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Daily Alta California, Volume 4, Number 253, 22 September 1853 — Indian Affairs— Arrival of Mr. XScalo-Elia Talk with the Indian.. [ARTICLE]

**Indian Affairs—Arrival of Mr. Beale—His
Talk with the Indians.**

E. F. Beale, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the

E. F. Beale, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the State of California, and Benjamin D. Wilson, Indian Agent for the Southern District, arrived in this city from Stockton yesterday morning. Messrs. Beale and Wilson were in Tejon Valley two weeks, during which time couriers were dispatched to every part of the surrounding country to acquaint the tribes in that region of the fact of Mr. Beale's presence, and calling upon them to assemble, that he might declare to them the intentions of the U. S. government in relation to their affairs. On the 12th of September the chiefs and delegates of tribes had gathered to the number of 1,045, when a Council was held. Mr. Beale addressed the Indians through Mr. Wilson, who translated his remarks into Spanish, which language is understood by many of the chiefs.

Mr. Beale first spoke to the Indians of his arrival

amongst them, and informed them of some of the causes of his delay. He told them that he was glad to see that they were so extensively engaged as they were in the cultivation of their land, and spoke of the immense advantages that would accrue to them from a practice of agricultural pursuits. The object of his coming, he said, was to do them good, that he was their friend, and desired to see them all happy, and intended to assist them with every means at his command to become so. The principal means proposed to them was the establishment of reserves, upon which they were to live, and where they would be free from the encroachments of the white man. For this purpose it was necessary to collect them together, and that they should unite cordially in the furtherance of such measures as he should introduce among them for their benefit. He explained to them the difference between the proposed Indian reserve establishments and the Missions of California, with whose former history they were acquainted. In the Missions they had been required to labor for the benefit of the government and the church; on their reserves they would be laboring for themselves. The whites were encroaching upon them

themselves. The whites were encroaching upon them from every quarter, and would continue to do so till their establishments were in operation, when all their rights would be respected. The method of labor was not intended to be burthensome, but would be adapted to their physical capacity. A system of rewards and punishments was to be arranged by themselves for their own government and protection. Their captains and head men were also to be chosen by themselves.

Mr. Beale spoke to them of the folly of family feuds and jealousies so common among Indian tribes; while mingling with the whites they could never rise to an equal station with them; but among themselves a firm feeling of friendship and equality should exist. He explained to them that, under no circumstances, could he possibly derive any individual benefit from their labor, but that he was the chief of them all and should labor to promote their interests. Their organization upon the reserves would be beneficial, not alone to themselves, but they would be building up pleasant homes for their children, where they could live in peace and happiness, reaping the benefits of the labors of the present generation. Here they could build up a city and educate their children for future usefulness.

Mr. Beale informed them that until they should have so far advanced as to be able to support themselves by their labor, assistance would be rendered them by the government, and that they need be under no apprehension of suffering from want. Hunting and fishing were to be allowed them, and although for the present their property and crops were to be as common stock, the ultimate intention was to allow a piece of land to each family.

As there probably were among them many Christian Indians who had been in the missions, provision should be made for their spiritual wants. The padres, he explained to them, however, were not to be allowed any control over their temporal affairs.

The alternative was offered them of acquiescence in the will of the Government, or extermination by disease and mixture with the white race. The Council continued two days, at the end of which time the tribes agreed to accept the propositions of the Government made to them by Mr. Beale. Ploughs and other agricultural implements, as well as some stock, are to be furnished them, when they will commence moving on to the lands designated as their reserves. The thorough knowledge of the Indians of California possessed by Mr. Wilson, and the great influence he has over them, were sources of great assistance to Mr. Beale in this negotiation. Mr. Wilson vouched to the Indians for the good intentions of the Government on the present occasion, and assured them that although previous failures had been made, all Mr. Beales' promises should now be fulfilled.

Mr. Beale was obliged to leave the Four Creeks without holding his contemplated Council with the Indians there, in consequence of business which required his immediate attention in San Francisco. We congratulate Mr. Beale, and are sure all our citizens will join us in the congratulation, upon the success which has thus far attended his labors.

GERMAN FREEMEN'S UNION.—The *Staats Zeitung* contains the following communication on the subject of

contains the following communication on the subject of the formation of a new German Union for amusement and instruction and the cultivation of friendly relations of the members.

The main features of the proposed plan are that the Association shall furnish every member with ample opportunities for social enjoyment; furnish means for mental cultivation; further and protect the interests of the Germans generally; and furnish all the members of the Association with information on subjects of general political interest.

We, the Germans of this city, have formed several Unions, but as their names indicate, principally for the purpose of imparting instruction in the fine arts, or of the developement of the physical powers or for benevolent purposes; and therefore they include among their members only such as take an interest in this or that object. But an Association, having for its principal object a general union for the general welfare; an association that may enable us to accomplish more easily our proper objects; that may protect the rights of isolated Germans, so liable to be treated as aliens; that may enlighten those unacquainted with the English language in their rights and duties; that may make all acquainted with those social, political and commercial questions, to understand which is necessary for the proper performance of the duties of a citizen; and that may furnish information of the character and conduct of political leaders. Such an Association does not yet exist.

Such institutions, however, do exist in the eastern cities of the United States, where, founded on purely Democratic principles by German freemen, they are considered as a want of the time and have already had much influence for good.