these Indians.

In regard to the question of compensation of the loyal portion of these southern tribes for their untold losses and sufferings, I do not feel it necessary to use many words. A great many white people have endured severe losses, and undergone great sufferings, by reason of the rebellion; and many thousands of white people in the south have been abused and outraged, and driven from their homes by the demon of civil discord and war; and government has not yet made provisions for compensation in those cases; but our government was under obligations by solemn treaties to defend and protect these Indians; and without discussing the extent of this obligation, it can do no less now than to aid those who are actually suffering for the simplest necessities of life. This is only the dictate of humanity.

For the rest, the Indians must await their time; but when that time comes, their claim will be very strong, and must be heard. If the government will but act promptly in furnishing them liberally with the ordinary necessities of life

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now, and with means to make themselves and their families comfortable till they can raise a crop, it will go far to satisfy them that they have not suffered for a government which, in their distress and poverty, the result of their devotion to its cause, and faith in its protecting care, has *forgotten them*.

Whenever, in the progress towards a final settlement of the questions remaining open in regard to the reorganization of the Indian country, the proper time shall come, it will be advisable to provide for the construction of internal improvements in that region calculated to develop its magnificent resources. With a territorial government organized and in operation, its feuds healed, the scars of war gone from view, a judicious educational system in operation, the missionary establishments which have done so much for the people in the past reopened, and the industry of the country in full process of development, will have come a time when railroads must traverse the country, binding its several parts together, and all to one common Union, and giving a choice of markets and depots for exchange and shipment of produce, either on the Gulf of Mexico, say at Galveston, or northward, to connect with the great central converging points of railroads in Kansas. Whatever can properly be done by the government of the United States in paving the way for these improvements should, in my judgment, be done now, and thus avoid difficulties which may arise in the future.

CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY.

By the reorganization of the northern superintendency the following agencies have been taken from the central and annexed to the northern, to wit: the Omahas, Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, Ottobas and Missourians, Pawnees, and Upper Platte agency; and the tribes now under the charge of Superintendent Murphy, who succeeded Mr. Albin on the 1st of July last, are the following: Delawares, Agent Pratt; Pottawatomies, Agent Palmer; Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, Agent Martin; Osage River agency, Miamies, and confederate bands of Kaskaskias, Weas, Peorias, and Piankeshaws, Agent Colton; Shawnees, Agent Abbot; Kansas, (or Kaws,) Agent Farnsworth; Kickapoos, Agent Adams; Ottawas, Agent Hutchinson; Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches, Agent Leavenworth—all of these agencies being in Kansas.

The headquarters of this superintendency have been, until the assumption of the duties of the office by the present incumbent, at St. Joseph, Missouri, but were then changed to Atchison, that being deemed the most convenient point for the transaction of the business of the superintendency.

The location of this superintendency on the border, whence the freighting trains take their departure to cross the plains, has induced the custom of requiring the superintendent to supervise the shipment of the large quantities of Indian goods, annually forwarded to the upper Missouri, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah, and the tribes in the western portions of Nebraska and Kansas. The experience of the last two or three years has developed irregularities and unreasonable delays in the transaction of this important business, which have received the special attention of this office, and which measures will be taken to avoid, if possible, in future, by insisting upon a strict accountability on the part of contractors for transportation, and, if necessary, by the designation of a special agent to attend to this business alone, under instructions.

There are several interesting questions affecting alike a number of the tribes located in Kansas, which do not at present apply to those in other States or Territories. When the present policy of concentrating Indians upon reservations, and inducing them to turn their attention to agriculture was adopted, a large portion of Kansas was set apart for their use. The advance of the white population, and the gradually increasing attention of the Indians to farming, and their abandonment of the chase, resulted in new treaties, by which the In-

dians consented to take allotments of specified quantities of land for each person, old and young, and that the surplus land should be sold for their benefit; though experience has proved that in many cases the avails of this surplus have been swallowed up by debts acknowledged by the Indians. Out of these allotments have arisen questions as to alienation of and heirship to real property, rights of orphan children, distribution of annuities, &c., which frequently embarrass this office; and among these troublesome questions is a feature in some of the treaties, providing that, under certain conditions, such as naturalization in a United States court in Kansas, upon certificate of a judge that the applicant is fit to take charge of his own affairs, the Indian may obtain a patent for his allotted land, and become invested with the rights of citizenship. Experience has shown that in too many cases this process of naturalization has been attempted upon Indians who are notoriously unfit for citizenship; and to avoid the entire waste of the means of living of the family dependent upon him, this office has been obliged to take the responsibility of declining to carry the proposed arrangement into effect. This subject will be made more clear in subsequent remarks referring to particular tribes. Such general rules have been adopted and promulgated from time to time as have been deemed necessary to guard the interests of the Indians, these rules having in every instance received the sanction of your department.

A question of some interest, as relating particularly to the Indians of this superintendency, deserves some notice here. Complaints were made some months since of difficulties arising, and likely to grow serious, from the habit of Indians, lately returned from service in the army, carrying arms, which they drew and used upon the slightest provocation or excitement. An order was at first issued to disarm the Indians generally, but this was modified so as to require them, when in public assemblies, at payments, or on the occasion of their visiting the towns, to deposit their arms with their agent, receiving receipts therefor. The order, it is believed, has had an excellent effect.

I proceed to notice the several agencies in detail, with such suggestions as occur to me:

Delawares.—The Delaware agent, Mr. Pratt, represents the agricultural operations of the tribe as unusually successful, and in this there appears to be a marked improvement over the previous year; the result being a much better condition of the Indians for the approaching winter. Upon the large and fertile tract which they own, much greater results should have been produced, but their crops, as returned, show 56,700 bushels corn, 2,565 bushels wheat, 10,000 bushels potatoes, besides many other articles of farm produce. The Indians number about 1,000, and maintain fully their reputation for devoted loyalty, having furnished many good soldiers to the army.

Their school is in a flourishing condition, having won very high praise from the superintendent on the occasion of a special visit, and has an excellent effect upon the whole tribe.

The Wyandotts, who are attached to this agency, do not seem to be in as favorable condition as the Delawares, and are desirous of a new treaty, by which they hope to better their condition. A special report on their case will be submitted for your consideration.

Pottowatomies.—The census of last June showed the population of this tribe to be 1,874, being a decrease of 404 within a year. Most of this decrease is accounted for by Agent Palmer, by the absence of about forty members of the tribe, who went south some months since to hunt and support themselves beyond the restraints of civilized life; and of a much larger number who are said to be wandering about in Iowa and Wisconsin. A considerable number of Pottowatomies, supposed to be a portion of those belonging in Kansas, have been heard of recently as being in the northern part of Wisconsin. The agent for the wandering Wisconsin Indians, Mr. Lamoreaux, who was sent to make in-

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quiries as to this party, reports them as doing no harm, and creating no bad feeling among the settlers, but the earliest possible means will be adopted to return them to their proper places. The shiftless conduct of this portion of the tribe, known as the "Prairie band," is very prejudicial to the interests of the remainder, the majority, who have taken allotments and settled down to farming; while the others refused to do so, and had a tract set apart for their use in common. This, however, as is mentioned above, they have abandoned; and it may, perhaps, be well to remove them entirely, and settle them further south, when the way is opened for that purpose.

Agent Palmer represents the settled portion of the tribe in very favorable terms, and, as the result of their farming operations, that they are "as independent as their white neighbors," having raised 64,000 bushels corn, besides other large crops, and owning 2,200 horses, 1,600 cattle, &c. As they become assured of the permanent ownership of their lands, they have become more settled and industrious. This tribe has furnished seventy-one soldiers for the United States army, and the agent states that a large percentage of them have died in the service.

The school (St. Mary's mission) appears to be admirably conducted, and a very efficient help in educating the Indians, not only in the branches usually taught in schools, but in agriculture and the arts of housewifery, and habits of industry generally. The teachers are desirous to accommodate more pupils, who are anxious to receive the benefits of their care and labor, and measures will be taken to make the civilization fund provided by Congress available for this purpose.

The treaty with this tribe provides that, on application to the department by Indians who have taken out certificates of naturalization in the Kansas courts, they shall receive patents for their lands, and their *pro rata* share of the funds of the tribe, and become citizens of the United States. Under this provision about 150 applications for patents, &c., have been made to this office; but on careful inquiry it was found that gross carelessness (or worse) had occurred in furnishing the certificates of good conduct, sobriety, and ability to conduct their own affairs, which certificates were a necessary preliminary to naturalization. The whole matter has undergone a careful examination, and, with your concurrence, a policy has been adopted which will, it is hoped, secure the real interests of the tribe. It has been decided to issue patents to such only as are certified by both the agent and a business committee, (appointed by the tribe to conduct its affairs, and composed of its best men,) to be thoroughly fitted for citizenship and the control of their own affairs, and patents are now in preparation for about fifty who come up to this standard; others will be furnished with patents as soon as they come up to the standard. In regard to the capitalization of their annuities and other funds, it is found that an appropriation by Congress for that purpose, of such amount of the tribal funds as is necessary, should be made before it can be paid to the persons entitled to it. A special report will be prepared and laid before you, showing the number of persons entitled to their *pro rata* share of the funds, and the amount necessary to be appropriated for the purpose.

Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, and Chippewas and Munsees, or Christian Indians.—Agent Martin reports the Sacs and Foxes under his charge as exhibiting a decided improvement morally, being more quiet and peaceable, more industrious, and willing to contribute something for education, their treaty laying aside nothing for the purpose. They number 805, being a decrease of 86 since last year, a fact for which the agent is unable to account. They have personal property estimated at \$71,900, and raised this year 7,500 bushels of corn, besides other produce. Considering the means available, their school has been reasonably successful.

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The Chippewas and Munsees are a small tribe, numbering only 80 persons, occupying their lands in severalty upon a small reservation, and are quiet and industrious, owning property to the amount of about \$10,000. They have a good school, and are favorably situated in every respect.

The largest portion of the extensive reservation of the Sacs and Foxes has been sold at public sale, the funds realized being, however, swallowed up in the payment of certificates of indebtedness of the Indians, the tribe having withdrawn to a diminished reservation, which, however, still greatly exceeds their necessities, if they can be induced to turn their attention more to agriculture.

The Chippewas and Munsees, having a small portion of land outside of their allotments, and more than they need, have expressed a desire that it shall be sold for their benefit. Steps have been taken to appraise this land, amounting to 1,428 acres, preparatory to a public sale.

Osage River agency; Miamies, Kaskaskias, Peorias, Weas, and Piankeshaws.—These Indians, under the charge of Agent Colton, are considerably advanced in civilization, and live upon land held in severalty. The Miamies number only 127, and own property averaging about \$120 to each individual, apart from the land valuation. But a small portion of their land is under cultivation, the amount being stated at fifteen acres for each family, but the people maintain themselves comfortably. The agent represents that the progress of improvement has been slower than usual, on account of the disturbed condition of affairs upon the border during the war. The Miamies pay great attention to the education of their children, and contribute largely of their own means for their maintenance at good schools, and they desire to be allowed to set apart still more of their funds for the purpose. They have some trouble resulting from trespasses of unauthorized persons upon their surplus land, and are desirous to effect a sale of it.

A question of much importance to the Miamies is undergoing investigation, having reference to an alleged wrong done to them by the setting apart of some 14,000 acres of land and \$15,000 in money for certain Miamies of Indiana, the Kansas Miamies alleging fraud in the list of persons, &c.

The Peorias and other tribes confederated with them number 236 in all, and own personal property to the average value of \$140 per each individual, and cultivate an average of 20 acres to each family. The Indians of this agency have raised this year nearly 40,000 bushels of corn, and own 600 horses, 750 head of cattle, and 1,100 hogs.

A great defect in the treaty made with these Indians is that the lands allotted to individuals, when patented to them, were patented for whole families in the name of the heads of those families; and as the restriction upon alienation of land only applied to one-half of the amount patented, the result has been that the share of the children has been sold by the fathers in many cases. As a further consequence, orphan children, who were placed in families here and there for enumeration and allotment, lose their proper and just share of land. In regard to the orphan children, the case has a worse aspect, for in most cases the families with whom they are placed care only for them so far as to get their annuities. The agent has suggested, and, to the credit of the leading men of the tribe, they desire, that measures shall be taken to have these orphan children placed under legally appointed guardians, who shall, under proper bonds, take charge of them and see that they are properly educated and maintained till of age, when their accumulated annuities would give them a fair start in life. This whole subject has been referred to the superintendent for investigation and report as to the practical method of bringing about the desired reform.

Kansas, or Kaws.—This tribe, under charge of Agent Farnsworth, numbers 631 persons, showing a decrease of 70 since last year. The agent ascribes the gradual decay of the tribe to the pernicious habit of intermarriage of relatives, and to dissipation. The people are well disposed towards the whites, friendly

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and loyal, (the latter characteristic shown by their having furnished 84 soldiers for the army, of whom 24 have died,) but they do not appear to appreciate the benefits of a settled life, and care little for education. The Friends, mission school upon the reservation is, however, reasonably successful with the limited number of children who will attend, and some thirty are able to read in English.

This tribe spent the early part of the season in the buffalo country, and had a successful hunt, from which they returned to put in their corn crop, which was also successful.

Nothing of special interest has occurred relative to these Indians since the last report, except a kind of negotiation entered upon, and carried forward with every pretence of solemnity by some of their chiefs with the Pawnees, having reference to the return of certain horses stolen from the Kaws by the Pawnees. The latter tribe were profuse in their joy at the idea of making peace, but reticent of horses. They, however, succeeded in finding a few, which they were ready to return; whereupon the Kaw agent refused, on their behalf, to receive these horses, unless the remainder were returned. The agent was instructed to receive the instalment, and the Pawnee agent to return the remainder when found.

Kickapoos.—Agent Adams represents this tribe as numbering 238 persons on the reservation, including a number of Pottawatomies, who, a few years since, purchased a right to share the head-rights and annuities of the Kickapoos. Only thirty families were found willing to accept separate allotments of land, and they are doing well. The remainder reside upon a diminished reserve, held in common, there being also reserved a sufficient quantity of land for 120 Kickapoos, who have for a long time been absentees from their tribe, and in regard to whom it is rumored that they have been destroyed in an encounter with the wild Indians of the southwest. The remainder of the lands of the tribe, amounting to 123,832 acres, has been disposed of at \$1.25 per acre, in accordance with the terms of treaty, to the Atchison and Pike's Peak Railroad Company; and the interest upon the purchase money will furnish a handsome income for the tribe. No school now exists upon the reservation, the mission school which formerly existed having been abandoned, but the agent promises a special report, with a plan for its re-establishment. The crops raised by the tribe are abundant for their support.

Ottawas.—None of the Kansas tribes have advanced in civilization with greater rapidity or certainty than this, and they are independent and self-sustaining, and will soon assume the position of citizens of the United States, and abandon their tribal relations entirely. Many of them are doing very well as farmers, and are independent of all outside aid. They number two hundred in all, their loss of some thirty by small-pox, besides deaths from other diseases, having been made up by accessions to their number from the Ottawas of Michigan. They have made excellent provision for educating their children, and an extensive building is in progress, aided by large contributions from white friends. Sales of their lands, and of those reserved for educational purposes, have amounted to about \$10,500 during the past year.

Kiowas, Comanches and Apaches.—Although the headquarters of this agency is in Kansas, it is rather an independent agency, reporting directly to this office. The Indians have no reservation, but were entitled, under treaty stipulations, to a periodical distribution of goods, and after receiving these goods, left for their various places of resort. Their agent, Colonel J. H. Leavenworth, has for a long time possessed their confidence, and by his influence over them they have, for the most part, if not entirely, abstained from all hostilities or interference with travel over the Santa Fe road. A portion of those who escaped from the Chivington massacre took refuge with them, and they have had many temptations to join the other Indians of the plains in their hostilities. Various communications from their agent, dated at Crow Creek ranch, sixty miles west of Fort Larned,

during the last spring, assured this office that the Indians had promised him to keep away from the emigrant road, and abstain from hostilities; but it was only by great efforts, in which the agent was assisted by Hon. J. R. Doolittle, then acting as one of the congressional Committee of Investigation into Indian matters, who was furnished with special authority from the department for the purpose, that a collision between these Indians and the military was prevented, and an arrangement was finally made by which a formal conference for treaty purposes was agreed upon, to take place on the 4th of October, instant, and for which purpose a mixed commission of civilians and military officers was appointed to attend on the part of the government. This commission comprises the agent, Colonel Leavenworth; the superintendent of the Kansas tribes, Thomas Murphy, esq.; James Steele, esq., detailed from this office; Brigadier General Sanborn, commanding the military district; and Major Bent, an old resident of the Indian country. Major General Harney, of the commission to the southern Indians, was also present as a commissioner with this party. The party from Leavenworth left that place late in September, taking with them a large amount of goods provided for these Indians under the treaty, but which had been retained pending the question as to their connexion with the hostilities upon the plains.

The Kiowas had in 1862 an estimated population of 1,800, the Comanches 1,800, and the Apaches 500, making 4,100 in all, included in this agency.

With these Indians are a large number of Arapahoes and Cheyennes, parties to the treaty of Fort Wise, although a portion of them fled northward after the Sand Creek massacre, and joined their people connected with the Upper Platte agency.

Several communications have been received from the commission *en route* to, and since their arrival at the place of rendezvous, which appears to have been finally fixed at a short distance above the mouth of the Little Arkansas river; and, under date of October 23, General Sanborn telegraphed that a treaty had been concluded with the Arapahoes, Cheyennes, and Apaches, and that the Kiowas and Comanches had sent out runners to bring in several white captives which they held, and that on their return a treaty, the terms of which had been agreed upon, would be concluded with the last-named tribes.

By later advices, which have just been received, I learn that the prisoners alluded to had been brought in, and a treaty had been concluded with the Kiowas and Comanches, the Apaches preferring to join with the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, by which they have agreed to accept a reservation south of the Arkansas river, and leave unmolested, so far as they are concerned, the great travelled routes across the plains. So soon as I am in possession of all the facts I will lay this treaty before you, with a special report.*

NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

As constituted at the date of the last annual report from this office, this superintendency comprised the various bands of Chippewas in Minnesota and Wisconsin, together with the Sioux and Winnebagoes who had been removed to the reservation at Crow Creek, in Dakota Territory; the Winnebagoes, however, having already migrated to the Omaha reservation, in Nebraska Territory. The headquarters of the superintendent were at St. Paul, Minnesota, Clark W. Thompson, esq., being the incumbent of the office. Early in the last summer changes were made, by which the agencies at Bayfield, Wisconsin, for the Chippewas of Lake Superior, and at Crow Wing, Minnesota, for the Chippewas of the Mississippi, &c., became independent, and reporting directly to this office; and the Sioux remaining at Crow Creek were transferred to the Dakota superintendency; and the northern superintendency as now constituted,

* For report of this commission see Appendix.

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having its headquarters at Omaha, Nebraska Territory, under E. B. Taylor, esq., comprises the following tribes and agencies, all in Nebraska, to wit:

Omahas, Agent Furnas, at Omaha agency, estimated population 1,000.

Winnebagoes, Agent Matthewson, at Omadi, occupying a part of the Omaha reservation, estimated population 1,900.

Ottos and Missouriias, Agent Daily, at Dennison, population 708.

Sacs and Foxes of Missouri and Iowa, (or Great Nemaha agency,) John A. Burbank agent, population 389.

Pawnees, Agent Wheeler, at Genoa, population 2,800.

Sioux, Arapahoes, and Cheyennes, of the Upper Platte, at Fort Laramie, Agent Vital Jarrot, population estimated as follows: Sioux, (Brulés and Ogal-lulas,) 7,865; Arapahoes, 1,800; Cheyennes, 720—total, 10,385.

The total Indian population in the superintendency is thus estimated from the latest sources at 17,182. I proceed to notice such matters in regard to each of the above tribes and agencies as are deemed worthy of special remark.

Omahas—From the annual report of Agent Furnas, as well as from a special report made at an earlier date by the superintendent, we obtain the most satisfactory information in regard to this tribe. Located upon an ample reservation of good land, and well disposed to the pursuits of agriculture, the Indians have cultivated nearly one thousand acres during the present year, with such success as to raise enough for their own use, with a surplus for sale. Their school, under the charge of missionaries of the Presbyterian Board of Missions, appears to be doing great good, though receiving a much less number of pupils than the joint contributions of the tribe and the mission board would seem to provide for.

The tribe appears to be satisfied with the terms of the treaty made last spring, by which they cede to the United States a portion of their reservation for the use of the Winnebagoes, and are impatient to realize the purchase-money, in order that a portion of it may be used for their permanent benefit. They have so far advanced in civilization as to begin to desire separate allotments of land, so that they may feel that the products of their industry are their own. Sundry complaints made by the chiefs to the superintendent at the time of his visit to them have been made the subject of examination by this office, and explanations made and such grievances redressed as were in the power of the office to redress. It was found that the mill had not been run, nor certain employes kept in service, for the full time provided in the treaty, and the agent has been directed to continue them in service. The Indians have a just cause for complaint in certain depredations upon them by the hostile Sioux, and the government having failed to protect them, they ask compensation from Congress. A special report upon this subject has been called for from the agent, and when received will be laid before you.

Winnebagoes.—I regret that I am unable to report much improvement in the condition of this unfortunate tribe since the last annual report. Full details as to their condition, wants, and suggestions for their benefit, are furnished in the accompanying reports, and your attention is particularly invited to the special report of Superintendent Taylor. The urgent request of the chiefs for a change of agent has been granted, and such measures have been taken as will, it is hoped, render the people more comfortable than hitherto, and enable them still to support, with the commendable patience which has thus far characterized them, the necessary privations and troubles incident to their unsettled condition, until Congress can ratify the treaty providing for their permanent settlement upon the Omaha reservation. This I earnestly hope will be done at an early day, so that preparations can be made at the first opening of spring for the necessary work towards establishing them in comfortable quarters, and enabling them to support themselves by agriculture as soon as possible.

I doubt whether there is another tribe of Indians in the country—indeed I doubt whether there is an equal number of white men—who would have sub-

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mitted patiently, as these Indians did, to be taken from their homes and farms in the "very garden of Minnesota," as it has been called, where they were independent and happy, and always friendly to the whites and loyal to the government, and transferred to a region from whence they were compelled to migrate or starve; and to continue thus without homes, and in the condition of paupers for three years. With the ratification of the treaty referred to, and such legislation as may be deemed necessary by Congress, we may look for better things. The resources of the tribe, with their industrious habits, when once a place is found for their application, are sufficient to place them in comparative comfort, and it will be the duty as well as the pleasure of this office to aid this interesting tribe by every means in its power.

Connected with this tribe are a number of persons who, being residents of Minnesota at the time of the semi-compulsory removal of their brethren, refused to leave their homes. Their case has recently been brought to the attention of this office, and, with your concurrence, the parties have been assured that their lands shall be secured to them.

They ask also that their share of the property of the tribe shall be paid to them at one payment, so that they may have the benefit of it upon their farms, and release the government from further liability to them. If practicable, I beg leave to suggest that provision might be made for these Winnebagoes by a special act of Congress, so that the treaty with the tribe may not be delayed by amendments requiring the delay involved in a submission to the tribe.

You will not fail to observe the request of the tribe, approved by the agent, for the addition to their proposed reservation of a small strip of land well adapted for farming, and convenient for their agency. A special report upon this point will be made by the present agent.

Ottos and Missourias.—The reports from these two tribes, under the charge of Agent Daily, are decidedly favorable as to their peaceable and sober conduct and increased attention to farming. Failure in their hunt last year drove them to cultivate more land this year; but the agent fears that their successful hunt this season may again draw them from their fields.

Their excellent crop, however, has this year so encouraged them, that there are good hopes of their settling down to the pursuits of agriculture; and the expiration of the time when they can, under their treaty, have the benefit of the aid of a farmer and other employes, makes it quite necessary that they should labor for themselves. This they appear quite ready to do. Some 12,000 bushels of corn have been raised at this agency this year, of which nearly half was by the Indians themselves.

There is now no school upon the reservation, and the treaty provides for none. I shall endeavor to interest some of those who have been most successful in teaching the Indians, in the re-establishment of a school for these tribes, in order that their children may not grow up in ignorance.

Sacs and Foxes of Missouri and Iowas.—Agent Burbank, who has these Indians in charge, makes a very favorable report as to the latter and more numerous tribe, the census showing a population of 294. As evidence of their loyalty, it appears that no less than forty-three of their number have been enlisted in the army of the United States during the late war, and those who have thus served have been commended by their officers as good soldiers. What is more and remarkable, they have come out of the army able to speak English well, and with hearts not spoiled by dissipation, earnestly desirous to live like white men, cultivating the soil. Those who remained at home cultivated the fields for the families of the soldiers, and with the aid of the returning braves a handsome crop was harvested. The chiefs desire that a liberal share of the tribal annuities should be expended in agricultural implements to enable these soldiers to make further progress in civilization by means of agriculture; and they express a de-

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sire to have their treaty so amended as to enable them to allot their lands in severalty and become citizens. The agent does not regard the school as a very successful one, on account of the irregular attendance of the pupils.

The Sacs and Foxes are but a small tribe, numbering but 95 persons, and occupy some twenty-five sections of land. They make but poor progress in civilization, being represented as lazy and shiftless, and have raised but little for their own support this year. Of course they are negligent of the interests of their children, and will not send them to school.

Both of these tribes will be permitted to send delegates to this city during the coming winter, and it is hoped that satisfactory measures for their improvement may be devised.

Pawnees.—This tribe, numbering now 2,800 persons, has for a long time been friendly to the whites, though enjoying a high reputation among their own race for their skill in possessing themselves of the property of others. It is gratifying to know that their character for honesty is much improved of late years, as a natural consequence of their improvement in civilization, and accumulation of home comforts by their own labor on their reservation.

During last winter eighty-seven of their braves were regularly mustered into the United States service as scouts, and employed in the military operations on the plains; and a still larger number is now in the government service against their old enemies, the Sioux. The superintendent, in his visit to the agency in September, found that the tribe had returned from a successful summer hunt, and were harvesting a fine crop, raised by themselves upon the excellent land of their reservation; and their condition for the winter was expected to be favorable to their comfort. The superintendent found that affairs at the agency proper were not in so satisfactory a condition, the late agent not having, for reasons stated in the special report of the superintendent, attended to the raising of any crop upon the agency farm; the consequence being that grain and other supplies must be purchased for the use of the employés.

It is suggested that the steam mill provided by treaty causes a useless expenditure of money, and that a fine stream in the immediate vicinity may be availed of for running a mill by water-power, which will save the salary of an engineer and laborer, as well as a large consumption of fuel. Although the treaty provides for a steam mill, the benefit to be derived from this change is so apparent, that I think a diversion of the funds for this object would be proper, and have no doubt the Indians would gladly consent to it.

The posting of a company of United States troops at the agency has given the employés as well as the Indians a sense of security which they have not enjoyed for several years, and protected the latter during their hunt. The present agent, Mr. Wheeler, represents the Indians as desiring that their annuity provided for in goods by treaty be given to them in money, to be expended by their agent for agricultural implements. This office will take pleasure in carrying into effect, so far as is practicable, this laudable desire of the tribe.

The manual labor school-house, which has been in course of construction for parts of the two years past, is nearly completed, though it has not been formally accepted. It has cost a large sum of money, and there are deficiencies in its construction, and irregularities connected with the operations of the late agent and the contractors, into which an investigation is being made. It has been deemed advisable, however, to remove the scholars to it from the unhealthy quarters where they have been, and it is intended to provide at the earliest possible day for at least one hundred children at the school. Great hopes are entertained by the better class of the Indians of the good to be done by this school, and there is now some prospect of their being realized.

The agent recommends an appropriation of \$100 to satisfy with presents, in a manner approved by this people, the relatives of a Pawnee who was, not

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long since, murdered by some unknown white man, and this request will be granted.

Indians of the Upper Platte.—Early last spring, it being then understood that peace could probably be made with the Sioux, Arapahoes, and Cheyennes, who had been and are confederated in hostilities upon the emigrant route over the plains, the late Secretary of the Interior deemed it advisable to send an agent to the then abandoned agency at Fort Laramie; and Mr. Vital Jarrot, who from long residence among the Indians, and their known friendly disposition toward him, was supposed to be peculiarly well adapted for the mission, was sent out with instructions to attempt a negotiation, acting in concurrence with the military officers of the district. On his arrival at or near his post, however, he found an active campaign going on against these Indians, who had been already driven far to the north and west. The campaign against them has been a severe one, and entailed very heavy losses upon them, as well as great expense upon the government; and it is to be hoped that the punishment of the Indians will be sufficient to compel a peace. At the same time, it must be confessed that these hostilities are doubtless protracted and bitter in proportion to the sense of wrong felt by the refugees from the Chivington massacre of last fall, who have gone north among these tribes. It will be long before faith in the honor and humanity of the whites can be re-established in the minds of these barbarians; and the last Indian who escaped from the brutal scene at Sand creek will probably have died before its effects will have disappeared.

Hopes are entertained that representatives of these Indians, authorized to speak for them, may be present at the council to be held at Fort Sully, on the Missouri, inasmuch as they were, with the Upper Missouri Indians, represented at the Fort Laramie treaty. If such attendance cannot be secured, the arrangement anticipated as the result of the military campaign must be postponed till the next spring.

From the latest advices from the region of hostilities, it would appear that so far as the Indians especially belonging to the Fort Laramie agency are concerned, the campaign against them is one tending towards extermination; and Agent Jarrot has been directed to return to his post, to be at hand in case anything can be done by him, in concert with the military, for such of the Indians as remain. Agent Jarrot is decided in the expression of his opinion that there have always been many of the Sioux and Arapahoes who would have been glad to make peace if their lives would have been safe in approaching the posts; but he thinks the Cheyennes so exasperated that they will almost suffer extermination rather than submit.

I feel confident, however, that when these Arapahoes and Cheyennes learn the terms of the treaty negotiated with their brethren on the Arkansas, and when they know, as they will from the proceedings of that council, the merited and unmeasured condemnation bestowed by the government upon the Chivington massacre, they will bury the tomahawk and accept the proffered peace.

GREEN BAY AGENCY.

The annual report of this agency is, as usual, punctual as to time and full in information. The tribes under charge of Agent Davis are the Menomonees, Oneidas, and Stockbridges and Munsees.

The Menomonees number one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine, having increased to some extent since last year, notwithstanding the ravages of the small-pox the past summer, and the death, in battle and in hospital, of about one-third of the one hundred and twenty-five men whom they have furnished to the United States army, enlisted in Wisconsin regiments. Their reservation, although of abundant extent, is not well adapted for agricultural pursuits, unless by clearing out farms in heavy-timbered lands, which has been

done to some extent, and considerable produce has been raised. Depredations upon the timbered (pine) lands of the tribe have been made to a large extent by whites, and the agent has taken the necessary steps to prosecute the guilty parties, and recover for the tribe the value of the timber.

There were one hundred and fifty cases of small-pox among the Menomonees, the ravages of the disease being greatly increased by the conduct of a priest, as stated by the agent, in insisting upon taking to the church the bodies of the deceased, and holding services over them in the presence of a crowd of the people. This practice was only terminated by the expulsion of the priest from the reservation. Some eight hundred of the Indians were vaccinated, and the disease was after a time stayed, but the agricultural operations of the people were much interfered with. In other respects, referred to by Agent Davis, the conduct of the same priest has been reprehensible and prejudicial to the interests of the tribe; and measures will be taken towards an improvement in this respect. While there is no disposition on the part of this office to interfere with the rooted religious prejudices of Indian tribes who have long been accustomed to the ministrations of particular denominations of Christians, a just control over these matters must be maintained, where the interests of the Indians clearly require it.

The schools upon the reservation are under the charge of devoted Catholic women, who have been long in the service, and are doing much good. The blacksmith employed for the tribe is a native Menomonee, and does his work well.

An interesting question as to the right of the State of Wisconsin to the 16th sections in the townships comprising this reservation, which has been in dispute for some time, has been decided in favor of the Indians by the department.

The Oneida reservation is near Green Bay, and includes an abundance of good land, which is availed of to a very limited extent by the Indians. Their vicinity to several thriving towns, where they are readily supplied with liquor, has had a bad effect upon them. Many of them find it easier to cut and sell the timber from their reserve than to engage steadily in farming; and the best among them, having no allotments of land, have not that incentive to effort which a home of their own would give them. I propose, with your concurrence, to endeavor to bring about an improvement in this respect. The Oneidas furnished one hundred and eleven men for the United States army, their total population being one thousand and sixty-four by the last census—a decrease of fifty-seven since last year. Their crops have furnished them a sufficient subsistence. The small-pox prevailed among them to some extent, there being forty-three cases and fifteen deaths by that disease.

They have two schools, one under charge of the Methodist, and the other the Protestant Episcopal church, the reports of both schools being herewith. Recently, application has been made by a native Oneida, educated at a college in Wisconsin, for the appointment as teacher of the first named of these schools.

The Stockbridges and Munsees, being the remains of the tribes formerly settled on the east side of Lake Winnebago, and who declined to take allotments and abandon their tribal relations, were placed upon a reservation of two townships on the west end of the Menomonee reservation as at first established. They number 338 persons, but at latest dates only about one-half of them were upon their reservation, the remainder being absent among the white settlements, employed by the farmers as laborers.

They justly complain that the lands given to them are poor and barren, and unfit for their use. They are an industrious people, and would do well upon good lands, and be entirely independent. Out of their small population they had 43 soldiers in the United States army. Their school has been successful during the year.

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Last winter, Congress provided, by a section of the Indian appropriation bill, that any of these Indians might select 160 acres of the public lands as a home-stand; but, the subject having been brought to their attention by the agent, they have, as a tribe, declined to avail themselves of the privilege, alleging that they have not the means to remove upon and work such new farms. Many of them are desirous that their lands in Wisconsin, which are valuable for their pine timber, may be sold, and a new home provided for them in the southwest. It is probable that such an arrangement can be made to advantage as soon as treaties are completed with the tribes occupying the country south of Kansas. In such case, doubtless, many of the tribe would decide to take the portion of the lands offered to them in Wisconsin, and with their proportion of the funds of the tribe open new farms and become citizens. The loyalty and good conduct of this tribe deserve the favorable consideration of the government.

AGENCY FOR THE WINNEBAGOES, POTTAWATOMIES, ETC., IN WISCONSIN.

No report has been received from this agency. The Indians comprised within it are wandering bands, having no settled homes; and who, having refused to remove west with their tribes, obtain a precarious subsistence by hunting, fishing, gathering berries in their season, and by begging, in the northwestern counties of Wisconsin. Congress in 1864 provided a special agent to take charge of them, and made an appropriation for their relief. They number some 1,500, their aggregate having, it is supposed, been increased this year by the addition of some 350 Pottawatomies, who have wandered thither from Kansas and Iowa.

CHIPPEWAS OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

At this agency, at Crow Wing, Minnesota, Agent Clark has in charge the various bands of Chippewa Indians of that State, comprised under the following classifications: Chippewas of Mississippi, numbering about 2,050; Chippewas of Red Lake and Pembina, about 2,000; Pillager and Lake Winnebagoish bands of Chippewas, population last year 1,966—total, 6,016.

No report has been received from the agent—for what reason does not appear; and we are unable to present any statistics as to the condition and progress of these tribes, many of whom are industrious, thriving farmers. Last year they made and harvested a large quantity of maple sugar and wild rice, besides selling furs to a considerable amount. By recent treaties with two of the classes of tribes above mentioned, provision was made for the expenditure of a large amount of money in their behalf, in addition to the sum previously due to the Chippewas generally; and the removal of the agency establishment to a point further north and more central has been determined upon. Agent Clark some time since submitted a report with plans for the proposed buildings, upon a designated location near Leech lake; but action in the matter awaits the report of a special agent, who has been directed to make more particular inquiry as to the site and plans proposed. The large amount disbursed at this agency makes it one of the most important in the service, and I very much regret that, by the neglect of the agent to forward his report, I have no means of presenting a full statement of its condition.

CHIPPEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR.

This year, as well as last, the annual statement of Agent Webb fails to reach us in time to be made available for the annual report of this office. The Indians of this agency are all Chippewas, residing on and about reservations in northern Wisconsin, and number about 4,500. They have their farms and schools, receive annually a considerable sum of money, besides having the benefit of the labors of sundry employes of the government, and ought to be in a comfortable condition, but we have no data to show it.*

* For Agent Webb's annual report, see appendix.

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MACKINAC AGENCY, MICHIGAN.

The annual report of this agency has but this moment been received, and too late for special notice. It will be found among the accompanying documents. From the statistics at hand, and which form a part of this report, we learn that the various tribes and remnants of tribes connected with the agency, and scattered along the shores of Lake Superior and at other points in Michigan, have had a very prosperous year. The various tribes and bands are classified as follows, with the more important footings of the tables referring to each:

Chippewas of Lake Superior: population, 1,058; individual personal property, \$24,900; two schools, with 91 pupils. Ottawas and Chippewas: population, 4,923; property, \$257,822; twenty schools, with 578 pupils. Chippewas of Saginaw, &c.: population, 1,581, property, \$7,691; six schools, with 214 pupils. Chippewas, Ottawas and Pottawatomies: population, 287; property, \$39,080; two schools, with 9 pupils.

These Indians have furnished 196 soldiers for the United States army. A large number of them are far advanced in civilization, fully deserving of and actually exercising the rights of citizenship. They are peaceable and industrious to a great extent, as is shown by the following aggregates of the principal crops raised, viz: 8,249 acres cultivated, producing 2,877 bushels wheat, 28,390 bushels corn, 88,492 bushels potatoes, 453,252 pounds maple sugar, and 9,877 barrels fish for sale, besides the quantity used for themselves; and have sold \$54,000 worth of furs.

They own and occupy 883 frame and log houses, and have, as is seen above, about 900 of their children at their numerous schools, taught for the most part by the self-denying missionaries of various denominations, who have long labored among them with success. For other interesting details I must refer to the report of the agent, not having time to make a summary of them.

NEW YORK.

The annual report from this agency is very unsatisfactory as to details, the agent, Mr. Rich, having depended for his statistical information upon the persons engaged by the State of New York in taking the census, who have failed to furnish him with the information in time for this report. This is very much to be regretted, as there are no full and reliable statistics of the agency since 1862. By a careful census that year the total population of the New York Indians was found to be 3,958. Of that number, the principal tribes, the Senecas, upon their reservations, Cattaraugus, Allegany, and Tonawanda, had a population of 2,854. A census of the Senecas in 1863 gave their number at 2,988, an increase of 134.

It is not probable that there has been any increase, and the present population of the "Six Nations," which now includes Senecas, Cayugas, Onondagas, Oneidas, and Tuscaroras, is probably about the same as in 1862, as given above. In that year these Indians had in operation nineteen schools upon their various reservations, including the mission schools and those organized under State laws, and 661 pupils were in attendance. The value of personal property belonging to individuals that year was estimated at \$262,500. This has doubtless largely increased.*

Agent Rich reports the Indians as paying increased attention to their farms, and, in many cases, doing in every respect as well as their white neighbors; and that their schools seem to be prosperous. The annual distribution of annuity money, and goods has been made and accounts returned, the Oneidas expressing a desire to have the value of their goods in money hereafter.

There is some evidence that the influential men among these Indians, who

* For statistics of N. Y. agency, see appendix.

last year succeeded in preventing an arrangement with the government by which the claims of their people on account of Kansas lands should be settled, have come to a sense of the folly of their conduct at that time, and a petition has been received from many of them asking that action may be taken by the government in the matter, by the appointment of a commission to settle their claims. They have been informed that the subject is under advisement. I recommend an early consideration of this case, so that the long-pending claims of this people may be fully and fairly adjusted.

The only school report forwarded is that of the Thomas Orphan Asylum, which receives aid from the civilization fund to the amount of \$1,000 annually. The wisdom of the expenditure is fully confirmed by the success of the school, which is under charge of the Society of Friends, and appears to be doing great good. Its average number of pupils has been fifty-three, during the year ending September 30.

FINANCES.

It is unnecessary to call your attention to the evils arising from the anticipation of appropriations in making purchases of goods, and otherwise providing for the Indians, but I deem it my duty to allude to a state of facts that, in some cases, seems to have rendered such anticipation necessary.

In certain treaties which I have specified in the report accompanying my annual estimates it is contemplated that the appropriations be made by the calendar year. They are made by the fiscal year commencing six months later, and this brings them half a year behind; and the department is compelled either to anticipate the appropriations, or be guilty of a breach of faith with the Indians. I have, therefore, in my estimates, called for an appropriation of one instalment in advance under these treaties.

The large emigration to the western Territories, caused by the development of the great mineral wealth of those regions, is fast circumscribing the range of the Indians and driving them from their ancient hunting-grounds. The expense of taking care of the Indians, and maintaining peace between them and the settlers, is thus necessarily much increased, and the amounts appropriated for the current fiscal year for some of the Territories will fall short of the necessities of the service. In the case of Utah, I found, on assuming my position here, that the entire amount appropriated for general and incidental expenses there had been exhausted, and over \$3,000 had been expended in excess of the appropriation; and of the appropriation of \$25,000 for Nevada, but \$4,921 93 remained on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year. In both these cases, too, there are claims outstanding which the department has not the means to pay.

The accompanying table will indicate the amounts drawn prior to July 1, 1865, from appropriations for the current fiscal year. This shows that \$185,622 43 was anticipated from appropriations under treaties, and \$115,520 02 from miscellaneous appropriations.

Whether all these anticipations were necessary, or whether any of them should have occurred, need not now be discussed. So long as I am at the head of this bureau I shall not deem it proper in any case to anticipate appropriations; but to prevent suffering among the Indians, to insure peace between them and the whites, and to prevent embarrassments to the service, I respectfully ask that the attention of Congress be called to the existing state of facts as early as practicable in the coming session.

I also desire to call your attention to the fact that, under treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes in Oregon and Washington Territories, the amounts appropriated now are the same as before the war, when the payments were made in coin. The consequence is, that in many instances the appropriations are not sufficient to enable the officers of the department to procure the services of the employes provided for by the treaties.

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STATISTICS.

Such figures as have been returned by the various superintendents and agents in their annual and other reports are presented in the accompanying tables. In regard to population, I have endeavored, from the best sources of information at hand, to make the statement complete, and where figures, from actual enumeration, have not been returned, have given estimates. The aggregate number of Indians living within the limits of the United States is thus shown to be about 308,000, and this will not vary far from the actual number.

I have to repeat the annual complaint of the imperfection of our tables of statistics. If the agents could by any means be induced to obey the injunction of this office to make these returns faithfully as to every item called for, and promptly as to time, I should be able to judge very clearly, from the returns as to each tribe, and from the grand totals, from year to year, of the success or failure of the measures adopted for the benefit of the Indians; but so long as a large number of agents habitually neglect their duty in this respect, and either send no tables, or forward imperfect or deficient reports, or fail as to the time of making their reports, so long must the annual tables fail to be satisfactory.

Meagre and deficient as our columns of statistics are, it will be seen, on comparison with the aggregate of last year, that there is a decided increase in almost every item of crops raised and property owned as the result of Indian labor, and work done in their behalf. For particulars, I refer to the tables herewith, in relation to farming and educational operations, which contain much valuable information.

TRUST FUNDS.

The accompanying tables exhibit a full statement of the various stocks and bonds held by the Interior Department in trust for various tribes of Indians, classified as to States and as to particular funds, nominal interest, date of treaties under which the investment was made, &c. The total amount of the funds thus held in trust is \$3,076,092, bearing interest to the amount of \$181,907 03 annually. Of the total amount thus held in trust, the sum of \$849,950 is invested in government securities, and \$286,742 15 in Leavenworth, Pawnee, and western railroad bonds; while the remainder, or \$1,839,400, is in bonds and stocks of various States, nearly all of which took part in the rebellion, and have paid no interest since 1860. With the return of peace we may expect that arrangements will be made at an early day for the resumption of the payment of interest upon these bonds and for the arrears of past years.

SALES OF INDIAN TRUST LANDS.

I have caused to be prepared, and submit herewith, a careful statement showing the amount of lands originally for sale, for the benefit of the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri, Kansas, and Winnebagoes, respectively, with the amount of land sold, and the sum realized therefor, whether in money, or scrip representing the indebtedness of the several tribes; also the amount of certificates of indebtedness originally issued, the amount redeemed, with the interest, and the amount still outstanding.

By the tables, the following facts appear: the amount originally offered for sale of the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi lands, in Kansas, was 278,332.60 acres, of which 268,502.68 acres have been sold, realizing the sum of \$282,439 27 in cash and certificates; leaving 9,829.92 acres still unsold; while there still remains of outstanding indebtedness the sum of \$26,574 59, bearing interest at six per cent.

In addition to the above amount of land as originally offered for sale, there

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was added and placed in market on the 28th of last February a portion of the diminished reserve, making the whole amount placed in the market about 339,772 acres; the whole number of acres now remaining unsold being about 70,000. Should this land realize at public sale anything like its real value, there will be something left to be used for the benefit of the tribe; but very little, apparently, in comparison with what might reasonably have been expected from the sale of so large a body of land in Kansas.

Of the lands of the Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri and Iowa, in Nebraska, there were placed in market 32,098 acres, of which 21,225 acres have been sold, realizing the sum of \$33,057 50, leaving 10,873 acres yet unsold. Of the amount received \$5,740 91 has been paid for bridges, surveying, &c., and the balance is partly invested for the benefit of the tribes, and part is in the United States treasury.

Of the lands of the Kansas tribe, the number of acres offered for sale was 169,268.49; of which there have been sold 35,491.32 acres, realizing the sum of \$50,994 47, which has been paid in certificates of indebtedness of the tribe; and there remains unsold land to the amount of 133,777.17 acres. There still remain outstanding certificates of indebtedness to the amount of \$121,013 99, after the payment of which, if the sales of the remainder of the land should be successful, there will remain a considerable sum for the benefit of the tribe.

Of the Winnebago lands there have been put in market by this office 140,776 84 acres, and by the General Land Office 53,654 23 acres, making in all 194,431.17 acres. Of these lands this office has sold 98,189.20 acres, receiving therefor in cash \$120,522 92, and in certificates of indebtedness and interest thereon \$162,500 42, making in all \$283,033 34.

The General Land Office has sold 32,148.04 acres, receiving in cash \$82,146 14. Total amount sold 130,337.24 acres, leaving unsold 64,093 93 acres. This land may reasonably be expected to realize \$120,000, the average quality being probably not so good as that already sold.

The total amount of certificates of indebtedness issued is \$278,361, and there are still outstanding certificates unpaid to the amount of \$27,881 62; so that when the lands shall have all been sold, there will probably remain nearly \$100,000 for the benefit of the tribe.

Having thus presented a summary of the affairs of the various tribes under the charge of this office, and such suggestions in regard to their condition, welfare, and improvement, as I have deemed appropriate, I have but to refer you to the accompanying papers for details, and to conclude with the assurance that, relying upon your sympathy with all honest efforts exerted for the benefit of the Indian race, I shall devote my utmost energies to the end that their interests may receive no detriment while they remain under my charge. I hope, indeed, to effect much real good for this interesting people.

Respectfully submitted:

D. N. COOLEY, *Commissioner.*

Hon. JAMES HARRIS,
Secretary of the Interior.

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LIST OF PAPERS ACCOMPANYING THE REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR 1865.

WASHINGTON SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 1. Report of W. H. Waterman, superintendent.
- No. 2. Report of S. D. Howe, Tulalip agency.
- No. 3. Report of C. C. Finkbouer, in charge of Lummi reservation.
- No. 4. Report of Rev. E. C. Chirouse, teacher Tulalip agency.
- No. 5. Report of A. R. Elder, Puyallup agency.
- No. 5 A. Report of C. H. Spinning, physician ditto.
- No. 5 B. Report of W. Billings, farmer ditto.
- No. 5 C. Report of J. Hubbard, in charge of Chehalis reservation.
- No. 6. Report of J. T. Knox, sub-agent Skokomish agency.
- No. 6 A. Report of F. Ford, farmer Skokomish agency.
- No. 7. Report of James H. Wilbur, Yakama agency.
- No. 7 A. Report of W. Wright, teacher Yakama agency,
- No. 7 B. Report of W. Miller, physician Yakama agency.
- No. 8. Report of H. A. Webster, agent Neeah bay agency.
- No. 8 A. Report of J. G. Swan, teacher Neeah bay agency.
- No. 8 B. Report of Geo. Jones, farmer Neeah bay agency.
- No. 9. Report of Joseph Hill, sub-agent Quinaelt agency.
- No. 10. Report of Geo. A. Paige, Fort Colville special agency.
- No. 10 B. Report of Geo. A. Paige, Fort Colville special agency.

OREGON SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 11. Report of Superintendent Huntington, treaty with Klamaths, &c.
- No. 12. Letter of Superintendent Huntington, relative to Coast Range Indians.
- No. 13. Letter of H. D. Barnard, on same subject.
[For other papers, see Appendix.]

CALIFORNIA SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 14. Report of Charles Maltby, superintendent.
- No. 15. Report of D. P. Moffat, physician Hoopa Valley reservation.
- No. 16. Report of late Superintendent Wiley, relative to special agency to
Mission Indians.
- No. 17. Letter of J. Q. A. Stanley, relative to special agency to Mission Indians
- No. 18. Report of W. E. Lovett, special agent to Mission Indians.
- No. 19. Report of J. Q. A. Stanley, special agent to Mission Indians.

ARIZONA SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 20. Letter from G. W. Leihy, superintendent.
- No. 21. Letter from John C. Dunn, agent.
- No. 22. Letter from M. O. Davidson, agent for Papagos.
- No. 23. Report from M. O. Davidson, relative to character, traditions, habits,
&c., of Papagos.
- No. 24. Instructions to Mr. Davidson, relative to his agency.

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- No. 25. Letter from H. Ehrenberg, relative to Indian affairs in Arizona.
No. 25½. Letter of Superintendent Leihy, relative to Indian hostilities, &c.
[For annual report of Superintendent Leihy, see Appendix.]

NEVADA SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 26. Instructions of Secretary Usher to C. W. Thompson, relative to
selling mill at Truckee River reservation.
No. 27. Copy of contract for sale of Truckee River reservation.

UTAH SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 28. Report of O. H. Irish, superintendent.
No. 29. Instructions to Superintendent Irish, relative to making treaties.
No. 30. Report of Superintendent Irish, transmitting treaties.
No. 31. Report of Superintendent Irish, forwarding Special Agent Sales's re-
port of operations among Indians of southwest.
No. 31 A. Report of same, relative to Special Agent Sales's visit to Pah-Utes.
No. 32. Report of Superintendent Irish, relative to mining discoveries in the
southwest.
No. 33. Letter of Governor Doty, transmitting treaties ratified by Indians.
No. 34. Report of Luther Mann, jr., agent at Fort Bridger.

NEW MEXICO SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 35. Report of F. Delgado, superintendent.
No. 36. Instructions of Secretary of Interior, relative to slavery in New
Mexico.
No. 36 A. Order of the President of the United States, on same subject.
No. 37. Reply of Superintendent Delgado, on same subject.
No. 38. Report of John Ward, agent for Pueblos.
No. 38½. Report of D. Archuleta, Abiquiu agency.
No. 39. Letter of Hon. K. Benedict, United States judge, relative to bonds
of agents.
No. 40. Report of Superintendent Delgado, relative to needy condition of
Pueblos Indians.
No. 40 A. Agent Ward's report on same subject.
No. 40 B. Letter from Rev. F. Jouvett, on same subject.
No. 41. Report of Agent Ward, relative to Moqui Indians.
No. 42. Report of Agent Ward, relative to Moqui Indians.
No. 42½. Annual report of Agent Labadi, Cimarron agency.

COLORADO SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 43. Letter from Governor Evans, relative to Arapahoes desiring to make
peace.
No. 44. Office letter to Governor Evans in reply to above.
No. 45. Report of Lafayette Head, Conejos agency.
No. 46. Report of D. C. Oakes, Middle Park agency.

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No. 47. Letter of Governor Evans, transmitting Agent Head's report as to
Indians held in slavery.

No. 47 A. Report of Agent Head, as above.

No. 48. Letter of Governor Evans, relative to outbreak of Indians.

No. 49. Letter of late Superintendent Albin, relative to shipment of goods.

No. 50. Report of Governor Evans, relative to distribution of goods.

DAKOTA SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 50½. Annual report of Governor Edmunds.

No. 51. Report of Governor Edmunds, ex officio superintendent.

No. 52. Letter of Governor Edmunds, urging necessity of treaty with Upper
Missouri Sioux.

No. 53. Office instructions to Governor Edmunds, relative to treaty.

No. 54. Letter of Governor Edmunds, on same subject.

No. 55. Report of General Pope to General Grant, against the proposed
treaty, and giving his views of policy to be pursued.

No. 56. Letter of Secretary Harlan to General Pope, relative to same subject.

No. 57. Instructions of Interior Department to Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
on same subject.

No. 58. Circular instructions to superintendents and agents, same subject.

No. 59. Despatch from General Pope, recommending commission to make
peace with Indians.

No. 60, 61, 62, and 63. Reports of General Sully, relative to his campaign in
Dakota.

No. 64. Report of Governor Edmunds, relative to condition of Indian affairs.

No. 65. Instructions of Governor Edmunds to Agent Conger, approved by
Indian Office.

No. 66. Special report of Agent Conger, relative to Yankton agency.

No. 67. Special report of Agent Potter, Ponca agency.

No. 67½. Annual report of Agent Potter, Ponca agency.

No. 68. Office letter to agent, relative to murder of Poncas by whites.

No. 69. Special report of Agent Stone, Crow Creek agency.

No. 70. Special report of Agent Stone, relative to turning back of his Indians
from their hunt by military orders.

No. 71. Report of Governor Edmunds, transmitting special report of Agent
Wilkinson, Upper Missouri agency.

No. 72. Report of Agent Wilkinson.

No. 73. Letter of Governor Edmunds, transmitting sundry reports of Agent
Wilkinson.

No. 73 A. Report of Agent Wilkinson, relative to condition of Indians.

No. 73 B. Report of Agent Wilkinson, relative to residing at agency.

No. 74. Annual report of Agent Wilkinson.

No. 75. Report of Agent Stone, Crow Creek agency, for September, 1865.

No. 75½. Annual report of Agent Stone, Crow Creek agency.

No. 76. Letter of Captain J. L. Fisk, relative to colonizing Indians north of
Missouri river.

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IDAHO SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 77. Report of Governor Lyon, ex officio superintendent.
- No. 78. Office instructions to Governor Lyon, relative to treaties with Indians.
- No. 79. Annual report of J. O'Neil, Nez Perces agency.
- No. 80. Letter of Agent O'Neil, relative to hostilities by Blackfeet.

MONTANA SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 81. Report of Agent Hutchins, relative to Flathead school.
- No. 82. Office instructions to Agent Hutchins, on same subject.
- No. 83. Special report of Agent Hutchins, distribution of goods.
- No. 84. Annual report of Agent Hutchins, Flathead agency.
- No. 85. Special report of Agent Hutchins, Flathead school.
- No. 85½. Instructions to Agent Upson, as to treaty with Blackfeet.
- No. 85¾. Letter from Agent Upson, relative to hostilities among Blackfeet.
[For Agent Upson's annual report, see Appendix.]

SOUTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 86. Annual report of E. Sells, superintendent.
- No. 86 A. Statement of cattle captured, &c., referred to in superintendent's report.
- No. 87. Agent Reynolds to superintendent, relative to cattle-thieving.
- No. 88. Report of Superintendent Sells to office, same subject, August 4, 1865.
- No. 89. Report of Superintendent Sells to office, same subject, August 5, 1865.
- No. 90. Instructions of Interior Department, March 20, 1865, same subject.
- No. 91. Office letter to late Superintendent Coffin, February 14, 1865, relative to charges against Indian agents.
- No. 91 A. Letter of Colonel Phillips to Secretary of Interior.
- No. 92. Interior Department instructions to Commissioner of Indian Affairs, relative to same subject.
- No. 93. Reply of Agent Colman to charges.
- No. 94. Reply of Agent Cutler to charges.
- No. 95. Reply of Agent Harlan to charges.
- No. 96. Annual report of Agent Coleman, Chickasaw agency.
- No. 97. Annual report of Agent Reynolds, Seminole agency.
- No. 98. Supplementary report of Agent Reynolds, Seminole agency.
- No. 99. Annual report of Agent Harlan, Cherokee agency.
- No. 100. Annual report of Agent Gookins, Wichita agency.
- No. 101. Annual report of Agent Dunn, Creek agency.
- No. 102. Annual report of Agent Snow, Neosho agency.
- No. 103. Letter of Superintendent Sells, transmitting special report of Agent Snow, relative to exploration of Quapaw reservation.

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- No. 104. Despatch of Major General Reynolds, June 28, 1865, relative to Indian council to make peace.
- No. 105. Despatch from Major General Reynolds, relative to proposed peace council.
- No. 105½. Report of Commissioner Cooley, as president of council at Fort Smith.
- No. 106. Official daily record of council at Fort Smith.
- No. 107. Letter of John Ross to Opothleyoholo, Creek chief, September 19, 1861.
- No. 108. Same to same, October 8, 1861.
- No. 109. Address of John Ross to the Cherokee regiment, December 19, 1862.
- No. 110. Despatch from General Hunt, October 23, 1865, with letter from Governor Colbert, of Chickasaws, October 11, 1865.

CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 110½. Annual report of Thomas Murphy, superintendent.
- No. 111. Report of Agent Farnsworth, relative to disarming Indians.
- No. 112. Office to late Superintendent Albin, same subject.
- No. 113. Superintendent Murphy to Commissioner Cooley, same subject.
- No. 114. Office reply, same subject.
- No. 115. Supplementary regulations as to Indians alienating lands.
- No. 116. Office letter to late Superintendent Albin—shipment of Indian goods.
- No. 117. Office letter to Superintendent Murphy, same subject.
- No. 118. Annual report of Agent Pratt, Delaware agency.
- No. 119. Annual report of teacher, Delaware agency.
- No. 120. Special report of Superintendent Murphy, relative to Delaware school.
- No. 121. Annual report of Agent Colton, Osage River agency.
- No. 122. Special report of Agent Colton, relative to leasing oil lands.
- No. 123. Secretary of Interior's instructions, relative to same.
- ✓ No. 124. Annual report of Agent Adams, Kickapoo agency.
- No. 125. Annual report of Agent Palmer, Pottawatomic agency.
- No. 126. Annual report of physician to Pottawatomic agency.
- No. 127. Annual report of J. F. Diels, superintendent of school, Pottawatomic agency.
- No. 128. Office to Superintendent Murphy, relative to Indians as licensed traders.
- No. 129. Secretary of Interior's decision relative to patents and *pro rata* share of tribal funds for Pottawatomies.
- No. 130. Annual report of Agent Martin, Sac and Fox of Mississippi agency.
- No. 131. Annual report of teacher, Chippewa and Munsee school.
- No. 132. Annual report of teacher, Sac and Fox of Mississippi school.

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- No. 133. Letter of congressmen from Kansas, recommending sale of additional Sac and Fox lands.
- No. 134. Report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, February 27, 1865, same subject.
- No. 135. Annual report of Agent Hutchinson, Ottawa agency.
- No. 136. Letter of Agent Farnsworth, relative to treaty between Kaws and Pawnees.
- No. 137. Letter of Agent Wheeler, same subject.
- No. 138. Office instructions on same subject.
- No. 139. Report of Agent Farnsworth, same subject.
- No. 140. Letter of Agent Leavenworth, Kiowas, &c., January 9, 1865.
- No. 141. Letter of Agent Leavenworth, February 19, 1865.
- No. 142. Report of Agent Leavenworth, May 6, 1865, relative to proposed action towards Indians, the military, &c.
- No. 143. Report of same, May 10, 1865, relative to his action, &c.
- No. 144. Despatches, with authority to Senator Doolittle and others to make treaties.
- No. 145. Report of Agent Leavenworth, of agreements by Kiowas, &c., to make treaties.
- No. 146. Despatch from General Pope on same subject.
- No. 147. Report from Agent Leavenworth, September 19, 1865.
[For report of treaty council with Kiowas, Comanches, &c., see Appendix.]

NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 148. Annual report of E. B. Taylor, superintendent.
- No. 149. Special report of Superintendent Taylor, relative to Omaha agency.
- No. 150. Office letter to Superintendent Taylor, in reply.
- No. 151. Annual report of Agent Furnas, Omaha agency.
- No. 152. Annual report of teacher at Omaha agency.
- No. 153. Special report of Superintendent Taylor, Winnebago agency.
- No. 154. Annual report of Agent Balcombe, Winnebago agency.
- No. 155. Letter from Agent Furnas, relative to preparing land for Winnebagoes to cultivate.
- No. 156. Office report to Secretary of Interior, relative to Winnebagoes who remain in Minnesota.
- No. 157. Petition of Winnebago chiefs for a school.
- No. 158. Annual report of Agent Burbank, Great Nemaha agency.
- No. 159. Annual report of teacher of Iowa school.
- No. 160. Annual report of farmer for Ioways.
- No. 161. Special report of Superintendent Taylor, relative to Pawnee agency.
- No. 162. Annual report of Agent Wheeler, relative to Pawnee agency.
- No. 163. Annual report of teacher of Pawnee manual labor school.
- No. 164. Annual report of farmer at Pawnee agency.
- No. 165. Letter of late Agent Lushbaugh, relative to enlistment of Pawnees in United States service.

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No. 166. Letter of late Agent Lushbaugh, transmitting treaty between Kaws and Pawnees.

No. 167. Annual report of Agent Daily, Ottoe agency.

No. 168. Annual report of engineer at Ottoe agency.

No. 169. Annual report of farmer at Ottoe agency.

No. 170. Office instructions to V. Jarrot, agent for Fort Laramie agency.

No. 171. Report from Agent Jarrot, July 15, 1865.

No. 172. Report from Agent Jarrot, August 18, 1865.

GREEN BAY AGENCY.

No. 173. Annual report of Agent M. M. Davis.

No. 174. Annual report of R. Dousman, teacher for Menomonees.

No. 175. Annual report of Kate Dousman, teacher for Menomonees.

No. 176. Annual report of Jane Dousman, teacher for Menomonees.

No. 177. Annual report of farmer for Menomonees.

No. 178. Annual report of miller for Menomonees.

No. 178½. Annual report of blacksmith for Menomonees.

No. 179. Annual report of teacher for Stockbridges and Munsees.

No. 180. Annual report of teacher for M. E. mission school, Oneidas.

No. 181. Annual report of teacher for P. E. mission school, Oneidas.

No. 182. Letter of Agent Davis, transmitting appeal of Stockbridges, &c., for relief.

No. 183. Office letter in reply to the same.

CHIPPEWAS OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

No. 184. Report of Agent Clark, relative to selection of a place for the agency.

No. 185. Letter of George Bouga on same subject.

No. 185½. Letter of Secretary of Interior, relative to licenses.

CHIPPEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR.

No. 186. Office letter to Superintendent Thompson, relative to Lake Court Oreilles reservation.

[For Agent Webb's annual report, see Appendix.]

SPECIAL AGENCY FOR POTTAWATOMIES, ETC., IN WISCONSIN.

No. 187. Agent Davis's letter relative to depredations by wandering Indians.

No. 188. Agent Lamoreaux's letter on same subject.

MACKINAW AGENCY.

No. 188½. Annual report of Agent Smith.

NEW YORK AGENCY.

No. 189. Annual report of Agent Rich.

No. 190. Annual report of the "Thomas Orphan Asylum."

[For statistics, see Appendix.]