

California 1853

John J. Henley

San Francisco Dec 18. 58

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One copy of report by  
Sgt. A. H. Quincy  
in regard to the conduct  
of the Indians under his  
charge

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Recd Jan 13. 59

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13.

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Office Supt Ind affs  
San Francisco  
Dec 18<sup>th</sup> 58

J. W. Denver Esq  
Commissioner Ind affs

Sir

I have the honor  
to herewith enclose a copy of the report of Sp  
agent Putney in regard to the condition of the  
Indians under his charge. Mr. Putney is one of  
persons discharge<sup>d</sup> by your order of Nov 18<sup>th</sup> last

His compensation is sixty  
dollars pr month, and his services are very  
beneficial to the Indians, indeed I know  
of no instance where greater good results,  
from so small an expenditure,

Very Respectfully Yours  
Thos. J. Henley,  
Supt Ind affs

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Thomas G. Henley  
Supt Indian Affairs for Cal<sup>a</sup>.

Dear Sir;

During the close of a quarter a proper Occasion I improve it to report to you upon the state, situation &c of the Indians in Calaveras County - and my doing in their behalf for the past year.

As to the number of Indians in this county (though somewhat large) it has been impossible to ascertain with any degree of accuracy - as the different bands are often changing their locations and dividing upon account of some dissatisfaction with their old Chiefs - in which case the malcontents sometimes unite with other bands and at others set up a new camp for themselves under some head of their own. -

I have taken some pains to gather all the facts I could in regard to them and am satisfied that there are from twelve to fifteen distinct Bands in the County - numbering all the way from forty to one hundred & over in a band - their locations are near Muffys two camps - near Valle-cito - angels - Cherokee Creek - San Andreas - Cave City - Mokelumne Hill - Mokelumne

River - Big Tree - Each one and some in  
different Mountain Valley's - Besides these  
there has been a band of Marauding  
Indians composed as believe of Refugees  
from Carson & Washa Valley's (East of the  
State line) and some outlaw "Diggers" -  
who have been prowling about the western  
slope of the Sierra Nevada's for a year  
past stealing cattle and horses to subst  
upon - I have some of the arrows with  
which they killed some of the oxen of Mr  
Woodruff's near the "Big Trees" - which  
the most reliable of our Indians assume  
~~was~~ belong to the "Pyote" a tribe who  
live on the ~~Washoe~~ River near the  
Washas (or "Washoes"). -

But <sup>with</sup> such I have not been able to do any  
= thing. With the Diggers my Endeavours  
have been to afford them such protection  
from abuse and to treat them with such  
as would most speedily enable me to  
obtain such an influence with them  
as to ultimately induce them to  
leave for some Reservation; and to  
this end I have sent out for the various  
chiefs who have mostly come in & con-  
versed with me - I have furnished some  
Medicine and provisions for the sick.

Wounded and infirm at my own cost -  
have encouraged them to improve the char-  
-acter and structure of their cabins - to  
lay up more food for winter - to abstain  
from the use of intoxicating liquors  
and other vices contracted by their contact  
with the Whites which are fast decimating  
their numbers. - I have also afforded  
them protection in their property such  
as horses when I knew they had  
honestly purchased them by giving  
them an official certificate of the fact.  
and also given them influential passports  
from Camp to camp - of which they  
think very much -

I have also proscribed all cases of  
liquor selling to them where proof  
could be found of the fact - and in a  
few cases have punished the incorrigible  
Drunkard (Indian) by tying ~~to~~ - which  
I think has had some effect for good.  
From all I can hear I am also satisfied  
that these Indians are dying at about  
the rate of two per cent per year while  
their increase appears small -

I have thought and am still of the  
opinion that if the state of Indian land  
would admit of the payment of expenses

that I might prevail upon a delegation of  
chiefs from this Region to accompany  
me to look at the Reservation near  
Mundocma and throw the idea into  
this communication for your consideration  
and have to honor to remain

Murphy's Sept 30<sup>th</sup>  
1858

With Much Respect

Your Obedt Servt  
Alex A Putney  
Special Ind Agent  
Salerron  
Sal<sup>a</sup>

Hon Thos G Henley

Dept Ind<sup>n</sup> Ind<sup>n</sup> Affs. Ca<sup>a</sup>  
San Francisco