

of the Indian to subsist by hunting alone. I am more than ever convinced of the necessity, absolute and immediate, of introducing among these Tribes the means of agricultural and pastoral pursuits.

Many of these Indians are now in the vicinity of Denver, reduced to great destitution. I had no presents, and no means, ~~with~~^{with} which to relieve their wants; but I made application to the officer commanding at the barracks here, and he issued some rations from the commissariat to a party of Arapahoes. This supply was most timely; for the Indians were in a starving condition.

The trouble, constantly recurring, of this state of affairs is evident. The Indian, when starvation stares him in the face, is not particular as to the ownership of any property that may fall in his way. He loses then all his dread of

the white man; and what he cannot beg he will steal. Then begins a series of depredations. The Tribes send out armed parties, under the pretence of fighting other Tribes; but the real object is plunder. The white settlers make reprisals; and thus the faith of Treaties is broken, and long and costly wars are commenced.

To cure this evil, we must strike at the root of it. The policy of the Government towards the Indians is one of humanity. The Government desires honestly to better their condition, physically and morally. How is this to be done? I say, as I said in my last report; place them above actual want. Remove them from the necessity of theft. We cannot successfully preach peace and patience to a starving savage.

Temporary relief, such as has been afforded in the single instance al-

cluded to, is only a procrastination of the evil. Once assisted in this manner, the Indian expects to be so assisted again; and he comes finally to demand as a right what was at first granted as a favor.

The fine pasture-lands of the reserve should be stocked with cattle. This is the remedy, once for all. With proper care and watchfulness, the full benefits of this system can be speedily developed. Agriculture will naturally follow the occupations of herding cattle. The seeds of civilization will be sown; and, as I have said, care and watchfulness will accomplish the rest. These are my views, confirmed by much observation; and I think they are the views of all, who, knowing the Indian character, desire to live on friendly terms with these wild races.

A number of men have

been confined in the U. S. Jail here, who were arrested in last October by order of Capt. Otis, then commanding at Fort Wise. The avowed object of these men was to make war on the Kiowas and Comanches, and to run off horses. They have since been indicted for treason against the government of the United States. Whatever their real object may have been, I am thoroughly convinced that they would have committed depredations in the Indian Country. The Indians, unable to distinguish properly between persons, would have retaliated upon peaceful settlers. ~~In this view of the case, the arrest of these men has certainly prevented disturbances.~~

~~The troubles existing in the Territory of New Mexico render it particularly my duty, that I should watch the condition and understand the temper of the Indians towards the Southern frontier.~~