California Jan 5 603
L. P. Smart
Wash. Aug 31 54

Calls attention to certain acts by Pearson & Reading, connected with his Special Agency viz a charge of $.75 per
Superintending the trans-
shipment of goods manufactured in New York to Cali-
forma.

Rec'd Sept 1 54
Ages of prisoners as follows
1. Francis
Washington City, D.C.
August 31, 1854.

Whale, E. Mix. Esq.,
Acting Comr. of the Appr. 3

Permit me to call your attention to certain accounts connected with the Special Agency of Pearson D. Reading, Esq., of California, by virtue of his appointment as such in September, 1853.

These accounts were transmitted to your office in October, 1853, by E. D. Beale, Esq., Surveyor of Med. Affairs in California, and were received at the office sometime in the month of November said year. Major Reading was instructed to expend the funds placed in his hands, after receiving a sufficient sum to cover the expenses of their transportation to the States, in suitable articles for the Indians in California—his selection and purchase being confided to his judgment. The accounts indicate the fact that he did not expend the entire sum applicable being turned over to the Reade the sum of $1,000 or thereabouts in money. For this trouble

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and with the view to reimburse himself
the expenses incurred in the full dis-
charge of this duty has conducted perma-
nently their business from New York to San-
Francisco, he has charged a compensa-
tion of $70 in the invoice of articles
purchased in New York - this account
in charge Mr. Beale regarded as
reasonable and in virtue of his in-
structions has allowed the same
and referred it together with his ac-
counts for settlement with this ex-
ception. Mr. Readig has accounted sol-
ously for every dollar of the am-
ount originally placed in his hands
for $25,000. He has filed the receipt
of Mr. Beale for the money and goods
own the invoice of Messrs. Grant & Beale
for the goods purchased in New York and
accepted under oath, exhibiting the expenses
of transacting them to California - when
it is considered that Mr. Readig superintend-
ded personally the transmission of these arti-
tacles from the isthmus of Panama, requiring at
that time the greatest care and attention
I cannot regard the compensation claimed as unreasonable. I believe it is true he did not consider it such and accordingly allowed it.

My object in addressing you is mainly to acquaint you with the fact that the settlement of these accounts are at the present time, interfering successfully with the settlement of his accounts as Paymaster in the service during the War with Mexico and that these necessities of the case are such as to fall upon you to act at once upon the accounts in question.

I trust you will find it commendable to give the subject your attention at an early date.

I am very respectful,

[Signature]