

## Letters and Reports of the Office of Indian Affairs in Texas

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ment. The papers connected with these transactions are also herewith forwarded.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

ADAM JOHNSTON,

*Indian Sub-agent, Valley of San Joaquin.*

Hon. LUKE LEA,

*Commissioner Indian Affairs.*

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No. 77.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Office Indian Affairs, November 25, 1850.*

**GENTLEMEN:** You have been heretofore advised of your appointments as special agents for the Indian tribes of Texas, and as you are expected to enter without delay upon the discharge of your duties, I proceed to give you such instructions for your government and direction as the occasion seems to require. They will be brief and general, in consequence of the entire want of authority and jurisdiction on the part of the general government over the Indians within the limits of that State. None of the laws and regulations pertaining to our Indian system have been extended over them; and it has hitherto been held by this department, that to authorize such extension the consent of Texas must first be obtained.

You will, therefore, have no right to resort to force in the execution of any of your official duties; and an attempt to do so would not only be without the sanction of law, but might be regarded as derogatory to the rights and dignity of a sovereign State. Hence the means you will employ in carrying out the views and policy of the government must be altogether of a mild and persuasive character. It is greatly to be desired that this delicate and embarrassing state of things may be of short duration; but until some definite arrangements are made for placing our Indian relations in Texas on a more eligible and satisfactory basis, the department is anxious that the utmost efficiency shall be given to the limited means in its power for preserving the peace of the frontier, and preparing the way for such future dispositions of the various tribes as may hereafter appear practicable and expedient. To this end you are instructed to use your best efforts, by kind offices and friendly intercourse with the Indians, to win their confidence, and conciliate their good feelings towards our government and people. Give them to understand the immense disparity between their weakness and our strength. Impress their minds with the idea that the government is their best friend, with the will and the power to protect them when they do right, and to punish them when they do wrong. Let them know that they are required to live at peace with each other, and to abandon entirely their murderous and marauding habits. Stimulate friendly and well-disposed Indians to aid in preventing crime and bringing offenders to justice. Every possible encouragement should be given to the different tribes and bands to confine themselves within particular districts of country remote from the white settlements, and to depend on husbandry for the means of subsistence, instead of plunder and the chase. All the influence you may be able to exert must be brought to bear for the purpose of pre-

venting our Indians from passing into the territory of Mexico. With this duty the agent to be stationed on the Rio Grande is particularly charged.

To enable you more successfully to approach the Indians, and to conciliate and control them, a considerable quantity of goods, suited to their wants, will be placed in your hands, to be distributed among them. As Agent Rogers is now here, the purchasing and shipment of the goods will be entrusted to him. It is hoped that salutary and important effects may result from the judicious bestowal of these presents; especially if the Indians regard them as the earnest of other and greater benefits to be derived from the government, provided they prove themselves worthy of its friendship and benevolence.

It is represented that large numbers of foreign Indians are in the habit of intruding upon the territory of Texas, and that most of the outrages so frequent along her borders are attributable to them. The government recognizes its obligation to put a stop to these incursions. You are, therefore, directed to look promptly into this matter. Investigate it thoroughly, ascertain the extent of the evil, and communicate your views as to the appropriate remedy. The clause in the bill making the appropriation for this service expressly confines the number of interpreters to be employed within the State to four. It is presumed that neither of you will require an interpreter continuously during the year; though each may at different times be in need of those speaking more than one dialect. The sum of five hundred and fifty dollars per annum has heretofore been deemed by this office as a liberal amount for the compensation and all the expenses of one. The like amount will now be allowed. The same measure of compensation will be given for four, making for the entire year two thousand and two hundred dollars. Each agent will be allowed for the service of interpreters within his district at the rate of seven hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents per annum.

Your salary and that for interpreter will be remitted quarterly; or, if you prefer it, you are authorized to draw on this office at the close of each quarter.

Although by the terms of your appointment, you are equally and alike constituted agents for the "Indian tribes of Texas", generally, yet it is proper that each of you should have particular charge of certain designated tribes, or of the Indians within certain designated limits. The necessary arrangements for this purpose can be best determined by consultation and agreement among yourselves, as also the location of your respective posts or stations. With a view, therefore, to the importance of prompt action in respect to these matters, and the proper understanding, division, and assignment of your respective duties, you are required to convene at the earliest practicable period. The results of your conference you will report immediately to this office.

Should Austin be the place of your meeting, it will be proper for you to call on the governor of Texas to inform him of your appointment, of the nature of your instructions, and of your readiness to co-operate with the State authorities in accomplishing the objects in view.

It will be your duty to make full and frequent reports of all your proceedings to the department, together with all other information you may from time to time obtain, calculated to impart a correct understanding of Indian affairs and relations in Texas.

From the foregoing remarks, brief as they are, you cannot fail to perceive the objects, nature and extent of the services you are expected to perform; and I will only add, that much depends on the prudence, energy and tact with which you conduct the delicate and important business committed to your hands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
L. LEA, *Commissioner*.

To JOHN H. ROLLINS, Austin, Texas;  
JOHN A. ROGERS, present;  
JESSE STEM, Tiffin, Ohio; *Special Agents*.

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No. 78.

SAN ANTONIO, *March 25, 1851.*

SIR: I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a letter addressed to me by Judge Rollins, one of the special Indian agents in Texas. As it contains many interesting details and views in relation to Indian affairs on this frontier, I have deemed it a duty to transmit it for the information of the department. The line, to which he alludes as having been agreed to by General Houston in a council with the Indians in 1843, and which, though not ratified by the Congress of the republic of Texas, was so far adopted as to be made the basis of a chain of trading posts, had the effect to preserve peace with the Indians for several years.

A reference to Cordova's map of Texas will show that a boundary, as required by the governor, to commence higher up on Red river, but still to include the Clear fork of the Brazos, is not very distant from that indicated in our letter, the intermediate district not being essentially important to either party. More accurate information in relation to that country, obtained since the date of our last despatch, suggests the propriety of the line as proposed by us; after reaching the north bank of the Colorado, running northwest to the line of New Mexico, but to ascend the north bank of the Red or main fork of that river to its source; thence to a point south of the mouth of the Sacramento fork of the Pecos; and thence south and west of the Sacramento, a northwest course to the line of New Mexico. This boundary will secure important advantages in lying north of the route of El Paso, which will avoid the necessity of passing through the Indian territory, and thus prevent the consequent collisions; in presenting the best line for a cordon of military posts, by reason of the sixty miles destitute of water between the head of the Colorado and the Pecos, rendering incursions along it very difficult, if not impracticable; in preserving to the Indians their favorite valley of the Sacramento, and excluding them from the valley of the Concho, as well as of the Colorado, just below the junction where it is their practise to resort for the grass on their return from their predatory expeditions into the settlements of Texas and Mexico.

During the necessary absence of General Campbell, we thought the intervening time might be profitably employed by Colonel Temple in a visit, a company with Colonel Cooper, upon a tour of inspection to Eagle Pass, and the Rio Grande, for the purpose of ascertaining, if practicable, what

are the views and feelings of "Wild Cat," and how far he might be made to subserve our ulterior purposes with the various tribes on our route. He will return during the next week, and I mention the circumstance to account for my signature alone being attached to this despatch.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,  
C. S. TODD.

Hon. L. LEA,  
*Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington.*

SAN ANTONIO, *March 25, 1851.*

SIR: In order to place you as fully as possible in possession of a knowledge of what has been done by myself and others, in relation to Indian affairs in Texas, you will allow me to add, in continuation of the conversation interrupted on yesterday:

1st. That since I have been acting as agent of the government for the Indians of Texas, I have uniformly urged that the true policy of the government was, *if possible*, to avoid a war with the Indians.

2d. That a war was not absolutely necessary in the present state of affairs, and might be certainly and safely avoided by *prompt and judicious* action on the part of the government; but that delays would prove dangerous, and embarrass the subject with additional difficulties.

3d. That no action, except that which was radical, could be effective; and that nothing short of a country for the Indians, over which the laws of the United States regulating our Indian intercourse and relations were extended, together with a temporary support for the Indians, could be safely adopted as a permanent policy.

4th. That to obtain a country for the Indians was *necessarily the first thing* to be done; and that without this all efforts, however honestly and energetically made for the purpose of securing a permanent and reliable peace, would be transient in their effects and abortive in their results.

5th. That it would be incalculably less expensive to purchase a country for the Indians, remove them to it, and support them until they had made some advance in agriculture, than to attempt to deprive them by force of a country which they very properly thought their own, to say nothing of the duty of humanity, or the sudden and violent interruption which a prolonged and uncertain war would cause to the prosperity and progress of this and other frontier States.

6th. At the risk of being considered out of the line of my duty, and for the reason that I found the proper course of action for me so intimately and inseparably connected with the defence of the frontier that I could not speak of the one without introducing the other, I have stated that the present system of defence amounted to no defence at all; and that, while the Indians had no country and no means of subsistence, with an undefined line of great extent to be defended, never could accomplish any useful purpose.

7th. That regular troops, so long as they were enlisted at the "drinking-houses" in the large cities, at a stipulated price per head, from creation's outcasts, and officered by men who, however genteel and well informed in relation to other matters, were unskilled in the woods and

ignorant of the habits of Indians, never could be of much service on a frontier like this, and against such an enemy.

8th. That volunteer troops, such, in general, as offer themselves to the government at present, were worse than the regulars; for, while the one occupied themselves very fully and satisfactorily in doing no good, the others managed to refresh themselves with an alarming amount of mischief.

9th. That one agent was not enough here; that additional means should be allowed, and one general agent, with such sub-agents as the service required, should be employed.

10th. That it was possible to obtain from Texas a country for the Indians, and that a line, beginning at or near the mouth of the "Big Wachita," and running thence to the Keechi village on the Brasos, thence to the mouth of the Concho, and up that river to its head waters, and thence to some point on the line separating the territory of the United States from the State of Texas, would be satisfactory to the Indians, and probably so to Texas. I have also stated that this line was below a supposed line recommended by Major Neighbors, but above the temporary one contemplated by the legislature of the Texan Congress in 1843; and it may be proper for me to state here, in addition to what has already been communicated to the Indian bureau, that the identical line mentioned is not insisted upon as the only proper one. It is intended to indicate the points in the vicinity of which the line should be placed only. It might be run a little higher up on the Red river and Brasos without serious injury to the Indians, or a little lower down without injury to Texas. As I have never sought to indicate the line with mathematical accuracy, but simply to give my opinion in general terms, I am by no means certain that it is precisely the same line I have occasionally referred to in my communications to the commissioner of Indian affairs, and in conversation upon the subject; but it is sufficiently accurate for present purposes.

I will also state, as some excuse for not having exerted myself more for a line so obviously necessary, that, in November last, while Colonel Howard was here, I suggested this to him as a proper line; and stated that it was my belief that, if the government of the United States would assume to pay the citizens of Texas for the property stolen since annexation, the State would grant the country above the line referred to for Indian purposes. Colonel Howard and myself called to see General Brooke to know whether, if such a line were established, the military posts could be at once removed to it, and to get his opinion as to whether such an arrangement would not greatly increase the security of the frontier and the probabilities of peace. General Brooke not only coincided with the views expressed by me, (for, as usual, I found it agreeable to myself to do most of the talking,) but also expressed much anxiety that the arrangement should be speedily consummated. It was then understood that Colonel Howard would, during the session of the legislature, then about to convene, make a speech in Austin, when he would introduce this subject; and that I would follow it up in the newspapers by some articles, pointing out the advantages which the arrangement promised. My duties called me to the Indian country immediately, where I remained till late in December. Professional engagements, as I have been informed, prevented Colonel Howard's going to Austin, and the subject was in this way postponed. On my return from the woods, I learned, for the first time, that additional agents had been appointed, and instruc-

tions given; and I deemed it proper to wait until I could have their assistance, and learn more fully the views of the department upon this subject. Hence, although many citizens have requested it, I have said nothing in the papers as agreed with Colonel Howard; and not until very recently placed the commissioner of Indian affairs in possession of my views as to the proper country for the Indians, and the means necessary to be employed to obtain it.

11th. I have not stated to the department the fact, upon which some emphasis has been placed, that President Houston, acting as the treaty-making power of the republic, did make a treaty with the Indians, by which it was agreed that the country should be divided; the Indians taking that part of the country above the line referred to in the legislative act of 1843; because, upon inquiry, I was informed that the archives of Texas furnished no evidence of such a treaty. The men who interpreted for President Houston, while making the treaty, are living witnesses of the fact; and they further state that the Indians faithfully kept their part of the agreement, until surveyors and land locators began to make encroachments upon the country assigned to them.

12th. I have stated that the Indians of Texas, if the offer were made to them, would gladly avail themselves of a position similar to the one enjoyed by the civilized Indians under the jurisdiction and protection of the government of the United States.

The foregoing are the leading points towards which, at different times, I have sought to invite the attention of the government; and I am continually strengthened in the conviction of their importance by an increasing familiarity with the Indians and the country. If these reiterations here can be of any service to you, or in any manner promote the interests of the country, it will be a source of pride and gratification to me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN H. ROLLINS,

*One of the special agents for Texas Indians.*

To Colonel TODD,  
*Commissioner, &c., San Antonio, Texas.*

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No. 79.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report:

In accordance with arrangements made by Judge Rollins and myself, at Austin, as communicated in our joint report from that place of the 18th of April last, we started from San Antonio for the Indian country on the 7th day of May, and at Fredericksburg, (Fort Martin Scott,) were joined by Colonel Hardee, with a command of two hundred dragoons.

At this place we saw and had an interview with the chiefs and some of the principal men of the Lipans, and appointed a council with them and the southern Comanches, to be held on the Llano river, on or about the 22d day of May. We accordingly despatched runners to Catumsie, Buffalo Hump, and Yellow Wolf, chiefs of the southern bands of Comanches, desiring them to meet us. We moved our camp up to the Llano on the 18th of May, and on the 20th were joined by Colonel Hardee, with a portion of

his command. At this place we remained eleven days, and were met by the Lipans, and Catumsie, with his sub-chiefs and principal men. Buffalo Hump was reported to be high up on the Brazos and very sick. We made no further attempt to communicate with him. Yellow Wolf, with his band, was reported on the east side of the Colorado, and willing to meet us. He did not make his appearance, however, and it was alleged was not able to do so on account of a sudden rise in the Colorado.

Our interviews and talks with Catumsie and the Lipans were very satisfactory. They evinced great anxiety to maintain peace and good feeling with the whites; insisted that they had kept their treaty stipulations in good faith; that neither they nor any of the southern Comanches were chargeable with the depredations committed on the frontier since the treaty of December last on the Llano, but that these outrages were perpetrated by northern Comanches, Kiowas and Wichitas.

Catumsie professed a readiness to comply, as far as in his power, with their agreement to point out the persons, the capture of whom was contemplated by this expedition, and designated Car-a-wah as sub-chief, to go along for that purpose. From all the information we could obtain, however, the northern Comanches, among whom these persons were to be found, were high upon the Canadian, beyond the limits of Texas, and it was feared we should not be able to accomplish this part of the object of our expedition.

The Lipans and Comanches present cheerfully responded to our demand of Mexican prisoners in their possession; (they denied all knowledge of the little son of Mr. Hart, or any other American prisoners;) and it was agreed that they should get together such Mexican prisoners and deliver them into the hands of Judge Rollins, who determined to return from this point to San Antonio, after visiting the Lipans in their camp.

Judge Rollins' report will give a more detailed account of this part of our expedition, and of the delivery to him, in pursuance of this understanding, of some seventeen Mexican prisoners and some stolen property, and of the surrender of the little son of Mr. Hart, of Refugio, who was reported to the undersigned and Colonel Hardee, by the chief Catumsie, several days after we had left our camp on the Llano, and resumed our march for the head waters of the Brazos.

On the 29th of May I left the Llano, accompanied by two Delawares, as guides and runners, Car-a-wa, the Comanche chief, and John Conner, as interpreter, escorted by Colonel Hardee, with his command.

It was determined by Colonel Hardee and myself, that we would proceed to the head waters of the Brazos, where our guides and runners represented that the northern Comanches usually hunted when in Texas.

We continued our march nearly due north for thirteen days, to the Clear fork of the Brazos, meeting no signs of Indians on the route. Before reaching this stream we despatched runners to points higher up, with the view of discovering any indications which might exist of the presence of Comanches, but found no signs any where denoting that they had recently been in that vicinity. The capture of the Indians who murdered the German at Craig's trading house, and abducted the little girl from near Aransas bay, was therefore necessarily abandoned, every circumstance confirming the information that those Indians were not in the State of Texas.

It remained only to visit the several tribes of Indians who inhabit the



Brazos, and who, under the division made by Judge Rollins and myself, are especially under my supervision. These are the Wacoos, Keechies, Ta-wac-car-ros, Caddoes, An-a-dai-cos, and Ionois, and some Delawares and Shawnees.

The first three tribes above named are associate bands under A-qua-gosh, principal chief of the Wacoos, and O-chi-das, head chief of the Ta-wac-car-ros. They met me in council, near the Waco village, on the Brazos, on the 13th of June. On the 15th, I saw and held talks with Jose Maria and Towash, and the principal men of their bands, (the Caddoes, Andai-cos, and Ionois,) near their villages on the Brazos, about twenty miles below the Waco village.

These tribes have maintained friendly relations with the whites, and are regarded as peaceable and well disposed. In these talks with me, they professed the most cordial feelings towards our government and people; expressed great anxiety that their relations with the government should be established on a more certain and permanent basis; that a permanent boundary should be fixed, so that they might have a country where they could be secure from encroachments of the white settlements, and where they could build up their villages and cultivate their corn fields without the constant fear of being driven further back, and compelled to abandon their homes, the fruits of their labor, and the graves of their kindred.

Jose Maria said, "That now there was a line below which the Indians were not allowed to go; but the white people came above it, marked trees, surveyed lands in their hunting grounds, and near their villages, and soon they would claim the lands; if the Indians went below they were threatened with death; that this was not just;" "that a party of white men had recently been in his country, surveying land and marking trees; that he followed them—told them that they must mark no more trees, and must leave the country; that he would not molest them, but they should not survey his lands." There can be no more prolific source of strife, jealousy and bloodshed on the frontier, than the want of a fixed boundary, above which the white men are not allowed to go.

These tribes are more fixed in their location, and more advanced in the arts and comforts of civilization, (slight as they are,) than any other of the Indians of Texas. They are making very creditable efforts at raising Indian corn, beans, pumpkins and melons; their lodges are made of a frame or net-work of sticks, thatched with coarse grass, and are large, warm and comfortable. Their corn fields looked well, and were comparatively well cultivated.

They have no farming implements but hoes, most of which they said they had bought. They wanted some light ploughs and plough harness, and more hoes.

I took pains to encourage them in the cultivation of corn, &c., and went around with them and looked at their corn fields, promised them some ploughs and harness, and more hoes this fall, and next spring would endeavor to provide them with some seed potatoes, (which they have not yet cultivated,) and other seeds.

There has been, and still is a great want of certain information as to the numbers and condition of the various tribes in Texas. While among these Indians I endeavored to ascertain their exact numbers, and with this view induced the chiefs to go among their people and count them. Having

no system of numbers, they enumerated only with their fingers, or by means of bundles of sticks. They brought me a bundle of sticks for each tribe.

The following is the enumeration furnished me as above, which I consider very accurate :

Names of tribes.		Total.	Warriors.
Towaccaros .....	141	298	90
Wacoos .....	114		
Keechies .....	88		
Caddoes .....	161	476	161
Andaicos .....	202		
Jonies .....	113		
Delawares .....		68	81
Shawnees .....		70	85
<b>Total</b> .....		<b>902</b>	<b>317</b>

Besides these, the Tonkawas are generally on the Brazos and its tributaries. They have no villages or permanent location, and I did not obtain their exact numbers, but they are estimated at about two hundred and fifty, making altogether of these tribes eleven hundred and fifty-two, and less than four hundred warriors.

It will be seen, upon examining the files of the department, that the tribes above enumerated, including the Wichitas, were in 1849 reported officially as having eight hundred warriors, and numbering four thousand persons. The Wichitas were represented to me as a small tribe, numbering one hundred. They, together with about eighty warriors from the Caddoes, Wacoos, and Keechies, (including about two-thirds of the latter tribe,) together with a small proportion of women and children, have, within the last two years, left Texas, and are now inhabiting the Wichita mountains beyond Red river. But deducting these, the above enumeration shows that former estimates have been very much too large, and I entertain no doubt that, upon actual enumeration, it will be found that there has been a proportionate over-estimate of the other Indians in Texas.

The Lipans are estimated at five hundred, and the Comanches are set down in round numbers at twenty thousand.

I regret that Judge Rollins and myself, while among them, did not ascertain the number of the Lipans.

Of the number of Comanches it is difficult, if not impossible, to get any accurate knowledge.

The southern bands, who are the only Comanches that remain in Texas continuously, are not numerous. They inhabit the country on the Llano, the Colorado and its tributaries, and hunt and trade as high up as the Brazos.

They have no villages, or fixed location, but are here to-day and away to-morrow; their chiefs are Catumsic, Buffalo Hump, and Yellow Wolf. They frequent the military posts and settlements on the frontier, and met Judge Rollins at the treaty on the Llano, in December last. Catumsic estimated the number who would meet Judge Rollins in October next at

about six hundred, including the Lipans. The northern Comanches come into Texas only in the winter, where they seek the shelter of her "upper cross timbers," and the greener pastures of her more genial climate. In the summer they hunt the buffalo on the great prairies of the north.

In the fall and winter two prominent chiefs of this great tribe, Pah-a-yu-ka and Shanico, with portions of their bands, frequent the Clear fork of the Brazos, and visit the Indian villages and trading-house lower down on that stream. They are represented as friendly and well-disposed.

From the best information I could get from the most intelligent of the various Indians we visited, including the concurring opinions of John Conner, Jim Shaw, and Bill Shaw, half-breed Delawares, who have had much intercourse with the Comanches, and who speak the language, Pah-a-yu-ka's band consists of about two hundred lodges and one thousand persons, and Shanico's of about three hundred persons. I could learn nothing from them of any other prominent chief or band of the northern Comanches.

Estimating the southern Comanches, or those who remain in Texas below the Brazos, at six hundred, (which is a full estimate,) and the northern Comanches, who come into the State under Pah-a-yu-ka and Shanico, at thirteen hundred, as above, the number thus accounted for is less than two thousand. Large numbers of this tribe, besides these, are doubtless constantly migrating, and about whom little is known; now wintering in the upper parts of Texas, then hunting buffalo on the great northern prairies, and again mixing with the Apaches and other Indians of New Mexico.

The fact, however, that these half-breeds and other Indians who have spent their lives among the various Indian tribes, who speak the Comanche language, and who have been among them as traders, interpreters, &c., have no *definite* knowledge of more than as above stated, is conclusive to my mind that twenty thousand is a great exaggeration of their number. It was agreed between Judge Rollins and myself, that we would hold a nearly simultaneous meeting with the Indians, in our respective divisions, about the middle of October next. I accordingly appointed a meeting with the Indians above enumerated on the Brazos, and the northern Comanches at some point near Comanche Peak, when I proposed to distribute the goods (or a portion of them) assigned to me, and make such other presents of farming implements as are above referred to. I made arrangements to communicate this intelligence to the northern Comanches, and was assured that I might expect to meet a considerable number of them at that time.

It is to be regretted that the sum appropriated for the Indians of Texas is small. A judicious distribution of presents, and more *especially of provisions*, and occasional good supply of beef and corn, will do more to curb their marauding and thieving propensities, and establish peace and security on the frontier than the most vigorous hostile measures.

No proper system or policy can be permanently established until a territory is assigned to the Indians, where they can be located and encouraged in the cultivation of the soil and the arts of civilized life, their roving and migratory habits broken up, and the laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians extended over them.

In the meantime, however, frequent intercourse with the agents of the government, and a liberal policy in satisfying the craving and irresistible demands of a hunger that sometimes borders on starvation, will check the

depredations on the frontier, and go far to give a security which otherwise it is impossible should exist.

I saw Colonel Rogers at Indianola, Texas, on the 11th July. Judge Rollins had, previously, and while I was out among the Indians, with my concurrence, notified him that there was no necessity of awaiting my return, in order that he might proceed to the Rio Grande according to his expressed desire, and he informed me that he was preparing to set out accordingly, and has undoubtedly reported to you to that effect.

There will not be, therefore, for the present, any further division of the territory or Indians among us, nor is it probably necessary that there should be, under the present arrangement; however I shall be in communication on the Brazos with the largest proportion of the Indians in Texas, and a proper proportion of the goods and fund to be distributed among the Indians of Texas should be assigned to me.

Respectfully submitted.

JESSE STEM,

*Special Agent for the Indians in Texas.*

To the Hon. L. LEA,

*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington city, D. C.*

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No. 80.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, *November 1, 1851.*

SIR: I expect to leave within a few days for the upper waters of the Brazos, to meet in council with the Caddoes, Wacoes, Au-dai-coes, Kerchis, Fa-wac-car-ros, Ionies, Fou-ka-was, and such of the northern Comanches as may be induced to come in. My Indian goods have been forwarded to Fort Graham, and my runners are out to communicate with the Comanches. As I advised you in my report of August last, several of the tribes on the Brazos are making very creditable efforts at raising corn, but are almost entirely destitute of the necessary implements for its cultivation; in my interview with them in June last, I promised them some ploughs, hoes, &c. I have accordingly provided myself with a few light ploughs and plough harness and corn hoes to distribute among these Indians.

The tribes on the Brazos, especially the Caddoes, Au-dai-coes and Ionies, are the most peaceable and well-disposed of the Indians of Texas, and for several years, by their uniform good conduct and readiness in delivering up stolen property brought among them, have maintained a good reputation among the citizens of this State. They desire and should receive encouragement and proper consideration from the government.

Since my former report a military post has been established on the Clear fork of the Brazos, about one hundred and fifty miles further up than Fort Graham. This post is beyond the several Indian villages on the Brazos, and unites the location and settlement of the adventurous citizens of this State on the hunting grounds, and perhaps upon the corn fields and in the villages of these Indians, or otherwise demand their removal beyond this line of posts; in either case it involves serious hardship upon the Indians. They have built up villages, cleared off corn fields, and established homes, which they are forced to yield up without compensation; already have several of these tribes been compelled to yield up homes thus established.

These things embarrass our intercourse with the Indians, and illustrate the pressing importance of placing Indian affairs in this State upon a different basis; providing them with a territory in which they will be free from the encroachments of the white population, and where they can be compelled to settle down to an agricultural life, and abandon their roving and marauding habits.

You have been notified before this of the death of my lamented colleague, J. H. Rollins, and have also been apprised doubtless that Colonel Rogers has gone into this district, and is now holding a council with the Indians on the San Saba.

Colonel Rogers has taken with him, I am informed, the Indian goods intended for Judge Rollin's district, as well as the goods intended for his own.

Should it be his intention to distribute the whole of these goods in Judge Rollin's district, it will, in my opinion, be furnishing an undue proportion to the Indians of that district, and will give rise to invidious comparisons on the part of the Indians of the Brazos.

I beg leave to repeat the suggestion contained in my former report, that my due proportion of the fund apportioned to the Indians of Texas may be subject to my own requisitions, for the use of the Indians in my district, as my investigations convince me that I shall have under my charge on the Brazos my full equal proportion of the Indians of this State.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JESSE STEM,

*Special Indian Agent for Texas.*

To Hon. LUKE LEA,

*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington city, D. C.*

No. 81.

NEW YORK SUB-AGENCY,

*Ellicottville, October 20, 1851.*

SIR: As the person holding the office of sub-agent for the New York Indians, on the 30th day of September of this year, I submit to you the following statement respecting these Indians, as a brief annual report from this sub-agency.

This statement would have been fuller had those on whom I called for sub-reports, and whose position enabled them alone to furnish the desired information, complied with that request.

The Indians with whom I have been brought in contact as sub-agent, and to whom the United States pay annuities pursuant to treaty stipulations, consist of fragments or bands of the Senecas, Tuscaroras, Cayugas, Onondagas and Oneidas.

The population of these bands, as appears from the census which I have caused to be taken during the present year, is as follows:

Senecas at Allegany.....	819
Senecas at Cattaraugus.....	1218
Senecas at Tonewanda.....	642