ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

FOR

THE YEAR 1887.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
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1387.
quiring the art of the surgeon or the ability of a skilled obstetrician, has done much to inspire this confidence.

Nevertheless, the life led by Indians often makes the service rendered by white physicians most unsatisfactory. The greatest difficulty is experienced in subjecting Indians to the discipline necessary for the giving of suitable treatment, and for enforcing the continued and proper administration of medicine. If the medicine is distasteful it will not be taken. If one dose does not cure, the patient is discouraged. They have to be treated in their homes, where no hygienic measures can be adopted, and where they are more or less exposed to the influence of conservative old Indians who are opposed to the white man's methods.

Were the agencies provided with hospital accommodations patients could be placed beyond the influence of "medicine men" and their friends. Invalids scattered over the reservations who, for want of ordinary care and the proper application of medicine, linger on a miserable existence, could be greatly relieved, and in many cases cured, and their friends or relatives would thus be made converts to the new way. Small hospitals could be erected at slight cost, and the benefits of such institutions would rapidly become known among the Indians and inspire great confidence in the physician. Euthetic and tuberculous diseases prevail among many of the tribes, and are difficult to treat or control on account of the disregard of the instructions of the physician and the lack of proper facilities for the care of the sick. A large number of the deaths caused by these diseases and those of an epidemic character might be prevented could the cases be placed where hygienic means could be enforced and proper treatment given.

MISSION INDIANS IN CALIFORNIA.

Congress having adjourned on the 4th of March last without favorable action upon the bill for the relief of the Mission Indians (to which reference was made in my last annual report), on the 9th of that month I recommended that authority be granted to remove all intruders from the reservations of those Indians, and that military force be employed for that purpose if necessary. On the 11th of March the requisite authority was granted, and on the 16th of the same month the agent was instructed to notify each and all of the trespassers to remove, with all of their stock, effects, and movable property, on or before the 1st of September, 1887. The War Department has been requested to furnish a sufficient force to effect their removal. I am informedally advised that the intruders will resort to the courts for an injunction against the enforcement of the order.

This measure was adopted after repeated attempts had been made to secure legislation authorizing the appointment of a commission to investigate the condition of these Indians, to secure lands for them, and to ascertain the rights of all parties in the premises. The enforcement of the order will undoubtedly inflict great hardships in some cases
where the claimants are deserving of some consideration, but there seems to be no alternative to such action. The Indians are being deprived of their homes which they have occupied for generations under concessions inserted in the Spanish grants for their protection, and the only place of refuge for them is on these reservations which are occupied by whites without legal rights. If it shall be found that in the enforcement of the order injury has been done to any person who has equitable rights, the matter will be presented for submission to Congress.

ROUND VALLEY RESERVATION IN CALIFORNIA.

The appeal made in my last annual report for the passage by the House of Representatives of the bill 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, not having been heeded by that body, I determined to take such steps as were possible to secure to the Indians the use of some portion at least of the 96,000 acres of land reported to be in the possession of white men. On the 2d of April last, I accordingly recommended that authority be granted for the removal from the reservation of all parties found to be unlawfully thereon, and for the employment of the necessary military force. Authority was granted, and on the 25th of May last the agent was instructed to notify all parties unlawfully upon the reservation to remove therefrom, with all of their stock and personal effects, on or before the 1st day of August, 1887, and that, in the event of their failure to remove, their removal would be effected by a sufficient military force.

From this order there were excepted the persons and lands covered by the judgment of the United States circuit court rendered May 31, 1880; all persons occupying lands the title to which has passed out of the United States, as shown by an abstract furnished by the General Land Office; and parties who had improvements within the reservation on the 3d of March, 1873, to whom payment or tender of payment had not been made. All of these parties were to be confined to the lands actually covered by the exception, and the latter class were to be confined to 160 acres each.

It is intended to apply the provisions of the allotment act to this reservation as soon as possible, but it is feared that much embarrassment will be experienced. The reservation contains less than 3,000 acres of agricultural lands, of which 1,050 acres are owned by grantees under the swamp act. This land should be purchased from the owners for the use of the Indians and the amount reimbursed to the United States from the sales of grazing lands within the reservation, which should not be subject to the homestead or pre-emption laws.

As soon as the result of the order for the removal of the trespassers is ascertained a plan for the relief of these Indians will be considered.
I beg to acknowledge the unflagging support of the Department in every measure that has been taken for the advancement and welfare of the Indians under this agency.

I am, very respectfully,  

ELMER A. HOWARD,  
U. S. Indian Agent.

Hon. J. D. C. ATKINS,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

HOOPA VALLEY AGENCY, CALIFORNIA,  
July 5, 1887.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of Indian affairs at this agency for the year 1886-87.

The number of Indians living on the reservation at this date is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males over eighteen</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females over fourteen</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys six to sixteen</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls six to sixteen</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children under six</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births during the year</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths during the year</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain in numbers since last report</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The gain being Indians who have returned from outside the reservation.

Applied for medical treatment during the year:

Hoopes ........................................ 330
Klamaths ....................................... 69

Total ........................................ 409

Of the 460 people living here, the number who inhabit Indian dwellings, sweat houses, etc., is 174. In modern houses, 256. During the spring and summer 18 frame houses have been erected for and by Indians, and several more will be put up before winter.

The live stock owned is: Horses and mules, 63; cows, 7; swine, 54; poultry a few.

The area of land cultivated this year is: In common, 460 acres; by individuals, 105 acres. Total, 565 acres.

The crop is now being harvested, and is ample for subsistence, with some to spare.

The total area cultivated would be doubled at once if the Department would supply the means of instituting farming by individuals separately, but it is impossible for the people, with their present very limited means, to save enough to procure what is necessary to enable them to do this, and to subsist themselves at the same time.

All the manual labor performed on the reservation to maintain the Government establishment is performed by Indians, and without other compensation than subsistence and an occasional issue of necessary clothing. A large part of these is obtained by savings made from the sale of surplus produce; and thus the most industrious of the people are compelled to labor, not for themselves, but for the Government, without compensation, and at the same time contribute largely to their subsistence from their own savings. Considering that the policy of the Government is to elevate the Indian in the field of labor and industry, and to enlarge his individuality and self-reliance, the position of each must be regarded as anomalous; but as there is no recourse for the Indian this condition of degrading servitude must be maintained until Congress consents to make an allowance to honestly compensate Indians whom the Government engages to do its part of the work, as is done for the Sioux and other tribes not as peaceably disposed as the Hoopes.
### THE AGENCY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Pay Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 physician</td>
<td>$1,600 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 additional farmer</td>
<td>$720 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 blacksmith</td>
<td>$720 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 carpenter and miller</td>
<td>$720 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 interpreter (Indian)</td>
<td>$240 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 messenger</td>
<td>$5 per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eleven years ago the agency, then an establishment having a large corps of employés, was broken up, and an effort was made to move the Indians to Round valley, to make room for a cattle company. The Indians refused to move, and claimed protection from the commanding officer. The agency was stripped of everything by the agent and the employés, and the portion of the property that could not be disposed of here is said to have been taken to Round valley. Since then nothing has been done to rehabilitate the agency, and the appropriations for service and supplies have been kept at the lowest figure possible.

### EDUCATION

A day school was open at the agency from August 7 to March 12. During this time there was an average daily attendance of 25. One teacher was employed (Mrs. Esther Harpest) at a salary of $720 per annum.

In March the building in which the school was kept was found to be unsafe, and the school was closed until another provision could be made. It will be reopened in August under the management of a teacher of fifteen years' experience in Indian education.

On December 13 last the Commissioner wrote me that a boarding-school "must be established," and called for a plan and specification. These were forwarded on the 20th, and showed that a boarding-school establishment, capable of accommodating 33 children, could be erected at the agency at a cost, for materials, of $2,343.20 and for labor of about $2,000. On February 2 the Commissioner informed me that the plan could not be approved "for the reason that the amount involved is too large," and that transportation to the agency is too expensive, and suggested that some more accessible place be selected where a desirable location could be found. No such place could be found nearer than 50 miles from the agency, and it was also found that the cost of the building material was three times as great as the cost of producing it by Indian labor on the reservation; also, that the land necessary for the establishment would cost more than the whole establishment would cost if it was erected in the valley. On March 10 the Commissioner again wrote that in view of the great expense involved in establishing and maintaining a boarding school in the valley, it would not be undertaken this year.

The people being anxious for better education for the children, I requested that authority be given to send the most promising of them to an Indian training school, and I have just received authority to turn over to the superintendent of the industrial training school near Salem, Oreg., as many pupils as accommodation can be provided for.

### LAND IN SEVERALTY

The superficial area of Hoopa valley embraces about 4,400 acres, including the Trinity river, which runs through it. Of this but little over 1,200 acres can be made available for agriculture at present. It is therefore impossible to subdivide the land equally, and give each head of a family and adult male sufficient to enable them to live by agriculture alone. Accordingly I expect to thin out the population in the valley by moving as many families as may be induced to leave it a few miles toward the northwest corner of the reservation, where 1,600 acres or more of arable land may be selected, on the ridge between the Trinity and Pino creek. This will give sufficient land to all the people and greatly diminish the embarrassment found in endeavoring to subsist the whole from a limited area. Until this can be done it will be useless to attempt to make a survey for the purpose of allotting the land, because the arbitrary lines of a survey would create so many conflicts of possessory title that a practicable or satisfactory settlement could not be reached. The Department will be asked to encourage this purpose by making some extra provision next year for agricultural implements, draft animals, and some cattle, without which it will not be possible to effectuate it.

In January last, the Hoopa people petitioned Congress for an appropriation to enable them to construct a wagon road from the valley to the western line of the reservation to connect with the public road from Humboldt bay to the interior, and thus open a route to a market for the surplus product of the valley. It appears that the petition reached the Indian Office too late to be laid before Congress the last session.
The department commander approves the project, and I hope that the petition will be presented soon after the meeting of Congress in December.

While the people remain shut in in this valley, without access to a market, and without a knowledge of commercial competition, there can be no encouraging incentive to their industry, and no escape from an improvident hand-to-mouth existence in a place where the abundance of nature can not be surpassed.

The people are willing and anxious to do this work themselves, and are capable of doing it at much less expense than it can be done by contract.

THE LOWER KLAMATHS.

There are believed to be on the Klamath river about 1,200 Indians of that name. They live in villages on the river bank, a few miles apart, from far up it to its mouth, and have always been self-sustaining, relying to a great extent for subsistence upon the salmon. A little over 600 of these only claim the Lower Klamath reservation as their home, and of these last more than 60 per cent. are absent during the greater portion of the year, employed by the farmers and lumbermen, but nearly all return for a time during the fishing season. There are on the reservation 8 villages, or "ranches," including about 60 habitations, some of these being very good houses. The people have never had schools, and the children rarely learn the English language until they grow up and leave home to find employment.

The people are peaceable and friendly in the highest degree in their relations with the whites, but among themselves there exist enmities that frequently result in atrocious murders. These occurrences are so frequent that I thought it necessary to make a request upon the State and county authorities to institute criminal proceedings against the murderers. The reply of the attorney-general of the State was evasive, while the district attorney for the county peremptorily refused to act in any case in which Indians only may be concerned.

In May last, R. D. Hume, of Ellensburg, Oreg., entered the mouth of the Klamatx river, with a light-draft steamboat and a gang of fishermen brought from the north, and established a floating cannery on the fishing grounds near the mouth of the river. The Indians along the river are much disturbed at what they deem to be an intrusion that will deprive them to a great extent of their means of subsistence, and I think that unless some remedial measure is applied by the Government necessity will actuate them to seek a remedy in their own way.

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

Wm. E. Dougherty, Captain U. S. Army, Acting Agent.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE, Mission Agency, Colton, Cal., August 17, 1887.

Sir: I have the honor to submit my second and last annual report of the operations of this agency for the year ending June 30, 1887.

This has been a year of expectancy on the part of the Indians. Government officials and outside enthusiasts have bespangled the Indian's sky with eulogistic signs of the coming jubilee, and the consummation of the "land in severalty bill" has been promised as the key-note in the grand chorus of emancipation from the thralldom of the white man.

THE LAND QUESTION.

There are nearly 200,000 acres of land embraced in the reservations set aside for the Mission Indians. These are not 600 acres of this vast domain on which a decent living can be made without irrigation. Very few white men would attempt such a problem. The question of irrigation enters into every land transaction in southern California; and to chain an Indian down on a quarter of section of land without facilities for irrigation would be a reproduction of Prometheus with the vultures of want and despair feeding on his vitals. Without something more is done for these Indians than is proposed by the severalty bill, wherein is their condition improved?

Although there have been many trespassers on their lands yet there is not a single industrious Indian who has not been able to get more land than he could cultivate. If the Indian has failed to cultivate the unoccupied lands within his reach, will the mere fact of personal ownership of these lands, without the right of alienation for twenty-five years, cause him to enlarge his farming operations and emulate the white man in his efforts to accumulate property? We think not. Twenty-five years of tutelage, twenty-five years of almost military discipline, may bring him up to a posi-
tion of self-support as a farmer, but without this coercive power he will make but little advance in the march of civilization.

Clothe the Indian with the insignia of citizenship, and invest him with title to land in fee simple, and still it does not make him a man without he has been taught the arts of industry and has solved the problem of self-support. This transition from the lounging, loitering, lazy, lousy son of the forest, to the full stature of self-supporting citizenship, is one which demands the highest order of practical statesmanship for its solution. Has the Government the authority to require the adult Indian to learn, under a practical teacher, all the details connected with the usual industries of the age? Can the Indian be forced to an apprenticeship on the farm or in the shop in order to make him self-supporting and qualify him for the battle of life?

WORK: THE CORNER STONE OF CIVILIZATION.

The Government has done a great deal towards the intellectual advancement of the Indian. Where it has had industrial schools, it has probably advanced the Indian children in a knowledge of the practical ways by which they are to win their living. Here in the mission agency, having no industrial schools, our education has been directed to the head alone. The Civil Service examiners would be delighted to see the samples of penmanship and ciphering which could be shown by the schools of this agency. Still, these children have not one practical idea how to make a living. A civilization which has no work in it will not meet the requirement of the age. A knowledge of how to work, a capacity to work, and something to work with, are the foundation stones of all civilization. The adult Indian generally does not know how to work, and does not wish to learn. Will the Government push its power of wardship far enough to compel him to learn some practical industry by which he can be self-sustaining? Lands in sovereignty, pensions, annuities, and elaborate school apparatus will not redeem the Indian. He must be taught to work by persuasion if possible, by force if necessary. I hear a righteous howl from some well-meaning but impracticable enthusiasts, saying this would be "an abridgement of man's personal liberty." The pilgrimage through the desert was a necessary preparation to those who were to enter the land of promise.

SELF-RELIANCE.

The annuities of money, clothing, and agricultural supplies furnished by the Government to the Indians have smothered out nearly every particle of native self-reliance among them. They are content to lie in the shade and wait for the annual appropriation. Pensions and annuities will never develop a high order of manhood in any race of people. If the rain of manna and quail had continued, no Hebrew would have ever owned a poultry or grain farm.

IRRIGATION OF INDIAN LANDS.

There are enough lands in the different reservations for the mission Indians, if brought under a wise system of irrigation, to give a five or ten acre home to each family. Ten acres with water, if well cultivated, will produce more of the necessities of life in this country than one hundred and sixty without irrigation.

To make the water supply on these lands available will require a large expenditure of money by the Government. The Indian will never do it alone. Most of the Indians here were born tired, and have never gotten over it. If practical men who know anything of the conditions necessary for the success in a country dependent alone on irrigation are appointed to make the allotments, they will be able to master the difficulties.

TRESPASSERS.

The agent has now an order from the Secretary of the Interior to eject a large number of trespassers from the different reservations on September 1. This is the consummation of an effort begun by him for their ejectment soon after his assumption of the office in 1885. There are on the Banning reservation thirty or forty trespassers, who have established good homes, with vineyards and orchards. These homes will have to be given up by the white man. The Indian now sits in the shade of the trees meditating on which particular well-improved home he is to get.

THE LIQUOR QUESTION.

No question has given the agent so much trouble as that of liquor. The Department has taken for granted that the agent has the eyes of Argus and the hands of Briareus, and could from his office detect and arrest every liquor seller in a dis-
district of two hundred miles square. Indians are just as shrewd as white men in their plans to get liquor.

The agent has succeeded in bringing many offenders before the United States commissioner and the United States grand jury, and has used the State courts for their conviction, when it was more convenient than to appeal to the United States courts. There are hundreds of persons in this agency who are willing to report to the Department the delinquency of the agent in failing to arrest and convict liquor sellers, yet who would flee to the mountains rather than testify against one of these same violators of the law.

FARMING OPERATIONS.

The farming operations among the Indians for the past year have not been, on the whole, a great success. This has resulted, in part, from the exceeding dryness of the winter and spring, and absence of all facilities for irrigation, and more largely from the want of some coercive power on the part of the farmer to enforce the planting and cultivation of crops. These causes led me to ask the abolition of the office of additional farmer for the Mission Indians. While the crops have been very light, still there will be no suffering, except among the aged and infirm.

SANITARY.

The sanitary condition of the Mission Indians has been good, with the exception of an epidemic of whooping-cough and measles. At one time, while the small-pox was prevailing in Los Angeles, the Indians became alarmed by false reports of this loathsome disease having broken out on some of the reservations. The agent at once asked the Indian Department for vaccine matter, with authority to send the agency physician to vaccinate the Indians. A large number of the Indians were vaccinated. The Desert Indians, known as the followers of Cabezon, refused to allow their children to be vaccinated.

The superior skill and tact of Dr. W. E. Ferrabee, my physician, have done very much towards giving the Indians confidence in the white man's medicines and of his medical knowledge. The absence of all hospital facilities has caused the death of many Indians who might have been cured, if they could have been protected from the inclemency of the weather during their sickness. The necessity of hospital accommodations has been urged heretofore by the agent, and it is hoped that they will be granted during this fiscal year.

POPULATION.

At this writing all the census reports of the agency are not at hand. So many of the school employees were dismissed at the end of the last fiscal year, that it has been impossible with the very limited number of employees to get a correct census up to this date.

SCHOOLS.

No department of the agent's work has shown such gratifying success as that of the schools. The average attendance of the various schools for the last quarter has been 170. This small attendance was the result of an epidemic of whooping-cough and measles among the children. There have been eleven schools in operation during the year. The twelfth school, located at San Bernadino, was in operation for a few months, but was abolished for reasons not necessary to mention.

The Department has ordered a suspension of all schools not having an average attendance of twenty pupils. This is a severe rule, as the children living in a community where there are only fifteen children have the same claims on the Government as those who live in larger settlements. The agent would most respectfully emphasize his request that all of those schools showing an average of fifteen be reopened. The suspension of these schools is a backward step in the line of Indian civilization.

A SOLUTION OF THE INDIAN PROBLEM.

This problem, which has puzzled statesmen for so many years, is one of easy solution if the common-sense principles are applied which make other great schemes successful. Men with knowledge will never lift the Indian out of barbarism. His hands need education just as much as his mind. He must be taught to rely on himself. If all the Mission Indians were collected on two large reservations, the question of their civilization could be accomplished within ten years. The general outline of the policy would be as follows: Collect all the Indians on one or more reservations; allot these lands in severalty to heads of families, building each family a comfortable home, and furnishing each family with a horse and cow and some agricultural implements. Erect agency, school, and hospital buildings in a central part of the reservation, also shops of various kinds. Employ a few real practical farmers (not court-house or political
farmers), and give them authority to put every able-bodied man to work on his own land at a given hour and the right to compel him to work a given number of hours each day. Let this work be directed by the farmer under the improved methods of modern farming, teaching the Indian how, when, and what to plant, and how to cultivate, harvest, and market his crop. Have the children of school age taught one half of each day the rudiments of a good English education and let the other half of the day be spent in learning some industrial pursuit. The boys should be taught blacksmithing, carpentering, and shoemaking, gardening, pruning, and irrigation, and the girls house-cleaning, sewing, baking, and washing. Let this policy be carried out for ten years, and each Indian will have a well-improved home, and the rising generation will be prepared to earn their living. With the present system of yearly stipends millions of dollars are expended annually and the Indian has not advanced one step towards civilization.

RETROSPECTION.

Two years have almost passed since we assumed the duties of this office. We then thought we knew something of the Indian, from personal contact with him for fourteen years. This experience was worth little to us as we soon found out that the Indian Department, many of whom never saw an Indian, knew more about him than we did. For many years the very name of Indian agent has savorod of fraud and robbery. When we assumed the office it took a strong personal character to hold its own against the malodorousness of the time. We are perfectly willing for some one else to try his hand at civilizing the Indian. If we have achieved any success, it has been through the earnest and intelligent co-operation of our accomplished agency physician and the unwavering fidelity of eleven heroic school teachers.

Very respectfully,

JOHN S. WARD,
U. S. Indian Agent.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

ROUND VALLEY AGENCY, CALIFORNIA,
August 11, 1857.

Sir: In compliance with instructions received in your circular letter of July 13 I have the honor to present this, my first annual report of the condition of affairs at this agency.

AGRICULTURE.

We have under cultivation about 1,200 acres of land, about 600 of which is cultivated as an agency farm, and the other 600 by individual Indians, from which they raise all their vegetables, such as corn, potatoes, melons, squashes, beans, tomatoes, turnips; peas, onions, etc., in large quantities, besides wheat and barley.

PRODUCTS.

The estimated production for this year is as follows: On reservation farm, 5,000 bushels of wheat, 1,000 bushels of barley, and 400 tons of hay. From 25 acres of hops the yield will be about 20,000 pounds of hops dry. By individual Indians, 3,000 bushels of wheat, 1,000 bushels of corn, 1,000 bushels of barley, 1,000 bushels of potatoes, 200 bushels of onions, 500 bushels of beans, 25,000 melons, 6,000 pumpkins and squashes, 50 of peas, and a few other varieties of vegetables in small quantities.

STOCK.

We had at the beginning of the present fiscal year 650 head of cattle, old and young; 8 oxen, 50 head of work-horses, 20 work-mules, 20 horse and 11 mule colts, and 146 head of hogs.

MILLS.

Our saw-mill still stands idle and is fast falling into decay, and only for the want of an engine and boiler, with the necessary belting, to begin sawing lumber at once, while the Indian houses hardly answer the purpose of sheltering them from the rain, and those of the agent and employees do not shelter them.

APPRENTICES.

Since assuming charge of the agency I have had 5 apprentices at work with the carpenter, 2 with the blacksmith, 2 in the harness-shop, and 10 with the herder.
I have had in operation since taking charge two day schools, with an average attendance of 67 scholars.

There are 70 children of school age at this agency, and a boarding school instead of a day school would prove far more beneficial. The moral training these children receive during school hours is more than offset by the vices of camp life, and I am powerless to prevent this without the aid of a boarding school, and I would urgently request that this matter be given the most favorable consideration of your office during the present year.

POLICE.

The Indian police force, consisting of 1 captain and 6 privates, have given fair satisfaction. Two of them I discharged for disobedience of orders and neglect of duty, and I left the agency before I took charge and has never returned. The force as it now stands does good service, and is doing much to maintain order.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATIONS.

There should be built here a hospital for the benefit of the old, blind and infirm Indians. As they are now situated in the camps it is impossible to give them the care they require or to keep them supplied with much comforts.

CIVILIZATION.

The Indians of this reservation have all adopted the white man's dress, and are what would be called civilized Indians, nearly all speaking the English language sufficiently well to be understood, and would be good, sober, and industrious people were it not for the low class of white "whisky sellers" who infest the borders of this reservation.

It seems impossible to convict any of these men, as the Indians will not testify against them, and it seems entire out of the question to get a white man to do so.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully,

C. H. YATES,
U. S. Indian Agent.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

TULE RIVER AGENCY, CALIFORNIA,
August 15, 1887.

SIR: I have the honor of forwarding herewith my twelfth annual report for this agency.

Although this reservation embraces over 40,000 acres of land only about 250 acres can be utilized for farming purposes. A large proportion is entirely worthless. There is, however, ample range for stock sufficient to maintain twice the number of Indians now occupying it.

A strip on the eastern border over 2 miles wide is chiefly valuable for its timber and of very little use to the Indians. This ought to be restored to the public domain. The Indians will never be able to realize any benefit from this part of the reservation until the lumbering interest is developed. I would recommend therefore that a strip a little more than 2 miles wide on the eastern border be thrown off, making the township line the eastern line of the reservation. If this were done mills would soon be erected, which would always give the Indians employment and furnish a good market for everything they could produce. Enough timber would still be left on the reservation to supply the Indians for every purpose needed for all time to come. Inspector Armstrong, when he was here last winter, favored this; and as it would be a benefit both to the Indians and whites, I hope he will be successful in having it secured.

CROPS.

The Indians have produced about 300 bushels wheat, 50 bushels corn, 30 bushels barley, 60 bushels potatoes, 20 bushels onions, 20 bushels beans, 30 bushels other vegetables, 500 melons, 600 pumpkins, and 30 tons hay.

Owing to extremes of wet and dry the agency farm was an entire failure.

Farming on this reservation can never be made a success. The area is too limited, and the land is of too poor a quality. Stock-raising is the only industry that will ever be remunerative to these Indians. And while some of them are accumulating property the majority are no better off than they were twelve years ago.
CIVILIZATION.

It is a question in my own mind whether it is possible for Indians to advance in civilization, situated as these are. In the first place, the very business followed for a livelihood necessitates isolation, and almost entire exclusion from civilized society. This is especially true of the female portion of the population. In the second place, the limited number of children of school age and their distance from each other renders it absolutely improbable to have any school advantages. Under such circumstances it cannot be expected that very rapid advancement will be made in higher civilization. The question of existence and ample support is no longer to be considered. That is already assured. That, however, does not mean civilization. They were in that condition before the white man invaded their soil. It is my honest conviction that it would be a thousand times better for these Indians, especially for the coming generation, if this entire reservation were sold at auction and the proceeds devoted to the purchase of good farms, where they could be permanently located and enjoy educational and other civilizing advantages. I would recommend this as the best possible move towards the advancement of these Indians. If this cannot be done, I would then recommend the restoration to the public domain of a strip of timber land on the eastern border of the reservation before mentioned, so as to furnish employment for the Indians as near home as possible.

STATISTICAL STATEMENT.

According to the recent census there are belonging to this reservation:

Number of males above eighteen years of age ..................................... 40
Number of females above fourteen years of age .............................. 45
Number of school children between the ages of six and sixteen .......... 22

This includes two families who are away from the reservation the most of the time but still enrolled here. Leaving out these two families, the actual number of school children constantly residing on the reservation amounts to 18 only. Of these 18, one-fourth are invalids and married, so that their attendance at school cannot be regularly secured. This reduces the school children of this reservation whose attendance at school can be relied upon to the small number of 13; and these are so scattered that during the inclement part of the year, and excessively warm weather of summer, it would be impossible to compel their regular attendance. Hence there has been no school here the past year, neither do I see any prospect of opening one in the future, unless an average of ten or twelve pupils be deemed sufficient. There is one school-house located at the agency near the center of the reservation.

IMPORTANT EVENTS.

The most important event, or at least the most exciting event of the year occurred on Christmas morning last. This was the killing of a medicine man who had been unsuccessful in curing one of his patients. And what makes it the more surprising, the two principal actors were the most intelligent Indians belonging to this reservation. The Indian doctor was no doubt an unprincipled man, but his murder was an outrage of which Indians with half the advantages these have enjoyed should be ashamed. The murderers were imprisoned for a short time in the county jail, but for want of jurisdiction by the State court the case was dismissed.

As I expect this to be my last annual report I close with feelings of thankfulness and regret; thankful that my relations with the Department have been so pleasant, and regretting that I have not accomplished more in the work intrusted to my care.

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

C. G. BELKNAP,
U. S. Indian Agent.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.