

From page 402:

It will be observed that the site of the southern agency, as well as the one at White river, had the personal inspection of Gov. McCook, in his official capacity as Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Colorado. From his own statements, as well as those of his agents, there should be no surprise that neither was satisfactory to the Indians. The difficulty and ~~inconvenient~~ discomfort in journeying to, and the unfavorable surroundings when at the agencies, are apparent; and the extreme elevation of the land and high temperature at White river, and the loss of the first crop at the southern agency, were calculated to make the Indians unhappy, and yet there is not one word in the reports of the agents or in the governor's report, indicating that there was any disorder or serious dissatisfaction manifested by them.

From page 405:

Notwithstanding the pledge of the government in the treaty of 1868, that no person should settle in the Ute reservation, miners gradually entered it on prospecting tours, and in time they began to locate and work the mines. Gov. McCook had expressed the opinion that every American should be allowed to go freely and without hindrance on the soil where our flag floated, and hence these trespassers had nothing to fear from him, and as times passed they increased in number. (See report of 13th Oct 1870) While patient, the Utes were not satisfied. Ouray, in 1871, asked that a military post might be established near the southwest corner of the reservation. In the spring of 1872, Congress authorized the secretary of interior to enter into negotiations with the Utes for the extinguishment of their title to the southern part of the reservation, which was then overrun by miners and ranchmen; and Gov. McCook. John D. Lang of Maine, and Gen McDonald of Missouri, were commissioned for that duty. On the 28th of August, 1872, these gentlemen met representatives of the Utes at the Los Pinos agency.

*Note here the following omission of the last part of sentence above beginning "Ouray, in 1871...." It should end as follows:

~~that~~ ,, the reservation, to the end that troops might be used to prevent further intrusion, as well as to expel those unlawfully residing on the reservation.

There follows here from page 405 thru 413 a discussion of this council.

From page 413:

In the spring of 1873, an order was issued by the direction of the president for the expulsion of the miners and other settlers ~~from~~ then within the Ute reservation, but before the military had entered on the discharge of the duty, this order was suspended. The reason given was that the president had been informed that Chief Ouray had intimated that the Utes were willing to resume negotiation for the sale of a portion of their reservation, and he deemed it best to wait the result of another council and the sale of a portion of the territory to the United States, it would be a needless hardship to drive out the settlers who would desire at once to return after the purchase was made, to their former occupations.

Manypenny: Our Indian Wards;

p. 409.

Here Gov. McDonald expressed a desire that Ure (Ouray) should say something, and the chief replied that the Utes did not wish to sell one foot of their land; that was the opinion of all. "For some time," he said, "we have seen the whites coming in on our lands; we have not done anything ourselves, but have waited for the government to fulfil the treaty. We have come here so that you may see that we are not satisfied with this trespassing on our lands; but we do not want to sell any of them."

From page 419:-

In the annual report of the Indian Office for the year 1878, it was estimated that five per cent of the subsistence of the Utes were obtained by those engaged in civilized pursuits, forty five per cent by hunting, fishing, root-gathering, etc., and, by the issue of government rations, fifty per cent. The whole number of Indians at the agencies that year was reported at 3,734. Of these, 2,000 were at Los Pinos, 934 at the Southern, and 800 at the White river agency. One half of the whole number is 1,867. To provide govt rations for this number, at twelve cents per day, which is about one half the amount an army ration costs in that country, would require the sum of \$81,774.60. The entire appropriate appropriation for food and clothing, which was granted by Congress, for the year ending June 30, 1878, was only \$60,000. Of this sum, only \$30,000 were, by the terms of the appropriation act, set off for subsistence. This sum, distributed per capita to the 3,734 Utes, would give to each one, for subsistence, \$8.03 per year, or about two and one third cents per day! If the whole sum were expended for provisions, and no clothing furnished the per capita for each Ute would be less than five cents per day!

In 1878, the wealth of the Utes was 8,500 head of horses and ponies, 45 mules, 1,372 cattle, and 4,500 sheep, and the value of the robes and pelts sold was \$9,500. The revenue of the Indians from this source has fallen off very much. This is the inevitable result of the invasion of the reservation by those unlawfully going into and dwelling therein. It may be observed that the number of the Utes is in excess of those reported at the agencies. The population may be set down at about 4,500.

To say that there has been no violence or disorder among the Utes since they came under treaty relations, in 1868, would be to place them in moral ~~and~~ conduct above any society in the U.S. To say ~~it~~ that they have been remarkably orderly and pacific, is simple to do them justice. There is an almost unbroken chain of evidence in their belief in the reports of the agents. The reports of the agents, in 1878, contain a reflex of those of preceding years. Agent Weaver, Of the Rio Los Pinos Agency, in his report for that year says: "Beyond the excessive and violent demands for rations, and the threat of taking the life of the agent for establishing the agency on the Rio Pinos (to which the Southern agency was removed), instead the Rio Navajo, as they claim to have been promised them, there is but very little in ~~their~~ their conduct to condemn, I blush to say aught about this, when I reflect upon how they have been treated by the govt, and imposed upon by individuals."

Agent Abbot of the Los Pinos Agency says: "With few exceptions, they are a quiet, peaceable, well-disposed people. Quarrels and contentions among them are infrequent, and not a single instance has come to my knowledge of violence or crime committed by them against the person or property of the whites settled along the border of their reservation, or even against the squatters, who knowingly and in defiance of all right and justice, and even the authorities of the govt. have encroached upon and taken possession of their most fertile lands."

Agent Meeker of the White river agency says in his report of July 20, 1878: "These Ute Indians are peaceable, respectors of the rights of property, and, with few exceptions, amiable and prepossessing in appearance. There are no quarrelsome outbreaks, no robberies, and perhaps not half a dozen who pilfer---and these are well known. The marriage relation is strictly observed--at least for the time it continues---and polygamy is practiced to a limited extent. On the whole, this agent is impressed with the idea that, if the proper methods can be hit upon, they can be made to develop many useful qualities, and be elevated to a state of absolute independence."