

[Weaverville, Cal.]

Wm. Call

Oct 11th 1854

Hon. J. Henley

Sir

Having learned that you have succeeded to the general Indian agency for the State of California, beg leave to present the following state of facts for your consideration, and, upon which we most earnestly solicit some effectual action on your part. That the Indians in and immediately in the vicinity of the above place number at least one thousand, and that winter is now fast approaching, and that they are in an entire state of destitution, and that by the recent accumulation of miners and their operations in mining in the River beds have entirely destroyed the fishing facilities which had heretofore been the source of support of the Indians, and also the fact that there is an entire failure of the acorns, the two being the only resources by which life had heretofore been preserved to these poor specimens of humanity. The result of which is starvation and death to them, or some aid and relief from the Government through your kind interposition. The valley of Weaver is now settled with miners whose claims can only be worked in the winter for want of water, and without some aid from you

[California, 1854 H 697]

one of three things is indispensable, abandon
their claims entirely, suffer themselves to be starved
of their own means of subsistence, or an in-
discriminate slaughter of the Indians. The
former they will not do, the second is insupportable
and the latter revolting to all the natural
kind impulses of the heart. We are of the opin-
ion that with kind treatment, with a bare
ration of the cheapest of food to sustain life
these miserable creatures will be content, and
the lives and property of our citizens made se-
cure, and without which the result neces-
sarily will be first, stealing and robbery of the
property of the whites, and unnatural and
disgraceful murder and indiscriminate
slaughter of the wretched Indians in turn.

In view of the premises
we most sincerely intreat you to use
all efforts on your part to avert the evils above
alluded to.

We are very respectfully
Your Obedt Servts.

M. B. May Senator of
12th the Senatorial District

Isaac Farwell

Ms. A. 6. 9. 12