

California 1894  
L. P. Payne  
San Francisco Nov 4, '59  
Est.

Reports in relation to  
the Fresno Indian farm  
its management &c.

Rec'd Dec 11, '59  
Sent with  
Report to Secretary of  
Interior Dec 14, 1859

Land-Office

San Francisco, Cal.

Nov<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1859.

Hon. A. B. Greenwood

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Sir:

In company with  
Mr. Mc Duffie, I have just visited the Indian  
farms at the Fresno and Kings Rivers.

The Fresno farm belongs to the heirs of the  
late Capt. Winchell, and has been ditched and  
fenced at public expense, and a heavy rent paid  
for it, since 1834. With the exception of a few  
families of Indians, who always lived there or in  
that vicinity, and occasional visits from scattered  
bands in the foothills, it has not since its establish-  
ment been at any time a home for Indians. I have  
visited this farm several times, and have always  
been informed by the Sub-Agent that the Indians

were away in the hills gathering berries. This was the case in May, in September, in October and in November. The average number there may be fairly estimated at from twenty to thirty. Last winter, the citizens of King's River Valley drove a few bands of Indians over, and forced the Sub Agent to take charge of them. Many of them left soon after and became scattered over the San Joaquin Valley. As nothing has ever been produced on this farm since the first year, with which to feed Indians, the Sub Agent feeds them principally on acorns. These acorns were gathered by the Indians on King's river, and purchased of white men by the Sub Agent, as will be seen by reference to his vouchers. A considerable portion of the expense was for hauling them to the Treasury. There were 36 horses and mules for this purpose, belonging to Government, and two government wagons, at the Treasury; but it was

deemed expedient by the Sub Agent to employ outside labor and teams. Nothing appears to have been done on the farm during the past year. The Sub Agent has built himself a house, and got a farm of his own under operation on an adjoining claim; but the government farm is as complete a desert as that of the Colorado. Notwithstanding these facts, the expenditures of this Agency during the past year have reached the extraordinary sum of \$36,000.

At King's River farm, good fences, barns and houses have been built for the owner, Mr. Campbell; and about a thousand bushels of grain, <sup>raised</sup> of which he claims a large portion. He has already put in a crop for his own use with the seed raised for the benefit of the Indians.

It is useless under these circumstances to attempt to do anything at either of these places. I advised Mr. McLaughlin to abolish them

at once, suspend the Sub Agent and discharge  
Mr. Campbell; and to remove the government  
property to the Tejon, or Lake River farms.

He is still down here and will I  
presume advise you of his action in the  
premises.

Very respectfully,  
Yours Obedtly,

J. Ross Brown  
Special Agent

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