Navajo Agency

Fort Defiance, Arizona, December, 2, 1899

HON, D B, HENDERSON,

WASHINGTON, D C.

My Dear COLONEL,

I herewith hand you a sysopsis of a Bill which partly explains itself, the author of this case is one J L, RUSSELL who resides on this the Navajo reservation, some thirty miles west of the agency, he was a resident and occupant of the Quarter section of land on which he still lives long before the executive order of January 1880, which order extended the reservation six miles farther south thereby, taking him in the reservation, he started and occupied the place expecting to make a permanent home has improved and expended considerable money on it I should think in the neighborhood of $10,000, and if an act can be passed that will secure to him a title he will put more Improvements on it and thereby give the Indians in that part of the country a daily object lesson, in the way of farming and stock raising as it is he keeps some hogs cows and hundreds of chickens, and gives Employmen to many Indians during the year, he does a greatest for the Indian and when they cannot reach the agent they go to him for advice and always receive from him that which is timely and good, he is of great help to the Agent thereby helping the Government and the Indian,

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I have had some correspondence on this subject with the Indian Office, but cannot say whether they will recomend the legislation or not but am of the opinion they will, as I think they understand the justice of it,

Mr S M, ROSIUS, Indian Rights agent I think fully understands the situation location and all of the surroundings and I believe would not hesitate in giving his views on the matter I am of the opinion he would recomend the legislation sought, but one other man will be effected by such Legislation a Mr Damon, who lives on the Farm about one mile from the agency he came here with the Indians when they were returned here from Fort Sumner, married a Squaw and has a number of half breed Children the older of which he has educated and the two smaller ones we have in school here Now Colonel,

I do not ask this on any personal grounds but as a matter of justice, and I do think that it will be a benefit rather than an injury to the Indians, and I trust You will take pleasure in having some member introduce a bill, and that the relief sought may be obtained,

Very Respectfully,

Lee Hayzlett

U S Indian Agent,

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