U.S. Office of Indian Affairs.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

FOR

THE YEAR 1886.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE,
1886.
gated to the highest bidder, at not less than $20 per acre; the proceeds to be placed in the Treasury to the credit of the Indians, and draw 5 per cent. interest, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior in the education and civilization of the Indians of said reservation. I still entertain the same views upon the subject.

PAPAGO RESERVATION IN ARIZONA.

I renew the suggestions contained in my report for the year 1885, that an agency should be established on the Papago reservation, and means provided for its maintenance; or that provision should be made to give the Indians land in severalty, with permanent title, inalienable for a term of years. There is continual trouble between the settlers and the Indians upon this reservation, and some steps should be taken to obviate this.

MISSION INDIANS IN CALIFORNIA.

I regret to report that the condition of these Indians as regards their land is becoming more unsatisfactory. A case involving the rights of certain Indians residing on the San Jacinto grant has recently been decided adversely to the Indians in the local courts, and other suits are threatened. Instructions have been given to carry this case to the court of last resort. A special attorney has been appointed to defend the rights of these Indians, and he appears to be earnest, faithful, and able in the discharge of his duties; but there are no funds available for his compensation. Provision should be made for the payment of an amount commensurate with the services required of this attorney.

The bill for the relief of the Mission Indians which passed the Senate July 3, 1884, was again passed in that body February 15, 1886, and was favorably reported in the House of Representatives, but received no further consideration.

ROUND VALLEY RESERVATION, IN CALIFORNIA.

The greater part of this reservation (about nine-tenths) is still occupied by ranchmen and others having a title to about 1,080 acres of land, and claims to improvements of more or less value. The matter was fully presented to Congress in office report of December 10, 1885 (see House Ex. Doc. No. 21, Forty-ninth Congress, first session), and a bill, prepared in this office, providing for allotments of lands in severalty to the Indians residing upon this reservation, for the sale of the surplus lands, and for the extinguishment of the claims of settlers, passed the Senate April 27, 1886, but was not acted upon in the House of Representatives. If some such legislation as this is not secured it will eventually become necessary to abandon the reservation and turn the Indians
loose upon the surrounding country. In his annual report for this year
Agent Willsey says:

Our lands are still occupied by settlers and trespassers to such an extent that it is
almost impossible to increase our stock, or to protect our growing crops from de-
struction by their stock. Not only do they occupy every part of our range, but that
portion of the valley claimed as swampland and overflow lands by Henley Brothers &
Croft has been completely fenced in, thereby depriving us of the use of a large
body of land. I am informed that others contemplate doing the same. The assur-
ance of these people is something incalculable. They seem to think it perfectly right
for them to use all of our lands, but we must not trespass upon a foot of land to which
they have a shadow of title. It is hard to foretell what will become of this reserva-
tion in a very few years if some legislation is not had to protect it from these un-
scrupulous trespassers.

As long as Congress was in session, and there was a possibility that the House would
pass the bill allotting land in severalty, and protecting the balance of the reserve,
the Indians were quite jubilant, but now that Congress has adjourned without this
bill becoming a law, they are much distressed, fearing that the friends of the tres-
passers are the cause of its defeat.

I trust that the House of Representatives will see the importance of
this measure, and take prompt action thereon at the ensuing session.

KLAMATH RIVER INDIANS IN CALIFORNIA.

I am informally advised that contract has been entered into to resur-
vey the Klamath River Reservation. When the survey is completed
the work of allotting lands in severalty to the Indians, as directed in
Department letter of March 26, 1883, will be resumed. It was suspended
on account of errors found in the original survey. When the work of
making allotments to these Indians shall have been completed, the mat-
er will be presented to the Department, with a view of obtaining leg-
islation suitable to their wants and necessities. As stated in my report
of last year, these Indians do not need all the lands at present reserved
for their use, but they should be permanently settled, either individu-
ally or in small communities, and their lands secured to them by patent,
before any portion of the reservation is restored to the public domain.

REDUCTION OF GREAT SIOUX RESERVATION IN DAKOTA.

In December last a bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator
Dawes—

To divide a portion of the reservation of the Sioux Nation of Indians in Dakota
into separate reserves, and to secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to the
remainder.

This bill passed the Senate February 1, 1880, and was favorably re-
ported by the Committee on Indian Affairs in the House of Repre-
sentatives. It was never referred to this office for report, but in its
main features meets with my approval. The rights of the Indians ap-
pear to be carefully guarded, and their consent, as provided in the
treaty of 1868, is necessary before the provisions of the bill can be
carried into effect.
MOJAVES will be moved up the Gila River from this vicinity, where they are too much crowded and have not sufficient land. Quite a number of applications have also been made by Indians living up the San Carlos to move to the same locality. There is land enough to give each head of a family sufficient acreage to make a comfortable living.

I knew but little except of the 2,972 Indians in this vicinity. To this number must be added 125 men now out as scouts, making 830 men, instead of 701 as reported in statistics, or a total of 3,007.

At various distances from Fort Apache live 1,400 White Mountain Apaches, some of them at least 60 miles. They are entirely self-sustaining so far as articles of food are concerned. Formerly there was an agency or branch agency there, and they were furnished rations. During the term of service of Mr. Clum as agent here it was broken up, and the Indians moved here. They were very much attached to the country, and rightly, too, for a more beautiful one cannot easily be found. Three years ago they promised that if permitted to return there they would take care of themselves, which they have done quite successfully. Of course, whenever they have visited here they have received rations, but their visits are confined to about two months in the year—March and April. Last spring, at the request of General Crook, they were furnished twenty wagons and harness and an assortment of agricultural implements, also 10,000 pounds of seed barley and 6,000 pounds of seed wheat. Lieutenant-Colonel Wade, Tenth Cavalry, who has police control of them, and under whose direction their agricultural labor is performed, says that they have raised this year 70,000 pounds of barley, no wheat, and 120,000 pounds of corn, and that since September 1, 1885, have cut and delivered at Apache for the quartermaster department 1,481,901 pounds of hay. They are now just beginning to put in the hay and wood for the War Department for the present fiscal year. They are the brightest and most industrious Indians on the reservation. They seem to have more common sense and do not go at matters in so awkward a manner as others, and generally they are better farmers and raise more grain on a given piece of ground than others. They need two practical farmers to assist and instruct them, and as they raised no wheat this year they will have to be furnished seed-wheat again.

Mr. Hubbard, mill comractor, has gone to Apache to make preliminary preparations for erection of a grist-mill to be completed December 31, 1886. These White Mountain Indians in the vicinity of Apache number 321 men, 521 women, and 565 children. After the removal of the hostile Apaches from their vicinity they will undoubtedly advance rapidly.

The Chiricahuas and Warm Springs, now at Apache, number 72 men, 182 women, and 157 children, and their removal is the best step that can be taken for the welfare of other Indians and for citizens of Arizona.

There is no school in operation on the reservation, but preparations are making as fast as possible to open a boarding-school here which will accommodate 50 boys, but it will require yet about two months to get the buildings in order and to procure the necessary furniture.

Everything taken into consideration, I feel fairly satisfied with what has been accomplished and with the progress made during the past year. I am also grateful for the cordial and prompt support and assistance rendered me both by the Interior and War Departments.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. E. PIERCE,
Captain First Infantry, Acting Agent.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

HOOPA VALLEY AGENCY, CALIFORNIA.
August 15, 1886.

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following as my report of the condition of the Indians and the Indian service at this agency:

I assumed charge of the agency and reservation, also of the Klamath Reservation, on the 1st day of July, relieving Maj. John N. Andrews, Twenty-first Infantry. My tenure here has been so short and my experience so limited that I am not able to make a very comprehensive report of the actual condition and necessities of these Indians at present.

The policy of my predecessors, Major Andrews and Captain Porter, will be maintained, as I find that very material advancement was made under the administration of those officers. In general, I concur in the recommendations made by Captain Porter in his report of last year, and therefore I need not repeat them here. I particularly refer to the subject of compensation for Indian labor. To keep Indians in a state of peonage, laboring for only a meagre subsistence and a scant supply of ral-
REPORTS OF AGENTS IN CALIFORNIA.

ment, is, in my opinion, as degrading as absolute idleness. The system is absurd from a progressive point of view, and is repugnant to our laws and to our civilization.

These Indians all speak English, many of them very well, and I find among them individuals fairly skilled as artisans. The great majority of them are competent farm laborers, and with proper means and the necessary supervision for a couple of years are entirely capable of sustaining themselves. A large number of the people have lived off the reservation for years—driven from it by destitution resulting from bad management and dishonesty. These all have permanent homes of some kind, though a few of them are but little removed from vagrancy.

The number now here is 442, viz:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Men (eighteen years up)</th>
<th>126</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women (fourteen years up)</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total | 442 |

Although these people in acquired intelligence and in the education that comes with experience in the struggle for existence are far in advance of the wild tribes of the plains, yet the dark superstitions and the atrocious practices of the most benighted aborigines prevail and are deeply rooted among them. Polygamy does not exist, but the sale and abandonment of women are still common practices, and a belief in witchcraft is often the cause of violence and retaliation.

The arable land on the reservation is just about sufficient for the people now here and the young generation. The first necessity is that the land be subdivided and allotted, and that the occupants be given titles. Until this is done, these people cannot be said to have fixed abodes or permanent homes. The degrading village life will continue, and the beneficial efforts of the Government must go for little better than nought.

The entire outfit of farming implements, harness, &c., now on the reservation is barely sufficient for the agency farm. This condition has kept the people dependent upon the agency, and compelled them to labor for it when in need, if they labored at all, without other compensation than subsistence.

The employé force of the agency consists of—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Annual Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George W. Harper</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>$720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William M. Michel, M.D.</td>
<td>Agency physician</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis A. Hemplead</td>
<td>Carpenter and miller</td>
<td>$720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Henry</td>
<td>Blacksmith</td>
<td>$720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esther Harper</td>
<td>School teacher</td>
<td>$720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Colgrove (Indian)</td>
<td>Interpreter</td>
<td>$720</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The product of the agency farm this year is, approximately:

- Wheat | 100,000 pounds
- Oats | 40,000 pounds
- Oat hay | 100 tons

All this is the product of unpaid Indian labor. Forty tons of hay were sold to the Army contractor, and 325 cords of wood were cut by the Indians and delivered to the same party. Two hundred bushels of wheat, 50 bushels of oats, and about 30 tons of hay were produced by individual Indians—on their own account. A large supply of vegetables is under cultivation, and the orchards have produced great quantities of fine fruit.

The agency buildings are few in number, insufficient for their purposes, and generally dilapidated. The mill is almost worthless, and is located at the most inaccessible place in the valley.

The number of children on the reservation between 6 and 16 years old is: Boys, 37; girls, 43; total, 80. The number under 6 years old is: Boys, 30; girls, 23; total, 53. The average number who attend school is 31.

There is one day school on the reservation. This, like all day schools for Indian children, is but little better than nothing. A day school here can never justify the outlay for it, and I recommend that it be abolished at once, and that a boarding school be established of sufficient capacity to accommodate all the children of school age on the reservation.
THE KLAMATH RESERVATION.

My duties, as both agent and commanding officer, require me to exercise a supervision over the reservation on the Klamath. A small outpost is maintained at the mouth of that river to prevent intrusion on the Indian lands, and protect the Indians in their only industry—that of fishing for salmon.

Those Indians are also anxious for a subdivision of their lands, but before this can be done the lines of the reservation must be fixed determinately. It is alleged that fraudulent surveys of the public lands adjoining the reservation have made it impossible to fix its lines without creating a conflict of title.

The people, like the Hoopas, are friendly and well disposed, and maintain amicable relations with the white people about them, but should the military power of the Government be removed from this valley, both reservations would soon be overrun, and the Indians dispossessed. The Klamaths live almost exclusively on the salmon, though a few plant a little. They number about 400, and have no schools.

The census of both tribes, required by law, was taken at the end of June, and was forwarded to the Indian Office soon after the 1st of July.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. E. DOUGHERTY,
Captain First Infantry, Acting Agent.

THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

MISSION AGENCY, CALIFORNIA,
Colton, August 14, 1886.

Sir: I have the honor to submit my first annual report, embracing a period from October 1, 1885, to June 30, 1886.

This agency, stretching as it does from the eastern shore of the great American desert to the wave-washed strand of Los Angeles on the west, and the Mexican line on the south, embracing in its limits twenty-three reservations and more than three thousand Indians, who speak nine different languages, is evident that there are many conflicting interests and many complicated problems to solve.

Many of these Indians occupy rather an anomalous position. They are a little too much civilized to be an Indian and not civilized enough to be a white man. A most dangerous condition! Not enough of the habiliments of citizenship to demand the protection of the State, and a little too much to allow the rigid enforcement of the laws for the government of Indians. Very few of the Indians have applied for citizenship in the State. As a general rule those who have applied have done so from the fact that State citizenship gives the right to buy and drink all the liquor he can pay for. This is a great point gained by the Indians.

EDUCATION.

Inclosed you will find the statistics showing the operation of the schools under my charge for the year. There are eleven schools in successful operation with an average attendance of 255 pupils, all of whom can read and write. In October when I took charge of the agency there were eight schools, and I have organized three since that time and expect to organize others during the year. Some of these schools are located in settlements where there is no educational sentiment, and the attendance will be small until a sentiment in favor of education is developed. There are two great elements or principles underlying Indian civilization, and they are education and agriculture. Of the latter I will speak under its appropriate head. Education, to be a useful element in civilization, should be manifold in its character. The hand and heart should keep pace with the head in development of character, and every system of education which cultures only the intellectual faculties will surely fail in the development of well-balanced useful men and women. To take the Indian boy or girl from their parental hut and teach them, day after day, reading, writing, and arithmetic, without any training in industrial pursuits, is simply to make educated vagabonds of them, unfitted by their education for any of the learned pursuits, and utterly incompetent to follow with success any of the pursuits of ordinary industry. While the Indian's head needs training, his hand needs it the more.

With all his book learning without he has been taught to handle a plow, dig a ditch, cultivate, prune and irrigate an orchard, shoo the pests and strike the anyil, he is as helpless as a child when thrown out into busy active life. These Indian children now in school will soon enter the struggle of life. It helps them but little when asking for employment to say, "I can write a beautiful hand; I can draw a lovely picture, and can work difficult sums in fractions." Better far, so far as material success is concerned, to be able to say, "I can plow and cultivate an orchard; I under-
stand how to irrigate and prune, or I can bake a good loaf, broil a good steak, and clean a bed-room nicely." These are the keys which will unlock the doors of profitable employment to the Indian. Mere sentimentality on the value of education will never help the Indian. His education should be directed so as to qualify him for the sphere in life in which, by a law of necessity, he must move. This is equally true of the white race. Education must be practical and industrial to fit a child for the stern battle of life. The average Indian is like the average white man. Alessandro are not very numerous in this agency. The original from which the Alessandro of "Ramona" was drawn stood before me a few days ago. My imagination was appalled at the effort to identify him.

In this agency we need a boarding and industrial school, where the youths can be educated in the arts of practical life. Such a school would have a liberal attendance. We were promised one such school last November, and plans and drawings for the building were sent here for bids, but for some cause no action was ever taken.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

In the State of California we have a compulsory educational law. If such a law was found to be necessary in a State whose citizens are not surpassed in intelligence and in ambition by any State in the Union, how much stronger is the argument in favor of compulsory education among the Indians. The parents of these Indian children are ignorant, and know nothing of the value of education, and there are no elevating influences in the home circle to arouse the ambition of the children. Parental authority is hardly known or exercised among the Indians in this agency. The family is a kind of democracy wherein every one does as he pleases. The agent should be endowed with some kind of authority to enforce attendance. The agent here has found that a threat to depose a captain if he does not make the children attend school has had a good effect. The ordinary Indian clings with greater tenacity, if possible, than a white man to the insignia and trappings of office. To lose a captain is worse than to lose a post-office or a seat in Congress.

SURVEYING.

The surveying heretofore done in this agency has been of such a character as to leave the Indian in profound ignorance of his boundary lines. Very few Indians have any knowledge of the exterior boundaries of their reservation. During the last year a survey of the exterior boundaries of many of the reservations of this agency was made, but it gave the Indian no information as to his lines. A survey of the exterior boundaries should be made, and the surveyors should be required to ask of the agent a number of the leading Indians of every village to act as chain-carriers, or as an escort to see each corner post established and assist in making the boundary lines. By this means the Indians would know their boundaries, and many troubles which now arise every day would be avoided.

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture is one of the corner-stones of the temple of Indian civilization. It is the basis of wealth in all civilizations, and the Government acts wisely in giving so much money and so much attention to this subject among the Indians. Give the rising generation of Indians a good English education and a practical knowledge of farming, or any of the industrial pursuits, and he is on the highway to a useful and honorable citizenship.

The Egyptians could not make brick without straw, nor can the Indian be made a successful farmer without the implements which are necessary to give success to a white man in the same calling. Since I took charge of the agency not a single farming implement has been sent here for the Indians. When I took charge of this agency the Indians made most piteous appeals for wagons, plows, hoes, shovels, and other tools. I made application for such things, but they have never reached me. I have never seen an Indian in that time to this that I have not been asked about those wagons. "Beware of the Greeks when they come bearing gifts," is a trite motto, but woe to the Indian agent among the Mission Indians whose van-guard or rear-guard is not made up of wagons, harness, plows, axes, shovels, and other useful implements of husbandry.

The crops on some of the reservations have made a good yield, particularly those on the Potero, where the Indians have the advice and patient industry of Additional Farmer William L. Anderson to direct their labors.

THE INDIAN AS A FARMER.

An observation of many years among the Indians has taught me that he has no great fondness for agricultural pursuits. He has been all his life a day laborer ex.
The Government has apparently been very generous to the Mission Indians. It has given them more than twenty different reservations, embracing nearly 200,000 acres; but what a country! After a careful examination of all the land we do not think there are over 5,000 acres of tillable land, and the best portion of that is now held by trespassers in defiance of the agent and Government.

The Potrero Reservation is covered over with squatters who have settled there long since the lands were set aside for Indian purposes. They are there in open defiance of law. They have managed to get their cases before the Indian Department for adjudication. The rights of these Indians to these lands are as clear and absolute as the proclamation of a President can make them. The squatters should have never had a standing in court until after they were dispossessed. The Government ought to have removed every one of them, and if they have rights, then let them assert them before the courts. Until the Indians feel assured of a perfect title they will not build houses, put out orchards or vineyards, nor anything to make the land more valuable.

Much of the best land in other reservations is included within the boundaries of Mexican grants, and the owners of these grants are now endeavoring to eject these Indians by regular process of law. The case of the Indians on the San Jacinto grant has recently been decided adversely to them, and had the proceedings not been stayed by an appeal to the Supreme Court they would have been ejected by the sheriff before this time. Other cases of a similar kind will soon come up in regard to the rights of the Indians on the Santa Ysabel grant and that of Warner's rancho. The special attorney for the Indians is making an able and vigorous fight for the legal rights of these Indians. From the general trend of the Supreme Court decisions it is more than probable that the Indians will eventually be ejected from the San Jacinto, Santa Ysabel, and Warner's rancho.

WHAT THEN?

Homes will have to be provided for them, and there are no lands on many of the reservations where other Indians can be located. The Potrero Reservation, if cleared of every squatter and the water facilities utilized as white men would utilize them, might be made a home for at least one thousand more Indians. To develop and store this water for use in the summer months, when irrigation is essential, would take a large amount of money. If it will pay the white man to make this investment, will it not pay the Government to do it, in order to give a great number of Indians permanent and valuable homes?

SANITARY.

No epidemics have prevailed in this agency during the year, and the general health of the Indians has been as good as that of their white neighbors. Six hundred and ninety-one Indians have applied to agency physician for treatment, and they are fast abandoning their "medicine men."

Notwithstanding the efficiency and earnestness of my physician there are hundreds of sufferers scattered all over this agency whose feebleness and poverty make it impossible for them over to see the physician. They lie in their dismal huts and pine for the healer, but he never comes, because it is physically impossible for a physician to do the clerical work of the agency, prescribe, and compound medicines for three thousand Indians, scattered over a territory larger than all New England. The very sick never get any of the benefits of the physician. They are too sick to go to the medical office, and it is impossible for the physician to visit them while he stands in the dual relation of clerk and physician. To make the medical arm of the service useful to the Indian the physician should be furnished with horse and buggy and medicines and sent among the Indians. He could make the circuit of the agency once each quarter and still give him some time for prescriptions and practice in his office. By this means he would reach hundreds who now never see and never have seen a physician. He should have a salary of $1,000 per annum for this service.
THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

The traffic in liquor gives the agent more trouble and does more to hinder civilization than all other evil agencies combined. The agent cannot boast of much success in abating this nuisance. The evil is practiced all over the agency and almost in open defiance of law, as the result of every case I have carried before the commissioners has been such as to encourage the idea that the penalties of the law would never be enforced. With the expressed desire on the part of the Department of Justice that the expense of these prosecutions should be reduced, and the indisposition on the part of the United States court to punish offenders, I have had but little heart to pursue the trial. Every case, except one which I have carried before the United States commissioner at Los Angeles, has been bound over to appear before the United States grand jury at San Francisco, yet not one has ever been punished. The only case which ever reached the court at San Francisco was thrown out of court, simply because the offense committed was reported to have been committed while I was the agent. The offense had been committed during the term of my predecessor but had not been barred by the statute of limitations. The case was thrown out of court without even an investigation. Many cases have been bound over by the commissioner at Los Angeles, and that was the last of them. It is for the Department to look after these cases.

I have had some success in punishing liquor sellers before this State court, yet the penalty is so light before the State courts as to not deter a vender from continuing the nefarious practice.

CONCLUSION.

If the Government will maintain the Indians' title to the lands embraced in the Presidential proclamations, and furnish the Indians with such farming implements as they may need, and will support me in the interest of education, great advancement may be reasonably hoped for in the coming year.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN S. WARD,
United States Indian Agent.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

ROUND VALLEY AGENCY,
August 19, 1880.

Sirs: As directed in your circular letter dated July 1 last, I have the honor to submit the following as my second annual report of affairs at this agency.

LANDS.

Our lands are still occupied by settlers and trespassers to such an extent that it is almost impossible to increase our stock or protect our growing crops from destruction by their stock. Not only do they occupy every foot of our range, but that portion of the valley claimed as swamp and overflow land by Henley Brothers and Corbitt has been completely fenced in, thereby depriving us of the use of a large body of land. I am informed that others contemplate doing the same thing. The assurance of these people is something incalculable. They seem to think it perfectly right for them to use all of our lands, but we must not trespass upon a foot of land to which they have a shadow of a title. It is hard to foretell what will become of this reservation in a very few years if some legislation is not had to protect it from these unscrupulous trespassers.

As long as Congress was in session, and there was a possibility that the House would pass the bill allotting lands in severalty and protecting the balance of the reserve, the Indians were quite jubilant; but now that Congress has adjourned without this bill becoming a law, they are much distressed, fearing that the friends of the trespassers are the cause of its defeat.

POPULATION.

The census just completed shows 698 Indians, from which the following statistics are prepared, as directed in your letter of May 20 last, viz:

Number of males over 10 years ........................................... 223
Number of females over 14 years ......................................... 244
Number of school children between 0 and 10 years .................. 80
REPORTS OF AGENTS IN CALIFORNIA.

Number of school-houses .................................. 2
Number of schools ........................................... 2
Number of children attending:
   Headquarters ............................................. 53
   Lower quarters .......................................... 37
Number of teachers:
   White ....................................................... 2
   Indian ...................................................... 2
Salaries paid each:
   White ...................................................... $720
   Indian ...................................................... 60

AGRICULTURE.

We have under cultivation about 1,000 acres of land, about 500 acres of which is cultivated as a community farm and the balance by individual Indians, from which they raise all of their vegetables, and this year a large quantity of wheat, barley, &c.

PRODUCTS.

The estimated productions for this year are as follows: On reservation farm 3,000 bushels of wheat, 1,500 of corn, 1,000 of oats, 1,500 of barley, and 600 tons of hay; by the Indians 100 bushels of wheat, 400 bushels of corn, 500 bushels of oats, 1,000 of barley, 500 of potatoes, 200 of onions, 500 of beans, 15,000 melons, 3,000 pumpkins, and 100 tons of hay.

STOCK.

We have 73 horses, 20 mules, 350 cattle, 263 hogs, 8 horse colts, and 5 mule colts. The increase has been 6 horse and 6 mule colts, 78 calves, and 81 pigs. Many of our horses are worn out and unserviceable, and ought to be condemned and sold.

MILLS.

As previously reported, our grist-mill was destroyed by fire September 28 last. Up to the time of burning we ground for the agency 60,773 pounds of wheat and 61,329 pounds of grain for custom. In consequence of the destruction of the engine and boiler at the burning of the grist-mill, our saw-mill, has been idle the entire year. The want of lumber has rendered it impossible for me to make any improvements, and but very few repairs to our buildings, fences, &c., all of which are badly out of repair.

APPRENTICES.

During the last fiscal year 6 Indian apprentices have been employed at carpentering, 1 with the blacksmith, 1 in the harness-shop, 4 with the herder, and 4 at the grist-mill until the burning of the same.

EDUCATIONAL.

I have had in operation 2 day schools during the past year, with an average attendance of about 65 scholars.

There are nearly 90 children of school age at the agency, and the want of a boarding school was never more seriously felt than at the present time. The moral training these children receive during school hours is more than doubly offset by the vices of camp life outside of the school sessions, and I am totally unable to prevent these degrading influences without the assistance of a boarding school. It is hoped this matter will receive some favorable consideration from your office the present fiscal year.

MISSIONARY.

The Woman’s National Indian Association of Philadelphia appointed Miss A. L. Boorman and Miss C. J. White to represent their society as missionaries on this reservation. These ladies arrived here on the 27th of April last, and have taken charge of the Sabbath school and prayer-meetings since that date. The time has been so short that no perceptible change has taken place, but it is hoped that much good may result from their labors.

Very respectfully,

THIEO. F. WILLSBY,

United States Indian Agent.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
Sir: I have the honor of forwarding herewith my eleventh annual report of this agency.

The Tule River Agency is located in the southeastern part of Tulare County, California, and embraces over 40,000 acres of land within its boundaries. The most of this area is so broken and rocky that it is almost worthless. On the eastern border there are perhaps 3,000 acres of good sawing timber, while the western portion is a fair grazing section, containing an inestimable supply of oak timber. This oak timber is of a scrubby growth and chiefly valuable for fuel, furnishing, however, about every alternate season acorns sufficient to fatten a thousand head of swine. A fine stream flows through the reservation from east to west, abounding in trout and furnishing an abundance of water for irrigating purposes. The area of arable land is so small, however, that these Indians cannot make a good living simply by farming.

Stock-raising, however, is very profitable, requiring but little care and no feeding during the entire year. For a number of years all of the arable land has been in cultivation, and has during the past season produced very well. The Indians have produced 300 bushels wheat, 50 bushels corn, 50 bushels barley, 100 bushels potatoes, 20 bushels onions, 30 bushels beans, 30 bushels other vegetables, 600 melons, 500 pumpkins, and 30 tons hay. Only a small piece of ground is cultivated for agency purposes, simply to supply the Government stock with forage; 16 tons hay has been cut for that object.

While this is a somewhat meager showing from an agricultural standpoint, it is proper to state that there are other opportunities by which the Indians of this agency can supplement this income, and thus not only make a good living but actually accumulate property and comforts. Sheep-shearing in this part of the country is done almost exclusively by Indians and lasts nearly six weeks both in the spring and fall. It is not difficult for a good shearer to earn $100 at each shearing. Besides, they can always find employment at remunerative wages during harvest in adjoining settlements.

These advantages, combined with the easy facilities for stock-raising, place the Indians of this reservation on a self-supporting basis. They understand how to work and have been assisted by the Government quite long enough. If they were temperate, their prosperity would be assured. Alas, however, drunkenness is their great bêtement. They all claim to be members of the Catholic Church; but drink they will, and drunken they will be, I presume, unto the end.

During a few months past I have prosecuted four parties for selling my Indians whiskey. The trials are all set for next month.

It is proper to state here, perhaps, that on the night of the 20th of May last the agent's house and office were consumed by fire, including everything in them. My personal loss was over $1,000. My family were away at the time and I was off on duty. How the fire originated we have not been able to ascertain. That it was the work of an incendiary is quite evident, and that it got out of the whisky prosecutions is generally believed.

There has been no school during the past year, and I am satisfied there is no promise of success in making another effort. There are but 19 children on the reservation of school age, and they are living so remotely from the school-house that their attendance cannot be secured so as to have a creditable average.

STATISTICAL STATEMENT.

According to the recent census there are on the reservation—

Number of males above 18 years of age .................................................. 43
Number of females above 14 years of age .................................................. 46
Number of school children between the ages of 6 and 16 .............................. 19

There is also one school-house.

It is my conviction that some time during the present fiscal year, or at the close, this should be consolidated with the Mission Agency, leaving a farmer in charge here, in order to protect the Indians in their rights and prevent stockmen from eating them out of house and home. Believing this will be done, and that it will be the best for the Indians, I close with the thought that I will never write another annual report. Consciences that I have tried to discharge my duty as an officer of the Government, and regretting that I have not been more successful in leading these people to a higher plane in civilization.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. G. BELKNAP,
United States Indian Agent.