

J. R. M. ¹⁸⁵⁸
Lyon Aug 10th / 59

On circumstances under
which the reduction
was made 18th Nov 1858
was made &c &c

Respectfully
referred to the
Comptroller of
Ind Affairs
J. J. M. Duffier
Supt. Ind Affs
for California

Tepic Agency Cal

August 10. 1859.

Hon J. G. McDuffie
Supt Ind. Affairs
S. Fran^{co}

for

The instructions of the Com^r Indian Affairs to reduce the force employed on the Reservations in California under date of 18th Nov^r 1858 were forwarded to me by the late Supt Huxley in due course. At the time the instructions were rec^d here every one employed upon the place was busily engaged in putting in the Crops - and to abandon the work at that time would have resulted most disastrously to the Indians, and the best interests of the service. The instructions, however, were read to the men - they were dismissed without being paid the wages then due to them. To prevent a loss from the suspension of operations and to continue the work of putting in the Crops I gave assurances to Sige Zucker, Benj McLaughlin and J. M. Gray that if they would continue to work until the Crop was in, that I would state the circumstances to the Dept and recommend that they be paid for their labor. These men accepted the proposition and stood by the interests of the Gov^t and faithfully performed the duties assigned them. By this arrangement all the

Indians were enabled to have their crops put in properly and in good time - and the department saved from the odium of impoverishing the Indians, and driving them to plundering their white neighbors to obtain sufficient to sustain life. It is cheaper, and more humane to feed and cloth Indians than to fight them.

Capt Tucker - Farmer @ 85 per Mo. 1 st + 2 ^d of 1857	\$ 510-
Benj McLaughlin " " " " " " " "	\$ 510-
J. M. Gray " " " " " " " "	\$ 510
	<u>\$ 1530</u>

The conduct of these men is, in my opinion, deserving of all praise - for 'tis mainly attributable to their exertions that the Indians were saved from destitution and maybe war.

I respectfully and urgently recommend that the men be paid for the time stated.

Very respectfully
 Yours obt Serv
 D. R. Vineyard
 In de Aff