Office of the Superintendent
Of Indian Affairs
San Francisco, Cal. Oct. 14, 1854

Hon. G.W. Murray, Esq.
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

For the information of the Department, I herewith enclose a copy of the report of Special Agents Mr. Daniel and Mr. Green upon duties assigned them as shown by the report.

It is sometimes necessary to employ agents temporarily for a special duty, who are discharged when that duty is performed.

This is in conformity with your instructions.

Respectfully,

P. B. Young
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

San Francisco, Oct. 14, 1854

Sir:

In conformity to your instructions I proceeded to inspect the localities and condition of the Indians at the following places first at Barreisa Valley on the Penta Creek.

I found something like one hundred and fifty Indians, whose condition is that of slavery.

I made inquiry in regard to the kidnappings referred to in your letter of instructions and found the Barreisa family in possession of a numinous gang of Indians at work on their ranch of different tribes, all of whom had been
Driven in from the Valley and mountains of Soo Creek by violence and they and certain Sonoita Mexicans living with them, are constantly in the practice of selling the young Indians, both male and female to Whosoever will purchase them, and we have ascertained to whom they have sold several of them. Which testimony can be had to prosecute to conviction of this crime, but which we declined doing at present, until we have further instructions from you. He then proceeded across the mountains to Soo Creek Valley. There we found fifty or sixtyIndians in the employ of Mr Pope and living on his hands, but heard no complaint of kidnapping, neither do we believe it to exist, from thence we proceeded to Kista Valley and found on Mr Shirling’s land seventy-five (75) Indians or their abouts who appeared to be doing well; from thence we proceeded to Clear Lake, the home of the Indians in this part of the Country; where we found cultivating the soil, and living in abundance, contented and happy; their number seven or eight hundred. The country is eminently adapted to their wants, abounding in fish, grass, and game; we found these Indians residing on land said to have been granted to Mexicans, and now belonging to Aaron Smith and others, which grants have been rejected by the Board of Land Commissioner; there are two
Lakes, said to be thirty five mile, long, connected by a narrow strait, and from forty to ten mile wide, of pure fresh water. The Lake is about one hundred or one hundred and twenty mile from this place surrounded by Mountains and Canions on all sides, entirely isolated from all arable lands for a distance of twenty miles; from this fact we are decidedly of opinion that this Lake is admirably adapted, and is intended by nature for an Indian Reservation. If private rights can be disposed of, so as to clear it of conflicting title, there are also some few squatters in this Valley and others, as we hear, are preparing to remove there. From this place or from Kappa, there is a road which has been used by several Wagons and has been found a tolerable mountain road, capable of all necessary purposes of transportation, should a Military Post be established there, or for transporting the necessary supplies for the reservation.

We have also made diligent survey in relation to a Valley situated fifty mile north of Barreira Valley on Pena Creek, which has been mentioned as a suitable place for an Indian Reservation, and from whence the Barreirers and their Confederates draw in the Indians when they want them to harvest their grain, build their fences, and their Honeys, or for other purposes...
This valley from the best information we can procure is not of sufficient body of good lands to warrant a reservation, the water which flows into the Sacramento near Coloma is said to be brackish, although it is said to be springs of pure water in the neighborhood, possibly on the land. We are also informed that this valley is inaccessible for wagon roads, being surrounded by high and rugged mountains. We also found it our duty to make diligent inquiry of the country high up Russian River above the settlements, and are of opinion that there is no valley of sufficient extent and quality of soil to justify an Indian reservation, although it is said to be numerous tribes of Indians there, all of whom are wild and hostile, but which we did not visit, as it would require a force of twenty or thirty men to penetrate their country and explore their land, we having but one man with us so that it is impossible to attempt it, but the information we procured may be relied on.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

We have the honor to be,

With respect,

Thos. S. Hurlay Cnp. Sup'intendent of Indian Affairs for California

Your obd. Servt.

M'k. Manual in Special Duty

M'k. Green