

California Sub A 706

of
Thomas J. Henley,
San Francisco Oct 14. 54

Submits contract from the
reports of Special Indian
Agent, W. A. Parry for the
Colorado. - Instructions
to the Agent Oct. to expend
times & presents to Indians -
peaceable relations with them
& preparing their minds for
removal. - Agreed to pay
the Agent \$1500, per annum

Rec'd Nov 11. 54

And ² Dec. 8th 54.

Or

Office of the Superintendent
of Indian Affairs

San Francisco Cal. Oct. 14. 1854

Hon. G. W. Momyer
Sir

I have the honor to
enclose herewith an extract from the report
of the special Indian Agent Maj. W. H. Hawey
for the Colorado.

I have given instructions to the Agent
to make no expenditures of money in that re-
-gion, and to give the Indians no presents
except a small quantity of tobacco, which I
consider indispensable.

He is instructed to devote his time to
fostering peaceable relations between the Indians
and the Whites, and especially the emigrants
passing through that Country, and to preparing
the minds of the Indians for removal and
colonization.

The Salary I have agreed
to pay him is Fifteen Hundred dollars per
annum, and he is requested to act as
Special Agent.

"Colorado River Sept. 3^d 1854
Near Fort Yuma -

The Yuma Indians inhabit the
Colorado commencing near our former bound-
-ary line with Mexico extending some one
Hundred and fifty miles up the river.

they are also extended on New River, which is a Laguna making from the Colorado a short distance below the boundary line running east about fifty miles -

I met with much difficulty in ascertaining their numbers, being scattered over a large scope of Country, and as they have no idea of numbering or number I was compelled to get them together and judge for myself. My estimate is Three Thousand 500. They are a fine looking race surpassing any other tribe on the Pacific Coast.

Like other Indians they are jealous and Treacherous, they view the encroachments of the Whites as other Indians have ever done.

They subsist by cultivating the soil. they produce corn, Melons, Beans and Pumpkins. Their mode of Planting is after the annual overflow, they select the low places on the river, and after the water recedes they then put in their seeds. the ground retaining sufficient moisture to mature the crops.

It sometimes occurs that there is no freshet when such is the case they suffer very much for the want of food, their only resort being the Musquite Beans which grows here in great abundance but like other Mast it also fails sometimes. It is not considered however by them a healthy food. This last summer there was

is fresher and it looked at one time as though their sufferings would be great as the Bean crop was also short.

I procured tools, Shovels, and axes, com-
-menced opening a ditch or Saka and clearing
away a field at this time there came the heaviest
rain I ever saw an occurrence which had not
Taken place for years, this answered every
purpose of an overflow and they have
succeeded in making tolerable crops, a large
portion of these Indians live near the Crossing of
the river they frequently have disturbances with
the emigrants the stock of the emigrants getting
into their fields.

These Indians are rather impudent, they
do not fear the Americans as other Indians do,
they have so far been successful in attacking
small parties of Americans, from all the in-
formation that I can gather from the Indians
themselves and others they have killed at least
one hundred Americans since 1849. The Yumas
are at war at this time with the Lokapaws a
Tribe living below our boundary and the Gulf of
California. I have made frequent efforts to
bring about a reconciliation but to no effect, it is
an old fende and cannot be healed, they
are also at war with the Miracopas a Tribe
living on the Gila river about one hundred
miles above this place.

I would not advise the immediate col-
-lection of these Indians on a reservation as it
would be difficult to make them understand
the policy of the Government,

They think that all that portion of
the Country which they inhabit belongs to them

I would advise however that a Reser-
-vation be made at once and surveyed.

This may prevent trouble in the future.
as this Country will soon be taken up and
settled. the most suitable I think is between
the Colorado and Gila at the junction.

I have endeavored to avoid all unnecessary
expenses, I have been compelled to make some
presents to their Principle men, such as Blank-
-ets, Fancy Shirts, Tobacco, and also two Beavers,
for a feast, to induce them to meet me and
have a talk so that I could ascertain their
numbers and inform them that the Government
is disposed to treat them kindly

I remain Yours Truly

W. H. Harvey

Special Agent

I should be pleased to have some instruc-
-tions in regard to future operations on the
Colorado.

Respectfully

Your Obd Servt
Thos. J. Hulley,

Supt Indian Affairs