Office Dept. Indian Affairs
San Francisco Oct. 17th 1834

To the Hon. Weller, Pruin & McKeengal
San Francisco Cal.

Gentlemen:

I respectfully refer you to the enclosed communication from Messrs. May and Farwell. The first a State Senator from that part of the State and the latter a respectable gentleman from Trinity County. I have other information which leaves no doubt on my mind of the entire correctness of their statement and I should not hesitate to take immediate steps to make provision for those Indians if I was in possession of the means to do so. But no requisition for funds has yet been made and by the last mail I received instructions to submit to the Dept. estimates for the service for the fiscal year ending 31 Dec. 1834. This will cause a delay of two months before any portion of the appropriation can be made available. In the expectation that I should have received a portion of the appropriation by the mail, and in consideration of the pressing demands of the service I have already applied my own means which were
limited to the payment of incidental expenses, and have borrowed upon my own credit the sum of ten thousand dollars which is already expended. In consideration of this state of facts I do not feel at liberty further to exceed the means in my hands or increase my individual liability. But I regard the subject as of sufficient importance to justify me in calling your attention to it and soliciting your opinions and advice.

Very Respectfully,

Your very best,

Thos. I. Huntley,

[Signature]

[Dated]
San Francisco
15th Oct., 1854.

Dear Sir,

Your communication of the 14th inst. covering a letter from Messrs. Hwy. & Han.
well of Trinity County has been received.

We have no doubt whatever of the truth of the statement made by them. Unless some temporary provision is made for the support of these Indians starvation will compel them to join the White Settlers and this will be followed by an indiscriminate slaughter which every humane heart would deplore. Congress more than four months ago made an appropriation of $200,000 for the Indians of this State and if (as we supposed would have been the case) this fund had been deposited with the Assistant Treasurer in this city subject to your drafts. It could have been found ample to save the Indians from starvation and slaughter. The most serious consequences will in all probability ensue if you await further instructions from the Department at Washington which it will take time to inform of the present emergency. In view of the pressing necessity for immediate action we do not hesitate to recommend the borrowing
of such a sum as may be necessary to re-
move the Indians referred to, to a Reservation
where food and protection can be extended
to them. We cannot believe that a public
officer will be allowed to suffer when an over-
ruling necessity like the present compels him
to assume responsibility and procure funds
even at a sacrifice. That economy which
saves the Indians from starvation and the
frontier from the horrors of a Savage War will
in the end be found the wisest.

Very Respectfully,

Yours of Date

Signed, John R. Weller

Hon. H. J. Holley

Sept. 2d. Affair.