

be erected some three miles down the river, near the tillable land of the "bottom." The warehouse has been rendered serviceable for the reception of the Indian goods this fall. The dwelling-houses have yet to be repaired to render them fit for winter. The stockade is past repair, and must be entirely rebuilt. The matter of the removal of the agency should be decided at once, and the agent should be informed whether an appropriation of money will be made for putting up new buildings, for it will be necessary to make very thorough repairs upon the present ones if they are to be occupied another season.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

E. H. DANFORTH,  
*United States Indian Agent.*

Hon. E. P. SMITH,  
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.*

UINTAH VALLEY AGENCY, UTAH TERRITORY,  
*September 22, 1874.*

SIR: In obedience to instructions contained in Department circular of August 17, I submit the following as my fourth annual report of the agency under my charge:

I am pleased to be able to state that the quiet and general prosperity indicated in my last report still continues, and that what was then true relative to the progress of my Indians in agricultural industry is eminently so now. What was stated relative to their progress in civilization, with distrust and diffidence, can now be affirmed with a good degree of assurance. The same salutary influences that were at work then have continued to produce results in a more noticeable degree.

INDIANS—THEIR NUMBER, INDUSTRY, CIVILIZATION, HEALTH, ETC.

It will be noticed by my statistical report that the number of our Indians is less than that given last year, being made to conform to the enumeration made by Richard Komas last fall and received after my report was written. His enumeration, as given in Messrs. Ingalls and Powell's report, was 556, which, with the estimated increase, makes our present number 575. It is my opinion, as well as that of my late interpreter and others, that, although the report of Mr. Komas embraces as many Indians as are at our agency at any one time, yet it does not embrace as many as make our agency their rallying point and headquarters during the year, hence I am still inclined to think that my estimate, viz, 800, as given in my last report, was not too high.

Our Indians have shown a marked improvement in their industrial habits. More of them than at any former period have engaged in farming. The results to those who engaged in cultivating the soil last year was so satisfactory and so manifest, that many of those whom we were accustomed to regard as the most hopeless cases have engaged in agriculture with very encouraging results. There is not only an increase in the amount of labor performed, but also an improvement in the skill and efficiency of those who labor, as well as a very considerable increase in the products of their labor. For an estimate of the products of the Indian and agency farms I refer to my statistical report herewith.

But our Indians have not confined their labors to the cultivation of the soil; they have made more than 600 rods of fence, cutting, hauling, and laying up the poles themselves. Such labor was never performed by them before on this agency, and as it was done perfectly voluntarily, we regard it as an evidence of decided progress, and as affording good ground for hope in the future.

The progress of our Indians in or toward civilization, it must still be admitted, is slow, but we think steady and marked. The better element among them seems to be gaining strength, and their wild habits and usages generally falling into disuse; they are more and more disposed to adopt civilized habits and dress—to submit to authority and be guided by the advice of the Government and its agents.

There is a general kindness of manner and expression indicative of the breaking up of the stoical and savage nature, showing a gradual preparation for the more active and efficient elements of civilization and Christianity. Polygamy, however, and other evidences of barbarism still exist and show themselves, but we think not quite so boldly as formerly. They have still very inadequate ideas in regard to chastity or the obligations of the marriage relation. Their health has generally been good, better we think than last year, though there have been more deaths, those that have occurred being mostly from chronic diseases. We think the improvement in general health results from their improved industrial habits and regular means of subsistence. Most of our Indians have remained on the reservation, attending more diligently to their crops than usual. Some small bands have gone on hunting and visiting expeditions, but have usually made arrangements with some of their friends to attend to their crops in their absence.

## IMPROVEMENTS.

Since my last report the entire Indian farm, embracing nearly 400 acres, has been inclosed, much of it, as has been stated, by the labor of the Indians themselves. Our mill-house is completed, inclosing grist, saw, and shingle mills all in complete order, having been tested in the manufacture of lumber, shingles, and flour, and have greatly pleased and encouraged our Indians. We have manufactured forty or fifty thousand feet of lumber and about as many thousand shingles, put up an addition to our farm-kitchen and dining-room, rendering it suitable for two families, built another for meat and ice house, besides repairing much of the old fence and building considerable post and board fence on the agency farm.

Should the honorable Commissioner and others, while looking over the results of our labors and expenditures for the last year, think little had been accomplished, we will not dispute that point, but we beg that they will bear in mind the disadvantages under which we labor, our isolated and, for the greater part of the year, inaccessible position, and that we procure from the forest and manufacture all our own lumber, erect our buildings, and make improvements and do farm-work with our ordinary employés, which is not usually the case.

## SCHOOLS.

Many of our Indians have expressed a desire for the establishment of a school, but up to this time we have not been able to put it in operation, both from the want of the necessary funds to erect and furnish the school-house and pay a teacher, and our inability to procure a suitable person to take charge. Through the liberality of the Department the necessary funds have been secured and a teacher engaged, so that we hope to have our house, which is under way, completed and our school in operation this fall. I cannot but feel solicitous for the complete success of this undertaking. I have reflected much upon the subject; still am not clear as to the kind of school best suited to the condition of our Indians and our resources. My judgment is in favor of a boarding manual-labor school, but I fear our resources will not bear the expense.

No missionary enterprise has been attempted, but we purpose, in all our school instruction and exercises, to inculcate moral and religious truth so far as practicable.

It is unpleasant to be compelled to lodge complaints against any persons with whom you are compelled, in the discharge of your duties, to come in contact; but the repeated corroborative reports, and the cumulative evidence presented to my mind, perfectly satisfies me that there is a persistent effort on the part of some of the Mormon leaders to thwart the benevolent designs of the Government toward the Indians, by discouraging them from going to, and holding out inducements to them to remain off, the reservation. The only, or at least the most efficient, remedy for this evil is the absolute prohibition of the expenditure of a single dollar in the way of presents or subsistence off the reservation, and liberal support and encouragement to those who go to and remain on it, and engage in agriculture.

In conclusion I beg to present some of the wants of my Indians and the agency under my charge, in order that they and it may become self-supporting, or as nearly so as the nature of the case will admit, at the earliest possible time. In my opinion, that legislation and that management which do not tend toward this result are radically defective. I have endeavored, in all my intercourse with and control over my Indians, and in all the labor and expenditures on this agency, to keep that end constantly in view. We think some considerable progress has been made, but must confess that it is far below what we had fondly hoped. Various causes have contributed to prevent more satisfactory results.

Our isolated position, being almost inaccessible for teams for about seven months of the year, and the almost impracticable road for the other five months, renders the management of our agency both difficult and expensive. A good road is absolutely demanded by efficiency and economy.

Our greatest items of expense are flour and beef. With judicious encouragement we can in a very few years raise all the flour and other farm-products necessary for subsistence. On the Indian farm, and mainly by Indian labor, we should not only raise all the beef we need, but could and should be able to draw a revenue from the stock raised on the reservation sufficient to purchase all the other needed supplies. Could we have the amount of funds it has cost us for beef for the last two years, viz, about \$16,000, to invest at once, I feel confident that with judicious management we could not only supply ourselves with beef for all time to come, but be able to encourage deserving Indians by presenting a cow and calf or a yoke of oxen, besides securing the results above indicated.

I have had the honor to present to honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs the views above indicated, and am encouraged by knowing that you, in the main, agree with me; but I am aware you are powerless unless the means are placed at your disposal by provision of law. I therefore, through you, appeal to the honorable the Congress of the United States to place at your disposal, for the benefit of this agency, the means not only for its mere existence, but for its highest development and the best interests of the Indians thereon, physically, financially, intellectually, and morally.

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

J. J. CRITCHLOW,  
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. P. SMITH,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington D. C.