

C. H. ARBURY,  
SPECIAL INDIAN AGENT

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

W. C. VAN EMON  
ASSISTANT

31-33 GAZETTE BUILDING,

RENO, NEVADA. Sept. 30, 1914.

Mr. Lorenzo D. Creel,

Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Sir:

If convenient, please see Mr. Ira D. Wines, who owns land in Ruby Valley, Nevada, and is an old settler there. I understand, that he now lives in Salt Lake City and is interested in some bank. He will remember a tract of land that has been irrigated and used as a meadow by the Tomoque family near Overland Creek. I find, that <sup>approximately</sup> ~~probably~~ all of their meadow land is included in a state selection made by him in 1897 and which is now held under contract by him. I understand that he has always been very friendly to the Indians and liberal in his dealings with them. His son, Stanley, is now using a part of his holdings in Ruby Valley and has asserted his claim to this particular land, resulting in considerable hard feeling among the Indians, bringing about a condition, that is very undesirable, as it is to the Indians interest to work in harmony with his white neighbors. It has occurred to me, that Mr. Wines might be willing to sell his interest in this forty acres to the Government. The amount of interest, that he has paid is very small on this particular tract and the amount necessary to get a patent from the state would make in the aggregate

9/30/14

L D C

II

not to exceed \$60. I am not assured that we have any money available for this purchase, but I would be glad to have you talk the matter over with him and report to me his attitude. All of the improvement on the land has been made by the Indians and they resent being deprived of it. We don't deny Mr. Wines title, nor his good faith in applying for this State selection, as it was applied for with considerable other land in the locality and he may not have known at the time, that it included the Indian meadow. I will be glad to learn of his attitude and if there is a chance to buy it, I will recommend to the Office, the purchase, if any money can be found for the purpose.

Very respectfully,

*C. Ashbury*  
Special Indian Agent

CHA/JP

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE.

31-33 GAZETTE BUILDING.

RENO, NEVADA. Sept. 30, 1914.

Mr. Lorenzo D. Creel,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Sir:

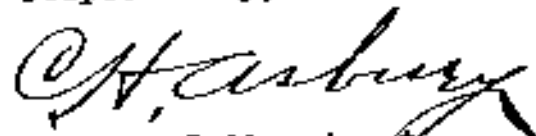
In an heirship hearing, that I held in California, last year, and which has been approved, one of the heirs was a half-blood girl, now perhaps 28 or 30 years old, who was known in California as Ida Wabber. I made careful inquiry as to her whereabouts and the last she was heard of, was four or five years ago and she was then at Salt Lake City. Some of her former friends thought that she had been married, but, if so, I didn't learn her name. I doubt, if you will be able to get any line on her, as she was there probably only temporarily and she may have been employed in some hotel or from some remarks, I heard regarding her, she may have been in some house of prostitution. It might be worth while for you to look through some of the older city directories and possibly you will get a line on her, that will enable us to find her, if she is still living. I will appreciate any assistance you can give me in this case, as the property has some value and it is impossible to settle the estate, without finding her, or having some satisfactory evidence that she is dead.

L D C. II

9/30/21

Thanking you for such assistance as you may be able  
to give me in this matter, I am

Very respectfully,

  
Special Indian Agent.

CHA/JP

C. H. ASHURBY,  
SPECIAL INDIAN AGENT

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

W. J. VAN EMON  
CLERK

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

31-33 GAZETTE BUILDING.

RENO, NEVADA.

June 22, 1915.

Filed  
11-20-00  
Mr. L.D. Creel,

Special Indian Agent.

Salt Lake City, ~~Utah~~ Utah.

Dear Friend;-

I am in receipt of a copy of Office letter of June 15th to you in reference to the Ruby Valley Indians.

I do not know just how much of the correspondence in this case was sent to you but if you want more of the reports that have been made in the case or any further statement as to my observations I will be glad to furnish it or if you can find justification to come to Reno we will go over the matter in detail.

Should you think of coming here it would be well to let me know a few days in advance so I can arrange to be here as I am away much of the time.

Very Respectfully,

*C. H. Ashbury*  
Special Indian Agent.

Filed 11-20-30 *Boh*

July 13, 1915.

Mr. B.G. Mc Bride,  
Elko, Nevada.

Dear Sir;- I have your letter of the 11th in reference to the situation at Ruby Valley. I doubt if there is any thing I can say to these Indians that will help the situation.

I know that there is no funds available at this time that could be used in the purchase of your property as you suggest. I had hoped that we would find the means of buying the particular 40 that the Indians had used to remove that cause of controversy but until some appropriation can be secured that can not be done, and the appropriation is uncertain though we think we have some prospect of getting something for such purpose by next Congress.

After our conversation in Elko in May I wrote suggesting that some other man be sent in there. Such detail has been made and a man who has been working in Utah is to make a recit and to take the question up with the Indians. He came here a few days ago to go over the matter with me and he has all the data necessary to get a clear understanding of the situation and he will go in there as soon as he can get to it. He is on the coast just now and will not be back to Salt Lake until about the middle of August. I am doubtful if he can get there before the first of September as much work will have accumulated on his desk that will require attention on his return.

McBride- 2.

I will write them a letter but I do not believe it will do much good.

I hope that Mr. Creel will be able to review the situation with them in a way that will lead to an adjustment of the difference without resort to the courts. Even if you had some of them arrested it would probably only afford temporary relief and might be an additional aggravation that would make the situation worse in the end.

I am sending copies of this correspondence to Mr. Creel.

Very Respectfully,

*O. H. H. H.*  
Special Indian Agent

B

Baby, Trespass, Fire,  
Joe Timok and Peter Johnson.

*Copied*

August 21, 1915.

District Forester,  
Forest Service Building,  
Ogden, Utah.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of August 5th, in reference to the above case, came while I was away from my office, hence delay in replying. I know of no regulation under which our Office would take any action in this case, except to advise these Indians as to their duty to observe the law and the fact that they laid themselves liable to severe punishment. I have had occasion once or twice in the past to write letters somewhat along this line to Indians who had not shown the proper cooperation with the Forest officials. From reading the correspondence submitted, I doubt if these Indians intended to defy the law, or to ignore the regulations of the Forest. They probably followed an old custom of the locality in attempting to burn away the brush that was in the way of hauling out their posts and took <sup>but</sup> a little precaution to prevent its spread. I will defer writing to these Indians until I hear further from your office. If you insist on prosecuting these cases, the lesson will be proper and probably will impress upon the Indians of that locality a proper respect for the law and the Service. If you are of the opinion that



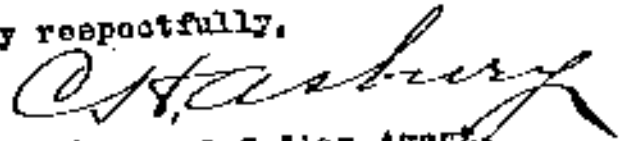
IP.

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it were as well not to prosecute these cases. I will write them quite fully on this matter and furnish you a copy of the letter. I will also send a copy of the correspondence to Special Agent Creel of Salt Lake City, who is to make a trip into that section, in connection with some Indian matters at an early date. He might be able, on the ground to impress the lesson more forcibly than could be done by letter and he would also have an opportunity to call at your office and talk with you personally about it.

Very respectfully,

  
Special Indian Agent.

*Filed 11-20-30*

August 31, 1915.

Mr. Peter Johnson,  
Mr. Joe Finck,  
c/o Marcene Ramerico,  
Hobson, Nevada.

Dear Sirs:

The Forestry officials at Ogden, Utah sent me an account, about a month ago, of your having been guilty of starting a fire within the Forest Reserve and not having given the necessary attention to putting it out. Some of the officials of the Forestry Service seem to have been in favor of Prosecuting you in the Courts under the law that forbids the starting, or leaving of any fire within the Forest Reserve, but the headman at Ogden was disposed to be charitable with you as possible and hoped to avoid sending you to prison, or imposing a heavy fine on you, which would be a great hardship. He sent the particulars to me, thinking that the Indian Service might be able to handle the case and thus relieve him of the unpleasant duty of taking this matter into Court. I consider his action very charitable and believe that you should appreciate it.

This law is very strict and it is the duty of every man living in or adjacent to the National Forests or who may camp in the Forest, or cross it, to use every precaution to avoid the starting of fires. The United

States is expending through the Forest Service large sums of money to protect the timber and the range and it is the duty of the people, who have the use of these Reserves, to cooperate with them. There is no question but what many men would have taken you into Court at once and you might now be doing time in prison, had it not been that they thought you had not intended to disobey the law, or thought you had acted thoughtlessly and they wanted to give you the benefit of any reasonable doubt. In the future, I hope that you will be extremely careful and on behalf of you and other Indians in that part of Nevada, I have written to the Forest Service, suggesting that a letter from me to you might serve the purpose as well as severe punishment and I hope you will prove to them that my faith in you was well founded. If you, or other Indians of that locality, are guilty of this same offense again, they will probably not refer the matter to me at all but will take such offenders directly into Court and they will also feel that you were not deserving of the confidence that I have placed in you, when I suggested that they let this matter pass on condition that I wrote you a warning, which I am now doing. You are not to be the judge as to whether any particular law is a good law, or is needed. Such things are passed on by various law making bodies and it is our duty to obey the law that is passed, or suffer the consequences of our disobedience.

I sincerely trust that we will not hear of any trouble along these lines again and that if fire should be started by some one else, or by any accident, that the Indians will always turn out cheerfully and assist the Forest officials in the work of fighting the fire.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Forest office at Ogden, who have consented not to prosecute you, if you will observe this warning in the future.

Very respectfully,

*C. H. H. H.*  
Special Indian Agent.

CHA/JP

C. H. ASBURY  
SPECIAL INDIAN AGENT

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

VAN EMON  
CLERK

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

31-33 GAZETTE BUILDING.

RENO, NEVADA.

August 31, 1915

*Filed  
11-20-30*

Mr. L. D. Greel,  
Special Indian Agent,  
Federal Building,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Sir:

In further reference to the case of some Indians in Ruby Valley starting a fire in the National Forest, which was the subject of my letter of August 21st, will say that I am now in receipt of a letter from the District Forester saying that he is disposed to waive any further action against these Indians on condition that I would write them a strong letter of warning. I enclose a copy of the letter that I have just written to them. I am calling your attention to this case, in the event that you should get down in that Valley soon and have an opportunity to <sup>discuss</sup> discuss with the Indians.

Very respectfully,

*C. H. Asbury*  
Special Indian Agent.

Trespass, Ruby Valley  
Joe Timok and Peter  
Johnson.

*Filed 11-20-30*  
*at Mr. Stewart's request* Salt Lake City, Utah  
Mr. C. E. Asbury, with 4355-1917-313 September 13, 1915.  
*W. J. Shoshone*

Special Agent.

Reno Nevada.

Dear Mr. Asbury:

I am in receipt of your communications in re the trespass by starting forest fires in Ruby Valley by these Indians. I wrote the District Forester and will visit him as soon as I have time when I pass through Ogden. I have also written a strong letter to the Indians which may emphasize the matter so thoroughly set out by you in your letter to them. When I make my visit there I will also discuss the matter with any and all that I meet in that locality.

I am unable to say just when I can make this visit, but will embrace the first opportunity.

Sincerely yours

Indian Agent

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
DISTRICT 4

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
DISTRICT FORESTER  
AND REFER TO:

*Filed 11-20-20*

FOREST SERVICE BUILDING  
ODDEN, UTAH

**S**  
Ruby, Trespass, Fire.  
Joe Timok, and Peter  
Johnson-

September 20, 1915.

Mr. Lorenzo D. Creel,  
Indian Agent,  
U. S. Indian Service,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of September 13 is received.

I am glad that you are following up the  
action taken by Mr. Asbury in respect to the above  
fire trespass.

I feel quite certain that you can impress  
the trespassers further by a personal talk, as you  
suggest.

We should be very pleased to have you call  
on us whenever convenient.

Very truly yours,

*Clinton G. Smith*  
Assistant District Forester.