

Office Gallama Indian Agency

Fort Simeroe W.T. Sept 2^d 1874

Hon E. P. Smith

Commissioner Ind. Affairs

Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of your Office, I forward the following as my Report for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1874.

The Indians during the year, have been at peace among themselves, and the whites. Rigid measures have been taken to prevent them from using intoxicating liquors, & to bring parties to punishment, who have been guilty of selling liquor to them. I am pleased to report the number of Indians disposed to drink, and the amount drunk, is constantly lessening. This is true also in regard to gambling. This practice, which formerly was almost universal with them, is passing away. They are becoming more stable in their habits of industry and agricultural pursuits. This will appear in looking at the number of Indians employed during the year, the amount of work done by them, and the money paid for their work.

During the year we have employed
 Seventy Eight Indians. They cut and
 hauled to the Steam Mill 288,836 feet
 of Saw logs for the Department. They did
 all the work at the Steam Mill making
 288,836 feet of lumber. The Rolling in the
 logs, attending the Screws, the best off Saw,
 carrying off the lumber, cutting up the
 Slabs, Sticking up the lumber, taking
 away the Saw dust, and doing all
 necessary work around the mill except
 three white men. The Sawyer, Engineer,
 and one man outside to instruct and
 assist in the general work. The lumber
 made for the Department is worth \$20. per
 thousand making \$5,776.72. They also got
 into the Water Saw Mill 142,973 feet
 of Saw logs. These were Sawed by an
 Indian man who has been instructed
 in the work with the general oversight
 of the Miller. These logs made 142,973 feet
 of lumber worth \$20. per thousand making
 \$2,859.46. This latter work was all
 done by the Indians without any
 Expense to the Agency, for teams or
 Subsistence; they have all the lumber
 for fencing, Building houses Barns &
 general improvements.

The Indians have burned 1088 Bushels
 of Charcoal worth \$15 per hundred
 Making \$163.20, Split 2,000 fence posts,
 cut and hauled, 200 cords of wood
 for the Agency worth \$750. Hauled 100,000
 feet of lumber for fence at the lower part
 of the Reservation, 35 miles from the
 Steam mill, and at the Reservation
 farm & Station 10 miles from the Steam
 mill. Hauling worth \$10 per thousand.
 Making \$1000. Making 4 miles of post
 and Board fence worth \$100. per mile
 \$400. Hauling 75 tons of Hay from the
 Reservation farm to the Station 6 miles
 hauling worth \$3. per ton, \$225. Cutting
 and putting up 230 tons of hay at
 the lower part of the Reservation worth
 \$5. per ton Making \$1.150. Add to the
 above work the building of Bridges,
 repairing roads, taking care of government
 Stock, plowing, Sowing, harvesting,
 thrashing the grain, hauling the freight
 needed for the Service from Richland
 to the Station 65 miles, gives some
 idea of the work done by the Indians.
 It has been, and still is my policy, to
 have the Indians do all the work of the
 Department they can and to dispense with

white labor except as it is needed to give instruction and thrift to the general work. This gives them means and Education to better ^{I have paid, them, the past year for work \$6,755.00 -} their condition in years to come. We are instructing a class of young men (who have been taught in our Schools) as mechanics in the different departments of business, so as to raise up men among them that can do all kinds of work needed upon the Agency. We have practical harness makers, Blacksmiths, Plow and Wagon Maker, Carpenters & Millers, these men will in a short time be able to go alone, and manage the different departments of Business.

There is a growing desire for agricultural pursuits. They are opening new farms and depending upon the cultivated land for subsistence as never before. They have fenced for grazing and farming purposes, at least 10,000 acres of land. Their crops this year are short by reason of the drought & crickets. Enough, ^{however} has been raised to sustain the Nation and serve to spare.

~~By referring to~~ The Millers Reports Shows 7,971 Bushels of wheat ground for the Indians the past year, which gives 318,840 lbs of Flour.

I am persuaded not half of the wheat raised, was ground, which would show something over 16,000 Bushels; taking their Corn, Oats and other grain, I think 20,000 Bushels of grain was raised by the Indians of this Agency. with \$15,000 The Mills of the Agency are in good running order, and meeting the demands upon them fully.

The Schools have been kept about 10 months during the year. The boys out of School hours, are taught to work in the gardens, on the farms and in the Shops: the girls are instructed in house keeping, Sewing, Knitting, Cutting & Making clothes for the children of the Schools.

The Horses belonging to the Indians are improved in breed: one is now worth what two were formerly. They have about 13,000 ^{horses} of all ages - their average value \$15. Making \$195,000. They have 1,200 head of Cattle average value \$13. Making \$15,600.

The Indians have been aided in building fine houses by the Carpenters which are worth at least \$3,300.

Two of these houses, are neatly finished, well painted, and fairly furnished. The lumber to build them, has been furnished by ~~them~~^{Ind} with but little help from the Department. Every house so built inspires others with a desire to go, and do likewise.

They have purchased five new Weyans and paid for them out of their earnings costing \$615. They are beginning to make good fences, with posts and boards & they have now I think 100,000 feet of lumber made this season that will be worked into permanent improvements upon the agency.

The Steam mill is all, and even more than I expected, when I started to build it. It is capable of making 1,000 feet of lumber per hour, and is stocked and run (with but little exception) with Indian men.

At the time of making my last Annual Report, the Steam Mill was not finished. We have since covered in the mill, put in a Log-turner and cut off saw, constructed rollers for sawing off lumber, and Slabs, built a Reservoir, dug a ditch and laid 2,000

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feet of Iron pipe, taking water to the Mill house and Mill, giving us an abundance of water for use, and protecting us against fire. Our water works are so constructed, that at a moments warning we can throw water over the top of the Mill. The Mill house, Mill, and improvements, are worth \$10.000 or \$3.000 more than in my last annual Report.

The Department Stock is in good condition. We have added by purchase and increase (not counting the calves of this season) between four and five hundred head.

We are careful not to recommend persons to be appointed as Employes who are of doubtful character in morals; selecting tried men and women, who will give a wholesome example to the Indians, and who will be thrifty workers in all the interests of the Agency.

The Indians during the past winter suffered much with Measles & Whooping Cough. I think about 100 died. Those that were careful to follow the advice of the Physicians & Agent, got.

along quite as well as could have been expected. Those following their doctors, did generally.

Please see accompanying report of Physician.

I Call the attention of the Department to the Scanty provision made for the purchase of Medicines.

With more than 2.000 depending upon the resident Physician for medicine, two hundred Dollars in currency will not furnish the needed Medicines ^{Supplies}.

I ask then may be added one hundred and fifty Dollars per year to meet this necessity.

The Religious interest among the Indians of this Agency, is among the most pleasing and promising feature for future peace, and permanent prosperity. With good Churches, comfortable dwellings, well fenced fields yielding them a good Subsistence, with Cattle and horses and the comforts of civilized life, the Government needs not a regiment of Soldiers to keep them quiet. These improvements with proper instructions, and wholesome examples will

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Keep them the white man's friend
as long as the Sun and moon
endures.

I am Sir

Your obedient Servant,

James H. Wilson
U.S. and Agent W.S.

Annual Report

For

1874

James W. Wain
U.S. Land Agent W.V.