

settlers, and to spoil the business of the poorer settlers by cutting off pasturage, especially winter pasturage, which they now use but might be unable to purchase.

It will be obvious, without any further explanations, that the work of the Commissioners in proceeding, according to their instructions, to mark off definite areas of arable land and summer and winter grazing land for the use of the Indians in a region inhabited by settlers carrying on their business as above described, was of a nature to expose the action of the Commissioners to considerable criticism, but they, personally, were well received everywhere.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE INDIANS.

The above facts of stock farming in the interior are quite appreciated by the Indians. They have been employed by white settlers and have observed their ways of work. They know good land from bad, and what is suitable for summer and what for winter grazing. On the coast the Indians desired a proportion of land free from gigantic timber; in the interior they desired land of which portions could be irrigated and which afforded, especially, natural winterage for stock. Mere acreage, without reference to nature and quality, was not what they asked for. They wanted, in kind, if not in quantity, precisely what white settlers in the same business require. The Indians in short, seem to have been expecting a fair share of the natural advantages of the region for the exercise of the only industry open to them above the occupation of a laborer. There would have been an inherent futility in any adjustment of the Indian land question which did not take full account of these facts.