

California MSS
Jim Markle
Clarendale Cal.
January 23. 59
and

States he is a Spl. Capt.
appointed by Supt.
Huley, and desires
authority to keep the
Indians he has in
charge with him

~~Dec 1 Feb 98. 59~~

~~Huley
28. Jan 59~~

Clarendon, Russian River
Mercedino County California

Gen. Henry
Commissioner
of Indian Affairs

January 23. 1859.

Dear Sir Altho I am not
personally acquainted with you, I am by character;
I came from Eng. from Old Pa. I was 74 years
of age. And living on a Farm; I have been acting
as Special Agent here, for the Mercedino Tribe
under Col J. J. Henry for the last 3 years, and
that Tribe is now Small in number; and
by the direction of Col Henry, I have set two
houses on my Ranch, Built comfortable Houses
for them; give each family a Saw and pigs
And also Hens, and have good Bottom Land
for them to cultivate, and they are now fencing
their ground; And I want you to authorize me
to keep this Tribe on my place, and for them not
to be removed, to any Reservation, in case Col Henry
is removed. And a new Appointment made
I am doing this entirely as an act of Charity to these
people; They look on me as their father, and
come to me for all advice &c. as I speak their language
these poor creatures; are more abused by the
Whites than any Nation ever was, if a law is rising
up about Round Valley. The whites up there go out
on a boat down about a dozen, the first they see, the
conduct of the Whites up there and at all the valleys
North of this is the most cruel, and must say
again in behalf of Capt Mercedino, and his
Tribe, say about 30 in number, that you send
me authority, to let them remain with me; and to
protect them from evil disposed persons, I have
done this for the last 3 years, without any compensa^{tion}

The Reservation, has only placed to these people
a Grave Yard " " " And if you wish to alarm
an Indian, just tell him they are going to the Reserve
And the Indian Otter in Clear Lake Valley if they
were located there, by your Authority, would be
perfectly happy. They raise their Corn, Millions of
them in abundance, and the Lake abounds in fish
They have been told that they are all to be sent up
to Camp Mendocino Reservation; and these poor
Creatures come to me begging and crying
to keep them, and not let them be taken off.
The whole of these Indians here are civilized and
greater part of them members of the Catholic Church
They are peaceable, and want work, which I look
out for them, and see that they get their pay.
I could place a great many of these Indian
families with good Farmers, where they
would live well; if I had Authority to do so
Please to let me hear from you
I Refer you to Col. Henley;
Capt Ford. And any Reference you
may wish Very Respectfully

I am your Obedt.

M. W. Marble. A.