

Office Supt Ind Affs
Dayton, O., July 1st 1856.

Sir

In compliance with the instructions contained in your
 letter of Oct 29th 1855, kindly sent to examine and
 report upon the claims of Henry & John Peter Indu-
 agut & from the Bureau herewith to submit the result
 of that investigation. Immediately upon the
 receipt of your communication I wrote to Mr
 Skinner transmitting copies of your letter ~~to~~
 and requesting he would place me in possession
 of facts upon which I could make up
 a report. In due time ~~the~~ ^{receipt} of
 my communication was acknowledged but
 no information was used to enable me to
 act intelligently. On my return from
 Port of Spain Mr. Skinner called upon me and
 filed in this office an additional bill of
 items with his affidavit as to the correctness of
^{amounting to 4874}
 the accounts, ~~the~~ ^{James} ~~the~~ ⁱⁿ ~~absence~~ ^{of} means to procure vouchers ~~of~~
 & ~~later~~ ^{generally} ~~but~~ ^{relative}
 to the correctness of other accounts and the arrangements
 between the former Supt and himself in the matter
 of furnishing horses, buildings &c. I gave with
 his affidavits explanation of accounts of Nathaniel
 & Dean & John & Snaps for expenses paid in
 removing Washington Bills from Major M. D. C.
 and the affidavits of Daniel M. Kenney
 John Dulse & Walter D. Davis showing the usual
 rates of horse hire during the period for which
 his accounts extend, and the affidavit of Benjamin

I Danio & John W McCully Shew the usual
 rates of rent for houses in Bryan New Valley
 and the appraiment of Disam Colored Shoney
 the ~~usual rates of~~ ^{customary charge for} meals, and ~~the~~ ^{as to the} necessity for ~~provision~~
~~food~~ ^{to} Indians. The reputation of the
 Shinn for truth and integrity is unimpaired,
 that of the other intruders I am masquitted with.

It is evident that the Shinn has been very
 scrupulous in omitting to obtain ^{proper} vouchers, ^{for his expenditures} but the situation
 and condition of the country ^{or} the circumstances by which
 he was surrounded as well as his ~~inexperience~~ ^{inexperience} as to the
 actual necessity of procuring vouchers for all
 expenditures may be taken ⁱⁿ the fact of termination of
 his mission to do so. I am ~~partially~~
 acquainted with the condition of the country at the
 date of which he speaks and know many of the imbeciles
 under which he labored as an agent.

~~The discovery of gold ^{rich} ^{detached} ^{coliform} in that valley had drawn
 hither a large class of people who regarded the Indians
 of that district as a natural enemy. Their reputation
 as warriors and enemies to the whites were generally
 acknowledged by them as unyielding and no effort
 was spared by many who~~

The fact upon it of
 Shinn's account