

1884-26

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING,

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate of December 6, 1883, report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs submitting copies of Sioux agreements to cession of land to the United States, with correspondence connected therewith.

JANUARY 23, 1884.—Referred to the Select Committee on Sioux Indian Reservation and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 22, 1884.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a resolution of the Senate, of the 6th ultimo, of which the following is a copy:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to communicate to the Senate copies of any and all agreements made with the Sioux Nation of Indians, and with any tribe or band of them, for the cession of any portion of their existing reservation to the United States, together with all signatures now attached to the said agreements; and to inform the Senate whether any tribe or band of such Sioux Nation has declined to enter into such agreements; and to furnish copies of any correspondence between the Department and any official or other individuals concerning any such agreements, or the ratification thereof by said Indians; and to communicate to the Senate what has been done by the Department in carrying out the provisions of chapter 143 of the statutes of the second session of the last Congress in reference thereto.

In reply, I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of the report of January 21, 1884, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the copies of papers therein referred to, called for by the foregoing resolution.

Answers in detail to the several inquiries for information contained in the said resolution are fully set out in said report and accompanying papers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 21, 1884.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by your reference of December 10, 1883, of a resolution of the Senate, dated December 6, 1883, as follows:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to communicate to the Senate copies of any and all agreements made with the Sioux Nation of Indians, and with any tribes or bands of them, for the cession of any portion of their existing reservation to the United States, together with all signatures now attached to said agreements; and to inform the Senate whether any tribe or band of such Sioux Nation has declined to enter into such agreements; and to furnish copies of any correspondence between the Department and any official or other individuals concerning any such agreements, or the ratification thereof by said Indians; and to communicate to the Senate what has been done by the Department in carrying out the provisions of chapter 143 of the statutes of the second session of the last Congress in reference thereto.

Agreeably with the direction contained in said resolution, I have the honor to submit herewith copies of two agreements negotiated with the Sioux Indians, involving the cession to the United States of a portion of the Great Sioux Reservation; one signed by the chiefs and head men of the several bands, except the Lower Brule and Crow Creek bands, and the other (which is neither more nor less than an assent to the agreement made with the other bands) by the chiefs and head men of the Crow Creek band.

The existence of two separate agreements of the same character is due to the fact that the Crow Creek Indians were the last visited by the Commission, and their consent was not obtained in time to have it embodied in the general agreement, which it was desired should be presented to Congress as early in the session as possible. As will be seen from the correspondence, the Lower Brules, influenced by a few of their chiefs, who were supported in their opposition by what is known as the "soldier band," stubbornly and persistently refused to become parties to the agreement. None of the other bands withheld their assent thereto. The two agreements mentioned are the only ones that have been made with the Sioux looking to the cession to the Government of any portion of their existing reservation.

With the copies of the agreements are also submitted copies of all the correspondence between the Department and any official or other individuals concerning said agreements or the ratification thereof by said Indians.

As regards the action taken by the Department in carrying out the provisions of chapter 143 of the Statutes, Second Session, 47th Congress (Vol. 22, p. 624), I would state that the Commission, as originally composed, was instructed, under date of March 14, 1883, to proceed to the several agencies where the agreement was executed, and elsewhere as might be necessary, with a view to the execution of the act in conformity to the terms thereof.

The attempt to obtain the assent of the Indians to said agreement in the manner prescribed in the beforementioned chapter, i. e., as provided by Article XII of the treaty of April 29, 1868 (15 Stat., 635), which requires the assent of three-fourths of the adult male Indians occupying the reservation, was altogether unsuccessful. The causes which led to the failure are fully set out in the report of the Commissioners, dated December 31, 1883, and accompanying papers, to which I invite attention as affording the clearest understanding of the facts of the case. The agreement as originally executed was returned to the Department by the Commissioners with their said report, without change,

and no further steps have been taken by the Department in connection therewith.

The papers submitted are arranged in chronological order, as being the most convenient for reference, and should be kept in the order in which the papers are numbered (in pencil).

A copy of this report is inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

COPIES OF AGREEMENTS MADE WITH THE SIOUX NATION OF INDIANS, FOR THE CESSION OF PORTIONS OF THEIR EXISTING RESERVATION (THE GREAT SIOUX RESERVATION) TO THE UNITED STATES, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE, SMALLER RESERVATIONS, FOR THE SEVERAL BANDS, TO BE CARVED OUT OF THE EXISTING RESERVATION, &c.

TOGETHER WITH

COPIES OF ALL CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND ANY OFFICIAL OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS CONCERNING SUCH AGREEMENTS, OR THE RATIFICATION THEREOF BY SAID INDIANS.

[Furnished in compliance with a resolution of the Senate, dated December 6, 1883.]

Extract from an act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, and for other purposes.

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to enable the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for such modification of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed desirable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior, five thousand dollars; but any such agreement shall not take effect until ratified by Congress: *Provided, however,* That if any lands shall be acquired from said Indians by the United States, it shall be on the express condition that the United States shall only dispose of the same to actual settlers under the provisions of the homestead laws.

Approved, August 7, 1882.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 15, 1882.

SIR: By the act approved August 7, 1882 (sundry civil act), the sum of \$5,000 is appropriated to "enable the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for such modification of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed desirable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior."

In this connection, I have the honor to suggest, that if it be the pleasure of the Department to appoint Commissioners to conduct the authorized negotiations during the present season, this office will issue the necessary instructions for their guidance, if so desired, whenever their designation is made known.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, September 15, 1882.

SIR: Referring to your letter of this date on the subject of negotiation with the Sioux Indians for such modification of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed desirable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior,

SIOUX NATION OF INDIANS.

as provided for in the sundry civil appropriation act approved August 7, 1882, you are respectfully informed that I have designated the following-named gentlemen as Commissioners to make the negotiations.

Newton Edmunds, Yankton, Dak.

Peter C. Shannon, Yankton, Dak.

James H. Teller, Cleveland, Ohio.

One of the Commissioners will act as clerk of the Commission.

The compensation of these Commissioners will be \$10 per day while actually employed, and their actual and necessary expenses. The total expenditure will be limited to \$5,000.

You will please cause to be prepared the necessary instructions for their guidance and submit same to the Department for approval.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, September 16, 1882.

SIR: I transmit herewith a commission for your appointment as a Commissioner to treat with the Sioux Indians under authority of an act of Congress approved August 7, 1882.

Your compensation will be at the rate of \$10 per day for each and every day actually employed as such Commissioner, and in addition thereto you will be allowed the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of your duties. If you accept the appointment, please take and subscribe the inclosed oath of office and return the same to this Department. This you should do at your earliest convenience. Detailed instructions will then be forwarded for your guidance.

Very respectfully, &c.,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

Hon. NEWTON EDMUNDS,
Yankton, Dak.

Same to JAMES H. TELLER and Hon. PETER C. SHANNON.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 16, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant advising me of the designation of Newton Edmunds and Peter C. Shannon of Yankton, Dak., and James H. Teller, of Cleveland, Ohio, as a commission to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for such modification of existing treaties and agreements as may be deemed advisable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior, authorized by a clause in the sundry civil act approved August 7, 1882.

As directed in your letter, I have caused to be prepared, and submit herewith for your approval, instructions for the guidance of the Commission.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 16, 1882.

GENTLEMEN: By the act making appropriations for the sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, and for other purposes (page 29), the sum of \$5,000 is appropriated to enable the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for such modifications of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed desirable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior, &c.

By letter from the honorable Secretary, dated the 15th instant, I am informed that you have been designated by him as Commissioners to make the negotiations author-

ized by said act. The boundaries of the present Sioux Reservation, as defined by the agreement with the Sioux Indians, approved February 28, 1877 (19 Stat., 254), are as follows: "The western boundaries shall commence at the intersection of the one hundred and third meridian of longitude with the northern boundary of the State of Nebraska; thence north along said meridian to its intersection with the South Fork of the Cheyenne River; thence down said stream to its junction with the North Fork; thence up the North Fork of said Cheyenne River to the said one hundred and third meridian; thence north along said meridian to the South Branch of Cannon Ball River or Cedar Creek; and the northern boundary of their said reservation shall follow the said South Branch to its intersection with the main Cannon Ball River, and thence down said main Cannon Ball River to the Missouri River." (See map herewith.)

By the eighth article of said agreement the provisions of the treaty of 1868 (15 Stat., 635), except as modified in said agreement, are to remain in full force. The twelfth article of the treaty of 1868 provides that "No treaty for the cession of any portion or part of the reservation herein described which may be held in common shall be of any validity or force as against the said Indians unless executed and signed by at least three-fourths of all the adult male Indians occupying or interested in the same; and no cession by the tribe shall be understood or construed in such manner as to deprive without his consent any individual member of the tribe of his rights to any tract of land selected by him, as provided in article six of this treaty." (No selections have been made under the sixth article on west side of the Missouri.)

The Indians, parties to the treaty of 1868, are located at the following-named agencies, viz, Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, and Lower Brule, Pine Ridge, Rosebud, and Standing Rock, in Dakota, and the Santee and Flandreau Agency, in Nebraska.

You will proceed to visit the above-named agencies as early as practicable, in such order as will be found most convenient. Your object in visiting these Indians will be to ascertain whether they are willing to negotiate for the cession to the United States of any portion of their reservation, and if so, what portion.

It is first necessary to obtain the consent of the Indians at the agencies, in the order in which they may be visited by you, to negotiate, after which negotiations may be proceeded with as to the amount and location of the lands, and the consideration to be paid therefor. I may say here for your information that no one of the bands composing the great Sioux Nation has a several interest in the lands within the reservation. They are held in common by the whole nation.

You will explain to the Indians their rights under the treaty of 1868 and the agreement of 1877, copies of which are inclosed, and advise them that no action will be taken without their consent, as provided in the treaty of 1868.

Further instructions, if necessary, will be issued for your guidance as occasion may require.

The agents at the several agencies will be instructed, upon notification by you of a day when you will visit their respective agencies, to convene their Indians in council, so that you can at once proceed to carry out these instructions.

You will each be allowed compensation at the rate of \$10 per day while actually employed in the performance of your duties and your actual and necessary expenses. The total expenditure is limited to \$5,000.

Mr. Edmunds is designated as disbursing agent, and will be required to file a bond in the sum of \$5,000 for the faithful disbursement of the funds intrusted to his care. And you will designate one of your number to act as secretary to the Commission.

You will make report from time to time of your proceedings, and as points arise that require it, ask for further instructions.

The post-office address of the agents at the several agencies which you are expected to visit is as follows, viz:

Cheyenne River, Leonard Love, Cheyenne River Agency, Ashmore County, Dakota.
Crow Creek and Lower Brule, W. H. Parkhurst, Lower Brule Agency, Dakota, via Fort Hale.

Pine Ridge Agency, V. T. McGillicuddy, Pine Ridge Agency, Dakota, via Sidney, Nebr.

Rosebud Agency, James G. Wright, Rosebud Agency, Dakota, via Yankton.

Standing Rock, James McLaughlin, Fort Yates, Dak.

Santee and Flandreau, Isaiah Lightner, Santee Agency, Knox County, Nebraska.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

NEWTON EDMUNDS,
PETER C. SHANNON, and
JAMES H. TELLER, Present.

SIOUX NATION OF INDIANS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, September 18, 1882.

SIR: I have approved, and return herewith, the instructions which accompanied your letter of 16th instant, in the case of the Sioux Commissioners, appointed by the Department on 15th instant in accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress approved August 17, 1882, entitled "An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, and for other purposes." [See Public Law, No. 217, p. 29.] "To enable the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with the Sioux Indians," *

* * &c.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 21, 1882.

SIR: Referring to the appointment, by the honorable Secretary of the Interior on the 15th instant, of yourself and Peter C. Shannon, of Yankton, Dak., and James H. Teller, of Cleveland, Ohio, as a Commission to make certain negotiations with the Sioux Indians, as provided by an item in the sundry civil act of August 7, 1882.

I inclose herewith instructions for the guidance of the Commission, issued by this office on the 16th and approved by the honorable Secretary on the 18th instant.

It is very important that these instructions should be carried out with as little delay as possible, and with that end in view you will at once place yourself in communication with the other members of the Commission.

You will observe that you have been designated as disbursing agent. Instructions for the preparation of your bond, the disbursement of funds, and the rendering of your account will form the subject of another communication. You will also act as chairman of the Commission.

In addition to the information contained in said instructions, I have to inform you that by the treaty of 1868 the eastern boundary of the Sioux Reservation is defined as low-water mark on the east bank of the Missouri River including existing reservations on the east bank of said river.

You will please return the aforesaid instructions to this office with the final report of the Commission.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

NEWTON EDMUNDS, Esq.,
Yankton, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 21, 1882.

SIR: Referring to the appointment by the hon. Secretary of the Interior, on the 15th instant, of yourself and Newton Edmunds, of Yankton, Dak., and James H. Teller, of Cleveland, Ohio, as a Commission to make certain negotiations with the Sioux Indians, as provided by an item in the sundry civil act of August 7, 1882, I inclose herewith a copy of the instructions for the guidance of the Commission, issued by this office on the 16th and approved by the Hon. Secretary on the 18th instant.

It is very important that these instructions should be carried out with as little delay as possible, and with that end in view you will at once place yourself in communication with the other members of the Commission.

In addition to the information contained in said instructions, I have to inform you that, by the treaty of 1868, the eastern boundary of the Sioux Reservation is defined as low-water mark on the east bank of the Missouri River, including reservations on the east bank of said river.

Mr. Edmunds will act as chairman of the Commission.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

PETER C. SHANNON, Esq.,
Yankton, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 21, 1882.

SIR: Referring to the appointment by the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, on the 15th instant, of yourself and Newton Edmunds, and Peter C. Shannon, of Yankton, Dak., as a commission to make certain negotiations with the Sioux Indians, as provided by an item in the sundry civil act of August 7, 1882, I inclose herewith a copy of the instructions for the guidance of the commission, issued by this office on the 16th, and approved by the honorable Secretary on the 18th instant. It is very important that these instructions should be carried out with as little delay as possible, and with that end in view you will at once place yourself in communication with the other members of the commission.

In addition to the information contained in said instructions, I have to inform you that by the treaty of 1868 the eastern boundary of the Sioux Reservation is defined as low-water mark on the east bank of the Missouri River, including existing reservations on the east bank of said river.

Mr. Edmunds will act as chairman of the commission.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

JAMES H. TELLER,
Cleveland, Ohio.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 21, 1882.

SIR: By the sundry civil act, approved August 7, 1882, the sum of \$5,000 is appropriated to enable the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for such modifications of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed advisable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior.

By letter of the 15th instant, I am informed by the honorable Secretary that he has appointed Newton Edmunds and Peter C. Shannon, of Yankton, Dak., and James H. Teller, of Cleveland, Ohio, as a commission to make negotiations under the act.

The commission will notify you of the day when they will reach your agency, on which day you will convene the Indians under your charge in council, that the proceedings may at once be proceeded with.

You will extend to the commission all the aid required, and furnish them with such information as may be of use to them.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

ISAIAH LIGHTNER, Esq.,
United States Agent, Santee Agency, Nebr.

Same to agents of Cheyenne River, Lower Brule, Standing Rock, Rosebud, and Pine Ridge Agencies.

No. 19 MICHIGAN STREET, CLEVELAND, OHIO, *September 23, 1882.*

SIR: Your letter of the 21st instant, inclosing instructions to the commissioners to treat with Sioux Indians, is at hand, and contents noted. Agreeably to your request, I have addressed a letter to the Hon. Newton Edmunds, chairman of the commission, announcing my readiness to meet with him and Mr. Shannon at such time and place as they may name.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. H. TELLER.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

YANKTON, DAK., *September 26, 1882.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of instructions of the 16th instant, with accompanying treaties, maps, &c., also of 21st, with inclosures as stated, all of which have my attention. In reply I beg to state that I note your special reference to the twelfth article of the treaty of 1868 with the Indians, as to

the number of adults necessary to join, thereafter, in any treaty ceding any portion of the great Sioux Reservation.

While this article is explicit requiring the signature of three-fourths of adult males, &c., it was not regarded in the subsequent agreement of 1876-'77 ceding the Black Hills and all the country outside the present reservation, in which agreement a larger area of country was ceded than is contained in the State of Illinois. I was under the impression that the provision, article 12, referred to, required but two-thirds instead of three-fourths of adult males to sign.

I had the honor yesterday to write the honorable Secretary on this subject, as well as other matters connected with the objects of the present commission. I beg to say in explanation that I addressed the honorable Secretary, in reply to his letter of appointment, not having, until this morning, received any notice from your office. I beg also to refer you to that letter as containing some suggestions deemed important in regard to the present commission.

I note your reference to the amount appropriated (\$5,000) applicable to the present commission, and in reply would say that in my opinion it may be regarded as sufficient for the actual and necessary expenses and per diem of the commission. You must be aware, however, that per diem and actual and necessary traveling expenses constitute a very small part of the necessary disbursements on such occasions. An interpreter not connected with either agency is deemed a matter of absolute necessity. You cannot safely rely upon an agency interpreter, for the reason that you cannot expect them to talk *against their interests*. Such a commission as the one proposed, involving interests of such great importance to these Indians and their future, as well as of the Government, must necessarily have a reliable and trustworthy interpreter—one independent of all agency influence, having the confidence of the commission and the Indians also. Agency interpreters are not considered the most reliable or most truthful men in all cases and under all circumstances.

It has been the practice of the Government to issue presents and give liberal feasts on all such occasions; this will be expected by the Indians, and no progress can be expected unless this is continued. This may now be considered, I think, as indispensable. Unless these matters can be provided for out of the contingent fund, or in some other way, the appropriation will be rapidly depleted, or else nothing will be accomplished, and it would be better in that case not to make the effort.

Please not to lose sight of the fact that there are upwards of 40,000 of these Indians. I beg to refer you to two instances in point on this question. In 1875 a commission was sent to these same Indians to treat for the cession of the Black Hills. It spent in round numbers \$125,000, and did not succeed. In 1876 another commission was sent to the same Indians, for the same purpose, which cost the Government less than \$15,000, and it did succeed.

As to becoming disbursing agent, I beg to say that I would much prefer it if your office would detail a competent clerk who could act as secretary and disbursing agent for this commission. It would cost but little extra to do so, and it would be a source of much satisfaction to the undersigned. If need be his extra expenses could be provided for, I should suppose, out of the contingent fund.

In case this latter suggestion does not meet your approval, I will file the requisite bond as suggested. In such case, I suppose your office will furnish the necessary blanks and vouchers to enable me to make proper payments and reports. The question of a reliable and trustworthy interpreter I consider of such paramount importance that I trust you will concede this at least.

I will endeavor at once to communicate with the Hon. Peter C. Shannon and Hon. James H. Teller, stating your wishes in relation to promptness in the commencement of the work. Mr. Shannon is not now at home.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NEWTON EDMUNDS.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

[Telegram.]

YANKTON, DAK., *Tenthmonth 2d*, 1882.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary, Washington, D. C.:

We respectfully submit that there should be a modification of the instructions as regards the signature of three-fourths of all the adult male Indians. Article 12 only refers to a treaty *per se*; it was ignored in the agreement of 1876 and 1877, and the consent of chiefs and headmen was deemed sufficient. The act of February 23, 1877, was passed with article 12 of the treaty in full view, and Congress did not find any

infraction of the latter. The great reservation was very largely diminished by the agreement and act of 1877 by the consent of chiefs and headmen only; and does not this furnish ample precedent? Is not article 12 virtually repealed? We deem it next to impossible, as at present advised, to get the signature of three-fourths.

P. C. SHANNON.
NEWTON EDMUNDS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 3, 1882.

GENTLEMEN: I have received by Department reference your telegram of the 2d instant, addressed to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, stating in substance that as at present advised you find it next to impossible to procure the signatures of three-fourths of all the adult male Sioux Indians to any modification of existing treaties or agreements, and suggesting that instructions from this Department on the subject should be so far modified as to admit of the consent of the chiefs and headmen of the various tribes and bands only being deemed sufficient, as in the case of the agreement for the Black Hills cession, which was ratified by act of Congress February 28, 1877.

By direction of the honorable Secretary, existing instructions of the 16th ultimo are accordingly so modified, and you are hereby instructed that the signatures of the chiefs and headmen of the various tribes and bands are held to be sufficient, but great care should be taken to obtain as full a representation of each tribe or band as may be possible. I inclose for your information and guidance a copy of the agreement for the Black Hills cession, in order that you may see in what manner that was signed.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Messrs. P. C. SHANNON and NEWTON EDMUNDS,
Sioux Commissioners, Yankton, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 3, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to submit, herewith inclosed, a communication received from Newton Edmunds, esq., one of the commissioners lately appointed to negotiate with the Sioux Indians, under act of August 7, 1882, and who has been designated as disbursing agent for that commission, wherein he makes some suggestions to which I desire to call your attention.

1st. Mr. Edmunds thinks that less than three-fourths of the adults—say two-thirds—will be sufficient to join in a treaty affecting their reservation, notwithstanding article 12 of the treaty of 1868 (15 U. S. Stats., p. 639), but desires the opinion of the Department in the matter.

2d. Mr. Edmunds considers the services of a reliable interpreter essential to the success of the commission, and in view of his statements I would recommend that he be authorized to employ one, if you deem it prudent to use the sum necessary to pay him from the \$5,000 appropriated by the act before mentioned for this commission.

3d. Mr. Edmunds states that the giving of presents to and feasting the Indians cannot be avoided, as it is customary on such occasions, and no progress could be made otherwise; and that as this expense would rapidly deplete the above appropriation, suggests that it might be paid from the contingent fund of this Department. As to this, I have to say that I doubt the propriety of spending funds in the manner proposed, and that the appropriation for contingencies Indian service for the present fiscal year is not sufficient to meet the absolute necessities of the service, and nothing can be spared therefrom.

4th. Mr. Edmunds thinks it would be advisable to have some one other than himself or a member of the commission appointed to act as secretary and disbursing agent for the commission, suggesting that this expense also might be paid from the contingent fund above referred to.

I renew my previous remarks in regard to this latter suggestion.

The only recommendation I deem it necessary to make in this letter is as to the appointment of an interpreter.

Please return the inclosed letter.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

SIOUX NATION OF INDIANS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 4, 1882.

SIR: In compliance with the recommendation contained in your communication of 3d instant, authority is hereby granted for the employment of an interpreter, by the commission recently appointed to negotiate with the Sioux Indians, for such time as his services may be actually necessary, at not exceeding \$100 per month, payment to be made from the \$5,000 appropriated for the expenses of that commission.

No authority is granted for the expenditure of any money in making presents or giving feasts to the Indians.

It is not considered necessary to detail a clerk to act as secretary and disbursing officer to the commission, as suggested by Mr. Edmunds.

Mr. Edmunds's letter is herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 7, 1882.

SIR: In reply to your communication of 26th ultimo, the Department, on recommendation of this office, authorized the Sioux commission, of which you are a member, to employ an interpreter, for such time as his services may be actually necessary, at not exceeding \$100 per month, payment to be made from the \$5,000 appropriated for the expenses of that commission. In rendering your account as disbursing officer, you will submit vouchers for this man's pay, showing each day he served, and accompany the same with a copy of this letter.

No authority has been granted for any expenditure to feast or to make presents to these Indians, nor is it considered by the Department necessary to detail a clerk to act as secretary and disbursing officer to the commission, as suggested by you.

Respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

NEWTON EDMUNDS, Esq.,
Yankton, Dak.

[The Western Union Telegraph Company, October 8, 1882, Yankton, Dak.]

HON. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :

SIR: We all concur in considering a scholarly interpreter as absolutely essential to fairness and success. One who can accompany us from agency to agency and thus become conversant with whatever may be done at each. Interpreters at agencies must, under existing laws, be of Indian descent; they are generally of little or no education, and we cannot consider them as sufficiently reliable and competent.

We have great faith in the abilities of the Rev. Sam'l D. Hinman, the official interpreter of the commission of 1876. We understand he is a clerk in the Census Bureau of the Department of the Interior, and respectfully suggest that, if practicable, he be dispatched here forthwith. We also respectfully suggest that, as heretofore usual, an order be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of War directing all military officers to furnish us free transportation and all reasonable facilities and protection.

Respectfully,

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary of the Commission.

[Telegram.]

YANKTON, DAK., *October 8, 1882.*

HON. H. PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C. :

SIR: Your communication of third instant, modifying previous instructions, is received and gives us great satisfaction.

Respectfully,

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary of the Commission.

[Telegram, dated Saint Paul, Minn., October 10, 1882.]

To the SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C. :

If the Secretary desires my services on the Sioux commission. I can be reached here to-morrow; after that at Yankton, Dak.

SAM'L D. HINMAN,
Merchants' Hotel.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 11, 1882.

SAMUEL D. HINMAN,
Merchants' Hotel, Saint Paul, Minn. :

Your services as interpreter for Sioux commission desired. Report at Yankton and correspond with the commissioners.

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.
G. R.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 11, 1882.

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission, Yankton, Dak. :

Hinman will report to you as interpreter to-morrow.

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 13, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt by Department reference of a telegram from J. H. Teller, esq., secretary of the Sioux commission, dated Yankton, October 8, 1882, wherein he requests the appointment of Mr. S. D. Hinman as interpreter to the commission, and that an order be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of War, directing all military officers to furnish the commission free transportation and all reasonable facilities and protection. Under date of the 11th instant, Mr. Hinman was wired at Saint Paul, Minn., that his services as interpreter for Sioux commission were desired, and to report at Yankton, and correspond with the commissioners.

Referring to the request of the secretary of the commission relative to transportation and protection, I would respectfully recommend that the Hon. Secretary of War be asked to comply with the request as indicated in the telegram of Mr. Teller, which is herewith inclosed.

Respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 14, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to invite your attention to the inclosed copy of a letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs of the 13th instant approving the request of the secretary of the Sioux commission (contained in his telegram of 8th instant, a copy of which is also inclosed) that military protection and free transportation be furnished said commission while engaged upon their official duties.

The recommendation of the Indian Office has the approval of this Department, and I have to respectfully request that the proper officers may be instructed to extend all reasonable facilities and protection to the commission as requested by their secretary.

The Sioux commission was appointed on September 15, 1882, under provisions of law

contained in the sundry civil appropriation bill approved August 7, 1882, to enable this Department "to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for modification of existing treaties," &c.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., October 14, 1882.

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary, Sioux City, Iowa :

Hinman was at Merchants' Hotel, Saint Paul, Minn., on the 11th, and said he would be at Yankton next day, and was ordered to report to you there.

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

YANKTON, DAK., *October 14, 1882.*

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

SIR: I beg to report the arrival of Rev. S. D. Hinman since the sending of our telegram of this date. The commission will start Monday the 16th instant, visiting the Santee, Rosebud, and Pine Ridge Agencies in the order named.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary of Sioux Commission.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., October 17, 1882.

To J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission, Yankton, Dak.:

Hindinan was at Merchants' Hotel, Saint Paul, Minn., on the 11th, and said he would be at Yankton next day, and was ordered to report to you there.

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, October 18, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, inclosing one from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs of the 13th instant, together with a copy of a telegram from J. H. Teller, esq., secretary of the Sioux commission, relative to transportation, &c., for said commission.

In reply, I beg to state that in accordance with your request instructions have been given for the furnishing to said commission by the military authorities of all reasonable facilities, and protection and transportation by Government animals and vehicles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT T. LINCOLN,
Secretary of War.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 24, 1882.

Sioux Commissioner TELLER,
Pine Ridge Agency, Dak., via Cheyenne, Wyoming :

Orders for transportation given by War Department on 18th. Apply to General Howard, Omaha, or General Terry, Saint Paul.

M. L. JOSLYN,
Acting Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 24, 1882.

SIR: I inclose herewith for your information a copy of letter from the Hon. Secretary of War under date of the 18th instant, to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, wherein he states that instructions have been given for the furnishing to the Sioux commission, by the military authorities, of all reasonable facilities and protection and transportation by Government animals and vehicles.

Respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission, Santee Agency, Nebr.

VAN WERT, OHIO, *October 27, 1882.*

DEAR SIR: My brothers and I want to engage in stock raising in Western Dakota; can we rent pasture lands from the Sioux Indians, and if so, with whom must we arrange the contract? Under what conditions must such a contract be made?

Respectfully,

D. R. BOYD.

Hon. HENRY M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

PINE RIDGE AGENCY, DAK.,
October 29, 1882.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.:

The chiefs and head men of this agency have this day unanimously agreed to a separate reservation with good feeling and satisfaction. Red Cloud and his friends joining.

NEWTON EDMUNDS.

EASTON, PA., *November 2, 1882.*

SIR: Information is respectfully asked as to what portion of the Sioux Reservation the commissioners are desirous of purchasing from the Dakotas. A speedy answer is respectfully desired by you.

HENRY SWIFT,
Easton, Pa.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, November 3, 1882.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 27th ultimo, in which you ask to be advised whether you can rent pasture lands for grazing purposes from the Indians within the Great Sioux Reservation in Dakota, I have to say that this office would be unwilling to approve of any such plan, and the Indians cannot, of themselves, grant any such permission. Commissioners representing the Government are now visiting the various bands of Sioux Indians with a view to ascertaining whether they are willing to cede to the United States any portion of their said reservation, and, if so, upon what terms; and should their mission prove successful, it is not improbable that a large portion of the unoccupied lands embraced within said reservation will become available for white occupation at no very distant day.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

R. D. BOYD, Esq.,
Van Wert, Ohio.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, November 8, 1882.

SIR: In reply to your letter of November 2 (instant), addressed to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, in which you ask to be advised as to what portion of the Great Sioux Reservation in Dakota "the commissioners are desirous of purchasing," I have to say that the main object in view in the negotiations now being conducted with the Sioux under authority of the act approved August 7, 1882 (sundry civil), is to ascertain whether the Indians are willing to cede to the United States any portion of their reservation in Dakota, and, if so, what portion and upon what terms. The commissioners appointed to conduct the negotiations have not as yet completed their work, nor is it known to what extent they have been successful; I am therefore unable to give you the information you desire.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Rev. HENRY SWIFT,
Eaton, Pa.

YANKTON, DAK., November 10, 1882.

SIR: Referring to your letter of the 7th ultimo, granting authority to our commission to employ an interpreter and fixing the compensation at \$100 per month, we beg in reply to say that the Rev. S. D. Hinman reported to us at this place in obedience to a dispatch from your office, as we understand, and when informed as to price we were permitted to pay he declined to accept the position at the price fixed at your office. As we were ready to leave on our mission, and the season was far advanced, we did not like to submit to further delay, so we urged him to make the trip with us, leaving the per diem an open question and subject to further negotiations.

In the two commissions of 1875 and '76 to these same Indians Mr. Hinman was the official interpreter, and his services as an expert and such interpreter were regarded of sufficient importance to be rewarded with the same salary as was allowed those commissioners. His services in that capacity are deemed by the undersigned equally valuable now as then, and we respectfully ask such modification of the price fixed in your letter of the 7th ultimo as will enable him to be paid at the same rate as the undersigned, to wit, \$10 per day for time actually necessary to the discharge of his duties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

NEWTON EDMUNDS.
J. H. TELLER.
P. C. SHANNON.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
PINE RIDGE AGENCY, DAK.,
November 11, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of official letter, September 21, 1882, relating to the Sioux commission, and have to report in connection with the same as follows:

On Saturday, October 21, I sent transportation out from here, 60 miles toward Rosebud, to bring the party in, and on Sunday, October 22, I went out several miles myself with the police force to escort them in, desiring, if possible, to disabuse them of the idea "that on account of the unsettled condition of affairs at Pine Ridge, and the hostility of the Indians to their agent, the commission would have serious difficulty in accomplishing their object," as this idea had been systematically impressed on the commission at Yankton, Sioux City, and Rosebud Agency by Major Pollock's retainers. The commission were entertained by the agent and his family in their "luxuriously" fitted up apartments in the usual "princely" manner, and fed on "fish, flesh, and fowl," but with the absence of the "imported wine," unfortunately. (See Chicago Times, October 30, 1882.)

On Monday morning Mr. John A. Edgar (trader's employé and confidential henchman for Major Pollock, and whose heart out of pure disinterestedness is in a state of perpetual hemorrhage for the wrongs the poor Indian has to endure under the present tyrannical agent), fearing that under the effect of this diet and dissipation the

commission might be prevailed upon to make an ex-officio whitewashing report on the agent, addressed a communication to the commission, through Hon. Newton Edmunds, instructing them that the Indians with a very few exceptions were very bitter and hostile to the agent, and that if they desired to accomplish anything in the way of business they must leave the agent's bed and board.

I fear that one or two of the commission were somewhat "stampeded" at this serious and threatening document, but as beds and board in the absence of hotel facilities are scarce at Pine Ridge, the "inner man" prevailed on them and they remained with me.

On Monday, October 23, at the request of the commission, I called a general council to consider the business on hand, and the intervening time until Friday was passed in series of skirmishing and desultory councils; on Friday, however, Red Cloud addressed the commission and Indians in the general council room to the effect that he had decided to sign no agreement, and that his people, *i. e.*, all of the Ogalallas, had decided likewise, and that they wished to hear nothing more from the commission.

It was easily to be seen that Red Cloud gave voice to but the views of Mr. Edgar and interfering squaw men.

Red Cloud also informed the commission that the various Sioux agencies had sent delegations to Pine Ridge during the past summer for the purpose of making him head chief of all the Sioux in place of Spotted Tail, and also for the purpose of forming a confederation of all the Sioux against this "land grab," and that none of the agencies would agree to dividing up the reserve. He then harangued the Indians to stand firm, oppose the agreement.

Prior to this I had not interfered one way or other in the matter, as, owing to the manner in which I have been misrepresented by Major Pollock and others in regard to my connection and influence with these Indians, I did not feel called upon to intrude.

At this point Mr. Edmunds requested me to address the council, and as it was my honest conviction that it would be to the interest of the Indians and the Government for these people to have a separate and distinct reservation, I so informed them in a somewhat forcible manner, instructed and advised them to hold another council among themselves next morning, and that the commission would receive their answer the next afternoon, and would expect to hear from all of the Indians, old and young, chiefs, headmen, and common Indians.

The next morning the Indians held their council among themselves, and, I understand, had a very lively time; among other things Red Cloud being instructed by the younger element that this nonsense must end, that the advice of the agent must be taken, and that the agreement should be signed.

As a result, the agreement was signed unanimously that afternoon, Red Cloud leading.

When Major Pollock publishes, as he has, in the Sioux City and Chicago newspapers the charge that I have no following and no influence over these people, and that there was danger of another "Meeker" affair, he publishes what he knows to be a deliberate and malicious falsehood; a falsehood in keeping with much of the trash published by him regarding the condition of affairs here. This man, that so far labels the persons he terms his "illustrious compeers" by circulating the report that they were bought to make a whitewashing report, should remember the old adage that "people who live in glass houses ought not to throw stones," and the new version of another old adage, "Though virtue has its own reward, every man has his price."

It is getting to be rather monotonous to be forever receiving letters and seeing notices in the papers "that owing to the unsettled condition of affairs at Pine Ridge Agency," &c., and it is to be hoped that in the course of time people will get it through their heads that affairs are not unsettled here, and that life, person, and property are safer here than in any region in the States, and it is to be hoped that this condition will continue in case the Department deems it advisable to dismiss the present agent.

Very respectfully,

V. T. MCGILLYCUDDY,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

NOTE BY INDIAN OFFICE.—A copy of the foregoing was transmitted to the Department (informally) November 20, 1882.)

SIOUX NATION OF INDIANS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, November 17, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a communication from the commissioners appointed to negotiate with the Sioux Indians, in which they state that the Rev. S. D. Hinman, who is employed by them as interpreter, is not willing to serve in that capacity for the salary of \$100 per month, as authorized by you under date of 4th October last, and recommending that he be allowed \$10 per day while actually and necessarily so engaged.

In view of the reasons given by the commissioners, and believing that the services of Mr. Hinman are of great value to the Government, I respectfully recommend that your authority above noted be so modified as to allow the increase of his pay asked for, restricting the entire expense of the commission, however, to the \$5,000 appropriated for that purpose. Please return the inclosure.

Very respectfully,

E. L. STEVENS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 18, 1882.

SIR: I approve your report of the 17th instant, concurring in the recommendation of the Sioux Indian commission that the compensation of interpreter to that commission, Rev. S. D. Hinman, be allowed at \$10 per day while actually and necessarily engaged, he declining to serve in that capacity at the rate of \$100 per month, the rate authorized in Department letter of October 4, 1882.

The entire expense of the commission, however, will be restricted to the \$5,000 appropriated for the purposes thereof.

The letter of the Sioux commissioners is herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

[Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railway, President's Office.]

MILWAUKEE, *November 21, 1882.*

DEAR SIR: This company having, by agreement, secured the privilege of building its line across the Great Sioux Reservation, which privilege we may desire to exercise at some future time, we regard with very great interest the labors of the commission appointed by you to negotiate with the Siouxs for a cession of a portion of their territory. In view of which I respectfully request, if it seems appropriate to you, that you may grant permission to Mr. John Lawler, of Prairie du Chien, Wis., or such other person as may be selected by us to attend as the representative of this company the negotiations between the commission and the Indians, in order that we may have some one present to respond to such questions of interest to us as may arise during the progress of the commission. I trust that I may hope for an early and favorable reply.

I have the honor to remain yours, very respectfully,

ALEX. MITCHELL,
President.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

PAXTON, ILL., *November 21, 1882.*

DEAR SIR: Please inform Rev. F. C. Stewig, of Roberts, Ford County, Illinois, whether or not the Sioux Reservation in Northern Nebraska has been opened to homestead entry and settlement,

And much oblige me,

H. P. BEACH,
County Judge.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
CROW CREEK AND LOWER BRULÉ AGENCY, DAK.,
Lower Brulé Agency, November 27, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, copies of newspaper articles and copy of an anonymous writing received at this agency a few days since by one of the Indians here, Alex. Rencountre. Mr. Rencountre is a very intelligent half-breed of this tribe, able to read and write both tongues; has been employed as interpreter, herder, &c., and probably has as much intelligence and influence among the Indians as any single man in the tribe. The paper came in due course of mail, was seen by me before he had it, and was noted as somewhat singular that a paper should be sent from the place indicated by the post-mark "*Fort Apache, Arizona.*"

In the press of other matter I paid no further attention to the matter, and probably would never know anything further had I not been informed of the communication it contained.

As a rule I seldom deviate from, I pay no attention to any written communication that does [not] bear a signature, concluding that the writer is an assassin who will stab in the back him whom he may fear to meet face to face.

The allusion to myself I care nothing about, but the evident intention of the writer was to make trouble with this tribe, and incidentally with all the Sioux tribes, he supposing that Mr. Rencountre would act as his fool in creating dissatisfaction and disturbance, insult the commission, and damage the standing of the Indians before Congress, and the country at large.

Unfortunately for him, the scheme did not work, and the person receiving the letter instead of "trumpeting the news," sought counsel from those who have the interest of the Indians more at heart than is manifested by "lip service."

There can be no mistake in the matter; I have the paper in question, with the wrapper, bearing the post-mark, and any denial as to where it came from will be of no avail. The communication is written in a disguised hand, but there are those here who can identify beyond a doubt the author, and, for myself, I have no doubt, when the corroborating circumstances are taken into consideration.

The animus of the whole matter is so full of mischief, and had the news been spread might have resulted in evil, that I deem it my duty to put the whole matter on record, in order, that, if any trouble should arise in the future, the department may be informed as to its source. A gentleman holding a commission in the Army of the United States should, in my opinion, be above such contemptible tricks; no punishment can be too severe for such an offense, it being, in my estimation, a direct "bid" for an Indian outbreak.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. PARKHURST,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

LOWER BRULÉ AGENCY, DAK.,
November 27, 1881.

Alexander Rencountre, on oath, does depose and say: That on or about Thursday last, the 23d instant, I received through the mail a copy of a newspaper called *The Dakota Register*, and bearing the post-mark of "*Fort Apache, Arizona,*" and that upon opening the paper it was marked at a notice concerning the "*Indian commission,*" and that there was also another newspaper slip, cut from some other paper, pasted to the original paper, that article being a notice of the doings of the honorable Secretary of the Interior, as per the copies annexed and inclosed. And, that further, besides the printed notice of the papers, as stated, there was a written communication with no date or place from which it came, and without signature; that at the time of opening and after reading, I could not fully understand its importance, and that, after deliberation, I submitted the same to the Rev. Luke C. Walker, missionary at this agency; and that the copy annexed to, and made a part of, this paper is a true copy of the writing sent me by mail, inclosed in the paper, as stated above.

ALEX. RENCOUNTRE.

Sworn and subscribed before me.

W. H. PARKHURST,
United States Indian Agent.

[From the Dakota Register (published at Chamberlain), October 19, 1882.]

THE SIOUX COMMISSION.

By private advices we learn that the Sioux commission left Yankton Monday for Santee, Rosebud, and Pine Ridge Agencies, going to Fort Niobrara, and starting from that point. They will get an escort at the fort, of cavalry, so Captain Robe thinks.

Upon their return they will visit the river agencies. The commission is composed of strong men, and it is hoped that they will not meet with any serious opposition.

There is but one thing that ought to be done, or can be done, and that is to give to the Indians in severalty such land as they retain, not leaving a trace of land in common. The land should be allotted, and they permitted to take their choice out of certain localities, and the balance of the reservation thrown open to settlement.

DISARMING INDIANS.

A Washington special to the Pioneer Press gives a further proof of the zealous and intelligent work of Secretary Teller in the following:

"It is evidently the purpose of Secretary Teller in his Indian policy to deprive the Indians, as far as possible, especially the roaming bands, of fire-arms, on the theory that unarmed they are harmless. Early in his administration of the Interior Department he issued an order authorizing the arrest and taking away of arms from Indians found roaming from their reservations. He is vested with the power to act in such manner with the Indians as he thinks best, and call upon the War Department to aid him, if necessary, to wrest from the roaming Indians their arms, ammunition, and ponies.

"This policy is in the direction of effectually preventing the ravages of the Indians beyond the borders of their reservations. He has carried out this policy still further, by issuing an order to-day directing that the Indian police shall hereafter be armed with revolvers.

"Hitherto they have been armed with breech-loaders. These arms are in great demand by the Indians, who will pay almost any price for them. They are furnished to the police at a merely nominal sum, about the original cost, and the cost of transportation. These officers then sell them to the Indians at exorbitant prices, making a handsome profit by the transaction, and then report that they have lost their guns.

"The Secretary does not think the Indians have any use for breech-loaders, and believes the police can render as much service with revolvers as with rifles.

"By depriving the police therefore of their breech-loaders he has accomplished a good deal toward disarming the Indians, and preventing Indian outbreaks.

(Copy of written document inclosed in a newspaper, postmarked "Fort Apache, Arizona," directed to and received by Mr. Rencountre at Lower Brulé Agency, Dak., November 23, 4, 18-2:)

"MR. RENCOUNTRE: Your people are without one friend, and are going to be robbed of their land, and will not get anything for it, and then they will be disarmed, and may be sent to the Indian Territory. If your people give up their land now there will be nothing left to them, and the Government may do what it pleases with the people, and if they kick the rations and blankets will be stopped, and starvation will compel you to move.

"Your agent has no life, and does not care for you, and is only after what he can make, so you should send word to all the Indians at once to stop the sale of the land and send the commissioners home. The chief man in that commission is the chief robber of the Indians for the last fifteen years. He lied to the Yanktonais and Two Kettles at Old Fort Sully in 1865, and he divided with Livingston and Hanson, when they robbed you for over ten years.

"Send your people to advise all the other Indians to stop the council about the land, and get an honest man to take your side.

"Be quick or you will be too late. Call your wise men and have a council at once."

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, November 22, 1882.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with the recommendation of this office, the request contained in your communication of the 10th instant that the pay of Rev. S. D. Hinman, who is to act as interpreter for your commission, be allowed at the rate of \$10

per day while actually and necessarily so engaged has been granted by the Department. This is to be in place of \$100 per month, the rate authorized under date of 4th ultimo.

The entire expense of the commission, however, must be restricted to the \$5,000 appropriated for that purpose.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Messrs. NEWTON EDMUNDS, J. H. TELLER, and P. C. SHANNON,
Sioux Commissioners, Yankton, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
November 28, 1882.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

SIR: I have received by Department reference a letter from Alexander Mitchell, esq., president of the Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railway Company, dated 21st instant, stating that said company having by agreement secured the privilege of building its road across the Great Sioux Reserve, which privilege it may desire to exercise at some future time, regards with very great interest the labors of the commission appointed by you under the provisions of the sundry civil act approved August 7, 1882, to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for a cession of a portion of their territory, and asking that permission be granted by the Department to Mr. John Lawler, of Prairie du Chien, Wis., or such other person as may be selected by the company, to attend, as the representative of the company, the negotiations between the commission and the Indians, in order that it may have some one present to respond to such questions of interest to it as may arise during the progress of the commission.

Your reference to said letter appearing inferentially to call for an expression of opinion from this office, I have the honor to state that by certain agreements entered into with the Sioux Indians, dated, respectively, November 2 and 13, 1880, approved by your predecessor in office January 3, 1881, and now on file in this Department, the Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railway Company acquired a right of way, with authority to construct, operate, and maintain a line of railroad upon and through the Great Sioux Reserve west of the Missouri River and the Crow Creek Reserve east of the said river, with suitable grounds for stations, &c., along the line of road. Also the right to hold and occupy a section of 640 acres of land on the west bank of the Missouri River, and a track of 188 acres on the Crow Creek Reserve, both of which have been duly located by the company, maps filed and approved in this Department.

In accordance with the provisions of said agreements the Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railway Company has paid into this Department for the use of the Sioux Indians the sum of \$15,335.76 as partial payment for right of way, depot, station grounds, &c., and has been authorized to proceed with the construction of the road. The balance of consideration money agreed to be paid for the right of way is payable after the company shall have constructed 100 miles of road upon the Great Sioux Reserve. A map of preliminary survey of the line of road through the said reserve was duly filed in this Department, accepted and approved January 3, 1881, but I have no information of the construction of the road beyond Chamberlain, on the Crow Creek Reserve, east of the Missouri River.

In view of the interests the said railway company have at stake in the Great Sioux Reserve, I see no objection to its request being granted. Should you concur, I would suggest that the commissioners be notified of the company's application and action thereon.

Mr. Mitchell's letter is herewith returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

NOVEMBER 29, 1882.

SIR: I inclose herewith, for your information, copy of letter of 21st instant, from Alex. Mitchell, president Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railroad Company, requesting permission for Mr. John Lawler, of Prairie du Chien, Wis., or such other person as may be selected by the company, to attend as representative of the company the negotiations between your commission and the Indians, in order that they may

have some one present to respond to such questions as may arise affecting the interests of said company, relative to the privileges already secured by it for building its line across the Great Sioux Reservation.

I also inclose a copy of report by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, of the 28th instant, on the subject, wherein he reports, for reasons stated, that he sees no objection to the request being granted.

The privilege requested, so far as it may not be inconsistent with the interests of the public service, should be granted, and Mr. Mitchell has this day been so advised.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

Hon. NEWTON EDMUNDS,
Chairman Sioux Commission, Yankton, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
November 29, 1882.

SIR: Your letter of the 21st instant, requesting permission for Mr. John Lawler, of Prairie du Chien, Wis., or such other person as may be selected by the company to attend, as the representative of the company, the negotiations between the Sioux commission and the Indians, in order that they may have some one present to respond to such questions of interest as may arise affecting the interest of said company relative to the privileges already secured by it for building its line across the Great Sioux Reservation, has been received and considered.

A letter has this day been addressed to the president of the commission, inclosing a copy of your request and a copy of the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs on the subject, with information that the privilege requested, so far as it may not be inconsistent with the interests of the public service, should be granted.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

Hon. ALEX'R MITCHELL,
*President Chicago Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railroad,
Milwaukee, Wis.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, November 29, 1882.

SIR: I am requested by Judge H. P. Beach, of Paxton, Ill., to advise you as to whether the Sioux Reservation in Northern Nebraska has been opened to homestead entry and settlement.

In compliance with such request, I have to say that there are but two reservations in Northern Nebraska occupied or set apart for the Sioux, viz, the Niobrara, occupied by the Santee Sioux, and the executive addition to the Great Sioux Reservation, being a strip of country 5 miles wide from north to south, and 10 miles long from east to west, immediately south of and adjoining the Great Sioux Reservation in the vicinity of the Pine Ridge Agency (set apart by order of the President, dated January 24, 1882). Neither of these reservations are open to settlement or subject to homestead, pre-emption, or other lawful entry.

Under authority of a recent act of Congress (act approved August 7, 1882), a commission has been appointed and is now in the field negotiating with the various bands of Sioux for such modification of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed desirable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior. What the result of their labors will be I am, of course, unable to foretell. Any agreement they may make must be ratified by Congress before it can take effect, and, by the terms of the law, any lands that may be acquired from said Indians can be disposed of only to actual settlers under the provisions of the homestead laws.

The pending negotiations under the instructions issued for the guidance of the commissioners will be extended to the Santee Sioux in Nebraska, of whom I have spoken.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Rev. F. C. STEWIG,
Roberts, Ford County, Illinois.

AVOCA, IOWA, December 2, 1882.

DEAR SIR: Will you please inform me what negotiations, if any, are now pending for the cession [cession] of any part of the land in the Indian reservations west of the Missouri River.

If any is in contemplation is it in the interest of any particular railroad company; and, if so, which one?

As the head of the Indian Bureau, I thought you would probably know about this matter. An early reply will much oblige,

Yours, truly,

JOHN LEDWICH.

HIRAM PRICE, Esq.

CHICAGO AND NORTHWESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY,
LAW DEPARTMENT,
Chicago, December 5, 1882.

SIR: Some two years ago the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company, by agreement with the various bands of the Sioux Nation of Indians in Dakota obtained the right of the Indians to occupy 640 acres of land on the west side of the river at Pierre. This agreement was made in the presence of the then Secretary of the Interior, and ratified and approved by him.

This company was required by Mr. Kirkwood, then Secretary of the Interior, to pay to the Indians the sum of \$5 per acre for the land which the company desired to occupy, which sum was paid, all of which facts appear by the records in your office. As negotiations are now on foot for the surrender of the Indian title, I desire to call your attention to the agreement which was made, the record of which remains in your office, in order that the right of this company to the occupation of the 640 acres for which it has paid might be preserved to it. At the time the right was acquired under treaty laws then existing it was an absolute right of occupation which the Indians had, and which they conveyed to this company. This company has never had the proper use of this land, the Secretary of the Interior at the time the contract was made agreed that all unauthorized persons on said 640 acres of land should be removed, and required of us a list of the employés of this company, for the purpose of determining who should be removed and who should remain, but the Government never did remove these unauthorized persons from the section, notwithstanding several urgent requests that it should be done.

I call your attention to this subject, believing that the rights of this company will be protected, and its right to occupy said land secured to it in any arrangement which may be made with the Indians for the relinquishment of any part of that reservation.

If any arrangements are in contemplation which would affect the right of this company to the occupation of that section of land I would be glad to be advised.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

B. C. COOK,
General Solicitor.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, December 9, 1882.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 2d instant, asking to be advised whether there are negotiations now pending for the cession of any part of the Indian reservations west of the Missouri River; and, if so, whether such negotiations are being conducted in the interests of any particular railroad. I presume you refer to the Great Sioux Reservation in Dakota, which for the most part lies west of the Missouri, and in reply to your inquiries I have to say that by a clause in the sundry civil appropriation act, approved August 7, 1882, authority is had for negotiating with the Sioux Indians for such modification of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed advisable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior. By virtue of this authority negotiations are now being conducted by commissioners appointed for that purpose. As it is further expressly provided in said clause "that if any lands shall be acquired from said Indians by the United States, it shall be on the express condition that the United States shall only dispose of the same to actual settlers under

the provisions of the homestead laws," it is pretty evident that the railroads will be likely to reap only such advantages as will naturally follow from the increase of business incident to the opening of new territory to white settlement. I know of no other benefit expected to result to them.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

JOHN LEDWICH, Esq.,
Attorney at Law, Avoca, Pottawatomie County, Iowa.

YANKTON AGENCY, DAK., December 19, 1882.

DEAR SIR: Having been among the Yankton Sioux longer than any other white man on the agency, I have thought you might listen to a word from me as to what I consider of a matter much importance to them at this time.

When the Sioux treaty of 1868 was made it was, I have understood, the intention of the commissioners to include the Yankton Sioux, but through haste and other reasons they were omitted. However this may be, it is certain that they had more right to be included than the Santee, and as much as the Upper and Lower Yanktons is, and the result has been a morbid dissatisfaction because they, who have always been friendly to the whites, were not treated as well as the formerly hostile Sioux of Rosebud and Pine Ridge Agencies.

My object in writing to you at this time is to call your attention to the subject, in the hope that in the readjustment of the Sioux treaty which is now being made this misfortune might be rectified. I do not know the terms of the agreement that the commission is now concluding with the Sioux, but I am sure it would be greatly to the interest of the Sioux generally to be all treated alike, and especially that the Yankton Sioux should be treated the same as their neighbors to the west, with whom they are so nearly related. Any difference causes jealousy and dissatisfaction and retards progress.

If now the Yanktons cannot be included in the same agreement with the other Sioux, cannot the commission be instructed to visit the Yanktons also, and if advisable conclude a somewhat similar agreement with them for so much of their reservation as may not be needed for their own occupancy.

It is high time the Yanktons were located in severalty. But they urgently need help, especially work oxen, wagons, and building materials.

Very respectfully, yours,

JOHN P. WILLIAMSON,
Missionary of the Presbyterian Church.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

PIERRE, DAK., December 21, 1882.

H. PRICE,
Indian Commissioner, Washington, D. C. :

Indians of Cheyenne River Agency signed agreement to-day. We are on our way to Yankton.

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., December 21, 1882.

MY DEAR SIR: I leave the city this morning for home. I will be absent a week or two, and desire to call your attention to our conversation with reference to that portion of the Great Sioux Reserve that was by act of Congress recently attached to the State of Nebraska, and to request that you communicate with the commissioners appointed by you for the purpose of reducing said reserve, to the end that this tract may be included out of that portion relinquished by them. The State of Nebraska has accepted the grant by legislative enactment. There is a question, by reason of the wording of the bill, with reference to the jurisdiction over the same, whether it belongs to Nebraska or Dakota.

The matter is very important, and should receive the earliest attention of the Department.

Very respectfully, yours,

E. K. VALENTINE.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, December 26, 1882.

SIR: In reply to your communication of the 19th instant I have to say that I am informally advised by the Hon. Secretary of the Interior that he has directed the Sioux commission to confer with the Yankton Sioux.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

JOHN P. WILLIAMSON,
Missionary, &c., Yankton Agency, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, December 28, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to return herewith the letter dated December 21 (instant) from Hon. E. K. Valentine upon the subject of the recent extension of the northern boundary of the State of Nebraska, act approved March 28, 1882, with reference to the Indian title, &c., to the lands effected by said extension.

It appears from Mr. Valentine's letter that the State of Nebraska has consented to the provisions of the act aforesaid, and it is his purpose now, it would seem, to procure the extinguishment of the Indian title to the lands in question through the commissioners engaged in negotiating with the Sioux under the more recent act, approved August 7, 1882, in order that the conditions prerequisite to the cession of jurisdiction to the State of Nebraska may be met as speedily as possible; and to that end he desires that the said commissioners may be instructed accordingly.

I have to say in this regard that I see no objection to proceeding, as recommended by Mr. Valentine, for the relinquishment of the Indian title to such portion of the lands to which reference is had as is not included in the old Ponca Reservation, described by treaty with the Poncas concluded March 10, 1865 (14 Stats., 675), which said reservation was by mistake in a subsequent treaty with the Sioux of April 29, 1868 (15 Stats., 635), included in the Great Sioux Reservation, an acknowledged injustice to the Poncas, whereby their lands were taken from them and given to the Sioux.

Effort has been made to correct this mistake, in part at least, by securing a recession from the Sioux of so much of the old Ponca Reservation as may be necessary for the permanent settlement of that portion of the Ponca tribe remaining in Dakota. The negotiations necessary to the purpose have been but partially successful, however, although the requisite number of Sioux have signed an agreement giving 160 acres to each head of a family and 80 acres to each single adult of the Poncas. It was desired that they should receive considerable more than this; and as the matter now stands it would not be proper to do anything which might defeat or even jeopardize the steps in progress for righting the injustice that has been done to the Poncas.

The Sioux have formerly signed an agreement as above stated, and about all that is required now is its ratification by Congress.

It is therefore only a question of time when the Poncas will receive back a portion of the lands taken from them. As it is expected that the lands that may thus revert to them will be given to them in fee-simple, according to the terms of the agreement signed by the Sioux, will not the "Indian title" within the meaning of the act of March 28, 1882, be extinguished with the issuance of patents to individual Poncas? This may be questioned, however, and it is not necessary to discuss the matter here, but I would respectfully submit that no steps should be taken looking to negotiations with the Sioux in respect of so much of the lands under present discussion as are embraced within the old Ponca Reservation until action has been had by Congress upon the existing Ponca agreement with the Sioux, to which reference has herein been made. Negotiations might be entered into with them by the present commissioners for the relinquishment of their title to that portion not included in the old Ponca Reservation without any detriment to the service so far as I can see, but this would not wholly meet Mr. Valentine's purpose, as I understand it to be, for until the Indian title to the entire tract shall be extinguished it is a question whether the jurisdiction of the State of Nebraska can be extended over any part thereof.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 30, 1882.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 21st instant on the subject, I have the honor to inclose herewith, for your information, a copy of report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, of the 28th instant, relative to that portion of the Great Sioux Reservation which it is provided by the act approved March 28, 1882 (Pamphlet Laws, 1881-'82, p. 35), subject to the conditions therein prescribed, shall be included within the boundaries of, and ceded to, the State of Nebraska.

A copy of the report, with a copy of your letter, has this day been forwarded to Judge Newton Edmunds, chairman of the Sioux commission.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

Hon. E. K. VALENTINE,
House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 30, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit for your information, in connection with any consideration the subject may receive by your commission, a copy of a letter of Hon. E. K. Valentine, M. C., of the 21st instant, and a copy of report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs of the 28th instant, relative to that portion of the Great Sioux Reservation, which it is provided by the act approved March 28, 1882 (Pamphlet Laws, 1881-'82, p. 35), subject to the conditions therein prescribed, shall be included within the boundaries of, and ceded to, the State of Nebraska.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

Hon. NEWTON EDMUNDS,
Chairman Sioux Commission, Yankton, Dak.

[Telegram.]

NIOBRARA, NEBR., January 2, 1883.
(Via Running Water, Dak.)

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C. :

Please ascertain the status of the Ponca title to their lands in Dakota.

HINMAN.

[Telegram.]

LOWER BRULÉ AGENCY, DAK., January 3, 1883,
(Via Chamberlain, Dak.)

Clerk Dyer, at Crow Creek, says that Burt, missionary there, has telegraphed Dougherty, Fort Apache, Ariz., to come there at once and take charge. Dougherty has been writing the Indians there that he will come if they want him. Has written number of letters. Dyer has seen one, heard of other. Indians much excited against commission by this influence.

PARKHURST,
Agent.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., January 4, 1883.

PARKHURST,
Agent, Lower Brulé, Dak., via Fort Thompson, Dak. :

You say missionary at Crow Creek has "telegraphed Dougherty to come there at once and take charge." Give me the name of the missionary and all the facts by letter.

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 4, 1883.

SIR: On the 20th day of August, 1881, an agreement was entered into in this city by certain chiefs and headmen of the Sioux Indians for the purpose of correcting the mistake which occurred in the treaty between the United States and the Sioux Indians, concluded April 29, 1868 (15 Stat., 635), by which lands belonging to the Poncas were taken away from them and given to the Sioux.

The last clause of the agreement provides that it shall not be binding until it shall have been executed and signed by at least three-fourths of all the adult male Indians occupying or interested in the present Sioux Reservation.

It is estimated that the signatures of 3,462 adult male Indians are required to comply with this condition of the agreement.

Two thousand four hundred and thirty-one Indians have signed this agreement; 1,167 of the Indians at Rosebud Agency have signed a modified agreement, giving each head of a family 160 acres and each single person 80 acres.

The original agreement has been signed by the Indians at all the other agencies, with the exception of the Lower Yanktonais at Crow Creek, who refused to sign any agreement on the ground that they had no interest or right in the lands embraced in the Great Sioux Reservation.

It seems to be important that this agreement as originally made should be signed by the necessary number of Indians, and as the cession of the Ponca Reservation to the Sioux occurred through a mistake made by the United States, the Department should take all proper steps to correct the same.

I therefore respectfully recommend that the commission now negotiating for the cession of a portion of the Sioux Reservation be instructed to visit the Rosebud Agency for the purpose of obtaining, if possible, the signatures of the requisite number of Indians (1,031) to the original agreement, a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 5, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to return herewith telegram from Hinman to J. H. Teller, esq., dated the 2d instant, received by Department reference.

The subject of the title of the Poncas to land in Dakota is discussed in my annual report for 1881, page XLVII, and for 1882, page LXV.

Your attention is also invited to office report of the 4th instant upon the same subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

PHILADELPHIA,
1345 Pine street, January 5, 1883.

SIR: The following telegram reached me here yesterday from Agent Parkhurst, having been forwarded from Yankton Agency:

"Burt, missionary at Crow Creek, has telegraphed Dougherty to come immediately to Crow Creek and take charge. Shall send Burt off the reservation unless you take the matter in hand. Have written."

"PARKHURST,
"Agent."

I am at a loss how to answer this telegram and beg to refer the matter to you. It would seem incredible that Rev. Mr. Burt could be so wild as to have done what is here imputed to him. But if he has, the exigency does not seem so great as to prevent Agent P. from referring the case to you, nor to justify his sending off the reservation a respectable minister who has been ten years with the Sioux.

I cannot take the matter in hand till I hear both sides, and meanwhile Agent P. may do an act which will be an affront to the whole religious body who Mr. Burt represents.

Very respectfully, yours,

WILLIAM H. HARE,
Missionary Bishop.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 6, 1883.

To NEWTON EDMUNDS, *Yankton, Dak. :*

I think you should proceed at once to close up the agreement with the Indians. There will be no trouble about the appropriation. Teller will follow you to the agency. Notify him at Chamberlain where you go.

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 6, 1883.

SIR: I am in receipt of your communication of yesterday, informing me of the telegram sent you by Agent Parkhurst, in which he complains that Mr. Burt, missionary, has telegraphed Captain Dougherty to take charge at Crow Creek.

A similar telegram was sent me by the agent, and I replied by telegraph, directing him to make a full report of all the facts by letter.

Awaiting that report no action will be taken.

Yours, respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Right Rev. W. H. HARE,
Bishop of Niobrara, 1345 Pine street, Philadelphia, Pa.

YANKTON, DAK., *January 6, 1883.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of December 30 ultimo, with inclosures: Copy of letter from Hon. E. K. Valentine, in relation to amended boundary of State of Nebraska, accompanied by the copy of report of honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs in relation thereto, and contents noted.

In reply thereto I have the honor to inclose herewith a map of Dakota, showing by blue shading, drawn with blue pencil, the various reservations (separate) marked in accordance with the present requirement with the Sioux Indians, to which 23,000 of the Sioux Indians have agreed, leaving only about 1,800 to complete the agreement, to wit: The Lower Brulés and the Lower Yanktonais, the latter at Fort Thompson. All the balance of the Great Sioux Reservation by the new agreement is ceded to the Government of the United States.

The Ogalalla and the Brulé Sioux Reservations, according to such agreement, are bounded on the south by the north line of the State of Nebraska. Consequently, so far as our work has gone, Mr. Valentine's object is, I think, accomplished.

It is the intention of our commission, unless otherwise instructed, to either incorporate the Lower Brulés with the Upper Brulés at Rosebud, or give them a separate reservation adjoining the Upper Brulés on the east; if the latter, then bound their new reservation also on the Nebraska State line, thus leaving all the country ceded to the United States between the Niobrara and Missouri Rivers, except the Fort Randall Military and the Old Ponca Reservation, and as there are only about 1,000 of these Lower Brulés it will require but a small portion of what is left between the two rivers named to answer their purpose.

So far as the Ponca Reservation is concerned it has always appeared to me that the Sioux Indians acquired no title thereto under the treaty with General Sherman in 1868.

The treaty with the Poncas was made by the undersigned and approved March 10, 1865. (14 Stats., 675.) Consequently, as I see the matter, the Poncas had a prior title, and the Sioux could have acquired no title by the subsequent agreement made in 1868.

In any event, when our commission get through with their present work, the title to the Ponca Reservation will either be restored to those Indians, or if the treaty of 1868 superseded that of 1865, then the title will be in the United States.

If the view that I take of this mattershould be held as correct then the efforts made by the Department to correct the injustice done to the Poncas, to which the honorable Commissioner refers in his report, seems to cut no figure in the premises, and it seems it does not matter if, as the honorable Commissioner says, "they have been but partially successful."

If the new agreement, to which I have referred above, is approved by the Government, it appears to me that it must have the effect of healing all the difficulties to which the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs refers in his report.

I beg leave to say in closing that I do not know as I have succeeded in making myself fully understood in the above ; if not, I beg to say that I am desirous of doing all I can to meet the views of the Department on these questions.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NEWTON EDMUNDS.

P. S.—After the above was written Hon. P. C. Shannon came in and I handed to him your letter, with inclosures and the above letter, and at his suggestion we beg to add and refer to our joint letter herewith.

NEWTON EDMUNDS.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior.

[Inclosure.]

It is further to be remarked that long prior to Mr. Valentine's valuable suggestions, to wit, at our first organization, in the beginning of October last, the commission took the subject of his letter into their consideration as a necessary matter and within the purview of their duties.

All our negotiations thus far have had that object in view, namely, to obtain from the Sioux Indians a cession of all *their* rights south of the *new* northern line of the State of Nebraska.

Our opinions on the subject are embodied in the annexed letter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

NEWTON EDMUNDS.
PETER C. SHANNON.

[Telegram.]

YANKTON, DAK., *January 8, 1883.*

SIR: The Sioux commission will leave for Lower Brulé Agency to-morrow morning, in accordance with your telegram.

NEWTON EDMUNDS.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 8, 1883.

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission, No. 19 Michigan street, Cleveland, Ohio :

Chairman of Sioux commission telegraphs me this date as follows :

"The Sioux commission will leave for Lower Boulé Agency to-morrow morning, in accordance with your telegram."

Transportation requests sent to your address as above this date.

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 10, 1883.

J. H. TELLER,
No. 19 Michigan street, Cleveland, Ohio :

I am informed that appropriation for Sioux commission has not yet had consideration by the committee, but it is all right.

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
*Washington, January 10, 1883.*J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission, 19 Michigan street, Cleveland, Ohio :

Letter with instructions as to work required of the commission at Rosebud, mailed to Judge Edmunds, at Chamberlain, Dak., this day.

H. M. TELLER,
*Secretary.*DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 10, 1883.

SIR: I transmit herewith copy of a report of the 4th instant, with accompanying papers, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in the matter of an incomplete agreement with the Sioux Indians, by which it is proposed to correct a mistake made in the treaty by the United States with the Sioux Indians, April 29, 1868 (15 Stat., 635), whereby the lands belonging to the Poncas were made a part of the Sioux Reservation.

The Indians at the Rosebud Agency signed a modified agreement. It is considered desirable and important that the original agreement signed by the other Indians should also be signed by those at the Rosebud Agency.

The matter is placed in the hands of your commission with the request that all proper efforts be made to secure the requisite number of signatures of the Indians at Rosebud to said original agreement.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
*Secretary.*HON. NEWTON EDMUNDS,
*Chairman Sioux Commission, Chamberlain, Dak.*DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 10, 1883.

SIR: In reply to a telegram of 2d instant, from Hinman, interpreter of Sioux Commission, to J. H. Teller, secretary of said body, in relation to the status of the Ponca tribe to lands in Dakota, I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs of the 5th instant, to whom the subject was referred, together with copies of his annual reports of 1881 and 1882, and to invite your attention to pages XLVII of the former and LXV of the latter, therein mentioned.

In connection with this matter, another letter has been addressed to you of this date, in regard to the agreement with the Sioux concerning the Ponca lands in Dakota.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
*Secretary.*HON. NEWTON EDMUNDS,
Chairman Sioux Commission, Chamberlain, Dak.

[Telegram.]

CHAMBERLAIN, DAK., *January 11, 1883.*HON. H. PRICE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C. :

The Sioux commission is delayed at Lower Brulé Agency by reason of absence of Agent Parkhurst at Yankton.

NEWTON EDMUNDS,
Chairman.

[Telegram.]

CHAMBERLAIN, DAK., *January 15, 1883.*

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C. :

On receipt of your telegram of 6th, we started for Lower Brulé Agency, where we have been detained for six days unable to proceed by reason of absence of J. K. Teller and Interpreter Hinman, whose whereabouts we cannot ascertain. Can you inform your brother?

NEWTON EDMUNDS.
PETER OSHAMONON.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 15, 1883.

NEWTON EDMUNDS,
Chairman Sioux Commission, Chamberlain, Dak. :

You were expected to go to Lower Brulé Agency and not wait for Teller. You better go on at once.

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

[Telegram.]

CHAMBERLAIN, DAK., *January 15, 1883.*

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C. :

Had intended to proceed but could not without a reliable interpreter, and the local interpreter here at Lower Brulé being at Yankton court as a witness. Hinman, official interpreter, just heard from at Mason City, Iowa. We shall go on as soon as we can do so safely.

NEWTON EDMUNDS.

WEST WALNUT LANE,
Germantown, Philadelphia, January 16, 1883.

DEAR SIR: I take the liberty of writing to you, under instructions from the executive committee of the Indian Rights Association, relative to actions of the commission now in treaty with the Sioux Indians for a cession of a part of their lands. The association desires to obtain such information in this matter as may be properly within your power to give, by which we may learn what has already been accomplished by the gentlemen of the commission in the interviews recently held by them with the representatives of the various tribes composing the Sioux Nation, with reference to cession of lands already occupied by Indians settled in homes of their own.

We ask this favor under a very deep impression that the question at issue involves grave consequences to some of the Indians of Dakota and Nebraska, and therefore is worthy of careful consideration on the part of the general public.

We would ask respectfully that information of the nature designated be given us prior to any action by Congress upon the report of the commission, so that our association may have opportunity to take this matter into full consideration.

I remain, very respectfully, yours,

HERBERT WELSH,
Corresponding Secretary Indian Rights Association.

Hon. HIRAM PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., January 17, 1883.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 16th instant just received. I am not able at this time to give you the information you ask for, because the Sioux commissioners have not yet made their report, but it is expected the report will be ready in a short time, when I will take pleasure in giving you the terms thereof.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner

HERBERT WELSH, Esq

PHILADELPHIA,
1345 Pine street, January 23, 1883.

SIR: I inclose herewith an extract from a letter of Rev. H. Burt, in which he recounts the course of action which provoked the telegram from Agent Parkhurst, which I referred to you.

Very respectfully, yours,

W. H. HARE.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

[Inclosure.]

(Copy of part of a letter of Rev. H. Burt.)

CROW CREEK AGENCY, DAK.,
January 10, 1883.

RIGHT REV. AND DEAR BISHOP: Yours of the 4th in regard to Agent Parkhurst and telegram is just received, and I will answer immediately. I have of late received a number of letters of considerable length from Captain Dougherty in regard to the work of this Sioux commission. He has expressed very clear and excellent ideas on the matter, ideas which fully accord with mine, and I think you, too, would agree with them, and I have been free to tell the Indians of them, and of their source. I have always considered that Captain D. is better fitted to plead the cause of these, the Crow Creek Indians, in regard to their land rights, than any other person I know of. In speaking with Wizi and Dog-back one day on the matter, and telling them of Captain D.'s views, they questioned whether he could come and plead their cause before the commission. I told them they could in council invite him, and I indeed advised them so to do, considering this a very critical time for them, and that they need the aid of all their friends.

It is simply a case when they need some one to plead for them. However good an agent may be, unless he has made a study of their land business he could not successfully plead their cause. I considered that Captain D. was just the man for them at this time, and as I say, have openly stated it, and that too, to Major Parkhurst himself. I have sent no messages for the Indians, but I did send a private, that is, my own personal dispatch to the captain, which read as follows: "Commission here soon, could you come if the Indians invited you in council. Answer." A few days after I heard that Mr. Dyer (in charge) had reported to Agent P. that I had sent some message to Captain D., that he was displeased, &c. I went immediately to Mr. D. and explained the matter. Special Agent Milburn being here at this time, I told him all about it, and read him portions of Captain D.'s letter. He said I did nothing wrong in advising the Indians as I had, and suggested that I write to Parkhurst, explaining the matter even before I might hear from him. This I did immediately. That is the substance of the affair. Somebody else has been sending messages to Captain D., or somebody has been lying about me.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
CROW CREEK AND LOWER BRULÉ AGENCY, DAK.,
Lower Brulé Agency, January 24, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of telegram, "via Pierre," of the date of the 6th instant, and in reply thereto would respectfully state as follows: On the 2d January I received from Clerk Dyer, at Crow Creek, a message that the missionary at Crow Creek, Rev. Heckaliah Burt, was in active correspondence by mail and telegraph with Capt. W. E. Dougherty, First United States Infantry (the former acting agent), with a view of having him (Dougherty) come to Crow Creek, and advise with the Indians as to the treatment they should accord the Sioux commission who were expected to visit them officially in regard to the disposition of lands. At the same time a copy of a telegram, purporting to be sent by Burt, was sent me, and which I had then no doubt was a true copy of the one sent.

On the day I left for Yankton, I called at the office of the telegraph company at Chamberlain, and was shown a copy of a message in the handwriting of Burt, which was not the same as the copy that was sent me. As I had then no time to investigate the matter, I took no further steps in the case, intending upon my return to visit Crow Creek, and give the matter a full investigation. Mr. Burt in a note to me admits that he did telegraph Dougherty asking him to come and speak before the commission, or rather stating to me that he did this without consulting the Indians, while his telegram distinctly carries the idea that he sent it at the request of the Indians.

From all I can learn Mr. Burt has been very active in the matter, acting as the

agent of Captain D. on the one side, and the Indians on the other; and has made bad feeling in the whole business.

I am informed that quite a number of communications from Dougherty have been received by Burt, and also that some five or six have also been received by some of the Indians; Mr. Dyer has seen but one that I am aware of, but says that more have been received that he has heard of.

Had it not been for the arrival of the commission at this point, I would have ere this got at the truth in the whole business, but since my return from Yankton I have been kept at this point.

As soon as the commission leave, if the weather will admit, I shall proceed at once to Crow Creek, and ferret out the whole matter.

That letters have been written the Indians here I know, and I am equally well assured the same has been done at the other agency, all emanating from the same person, and all intended to delay, if not prevent entirely, any agreement by the Indians of this agency with the views and wishes of the Department.

I have stated to Mr. Burt that I have no objection to his giving advice in matters within his province, but that any action tending to embarrass or delay any official acts will not be allowed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. PARKHURST,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.

NOTE.—A copy of the foregoing was furnished Bishop Hare, February 27, 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, February 1, 1883.

SIR: I submit herewith the report of the Commission, appointed under authority of an item in the "Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses," approved August 7, 1882 (Stat. Laws 1881-'82, p. 328), to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for modification of existing treaties, together with a copy of an agreement negotiated thereunder.

The report shows that by the agreement made and now submitted for the action of Congress, the Great Sioux Reservation has been broken up into separate reservations for the different agencies and the surplus ceded to the Government.

These reservations are located in accordance with the wishes of the Indians themselves, and are of such extent as to give ample territory for the present and future needs of their occupants.

The consideration for the land ceded consists principally of cattle for purposes of stock raising, to which the country reserved by the Indians is especially adapted. The raising of stock is the most natural and effective means by which the Indians can aid in their own support, and may also be made an instrument for elevating and improving their general condition.

The sum required for carrying out this agreement is therefore in effect only an advance of capital to the Indians, the returns upon which will eventually relieve the Government of a large annual expenditure for their support.

I regard the agreement as favorable alike to the Indians and the Government, and respectfully recommend that it be presented to the Congress, with your recommendation, for favorable consideration.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

The PRESIDENT.

SIR: The commissioners appointed on the 15th day of September, 1882, to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for a cession to the United States of a portion of their reservation, under authority of an item in the sundry civil act, approved August 7, 1882, have the honor to submit the following report:

The commission met and organized in Yankton, Dak., on the 2d of October last, and entered immediately upon the work assigned to it. The Santee Agency, in Knox County, Nebraska, was first visited, and after careful consideration and a free discussion of the subject, an agreement with the Indians of that agency was concluded and signed on the 17th day of October. The commission next visited Rosebud Agency, Dakota, where one council was held before proceeding to the agency at Pine Ridge.

At the latter place, after numerous councils, the agreement made at Santee Agency was approved and, with an additional agreement setting apart a separate reservation for the Indians at Pine Ridge, was signed on the 28th day of October.

The Commission having returned to Rosebud Agency, the agreement mentioned, with a supplemental clause providing for a reservation for the Indians at that agency, was duly executed on the 6th day of November.

At Standing Rock Agency, Dakota, the agreement, with a supplement describing a separate reservation for the Indians at that agency, was signed on the 30th day of November.

At Cheyenne River Agency, Dakota, the agreement, with provision for a separate reservation for that agency, was accepted and signed on the 21st day of December.

The agreement thus made was fully understood and approved by the Indians before signing, great care having been exercised by the commission to that end. It has received the approval of all the most intelligent friends of the Indians on the ground, and will, we trust, be found mutually beneficial to the Indians and the Government. It will be observed that a prominent feature of the agreement is the setting apart of a limited and well defined territory for the exclusive use and occupancy of the Indians of each agency. To a very generally expressed desire on the part of the Indians for such separate reservations is due, in no small degree, their consent to relinquish a part of their large reservation. That the change from a large reservation, held by all the Sioux in common, to smaller reservations, held each by the Indians occupying it, will be beneficial cannot be doubted. Under the existing system the Indians do not feel settled, being subject to transfer from agency to agency, and having a general title to all and a specific title to no part of their great reservation. When, under the plan proposed, the Indian has been assigned to an agency, with its surrounding reservation, he will feel assured that he is to remain there and henceforth that is to be his home. The resulting concentration of interests and permanence of titles will offer strong inducements to settlement and effort toward self-support. The breaking up of a community of interest and the substitution of several interests will render difficult, if not impossible, the formation of any combination involving all the bands of the Sioux Indians. In setting apart these separate reservations the preferences of the Indians, as to location, have been followed, as far as practicable.

The Pine Ridge Reservation comprises, as nearly as can be estimated, 4,000 square miles, giving 320 acres to each of the 8,000 Indians now at that agency. It is well supplied with water by the South Fork of the Cheyenne River, the White River, and numerous tributaries of the latter stream. The value of the uplands for agricultural purposes has not yet been determined, but the creek bottoms afford ample ground for such farming as may be looked for among the Indians for a long time to come. The reservation as a whole is admirably adapted to stock-raising, and was preferred by the Indians there to any other location.

The reservation for the Indians of Rosebud Agency is of about the same area as the Pine Ridge Reservation, which it adjoins and closely resembles in its general characteristics. It is well watered by the White River and its tributaries and by the Keyapaha River, and contains extensive and valuable ranges for stock. About 8,000 Indians are now on this reservation, the location of which was made by them.

The Standing Rock Reservation is estimated to contain 3,000 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Cannon Ball River, on the east by the Missouri River, and on the south by the Grand River, which, with smaller streams, afford an abundance of good water. For agricultural and grazing purposes it is not surpassed by any portion of the Great Sioux Reserve. It will give in round numbers 500 acres to each of the 3,800 Indians now at that agency, to whom the location is entirely satisfactory.

The reservation for the Indians attached to the Cheyenne River Agency is much larger in proportion to the number of its occupants than the other reservations described. This is rendered necessary because of the broken and worthless character of a portion of the land necessarily included in order to insure an abundant supply of good water, while including also as many of the Indian camps as possible. Within the boundaries agreed upon there is territory well adapted to farming and grazing more than sufficient for the needs of the 3,300 Indians now at that agency. The right was therefore reserved to the Government of assigning other Indians to this reservation. The greater part, by far, of the Indians are now living upon the proposed reservation, and as provision is made for reimbursing those who lose improvements by removal, it cannot be considered a hardship for them to change their location.

The removal of the agency buildings is desirable from the fact that the timber has been cut off for miles around, making it difficult and expensive to obtain the necessary fuel. At a point on the proposed reservation, about twenty-five miles above the present location, there is said to be a desirable site for agency buildings with timber in abundance in the immediate vicinity.

The Lower Brulé Reservation contains about 1,300 square miles, and is well watered by the Missouri River, the White River, and Ponca and Whetstone Creeks. It contains valuable stock ranges and farming lands sufficient for the 1,000 or 1,200 Indians

who are to occupy it. Although the proposed location calls for the removal of the agency buildings and a part of the Indians, the change is one which we believe should be made. The Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railroad Company has already secured from the Indians, with the approval of the Government, the right of way for a railroad through this part of the reservation, together with a square mile of land adjoining the agency grounds. The Indian settlements on the railroad land will soon be broken up and removed in any event, and the building and operating of a railroad in the immediate neighborhood cannot fail to be detrimental to the peace and best interests of the agency.

The principal consideration promised for the cession of territory remaining, after setting apart the reservations above described, consists of cattle for breeding purposes. As has been stated, the lands reserved by the Indians are all well adapted to stock-raising, and their value for this purpose has been fully demonstrated. Experience has shown that it is easier to induce the Indians to engage in pastoral pursuits than in the purely agricultural. While the herds furnished under this agreement are under the charge of the Government agent, the duty of herding them may be intrusted to the Indians under proper supervision. It is believed that in this way the Indians may in time be made competent to take full charge of their cattle, and at no distant day become nearly or quite self-supporting.

The other considerations promised are such as are calculated to promote the education and civilization of the Indians, and are, in the main, only a continuance of stipulations contained in the treaty of 1868. The provision by which the Government agrees to provide school-houses and teachers in proportion to the number of children of school age is considered a very important one. The results of our observation and inquiry among the people visited lead us to believe that the proper place to educate the Indian children is on the reservation, among or near their own people. It is not denied that education at points remote from Indian settlements may show more rapid progress and wider attainments than are possible to schools among the people, but in the end the objects gained are of less value and permanence than those obtained by education at home.

By a natural law, analogous to that of gravity, the pupil returned from school to the reservation and thrown suddenly and unsupported among relatives and friends still on the old level of ignorance and barbarism is, with few exceptions, drawn down, the smaller mass to the larger, and is soon indistinguishable in mind, manners, or morals, from the savage through about him. Too often the only result is, by the increase of knowledge and mental power, to enlarge his capabilities for evil.

Such would not be the case were it possible to educate the Indian children through a series of years until fully grounded in civilized habits; nor would these results be so general if, by any means, the newly returned pupil could be sustained and encouraged in maintaining the habits and acquirements gained at school. Without some amendment the system of education at schools distant from the reservation does not promise satisfactory results.

If, however, the child is educated among or in the immediate neighborhood of his people, the frequent contact and resulting action and reaction will be mutually beneficial. The visits of the pupil to his home will produce there slight but perceptible changes for the better, while on every return to his school he is at once surrounded by those influences necessary to counteract the natural effect of his contact with the old life of barbarism. Thus hardened by exposure and trained to resist the influence of his surroundings, when he goes out finally from the school, his chances of holding his ground are fairly good.

We believe, then, that the Government should, as rapidly as practicable, establish schools on those reservations, and by enforced attendance, if necessary, secure to these people the full benefit of all educational facilities provided for them.

The privilege granted to each head of a family of selecting land for his minor children puts all the children, now living, on an equal footing as to land. It also enables the father to settle his children near him, he selecting for each child a tract of land equal to that which such child might himself select on arriving at the age of eighteen years, under Article 6 of the treaty of 1868.

The setting apart of two sections in each township in the lands reserved for the Indians is intended to secure for them in the future a fund for school purposes when needed.

The provisions of the treaty of 1868, and of the agreement of 1876, under which rations and annuities are issued, are left without modification. The agreement as a whole is eminently satisfactory to the Indians, as is fully attested by the number of signatures to it, many more than were ever before attached to a treaty or agreement with these Indians, and representing all the tribes and bands interested in it.

The land ceded to the Government is estimated at 17,000 to 18,000 square miles. Its value for stock-raising is beyond question, and many parts will doubtless prove equally valuable for farming purposes.

We deem it proper, before closing this report, to submit for your consideration several matters brought to our attention during our stay on the reservation.

The Santee Sioux, living in Knox County, Nebraska, on land reserved by executive order, are very anxious to secure their lands in severalty by patent. They do not ask for a fee-simple, with right to alienate or encumber, but simply such title as will secure their farms to them and their children.

The ratification of the treaty of 1868, which gives the right to the Indian to take and secure by patent 160 acres of Government land is not, we are informed, considered by the Commissioner of the General Land Office sufficient legislation to authorize the issue of patents. The Santees are engaged very generally in farming, have broken up their tribal system, and are in every way deserving of aid and encouragement. We respectfully recommend that an effort be made to secure for them the titles to which they are clearly entitled both by merit and treaty stipulations.

Complaints were in several instances made to us, and fully substantiated, of the cutting of hay and timber by military contractors on Indian claims. This is a violation of the rights of the Indian of which he may well complain, and is a source of great annoyance to the agents. We recommend that the necessary steps be taken to prevent further destruction by the military of the timber on these reservations, and to limit the cutting of hay to such lands as are not held as individual claims by Indians.

In cases of serious accident or sickness among the Indians or agency employes, the need of fit accommodations for the required treatment and nursing is seriously felt. We would therefore recommend that provisions be made at each agency for such room as may be needed to be used as a hospital.

We have been requested by a number of Indians to present a request that horses be furnished them in lieu of the oxen promised, but we cannot recommend that this be done except perhaps in individual cases of especial merit.

We respectfully recommend that the necessary surveys be made to establish the boundary lines of the different reservations as soon as possible, in case this agreement is approved by Congress.

We fully indorse the recommendation in your last annual report that the Indians' title to their several reservations be evidenced by patent, and believe that with these reservations thus secured and the Indians settled upon them, with the aids to stock-raising and agriculture promised them in this agreement, a considerable improvement will have been made in the condition and prospects of these people.

We have to acknowledge our obligations to the official interpreter, Rev. S. D. Hinman, whose thorough knowledge of the Indian language and character, and earnest efforts in support of the plans of the commission, were of great assistance to us, nor would we fail to mention the hearty co-operation of the agents in our labors at the various agencies visited.

The negotiations with the other bands of the Sioux on matters not connected with those above discussed will form the subject of a future report.

We submit the agreement herewith, and beg to subscribe ourselves, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

NEWTON EDMUNDS,
PETER C. SHANNON,
JAMES H. TELLER,
Commissioners.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

This agreement made pursuant to an act in the sundry civil act of Congress, approved August 7, 1882, by Newton Edmunds, Peter C. Shannon, and James H. Teller, duly appointed commissioners on the part of the United States, and the different bands of the Sioux Indians by their chiefs and head-men whose names are hereto subscribed, they being duly authorized to act in the premises, witnesseth that—

ARTICLE I.

Whereas it is the policy of the Government of the United States to provide for said Indians a permanent home where they may live after the manner of white men, and be protected in their rights of property, person, and life, therefore to carry out such policy it is now agreed that hereafter the permanent homes of the various bands of said Indians shall be upon the separate reservations hereinafter described and set apart. Said Indians, acknowledging the right of the chiefs and head-men of the various bands at each agency to determine for themselves and for their several bands, with the Government of the United States, the boundaries of their separate reservation, hereby agree to accept and abide by such agreements and conditions as to the

location and boundaries of such separate reservations as may be made and agreed upon by the United States and the band or bands for which such separate reservation may be made, and as the said separate boundaries may be herein set forth.

ARTICLE II.

The said Indians do hereby relinquish and cede to the United States all of the Great Sioux Reservation—as reserved to them by the treaty of 1868, and modified by the agreement of 1876—not herein specifically reserved and set apart as separate reservations for them. The said bands do severally agree to accept and occupy the separate reservations to which they are herein assigned as their permanent homes, and they do hereby severally relinquish to the other bands respectively occupying the other separate reservations, all right, title, and interest in and to the same, reserving to themselves only the reservation herein set apart for their separate use and occupation.

ARTICLE III.

In consideration of the cession of territory and rights, as herein made, and upon compliance with each and every obligation assumed by the said Indians, the United States hereby agrees that each head of a family entitled to select three hundred and twenty acres of land, under Article VI of the treaty of 1868, may in the manner and form therein prescribed, select and secure for purposes of cultivation, in addition to said three hundred and twenty acres, a tract of land not exceeding eighty (80) acres, within his reservation, for each of his children, living at the ratification of this agreement, under the age of eighteen (18) years; and such child upon arriving at the age of eighteen (18) years shall have such selection certified to him or her in lieu of the selection granted in the second clause of said Article VI; but no right of alienation or incumbrance is acquired by such selection and occupation, unless hereafter authorized by act of Congress.

ARTICLE IV.

The United States further agrees to furnish and deliver to the said Indians twenty-five thousand (25,000) cows and one thousand (1,000) bulls, of which the occupants of each of said separate reservations shall receive such proportion as the number of Indians thereon bears to the whole number of Indian parties to this agreement. All of the said cattle and their progeny shall bear the brand of the Indian Department and shall be held subject to the disposal of said Department, and shall not be sold, exchanged, or slaughtered, except by consent or order of the agent in charge, until such time as this restriction shall be removed by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

ARTICLE V.

It is also agreed that the United States will furnish and deliver to each lodge of said Indians, or family of persons legally incorporated with them, who shall, in good faith, select land within the reservation to which such lodge or family belongs, and begin the cultivation thereof, one good cow and one well broken pair of oxen, with yoke and chain, within reasonable time after making such selection and settlement.

ARTICLE VI.

The United States will also furnish to each reservation herein made and described, a physician, carpenter, miller, engineer, farmer, and blacksmith, for a period of ten years from the date of this agreement.

ARTICLE VII.

It is hereby agreed that the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections of each township in said separate reservations shall be reserved for school purposes, for the use of the inhabitants of said reservations, as provided in sections 1946 and 1947 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

It is also agreed that the provisions of Article VII of the treaty of 1868, securing to said Indians the benefits of education, shall be continued in force for not less than twenty (20) years from and after the ratification of this agreement.

ARTICLE VIII.

The provisions of the treaty of 1868, and the agreement of 1876, except as herein modified, shall continue in full force.

This agreement shall not be binding upon either party until it shall have received the approval of the President and Congress of the United States.

Dated and signed at Santee Agency, Nebraska, October 17th, 1882.

NEWTON EDMUNDS. [SEAL.]
 PETER C. SHANNON. [SEAL.]
 JAMES H. TELLER. [SEAL.]

The foregoing articles of agreement, having been fully explained to us in open council, we the undersigned chiefs and headmen of the Sioux Indians receiving rations and annuities at the Santee Agency, in Knox County, in the State of Nebraska, do hereby consent and agree to all the stipulations therein contained, saving and reserving all our rights, both collective and individual, in and to the Santee Reservation, in said Knox County and State of Nebraska, upon which we and our people are residing.

Witness our hands and seals at Santee Agency this 17th day of October, 1882.

Robert Hakewaste, his x mark. Seal.	Napoleon Wabashaw. Seal.
John Buoy. Seal.	Thomas Wakute. Seal.
Joseph Rouillard. Seal.	A. J. Campbell. Seal.
Solomon Jones. Seal.	Daniel Graham. Seal.
William Dick, his x mark. Seal.	Star Frazier. Seal.
Samuel Hawley. Seal.	Albert E. Frazier. Seal.
Eli Abraham. Seal.	John White. Seal.
Iron Elk, his x mark. Seal.	Henry Jones. Seal.
Husasa, his x mark. Seal.	Louis Frenier. Seal.
Harpi yaduta. Seal.	John Reibe. Seal.

Attest:

ALFRED L. RIGGS, *Missionary to the Dakotas.*
 W. W. FOWLER, *Missionary to Santee Sioux.*
 ISAIAH LIGHTNER, *U. S. Indian Agent.*
 CHARLES MITCHELL, *U. S. Interpreter.*
 C. L. AUSTIN, *Agency Clerk.*
 GEO. W. IRA, *Agency Physician.*

I certify that the foregoing agreement was read and explained by me, and was fully understood by the above-named Sioux Indians, before signing, and that the same was executed by said Sioux Indians, at Santee Agency, county of Knox, and State of Nebraska, on the 17th of October, 1882.

SAM'L D. HINMAN,
Official Interpreter.

It is hereby agreed that the separate reservation for the Indians receiving rations and annuities at Pine Ridge Agency, Dakota, shall be bounded and described as follows, to wit:

Beginning at the intersection of the one hundred and third meridian of longitude with the northern boundary of the State of Nebraska, thence north along said meridian to the South Fork of Cheyenne River, and down said stream to a point due west from the intersection of White River with the one hundred and second meridian; thence due east to said point of intersection, and down said White River to a point in longitude one hundred and one degrees and twenty minutes (101° 20') west; thence due south to said north line of the State of Nebraska; thence west on said north line to the place of beginning.

Dated and signed at Pine Ridge Agency, Dakota, October 28, 1882.

NEWTON EDMUNDS. [SEAL.]
 PETER C. SHANNON. [SEAL.]
 JAMES H. TELLER. [SEAL.]

The foregoing articles of agreement having been fully explained to us in open council, we, the undersigned chiefs and headmen of the Sioux Indians receiving rations and annuities at Pine Ridge Agency in the Territory of Dakota, do hereby consent and agree to all the stipulations therein contained.

Witness our hands and seals at Pine Ridge Agency, Dakota, this 28th day of October, 1882.

Lahpiya-luta, his x mark. Seal.	Wakinyan-peta, his x mark. Seal.
Taopicikala, his x mark. Seal.	Pehan-luta, his x mark. Seal.
Simka-luta, his x mark. Seal.	Tasunka-kokipapi, his x mark. Seal.
Simka-wakan-hin-to, his x mark. Seal.	Conica-vanica, his x mark. Seal.
Tatanka-hunka-sni, his x mark. Seal.	Suniska-yaha, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-sapa, his x mark. Seal.	Wahanka-wakuwa, his x mark. Seal.
Sunanito-wankantuya, his x mark. Seal.	Si-tanka, his x mark. Seal.
Pehiuzizi, his x mark. Seal.	Wahukeza-wompa, his x mark. Seal.
Canker-tanka, his x mark. Seal.	Mato-hi, his x mark. Seal.
Sunka-bloka, his x mark. Seal.	Wicasa-tankala, his x mark. Seal.
Wapaha-sapa, his x mark. Seal.	Mato-witkotkoka, his x mark. Seal.
Mim-winica, his x mark. Seal.	Wankan-mato, his x mark. Seal.
Owa-sica-hoksila, his x mark. Seal.	Sunka-himka-sni, his x mark. Seal.
Toicuwa, his x mark. Seal.	Manka-tamahica, his x mark. Seal.
Sunanito-isnala, his x mark. Seal.	Cotan-cikala, his x mark. Seal.

Kisun-sni, his x mark. Seal.	John Jangrau, his x mark. Seal.
Hehaka-sapa, his x mark. Seal.	Charles Jamis, his x mark. Seal.
Zitkala-ska, his x mark. Seal.	Richard Hunter, his x mark. Seal.
Ogle-sa, his x mark. Seal.	David Gallineau. Seal.
Sunmanito-wakpa, his x mark. Seal.	Thomas Toion, his x mark. Seal.
Wasicum-tasunke, his x mark. Seal.	James Richard, his x mark. Seal.
Egeonge-word, Captain Polo. Seal.	Opauingowica-kte, his x mark. Seal.
Akicita-injin, his x mark. Seal.	Hogan, his x mark. Seal.
Tasunko-inyauko, his x mark. Seal.	Antoine Provost. Seal.
Wagmu-su, his x mark. Seal.	Benj. Claymore. Seal.
Wamli-heton, his x mark. Seal.	Soldier Storr. Seal.
Kangi-maza, his x mark. Seal.	Sili-kte, his x mark. Seal.
Sunmanito-ska, his x mark. Seal.	Petaga, his x mark. Seal.
Sunka-unzica, his x mark. Seal.	Talo-kakse, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-sapa, his x mark. Seal.	Wiyaka-wicasa, his x mark. Seal.
Hinho-kinyau, his x mark. Seal.	Akicita, his x mark. Seal.
Tasunka-kokipapi, sr., his x mark. Seal.	Zitkala-napin, his x mark. Seal.
Hazka-mlaska, his x mark. Seal.	Leon F. Pallardy, his x mark. Seal.
Tasunke-maza, his x mark. Seal.	J. C. Whelan. Seal.
Okiksahe, his x mark. Seal.	Sunka-cikala, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-nasula, his x mark. Seal.	Pehin-zizi-si-ca, his x mark. Seal.
Kangi-cikala, his x mark. Seal.	Mato-akisya, his x mark. Seal.
Wicahpi-yamin, his x mark. Seal.	Wasicum-mato, his x mark. Seal.
Wasicum-waukautuya, his x mark. Seal.	Wi-cikala, his x mark. Seal.
Antoine Leiddeau, his x mark. Seal.	Taku-kokipa-sni, his x mark. Seal.
Beaver Morto, his x mark. Seal.	Mato-can-wegna-eya, his x mark. Seal.
Sam Deon. Seal.	Mato-Wakuya, his x mark. Seal.
Edward Larramie. Seal.	

Attest;

S. S. BENEDICT,
U. S. Indian Interpreter.
 V. T. MCGILLYCUDDY,
U. S. Ind. Ag't.
 J. W. ALDER,
Agency Clerk.
 WILLIAM GARNETT,
Agency Interpreter.

I hereby certify that the foregoing agreement was read and explained by me and was fully understood by the above-named Sioux Indians, before signing, and that the same was executed by said Indians at Pine Ridge Agency, Dakota, on the 29th day of October, 1882.

SAM'L D. HINMAN,
Official Interpreter.

It is hereby agreed that the separate reservation for the Indians receiving rations and annuities at Rosebud Agency, Dakota, shall be bounded and described as follows, to wit:

Beginning on the north boundary of the State of Nebraska, at a point in longitude one hundred and one degrees and twenty minutes (101° 20') west, and running thence due north to White River; thence down said White River to a point in longitude ninety-nine degrees and thirty minutes (99° 30') west; thence due south to said north boundary of the State of Nebraska, and thence west on said north boundary to the place of beginning. If any of said Indians belonging to the Rosebud Agency have permanently located east of longitude ninety-nine degrees and thirty minutes (99° 30'), they may hold the land so occupied, and have the same certified to them in accordance with the provisions of Article VI of the treaty of 1868 and Article III of this agreement, or they may return to the separate reservation above described, in which case they shall be entitled to receive from the Government the actual value of all improvements made on such locations.

Dated and signed at Rosebud Agency, Dakota, this 6th day of November, 1882.

NEWTON EDMUNDS. [SEAL.]
 JAMES H. TELLER. [SEAL.]
 PETER C. SHANNON. [SEAL.]

The foregoing articles of agreement having been fully explained to us in open counsel, we, the undersigned chiefs and headmen of the Sioux Indians receiving rations and annuities at Rosebud Agency, in the Territory of Dakota, do hereby consent and agree to all the stipulations therein contained.

Witness our hands and seals at Rosebud Agency, Dakota, this 6th day of November, 1882.

Sinto-gleska, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-luzahan, his x mark. Seal.
 Wakinyau-ska, his x mark. Seal.
 Kangi-sapa, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-ohanka, his x mark. Seal.
 Wakinyau-ska, 2nd, his x mark. Seal.
 Tasunke-tokeca, his x mark. Seal.
 Asampi, his x mark. Seal.
 Mahpiya-inazin, his x mark. Seal.
 He-to-pa, his x mark. Seal.
 Tasimke-wakita, his x mark. Seal.
 Sunka-bloka, his x mark. Seal.
 Caugleska-wakinyin, his x mark. Seal.
 Wannionni-akicita, his x mark. Seal.
 Wanmli-cikala, his x mark. Seal.
 Wamli-waste, his x mark. Seal.
 Mahpiya-tatanka, his x mark. Seal.
 Wapashupi, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-wankantuya, his x mark. Seal.
 Igmw-wakute, his x mark. Seal.
 Hohaka-gloska, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-ska, his x mark. Capt. Police Seal.
 Pehan-san-mani, his x mark. Seal.
 Okise-wakan, his x mark. Seal.
 Getau-wakinyau, his mark. Seal.
 Wakinyau-tomaheca, his x mark. Seal.
 Mloka-cikala, his x mark. Seal.
 Toka-kte, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-wakan, his x mark. Seal.
 Tacauhpi-to, his x mark. Seal.
 Ho-waste, his x mark. Seal.
 Ito-cantkoze, his x mark. Seal.
 Kutepi, his x mark. Seal.
 Zaya-hiyaya, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-glakinyau, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-cante, his x mark. Seal.
 Cecala, his x mark. Seal.
 Pehin-zi-sica, his x mark. Seal.
 Pte-be napin, his x mark. Seal.
 Snuun-pa, his x mark. Seal.
 Tasunke-wamli, his x mark. Seal.
 Louis Richard. Seal.
 Louis Bordeaux. Seal.
 Tasunke-hin-zi, his x mark. Seal.
 Itoga-otanka, his x mark. Seal.
 Tunkan-sila, his x mark. Seal.
 Wagleksun-tanka, his x mark. Seal.
 Caugleska-sapa, his x mark. Seal.
 Wospi-gli, his x mark. Seal.
 Naca-cikala, his x mark. Seal.
 Cante-maza, his x mark. Seal.
 Tatanka-kucila, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-wakuwa, his x mark. Seal.
 Si-hauska, his x mark. Seal.
 Kinyau-mani, his x mark. Seal.
 Tatanka, his x mark. Seal.
 Hehaka-wanapoya, his x mark. Seal.
 Taspan, his x mark. Seal.
 Tasunke-hin-zi, his x mark. Seal.
 Wicauhpi-cikala, his x mark. Seal.
 Wohela, his x mark. Seal.

Jack Stead. Seal.
 Joseph Schweigman. Seal.
 Zitkala-sapa, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-najin, his x mark. Seal.
 Yahota, his x mark. Seal.
 Hunku, his x mark. Seal.
 Sunka-wanmli, his x mark. Seal.
 Pte-san-wanmli, his x mark. Seal.
 Tatanka-ho-waste, his x mark. Seal.
 Tasunke-hin-zi, his x mark. Seal.
 Tasunke-luzahan, his x mark. Seal.
 Kangi-sapa, his x mark. Seal.
 Sunka-ha, his x mark. Seal.
 Cikala, his x mark. Seal.
 Si-husakpe, his x mark. Seal.
 Thomas Dorion, his x mark. Seal.
 Tacounoupe-waukantuya, his x mark. Seal.
 Caza, his x mark. Seal.
 Wagluhe, his x mark. Seal.
 Ista-toto, his x mark. Seal.
 Wahacauka-hinapa, his x mark. Seal.
 Mle-wakan, his x mark. Seal.
 Hehaka-wanmli, his x mark. Seal.
 Si-tonpi-ska, his x mark. Seal.
 Hehaka-witko, his x mark. Seal.
 Sinte-ska, his x mark. Seal.
 Wahacauka-waste, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-kinajin, his x mark. Seal.
 Mawatani-hanska, his x mark. Seal.
 Wanmli-wicasa, his x mark. Seal.
 Henry Clairmont, his x mark. Seal.
 Cecil Iron-wing Seal.
 Mato-maka-kicim, his x mark. Seal.
 Kiyetehan, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-wanmli, his x mark. Seal.
 Ite-cihila, his x mark. Seal.
 Cante-peta, his x mark. Seal.
 William Bordeaux. Seal.
 Wanmliisun-maza, his x mark. Seal.
 Louis Moran, his x mark. Seal.
 William Redmond. Seal.
 Tatanka-taninyau-mani, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-ite-wanagi, his x mark. Seal.
 Wanagi-pa, his x mark. Seal.
 Baptiste McKinzy, his x mark. Seal.
 John Cordier, his x mark. Seal.
 Akan-yanka-kte, his x mark. Seal.
 Maza-wicasa, his x mark. Seal.
 Ipiyaka, his x mark. Seal.
 Tunka-yuha, his x mark. Seal.
 Tawahacauka-sna, his x mark. Seal.
 Cetan-nonpa, his x mark. Seal.
 Zuya-hanska, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-wakan, his x mark. Seal.
 Wanmli-mani, his x mark. Seal.
 Keya-tucubu, his x mark. Seal.
 Cega, his x mark. Seal.
 Ohan-ota, his x mark. Seal.
 Sunka-wananon, his x mark. Seal.
 Dominick Brey. Seal.

Attest:

JAS. G. WRIGHT, *U. S. Ind. Ag't.*
 CHAS. P. JORDAN, *Clerk.*
 CHAS. R. COREY, *Physician.*
 LOUIS RAULINDEANE, *Agency Interpreter.*

I hereby certify that the foregoing agreement was read and explained by me and was fully understood by the above named Sioux Indians before signing, and that the same was executed by said Indians at Rosebud Agency, Dakota, on the 6th day of November, 1882.

SAM'L D. HINMAN,
Official Interpreter.

It is hereby agreed that the separate reservations for the Indians receiving rations and annuities at Standing Rock Agency, Dakota, shall be bounded and described as follows, to wit:

Beginning at a point at low-water mark on the east bank of the Missouri River, opposite the mouth of Cannon Ball River; thence down said east bank along said low-water mark to a point opposite the mouth of Grand River; thence westerly to said Grand River, and up and along the middle channel of the same to its intersection with the one hundred and second meridian of longitude; thence north along said meridian to its intersection with the south branch of Cannon Ball River—also known as Cedar Creek; thence down said south branch of Cannon Ball River to its intersection with the main Cannon Ball River, and down said main Cannon Ball River to the Missouri River at the place of beginning.

Dated and signed at Standing Rock Agency, Dakota, this 30th day of November, 1882.

NEWTON EDMUNDS. [SEAL.]
 JAMES H. TELLER. [SEAL.]
 PETER C. SHANNON. [SEAL.]

The foregoing articles of agreement having been fully explained to us in open council, we, the undersigned chiefs and headmen of the Sioux Indians, receiving rations and annuities at Standing Rock Agency, in the Territory of Dakota, do hereby consent and agree to all the stipulations therein contained. We also agree that the Lower Yanktonais Indians at Crow Creek, and the Indians now with Sitting Bull, may share with us the above-described separate reservation, if assigned thereto by the United States, with consent of said Indians.

Witness our hands and seals at Standing Rock Agency, Dakota, this 30th day of November, 1882.

Akicita-hanska, his x mark. Seal.	Wahascauka, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-gnaskinyan, his x mark. Seal.	Anoka-sau, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-noupa, his x mark. Seal.	Mato-hota, his x mark. Seal.
Ista-sapa, his x mark. Seal.	Hehakato-tamahoca, his x mark. Seal.
Wanmli-waukantuya, his x mark. Seal.	Tamina-weve, his x mark. Seal.
Wakute-mani, his x mark. Seal.	Waga, his x mark. Seal.
Wiyaka-hanska, his x mark. Seal.	Tatanka-duta, his x mark. Seal.
Cante-peta, his x mark. Seal.	Mato-wankantuya, his x mark. Seal.
John Grass, his x mark. Seal.	Iyayung-mani, his x mark. Seal.
Sasunke-luta, his x mark. Seal.	Magi-wakan, his x mark. Seal.
Owape, his x mark. Seal.	Wamli-wanapeya, his x mark. Seal.
Cante-peta, sr., his x mark. Seal.	Cau-ica, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-wayuhi, his x mark. Seal.	Tahinka-ska, his x mark. Seal.
Pahin-ska, his x mark. Seal.	Hogan-duta, his x mark. Seal.
Kangi-atoyapi, his x mark. Seal.	Sunka-wanzila, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-kawinge, his x mark. Seal.	Ite-wakan, his x mark. Seal.
Wakinyan-watakope, his x mark. Seal.	Sunka-wawapin, his x mark. Seal.
Tasina-luta, his x mark. Seal.	Cetau-to, his x mark. Seal.
Tasunke-hin-zi, his x mark. Seal.	Inyan-kuwapi, his x mark. Seal.
Hehaka-okan-nazin, his x mark. Seal.	Waukan-inyanka, his x mark. Seal.
Maga, his x mark. Seal.	Sunka-duta, his x mark. Seal.
Taloka-inyauke, his x mark. Seal.	Pehin-jasa, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-wapostan, his x mark. Seal.	Wanmli-watapke, his x mark. Seal.
Heton-yuha, his x mark. Seal.	Wapata, his x mark. Seal.
Sungila-luta, his x mark. Seal.	Taopi, his x mark. Seal.
Mastinca, his x mark. Seal.	Mato-uzinca, his x mark. Seal.
Sunka-maza, his x mark. Seal.	Zitkadan-maza, his x mark. Seal.
Wanmli-cikala, his x mark. Seal.	Cetau-iyotanka, his x mark. Seal.
Kangi-mato, his x mark. Seal.	Kangi-napin, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-wankantuya, his x mark. Seal.	Tatanka-hanska, his x mark. Seal.
Ite-glaga, his x mark. Seal.	Kaddy, his x mark. Seal.
Cetau-uznica, his x mark. Seal.	Wanmli-konza, his x mark. Seal.
Mato-luta, his x mark. Seal.	Mini-aku, his x mark. Seal.
Pizi, his x mark. Seal.	Mato-sapa, his x mark. Seal.
Kangi-wanagi, his x mark. Seal.	Makoyate-duta, his x mark. Seal.

Wanmdi-mani, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-ska, his x mark. Seal.
 Tacanhpi-kokipapi, his x mark. Seal.
 Tatanka-cikida, his x mark. Seal.
 Wahacanka-sapa, his x mark. Seal.
 Sna-waknya, his x mark. Seal.
 Cante-tchiya, his x mark. Seal.
 Wan-awega, his x mark. Seal.
 Wakankdi-sapa, his x mark. Seal.
 Ingang-mani, his x mark. Seal.
 Wanmdi-sake, his x mark. Seal.
 Nakata-wakinyan, his x mark. Seal.
 Wanmli-watakpe, his x mark. Seal.
 Hato-sabiciya, his x mark. Seal.
 Baptiste Rondeau, his x mark. Seal.
 Tacanhpi-sapa, his x mark. Seal.
 Hato-ite-wakan, his x mark. Seal.
 Wakinyan-ska, his x mark. Seal.
 Hakikta-nazin, his x mark. Seal.
 Hitonkala-ista, his x mark. Seal.
 Hanpa-napin, his x mark. Seal.
 Waundi-yuha, his x mark. Seal.
 Hinto-kdeska, his x mark. Seal.
 Candi-ynta, his x mark. Seal.
 Zitka-mani, his x mark. Seal.
 Nasula-tonka, his x mark. Seal.
 Hohaka-ho-waste, his x mark. Seal.
 Sunk-sapa-wicasa, his x mark. Seal.
 Mastinca, his x mark. Seal.
 Thomas C. Fly. Seal.
 Joseph Primeau. Seal.
 Leon Primeau. Seal.
 Matilda Galpin, her x mark. Seal.
 John Pleets. Seal.
 Tasumke-ska, his x mark. Seal.
 Kangi-maza, his x mark. Seal.
 Ota-inyanke, his x mark. Seal.
 Pa-inyankana, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-zina, his x mark. Seal.
 Isanati-wiu-yuza, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-wastedan, his x mark. Seal.
 Hehaka-ho-waste, his x mark. Seal.
 Gan-waste, his x mark. Seal.
 Itohega-tate, his x mark. Seal.
 Hi-seca, his x mark. Seal.
 Hunke-sni, his x mark. Seal.
 Gilciya, his x mark. Seal.
 Owe-nakebeza, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-ho-tanka, his x mark. Seal.
 Henry Agard, his x mark. Seal.
 Hitonka-sau-sinte, his x mark. Seal.
 Antoine Claymore, his x mark. Seal.
 Benedict Cibila. Seal.
 Charles Marshall, his x mark. Seal.
 Tatanka-wanzila, his x mark. Seal.
 Tatanka-hauska, his x mark. Seal.
 Tatanka-himke-sni, his x mark. Seal.
 Kankeca-duta, his x mark. Seal.
 Hehaka-caute, his x mark. Seal.
 Sna-wakuya, his x mark. Seal.
 Citan-pegnaka, his x mark. Seal.
 Wasu-mato, his x mark. Seal.
 Mato-kawinge, his x mark. Seal.
 Nig-woku, his x mark. Seal.
 Maza-kau-wieaki, his x mark. Seal.
 Waniyutu-wakuya, his x mark. Seal.
 Waundi-wicasa, his x mark. Seal.
 Pufin-hanska, his x mark. Seal.
 Hoksina-waste, his x mark. Seal.
 Sam-iyeciya, his x mark. Seal.
 Wahacanka-maza, his x mark. Seal.
 Tatanke-ehanna, his x mark. Seal.
 Tawacanka-wakinyan, his x mark. Seal.

Attest:

JAMES McLAUGHLIN, *U. S. Ind. Agt.*
 JAMES H. STEWART, *Agency Clerk.*
 THOMAS H. MILLER, *Issue Clerk.*
 CHARLES PRIMEAU, *Interpreter.*
 PHILIP L. WELLS, *Interpreter.*
 JOSEPH PRIMEAU, *Interpreter.*
 M. L. McLAUGHLIN, *Agency Interpreter.*

I hereby certify that the foregoing agreement was read and explained by me, and was fully understood by the above-named Sioux Indians before signing, and that the same was executed by said Indians at Standing Rock Agency, Dakota, on the 30th day of November, 1882.

SAM'L D. HINMAN,
Official Interpreter.

It is hereby agreed that the separate reservation for the Indians receiving rations and annuities at Cheyenne River Agency, Dakota, and for such other Indians as may be hereafter assigned thereto, shall be bounded and described as follows, to wit:

Beginning at a point at low-water mark on the east bank of the Missouri River opposite the mouth of Grand River, said point being the southeasterly corner of the Standing Rock Reservation; thence down said east bank of the Missouri River along said low-water mark to a point opposite the mouth of the Cheyenne River; thence west to said Cheyenne River and up the same to its intersection with the one hundred and second meridian of longitude; thence north along said meridian to its intersection with the Grand River; thence down said Grand River, along the middle channel thereof, to the Missouri River, at the place of beginning.

It is also agreed that said Indians shall receive all necessary aid from the Government in their removal to said reservation, and when so removed each of said Indians shall be entitled to receive from the Government the full value of all improvements in buildings or on lands owned by him at the time of such removal and lost to him

thereby. Said compensation shall be given in such manner and on such appraisements as shall be ordered by the Secretary of the Interior.

Dated and signed at Cheyenne River Agency, Dakota, this 21st day of December, 1882.

NEWTON EDMUNDS. [SEAL.]
 PETER C. SHANNON. [SEAL.]
 JAMES H. TELLER. [SEAL.]

The foregoing articles of agreement having been fully explained to us in open council, we, the undersigned chiefs and headmen of the Sioux Indians receiving rations and annuities at the Cheyenne River Agency, in the Territory of Dakota, do hereby consent and agree to all the stipulations therein contained.

Witness our hands and seals at Cheyenne River Agency, Dakota, this 21st day of December, 1882.

Zitkala-kinyan, his x mark. Seal.

Cuwi-hda-mani, his x mark. Seal.

Mato-wanmli, his x mark. Seal.

Toicewa, his x mark. Seal.

Waumli-gleska, his x mark. Seal.

Mato-luta, his x mark. Seal.

Wamnatán, his x mark. Seal.

Cante-wanica, his x mark. Seal.

Wokai, his x mark. Seal.

Wankan-mato, his x mark. Seal.

Cetan, his x mark. Seal.

Maza-hanpa, his x mark. Seal.

Maga-ska, his x mark. Seal.

Kangi-wakuya, his x mark. Seal.

Pte-san-wicasa, his x mark. Seal.

Mahpiya-iyapata, his x mark. Seal.

Mato-topa, his x mark. Seal.

Cawhpi-sapa, his x mark. Seal.

Tatanke-paha-akan-nazin, his x mark. Seal.

Cetan-tokapa, his x mark. Seal.

Wanmli-ohitika, his x mark. Seal.

Wagmasa, his x mark. Seal.

Cuwila, his x mark. Seal.

Mato-nakpa, his x mark. Seal.

Maste-au, his x mark. Seal.

Nape-wanmiomin, his x mark. Seal.

Sunka-ha-oin, his x mark. Seal.

Tacaulpi-maza, his x mark. Seal.

Nato-cikala, his x mark. Seal.

Nahpiya-watakpe, his x mark. Seal.

Louis Benoist, his x mark. Seal.

Wahacanka-cikala, his x mark. Seal.

Sunk-ska, his x mark. Seal.

Wanmli-main, his x mark. Seal.

Wicasa-itaucan, his x mark. Seal.

Sila-sapa-cikala, his x mark. Seal.

Eugene Brugnier. Seal.

Attest:

WM. A. SWAN. *United States Indian Agent.*

ROBT V. LEVERS, *Agency Clerk.*

N. G. LANDMEPE, *Issue Clerk.*

NARCISSE NARCELLO, his x mark, *Agency Interpreter.*

MARK WELLS, *Interpreter.*

It having been understood and agreed by the undersigned commissioners and the Brulé Indians at Rosebud Agency, parties to this agreement, that the reservation for the Lower Brulé Indians shall be located between the Rosebud Reservation and the Missouri River, it is hereby agreed that the reservation for the said Brulé Indians, now at Lower Brulé Agency, Dakota, and for such other Indians as may be assigned thereto, shall consist of all that part of township No. 103, range 72, west of the 5th principal meridian, in the Territory of Dakota, lying on the north bank of the White River, together with the tract of land bounded and described as follows, to wit:

Beginning at a point at low-water mark on the east bank of the Missouri River opposite the mouth of said White River; thence down said east bank of the Missouri River along said low-water mark to a point opposite the mouth of Pratt Creek; thence due south to the forty-third parallel of latitude; thence west along said parallel to a point in longitude ninety-nine degrees and thirty minutes (99° 30') west; thence due north along the eastern boundary of Rosebud Reservation to the White River, and thence down said White River to the Missouri River, at the place of beginning. It is also agreed that said Indians shall receive all necessary aid from the Government in their removal to said reservation, and when so removed each of said Indians shall be entitled to receive from the Government the full value of all improvements, in buildings or on lands, owned by him at the time of such removal and lost to him thereby. Said compensation shall be made in such manner and on such appraisal as shall be ordered by the Secretary of the Interior.

Witness our hands and seals this 23d day of January, 1883.

NEWTON EDMUNDS. [SEAL.]
 PETER C. SHANNON. [SEAL.]
 JAMES H. TELLER. [SEAL.]

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
*Washington, February 2, 1883.*Governor EDMUNDS,
*Chairman Sioux Commission, Chamberlain, Dak.:*The agreement, without either of Shannon's amendments, submitted to Congress.
It must be signed as submitted or not at all.H. M. TELLER,
*Secretary.*DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, February 3, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for consideration in connection with the recent negotiations had with the Sioux of Dakota, under the act of August 7, 1882, a communication from Adam Soup and Black Tomahawk, two Indians claiming to be subchiefs, presumably of the Cheyenne River Agency bands, of said Indians. They say they wish to remain on Bad River, where the land is good, and that they "do not recognize the acts of the men who consented to dispose of our (their) lands."

The paper was referred to this office by Bishop H. B. Whipple, of Dakota.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Copy of inclosure.]

FORT PIERRE, DAK., *January 8, 1883.*

Bishop H. B. WHIPPLE:

I wish to tell you something. Three men and Interpreter Hinman came here to treat with us for our lands. We wish to remain upon the Bad River, from the agency downward. Two men write you this letter. They are subchiefs who point out these things to you. Please write to us—Good River Owl River [Grand River?] there is little wood, but little grass, and gravel everywhere, and planting is poor; but the Bad River has plenty of wood, very tall and large. The land is excellent, the earth black and fruitful. Corn can be raised well there. There our children we wish to have grow up. We do not recognize the acts of the men who consented to dispose of our lands. We have not heard that the law wishes us to sell them. Only this.

Your friends,

ADAM SOUP.
BLACK TOMAHAWK.YANKTON, DAK., *February 7, 1883.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of telegram of 2d instant from you in relation to amendments offered by Judge Shannon to the agreement with the Brulé Sioux Indians, &c. I beg in reply to state that those amendments form no part of the agreement, inasmuch as the Brulés rejected them. The Brulés were offered those additional privileges as an inducement for them to sign the agreement, hoping that it would induce them to do so, but it did not have that effect.

I arrived here from Lower Brulé Sunday evening last, leaving Judge Shannon at Chamberlain, which is only 6 miles from the Brulé Agency. It was thought when I left that those Indians would yield and consent to receive and accept the reservation we had offered them in a very few days.

The Lower Brulés and Crow Creek Indians (Yanktonais) are in close confederation, and it was not considered best to go to Crow Creek until the Brulés had yielded in their opposition to the views of the Department in regard to them.

The commission has been seriously embarrassed and delayed in its efforts by the active interference of Captain Dougherty, of the United States Army, who has urged them by letters and telegrams not to consent to the agreement, and also by reason of want or lack of control of agent in their management.

I beg to thank you for your indorsement of the agreement.

Very respectfully, &c.,

NEWTON EDWARDS.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of Interior.

[Telegram.]

CHAMBERLAIN, DAK., *February 10, 1883.*

J. H. TELLER, of *Sioux Commission*,
(Care Hon. Teller, Secretary of Interior):

Bynam and one or two chiefs holding out are reported as arranging to go to Washington; they are said to be pooling their hides to raise money; this would delay the commission. Might not the Secretary telegraph the agent ordering this to be stopped, and declaring his ultimatum as to agreement with them. Such direct ordering might produce great effect in their council to be held to-morrow; they have held several councils since we crossed the river, and the general outlook is rather encouraging.

P. C. SHANNON,
O. D. HINMAN.

[Telegram.]

SIOUX CITY, IOWA, *February 14, 1883.*

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington D. C.:

Headquarters of commission will be at Yankton for a few days to come.

J. M. TELLER,
Secretary of Sioux Commission.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
CHEYENNE RIVER AGENCY,
February 17, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith, at the request of Mr. Riggs, the inclosed communication, which he sent me for perusal and transmission to you.

I have only to say in reference thereto that, with few exceptions, the Indians are satisfied with the agreement recently entered into with the commissioners.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. A. SWAN,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

DAKOTA MISSION,
Oahe, Hughes County, Dakota, February 12, 1883.

SIR: Under authority of an act approved August 7, 1882, making appropriations, &c., "to negotiate with the Sioux Indians for such modification of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed desirable by the Indians and the Secretary of the Interior," there was duly appointed the "Commission to the Sioux of Dakota." "The main purpose is"—I quote from your last annual report—"to ascertain whether the Indians are willing to cede to the United States any portion of their reservation in Dakota; and, if so, what portion and upon what terms." This commission has been faithfully engaged, in spite of many difficulties and hardships, in the execution of the difficult and delicate duty in hand, and will doubtless soon make report of its satisfactory accomplishment.

I would not be understood as desiring to reflect upon the high character and unimpeachable integrity of the members of the commission, but I must respectfully request your attention to the following facts in connection with the result of their conference with the Indians of the Cheyenne River Agency.

1. The demands of the commission were acceded to only after being reiterated and positively rejected, as often as made, for two weeks of persistent council-holding.

2. They were acceded to by but comparatively few of the Indians, thirty or forty at most, and then with great reluctance, at a council extending past midnight.

3. The Indians were assured, again and again, that it could make no difference to them whether they accepted the demands or not—they would not be allowed, in any case, to continue to hold the tract of land in question as a part of their reservation.

4. The Indians were willing to cede the entire Bad River Valley and their interests to the south of the watershed between that stream and the Cheyenne River. The commission demanded and finally worried the Indians present into an agreement to cede all lands south of the Cheyenne River.

5. From the beginning the Indians understood the point of difference perfectly, and many of its practical bearings as well.

6. The character of the honorable commissioners should forbid all suspicion that, in dealing with Indians, they could resort to the use of arguments unjustifiable as between man and man; nevertheless, the Indians regard the result as forced upon them; and there is no question but that, as between two willing parties to an agreement, undue pressure was used.

7. This result is sullenly regretted and wholly repudiated by all as not truthfully expressing their desire and willing action.

I have presented the facts above, giving the Indian a chance for a hearing, and am prepared to go before the public in justification of his right to fair and square treatment in this matter. And, before Congress shall be called upon to ratify the terms of an agreement so entirely opposed to the will and desire of these Indians, who are most vitally interested in the final result, I have the honor to urge upon you the justice and necessity, in behalf of the Indian and the honor of the Indian service, of a renewed hearing and terms for agreement of which it shall not be said "accept you must."

I will, moreover, on my own responsibility, represent: That these Indians are not unfavorably disposed to any reasonable cession of territory. That the proposed change of location—Indians on the northern side of the Cheyenne River only, while the whites will settle on the south—will vastly increase the difficulty of preventing sales of liquor to Indians.

That the cession of the south half of the Cheyenne River Valley is not the end—the entire valley will be demanded.

That the Morro River region, to which they will be driven, is not such as will favor efforts to make these Indians self-supporting or become civilized; it does not compare with the Cheyenne River.

That the Indians now occupying farms south of the Cheyenne River are not yet fitted to enter and hold their lands under the homestead laws; were they thus fitted the proposed change might be taken advantage of.

That thinking men of our country, newly awakening to an interest in these matters, cannot but regard the subject which calls forth my letter as "another wrong" to Indians and a disgrace to the service.

I have the honor, sir, to be, very respectfully, yours,

T. L. RIGGS, *Missionary.*

HON. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.

CHAMBERLAIN, DAK., *February 19, 1883.*

SIR: In the absence of my colleagues of the Sioux commission, it is deemed my duty briefly to report proceedings since the 24th ultimo.

Our joint report of that date was transmitted to the Department by the hand of Mr. James H. Teller, who left Lower Brulé Agency same day for Washington.

Governor Edmunds and myself, with Mr. Hinman, the official interpreter, remained at that agency in the further discharge of our duties until the 1st of February, when, having accomplished nothing, we left for Chamberlain. This point is about 6 miles distant from the agency, and about 20 miles from the Crow Creek Agency, and was considered a suitable place for further negotiation.

On the 2d instant we telegraphed Mr. James H. Teller, then at Washington, the result, it being the same as when he left us, stating in substance (and among other things) that we were unsuccessful with the Lower Brulés; that all special advantages offered to them were stubbornly rejected, and that they would make no proposition whatever.

Afterward came your dispatch, dated Washington, February 2, stating that "the agreement without either of Shannon's amendments submitted to Congress; it must be signed as submitted, or not at all." This instruction was carefully noted and has been cheerfully obeyed.

Governor Edmunds was obliged to go to Yankton, leaving me and the interpreter here with instructions to endeavor to gain the consent of the Brulés to the favorable propositions offered them.

I regret, however, to be obliged to report that although much diligent effort has been made they still maintain their first position, and will not agree to take the separate reservation assigned to them and designated in the last clause of the agreement forwarded to the Department.

Recent information is to the effect that a majority of the chiefs, satisfied that the proposals offered are beneficial, are willing to agree, but are deterred by a few chiefs and a combination, called among them "the soldier band," and that this combination was created through the bad advice and influence of sundry white men.

Affairs at Crow Creek having assumed a more favorable aspect, I telegraphed Governor Edmunds last Tuesday to return immediately, but as yet I have no response.

But really, the winter here since about the beginning of the year has been so severe that most of the time has been unfit for travel or regular communication, or indeed for any kind of business.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PETER C. SHANNON,
Sioux Commissioner.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

CROW CREEK AGENCY, DAK., *February 21, 1883.*

SIR: The commission beg to call to your attention the necessity of such action on the part of the Government as will prevent the land ceded by the agreement now before Congress from being taken possession of by squatters and adventurers immediately after the ratification of the agreement by Congress. We are credibly informed that large numbers are preparing to cross the Missouri River and locate on the ceded lands as soon as the agreement is ratified, and unless the necessary action is taken to prevent it, the country thus thrown open will be the scene of great disorder and possible violence. The Indian families settled upon the ceded land, as well as all the Indians visiting the two agencies now on the ceded land until new agencies can be established, would be thrown into close contact with the invading whites. The establishment of saloons in the neighborhood of these agencies is almost sure to follow, and, with the accompanying crowds of lawless adventurers, will render the issue of rations and resulting presence of the Indians an occasion of serious trouble.

By the terms of the agreement the Indians that are to be removed are entitled to full compensation for improvements lost by removal. Time will be required in which to make appraisement of such improvements, as well as to effect the removal of the Indians, under the treaty of 1868. Those who prefer to remain and hold their locations may do so, and it is necessary that arrangements be made to distinguish those desiring to remain from those who are to remove, that their rights may be protected.

The Indians signing the agreement expect that the Government will protect them until they are removed to their new reservation. In view of the considerations above stated, we respectfully recommend that an Executive order be obtained, to issue immediately upon the ratification of the agreement, withdrawing the ceded land from settlement until it can be opened without detriment to the Indians.

Very respectfully,

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission.

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

[Telegram.]

LOWER BRULÉ AGENCY, DAK., *February 25, 1883.*

To COMMISSIONER *Washington, D. C.:*

Large number of men have invaded lower part Crow Creek Reservation; thirty or more shanties built to-day; have placed matter in hands of United States commissioner and marshal, waiting further instructions. Answer by Chamberlain.

PARKHURST, *Agent.*

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
CROW CREEK AND LOWER BRULÉ CONSOLIDATED AGENCY, DAK.,
Lower Brulé Agency, February 26, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to inform the Department, in addition to telegram of yesterday, that I have since seen the deputy United States marshal and heard from the United States commissioner relative to the trespass upon the Crow Creek Reserve.

I am informed that a large number of people east are moving in this direction with the intent to settle upon these lands at once. I am also informed that nearly one hundred claim shanties have been erected, and that more will be put up as speedily as possible. The most of the permanent business men in Chamberlain are active in this matter, and against legal advice are building and encouraging others to build.

I am advised by the United States commissioner to call in the Indian police, place

them under the direction of the United States marshal, and proceed to demolish and confiscate all lumber and material that may be found upon the Indian land.

Acting under this advice, I have sent a messenger to Crow Creek, directing the whole police force to assemble near Chamberlain prepared to act as circumstances may require. I shall be at Chamberlain in person, and be guided by the legal representative of the Government in my acts. The Sioux commission were at Crow Creek on Sunday last (when I left), having had a verbal promise that the Indians there would sign the agreement to-day. What the result of this new move may be I cannot predict, but I fear that the Indians may be so exasperated that nothing can be done. The Indians at Brulé are thus far quiet, and I trust nothing may occur to prevent a settlement with the commission.

I have sent for the chiefs and headmen to meet me, and hope to have a peaceable council. Some measures should at once be taken to stop this illegal trespassing on Indian lands, or serious trouble will be the result.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. PARKHURST,
United States Indian Agent.

HON. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, February 26, 1883.

To PARKHURST,
Agent, Lower Brulé, via Chamberlain, Dak. :

The men you refer to are intruders. Warn them off; and, if possible, put them off. Tell them they acquire no rights by going on the land now.

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., *February 26, 1883.*

HONORED SIR: I take liberty in addressing you concerning an article which I saw in a daily paper here in reference to the treaties with the Sioux Indians in Dakota, viz, that they be divided into small reservations, &c., and that the Government furnish each reservation with a doctor, a carpenter, a miller, a blacksmith, a farmer, and an engineer for ten years.

Please inform me in this matter full particulars, if possible, as it greatly interests me, and oblige,

Yours, truly,

FRANK A. DUBLIN,
57 Bartlett street, Rochester, N. Y.

[Telegram.]

W., *February 27, 1883.*

(Dated Chamberlain, Dak., 27.)

To Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C. :

The Crow Creek Indians signed agreement yesterday, ceding all their interest in Great Sioux Reservation and about three-sevenths of the Crow Creek Reservation. Land ceded by them must not be occupied until opened by order of the President. Twenty or thirty squatters have already gone on these lands. This should not be permitted. Will write you fully from Yankton.

NEWTON EDMUNDS.

[Telegram.]

CHAMBERLAIN, DAK., *February 27, 1883.*

H. M. TELLER, *Secretary, Washington, D. C. :*

Commission consider it very important that ceded land be reserved temporarily, by Executive order, as explained by letter.

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission.

SPRINGFIELD, DAK., *March 5, 1883.*

SIR: I have under my care as bishop three chapels among the Indians on the Crow Creek Reserve.

I have frequently visited them during the last ten years, and having lately again made them a visit I am well acquainted with their state.

I trust you will accept the critical condition of their interests as my apology for addressing you.

These Indians have lately, as you are aware, entered into an agreement with the commissioners appointed by the Government for the surrender of a certain portion of their reserve upon the payment of a consideration by the United States.

Congress failed to ratify this agreement, and it is the current rumor that it is the intention of the Executive to throw open parts of the reserve, notwithstanding the absence of such ratification and without the payment of the consideration offered by the commissioners. The newspapers argue for such action on the ground that as the reserve was set apart by Executive order the Executive may of its own motion throw it open to settlement.

I beg leave respectfully to submit that this ground is untenable for the reason that by the Sioux treaty of 1868 the Crow Creek Reservation, being one of the existing reservations on the east bank of the Missouri River, was included in the terms of that treaty and became part of the Great Sioux Reservation.

The Crow Creek Indians are a friendly people and have made decided progress, and they would regard the taking from them without compensation of any part of their reserve as a great hardship and wrong.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. HARE,
Missionary Bishop.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

LEONA, DONIPHAN COUNTY, KANSAS, *March 6, 1883.*

SIR: I have seen it stated in the newspapers that the commission appointed by the Secretary of the Interior had succeeded in obtaining the relinquishment of the Sioux Indians to a large part of their reservation in the west part of Dakota Territory.

I would respectfully make inquiry in behalf of myself and other parties if Congress has made provision for carrying such an arrangement into effect with the Indians, and if the said lands will be soon open for settlement; and, if so, at what time can settlers make entry.

Very respectfully,

FRANKLIN BABCOCK.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.

[Extract from an act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1884, and for other purposes.]

“For the purpose of procuring the assent of the Sioux Indians, as provided by article 12 of the treaty between the United States and the different bands of the Sioux Nation of Indians, made and concluded April 29, 1868, to agreement made with the said Sioux Indians transmitted to the Senate February 3, 1883, by the President, with such modifications of said agreement as will fully secure to them a title to the land remaining in the several reservations set apart to them by said agreement, and to the Santee Sioux the proceeds of that portion of their separate reservation not allotted in severalty, \$10,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be immediately available, and to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior.”

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., March 14, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith, for your approval, instructions for the guidance of the Sioux commissioners in negotiating with the Sioux Indians, as contemplated in the recent act (sundry civil) approved March, 1883.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, March 14, 1883.

GENTLEMEN: Referring to your appointment (September 15, 1882) as commissioners to negotiate with the Sioux Indians "for such modification of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed desirable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior," authority for which was found in the act making appropriations for the sundry civil expenses of the Government, approved August 7, 1882, I have to say that by a clause in the sundry civil act approved March —, 1883, the sum of \$10,000 is appropriated to enable the Secretary of the Interior to complete said negotiations.

Said clause reads as follows:

"For the purpose of procuring the assent of the Sioux Indians as provided by article 12 of the treaty between the United States and the different bands of the Sioux Nation of Indians made and concluded April 29, 1868, to agreement made with said Sioux Indians, transmitted to the Senate February 3, 1883, by the President, with such modification of said agreement, as will fully secure to them a title to the land remaining in the several reservations set apart to them by said agreement, and to the Santee Sioux the proceeds of that portion of their separate reservation not allotted in severalty, \$10,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary to be immediately available and to be expended under direction of the Secretary of the Interior."

Acting under this authority, I have to direct that you proceed without delay to revisit the several agencies where said agreement was executed, and elsewhere as may be necessary, with a view to the execution of said act in conformity with the terms thereof.

You will be allowed compensation at the rate of \$10 per day while actually employed in the performance of your duties, and your actual and necessary expenses.

Mr. Edmunds will continue to act as disbursing agent and will file a new bond in the sum of \$10,000.

Report of your proceedings will be made from time to time, and if any questions arise requiring further instructions they will be promptly submitted.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Messrs. NEWTON EDMUNDS, PETER C. SHANNON, JAMES H. TELLER.

Approved.

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, March 15, 1883.

SIR: I transmit herewith copy of instructions, dated the 14th instant, for the guidance of the Sioux commissioners.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE, *Commissioner.*

J. H. TELLER, Esq.,
Yankton, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, March 16, 1883.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, in which you asked to be advised as to the correctness of a statement which recently appeared in a daily newspaper to the effect that the Great Sioux Reservation in Dakota is to be cut up into small reservations, each of which is to be supplied with a physician, carpenter, miller, and blacksmith.

In reply you are informed that the recent negotiations with the Sioux Indians for the cession of a portion of their reservation failed of ratification by Congress, and, therefore, no immediate changes will take place in their reservation affairs.

Authority exists for further negotiations with said Indians, which will be conducted during the present season, but it is quite impossible to say at this time what the result will be.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE, *Commissioner.*

FRANK A. DUBLIN, Esq.,
Rochester, N. Y.

PHILADELPHIA,
No. 1408 South Penn Square, March 21, 1883.

MY DEAR MR. PRICE: Can you inform me whether Congress during its late session created any commission, to consist of Senators and Members, to investigate matters of treaties with the Indians, or upon subjects connected with Indian treaties and their construction and force, more especially in reference to the Sioux or Santee Sioux, or the subtribes of the Sioux?

I will be greatly obliged for this information, and I remain,

Yours, very truly,

CHAS. O'NEILL.

Hon. HIRAM PRICE,
Indian Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, April 2, 1883.

SIR: I am in receipt, by reference from the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, of your letter of the 6th instant, in which you ask to be advised whether any portion of the Great Sioux Reservation has been relinquished by the Indians, and whether Congress has ratified such action.

In reply you are informed that the agreement entered into with the Sioux, as the result of recent negotiations with them, failed of ratification by Congress, and consequently no portion of the Great Sioux Reservation is subject to sale or entry.

Authority exists, however, for further negotiations with said Indians, which will be conducted during the present season; but, of course, it is impossible to say at this time what the result will be.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

FRANKLIN BABCOCK, Esq.,
Leona, Doniphan County, Kansas.

BOSTON, 4, 2, 1883,
Room 25, Simmons Building, 40 Water Street.

Hon. SECRETARY OF DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR:

Will the Department please inform me if the law making an appropriation of \$10,000 for expense of commission to negotiate with the Sioux Indians, to cede back to the public domain the Sioux Reservation authorized the President, upon the treaty being signed by two-thirds of the adult population, to open up the lands to settlement by proclamation, or has the treaty yet to be ratified by the United States Senate.

This information is asked with a view of locating a stock range on the reservation.

Respectfully,

H. L. DUNCKLEE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, April 6, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to be in receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, asking to be informed whether Congress during its last session created a commission, to consist of Senators and Members of the House of Representatives, to investigate matters connected with our treaty relations with the Indians, the construction and force of treaties, &c., more especially as relates to the Santee or other tribes or bands of Sioux. In reply you are advised that no such commission was created, so far as this office is informed.

Under authority of the act (sundry civil) approved August 7, 1882, a commission, composed of Messrs. Newton Edmunds and Peter C. Shannon, of Dakota, and James H. Teller, of Ohio, was appointed to negotiate with the "Sioux Indians for such modifications of existing treaties and agreements with said Indians as may be deemed desirable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior"; and under the authority of a subsequent act (sundry civil, approved March 3, 1883) the said commission has been continued by the honorable Secretary "for the purpose of procuring the assent of the Sioux Indians as proposed by article 12 of the treaty between the United States and the different bands of the Sioux Nation of Indians, made and concluded April 29, 1868, to agreement made with the said Sioux Indians, transmitted to the Senate Feb-

ruary 3, 1883, by the President, with such modifications of said agreement as will fully secure to them a title to the land remaining in the several reservations set apart to them by said agreement, and to the Santee Sioux the proceeds of that portion of their separate reservation not allotted in severalty."

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Hon. CHARLES O'NEILL,
No. 1408, Pennsylvania Square, Philadelphia, Pa.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, April 11, 1883.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 2d instant, in which you ask to be advised, in substance, whether the agreement that may be concluded with the Sioux Indians, as the result of pending negotiations authorized by the recent act of Congress (sundry civil, approved March 3, 1883), will require ratification by Congress before taking effect, or whether the President is authorized to issue proclamation declaring the lands that may be ceded by such agreement open to settlement.

In reply you are respectfully informed that any agreement that may be made with said Indians under the authority referred to must be ratified by Congress before it can go into effect or be executed in any part.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

H. L. DUNCKLEE, Esq.,
*Room 25, Simmons Building,
40 Water Street, Boston, Mass.*

TERRITORY OF DAKOTA, SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Yankton, April 12, 1883.

SIR: I inclose herewith the agreement recently concluded with the Indians at Crow Creek Agency, Dak., with report of commission.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. TELLER,
Secretary Sioux Commission.

Hon. H. M. TELLER,
Secretary of the Interior.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

This agreement, made by Newton Edmunds, Peter C. Shannon, and James H. Teller, commissioners on the part of the United States, under authority of an item in the sundry civil act, approved August 7, 1882, and the Sioux Indians at the Crow Indian Agency, Dakota, by their chiefs and headmen, they being thereunto duly authorized, witnesseth:

That said Indians hereby assent and agree to the terms of an agreement made by said commissioners and certain bands of Sioux Indians, which agreement was submitted to Congress by the President on the third day of February, 1883. Said Indians hereby relinquish and cede to the United States all title and interest in and to all lands heretofore claimed by them, saving and excepting the land hereinafter reserved and set apart for their permanent homes.

In consideration of above said Indians shall receive all the benefits and advantages to which they would have been entitled had they been original parties to said agreement. It is also agreed that there shall be reserved and set apart, as the permanent home of said Indians, the following described land in the Territory of Dakota, to wit: The whole of Township 106, R. 70; 107, R. 71; 108, R. 71; 108, R. 72; 109, R. 72, and 107, R. 70, except Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, and 12; and such parts as lie on the east or left bank of the Missouri River of the following townships, to wit: 106, R. 71; 107, R. 72; 108, R. 73; 108, R. 74; 108, R. 75; 108, R. 76; 109, R. 73; 109, R. 74; 109, R. 75; 109, R. 76, and 107, R. 73; also the west half of 106, R. 96, and Sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33 of 107, R. 69. It is further agreed that if any of said Indians have located permanently on lands not included in the reservation above described they may hold the lands so occupied under and in accordance with Article VI of the treaty

of 1868, or they may return to said reservation and make new locations therein, in which case they shall be entitled to receive from the Government the actual value of all improvements lost by such change of location.

The Government shall have the right to keep open the roads now in use on said reservation, and to lay out and open, from time to time, such other roads and highways as may be necessary for the use of the Indians.

It is understood and agreed that Article VII of the agreement above mentioned shall not operate to vacate or reserve for school purposes any land selected and occupied in severalty by said Indians.

Dated and signed at Crow Creek Agency, Dakota, this 26th day of February, 1883.

NEWTON EDMUNDS. [SEAL.]
 PETER C. SHANNON. [SEAL.]
 JAMES H. TELLER. [SEAL.]

The foregoing articles of agreement and the agreement therein mentioned having both been read and fully explained to us in open council, we, the undersigned chiefs and headmen of the Sioux Indians receiving rations and annuities at Crow Creek Agency, Dakota, hereby agree to all the stipulations and terms therein contained.

In witness whereof we hereunto set our hands and seals at Crow Creek Agency, Dakota, this 26th day of February, 1883.

Wanagi-ska, his x mark. Seal.	Wanhankdi Wanzina, his x mark. Seal.
Matowakuwawicalica, his x mark. Seal.	Hokfi, his x mark. Seal.
Sunka-cankohan, his x mark. Seal.	Talantaduta, his x mark. Seal.
Wizi, his x mark. Seal.	Cakpa, his x mark. Seal.
Matowapopipe-sni, his x mark. Seal.	Onspesin, his x mark. Seal.
Cinyeyopi, his x mark. Seal.	Naziyaupi, his x mark. Seal.
Kange-iawakan, his x mark. Seal.	Mazakute, his x mark. Seal.
Pakunyeyapi, his x mark. Seal.	Mahjiyahopipapi, his x mark. Seal.
Mahpiyapeta, his x mark. Seal.	Heyokatoka. Seal.
Matowanpunituya, his x mark. Seal.	Saul Demaur. Seal.
Tatanka-isuana, his x mark. Seal.	Hinhanpa, his x mark. Seal.
Cankajipa, his x mark. Seal.	Chas. Le Claire. Seal.
Hanwanzidan, his x mark. Seal.	Leon Kirkie, his x mark. Seal.
John Flurry, his x mark. Seal.	Tatanka-calka, his x mark. Seal.
Kangiwicasta, his x mark. Seal.	Cehakacikada, his x mark. Seal.
Hersansan, his x mark. Seal.	

Attest:

WM. S. DYER, *Clerk in Charge.*
 H. BURT, *Missionary.*
 VALENTINE C. PHERMAN, *Overseer and Storekeeper.*
 WILLIAM W. WELLS.
 MARK WELLS, *Agency Interpreter.*

[Inclosure No. 2.]

SIR: We have the honor to submit the following report of the work of the commission since forwarding our last report. The commission spent some time and held many councils with the Indians at Lower Brulé Agency in the attempt to induce them to join their friends and kindred in the agreement already submitted to you.

We found that influences adverse to the purposes of the commission had been brought to bear upon these Indians which rendered them suspicious of the commission and the Government, and effectually prevented the making of any agreement with them. The agent informs us that the Indians, prior to our coming, repeatedly asked that a separate reservation be set off for them, and there is no doubt that the terms we proposed to them would have been accepted had it not been for the influences before mentioned. We are of the opinion that the number of Indians at this agency has been greatly overestimated, no census having been taken for some time. Those best informed on the subject put the number at not more than eight hundred. We would respectfully recommend that this agency be consolidated with the Rosebud Agency, the Indians being of one family, in general; that a new agency be established at a moderate distance from the Missouri River, and that the agency at Rosebud be made a subagency. This will result in great saving in the matter of transportation of supplies and obviate the necessity for the Indian freighters visiting places outside the reservation, with the temptations incident thereto. The present location at Rosebud is in no way suitable for an agency. It is remote from steamboat and railroad lines of transportation, very difficult of access, and surrounded by barren hills and sterile lands, which offer no encouragement to effort in agriculture.

In accordance with our instructions, we visited next the Crow Creek Agency,

where, after holding a number of councils, an agreement was concluded and signed on the 26th of February, 1883. By this agreement a reservation of about 300,000 acres is set apart, which is ample for the 1,000 Indians who are to occupy it. They do not claim to hold this land by treaty, nor, in fact, by any valid title. They are, therefore, very willing to relinquish any interest which they may have in other lands as a consideration for the reservation secured to them by this agreement. They assent to the terms of the agreement recently concluded with the Sioux west of the Missouri River, and become a party to it, although they assert no claim to any part of the Great Sioux Reserve, and deny that they are in any way interested in the treaty of 1868. The lands reserved for these people include the farms which have been allotted to them in severalty, with a large surplus for grazing purposes and future allotments.

Nearly all of the families have taken lands in severalty, and had their claims certified to them and recorded. The land occupied by them is as good as any in the Territory, and is capable of sustaining a large population. There are many comfortable houses on the reservation, and considerable progress has been made in agriculture and stock raising, which is due largely to the earnest efforts of the agency farmer. The people are in a very hopeful condition, and with proper encouragement and assistance they may become self-supporting at no distant day. We consider it very important that an agent be furnished to this agency, as it is impossible for an agent whose duties are divided between two places so far apart as Lower Brulé and Crow Creek to do full justice to the needs of both. If the extra compensation allowed to the agent at Lower Brulé for supervising the Crow Creek Agency were added to the salary now paid the clerk in charge the total outlay would be no greater, and an agent could be provided for each place. The importance of this matter is appreciated by the Indians themselves, and White Ghost, a chief of great influence, who has the good of his people at heart, was very earnest in his petitions that an agent might be sent to them.

The country adjoining this reservation is filling up with settlers with unprecedented rapidity, and there is every reason to suppose that their encroachments upon the unoccupied portions of the old reserve, already a source of great annoyance to the agent, will call for more and more of his time and attention. We therefore respectfully recommend that the lines bounding the reservation set apart by the accompanying agreement be plainly marked, and that the land outside of these boundaries hitherto reserved be opened for settlement as soon as practicable.

The agreement is herewith submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

NEWTON EDMUNDS,
PETER C. SHANNON,
JAMES H. TELLER,
Commissioners.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, *April 12, 1883.*

DEAR SIR: I shall be greatly obliged to you for information upon the action of the commission appointed to treat with the Indians of Dakota for 7,000,000 or 8,000,000 acres of land.

I am not positive that the labors of the commission have been concluded, but any information relative to the probable outcome of their work, the status of the land treated of if obtained, how soon land offices will be opened and officers appointed to sell same, the methods of appointment to such offices would be thankfully appreciated by, yours, truly,

W. P. THOMPSON.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, April 13, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to be in receipt, by reference from the honorable Secretary of the Interior, to whom it is addressed, of your letter of the 5th ultimo, expressing apprehension lest the Crow Creek Reservation, or some portion of it, is to be restored to the public domain and opened to white settlement without payment to the Indians of the consideration agreed upon in the recent agreement with the Sioux, and not-

withstanding the fact that Congress failed to ratify said agreement, although it was before that body for action thereon. Your apprehension appears to be based upon current newspaper rumors to the effect that such action is in contemplation by the proper authorities.

In reply I would respectfully state that I do not think any such intention exists on the part of the authorities. No such proposal has been submitted to me, and it is not likely that any action would be taken affecting the status of the lands referred to, or the rights of the Indians in other respects, without first referring the matter to this office.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Right Rev. WILLIAM H. HARE,
Missionary Bishop, Springfield, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, April 18, 1883.

SIR: This office is in receipt, by reference from the honorable Secretary of the Interior, to whom it is addressed, of your letter of the 12th instant, asking to be informed as to the probable result of the negotiations now pending with the various bands of Sioux Indians; what the status of the lands that may be ceded will be; how soon the same will be opened to settlement, &c. In reply, I have to state that, under authority of a recent act of Congress, negotiations were entered into with the said Indians the past winter by commissioners appointed for the purpose, as a result of which the Indians agreed to cede to the United States certain portions of the Great Sioux Reservation, but, as the agreement failed of ratification by Congress, it could not be carried into effect.

By authority of a still more recent act (sundry civil, approved March 3, 1883), the negotiations are being continued at the present time. What the result will be, or whether Congress will ratify the old agreement, if renewed, or any new agreement that may be made, are questions that cannot be answered now. It is not unlikely, however, that some portion of the Great Sioux Reservation will be opened to settlement by agreement with the Indians at no very distant date, but nothing can be done in that direction without the consent of Congress. It is plain, then, that the present season will see no change in the status of the lands in question.

In reply to the question as to what the status of the lands will be when ceded, you are advised that the act authorizing the negotiations in the first instance expressly stipulates "that if any lands shall be acquired from said Indians by the United States it shall be on the express condition that the United States shall only dispose of the same to actual settlers under the provisions of the homestead laws." As regards the appointment of local land officers, I have to say that that is a matter with which this office has no concern. I would suggest that you had best apply to the General Land Office for the information you desire on the subject.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

W. P. THOMPSON, Esq.,
Editor Cincinnati Artizan, Cincinnati, Ohio.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
Crow Creek Agency, Dak., July 13, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the chiefs and headmen of this tribe, Yanktonais, in council, held lately at this agency, urgently requested me to write you a letter in their behalf. The object of this letter is to get permission to call a general council of chiefs and headmen of the Great Sioux Nation, at this agency during next month, August, and that their agent be authorized to issue rations to these chiefs and headmen during their stay, which shall not exceed one week. They ask that four, at least, from each Sioux agency may be allowed to come to this council. They further state that their reason for making this request is that they may be able to come to a united understanding as to what they should do in regard to the sale of their lands. They claim, as do the Lower Brulés, that great injury threatened them through the ignorance of other Sioux tribes, that these tribes are selling their lands and otherwise injuring them through ignorance of the true state of the case. They

believe that if they can have this opportunity of meeting with their fellow chiefs they will then be able to adopt a plan which shall be satisfactory to the entire Sioux Nation. They claim that they deserve this favor at the hands of the Government because of their long and uninterrupted friendship for the whites. They also state that the "land question" is the only subject that shall be discussed in the council, and that they guarantee that all things shall be conducted orderly and peaceably. If their request is granted they ask that an answer may be sent them by telegraph, as they are anxious to hold this council before or during the time when the Congressional committee shall visit this agency; and also that letters may at once be sent to the different agents from the Department authorizing this council. In regard to the foregoing project, I would respectfully state that I believe it would be well to grant the request. 1st. Because it seems to me but justice that the Indians composing the great Sioux Nation, having common property to dispose of, should have an opportunity of consulting together as to what portion they should sell, and at what price. 2d. It will tend to quiet their now disturbed condition of mind. I find these Indians very restless on the subject of the proposed treaty. The Crow Creek Indians, in particular, owing to their constant intercourse with the whites, who are continually telling them that their reservation will soon be opened to white settlers, and that they will be moved. As I shall be constantly importuned for an answer to this letter, I trust that as early an answer as practicable may be sent me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN G. GASMANN,
*United States Indian Agent,
Crow Creek and Lower Brulé Agency, Dakota.*

Hon. H. PRICE,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., July 18, 1883.

GASMANN,
Agent, Lower Brulé Agency, Dak., via Chamberlain :

Secretary declines to authorize general council, as recommended in your letter July 13.

Charge Indian Office.

E. L. STEVENS,
Acting Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 18, 1883.

SIR: Your letter of the 13th instant, informing this office of the desire expressed by the Indians of your agency for a general council of all the chiefs and headmen of the several bands of the Sioux Nation, to be held during the coming month at the Crow Creek Agency for the discussion of matters pertaining to their reservation lands, was this day referred to the honorable Secretary of the Interior, who made the following indorsement thereon:

"I do not think any good could be expected from the council. It should be the policy of the Department to have each band act independently of the other bands, and the general influence of the chiefs should be weakened as rapidly as possible. I therefore decline to allow the council, and the agent will be so notified."

You were informed by telegram this day that the honorable Secretary had declined to authorize a general council, as proposed.

Very respectfully,

E. L. STEVENS,
Acting Commissioner.

JOHN G. GASMANN, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, Crow Creek, Agency, Dak.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, July 18, 1883.

Hon. NEWTON EDMUNDS,
Chairman of the Sioux Commission :

SIR: I inclose herewith a copy of a letter just received from Senator Dawes. I think you should look into the matter at once. The committee, of which Senator Dawes is the chairman, will soon be in your section, and will call on you for information on this point.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, July 19, 1883.

DEAR SIR: In view of your letter of recent date concerning the agreement made with the Sioux, it appears to me that in justice to the Department, your committee should consult with the Sioux commissioners, and get their views before going into the field. I suppose you are aware that a great number of people in that vicinity do not want the Indians to part with any portion of the land, and in fact they would much rather have them remain wild Indians than have them become civilized; and in some cases those who profess the most love for the Indians are the ones who for selfish purposes prefer the Indians to remain Indians. May I therefore hope you will notify Chairman Edmunds of the time of your visit, and invite the commissioners to meet your committee; it will entail no expense on your committee.

Very respectfully,

H. M. TELLER.

Hon. H. L. DAWES, *Pittsfield, Mass.*

PITTSFIELD, MASS., July 20, 1883.

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of yours of the 19th. I should be very glad myself to see the commissioners, and though I have no authority to speak for the other members of the committee I have no doubt they all would. I do not know how to reach Chairman Edmunds. The committee meet at Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, August 1, but it was with the expectation of going immediately via Saint Paul up into Montana, and from there down into Dakota to the Sioux Reservation. I will lay your letter before the committee at Chicago, and if Mr Edmunds is where he could appear before them at Chicago I have no doubt the committee will be glad there to hear anything he may desire to say to them.

Truly yours,

H. L. DAWES.

Hon. H. M. TELLER, *Secretary, &c.*

YANKTON, July 23, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of 18th instant, inclosing copy of a letter from Senator Dawes in relation to the proceedings of the Sioux commission as to the manner of obtaining signatures of Sioux Indians to agreement, &c. The statement that the Indians were deceived or misled is absolutely false in every particular.

The agreement was fully explained in every particular, and the Indians were made to understand, and did fully understand, before signing, that they ceded to the United States all their right to the Great Sioux Reservation, except such portion as the Indians at each separate agency reserved for their own use and benefit. The agreement was executed in open council, in the presence of a large number of whites and Indians, not parties thereto, who not only witnessed the execution but heard the agreement explained, and in many cases it was read and explained, especially to Army officers, before being considered in council.

The Indians in no instance were ever told that they would be deprived of their homes "without compensation," or removed by the military authorities in case they refused to sign, but on the contrary they were advised that they would be protected in their improvements if they preferred to remain where they now are, and would be permitted to hold their claims or land, the same as white men, and that if they left their lands and improvements such improvements would be appraised to them, and they should be paid as is usual in such cases. I am assured by our interpreter (Rev. Mr. Hinman) that it is not true that children have been permitted to sign the agreement

under any circumstances, but it was thought proper inasmuch as males of the age of eighteen years had the right, under the treaty of 1868, to enter and hold 80 acres of land, that they (such males as were eighteen years old) could properly join in the agreement. The commission will gladly afford Senator Dawes and his committee every opportunity to get at the bottom facts in the business, and the commission only hope that the honorable committee will do them the honor to give them the opportunity to do so. The commission feel that they have been unjustly assailed by several gentlemen of the various missionary boards interested in the Sioux question, one cause of complaint being that the commission has not properly protected the property and improvements made by these boards in the Indian country.

Our answer to that is that we had no instructions on that subject, that they (the missionaries) are left precisely as we found them, and that their status is not changed in the least. The agreement is one between the Government and the Sioux Indians. They are the only parties to it and the only parties interested in it.

The commission never deemed it their duty to look after, or undertake to protect the interests of individuals or missionary boards, or any other interests, except that of the Government and the Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NEWTON EDMUNDS.

Hon. H. M. TELLER, *Secretary of Interior* :

[C. A. Bennett, Attorney at Law.]

GREELY, COLO., *August 6, 1883.*

DEAR SIR: Will you please inform me if the Sioux Indians have sold any of their lands to the Government that will be paid for in money, and at what agency would a member of the tribe have to make application for her part of same?

Yours, respectfully,

C. A. BENNETT.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.

SPRINGFIELD, DAK., *August 6, 1883.*

SIR: I trust that the fact that I have been for more than 10 years a resident of Dakota, as a missionary bishop, and am deeply interested in the welfare of both the white and Indian population, will be a sufficient justification of my venturing to address you a few lines to express the opinion that, while the breaking up of the Sioux Reservation is much to be desired, and would advance the welfare of both whites and Indians, the agreement proposed by the late commission is defective in many particulars, and will fail of ratification by the Indians, and that it is therefore much to be desired that plans should be perfected for the sending out of a new commission immediately on the assembling of Congress.

I think I can say that the whole missionary force among the Sioux, whether Presbyterian, Congregational, or those associated with me, is ready to co-operate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. HARE.

Hon. H. M. TELLER, *Secretary of the Interior.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 1, 1883.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 6th ultimo, asking to be informed whether the Sioux Indians have sold any of their lands to the Government for which money is to be paid them, and, if so, to what agency a member of said tribe should go to secure her share of the proceeds of the sale.

In reply you are advised that an agreement was concluded with the Sioux Indians during the fall and winter of 1882-'83, for the cession to the United States of a portion of their reservation, but the agreement failed of ratification by Congress, and consequently new negotiations were opened in the spring, the result of which has not as yet been finally reported.

Under the original agreement, the principal consideration for the cession of terri-

tory consisted of cattle for breeding purposes, and it is not likely that the terms will be materially changed in respect to the character of the compensation.

The further considerations agreed upon were designed to promote the education and civilization of the Indians, but it was not provided that money should be distributed in hand per capita.

Very respectfully,

C. A. BENNETT, Esq.,
Attorney at law, Greeley, Colo.

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

If it is not out of place, I would like to ask if the small part of the Sioux Reservation on east side of the Missouri River, opposite the mouth of the Grand River, is included in the pending treaty, which, I understand, is to be acted upon the coming winter. I would also like to know what part of the reservation on the west side of the river is included.

Respectfully,

P. CONCHMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 4, 1883.

SIR: I am in receipt, by reference from the honorable Secretary of the Interior, of your letter of the 24th ultimo, asking to be informed whether that part of the Great Sioux Reservation, in Dakota, east of the Missouri, and immediately opposite the mouth of Grand River, is included in the pending agreement with the Sioux; that is, whether the said lands will be included in the cession of territory which it is expected will be made to the United States by said Indians.

I presume that to be the point of your inquiry; and also what lands west of the Missouri River are likely to be ceded.

In reply you are advised that the agreement negotiated with the Sioux Indians during last fall and winter, under the act approved August 7, 1882, failed of ratification by Congress.

By authority of a subsequent act (act March 3, 1883) the negotiations were continued, but the final report of the commissioners on the part of the Government has not been received, and for that reason I am unable to give you the information asked for.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

P. CONCHMAN, Esq.,
La Beau, Dak.

YANKTON, DAK., *December 31, 1883.*

SIR: We have the honor to submit the following report of our proceedings, under instructions received from you in the matter of obtaining additional signatures to the agreement submitted to you in February last.

The obtaining of the signatures of three-fourths of the adult male Indians, as required, was regarded by us as a work of detail merely, involving no new or special negotiations, but rather the clerical work of taking the names of such of them as, following the example of their leaders, might be willing to sign. It called for visits to the scattered camps and villages, and could be done, it was thought, as well by one person as by several, and at less expense of time and money.

The official interpreter of the commission, Rev. S. D. Hinman, being thoroughly acquainted with the work done and to be done, and being possessed of such knowledge of the language and customs of the Indians as to qualify him admirably for the work, was, by a majority of the commission, and with your approval, detailed to visit the different agencies and present the agreement anew for signatures. His report, which is submitted herewith, shows that at Pine Ridge Agency, first visited, he secured the assent to the agreement of 633 male Indians over the age of eighteen years, that 30 refused through superstition either to assent or dissent. One hundred and fifty-six refused to assent, about 100 were absent on a hunt, and about 50, belonging to a

band which had been out with Sitting Bull, refused to consider the matter at all, on the ground that they were strangers there, and without right to take part in the negotiation.

The number of assenting Indians does not include the 85 chiefs and headmen who originally signed the agreement.

Of the 100 absentees, a great majority would doubtless have assented, following the example of the bands to which they belonged, and it was expected that of the 156 refusing to assent many would eventually be won over by their friends of the majority.

Mr. Hinman in his report sets forth at length the facts upon which he has been charged with improper conduct in the taking of signatures at Pine Ridge. We have no personal knowledge of the matter, but have no doubt that the facts are as stated by Mr. Hinman. We submit with his report a statement by Agent McGillicuddy in support of Mr. Hinman's denial of the charges referred to. It was intended, after the completion of the preliminary work by Mr. Hinman, to call a general council, at which those assenting should, in the presence of the agent and other witnesses, formally sign the agreement. Owing to an unlooked for interruption of the work this council was never held, and no new signatures have been affixed to the agreement. This interruption was caused by the efforts of several persons who visited the different agencies about this time to induce the Indians to withhold their assent, on the ground that they had received less than they ought for the cession, and by the general understanding, on the part of the Indians that the Senate Committee, soon to arrive, was a new commission from which they were to receive new and possibly better terms. These same causes prevented the carrying out of our plans at the other agencies, and after a visit by Mr. Hinman to the Standing Rock Agency, stopping also at Cheyenne River and Crow Creek Agencies, we deemed it inadvisable to prosecute the undertaking further, it being plainly impossible to do anything with the Indians in their present confused state. With reference to the execution of the agreement as originally submitted to you, and to our action in obtaining signatures to it prior to the attempt to obtain the signatures of three-fourths of the adult males, we beg to make a brief statement. Our final instructions, dated October 3, 1882, and received before entering upon the work in the field, were that the signatures of the chiefs and headmen only were required, these instructions being based, as we understood, upon the fact that Congress had ratified the agreement of 1877, which ignored article 12 of the treaty of 1868, being signed by the chiefs and headmen only, thereby in effect abrogating said article 12. Our agreement was signed by nearly all the chiefs and headmen, in numbers largely in excess of that ever before secured by any treaty or agreement with these Indians. In every instance we were fully satisfied that the signers were authorized by their people, by whom they had been deputed, in their own councils and after their regular and long-established customs, to act for them, and in submitting the agreement to you we regarded it, as we still do, as fully executed by the Indian people both in law and in fact.

The Indians so understood it, as did also all who are acquainted thoroughly with the purely representative form of government prevailing among the Sioux. We find that the signing of the agreement as required by the individual members of the tribe, after it had been signed by their representatives in the manner to which they are accustomed, is not regarded by the Indians with approval. They cannot understand it, and therefore look upon it with suspicion. It has been charged that the commission gained the assent of the Indians by threats and intimidation. In answer to this it may be unnecessary for us to do more than to make a positive and explicit denial of the charge; but we have in our possession, and we therefore submit herewith, copies of statements in corroboration of such denial, by the Right Rev. Bishop Marty and Agents McGillicuddy, Wright, McLaughlin, and Swan. Although the Indians, as appears from one of the statements above referred to, say that they did not understand the agreement when they signed it, we cannot believe that such is the fact. The very full discussion of its terms at every agency, at numerous and protracted councils, by both commission, agents, and Indians, as well as the many pertinent questions asked and objections raised by the Indians, render such a claim on their part impossible of belief.

Many facts might be mentioned to show that the Indians were not ignorant that they were ceding lands to the Government, but we refer here to only one of them, the truth of which is manifest in the agreement itself.

The Upper Brulés at Rosebud Agency were very anxious to prevent the opening to settlement of any land between their reservation and the Missouri River, and it was finally agreed by us that the Lower Brulés should have the country between the Rosebud Reservation and the river. That promise is rehearsed in that portion of the agreement which describes the reservation of the Lower Brulés.

It is of course plain that if the Rosebud Indians had been ignorant of any cession there would have been no grounds for their apprehension that they might be cut off from access to the river by intervening lands open to settlement. The allegations of intimidation and of nonunderstanding of the agreement are, we are convinced, now

made with the hope that they may be allowed to recede from the agreement, and that in a second negotiation they may obtain large sums of money for the cession made. The agreement has been objected to on the ground that it dispossesses many worthy Indians of their homes and improvements, without compensation therefor, and that an especial hardship is imposed upon the Lower Brulés in requiring the abandonment of their most valuable improvements and the populous camps at the mouth of the White River. In answer to this we wish to call attention to the fact that the latter part of article 12 of the treaty of 1863 provides that "no cession by the tribe shall be understood or construed in such manner as to deprive, without his consent, any individual member of the tribe of his right to any tract of land selected by him as provided in article 6 of this treaty," and the pending agreement reaffirms the treaty of 1863. Besides this, in every case where removals were anticipated, it provides that if any member of the tribe, who is left without the reservation by the changes made, elect to move, he shall receive full compensation for all improvements lost by removal. The improvements of the Lower Brulés, the threatened loss of which is so deeply deplored, are largely upon the lands which the Indians have themselves sold to the C. M. & St. P. Railway Company, and for which that company pays full value, while nearly all the rest are included in that part of township 103, range 72, which lies north of White River, extending up to within a mile or two of the present agency, which was given to these Indians with the express purpose of leaving their camps and improvements within the new reservation.

Being unable, as before stated, to prosecute further the work of obtaining signatures with any hope of present success, we return the agreement herewith without charge, and beg to subscribe ourselves,

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

NEWTON EDMUNDS,
PETER C. SHANNON,
JAMES H. TELLER,
Commissioners.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

NOTE BY INDIAN OFFICE.—Inclosure No. 1 to the foregoing report was the original agreement with the Sioux, a copy of which was transmitted to Congress, by the President, February 3, 1883. It was transmitted to the Sioux commissioners for use and reference in conducting the further negotiations with which they were charged, and was returned as an inclosure to their said report. As there is a copy of the agreement with these papers it is not deemed necessary to add another copy here.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

WEIGAND, KNOX COUNTY NEBRASKA,
November 1, 1883.

SIR: I was commissioned and delegated by your commission to obtain additional signatures to the pending agreement with the Dakota (Sioux) Indians. I was so commissioned under the authority conferred by a clause in the sundry civil bill, passed by the last Congress, appropriating money to enable the Hon. Secretary of the Interior to obtain the assent of three-fourths of the male adults living on the Great Sioux Reservation, and parties to the treaty of 1863, to the agreement made by their chiefs and headmen with your commission during the fall and winter of 1882 and 1883.

As this work, so undertaken, has by your order been discontinued, I have the honor to respectfully submit this report showing the results of my work, so far as completed, and the method of its accomplishment.

It was by you thought best that the work should be begun at the largest agency on the reservation. Accordingly I proceeded at once to Pine Ridge and reported my business to Dr. McGillicuddy, the United States agent in charge.

A general and public council of the chiefs and headmen was immediately called and convened, at which I was present and in the deliberations of which I took part.

Both the agent and myself there made public the object of my visit, viz, that it was to obtain the assent of at least three-fourths of the adult males receiving rations and annuities at that agency to the agreement already signed by the chiefs and headmen of the Ogalallas, on the 28th day of October, 1882. This, the object of my visit, was decidedly opposed by Red Cloud, the first chief who spoke in council. He asserted himself to be the autocrat of his people, without whose consent no measures could be taken for the transaction of any business at the Ogalalla Agency.

I, however, asserted it to be my right and duty, under my orders, to submit my understanding to the people at large, and to individual members of the tribe, for acceptance or rejection, the chiefs and headmen having already given their assent, and heretofore willingly and publicly signed the same agreement.

It seems to me to be the obvious intent of the act of Congress and treaty before referred to to deal with persons rather than councils, and to overthrow the domination of tribal and clan compact in Indian society, in the interest of individual rights and the protection of personal interests. At last, after private consultation among the chiefs and headmen in council, Red Cloud, yielding to the remonstrances and desire of the most influential of them, submitted the following proposition as to the method and manner of performing the duty assigned to me, viz: "As, owing to the exceeding inclemency of the weather in the then early spring, the bad state of the roads, the uselessness of the Indian ponies after so long and severe a winter, and the absence on a hunt of a leading chief and his band, no general gathering of their people was then, or for a long time, possible. I should therefore visit their villages and camps one by one; the resident local chiefs and headmen should at each place assemble the people of their respective villages and clans, the proposition should be submitted, at each place, in a public meeting previously called, and if, in the end, it was found that a majority of the male adults had assented to the agreement, the work should be reported and ratified in a general council to be called and held at the agency office, when Red Cloud himself would again be present and assist."

To this proposition I at once gave my willing assent. After consultation with the agent it was decided that I should first go to the camp most remote from the agency, and that I should have the company and assistance of the captain of the local Indian police, and of such of his officers and men as I might deem useful to me.

Without further delay, I left immediately for the Kiyaksa village, situated on Medicine Root Creek, distant some 40 miles from the agency, stopping for the night at the Government school-house, on Wounded Knee Creek.

I arrived at my destination on Tuesday, the 17th day of April. On the 18th, Little Wound, the chief of the Kiyaksas, assembled his people and those living with them at his local school-house, and public council was held.

Little Wound's talk on this occasion was unanimously approved by the people, and was in substance what was said by all speakers favoring assent at subsequent councils held at other villages. I report it in full at his request and by the order of the council in which it was given:

"My people are strongly in favor of a separate reservation; we wish no longer to be wanderers, we cannot longer be hunters; we suffer constant anxiety by reason of the uncertainty as to our habitation, and the tenure by which we hold it; we are in constant dread to orders to again remove to the Missouri River, or of further solicitations to go to the Indian Territory; we have always lived on the plains and are happy in this high country. In other places we become sick and die. We are in favor of the reservation proposed because it gives us the country we desire to own. In size it is ample for us and our children, but we do not like the artificial boundary lines because we cannot comprehend them; we now thoroughly understand them all, but my people prefer that our north boundary should be described and defined by natural limits, and distinctly marked out for us by surveyors' mounds. Instead of the artificial geographical lines, which are not yet located or marked, let the same be written out in words, viz, to the mouth of Rapid Creek, thence by and along the northern edge of the Bad Lands to the mouth of the Black Pipe, thence up and along said stream to its source, thence due south to the northern boundary of Nebraska, which we well know, because it is already surveyed and marked out by proper furrows and mounds. I know it is substantially the same now, and I am satisfied with it, but my people prefer a boundary we can see with our eyes and a description we can readily understand; we want the north edge of the Bad Lands, which is steep like a wall, for a fence to keep the cattle of our white neighbors, who will occupy the adjoining territory, from straying among our own.

"As to the price to be paid, we are told by some who claim to be our friends that it is far too small, we do not know about this.

"We know neither the measurement or the value of our land. But we trust you, we trust the commission, we trust Congress and the Great Father. If, on consideration, it is found to be too small, we know it will be made right for us in the end.

"We cannot even talk about values, for we are ignorant of them, but we know the Great Father always consults our best welfare and we trust in him. Our hearts are fully in this project, and we bring our children to this council as to an important ceremony that they may see with their eyes and hear with their ears that their fathers and elders promise for them that they shall become civilized and real owners of land and will cling no longer to the ideas of savagery, but will acquire the industries and civilization of the white man.

"Now, as to special requests. When we were asked by the Great Father to give up the Black Hills we at first objected, that, although it was true we did not occupy them ourselves, still the cession asked for would, if granted, cause our country to be overrun by adventurous white men and desperadoes, and that our people and their property would be continually molested by them. We were told in answer to this that the proposed agreement guaranteed us full protection. We then consented to give up

the Hills. Our fears were more than realized. For two years our country was overrun by lawless men, and the Ogalallas alone lost over two thousand five hundred ponies.

"We could not pursue the thieves, for they were armed and desperate men and it would have provoked war. These men even murdered their own fellows, much less would they spare an Indian. The law of the white man was powerless to protect even the Government mails from capture and violation. It did not protect us, but we kept the peace and remained quiet and at home. Therefore, if Red Cloud is to be paid for his horses which were seized by the soldiers of the Great Father, because he had no ears, we think, under the guarantee of protection in the agreement then made, we also should be paid for ours. This would make all our people happy, and no one would longer question the sincerity and honesty of the Government in its dealing with our people.

"Again you have seen our houses built of logs and covered with earth. In rainy weather they leak, none of them have floors, very many of them have no windows or opening but the door. We desire to have permanent houses and no longer live in lodges and move from place to place. We ourselves have built these houses and encouraged our people to build them. But they are badly ventilated, damp, and unhealthy. There are over five hundred occupied by the Ogalalla people. We ask, therefore, for another saw-mill to be located at this end of our reserve. The one at the agency is nearly forty miles away. It cannot begin to supply us the lumber we need, even if it was possible for us to haul our logs so far. The agreement of 1876 promises good houses to all the chiefs and for such as take lands in severalty. The money seems to have been exhausted at Crow Creek, east of the Missouri River, and in building two houses for Red Cloud and Spotted Tail.

"We liked the work oxen promised, for they are strong and gentle, but for our logging and hauling we ought to have two yoke instead of one.

"Finally, you know that only heavy lumber wagons have been given us. In our rough country it requires four of our horses to draw one even without a load. We ask that from the money to be paid us by the railroad companies or otherwise a few light wagons may be purchased to be given to the chiefs and headmen. We need such for use on the long trips we are often obliged to make between our various camps and the agency. This is all. My people will assent to the agreement, because it secures to us and our children the country we desire for our own. I ask that these, my words, be sent to the Great Father at Washington."

After Little Wound had done talking he was followed by several who supported him in his requests. Numerous questions as to boundaries, compensation, methods of obtaining self support, schools, &c., were asked and answered.

We then made ready to record the names of those assenting to the agreement. Many questions as to individuals, manner of best accomplishing the work, &c., at once came up. The Indians demanded that a record be kept of all names presented to us.

In the present almost chaotic state of Indian society it was evident some method must be adopted and carefully followed from the first, or our work would be only an indefinite approximation to any correct or useful result.

Comparatively few of the Indians are known even by sight to the white residents at the agency. Many are not so known even to the Indians outside their own village or clan. Most of them have more than one name by which they are called, some having as many as six; all superstitiously decline to tell their own names. Some of them have been registered at two or more different agencies.

Reported members of many families and some entire households are wholly mythical. Having full knowledge of all these things, and knowing that an exposure of these deceits will practically affect the value of their ration tickets, they rigidly oppose an attempt at enumeration, and look with grave apprehension upon any well-directed effort to gain correct or systematic knowledge as to the identity or number of their people.

For the success of our work it was necessary that we have a correct enumeration of all the males living on the Ogalalla Reserve, or receiving rations at their agency. We must obtain not only the number, but the individual name of each of these, and this must be done without disclosing our intention of getting a correct census, and without exciting such suspicion as would lead to violent opposition.

This work, with the assistance of Captain Sword and the local Indian police at each village, I undertook to perform, using the knowledge of each of them as to his own clan and those living in his own immediate neighborhood. Under cover of gaining the assent of the male adults to the agreement, we were to make at each village a list also of those refusing assent, of those not attending our councils, and of those living upon but temporarily absent from the reservation.

In this way by my own work, and by the undoubtedly reliable information furnished by faithful assistants, themselves Dakotas, I should quietly but surely obtain a correct enumeration of all the male adults among the Ogalallas, and a perfect record of their names.

This plan has been successfully carried out, and I furnish herewith a list of all assenting to the agreement, and one of those refusing assent, absent and not appearing at our councils.

If former estimates, which assume that there should be at least one male adult for every five persons enumerated in any general census be correct, the population at Pine Ridge has been largely overestimated.

The next practical question brought before us regarded age. Who is an Indian adult? Must we follow our laws or their own? Must each male adult be twenty-one years or of fewer years of age; the number to be determined by Dakota custom, which is their common law? The custom has been since the days of Washington that Indian law governs in all questions concerning only themselves.

Among the Dakotas, a chief dying is succeeded by his eldest son. This son may be in years a mere child, but by induction into office he is thereby made a man. A father gives up name and social manhood rights to his son, although he be but a boy. He is thereafter accounted to be a man.

The son of one killed in battle and dying bravely with his face to the foe is given his father's name and place, in fact, in accord with the peculiar animistic ideas of the red race, becomes the very individual slain. By dreams and omens certain youth are designated, or it is pointed out by their prophets, or directly revealed to them as individuals that they are men, and they are admitted to all clan and tribal rights. And any youth admitted, though it be accident only, to any momentous ceremony or sacred rite, and any boy whose name has been recorded on a treaty or official document of importance becomes thereby a full member of the body politic and free citizen in his clan or band. Such is the Indian idea concerning manhood rights.

It is thus readily seen that the age limitation, as a question among Indians, and one touching the social standing and political privilege of not a few, was one of practical importance to them, and could not be dismissed without deliberate consideration and debate.

On the side of the Government it was found we had no definite law or settled custom of practice. The Indian custom has been often recognized and confirmed in the case of chiefs and headmen. Many households on the agency lists are represented by a mere boy, in accordance with their own customs, though other males and those of mature age are members of the same family. On consulting the treaty we found only three provisions containing age limitations. The first provides that the clothing promised adults be given to boys at fourteen years of age. The school attendance for children shall be enforced by penalties until boys shall have reached sixteen years is the second such provision, and the third is that land may be taken and held in severalty by all males of eighteen years and upwards, and by the taking of land under this last provision the foundation is laid, in certain cases, for the speedy acquirement of the full rights of citizenship in the republic.

After deliberate consideration, and after full conference with the United States agent in charge it was concluded that it might be fairly assumed that in the treaty of 1868 the age of eighteen years was intended to be designated as the threshold of Indian manhood. After consultation with your commission made this conclusion a decision. It was considered final and governed all my work. In our councils with the Indians we always proclaimed this determination of the age controversy. It was undoubtedly and most thoroughly understood by all who attended our councils, whether Indians or whites.

Still, when we came to actual enrollment, a new hindrance was encountered. If we could with difficulty ascertain the real or cherished name of an individual it was next to impossible to ascertain his age. They were equally reticent and obstinate about telling their ages, and their stupidity and superstition is in this case most times enforced by much actual ignorance. Indians generally neither count years nor number or name them, and barbarous, physical life is so naturally animal, that unless there was battle raging at the time or there was pestilence, earthquake, or famine, a woman can in no way indicate or recall the year in which her son was born or give even an approximate answer as to his age. Many of the older people count their years only by their recollections, as of the falling of the stars in 1832, or of their defeat by General Harney at the battle of Ash Hollow. In fact years are seldom a question of interest with them, until grey hairs, or the pressing infirmities of age, move them to curiously estimate their probable nearness to the grave. Between sixteen and twenty-one it is most difficult to determine ages. Their uncouth, bronze, stolid faces are singularly alike, and among the men the youthful appearance is long retained. We must therefore judge by stature or general appearance, or arrive at some determination from the place of the tribal abode at the time of birth. I think, however, we have succeeded in excluding from our count all under eighteen years of age, except one or two, of seemingly fewer years, but who were alleged to be married and already the fathers of children. Because we were the judges as to age and for the honor conferred upon them by being present in public council, and, as Little-Wound alleged, for the practical lesson which it taught, of a deliberate choice on the part of their

best men of a pastoral and civilized life, very many brought their boys with them and proclaimed their names or bestowed new ones upon them in honor of the agreement and to perpetuate glory of some departed family hero, prophet, or sage. All names of such as we considered to be under eighteen years of age were rejected from the list of those assenting to the agreement. A separate record was made of them, which has been preserved and is submitted with this report. Not only so, but at my request a check-list was kept by Captain Sword, a part of which is also herewith submitted. These records were made at the time and place when and where the council was held. They were publicly made and open to inspection and correction and were afterwards submitted to each village school teacher for inspection and amendment. I find the first of these lists were so submitted as early as April 25, or only seven days after the work was under way. One of these letters of transmittal is also herewith submitted. Error, therefore, except from gross imposition, such as giving of a wrong name in public council or from carelessness in copying, is impossible. We were often solicited to insert names of persons dead since the signing of the agreement and those of absent brothers, fathers, sons, or friends, but no name was recorded except in the presence of the identified possessor of it, and not until after most careful inquiry as to age, present residence, and right of citizenship in the tribe. A list of all rejected names was kept for our own protection, that we might give a correct account of all present at any council, and tell, by reference to the record, what we could not by any means bear in mind, who were not, as well as who were, admitted and enumerated as assenters to the agreement.

As to the official signing of the agreement itself, it was never attempted. In our difficult preliminary canvass there was found to be such trouble in identifying individuals and locating their residences, in the changing of names by request and in correcting errors, that it would be wholly impracticable to have any official paper signed in these isolated councils, even had it been thought to be desirable; moreover no suitable witnesses could be had except such as were directly identified with the work and so manifestly open to criticism. Beside many of the names of isolated persons, as of those sick or disabled, were given to Captain Sword in the presence of members of his force who could neither read nor write, and finally it was not thought to be right of safe to execute any important transaction between the Indians and the Government without the witness of the Government agents and other equally disinterested and reliable officers and men. We agreed therefore to the idea and request expressed by Red Cloud in the general council held on my arrival, viz, that the canvass should first be made in all the villages and camps, and, if successful, all should be ratified and signed in a final general council or under such direction. I therefore return the agreement as I received it from you. It has been exhibited only at the first council to show my authority, and to read from it the names already lawfully attached. On other occasions I have used a copy which I caused to be made for a reference and use in the camps. How manifestly unjust therefore have been the assaults made upon this particular branch of the work could not be made more apparent. In truth no Indian, whether child or adult, has as yet signed the agreement save only those who signed in the presence of the commission, at the time of its first presentation. I visited Pine Ridge a second time, in August last, to complete the work, but Red Cloud was absent at Shoshone Agency and the assenting chiefs thought it unfair and unwise to proceed without him. I report the work therefore in its unfinished state, omitting all names taken by Captain Sword since the date of my last visit. When, in July last, it was certainly known that a majority of the people at Pine Ridge would give their assent to the agreement, I visited Standing Rock Agency on the same mission. After preliminary talks with the leading chiefs a general council was assented to and called.

Though the more intelligent Indians there were known to favor the agreement the following answer was given to my proposition: "We are told that a committee from the Great Council at Washington is about to visit us to reopen this whole business; we are unwilling to proceed further until we have taken their advice." At the same time a large delegation from the Cheyenne River Agency was also present, bringing the message alleged to come from white men of influence and repute, that "the committee about to visit them would pay them in cash a much larger sum for a smaller cession of land." I found the same state of affairs at Crow Creek Agency, which I visited in August.

The Indians seemed to have been led to believe the Government itself to be opposed to the agreement, and that the commission were private individuals engaged in making a close bargain, against the best interests of the Indians and presumably for their own gain. At Pine Ridge Agency a bitter opposition was started and maintained by Red Cloud, who sent messengers to every camp threatening all who assented with untold troubles, starvation, and banishment, and promising all who stood by him to found for them an Indian empire, with no cession of land and a consolidated Dakota nation for its motto, and with barbarism supported by armed and surly warriors, enthroned in the person of him, their chief, perpetuated and forever maintained by subsidies already granted, wrung from the timorous and unstable Government of the whites.

But, notwithstanding its unwise and munificent endowment by the Government, barbarism among the Great Sioux Nation is everywhere in its decadence. Thus the opposition of the red-handed chiefs, who still live, was as nothing compared with other hindrances to the work, which came from white men, and these not men of the meaner sort. The commission was, by these and their allies, stationed at convenient places, covertly accused of dishonesty, treachery, oppression, and deceit. It is this influence alone which has arrested the work at the start and prevented a full and hearty ratification of the agreement by all the more intelligent and progressive men among the Sioux.

In conclusion, I desire to say that I have considered my designation to this particular work to have been made, not at the dictate of personal friendship or interested regard, and not from any supposed interest connecting it with other work of the commission, but because of my supposed fitness for it. Long residence among the Sioux has made me familiar with them, and given me a knowledge of their ideas, customs, habits of mind, and methods of business.

I could, therefore, untangle this confused web and resolve this barbarous mass into its individual strands and elements and set in order the proper name and standing of each and every person on the Great Sioux Reservation. And this most difficult task, except for outside interference, I could accomplish without exciting undue prejudice or revolt. I have felt greatly honored by the confidence so freely given me. I have had no personal ends to serve, and have had the aid and good will of all the better and more progressive Dakotas, and have everywhere enjoyed their confidence and shared their generous and hearty hospitality. I can assure you, gentlemen of the commission, that all has been done openly, honestly, and fairly, and with a peculiar solicitude that no error mar the result.

Thanking you for your confidence, counsel, and ready support, I am,
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM'L D. HINMAN.

Hon. J. H. TELLER,
Secretary of the Sioux Commission, Yankton, Dak.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

The following is an extract from a letter written by Agent Wright, of Rosebud Agency, to the secretary of the commission. Referring to the charges of intimidation he says:

"I did not hear or see any such conduct on the part of the commission, nor have I heard that they were charged with such conduct at this agency. If any threats or intimidation had been used here I think I should have heard of it."

[Inclosure No. 4.]

Agent McLaughlin, of Standing Rock Agency, in answer to the question whether the Indians charged the commission with intimidation at the council held by the Senate committee, says:

"The Indians did not deny signing the agreement, but said that they did not fully understand it, and that it was because Bishop Marty advised them to sign it that they did so. John Grass stated that it was his intention to have signed the agreement, but that he wanted to have a fuller explanation of matters and further conditions granted before doing so; but that before he had this brought about there was a rush made by some Indians to sign, then all rushed up and signed without knowing clearly what they were signing.

"As regards the conduct of the members of the commission in making the agreement, I gave a full statement, showing that nothing could be more honorable than their course at this agency, and that neither threats, promises, nor undue influence was used in obtaining the consent of the Indians.

"There seems to be a tacit understanding among the Indians of all the agencies to consent to nothing further in the matter, but were it not for the intimidation of the arrogant and aggressive Uncapapas and Blackfeet of this agency, the Upper and Lower Yanktonais could soon be brought to anything required of them."

[Inclosure No. 5.]

[Copy of a letter from Right Rev. Bishop Marty.]

MILWAUKEE, WIS., August 13, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR: I am astonished to learn that you are accused of having compelled the Indians to sign your treaty of last winter. Being present at your councils with the Indians at Standing Rock Agency, I did not hear anything but words of friendly

and patient explanation, and having since visited the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Agencies and held familiar conversation with the chiefs of the Ogalallas and Brulés, I am not aware of any complaint on their part.

Your treaty is the best thing done for the Dakotas since I first came among them in 1876.

It is, therefore, with sincerest regards and gratitude towards yourself and your co-operators that I remain

Your obliged servant,

Governor EDMUNDS,
Yankton, Dak.

M. MARTY,
R. C. Bishop of Dakota.

[Inclosure No. 6.]

(Copy of a letter from Agent Swan.)

CHEYENNE RIVER AGENCY, December 12, 1883.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your request for a statement as to the conduct of the commission in making the agreement with the Indians, touching especially the alleged acts of intimidation by the commission, I have to say that I was present, as you know, at every council held at my agency, and I heard nothing said which could in any manner be understood as threatening or intimidating the Indians. Nor have I ever heard that any threats or other improper means were used outside of the public councils to induce the Indians to sign. I regarded the conduct of the commission as fair and honorable, and am satisfied that after the very full discussion of the agreement at the many councils held during your two weeks' stay its terms were fully understood by all. The assent of the Indians was finally secured by the efforts largely of the most progressive and intelligent of the tribe. I was present by invitation at the close of a council of such Indians held just before they signed, and was then informed by them that they had agreed to sign, and would do so, if I would protect them from the soldier band of whom they were afraid, and it was there agreed that whoever was called upon by me to sign first should do so, on condition that I should have added to their reservation the land between Cherry Creek and Cheyenne River, which was subsequently added. And when this was agreed to by the commission I called upon Swift Bird to sign as agreed, and he promptly signed. I was thus present at three or four such councils. After the signing and the commission had left many came in and were ready to sign, in fact wanted to do so. The agreement was satisfactory, so far as I knew, for some time after this, though afterwards much dissatisfaction was expressed. I understand that it is charged that the commission threatened to remove the Indians to the Indian Territory, and I think I can recall to your mind the remarks upon which the charge is based. In urging upon them the importance of a reservation of their own, you will remember that the whole subject of their title was fully and repeatedly discussed. I remember that it was said, in speaking of the title as it now is, that they had nothing certain, that by existing treaties they would be compelled to live at one agency, and that if the other agencies should consent my Indians might be dispossessed of their lands and be allotted to another agency. In the same connection it was urged that as the subject of removal to the Indian Territory was brought up by the Black Hills agreement, so, if this offer was refused, some future commission might again revive the subject of their removal. This was, of course, all said in explanation of their present situation, and by way of argument for securing the permanent title then offered, and was so understood by every one, I am sure.

I am anxious to have the reservation for my Indians reduced, as it is now utterly impossible for me to visit as often as I ought the widely scattered camps without neglecting my other duties. I think an agent ought to visit every part of his agency at least twice a year, but I cannot do so as the camps are now located. Another reason for reduction is, that with so large a territory and so extended a river front, I cannot prevent the smuggling in of whisky and other contraband articles, unless my police force is largely increased. I have more trouble to settle in the camps near Pierre and along the Black Hills road than in all the rest of the agency, and I think this would all be done away with by making the Cheyenne River the southern boundary, as proposed. The new reservation is large enough; has more good lands, in fact, than will be needed for a long time, and though the Indians dislike to be moved to the north bank of the Cheyenne, I mean the few who are now south of it, they will, I have no doubt, in time see that it is best for them. Hoping this fully answers your question, I am,

Very respectfully,

W. A. SWAN,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. J. H. TELLER,
Secretary.

S. Ex. 70—5

[Inclosure No. 7.]

The following is an extract from a letter written by Agent McGillycuddy to the secretary of the commission :

"When it was decided necessary to procure the additional signatures of three-fourths of the male adults, and Mr. Hinman, commission interpreter, arrived at the agency for the purpose, a general council was held. At this council Red Cloud refused to have the members of his band, numbering about 300 men, women, and children, sign first, but it was finally agreed that Mr. Hinman should visit the distant villages first, and if the majority in such villages agreed, the Red Cloud band would sign. In conversation with the officers of the police and myself, it was decided that practically a census should be taken of eligible signers, *i. e.*, the names of the adult males favorable to the agreement and opposed. In starting out on this work, I instructed Captain Sword of the police to accompany Mr. Hinman, and also such instructions to the police residing in the villages to assist in the work, at the same time advising them, however, that, as I did in general council, there was nothing compulsory in the matter; that the Indians were perfectly at liberty to sign the agreement or not, and also that any case of threats being made by Indians or others, on either side, was to be immediately reported to me. The Kiyaska and Loafer band on Medicine Root Creek, 40 miles from the agency, was first visited, and after procuring the lists of names on this creek, Mr. Hinman and Captain Sword returned to the agency and informed me that the Indians were presenting boys of various ages, representing them as the children of widows; that the family ration tickets were in their names; that they were practically, according to the Indian custom, the heads of the family, and, inasmuch as the widows were not eligible as signers, they were.

"It was necessary to settle this point at once, and in the presence of Rev. Amos Ross, native missionary, Captain Sword, and Mr. Hinman, I examined the treaty of 1868, and, as far as the Sioux land laws go, the age of eighteen appeared to be the legal adult age. It was therefore decided by the above-mentioned parties that that age be adopted, and it was furthermore agreed by these gentlemen that in prosecuting the work three lists should be made and kept by Mr. Hinman and Captain Sword independently, *i. e.*, one of the adult males assenting, one of the adult males absent or dissenting, and one of the children presented but under age.

"Mr. Hinman preserved his lists and Captain Sword preserved his, and afterward compared them for the purpose of eliminating such errors as would unavoidably creep in.

"I have no reason to believe but that the procuring of these additional names to be afterwards attached to the agreement was done fairly and honestly. I have Captain Sword's assurance to that effect. He not only holds the responsible position of captain of the police at this agency, for the past four years representing the Indians as a full-blood Indian in that capacity, but is an honored and trusted member of the Episcopal Church.

"I detailed Captain Sword to represent the Indians and the agency in this business. His truthfulness and honesty have never been questioned in other matters; he has preserved the lists; they are now open for inspection, and he and his police are available at any time as witnesses.

"As I understood the matter, the procuring of the above-referred-to lists was more or less census work, as the agreement was not taken to the villages, the intention being, as I was informed, to attach the names of the adult-assenting Indians subsequently. The work was, however, abandoned and not completed, so that the work stands as it did in the fall of 1882, signed by the chiefs and the headmen. This census throughout the villages developed and proved the fact that the vast majority of the more industrious, progressive, and civilized Indians were heartily in favor and anxious for the success of the agreement, and the setting apart of a separate reservation as one of the first steps toward individualization and lands in severalty, as opposed to the barbarous chieftainship and the tribal system.

"Regarding what is known as the promised addition of land in Nebraska, I would explain that through carelessness or design, and directly against the orders of the Interior Department, this agency was in the fall of 1878, located in the southwestern corner of Dakota, within 1½ miles of the Nebraska line, so that when I assumed charge here in 1878, we were furnished with the luxuries and accommodations of civilization by having a well-supplied whisky ranch in full blast, almost within gunshot of the agency, which forced the agent to add the labor of a coroner and undertaker to his other duties by making periodical trips into Nebraska to gather up dead Indians and half-breeds killed in drunken quarrels. After agitating the question for about two years, I finally, through the present honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs, succeeded in having a strip of land five miles wide and ten miles long immediately along the boundary line in Northern Nebraska set aside by executive order and attached to the reservation. This effectually did away with the whisky ranch. On prosecuting

the work of obtaining additional signatures by Mr. Hinman, the Red Cloud and Red Shirt bands, living near the Nebraska line, objected to the agreement for the reason that most of the timber which they depended on for fuel and houses was in the executive strip, or immediately beyond, and in the event of the setting aside of the executive order, they would [be] deprived of fuel, and be again cursed with whisky ranches; and in return for their signing the agreement, they wished to have the executive strip of five miles and one township in addition, to include the timber guaranteed them. In answer to this Mr. Hinman informed them (the Red Cloud and Red Shirt Indians) that he could not guarantee it, but would use his strongest efforts with the Department, looking toward the desired end, *i. e.*, the attaching of the land to the timber line in Nebraska to the reserve."

[Inclosure No. 8.]

Agent McGillycuddy, of Pine Ridge Agency, in answer to a request for a statement as to the conduct of the commission in obtaining signatures at his agency, says:

"I would report that in none of the councils, conferences, or talks with the Indians, individually or collectively, at which I was present, was there any attempt at 'bulldozing,' or coercion by threats or otherwise, by any member of the commission or myself, to induce Indians to sign said agreement; neither were there any reports made to me from any source that such means were adopted at such councils or talks where I was not present. On the contrary, I am thoroughly satisfied, from the reports of the Indian police and from special investigation made by me, that runners or messengers were being constantly sent through the villages and camps by Red Cloud and other representatives of the irreconcilable, barbarous, and non-progressive element, informing and threatening the Indians that such as signed the agreement would forfeit rations and annuities, be deprived of their lands in Dakota, and be taken by the military to the Indian Territory. In the lights of these facts, the 'bulldozing' reports form a most interesting and comical phase of this affair. It is true, however, that I, as agent, and I presume members of the commission, cautioned and advised these Indians that unless they materially changed their habits, made use of their land, learned to labor, and adopted civilized pursuits to enable them to eventually rise out of their present non-productive and pauperized condition, the time would come when the Government would tire of sending rations and other supplies in the present lavish manner, and in such event, being to a certain extent thrown on their resources, they would suffer for want of food and clothing. Also that, holding their reservation in common, they would in future, as they had in the past, lose it by piecemeal, and, poetically speaking, be forced sooner or later, to seek homes elsewhere than in the 'Land of the Dakotas.'

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"In regard to the understanding by the Indians of the agreement as signed by them the relinquishment of the land not included in that portion of the reservation required for the proposed separate agency reservation, I would explain that, as far as my knowledge of the affair goes, I should say that the boundaries of the reservation as set aside for Pine Ridge was fully explained, and thoroughly and satisfactorily understood by the Pine Ridge Sioux. With several years' experience as a topographical engineer in this and other portions of the Northwest, I carefully drew on the black-board in the council rooms, a large map of the reservation, explaining to the Indians by natural boundaries, such as streams, hills, &c., the land set aside for Pine Ridge, and with the land thus set aside they were more than satisfied, for the reason that included in the boundaries was land which they supposed would naturally go to the Brulé Sioux at Rosebud Agency. Concerning the relinquishment of a portion of the reserve to the Government, it was the understanding with the Indians that they relinquished all claims on the general reserve not included in the land set aside for Pine Ridge. This was so interpreted to them in the council by the agency interpreter; but as to what disposition was to be made of that balance, or the amount of the same was explained, so far as my knowledge goes, by Rev. S. D. Hinman, commission interpreter, who read the agreement in the Sioux language to the Indians directly from the manuscript, not being conversant with the Sioux language, I cannot state positively whether the Indians understood the agreement literally as read to them, but I am confident that they were aware that they were relinquishing more or less land to the Government, and in all councils and talks upon the subject of the agreement I informed them that they were giving up land; but notwithstanding the fact, I advised them to stand by the agreement for the purpose of securing a separate reservation over which the Pine Ridge Indians could have control. No one holding conversation with these Indians at the time of the signing of the agreement, and shortly subsequent thereto, could for a moment doubt this knowledge on their part. The fact that before signing the agreement the Indians insisted that the northern boundary of the new Pine Ridge Reserve

should be the south fork of the Cheyenne River, and an east and west line on the northern edge of the 'Bad Lands,' for the purpose of keeping cattle from what would be the white men's country from straying onto their reserve, indicates an understanding of the situation."

We, the undersigned, engaged in missionary and educational work among the Sioux or Dakota Indians occupying the Great Sioux Reservation—having heretofore publicly drawn attention to what in our judgment were grave defects in some of the terms of the pending agreement made between the Government of the United States, represented by Messrs. Edmunds, Shannon, and Teller, its accredited commissioners, and the chiefs and headmen of various bands of Sioux living on the reservation above mentioned and at Crow Creek Agency in Dakota Territory, and at Santee Agency in Nebraska—do hereby withdraw all objections to said agreement and all opposition thereto: *Provided*, that Congress shall amend the said agreement by adding the following stipulations and modifications, to wit:

I. That all Indians entitled to take land in severalty and have the same recorded and certified to them under the provisions of Article VI of the treaty of 1868, shall, upon complying with said provisions, receive, without unnecessary delay, a patent for the land which they may have selected agreeably to said provisions: *Provided, however*, That the title therein conveyed shall not be subject to alienation or incumbrance of any kind whatsoever for the period of twenty-five years; and *provided further*, That no allotments of land shall be made which will encroach upon lands now set apart for, and in use by, any religious society for missionary and educational purposes.

And further, that if any Indian prior to the ratification of this agreement shall have selected land as his farm and made improvements thereupon, which land shall prove to be within any cession made by the agreement now pending, and without the limits of any of the proposed separate reservations therein described, then the Indians who have so selected a farm and made improvements shall receive a title in fee to the said farm; or if, instead of retaining said farm, he elect to remove to, within, and upon any of the reservations in the said agreement set aside and described, then he shall receive full compensation for all improvements made upon said land so claimed and held, and shall be removed at the expense of the Government of the United States.

II. That the cattle promised in the aforesaid agreement shall be first grade American stock cattle, and none of the same shall be of southern or half-breed stock.

(a) III. That in case any of the property lawfully occupied by any religious society engaged in missionary or educational work among the said Indians, shall by said agreement now pending be left without the bounds of any of the reservations therein described, then the United States shall convey to and give to any missionary society legally incorporated, whose buildings are so situate and left, a full title to, and patent for one hundred and sixty (160) acres of land, or so much thereof as may be necessary to secure their improvements and efficiently carry on their work: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to interfere with the title to any lands lawfully recorded before their occupancy by the missionary society by any Indian under the provisions of Article VI of the treaty of 1868.

(b) IV. That missionary societies shall have the right to buy at a reasonable compensation, and with the approval of the United States, so much land as may be necessary for use in the prosecution of their educational and missionary work, *Provided, however*, That such land shall not be used for other than educational and missionary purposes, until the tribal title to the surrounding lands is extinguished.

V. That in excess of, and beside the stipulations contained in the aforesaid agreement, Congress shall set aside a specified sum, not less than two millions of dollars, the interest on one-half of which shall be set apart and forever used to establish schools and promote education, and the interest on the other half be set apart and forever used for other beneficial purposes in behalf of the Indians who are parties to this agreement, and for no other purpose whatsoever.

Signed by us, January, 1884.

WILLIAM H. HARE,
Missionary Bishop.

JOHN P. WILLIAMSON,
Missionary, Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

W. W. FOWLER,
Missionary Protestant Episcopal Church.

JOSEPH W. COOK,
Missionary, Protestant Episcopal Church, Yankton Agency.

ALFRED L. RIGGS,
Missionary, American Missionary Association, Santee Agency, Nebr.

We, the undersigned members of the Sioux commission, recommend that the above suggested amendments, numbered respectively I and II, be adopted, as tending to

make more definite and certain what is already promised in the agreement; we recommend the adoption of III and IV, as containing provisions in themselves just and reasonable.

As to the proposition contained in V, although we had thought that sufficient provision was made for educational advantages to these Indians, yet we now see no objection to the creation of a fund for said purpose, and for other beneficial purposes, leaving, of course, the amount of the fund and its disposition to the liberality and judgment of Congress.

For these reasons we most cordially recommend to the consideration of Congress the amendments proposed by the missionaries.

NEWTON EDMUNDS,
PETER C. SHANNON,
JAMES H. TELLER,
Members of the Sioux Commission.

YANKTON, DAK., *January 9, 1884.*

S. Ex. 70—6

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