16956 | OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Rec'd. SEP 5 | 1884

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INDIAN DIV. | RECEIVED OCT 1 1884

Consolidated Agency, 188

R. G. Wheeler
Osuna Agency
Aug. 30. 1884

Reports worthless condition of agency vehicles - complains of the wagon manufactured at Carlisle. Wants light spring wagon - &c

(Copy to Capt Pratt.)

Letter to Secy. Dept Co/84
To agent. Oct 4/84

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AUTHORITY,

No. 8789 | RECEIVED.
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16956

United States Indian Service,

Pima Agency, A. T.

August 30th, 1884.

Hon. E. L. Stevens.
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have to report that the vehicles at this Agency are so nearly useless as to demand special attention. We have at present a Buckboard, a spring wagon and an Ambulance. The Buckboard when new did very well but it is now totaly unfit for use. The spring wagon which was put together in Carlisle, Penn. and has been here but a few months, is so badly constructed and of such poor material that while using it upon the road a breakdown is an ordinary occurrence and never a surprise. All our resources have been exhausted in repairing it and at present while many of its original parts have been

replaced under the hands of the Agency Blacksmith. it is of no value whatever for general use, and the time and material that has been expended upon it in repairs, would, if properly used, have made a spring wagon of some utility. The ambulance is a large heavy vehicle requiring four animals to haul it even when empty: it is out of repair and for the sandy roads of Arizona is also totally useless, its usellessness is the more apparent when it is considered in connection with the Agency animals, all either through old age or small size unable to do heavy work. All these vehicles are down upon Mr. Jackson's property return as totaly unfit for service and he has had authority to issue the ambulance to the Indians. The only conceivable use to which they can put it being either as a refuge for safety in time of high water or as a bulwark

to aid in the construction of a dam.

Some sort of a vehicle is absolutely indispensable in traveling to the different towns about to settle disputes arising between Indians and whites: in visiting the County seat to make affidavits to quarterly accounts, to visit the several reservations under my charge, trips of from fifteen to fifty miles, and until we can obtain something better we can only use what we have.

Agent Jackson in his last Annual Estimate has estimated for a buckboard and a spring wagon, and I would earnestly request that if the Department can not furnish a light strong and durable spring wagon, that I be allowed to purchase one in open market.

Very Respectfully

Roswell G. Wheeler
U. S. Indian Agent.