ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

FOR

THE YEAR 1873.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1874.
REPORT OF SPECIAL AGENT JOHN G. AMES IN REGARD TO
THE CONDITION OF THE MISSION INDIANS OF CALIFORNIA, WITH RECOMMENDATIONS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 23, 1873.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report touching the "number, location, and condition of the so-called Mission Indians of Southern California," with such recommendations in their behalf as seem best adapted to meet the exigencies of their situation.

In accordance with your instructions, I proceeded in May last to Southern California, where, on the 1st of June, I fixed the headquarters of the agency at Los Angeles. At this point I was detained several weeks, in consequence of the severe illness of a member of my family. This detention, however, was rather favorable than otherwise to the investigation upon which I was about to enter. It gave me the opportunity of learning the views of many of the citizens of Los Angeles and vicinity concerning the Mission Indian question, of acquainting myself with many facts in regard to the past history and management of these Indians, tending to throw light upon their present condition, and for advising with those whom I found best informed upon the subject as to what was best to be done with and for them. It gave me, also, the opportunity of learning, from the officers of the land-office at Los Angeles, so far as the records of that office indicate, the status of land in Southern California, which will aid materially in the solution of this question. I will say in this connection that I found the sentiment of the people of Los Angeles for the most part friendly to the Indians, and in favor of the Government doing something without delay in their behalf. There is a general feeling among those who give any attention to the subject that action in the premises has already been too neglected, increasing the grievances of which the Indians complain, and making it ever more difficult to remedy the evils to which they are subject.

During my stay at Los Angeles I had several conferences with Indians of the San Luis Rey tribe; the first on June 12, with certain Indians living in Los Angeles, who expressed their gratification that the attention of the Government was at length directed to them, and their hope that they might soon be secure in the enjoyment of their rights. They desired especially that their title to lands now occupied by them should be so confirmed that they could not be driven from them by white men, and thought if this were done the Indians could easily take care of themselves.

Information having been communicated to the Indians living at Pala and vicinity that an agent of the Government had reached Los Angeles, I was in a few days visited by Olegario, actual chief of the large majority of the San Luis Rey tribe, though not recognized as such by the late superintendent of Indian affairs for California. Olegario was accompanied by ten of his captains. With these Indians I had protracted interviews on the 23d of June and on the 3d and 5th of July. They had come to lay their grievances before me and to ask the speedy interposition of the Government in their behalf.

The burden of their complaint was to the effect that they had been gradually driven from the lands which they or their fathers once occupied, the title to which they thought justly belonged to them, until at the present time but little available land remained to them; that white men were in many cases endeavoring to take from them the lands upon which they are living, and by the cultivation of which they gain a partial support; that they were frequently annoyed by the settlers interfering with water upon which they depended for irrigation, corralling their stock, and subjecting them to fines for the same, or taking it from them altogether, threatening them with violence, and in other ways invading what they believe to be their rights; that in disposing of lands the agents of the Government have never recognized the possessor rights of the Indians, and that in consequence they have been, and are still, obliged to abandon lands which they have held in immemorial possession, and to remove from
places to which they are specially attached, as the home and the burial-ground of their ancestors, and this without any provision being made for them elsewhere.

They desired the Government to interfere to prevent this being done hereafter, and to secure them in the possession of the lands now occupied by them. If this was done they could readily support themselves, and were willing to do so, without aid from the Government, except in the matter of farming implements and seed and clothing for the supply of their immediate wants.

They urged, furthermore, as a special grievance, that their right to elect their own chief had been interfered with by the late superintendent, and that the Government recognizes as chief an Indian who was repudiated by nearly all the tribe, against whom they protested at the time of his appointment, two years ago, and whose authority they had since disregarded. They wished a new election ordered, that the tribe might choose its own chief and be no longer even nominally subject to one to whom so few owed allegiance.

In reply I assured them of the sincere desire of the Government to secure their rights and promote their interests, and of its intention to do whatever might be found practicable in this direction; that I had been sent out by the Government to hear their story, to examine carefully into their condition and recommend such measures as seemed under the circumstances most desirable; that I should, as soon as possible, visit them in their homes and see with my own eyes how they were situated, so that I might be better able to advise in their behalf.

It was a matter of special gratification to me that at the conference with Olegario and his captains, held July 5, General B. R. Cowen, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, was present to listen to their story and to give them wise counsel. General Cowen expressed himself as particularly pleased with their appearance, and hopeful of their future if they were to be regarded as specimens of the Mission Indians.

TOUR OF INVESTIGATION.

On July 7 I started on a tour of investigation among the Indian settlements of the San Luis Rey tribe, accompanied by Mr. L. E. Sleighb, who, with the approval of the Indian Office, had been appointed clerk of this agency, and by Mr. Louis Wartenberg as interpreter.

We reached San Juan Capistrano the next day, where we called upon Rev. Jos. Mutt of the Roman Catholic Church, whom we found much interested in the Indians of that locality and in possession of information of interest in regard to the pueblo lands adjacent to the mission property. He showed us copies of record matter obtained at great trouble and expense from the archives at San Francisco, from which it appears that the pueblo of San Juan Capistrano was in the year 1841 actually subdivided by the Mexican authorities among the inhabitants, the Indians sharing with the Mexicans in this distribution.

If the claim of the Indians residing there, of whom there are about forty souls, can be established, as Rev. Mr. Mutt believes, the problem as far as they are concerned will be easily solved.

On the 11th we proceeded to San Luis Rey, where are to be found half a dozen families of Indians living upon land in dispute between them and one John Somers. The condition of these Indians, as well as the facts in the case of this dispute, are ably set before the Department by the late superintendent, C. B. Whiting, in a special report under date of May 19, 1873, to which reference is respectfully made.

On the 12th we proceeded thence to the city of San Diego, remaining there until the following Monday evening for the purpose of conferring with some of the citizens of the place as to the condition of the Indians of the country and the course best to be pursued by the Government to better their condition. A diversity of opinion prevails, but all agree that the disputes between the Indians and Americans involving titles to land should be speedily settled.

Reaching Pawal on Monday evening, I was there detained by illness two days, but sent Mr. Sleighb and the interpreter forward to visit certain Indian villages with the understanding that we should meet at Paln, the headquarters of the San Luis Rey tribe. Mr. Sleighb's report of his detention is here inserted:

"LOS ANGELES, CAL., July 31, 1873.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of my visit to the Indian villages of San Pasqual, Santa Ysabel, and Agua Caliente, in the county of San Diego, State of California.

I reached San Pasqual on the 15th instant, from Pawal, where you were yourself detained. I proceeded at once to the house of Panto Lion, captain of the village, and requested him to summon his people together on the following morning for a conference, at the same time explaining to him that we had been sent by the Government at Washington to inquire into their condition and to ascertain if anything could be done by the Government to aid them.

"
"The villagers began to assemble early. At the appointed hour the captain rose, and in a short speech in the Indian language, which seemed to be both eloquent and well appreciated, gave his hearers to understand the errand upon which I visited them. A lively interest was manifested by every one. They complained of the encroachments of their American neighbors upon their land, and pointed to a house near by, built by one of the more adventurers of his class, who claimed to have preempted the land upon which the larger part of the village lies. On calling upon the man afterward, I found that such was really the case, and that he had actually paid the price of the land to the register of the land-office of this district, and was daily expecting the patent from Washington. He owned it was hard to wrest from these well-disposed industrious creatures the homes they had built up. 'But,' said he, 'if I had not done it somebody else would, for all agree that the Indian has no right to public lands.' These Indians further complain that settlers take advantage of them in every way possible; employ them to work and insist on paying them in trifles that are of no account to them; 'dock' them for imaginary neglect, or fail entirely to pay them; take up their stock on the slightest pretext and make exorbitant charges for damages and detention of the stock seized. They are in many cases unable to redeem it. They have therefore little encouragement to work or to raise stock. Nor do they care to plant fruit-trees or grape-vines as long as land thus improved may be taken from them, as has been the case in many instances. Among the little homes included in the pre-emption claim above referred to are those adorned with trees and vines. Instead of feeling secure and happy in the possession of what little is left to them, they are continually filled with anxiety. They claim that they ought to be allowed to remain where their forefathers have lived for so long that they should be protected by law in the peaceful possession of the homes that have been handed down to them.

"I asked how they would like for their children to go to school, learn to speak the English language, and to live more like white people. It would be very nice, they replied, but it would do them little good if they could not have their homes protected.

"I asked them how they would like to be moved to some place where they could be better protected, have ground of their own secured to them, and more comfortable homes. The answer was, 'Our fathers lived and died here, and we would rather live here than at any other place.'

"In conclusion I assured them that I should report what I had learned about them, and that I had little doubt but that the Government at Washington would be able to do something to better their condition, charging them at the same time to strive, as I felt they had been doing, to keep the peace among themselves and with the whites.

"I proceeded thence by the most direct route to Santa Ysabel rancheria. On reaching that place, I found the captain, Augustine, absent; sent a messenger for him, and also one for the chief of the Diegenes, Pablo Pena, who lives in a neighboring rancheria. There are about one hundred and twenty-five souls at Santa Ysabel. They occupy the finest valley of the ranch of the same name, on one side of which are about twenty adobe houses for winter-quarters, while on the other side, near their fields of grain, are as many brush-houses, now occupied. At the time that I reached the village, men, women, and children were scattered over the fields harvesting their grain. Some were reaping, some thrashing, some grudging, while near the houses women were making it into bread for immediate use. It was altogether an interesting picture to look upon.

"The chief and captain arrived during the night, and as soon as possible in the morning I sought a conference with them in relation to the condition and wants of their people. I was glad to find them exempt from many of the annoyances of which the Indians of San Pasqual complain. The land which they occupy is claimed under a grant from the Mexican government by private parties, who have hesitated to undertake to eject the Indians for fear of violence on their part in resisting, as they (the Indians) dispute any ownership more sacred than their own, and insist that they should not be disturbed in their possession.

"I reached Agua Caliente on the 17th instant. From a notched stick given me by the captain of the village, Jose Maria Maro, it appears that there are one hundred and sixty-eight Indians at that place. The land upon which they live has been understood to be of the public domain, until a recent survey of Warner's ranch betrays the fact that it was included within the boundary of said ranch. The owners of the ranch threaten to drive them away, and settlers have interfered with their water-privileges, and annoy them in many ways. On the whole they have little to encourage them, and begin to feel that the white man is their enemy.

"My talk with the Indians of Santa Ysabel and Agua Caliente was substantially the same as at San Pasqual. They look to the Government to relieve them of the difficulties under which they now labor. They are peaceably disposed, and for the most part industrious, and deserve better treatment than they get.

"At San Pasqual and Agua Caliente I was called upon by white settlers, the majority of whom had no good word for their dusky neighbors. 'They are thieves,' they are treacherous; they are vagabonds.' It was urged that they should be taken to some one of the Territories and surrounded by soldiers to keep them at home, or to some
island in the sea. I found, however, little in my journey to confirm such opinions, but
was glad to note many indications of thrift. I could but wonder, indeed, that they
are so reliable, honest, and peaceable as I found them to be. The sentiments en-
tertained by very many white men in Southern California toward the Indians are well
illustrated in the conclusion to which the proprietor of a small ranch near Temecula
came in presenting the subject to me from his stand-point. It is well to mention that
a family of Indians has occupied one corner of his ranch 'from time immemorial.' His
wise and humane (1) conclusion was that the owners of large ranches should not drive
their Indians' away, but should keep them to work for them, and set apart certain
portions of the ranch for them. 'There is worthless land enough upon every ranch,'
he said, 'for Indians to live on.'

The Indians of San Pasqual and Santa Ysabel belong to the Diegenes tribe, with
Pablo Pena chief, while those of Agua Caliente are Coahuila Indians, under the chief-
ship of Manuel Largo. The two tribes speak different dialects; a few in either tribe
can speak the Spanish language, but I found none able to converse in English. The
aggregate number of the Diegenes is estimated at one thousand, distributed in about
fifteen rancherias, which are situated in the central and southern portions of the county
of San Diego.

"All of which I have the honor to submit.

"LUTHER E. SLEIGH.

"Rev. John C. Ames,
"Special Agent Mission Indians."

Proceeding by way of San Pasqual and Bear Valley, for the purpose of examining the
country with reference to a reservation, I reached Pala on the 18th, where, on the next
day, I had interviews with Jose Antonio Sal, chief, and with Manuelita Cota, ex-chief
of the tribe; also visited the flourishing Palma rancheria on the Palma grant, reach-
ing Rincon, the residence of Olegario, whom most of the tribe acknowledge as chief, the
same evening. Here I was rejoined by Mr. Sleigh on the 20th.

It being Sunday, we held in the evening a religious service, which was attended by
most of the Indians of the rancheria, who gave respectful attention to the words ad-
dressed to them. At their special request this service was concluded with the recital
of a portion of the liturgy of the Catholic Church, one of their own number reading and
the rest responding.

Visiting the potrero, near by, on the next day, I found an Indian family of unusual
interest, because of their greater intelligence and generally recognized superiority
among the tribe. The head of the family was absent, but his wife, "Margarita," known
far and wide among the Indians, seemed quite competent to take the management of
affairs in his absence. This Indian woman claims a half league of land which was
granted by the Mexican government to her grandmother, and which she now holds by
her mother's will in trust for the heirs of the same. The rancheria upon this land is
composed chiefly of these heirs, who derive from the land a comfortable subsistence.

Returning to Rincon, I had the good fortune to witness in the evening one of the
traditional dances in which the Indians take so much delight. It was conducted in an
orderly manner, nor was it carried to excess, and could hardly be regarded by any as
other than a safe and commendable amusement for them.

On the 21st, at this place, a conference was held with the San Luis Rey Indians.
Runners had been sent out to inform those living in the different rancherias, and a large
number had come together eager to hear the news from Washington. This tribe takes
its title from the Mission of that name. It is farther advanced in civilization than any
other tribe of the so-called Mission Indians. They have the reputation of being in-
dustrious, and for the most part peaceable, and but for the difficulties they labor under,
in consequence of the unsettled condition of land matters and the disregard of their
rights by the settlers would be self-respecting and make reliable citizens.
REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Lewis, of Walla-Walla, and whose district includes Stevens County, in which lies Colville Valley; Mr. Simms, Indian agent at Colville, and other white persons, and some Indian also, request the attention of the Government to this subject.

British Indians are British subjects, and it is claimed that our restricted statutes will not reach the sale of liquor to a British subject, and, hence, sales to these have been permitted, which furnishes an excuse for selling to any who claim to be British subjects. The British law prohibits selling or giving liquor to any North American Indian, and our statutes should be made similar to it in this respect.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN P. C. SHANKS,
Special Commissioner.

NOVEMBER 11, 1873.

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REPORT OF J. P. C. SHANKS, B. R. COWAN, AND CHAS. MARSH, SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS, TO DETERMINE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE NEW RESERVATION AT ROUND VALLEY, CAL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 1, 1873.

Hon. E. P. Smith, Commissioner Indian Affairs:

Sir: The board of commissioners appointed by the honorable Secretary of the Interior in pursuance of an act of Congress entitled "An act to restore a part of the Round Valley Indian reservation, California, to the public lands, and for other purposes," passed March 3, 1873, submit the following report:

By your instructions dated May 6, 1873, we were required—

First. To make examination of the country embraced within and adjacent to the proposed Indian reservation.

Second. To make an appraisal of all improvements of white persons north of the southern boundary of the reservation.

Third. To make an appraisal of the improvements of all Indians south of the southern boundary of said reservation.

The commission reached the Round Valley Indian agency on the 2d day of June, 1873, all the members present, and at once entered upon the discharge of their duties. A careful reconnaissance of the entire reservation was made by the members of the commission, and the mountainous country of the northern portion thoroughly explored to ascertain the most practicable northern boundary. That portion of the country being unsurveyed, we were anxious to select natural boundaries that would be so well described as to avoid misunderstanding and prevent encroachment by white settlers and miners.

The boundaries selected are of this character; being canons and water-courses strongly defined, some of them practically impassable, and well known throughout that entire country. We recommend the following as the boundary of the reservation:

Beginning for the same at a point in section 35 of, township 23, range 12 west, Mount Diablo meridian, where the township-line crosses Eel River, being at a point about eighty (80) rods west of the southeast corner of said township and section; thence following the courses of Eel River up said stream in the center thereof to a point where the same is intersected by the stream known as Williams Creek or Bland Mountain Creek; thence following up the center of said creek to its extreme northern source on the ridge dividing the waters of said creek from the waters of Hull's Canon or Creek, a tributary of the north fork of Eel River at the foot of Bland Mountain, crossing said dividing ridge at a point on a line where a small white oak tree and a cluster of arbor-vitaes are branded with the letters U.S.R.; thence in a direct line to the center of said Hull's Canon or Creek; thence following down the center of the same to its intersection with the north fork of Eel River; thence down the center of said north fork to its intersection with the main fork; thence following up the main fork of the Eel River in the center thereof, where the township-line between townships 22 and 23 north, range 13 west, would intersect said river, if produced; thence east along said township-line through ranges 13 and 12 to the place of beginning. We would also recommend the reservation to the Indians occupying the Round Valley reservation, of the right to fish in the middle fork of Eel River, and in Eel River up, as far as Bland's Cove.

The northern position of the reservation, if our recommendation as to boundary meets the approval of the Department, is very mountainous, the highest elevation being probably five thousand feet. This portion is well timbered with pine timber of excellent quality for house for the Indians that purport raising.

The area affords an hundred thousand acres of land by the taking in.

We subscribe and are indebted to the Secretary of the Interior for the returns.

That is the most excellent.

They are upon any all the land.

These the large resides it acres each.

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excellent size and quality for manufacturing into lumber. There is also excellent pasture for horses, cattle, and sheep, which for several years has been used by squatters who have no legal rights thereon.

The Indians there have experience as herdsmen, being employed by the citizens for that purpose, and it would be well to encourage them to engage in sheep and cattle raising.

The area of mountainous country embraced within the proposed boundaries will afford ample range and excellent pasture during the entire year for at least sixty thousand head of sheep besides all the cattle and horses which can be properly managed by the agent. If well stocked and cared for the agency could be made self-sustaining in a very few years.

We submit herewith a schedule of appraisal of the improvements owned by citizens and located upon the new reservation, marked A. Some parties have probably acquired rights to lands within the reservation by pre-emption or homestead settlement. If such rights exist, measures should be taken for their extinguishment by payment to the parties of such amounts as their claims may be worth. Still other parties have patents for lands embraced in the reservation, all of whom are willing to sell to the Government.

Our instructions were silent in reference to lands claimed in the new reservation, and also as to the lands south of the southern boundary of the reservation; but we nevertheless respectfully submit some suggestions relative to the latter class, based upon our actual examination of them.

That portion of the lands south of the reservation which lie within the valley, is, for the most part, of the very best quality of farming-lands, upon a great portion of which excellent crops were growing at the time of our visit.

They are fully equal to the average quality of the valley farming-lands of California and are for the most part claimed by settlers. The settlers have not entered upon them upon any pretended homestead or pre-emption claims, but simply have laid claims to all the lands they wanted for farms in the valley.

These claims range in extent from 45 acres up to 850 acres, the last amount being the largest claimed by any single individual. A firm of two brothers, one of whom resides in the State of Nevada, claim 1,650 acres, while a number of persons claim 640 acres each.

The possession titles to these claims are recognized as property by the State of California, and the same are listed for taxation. We procured from the assessor of Mendocino County the official appraisal of the property in Round Valley, a copy of which is herewith submitted, marked B. It will be observed that the greater portion of these lands are appraised by the county assessor at $10 per acre, for the possession title simply. This would not be an excessive appraisal if the parties had the fee-simple of the land, and, in fact, few of the settlers thereon would sell their claim at the price named, some of them asking $20 per acre, to our personal knowledge. Again, while settlers are restricted to 80 and 160 acres of land under the pre-emption and homestead laws, we found parties there claiming to hold 640 and even 850 acres, and threatening all persons who attempted to settle upon any portion of their claims. The schedule will show the names of all parties whose claims are above the amounts allowed to be entered. In fact this class of settlers have no more legal right to the property they claim, (and even had the valley been open to settlement they would only have been allowed to enter 160 acres each,) than the settlers upon the lands in the present reservation. But under the law the latter class of settlers must leave the lands upon which they have been living, receiving pay only for the improvements, and must remove from the valley entirely, unless some arrangement can be made for them to enter upon the excess of land improperly claimed by the former class. Under the existing law it is not at the discretion of any officer to make any discrimination; but it is respectfully suggested, if practicable, that the attention of Congress be invited to the subject, in order that the settlers who will be ousted from the lands in the reservation may be afforded the opportunity to purchase lands in the valley, without the boundaries of the reservation, before any of said lands are offered for sale to persons who were not actual residents of the valley at the date of the passage of the act of March 3, 1873.

The area of good land in the valley is ample to furnish farms to all the residents, and we deem it but equitable that some arrangement as we suggest be made. As we have before said, the lands are as good as the average of valley farming-lands in the State of California.

The law puts the minimum price for such lands at $1.25 per acre, below which they cannot be sold. Does that limitation imply the right of the Secretary of the Interior to name a higher price for these lands? We think not. We have shown that they are worth from four to eight times as much, and that they cannot be bought from the present claimants at a much higher figure. Some of this value has been created by the occupants, and consists in improvements of houses, fences, and tilled fields. For this appreciation of the property the Government does not expect to be remunerated.
Deducting, however, the proper percentage, say, from one-half to three-fourths, would reduce the lands to $5 and $2.50 per acre.

Upon this basis, and after carefully examining the quality of the land, we take the liberty to submit for your consideration the following appraisement:

Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, of township 22 north, range 1st west, 9,060 acres, at $5
East half section 1, section 12, east half section 13, east half section 24, township 23 north, range 1st west, 1,600 acres, at $5
West half section 13, west half section 24, township 23 north, range 1st west, 1,600 acres, at $5.00

Amounting in all to 11,200

This makes an aggregate of $54,400 of the value of the lands in the valley without the reservation, but embraced within the boundary of the old reservation. By reference to the schedule of the appraisement of improvements upon the present reservation, it will be seen that the aggregate value thereof is $32,669.78. In addition to this, certain claims by pre-emption, homestead, and purchase, will have to be extinguished, which will require at least $20,000 more, which will absorb the amount realized if the above appraisement should be authorized.

If our scaling of the lands to be sold should be adopted, the amount received from that source will be sufficient to pay for all improvements appraised, and for the claims, heretofore alluded to, of homestead and pre-emption settlers and purchasers, and for the expenses of the commission. Unless authority is given to appraise these lands at something near their true value, the proceeds of their sale will not be sufficient to pay for the improvements we have appraised, and the appropriation of at least thirty thousand dollars will be needed in addition to the proceeds of sales, to carry out the provisions of the present act.

We therefore respectfully suggest that Congress be requested to so amend the act of March 3, 1873, as to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cause the lands south of the southern boundary of the reservation, as established by said act, to be appraised and offered for sale, giving preference to the settlers thereon at the date of the passage of said act, and allowing them a reasonable time in which to make proof and payment for their lands. With regard to the lands not so taken by present settlers, preference should be given to those who occupy lands within the boundary of the said reservation, who should also be allowed a reasonable time to make entry and payment before the residue of the lands are thrown open to general sale.

We also suggest that all persons, whether settlers or not, purchasing any of said lands, shall be restricted to 160 acres.

We respectfully submit a project of a law, embodying the suggestions made above. The State of California has sold a certain portion of the lands within the new reservation as swamp-lands, and the purchasers are claiming under certificates from the State land-offices. Those lands, however, have not been confirmed to the State by the United States Government as swamp-lands, and we respectfully represent that they are not in any sense of the term swamp-lands, and should not therefore be confirmed to the State as such. The references above to claims upon lands in the reservations do not allude to these swamp-lands.

JOHN P. C. SHANKS.
B. R. COWAN.

REPORT OF J. P. WILLIAMSON AND J. W. DANIELS, SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS TO INVESTIGATE THE CONDITION OF THE INDIANS ALONG THE NORTH PACIFIC RAILROAD, TO THEIR DEPENDABLE OPPONENTS.

[Signatures]
Round Valley Reservation,  
California, September 12, 1873.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Department, I have the honor to submit this, my first annual report, as agent of the Round Valley (United States) Indian reservation. Assuming charge at this agency October 1, 1872, owing to the severe illness of my worthy predecessor, Hon. Hugh Gibson, and his absence from the reservation for a number of months previous to my taking charge, together with influences referred to in his last annual report, I found things in much disorder. However, by adopting and enforcing rigid discipline for a time, and using firmness in all my transactions, order was soon restored, and prosperity was at once manifest in every department of the reservation. From a careful census taken, we had June 29, 1873, one thousand one hundred and twelve Indians who actually make this reserve their home.

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<td>Potter Valley Indians</td>
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<td>201</td>
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<td>Pitt River Indians</td>
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<td>Red Wood Indians</td>
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<td>Little Lake Indians</td>
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In addition to these there are two hundred or more who are more or less dependent on this reservation for protection, supplies, &c. I am pleased to be able further to inform you that a considerable number, since the above census was taken, have voluntarily come to the reserve, and continue coming. I am happy to report that the Indians here are, on the whole, contented and happy, quiet, orderly, and easily governed. The maintenance of a military post here is a needless expense, and the abolition of Camp Wright would be a financial benefit to the Government.

**Educational.**

During the past year one school has been kept in operation all the time, with eighty pupils enrolled, and an average daily attendance of fifty. This number of scholars being too great in justice to either pupils or teacher, and there being more who ought and would attend school if they had an opportunity, by authority of B. C. Whiting, then superintendent, I employed a second teacher, and since July 1st have had two schools in operation. The advancement of the Indians in learning to read and write has been much greater than even the friends of the Indians expected, and to all a matter of profound gratification.

**Religious Instruction, etc.**

We have Sabbath-school and religious services every Sabbath, in which, I am pleased to say, the employees take an earnest, active interest. Miss Colburn, who now teaches one school, and Miss Burnett, who is engaged to teach the other, after the 1st of October next, are women of established character, as experienced, earnest, Christian workers in educational matters, and religious training.

**Sanitary State of the Indians.**

The health of the Indians has been much improved in general. First, because more houses have been built, and they sheltered from the inclemency of the weather during the severe storms of winter. Second, many of them have had bed-ticks issued to them, and have been induced to sleep on bedsteads instead of the ground; they are, therefore, less affected with colds, coughs, consumption, rheumatism, &c., and thirdly, I have abolished all the sweat-houses on the reservation. A hospital, however, is needed more for their health and life than anything else in the sanitary department, aside from that of physician. Without a hospital and steward the sick cannot be properly cared for; medicine is not now and never will be regularly and properly taken by the sick, and I sincerely hope that an appropriation for this purpose will soon be made.
FARMING.

All the farming land has been cultivated, and that too in excellent condition. The yield has been over an average for this season; quite a sufficiency has been raised for the subsistence of the Indians, consisting of wheat, potatoes, corn, onions, tomatoes, melons, &c. The Indians have planted about fifty acres for themselves, which contributes largely to their comfort and contentment, and we hope the quantity of land cultivated by them next year will be much greater.

Owing to the cold, dry spring, and the prevailing high winds in early summer, our corn and buckwheat will be but light, yet we expect a sufficient quantity for our own use.

IMPROVEMENTS.

We have completed the school-house commenced by my predecessor, so as to make it suitable for school purposes. There has been about one hundred and thirty acres of land grubbed and put in a state of cultivation; nearly one mile of ditching and draining, thereby reclaiming some valuable land, adding much to the appearance and healthfulness of the reserve. One carriage-house has been built, one granary 72 feet by 20 feet completed, a carpenter, lumber and blacksmith shop combined commenced and frame erected; thirteen new Indian houses made of lumber and shakes, one frame-house, and one log-house, making fifteen new houses for the natives. A great deal of fencing has been relaid, a mile new fence made, new gates made, roads straightened, laid off, made, and repaired, &c., more than we have space here to speak of in detail. Our store-house is removed to another and more convenient part of the reserve and refitted in good style. One new house built for the clerk, 24 feet by 27 feet in length, with porch in front, one story and a half high; material in part used from a house turned over to me by George J. Prising. If we had lumber with which to build, much needed improvement could yet be made before winter sets in. A hospital, a house for the agent, one for the miller, and a turbine wheel for the grist mill, are very much needed at present.

BOUNDARIES, LAND-MATTERS, ETC.

I am pleased to inform you that the commissioners sent here to locate the boundaries of this reserve, and appraise the improvements of settlers residing north of the township line in this valley, did their work to the entire satisfaction of every person interested, in the welfare of the reservation and Indians. When the settlers are paid for their improvements, and the Government gets possession of the land embraced in the new survey, we can reasonably expect greater prosperity than we have ever yet reached. I most respectfully request the Commissioner to cause the settlers to be paid at the earliest possible convenience, so that they can leave before winter sets in, and we be not deprived of the benefits of the land and range another year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The number of animals has been quite insufficient for the proper cultivation of the land this year cultivated, and for herding of stock; and with the new territory soon to be added we will need several good work-mules and riding-horses for our herdsmen. We also need wagons, harness, and farming implements. I trust Congress will make an appropriation sufficient to place the reservation in such condition that we may accomplish all the objects for which it has been established, and thus make it a blessing to the Indians and an honor to the Government.

J. L. BURCHARD,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. P. SMITH,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

77.

TULE RIVER INDIAN AGENCY,
California, September 10, 1873.

SIR: I have the honor, in compliance with the requirements of the Indian Department, to submit this my third annual report of the condition of the Indian service at this agency.

During the past year the Indians at this agency have been well disposed, peaceable; and a marked improvement in their moral and domestic relations it is gratifying to note. The sanitary condition of the Indians during the past year has greatly improved.

At the date of my last annual report the number of Indians living at the agency was 374; there has been no material change in the number then reported. The
Indians not properly belonging to the agency, living in this and adjoining counties, are the Wichummi, Ko-a-wah, King’s River and Kern River Indians, making an aggregate of 1,000 in number.

The more destitute among them have been furnished from this agency with subsistence and clothing to some extent. It is the purpose of the agent to remove the most destitute, dependent, and helpless of them to the new agency as soon as the improvements there will permit.

The Indian school has been taught seven months during the year. The want of a school-house during the first and second quarters necessitated the discontinuance of the school. The number of pupils in attendance was 62; average attendance, 25. Many of the children made excellent progress in their studies.

Sabbath-school has been held regularly every Sabbath during the year, and meetings for religious services on Wednesday evenings. The Indians are quite regular in their attendance, and the good results are observed in their daily deportment and their observance of the Sabbath.

The crops raised at the agency the present season are, owing to the severe drought, very light. Wheat raised, 815 bushels; hay, 36 tons. The barley-crop was an entire failure for grain, a portion only being cut for hay. Vegetables of all kinds failed for want of moisture; no rain has fallen here since the 24th of February ultimo. The Water-Ditch Company, which has heretofore supplied the agency with water for irrigation purposes for the right of way over the agency lands, refused this season to supply water for that purpose, and in consequence no vegetables could be raised.

The change of the agency to Government lands will have a beneficial and permanent influence for good on the Indians in many respects. Located comparatively at a distance from those disreputable persons who take every occasion clandestinely to furnish the Indians with whisky, it is anticipated that this evil can, in a great measure, be abated. The prospects of a fixed and permanent home for the Indians will have much to do in encouraging the Indians in habits of industry and frugality. They will take pleasure and pride in planting their vineyards and orchards, in cultivating their gardens, and their moral improvement and physical and intellectual development will increase with their improvements made with the labor of their own hands.

The recent survey of the new reservation has demonstrated beyond a cavil the value of the location for an Indian reservation, with arable lands sufficient for agricultural purposes, well watered, abundance for milling and irrigation; well adapted for grazing, and stock and sheep raising, with the best piney in the southern portion of the State, where the labor of the Indians can be made productive in preparing the timber for building and fencing to supply the demands and wants of the citizens located in the adjacent valleys and plains.

Improvements are now being commenced at the new agency, and it is expected that the buildings will be in a state of forwardness so that the Indians can be removed and the rented lands at the present agency be abandoned and possession given to the owner by the 1st of November. When this shall have been effected, the condition of the Indians at the agency, and those living in this section of the State, will be materially improved, and a more rapid advancement toward a higher civilization can reasonably be anticipated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES MALTBY,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. P. Smith,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

Pai-Ute Reservation,
Salt Lake, Nov., November 30, 1873.

Sir: I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report.

The Indians of this agency are divided into thirty-nine different tribes or bands, and...