

W230

Head Quarters Northern Dist. of Cal.
Fort Reading Feb 11. 1853.

G. Wright
Maj. U.S. Army
Comd'g

In relation to settlements
made on the public lands
in Cal. &c &c -

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Sir
I desire to obtain certain information from the
Head Quarters of the Division, in relation to settlers on the
public lands in California, not surveyed, I speak of
lands not surveyed by the General Government, and
not covered by any grant, either before or after the
acquisition of the country, by the United States.

As there may law authorizing persons to settle on
such lands? or are they not now considered as
Indian Reservations, and subject to the laws in
relation thereto?

Has the General Government transferred to the
State of California, the right to authorize settlements
on such lands, and to guarantee possession to the
occupant?

The country on low bluffs, and between it
and the Sacramento, north, has, I believe, never been
granted to any person, and, I am under the im-
pression that it is to be considered as "Indian country," and
if so, the 10th 11th 12th & 13th of Sec. 3^d of Act 3^d March 1847,

are applicable. This country being within the
limits of the state, I suppose that a convenient
jurisdiction would be exercised in certain cases.

I am far from wishing to throw any
obstacles in the way of persons desirous of loca-
ting on lands, in good faith, and for the pur-
poses of cultivation and improvement, but the
prohibitions contained in the laws above re-
ferred to must be enforced, if it is "Indian
country."

Very Respectfully
Your most obt. Servt.

L. Wright
Capt. U.S. Army
Kincaid

Major E. I. Townsend

D. C. G.
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San Francisco
Cal.