

INDIANS WEST OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

STATEMENT

OF

MAJOR J. W. POWELL,

MADE BEFORE

THE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS,

AS TO

The condition of the Indian tribes west of the Rocky Mountains.

JANUARY 22, 1874.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 13, 1874.*

The chairman stated that Major Powell, who had been engaged in work among the Indians beyond the Rocky Mountains, would make a statement of his views in reference to the Indians there.

The statement was as follows:

Major POWELL. The region of country between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevadas was originally inhabited by one race of Indians. The boundaries of this section may be indicated as follows: Commencing at the northern line of Oregon where it crosses the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and following the course of this range to the south until Walker's Pass is reached, and from thence east to the Colorado River, crossing it at the southern extremity of Nevada, and continuing in a direction a little north of east until the Little Colorado is reached, and from thence in a direction a little east of north to the thirty-seventh parallel of latitude, and from thence east to the crest of the Rocky Mountains, and north along these mountains through the Territory of Colorado from the northern line of Colorado in a northeast direction along the Wind River Mountains, and the mountains separating Montana from Idaho, to the forty-sixth degree of latitude, and from thence west to the place of beginning. This includes the eastern two-thirds of Oregon, more than four-fifths of Idaho, about one-fifth of Wyoming, one-half of Colorado, all of Utah and Nevada, the eastern slope of California, and one-fifth of Arizona, and embraces about 450,000 square miles.

The tribes of this great race of Indians speak a number of dialects or languages of the same stock. They are known to the white people as Shoshones, Bannaeks, Utes, Pi-Utes, Pah-Utes, To-so-wates, Koeats,

Pan-a-mints, &c. The Comanches of Texas also belong to the same race. There are two small reservations in Oregon, on the eastern slope of the Sierras, occupied by Indians not belonging to this race. These reservations are known as Warm Spring and Klamath.

The Indians within the territory which I have just indicated were estimated to number 26,837 in the last report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and this does not include a few who are in Arizona, and certain other Indians in California, as they are included in the general estimate and cannot be separated; but it is probable that they would swell the number to 30,000. Mr. Ingalls and myself have made a careful census of sixty-six of these tribes during the past summer. We have visited them personally, and saw every man, woman, and child.

THE CHAIRMAN. In what capacity were you sent out there?

Major POWELL. I was engaged in the survey of the Colorado River of the West and in the exploration of the adjacent country, under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution, and in that way became interested in the study of the languages, mythology, habits, and customs of these Indians. This past year I have been acting as special commissioner, for a few months, in connection with Mr. Ingalls, and we were kept at work all summer and fall, and until we had visited the sixty-six tribes. This is the census (showing it to the committee) which we made of them. In addition to these sixty-six tribes, there were many others connected with reservations whose numbers were better known. Adding to the number of the sixty-six tribes those who belong to these reservations, we find a total number of 10,437 instead of nearly 30,000, as they had been estimated on the books of the Indian Department. Of these Indians there are more than one hundred tribes—that is, the whole country is divided into more than one hundred districts, and to each subdivision of the country or district belongs a tribe, which takes its name from the land, and which has a government of its own. Sometimes two or more of these tribes are organized into a confederacy; but such organizations are not permanent. They are all essentially of the same stock, having languages differing more or less, but with the same mythology, religion, habits and customs, &c. They can understand each other to some extent, although there are many dialects.

There are, as you see, several reservations and agencies within this territory. There are two in Oregon, on the eastern slope of the Sierras, which are occupied by Indians belonging to another race, as heretofore stated. The reservation to the north is known as the Warm Spring, the one to the south as the Klamath. In my general remarks I make no reference to these Indians or their reservations. There are mixed bands of Pah-Utes, Bannacks, and Shoshones on the Malheur reservation. There is another agency on the Salmon River in Idaho, and a reservation and agency on the Port Neuf River extending down to the Shoshone River, for the Shoshones and Bannacks, known as Fort Hall; a reservation at Pyramid Lake, and another at Walker River in Western Nevada, and these two are included under one agency. There has been an agency or superintendency at Salt Lake City for many years, but at present it is discontinued. There is an agency and reservation in the in Southern Nevada on the Moapa Creek, known as the Pi-Ute Reservation. There are three agencies for the Utes of Colorado, one to the north, at White river, another at Denver, and a third at Los Piños. Thus, altogether, for the Indians under discussion there are ten agencies and eight reservations, and, excepting Colorado, eight agencies and seven reservations. It is proposed to divide these Indians into four great groups. There are more than one

hundred tribes of them altogether, of from forty to three hundred persons in each tribe. Each tribe or band is attached to the land from which it derives its name. The whole region of country was originally parceled out or divided among the Indians of these tribes; the boundary-lines were designated by natural objects, and each tribe took the name of the land to which it belonged. Thus the name of the land was the name of the tribe, and each tribe had its own chief, and its political organization was complete within itself, owing no other allegiance except for offensive or defensive war.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that remark applicable to all the Indians of the country?

Major POWELL. That is my opinion; I know it to be true among these Indians. The land was all divided among the tribes, and over one hundred and twenty governments thus exist, and to treat with these Indians it is necessary to treat with as many organizations, or to deal with one hundred and twenty chiefs. Their condition is something like this: They have been whipped pretty thoroughly, and they do not desire to come into conflict with the Government, and fully appreciate the necessity for them to cultivate the soil. The greater part of that country, except the western portion of Colorado, is almost destitute of game. Nevada and Western Utah are as thickly settled (and also a part of Oregon) as Ohio, Indiana, or Illinois, in proportion to their agricultural capacities—perhaps more so. The game is destroyed. All these Indians south of the line of Oregon and Idaho, are already cultivating the soil to a limited extent; they gather some seeds, dig roots, beg some, pilfer a little, and live in that way. The Indians of Idaho and Oregon are better mounted than the Indians below, and still hunt and fish. It is a good fishing country in the north. They are more nomadic in their habits, having tents and moving about the country much of the time. The greater number of the southern Indians move about but little, and have a desire to cultivate the soil, and are constantly begging for land. While the commission was among these Indians this past summer this question was presented to it: Is it possible to give these Indians lands within the territory now occupied by them? On investigation it was found that nearly all the land in Nevada was occupied and could not be procured without purchasing the same of the whites. In a country where hay is from \$25 to \$100 per ton, and grain from 3 to 10 cents per pound, every bit of land which can be tilled is of value, or rather it should be said that it is the water-rights which are valuable and expensive.

In looking over the matter fully, it was found to be impracticable to secure the Indians in possession of lands within the several districts of country which they now occupy, and it would be much cheaper to collect them at a few points where the Government still holds the lands. All of the Pi-Utes of Southern Nevada, Southeastern California, Northwestern Arizona, and Southern Utah speak one language or dialect so closely allied that they can understand each other. These number 2,356. They have all agreed to go on the reservation in Southern Nevada known as the Moapa reservation. On this reservation there are 1,850,000 acres of land. The country is composed chiefly of barren mountains and deserts of sand. There are, however, ten or twelve thousand acres fit for agricultural purposes on the Moapa, (or Muddy;) all the rest is desolate. This valley is at a low altitude and in a southern latitude, and the fruits and grain of sub-tropical climates can be raised successfully. These lands can only be made valuable for agricultural purposes by artificial irrigation, and this by the use of the waters of the Moapa, a creek that flows through the reservation.

The valley was once occupied by people from Utah, who built here five towns, and it is claimed that more than 2,000 people were in the valley at one time. On a survey of the State and territorial lines, it was found that this valley was within the boundaries of Nevada, and the people, who had settled here on the supposition that they were in the Territory of Arizona, not wishing to remain in Nevada, returned again to Utah. While there they built an extensive system of irrigating canals, and planted trees, cottonwoods chiefly, and vineyards, and made many other improvements. When they left, other settlers came in and established claims over a part of the territory which had been occupied by the Mormons. Mr. Ingalls and myself have examined these claims and valued them at \$32,050.

The CHAIRMAN. In estimating the value of these claims did you value the land or improvements?

Major POWELL. The improvements. Land is of no value without irrigation. Most of these improvements consist of means for irrigation. There is also a mill race and dam and mill building. Hundreds of thousands of cottonwood trees, some of them fifty or sixty feet high, many vineyards—one of ten acres. Most of these improvements can be made useful by the Government, but the vineyards would perhaps be of least value as they are liable to be destroyed, at least to some degree, by the Indians who do not fully appreciate their value. The Mormon people made improvements of a value perhaps exceeding \$200,000, originally, and still of much value to the Government, but the commissioners decided that though the people laid claim to all that had been done by themselves and by the former owners, (the Mormons,) they had no right to more than was included in the 160 acres allowed to squatters. Some of the claims of these settlers have been surveyed under the laws of Nevada, enacted for the purpose of giving possessory titles; others have not been surveyed. All of the facts concerning these claims, the surveys, the amount of improvements on each claim, &c., are all fully set forth in our report on that subject.

The CHAIRMAN. When was this reservation laid out?

Major POWELL. Last year. The 12th of March.

The CHAIRMAN. These white people were on there before the reservation was laid out?

Major POWELL. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Is the country large enough to support these Indians?

Major POWELL. There are but a few thousand acres in the valley which can be redeemed by irrigation, because of the scarcity of water; but, by extending the line of the reservation to the crest of the mountains on the east about six miles, three or four thousand acres of additional land could be included, which will be fit for cultivation. Altogether this will, perhaps, be as much as will be needed by the Indians. It should be remembered that, in this climate, two crops can be raised annually.

The CHAIRMAN. And there are about 2,500 persons to be removed?

Major POWELL. Yes.

Question. Are there any settlements on that land to the east?

Major POWELL. None; there has been, but they are now abandoned. The Indians are already showing an earnest desire to settle there. About 400 Indians are on the reservation, and they have begun to cultivate the soil. They put in about 300 acres of wheat this fall.

Question. How many white settlers are there?

Major POWELL. There are ten claims; but some of the claims are owned by two or more persons, who have joined together to cultivate the

land in company. I suppose there are about twenty-five or thirty men; many of them having families.

Question. How long have these men been there?

Major POWELL. From two to four years; the great majority came in on the abandonment of the country by the Mormons.

Question. What is the extent of these claims?

Major POWELL. They claim a great deal more than 160 acres each, but in our consideration we gave them but that amount. The question of the amount of land was not one of importance, as land (as such) is of no value. It was a question of improvements, and it was found that in the main all the improvements were quite within the 160 acres of each claim. There are already many Indians there, and there will be no serious difficulty in inducing the others to go. It may take a year or two to persuade them all, but there is no doubt but they will all go in time. Three hundred of these Indians, whom it is proposed to bring to this reservation, now report to the agency at Fort Mojave. There is another reservation already established by treaty and by law, on which there are 1,037 Indians. This is known as the Fort Hall reservation, and extends along the Shoshone and Port Neuf rivers. We have met all the Indians known in the reports as the Northwestern Shoshones. A part of them have already gone to the reservation under the representations made to them by Mr. Ingalls and myself, and the others have agreed to go there next spring. There are 400 of these Northwestern Shoshones, making in all 1,437 Indians already assigned to this reservation. In Northern and Central Nevada we have a number of tribes known as Shoshones, To-so-wates, Ko-eats, &c., numbering 1,700, speaking the Shoshone language. A part of them are willing to go to Fort Hall. A special commission, of which General Shauks was chairman, lately visited Fort Hall, and while in that country met a delegation of these Indians with Mr. Ingalls and myself, and the Fort Hall reservation was discussed at length. There is no difficulty anticipated in persuading these 1,700 Indians to make that reservation their future home. They are already tilling the soil to a limited extent, and they are all anxious to obtain land, but all especially desire to have it in the localities inhabited by the several tribes, but this is manifestly impossible, as I have heretofore explained. It is believed that they can be induced to go to the reservation at Fort Hall. There is abundance of timber, plenty of water for irrigating purposes, extensive and valuable grass-lands, abundance of agricultural lands, and altogether the valley is very beautiful and valuable.

The Pa-vi-o-tsos or Pah-Utes of Western Nevada (referring to the map) have not sufficient land from which they can obtain a subsistence. To make them agriculturists it will be necessary to take them elsewhere. They are willing to work, and are progressing finely, and if there was sufficient water and good agricultural lands where they now are it would be best to let them remain, for they are making good progress in civilization, but the reservation originally set apart for these Indians was subsequently cut down, and the most valuable lands were taken by white men; and now not enough remains for their use—probably only about 1,200 acres. There is another difficulty about these reservations also. It is probable that they will be claimed by the Central Pacific Railroad, or a part of them at least, as the Executive order for the establishment of these reservations was not made until after the land-grant for the railroad was made. In addition to the 800 Indians on these two reservations there are 1,000 more uncollected in Western Nevada and Eastern California. It would be less difficult to remove these

uncollected Indians to some other region than it would be those who have already made some progress in preparing for themselves homes on the two reservations. Still the Indians on the reservations are intelligent, manageable men, and it is believed that it could be shown to them to be much to their advantage to go elsewhere.

On the Malheur reservation to the north there are already about 500 Indians. The reservation is said to include some very valuable lands, and if this is true, I have no doubt but that all of the Pah-Utes or Pavi-o-tsos could be induced to go north and settle on this reservation with the Indians already there.

The Uintah Valley, which has been set apart for a reservation, is a rich and valuable district of country, well watered, with good agricultural lands, abundance of pasture lands, and good timber.

At the agency there is a grist-mill, saw-mill, and shingle-machine. The Indians now belonging to this reservation number 556. They are only nominally there, however, as they do not remain on the reservation but a part of the year, and cannot remain there unless they are fed or enabled to raise food for themselves, for hunting on the reservation is destroyed, and they are compelled to go elsewhere to obtain a subsistence. There would be no difficulty in keeping them there if they could be set to work.

West of Salt Lake City there are 460 Indians known as Go-si Utes, who say they will go wherever the President directs, but they would prefer to go to Uintah. At present they are driven here and there from time to time, and are anxious to get land and have a permanent title to it.

Question. Do they depend on the chase for a living?

Major POWELL. Not to any great extent. They kill a few rabbits, collect seeds and nuts, beg from white men, and pilfer a little, but they cultivate the land to a greater extent than any other Indians in all the country under consideration.

To the south of Salt Lake City, in the vicinity of Fillmore, there is a small tribe of Indians known as Pah-vants. These are in much the same condition as the Go-si Utes, and while they would rather have a reservation somewhere near Fillmore, their chief, Ka-nosh, says if the President insists upon it, he will go to Uintah. This will make about 1,200 Indians already on the reservation at Uintah or willing to go there.

I come next to speak of the Utes of Western Colorado. In 1863 a treaty was made with them, or rather that part of them who inhabit the country to the north. In 1868 another treaty was made with the Utes of Southern Colorado. Some of the Indians who took part in the treaty of 1863 were present at the making of this last treaty in 1868, and the provisions of the first treaty were re-affirmed. By this treaty the Indians of Western Colorado were given a reservation embracing about 13,000,000 acres of land. Within that territory gold and silver have been discovered in many places, and much coal; I think the best, most abundant, and most easily accessible to the mines of any coal west of the one hundredth meridian. There is some fine timber, abundant pasture lands, and some agricultural lands. Since the treaty of 1868 was made a number of miners have entered the reservation and located claims, and an agreement has been made this past year with these Indians, through Mr. Brunot, who was sent to them as a special commissioner, by which they yield about 1,000,000 acres of this land, if the bargain is ratified by Congress.

I have reason to believe that next summer there will be a great increase in the number of miners prospecting on this reservation, and I

fear that it will be impossible to protect the Indians in possession of so great an extent of territory. It certainly cannot be done without great expense to the Government. There is much game on this reservation, and these Indians have no desire to cultivate the soil. They have never been thoroughly whipped by the forces of the United States, never having been engaged in any great war, so they do not feel the full power of the Government. They are very independent, and desire greatly to keep their country.

Question. Are they annuity Indians?

Major POWELL. They are. They can be stirred up very easily. There are a number of these tribes; some of them go down into New Mexico, others to the east of the Rocky Mountains. In the treaty of 1868, made with these Indians, it is provided that no lands shall thereafter be yielded by the Indians without the consent of at least three-fourths of the adult male Indians occupying or interested in the same, and in the bargain made with them this year it was necessary for this proportion to sign the agreement. In reading the report of the transaction I notice that all those who were present, but one, signed the agreement. The number signing it was, I think, 298. I have traveled among these Indians, more or less, for the last five years, and spent almost an entire year with them at one time, but I was much better acquainted with those at the north than those at the south. It was chiefly the southern Indians who signed the bargain this summer with Mr. Brunot. Taking into consideration the number of Indians who signed this agreement as an indication of the Indians living below, and with my knowledge of those living to the north, I am satisfied that there is not more than sixteen hundred or seventeen hundred of these Colorado Indians altogether.

There is an agency on the reservation at White River to the north, but where this is situated the country is at an altitude of about six thousand feet above the sea and hence the climate is too cold for successful farming. At one time I thought that the Indians of Utah, whom I have heretofore mentioned as those who should go to the Uintah reservation, could be consolidated with these Indians of Colorado, as they speak the same language, are intermarried with them, and affiliate with them generally; but I doubt whether it would be wise to increase the number of Indians who are in such an independent condition that fears may be entertained of their making raids on the settlements. Mr. Ingalls and myself have also taken into consideration the propriety of removing those Indians of Colorado who belong to the northern portion of this reservation, that is, the Grand River, White River, and Denver Indians, to Uintah. It would in the sequel be much better for them, as the valley of the Uintah is better adapted to agriculture than any portion of the country now occupied by these Indians. To make them successful farmers they must be taken from the country they now occupy; but the treaty of 1863 and the treaty of 1868, and the bargain again made with them this past year by Mr. Brunot re-affirming the conditions of those treaties, stand in the way of such a movement. These Indians do not desire to move and do not desire to cultivate the soil, so it is thought best to let them alone at present. Still, I think that it will be practically impossible to protect them in their rights under that treaty to all that twelve or thirteen million acres of land, and even if they could be so protected, I am inclined to think it would not be wisdom, for if white men do not enter that region of country they will have abundance of game and can live by hunting, and as long as that condition of affairs exists they will never desire to cultivate the soil, and no substantial progress can be

made in their civilization. The sooner this country is entered by white people and the game destroyed so that the Indians will be compelled to gain a subsistence by some other means than hunting, the better it will be for them. I am inclined to think it will be best to let the influx of population, and the slow progress of civilization in that way, settle the question.

Mr. RAINEY. The Indians are quiet and peaceable now?

Major POWELL. They are quiet now, but the people of that country were apprehensive, last year, that there might be a general war with them.

Mr. RAINEY. Do I understand you that there are 3,000 Indians on that strip of country or 1,600 only?

Major POWELL. I have not counted them, but have lived with them for some time, and taking into consideration my own knowledge, and the facts which have been developed in the bargain made with a part of them this past summer, I am satisfied that there are not more than 1,600, but they are estimated to number more than 3,000 in the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the last year.

Mr. MCNULTA. Does the law provide that these Indians shall receive a certain amount *per capita* or for the issue of a certain quantity of goods to them irrespective of their numbers?

Major POWELL. It provides for the disposition of a certain amount of goods without specifying the number of persons who shall be the recipients.

Question. How are these Indians armed?

Major POWELL. With guns; and they are very well mounted; they have fine horses—much better than any other Indians I have ever seen.

Question. Where do they get their arms?

Major POWELL. From various sources—Utah and Colorado, chiefly.

Mr. INGALLS. There is \$81,000 given to the Indians of Western Colorado reservation; they are much better treated than most of the Indians.

The CHAIRMAN. Eighty-one thousand dollars given to 1,600 Indians?

Mr. INGALLS. Yes, sir.

Question. Will this amount be increased under the agreement made this past season with them?

Major POWELL. I believe it is to be increased \$25,000 annually forever, in consideration of their yielding one million acres of land. It is better to give them this amount, and very much more in fact, than to fight them; it will be cheaper. It should be remembered in favor of these Indians, that they have not heretofore cost the Government any excessive sums on account of wars in which they have been engaged. Very little difficulties arising between Indians and white men sometimes result in very serious consequences, entailing much expense. Some hungry Indian kills a beef or tired Indians steal a horse; white men go in search of the thief, and perhaps kill the first Indian they meet. Then the Indians retaliate, and the news is spread throughout the country that we have an Indian war on hand, and troops are sent to the point, and the expense of a war at least is incurred.

The CHAIRMAN. What effect do troops have—good or bad?

Major POWELL. I think their influence is bad, and that every soldier should be withdrawn from all this territory inhabited by the Indians who are willing to cultivate the soil. If one-fifth of the money now used in supporting troops to overawe these Indians could be used to provide means for their civilization, the Indian question in this region could be settled without much difficulty. The presence of the troops is

a standing menace to the Indians, and they have very great dread of the soldiers. It seems very difficult for them to understand how a body of people can be set apart from all others, and who make it their sole business to kill people and to prepare themselves for killing people, and who care nothing for social life, and do not desire to have wives and children as other men, and their presence is always a source of trouble and loathsome disease.

The CHAIRMAN. Would they not be necessary in the event of removing the Indians?

Major POWELL. I think not; remove the soldiers, and hold out reasonable inducements, and I think all the Indians would be willing to go to the reservation.

Question. Would they not be necessary to prevent the intrusion of white men?

Major POWELL. It might be necessary to send troops, sometimes, to remove white men from Indian reservations; but permanent troops are not needed; and I think all necessary protection could be secured to the Indians through the civil power much better than through the military.

Question. How would you enforce the law without troops?

Major POWELL. That is a very serious and complicated question. Where the Indians are now scattered about the country there seems to be no way by which justice can be secured to the Indians. It is not possible to have a military force in every neighborhood, and an Indian knows nothing about courts or the processes of civil law. It seems to me that the only way to secure justice to these Indians is to gather them on reservations, where they can be under the supervision of men who have a care for their rights. In this way many of the evils which grow out of the present relations of the Indians to the white men can be avoided.

Mr. RAINEY. Have they not the same right to stay where they are now as they would have to stay on a reservation? What guarantee would they have secured to them?

Major POWELL. No guarantee but the faith of the Government. There is no law to secure them in the possession of land where they now are.

Mr. RAINEY. Do you not think there would be great difficulty in quieting the restive spirit of the Indians, if you should remove them from a good reservation and arable land, and take them to one that cannot be made arable without toil and labor?

Major POWELL. The tracts of land which have been selected for the reservations are quite as good as any others in all that country. There is no land in that section of country which can be cultivated without irrigation, and where it is proposed that the Indians shall make their homes the soil is good and there is abundance of water and other facilities for successful farming. On these reservations there is no hunting. If the Indians were collected at these points they must be supported or be assisted and taught to support themselves. This will need money. We have made pretty careful computations, and think it will require \$100,000 for the Pi-Utes, \$60,000 for Uintah, \$100,000 for the Shoshones, Bannacks, &c., at Fort Hall, and \$100,000 for the Indians whom it is proposed to collect at the Malheur reservation, and in addition to this amount \$32,050 are needed to extinguish the rights of the white settlers on the Moapa reservation in Southern Nevada, so that the whole amount will be nearly \$400,000. It is necessary to build mills and roads; each Indian family should be furnished with a cow, and, as fast as possible, small buildings should be erected for them. Hold out such inducements as these, and I think they would be willing to go to the reservation, and

they could be moved in this way much cheaper than by an attempt to force them with military power. Say, "We will secure you land, build you houses, and give you a cow," and the greater number of the Indians will go.

Mr. LOWE. Will they live in houses ?

Major POWELL. Yes, sir; some are living in houses now, which they have built for themselves; and many others are begging that the Government shall build them houses.

Mr. LOWE. We built houses for them in Kansas, and soon after found that the Indians were living in the bush, and keeping their cows in houses.

The CHAIRMAN. In this estimate, which amounts to \$400,000, do you include the expense of removal ?

Major POWELL. Yes, sir, everything. I think we should look this thing squarely in the face, and count the future cost. It is probable that the same amount will be needed for one or two years more. After that the appropriations could be greatly reduced. It should not be expected that all the Indians would come the first year. They must have time to think about it, and talk about it, and for those who are most reluctant to witness the results of the labor of those who are willing to go at first, and a great many are now willing. Last year the appropriations for these same Indians were nearly \$200,000; so that the appropriations must be doubled in order to consolidate the Indians as I have indicated.

Mr. McNULTA. What extent of territory would they abandon ?

Major POWELL. About 420,000 square miles.

The CHAIRMAN. Then, summing up the question, it would cost to carry out your plan \$200,000 more than is now expended on the Indians of that country, and they would release that amount of land ?

Major POWELL. Yes, sir, and the number of agencies would be reduced from seven to four, and the reservations from seven to four. The increase in the appropriation should be used in enabling them to work. We think no food or clothing should be issued to the Indians as a gratuity. He should be fed and clothed only for work done on the reservation, except in the case of aged and infirm people.

The CHAIRMAN. What will you do with those who will not work ?

Major POWELL. When an Indian finds he can get his dinner more easily by working for you than by digging roots he will prefer to work for you. It has been my observation everywhere, except in Colorado, that the Indians are begging for land. They say, "Fix it so that we can stay here, and so white men cannot take this land from us and we can get a living for ourselves." Some of them are beginning to raise cattle, and a few chiefs have from twenty to fifty head, though this is exceptional.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you recommend under any circumstances paying Indians anything in money ?

Major POWELL. I think not unless under extraordinary circumstances. They are apt to use it in gambling. I think also that ready-made clothing should not be given them. They should be supplied with good substantial fabrics. They all understand making their own clothes, and the same amount spent for fabrics would go further than in ready-made clothing, and would give quite as much satisfaction to the Indians themselves. In the mean time they would be compelled to do some work. No tents should be given them; as long as they have tents they can move about the country and continue their nomadic habits; but fix them in houses and give them a little property and they have a home to care for and property to preserve, and they become at once interested in the rights of property.

The CHAIRMAN. What settlers are there on these reservations?

Major POWELL. There are no white settlers on the reservation at Uintah. On the Pi-Ute reservation, in Southern Nevada, they number, men, women, and children, probably about 40. There are a few settlers on the reservation at Fort Hall; how many I do not know. General Shanks, the chairman of the special commission who visited them this past year, doubtless has these facts.

The CHAIRMAN. What treaties exist covering the territory proposed to be released?

Major POWELL. There is no treaty with the Pi-Utes—that is, with all the Indians of Southern Nevada, Southeastern California, Northwestern Arizona, and Southern Utah. There is no treaty with the Utes in the Uintah Valley, and none with the Pah-vants near Fillmore. The Go-si Utes, west of Salt Lake, are under a treaty by which they agree to go to any reservation which the President may select. And under this treaty they receive annually annuities to the amount of \$1,000. The Northwestern Shoshones who have agreed to go to the reservation at Fort Hall, as before stated, are under treaty obligations to go to any reservation the President may select, and they receive under that treaty annuities to the amount of \$5,000. The Indians of Central Nevada and Southeastern Oregon, and Southwestern Idaho, known as Western Shoshones, are under treaty obligations to go to a reservation when the President may determine, and they also receive annuities to the amount of \$5,000. The Pah-Utes or Pa-vio-tsos of Western Nevada and Northeastern California are not treaty Indians. The Shoshones and Bannacks, already on the reservation at Fort Hall, have made treaties with the Government to the effect that they shall remain there. More than three-fourths of all the territory under consideration has never been ceded or bargained away by the Indians to the United States. The facts concerning the numbers of these Indians, their condition, wants, and desires, and also concerning the character of the lands on the reservations are much more fully set forth in our report than I have been able to state them to you here.