ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

U.S. BUREAU

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

FOR

THE YEAR 1868.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE,
1868.
in cultivation. For a detailed report of the farming operations I will refer you to the report of the superintendent of farming, accompanying
the Coos and Umpqua tribes have a very fine crop of wheat this year, and are anxious to have a mill to flour their grain, that they may so far
adopt the style of the whites in their mode of living; and as I have
already become convinced that by selecting the most suitable ground,
they can raise here, I would most respectfully recommend that a small mill be purchased for the use of the Indians on this
agency; such a one as they have at the Siletz agency would be a very
suitable one. I am satisfied that the same amount of money could not
be expended in any other way that would give the full satisfaction that
this would in the way of encouraging the Indians in agriculture.

The Coos and Umpquas are very intelligent Indians, and take pride
in trying to improve their condition. They are obedient and dutiful,
always ready and willing to perform duties assigned them by the farmer.
The most of them have fine gardens aside from their general crops, and
take pride in cultivating them.

The Sinelau tribe live on the Sinelau river, and cultivate the small
bottoms along its side, which are very rich and produce largely. They
have under cultivation about 30 acres of land, on which they raise corn,
potatoes, peas, squashes, and other vegetables, which promise a good
crop. They have good fisheries, and put up large quantities each year.
Last fall they sold about 200 barrels of salmon to a company who were
allowed to go in there with a small schooner and exchange clothing and
provisions for their fish and furs. They are but little expense to the
government, and give the agent but little unnecessary trouble.

The Alsea tribe, of a more inferior order, live on the Alsea river, and
cultivate the small bottoms of land, which is very rich. This year they
have under cultivation about 20 acres, mostly in potatoes, turnips, and
carrots. Some of them are good hunters, and kill large quantities of
deer, and usually exchange the skins with the other tribes for wheat,
potatoes, &c.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant,

G. W. COLLINS,
United States Indian Sub-agent.

Hon. J. W. PERIT HUNTINGTON,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

CALIFORNIA SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 19.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, California, October 10, 1868.

Sir: In making my second annual report I have been delayed partially by want of statistics and reports from the agents, and partially by
urgent visits to the reservations. Hoopa Valley has demanded my especial attention, and it has been absolutely necessary to spend much time
there in settling difficulties among the Indians, and investigating charges
of mismanagement made against the agent through newspapers and
anonymous letters. I find most of the charges loose and indefinite, and
I am satisfied that many of them are without the slightest foundation in fact. Agent Pratt has evidently worked very hard for the success of the reservation, and for the general welfare of the Indians; but he appears to be extremely unpopular, and meets with strong opposition from outsiders. The settlers in the neighboring country are very bitter in their hostility to him, and I think, in many instances, have resorted to falsehood and misrepresentation with a view to effect his removal. I regret to say that many of the officers and soldiers at Camp Gaston have labored with unwonted zeal to prejudice the Indians and white settlers against Mr. Pratt, and I firmly believe had it not been for his most excellent and amiable wife (whom they all respect) his life would have been in constant peril. Mrs. Pratt is a noble, brave, and generous woman; she labors assiduously in cutting and making up clothing for Indians, and instructing the squaws in the various branches of industry, so essential to their civilization, comfort, and well-being. The Indians are well clothed and fed on all the reservations of the State, and I believe are peaceably inclined toward the white population. At Hoopa valley they have many little feuds among themselves, and some between reservation Indians and scattered bands that belong to no reservation. Their mode of settling difficulties is to kill their enemies at the first favorable opportunity, and then, if they wish to avoid a similar fate, a settlement is made with the relatives of the deceased, and the dead Indians are paid for according to their rank and station. This payment is made in Indian money, or "ala-co-check," or, perhaps, in white deer skins or woodpeckers' heads. Then all are supposed to be friendly, and they have their appropriate dance over it. It is useless to interfere with these settlements, or attempt to discourage them. The strict penalties of the law cannot be enforced in any of the northern counties of this State for killing an Indian, whether the killing be done by a white man or an Indian.

At Hoopa valley about twenty of the most prominent reservation Indians have been killed by their own class within the last year and a half, and one very prominent chief was killed by a white man. A soldier at camp Gaston last winter killed "Ceronalto John." It was regarded at the time as a cold-blooded murder, and serious apprehensions of an immediate outbreak were felt by many of the white population.

The most that I was able to do was to procure an order from headquarters and have the accused brought to San Francisco. From my observation and experience in Indian affairs, I do not believe it good policy to have a military station nearer than ten miles of an Indian reservation. When the soldiers and Indians are continually together both become demoralized.

The products of all the reservations are abundant this season, as you will see from an examination of the farming statistics made out by the several agents and already forwarded to your office. A more particular reference to them at this time will hardly be necessary for the information of the department, but I will give you a schedule of the most important articles produced on each reservation. At Hoopa valley 6,500 bushels of wheat have been raised, threshed, and carefully stored; 300 bushels of corn; 3,000 bushels of apples; 1,000 bushels of peaches; about 2,000 pounds of oats have been grown for future use. There were also 1,600 bushels of oats raised; 50 bushels of barley; 2,000 bushels of potatoes, and 225 tons of hay.

At Round valley the products are still more abundant, given in by the agent as follows: Wheat, 7,140 bushels; corn, 8,000; oats, 2,500; barley, 2,025; potatoes, 10,000; turnips, 1,500; hay 320 tons, &c.

At Smith river the products are given as follows: Wheat, 1,500 bush-
els; corn, 25; oats, 5,000; potatoes, 5,000; turnips, 200; peas, 750; carrots, 150; hay, 80 tons.

These are estimates made by the agent before the harvest, and since the harvest I am informed by Mr. Orman that the wheat and oats did not turn out as well as anticipated, on account of the damp, foggy weather. The grain was struck with rust and mildew before it fully matured.

The Tule river Indian farm has been remarkably fruitful this season, only about 350 acres cultivated, producing 2,053 bushels of wheat; 400 bushels of corn; 36 bushels of rye; 1,281 bushels of barley; 30 bushels of potatoes; 50 bushels of turnips, and 75 tons of hay.

The stock of cattle at Round valley and Hoopa valley is gradually increasing. We allow no calves or cows to be killed. We raise large numbers of hogs, and feed the Indians on pork and bacon through the winter, at which time cattle are usually unfit to kill.

At Hoopa we buy beef for the Indians during the farming and harvesting, so as to kill as few of the reservation cattle as possible when hurried with work.

Within the last six months 150 struggling Indians have been collected and provided with horses on the Round valley reserve and I am in hopes to gather in many more. I regret exceedingly that Congress did not see fit to appropriate the $5,000 I asked for to defray the expense of removing the Smith river Indians, and incidentally to gather in the 150 (or thereabouts) who have escaped from Smith's river within the last three or four years, and gone back to their old haunts in the mountains. The appropriation of $3,500 in currency is entirely inadequate. I may possibly be able to remove those now on Smith river farm for that sum, but I am anxious to gather in all that properly belong there, as their relatives will be much more contented to remain with them.

The number of Indians at Smith river has decreased, not only by escapes but by severe sickness among them; measles, diarrhoea, and other epidemics. I have not yet been informed of any cases of smallpox among them, though several cases have occurred in the immediate vicinity. I shall avail myself of the earliest practicable opportunity to remove those Indians to Hoopa and Round valley after I am placed in funds to defray the necessary expense.

If I succeed I shall have reason to congratulate myself and the department upon having accomplished a work of great importance to the Indian service of California. This move will greatly reduce the expense of Indian affairs in the northern portion of the State, and I hope will enable us to do more for the mission Indians in the extreme southern portion of the State. Immigrants from Texas and other border States are rapidly settling in among the mission Indians, and robbing them of their old homes, which they have occupied for more than half a century.

The Indians of California are becoming more and more anxious for a permanent home.

I have men now engaged in splitting out stakes and shingles and building a large number of Indian houses at Hoopa valley for the Smith river Indians and such others as I can collect together.

A high sense of duty compels me to repeat my recommendation of last year for the purchase of the Mudden farm at Tule river. The products of this year clearly demonstrate the wisdom of such a purchase. Real estate in the whole southern portion of the State is rapidly advancing. In less than three years the Mudden farm will be worth double the price now asked for it. It is unquestionably the best and most fruitful tract of land in Tulare county. The cost of fencing is so great that but a small portion of it has been cultivated heretofore. Much more could
be enclosed and many scattered bands of Indians brought in and sustained. The Indians would cheerfully go there if it were made a permanent reservation. I had cherished the hope that some appropriation would be made by the late session of Congress to enable me to establish a reservation for the Mission Indians in Los Angeles, San Diego and San Bernardino counties.

I have instructed Special Agent Stanley to gather as many as he can at San Pasqual and Pala. The Indians have owned that land for thirty-four years and have occupied it for more than half a century. It is my intention to aid them with seed and implements of husbandry, and also to make as fair a distribution of blankets and clothing among them as my limited appropriation will warrant. In my special report of December 6, 1867, I suggested the propriety of having San Pasqual valley and Pala set apart as a reservation for the Mission Indians, and in my letter to you, dated the 15th day of July last, I asked for instructions in reference to a survey, and as yet have received none.

Real estate in that section is much sought after, and the country is being rapidly settled up; it is hardly to be expected that the Indians can retain their old homes much longer unless something is done by the government to protect them. The grants given to the Indians under the secularization laws have never been presented to the Board of Land Commissioners, organized to settle private land claims in California, consequently the white settlers pay very little attention to their claims.

Some immediate steps will be absolutely necessary to protect the Indians in their rights and to prevent the interference of the whites.

I shall feel greatly obliged to you for any instructions you may see fit to give me on the subject.

I think an official survey of those Indian lands should be made without delay, and an order made withdrawing them from sale or entry and setting them apart as a permanent home for the Mission Indians, not merely for such as now reside there but also for such as may be collected from the surrounding country.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. C. WHITING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, California.

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 20.

SMITH RIVER INDIAN FARM,
California, July 31, 1868.

Sir: In compliance with the requirement of the Indian department I have the honor to submit my second annual report of affairs connected with the Smith River Indian agency.

According to a census recently taken I find that the decrease of the Indians here is somewhat greater than the increase. There seems to be a gradual diminishing of all the tribes of Indians in this section of the State, as great among those who have never lived upon a reservation as among those who have. The most plausible reason I can give for this is that they cannot stand civilization. The customs and habits of the white man being so entirely different from what they have heretofore been accustomed to, I have no doubt is the principal cause of this gradual falling off.

The social and moral condition of the Indians within my jurisdiction will compare favorably with any other tribes on the coast. Many of
them having lived with the whites during their early childhood, learned to talk our language very well, and acquired many useful and beneficial habits. Some of them are tolerable mechanics, and most of them are excellent farm hands. All the work on this farm is performed by the Indians under the supervision of the several employés. Since taking charge of this agency (18 months ago) I have had but little trouble in managing the Indians. I have endeavored to treat them kindly and impartially, in hopes thereby to gain their respect and confidence, and I am pleased to say that I have succeeded beyond my expectations.

We have under cultivation this year about 280 acres, viz:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Estimated yield</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1,500 bushels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>5,000 bushels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy hay</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>80 tons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>5,000 bushels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peas</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>750 bushels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20 tons.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All of which at the present time is looking well, and unless some unforeseen contingency should destroy them, there will be an ample supply to meet the wants of the Indians during the coming year.

In most of my monthly reports to the Honorable Commissioner, I have had occasion to state that the Indians under my charge were peaceable and well disposed. I have the satisfaction of being able to say that the same feeling exists among them at this time, and in no single instance have they manifested or shown any feeling of a revengeful or malicious character towards any of the employés or other whites with whom they have had to do. During the past year they have been well provided with food and clothing and have been as comfortable as it is possible to make them. All of them, both male and female, old and young, have a natural propensity for gambling, and in many instances gamble off their blankets and clothing even to destitution. I have tried every way that I could conceive of to put a stop to it, but as yet I have only partially succeeded.

On the 4th of the present month I made it a point to have them look as well and have as good a time as my limited means would permit. Many of those belonging to the agency, in connection with neighboring tribes, were fixed up in holiday attire, (Indian style,) and turned out 300 strong to celebrate the anniversary of our country's birth. A happier set of beings I never saw; they manifested as much zeal and patriotism in the exercises of the day as any American citizen possibly could. My object in doing this was to make them understand that the government was their friend, and that so long as they continued friendly and peaceable they would be well cared for.

In my last annual report I had occasion to call your attention to the fact that all the land used for Indian purposes at this agency was leased from settlers, and that the Indians manifested considerable dissatisfaction in not being able to call the land their own. The same feeling exists at this time; there is scarcely a day but what I am asked the question, "When is the government going to buy the valley?" I am fully convinced that the purchase of this valley, or a portion of it, for the exclusive use and benefit of the Indians, would exert a very beneficial influence over them.

There are many improvements that could and ought to be made here in order to carry on this branch of the department properly; but from the
fact that all the land is leased, and no certainty as to how long the agency will be continued, I have deemed it advisable to make any more improvements other than those that actual necessity required.

After an experience of two seasons' farming on this farm, I find that it will be necessary in the future to sow our wheat and oats in the fall, for the reason that by sowing in the fall the grain will be ready to harvest at least a month earlier and before there is any likelihood of rain; and then again it will save five or six weeks' work in the spring. Heretofore all the work had to be done in the spring, from the fact that the land was rented by the year from January 1 to December 31, and having so much work to do in a given time, some of the crops have failed because they could not get in the ground in season. I would most respectfully recommend that in the future the land be leased for several years at a time.

All of the stock on the farm are in fine condition and gradually increasing. For a list of the number and kind, see statistical return of farming, &c., herewith transmitted. I have a good supply of farming implements on hand—enough, with one or two exceptions, to carry on the farm properly for another year.

Before closing my report, it is due from me to say that the several employees at this agency have been faithful and efficient in the discharge of their duties. Much of the successful working of the farm is owing to their example, energy, and kind treatment of the Indians.

In concluding this report permit me to express, in behalf of the Indians at this agency, the earnest hope that the land now occupied by them will at some early day be purchased by the government for their future permanent home.

Hoping that my official acts for the past year have met your approbation, and that this report may prove satisfactory, I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY ORMAN, JR.,
Indian Agent Smith River Farm.

Hon. B. C. WHITING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, California.

No. 21.

ROUND VALLEY INDIAN RESERVATION,
August 26, 1868.

SIR: In obedience to the requirements of the Indian department, I have the honor to submit the following as my fourth annual report of affairs relating to the Indian service within this agency.

I have no material change to note in reference to the condition of the Indians on this reserve since my last report; the number of Indians on the reserve is about the same as last year, as will be seen by the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of tribes</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wyalackee</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitt River</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow-Cow</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yukas</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>371</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A good many Indians have died within the past year, from old age and disease, but others have come in from a distance, which keeps the number about the same. There has been no epidemic disease among them, and they have been comparatively healthy, their principal trouble being scrofula and venereal diseases, which prevail to a considerable extent. They have been fed abundantly upon the produce raised on the reservation, and have been furnished with sufficient clothing to keep them comfortable, especially in the matter of blankets, with which they have been well supplied, and thereby were enabled to pass the winter without suffering.

With a few exceptions, the Indians on this reservation have made no very great progress in civilization; they seem more inclined to practice the vices thereof than the virtues; their natural instincts incline them that way. They are, however, tractable, and easily controlled by those in authority over them; therefore it seldom becomes necessary to punish an Indian for any act of insubordination, and no case has arisen since I have had charge of this reservation which merited any severe punishment. These Indians, are, however, slowly advancing in civilization, especially the younger ones. Many of them are very expert field hands, and some of them are good teamsters, and skilled in the performance of any kind of work required on a farm. But none of them seem to have much desire to adopt our manner of living, and their ambition seldom rises higher than to perform well the labor assigned them.

I think no great degree of advancement can be expected of the adults, and I can conceive of nothing short of education that will advance the rising generation much beyond the position now occupied by their elders. The Indians within this agency are quiet and peaceful, and I can record no acts of hostility committed during the year.

The past year has been very favorable for small grain. The continued and unusual fall of rain last winter did a great deal of damage. One hundred acres sown to wheat was all turned to cheat, and the crops generally stood thin on the ground, caused by so much wet weather.

By reference to my statistical returns of farming, forwarded on the 22d instant, it will be seen that there has been produced on this reservation, during the year, 19,655 bushels of grain, which, added to the amount on hand from last year, (18,175 bushels,) makes a total of 37,810 bushels, which is a great deal more than enough to supply all the demands of this reservation. There is a market here for only a limited amount of supplies, and as transportation from here is too expensive, the remainder (of surplus) must remain undisposed of; but it will be readily observed that if we had a convenient market for our surplus produce this reservation would yield an amount per annum largely in excess of the expenses.

It has been my object, since I have had charge of this reservation, to make all the fencing necessary, and put up all the buildings required on the place, and during my time here the following buildings have been constructed: 2 granaries, 30 by 30 feet; 1 granary, 10 by 20 feet; 1 barn, 54 by 70 feet; 1 addition, 30 by 50 feet; 1 chicken house, 16 by 12 feet; 1 pork house, 29 by 30 feet; 1 barn, 63 by 79 feet; 2 corn-cribs, 30 by 30 feet; hog-sheds, 200.

Some of the buildings have been re-roofed and put in order this summer, and all the buildings and fences on the reservation are in good repair.

It is an object of importance to the service to raise a sufficient number of cattle on the reservation to meet the demands of the service, and I can now report that by buying a portion of our supply of beef for the
the year 1866-'67, and by the use of pork to a considerable extent, and a large amount of venison, we have avoided the necessity of killing any of the cows, and as the result we now have a sufficient number of bullocks to supply the beef required, and as no cows or heifers will be slaughtered in future the stock of cattle will continue to increase.

It has become an almost absolute necessity to purchase more mules for this reservation in order to carry on operations successfully. Those we have here are old and used up—literally worn out in the service. Some of them have been in it about 14 years. The same number of good animals could do almost double the work in the same length of time as these old mules are able to perform. An increase of mules would facilitate operations here very much, and would enable us to cultivate more land.

In reference to enlarging the area of this reservation, I would recommend, in case the project of taking the whole valley is abandoned, that two claims on the north, and one on the east side of the reservation, be purchased. I would also strongly advise the purchase of the mill, which is also on the north side, and with that and the two claims first spoken of we would have possession of all the valley land north of the reservation, which would place it in a more advantageous position than it is at present, and greatly enhance the interest of the service.

Superintendent Whiting has been attentive to the wants and interests of the service in this agency, and has furnished all the supplies that a just division of the appropriation, a rigidly economical administration of affairs, would admit of.

No change of employés has been made since my last annual report, and justice seems to require that I should say that they have been faithful and attentive in the discharge of their duties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. L. FAIRFIEL, Indian Agent.

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22.

HOOPA VALLEY INDIAN RESERVATION,
California, July 20, 1868.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition of affairs at this agency during the year ending June 30, 1868. Assuming charge October 26, 1867, I found the Indians in a very unsettled condition, two of the principal tribes being at war with each other, some six Indians having been killed during the summer. The trouble between them originated from the efforts of one party to catch Frank, the murderer of the late agent, R. L. Stockton, his friends belonging to the other tribe. Owing to this warfare most of the Indians had become considerably demoralized.

Frank was killed shortly after I assumed charge, by a party of Indians sent in pursuit of him by me, it being found impossible to capture him alive. Successful efforts were made to stop the fighting, no more taking place, and in April last an amicable settlement was effected between the belligerents, each paying for those killed, according to the Indian custom. There is still a difficulty of long standing existing between one of these same tribes and another one on the reservation, that is likely to cause
trouble between them before long, unless a settlement can be brought about, as about six weeks ago the leader of one was waylaid and killed a few miles from the reservation by a band of Indians not belonging on the reservation, supposed to have been hired by the other party to do the deed. This occurred just at the commencement of the harvest season, and fears were entertained that fighting would occur at once, and that the crops might be lost in consequence; great efforts were made to prevent it, with success thus far, but I fear they cannot be restrained much longer, though no efforts will be spared to continue peace and bring the murderers to punishment. The Indians seem very friendly to the whites, and with the exception stated, the utmost quiet prevails among those on the reservation, but little trouble is experienced in obtaining all the labor needed to work the reservation. Owing to the somewhat deranged state of things arising from the sudden and violent death of the late agent, and the unusually dry season, not near as much as usual was raised in the summer of 1867. In consequence, only small rations, principally flour, could be issued, but by prudent and careful management it was made to answer, and the Indians, understanding the matter, have been satisfied with what could be allowed them.

This reservation was established some four years ago, at which time the improvements by the settlers thereon were purchased. At that time, most of the houses, fences, and tools were old, and many in bad repair, and their constant use since by the Indians has resulted in their almost entire destruction, very few proper repairs having been made. Much mechanical labor is imperatively necessary at the present time to provide paper, houses, sheds, and farming implements for the successful working of the reservation. I have been compelled to employ an extra carpenter most of the time, or the loss to the government from the want of farming implements, such as rollers, reapers, wagons, thrashers, &c., would have amounted to thousands of dollars. I am happy to state that the crops are larger this present than ever before raised on the reservation, and that there will be an abundance for the Indians and seed for the ensuing year. Last year all the seed used on the reservation had to be purchased. There are now belonging to the reservation about 125 head of cattle and 250 head of swine, the increase of which in another year will probably supply the reservation with all the fresh and salt meat necessary for the subsistence of the working Indians. The sanitary condition of the Indians during the year has been good. No schools have been in existence on the reservation since I have been here; could one or more be established and well maintained, with a proper fostering care of the reservation by the government, after habits of civilization were formed, it would undoubtedly be of great benefit to the Indians and their future management. This reservation is located on the Trinity river, eight miles above its junction with the Klamath. About 700 Indians are permanently located upon it. From the junction of the Trinity with the Klamath to the mouth of the latter, about 50 miles, there are estimated to be from 2,000 to 3,000 Indians. The Indians of this section are generally superior to most of the California Indians; they are well formed, of good average size, inclined to be warlike, but disposed to be friendly to the whites. From the mountainous and densely timbered character of the surrounding country for a distance of about 40 miles, it would be almost impossible to remove them to any other locality, and then only by a great expense, endangering the peace of this section while it was being done; hence I believe the establishment of this reservation was right and its location good, but to make it answer the purpose of civilizing and
No. 23.

TULE RIVER RESERVATION, CALIFORNIA,
August 20, 1868.

Sir: I have the honor herewith to transmit this my first annual report of the condition of the Indian service at this agency, from the 1st day of October, 1867, at which time I assumed the duties of agent, to the above date.

Upon entering on the discharge of my duties I found the condition of the service at the agency very unsatisfactory. This was not so much owing to the management of the former agent as to the unwise policy of endeavoring to conduct and manage an Indian reservation on private lands rented from individuals from year to year. This policy prevents permanent improvements, retards progress in improving the condition of the Indians, and has the effect to keep them discontented and unwilling to engage in the various kinds of labor required for making even the necessary improvements wanted for present use. While they readily engage in labor necessary to cultivate the soil and provide for their subsistence, they are averse to making any improvements, making the excuse that they have no surety that they will enjoy the benefits which would necessarily follow their labors, and that, if government will not provide them lands on which to labor, they are unwilling to labor for others.

The residence of the agent, an old adobe building without floors and unfinished, has been floored, the walls plastered, whitewashed, and made passably comfortable as a residence. An adobe stone house has been built for the storage of Indian goods and supplies; an additional granary, 15 by 28 feet, has been erected for the storage of grain; these improvements have been made during the year, and were such as the service required for immediate use. A large irrigating ditch, five miles in length, taking the water from Tule river, and a wagon road, 25 miles in length, to the piney in the mountains, were constructed by G. L. Hoffman, former agent, by and with the labor of the Indians, with the expectation that the lands rented would be purchased by the government, and that those enterprises would be of great utility and benefit to the reservation. Should the government purchase the lands now rented they would be of great value.

The Tules mostly have comfortable adobe or frame houses and cultivate small parcels of land for vegetables. The Manachists, a part, have adobe dwellings, and others live in campedoodles, made of grasses, straw, &c., and are comfortable for winter quarters; during the summer—"warm weather"—they live in temporary brush dwellings; with a few exceptions, they have not evinced any desire to cultivate any lands on their own account.

The past winter has been unprecedented on account of the quantity of rain fallen and unusually high water in the rivers. It commenced rain-
ing on the 23d of December ultimo and continued, with slight intermissions, until February. No mail communication was had with San Francisco from December 23 until the 14th of February.

Tule river was higher than ever before known by the white inhabitants. The wheat crop on the reservation suffered materially, both on the bottom lands and on the high lands adjacent to the mountains. Notwithstanding this, we have a fair crop of wheat, amply sufficient for the service, an excellent crop of barley and hay, and summer crops sufficient for the wants of the reservation.

Seeding and harvesting the crops are the periods of the year at which a large amount of Indian labor is required. At other times but few are employed, and many go out and find employment from outside parties as opportunities offer. They receive from 50 cents to $1 per day. They mostly, with some exceptions, buy clothing and groceries with their wages; in the exceptional cases their wages are spent for liquor. Were the title of the land in the government the Indians would be more constantly employed on the reservation in enlarging the area of the tillable land and in making permanent fences and improvements.

The general habits of the Indians on this reservation are far above those outside. They work cheerfully and readily, stealing is rare among them, they are not vicious, and they seem to appreciate kindness and good treatment. No cases of insubordination or disposition to disobey the rules and regulations of the agency have been manifested, with the not very rare exception of drinking too much whiskey. This is a crying evil, and until the government owns the reservation and makes provision for the punishment of white men, devoid of principle, who furnish or sell the Indians liquor on every occasion, this evil will not, I fear, be lessened.

The purchase of the farm now rented has been a subject of consideration by the department and, I believe, of the Committee on Indian Affairs. It is a subject which should be settled at an early day. The interest of the government, as well as the prosperity of the reservation and the welfare of the Indians, require it. The longer the delay the more difficult and expensive will it be to find and secure a proper location, should a removal of the Indians be made. I am satisfied that at the present time the expense attending the selection of a new location and the removal of the Indians would far exceed the amount required for the purchase of the farm. I am aware that there is questionable propriety in the government purchasing lands for Indian reservations while there is so large extent of public domain; but here in southern California the public domain, such as is valuable for agricultural purposes, is covered by Mexican grants or has passed into the ownership of private individuals, and hence the difficulty; at this late day, in finding government lands not occupied or claimed by individuals, suitable and proper for a reservation.

The farm rented contains 1,280 acres, one-third of which is or could be made tillable, suitable for agricultural purposes. The buildings, aside from the Indian houses, are the agent's residence, an adobe building, one story, 45 by 30 feet, partially finished; an adobe stone house, 12 by 18 feet; one frame granary 14 by 50 feet; one ditto, 15 by 28 feet; blacksmith shop, employé residence, and Barby house, all adobe buildings; one hay shed, 40 by 60 feet.

The land not suitable for tillage is well adapted for grazing purposes. An orchard of peach trees and fig trees, all in bearing, producing fruit sufficient for the wants of the reservation, a vineyard of 1,000 vines producing abundance of grapes. These could be enlarged to any extent; government land adjacent to the farm enclosed, 800 acres, partly in cultivation, which amount of tillable land could be very considerably enlarged.
A school of 25 scholars—females—was commenced by the agent's wife in November last, and continued to May 22. It was discontinued on account of illness of teacher. The attendance of the Indian girls was quite regular, and their improvement encouraging and satisfactory. It is intended to continue the school on and after the 1st of October.

The health, on the reservation, of the Indians has been good, and improved up to the 1st of July, at which time fever and ague and fevers prevailed for about three months. At the present time there are many cases of the above diseases; and also the measles has broken out on the reservation within the week. The Indians are much alarmed, and, being complicated with other diseases—many chronic cases—it is feared that many cases will prove fatal.

The Cowoos, Wechumianees, and Four-Creek Indians, numbering somewhat more than 200, residing in Tulare county, as well as a large number residing in Kern county, would be in a much better situation were they placed on the reservation. They reside within a distance of 50 miles; many of them visit the reservation frequently; but the uncertain tenure of the location has prevented any arrangements for their removal to the reservation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES MALBY, Agent.

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

ARIZONA SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 21.

COLORADO RIVER AGENCY,
Arizona Territory, August 1, 1868.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report, pertaining to the Indians of this agency, for the year ending July 31, 1868:

The tribes of this agency are four in number, and extend along the Colorado river, from Fort Yuma to the northern boundary of the Territory, a distance of nearly 400 miles. Scattered as these tribes are over so vast an extent of country, it is impracticable to procure an accurate census of them; but from the most reliable sources of information which I have found accessible in relation to this matter, it is believed that the following is a close approximation to the truth:

Yumas ........................................ 2,000
Yavapais, or Apache Mohaves .................. 2,000
Mohaves ..................................... 4,000
Hualapais ................................... 1,500

Total ....................................... 9,500

This includes men, women, and children, of all ages and both sexes.

YUMAS.

This tribe is divided into two branches, the Don and Sorrell, named after the names of the two leading men. The former lives on the lower Colorado, near the mines, and has embraced the mining interest, and has recently purchased from the government a 640-acre tract of land, on which to settle permanently. The latter branch, or so-called "Yumas," lives near the river, and has not taken the mining interest, but is dependent upon the government for its subsistence.