

This statement disposes of all the clamor that has been current during the year that these Indians did not receive rations to the amount to which they were entitled under the treaty. The treaty requires that "rations shall in all cases be issued to the head of each separate family," and it stipulates that in lieu of the supplies therein named the Commissioner of Indian Affairs may furnish their equivalent. Section 3, page 449, United States Revised Statutes, provides:

That for the purpose of inducing Indians to labor and become self-supporting it is provided that hereafter, in distributing the supplies and annuities to the Indians for whom the same are appropriated, the agent distributing the same shall require all able-bodied male Indians between the ages of eighteen and forty-five to perform service upon the reservation for the benefit of themselves, or of the tribe, at a reasonable rate to be fixed by the agent in charge, and to an amount equal in value to the supplies to be delivered; and the allowances provided for such Indians shall be distributed to them only upon condition of the performance of such labor, under such rules and regulations as the agent may prescribe; provided that the Secretary of the Interior may, by written order, except any particular tribe or portion of a tribe from the operation of this provision when he deems it proper and expedient.