## No. 119.

### NEW MEXICO SUPERINTENDENCY.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
*Santa Fé, New Mexico, August* 30, 1857.

SIR: In submitting this my first annual report of the Indian affairs of this Territory, in obedience to the requirements of the department, it shall be my purpose, in as concise a form as possible, to lay before the Hon. Commissioner the actual condition of the various tribes included within the limits of this superintendency; to the end that a proper policy may be initiated, as well for the amelioration of the condition of the Indians as for the better security of the lives and property of the citizens. The limited time allowed me since the arrival of the annuity goods, sent out this spring from the States, has been sufficient to enable me to visit only a few of the tribes among whom presents are intended to be distributed.

The goods intended for the Utahs and Jicarilla Apaches were despatched in wagons to the agencies of Messrs. Carson and Archuleta, and on the morning of the 14th instant I left Santa Fé to be present on the occasion of distributing the goods. The Indians had been previously notified to meet near the town of Abiquin, some fifty or sixty miles northwest from this city, where, on my arrival, I found assembled about twenty-five hundred, including men, women, and children.

They were composed of the three tribes of Utahs, known as the Copotes, Mohuaches, and Tobawaches, with the Jicarilla Apaches. The Tobawaches, although belonging to this superintendency, had never before been present at any of the councils had with the Utahs; nor had they before shared in the bounties of the government to much extent. On the present occasion there were present about six hundred, which is supposed to be nearly two-thirds of the tribe.

As the allowance of goods was ample, I directed the agents to allow the Tobawaches to share pro rata with the other tribes, which seemed to give satisfaction to all.

In the council had with the principal men of these tribes on this occasion, I impressed upon them the importance and necessity of abandoning their roving and predatory life for the pursuit of agriculture as a means of subsistence, and, although some objection was raised by a part of the chiefs present to the proposed change, I feel quite sure that a large majority are ready to commence farming so soon as suitable provision is made for their permanent settlement.

The Jicarillas have in cultivation the present year an amount of corn and vegetables quite sufficient to satisfy the most skeptical that they, at least, are ready for the change.

Your letter of the 14th July, requiring the agents of this superintendency to report the number of Indians of each tribe under their charge, was received too late to secure the information required in time to be forwarded through this report. I believe, as yet, no attempt has been made to ascertain the number of the respective tribes of Utahs belonging to this superintendency.

At the meeting, a few days since, I found it impossible to form anything like a correct estimate of their respective numbers. Agent

Carson, who, in former years, was much with the Utahs, gives the number of the Tobawaches at from ten to twelve hundred, the Copotes at eight or nine hundred, the Mohuaches and Jicarillas at six hundred each. They will certainly not fall short of this estimate. A large proportion of women and children was observable among all the tribes, but especially was this so with regard to the Jicarrillas. Those tribes all live by the chase and by marauding upon the Mexican settlements. Since, however, the government has been partially feeding them, their depredations have much decreased, and are now confined to robberies to supply themselves with food. To prevent those robberies the Indians must be fed. The game which has heretofore afforded them a scanty support is now being fast exhausted, and can no longer be relied upon for their subsistence.

Since the death of Captain H. L. Dodge, which occurred in November last, there has been no agent with the Navajos; in consequence of which some depredations have been committed by them, though it is believed a large majority of the tribe are inclined to peace, and will make any reasonable sacrifice to maintain it; as, with every other people, they have some bad men among them, who, for the want of a strong and effective government, they are unable to control or restrain.

The Navajos, like all the wild tribes of New Mexico, have no government that deserves the name; consequently they have not the power to punish the bad men of the nation, nor to prevent them from committing depredations when they are disposed to do so. I cannot give a more correct idea of the want of an effective government among those Indians than by quoting a paragraph from an interesting sketch of the Navajo Indians, written by Doctor Leatherman, of the army:

"So little government do these people possess that it would be difficult to give it a name. Anarchy is the only form, if form it can be called. They have no hereditary chief—none by election.

"Every one who has a few horses and sheep is a 'head man,' and must have his word in the councils. Even those who, by superior cunning, have obtained some influence, are extremely careful lest their conduct should not prove acceptable to their criticising inferiors.

"The 'jutas,' or councils, are generally composed of the richest men, each one a self-constituted member, but their decisions are of but little moment, unless they meet the approbation of the mass of the people; and for this reason these councils are exceedingly careful not to run counter to the wishes of the poorer but more numerous class, being well aware of the difficulty, if not impossibility, of enforcing any act that would not command their approval. This want of a chief who would be looked up to by his people, and with power to carry out whatever measures are necessary for the welfare of his tribe, is a great drawback, and renders the management of these people a matter often of serious concern, and requiring always a great deal of tact, judgment, and discretion. The nation, as a nation, is fully imbued with the idea that it is all-powerful, which, no doubt, has arisen from the fact of its having been for years a terror and a dread to the inhabitants of New Mexico.

"The rich men are fast becoming convinced that the government

troops are not frightened at the mention of their names; yet this opinion is far from prevalent among those (and they are the great majority) who own flocks or herds. The persons of this class frequently commit depredations to a small extent, and so powerless is the chief to prevent acts of this kind, or to punish the depredator, that he frequently pays from his own herds the value of the article stolen. In short, their government is no government at all; the chief has no authority, and every one does that which seemeth good in his own sight."

This sketch will apply with like force to all the wild tribes of New Mexico; from which it will be seen how uncertain must be the continuance of any peace made with them.

The Navajos are variously estimated to number from nine to twelve thousand souls, and can bring into the field from two to three thousand warriors.

They plant corn and wheat, and raise quite enough of each for their own consumption. They rear horses and sheep in large numbers, and are entirely beyond the reach of want.

The presents intended for them, forwarded from St. Louis this spring, are now at Fort Defiance, and will be turned over to the agent on his arrival for distribution to the Indians.

I beg leave to call the attention of the honorable Commissioner to the able report of Agent Steck, herewith enclosed. I find it so full and complete that it leaves me but little to say in reference to the southern Apaches.

The Mimbres and Mescalero Apaches, like the Jicarillas, have given assurance practically that they are ready and willing to settle and become cultivators of the soil. They show a willingness to be guided by the wishes of the government in the selection of their future homes, and will doubtless conform in every particular to what may deemed most advisable for their permanent good.

Some depredations have been charged to the Mescaleros during the spring and summer, but a large majority, it will be seen from the agent's report, are engaged in farming, and may be regarded as ready to give up their predatory habits.

I am at a loss what to say with regard to the Mogoyon and Gila Apaches. The Commissioner is aware that an expedition, under the command of Colonel Bonneville, has been in the field against those Indians since May last, and no reliable information can be obtained in reference to them until the report of Colonel Bonneville is received. I will then be able to form an opinion, and will advise the department as to what may be thought best for future action in reference to them.

I cannot but regard it as unfortunate that the forces under Colonel Bonneville invaded the country of the Coyotero Apaches. The attack upon them will doubtless cause them to retaliate upon the Mexican settlements, and may have the effect to add another formidable tribe to the number of those now depredating upon our frontier. Up to the time of this attack it is believed the Coyoteros had not visited our settlements, and were not among the tribes who were committing robberies upon our people.

I do not wish to be understood as casting any reflection on the action

of the troops; they were in the field, and it was not possible for them to distinguish one tribe from another, which will always be the case until the limits of the country occupied by each is properly understood and defined.

I am not well advised as to the number of the several tribes of southern Apaches. Major Holmes, in command at Fort Stanton, and Agent Steck, both agree in computing the Mescaleros at something over six hundred, and the Mimbres will, perhaps, not exceed seven hundred. The Mogoyons are variously estimated at from nine hundred to twelve or thirteen hundred.

The Coyoteros are but imperfectly known, and their number only a matter of speculation. They are, however, beyond question, more numerous than all the other branches of the Apache nation that fall within the limits of this superintendency.

They inhabit a country but little known; cultivate the soil to a limited extent, but rely chiefly for their subsistence upon the chase and upon depredating upon the settlements of Mexico, where they have spread desolation and ruin over many of the frontier States of the republic.

The agricultural implements sent out from St. Louis this spring for the Pueblo Indians have all been placed in charge of the agent, S. M. Yost, esq., and will be distributed to the Indians this fall and coming spring, as required. I deem it proper to state, however, that many of the articles will be found entirely useless to the Indians.

The report of Agent Yost, herein enclosed, to which allow me respectfully to call the attention of the Commissioner, will be found to contain important suggestions with regard to the Pueblos.

The Indians of these pueblos are an interesting people, in every way worthy the fostering care of the government. The suggestion of Agent Yost in reference to the establishment of schools for these Pueblos by government aid is deserving the serious attention of the department. These Indians can, at no distant day, be made useful and intelligent citizens, which would not only be a benefit to the Pueblos themselves, but would exert a salutary influence upon all the wild tribes within the superintendency.

It would also be an important benefit to these Pueblos to allow the employment of blacksmiths for their use, with whom the young Indians could be taught and instructed in the business.

Allow me also to urge the importance of a speedy action upon the several grants of land made to these Indians by the government of Spain. Those grants have received the adjudication of the surveyor general of this Territory, and have been by him forwarded to Washington for confirmation by the government. Much annoyance is occasioned on account of the imperfect knowledge we have as to the limits and extent of these grants. And what is perhaps of more importance, the confirmation of the grants would quiet the apprehensions of the Indians, who have on some occasions evinced a want of faith in the honest intentions of the government with regard to their lands.

The Indians acquired by the Gadsden Purchase are mostly Pueblos.

They are reported to number about five thousand souls, but will most likely exceed that number.

Colonel Walker, the agent appointed to take charge of those Indians, is now en route to the agency, and will, during the coming winter, collect more reliable information about them. His agency is, however, so remote from the superintendency, and the mode of communication so difficult and dangerous, that it must be some time before the Indians in that region are made to feel the benefits of the liberal and humane policy of government.

The suggestions contained in the report of Agent Steck, which you will receive with this, in regard to colonizing and confining to small agricultural districts the several bands of the southern Apaches, meets my entire concurrence and approval, and, as that seems to be the policy of the government in reference to all the roving tribes, I can with the more confidence recommend its adoption with regard to the Indians of this superintendency. The country watered by the Gila river is mostly mountainous and sterile, yet it contains small districts of good land suitable for Indian reserves.

Some of these districts are now occupied by the Mogoyon Apaches; and as the Mescaleros and Mimbres Apaches are a part of the same people, speak the same language, and in former years belonged to the same tribe with the Mogoyons, I would respectfully recommend that those three bands be located in the same district, on the waters of the Gila. The location of each tribe or band should be separate and distinct from the others; should contain within its limits arable land sufficient for all the purposes of agriculture; and should be surveyed and the limits distinctly marked by monuments, so that the Indians can understand them.

An agent should be required to reside in the immediate vicinity of these reserves, where an agency should be built, large and ample, with store rooms for grain and provisions. Near the agency there should be a strong military post of at least five companies, as a check on the turbulent and ungovernable characters among the Indians.

The agent should be supplied with blacksmiths and carpenters for the use of the agency, and also with farmers and the means to assist the Indians in planting.

In the initiation of this policy it will be necessary to feed the Indians for the first few years, and until they can be taught to support themselves by labor.

These bands are now so widely separated that it is found impossible for the agent or the troops to exert an influence over them. By concentrating them, as proposed, it will also bring the troops together who are now so much divided as to destroy, to a great extent, their usefulness.

The same disposition should be made with the Utahs and Jicarilla Apaches. They should be removed from the settlements to the waters of the Rio San Juan, and located so as to bring them under one agency, and provided for as proposed above for the southern Apaches.

It may be asked, will the Indians agree to this arrangement? I believe they will; but whether they agree to it or not, they should be

*compelled* to submit to it. They have no more right to live in the way they have been living for the last few years than the thief has to pursue his calling, and to receive presents to keep him in a good humor with those whom he is robbing. I hold it to be the duty of the government to protect her citizens; and if the safety of the citizen demands that the Indians should be settled and restrained to civilized pursuits, then it is not only right but the duty of the government to force the adoption of such a policy as will best accomplish the object.

That it would be an incalculable saving to the government in the end, no one can for a moment doubt who is familiar with the cost of the two or three last campaigns against the Indians in this superintendency. It would perhaps increase the expenses over the present estimate for a few years ; but when the saving to life and property is considered, the additional cost will be a matter of trfling consideration.

The presents intended for the Mescalero and Mimbres Apaches have been placed in charge of Agent Steck, and it is my intention to visit the agency in October, to be present when the goods are distributed.

Within the last month or two the Camanches and Kiowas, in small numbers, have visited the Mexican settlements, and in some instances have treated the citizens in a menacing manner. General Garland ordered out a small detachment of men to turn them back.

I have not learned that any very serious wrong was committed by them, but it is not proper that they should be allowed to come in, and I have requested General Garland not to allow them to do so.

The report of Agent Carson has just come to hand, which I herein enclose. It will be seen that he places the number of the Mohuaches at seven hundred and fifty, which will perhaps be more correct than the number mentioned in this report. And the same may be the case with other tribes, for I desired to place them below rather than above the correct number.

With regard to estimates for the necessary appropriations for this superintendency during the next fiscal year, I beg leave to suggest, that, in case the policy of colonizing the Indians in the manner proposed in this report should be adopted, it will require at least one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. This will include the estimate for building agencies, locating the grants, and removing and subsisting the Indians during the year. But should the present policy be continued it will only require an amount over and above the estimates of the present year sufficient to meet the expenses incident to the new agency in the Gadsden Purchase, and also a sum sufficient to feed the Tobawaches, who may now be considered as forming a part of the Indians of this superintendency.

The estimate for the present year is forty-seven thousand five hundred dollars. Add to that sum twelve thousand five hundred dollars for the above additions, and it will make the round sum of sixty thousand dollars to meet the expenses of the year.

Should it be deemed necessary to make new treaties with these tribes, it will require an additional sum for that purpose. As yet

there has been no treaty with either the Tobawaches or Mogoyones, and the treaties made by Governor Meriwether have not been ratified by the Senate, and should not be if the Indians are to be colonized, as proposed in this report.

From the report of Agent Carson, you will observe how important it is that the Indians should be removed from the evil influences of the white settlements. This forms the chief objection to the treaties made by Governor Meriwether; they provide for the location of several of the bands immediately on the borders of the settlements, which would cause almost constant collision between the Mexicans and Indians.

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

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

Hon. J. W. DENVER,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City.*

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No. 120.

UTAH AGENCY, TAOS, NEW MEXICO,
*August* 29, 1857.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian department, under which I have the honor to act, I submit the following report of the condition of this agency during the past year:

It gives me pleasure to state that the Mohuache band of Utah Indians, for whom I am agent, are at this present date in a more prosperous condition than for years past. They are friendly disposed towards the United States, and are well satisfied with the treatment they receive from government.

On the 18th of this month their yearly presents were delivered them at Abiquin, and I can assure you that they never departed from a place more contented. They all were apparently happy and well satisfied with the presents they received. Heretofore they departed from the place that they received their presents in a state of discontentment; and after receiving their presents, in the year 1854, they immediately commenced hostilities. They are now more favorably disposed towards the whites than ever known heretofore. The citizens have no cause of complaint. I hear of no robberies being committed, and have ardent hopes of their remaining in a friendly state.

The Mohuache Utahs are not Indians that are addicted to the use of ardent spirits. But I fear, if they are permitted to visit the settlements as they desire, that in a few years they will become accustomed to the use of ardent spirits; and as Indians generally learn the vices and not the virtues of civilized man, they will become a degraded tribe, instead of being, as they are now, the most noble and virtuous tribe within our Territory. Prostitution, drunkenness, and the vices generally are unknown among them. Humanity, as well as our desire to benefit the Indian race, demands that they be removed as far

as practicable from the settlements. Have farmers, mechanics, &c., placed among them, to give instruction in the manner of cultivating the soil to gain their subsistence, and learn them to make the necessary implements to carry on said labor. They would, in a few years, be able to support themselves, and not be, as at present, a burden on the general government. It is true much could not be expected of the present generation, for they have been accustomed to gain their maintenance by the chase and robberies committed on the neighboring tribes and the whites. But if the rising generation be taught to maintain themselves by honest labor, in their manhood they will not depart therefrom, and will feel proud in being able to instruct their children the manner of maintaining themselves in an honest way. Troops, for a period of time, should be stationed near them, for the purpose of protecting them from hostile tribes, and also show unto them that the government has the power to cause them to remain on the lands given them, and not to encroach on that of their neighbors.

The Mohuaches maintain themselves by the chase, and, as game is becoming more scarce, the government must furnish them provisions, more especially in the winter season, when, on account of the weakness of their animals and the depth of snow in the mountains, it is utterly impracticable for them to proceed to their hunting grounds.

During the year the Mohuaches have acted as well as could be expected of an uncivilized nation. They had but one cause of complaint, and that was in February last. A Mexican killed an Indian and squaw of their band, and they, knowing no other law but that of restitution, demanded payment for the Indians murdered. I could not comply with their demand. They stole some fifteen head of horses and mules from the settlements of Rio Colorado and Culibra. They have returned them, with the expectation that justice, some day, will be rendered them, either by punishment of the murderer or payment for the murdered. Every means has been used to apprehend the murderer, but without effect. I have been informed that he has left the Territory, so I have but little hopes of ever being able to turn him over to justice.

I can only give you a rough estimate of the number of the band. They are seldom together, being dispersed among the different lands of the tribe. I am of opinion that of the Mohuache band of Utahs there are three hundred and fifty males and four hundred females. They maintain themselves by the chase, and such provisions as are given them by government. They are a very tractable race, and I have no doubt but that, by kind treatment, they might be brought to a state of civilization in a short period.

During the past and present months, some one hundred and fifty lodges of the Tobawache band of Utahs have visited this section of the country. They expected to receive presents on the 18th of this month, but, as they are not included within the superintendency, little could be given them. They are by far the largest band of the Utahs. Their main hunting grounds are within the limits of this Territory. They range from Grand river west to the headwaters of the Del Norte east. It is impracticable for them to go to the Salt Lake to receive presents, on account of the barrenness of the country over which they

would have to travel, and the scarcity of game. They have never joined any of the bands of Utahs that have waged war against the citizens of this Territory. I would respectfully suggest that an agent or sub-agent be appointed to reside among them. They are by far the most noble of the Utah tribes. They have not, as yet, been contaminated by intercourse with civilized man.

Respectfully submitted.

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

C. CARSON,
*Indian Agent.*

JAMES L. COLLINS, Esq,
*Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Santa Fé New Mexico.*

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No. 121.

AGENCY OF THE PUEBLO INDIANS,
*Santa Fé, New Mexico, August* 30, 1857.

SIR: In obedience to the requirements of the Indian department, I herewith transmit the annual report of the condition of the Indians within my agency, together with such suggestions as seems to me to be appropriate.

I have been in charge of the duties of this office only about two months, and consequently cannot make as full and complete a report as is usual in annual communications of this kind. I am the less enabled to impart satisfactory information from the fact that my predecessor left no papers from which I could glean data relative to these Indians. I am justified, however, from reliable information, in reporting the condition of the Pueblo Indians *improving*. Their pursuit, in the main, is farming. The principal product is corn and wheat.

I have had visits from the leading men of nine or ten villages, or pueblos, from whom I learned that their crops promised a fair yield, and that, as heretofore, they would raise an ample quantity for the consumption of their people. I have reason to believe that a like encouraging prospect awaits the other pueblos.

The annuity presents for the Pueblo Indians are confined entirely to agricultural implements. The articles designed for them this year arrived too late in the season to be used in planting the spring crops. I shall therefore retain them in my possession until fall, and some of them until next spring. If distributed among them now, when they have no immediate use for them, the better part of their goods might pass from the hands of the Indians to those of the Mexicans, and when the time arrived for their use they would be without them.

In this connexion, I deem it pertinent to suggest that the policy of purchasing the annuity goods for these Indians (and, indeed, the Indians of this Territory) by persons living in the States is not by any means advantageous to the government or the Indian service. Various articles have been forwarded for the Indians under my charge

which can never be any use to them, and so it is with the goods sent out for other tribes. Hence, I am of the opinion that, in future, it would be economy on the part of the government to authorize the superintendent of Indian affairs for this service to purchase the annuity goods for the Indians under his jurisdiction. His long and intimate acquaintance with the Indian character, and knowledge of the exact kind, quality, and quantity of goods necessary for distribution among them would enable him to make such purchases only as would be needed; and by the exercise of his known discretion, the expense of travelling to and from the States for that purpose would be more than saved, and the annual appropriations more judiciously expended.

There are twenty villages, or pueblos, exclusive of those in the Gadsden Purchase, and the seven Moquo pueblos, inhabited by Pueblo Indians. These twenty contain a population of about eight thousand souls. They are generally cleanly, industrious, and peaceable, earning their bread by the sweat of their brow.

There are difficulties almost daily presented for adjustment to the agent for the Pueblos, arising from the fact that the limits of the pueblo grants are not defined, and in many instances the titles not confirmed. The Mexican population, who manifest an unvarying disposition to impose upon the rights of the Indians and trespass upon their lands are constantly invading their premises. It is difficult for the agent to determine when their complaints are just, owing to the want of properly defined boundaries, and the absence of formality in the titles. Evidence of the genuineness of the titles of these Indians to their pueblos, in instances where the original papers of the grants from the Spanish government had been lost, was taken by my predecessor, and sent to Washington by the surveyor general of the Territory, with a view of having the titles confirmed by Congress. That body, however, failed to act upon them, the consequence of which is continued infringements of the rights of the Indians, and annoyance to the agent. It is all important to the interests of the Pueblo Indians and the protection of their rights that these grants be speedily confirmed, and the boundaries of their lands distinctly marked.

dred and fifty dollars) to be expended in making these surveys; but,

The last Congress appropriated $3,750 (three thousand seven hun-

on account of the failure of Congress to confirm the titles to the pueblos, even this meagre and inadequate sum has not been expended. To complete the surveys of the twenty pueblos, it will require an additional appropriation of at least $4,000, (four thousand dollars.) I am not informed whether or not there has ever been an estimate made for the survey of the pueblos in the Gadsden Purchase, or the seven Moquo pueblos.

I most respectfully and urgently call the attention of the Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs to this portion of my report, and ask that early action be had in the premises.

The "laws and regulations of the Indian bureau," by which, as agent of the United States, I presume it is designed I shall be governed, make no discrimination between the different tribes of Indians. They seem to contemplate that all of them are pretty much of the

same character, and require the same code of regulations to govern them.

The Indians of this agency are regarded as semi-civilized. The territorial laws provide that the different pueblos, or villages, of these Indians "are severally hereby created and constituted bodies politic and corporate," "shall sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, bring and defend in any court of law or equity all suits, actions," &c.

This enactment of the territorial legislature would seem to contravene the spirit and letter of the regulations of the Indian department, and hence occasions no little embarrassment to the United States agent in deciding upon contested questions between the Pueblo Indians and Mexican citizens, which are by no means unfrequent.

Under the territorial laws, the Pueblo Indians are permitted to buy liquors outside the limits of the pueblos, in the face of the protest of the agent. This privilege is not only a great harm to these Indians themselves, but it enables them to act as the medium for the purchase of ardent spirits for the more savage tribes. Especially has this privilege been thus exercised by some of the pueblos of Taos, many of whose inhabitants not only indulge to excess themselves, but are the means of furnishing liquors to the wild Indians of the Utah agency.

I have no authority, under the regulations of the Indian department, to prohibit the sale of ardent spirits outside of the limits of the pueblo grants, inasmuch as there is no other recognized *Indian territory* in New Mexico, according to the decision of the courts here. Hence I am powerless to stay the corrupting influences resulting from the use of liquors as a beverage by these Indians without some specific regulations from your department, vesting in me discretion and authority to that effect.

It would facilitate me much in the discharge of my duties were the Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs to instruct me, when the territorial laws and the regulations of the Indian department conflict, as to my duty. Questions legitimate, ordinarily, for an agent to decide, under the existing relations of the Pueblo Indians, become matter of reference to a legal tribunal. Must the territorial laws have precedence over the laws and regulations of your department, or must I carry out the instructions embraced in those regulations?

It may not be improper for me to suggest that there should be some special regulations adopted for the guidance of the agent of the Pueblo Indians. They are in a state of civilization too far advanced to be recognized as Indians, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, and not sufficiently civilized to assume the responsibilities of *bona fide* citizens. Their position is anomalous, and the sooner it is properly defined the better; until then, there are likely to be embarrassing questions constantly presented to the agent for adjustment, when he is not empowered, as he conceives, to act in the premises.

The Pueblo Indians, generally, are remarkable for their habits of industry, sobriety and quietude; of course there are exceptions. A majority of them are strict members of the Catholic church, and are frequently more exemplary than the native population. Each of the pueblos has its separate government, which partakes more of the aristocratic form than the democratic.

They have great respect for the government of the United States, and seldom take any important step without consulting their agent, even if it be beyond the limits of his jurisdiction. I have met with several who can read and write the Spanish language. It is a source of regret that no provision has ever been made by the United States government to facilitate these Indians in acquiring a knowledge of the elementary branches of an education. By culture, it would not be long before the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico would become intelligent and useful citizens of the United States.

Neither has there been an appropriation to benefit these Indians and assist them in mechanical pursuits. Whilst other tribes far less deserving and competent to appreciate the advantages of a knowledge of a trade, have been cared for in this respect, the Pueblo Indians have been entirely overlooked. I am thoroughly convinced, from the character of these Indians, that were blacksmith and carpenter shops established among the pueblos, or villages of the tribe, they would eagerly avail themselves of the opportunity to learn their boys these trades, the result of which would be most useful and beneficial to the entire Pueblo Indians of the Territory.

I hope the honorable Commissioner will give this suggestion some consideration; for I am satisfied no wiser policy could be adopted for their advancement in civilization, and improvement in morals and intellect than by disseminating among these Indians a knowledge of the mechanical art.

I have the honor to be, yours, &c.,

S. M. YOST,
*United States Agent for Pueblos.*

Hon. J. W. DENVER,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.*

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No. 122.

[Translation.]

UTAH INDIAN AGENCY,
*Abiquin, New Mexico, September* 30, 1857.

SIR: Owing to the late date of my appointment to this agency, it has been impossible for me to collect the necessary information in order to make my annual report an interesting one; a few remarks on the condition of the Indians assigned to this agency, and some suggestions as to the best policy, which, in my humble opinion, ought to be pursued by the government in the management of these tribes, will constitute my report.

The tribes of the Utahs, Capotes, and the Apache Jicarillas have been assigned to my care by the superintendent of Indian affairs. The first named tribe, numbering about one thousand four hundred souls, and among them about four hundred warriors, has no permanent abode, wandering from one place to another, mostly between the

northern settlements of this Territory and the San Juan river, about two hundred miles west of Abiquin. They are extremely poor, do not cultivate the soil, and appearingly subsist from the chase alone.

Since these Indians have been under my charge no depredations have been committed by them which have come to my knowledge, and no exceptions can be taken to their conduct during this period. They, however, very frequently apply to this agency for a support, which has been rendered so far as the means allowed which have been provided for distribution among them.

It has been reported to me that, in the month of July last, the Navajoes had driven off and stolen the stock of these Indians, amounting to about two hundred horses. Efforts will be made by the proper officer to recover these animals, if possible.

The Jicarilla Apaches, roving over the country adjacent to the northeastern settlements of New Mexico, and numbering about one thousand souls, and among them about three hundred warriors, constitute, probably, the poorest tribe of Indians in the far west. They do not claim any particular country to be their own, and the regions they inhabit are anything but abundant with game. A few of them, compelled by poverty, have lately commenced to cultivate the soil, choosing small patches of private land belonging to farmers in the frontier settlements. Although the produce of their fields is but little, and very far from being sufficient to support them, yet it is important that these Indians should be encouraged in their agricultural pursuits. They should, however, and at all events, be first removed away from the settlements. The farming done by these Apaches up to the present day shows that, by a proper management, they can easily be induced to settle and cultivate the soil; and in a few years they would probably occupy a similar position as the Pueblo Indians in New Mexico. At present the greater part of this tribe, be it on account of scarcity of game or because they abandoned the chase, have become vagrants; and as such are the most impudent beggars, to the great annoyance of our frontier people. Whatever they can extort from our farmers, and the assistance they receive at this agency, form chiefly their means of subsistence; and justice to our people, as well as good policy, demand a change in this respect.

At the middle of last month the superintendent of Indian affairs distributed among those two tribes of Indians blankets, shirts, tobacco, knives, hatchets, kettles, and domestics, which they received with great satisfaction, and for which they expressed their gratitude, promising good and friendly behavior toward the whites.

It is to be lamented that the late superintendent of Indian affairs either did not understand his duties or failed to discharge them advantageously to the government, as well as to the Indians.

The policy to locate the Indians in permanent reservations is a good policy, and the only one which, if properly executed, must ultimately result to the benefit of both the government and the Indian tribes. The treaties negotiated by Governor and Superintendent Meriwether were in direct violation of the rights of individuals, because the selections of the reservations were not only upon private grants, but also so

proximate to the settlements that a palpable injustice would have been committed had they been ratified. Had the selection of those reservations been made properly and judiciously, with a view of doing justice to the Indians as well as to the citizens of this Territory, these treaties might have been ratified, their beneficial influences would already be felt by our citizens, and humanity would now be a step nearer towards the civilization of those children of the forests.

A glance at the history of New Mexico and its surrounding Indian tribes of the last four years must convince every rational mind that the permanent location of those tribes is the only policy to be pursued in order to give protection to the inhabitants of this country, improve the condition of the Indians, and to save for the government an enormous amount expended annually in keeping these Indians in subjugation. The expeditions made by the commanding officers of this department against our neighboring savages during the last four years must, I venture to say, have cost the government at least one million of dollars, and what has been the gain? The Indians are at peace, no one doubts that; but how long will they remain so? Indians have no national faith—at least the Apaches and Utahs have not—and the propriety may be questioned to acknowledge in them the power to make treaties. The acknowledgment of such a power in them necessarily implies a sovereignty which these Indians do not possess, and which, if they did possess it, they would sell to the first purchaser offering himself for a piece of tobacco, a pipe, a piece of meat, or an old shirt. A treaty is not kept sacred by them, nor ever will. Whenever, in the opinion of our Indian neighbors, it appears that the government is tardy in making them the usual presents, or whenever they have some object in view which they cannot obtain peaceably, they will, disregarding their treaties, make war upon us by stealing our property, murdering and violating our families, knowing that the consequence will be a "treaty," where they are to receive what they desire. The government, after an unsuccessful pursuit in a country almost inaccessible to our troops, will readily listen to their applications for peace. The Indians receive the gratifications, and sign the "treaty" with the felonious intent to break it as soon as convenient. Let historical facts testify to the truth of my argument.

If, however, the vast amount of money expended in procuring, or rather purchasing "treaties," had been expended in locating the Indians in suitable reservations, compelling them to subsist chiefly from the cultivation of the soil, they might be prevented from being a burden to our government and our citizens, and eventually become an industrious people. The reservations once established, and the Indians placed therein, under the charge of agents and the United States troops, small annual appropriations would suffice to continue the improvement of these savages. The expensive expeditions against the Indians, generally ineffective, and leading only to the making of "treaties" never intended to be kept, would cease; New Mexico would enjoy protection and security in lives and property; her agricultural, pastoral, and mineral wealth could be developed; and our government, whilst it performs a sacred duty towards this heretofore so much

neglected Territory, would annually save a vast amount of money, which under the present system is expended.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, your obedient servant,

DIEGO ARCHULETA,
*U. S. Indian Agent.*

Hon. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
*Washington, D. C.*

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No. 123.

SANTA FÉ, NEW MEXICO, *August* 7, 1857.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian department, I have the honor to submit the following as my annual report of the condition of the Apache agency:

During the past year a very decided improvement has taken place with the Mescolero Apaches. During the month of December, 1855, and previous to that time, depredations were of so frequent occurrence that it was deemed proper policy to refuse them any assistance unless they ceased their depredations and returned certain animals stolen by the band. Upon receiving this order they immediately left the vicinity of the settlements and remomoved to the White mountains, where they remained several months without visiting the agency or any military post; they finally, however, commenced visiting Fort Staunton and begging for provisions. They were advised to visit the agency by the commanding officer, when they were again told that they must return all the animals in their possession that had been stolen after the treaty of 10th June, 1855; that, if they did so, provision would be made for feeding them as before. The effect of this course with them was, that, in two months from that time, they delivered to the commanding officer at Fort Staunton, and to the agent, about forty horses, which have since all been claimed by the owners.

During the month of October, 1856, instructions were received by the agent to renew our intercourse, and accordingly, on the 17th November, 1856, I met the whole band at Fort Staunton, made them presents of blankets, shirts, knives, tobacco, and provisions, and made the further arrangement with them that they receive at each full moon after that date five beeves and thirty fanegas of corn, upon condition of their good behavior. With this arrangement they were well pleased, and, from that time to the present, not a single robbery in the Territory has been traced to the White mountain band of Mescoleros.

They expressed a willingness to plant during the winter; at the proper time, therefore, a farm was opened for them, under the direction of the agent, upon a stream called *Nuestra Senor De Lu Luz*, about seventy miles southwest of Fort Staunton. Thirty-five heads of families are engaged in planting; each one has a field which he regards as his own. The size of their fields is from half an acre to four

acres, and the whole amount planted about seventy acres. The corn and other vegetables look very promising, and nothing but an accident can prevent their raising a fine crop.

I do not hesitate to say that the White mountain band of Mescoleros are at this time in better condition than any wild band ever has been in the Territory. They seem to have confidence in our kind intentions, and are acting, we believe, in good faith towards our government. During the months of April, May, and June I travelled through their country without fear of being molested, and the men employed to assist them in planting, though only six in number, were treated kindly by them, though seventy-five miles from the nearest settlement.

An effort was made by the late superintendent of Indian affairs, Hon. D. Meriwether, to injure me at the Indian office at Washington by misrepresenting the true condition of the Mescoleros. When his honor wrote to the department, October 28, 1856, stating that difficulties existed with the Mescoleros, and their agent alone was responsible for their condition, he knew that, for some time previous to that date, no theft or outrage of any kind had been charged to this band of Apaches; and further, that they had turned over to the commanding officer of Fort Staunton, and to the agent, all the property known to be in their possession that was stolen after the treaty of June 10, 1855. To show their condition and feelings previous to the date of the superintendent's letter, I make the following extracts from letters from commanding officers at Fort Staunton. Major J. Van Horn, in a letter of July 1, 1856, writes to the agent as follows: "The bearer, Baranquito, a Mescolero chief, with his people, have for nearly a year been living near this post, and have behaved very well. They made frequent friendly visits to this post, and seem very desirous of acting well towards the settlers, and have expressed a willingness to cultivate crops. General Gadsden, when here in May, urged this upon them, and advised them to call upon you for agricultural implements, seed, &c. These people are miserably poor and very badly clad. I have supplied them with rations as far as I could properly do so. They devour a dead mule with avidity, and eagerly eat up the leavings of dogs. They say there is not sufficient game in the country to keep them from starvation."

In a letter of August 27, 1856, the commanding officer again writes: "Cadetto, the son and successor of the deceased Baranquito, as chief, has to-day brought in here ten horses, and is bringing in two more, all of which he says he and his band have taken from thieving Indians near the Cariso, twenty miles northwest of this post. They tried to take the Indians also, but they escaped. These people have all along shown the most friendly disposition, and are doing all they can to prevent other Mescoleros from depredating."

Major Thomas H. Holmes, commanding post, in a letter to the head of the military department for this Territory, of February 15, 1857, says: "Many apparently well authenticated reports of depredations on the Rio Grande have reached here, and, after the closest inquiry and strictest investigations, I am convinced that the Indians in this neighborhood are in no way connected with them. This absti-

nence on their part is entirely to be ascribed to the beneficial influence exercised by means of the small amount the acting assistant commissary of subsistence at this post was authorized by Dr. Steck to issue to them. The supply authorized by the agent will very soon be exhausted, and I have to assure you that our only hope of a continuance of our present freedom from depredations depends on a continuance of the issues of provisions. I therefore urgently request that the colonel commanding the department will use such influence with the superintendent of Indian affairs as will induce him to make some permanent arrangement for feeding them."

Some of the charges made against me by the late superintendent of Indian affairs I have shown to be unfounded and base in a letter to the Hon. Commissioner of January, 1857; and as to my being alone responsible for this course, I would state that I am willing all the responsibility shall rest upon my shoulders, as I am satisfied it was the true policy at the time, and its results upon the band have proven it to be so. I am satisfied that a firm policy with all wild Indians is the best; let them know that we are their masters, and that they cannot murder our citizens, steal and carry off our property, and at the same time receive our presents. Presents, under these circumstances, have a pernicious rather than a salutary effect upon them. They misconstrue our kindness into fear, and readily suppose, when they receive their presents, that we are buying their friendship.

The Mimbres band of Apaches, since the month of April, have not visited the agency, although, with the exception of a few renegades of the band who have joined their thieving neighbors, the Mogollons, I believe they desire to remain at peace. Delgadito, Renion, and Laceres, the three principal men of the band, have kept this people together, and removed south of their thieving neighbors. They have not only kept aloof from them, but have, at various times within the last six months, reported to me who the thieves were, and where they were encamped with stolen property, and offered to go as guides for the military to attack them.

They were anxious to plant on the Mimbres last spring, but the farm being so close to the active operations of the troops sent against the Mogollon and Coyoteros, that I deemed it unsafe for myself, and for the friendly band, to remain there without protection. I therefore applied to Colonel Bonneville, then in command of the department, for a guard of twenty-five men, to remain with us while planting. This protection was refused, and we were compelled to abandon the idea of planting. On the first of May, the troops marched against the Mogollon Indians, and as they had to pass through the Mimbres country, and these Indians fearing that they would be unable to distinguish between friendly and unfriendly parties, removed south, where they will remain until the return of the troops, when they will again visit the agency, as usual.

Of the Coyotero and Mogollon Apaches, no additional information has been obtained since my last annual report, as no intercourse of a pacific character has taken place with those bands. The Mogollon band have been depredating largely upon the property of Socorro and Valencia counties, in this Territory, during the last year, and the ma-

rauding party who killed the late agent, H. L. Dodge, was of both these bands. The actual murderers were a small party of Mogollon Indians detached from the main body, under command of one of their principal captains, whose Spanish name is El Cantero, the captive. The troops sent against those Indians in May last have chastised them severely, a punishment they richly deserved.

In my last annual report I urged the necessity of liberally supplying the Indians of my agency with food. Another year's experience and close observation has still more forcibly impressed me with the conviction that this is the only means of effectually controlling the Apache tribe. They do not cultivate the soil, and nature not supplying them with a subsistence in the country they occupy, they are compelled to steal for a part of their subsistence, or starve; and place their enlightened masters in the same position, impelled by the same necessity, and I doubt not whether they would have any more respect for the rights of property in the hands of a richer and better fed neighbor than the half-naked and half-starved Apache.

All the bands that are not fed by the Indian department, I am of opinion, get half of their subsistence by stealing it, either from this Territory or from the republic of Mexico. Large settlements have been depopulated by them. The towns of Tuson and San Haviel, once rich and prosperous places, have been reduced to almost abject poverty; and other places, once flourishing haciendas, within the Gadsen Purchase, have been entirely destroyed by their ravages. Thus they have lived for the last century; and to ask them now to abandon their plundering expeditions and live like honest men, is to ask them an impossibility, unless you give them a supply of provisions to take the place of what they now steal. The language of a former Secretary of War when urging the policy of feeding the Indians of Texas, is peculiarly applicable to the Apaches of New Mexico. "Brave men with arms in their hands will not starve, and see their children starve around them, while the means of subsistence is within their reach."

To locate the Apaches and teach them the cultivation of the soil and other arts of peace is the only policy that can be adopted with a reasonable hope of advancing them in civilization, and giving protection to property in this Territory. This course will require time and liberal appropriations to supply them with food. If they are located, they must abandon their marauding expeditions, thereby one-half of their subsistence is cut off. Your honor will therefore readily see the absolute necessity of giving them a supply to take its place. Treaties were held by his excellency Governor Meriwether, in June, 1855, with two bands of the Apaches, viz: the White mountain Mescoleros and those of the Mimbres. These treaties have not been ratified by the Senate, and, in my judgment, never should be. The Mescolero reserve is in the centre of the most valuable portion of New Mexico, and soon will be surrounded by settlements, and the evil influence of intercourse with the New Mexicans cannot be prevented. The Mimbres reserve has the same objection; it also includes within its limits a private grant, which is now about to be taken possession of by the owners. The means provided in those treaties for the location and civilization of those bands is entirely insufficient for that purpose.

I would therefore respectfully urge the holding of new treaties with those bands, changing their present location to a suitable reserve west of the 109th degree of longitude, upon the waters of the Gila. Admirable selections could be made upon that river for a permanent home for all the bands of Apaches, except those living still further west; here you have them far removed from the pernicious influence of surrounding settlements, and interfere with no vested rights. The Mimbres band, and those of Mangus Colorado and the Mogollon Apaches, are the same people in habits and language, and all formerly were commanded by Mangus Colorado. They should therefore be included in the same treaty, under the general term of Gila Apaches; then they could be held equally responsible in case depredations should be committed. The facility with which they can now steal and shift the responsibility upon others makes it difficult to ascertain who the perpetrators are, and this difficulty will always exist if each little band is treated with separately. Concentrated upon the valley of the Gila, with a military post of at least four companies to watch over them, and to hold in check the bands living still further west, they can be easily managed. To locate, assist, and instruct them in the cultivation of the soil, I regard as the only policy by which the Indian can be benefitted, and security given to life and property in the Territory. Thus concentrated, with an efficient agent to advise, instruct, and supply them with their immediate wants, they can be induced to abandon their predatory habits for the more peaceful pursuits of civilized life.

The success that has attended the farming operations with those bands for the last two years has removed every doubt as to the practicability of this policy. The sooner, therefore, an efficient course is adopted towards all the Indians of this agency the better for the Indians, for the Territory, and for the general government, as every year that it is delayed the amount that will be presented for the payment of Indian spoliations alone will, in all probability, be ten times the amount that would be required to defray the expenses of the policy I have suggested. On the other hand, if they are not provided for as I propose, they must continue to feed themselves upon the white man's property, the inevitable consequence of which will be a continued state of hostility, requiring on the part of the military department the organization of large campaigns to fight them, at the sacrifice of life and an immense expense to the government. Two campaigns have been made within the last three years—one against the Utahs and Jicarillas, and another against the Apaches of the Gila, at an expense, direct and indirect, to the government of at least eight hundred thousand dollars; and I feel confident that I will be sustained by all who are familiar with the number and resources of those Indians in the assertion that if one-twentieth part of that sum had been judiciously expended annually for provisions for those Indians, the campaigns might have been prevented.

There is no comparison, therefore, between the cost of a pacific policy and that of whipping them into subjection; besides, no permanent good is obtained by fighting them, as the survivors after every campaign will be less able to maintain themselves than before it.

The department will therefore be compelled, in the end, to choose between the policy of feeding and providing for their wants, and that of their total extermination.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. STECK,
*Indian Agent.*

J. W. DENVER,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.*

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No. 124.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
*Santa Fé, New Mexico, September* 30, 1857.

SIR: I have the honor herein to inclose the copy of a letter from Colonel Bonneville, giving an interesting sketch of the region of country watered by the Gila river, and also one from Agent Steck, advising me of an interview had with a deputation from the Coyotero Apache Indians.

I wish respectfully to ask the attention of the Hon. Commissioner to the letter of Agent Steck, for the reason that I stated in my annual report that the Coyoteros had not been charged with committing depredations upon the settlements of New Mexico; but from the confessions made to Agent Steck, it seems that some of their people have engaged in such depredations. But I am inclined to the opinion that but few of them have been so engaged. The confessions made by those in the council, however, is enough to justify the attack made upon the nation by the troops.

From the information contained in Colonel Bonneville's letter, it will be seen that the country on the Gila is peculiarly suited for the permanent location of the several tribes of the Apaches—a fact which I am desirous should be understood by the Hon. Commissioner.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

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

Hon. J. W. DENVER,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City.*

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No. 125.

APACHE AGENCY, NEW MEXICO,
*September* 4, 1857.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 2d instant three Coyotero Apacha Indians visited this agency.

The object of their visit was to ask for peace, and, with a view of

bringing about this desirable object, an interview was held this morning at the agency.

"Chino Peña," the spokesman of the party, contended that they were unjustly attacked by the troops in the late campaign; that they always regarded the Americans as their friends, and still desired to remain at peace with them.

The reasons why the troops were sent against them were explained and impressed upon them. They were told that they were implicated in the murder of Agent H. L. Dodge and others, on the Tuson road; and, also, that they had been stealing stock from Valencia county, &c. The evidence we had before, together with the admissions of "Chino Peña," does not leave a doubt as to their culpability.

He admits that some of their bad men may have been engaged in stealing, and that the murderer of Agent Dodge was in his camp when attacked by Colonel Bonneville, and that he was one of the killed. This fact alone justifies the attack upon them; but he admits, further, that some of his people had accompanied the Mogoyon Indians in an expedition last November, and were among those who killed some Pueblos and Mexicans at Cubero, and stole a large herd of sheep from the Puerco. This agrees with the information I received at the time from the Mimbres Indians, and was reported in a letter dated December, 1856, to the superintendency.

"Chino Peña" states that a grand council of the whole tribe of Coyoteros was held immediately after the fight upon the Gila, and that, after three days and three nights consultation, it was unanimously agreed that they would ask for peace.

He states that it never was the design of their principal men to have a difficulty with the Americans; but now, as they are into it, that he has been sent, to use his own expression, to (*emparesar el suelo*) ask for peace. All the captains from the Penal mountains east to the Mogollon were present at their council, and have authorised him, as their representative, to offer all their mountains, waters, wood, and grass, in exchange for peace. They also agree to give us possession of the celebrated Gold mountain of the Coyoteros.

They brought me at least a pound of what they supposed to be the precious metal, but which, upon examination, was found to be utterly worthless.

I mention this as an evidence of their sincerity. Believing them to be sincere in their wish to remain at peace, I have directed "Chino Peña" and one of his party to return to their people. I assured him that no further steps would be taken at present to chastise them, and that they had peace in their own hands. To tell the captains that we wanted none of their wood, water, mountains, or their gold, but that we desired peace; at the same time assuring them that the general commanding had informed me that, if depredations continued, a stronger force would be sent into their country than that which had just returned.

They were further assured that their prisoners would be kindly treated, and one of their number has remained here and has permission to visit them at Fort Fillmore.

Colonel Bonneville and Major Simonson were present at the inter-

view this morning, and fully concur in the belief that those Indians are sincere in their desire to be at peace.

"Chino Peña" has promised to return in about twenty days with some of the captains of his tribe, to have a further talk. At that time they will expect something more definite with regard to the return of their prisoners and our promise of peace.

I hope, therefore, to receive full instructions from the superintendent before that time; and if it is the design to return their prisoners, the superintendent will please see General Garland, commanding department, and get an order giving the Indian department control of them. The prisoners have suffered much from disease, and are still suffering, and will as long as they are confined. Six of their number have already died. It would therefore be an act of humanity to release them as soon as possible.

The Mimbres Indians and many of the Mogollon band are still in the republic of Mexico. I intend sending for the captains, so as to have a talk with them soon.

I will anxiously await your instructions to direct my future course.

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

M. STECK,
*Indian Agent.*

General JAMES L. COLLINS,
*Superintendent Indian Affairs, New Mexico.*

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No. 126.

SANTA FÉ, NEW MEXICO, *September* 22, 1857.

DEAR COLONEL: Returning a few days since from the depôt on the Gila, I met your friend and agent, Doctor Steck. He made much inquiry respecting the Gila country; whether your views in regard to locating the Apache Indians in pueblos should be effected on the waters of the Gila. He appeared desirous that I should converse with you on the subject; he believed any information in relation to this hitherto unknown region would be deeply interesting, and perhaps some day might be useful in assisting the operations of your superintendency with these people.

We were operating in what has been known as the Gila country for more than four months; had detachments of troops scattered in every direction, bringing on their return sketches of the country and information from every quarter.

I established my depôt on the east bank of the Gila river, a beautiful spot about fifteen miles from the Mogollon mountains. This valley is about twenty-five miles by forty, basined by the Mogollon to the north, San Vicente to the east, the Burro and Almoque to the south, and to the west by the Patos and San Francisco.

These mountains enclose one of the most fertile and healthy spots on earth—beautiful to perfection. So much was it the admiration of

all who saw it, that our employés, every one, would have remained to have made it their homes, had it been safe to have done so.

Lieutenant Whipple was sent into the Mogollon mountains. He remained in them near twenty days, visited the headwaters of the Gila, and described it as a most elevated and tumbled-up region, perfectly worthless, except a limited space on the northwestern slope of the mountain. His maps made from the frequent readings of the compass I look upon as very correct. Every detachment furnished me with a map of the country traversed. These I have transmitted with my report to the department headquarters, to which, I have no doubt, the general will readily give you access.

After passing the Depot valley the river continues its course south, and enters the cañons of a low range of lava mountains connecting the Burro and Almoque mountains, just as it were, for about twenty miles. In the cañons it falls into a large open country, extending from the Burro mountains on the east to the Almoque on the west. It continues westerly till it meets the Sierreta Jornada. A long range of cañons from the south faces the river among the issues and precipices of its northern extremity, when, sinking again in its western direction, it flows from sixty to one hundred miles through a valley about forty miles wide. This valley was remarked by all as most fertile, extensive bottom lands, a rolling country on either side, offering the finest grazing to the very foot of the mountains. This valley, like every other capable of being cultivated, gives evidence of a former people, agriculturists in their pursuits, and no doubt far more civilized than the present race who desolate it.

We find to the north the Almoque and Patos mountains, with a basaltine range of low mountains connecting these with the Penal range. To the west the south span of the Penal mountains stand as a barrier to all egress. To the south we have the mountain ranges of Tumbal and Graham, and to the east the Sierreta Jornada.

Within these boundaries we have a spot large, fertile, and well watered by the Gila, bedded in the mountains, distant from all roads and passways, and without a probability of any ever being made through it—a country, as it were, isolated. This appears to me to be most admirably adapted for the home of the Indian. Here, established in this pueblo, his fertile planting grounds at his door, good water and healthy climate, with his flocks, herds, and stock fattening on the mountain slope, he would be well situated. The maguey, the favorite food of the Indian, is here found in abundance.

I am aware that objections may be urged to assigning such fertile countries to the Indians; but this valley, with all its health, its delicious water, and rich lands, is not such as I fancy would be desirable for the settlement of our people, who seek the great thoroughfares, and reject what so completely isolates them from the busy world. Here, indeed, a man may live and grow fat, and have nothing to disturb the quiet of a whole year; but this is not in sympathy with busy, active, and enterprising American citizens; so that the fact of its great isolation is an additional recommendation to its Indian adaptability, where, under the parental care of its agent, he may easily secure all

his wants, with the certainty that his improvement, though slow, will be constant.

To the north the Gila country is broken, rising as you go north into high mountains of lava, &c. Small streams rise in these mountains, and, running through the cañons, at times open out into small valleys of the greatest fertility. On the south the country is rolling to the mountains, without tributaries.

It is a peculiarity to this, as to all the Gila region, that springs commence in all the mountains, so as to afford abundance of water for all stock purposes, and sometimes even for irrigation; but these springs lose themselves in the loose soils of the valley, and find the river underground. I have made a rough sketch of the subject, desiring simply to draw your attention to it; and if it should have the merit of any usefulness, I shall be satisfied. The Sierreta Jornada, I omitted to mention, is about one hundred miles due west from Fort Thorn.

I am, colonel, respectfully yours, &c.,

R. C. BONNEVILLE,
*Colonel United States Army.*

Colonel JAMES L. COLLINS,
*Superintendent Indian Affairs, Santa Fé, New Mexico.*

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No. 127.

WASHINGTON, *November* 10, 1857.

SIR: In accordance with your request, I have the honor to submit to you the following facts in relation to the Indian tribes of the Territory known as Arizona, or the Gadsden Purchase.

To understand rightly the position and necessities of these tribes in their relations with your office, a slight sketch of the geography of the Territory is indispensable.

Arizona is situated along the 32d and 33d parallels of latitude, between Texas and California, its northern boundary being at present the Gila river, which is about five hundred miles in length. The Rio Grande separates it from Texas on the east, the Colorado river from California on the west; the Mexican States of Sonora and Chihuahua are on the south. This Territory is about six hundred miles long, by about fifty in width, and contains about thirty thousand square miles. It is traversed longitudinally by valleys and watercourses of greater or less extent, the principal of which are, looking west from the Rio Grande: first, the Mimbres; second, the Valley de Sauz; third, the San Pedro; and, fourth, the Santa Cruz. All of these are highly susceptible of cultivation, and will at no distant day sustain a large population. There are many smaller valleys, watered by large springs and small streams, which it is not necessary here to particularize. Between the Rio Grande and the San Pedro, a distance of about two hundred and fifty miles, the country is generally level or rolling, with here and there a spur or small range of mountains.

The centre of the Territory is more mountainous, and the western portions especially in the vicinity of the Gila, is traversed latterly by elevated ranges. Until within a year or two past, the whole country, with the exception of a small district in the vicinity of Tucson, (an old Mexican town on the Santa Cruz river, near the centre of the Territory,) was in the hands of the Indians, and these Indians the Apaches. I should also except the small district on the Gila occupied by the Pimos and Maricopas.

This Indian occupation had not always obtained. As early as 1687, a Jesuit priest, led by the enthusiasm characteristic of his order, penetrated the country from the south, explored the magnificent valley of the Santa Cruz, passed far down the Gila towards its mouth, then, retracing his steps, he examined the great valley of the Salinas, a northern branch of the Gila, and finally carried his explorations far to the east, including the San Pedro, the Suanco, and the Valley de Sauz and the Mimbres. Returning, this ardent enthusiast, having obtained permission from the superior of the order in Mexico, established missions, the ruins of which are visible to this day in every part of the Territory. Only one remains in anything like its pristine splendor. San Xavier del Boc, ten miles from Tucson, is still the priest mission church in Sonora. In its best days thousands of cattle grazed on the broad meadow lands of its domain, and hundreds of Indians, made docile by the priests, lived under its shadow and faintly reflected the religious enthusiasm of its founders. Other populations, seduced by the glowing accounts of the silver and gold mines, flowed into the Territory and founded flourishing settlements, of which to-day only a trace remains. You will find in the sketch appended to these notes more than forty settlements laid down. The sketch is a copy of a map "drawn and dedicated to the king of Spain in 1757 by the Society of Jesuits." It bears the above description in old French. The map is undoubtedly reliable, having been copied by my friend Captain C. P. Stone, late U. S. A., from the original in the city of Mexico. Another authority says: "This valley (the Santa Cruz) was traversed by the earliest Spanish explorers, who, in 1535, seduced by the flattering accounts of Cabeca de Vaca, Marco de Niza, and Coronado, led their adventurers through it in search of the famous cities of Cibola, north of the Gila; and before the year 1600, its richness having been made known, it was soon after occupied as missionary ground. Remains of some of these missions still exist. Tumacacozi, a few miles south of Tuboc, was the most extensive mission in this part of the country. The extensive buildings, irrigating canals, and broad cultivated domain attest its advantages.

The early Spanish settlers reduced the Indians to slavery, and used them as laborers in their mines. Unused to this kind of servitude, and treated with great harshness, they rose, joined the wild tribes who had never been reduced to subjection, and massacred or drove out their oppressors. In this war of extermination, the Jesuits suffered the fate of the rest of the Spanish race. Settlements were again and again made, but as often destroyed, until, about 1820, the last mining operations in the Territory were abandoned, and the

country, so rich in every resource, mineral and agricultural, given over to the Apache.

It is well to notice here that the titles to land granted by the Spanish government were to soldiers for a term of service, and to the priest for religious purposes.

The Pimos have, I am informed, a Spanish title to the lands they occupy, and perhaps this may be true of the Papagos in some instances. The country occupied by the wild tribes was expressly declared to be public domain. Land titles were issued in the form usual to those and the other frontier Mexican States, containing a condition of actual settlement, building, and residence during a term of years. They could hardly be galvanized into effect at this distant day, after long years of desertion, except by some extraordinary interpretation of law. The notes in my possession, dating back more than a century, give the names of a great number of Indian tribes occupying the region north of the Gila and the country included in Arizona to the south. As these destructive tribes have long passed away, or are unknown by their ancient names, I shall designate them by their modern appellation. Of the Indians in the neighborhood of the Rio Grande, I presume the information on file in your office is full and reliable. I shall therefore omit mention of them.

The Apache is the generic name for the whole race of Indians which have been for more than a century the scourge of northern Mexico, and which are to-day the great obstacle to the settlement of Arizona, to the transportation of the mails overland to the Pacific, and to the development of the immense mineral wealth of the Territory.

The home of the Apache is north of the Gila, where there are many fine valleys of great extent and fertility, watered by bold streams alive with fish, enclosed by mountains covered with forests, and abounding in game of every description—grizzly and black bear, elk, antelope, deer, rabbits, wild turkeys, partridges, and smaller birds. From these haunts the Apaches, in bands varying from thirty to one hundred, pour themselves on the country south of the Gila. Selecting some particular hacienda, rancheria, or pueblo as their prey, they massacre or drive off the Mexican inhabitants, capture the women and children, with the horses, mules, or cattle, and return with their booty to the valleys north of the Gila, where they remain until want of more again sends them forth. The valley of the San Pedro is one trail much frequented by them; another is across the opening of the Santa Cruz valley to the north, near Tucson, and south by Sonoita, a Mexican village just on the boundary line between Sonora and the Gadsden Purchase, about one hundred and fifty miles east of the Colorado. There are several other trails used by them, and it is their habit to go by one and return by another. Returning, driving large herds of stock, they are forced to follow the watercourses; and this fact makes it easy to put an end to these incursions or excursions across Arizona, when Congress shall see fit to encourage emigration, by organizing a separate territorial government with liberal donation land laws. The present American population gave an earnest of what will be done in future. On a late occasion, a band of Apaches having penetrated

Sonora and captured about two hundred horses and mules, made its way back through the Santa Cruz valley, a party of about forty Americans was organized, the Apaches attacked, beaten, their booty captured and divided among the party. On another and subsequent occasion, a few Papagos aided the whites and shared the spoils, rendering them efficient allies for a future occasion of a similar nature.

Nothing is harder than to estimate the numbers of a tribe of wild Indians who appear only in small bands and yet seem ubiquitous. Every possible estimate has been made in answer to my inquires, from eighteen thousand warriors down to three hundred. A gentleman, in whose intelligence I have much confidence, and who has escaped their clutches very narrowly a number of times, gave three thousand as the probable number that overrun Arizona and Sonora. It is very rare to find them foraying in bands of over one hundred, but as many as three hundred have been seen. The extraordinary fear of the Apaches, which makes up a greater portion of the existence of the Mexican people, has undoubtedly greatly exaggerated their number. I have never known, during five years observation of the Indian tribes from the Missouri to the Columbia, and from British America to Mexico, any Indian tribe to come up to the popular estimate in numerical strength. My own impression is, that the Apache cannot be *tamed*; civilization is out of the question. He may be confined in a region of country north of the Gila, not alone by troops, but by the population which will fill up the Territory in the south. As the valleys of the Gila on the north become necessary to an increasing emigration, or demand the development of their undoubted resources, the Apaches will be driven further north, or exterminated. Some few Indians called tame Apaches live a miserable life about Tucson. They are probably a remnant of the old mission Indians.

The Pimos and Maricopas are undoubtedly the most interesting and docile tribes of Indians on the continent. They occupy a beautiful portion of the Gila valley, about twenty miles in length by four in width. They live in villages, raise luxuriant crops of corn, wheat, millet, melons and pumpkins, and also cotton of excellent quality, resembling the Sea Island. It is from the black seed. They grind their corn and wheat, and make palatable bread. They also spin and weave their cotton, by hand, into blankets of a beautiful texture, an art not acquired from the Spaniards, but found among them more than three hundred years ago, when the Spaniards first penetrated the country. The district occupied by the Pimos and Maricopas is intersected in all directions by "acequias," or irrigating canals, through which water from the Gila is drawn for purposes of cultivation. The Pimos, though not an aggressive, are a brave and warlike race. They are the dread of the Apache, who always avoids them.

Legends of great battles, in which the Pimos were always victorious, abound in both tribes; and it is related that on one occasion, after a great victory, the Pimos covered the ground with flour for three miles, as a carpet for their victorious chief. The late battle between the Pimos, their allies, the Papagos and Maricopas, and the Indians of the Colorado river combined, with the Apaches, is probably the greatest Indian battle fought on the continent for many years past.

The following account of the fight is from a letter received by me from an officer of the 3d artillery, now at Fort Yuma:

"FORT YUMA, *September* 16, 1857.

"The Yumas have been most dreadfully beaten by the Maricopas, Pimos and others. They have lost not less than *two hundred* of the flower of their chivalry. The opposing parties were, on one side, the Yumas, Mohaves, Yampais and the Tonto Apaches, and one or two Dieganos; on the other, the Maricopas, Pimos and Papagos.

"The former party commenced the attack by burning some wigwams and killing women and children belonging to the Maricopas. The grand battle was fought near the Maricopa wells, about one hundred and sixty miles above the mouth of the Gila. There were probably about fifteen hundred engaged on each side. The Yumas and allies were completely routed.

"We have not heard full accounts and know nothing of the losses of any tribe except the Yumas—scarce one of them left to tell the story; in fact, here they knew nothing of the affair until we told them. We learned it from the Texas mail party. All the Yumas are in mourning."

Another letter says: "The Yumas and Mohaves suffered severely. Our old friend Soll Francisco, who acted as our agent in rescuing Olive D'Otman from the Mohaves, a year since, was killed. Out of about one hundred Yumas who went to battle, only some six or seven returned."

The Pimos have retained their wonted superiority, and inflicted a blow upon their enemies which their children and their children's children shall recount and mourn around the camp fire. The Pimo and Maricopa villages are about one hundred and sixty miles above the mouth of the Gila. The Papagos inhabit other villages south of the Gila. Their habits are the same as those of the Pimos, and they may be classed with them. Antonio, chief of the Pimos, since dead, gave the number of his tribe at ten thousand in 1850. This is much too large, but I am unable to estimate their true force. In their intercourse with the whites, the Pimos have always been friendly.

Their stores of wheat and corn have supplied many a starved emigrant, and restored his broken down animals. They were classed by the Spaniards, one hundred years ago, among the partially civilized Indians, entitled to hold lands; and they claim their present location under a Spanish title, probably an alcalde grant.

The Papagos live among and on friendly terms with Mexicans in Sonora. They were present in some force at Covorca during the fight which terminated so disastrously for Crabbe and his party in their late expedition into Sonora, and the Papagos buried the four Americans who were horribly slaughtered by Mexican soldiers on American soil near Sonoita, and left lying where they were butchered.

The Gila valley to the west of the Pimos villages is not occupied by Indians. For a hundred miles, however, it is crossed and re-crossed by the Apaches in their excursions south, and the road is occasionally infested by *Yampais* and other Colorado river Indians, who cross the angle made by the junction of the Gila and Colorado, secure their booty, and return.

This district, for forty to eighty miles from the mouth of and along the Gila, is neutral ground. Until the late battle, a wholesome dread of the Pimos and Maricopas on the part of the River Indians had kept them at home, while the Pimos, content to mind their crops, remained peaceably in their villages.

We come now to the tribes on the Colorado. Beginning at the mouth, near the Gulf of California, are the Cocopas, a handsome and warlike tribe, few in number. They occupy Mexican soil—Lower California on the west bank of the river, Sonora on the east. The Cocopas have not more than three hundred warriors. They come properly under our cognizance, as the mouth of the Colorado, with its navigation, is necessary to the support of Fort Yuma and the supply of Arizona. These Indians have long since forgotten the Mexican government, and regard the commanding officer at Fort Yuma as "the elder brother of their Great Father."

Formerly at war with the Yumas, the tribe next above them on the river, they made a treaty of peace in 1854, at the instigation of Major Thomas, United States army, then commanding at Fort Yuma. This they have since kept much better than Indians usually regard compacts of peace. Too much praise cannot be awarded to Captain A. H. Wilcox and Captain George A. Johnson, of the steamers "General Jesup" and "Colorado," which ply on the river from the Gulf of California to Fort Yuma, for their judicious and liberal treatment of these Indians. The Cocopas raise pumpkins, melons, beans, a little corn and wheat, upon which, with the mesquite bean and some succulent roots, they subsist. The roots are rather a delicacy than a staple article of food. The Colorado, like the Nile, is the common father to the children who inhabit its banks, and by its annual overflowing brings them plenty. The great rise of the river is in July, and the Indian plants immediately after, having previously turned over all the land intended for cultivation. Their melons and pumpkins grow to an enormous size and have a delicious flavor. In good season they store them in the ground, or in huts, in great number, and keep them until spring. During the greater part of the year more than half of their time is spent in the river; men, women, and children swimming, as only they can swim, hours together without fatigue or rest. It is a picture of the purest animal enjoyment to see them. The men wear no clothing except the merest apology for a breech-cloth; the women two aprons of bark—one in front, and one in rear—reaching to the knee .Both sexes expose unreservedly the upper part of the body.

Like all Indian tribes, when brought into contact with the humane and christianizing influence of the white man, the Cocopas have acquired a taste for whiskey, and become inoculated with syphilis, making it only a question of time in regard to their disappearance. Prostitution is the rule among the women, not the exception. The same remark applies to the Yumas. It should have been observed above that the Pimos are chaste, and resent as a deadly insult an approach to their women.

The Yumas are the next tribe on the Colorado, north of the Cocopas. They did number, previous to the battle with the Pimos. about four hundred and fifty warriors. This estimate is the result of two

years' acquaintance with them. Their habits of life are in all respects like those of the Cocopas. They occupy both sides of the river. They build no houses, unless a hole in the sand, with a rude protection on one side made of logs and brush, can be called a house.

The Mohaves, or Hamockhaves, occupy the river above the Yumas. They are very numerous; intermarry with the Yumas, and resemble them in all respects. Latterly, they visit Fort Yuma in great numbers, bringing their women and other articles of trade. During the time I commanded at Fort Yuma, as many as one hundred visited the post in a single day.

The river Indians are all armed with bows and arrows and a short club. They have no fire-arms, nor do they understand the use of them, and hold them in wholesome dread. A Mohave chief presented me once at Fort Yuma with a letter of recommendation, signed by the Mormon bishop at the settlement of Las Vegas, several hundred miles above the post. Its date was only six weeks old. I mention this fact to show the extensive range of these Indians. It should be remarked that the Yumas and lower Mohaves intermarry to some extent with the New River Indiansof the Colorado desert and with the Dieganos, with whom they are fast friends. There is a tribe living in the mountains north and west of the Yumas, known as the Chim-me-wah-wahs. They live by hunting, wear moccasins and sandals, and clothe themselves in buckskin. They occasionally visit Fort Yuma in small parties, and, although on visiting terms with the Yumas, are looked upon as strangers, and speak a different dialect.

The Dieganos, Mohaves, Yumas, and Cocopas speak dialects of the same language, nearly resembling each other.

On the west bank of the Colorado, about the mouth of Bill Williams's fork, live the *Yampais*. After much careful investigation, I am unable to separate these Indians from the Tonto Apaches. Although, from their locality on the river, they have in many respects the habits of the Yumas and Mohaves, they are predatory in their nature, more accustomed to the flesh of animals than the other Indian tribes on the river, whose diet is mostly vegetable, and are therefore more warlike. I am satisfied that the Yampais are responsible for much, if not all, of the depredations on the Gila below the Pimos' villages, and that they were the murderers of the Oatman family on the Gila, in 1850. Miss Olive Oatman, who was rescued from the Mohaves and restored to her friends, in 1856, by Lieutenant Colonel Martin Burke, United States army, then commanding at Fort Yuma, gave me much information about these Indians, and her story confirmed my belief. Their habit is to cross the delta of the Gila and Colorado, seize their prey, and return to their haunts, often leaving a trail towards the Maricopa or Yuma villages, the trail ceasing when they cross the Gila. Miss Oatman, who was a prisoner for six years among the Indians, informed me that there were thousands of Indians between Fort Yuma and a stream which, from her description, I supposed to be the Rio Virgin.

Having enumerated and described the Indians of Arizona and the adjoining Territory to the north, it remains to express, according to your request, my views in relation to the best mode of treating them

with due regard to economy and the development of the valuable region now in their possession.

First. The Indians occupying the Territory of Arizona should be embraced in a superintendency separate and distinct from New Mexico and California. New Mexico is too large now to be thoroughly cared for by one Indian superintendent, while the Colorado is separated from the settled portion of California by two hundred miles of mountain and desert. The Apache Indians must be controlled by an exhibition of superior force. They must first be whipped into submission, and kept docile by wholesome fear of the superior strength and resources of the American population. An increase of the military force is necessary, the present force being entirely inadequate to the necessities of the country.

A cavalry post in the vicinity of Tucson, one on the San Pedro, one in the vicinity of the Los Mimbres, and one on the Gila, above the Pimos villages, will command the passes by which the Apaches make their usual excursions in search of booty and plunder. These posts will, at the same time, afford protection to the parties engaged in making the wagon road from El Paso to Fort Yuma, and form an efficient protection to the great overland mail. They will, at the same time, afford nuclei, around which flourishing settlements will grow up and become the granaries for the supply of the great mining population which will inevitably pour into Arizona. The immediate organization of this new Territory by Congress will do much to bring this Indian population under control, and, by attracting along the Gila and its northern branches an active population, will completely break their power, and in a few years relieve the War Department of most of the expense it now has to incur in repressing their outrages.

It is probable that many of the Apache tribes, finding themselves hemmed in by an American population, will take refuge in Sonora and Chihuahua, and continue to fulfil their apparent destiny—that of exterminating the population of northern Mexico, or driving it further south, leaving those magnificent provinces an inheritance to a superior race, which ere long will create along the Gulf of California, in mineral, commercial, and agricultural wealth, a State rivalling California.

The Apaches should have active, faithful agents—men who are accustomed to frontier life, and who know the character and habits of these Indians.

The Pimos and Maricopas Indians should be allowed to retain their present locations. They are in all respects *reservations*, and have the advantage of being their homes by title of law and by preference.

The valley of the Gila, for seventy miles above them, will afford white settlers ample room for claims without interfering with the Pimos; and the Salinas to the north has space for tens of thousands. It is proper to remark that the whole region is intersected with extensive irrigating ditches, marked with mounds and tumuli, strewn with rude instruments of labor and broken pottery, evidencing the remote existence of a numerous and semi-civilized race.

The agent for the Pimos should be a man of great tact and intelligence, and should reside with them. By proper management, the

condition of these Indians may be much improved, and their villages be made of great service to the Territory by supplying large quantities of breadstuffs. Injudicious management would bring on contact with the white population, and cause infinite trouble. They are at present extremely anxious about the tenure of their lands, and inquire of all Americans who have visited their villages whether they will be allowed to remain.

The Yumas, Cocopas, Hamockhaves, or Mohaves, and Yampais, should be under the control of one agent, who should be required to live on the Colorado, at Fort Yuma, for the present. Although there is much good land upon the Colorado, and near Fort Yuma, which will come into demand at an early day, and although a town will soon grow up opposite the fort, it is not necessary to confine these Indians to an exclusive reservation. The Cocopas and Yuma tribes are small; they have already among them the seeds of an early decay.

A thoroughly intelligent agent, who will act in concert with the commanding officer at Fort Yuma, can prevent any difficulty with the white population that may settle on the river.

These Indians should be supplied with a few agricultural implements, and some seed grain of various kinds. These, with a small supply of tobacco and "manta," (cotton cloth,) will render them contented and happy for the brief remainder of their existence as a people. They know already and respect the superior power and intelligence of the whites.

The Mohaves and Yampais to the north of Fort Yuma are much more numerous, but the same policy will best subserve for the present.

With the opening of the Colorado to steamboat navigation to the Virgin, now under progress of experiment by Lieutenant Ives, topographical engineers, the establishment of one or more military posts will become necessary.

The Yumas deserve the especial notice of your department. Coalitions between all the river tribes and those of southern California, including the Cohuillas and Dieganos, have been repeatedly defeated by the refusal of the Yumas to join it, and they have thus saved southern California from a war which would have endangered Los Angeles, exterminated San Diego, and burned every farm house south of the Cajon pass.

They have never received a present from the government, or from a government officer, except those of the officers of the army at Fort Yuma, upon whose generosity they have been and are a severe tax.

It would be difficult to induce a competent agent to reside at Fort Yuma for the salary of the office. These Indians differ from all others on the continent, and it would be useless to send among them a man they do not know, and who does not know them.

If you could induce Mr. George F. Hooper, the present sutler at Fort Yuma, to take the appointment, his services would be invaluable. I am by no means certain that his business would allow him to accept the appointment, although he has been repeatedly recommended.

To sum up, a separate territorial government in Arizona will much facilitate your operations in controlling the Indians of this region.

A superintendency, to include the Colorado Indians and eastward to the Rio Grande; three resident agents, one for the Apaches, one for the Pimos and Maricopas, and one for the Indians of the Colorado.

With these views, and the hope they may answer the inquiries you have been pleased to suggest,

I am, General, with great regard, your obedient servant,

SYLVESTER MOWRY,
*Lieutenant United States Army.*

Hon. J. W. DENVER,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs,*
*Washington, D. C.*

NOTE.—The sketch referred to did not accompany this communication.—*Indian Office.*

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No. 128.

UTAH SUPERINTENDENCY.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH TERRITORY,
*May* 2, 1855.

SIR: Permit me to call your attention to some facts which I do not feel myself altogether at liberty to remain silent upon.

At the last semi-annual conference of the Latter Day Saints, a large number of missionaries were nominated to go and preach to the Indians, or Lamonites, as they are here called. Now, since my arrivalin this Territory, I have become satisfied that these saints have, either accidentally or purposely created a distinction in the minds of the Indian tribes of this Territory between the Mormons and the people of the United States that cannot act otherwise than prejudicial to the interests of the latter; and what, sir, may we expect of these missionaries? There is perhaps not a tribe on the continent that will not be visited by one or more of them. I suspect their first object will be to teach these wretched savages that they are the rightful owners of the American soil, and that it has been wrongfully taken from them by the whites, and that the Great Spirit had sent the Mormons among them to help them recover their rights.

The character of many of those who have been nominated is calculated to confirm this view of the case.

They embrace a class of rude and lawless young men, such as might be regarded as a curse to any civilized community. But I do not wish to excite prejudice and encourage feelings of hostility against these people; on the contrary, I think such a course would be unwise and impolitic.

They always have, and ever will thrive by persecution. They know well the effect it has had upon them, and consequently crave to be persecuted.

It is due to many of them, however, to say that they are honest in