DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Office of Indian Affairs, February 19, 1850.

SIR: Your letter from San José of 28th December last, to the Secretary of the Interior, was referred to and answered by this office on yesterday, addressed to you at San Francisco, California. The copies of your former communications were enclosed therewith.

With regard to boundaries of agencies and sub-agencies, I can only remark at present, that this office is not in possession of such maps or other information as to enable it to act knowingly in the premises, and that it relies for the necessary data to enable it so to act, upon its agents at those remote points.

You will please give all the geographical and statistical information in your power, accompanied by such suggestions, plans, &c., as you propose in your last communication.

⁷ Colonel Johnston is sub-agent for the San Joaquin river, west of the Sierra Nevada, and Colonel Sutter for the valley of the Sacramento. The Sierra would seem to be a proper geographical boundary between your agency and that of sub-agent Johnston. Before fixing upon definite limits, however, I must await the reports of the proper officers of this department.

In reply to your inquiry as to whether you have any control over the action of sub-agent Johnston, I have to inform you that you have none whatever, there being an express law to that effect.

Yours, &c.,

ORLANDO BROWN, Commissioner.

JOHN WILSON, Esq.,

Indian Agent, San Francisco, California.

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