U58a
984
US

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

FOR

THE YEAR 1875.

984

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1875.

HP2024
COPIED FROM THE ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY / TUCSON / LIBRARY/ARCHIVE
NOTICE: THIS MATERIAL MAY BE PROTECTED BY U.S. COPYRIGHT CODE (TITLE 17)

e I have advised them to go back, but have had to give them sufficient rations
ıem obtaining their sustenance by robbery and perhaps murder. These Indians
led are very dangerous to the peace of the reservation, taking every opportunity
upon thieving expeditions.
e year I have retaken ten stolen horses, all of which, with but one exception,
›y Indians not belonging to this agency, and were either sold to these Indians,
ake them from the thieves with the help of my own Indians.
g the civilization of these Indians during the year, in some respects their prog-
›n very favorable; no outrages have been committed by them. They are obe-
lling to assist me in retaking stock, or similar duties, and, with few exceptions,
the reservation. There are some among them whom it is almost impossible
eck, and who, during the year, have joined marauding parties for the sake of
: but, as a race, they behave as well as any Indians under the protection of
ent.
griculture is concerned I have not been able to commence operations this year.
to do so this spring, but as I did not receive authority to move until May,
ant. The agency is now within a practicable distance of the only farming
ıe reservation, and next spring I hope to be able to commence in due season.
sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS J. JEFFORDS,
United States Indian Agent, Chiricahua Apaches.

SMITH,
issioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

FICE UNITED STATES INDIAN AGENT FOR COLORADO RIVER INDIANS,
Colorado River Indian Reserve, Arizona, September 25, 1875.

'e the honor to submit the following report for the year ending August 31, 1875.
ıs under my charge were kept at work improving and repairing the irrigating-
ıeir planting season; when seeds and implements were furnished, land selected,
ps put in, which will yield sufficient food to sustain them, with the surplus of
ur, until the spring-wheat is gathered.
have been given the past year without an equivalent in work, and they have
› understand that with this year their rations cease. None are required on this
:t save beef, which ration should be reduced and the balance turned over to the
ands in the shape of stock for raising their own beef-cattle.
pproach of the planting season I removed the Hualpai Indians from the con-
litary to a point near the agency, intending to teach them planting, and oblige
for their rations; but they went off the reservation to their old range, saying
ot work or return to the reservation; after a consultation with the commanding
e department, we decided to let them remain during good behavior. They
', kept their promise, and given no trouble.
ılargement of the reservation the Chimehueva tribe of Indians were induced
ıe California side, having heretofore ranged as far north as Utah. With but
:e from the agency, they are comparatively self-supporting.
› at Fort Yuma, and the branch of Mojaves at Fort Mojave remain unchanged
The last named visit the reservation often, and, having been granted permission,
y settle there, seeing the advantages of the irrigating-canal and the encroach-
ıgers on their present homes. I would not advise compulsory movements; but
know they are free to come, all the river Indians can gradually be gathered

ualpai Indians left, the company of troops stationed at the southern end of the
removed, being unnecessary for the control of Indians under my care, as I
exercise severe discipline.
› largely decreased since the removal of troops and by the constant care of the
:ian.
school has been held for the children the past season, owing to loss of teacher
›om. A married lady has lately been employed, who will, with her other duties,
ıen industrial pursuits.
of the small salaries given employés it is almost impossible to secure married
ıequently it is impossible to educate these people in family government. The
› would be to lease sections of land to industrious families who would live
dians and teach them their mode of life and labor.
› Indians have learned to labor so well by their work on the irrigating-canal
d repeated applications for their services to work in the mines, and on roads,
approved of their leaving the limits of the reservation.
g the last year's progress, although less than I hoped for at its beginning,
› accomplished in putting the irrigating-canal in its present condition, and

p 211

HP2025

placing the Indians in the way of earning their own support; this point gained, they will soon be fitted for a higher education, which I trust my successor may be suited and strengthened to impart.

Yours, respectfully,

J. A. TONNER,
United States Indian Agent.

HON. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.

MOQUIS PUEBLO INDIAN AGENCY,
Arizona, August 31, 1875.

SIR: According to the requirement of the Department of the Interior I have the honor to submit my first annual report concerning the affairs of this agency. Having arrived here only about a month ago, sufficient time has not yet elapsed to admit of an intimate acquaintance with these Indians; but I have ascertained their wants and general condition.

Last week I visited their villages, seven in all, embracing an area of country fifteen miles in extent. They are located on elevated, rocky promontories, very difficult of access, and yet the inhabitants carry all the products of their small farms on their backs and those of burros, up the steep and almost impassable windings among the rocks to their houses. Fuel and water for their use are also conveyed in the same manner. Their dwellings are constructed of mortar and rough sandstone, and are generally from two to three stories in height. They are an agricultural and pastoral people, are industrious, and with a fertile soil and other natural advantages would be in a far better condition than at present. The region of country claimed and occupied by them lies in the northeastern portion of the Territory, far removed from any settlements of the white man. It is a very unpromising place for any human beings to attempt to make a subsistence either by cultivating the soil or raising stock. Irrigation is necessary throughout all this section of country in order to secure good crops, and yet there is not a perennial stream of water on their entire possessions that amounts to anything for irrigating purposes. What little water there is may generally be found in pools at the base of rocks. Grazing, even at the most favorable seasons, is meager and insufficient. Sage-brush, grease-wood, and sand-weeds are the principal natural products of the soil. And yet the Indians are so strongly attached to this poor and forbidding place that they cannot be induced to entertain any proposition for their changing to a better one. Probably there is no tribe more devotedly attached to the homes and graves of their fathers than the Moquis Pueblos.

As nearly as can be ascertained there are now about sixteen hundred of them, and they have doubtless been occupying their present abodes since the conquest of Mexico by Cortez. Their traditions point to that country, whence they fled from the invasions of bad white men. About twenty years since the small-pox raged fearfully among them, from which some three thousand died. About that time their tribal name was changed from Hopeka to Moquis; the latter word signifying death. The name was given them by neighboring tribes because death was everywhere among them, and the terrible scourge did not cease till two-thirds of their people were consigned to their graves. The health of the tribe is now quite good, and the population is steadily increasing in numbers.

Polygamy is not tolerated among them. They are true to their marriage relations. Venereal diseases are almost unknown. Their government might be termed patriarchal. It is true there is a chief in every village, but he exercises no more power or authority than any one else. There was no such distinction among them until recently, when a Commissioner of the Indian Department, thinking it might be productive of good, appointed the present chiefs. Public opinion and retaliation are the most potent influences in maintaining the peace and good order. Any one that violates their established code of morals is ostracized. This is considered sufficient punishment for any crime. If an animal invades a corn-field or in any way damages the property of a neighbor, the owner of the unruly animal is required to make restitution. If he fail to do this the offending beast is in some manner mutilated. Burros or donkeys may occasionally be seen with one or both ears cut off close to the head. This gives them a sufficiently repulsive appearance to greatly lessen their value.

These Indians are very skillful in the manufacture of pottery, the material for which exists in great abundance near one of their villages; some of the patterns and designs are quite unique and pretty.

Owing to the small quantity of rain, not more than one-third of the usual amounts of products will be raised this season. Corn is the chief article of subsistence. A few small patches of wheat were sown last spring for the first time. Squashes, melons, onions, and some other vegetables are cultivated. Their peaches are almost an entire failure. They have but few horses, sheep, and goats, and no cattle. All things considered, I fear many of the people will suffer before another crop can be produced, unless assistance be rendered them by the Government. Unfortunately for them, this is the first year, I believe, that an-

COPIED FROM THE ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - TUCSON - LIBRARY/ARCHIVES
NOTICE: THIS MATERIAL MAY BE PROTECTED BY U.S. COPYRIGHT CODE (TITLE 17)

nuities have been withheld since they came under the protection of our Government. They are peaceable and well disposed toward the white men, but they are very poor. It is greatly to be regretted that their usual assistance has been suspended. I know not why this was done, but I trust, however, that aid may yet be furnished them this year. Many of the adults have nothing more than a ragged shirt, with no means to procure any more clothing, and cold weather is rapidly approaching. They have been depending upon their accustomed help, which accounts, in some degree, for their present destitute condition. Their greatest want just now is material for clothing. They also very much need axes, hoes, knives, scissors, combs, needles, and thread.

The parents manifest a commendable desire to have their children educated. There is but one school at present, which is kept at the agency, some fifteen miles from the nearest Indian village. All the pupils are boarded, clothed, and furnished lodgings here. No more can be accommodated as we are now situated. I am, therefore, erecting a cheap but comfortable structure, which will afford us the additional room desired. It will be ready to occupy in a few days. It is believed that the scholars will make more rapid advancement by being constantly associated with their teachers, and where they will hear but little spoken but the English language. However, there are many who cannot, for various causes, attend the boarding-school situated so far from their villages. Their parents have requested me to establish schools in their towns, and have assured me, if I will do so, they would send children. I would, therefore, most respectfully recommend that two more teachers be furnished them. They could be located as to be within convenient reach of six of the villages. This would afford facilities to almost the whole tribe for educating their children.

These Indians, living in permanent abodes, far removed from all disturbing causes, and to some extent civilized, furnish a most hopeful field for missionary and educational effort. The Bible and the common school must be given them, if they would ever rise to the true position of citizens. I believe that no nation or people ever did or ever will, by their own unaided efforts, lift themselves out of a state of degradation and barbarism into a permanent civilization. If this be so, how important, then, that those in ignorance and superstition should be afforded the means to bring them to the light of civilization and Christianity.

I have the honor to be, yours, very respectfully,

W. B. TRUAX,
United States Indian Agent, Moquis Pueblos.

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

AGENCY PAPAGO INDIANS,
Tucson, Ariz., September 14, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to submit this my first annual report.

In entering upon the duties of my office, on the 13th of April last, I was pleased to find the Papago Indians all that they had been represented to me—a civilized, moral, and virtuous people. Like all other Indians they are given to dissipation when an opportunity affords; yet they are no more addicted to that vice than many of our own people.

The educational provisions by the Government for these Indians have been attended with great success, which success is due to the Christian kindness and the unceasing toil of the sisters of the order of Saint Joseph, who are employed as teachers, and who have charge of the school. One of the greatest difficulties encountered in educating the Indians is in getting their children to daily attend school. Owing to their habits of life, perseverance in any one thing becomes an intolerable burden to them. Independent of the provisions made for the purposes of education, but little has been done by the Government for the Indians of this agency.

It is computed that there are six thousand Papagos. The greater number of these live in their villages in what is styled the Papago country. There are two thousand on the reservation and in the vicinity of Tucson. Those in and near Tucson find employment from the citizens which affords them a pittance for support. Those on the reservation devote themselves to agriculture and stock-raising. During the late fall, winter, and early spring months trains of women can be seen daily coming from the reservation, packing hay and other products of their toil to this market.

There are about two thousand five hundred acres of land in the reservation adapted to stock-raising and agriculture. By a small expenditure of money for the purpose of irrigating, twelve hundred acres could be brought under cultivation.

There is a fine mill-site on the reservation, and I deem that it would be good policy to erect a mill for the benefit of the Indians.

A mechanical and industrial school is much needed, and would go far toward improving the present status of the Indian. I think it would be good policy to furnish one skilled farmer, with an assistant, to instruct the Indians in agriculture and stock-raising.

These Indians are classed by the Government as self-supporting. Three-eighths of them ke out an existence by gathering the wild fruits upon which they subsist; hence I deem it

HP2026
COPIED FROM THE ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY / TUCSON, LIBRARY/ARCHIVES
NOTICE: THIS MATERIAL MAY BE PROTECTED BY U.S. COPYRIGHT CODE (TITLE 1