

Copy Letter of  
Supt. [unclear] No 3  
of Edward Connor, Inspector  
at [unclear] Pop.  
of date 23<sup>d</sup> of February 1854

Contents - general information  
relative to the country about  
his location selected by  
Supt. [unclear] and the  
Indians

Rec<sup>d</sup> April 15 54

Respectfully referred  
for the information  
of the Secy of the  
Interior

[Signature]

April 8. ✓  
Copy rec<sup>d</sup> to the Com<sup>r</sup> of  
the Affairs  
Sept. 11. [unclear]  
15 [unclear]

Dejon Military Reserve,  
February 22<sup>d</sup> 1854.

Sir

I arrived at this place, on the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. in eight days from San Francisco, & had the pleasure of meeting Lieut Beale, at Los Angeles, on his way to the Colorado to inquire into and ascertain the condition of the Indians in that section. He will not return to this place before the middle of April. I was most agreeably surprised to see what improvement there has been made at this place in the short time it has been occupied. There are no less than 2500 acres of excellent land sowed with wheat, and all well ditched and with a stream of water running through the ditch for a distance of six miles; and by which the whole field can be irrigated.

There are at present some forty ploughs running daily sowing Barley, breaking ground for corn, vegetables, &c. There are some 2500 Indians on the Reserve; the young men and boys of which do the out door work, some engaged in ploughing and sowing - others ditching, and others acting as vaqueros, and such out door occupations as are required about a large farm. There is one very ingenious fellow learning the Blacksmith's trade, and another the Carpenter's. In fact it is most astonishing with what facility and readiness they perform the duties assigned them. They have already planted several acres of Potatoes, and are to plant more, also several acres of Corn, and the various vegetables in their proper season.

Connected with the farm is one of the most ex-

cellent gardens in California, in which is planted a large quantity of grape vines, together with trees of the various tropical fruits adapted to this climate, such as Orange, Peach, Apples, Apples, Peas, Pomgranate, &c.

The Indians appear to be very happy and contented. The old people do the household work, while the girls and young women are employed making garments for themselves and men. My attention was yesterday called by Mr. Bishop (the very obliging Superintendent in the absence of Lt Beale) to a woman making a shirt, and although the style of the cutting may not be as fashionable as some of our Stockton dames could execute, still I will defy any of them to beat the sewing.

The plan adopted by Lieut Beale for the comfort and sustenance of the Indians is in my opinion most admirably conceived and well carried out. They are now supplied with good and wholesome food and plenty of it. There are some 200 head of Cattle on the Reserve, 100 of which are cows, and the remainder Beef Cattle; also a large number of Sheep and Goats, so that after the first year or two, they will be able to raise everything necessary for their own maintenance, and thereby save the Government a large amount yearly, which otherwise would have to be paid for Indian wars, Indian depredations, &c.

The Indians are daily coming in small parties from the mountains. I have no doubt ere harvest time, there will be double the number at this place that are

now here. However there will be sufficient sowed and planted this year to supply all the Indians South of Sacramento River.

Capt Billy Howard had a big talk with the Chiefs of Lonhume, Mercedes, Kings River and Four Creek Indians on his way up. Some of them have been to this place and expressed themselves highly gratified with the arrangement. They are now collecting their people in order to move as soon as they are permitted to do so, but I believe it is Lt Beale's wish, for them to remain where they are, until the harvest is ready for their maintenance. Capt Howard has considerable influence with the above tribes and his statements can be relied upon.

Lt Beale has exercised good judgment in the selection of this place for a Reserve, it being so located as to be entirely alone and distant from any future settlement of whites who may locate in the Tulare valley. It is surrounded on three sides by the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range of mountains, and the plain in front, or to the North West, being entirely worthless for agricultural purposes.

I shall start in a day or two, in company with my friend Howard to examine the different passes leading in to and diverging from the Lyon, to ascertain which requires the most of our attention, in order the more fully to carry out our official duties and your instructions.

James W. Seaford  
Collector of Customs  
Stockton Cal

Very Respectfully  
Dear Sir  
P. Edward Connor.