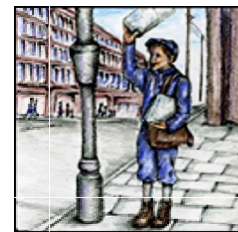


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Daily Alta California, Volume 5, Number 181, 1 July 1854 — The Indian Reservation at Tejon. [ARTICLE]

The Indian Reservation at Tejon.

The Los Angeles *Star* contains a long and detailed description of the labors of Superintendent Beale at the Tejon Indian Reservation, which we would be pleased to give entire, but we are compelled for want of room to make an abstract of the interesting articles in relation to this matter.

Mr. Beale has, by his kind treatment, not only cemented a firm and faithful bond of friendship between himself and these Tejon Indians, but he has at the same time worked a complete moral reformation among them, the beneficial effects of which, are palpably to be seen by instituting a comparison between their past and present condition.

The Great Reservation Field comprises 2,800 acres, divided as follows: Wheat 2,100 acres; Barley 400 acres. Corn 300 acres; Pumpkins estimated by the wagon load, 500. Besides this there are two patches, one of Potatoes, containing 28 acres, and one of Beans 25 acres.

The crops of the different Rancherias amount to 415 acres, making 3,265 acres of land at present under cultivation.

At the date of this description there were about 400 laborers in the fields, including men, women and boys. This includes delegations from Sacramento, San Joaquin, and other distant places.

There are twenty-five plow boys from the Fresno, and boys from the Four Creeks, who are represented as industrious and intelligent.

The water is carried in ditches from all the nooks and corners in the mountains, and brought together in sufficient quantities to irrigate every acre of cultivated land; ten miles of ditches were dug for this purpose.

A road has been cut into the Tejon Canon seven miles, for timber. All the lumber used upon the Reservation has been got out and sawed here by the Indians.

Indian boys have hauled all the lumber, using for that purpose six and eight mule teams, conducting the cattle skilfully and occasioning no mishaps.

There are seven Rancherias upon the Reservation which are governed by Chiefs and sub-Chiefs as follows :

Juan Viego, Chief of the Reservation, formerly king of the whole valley, his jurisdiction extending from the Tejon to Four Creeks; under him is Matteo. His people number 500. Vincente under him, Jose Andres, and Felipe, 400 people.

Metaria—Under him Juan Chico and Joaquin, in all 300 people.

Jose, a native of the Tejon, 100 people.

Zapetero—Under him Pedro, Chico and Jose Maria, 300 people.

Antonio from Cartec—Under him Jose Maria, 100 people.

Stagnislaus—Under him Clemente, 100 people.

The Rancherias are located in different parts of the Reservation, and number at this time more than 1800. Constantly increasing by new arrivals.

At Owen's Lake, 200 miles north, there is a tribe called the Horse Thief Tribe, who are reported to live by stealing horses and mules to save themselves from starvation. The lands in their vicinity are barren and desolate in the dry season.

The Tejon lies in a corner of the world far away from civilization and defies the approach of settlements on any side. It is off from the line of travel, and the only resources of its people are in the soil and wild game. It is bounded on the south and east by mountains which are almost impassable, and by a strip of arid desert on the north, extending to the Tules. On its extreme west passes the wagon trail from the Canada de las Uvas. The Tejon Pass is only a slight trail in the extreme east corner, passing through a narrow defile broken by precipitous and difficult hills.

It is about 20 miles across the head of the valley. The Reservation embraces 50,000 acres, and the soil is rich and abundantly supplied with timber and water.

Bears and deer are numerous in the mountains, and antelopes cover the plains. The Indians have a vineyard planted and several varieties of fruit trees.

It is the intention at present to establish schools as soon as the labor of harvesting is finished.

There is to be another Reservation of 25,000 acres located at the old mission ground of San Emilio, and distant 20 miles from the Tejon; both of which are to be un-

tant 20 miles from the Tejon; both of which are to be under the supervision of Mr. Beale. The law provides for the establishing of two other Reservations, to which Mr. Beale will devote his attention.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS—We are under obligations to Capt. Hudson, of the steamer *Fremont*, for stopping his vessel in the lower bay, to enable our Marine Reporter to board her. Also to Purser Samuel Hubbard, for his polite attentions in furnishing us with passenger list, memoranda and papers.