

These Indians have always been celebrated for virtue, industry, and integrity, and no doubt their good conduct is, to a great extent, due to the labors of the Catholic fathers who built a mission for their instruction at San Xavier del Bac, over a century ago. Through the hostility of other Indians, and internal strifes among the people of Mexico, the mission has for many years been going to decay; but the Papagos still linger around it, fondly cherishing the memory of the past, and adhering to a great extent to the precepts that were taught them.

I have received \$2,500 to be devoted to educational purposes, and with this sum I have erected a school-house. The building is over one hundred feet long, surrounded by a good wall, and is conveniently divided into rooms for the accommodation of classes and teachers, and is in every way admirably arranged for the comfort and convenience of both pupils and teachers.

I have engaged two Sisters from Saint Joseph's Academy to teach the school. This selection gives great satisfaction to the Indians, and it being with the sisters a labor of love, I have great hopes that the school will be the means of promoting much good.

I believe it to be highly necessary to teach some of the boys mechanical trades, and a number have expressed a strong desire to have their boys so instructed. I have noticed that many display considerable ingenuity in the use of tools. It is necessary for them to have a considerable amount of mechanical work done, such as making and repairing plows, carts, &c., and as they progress their necessity will increase. I would, therefore, recommend the building of a blacksmith and wagon shop, and the employment of two good mechanics to perform the work for the agency, and to teach such of the boys trades as desire to learn and show a faculty for it; by this means in two or three years they could do their own mechanical labor; besides, it would serve to stimulate them to a higher order of civilization.

Their agricultural pursuits have been fairly rewarded this year; the yield has been very satisfactory, and they have cultivated, in addition to the old lands that they have so long used, a considerable portion of new land. This, in connection with many natural products they gather, and the proceeds of labor they perform for others, will be sufficient for all their wants and afford them the means of living more comfortably than at any period for years before.

In accordance with instructions from the Department, I have ordered a map made, which will soon be completed, of that portion of country which they desire set apart for a reservation, and I would most earnestly recommend that either this or some other locality suitable to their wants be set apart for them, so that they may, without molestation, enjoy and have security in their homes.

The health of the Indians during the past year has been good, and at no period since the acquisition of the Territory by the United States have they appeared so contented and happy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. A. WILBUR,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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COLORADO RIVER RESERVATION,
Parker, Ariz. Ter., August 30, 1873.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following as my annual report for the year ending this date:

Since my last annual report the Hualpais have been placed under my charge. This people range through the country north and east of the Mojaves. Their strength has been variously estimated at from 1,200 to 1,600, but the number fed at Camp Beales Springs, where they have been collected during the year past, has not averaged more than 600. It is my intention to remove them to this reservation in October next, where they can be fed with less expense to the Government.

The Chimehuevis and Yumas, who have never been on this reservation, will also be removed hither, as soon as the irrigating canal is finished, which will probably be during the coming winter.

Continual trouble is being experienced by the squatting of Mexicans near the boundary-line of the reservation, who tamper with the Indians, and attempt to introduce liquor among them. The only remedy I can suggest is to extend the reserve to the south to take in the abandoned town of La Paz, and to the east to include in its limits all the bottom-land between the river and the edge of the mesa. The proposed increase would take in all the land which has any value, and would inclose the reservation within natural boundaries. By this extension no rights would be interfered with, as no claims are recorded; consequently no difficulty will result from taking in this land.

The Chimehuevis and Yumas have not been regularly fed, as I consider it impolitic to give anything to Indians who are not on reservations, except to prevent absolute suffering. They have been accustomed to raise their own crops; and, as soon as the irrigating canal is finished, I shall remove them to the reservation, and assign them sufficient ground for their support.

The canal by which it is intended to irrigate this reservation has been pushed forward since my last report. A tunnel has been cut for 430 feet through the solid rock; another tunnel, of 320 feet, has been got under way, but no work has been done since the commencement of the summer, on account of the rise in the river. The water will, however, shortly fall, and work will be resumed, with a prospect of being finished this winter.

The Indians object to labor, except for money. They should not, I think, be indulged in their idle habits, and I desire to have a sufficient force stationed on the reserve to compel them to work for their own benefit without compensation, save rations. My opinion is that the Indian must be made self-sustaining before he becomes susceptible to the influences of missionaries or teachers.

The crops of all the river Indians will be much smaller than usual this year, owing to the lateness of the river in rising, and the small overflow.

The Hualpai Indians, at Camp Beales Springs, object to coming upon this reservation; but they are now settled directly upon one of the principal lines of travel; settlements and mining-camps are springing up all around them, and I agree with the Department commander (General Crook) that the only way to avoid serious complications with this tribe will be to remove them to this place, or to the Rio Verde reservation; and of the two places I consider this one preferable, for the reason that with the Mojaves the Hualpais have always had kindred ties and intercourse, while with the Indians on the Rio Verde reservation, Apache-Mojaves and Apaches, they have been more or less hostile, and have lately fought against them as soldiers under General Crook. I have requested the Department commander to furnish a sufficient force to coerce them to move, and to remain with them for a time until they become thoroughly submissive.

I would desire to call the attention of the Commissioner to the necessity of increasing the salaries allowed employes; the compensation offered by the Department is usually so much lower than that given by the other bureaus of the Government in Arizona that it is very difficult to secure good employes.

Good, reliable interpreters are also difficult to obtain, and I would suggest the sending of one or two boys from each tribe to the Howard University, to be fitted for positions as interpreters and school-teachers; absolute separation from their parents and people is necessary to education and elevation.

We had a school in operation for six months, but had to close it in April last, on account of the inadequate salary allowed the teacher. While it continued, such children as attended made very good progress; but they were not many, as the parents are prejudiced against learning, and, besides, exercise no control over their children.

Lately, when acting as superintendent of Indian affairs, I discontinued feeding the Mojaves who live about Camp Mojave. This section of the tribe have never come upon the reservation. They number about 800, and I expect them during the coming winter, as I hear their crops have failed.

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

J. A. FORMER,
United States Indian Agent.

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

MOQUI PUEBLO INDIAN AGENCY, ARIZ. TER.,
December 30, 1873.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit my first annual report, in compliance with copy of circular of June 30, 1873.

W. D. Crothers, my predecessor, and myself exchanged papers on the 9th of July, he relieving me at the Sierra Amarilla agency, New Mexico, and I taking charge of the Moqui Pueblo Indians of Arizona Territory. As soon thereafter as possible I visited the Indians under my care, and met with more than an ordinary cordial reception from them, owing to the fact that the night preceding the morning of my arrival, and the night following, we had quite a good deal of rain, much needed by their growing crops. They being an extremely superstitious people received it as a very propitious omen. Their new Tata agent and the rain coming together they expressed it as evidence of the Great Father's pleasure; that He had been angry with them for some time, but now a brighter day was dawning for them. I found them very superstitious. I have endeavored to disabuse them of their superstition, but find it is a part of their existence;