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 From the Tejon—Movements of Lieut. Beale —Farming on the
 Indian Retcrre—Indians In Connell, «fcc., dee. [ARTICLE]

[Back](#)

**From the Tejon—Movements of Lieut. Beale
 —Farming on the Indian Reserve—Indi-
 ans in Connell, &c., &c.**

Collector Scofield favors us with the following interesting communication received by him from Capt. P. E. Connor, deputy collector of customs, stationed at the Tejon Pass :

TEJON MILITARY RESERVE, Feb. 2, '54.

Sir :—I arrived at this place on the 16th ult., in eight days from San Francisco. I had the pleasure of meeting Lieut. Beale at Los Angeles, on his way to the Colorado, to enquire into and ascertain the condition of the Indians in that section. He will not return to this place before the middle of April. I was most agreeably surprised to see what improvement there has been made at this place in the short time it has been occupied. There are no less than 2,500 acres of excellent land sowed with wheat, and all well ditched, with a stream of water running through the ditch for the distance of six miles, and from which the whole field can be irrigated. There are at present some forty ploughs running daily, sowing barley, breaking ground for corn, vegetables, &c. There are some 2,500 Indians on the Reserve ; the young men and boys of whom do the outdoor work—some engaged ploughing and sowing, others ditching, and others acting as vaqueros, and such occupations as are required about a large farm. There is one very ingenious fellow learning the blacksmith's trade, and another the carpenter's. In fact, it is most astonishing with what facility and readiness they perform the duties assigned them. They have already planted several acres of

potatoes, and are to plant more, together with several acres of corn, and the various vegetables in their proper season. Connected with the farm is one of the most excellent gardens in California; in which is planted a large quantity of grape-vines, together with trees of the various tropical fruits adapted to this climate, such as orange, peach, apple, apricot, pears, pomegranate, &c. The Indians appear to be very happy and contented. The old people do the household work, while the girls and young women are employed in making garments for themselves and the men. My attention was yesterday called by Mr. Bishop, the very obliging superintendent in the absence of Lieut. Beale, to a woman making a shirt, and although the style of the cutting may not be as fashionable as some of our Stockton dames could execute, still I will defy any of them to beat the sewing.

The plan adopted by Lieut. Beale for the comfort and sustenance of the Indians is, in my opinion, most admirably conceived and well carried out. They are now supplied with good and wholesome food and plenty of it. There are some 2000 head of cattle on the Reserve, 800 of which are cows, and the remainder beef cattle, together with a large number of sheep and goats; so that after the first year or two they will be able to raise everything necessary for their own maintenance, and thereby save the government a large amount yearly, which otherwise would have to be paid for Indian wars, Indian depredations, &c.

The Indians are daily arriving in small parties from the mountains. I have no doubt ere harvest time there will be double the number at this place that are here now. However, there will be sufficient sowed and planted this year to supply all the Indians south of the Sacramento river.

Capt. Billy Howard had a big talk with the chiefs of Tuolumne, Merced, King's River

and Four Creek Indians on his way up. Some of them have been to this place and expressed themselves highly gratified with the arrangement. They are now collecting their people in order to move as soon as they are permitted to do so, but I believe it is Lieut. Beale's wish for them to remain where they are until the harvest is ready for their maintenance. Capt. Howard has considerable influence with the above tribes, and his statements can be relied upon. Lieut. Beale has displayed good judgment in the selection of this point for a reserve, it being so located as to be entirely alone and distant from any future settlement of whites who may locate in the Tulare Valley. It is surrounded on three sides by the Sierra Nevada and coast range of mountains, and the plain in front or to the north-west being entirely useless for agricultural purposes.

I shall start in a day or two, in company with my friend Howard, to examine the different passes leading into and diverging from the Tejon, to ascertain which requires the most of our attention, in order the more fully to carry out our official duties and your instructions.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

P. EDW. CONNOR.

J. M. SCOFIELD, Col. Customs, Stockton.

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