NEW MEXICO.

No. 72.

 Brazos Agency, Texas, September 10, 1858.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit you this, my report, as farmer for the Wacos, Tahwaccarros, and Tonkahuas. The three tribes have about three hundred acres in cultivation. Their wheat yields them ten bushels per acre; the Tonkahuas not so good as the Wacos. Their corn crop made about fifteen bushels per acre. The stock given them by government looks fine, and is increasing. These three tribes are improving their farms to some extent. They have built but little this year. Their houses are good.

I must report to you that the tools and wagons belonging to the Indian farms are in good order.

All which is respectfully submitted by your obedient servant,

H. R. MOSS,

Farmer for the Wacos, Tahwaccarros, and Tonkahuas.

S. P. Ross, Esq.,
Special Indian Agent, Brazos Agency, Texas.

No. 73.

NEW MEXICO SUPERINTENDENCY.

Indian Superintendency,
Santa Fé, New Mexico, September 27, 1858.

Sir: I expected before forwarding this my annual report of the Indian affairs of this Territory for the present year, to have been able to visit most of the tribes under my charge, but the unexpected delay in the receipt of the annuity goods leaves me only time to see the Utahs and Jicarilla Apaches.

The goods reached here on the 27th of August, when that portion of them intended for the Utahs and Jicarillas was immediately despatched to Agents Archuleta and Carson, at their respective agencies, and early in the present month I left the superintendency to meet the Indians and be present at the distribution of the goods.

On the 8th of September I reached the agency of Archuleta and Sub-Agent Pfeiffer, at Abiquiu, accompanied by R. C. Miller, esq., agent for the Indians of the upper Arkansas. We found assembled at the agency about twelve hundred Indians, composed of the Capote band of Utahs and Jicarilla Apaches. On the 9th we met them in council. They appeared to be contented and satisfied, and seemed to have increased confidence in the friendly purposes of the government. Agent Miller desired to have a talk with the Utahs on the subject of a difficulty that now exists, and has for a long time existed, with them and the Indians under his charge, with a view to a reconciliation. The Utahs seemed not only willing but anxious to make peace with all the Indians of the plains, and agreed to meet them in council
whenever notified of the time and place of meeting, provided Agent Carson would accompany them and be present in the council.

I then spoke to them about making peace with the Navajoes, with whom they are also at war. This proposition they positively refused to consider, alleging that the Navajoes had always deceived them, and they could have no confidence in their promises, even under the solemn pledges of a treaty of peace. There were some complaints against the Capotes for property stolen by them during the winter and summer, but so far as I could learn the chiefs had in every case required the return of the property stolen by their people when it could be found and identified.

The Jicarillas, like the Capotes, expressed themselves well satisfied with the kind and humane action of the government in reference to them during the past year. They have been planting corn, though not as extensively as we desired. The reason assigned for this omission was the war that exists with the Navajoes and Utahs. They did not seem to regard themselves as parties to the war, but having been so long identified with the Utahs they were looked upon as enemies by the Navajoes, and in consequence were compelled to abandon most of their planting grounds. For the same reason they were forced to fall back upon the settlements, causing much annoyance and trouble to the citizens during the summer.

On the 10th of September the annuity presents were distributed to both these bands, and, judging from all outward appearance, the presents were received in the proper spirit. They gave every desirable evidence of submission and obedience to the requirements of the agents, and seemed not only pleased but highly satisfied with the extent and liberal amount of the presents.

On the 11th we left the Abiquiu agency for the Covejos to meet the Mohuaches and Tobawaches. We arrived on the 13th and found already assembled some twelve or thirteen hundred Indians. On the 14th we met them in council. I had not seen any of the Tobawaches since the attempt made by the Mormons to seduce them from their allegiance to the government.

I congratulated them upon the successful resistance they had made to the evil and wicked counsels of those bad men, by which I assured them they had secured the confidence of their Great Father, and that they would be rewarded for their fidelity.

Some complaints were made against the Mohuaches of robberies committed upon the property of Mexicans, but in most cases Agent Carson had procured the return of the property to the owners.

Many thefts were also charged upon Mexicans of property stolen from the Indians. While we were in council several horses were stolen from them by Mexicans. It appeared quite evident that as many causes of complaint existed on one side as the other.

On the 15th the annuity presents were distributed and received by the Indians in a quiet and orderly manner. They appeared well pleased, and expressed great satisfaction with the quality of the goods and the liberality of the government.

On the evening of the council an express came in from Captain Duncan, in command of Fort Garland, giving notice that a large body
of Kiowas and Cheyennes had passed the fort in pursuit of the Utahs. Agent Carson immediately notified the Utahs to place them on their guard against a surprise. The object of these expeditions by the Indians of the plains is plunder, and they should not be allowed to pass a military post for such an object.

The Utahs expressed some surprise that those Indians should make an expedition against them at the very time their agent was asking for a treaty of peace.

The Tobawaches, as stated in my report last year, is by far the largest band of Utahs that belong to this superintendency; they number from twelve to fifteen hundred; have heretofore lived entirely by the chase, and up to the present time have had but little intercourse with the whites; consequently they are not addicted to any of the vices that follow the contact of savages with civilized man.

Notwithstanding the good conduct of the Capotes and Mohuaches on the occasion of receiving their annual presents, it is the opinion of Agent Carson, who has been much with them in former years, that there is a growing spirit of insubordination strangely manifested among them, which he fears will have to be subdued by the military arm of the government before they can be induced to settle and become cultivators of the soil.

The Capotes have given evidence of this spirit since they received their presents in refusing to leave the settlements as directed. The morning I left the agency I met the principal chief, and repeated my request that he would immediately leave with all his people.

He told me that they were then preparing to start, and would all go during the day. I have since learned, however, that they did not go, but are there still living upon the corn fields, and otherwise causing much trouble to the citizens, and it is feared that a detachment of troops will have to be sent up to remove them.

The important of removing the Utahs and Apaches from the settlements, and confining them to small agricultural districts, is becoming every day more apparent. Their contact with the Mexicans is rendering them less submissive, and the vice of intemperance is spreading amongst them to an alarming extent. So much are they addicted to this vice, that they will sell everything they possess for whiskey, even to the last article of clothing they have on their person.

An Indian thus imposed upon, when he becomes sobered, feels desperate, and seeks the first opportunity to recover his loss, either by cheat or some act of violence; and, although the Mexicans are themselves in most cases the victims to the outrages that follow these debaucheries, it is found impossible to detect the persons engaged in the illicit sale of liquor. The Indians themselves, although faithless in almost everything else, refuse to give information against these contraband traders. It is needless, however, to trouble you with an argument in support of the policy of colonizing these tribes. I will therefore simply say that if they are to be made a self-sustaining people, the work of training them cannot commence too soon; for the longer it is delayed, the less inclined will they be to labor, and especially will this be so while the government continues to feed them.

In the work of colonizing, as I stated in a former report, it will be
necessary to have the co-operation of the military to check and control
the spirit of insubordination that will doubtless present itself when
the Indians are restrained, as they must be when colonized.

Important to the success of the plan of settling the Indians will be
the severance of all communication between them and the Mexicans,
and in my opinion this can never be accomplished without the aid of
the military.

The truth is the success of our Indian policy in these remote Territo-
ries depends almost entirely upon a cordial co-operation among the
civil and military agents of the government, and it seems to me that
the mode most effectual to secure this co-operation will be by restoring
to the War Department the control of the Indian service.

I beg leave respectfully to call the attention of the honorable com-
missioner to the report of Agent Carson, herewith submitted, who has
charge of the Mohuache and Tobawache band of Utahs. Agent Archule-
eta, who is in charge of the Capote band of Utahs and Jicarilla
Apaches, has not submitted his report.

The annuity goods intended for the southern Apaches, under charge
of Agent Steck, were despatched to the agency early in September,
and it is my intention to leave the superintendency in a few days to
meet the Indians previous to the distribution of the presents.

The report of Agent Steck is so full and satisfactory with regard to
those tribes, that it is perhaps unnecessary for me to say more than to
recommend to the careful consideration of the commissioner the
suggestions contained in that report.

It was my intention, had the annuity goods reached us at an earlier
day, to have called a general council of the several bands of Apaches,
that range west of the Rio Grande, with a view to some understanding
as to their permanent location. We apprehend but little difficulty in
accomplishing their settlement; but, to guard against subsequent
complaint, they should have a voice in the condition of their settlement.

It will be seen, from Agent Steck's report, that the vice of intem-
perance is quite as prevalent with the southern tribes as it is with
those of the north. This great evil forms one of the strongest reasons
for their immediate removal, and, if possible, their entire exclusion
from all intercourse with those who would be instrumental in entailing
upon them such a curse.

Agent Walker, in charge of the Tucson agency, has not submitted
his annual report: I however, enclose a letter from him, of recent
date, which gives us some information with regard to the Indians
under his charge. He computes the number far above what we had
supposed them to be. It seems, however, that their resources are quite
sufficient for their own support, and, with a little encouragement, they
may be induced to raise a surplus for the supply of emigrants and
others visiting the new Territory. The farming implements intended
for them are still here, no chance to freight them down having yet
offered. We will, however, forward them in time for use next spring,
when it is my intention to visit the agency.

Frequent depredations have been perpetrated, during the past spring
and summer, in the neighborhood of Tucson and Fort Buchanan, by
the Pinal Apaches, a band that range north of the Gila, with whom
our agents have not yet held any intercourse. They are a branch of the great Coyotero band, and may perhaps be induced to attend the general council that we design holding this winter or the coming spring, after which we may be better informed about the Indians in that region.

The commissioner is aware that hostilities now exist between the authorities of the United States and the Navajoes. I was anxious to communicate some satisfactory information about the progress and probable result of this war, before closing this report, but I have already delayed its preparation three weeks beyond the time that it should have been forwarded, and the war seems less likely to come to a speedy close than it did at the commencement.

From the letters of Agent Yost, which are already before the department, the commissioner will be able to form his own opinion as to the immediate cause of the present difficulty. But as the character of the Navajoes may not be well understood at Washington, I propose to submit a few facts in reference to them that have been accumulating since our acquisition of this Territory. When Governor Kearny took possession of New Mexico he found a war existing, and which had existed for many years, between the Mexicans and Navajoes, and, judging from the general's promises to the Mexicans, which were often repeated, he must have considered it an easy matter to relieve them from the war, and to protect them against all further depredations from this formidable foe. He however did not remain long enough in the Territory to find out his mistake, for mistake it certainly was. When on a visit to the settlements below this city, with a large detachment of troops, the Navajoes made a descent upon the valley of the Rio Grande, and, in sight of the general's command, drove off some of his own stock and a considerable number belonging to citizens. This, together with several other robberies about the same time, caused General Kearny to order out a detachment of men under Colonel Doniphan to move against the Navajoes. This movement was made in two divisions: one under Major Gilpin, which took the route by Abiquin, and entered the country to the north; and the other under Colonel Doniphan himself, which went in far south. They made an ineffectual march through the country, and finally met the Indians at Bear Spring, where they concluded a treaty of peace, the conditions of which, however, were never observed by the Indians, for they continued to murder and steal as before.

Early in the following year, 1847, Major Walker, with a detachment of volunteers, made another campaign against them, and penetrated their country as far as the Cañon de Chelle.

This expedition also proved a failure, only serving to increase the contempt which the Indians had acquired for the American troops.

The next year, 1848, Colonel Newby, with a much larger force of volunteers, made a third campaign against this troublesome foe, which like the two former, effected nothing but the enactment of a second treaty of peace, to which the Indians paid no attention but continued their depredations in an increased ratio.

These raids had become so alarming in 1849 as to induce Colonel Washington, who was then here as governor and military command-
ant, to take the field himself, which he did with a considerable force of regular troops and volunteers. The colonel like his predecessors was unsuccessful.

He however marched through the Indian country and finally met a part of them at the Cañon de Chelle and concluded a third treaty of peace; which, like those which had preceded it, was not worth the paper upon which it was written; indeed, a party of the same Indians who were present when the treaty was signed, reached the settlements in advance of the colonel’s command and stole a large number of mules that were grazing near this place, almost in sight of the flag staff which stands in the Plaza.

After this, in the winter of 1851–’52, Colonel Sumner of the army and Governor Calhoun met a large party of warriors and several of the principal chiefs at Jemez and proposed another treaty of peace, to the great amusement of the Indians. Many of them refused to consider the proposition, but finally, after an exciting council among themselves, they agreed to sign and make binding the treaty made with Colonel Washington, alleging that it was previously made with Indians who had no authority to treat for the nation. But the effect was the same, murders and robberies continued to increase, until Colonel Sumner was compelled, in defence of the suffering interests of the citizens, to move against them, which he did, early in 1852, at the head of a considerable force of regular troops. They also penetrated as far as the famous Cañon de Chelle; but the colonel believing his force insufficient to meet the enemy, concluded to retreat, which it was thought by some he did rather hurriedly. About this time Fort Defence was built and which for a time produced more effect upon the Indians than all the expeditions that had been made against them.

Early in the spring of 1853, the late agent H. L. Dodge, received the appointment of agent for the Navajoes. This was a good appointment; Mr. Dodge was well acquainted with the Indians and was able to exercise great influence over them. Depredations were for a short time considerably lessened but never entirely ceased. About the first of May, they murdered a Mexican by the name of Roman Martin and robbed his property. Governor Lane who was then superintendent, took immediate steps to recover the murderer of Martin, for which purpose he sent two special agents into the nation, who with a detachment of troops met the Indians and made a formal demand for the murderer. The Indians refused to deliver him, alleging that he was a member of an influential family and could not be given up.

After the return of the agents with this report, Governor Lane sent for Colonel Sumner and demanded the chastisement of the Indians for the murder of Martin. This was in the summer of 1853. Colonel Sumner immediately commenced preparations for a formidable campaign, and had his plans well advanced when he was relieved from the command by General Garland. Governor Lane was also succeeded by Governor Meriwether.

Soon after the new governor or superintendent took charge of the Indian affairs of the Territory, he was visited by a large delegation of the principal men of the nation, and in council with them agreed to extend his pardon for all past offences, including the murder of
Martin. This, it is believed, had a very unfortunate influence upon the Indians; they had been told in positive terms by the agents of the government, backed by the presence of the troops, that if the murderer was not given up they would be punished, and then without any known reason or explanation, to forgive the offence, showed a want of confidence in our own ability to inflict the punishment we had promised. At any rate the Indians continued to rob as they had always done.

In 1854, they killed a soldier at Fort Defiance. Major Kendrick, who was then in command at the fort, called the chiefs together, and made a similar demand for the murderer of the soldier, which was persisted in until the Indians found that something must be done to appease the outraged feelings of the troops.

The chiefs therefore came forward and told the commanding officer that the murderer would be given up, and a day was fixed for his execution by hanging. But what perhaps should have been regarded as strange, the Indians asked to be the executioners themselves, which was granted. On the day appointed for the execution, they brought forward and hung in the presence of the troops, not the murderer of the soldier, but a Mexican captive, who had been with them for many years. This imposition was of course not known at the time, but abundant evidence has since been revealed to leave no doubt of its truth.

The last and final treaty as you are aware, was made by Governor Meriwether, in 1855; but it was not ratified by the Senate, which however, was unimportant to the Indians, for they would not have observed its conditions if it had been. In 1856 more murders and robberies were perpetrated than during any one year, for several previous. In 1857, there was issued to them a larger amount of annuity goods than they had received on any former occasion, and although depredations may have been checked for a short time in consequence of the liberality of the government, it was soon forgotten, and during the past spring and summer hardly a week has passed without some theft being reported against them. And now to all this we have to add the double murder at Fort Defiance; first, the negro boy, and then the Mexican captive, who by a falsehood they attempted to pass upon the troops as the murderers of the boy. From this statement it will be seen, that these murderers, have at no time since they have been under the control of the United States ceased their depredations; and the Mexicans inform us that it has been the same for the last forty years. Their conduct has always exhibited the most palpable contempt for our authority and our government, and it is time that respect and obedience were enforced. The liberal and humane policy of the department is neither understood nor appreciated by them; and the presents which they receive are regarded as mere bribes to purchase their friendship. Their notorious bad faith has made them odious to all other Indians. The Utahs and southern Apaches are at war with them, and the people are ready to commence hostilities upon them, whenever permission is granted.

It is no doubt true, that many of the principal men of the nation are anxious to live at peace with us, but they have not the power to
control the masses of their people, amongst whom are those who keep up this system of plunder and murder.

It is perhaps needless to allude to the origin of the present difficulty with the troops, but I deem it proper to say in justice to myself that I have been less anxious to secure a settlement of the difficulty on account of the bad conduct of the Indians, anterior to the murder of Major Brooks' boy, than for this immediate offence.

I have long since believed that we never would be exempt from these raids until the tribe was made to feel and fear the power of the government. It is proper also to say that I differ with Major Brooks, in the course pursued after the murder of the boy. If it was deemed proper to make a demand for the murderer, it should in my opinion have passed through the superintendent. If this course had been taken, I would have gone to the nation, and used all my authority and influence to have secured the surrender of the culprit, but when the demand was made independent of the Indian department, I consider the whole affair taken out of my hands. For certainly after having made the demand, no matter from what department it came, it was proper that it should be strictly adhered to. The result would doubtless have been the same, for I have no idea that the culprit would have been surrendered under any circumstances, and I only allude to it, lest it may be supposed that the proper exertions were not made to avert a war.

Now that hostilities have commenced, my only fear is that the Indians may not be sufficiently chastised. If it is well done now, it is believed that they will give us no more trouble, and may in a short time be made a self-sustaining tribe, provided they are not too much crippled in their resources in this contest.

It is perhaps well to mention that one band of the Navajoes under the chief Sandaval, numbering about four hundred, is entirely neutral in this contest. That band has always remained quiet, and acted in good faith with us. I have distributed to them a fair proportion of the annuity goods intended for the nation. The balance of the Navajo goods are still in store with the superintendent, and will remain until the close of the war.

We will have to wait further developments before we can determine upon the proper course to be pursued with this troublesome tribe. I wish to be present when the war closes, and will try in arranging the terms of peace, to bring them under a more wholesome restraint than has heretofore existed.

When I met the Utahs on the occasion of distributing their annual presents, they were anxious to make a campaign against the Navajoes, to co-operate with the troops that are now in the field. I refused to give my consent, and advised them not to interfere in the contest. I am opposed to the principle of encouraging one tribe to make war against another, and especially to their being used as an auxiliary force by the American troops to fight against other tribes.

It is true, that a war already exists with the Utahs and Navajoes, but I had rather encourage a spirit of peace than to be instrumental in adding other causes to those which already exist, for the continuance of hostilities among them.
Since I returned from visiting the Utahs, Colonel Bonneville expressed a wish to employ about twenty Utahs as guides and spies for the Navajo campaign, to this I consented, and wrote to Agent Carson to assist the colonel in selecting the number required which he did, and they are now here and have reported to the colonel for duty.

The commissioner is aware that Agent Yost, who was in charge of the Pueblos, is now with the Navajoes; consequently no report will be submitted from him. But little, however, is necessary to be said about the Pueblos. They are a quiet, industrious people, living entirely by their own labor. Some difficulties occasionally arise with them and the Mexicans about the limits of their land grants. It would add much to the quiet and confidence of those Indians if their right to these grants was at once confirmed and the boundaries distinctly marked. Evil disposed Mexicans have in many cases, prejudiced the mind of the Indians about their land, by creating the belief that the government was only waiting an excuse to dispossess them. This belief has been so strongly fixed upon the mind of some of them, that they have refused to receive the farming implements sent out by the government for their use, lest it was intended to create a debt against them for which their lands would be taken.

I deem it proper to mention that the laws and regulations of the Indian department are not suited to the condition of these Pueblos, and would respectfully suggest, that in the revision of the laws and regulations, which it is greatly desired should be done at the approaching session of Congress, some special enactment be inserted, suited to the condition of these Indians. They are not citizens in the true sense of the term, and yet they are too far advanced in civilization to come under the laws and regulations that are intended for the government of the wild tribes.

I have received and herewith enclose an interesting letter from the Rev. Mr. Gorman, a Baptist missionary, who has resided for the last six or seven years among these Pueblos. His letter will be found to contain many interesting facts in reference to this peculiar people, and I respectfully recommend it to the attention of the commissioner. The suggestion of Mr. Gorman about the establishment of a central school for the Pueblos, is worthy the attention of the department, and I would suggest, as a beneficial arrangement for their future good, that the amount intended for the purpose of farming implements for them be applied with some additional appropriation to the establishment of a school such as proposed by Mr. Gorman. The farming implements, although certainly useful to them, seem not to be highly prized, for many of them are yet on hand notwithstanding the Indians have been notified to come and receive them.

A school of the kind proposed would in a few years qualify teachers for all the Pueblos, and would in the end lead to a general system of education among them, which is all that is wanted to make them useful and obedient citizens.

It is very desirable that some arrangements be made for disposing of the claims for depredations by the Indians in this Territory. I would not advise the payment of those claims upon the testimony now before the department, although I am well satisfied that many
of them are just. But to an intelligent understanding of their respective merits, it is necessary that a commission should be appointed to investigate them, guarded by such rules for reaching the testimony as would not permit frauds upon the government, and at the same time do justice to the claimants.

In preparing these rules some provision should be made with regard to testimony already taken, for in many cases the witnesses may be dead or removed from the country. In such cases it would seem proper to allow the commission a reasonable discretion to investigate the character of the testimony on file, and, if found sufficient, to endorse it as such; or if not, to reject the claim, provided new evidence cannot be adduced to sustain it.

It seems to me improper, also, to allow the statute of limitation to apply to this description of claims in this Territory. The claimants are mostly Mexicans, who are entirely ignorant of our language and laws, and it was hardly possible for them to know anything about the necessity of presenting their claims by any given time. It may be urged, also, that they were lulled into security by repeated assurances that their claims would be paid, without being advised as to the proper steps to be taken to place them before the government for payment.

The Comanches and Kiowas still continue to pay occasional visits to the settlements east of this. Colonel Bonneville has ordered the troops at Fort Union to turn them back whenever notified of their approach. They should not be allowed to come in, for they never do so without committing some wrong to the citizens by unreasonable exactions, which have to be complied with to prevent some more serious act of violence.

The agency recommended by Agent Steck to be established at Fort Davis is highly necessary and important. A small band of Apaches, that range over the country indicated by Agent Steck, have committed many depredations within the limits of this superintendency and on the San Antonio road that have been charged upon the Mescaleros under our charge.

In this connexion, it is proper also to request the appointment of at least two additional agents for this superintendency. Since the Coyotero band of Apaches, which is very numerous, has been added to the agency of Agent Steck, it makes the duty far too heavy to be performed by one agent. If Agent Yost is to remain at Fort Defiance, in charge of the Navajoes, I design sending Agent Harley, should he return, to be stationed at Zuni, to assist in the duties of the Navajo agency. The duties there are very important and arduous, and when the Pueblos of Zuni and the Moquis are added to the agency, as they are now, it makes the work very heavy, entirely too much to be performed by one agent. An agent should be stationed here with the superintendent, not only to take charge of the Pueblos, but for other duties that frequently arise, to which the superintendent cannot attend. When we get the tribes all settled, as we hope to do at no distant day, the labor to be performed by the agents will be greatly lessened, and the number can be decreased nearly one-half; but until that is done we certainly should have more help.
The estimate of funds necessary for this superintendency for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1859, was forwarded September 1, which is doubtless before the department. I hope it may be considered proper to allow us the full amount asked for, which will enable us to perform the work of colonizing the Indians in a manner greatly to benefit them, and at the same time relieve the Territory from their predatory incursions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. COLLINS,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, New Mexico.

Hon. C. E. Mix,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City.

No. 74.

U T A H AGENCY, TA OS, N. M., August 31, 1858.

Sir: I have the honor to submit for your examination my annual report of operations, as required by the regulations of the Indian department.

In my annual report dated August 29, 1857, I stated there were within this agency, under my charge, seven hundred and fifty Indians, male and female.

The Tobawache band of Utahs have since then been attached to this agency. They number seven hundred males. It is impossible to give, as required by communication from the Department of the Interior, dated July 11, 1857, the exact number of Indians under my charge. They live in parties of ten to twenty lodges, and have no permanent residence.

In agricultural or mechanical pursuits there are none engaged; by the chase, and with what is given them by the United States and its citizens, they maintain themselves.

During the year the Indians committed few depredations; they stole some animals from the Mexicans, and the Mexicans also stole some from them. The Indians gave me the animals stolen by them, and I made the Mexicans return the animals they had stolen, thus satisfying both parties.

I have visited the Indians as often as necessary during the year, and given them such articles as they required, principally provisions. It being thought that the Utahs would join the Mormons in their opposition to the entry of the United States troops into Great Salt Lake City, I caused the allowance of their provisions to be increased, to prevent such a course being pursued by them. No Utah, as far as I know, aided the Mormons.

It would promote the advance of civilization among the Indians of this agency if it were practicable that I could live with them. They have no particular place to reside, are of a roving nature, and an agent could not be with them at all times, so I have selected this place as the most proper for them to receive such presents of food as they need;
and such will necessarily be the case until agency buildings are built. The Indians should be settled on reserves, guarded by troops, and made to cultivate the soil, because the required amount of provisions to be given them cannot be procured at any of the frontier settlements. I have purchased all the grain issued during the year as near their haunts as I could.

To keep the Indians from committing depredations on citizens, food by the government must be furnished them, and liberally, there being no game of any consequence in the country through which they roam.

I have in the employ of the Indian department John Mostin, as interpreter, a native of Clinton county, State of New York, aged 29 years, at a salary of $500 per annum. He was appointed June 1, 1857, at this agency.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CARSON,
Indian Agent.

Hon. Jas. L. Collins,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Santa Fé, N. M.

No. 75.

AUGUST 10, 1858.

Sir: As the time has approached when it becomes my duty to make an annual report of the past operations and present condition of the Apache agency, I would respectfully submit the following:

Since my annual report of 1857 the general condition of this agency has been very satisfactory, and up to the present date the Apaches seem disposed to listen to good counsel, and refrain from depredations upon the property of their neighbors. The disposition to settle and cultivate the soil is gaining ground among all the bands belonging to this agency; and if a sufficient amount of means could have been placed at the disposition of the agent, and lands set apart as the permanent home of these Indians, much more good might have been done; yet, from the limited amount expended for farming operations from the contingent fund, farms have been opened under many disadvantages, with the most satisfactory results.

The Mescalero band of Apaches are still living in the White and Sacramento mountains, in the immediate vicinity of Fort Staunton, and the most friendly relations have been maintained between those Indians and the military authorities of that post during the year.

But two well authenticated thefts have been committed by those Indians during the year, and upon demand being made upon them the animals were returned to their owners. The friendly disposition of this band, it is conceded by all, is attributable to the supply of provisions furnished them by the government, although the supply is far short of what their actual necessities require. Early in the month of March the agent met this band in council, and offered to such as
wished to cultivate assistance, when they unanimously agreed to plant. Arrangements were at once made to assist them, and a farm was opened at the Alamo Gordo, seventy miles southwest of Fort Staunton, where they have now a large amount of land planted, and a prospect of an abundant harvest. All except two of the chiefs planted at the farm, and those two say that they have planted upon their own account at the Penasco. The interest manifested by all is abundant proof of their willingness to engage in the cultivation of the soil. But until lands are set apart as their permanent homes, and an agency established upon their reserve to watch over and assist them, their progress in the arts of peace will be slow.

During the year quarrels have arisen among those Indians from that fruitful source of evil, drunkenness, that has led to jealousies and ill feeling among different parts of that band. Five or six have been killed in those quarrels among themselves, and different parts of the band now avoid each other, fearing new difficulties. For this reason they could not all be brought together to plant; and if an attempt should be made at this time to locate or remove this band, the dissensions among themselves would be the greatest difficulty to overcome.

In connexion with the Mescaleros, I would again report that the portion of this tribe living in the southern portion of the Guadalupe and Limpia mountains, belonging properly to the department of Texas, are giving us constant trouble. During the year I have had application from this portion of the Mescaleros to join those under our immediate jurisdiction, but, under instructions from the superintendent, I have refused to let them unite with the White Mountain band. This division, with their head chief, Marcus, roam over the country near Fort Davis, and frequently commit depredations on the San Antonio road and in the settlement near El Paso. Their proximity to those under our jurisdiction makes it important that steps be taken to prevent their marauding. They complain that they have no agent; much good might therefore, in my opinion, be done if the State of Texas were to send an agent to visit this band. I would therefore respectfully suggest that the superintendent strenuously urge upon the department the propriety of establishing an agency at Fort Davis to control these people. To us it is very important, as the Indians under our control are so apt to be charged with their depredations, as has already frequently been the case. For the security of the United States mail, and travellers from San Antonio to El Paso, there is no point in the country where an agency would be of so much importance as the one suggested.

With the bands west of the Rio Grande, since my last annual report, our relations have been of the most friendly character. During the year not a single depredation has been committed on the California road east of the Chilihuahui mountains, and parties of from two to five men are constantly travelling that road from the Rio Grande to Fort Buchanan undisturbed. Further west, in the vicinity of Tucson and Buchanan, depredations have been frequent. These are committed by Coyotero Apaches, who live near the Piñal mountains, with whom we have had no intercourse. The Mimbres and Mogollon bands seem willing to be controlled by the advice of their
agent, and have confidence in the kind intentions of the government towards them. In their intercourse with the citizens they have suffered many impositions, have been made drunk, have been swindled out of their horses, and many of them stolen by the Mexicans at or near the agency. They have also been murdered in cold blood, (see my report of April 18, 1858, to the superintendent, of outrages at the agency by people from Messilla;) yet not a single instance is known of their having committed a murder or even stolen a horse to retaliate for their wrongs.

In a former report I urged the propriety of uniting the Mimbres and Mogollon bands, with a view of finally locating them together, and, without any instructions upon the subject, I encouraged such a union; and now many of the Mogollon band live with those of the Mimbres, and have corn planted together, and among them their old chief, Marcus Colorado. If, therefore, the proposition to locate them together should meet the approbation of the superintendent, there will be no difficulty in its accomplishment.

The interest manifested in the farming operation has been greater than in any former year. Having no lands set apart for them by treaty, they were advised to plant upon their old fields on the Rio Mimbres and upon the Rio Palmos. They have, in all, about one hundred and fifty acres planted and in a state of cultivation that will compare well with any cornfield in the country, and all by their own labor, except the breaking up of the land, digging and repairing of their acequias.

The White Mountain Coyoteros have occasionally visited the agency during the year, have remained quiet, and faithfully kept their promise that no depredations should be committed on the California road as far west as their country extended. The Coyoteros are by far the most powerful branch of the Apache tribe. They occupy the north side of the Gila and its northern tributaries, from the Mogollon mountains to near the Pima villages. We have had but little friendly intercourse with them, and as a tribe they have never received any presents from the government. I would therefore respectfully recommend the propriety of making provisions for a general council with that important branch of the Apaches, in their own country, as soon as practicable, and that suitable presents be made to them. Friendly relations might thus be established with the whole tribe, and the depredations of Tucson and Buchanan successfully checked. These Indians are less warlike than other bands of the Apaches, have large herds of stock, and cultivate corn, wheat, beans, pumpkins, &c., extensively; and, having much to lose in the event of war, would be more likely to be controlled, if once a proper understanding could be brought about between them and the government.

The Mimbres, Mogollon, and Mescalero bands of Apaches are exceedingly poor, and decreasing in numbers very rapidly. As is the case, I believe, with all wild tribes, they cannot bear contact with civilization. The exercise and excitement of the chase and marauding taken from them they become indolent, and if left to govern themselves they contract vices that weaken and vitiate the system, rendering it more liable to attacks from disease, and less able to resist its
influence when attacked. Hence many of them die from diseases that ordinarily seldom prove fatal.

The Mescaleros, who number about one hundred and fifteen men, and live in the mountains near Fort Staunton, have been less exposed to these contaminating influences than others. The mortality has, therefore, been comparatively small among them, yet not less than fifteen of their warriors have either been killed in their own quarrels, or died from disease during the year.

The Mimbres band have been constantly exposed to the evil influence of intercourse with the Spanish population of the country who cannot be prevented from selling them whiskey. This evil, and their exposure to the malarious atmosphere of the valley of the Rio Grande at the agency and other places, have produced a terrible mortality among them. Of the men, who numbered one year ago about eighty-five, not less than one-fourth have died during the year.

The Mogollon band, having been exposed to the same influences during the summer of 1857 in the frontier town of the republic of Mexico, in consequence of the expedition of Colonel B. L. E. Bonneville having driven them south, have suffered as severely as those of the Mimbres. The two bands, together, cannot now muster two hundred and fifty warriors, while in 1853 the Mimbres band alone could have brought into the field three hundred.

It has now become the fixed policy of the Indian department to locate wandering tribes. This certainly is the only hope for the Apaches. If they do not cultivate the soil they cannot honestly obtain a subsistence in the country they occupy, as game is exceedingly scarce, and the white man here, as everywhere else, is constantly encroaching upon his lands. Therefore, while there is a remnant of these wandering bands left, unless they are located and assisted by the government, they must continue to steal for a part of their subsistence, the result of which would be constant hostilities and their final extermination. But located, and means provided to relieve their wants, their condition is at once ameliorated and the necessity of their stealing for a subsistence removed, and security given to the lives and property of their neighbors, with a prospect of saving them from utter ruin, and being able to maintain themselves at no distant day.

The bands best prepared for the change are the Mimbres and Mogollon. In my report for the year 1857 I urged the location of these bands upon the waters of the Gila, west of the 109th degree of longitude. There is no place in the country so well adapted for permanent settlement. Here they have farming and grazing lands enough for the whole tribe, and in the centre of their best hunting grounds. The Mescaleros, if at a future day it might be thought best to remove them, might also be located in the same valley.

But while I earnestly recommend the valley of the Gila as the most suitable place for these Indians, I would state that, without the co-operation of the military department, it would be unsafe and injudicious to attempt a settlement upon that river. A military post in the immediate vicinity of the agency, large enough to enforce obedience and command the respect of the bands located and those who would visit the agency from a distance, would be absolutely necessary, not
only to control the Indians, but to prevent improper intercourse with the citizens. And as no law of Congress giving the superintendent power to extend the intercourse laws over any portion of the Territory of New Mexico exists, allow me to suggest that, in the event of a post being established with a view of settling Indians near it, the department commander be respectfully requested to extend military surveillance over a distance of at least twenty miles in each direction from his post, until a law of Congress be passed declaring the same an Indian reserve.

With the co-operation of the military, and means to assist them, the Mimbres and Mogollon bands can at once be removed to a reservation; and until they have lands set apart for them, and the agency established among them, their progress must be slow. The Mescalero and Mimbres bands have at this time corn enough under cultivation to subsist the bands for five months if it was suffered to ripen and properly preserved; but having entire control of their fields, a large portion of it will be eaten green, and for want of storehouses much will be wasted.

If the policy of farming is to be continued, I earnestly hope that steps will be taken to avoid these evils next year by the establishment of the agency upon the Gila. The results cannot be other than advantageous to all the parties concerned, and will more than warrant the trifling expenditure for its accomplishment.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. STECK,
Indian Agent.

Col. JAMES L. COLLINS,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, New Mexico.

No. 76.

PUEBLO OF LAGUNA, NEW MEXICO, October 2, 1858.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request, I write you in respect to the condition and wants of the Pueblo Indians, and to what seems to us to be the best method of meeting and supplying those wants on the part of our government.

In their domestic relation, they are communities that hold their land grants, and church property, and old town-houses, which were erected under the Spanish government for the civil magistrates, in common. All other property is individual. All cultivated lands, all dwellings, and all kinds of personal property, are held and owned by individuals, and are bought, sold, and used by the proper owners, just as among other people.

Any person of the community can take possession of and cultivate any of the common lands not previously occupied or cultivated by others; and after he once cultivates it, it belongs to him, and descends to his heirs as individual property.

All acequias or water courses, for irrigating their lands, are worked by the communities, who are called out to do the work by the officers
of their respective pueblos when the work is needed; and in the same way do they perform all work that pertains to the community as a whole.

But every person has to attend to his own individual labor and private concerns. Their stock of every kind is kept and herded by the respective owners, sometimes singly and sometimes in companies. The herd of horses is generally kept by persons chosen by the war captains, who guard them a week at a time. Having no fences, it is necessary for all owners of stock to guard their stock.

Their civil officers are elected about the first of each year, for twelve months, by the voice of the people of the communities in council general assembled. And they are generally chosen without regard to wealth or other outward circumstances.

Their officers are a governor and two assistants, a fiscal mayor or associate officer with the governor and his two assistants, the war captain and his two associates in office, and the cacique or head chief. This last officer only is elected for life. He is chiefly engaged in matters pertaining to their ancient Indian religion, but often has a controlling voice in civil affairs.

In their judicial councils all of these officers sometimes participate, but generally the governor and fiscal mayor and their assistants only participate in common civil cases.

The right of inheritance is held by the females generally, but it is often claimed by the men also. Not having any written laws, the will of the officers is the only rule of their courts.

The Pueblo Indians have two religions; their ancient one, in which they worship the sun, moon, and stars, fires, rivers, &c. This religion is interwoven with and exercises a controlling power over all thoughts and actions with few exceptions.

The people are required by their officers to perform the rites and ceremonies of this religious system in connexion with almost every act of life, and even for the dead long after they have blended with their “mother earth.” A great deal of time and strength are wasted by the whole people in these customs. And not only by official power, but by that deeply seated attachment and zeal for this religion, the people are strongly induced to resist all attempts to enlighten and improve them. Attempts of this kind, which we have made most industriously for the last six years, have been looked upon with a jealous eye. They say that if they become educated they fear their people will forsake their ancient customs, to which they cannot consent.

At the conquest of these Indians by the Spaniards they were compelled to receive the Roman Catholic religion, in the observance of which they were kept by the force of civil, military, and ecclesiastical power by the Spanish and Mexican governments up to the cession of the territory to our government; and even up to the present the civil officers use all their authority to compel the people to attend the services in the Roman Catholic church. On Saturday and Sabbath of every week, and on feast days, the officers go about the town, even to the third story of their houses at times, and drive the people, with commands, threats, and even blows, to the Roman Catholic church, and sometimes chastise them at the church for former
delinquencies. We have seen forty thus whipped in a single hour for this cause alone. And these measures are required at the hands of the officers by the Roman clergy. They tell the Indians that no power can control the Pueblo authorities, and that the officers must keep the people in the Roman church, and not let them hear any other preachers, nor even let them preach in their towns or teach their children in schools. Thus have we been annoyed for six years in our efforts to get up a school in Laguna, where we have established a mission station. But with all these hindrances we have collected a small congregation, have a church edifice dedicated to the worship of God, and a hall for daily instruction.

And we have a native Indian teacher and preacher who is a strong advocate for Christianity and the institutions of our government. His law book and Bible lie side by side on his little table.

Beside the religious oppression exercised by the officers of this people, they often use other kinds also. People are whipped by them often for selling their own private property. They will sometimes compel old men to divide their property among their children before they can do without it for their own support.

But to remedy these evils, and to promote the prosperity of this interesting people, we suggest the following measures, viz:

1st. That the general government establish a central school of this character—agricultural, mechanical, and literary. That said school be entirely under the control of an executive board, appointed by the department.

That they select a suitable spot away from any Indian pueblo, suitable buildings be erected, and teachers secured in each department. Then let the agent of the Pueblos be empowered to require of each Pueblo to select, say, six promising, healthy, active boys, and send them to the school and keep them there, subject to their teachers and the executive board, till the prescribed course be completed, and they be fully qualified to pursue one or other of the branches of industry taught in the school.

And that when the Pueblos shall have been thus qualified for such a change, our government be established in all these communities. For, by our long and intimate acquaintance with this people, mingling with them in their councils and customs, we are fully satisfied that, with their present form of government, and under their present circumstances, centuries might roll away, and the posterity of this people would remain essentially the same ignorant, superstitious people that they now are.

And especially do we earnestly hope that effectual measures will be employed to deliver this people from the galling yoke of religious bondage in which they now are groaning and toiling.

For which we ever pray and entreat; and ever remain,

Yours, with great respect,

SAMUEL GORMAN,
Missionary to the Pueblo Indians.

Hon. J. L. COLLINS,
Supt. of Indian Affairs, Santa Fé, N. M.
No. 77.

WASHINGTON, November 4, 1858.

Srn: I have the honor to submit, in conformity to your instructions, a memorandum of such facts as I have been able to collect in reference to the Indians in the so called Territory of Arizona; though I regret to say that, for the reason hereinafter mentioned, it is not as full as could be desired.

I left San Francisco, on my return home, on the 7th September, and travelled express up the San Joaquin valley, and by Fresno, King’s river and Fort Tejon, where I remained a day and a half, to Los Angeles, expecting to procure there a conveyance to Fort Yuma. I hoped, by reaching this point in advance of the first overland mail stage, by which I intended returning, to have sufficient time to hold a "talk" with the Yumas and Cocopas, and to distribute some presents among the Pimas and Maricopas. I found it impossible, however, to procure a conveyance at Los Angeles, and was compelled to wait there until the arrival of the mail party, which I joined and accompanied to St. Louis.

As my orders to return to Washington by the first of October were peremptory, I did not feel at liberty to lay over either at Fort Yuma or the Maricopa Wells; and, as the stage stopped nowhere except to change horses, I had no time to ascertain, by personal observation, the actual condition of the Arizona Indians. I have therefore been compelled to obtain my facts, in great measure, from other sources. I was fortunate, however, in meeting several gentlemen well acquainted with Arizona, from whom I obtained much useful information, and am under especial obligations to Captain J. H. Davidson and Lieutenant A. B. Chapman, first dragoons United States army, for copies of their reports, which I have freely used in preparing this communication.

The Indians of Arizona consist of the Pimas and Maricopas, the Papagos and the Apaches. The Yumas and the Cocopas are not, strictly speaking, Arizona Indians, though connected with some of the tribes on the Gila. The Cocopas live on the Colorado, south of the boundary line; the Yumas occupy the country around Fort Yuma, and are chiefly within the limits of the State of California. I have no information in respect to these Indians to add to that already in the possession of the Indian office.

The Pimas and Maricopas, one of the most interesting tribes of Indians within our limits, occupy a strip of land, some fifteen miles in length, upon the Gila river, their principal village being distant one hundred and eighty-one miles from Fort Yuma, and ninety-nine from Tucson. Originally distinct tribes, they have become so intimately allied by intermarrying that they may now be considered one people. According to a census table, furnished me by Lieutenant Chapman, a copy of which (marked A) accompanies this report, they number altogether four thousand six hundred and thirty-five, of whom one thousand three hundred and forty-four are warriors.

These Indians are partially civilized, and have some knowledge of
agriculture. Lieutenant Chapman, in the report before referred to, describes their settlements as follows:

"Their pueblos extend along this stream (the Gila) some fifteen miles, some of them at a distance from the river proper of more than five miles, these being supplied with water by acequias. This valley, occupied by the Pimas and Maricopas, is, to a great extent, cultivated, and I have never seen richer soil or more beautiful fields. The acequias of crystal water, running from pueblo to pueblo all over the valley, make it present an appearance of beauty and civilization that is truly pleasing. The principal products of their labors are corn, wheat, pumpkins, beans, peas, melons, &c., in great abundance."

Although engaged in agriculture, and naturally peaceable, the Pimas and Maricopas are still a brave people, and formidable in the field. This is partly the result of their proximity to the Apaches, with whom they wage an unceasing war. I was informed, while passing through their territory, that they keep a force constantly in the field, and that three hundred of their young men were then absent on an expedition against their hereditary enemies.

These Indians have strong claims upon the consideration of the United States government, the prompt recognition of which not only justice and humanity, but sound policy, renders a matter of prime necessity. From the time they refused to assist the Mexicans in cutting off Colonel Cooke's command, in 1847, they have ever been loyal to us, supplying grain and forage to emigrant and mail parties, aiding them in recovering their cattle, strayed or stolen by the Apaches, and manifesting in every possible mode their desire to maintain friendly relations with us. Their chief recently boasted that "the Maricopas had not yet learned the color of the white man's blood," a remark which could not, I think, be predicated of any other tribe on the continent. This alone should entitle them to a participation in the largesses which are annually distributed with no sparing hand among their red brethren; but, so far, they have been more blessed in giving than receiving, and have looked in vain for a recognition by government of the many kindnesses they have rendered our people. This tardiness and indifference on our part have excited some dissatisfaction among them, and, if persisted in, may induce them to throw off an alliance from which they have derived no benefit. Some idea of their feelings on this subject may be gathered from the following extract from a letter published in the "Alta California" of June 28:

"About ninety miles from Tucson, and directly on the route from Fort Buchanan to Fort Yuma, are the Pima villages, occupied by the Pima and Maricopa Indians, who number some fifteen hundred warriors. These Indians, even before their country came into possession of the United States, were exceedingly friendly to the Americans, and being upon the direct route of the southern emigration, they were constantly called upon to aid in relieving the sufferings of the emigrants; they furnished grain and other provisions for reasonable prices, and bestowed charity with more than Christian generosity.

"They were assured, from time to time, that when their country came into the control of the United States they would be bountifully
rewarded, and provided with an abundance of agricultural implements. Trusting to these specious promises, they remained satisfied, and since the year 1849 they have acted in the capacity of, and with even more efficiency than, a frontier military. They have protected American emigrants from molestation by the Apaches, and when the latter have stolen stock from the emigrants, the Pimas and Maricopas have punished them and recovered their animals; yet, in all this time, nothing has been done for them by our government. No one has stepped forward to urge their claims. Thousands and tens of thousands of dollars, year after year, have been drained from the government for the expenses of the Indian department, and applied wisely or unwisely, expended here or there, or perhaps found their way into the pockets of agents and sub-agents and speculators, but not a dollar has been bestowed upon these tribes, perhaps the most worthy and deserving of all the Indian tribes within our borders. In January last, however, an Indian agent, Mr. Walker, visited them, and was furnished with an escort of troops, under command of Lieutenant Chapman. An interview was had with their chief. The agent said he had come among them, at the request of the United States government, to ascertain the number and the wants of their people. He assured them that the government was prepared to furnish them with ploughs, spades, shovels, axes, and every article necessary for their comfort. The Indians were rejoiced; they saw the fulfilment near at hand of all the long-made promises. They waited month after month, but the goods and farming utensils, which were to have been sent immediately to them from Santa Fé, did not come. They became disheartened and disgusted. A short time ago, when companies B and K were on their way from Fort Buchanan to Fort Yuma, they halted at the Pima villages. While there the old chief, Juan José, visited the tent of Lieutenant Chapman, whom he recognized as having accompanied the Indian agent when the unfulfilled promises were made.

"After conversing carelessly about indifferent things, the chief stated that he would like to purchase from the Lieutenant some spades and axes, as his people were in need of them, and, exhibiting a handful of gold, he offered to pay three dollars apiece for them. Lieutenant Chapman informed him that all the property in his possession belonged to the government, and was only intrusted to him as an officer, to be used in the service. The chief then offered five dollars apiece for a few spades, shovels, and axes. The Lieutenant repeated that he had no authority to part with them. Assuming an air of dignity, the old chief waved his hand and said, sternly: 'Sir, I wish to hear no more of this; I have heard enough. I believe your people are a nation of liars, and you are a liar individually. You came with your agent and you heard what he said; you sanctioned it. You are an officer, and you knew he lied to my people. I trust you no more.' The lieutenant sat and listened to the indignant warrior; he felt humiliated and ashamed for his government, and his blood heated at the personal insult offered him, but he acknowledged the justness of the complaint and was silent."

I have the authority of Lieutenant Chapman and of Captain Davidson
who acted as interpreter on the occasion, for saying that the account of the interview between the Maricopa chief and the officers is literally true.

But it is necessary to do more than conciliate these Indians by presents. They must be secured in the possession of their lands. Their richness and their advantageous location will excite the cupidity of a class of settlers not over nice in their regard for the rights of the Indians, and trespasses will be committed which will surely be resented and punished. Domestic in their habits, occupying fixed habitations, attached to the soil they and their ancestors have cultivated for ages, these are precisely the people who will least brook an invasion of their territorial rights. Formidable in numbers, courage, and position, it is in their power to do us incalculable injury, certainly to cut off for an indefinite period our communications through Arizona with the Pacific. Sound policy, therefore, would suggest the necessity of preventing any cause of complaint on this score, and of doing so at once.

There is yet another reason why government should cultivate an alliance with these Indians. They are a barrier between the Apaches and all western Arizona, and while their present relations continue, travel between Fort Yuma and the Maricopa Wells, will be as safe as in the settlements.

I would respectfully recommend for these Indians—

First. That the land they occupy should be confirmed to them and their descendants by patent, with a proviso, however, that the same shall be inalienable except to the United States.

Second. That a reasonable amount of agricultural implements, seeds, and clothing, should be annually distributed among them.

Third. That an agent should be appointed to reside among them to protect their interests, and to assist them in the management of their affairs.

Fourth. That they should be supplied with arms and ammunition. Their loyalty has been sufficiently tested to show that they may safely be trusted, and their efficiency as a frontier militia, in keeping the Apaches in check, would be greatly promoted by arming them with serviceable weapons. At present their principal offensive weapon is a short club.

I would further recommend that a commissioner should be sent out to visit them to ascertain their wants and wishes, and to report a detailed plan for carrying out the policy indicated.

Of the Papagos I could learn but little; they are allied with the Pimas and Maricopas, whom they are said to resemble in many particulars. They occupy an unproductive tract of country lying west and southwest of Tucson, their principal village being in the vicinity of San Xavier del Bac, and number, according to a table furnished me by Lieutenant Chapman, a copy of which (marked B) is herewith submitted, one thousand eight hundred and ninety, of whom seven hundred and thirty-four are warriors. These numbers are only approximate, and are probably much below the truth. They are represented as being very poor, and indeed destitute.

The term "Apache" seems to be generic, and is applied indiscriminately to all the tribes living on or near the 33d parallel, from
the Tontos on the west to the Mescaleros on the east. The number of these Indians is not known with accuracy. Mr. Bartlett (Pers. Narrative, vol. 2, p. 336) puts them at five thousand; Mr. Schoolcraft estimates them at eleven thousand five hundred, which is probably not far from the truth. Captain Davidson, who made a reconnaissance in the Piñal country in March last, estimates the Piñalenos and Coyoteros at five thousand, of whom eight hundred are warriors. The several tribes or bands, so far as I have been able to ascertain them, are the Tontos, Garroteros, Piñalenos, Coyoteros, Mogollones, Mangus Colorado's band, the Apaches of the Mimbres, and the Mescaleros. There is yet another tribe of Apaches, the Jicarillas, but they belong to the northeastern part of New Mexico, and seldom or never range south.

The testimony of all who have any knowledge of the Apache concurs in pronouncing him the most rascally Indian on the continent. Treacherous, bloodthirsty, brutal, with an irresistible propensity to steal, he has been for years the scourge of Mexico, as the depopulated villages and abandoned fields of Chihuahua and Sonora too faithfully attest, and grave doubts are expressed whether any process short of extermination will suffice to quiet him.

They are not a purely nomadic race. They have for the most part permanent villages in the mountain valleys north of the Gila, where they cultivate the soil to a limited extent, and where their women and children are beyond the reach of attacking parties. From these fastnesses they descend at pleasure into Arizona and northern Mexico, and carry off with impunity whatever is worth stealing. A part of the Mimbres Apaches passed Stein's Peak shortly before I reached it with several hundred head of cattle which they had stolen in Mexico. A portion of this band went with the cattle to the mountains, the remainder proceeded to Fort Thorne, where, as I was informed, they were to receive rations from the United States. The amount of property stolen annually by these Indians is incalculable. According to the returns of the United States marshals there were stolen, in New Mexico alone, between August 1, 1846, and October 1, 1850, twelve thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven mules, seven thousand and fifty horses, thirty-one thousand five hundred and eighty-one horned cattle, and four hundred and fifty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-three head of sheep.

In view of the magnitude of the claims for indemnity, under the act of 1834, for these and similar losses, now waiting the decision of Congress, the necessity of adopting some vigorous measures to bring these Indians under control becomes of the first importance. Apart from the drain upon the treasury that will result from a recognition by Congress of the principle that government is the insurer of its citizens, there is another strong reason for the adoption of an energetic and decisive policy. It is idle to expect that settlements will spring up along the recently opened or projected routes to the Pacific if the settlers are liable to be systematically despoiled of their property.

Looking to the welfare of the Indians alone, I would have no hesitation in recommending that they should be restrained from leaving the mountain slopes and valleys of the thirty-third parallel; but in
view of the interests of our own people, I feel constrained to urge the adoption of this course. It could be effected with less difficulty than might at first be anticipated. While there are various passes by which the Indians may descend into Arizona and northern Mexico, there are, owing to the scarcity of water, but few trails by which they can return with their booty. If these be blocked up by cavalry posts, thieving south of the Gila will be rendered unprofitable, and the Indians will cease to steal cattle, which they cannot drive to their homes. The result would possibly be, that the Indians, reduced to a starving condition, would come in, make peace, and settle down on a reservation. Three posts, in addition to Fort Thorne, would suffice—one at the mouth of the Arivaypa, one at the crossing of the San Pedro, and one at or near the site of Fort Webster. It might be objected that the plan proposed will be expensive. I am satisfied, however, that it would be cheaper to keep up double the number of posts than to pay for the depredations committed by the Apaches. Besides, expense is a small consideration in a case of this kind, where the lives and property of our citizens are at stake.

I have indicated the localities of the posts solely with reference to the Indians and without any knowledge of their advantages in a military point of view, in respect to which, of course, I have no suggestions to offer. I have been assured, however, by competent military authority, that the mouth of the Arivaypa is an eligible site for a military post, and that it is the key to a large portion of the Apache country.

The meagre amount of the materials at my command, and the limited time allowed for the preparation of the report, have prevented me from doing full justice to the subject. If, however, this crude and imperfect sketch shall awaken attention to the necessity of adopting a policy for the Indians of Arizona, I shall have accomplished all that I proposed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. BAILEY,
Special Agent Indian Department.

Hon. C. E. Mix,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

A.

MARICOPAS.

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ARIZONA.

A.—Continued.

PIMAS.

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<th>Warriors</th>
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Note.—The interpreters are José María Espinosa, Juan Ignacio, and Francisco Lucas.

B.

PAPAGOS.

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* Head chief.

Note.—José Espinosa, of San Xavier, is the interpreter.