have accordingly caused a requisition for the sum of $10,000, being the remainder of the appropriation applicable to this object, to be issued in your favor, and placed to your credit with the assistant treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, California, with which, should you still continue to deem it desirable, you are authorized to proceed at once to open negotiations with the Indians mentioned, having for their object the conclusion of a treaty as suggested by you, and in doing this will be governed by instructions to you in office letter of 22d of June last, so far as the same are applicable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. DOLE,
Commissioner.

J. W. P. HUNTINGTON,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Salem, Oregon.

CALIFORNIA SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 35.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, California, September 1, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of 23d of May last, in reference to the annual report of the condition of Indian affairs in this superintendency, I have the honor to forward as complete a return as the limited time at my disposal will allow me to compile.

I have occupied my present position only since the 26th of May, and much of my time has been employed in receiving the property from my predecessors, and in effecting such changes as the good of the service seemed most urgently to demand.

I have communicated freely with the department, and endeavored to inform you as fully as possible of the condition in which I found Indian affairs, and of my action in relation thereto, as well as proposed plans for the future. I deem a repetition of these matters to be unnecessary, and shall confine this report to a general account of the location and character of the several reservations, the number and condition of the Indians thereon, and of farming operations during the year.

I accompany this with sketches of the four reservations within my superintendency, from which you can form a general idea of their situation and extent, the position of the improvements, &c.

Please find, also, a statistical report of farming operations, as required by your circular of January 11, 1862, and a report of the number of Indians, &c., as required by circular of June 21, 1861. As regards the latter, I regret to state that I am unable to furnish any replies to the questions in that circular, from four to eleven inclusive, as nothing of any consequence has been done toward the education or religious instruction of the Indians. Of affairs in general, I am able to say that, in consideration of all the circumstances, and of the difficulties that met me upon assuming charge of the superintendency, they are prosperous, and progressing satisfactorily.

The condition of Indian affairs in the counties of Humboldt, Klamath, and Trinity most earnestly demanded my attention upon entering upon the discharge of my duties. This section of the country had been cursed for years with a destructive Indian war, that had well-nigh ruined its business interests, and promised to end only in the extermination of the Indians. A vigorous campaign, accompanied by great loss of life, had been waged during the past year, and the Indians, though severely dealt with, were still unsubdued, but,

through the efforts of the district commander, had ceased hostilities and came into Hoopa valley, the home of most of the warriors, where, with their arms still in their possession, they were waiting some action on the part of the government toward establishing a treaty.

It had been the hope of the people of this section, as well as the military authorities, that these Indians might be removed to some point south of San Francisco, as sad experience and a knowledge of their character convinced all that they would not remain on any reservation unless its natural situation rendered it utterly impossible for them to return. In this hope I earnestly shared, and in letters to the department urged in the strongest terms that such a course be adopted; but permission to carry out this policy having been denied it only remained to adopt the next best course, and I at once proceeded to Hoopa valley to treat with the Indians. Of my action there, resulting in the establishment of a reservation in Hoopa valley, and the surrender of their arms by the Indians, you were fully advised in my letter of the 29th ultimo. I am confident that if my course be approved, and government act in good faith with the Indians, no further trouble will ensue. In this connexion I would suggest that when the improvements of the settlers are appraised, their farming implements, and such other articles as may be required on the reservation, be included and paid for out of the same appropriation. I urge this as a matter of justice to all concerned, for they will be needed in the cultivation of the land, and will be worthless to their present owners.

SMITH RIVER RESERVATION

Is situated in the valley of the same name, in the extreme northern part of the State, and about two miles from the coast. There are at present seven hundred and forty-five Indians at this agency, most of whom have been removed from the Bald Hills and the vicinity of Eel and Mad rivers, in Humboldt county. Their general condition is good, though they are suffering somewhat from lack of blankets and proper clothing, which I shall be able to supply upon the arrival of the expected shipment. There are twenty-eight Indian houses, made of sawed lumber, twelve by sixteen feet in size, which are good, comfortable buildings. These are occupied by the Humboldt Indians, while the Bald Hill and Bear River tribes live in rude huts of their own construction. The mortality among the latter is very large, and they must be provided with better shelter before the winter, and receive in future more care and attention.

The land on which the reservation is established is at present rented from different individuals at from four to five dollars an acre per annum for the land actually cultivated. The buildings are on the farm of D. E. Buell, which contains some eleven hundred acres, two hundred and twenty of which are cultivated. Upon this farm is quite a fine orchard, which will produce this season about a thousand bushels of apples. The land hired from other parties, and cultivated, amounts to about two hundred and sixty-one acres. The crops this year are very good, yielding all that will be required for the use of the Indians. I am not prepared to offer an opinion as to whether a reservation should be permanently established at this locality or not, as I have been unable to visit this place. I propose, however, to proceed there at an early day, and will then take some action in the matter.

ROUND VALLEY RESERVATION.

Of the location of this reservation, and the condition in which I found matters there, I advised you in my letters of June 1 and 30.

There are at present upon it some nine hundred and fifty Indians, who are well cared for, and apparently contented and happy.

Their winter houses are built of oak slats ten feet in length, merely laid together, and forming rude "campoodies," such as they lived in before they knew the whites. During the summer they prefer huts of brush. They seem to have received no encouragement in building more comfortable houses, though they deserve better ones, and I intend that they shall have assistance in erecting them as soon as the harvesting is completed. They still grind their wheat by hand, or, more properly, crush it between two flat stones; a small grist-mill would add greatly to their comfort. The health of these Indians has greatly improved under the care of Dr. Waller, and they are in all respects doing well. The agency buildings are in a bad state of repair, and will require considerable labor to render them tenantable. The crops at this reservation are very large; of grain and vegetables there is plenty and to spare. The fertility of the soil and the salubrity of the climate cannot be surpassed, while its singular isolation forbids its ever being desirable to the whites, and renders it peculiarly valuable for the purposes of an Indian reservation.

MENDOCINO RESERVATION.

Having recommended that this reservation be abandoned, I merely refer you to my letter of 30th June, and to the accompanying sketch, for information. The crops here are rather light, but from the abundance of fish, &c., the Indians are not likely to suffer, and, if it is found necessary, grain can be spared them from the reservation at Round valley.

TULE RIVER INDIAN FARM.

I have as yet been unable to visit the portion of the State known formerly as the southern district, but receive favorable accounts of the condition of affairs from the agent in charge. All the Indians who depend upon the department for subsistence have been removed to the Tule river Indian farm, where good crops have been harvested, and they are well provided for. Of the eight hundred Indians on this farm, about three hundred and fifty are of the Owen's river tribe, and all seem comfortable and satisfied. Their houses are built of posts put in the ground and covered with split boards, and are very comfortable.

This farm consists of twelve hundred and eighty acres of land, of which about three hundred are cultivable, and is owned by Mr. F. P. Madden, from whom it was rented by former Superintending Agent Wentworth. The crops are excellent this season, much better than on any farm in that section of the country, owing principally to the fact that the crop was sowed early, and to the exertions of the agent in charge in carefully attending it. I am confident that there need be no lack of food at this point. The climate of Tule River valley is generally considered rather unhealthy, but the proximity of the agency to the mountains (to which the Indians frequently resort) obviates all that is detrimental in the climate.

I have thus hastily noticed a few of the principal items connected with the service in my superintendency. I hope in my next annual report to be able to represent matters in a more favorable light. There is much room for improvement—a wide field before me in bettering the condition of the miserable beings intrusted to my charge, and establishing the reservation system upon a more thorough and satisfactory basis. To bring about such a result no efforts on my part shall be spared, and I trust I may receive the hearty co-operation of the department in the labor before me.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs

Hon. W. P. DOLE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

Report of Indians on the reservation within the California superintendency, September 1, 1864.

Reservations.	Names of tribes.	Number.		
		Male.	Female.	Total.
Smith River	Humboldt and Eel River	160	180	340
Do	Mattole	16	29	45
Do	Bear River	14	19	33
Do	Bald Hill	163	164	327
Round Valley	Cou-cows and Yankee Hills	125	200	325
Do	Pitt Rivers	100	225	325
Do	Eukas	85	215	300
Mendocino *	Kianamaras	46	54	100
Do	Yo-sol Pomas	44	56	100
Do	Redwood	22	28	50
Do	Cam-el-lel Pomas	23	27	50
Do	Ki Pomas	65	85	150
Do	Co-ba-de-la Pomas	140	160	300
Do	Cah-lah-tel Pomas			
Do	She-bal-ne Pomas			
Tule River	Owen's River			350
Do	Tule River and others			450
Hoopa Valley	Various tribes, (about)			600
		1,003	1,442	3,845

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, California.

* This number embraces all the Indians in the vicinity of Mendocino, including those off of the reservation proper, who are employed by white men.

Annual report of farming operations in the California superintendency, 1864.

Name of reservation.	Size of the reserve.	No. of acres cultivated by government.	No. cultivated by Indians.	Bushels of wheat raised.	Bushels of corn.	Bushels of oats.	Bushels of barley.	Bushels of peas.	Bushels of potatoes.	Bushels of sweet potatoes.	Bushels of carrots.
Smith River	481	452	.....	1,200	.....	4,000	.....	2,000	2,500	....	500
Round Valley	5,000	940	.....	10,000	6,000	2,000	3,000	400	1,000	....	3,000
Mendocino	25,000	250	30	.....	.....	6,000	900	300	1,500	....	.....
Tule River	1,280	185	75	3,300	400	.....	1,100	.....	400	900	.....
Total	31,761	1,827	105	14,500	6,400	12,000	5,000	2,700	5,400	900	3,500

Annual report of farming operations, &c.—Continued.

Name of reservation.	Bushels of beets.	Bushels of turnips.	Bushels of buckwheat.	Bushels of apples.	Bushels of beans.	Tons of hay cut.	No. of horses.	No. owned by Indians.	No. of mules.	No. of neat cattle.	No. of swine.	No. of chickens.
Smith River	100	400	50	1,000	.....	50	35	.....	1	149	100	82
Round Valley	2,000	.....	.....	.....	30	300	20	1	16	514	286	75
Mendocino	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	.....	1	47	.....	.....
Tule River	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	29	100	43	.....	4	.....
Total	2,100	400	50	1,000	70	350	98	101	61	710	390	157

REMARKS.—But a small portion of the crops are yet harvested, and the amount of grain, &c., in the foregoing report is estimated as the probable yield.

I hereby certify that the above report is correct:

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, California.

No. 36.

YREKA, *March 5*, 1864.

DEAR SIR: On the 14th of last month I held a council with the Modoc, Klamath Lake, Shasta, Scott's Valley, and Hamburg Indians, and formed a settlement with them, which is herewith enclosed.

This step may be somewhat irregular, inasmuch as the Oregon agency had received appropriations heretofore for their charge and maintenance; but the misunderstanding between Rogers, the sub-agent of Oregon, and the military, and the ill feeling that was growing up among the Indians, and being occasionally demonstrated by the Klamath Lakes and Modocs towards the whites, seemed urgently to call for an intervention to avoid war. Besides this, although the appropriations have uniformly been made to Oregon for the charge and care of the Shasta, Klamath Lake, and Modoc Indians, the former, the Shastas, inhabit entirely within the borders of California. The Klamath Lake Indians are about equally divided, as is also their land, by the State line, and the Modocs and their land are mostly in California. These tribes inhabit the country lying west of the Sierra Nevada mountains, and south of the Siskiyou mountains to the confluence of the Scott's and Klamath rivers, as follows:

The Hamburg Indians known in their language as the T-ka, inhabit immediately at the mouth of Scott's river, known in their language as the Otte-ti-e-wa river. The Scott's Valley Indians, known in their language as the Id-do-a, inhabit Scott's valley, above the cañon. The Yreka (a misnomer for Yeka—Shasta Butte) Indians, known in their language as the Ho-te-day, inhabit that part of the country lying south of Klamath river, and west of Shasta river. The Shasta Indians, known in their language as the We-o-how—it meaning stone house, from the large cave in their country—occupy the land east of Shasta river, and south of the Siskiyou mountains, and west of the lower Klamath lake. All of these Indians speak the same language, and were formerly under one chief (who lived in Scott's valley) and sub-chiefs, but for years past have been under separate chiefs, the former regal family having become extinct by sickness and casualities, about the time our white population first entered the country. They have since this—my settlement—elected a big chief, (Skoo-kum-tie,) called by us John, who is a smart, sober, and well-disposed Indian. Then, next east of the Shastas are the Klamath Lake Indians, known in their

language as the Okshee, who inhabit the country about the Klamath lakes, and east about half way to the Goose lake, to Wright lake, and south to a line running about due east from Shasta Butte. Then the Modocs, (or Moadoc, as the word is pronounced,) known in their language as the Ok-kow-ish, inhabit the Goose lake country, and are mostly within the State of California. These and the Klamath Lake Indians speak the same language, though under several chiefs. The Modocs are under Sconges, head chief, and Skitte-hon-ges, and other smaller chiefs, and the Klamath Lakes, under La Lakes and smaller chiefs.

The word Modoc is a Shasta Indian word, and means all distant, stranger, or hostile Indians, and became applied to these Indians by white men in early days from hearing the Shastas speak of them.

The range of the Siskiyou mountains, known in their language as the Mac-ki-a, forms the northern limits of the country of most of these tribes. The Klamath Lake and Modoc Indians number about fourteen hundred warriors, all well mounted on Indian ponies, and armed with guns, and are skilful marksmen; are large, active, and courageous Indians and would be formidable foes; and many of our straggling citizens in the early days of the country have fallen victims to them. The large number of miners and traders emigrating this season to the northern placers having either to pass through their country or make a circuit to Portland, the temptation of this so much the shortest route would necessarily expose many small and defenceless companies to sure destruction from these powerful bands of Indians.

All of these facts, I feel, justify my interference, and fortunately, from some little incidents of early days, they all had learned to both fear and respect me, and they readily assembled in council, and were evidently highly gratified at a restoration of peace among themselves and a good understanding with us. Since this arrangement, it has been proven by actual experience that they intend fully to comply with the terms of the compact. Their guns were all kept back on their visit to Yreka, after the treaty, and individual white men have passed out into their country and back without molestation or annoyance.

The chiefs La Lakes and Sconges wish me particularly to visit their country this summer. The Shastas, Scott's Valley, Yreka and Hamburg Indians are reduced, all told, to about two hundred, and their country is fully settled up by the whites without any compensation to them, but with occasional trifling aid from citizens they are enabled to take care of themselves, and have never been the recipient of any bounty or care from the government.

The land of the Modoc and Klamath Lake Indians is a high, cold plain, nearly on a level with the summit of the Sierra Nevada mountains, too frosty to raise cereals or roots with success, and fit only for grass. The country abounds in wild game and the lakes and streams in fish. The Indians make a good living and raise a great many horses, the snow, spreading over so large a surface, not falling deep enough to cover the herbage, and their stock finding good grazing all winter. On this whole plain, from Yreka east to the eastern slope of the Nevada mountains, it is a rare occurrence to meet with a fall of snow exceeding six inches, and then to lie but a few days, the great elevation and consequently cool surface not causing much evaporation, and that little is condensed and spread over a large extent of country; unlike the Sacramento valley and its surrounding mountains, the peaks and ridges of which condense and accumulate to great depth the humidity of the atmosphere of the warm valleys.

This upper country will not be wanted by white people for ages to come, except as a thoroughfare, (and this is now fully secured,) and unless rich deposits of mineral wealth should be found there, in which last alternative the Indians soon make room for the miners.

I am thus particular, so that you may be fully advised when legislating upon this subject, and hope, should Mr. Shannon desire it, you will let him peruse it.

I start in a few days to visit the Humboldt Indians, with a firm belief that I

can make a satisfactory accommodation with all these hostile bands that are now costing the government so much. Their country is but little needed by our citizens, and much of the difficulty arises from evil-disposed white men who reside among the Indians. The Klamath river, from the mouth of the Salmon river down, runs mostly through a close cañon, and is a very broken country, and had my predecessor allowed the Indians to care for themselves at the time of the great overflow, they would have taken to the mountains, and in a few days after the flood had subsided they would have returned to the river banks, and with fish have provided for their immediate wants, (as in fact two-thirds of them did and yet remain there,) and would have saved the government the heavy expense of their removal and subsistence at Smith's river. The great number of Indians inhabiting the Klamath and Humboldt countries, the dense redwood forests on the river bottoms, and the high, craggy, precipitous mountains back, would, to my mind, be a serious warning against any effort to remove them by military force, and, if undertaken, would cost the government as much as the great Florida war, and would be about equally procrastinated.

True, it could be accomplished; but is it advisable thus to expend the energies of our country upon an unnecessary enterprise, when we are rent with internal dissensions, and the whole power and treasure of the government is needed to restrain the suicidal hand of rebellion?

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours,

E. STEELE.

Hon. JOHN CONNESS.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Northern District of California, March 8, 1864.

SIR: Observing in yesterday's paper that an appropriation of $20,000 is about being made to effect a treaty and purchase the lands of the Klamath Lake, Modoc, and Snake Indians, I thought it advisable to furnish the department with what present knowledge I possessed of the country and Indians. This I could not better do than by forwarding a copy of a letter sent several days since to Hon. John Conness, which copy is herewith enclosed. The Snake Indians, or Shoo-shon-as, are a very numerous tribe, and of rather roving proclivities, traversing from the southeastern portion of Oregon, a part of Washington Territory, Idaho Territory, Nevada, and Utah Territories. I have met them as far down as southwest of Salt Lake City. A treaty with them, as in fact with all other Indians whose country is not required for immediate settlements, should be only for their good behavior, and the right of way and grazing, &c. In any case the principle of presents and stipulations for purchase should be avoided, as the presents only tend to impress the Indians with a belief of their superior powers and our cowardice, and whenever they desire a new outfit they will make an outbreak, with a view to a new treaty and further presents. I speak thus from actual experience. As for the question of purchase, that idea is incited in the mind of the Indian by white men, who desire to speculate out of both Indians and the government. The instalments, when paid, are soon squandered to white men, who follow in the footprints of the government agent with whiskey, tobacco, and trinkets, and the Indians, by it, find means to indulge their most pernicious habits.

The Indian, in his normal condition, has no knowledge or idea of proprietorship in the soil, and considers his right to consist in keeping others from occupying or owning in common with him any district of country if he has sufficient force to do so, and, further, to extend occasional levies on those surrounding him

The Snakes, being a very large tribe, go hither and yon as they please, and meet with no checks north until they come to the Blackfeet, or south until the Apache country. They have not been known to come west over the Nevada mountains on any of these warlike excursions, though I have seen and talked with Snake Indians that had been to the Pacific ocean.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. STEELE,
Supt. Agt. Ind. Affairs, Northern Dist., California.

Hon. WM. P. DOLE,
Commissioner, Washington, D. C.

No. 37.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office of Indian Affairs, April 26, 1864.

SIR: I enclose for your information a copy of an act of Congress approved on the 8th instant, entitled "An act to provide for the better organization of Indian affairs in California."

In order to carry this act into effect, you have, at the instance of the congressional delegation from California, been appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, superintendent of Indian affairs for said State.

* * * * * * *

It has long been apparent to this department that the organization of the Indian service of California was very defective under the laws in existence prior to the passage of the act of the 8th instant, and it is to be hoped that this act, supported by the delegation from California, will result, as its title imports, in a "better organization." The immediate realization of this hope will, however, depend in a great measure upon the wisdom, prudence, and skill which, from representations made, will, I doubt not, be brought to bear by you in inaugurating the new policy; and in this view, it is proper that a few suggestions should be made based upon the past experience of this office.

You will observe that it is now proposed to establish not exceeding four reservations for the use of the Indians of California, from which all whites except government employés are to be excluded.

The proper location of these reservations will be among the first and most important duties arising under the new law; hence I am solicitous that you give this subject your immediate and careful attention, in order that the department may avail itself of your judgment in making the locations. There is no more fruitful source of difficulty than that occasioned by settlements of whites in the immediate vicinity of Indian reservations, and for this reason the law under consideration wisely provides that the new reservations shall be "as remote from white settlements as may be found practicable, having due regard to their adaptation to the purposes for which they are intended." I cannot too stongly urge the importance of this feature of the law. It will be difficult, and perhaps impossible, to find an isolated tract of country sufficient in area and well adapted to the purpose upon which settlements have not been made by whites; hence, it is further provided that the Secretary of the Interior may contract with such settlers, who may be lawfully upon the land selected, for the purchase of their improvements. The financial condition of the country imperatively enjoins upon all public officers the exercise of the most rigid economy, and for this reason the locations should be made so as to embrace the least possible number of improvements made by whites, that the liabilities arising under this feature of the law may not be unnecessarily large.

Another indispensable requisite to the success of the new policy is, that the

reservations shall be ample in extent, and shall contain a sufficient amount of arable and pasture land to enable the Indians to engage in agricultural and pastoral pursuits. You will observe, from a perusal of the law, that, to the extent of the number authorized, the present reservations may be retained, and may be enlarged to such an extent as may be necessary, in order to their complete adaptation to the purposes intended. I understand that at the Round Valley reservation there are arable lands lying adjacent and extending to the surrounding mountains, which are occupied by whites. It was to meet such a case as this that the provision just mentioned was incorporated in the law, so that in case that or other reservations similarly situated shall be retained, they may be enlarged so as to extend to the summits of the adjacent mountains, thereby precluding the possibility of whites establishing their settlements in the immediate vicinity. I do not wish to be understood as expressing an opinion in favor of Round valley, but simply mention that point to illustrate the object of the provision under consideration, and to express my views as to the kind or character of the boundaries which should be established for Indian reservations. Smith River reservation has also been represented as a very suitable point for a reservation, on account of its peculiar location and the facility with which natural boundaries for the same, of the kind indicated, may be established.

By the last section of the act all offices and employments connected with Indian affairs in California, not provided for by said act, are abolished. This will, of necessity, devolve upon you the duty of making such temporary appointments of special agents as may be indispensable to a proper regard for the wants of the superintendency and the public interests involved; such agents to act only until the reservations provided for can be selected and established. Owing to the great distance, and the length of time that must necessarily elapse in communications between you and this office, it is thought proper to request that you should name such number of persons as will be required for the several agencies hereafter to be established upon the reservations, and who, in your judgment, are qualified for the position of agent, by their prudence, wisdom, experience, and upright character. The names thus presented will be submitted to the congressional delegation from your State, and, if they concur in your recommendations, will be presented to the President with a request that they may be appointed. In selecting persons for recommendation, you will, of course, understand that you are not precluded from considering the claims of agents who were in office at the time the new law took effect, and if you believe them faithful their experience may be of use to you.

In passing from the old to the new system, it is reasonable to anticipate that more or less confusion will arise; but it is hoped that prompt and prudent action will be taken by you to inaugurate the new system with the least possible delay. Your predecessors, or, rather, the late superintending agents, will be instructed to turn over to you all books, papers, records, and public property in their hands relating or belonging to the Indian department, and requested to give you such information as may be in their possession relative to the present condition and the immediate requirements of the Indian service in California.

In conclusion, I desire to assure you of the hearty co-operation of this office in all your efforts which shall, in its judgment, appear for the welfare of the Indians committed to your charge, and trust that your accession to the office of superintendent of Indian affairs will prove the beginning of a reformation in the conduct and management of our Indian relations in the State of California which will be at once creditable to you and beneficial to the Indians and citizens of your State.

In order that you may be advised of the general scope of Indian affairs in your superintendency during the past few years, I have this day caused to be mailed to your address the annual reports of this office to the Secretary of the Interior for the years 1861, 1862, and 1863.

I shall be pleased if you will communicate freely with this office upon such subjects, pertaining to Indian matters in California, as from time to time may arise, in order that the department may, to the fullest extent, avail itself, of your judgment, and that it may be made as thoroughly and minutely acquainted with their present and prospective conditions and requirements as may be found practicable. It is also desirable that, in submitting estimates for funds required for the use of the superintendency, you should specify with as much detail as practicable the objects for which the same are desired.

Very respectfully, &c.,

CHARLES E. MIX,
Acting Commissioner.

AUSTIN WILEY, Esq.,
Sacramento, California.

No. 38.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, Cal., June 1, 1864.

SIR: I notified you on the 27th that I had filed my bond and entered upon the discharge of my duties; I also notified you that I had appointed a temporary special agent for that portion of the State formerly known as the southern district. In view of the fact that the property in the southern district is in so many different places, and government has no land there that may be called its own, I have directed the special agent to collect the property together and move it on the Tule River farm, which I find has been leased to Mr. Wentworth for a term of two years, commencing in July, 1863. I have also directed him to collect as many of the Indians from the vicinity of Fort Tejon and from the Tejon farm as practicable, and take them to the Tule River farm, which appears to be the only place in the district where anything is being raised for their subsistence, and the only place where they can live in peace. He is further instructed not to allow the Indians to suffer for food so long as there is anything at his command to feed them with. The mules and horses in that department he is instructed to drive to Round valley, if, in his judgment, the effects of the drought will endanger their lives during the season. At Round valley the feed is splendid, and they can be sent south again next winter, after the rains commence, in time to put in crops. Besides, it will cost nothing to keep them at Round valley. With the aid of the crop at the Tule River farm, and the recent rains in the extreme southern part of the State, I have reason to hope that the Indians there will not suffer much this season, or, at least, until such time as I can visit them and see to their wants in person. I am induced to the belief that there is no immediate danger of starvation among them, from a letter received by Colonel Curtis, commanding southern military district, bearing date of 22d ultimo, in which he says: "The Yumas and other bands along the Colorado river are as badly off as any of the Indians, and recent advices from that country state that the crop of mesquite, which is their principal reliance, will be large this year." Colonel Curtis is well posted in matters pertaining to the southern Indians. He also informs me that pretty much all the Owen's river Indians, which were moved to the Tejon reservation two years since, have left and returned to their old haunts; what few are left I will cause to be removed to the Tule River farm.

It is much to be regretted that government could not have held possession of the Tejon ranches for reservation purposes. It was originally the peaceable abode of many Indians, and having been taken possession of by the depart-

ment for a reservation, and having an immense amount of government money expended upon it in that capacity, it is certainly a hardship, not to use a harsher term, that the Indians should be driven from it to seek new abodes upon rented farms contiguous to white settlements, and their fine pasture lands and fields given over to the herds and laborers of him who expended the government money in improving the lands for the ostensible benefit of the Indians. I refer to E. F. Beale, who holds possession of the entire ranch under government patent. There is some little government property on the ranch yet, which Mr. Beale is modest enough to admit belongs to the Indian department. In charge of this, Mr. Wentworth has a supervisor and employé. I have directed all the property to be moved off, and both the men to be discharged. I am well convinced that, if such a thing be possible, government should own the Tejon ranch. There would be no difficulty in collecting all the interior Indians in that section of the State and subsisting them there; but as I am directed to have economy in view in selecting reservations, I can make no suggestions further than this, until I have visited that section, which will be as soon as I return from a trip north, perhaps in the course of two weeks.

Matters in the north, both on the reservations and off of them, with the exception of the districts where the Indians are hostile, are in better condition. This has been a fruitful season for the Indians there; clover, fish, and roots being abundant. Besides, there are good crops at Round valley and Mendocino, which will go far towards subsisting them next winter. I was up that way some weeks since, and thought things looked well. I will, however, give you further details when I have made an official visit and received the property. Before making an official visit to Round valley, I may as well inform you that my mind has long since been made up that nature intended that valley for a reservation. Its location in the heart of an Indian country, the fertility of its soil, its immense natural resources for Indian food, its remote locality—entirely without the reach of white men or white settlements, (providing government should own the whole of it)—all go far towards recommending it as the only suitable place in the northern part of the State adapted for such a purpose. I presume the department has been advised from time to time by my predecessors of the condition of things there, of the annoyance of settlers who have claims and improvements in the valley, and of their defiant attitude and open hostility to the government. In a word, steps should be taken at once by the department to have a survey of this valley made by the surveyor general, and settlement made with the white settlers, as is provided for in the consolidation act of April 8, 1864. I believe the valley, or part of it, has been surveyed, but it would be well to have the work done over, so that I may be posted as to the boundaries. Twenty-five thousand acres would cover all the valley and enough of the surrounding mountains to preclude the possibility of a white man getting a piece of land on which he could live within twenty-five miles of the valley.

Upon this reservation, if what I have suggested be carried out, all the Indians south of Eel river and west of the Sacramento valley range of mountains, including the valleys of Ukiah and Russian river, would willingly go if they could be provided with food and shelter, and not be molested by white men. The Indians on the Smith River and Mendocino reservations could likewise be removed to Round valley. They are much the same class of Indians as those in the vicinity of Round valley, and are not considered dangerous or hostile. These, however, will remain where they are until the crops on the Mendocino and Smith River farms are gathered and eaten, and provision made for their reception at Round valley, as above indicated. A bad feeling exists between Mr. Melinday, supervisor at Round valley, and Captain Douglass, the commanding officer of the military. I will cause the removal of the supervisor when I go up, and appoint a special temporary agent in his place, so

that the Indian and military departments may not be inimical to each other. Mr. Bryson, at Smith river, and Mr. Whipple, at Mendocino, it is my intention to retain, if I find matters under their charge as I have reason to expect.

It might be well for me to mention here, that there is a large number of Indians between Smith river and Round valley that I have not included among those that could be kept upon the Round Valley reservation, or any other reservation north of San Francisco. I refer to the Klamath, Redwood, and Trinity Indians, with whom we now are at war. At present, I will not go into details concerning the nature and numbers of these Indians, but will simply say a reservation must be provided for them south of San Francisco, from whence there is no chance of return. I did hope, for this purpose, the government would have favorably received the proposition to place them upon the Santa Catalina island, but I have been informed by Mr. Conness that the department does not favor the project. At present there are about three hundred of these Indians prisoners at Humboldt bay, held and fed by the military department. These are a class of Indians that cannot be turned loose; neither can they be sent to either one of the reservations north, which would be just the same as turning them loose, as bitter experience, in times gone by, has proved. In view of this, I have induced General Wright to order the commanding officer of that district to hold them until such time as your department, through my earliest efforts and suggestions, shall provide a place and transportation for them south. My residence has been among those Indians since I was a mere boy, and I have suffered from their hostilities. My experience enables me to assert positively that no means can be devised which will bring peace to that distracted district, except the removal of the Indians to some point south of San Francisco. Our great misfortune has been in the management of Indian affairs in the north; that our military commanders and superintendents have labored under the delusion that these Indians might be kept and treated on the northern reservations, the same as others. Acting under this belief in 1858, Mr. Henly removed nine hundred to Mendocino, and in 1860 Mr. Hanson removed eleven hundred to Smith river. I presume it is safe to say that not one of those Indians remained where they were placed longer than two months; all returning to their old haunts, as was well known would be the case by the settlers. It cost the government not less than $200,000 to catch them, and they came back doubly imbittered against the whites, and more positively hostile than before. The military operations are progressing well there, and I am anxious to be able to co-operate as soon as possible.

This letter may seem somewhat out of place, as I have not yet made an official visit to the reservation; but as I have been requested to communicate freely with the department, I have thrown out these suggestions from facts within my knowledge, and, through them, I trust the department may gather some stray shadows of what my policy in this department will be. Of course I can say nothing of the condition of affairs on the reservations until I have visited them; neither can I make any estimate for funds, further than for salaries, for which the law provides. There should also be a transportation fund, but I can set no figure, for I cannot tell how many Indians can be removed within the year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. CHARLES E. MIX,
Acting Commissioner, Washington.

No. 39.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, Cal., June 4, 1864.

SIR: In a communication addressed you from this office on the 1st instant I informed you that there were about three hundred prisoners (Indians) held at Humboldt bay, and gave the reason why they could not be placed on any of the northern reservations. Since then two hundred more prisoners have been taken, and more will be brought in soon. It is of the utmost importance that these prisoners be removed at the earliest practicable day, and as several months must necessarily elapse before a reservation could be located by the department under the provisions of the recent act of Congress, would it not be well for the department to direct me to provide a temporary home for them somewhere south of San Francisco—somewhere near the military reservation about San Pedro, or on Catalina island? We could not well take them from off the coast now because of the expense of transportation.

The commanding officer either at San Pedro or Catalina would furnish a guard for them, but they would have to be fed through my department after I had taken charge of them. Another salutary effect which would be produced by this move would be to assure the people and the troops, who have long suffered by these Indians, that a step had at last been taken in the right direction to relieve them.

Your earnest consideration of this subject is requested, and if favorably considered, transportation and subsistence must be provided. As yet I have not a dollar, nor will I have until I receive it from Washington.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. P. DOLE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 40.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, Cal., June 30, 1864.

SIR: I arrived here on the 26th, after a visit of two weeks to Round valley and Mendocino. I reached Round valley on the 15th instant, and met Mr. Steele there, as per agreement, on the 18th. We proceeded to take an inventory of the property, and completed it by the 20th, the result of which will more fully appear when receipts for the same are forwarded to your department. I beg to say, however, that I receipted for a great many articles which are utterly worthless, and which seem to have passed from the hands of one superintendent to another to swell the list of property, and make some showing for the disbursement of funds which have gone through their hands. Pretty much all the farming implements and tools, besides being old and in a worn-out condition, seem to have been refuse goods in the first place, and were disposed of to the government in the absence of any other purchaser. In this list of worthless property I do not include purchases made under Mr. Steele's administration, for really although the list look large, there is no personal property on the reservation, aside from the stock, of much value except that purchased by him, and I shall expend all such as is worthless in my reports during the year. I found the crops in excellent condition, with a fine prospect for an abundant yield—enough, indeed, to feed all the Indians there, or that may come there, for the next twelve months. My only fear is, that we may not be able to save

it all, but I made the best arrangements I could by purchasing lumber and employing men to build granaries to do so. I found the stock all in good condition; but the mules and horses, except a few of the latter, are old and worthless. The cattle and hogs are in good condition, but much scattered. I have no knowledge as to the correctness of the number for which I receipted, but was governed, as I could only be, by Mr. Steele's receipt, less the expenditure. It shall be my first care, when the harvest fields are cleaned, to get up what can be found, and ascertain as nearly as possible what the government owns. The Indians there are all in excellent condition and spirits. There is plenty of corn and grain to feed the squaws and children till the crops are gathered. To the field hands, of which we can turn out about two hundred, we feed beef once a day while they are at work, giving them vegetables and corn beside. We can get along with the goods we have on hand for clothing until New York shipment arrives. I found a bad state of feeling existing between Captain Douglas, the commanding officer at Fort Wright, and the officers and employés on the reservation. Without going into any details concerning the troubles, I simply pass it by, saying that I brought about amicable relations between the military and Indian department in the valley, by removing the supervisor and such of the employés as had taken part in the ill feeling. I appointed a young man, Saul M. Ferran, temporary special agent for the reserve; gave him strict instructions in writing relative to his duties, and invested him with full power, hrough Captain Douglas, to have them obeyed. He is a stranger to me, and was one of Mr. Steele's employés. He is a quiet, intelligent young man, and I feel that I can trust him. The settlers there are all extremely anxious concerning the intention of the government relative to the purchase of their improvements. I informed them that I had already recommended the department to take preliminary steps for the purchase of their improvements, in order that Round valley may be had for the exclusive use and benefit of the Indians. Colonel Henly, former superintendent, called to see and talk with me on the subject. He is the ruling spirit among the copperhead settlers in the valley, and of course knows more of the situation of the original lines than any other man; indeed, I think more than he would care to tell. He talked very fair to me, however, and proffered me his influence among the settlers in the purchase of their improvements. I think the purchase can be made without much trouble and on reasonable terms. In regard to the government at once taking steps to possess itself of Round valley for reservation purposes, I have nothing to add to my letter of June 1. Instead, however, of confining the limits of the reserve to a certain number of acres, if there is no law of Congress to interfere, I would respectfully refer the department to the report of Mr. Steele, in Report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1863, page 402, concerning metes and bounds of reservation, in which I fully concur. Mr. Steele and myself had a consultation in regard to the matter there, and this was our conclusion.

MENDOCINO RESERVE.

We arrived at the Upper or Bedahto station on the 22d; there we found Mr. Whipple in charge, the Indians well satisfied, and enough to eat. The crop there is by no means promising, the vegetables having died out for want of rain, and the grain looking sickly. However, I trust there will be enough to last as long as the department will need it for reservation purposes. I reappointed Mr. Whipple and placed him in charge. At the Bald Hill station we found a few Indians, say thirty, with Mr. Stebbens and family in charge. No change was made there. The Indians are well satisfied, and have good treatment and enough to eat.

At the "Old Headquarters," at the mouth of the Nooga, I found things in a somewhat dilapidated condition. Nearly all the houses were occupied—some by

former employés, some by butchers, and some by whites and Indians promiscuously. Here was located the physician for the reservation, Dr. Coxhead. He was convenient to the calls of mill-men and others down the coast, but not in a good place for the Indians on the reservation. As there is little or no sickness there, I discharged the doctor, and directed Mr. Whipple to box up the medicines and move them to the Upper station, administering the medicine himself when needed. I further directed Mr. Whipple to lease the place, Lower Headquarters, to some *one* man who would take care of the property, and give him possession of the whole of it. The Indians that were idling about there I instructed him to move to the Upper station and put them to work, and see that they remained there. On this reservation, as at Round valley, the character of personal property is poor indeed; in fact, almost entirely exhausted. The farming implements are not worth putting in a report at all. Mr. Whipple assures me that he would not have been able to get the crop in last spring had he not used his own and borrowed teams and ploughs. He has nothing whatever to harvest with, but I will send up some sickles, cradles, and rakes, in time to save the crops. So that you may form an idea of the value of the personal property there, which looks so well on paper, I will say that I do not believe $1,500 could be realized to-day for every head of stock and every piece of personal property on the reservation. I trust, therefore, that the department will lose no time in ordering such portions of this reservation surveyed as will be likely to find purchasers, much of the land being entirely worthless; the Bedahto, or Upper station, the Bald Hill station, and Lower Headquarters, being all that a market could be found for at present. These three stations embrace, perhaps, 1,500 acres of land which might be sold. The Noyo mill, the property of Mr. A. W. McPherson, a gentleman of this city, is also upon the reserve. For a few acres, embracing the mill property, Mr. McPherson would pay a handsome price, and if not inconsistent with law, I would suggest that such a survey be made, and have the land appraised by disinterested parties and sold to him. I offer this simply as a suggestion, as the department is doubtless aware that he was permitted to build the mill there under the superintendence of Colonel Henly, and it seems now that it would be unjust to place the property in open competition between him and other parties by the sale of the land on which it stands.

General Wright informs me that the hostilities in Humboldt, Klamath, and Trinity counties may now be considered virtually closed. In addition to the 500 prisoners which he now holds at Humboldt bay, the commanding officer informs him that pretty much all the Indians, including the hostile ones, are ready to surrender. He fully agrees with me in regard to the necessity of placing them somewhere south of San Francisco, and suggests Catalina island as the proper place. He will hold and feed them until the department is heard from, in answer to my request in the premises.

The financial department of the institution under my charge is somewhat unsettled. Mr. Wentworth went out in debt. Mr. Steele has a little money, but does not feel authorized to turn it over to me. I know nothing of the appropriation, nor when any of it will be along. I have no directions how to proceed or to remedy such a state of affairs. Some things, for the safety of the crops and good of the service, I have been compelled to buy. I have been using my own money to meet emergencies, defray travelling expenses of self and agents, until I find the "demand more than equal to the supply." But I will never importune the government for money. I shall endeavor to render a faithful account of what is appropriated, and not run the department in debt. I would as soon occupy a berth in Libby prison as to be dogged the way Henly and Hanson are for old debts; and in this connexion, I beg of the department not to make it my duty to settle or pay any old accounts under former superintendents. Mr. Steele is an excellent man for such business, and should be retained and charged with that responsibility.

Your letter of May 26, with instructions concerning clothing to be shipped, is received and will be attended to.

Also, letter of May 23, concerning annual reports, which will be strictly adhered to.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, California.

No. 41.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, California, July 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that all the Indians on the Tejon farm and in the vicinity of Fort Tejon, some two hundred in number, have been removed from there to the Tule River farm.

The Indians at Tejon were reported to me as being in a very bad condition and suffering for food. Having no means of subsisting them there, I ordered their removal to Tule river. They left Fort Tejon on the 6th of this month.

Mr. G. S. Hoffman, special agent at Tule river, informed me, under date of June 24, that the harvesting had been completed, and yielded 70,000 pounds of barley and 200,000 pounds of wheat, which, with the crop of beans and potatoes, will be an abundance to subsist the Indians now on the farm, or likely to be placed there, for the present season.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 42.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, July 9, 1864.

SIR: I have received your letters of the 1st and 4th ultimo in relation to the affairs of your superintendency.

I am informed by these letters that there are some five hundred Indian prisoners held by the military authorities at Humboldt bay, and that more will be brought in soon. You also state that "several months must necessarily elapse" before a reservation can be located under the recent act of Congress, and suggest that you be directed to provide a temporary home south of San Francisco, near the military reservation at San Pedro or upon Catalina island.

At this distance, I am unable to perceive the reason requiring several months for the location of a reserve under the provision of the recent law for the reorganization of Indian affairs within your State, and especially in this case with reference to that portion of the State heretofore known as the northern district. The statements of former superintending agents, without exception, are to the effect that Round valley, by its peculiarly isolated position, the extent of its arable land, and its close proximity to rivers and to the mountains, affording a fair supply of fish and abundance of game, is most admirably adapted to the purpose, and is of sufficient capacity to accommodate a majority of the Indians of that portion of the State. In these views I am led, by expressions contained in your letter of the 1st ultimo, to believe that you concur. I assume, then, that nothing remains to be done, so far as the permanent establishment of this reserve

is concerned, except the negotiation with settlers *rightfully* there for the purchase of their claims, and a proper defining of its boundaries. In advance of even these preliminary arrangements, I see no reason why the number of Indians on the reservation may not be almost immediately largely increased.

I presume that ere this reaches you you will have received instructions relative to negotiations with the Indians of northern California and southeastern Oregon, and I trust that you and Superintendent Huntington, who is associated with you, will find it convenient to enter upon the discharge of this duty with but little delay. I feel very sanguine that the result of this negotiation will, to a very great extent, if not entirely, remove all occasion for a further prosecution of military operations against the Indians in the northern part of the State. As at present advised, I cannot consent that you should relieve the military authorities of the care and subsistence of the Indians now held by them as prisoners. It has ever been customary for the War Department to provide for the necessities of their prisoners during the continuance of hostilities. When the Indians shall have been subdued by military force, or induced to submit by peaceable negotiation, I apprehend that but little difficulty will be encountered in securing their concentration upon the Round Valley reserve, or upon such other reservation as I hope to learn will then have been established. Until that time there is no appropriation at the disposal of this department which is specifically applicable to defraying the expense of feeding and providing for Indians in military custody; and although the expense might be defrayed from the general appropriation for your superintendency, yet the amount appropriated is so limited, when considered with reference to the ordinary demands, that it will require the utmost prudence and economy to confine expenditures absolutely required within its limits. Liabilities have heretofore been incurred for the Indian service in California, (sometimes with, but more frequently without, authority from this department,) relying upon the future action of Congress for their payment. This practice, more than all others, has served to paralyze our efforts in behalf of the Indians and bring the service into disrepute, and I cannot too strongly impress upon you the importance of hereafter creating no liabilities for which provision has not been made. The same objection applies with equal force to the proposed removal of the Indians now in custody, and those that may hereafter be captured, to a point south of San Francisco, "near the military reservation about San Pedro or on Catalina island;" and were this not the case, my information is such that I feel assured such a movement, aside from the great expense involved in the removal, and in subsisting the Indians after their arrival, would be very unwise on our part, and exceedingly disastrous to the Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. DOLE, *Commissioner.*

AUSTIN WILEY,
Sup't Indian Affairs, San Francisco, California.

No. 43.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, California, August 2, 1864.

SIR: Yours of July 9 is received. You say "at this distance I am unable to perceive the reason requiring several months for the location of a reserve under the provisions of the recent laws," &c. Section second of the act of April 8 authorizes the President to set aside four tracts of land for the use and benefit of the Indians, "to be located as remote from white settlements as may be found practicable," &c., "at least one of which shall be located in what has

heretofore been known as the Northern district." If I fully understand, by the law and from the reading of your instructions of April 26, my primary movement should be to locate a reservation. I left nothing undone in regard to locating Round valley, of which you were fully informed by my letter of June 1 and June 30.

As I had not fully determined to locate more than one reservation in what has heretofore been known as the Northern district, I trust you will see the reason why some time is required.

The receipt of your letter of to-day, declining the proposition to allow the hostile Indians to be removed south, leaves me but one alternative—that is, to locate a reservation in Hoopa valley or Trinity river, where these Indians reside. A long interview with General McDowell, yesterday, at which Colonel Black, the recent commander of Humboldt military district, was present, encourages me to take this step.

The hostile Indians, with whom we have been so long at war, live principally in Hoopa valley. The warriors, some seventy-five in number, are now there, with arms still in their hands, waiting to see what is to be done. Hoopa valley is about five miles in length and two in width, with Trinity river in the centre. The improvements of settlers there can be bought cheap, and there is sufficient arable land to raise plenty of food for all the Indians in the valley and vicinity. A portion of the prisoners at Humboldt bay I will remove to that place, if I can make satisfactory arrangements with the settlers, and a portion to Round valley.

I regret that the statements of the former superintending agents should induce you to think that these hostile Indians could, either by being subdued or by treaty, be kept on any of the northern reservations. As my statement in regard to the failure of former superintendents to accomplish this does not seem to be sufficient evidence of its impracticability, I respectfully ask that you seek information from Colonel H. M. Black, who has recently been in command of that district, and who leaves for West Point to-morrow. General Wright, and his successor, General McDowell, fully concur with me in the opinion that the policy of making the attempt to move the hostile Indians, unless they can be taken south of San Francisco, is suicidal. I may be able to make some terms with them by allowing them to remain where they are, and giving them possession of the improvements in the valley, and for this purpose I leave to-day, and will advise you of the result of my mission at the earliest practicable moment.

General McDowell and myself are both at a loss to know precisely how to proceed under instructions. He does not feel authorized to issue rations to Indians under his orders, (to the commissary,) and I am informed that, "as at present advised, you cannot consent that I should relieve the military authorities of the care and subsistence of the Indians now held as prisoners."

The treaty of which you speak, with the Indians of northern California and northern Oregon, and which you feel sanguine "will, to a great extent, if not entirely, remove all occasion for a further prosecution of military operations against the Indians in northern California," cannot possibly have any effect upon the military operations now in progress in the Humboldt district. The Klamath Lake and Modoc Indians are distant several hundred miles from the Indians in this district, and are as entire strangers to each other as the Cherokees and Flat Heads.

General McDowell is taking a lively interest in Indian matters on this coast, and is anxious that I should concentrate the Indians somewhere, as far as is possible, so that he may draw his troops closer together.

I have asked him to request the Secretary of War to order Colonel Black to Washington soon after his arrival at West Point, on which occasion you will see and converse with him, and learn more in one hour by talking with him

than I could write you in a week concerning the hostile Indians of the north. He will inform you, from personal knowledge and experience, that the Trinity and Humboldt Indians could not be kept at Round valley.

Matters in my superintendency are flourishing. I am harvesting the crops in good shape; the Indians are gaining their shattered health, and recovering from loathsome disease. I am giving them plenty to eat—a system of managing reservations entirely new to most of them. I shall have plenty to feed them through the winter on the reservation at present under my control.

In locating the new one at Hoopa, I will be compelled to buy food, but there will be little expense attending their transportation.

Be assured I shall do what I think is best, both for Indians and the government, and I feel satisfied that my transactions will receive your fullest indorsement, when you fully comprehend them, which I am aware is difficult at so great a distance.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, California.

Hon. W. P. DOLE,
Commissioner, Washington.

No. 44.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, California, August 29, 1864.

SIR: On the 2d ultimo I informed you that I would start for the north for the purpose of making some kind of a settlement with the hostile Indians in the Humboldt military district. The headquarters for the Indians who have been engaged in the war in that portion of the State for five years past is Hoopa valley, on the Trinity river. I arrived there on the 10th ultimo, and found most of the hostile Indians in the valley, with their guns still in their hands, waiting my arrival.

They had been induced to come in by the officers commanding the district, under promise of protection until terms could be arranged; but so cunning were they, and so suspicious of white men, that they kept most of their guns hid, and were constantly on the alert, ready to break to the mountains in case any effort should be made to remove them to a reservation. They protest that they prefer death or starvation in the mountains to removal.

I found among the leaders, and those having the most influence, young men, those that I had known as boys, most of whom have had more or less experience among white men as packers, herdsmen, farmers, &c. They all speak English and are intelligent. They make dangerous enemies, but I have every reason to believe they will comply with every obligation they have subscribed to if I keep my faith with them. The old Indians used their influence against giving up guns, and protested that I would lie to them, as other agents had done; but the influence is now all in the hands of the younger or "second crop" Indians. They are the ones to be conciliated; peace with them secures peace with all. Enclosed you will find copy of a treaty I proposed, and which they finally accepted. From the 16th to the 21st they were busy in delivering up their guns and pistols, many of them being hid out miles from the valley. On the 22d I issued the notice marked B, called a meeting of the settlers, and made known to them what terms I had offered the Indians to secure peace. They were all well satisfied, with, perhaps, the exception of two or three whose associations have been exclusively among the Indians. Several of the settlers

will leave their places this fall, trusting to the government to pay them for their improvements.

The title to the whole of the lands in the valley is vested in the government. and as the improvements only are to be purchased, a very large sum will not be required. A good flouring mill and a fine saw-mill are there. The valley is beautifully located, surrounded by high mountains, well watered, with land enough in cultivation to feed all the Indians that are there or that may come there. Trinity river affords them fish during the spring and fall season, and the mountains on either side abound with acorns, berries, seed, &c.

At present there are about six hundred Indians in the valley. I appointed L. C. Beckwith a temporary special agent there at the request of the Indians themselves. I authorized him to assist them in building new houses, (their old ones having been burned during the war,) and to incur such expense as was absolutely necessary in preparing shelter for them before winter set in.

Enclosed please find a rough sketch of the valley, which, without being accurate in detail, will give you some idea of its situation and the location of the improvements.

I propose to take the whole of the valley and to the summit of the mountains on each side, which is about five miles. There are no improvements upon the proposed reservation excepting those within the valley.

I trust my action will be approved, and that no time will be lost by the department in having the improvements appraised. We shall want to commence ploughing there in November for our next year's crop, and the sooner the citizens and Indians know that the valley is to be the property of the latter, the better it will be for all concerned.

Soliciting your earliest attention to this matter, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, California.

Hon. WILLIAM P. DOLE,
Commissioner.

Treaty of peace and friendship between the United States government and the Hoopa, South Fork, Redwood, and Grouse Creek Indians.

ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. The United States government, through Austin Wiley, superintendent of Indian affairs for the State for California, by these presents doth agree and obligate itself to set aside for reservation purposes for the sole use and benefit of the tribes of Indians herein named, or such tribes as may hereafter avail themselves of the benefit of this treaty, the whole of Hoopa valley, to be held and used for the sole benefit of the Indians whose names are hereunto affixed as the representatives of their tribes.

SEC. 2. Said reservation shall include a sufficient area of the mountains on each side of the Trinity river as shall be necessary for hunting grounds, gathering berries, seeds, &c.

SEC. 3. The United States government shall provide suitable clothing and blankets for the men, women, and children, which shall be distributed each year by the agent in charge.

SEC. 4. Suitable instructions shall be given the squaws to enable them to make their own clothing, take proper care of their children, and become generally efficient in household duties.

SEC. 5. An agent and a sufficient number of employés to instruct the In-

dians in farming and harvesting shall be appointed, to reside upon the reservation, and no other white men shall be permitted to reside upon said reservation, except such as are in the military service of the United States or employed in government service.

SEC. 6. A physician shall be appointed to reside upon the reservation, whose duty it shall be to minister to the wants of the sick and look to their health and comfort.

ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. All Indians included among those subscribing to this treaty must obey all orders emanating from the agent in charge.

SEC. 2. No Indians belonging to either of the tribes herein enumerated shall go beyond the limits of said reservation without a written pass from the agent in charge. All so offending shall not be deemed friendly, and shall be hostile Indians.

SEC. 3. All Indians who have taken part in the war waged against the whites in this district for the past five years shall be forgiven and entitled to the same protection as those who have not been so engaged.

SEC. 4. All guns and pistols shall be delivered to the commanding officer at Fort Gaston, to be held in trust by him for the use and benefit of the Indians, to be used by them in hunting only, in such numbers and for such length of time as the agent may direct. All ammunition in their charge to be turned over to the agents and paid for at its actual value in Indian money.

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INDIAN RESERVATION NOTICE.

By virtue of power vested in me by an act of Congress approved April 8, 1864, and acting under instructions from the Interior Department, dated at Washington city, D. C., April 26, 1864, concerning the location of four tracts of land for Indian reservations in the State of California, I do hereby proclaim and make known to all concerned that I have this day located an Indian reservation, to be known and called by the name and title of the Hoopa Valley reservation, said reservation being situated on the Trinity river, in Klamath county, California, to be described by such metes and bounds as may hereafter be established by order of the Interior Department, subject to the approval of the President of the United States.

Settlers in Hoopa valley are hereby notified not to make any further improvements upon their places, as they will be appraised and purchased as soon as the Interior Department may direct.

AUSTIN WILEY,
Sup't Indian Affairs for the State of California.

FORT GASTON, CAL., *August* 21, 1864.

No. 45.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
San Francisco, California, October 5, 1864.

SIR: I have just returned from a visit to Round valley, where business of importance suddenly called me.

It affords me pleasure to report that the affairs on the reservation at that place are in a most flourishing condition. As I predicted in former communication, the Indians on the different branches of Eel river, contiguous to that reservation, known as the "Eukas" and "Wylackies," are coming in continually and settling upon the reservation. Over two hundred came in while I was there,

and they say all the others will come in as soon as they can be made to know the difference between kidnappers and squaw-hunters and those whose duty and business it is to feed and protect them.

I never saw Indians more agreeably surprised than those Wylackies were, when they came in and found that they could have a home on the reservation. They went to work with a will, and are highly pleased with the prospects of food for the winter. We have an abundance of food there for all that may come, and I will *see that they get it.* The sanitary condition of all the Indians there is excellent, and I trust they will never again be found in the wretched condition they were in when I took charge of them. They are sadly in need of clothing, and I am at a loss to know what to do about it. Our clothing will not arrive from New York till late, and there is not enough then to supply the wants of half the Indians. There are many Indians in the State, not living upon reservations, who are sadly in need of clothing. It will be my object to collect them upon reservations during the winter. I can easily accomplish this if I have clothing, for I have the food.

You will see by my annual report that the number of Indians on reservations are far under the number which the department had reason to expect were being cared for. My report was correct at the time, but I am well convinced that my next annual report will show a large increase.

Not having heard anything from the department concerning the purchase of improvements and removal of settlers from Round valley, and the season for putting in crops advancing, I have rented a large farm adjoining the reservation, and taken possession of it. If, however, the improvements should be purchased within the year, the conditions are such that I will have no rent to pay.

I have notified General McDowell to-day that I am ready to relieve him of the prisoners held at Humboldt bay. Those among them belonging to the Wylackies, some three hundred and fifty, I will receive at Round valley without any fears of their running away. Those from the vicinity of Humboldt I will receive at Smith river, with some doubts as to their remaining there. We will be compelled to retain Smith river for another year. If, by that time, Hoopa valley has been fully established as a reservation, there will be no difficulty in moving those Indians there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUSTIN WILEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, California.

Hon. W. P. DOLE, *Commissioner.*

No. 45½.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, October 3, 1864.

SIR: Your communication, dated August 29, 1864, enclosing a draught of the agreement made by you with the lately hostile Indians of the Trinity river, with the sketch of the situation of and settlements in the Hoopa valley, and the notice issued by you to the settlers, under date of ——, is received and duly considered.

From your description of the valley thus selected for a reservation, its fertility, and consequent capability to sustain the people proposed to be placed upon it, its isolation from the white settlements, and the willingness expressed by the Indians to acquiesce in the arrangements, and confine themselves to the locality selected, I am induced to approve of your action, and trust that great good will result to the Indians, as well as to the whites, by this close of an

expensive course of hostilities, and the consequent concentration of the Indians at a point where they can be controlled, and where measures may be adopted to improve their condition. I return herewith a copy of the agreement, as forwarded by you, with certain additions, suggested by the Secretary of the Interior, the document in this amended form meeting with his approval.

The relations of the government of the United States to the Indians of California do not contemplate treaties with those Indians, to be submitted by the President to the Senate for confirmation; but as it is deemed advisable to have the chiefs and leading men of the tribes in question subscribe their hands to a document which shall fully commit them hereafter, you will, after explaining to them the nature of the additions or alterations now suggested, as being intended solely for their benefit, cause a copy to be signed by them, and forward it to this office.

Under the provisions of section 2 of chapter 48 of the laws of 1864, you will notice that, before payment can be made for any improvements made by white persons lawfully upon lands which it is deemed necessary to set apart for the pndians, in the establishment of the four authorized reservations, a fair valuation of the said improvements must be made, and contracts entered into for the purchase of the same; which valuation and contracts must be reported to and approved by Congress and an appropriation made for payment. In consequence of the great distance of your field of labor, and the length of time occupied in communicating by letter, and in order that the arrangement with the Indians may as soon as possible be consummated to the satisfaction of all parties, upon consultation with the Secretary of the Interior I am directed to authorize you to appoint not exceeding three discreet persons, at a compensation not to exceed five dollars per day, besides their necessary travelling expenses, who are to proceed without delay to make a just and fair valuation of the improvements referred to, and to forward this report through you at the earliest day practicable. I cannot too strongly urge upon you the necessity of great care in the selection of these appraisers, who should be disinterested and honest men, capable of doing their business properly, and earnestly devoted to the interests of the government, while willing to do the settlers justice. I call your special attention to this point, not only from a general desire to impress upon you the necessity of economy in all of the operations committed to your charge, but because any appearance of extravagance in estimating the value of these particular improvements will, in all probability, result in a failure to receive the approval of Congress; and thus the whole arrangement, which now seems so favorable, will fall to the ground.

In order that there may be no misunderstanding on this point, and that the settlers may be prevented from making such an extravagant estimate of the value of their improvements as to defeat the proposed arrangement, you will take immediate occasion to caution them on this subject, and will instruct the appraisers appointed by you to inform the claimants that the approval by Congress of any contracts made with them, and the appropriation of funds to pay for the improvements, depend greatly upon their valuation appearing to be reasonable; and in order that the claims may be laid before Congress with greater clearness, and in better condition for approval, you will direct the appraisers to make their report in such detail as to individual cases as to enable members to form some judgment of the value of each item of the improvements.

The establishment of the Hoopa Valley reservation, if approved, of course contemplates the abandonment of that at Mendocino, as but four are authorized, and it is understood from your communication of later date than the one to which this is a special reply, that the Indians upon the latter reservation are to be removed this fall to Round valley.

You will please take special care in the description of the boundaries of the proposed reservation at Hoopa valley, so that its proper limits may be of record

in this office and the General Land Office, when approved by the President of the United States.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. DOLE, *Commissioner.*

AUSTIN WILEY, Esq.,
Sup't Indian Affairs, San Francisco, California.

NEVADA SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 46.

TERRITORY OF NEVADA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Carson City, September 20, 1864.

SIR: On the 28th of July, ultimo, I had the honor to address to the department a brief communication principally in reference to the timber reserve and the saw-mill in the course of construction on the Truckee or Pyramid Lake reservation. It now becomes my duty to report to the department the operations of the Indian service of this superintendency for the past year.

Since I had the honor to submit my last annual report the Indians of this Territory have maintained an uninterrupted peace and quiet with the whites. No act of aggression or depredation on their part, with the exception of one instance of theft unworthy of mention, has been brought to my notice. I attribute their tranquillity during the past to the policy I have pursued since the commencement of my administration of affairs in this Territory, of keeping local agents in the different sections of country where the Indians mostly congregate and range, who acquire and exercise a wholesome and salutary influence over them by being constantly among or near them.

The beneficial effects arising from this system of local agencies can scarcely be reckoned in a pecuniary point of view. I have no doubt whatever that the small sums paid out in the way of salaries to the local agents has been a saving of ten times the amount, not alone to the best interests of the Territory, but to the government itself. The quiet and peace which has prevailed here has given an impetus to the growth and prosperity of the Territory, and to the development of its inexhaustible wealth in the precious and other mineral productions, unparalleled in former instances. While Colorado and other Territories have suffered or been threatened by Indian disturbances, ours has been steadily moving forward on the road of progress and prosperity, the result of peace and amity with all its different tribes.

The Indians of the Walker river and Pyramid lake countries are generally contented and happy. Their natural supplies of subsistence, though very much curtailed this year from the scarcity of snow last winter, and the long-continued drought of the spring and summer, will yet, I hope, be sufficient, with some small aid on the part of the government, to maintain them comfortably the coming winter.

Owing to these causes—scarcity of water and rain—I regret to state that the farming operations on the Truckee reservation have not resulted so favorably or beneficially as I anticipated; nevertheless, I hope a sufficiency of vegetables, &c., will be produced there to materially aid in the supply of the wants of the Indians of that locality. It is expected that the Indians of the Truckee and Walker rivers, in view of the short crops of seeds, roots, and pine nuts, will take and cure an extra amount of fish the present autumn for their winter and early spring supplies of subsistence.

As to the Indians of the Humboldt region, I regret to state that they are not quite so fortunate as those alluded to above in regard to the ampleness of the