

California HABS
Wm. J. Henley
San Francisco June 4. '59

Reports condition of
the crops & upon the
Indian Reserves - also
as to the need of demit-
tances to pay of liabilities
incurred by himself
and the agents

Recd June 24. '59

File

Office Supt. Ind affs
San Francisco

June 4th 59

Chas E Min Esqr
advg Comr Ind affs
Sir

Mr. McDuffie left here
yesterday for Marysville and as I am not advised
of the time when it is his intention to assume the
duties of Supt. It becomes my duty to report the
present condition of Indian affairs.

The crops upon all the Reserves
except upon the Tegen are good. There is a scarcity of
tools for gathering the harvest, but I have obviated this
as far as in my power by making some purchases
on credit. The Employes have no rations, and where
the agents can not make purchases on credit. The employes
are compelled to subsist upon Prof and wheat. I have
taken such steps as will secure all the crops except
at Orusm and Kings River. At those places I am fearful
they will be lost. I have suggested to Mr McDuffie the
importance of some one visiting those places immediately
to

to take the necessary steps to save the crops, but as he is not ready to assume the duties of the office, he of course can do nothing, I would go myself but I am still confined to my room from the effects of the injury I rec^d in the mountains some six weeks ago. (2) I know of no one I could send who would be likely to accomplish the object.

A band of Indians numbering about one hundred have recently been removed from the vicinity of Crosville to Home Sucker Reservation (and the agent has drawn on me for a portion of the expenses of removal, having no funds of course his draft will go back protested, This adds greatly to the confusion and dissatisfaction already existing in regard to Indian matters, The continued and unexplained delay in making remittances to the agents to pay employe^s (and other current expenses is becoming every day more (and more) destructive of the interests of their creditors.

A single instance which occurred here on yesterday and which is by no means an isolated one, will give some idea of the straits to which many of them are driven, A man made his appearance here holding sub agent Lewis' obligation for the sum of \$200 for cattle purchase to feed the Indians who were driven to the Owens Reserve by the people of my own

last winter in a starving condition. This was all the
resources he had, he had just rec^d news of the death of
his wife in the East he must sail on the steamer of
the 6th inst. He offered it in market, and could get no
offer. He then appealed to me, I could do nothing
but become responsible for the payment of the claim
when the funds shall be furnished. This I agreed to do
and he obtained the money at a discount of 25%.

Yesterday a suit was commenced
against me for goods purchased for the Indian Service.
This purchase was made upon the requisition of an
agent and the payment was vouch'd for by me.
For the payment of all claims
of this character I am legally bound, and any longer
delay in sending funds will subject what little property
I have to execution. Creditors are now desisting their claims
of making collections by legal means the plan proposed is to send
the agents, obtain judgements ^{and} attach the property of the Government
on the Treasurers. As there seems to be no objection to committing funds
directly to the credit of the agents who were authorized to expend it ^{and}
have incurred the obligations, I earnestly hope it will be done
immediately, if such a course has not already rec^d attention.

Very Respectfully Yours obt^s

Thos J. Huley

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