

Kearney's Canon, A. T., December 28, 1883.

Herbert Welsh, Esq.,

My dear Mr. Welsh:-

In reply to your telegram for my views of the needs of Navajos, I will be as brief as possible. The first and most important is to develop water, by opening springs, and constructing dams at suitable points, to hold large reservoirs of water from rainfall. To properly execute this a practical and competent man should be sent, to superintend and instruct them in the work.

Next is an extension of their reservation South about five miles, more in this direction would in no way, I believe be advantageous to them, as it would bring them too close to the railroad, where they would meet with an objectionable element, and be a constant source of trouble to their Agent and the people.

I would also give them a large portion of the land now occupied by them, known as the Moqui reservation.

The last and not least is the establishment of good industrial schools, at say, four principal points on the reservation.

1st. The Agency, Fort Defiance. 2d. Tis-sin-des-keesh, where there is an abundant supply of water, and large farming dis-

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tract, situate about 35 miles N. E. of the Agency, 3d. Two-sits-ah, near the trading post, about 37 miles north of the Agency, which you visited, on your first journey to the Navajos. This point embraces the farming districts of Chin-lee and Canoa-do Chelly. They are easily accessible and at short distances.

4th. Kean's Canon. This locality I suggest not at all from sordid motives, but simply because I know of no other suitable locality in the Western part of the reservation, where a sufficient supply of water can be found for such purpose. Under such an arrangement, it would require but one Superintendent of school, for both Moquis and Navajos. At the same time I would suggest that the children from each tribe be taught in separate buildings, at least for the present. The Moqui objects to his children being in the same school, he says the Navajo child would be overbearing and constantly fighting the Moqui, and thereby involve the parents in serious trouble.

The buildings for Navajo children, could be at the upper spring, or near where my dwelling house is situated, and as Captain Wallace has recommended the East boundary of the Moqui reserve be established here, it would be a very appropriate place for these schools. These I believe to be the important and immediate needs of the Navajos, and having heard it is the intention

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of the Government to confine them to the limits of their reservation, the question of a sufficient supply of water for themselves and their large herds demands immediate attention of the Government.

With sincere regards,

Very truly yours,

Thomas Keam.

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