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LETTER FROM TEJON PASS.

TEJON INDIAN AGENCY, April 30, 1855.

Dear Sir:—Here all is quietude and apparent satisfaction. Everything pertaining to the management of the Indians and improvement of the reservation is evidently being conducted in a style that will insure success, and render complete satisfaction in each department, except that of health; but of that anon.

The great field of wheat, containing 900 acres, has been materially injured by the excessive drought of the present season. It is not expected that more than 200 acres will be worth harvesting, which has been preserved by means of irrigation. Strange though it is, copious and beneficial rains have fallen from time to time on all the lands adjoining the farm, but in almost every instance have left the crops untouched and to perish for the need of their sustaining influence. Aside from the farm belonging to the Agency, there are many little patches being cultivated and managed exclusively by the Indians, which are respected as their private property; these generally look healthy, and will yield well, which is owing to the fact that they are located upon rich, damp soil, that lies in such small bodies, and are so widely separated, that they are unavailable for greater purposes.

Here, as on the Fresno, it is plainly visible that the most imperative necessity exists, that measures should be promptly adopted for the protection of the Indians against the ravages of disease that are rapidly destroying their existence. The erection of a suitable hospital

istence. The erection of a suitable hospital and appointment of an efficient physician at each of the reservations in the State, can be effected by a word, and would certainly be attended with most favorable returns. Such a step would not only warrant the Indians better health, but would be convincing proof, to their untutored minds, that kindness and solicitude for their welfare was the paramount object of the white man, and tend in all respects to make them bear easier the fetters that bind them. They would also be better enabled to sustain themselves by their labor; hence a saving to the government which would probably equal the proposed expenditure. If this annihilating influence is permitted to continue unchecked, it is proper to draw the inference that our Government has discarded the principle of philanthropy in its intercourse with the aboriginal family, and the policy of extermination admitted. If so, time and money would be saved by introducing vaccine matter.

A few weeks since gold was found to exist in the Tehachapell valley, which lies fifteen miles north-east from this place, and the rumor is current in this quarter that the Los Angeles and San Diego *weak-lies* are expaciating largely upon the never-before-heard-of richness of the aforesaid diggings. Straining a nerve, no doubt, to get up a second edition of the Kern river mania for the especial benefit of the "dear" *gente de trato* who denizen in their rancheria and were despoiled of a fair show at the "last run of sha"—suckers. It may be that they are deceived by their informants, which opinion I am inclined to, as the past would augur, that their credulity can be singularly imposed upon when emoluments loom up in the distance. I have just passed through that section of country, and here are the facts, in a few

words: During the time the water lasted after the discovery, a few men took out from \$3 to \$6 per day to the hand, of very fine gold, upon one gulch only. The water has now failed in that gulch, and they are now attempting to supply it by means of a ditch, which is most likely to prove a fruitless endeavor, as there is little to bring, and that fast disappearing. This whole country will soon be destitute of water sufficient for mining purposes; with plenty of this essential element, good wages might be made in many places. Without it nothing can be done.

Yours, truly,

E. E. H.

TO COL. JAMES M. SCOFIELD.

INDIAN MURDERS.—The *Shasta Courier* learns that two men—Wm. Cochran and Jesse Brown—were recently murdered by the Indians on the south fork of Cottonwood. It is said that Brown had with him about one thousand dollars, and Cochran four or five hundred. It was the freedom with which the Indians spent this money at Farr's trading post that led to the discovery of the crime. Mr. Farr and others succeeded in capturing the squaws of the murderers, who divulged the whole matter.—They say that they carried wood to burn the murdered men, and then pounded their bones to powder, so that the whites should not find them. They furthermore stated that this tribe has plenty of stock and money, and that they have, up to the present time, killed five white men.

ADAMS & Co.—Judge Howell, of the El Dorado District Court, has decided that Alvin Adams and D. H. Haskell, being non-residents of the State, are not entitled to the benefit of the Insolvent Act, and that a discharge as to debts contracted within the State would be void. The learned Judge quotes the thirty-