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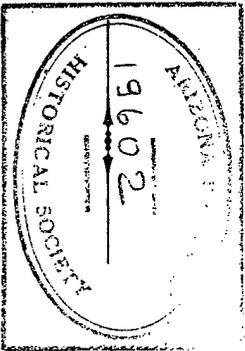
COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

MADE TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

FOR

THE YEAR 1869.



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1870.

be seen or tested. Much of the work on the canal has been done by the Indians, who seem to be encouraged, and indulge in the hope that their reservation will be made productive by this means, and afford them a desirable home. Superintendent George L. Andrews, Brevet Colonel United States Army, reports the condition of affairs to be unfavorable at the time of his visit to the reservation lately; only about eight hundred Mohaves were there, and but forty acres in cultivation. The river not having overflowed as usual last spring, but little has been raised by the river tribes; about two thousand Mohaves in the valley were more fortunate and shared their substance with those on the reserve. He is of the opinion that when the canal is completed many who are now outside will go upon the reservation. There are four tribes in the agency, inhabiting the country along the Colorado River from Fort Yuma to the northern boundary of the Territory: the Yumas, numbering two thousand, Yavapai or Apache Mohaves, two thousand, Mohaves, four thousand, and Hualapais, fifteen thousand, all of whom are now peaceable.

Moguis Pueblo Indians, living in the northeast part of the Territory, are a people of no ordinary interest, if we regard their isolated position, romantic traditions as to their Welch origin, and peculiar manners and customs. They number about four thousand, and are reported as more familiar in the useful arts and further advanced in civilization than any Indians in the Territory. We have had but little knowledge of them, and at no time have they been brought specially under the charge of an agent of the government. At times they have been despoiled of their property by Mexicans, and suffered at the hands of the Navajos. Believing that this community of friendly Indians should receive more attention from the government than hitherto bestowed, a special agent was appointed the past summer to visit them and exercise such oversight of their interest and rights as might be proper. No report has yet been received from that agent, as he has had barely time enough by this date to reach their country. In addition to the tribes in this superintendency named in the foregoing remarks, there are other Indian tribes, that sometimes range in the Territory or are frequently in it, but who belong to other Territories, as the Pi-Utes of Nevada, Navajos of New Mexico, and Cocopas of the State of Sonora, Mexico, the latter living at the mouth of the Colorado, and having no intercourse with the Mexicans, but are friendly and servicable to Americans.

UTAH.

Since the last annual report of this office, the Eastern Shoshones, with the Bannacks and Shoshones, have been transferred to the Wyoming superintendency. There is now but one reservation in the superintendency for Indian occupancy, that of the Uintah, in area nearly eighty miles square, which was set apart in 1861, and provided to be permanent by act of Congress of May 5, 1864. It contains a sufficiency of pasture and agricultural lands, with streams affording good supplies of fish. The intention was to place all the Utah Indians upon it, and with this object in view a treaty was entered into with the different tribes in 1865, by Superintendent Irish, but which to-day remains unratified, although several of my predecessors have urged definite action upon it by the Senate. A farm was opened there in 1866, and a number of the Indians have gone in and are to some extent laboring to support themselves. For want of means the purposes designed in setting apart the reservation have been but partially accomplished, not more than about fifteen hundred Indians being located upon it. If it be de-

termined not to ratify the treaty in question, it is earnestly hoped that Congress will be liberal in making appropriations for the service in the Territory, so that there may be speedily effected the concentration of the various Utah bands in Uintah Valley at this designated place, with such help as may enable them to engage in useful pursuits as their necessities may require. The whole number of Indians in the Territory is estimated by the late superintendent, I. F. Head, at nineteen thousand, and by the present incumbent of the office, Colonel J. E. Tourtellotte, United States Army, twelve thousand eight hundred, classifying them as follows: Western Shoshones, one thousand, living in the eastern part of Nevada, who cultivate small patches of land, and have a good supply of cattle and ponies. Northwestern Shoshones, twelve hundred, possessing ponies but not cattle, who would till the soil if assisted by the government. Goship Shoshones, eight hundred, the poorest of all, trusting chiefly to the *pinon* nut for subsistence. These three bands or tribes regard Washakie, of the Eastern Shoshones, as their head chief. No land has been designated as a home for them, as in the case of the Utah bands, but they should have one and brought together. Weber Utes, three hundred, who obtain a living by hunting, fishing, and begging about Salt Lake City. Pimpanong, five hundred, of a similar character of the Weber Utes, and live near the same city. San Pitches, three hundred, part of whom have removed to the Uintah Reservation. Pah Vents, twelve hundred, who cultivate some land. Uintah Utes, fifteen hundred, on the reservation referred to, and said to be the best Indians in the Territory. Yampa Utes, Pah Edes, Pah Utes, Elk Mountain Utes, and Sheberches, about six thousand, are migratory and warlike. No troubles, save those of a petty character, have occurred during the past year between the Indians and whites in this superintendency. Progress upon the Uintah reservation is most satisfactory. The Indians, seeing its advantages, are collecting there, and those formerly most warlike are now disposed to labor. Late Superintendent Head is of the opinion that an appropriation of \$10,000 per annum, to be expended for cattle, agricultural implements, and other beneficial objects, for five years would result in getting all the Utes upon the reserve. Farming operations in other parts have been to a small extent carried on successfully by some of the Pah Vents, and others, their leading men setting a good example of industry; no schools have ever been established for any of the tribes. The improvements recommended by the superintendent and agent are the removal of a saw-mill, distant one hundred and seventy miles from the agency, and useless, to a more convenient point, and the construction of a road from Salt Lake City to the reservation, two hundred miles, a necessity in consequence of the way now traveled being impassable for six months in the year.

NEW MEXICO.

There has been no decided improvement in the condition of Indian affairs in this Territory, and it may not be expected until the roving tribes are brought under the restraints and beneficial influences of that system which is believed to be the best and only one that can be effectual in leading them to change their mode of life. Leaving out the Pueblo or Village Indians, as the name signifies, none of them may be said to be permanently established in homes, following peacefully and successfully some useful pursuit. The estimated number of Indians in this Territory is nineteen thousand. There are two reservations, that for the Navajos provided by the treaty concluded with them in 1868, located