arrival in this nation; but ere long the female establishment will carry in number the victory over the male department. We have always desired it, for a good mother will raise good children. The kind and affectionate treatment which those mothers and children receive from their former female teachers cannot but have salutary and lasting effects.

Whilst we begin to taste some half-ripe fruits from the tree of education, our hearts are grieved because we can afford no assistance to those youths who leave our school with the view of helping their parents. We have used much solicitude and energy to attain this end; the small allowance of $55, for board, tuition, clothing, &c., of each child is not sufficient to meet our expenses. We have been successful until now to collect donations, exclusive from government allowance to the amount of $800 per annum, but the hope of receiving these donations no longer exists, nor do I see how to support this mission during the current year, having sustained the loss of our entire crop by a plague of grasshoppers.

J. SCHOENMAKERS.

Major ANDREW J. DORN

No. 91.

BRAZOS AGENCY, TEXAS, *September* 10, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor, in compliance with the standing regulations of the department, to submit the following as my annual report:

You have been advised from time to time, during the past year, of the changes that have taken place in our Indian relations, and I deem it unnecessary again to allude to any of the occurrences brought to your notice on my arrival at Washington on the 23d January last; and on my return, the effects of the military movements last winter were duly reported by Special Agent Hill and myself.

Under your instructions of February 2, (as soon as I could possibly make the necessary arrangements,) I commenced the new policy of colonizing the Texas Indians on the lands set apart for them, but it was the 1st of March before it was possible to commence, which was so late in the season that it was impossible to expect any considerable success in farming this year.

As soon as the reservations were opened for settlement all the Indians immediately in the neighborhood assembled and selected their lands for farming purposes; and, although late, I instructed the special agent in charge to have some land prepared, and to assist such of the Indians as were willing to work in planting corn; the result was that there were about 400 acres of land planted, but owing to the extremely dry season experienced in this section, the yield has not been commensurate with the exertions made by the Indians to make their own bread. The Caddoes, Anadahkoes, Wacoes and Tahwaccorroes are the tribes who have been most foward in farming, and there is no doubt but they will, after the next crop, be able to

make their own bread. Accompanying, I beg leave to submit Special Agent Hill's report of 31st August, which will inform you more in detail in regard to his operations.

There are now settled on this reservation, as you will perceive by reference to the census rolls herewith enclosed, 794 Indians of the folcowing tribes, to wit: 205 Anadahkos, 188 Caddoes, 136 Tahwaclorrocs, 94 Wacoes, and 171 Tonkahwas. They embrace a majority of the above tribes, and it is confidently expected that before the end of the present fiscal year, the whole of them will be settled down permanently. As regards the Indians already settled down on this reservation, I must say that, for good behavior, morality, and industry they have far exceeded my most sanguine expectations; there has not been, within my knowledge, a single case of drunkenness, and not a gallon of spirits sold on the reservation; this is simply the result of the wishes of the Indians themselves, as there has been no police, and there has been but one depredation committed, as far as known, upon any of the white settlers in the neighborhood; when application was made to the chief, the offender was immediately given up and reparation made. I must say, that a more peaceful and quiet settlement does not exist in any portion of Texas than is now found on this reservation, and all that visit it are astonished at the progress made by the Indians in the arts of civilized life. So far as the tribes above named are concerned, the policy now pursued can no longer be called an experiment.

There are now settled on the reservation on Clear Fork, Brazos, 277 Comanches. The season was so far advanced before they could be located that it was impossible to commence farming operations this season, but from the disposition evinced by them, and the willingness with which they have submitted to all the requisitions of the agents, and from their anxiety to remain as permanent settlers, I have no doubt of success in their settlement, and that in a short time the whole southern band will settle down. You will perceive, by the census roll, that their numbers are gradually increasing. It has been very difficult to do away with the mistrust engendered by the military movements last winter, and it will require time and great care to make them understand the advantages of the present policy. I do not consider our exertions, so far, a test of what may be done to settle them down, as they were only removed to their lands about the 1st of June, and the changes in the Indian agents have rendered it impossible to give them a resident agent on the reservation; consequently, their settlement has not, as yet, assumed that degree of permanency which is apparent on the lower reservation. Having to devote my whole time to the duties that should be properly discharged by the resident agents, I have had no opportunity of negotiating with any of the bands who are now absent. I confidently expect, during the present fall, a large increase to the Comanche settlements; I have been for about two months in correspondence with the chief, Sanaco, who went off last winter; he has promised to come in this fall. In accordance with your instructions, (to establish temporary rules for the government of the reservations,) I, in concert with Special Agent Hill, have done so; the Indians acknowledging the treaty of 1846 as still

binding, I deemed it most proper to base our action on that treaty, and to place the additional articles, deemed necessary for the government of the Indians settled down, as a supplement to that treaty; consequently, on the 27th day of August, all the chiefs and principal men of the several bands at Brazos agency were assembled in council, and the accompanying document and letter, which I beg leave to submit as a portion of this report, marked A, was agreed upon with great unanimity. I have full confidence that the Indians, parties to this agreement, will adhere strictly to their agreements, and I would respectfully recommend our action to your approval.

The depredations committed on our frontier during the past spring have been confined entirely to the Comanches, with the exception of some forays made by Indians on the Rio Grande, who are supposed to be parties of Lipans, Seminoles, &c., who have located in Mexico. During the months of May and June last, there was a large number of horses stolen, and one or two men murdered; in two instances the trail was followed to a considerable distance into the country occupied by the northern Comanches, but there being no efficient military force on this portion of the frontier, the depredators could not be overtaken. The evidence is full that they were northern Comanches, and my investigations show that they are the parties who have stolen most of the horses taken from our frontier citizens during the past year. This has been the case for the last two years. The bands, parties to the Fort Laramie treaty, come far south during the winter, and remain quiet until the time arrives for them to go north to meet the agents and receive their annual presents; so soon as their families are placed out of reach, the warriors are sent down to foray on our settlers, and when pursued they go so far north that they cannot be overtaken. Those Indians receive $10,000 annuity annually; they have stolen more property this summer from our settlement than that amount would pay for. I cannot possibly see any good arising from an annual distribution of presents to those prairie bands when they are turned loose to depredate again as soon as they receive the goods; it only enables them the better to subsist in their roving life, and, in fact, proves highly detrimental to the course of policy now being pursued with the Indians on this frontier, but affords no additional security to either travellers or the actual settlers. I think the policy at this day a bad one, and would respectfully suggest that the annuity be given only to those who settle down and cultivate the soil. Those prairie bands of Comanches and Kiowas, as they are now situated, commit very serious depredations on the settlements of Texas, and continue their forays into Mexico. They have now a large number of horses and prisoners that have been stolen, both from our frontier and from Mexico, and it is certainly time that the general government should take efficient action, not only to make them restore the stolen property and prisoners, but to abandon their roving life and come fully under the control of the government. A mere chastisement by military force will not accomplish the object; they must be provided for similar to the mode now being pursued towards the Indians of Texas, and forced, if force is necessary, to abandon forever their pre-

datory habits. It is all a mistake to suppose that the Comanches cannot be controlled and settled down; they are as intelligent, and more crafty, than any other of our prairie bands, and, at the same time, will maintain their roving and depredating habits as long as they can. They will yield to the whites and avoid a war with us whenever they find that the gevernment has resolved to use force, if necessary, to comply with its policy. I have watched closely the disposition of the Comanches now settled; and their head chief, being a great personal friend and a man of much intelligence, I have conversed freely with him; he fully sustains me in the above views, and says, "if the United States will act energetically and in good faith," all the Comanches will settle down; but it is absolutely necessary to have a police sufficient to punish those who are refractory.

Although six months have only passed since the initiation of the present policy, it has attracted the attention of all the Indians within reach, and I have had application from the Wichitas, and a number of other Indians who do not belong to Texas, for permission to settle on the reservations, but in conducting the settlements I conceived it to be my duty to prohibit the introduction of any Indians not properly belonging to Texas.

There can be no doubt of the success of the policy, so far as the Texas Indians proper are concerned, and I would earnestly commend it to the fostering care of the general government as the most humane and economical that could possibly be followed, and one that, in a very short time, will relieve our frontier forever from the scenes of murder and theft that have retarded the extension of civilization for so many years.

As I have from time to time, in my monthly reports, made such suggestions as were deemed necessary at the time, to render the service efficient, I deem it unnecessary to recapitulate.

Herewith you will find annual estimates of funds required for the support of Indians settled, pay of agents, interpreters, &c., &c., which will explain themselves; you will perceive that the whole amount required is $89,658 50, embracing $5,000 for the establishment of a mission and school, against $101,430, appropriated last year for Texas Indian service; this estimate is made to embrace the employment of three farmers and five laborers to assist and instruct the Indians in the preparation of their farms. Although I have deemed it proper to estimate for bread stuff, it is confidently anticipated that, with the assistance afforded them in the preparation of their farms, there will be a surplus of corn raised on both reservations next year; as the tribes, parties to the supplemental treaty, evinced every disposition to sustain themselves.

Provision has already been made to furnish the Indians now settled with stock cattle, wagons, and teams, ploughs and all necessary farming utensils this fall, and you will perceive by reference to the 8th article of the supplemental treaty that they have given full guarantees for their proper use; besides, by the employment of reliable men as farmers, who will be placed in charge of the articles given them for farming purposes, it will insure their proper application.

Enclosed, marked "B," you will find a communication from the Rev. John W. Phillips of the Methodist Episcopal church, in regard to the establishment of a mission, and my answer thereto. You will perceive, by reference to the census rolls, that there are on the two reservations 344 children under 12 years of age, and all of the tribes now settled here are anxious to have a school for their children; the Comanches are equally as anxious as the other tribes. Mr. Phillips, in all probability, will submit, in the course of the present fall, propositions for establishing a mission and school at Brazos agency. I would commend the matter to your favorable consideration, as nothing would tend more to give permanency to our efforts in behalf of the Indians of Texas than the introduction of schools and the introduction of the English language among the children.

My efforts, and those of the agent who has co-operated with me, have been directed particularly to give individuality to the Indians, and to teach them the value of property, and as soon as possible, to encourage each head of a family to settle and cultivate his own farm, raise his own stock, &c., as I am fully convinced that all progress in civilization must be slow while tribal rights are maintained; and my convictions are strong that the policy of the general government should be, at as early a period as possible, to dissolve all tribal rights, and to bring the Indians under the influences and protection of civil laws as individuals.

I have always held the opinion that it was preposterous to acknowledge or treat with tribes of Indians as a nation, nor could I ever bring myself to acknowledge that they should exercise any vested rights that could not be adjudicated by the civil laws of the State or Territory in which they reside; although that is my firm conviction, yet, until that policy can be carried into effect, and proper legislation had in States and Territories where Indians are located, it would be proper that the intercourse laws should be proclaimed and enforced; and I much regret that action was not taken to extend them over the reservations in Texas, as provided for by the State in the grant of land and jurisdiction. It is absolutely necessary for the Indians now settled on the reservations to have the protection of law; the trade and intercourse with them must be regulated, and their property and lives protected; and in the absence of any State laws that would insure them protection, I would earnestly recommend the extension of the intercourse laws over the Texas reservations at the next session of Congress. The reservations are now being surrounded by a white population, and unless there is some mode of giving protection to the Indians, it must eventually create serious difficulties.

In all my actions as the supervising agent, I have been governed strictly by your instructions of the 2d of February, and have adopted a strict system of accountability, and have made no expenditure for any other purpose than those comtemplated by the appropriation.

hat the Indians who have settled on the reservations have made progress commensurate with the expenditure is beyond doubt; in fact they have far exceeded the hopes of the most sanguine, and it is only necessary to visit the reservations and see the improved condition of

the Indians, and compare it to what it was, to convince the most skeptical that the one now pursued is the true policy for our wild Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
Supervising Agent Texas Indians.

CHARLES E. MIX, Esq.,
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

No. 92.

BRAZOS AGENCY, TEXAS, *August* 31, 1855.

SIR: In obedience to the regulations of the Indian Bureau, I deem it proper for me to submit a condensed statement of the operations of this agency since my last annual report, previous to being relieved from duty, in obedience to your instructions of this date.

A detailed account of my movements on this portion of the frontier, subsequent to my last annual report, is given in my communication of the 15th December last, up to which time it will be seen that nothing intervened to check the constantly increasing friendly dispositions and desire for permanent location on the part of each tribe, specially in charge of this agency, as well as of the Peneticoks or southern band of Comanches, which had located on this portion of the frontier preparatory to final settlement, visited and conferred with freely in an assembled condition, in the latter part of November, and again early in December last. In January, Sanaco, one of the chiefs of this band, with probably about eight hundred souls, fled precipitately from his encampment on the waters of the Clear Fork, sending runners to advise Katemse (in charge of the remaining portion of their band) to follow him. This alarm was caused by a communication from a German, who had taken upon himself the responsibility of a trade with these people, (a Mr. Leyendecker,) made through a party of Sanaco's people, who had visited Chadbourne for trade, as follows, as near as close investigation has enabled me to procure it: taking a "paper," and looking at it for some time, he (Leyendecker) said, "if you want anything more, trade quickly, mount your horse, go to Sanaco's camp, and tell him the white people are collecting together to kill him and all his people, I see it on this paper; tell him, if he wishes to live, to go to the north as quick as possible—do not eat, sleep, or rest, until you give him this talk from his friend." Katemse chose to remain, submitting his claims for protection under the treaty of 1846 and the more recent guaranties of the government through the agents. The assembling of white people, alluded to by Mr. L., was doubtless that of the expedition against Indians, alluded to by you in your instructions of the 7th January, received by me on the 22d same month, requiring my coöperation in the objects of the expedition, so far as necessary, and the use of all proper means for

the protection and security of the friendly tribes, enclosing a copy of instructions to agent Howard. Having received no proper notice of the expedition, and that communicated by you being founded on common report, and believing it due the Indian service that the agents residing among the Indians were entitled to more definite information in reference to the real objects and intended movements, I at once addressed Captain Calhoun of 2d dragoons, who, report said, would command the expedition, and agent Howard at Fort Chadbourne, to neither of which did I receive a reply.

Early in the month of February I learned that the expedition had moved from Chadbourne, and not being able to procure anything *written*, I sought a personal interview with the commanding officer, by visiting in person his camp at "Camp Wait," near "Phantom Hill," who informed me that his orders were such that he should feel it his duty to chastise in a summary manner such Indians as he might meet, particularly the southern Comanches, and that he had issued similar orders to his command. After protesting against the molestation of any of the friendly tribes, enumerating them, and communicating such information as I possessed relative to the position and condition of hostile tribes, I returned to the main Brazos, where it required all my efforts, with such aids as I could procure, to allay the numerous doubts and fears arising from the many, and to them, unfavorable reports, in circulation, relating to the objects of the expedition; some of which are made known in the accompanying copy of instructions from the assistant adjutant general to the officer commanding the expedition, dated at Corpus Christi, January 30, 1855, marked A; and how far this corresponds, in its spirit, with the treaty of 1846, and subsequent guaranties, may be readily noted by the Department of the Interior. I also enclose copies of my reports of the 25th of January, marked B, and of February 11, 1855, marked C, as statements made at the time of facts as they transpired.

I have been induced to say this much in detail, in this report, (which should be general,) by some remarks made by Gen. P. F. Smith, commanding this military department, in his reports to the government, in which he charges the Indian agents of Texas with neglect of duty and interference with military operations, "lounging about cities," &c., and have felt myself justified in doing so, having been the resident agent on this portion of the frontier, where nearly all the friendly tribes of Indians in Texas were at that time communicated with, and having been constantly on active duty during the year, up to 1st June, when I obtained a short leave, keeping myself, the supervising agent and the commanding officer at Fort Belknap, (the nearest military post,) fully advised of every change and movement in this part of the Indian service; and had Gen. Smith possessed himself, by his personal observation, of the same knowledge of our Indian relations, the fact of his being in command of this department justifies me in saying, that the views of justice and policy, which seem to have predominated in the plans of the expedition originated in Corpus Christi, would not have been entertained by him; or had the facts been freely and properly communicated to the Indian agents in charge of the friendly tribes, (to which they were certainly entitled, before making war on those

tribes with which they moved and slept,) many of the evil effects which have followed in its train would have been avoided.

In obedience to your instructions of March, 1855, covering a copy of those from the Indian Bureau to you of February 2, 1855, I have located and settled on this reservation seven hundred and ninety-two Indians; there are yet north of Red river near two hundred Wacoes, Tawaccoroes, Caddoes, and Anadahcoes, entitled to settlement here. Recent runners returned here from that section report that the Wichita chief informed them that he has been told, through Black Beaver's guide and interpreter, at Fort Arbuckle, that arrangements are making to settle them there with the Wichitas, and that much is to be given them there, &c., if they remain. How this is I cannot say, but would suggest the propriety of ascertaining the facts, being, if true, in conflict with the recommendations from this agency, and if false, needs a remedy. The people that are settled evince a willing disposition to aid the efforts in their behalf by every means in their power, so far as their limited knowledge extends, in the acquisition of which they are making rapid progress. They are busily engaged in building houses, enclosing lands, &c. I ploughed and planted in corn, at an expenditure of $1,750, two hundred and ninety-five acres of land. The late period of planting, and dry weather, caused the yield to be probably but little over one thousand bushels, and much of this, with their own patches, was consumed in roasting ears, on account of the difficulty of procuring for issue a regular supply of bread stuffs. One hundred acres in addition have been ploughed without planting, at an expense of three hundred and eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents. The lands were cultivated by the Indians, and upon which they raised a good supply of melons, pumpkins, &c.

Public buildings have been put up for use at this agency, viz: house for agents, kitchen, storeroom, two houses for employés, and blacksmith's shop, at a cost of eighteen hundred and sixty dollars. The Comanches were removed from this to the reservation on Clear Fork in May last, previous to which time they had been temporarily located here.

I have in employment at this agency two farmers, instructing the Indians in farm labor, use of tools, plans for their villages, houses, farms, &c., and two laborers to aid the farmers, and one blacksmith repairing guns, farming utensils, wagons, and other smith's work found necessary for government use. Their appointments are made temporarily, as I have received no instructions to make them permanent. I would recommend that this be done; that one or two additional laborers be employed; that the farmers and blacksmiths may give bonds and receipt for property, and be required to report regularly. This will be the more necessary on the procurement of the proper supply of farming utensils, iron, steel, &c., this fall, necessary for the service.

As I am about to retire from duty as an Indian agent, and go to my farm and family near the frontier of Texas, in the vicinity of which I have lived for nearly twenty years, and expect to remain during life, I hope I will be indulged here in expressing my ardent desire that nothing may intervene to cause the United States to change the pre-

sent pacific policy towards our Indian population. I have been upon the borders of Texas in war, and felt the evils. I was a party to much of the negotiation with these people in 1842, and have been present at many councils since. The last twenty-six months I have spent almost constantly among them, and think I know them and the country, the difficulties to be encountered in bringing military force to bear upon them, and the facilities with which their movements can be controlled and their dispositions changed, their minds enlightened, and condition improved by kindness. We have a country, once occupied by them, worth millions. Let us improve *their* condition by its acquisition, and save blood and treasure that would be expended by *forcing* a war upon them, for if had with those settled on this reserve it must be forced. I have been long convinced of the importance of the adoption of the present policy; to be in a condition to recommend it was the great object of accepting the agency; yet the progress made by the Indians at this agency has far exceeded my own expectations. They are very poor, but not indolent. They are not a thoughtless people; they will deal justly by those who grant them justice. With proper aid for a short period, they will produce of themselves a surplus, and I have no doubt that pacific efforts, properly directed by the Departments of War and Interior in concerted action, through agents who understand their execution, would, in a few years, bring every Indian in Texas or upon its borders to the position now occupied by those at this agency.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. HILL,
Special Agent for Texas Indians.

R. S. NEIGHBORS, Esq.,
Special and Supervising Agent.

No. 93.

BRAZOS AGENCY, TEXAS, *September* 30, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the following as my report. On the 1st day of September, 1855, I entered upon the duties of my office as special Indian agent at this agency. Everything went on smoothly until the 14th instant, when an express arrived here from Fort Belknap, and informed me of the murder, by two Indians, of an old settler, Mr. Skidmore, ten miles above the post.

On the receipt of the news, which was late in the night, I dispatched runners to the different tribes or bands of Indians, actual settlers on this reservation, informing them that there had been a murder committed by the upper Comanches, and wished their assistance early next morning to pursue the murderers. A little before sunrise the next morning I had sixty-six well armed and mounted men ready for the pursuit. After issuing them provisions and ammunition, we started for the residence of Mr. Skidmore, (where he was murdered,) took the trail, and followed them for two days, and found that they

had taken a course south to the settlements. The Indians were very eager to overtake the murderers; we rode at a brisk rate, but finding that their course led to the settlements, they thought it would be impossible to overtake them, from the fact that they would steal fresh horses and remount, and our horses had by this time, many of them, broken down.

Again, on or about the 20th instant, a party of Comanches stole from the Indians at this reservation some forty head of horses; I immediately sent a party of thirteen Indians in pursuit, who have not returned up to this date.

These depredations, so frequently occurring, I can attribute to nothing else than the insufficiency of the troops now stationed on this frontier to protect the settlers, and also that protection promised the Indians now settled on this reservation. I have, therefore, thought proper to let small parties go out scouting, as I have been requested, both by the friendly Indians as well as citizens. These depredations, so frequently occurring, have a tendency to keep the Indians excited; otherwise, they are perfectly contented with their new homes.

I have the honor also to enclose you my account current and returns, which I hope, on examination, will be found correct.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. ROSS, *Special Indian Agent.*

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
Supervising Agent Texas Indians, Brazos Agency, Texas.

P. S. During this month there has been no additional arrivals to any of the tribes or bands of Indians now settled on this reservation.

S. P. ROSS.

No. 94.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Santa Fé, September, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following brief annual report of the condition of Indian affairs in this superintendency during the past year.

At the date of my last year's report, both the Jicarilla and Mescalero bands of the Apache tribe of Indians were in open hostilities, robbing and murdering our citizens whenever a favorable opportunity presented itself, and the Mohuache band of Utahs were occupying a very equivocal attitude, which soon resulted in hostilities on their part also. These bands continued their depredations with great success until the month of January, 1855, when Lieutenant Sturgis, with a party of dragoons and citizens, followed a party of about ten Mescaleros, who had been committing depredations near this place, whom he overtook, and killed nearly the whole party; and during the month of February, Captain Ewell made an expedition into the Mescalero country, with a party of dragoons, when he was attacked