

RUSH VALLEY MILITARY RESERVATION, UTAH.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR

IN RELATION TO

The Disposition of the Rush Valley Military Reservation, Utah Territory.

January 27, 1874.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

The Secretary of War has the honor to invite the attention of the House of Representatives to his letter of March 6, 1869, recommending that, as the Rush Valley military reservation, Utah Territory, "is no longer required for military purposes, its disposition be authorized by law in such terms and in such manner as may be deemed most advantageous to the United States."

As the disposition of the said reservation has not as yet been authorized, a copy of a letter from the commanding general, Department of the Platte, relative to the matter, is herewith transmitted, and the recommendation contained in the letter above referred to is again made.

WM. W. BELKNAP,
Secretary of War.
War Department, Jan. 3, 1874.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE, Omaha, Neb., Dec. 20, 1873.

Sir—I have the honor to enclose a plat of Rush Lake military reservation. I learned while in Utah, from the register of the land office, that the lands of this reservation had not been open to sale or sold; but private parties informed me that several mills and other buildings had been erected thereon, and that the water-courses and lakes were of great value to smelters and millowners. As the military make no use of the land and exercise no control over it, so far as I know, I think it should be transferred to the Department of the Interior, for sale or settlement under the law.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

E. O. C. ORD,
Brigadier-General
Commanding.

The ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
U. S. A., Washington, D. C.
(Through headquarters Military division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.)

P. S.—I have to add that the great value of a portion of this reserve will induce—if it has not already induced—interested parties to try and secure a large share of it without having a just claim thereto; and that on account of the scarcity of water in the vicinity, and its necessity to mill-owners, as far as practicable the land should be sold, with a due regard to the interests of all concerned, and only after a careful survey and division of the water-privileges into small lots.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant. E. O. C. ORD,
Brigadier-General.

[1st indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,
Chicago, Dec. 27, 1873.

Respectfully forwarded for the action of competent authority.

This reservation was established by troops from the Pacific coast. I am not familiar with its present status, and can only say we have no troops stationed thereon.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieut.-General Commanding.

[2nd indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, Jan. 2, 1874.

Respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of War.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

[3rd indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, Jan. 7, 1874.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War with the following report:

The United States military reservation at Rush Lake Valley, Utah Territory, was declared by the President February 4, 1855.

The subject of the abandonment of this reservation was laid before the House of Representatives by the Secretary of War, in letter of March 6, 1869, with recommendation that, as it was no longer required for military purposes, its disposition be authorized by law,

upon such terms and in such manner as might be deemed most advantageous to the United States; but no legislation appears to have been had in the matter, and by War Department letter of December 13, 1860, the reservation was relinquished to the Interior Department.

By War Department letter of July 29, 1873, the attention of the Secretary of the Interior was invited in this connection to the opinion of the Attorney-General of May 24, 1873, relative to the Fort Reading military reservation, California, from which it appears that the consent of Congress is necessary to the relinquishment and sale of military reservations; and such consent not having been given in this case he was informed that the custody of the Rush Lake Valley reservation must be retained in the War Department until its sale was authorized by Congress, in view of which action the papers in the case were returned to the Secretary's office at the opening of the present session of Congress.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

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NOTICE.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,
Salt Lake City, January 5, 1874.

A DEFINITE location having been recently made by the Commissioner of the General Land Office of the boundary lines, under the grant of lands to the U. P. and C. P. Railroads in Utah Territory, it is ordered that certain parcels of land, formerly included within the limits under the temporary line heretofore established, but now outside under the definite location, be open to Pre-emption and Homestead Entries, from and after the 8th day of February, 1874, said lands being situate in Townships—
1 S 2 E, 1 S 5 E, 1 S 6 E, 1 S 7 E, 2 S 5 E, 1 N 1 E, 1 N 7 E, 1 N 8 E, 7 N 3 E, 8 N 5 E, 9 N 2 E, 9 N 6 E, 9 N 7 E, 9 N 8 E, 10 N 2 E, 10 N 7 E, 10 N 8 E, 11 N 2 E, 11 N 1 W, 1 N 2 W, 14 N 4 W, 14 N 5 W, 14 N 6 W.

It is also ordered that certain lands heretofore included outside of the temporary line as aforesaid, but now falling inside under the definite location be withdrawn from entry except the even numbered sections being held at double minimum price. These lands being situate in Townships—
1 S 3 E, 1 S 4 E, 7 N 4 E, 7 N 5 E, 8 N 3 E, 8 N 5 E, 9 N 6 E, 12 N 1 E, 12 N 1 W, 13 N 1 W, 13 N 2 W, 13 N 3 W, 14 N 6 W.
By order of the
494 REGISTER AND RECEIVER.

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