

REPORT  
OF THE  
COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Office Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., October 31, 1865.*

SIR: Having assumed the duties of Commissioner of Indian Affairs after the beginning of the third quarter of the year over which this annual report extends, and having been necessarily absent a great portion of the time since, upon public business in the southwest, I have been unable to obtain that familiarity with the details of business, or to gain that acquaintance with the condition of Indian affairs generally, which a longer time would have allowed. I present herewith a summary of such information in regard to the interesting people who are by law placed under the charge of this office as I have been able to obtain from the current correspondence and annual reports of superintendents and agents, and other employés.

Before proceeding to refer to the various superintendencies and agencies in detail, and to make such suggestions as seem to be called for in reference to each, there are sundry matters of common interest to the whole Indian service, or relating to several agencies combined, which I deem worthy of special notice.

First among these is the neglect on the part of many of the officers responsible to this office to forward their monthly, quarterly, and annual reports at the proper time, in disregard of repeated directions from the office. Some of them appear to have imagined that circulars of instructions were mere matters of form, with which a compliance was not expected, or as applying to everybody but themselves. Nor are they sufficiently careful to make these reports complete in detail, as required, where they are made. The consequence is that each year, notwithstanding every endeavor on the part of this office, its annual report fails of completeness somewhere, by the neglect of its subordinates; and its statistical tables do not give that fulness of information for which they are designed. I confess that I do not know of any way to remedy this difficulty except by reporting to the department each case of delinquency, and relying upon it to seek a remedy by a change of officers. It is an injustice to those who are prompt and thorough in their reports to allow them to fail of usefulness because the reports of others, necessary to completeness, are not sent, or are deficient in essential particulars.

It has been customary, I have learned, for agents who are superseded by others to take away from the agency the papers and books properly belonging there, thus removing the history of the past transactions, and preventing their successors from explaining matters which must be, and often are, necessarily referred to them. I have endeavored to correct this evil by a circular requiring all agents to preserve and leave as public property duplicate copies of all important papers and vouchers, &c., as well as a complete daily record of all agency transactions; and shall observe as a rule of action by this office the suspension of the accounts of all retiring agents who, after knowledge of the circular above referred to, shall fail to show that they have passed over to their successors the books and papers of the agency.

To the subject of traders' licenses, circumstances have caused me to pay special attention, and I have come to the conclusion that a radical change in either principle or practice, perhaps both, is necessary. I suppose that I am not making a remark which will startle the department by its novelty, when I suggest that there is reason to believe that agents are too often in some manner interested with or for the traders. Certainly there can be no doubt that if such combination of interests should exist, it can only exist to the injury of the interests of the Indians, and consequently of the government. It is not uncommon to hear the apparent rapidly increasing wealth of employés of, or officers subordinate to, this office, spoken of as a reproach to the service. I have no idea of undertaking a Quixotic attempt to correct the manners or morals of public officers; but in this particular matter I have been led to believe that an improvement can be effected, partly by the adoption and enforcement of new and stringent rules by the department, and partly by the aid of congressional enactments. I presume that the presence of traders upon most of the reservations, under proper guards and restrictions, is a benefit to the Indians, enabling them to obtain, in exchange for their furs and other articles furnished by them, such things as they need for their comfort, and I propose to continue to grant licenses to traders as heretofore; but, with your concurrence, to annex such conditions to the approval as will compel them to an exchange with the Indians at fair prices, to be established from time to time, according to circumstances. This has already been done in several cases by your direction, and I propose to make the rule a general one. I have also issued an order or circular requiring hereafter the agent or superintendent who approves a license (in analogy to the law requiring such certificate on all contracts made by them) to make the following affidavit on every license which they may approve, to wit:

"I, (name of agent,) United States Indian agent for the (name of tribe) Indians, do solemnly swear (or affirm) (or where there are no magistrates accessible, certify on honor) that the license hereto annexed and granted by me has been granted without any agreement or understanding with the party so licensed, or any other person or persons on behalf of the party so licensed, for any benefit or advantage to myself, directly or indirectly, present or future, nor to any person or persons on my behalf, in any manner whatever; and that no arrangement for such benefit to myself or other person on my behalf is in contemplation in case this license shall be approved."

With a view to the correction of such wrongs as may exist, and the prevention of others in future, in relation to a combination of interests between agents and traders or contractors, I suggest an application to Congress for the passage of a law which shall make it a penal offence for any agent or other officer in the Indian service to be in any manner, directly or indirectly, interested in the profits of the business of any trader, or in any contract for the purchase of goods, or in any trade with the Indians, at their own or any other agency; the same penalties to apply to the licensing of any relative to trade, or to purchasing goods or provisions for the use of the Indians of any firm in which they or any relative may be partners or in any way interested. I do not desire to push legislation to a point where it cannot be enforced, but I think that in this matter the most stringent measures are necessary.

In connexion with this subject, I feel called upon to suggest that, in order to obtain the services of a class of men who may be expected to keep aloof from the reprehensible conduct which appears to call for such legislation as is above suggested, there should be an increase of salary provided for the agents. Fifteen hundred dollars per annum is now the established rate of pay, whatever may be their duties or responsibilities, the amount of their bonds varying with the amount of money annually placed in their hands. The fact that innumerable applicants stand ready to take any places which are vacated is not, in my judgment, an argument against an increase of pay; it is simply a proof of the

commonly received idea of the outside profit of the business. As we propose to cut off this profit, it is but just that we give to the thoroughly qualified and honest guardian of the interests of the Indians, who is willing to leave the comforts of civilized society and devote himself conscientiously to his work, a compensation which shall be adequate to the service which we expect from him. For similar reasons, I make the same recommendation as to increase of pay of superintendents, with gradations, &c. There might reasonably be a gradation in the salaries of the agents, those who have the greater responsibility and labor receiving the greater compensation. I submit the subject for your consideration. I also take this opportunity to suggest that the labor and responsibility necessarily devolved upon the office of Commissioner of Indian Affairs are, in extent and importance, second to those of no other bureau in the several departments of the government; and while several of the heads of bureaus organized since that of Indian Affairs have been provided with salaries in some degree commensurate with their responsibilities and with the enormous cost of living at the seat of government, the salary attached to this bureau remains still inadequate to what I can but deem its just demands.

Should you concur with me in this view of the subject, I recommend that application be made to Congress for such increase of the salary of this office as will at least place it upon an equality with other bureaus requiring no more responsibility or labor.

The question of the reorganization of the working force of this office was brought to the attention of the department in the last annual report, and a special report, with a rough draught of a bill containing the proposed changes and additions, was subsequently prepared, and, with some modifications, submitted by your predecessor to the finance committee of the Senate, but no action was taken upon the proposition. I beg leave to renew the recommendation referred to, deeming it of essential importance to the efficiency of the bureau, and will submit a special report, with my views of the changes and additions required.

Questions of much importance to some of the tribes in Kansas have arisen, and are likely to arise in the case of others, as to the right of the State authorities to tax the lands of such Indians as have taken their lands in severalty and hold them by patent from the United States. A case in relation to the Miami Indians of Kansas has recently been decided by the supreme court of that State in favor of the right of the State to tax the lands, although the Indians still reside upon lands reserved to them by treaty. Measures have been taken to obtain the opinion of the Attorney General upon the subject, and it is confidently expected that the right of the Indians to be exempt from taxation until they shall assume the duties and privileges of citizens will be vindicated.

The supply of copies of the laws and regulations governing the Indian service is exhausted, and as the lapse of time has developed the necessity of some changes in these matters, and as there is a sufficient fund appropriated by Congress for the purpose, I propose to have the code of regulations revised for publication, so that the new appointees of the department may be supplied.

In regard to the subject of education, inasmuch as experience has developed the fact that, in the majority of cases, manual labor schools for the Indians are productive of greater benefit to them than day schools, for the reason that in the former a more constant and thorough control of the pupils can be obtained, and they can be instructed and practiced in habits of industry useful to both males and females, I propose to aid in the establishment and support of these schools so far as the funds appropriated, under treaty stipulations or otherwise, at the disposal of the department, will allow.

Some years since an application was made to Congress for an appropriation, to be placed at the disposal of the Department of the Interior, to provide for such expenditures as might be necessary to obtain and preserve in the department such memorials of the Indians, whether portraits, implements of industry

or of warfare, specimens of apparel, &c., as would be valuable for preservation. I beg leave to call your attention again to the subject. The Indian race, by what seems to be the law of its existence, is fast passing away, and in contact with the white race the tribes are rapidly losing their distinctive features, in language, habits, customs, &c. A moderate appropriation, judiciously expended, would enable the office, through its agents, teachers, missionaries, and others interested in the various tribes of red men, to collect annually a large and increasingly valuable collection of the memorials referred to.

It is gratifying to notice, in the examination of a number of the annual reports of the agents, an increased willingness on the part of the Indians to labor, and a greater number of cases where they are employed and paid regular wages upon the reservations. Instructions have been forwarded to give them the preference in all cases where they are willing to work.

Another evidence of progress in the right direction is the request made by several agents, on behalf of the Indians, that the kind of goods furnished to them may be changed from the blankets, bright-colored cloths, and various gewgaws, which have from time immemorial gone to make up invoices of Indian goods, to substantial garments, improved agricultural implements, &c. Of course this office will take pleasure in responding to all such demands.

Particular reference to the subject of the rights and interests of the orphan children of the Miamies is made in connexion with that agency, but the principle in question touches a number of other tribes. I am fully convinced of the duty, on the part of this office, of the adoption of some policy which will sufficiently protect the interests of such orphans, in securing their education, their rights to the lands intended for them, and to their annuities, which last I propose to retain and invest for them, unless some better plan can be devised after receiving the report of Superintendent Murphy, to whom the subject has been referred.

The subject of control by the agents over the missionaries who labor among the Indians has presented itself in the case of the Catholic priest among the Menomonees, which is fully detailed in Agent Davis's report. The influence of the priest at that agency over the Catholic portion of the tribe appears to have been very objectionable; and, in the matter of his conduct at the time of the prevalence of the small-pox among them quite outrageous, and the agent's course in excluding him from the reservation was fully approved. Fortunately, such complaints are very rare, and I trust this case may have no parallel elsewhere. The same priest is charged by the agent with obtaining or endeavoring to obtain from the relatives of deceased Indian soldiers, of whom there have been many among the Menomonees, a large share of their arrears of pay and bounty, to pay for masses for the souls of the deceased. At the hazard of being charged with interfering with matters of religion, I have, by special report upon this subject, taken steps to prevent the consummation of this wrong, by having these payments made through this office.

Some action is necessary on the part of Congress to provide a remedy, by a revision of the list of authorized Indian agencies, for the confusion which has gradually arisen out of the division of the old established Territories. The case of Washington, Idaho and Montana is in point, where, out of the number originally provided for Washington Territory, two are now on duty in Idaho and Montana, while one is assigned to duty in Oregon; and lately an agent was appointed, under a commission for Indians in Idaho, to take charge of the Flatheads in Montana, and who must be paid from the appropriation for Washington, to which superintendency the Flatheads originally belonged. Several other changes will doubtless be found necessary on the receipt of the reports of the commissions now engaged in making treaties with various tribes, the final adjustment of matters with the southern Indians, and the ratification of certain other treaties which will probably be laid before you during the approaching session of Con-

gress. A special report on this subject will be presented when the required data reach this office.

During the past summer there has occurred much correspondence with the military authorities in command in the west, with most of which this office has become acquainted through copies furnished by your department, and instructions have been forwarded to the various superintendents and agents by your direction, requiring them to observe carefully the policy adopted, which may be briefly stated thus: that where Indians are hostile, the civil authority is to be held in abeyance until the measures taken by the military authorities for quelling the outbreak have been concluded; that where the Indians are generally quiet and peaceable, but require prompt action to quell disorders among themselves, or to prevent unlawful interference of white persons with them, the military are to render assistance when appealed to by the agents; and at all other times the military are not to interfere with the civil control of the Indians. Such a policy as is above indicated is the plain dictate of common sense, and if all officers will but exercise it, there need be no difficulty. Upon some points, however, there may be a variance of opinion, which must be settled by superior authority; as, for instance, the question as to when military force is to commence its operations and take the complete control, when the civil agents are of opinion that *peaceable* measures will prevent bloodshed; and, again, as to where, short of extermination, the exercise of military authority is to stop, when the civil authorities have reason to believe that the hostile parties are sufficiently punished. No such difficulty has as yet arisen, and a frank and candid interchange of views on such points will, I am confident, continue the present harmony of action, and there is no reason to apprehend any other course from the distinguished officers in high command in the west, with all of whom the relations of this office have been most cordial and pleasant, though some of their subordinates, in cases which have been from time to time laid before you, have doubtless exceeded their authority and caused some trouble.

Several important treaties have been transmitted to your department from this office during the past year, which should, I think, meet with the early attention of the Senate, and the necessary appropriations be promptly made without waiting for the general appropriation bill. Among these, are the treaty with the Klamath and Modoc tribes in Oregon, and those with the Omahas and Winnebagoes, all of which were transmitted to your department shortly after the adjournment of Congress. The last two, especially, require attention, in order that the measures proposed for the Indians may be put into operation at once; and indeed the other is scarcely less pressing. Besides these treaties, there is one lately forwarded, and of much importance, concluded with the Utah Indians by Superintendent Irish, extinguishing their claims to the occupancy of nearly the whole of that territory. Mr. Irish's report, sent with this treaty, is very interesting, and is presented in the accompanying documents.

There is one treaty before the Senate unconfirmed, that last made with the Nez-Perces, which should *not*, in my opinion, be confirmed, as will more particularly appear in remarks under the head of the superintendency of Idaho; circumstances in regard to the rapid settlement of that Territory having made other arrangements necessary.

The various treaties made by the several special commissions during the present autumn will also come before you for action.

For convenience of reference I recapitulate here, in brief, the various points alluded to in this report as requiring action by Congress, to wit:

Legislation with reference to a more strict control of traders, requiring them to conform to just schedules of prices in their sales to and purchases from the Indians, and providing penalties for connivance with agents.

In regard to prevention of and punishment for the connivance of agents with

traders or contractors, or the being concerned in any manner in the profits of transactions with other parties on behalf of government.

A more stringent law to prevent cattle-stealing in the Indian territory.

Increase of pay and gradation of salaries of agents, superintendents, &c.

Reorganization of the working force of this bureau, and increase of salary of the Commissioner.

Protection of Indian lands from taxation by State laws.

An appropriation for the collection and preservation of information relative to, and memorials of the various tribes of Indians.

Revision of the list of agents, and provision for new ones, where changes of boundaries or new treaty provisions require it.

Action upon the several treaties herein referred to.

Provisions for houses for agents at posts where no dwellings are now furnished for them.

Appropriation for payment to Pottawatomies, who have taken steps to become citizens, of their *pro rata* share of the funds of the tribe.

Legislation, if necessary, in the interests of the orphan children in the various tribes who receive annuities.

Provision for the purchase of land for reservations in California, and for the extinguishment of claims to improvements thereon.

The organization of a territorial government for the Indian territory, and settlement of friendly Indians therein.

Encouragement of a railroad from some point on the Missouri river to Galveston, Texas.

The special reasons assigned for the above action will be found under their proper heads in the course of this report, and the papers referred to are transmitted herewith.

I deem it unnecessary, in these general remarks, to make any particular reference to the subject of the several treaty commissions which have been or are still engaged in the duties assigned to them. Such reference as I have deemed appropriate will be found under the heads of the several superintendencies within which their sessions were appointed to be held, particularly the southern superintendency. I cannot, however, refrain from congratulating the department on the great success which is attending the efforts made to restore peace and amity between our people and these "children of the forest." It can certainly add nothing to our glory to vanquish so weak an enemy, even if there were no doubt that we were in the right; and to wage a merciless war against them, when it is doubtful who was guilty of the first wrong, is the most wanton cruelty.

What has already been accomplished is a restoration of peace with the various hostile bands of Sioux in Dakota, and with all the Indians between the Platte and the Arkansas, on the great travelled routes across the plains.

The difficulties in the former case seemed to be almost insuperable. A military campaign in the Indian country had just closed without such results as would tend to impress the Indians with our power; they were widely scattered, and being familiar with the horrible transaction at Sand creek, were naturally suspicious of our designs. But, by the latest advices, the efforts of the commission sent to treat with them seemed likely to meet with success; and such progress had been made as would undoubtedly result in peace and tranquillity in all that region.

In the latter case the difficulties were not so great, but the success has been signal. A treaty was made with such of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes as have remained south of the Platte, and they had sent their young men to convey the glad tidings to their northern brethren and induce them to come in.

The Apaches, too, had joined in the treaty with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, and gladly accepted its terms, and the Comanches and Kiowas had made

peace and entered into a treaty. All of these tribes had accepted reservations south of the Arkansas, and far from the great thoroughfare where they had been so troublesome.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

The Indians of this superintendency consist of a large number of small bands, with names of infinite variety, but almost uniform uncouthness, apparently taken from the rivers, mountains, or bays where they resided. I find it impossible to ascertain the exact census of the various tribes, as the superintendent and agents appear to have systematically overlooked that essential particular in their reports. By a careful collation of former reports with those of this year, which occasionally make mention of the number of particular tribes, I have prepared the following estimate, arranged in the usual method practiced in this superintendency, of classing together the tribes who were included in the various treaties made with them by Governor Stevens:

*Treaty of Point Elliot*, Tulalip agency, Agent Howe: Tulalips, Skokomish, Lummis, &c. Population about 1,900.

*Treaty of Point No Point*, Skokomish agency, Sub-Agent Knox: Sklallams, &c., 1,500.

*Treaty of Neeah bay*, Makah agency, Agent Webster: Makahs, &c., 1,400.

*Treaty of Medicine creek*, Puyallup agency, Agent Elder: Puyallups, Nisquallys, Squaksins, and Chehalis, (the latter tribe not treated with, and in charge of same agent,) 2,000.

*Treaty of Olympia*, Quinaielt agency, Sub-Agent Hill: Quinaielt, Quillehutes, &c., 600.

*Treaty of Fort Simcoe*, Yakama agency, Agent Wilbur: Yakamas, &c., 3,000.

Besides the above, Special Agent Paige has been sent by the superintendent to look after the condition and wants of certain tribes in the northeast part of the Territory, and reports the number as follows: Spokanes 1,200, Colvilles 500, Pend d'Oreilles 800, Okinakanes 500, other small bands 400—say, 3,400 in all.

Grand total in the Territory, as estimated above, 14,800.

From the reports of Agent Howe of the Tulalip agency, and Mr. Finkbouer, the farmer in charge of the Lummis reservation, we learn that the Indians exhibit a marked improvement in some respects; have been quiet, and somewhat industrious, successful in their crops, and have added twenty-five houses for their comfort. The school, long under the charge of the devoted Father Chirouse, has produced good results; but he pleads for means to provide better accommodations, subsistence, and clothing, so that the school may be of more service. The superintendent estimates that \$5,000 would be sufficient for these purposes, and I refer to the report of this earnest laborer for the welfare of the Indians for the good reasons given for his request. The superintendent thinks that a competent miller should be employed to keep the saw-mill running, so as to furnish lumber for houses for the Indians. He also suggests the necessity of a definite survey and location of the lines of the reservation.

From Sub-Agent Knox, in charge of the Skokomish reservation, we get accounts of but little improvement by the Indians, who seem to be in bad health, owing to the effects of whiskey, which is furnished them in spite of all precautions. Still, something has been done, against great obstacles, in clearing up a farm, setting out orchards, &c. The Sklallam Indians refuse to live on the reservations, but the Skokomish do, and will improve when sufficient land is cleared of its heavy timber for their use. There is no school on the reservation, and the superintendent states that, deeming the amount provided so small that its expenditure for the purpose would avail nothing, he has retained

it for the present, unexpended, to be used when the condition of things at the agency shall be better prepared for its profitable use.

Agent Webster has charge of the tribes parties to the treaty of Neeah bay, his labors being principally confined to the Makahs, numbering 675, in regard to whom his report is quite full. These Indians have seventy-three frame and plank houses, and raised a good crop of potatoes last year, besides obtaining and curing one hundred tons of fish, ten tons of which they sold for \$1,000. The farming operations at this agency are limited, very little land being cleared, the Indians preferring to fish in the convenient waters of Puget sound, to devoting themselves to agricultural pursuits. The agent, therefore, recommends that a change of policy be adopted towards them, and that they be encouraged to enter into the business of fishing as a means of livelihood. He thinks that, by furnishing them with a small schooner, of forty or fifty tons, they could do a successful business in catching and curing for market the fish which abound in the wide straits of Fuca and in the waters of the Pacific, near Cape Flattery. In regard to the school, the building for which is, according to Superintendent Waterman's report, sufficient to accommodate two hundred children in a thriving New England town, it appears to have been, thus far, of very small avail in the education of the children, who cannot be induced to attend in any considerable number, or with any degree of regularity. The teacher, however, appears devoted to his work, and indefatigable in his efforts to induce the children to come in, and writes hopefully that some good will soon be accomplished. The agent thinks that injustice has been done in not forwarding for the use of the Indians the funds for farming purposes; but this complaint, unless it refers to the inadequacy of the appropriation, seems to be unfounded.

Agent Elder's report as to the Puyallup agency, comprising several tribes and reservations, is favorable on the whole, and he represents the people, under the improved state of things which he has inaugurated, as more prosperous than ever before. The Puyallups, besides subsisting themselves, have sold produce to the amount of over \$6,000. From the agent's report it would appear that eleven years of the treaty payments have passed with but little benefit to the Indians. Under present regulations, and with a class of employes more faithful to their duties, he hopes that the remaining nine years will witness such improvement that the Indians will in that time be abundantly capable of caring for themselves. To this end he is causing the Indians to be taught mechanical arts, and finds them apt to learn.

The Chehalis Indians, numbering about 600, are under charge of this agency. No treaty has ever been made with them, but a portion of them have been concentrated upon a small but fertile reservation reserved from sale by the General Land Office, and are doing well. These Indians are industrious, and are raising an ample subsistence, but they fear that, having no treaty, their lands may be taken from them; and they say, too, that they cannot understand why they should not have the benefit of schools, mechanics, and other helps to civilization, as well as other Indians. I recommend that the superintendent be authorized to treat with these Indians, as I anticipate that not only will this peaceably disposed tribe be satisfied and improved thereby, but that a moderate appropriation for their benefit will have the effect of concentrating other tribes upon their reservation, to their great advantage.

Sub-agent Hill has in charge the Quinaielt reservation, newly located, a change from its former location having been found necessary on account of a prevalence of poisonous plants. Slow progress is being made in clearing off the heavy timber, and not much can be done in the way of raising crops until an opening is thus made. A school is desirable, but the superintendent, with good reason, I think, deems it best to await operations in getting the Indians somewhat comfortably situated upon the reservation.

The Yakama reservation, under charge of Agent Wilbur, is an illustration of what may be done under favorable circumstances by an efficient agent, towards the real, permanent benefit of the Indians. The early history of this reservation does not indicate on the part of former employés of the government such conduct as would entitle them to a diploma for honesty and integrity, if the facts are as stated in Agent Wilbur's report; but at present the Indians appear to be making rapid progress in every essential element of civilization under the system adopted, by which every employe is conscientiously devoted to his work. The reservation is favorably situated in the southern part of the Territory, on the east side of the Cascade range of mountains, and is quite extensive, fertile, and enjoys a mild and healthy climate. Buildings of the various kinds necessary for agency purposes are provided, of good character, and the mills are kept in good repair. On the agency farm 100 acres were under cultivation, though with fears of a light crop on account of drought. Only one white farmer is employed, the compensation provided for the other being used in hiring Indian labor. The school farm has eighty acres under fence, and thirty acres cultivated by the Indian boys and young men of the school; the total average attendance at the school being twenty-nine, male and female. Particular attention is paid to teaching the boys trades, and the girls the arts of housewifery, and to such advantage that the results of their labor in the manufacture of shoes, harness, clothing, &c., and in the sale of farm produce, has amounted to over \$1,500, besides their own subsistence. Besides this, the Indians themselves cultivate over two thousand acres of land, and are becoming independent in every respect. It is as gratifying as it is uncommon to be able to record thus the complete success of an Indian agency, where every feature of its annual report is favorable, no complaints are made, and no changes asked for.

In reference to the remaining Indians of the Territory who have heretofore been under the general charge of the commanding officer at Fort Colville, in the northeast, but to whom Mr. George Paige was sent as special agent, some general information is given in Mr. Paige's report. The Spokanes are the most important tribe, as well in number as in character. Their chiefs speak English well, and the people raise very fair crops here and there, but spend much of their time in fishing. They are a self-sustaining people, jealous of their rights, and for the most part disinclined to any treaty involving a relinquishment of territorial rights. Their country, however, is being traversed by the inevitable gold-seekers, and unpleasant collisions, arising from the reckless and unscrupulous manner in which the property and rights of Indians are trampled upon by the whites will doubtless compel a resort to the usual plan of reservation and concentration. The Indians about Fort Colville are well disposed and quite intelligent, and there is a good account also of the Pend d'Oreilles, west of the Bitter Root mountains; but the Okinakanes are represented as a vagabond, thieving race, living partly across the British line, and making much trouble by robbing settlers or travellers, and then escaping across the border with their plunder.

#### OREGON.

The annual summary from this important superintendency did not reach this office until the moment of closing this report, and too late to allow of any digest being made of its contents. It will be found, with the reports of the several agents, in an appendix to the accompanying documents.

We have at hand no accurate statistics of the present population of the Indians of Oregon. There are four agents and two sub-agents in service in the State, having charge of the Indians gathered upon several reservations, to wit:

*Umatilla* reservation, in northeast Oregon; agent, Barnhart; the Cayuses, Walla-wallas, and other small tribes - total number on and near the reservation,

as reported last year, 1,021. Owing to the inadequate number of agents provided for Oregon, Agent Barnhart, appointed for Washington Territory, is assigned to duty at this agency.

*Warm Springs* reservation, in the northern part of the State; agent, Logan, (recently deceased;) the Wascoes and others, 1,066.

*Grande Ronde* reservation, in the northwest; agent, Harvey; having in charge fragments of numerous tribes or bands, estimated a year ago at 2,300.

*Siletz agency, and Alsea* sub-agency, along the Pacific coast, in charge of Agent Simpson and Sub-agent Collins, and numbering at the last accounts about 2,800 in all.

*Klamaths and Modocs*, under charge of Sub-agent Applegate; a treaty having been made with them last year, but which has not yet been acted upon by the Senate. This proposed reservation is in the southern part of the State, near the California line; they number about 2,000.

Besides the above, there are tribes of Snakes or Shoshonees in the southeast, with whom a treaty has recently been made, and other tribes of various names, supposed to number about 1,000 in all.

In relation to affairs in Oregon, two important reports have reached this office since its last annual report, in reference to which allusion should be made. Under date of June 22, 1864, instructions were sent to Superintendent Huntington to proceed to the negotiation of a treaty with the Klamaths, Modocs, Snakes, &c., in the southern part of the State, and the sum of \$10,000, being one-half of an appropriation made by Congress for the purpose, was placed at his disposal. On being advised by the superintendent that all of the tribes referred to could not be comprised in one treaty arrangement, he was directed to proceed with the Klamaths and Modocs alone, and the balance of the appropriation was sent to him to use in his negotiations with the other tribes. The treaty with the Klamaths, &c., reached this office too late for action by the Senate last winter, having been transmitted to your department February 24. By it the Indians cede their claims to about twelve million acres of land, and concentrate upon a reservation of moderate but sufficient extent. This treaty, as will be seen by Superintendent Huntington's report, has been negotiated at a very small expense, and much below the amount placed at his disposal. Its provisions are regarded as very favorable to the United States, and the appropriations required being small, it is hoped that the treaty will be ratified, and the means of carrying it into effect provided at an early day; at all events, in time for spring operations on the reservation.

In regard to the treaty with the Snake Indians, full particulars will be found in the superintendent's annual report in an appendix to the accompanying documents.

The other subject referred to above is that of providing a small appropriation to enable the superintendent to make a treaty with the Indians comprised within the Siletz agency and Alsea sub-agency along the Pacific coast. Some years ago a treaty was made with these Indians, by which they agreed to cede a large body of land under certain conditions. They did give up the possession of their lands, and retired within limited boundaries at two points of their old country, where they have received from time to time some assistance from government. But the treaty referred to was never ratified by the Senate, though the Indians fulfilled their promises strictly. It now appears that it is important to the interests of the white population, while it will be no prejudice to the Indians, that the former should obtain access to, and possession of, the country about the Yaquina bay and river, where there is a good harbor and site for a commercial town; it and the neighboring region being comprised within the Alsea sub-agency. A very full report from the superintendent, submitted herewith, proposes to make a treaty with the Indians referred to, under which the four tribes about Yaquina bay will be concentrated at a point further north, and

thus leave the coveted territory open to settlement. Under this arrangement, one sub-agency would be dispensed with. The estimated expense of the removal of these Indians is given by the superintendent at \$16,500; and he suggests that the town site at Yaquina bay would, at public sale, more than reimburse the government for the outlay. I suggest the policy of early action upon this subject.

## CALIFORNIA.

Under date of April 1, 1865, a report from late Superintendent Wiley furnished this office with information of the general condition of the Indians upon the reservations, and of the progress thus far made in the reorganization of Indian affairs in California under the law of 1864. At that time it was expected that a very large surplus of grain and vegetables would be raised upon the reservations; but, as will be seen by the report of Superintendent Maltby, who succeeded Mr. Wiley about the first of May, those expectations have not been realized. Before Mr. Wiley retired, however, he was able to report many changes for the better in the condition of affairs. Up to the date of the report above referred to, but two of the four reservations to which the act of Congress limits the superintendency had been definitely settled upon, being those at Round Valley and Hoopa valley.

It was intended to remove the Indians from the Smith River reservation, and place them at the old Klamath reservation, still owned by government, but to place the occupants under the charge of an employé of the Hoopa valley agency. No definite suggestions were made as to the selection of the other two permanent reservations.

By the annual report of Superintendent Maltby, of recent date, we obtain quite full information of the condition of affairs in California, the superintendent having but lately completed an extensive tour of observation, made in company with Hon. Mr. Higby, one of the congressional Committee of Investigation. In regard to the disposition of the Indians upon the reservations, they are said to be everywhere well disposed and peaceable, and willing to labor for their own support; and many who have not hitherto come under the care of the agents are seeking permission to come in and share the labors and benefits of the policy adopted upon the several agency farms. The superintendent represents them as very destitute of clothing, supplies of which must be purchased for them, until such time as they can raise a surplus of produce to be disposed of. The additional numbers coming in every year to the reservations will probably postpone all sales of surplus produce indefinitely, as the new comers must be supported till they can raise a crop.

Superintendent Maltby desires to discontinue, as soon as practicable, the system, still to some extent practiced, of renting lands for Indian reservations. In this desire I readily concur, and it is hoped that such practice will soon cease, either by adopting the suggestions of the superintendent's report, which proposes to purchase the necessary lands at a fair appraisement, or by removing the Indians to lands already owned by the government.

There are no schools upon any of the reservations in California, and the suggestion of Superintendent Maltby, that Congress be requested to make provision for at least one good school upon each reservation, meets with my hearty concurrence, and I trust that this small chance of intellectual life may be vouchsafed to the poor remnant of the tribes who once occupied as their own a country so prolific of wealth, and who have been compelled to yield possession without any stipulations for their benefit.

The four agencies referred to in the annual report are those of *Round valley*, in northeastern California, *Hoopa valley* and *Smith river*, in the northern part of the State, *west* of the mountains, and *Tule river*, in the extreme south, *east* of the mountains.

Round valley comprises a tract of about 25,000 acres, containing land of remarkable fertility, both as to the arable and pasture land. Under the charge of Agent Fairchild, the measures taken for the care and support of the Indians at this point have been carried on with energy, and 2,700 acres have been enclosed with a good fence, while preparations are far advanced towards the fencing of 3,000 acres more. Over 1,000 acres have been under cultivation this year; but the crops are light as to all kinds of grain, though vegetables were plentiful. The occupants of this reservation comprise the following Indians: Pitt Rivers 320, Wylackies 80, Ukies 300, Onocows 240, making an aggregate of 940; to which would be added immediately 370 of the Indians who have been kept at Humboldt bay, under charge of the military; the remaining 400 of those prisoners being at the old Mendocino reservation, at present under the charge of an employé from Round valley. The agent also expects to receive some 800 of the Clear Lake, Ukiah and Redwood bands, who have expressed a desire to come into the valley, and thinks there will be no difficulty in subsisting all of them. The superintendent has terminated a lease of certain lands which were no longer needed, and which was costing the government \$3,350 per annum. He recommends the purchase of the improvements of the white settlers remaining in the valley, but gives no estimate of the cost of such purchase.

Hoopa valley was selected last fall by late Superintendent Wiley as a reservation, and possession taken under an arrangement with the settlers that their improvements should be purchased. Upon his suggestion that these improvements would not cost more than \$60,000, an appropriation of that amount was made by Congress, and a board of appraisers designated. An appraisal made under directions from this office, by parties represented to be disinterested, was already in progress, and their report reached this office before the instructions under the act of Congress were sent out. It made the valuation over \$116,000, besides a large quantity of agricultural implements, amounting to over \$8,000. The appraisal by the *new* board has just reached the office, and is within the amount appropriated for the improvements, while the valuation of the implements is about \$4,260 in coin. Upon the payment of the amounts so returned, the reservation will be entirely in the hands of government, and all white persons excluded, except the necessary employes.

Superintendent Maltby does not represent the capacity of the reservation for sustaining a large number of Indians in as favorable terms as his predecessor. There are now 600 upon it, under charge of Agent Stockton, and 1,800 Klamaths are expected, this being, as now stated, about the capacity of the reservation.

No trouble is found in getting all the necessary labor from the Indians, an overseer only being needed to direct them. Much expense for transportation of supplies is necessarily incurred until sufficient crops can be raised to subsist the Indians.

Smith River reservation is upon the coast, and consists of one farm of 1,200 acres, besides adjoining lands, rented at a cost of \$1,948 in gold per year. Upon it are 700 Humboldt and Wylackie Indians, quietly and industriously occupied; and they have raised this year an abundance for their subsistence. The superintendent recommends the purchase of these lands, and more in the vicinity, if necessary, as he thinks the cost of removing the Indians and putting up the necessary buildings at any other point would greatly exceed the cost of such purchase. He will be called upon for an estimate of the cost of the land referred to, as well as of the remaining improvements in Round valley. The Tule river farm, in the southern part of the State, under the charge of Agent Hoffman, contains 1,280 acres, and is also rented at \$1,000 a year. There are upon it 800 Owen's river and Tule river Indians, who, though the crops were light, have raised enough to subsist them. The superintendent makes the same recommendation as to purchase of this farm as in the case of Smith river, and

thinks that sufficient land can be had at fair rates in the vicinity for other southern bands who will soon have to be brought upon reservations.

With Superintendent Maltby's report he has forwarded the statements of two special agents sent by his predecessor last spring, with instructions to visit and inquire into the condition of, and furnish seeds and a supply of implements to, the Mission Indians; located in small settlements near the southern line of the State, from Los Angeles to San Diego. These reports are full of interest, and the visit appears to have been of benefit to the Indians. Unscrupulous white men seem to be interfering with their rights in a very unjustifiable manner, and it was time that protection was extended to them.

The total number of Indians upon the reservations named above is, by the superintendent's report, 3,860; while he estimates the whole number in the State not on reservations, and including the Mission Indians, (who live upon and cultivate their own lands,) at 30,000, which is much beyond any other late estimates of the population of the California tribes.

## ARIZONA.

After the resignation of Superintendent Poston, on the occasion of his election as a delegate to Congress last year, he left Mr. G. W. Leihy, whom he had designated as assistant superintendent, in charge of Indian affairs in Arizona, and Mr. Leihy was subsequently appointed superintendent. His annual report did not reach this office in time for notice in this report, but will be found in the appendix; but by a letter received, under date of September 27, he gives some important information in regard to the tribes on and near the Colorado river. The letter, which came too late for further notice, is among the papers submitted herewith.

From Mr. J. C. Dunn, who was among the persons appointed by Mr. Poston as agents, as referred to in the last annual report from this office, advices were received during the last summer of hostilities having broken out among the Indians along the Colorado river, but no details have been forwarded. Mr. Davidson, who was designated by late Superintendent Poston as agent for the Papagos Indians, in the southwest part of the Territory, has furnished much valuable information in regard to that interesting and thoroughly loyal people. In order to place in permanent form such information as to the character, history, and traditions of the Indian tribes as can be obtained, I have included Mr. Davidson's report among the papers to be published with this report. The Papagos occupy villages and the adjacent country, in the southwest portion of Arizona, having for their centre and most important point the old mission church of San Xavier del Bac, and number some 5,000 souls. The Pimos and Maricopas (confederated) are an independent and industrious people, living further to the north and west, and number, according to late Superintendent Poston, some 7,500. Over these two tribes Mr. Davidson was, on the occasion of his late visit to the east, and after your conference with him, appointed by the department as a special agent, and furnished with such portion of funds from the appropriation for Arizona as was deemed applicable to the Indians assigned to his agency, which also includes the *Tame* Apaches, a small number of well-disposed persons of the extensive tribe which causes so much trouble in that region.

The Papagos have from time to time furnished soldiers to aid the whites against the inroads of the Apaches, and have been very efficient.

Their friendship has been fully recognized, and it is hoped that, under the teacher to be provided, and by means of the agricultural implements and other really valuable articles to be furnished them, they will make rapid improvement in civilization. Indeed, from the accounts received from Agent Davidson they

appear to be even now fully equal to the ordinary Mexican population of the country in all the elements required to make good citizens.

Of the Cocopas, who live near the mouth of the Colorado river, upon Mexican territory; the Yumas, numbering some 1,500, living further north, along the same river; and the Mojaves, Yavapais, Hualopais, and Chemihuevis, who number about 8,000, and live near the Colorado river, between Fort Yuma and Fort Mojave, we have literally nothing during the last year. Whether or not they have been engaged in the hostilities referred to above is not known; but the probability is that the war party was composed of a band known as Apache-Mojaves, neither belonging to the one tribe nor the other, but vagabonds from both. Still, it would appear from Mr. Dunn's letter that the whites were the aggressors; and this may be laid down as a general rule in regard to the Indians of the western slope, that unless provoked by wanton outrage, or driven by starvation to plunder, they are a quiet and peaceable people. Nothing has been done in regard to the proposed reservation lying between Corner Rock and Halfway Bend, on the Colorado, which was authorized by act of Congress last winter. The reservation, it is understood, can only be made available for the Indians by an extensive irrigating canal, estimated to cost some \$100,000 in currency, for which Congress made no appropriation.

Besides the tribes above mentioned, there are in Arizona a large number of Apaches, roughly estimated at 4,000, and the Moquis, who are village Indians, living in a half civilized state, in the northeastern part of the Territory. Some account of these interesting villagers was given in the report of last year from this office, but no agent of the government has visited them. They are allied by language to the Pueblos, of New Mexico, and having suffered greatly from starvation, a delegation visited the nearest Pueblos last winter, having travelled hundreds of miles to obtain relief, which was given to them by Agent John Ward, as stated in his report upon the subject.

If it proves, upon examination, to be impracticable to attach this people to any of the Arizona agencies, measures will be taken to supply their moderate wants from New Mexico, if Congress will provide the means, though it seems doubtful whether the dry plains upon which they live will long sustain them. The want of water for crops and stock is the principal difficulty, and to the gradual drying up of the streams and decreasing average of moisture is ascribed by many the gradual diminution of the population of this whole region, which, as is evident from the many remains of extensive buildings and settlements, once teemed with busy life.

The Pai-Utes extend their range into northern Arizona, but are mostly in Nevada since the change of the boundary of that Territory one degree to the eastward. It is very much to be regretted that goods sent for the Arizona Indians from New York as long ago as the early fall of 1864 had not at last accounts reached their destination. They have travelled to San Francisco, thence down the coast again, and up the California Gulf to Guaymas, where it was found impossible to land them, owing to the French siege then in progress. At last accounts, I understand that the goods have gone back to San Francisco upon a United States vessel, and will probably be found there by Mr. Davidson, who has recently returned to his post.

A recent communication received from Mr. H. Ehrenberg, who was for some time acting as Indian agent in Arizona, submits certain plans for the benefit of the Indians. It will be seen that he opposes, for reasons given, the project of a reservation for the Indians along the Colorado river.

## NEVADA.

Indian affairs in Nevada, or rather our advices in regard to them, have been and are in a very unsatisfactory condition.

Since the last annual report of Governor Nye, ex-officio superintendent, we are almost without a word of information in regard to the condition of the Indians of that State. It was not until July last a superintendent was appointed, and the appointee, Hubbard G. Parker, esq., did not enter upon his duties until September. The goods for the Nevada Indians were forwarded last spring, with the expectation that they would be taken in charge and distributed by Agent Lockhart, who was at Carson City, to which place they were shipped. The appearance in this city of Agent Lockhart in June, and his subsequent resignation, disappointed this hope; for Mr. Burch, the local agent at Ruby valley, had also left his post, or resigned, and no person was left in Nevada to attend to Indian affairs. Senator Nye, who, as governor and superintendent ex-officio, had been very successful in his administration of Indian affairs, was appealed to to assist, so far as he could make it convenient, in regard to several matters of importance; and, although no advices have been received, I entertain some confidence that the interests of the service have not seriously suffered. There has been, from the first, very little difficulty with the Indians of Nevada, partly because they are a very peaceable people, and partly because of the judicious course taken by Governor Nye in establishing efficient special agencies to look after them, and prevent difficulties and disturbances, rather than to await their occurrence.

Agent Lockhart had general charge of the Indians, branches of the Pai-utes, and a portion of them known as the Carson valley Indians, who had reservations surveyed in the western part of Nevada, including Walker lake and Pyramid lake; and a smaller reservation for a farm and mill and timber had been selected on the Truckee river. Last year the necessary expenditures for this mill and for an irrigating ditch for the farm had been made, but the failure of water in the river disappointed for a time the hopes raised as to both mill and farm.

I cannot dismiss with this brief reference the subject of this mill and reservation. The reservation was selected with a view to give the Indians a home, and to furnish, in its very valuable timber, stock for the costly mill to be erected upon it. To justify such a cost (about \$25,000, including stock of logs already cut) it was undoubtedly contemplated that, beyond the very moderate wants of the Indians in the way of lumber for houses, sales of lumber to a large amount were to be made for the benefit of the Indians of the agency. I know not what other object there could have been for either reservation or mill.

From papers in this office, both original and copies from the files of the department proper, it appears that, under date of March 31, 1865, a letter of instructions was given by your predecessor to Clark W. Thompson, then superintendent of Indian affairs for the northern superintendency, to sell this mill in Nevada; a blank contract for the sale accompanying the instructions. I refer to both of these documents as published among the papers accompanying this report. The reasons for the sale, as stated in Secretary Usher's letter, were briefly these: That the Pacific railroad would pass near the site of the mill, and make the locality unfit for an Indian reservation; and that the expense of the mill having been greater than was expected, and it being considered injurious to the Indians and the public interests to have the Indians so near to the "settlements attending the construction of the railroad," it was contemplated to reduce the reservation by about five miles, "which would make it proper and necessary to sell the mill property." A Mr. W. N. Leet was suggested as a person who would be likely to purchase the mill, and Mr. Thompson was authorized to execute a contract on the part of government with the purchaser. The contract enclosed provided for the sale of the mill, with all the logs then cut upon the reservation, and the privilege of cutting logs upon the even-numbered sections of the reservation for ten years, paying for the whole \$30,000 in lumber, delivered at the mill, at the lowest cash prices prevailing at the time of delivery, and in instalments of \$5,000 for the first year, and \$2,500 for the succeeding ten years.

This contract was executed by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Leet on the 27th day of May, 1865, and a copy, one of three originals, only reached this office from Mr. Thompson in the month of August, just before I left this city on public business. I at once disapproved the contract, and directed Mr. Leet to be informed of such disapproval. But, upon more careful examination since my return, I am satisfied that in case you concur in my views of the nature of the transaction, some active steps should be taken to prevent a gross injustice.

I cannot see, in the letter of instructions referred to, any satisfactory reasons for selling the mill. On the contrary, the fact that it had cost a great deal of money appears to me the greater reason why it should have been put at work at the earliest day possible, for the benefit of the agency, upon the large stock of logs already provided. Neither can I appreciate the reasoning in the case of the Indians referred to, (however it might apply to others,) that they should be required to remove back from the line of the railroad. On the contrary, being willing to labor, as was shown by their industry in constructing the irrigating canal referred to above, they could have secured employment for a long time upon the railroad work. The sale appears to me to amount to little more than giving Mr. Leet the mill, with timber of immense value with which to run it for ten years. But, even if it had been proper to make this sale, it seems strange that a superintendent should be sent from Minnesota, where his services were needed, to Nevada, at great expense, to effect it, when it could have been done as well by the agent at Carson City, or the superintendent of California. I confess that I am groping somewhat in the dark in considering this subject, but I am sure I cannot be wrong in checking the consummation of the project; and I have instructed the superintendent to take immediate possession of the mill and logs, and all property purporting to have been sold; and, unless otherwise directed by your department, I shall in no manner recognize this singular transaction.

Special Agent Burch, who had charge of the Humboldt and other Indians, with agency at Ruby valley, gave assurance last year, on the part of his Indians, (numbering about two thousand,) and of the Pannakies, further to the north, that they would not molest the travellers who were expected to crowd the emigrant routes from California to Idaho and Montana, and it is presumed that they have kept their promise, as no complaints have reached this office.

When Agent Lockhart was here he represented that a portion of the Carson Valley Indians, who had given up their lands without receiving any consideration therefor, and who were peaceable and industrious, obtaining their living by labor about the towns and diggings, asked that a small tract of land might be given them, upon which they might have a right to settle their families, as they had not a foot of land of which they had an unmolested occupation. This modest request was granted, and action taken by requesting Governor Nye to make the necessary selections, the department also directing the selections thus made to be respected at the district land office.

Allusion is elsewhere made to the fact that the Pai-Utes, to whom Mr. Sales was sent as special agent by Superintendent Irish, of Utah, at the instance of settlers in Meadow valley and the vicinity, were, by the placing of the boundary of Nevada one degree further east, thrown mostly into Nevada. Meadow valley is in Nevada, and is understood to be the centre of a rich mining district, where if we are to credit the accounts given to Mr. Sales, fabulous amounts of gold and silver are to be found. By what routes the hardy and adventurous miners have found their way thither does not appear, though it was Mr. Lockhart's opinion that they had come from the northwest, by way of Esmeralda. It seemed very desirable, in order to prevent difficulty between the settlers and the Indians, that a special agency should be established at or near Meadow valley, but it was impossible to decide whether, for facility of communication, the agency should report through Utah eastward, or through Nevada, via San



Francisco. Superintendent Irish thought that it should report through him, while Mr. Lockhart thought that communication would be more certain and speedy through Esmeralda and Carson City.

Into this subject, as well as in relation to the other matters concerning Indian affairs in Nevada, Superintendent Parker has been directed to make immediate inquiry and to report as soon as possible. His report will be laid before you when received, and it can then be decided what is necessary to be done for the Indians of that State.

It has been ascertained that certain packages of goods destined for Nevada, amounting in value to about \$4,600, and which, if sent by the best route, should have reached their destination in time to be distributed to the Indians early this fall, were sent to Nebraska City for transportation overland, and by some blunder, the responsibility for which this office has not yet been able to fix, were left behind by the contractor for transportation. As soon as this fact was discovered, steps were taken to place these goods in the hands of Superintendent Murphy, of the central superintendency, and it is proposed to use them for the Indians of that or neighboring superintendencies, and make their equivalent value available for Nevada. The total population of the Indians in Nevada, aside from those whose range extends into that State, but who have been estimated in other superintendencies, is supposed to be about 8,500.

#### UTAH.

We obtain from the annual report of Superintendent Irish a clearer idea of the numbers, location, character, and condition of the Indians of Utah Territory than has heretofore been furnished. They may be classified as follows:

*Eastern bands of Shoshonees* and mixed bands of *Bannacks* and *Shoshonees*, numbering about 4,000, under the chief Washakee, a true friend of the whites. They range through northeastern Utah and southeastern Idaho; were parties to the treaty of July, 1863; regard the Wind River region in Idaho and the country about the upper waters of the North Platte as their residence, and desire a reservation there. Governor Lyon, of Idaho, will probably make a treaty with them for the purpose.

*Northwestern Shoshonees*, numbering 1,500, ranging about sundry valleys in and near the Goose Creek mountains, but being mostly in Idaho; were parties to the treaty of Box Elder of July, 1863; are poor, and suffered from hunger last winter, but kept their promises, and did not disturb the emigrant routes. The superintendent assisted them to a small extent, and secured employment for many of them as herdsmen.

*Goships*, (or *Gosha-Utes*), numbering about 800, ranging west of Salt lake, were parties to the treaty of Tuilla Valley of October, 1863; are very poor; and depend for subsistence upon roots and nuts, and their resources are disappearing as the white population advances. The treaty provides a yearly present of \$1,000 in goods or provisions, and the superintendent says this amount should be considerably increased.

*Weber-Utes*, numbering eight hundred, living in the Salt Lake, Weber, and Ogden valleys, and in the neighborhood of the towns. They are a mixture of Utes and Shoshonees, and are represented as an idle, shiftless, and vagabond tribe, giving much trouble by petty depredations.

*Utahs*.—These are divided into several bands, as follows:

*Timpanogs*, a small band of three hundred, inhabiting the Utah valley and neighboring mountains.

*Uintah Valley Indians*, numbering three thousand, occupying northeastern Utah and the Green River country.

*Pah-Vants*, numbering fifteen hundred, and ranging through Pah-Vant and Sevier valleys, and west to the White mountains. A very favorable account is given of them. Their most influential chief, Konosh, has induced them to pay

attention to farming, and his good offices will be availed of to induce a more ready compliance with the policy of the department, in the removal of all the Utahs to the Uintah Valley reservation.

*San Pitches*, numbering about 500, and live in the San Pitch valley and along the Sevier river. They are very poor, and live upon fish, roots, nuts, &c.

Besides the above Utahs, there is a large number of Indians, estimated at 6,000, called the *Pi-Edes*, allied in language to the Utahs, but very poor, and obtaining a precarious living upon a barren region in the southern part of the Territory. They cultivate here and there a few patches of grain or vegetables, but are often reduced for subsistence even to feed on lizards, toads, and insects. The superintendent hopes to induce them to accept a better home upon the Uintah Valley reservation, as soon as the preparations at that point are sufficiently advanced.

The *Pah-Utes*, who formerly constituted a considerable portion of the Indian population of Utah, have, by the late change in the boundary between this Territory and Nevada, been thrown for the most part into that State, although they have been visited and looked after by Special Agent Sales, sent to them by Superintendent Irish, at the urgent appeal of citizens, indorsed by the late governor, Hon. J. D. Doty. In Governor Doty this office has lost an able and willing adviser and efficient aid in developing its policy and obtaining an influence over the Indians; while the latter, as well as the white settlers, have lost a true friend.

Governor Doty returned to this office, under date of 18th of November, 1864 the treaties with the northwest Shoshonees and the Shoshonee Goships, with the amendment of the Senate ratified, and those treaties have been proclaimed; but he was not able to get the northeast Shoshonees and mixed Bannacks and Shoshonees together.

Much correspondence has taken place between the superintendent and this office in relation to the proper plans to be pursued in regard to preparing the Uintah Valley reservation for a home for all the Utahs who can be induced to remove to it, but not much has been done until recently towards accomplishing the desired end. Both the superintendent and Agent Kinney presented plans for the expenditure of the appropriation for the purpose made by Congress, but both, especially the latter, contemplated the use of a considerable part of the funds in expenses of removal, or clothing, or subsistence.

As the decision of Secretary Usher was that no portion of the funds could be used for these purposes, and that they could only be used in preparing the reservation to receive the Indians, it was deemed advisable to expend the funds in such preparations no faster than there was a reasonable hope of getting the Indians to avail themselves of the advantages offered to them; the theory adopted being that after a portion of the Indians had removed to the reservation their labor could be availed of to assist those who were to follow, and thus a large expenditure for labor be saved to the government. I am now inclined to think that perhaps it would have been well to push these preparations forward more vigorously, as it would seem from Superintendent Irish's special report relative to the treaty referred to below, that the Indians show much more willingness to remove than was expected. Agent Kinney has gone upon the reservation, and a full report from him was expected, but has failed to arrive. The examination made of the Uintah valley, which is ample in extent for all of the Utahs, showed it to be abundantly fertile, well timbered and well watered, and measures have been taken to warn all white persons away from the tract reserved. The people of Utah have been anxious to obtain possession of the several small reservations heretofore withheld from sale, particularly the one at Spanish Fork, none of them being at present occupied and cultivated by or for the benefit of the Indians. The superintendent represented that, as to some of these reservations, the Indians objected to their survey and sale till they were paid for them