

## MESSAGE

FROM THE

# PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

*A letter of the Secretary of the Interior and documents relative to the condition of the Northern Cheyenne Indians.*

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MAY 14, 1890.—Read, referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

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*To the Senate and House of Representatives :*

I transmit herewith a communication of the 10th instant, from the Secretary of the Interior, and the accompanying copies of correspondence relative to the condition of the Northern Cheyenne Indians at the Pine Ridge Agency, S. D.

The desire of these Indians to be united upon some common reservation with their brethren now occupying the Tongue River reserve in Montana is quite natural, and such an arrangement would, I think, promote the best interests of both of these bands.

BENJ. HARRISON.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
May 13, 1890.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, May 10, 1890.

The PRESIDENT:

I have the honor to submit herewith an extract from a communication of 7th ultimo from United States Indian Inspector Armstrong, relative to the condition of the Northern Cheyenne Indians at the Pine Ridge Agency, S. D., and copy of a communication of 23d ultimo from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in reply thereto.

Inspector Armstrong expresses the opinion that these Indians and those at the Tongue River Agency, Mont., should be concentrated at one agency, and states that they are dissatisfied and refuse to remain at the Pine Ridge Agency.

The Commissioner in his report calls attention to the fact that the rights of these Indians on the Pine Ridge reserve are equal in every respect with those of the Sioux, having been parties to the treaty of 1868, 1887, and the late Sioux agreement; but that they are dissatisfied from the abuse inflicted upon them by the Sioux, and desire to remove to the

Tongue River Reservation and be united with their brethren there. He states that the Tongue River Reservation is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the united tribe, and it would therefore be impracticable to unite them and find a home for them there; and he therefore recommends that the matter of selecting and procuring a reservation where the two bands of Cheyennes may be permanently located, and conducting the negotiations with them and with the Indians of any reservation where it may be found desirable to locate them, for such portion of their reservation as may be necessary for the purpose, be committed to the charge of a competent commission, and that Congress be asked for the needed authority and means to accomplish that object.

I also inclose copy of correspondence regarding these Indians received from the honorable Secretary of War on 6th instant, which shows their restless condition, and copy of a further communication of 1st instant from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with copies of letters, petitions, etc., relating to the subject.

I am satisfied that the only solution of this question is to unite these bands and locate them upon the Crow or some other Indian reservation, and I concur in the Commissioner's recommendation, and request that if the same meets your approval, that Congress be asked to take early and favorable action upon this matter.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
 JOHN W. NOBLE,  
*Secretary.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
 OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
 Washington, April 23, 1890.

SIR: Referring to your indorsement of the 11th instant, on report of Inspector Armstrong of the 7th instant, regarding certain matters at the Pine Ridge Agency, in South Dakota, in which you direct that measures be taken to unite the Northern Cheyenne Indians at Pine Ridge Agency with the Northern Cheyennes at the Tongue River Agency, in Montana, and that steps be taken to obtain from the Crows a portion of their reservation, in said Territory, on which to permanently locate the two bands. I have the honor to submit the following statement of facts and recommendation thereon:

The Northern Cheyennes of the Pine Ridge Agency number, according to the census of 1889, 557 souls—families, 157; males over 18 years of age, 131; females over 14 years of age, 185; females under 14 years of age, 100.

They were represented in the treaty of 1868 (22 Stat., 635), which established the Great Sioux Reservation, and were parties to the Black Hills agreement of 1887 (19 Stat., 254), and the late Sioux agreement (25 Stat., 888), so that their rights on the Pine Ridge Reservation are unquestionably equal in every respect with those of the Sioux themselves.

It would require a great deal of time and space to give anything like a complete history of these Indians.

In former years, before peace was established with the Sioux, many of the Northern Cheyennes and Arapahoes were joined and affiliated with the Ogallalāh and Brule Sioux and co-operated with them in their hostilities against the Government. They roamed over the country from the Black Hills to the Big Horn, and were among the most war-like

Indians on the plains. Many of the younger men were born on Tongue River and the Rosebud. By the treaty of May 10, 1868 (15 Stat., 655), the Northern Cheyennes and Arapahoes agreed to accept for their permanent home some portion of the country set apart for the Southern Cheyennes and Arapahoes in the Indian Territory, or of that set apart for the Sioux by the treaty of April 29, 1868, or to attach themselves to the Crow Agency on the Yellowstone.

For years, however, all efforts on the part of the Government to induce them to select one of the three places named failed of success.

At just what period the Northern Cheyennes joined the Sioux I am unable to state, but I find that as early as 1872 there were 1,515 of said Indians belonging to the Red Cloud Agency (annual report of this office, 1872, p. 267).

About the time of the removal of the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail Agencies from Nebraska to Dakota, in 1877, and upon the surrender of the Northern Cheyennes who had been engaged in the Sioux war of 1876, the Northern Cheyennes, it appears, were suddenly and unexpectedly seized with a desire to remove to the Indian Territory. The announcement was followed by prompt action on the part of the Government and on the 28th of May, 1877, the tribe to the number of 937 left Red Cloud Agency under military escort, and after a journey of 70 days arrived at the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency, in said Territory.

The Northern Arapahoes, at their own earnest request, about this time joined the Shoshones on the Wind River reserve in Wyoming, where they have since resided. (Annual Report Indian Office for 1877, p. 19.)

In less than a year after the arrival of the Cheyennes in Indian Territory a party of 300, under Chief Dull Knife, becoming dissatisfied with the change, etc., left the agency with the determination of rejoining their friends, the Sioux Indians, in Dakota. They raided through Kansas on their way north, murdering and pillaging the whites, but were finally either captured by the military or surrendered to them, and gradually the survivors either got back to Indian Territory or escaped from the military to continue their journey north.

About the same time Little Chief's band of Northern Cheyennes, numbering about 200, went south from Nebraska to Indian Territory.

In 1879 there were but 120 of the Northern Cheyennes at the Pine Ridge Agency, and these were transferred to military control and taken to Fort Keogh, Mont., in the fall of that year. They were of the party who escaped with Dull Knife after their noted raid in Kansas.

In the fall of 1881 Little Chief and his band, numbering about 235, were at their earnest and persistent solicitation transferred from Indian Territory to the Pine Ridge Agency. On their arrival there the band numbered 317, eighty-two having joined the party en route secretly and without authority. There then remained at the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency in Indian Territory, of the Northern Cheyennes, 684, men, women, and children.

Of those who were transferred to Pine Ridge Agency in 1881, about 200, under subchief Black Wolf, left Pine Ridge, in September, 1882, for Fort Keogh, Montana, without authority and contrary to the orders of the Department.

In 1883, by authority of Congress (22 Stat., 445), the Northern Cheyennes still remaining in Indian Territory, to the number of 391, (and 14 Arapahoes) were removed to the Pine Ridge Agency, in Dakota. While on the way to Dakota a party of about 50 broke away from the band and returned to the Territory. In 1884 there were 500 Northern

Cheyennes on the Pine Ridge Agency rolls. In his annual report for that year, the agent at Pine Ridge, speaking of these Indians, said :

As a floating population they are here to-day and off for the Yellowstone region in Montana to-morrow, where, after a while, tiring of the precarious living to be picked up by hunting or stealing cattle, they return for a time to their Great Father's store-houses at the agency.

By an executive order, dated November 26, 1884, a tract of country estimated to embrace about 371,000 acres was withdrawn from sale and settlement and set apart as a reservation "for the use and occupation of the Northern Cheyenne Indians, now [then] residing in the southern part of Montana Territory, and such other Indians as the Secretary of the Interior may see fit to locate thereon," tracts occupied by bona fide settlers to be excluded from the operations of the order.

The Indians for whom said reservation was intended were those who had been transferred or had run away from Pine Ridge and had settled in the vicinity of Tongue and Rosebud Rivers, in southern Montana.

After the establishment of the reservation it was found that it did not include the lands occupied by the Indians on Tongue River. The extension of the reservation to include said lands was strenuously opposed by the white citizens in the vicinity, and for that and other important reasons it was determined to make an effort to locate the Indians, both on and off the reservation, upon homesteads under the provisions of the homestead laws, and then restore the reservation lands not so taken by the Indians to the public domain. Surveys for that purpose were begun in 1886, and have since been completed.

In the summer and fall of 1886 a number of the Northern Cheyennes left the Pine Ridge Agency for the Tongue River Reservation, and additions to the number were made in the spring and summer of 1887, until about 200 had transferred themselves without authority, and with the avowed intention of remaining at the Tongue River Agency. Military assistance was called for and the entire party was escorted back to Pine Ridge Agency in August, 1887.

According to the census of 1889, the number of Indians attached to the Tongue River Agency is 867. About one-half of the number live on the Rosebud and its tributaries, Lame Deer and Muddy Creek, and the remainder on Tongue River outside the boundaries of the reservation.

The lands occupied by the Indians on Tongue River outside of the reservation were withdrawn from white settlement in 1886, pending the necessary surveys and selection of tracts for the location of the Indians under the homestead laws. After the passage of the general allotment act it was deemed best to locate the Indians under its provisions, they being regarded as more favorable to them than the homestead laws (Annual Report of this office, 1887, LXVIII). However, no steps have as yet been taken to locate them under either, except that the needed surveys have been made and approved.

The foregoing statement seemed necessary to a proper consideration of the subject under discussion.

It might have been a somewhat difficult matter to determine the individual rights of the northern Cheyenne Indians in the Pine Ridge Reservation were it not that the late Sioux Act (25 Stat. 888) furnishes a solution of the question. The northern Cheyennes have, no doubt, all received rations at one time or another at the Red Cloud or Pine Ridge agencies and been recognized as belonging there. As we have already seen, there were over 1,500 of them at the Red Cloud agency (temporary) on the Platte, in 1872. At other times there have been but very few

there, and there have been periods when there were none. They have been a migratory people—first in one place and then in another—alike unsettled, restless, and dissatisfied.

Some of those now at Tongue River were only a few years ago at Pine Ridge, and all of them were with the Sioux at one time. On the other hand, some of those now at Pine Ridge have lived on the Tongue River Reservation. The bands have been divided and scattered.

Yearly appropriations have been made for the Northern Cheyennes and Arapahoes under the treaty with them of May 10, 1868, and the joint agreement with them and the Sioux, of 1877, the Black Hills agreement; and since 1885 Congress has directed that the money so appropriated should be expended pro rata, as near as may be, "for the Northern Cheyennes and Arapahoes in Wyoming" (Wind River Reservation), "and on the Tongue River, in Montana." At the same time the Northern Cheyennes at Pine Ridge have drawn their rations with the Sioux.

In 1886 Congress authorized the use of \$12,000 of the distress fund to relieve suffering "among the Northern Cheyennes, on the Rosebud and Tongue Rivers, in Montana" (24 Stat., p. 3).

These facts are mentioned merely to show that a separation has existed and been recognized of late years between the Cheyennes at Tongue River and those at Pine Ridge.

So, when the late agreement was made with the Sioux, only the Cheyennes who were located on the Great Sioux Reservation at the time were recognized as having a right to participate in the negotiations, and as the separate reservations created by that agreement were set apart "for the Indians receiving rations and annuities" at the several agencies, the Cheyennes of the Tongue River Agency are thereby cut off from the benefits of said agreement. Whether they should have been admitted to participation in the negotiations by virtue of their rights under the treaty of 1868 and the Black Hills agreement, as were the Santee and Flandreau Sioux, of Nebraska, for example, I am hardly prepared to say.

The Northern Arapahoes were also parties to the treaty and agreement aforesaid, but they are not recognized as having any rights now in the lands of the Sioux reservations, and they had no share in the recent negotiations. Their voluntary removal and absolute separation from the Sioux must be regarded as an abandonment of whatever right and interest they may have had theretofore in the Great Sioux Reservation. The same reasoning, perhaps, holds good in the case of the Tongue River Cheyennes, whose removal from among the Sioux was alike voluntary. Furthermore, a reservation has been provided for them where they are (by executive order), and the action of Congress in directing their share of existing treaty and agreement benefits to be expended for them there, would seem to be an approval of their removal and settlement apart from the Sioux.

That the two portions of the tribe have long desired and hoped to be united is in evidence everywhere. Their agents have frequently made such representation, and I find that it was urged by every Cheyenne chief who spoke in council during the recent negotiations with the Indians of the Great Sioux Reservation. Their dissatisfaction at Pine Ridge, the abuse inflicted upon them by the Sioux, and their desire for removal to the Tongue River Agency, were the chief topics of their talks. The commissioners told them that they had no authority to remove them, but that they would report their desires to the President.



(See Report of Sioux Commission, Senate Ex. Doc., No. 51, Fifty-first Congress, first session, pp. 86, 87.)

For years the Cheyennes have been a disturbing element at Pine Ridge. They have generally sided with the non-progressive Indians of the agency and have made but little progress toward civilization. They have complained bitterly of their treatment by the Sioux and in turn have been denounced by the agents and the Sioux as unruly, lazy, and vicious.

As showing in what esteem they are held by the Sioux, I quote from the remarks of American Horse, one of the principal chiefs at Pine Ridge, made to the commission in open council, during the recent negotiations:

My friends, there are half-breeds and squaw-men and *Cheyennes*, and all they are fit for is to go around from one place to another and eat beef, and here they come and sign this bill without considering it. Now, you may wish us to do that way. We want to consider it and understand it. (Report of Commission, p. 93.)

Inspector Armstrong in his recent report says:

The attention of the Department has frequently been called to condition of Cheyennes at this agency, their dissatisfied condition and determination to do nothing to better their condition. They now openly say they will leave here this spring and therefore have no intention of putting in crops, and will not do any work here and refused to put their children to school. They may be held here by force, but it is questionable if it is good policy to keep them at Pine Ridge Agency any longer. The police can't do it.

The 900 Cheyennes on Tongue River, Montana, and these 500 Cheyennes of the same band here, should be concentrated at one agency. The Sioux don't want them here, and they don't want to stay. They can be kept here as prisoners only.

The Tongue River Reservation is, I know, wanted by cattlemen. They should be a secondary consideration. These Indians should be concentrated there, and a reservation obtained for them from the Crows and the Cheyennes should be moved to it, agency, etc., and they will then be satisfied, settle down, and go to work. No good can ever come to the Cheyennes if the course pursued towards them during the past six years is continued, and much bad may result.

Why should Indians be forced to stay where they never located through choice? Put them where they want to live and can make a living and then make them stay there and do it.

Without some prompt action regarding this beef matter, and also in the Cheyenne matter on this reservation, the Department may this summer or fall expect trouble.

The following extract from the last annual report (1889) of the agent at Pine Ridge is interesting as showing the feeling of the Cheyennes in regard to their present location at Pine Ridge:

I thought with Wild Hog's death we would have no further agitation of the question of removal of these people to Tongue River Agency, as he was the leading spirit in the movement, but I find the desire to leave here for that place increases each year.

Little Chief, the leading chief among the Cheyennes, who had always been opposed to his people leaving here, informed me a few days since that he was now convinced it would be to the advantage of his people to be all united at the Tongue River Agency, and he wished the arrangement could be made to have them move up there next summer. It is quite certain these people will never be satisfied at this place, and being dissatisfied they will make no effort to improve their condition. They are not much inclined to work any time, and wanting to leave here gives them an excuse for not wishing to do anything.

From the foregoing it is clear that the Cheyennes are not happily situated at the Pine Ridge Agency and that but little can be expected of them unless they are joined by their kindred of the Tongue River Agency or united with them elsewhere. With one accord they appear to prefer the latter.

The question that now confronts us is, where can the two bands or portions of the tribe be united and located in permanent homes with the reasonable hope of their settling down contentedly and eventually becoming self-supporting.

I see but two plans to choose between, either unite them on the Pine Ridge Reservation, with the consent of the Pine Ridge Indians, or purchase a home on the Crow Reservation and unite them there. The Tongue River Reservation, together with the lands withdrawn for the Tongue River Indians on Tongue River, are altogether insufficient and unsuitable to meet the requirements of the united tribe, and therefore it would be impracticable to attempt to unite them and find homes for them there.

This office has thought that the best thing to do would be to unite the two bands on the Pine Ridge Reservation, but in view of the aversion they have always felt for Pine Ridge it is very doubtful if they could be prevailed upon to go there, and as we have seen it has only been with great difficulty that those now there have been kept there. They have run away whenever they could get a chance, and their dissatisfaction is still very apparent. Another objection is that they could never become an agricultural people there for the reason that the lands are poorly adapted to agricultural purposes, and tillable land is scarce at best. The agent at Pine Ridge in his last annual report says :

Strictly speaking, the land can not be called tillable, although portions of it along the creek valleys have during very favorable seasons produced moderately fair crops. Short seasons and insufficiency of moisture, particularly in the latter part of the season, generally result in a failure of all late maturing crops. Irrigation being impracticable, owing to the absence of water-courses of sufficient magnitude to furnish the required moisture, would seem to fix the character of this land as more especially adapted to grazing than other purposes.

The Sioux Commissioners, in their report, say :

In the opinion of the Commission the lands in the different reservations set aside for the Indians are "mainly valuable for grazing purposes." Certain it is that in taking their lands by "allotment in severalty," the Indians should be permitted to take them as grazing lands.

These objections would seem to preclude the possibility of finding a solution of the question in the removal of the Tongue River Indians to the Pine Ridge Reservation.

If we now turn to the Crow Reservation we shall find that there are conditions existing there which may render it difficult to unite the Cheyennes on that reservation, although the obstacles do not appear so great as those pointed to at Pine Ridge, and besides the Tongue River Cheyennes are favorable to the plan of removal to the Crow Reservation provided the Pine Ridge Cheyennes are removed and settled with them.

During the past four or five years the Crows have been selecting tracts for allotment in severalty, and in doing so have scattered out over the reservation very nearly its entire length and breadth, though occupying some portions of it, especially the eastern, more completely than others.

For your better information I have caused to be indicated upon a map the regions so occupied by the Crows, and inclose the same herewith.

The lands so occupied are colored blue. No allotments have been made west of the long narrow tract on Prior's Creek so indicated on the map, but quite a number of families have selected lands for allotment and settled on Clark's Fork and Rocky Fork and even farther west where the irregular blue lines appear on the map.

Altogether there are 423 Crow families (out of 630 families belonging on the reservation) settled upon individual allotments, the majority of whom have fairly comfortable cabins built either by themselves or the Government; with gardens fenced with barbed wire; stables for work

stock; shelter for wagons and implements; cellars frost proof, for storage of vegetables, and quite a number have a large portion of their allotments, comprising excellent hay-ground, fenced with wire. They give their hay-fields excellent care and from the sale of their hay derive annually sums ranging from \$50 to \$350. (Annual report of Agent Wyman, 1889.)

Generally speaking irrigation is necessary to the successful cultivation of the soil in that region of country. Droughts are frequent and the continued failure of crops on that account has been very discouraging to the Crows, and a serious loss of interest in farming operations is reported by their agent. However, there can be no doubt that with a suitable system of irrigation farming can be successfully carried on in all the valleys on the reservation, and a much larger population supported than is now occupying the reservation. This would be absolutely impossible, however, without proper irrigation. Even now, with a two-pound (gross) ration of beef and an allowance of sugar, bacon, and coffee from the Government, the Crows sometimes go hungry, owing to the complete failure of their garden crops.

From an examination of the map of the Crow Reservation it would seem that there ought to be room enough on that reservation both for the Crows and the Cheyennes of Tongue River and Pine Ridge, but I am unable to say positively that there is, with the information at hand. Certain it is the Crows themselves ought not to be disturbed in the possession of the tracts selected for allotment and occupied by them, nor ought the two tribes to be intermixed. Their reservations should be entirely separate and independent of each other.

The western portion of the reservation, *i. e.*, the lands lying west of Pryor's Creek, would seem to afford the only place for such separate reservation; and if the few families of Crows who have settled on the streams west of Pryor's Creek could be withdrawn and located with the main body of the tribe on the eastern half of the reservation, perhaps a suitable home for the Cheyennes could be found somewhere in that region.

It is presumed that the Tongue River Cheyennes have some knowledge of that country, as they have recently expressed a desire to remove there, or, rather, their principal chiefs, American Horse and Brave Wolf, have so expressed themselves. They say they are satisfied that the country where they now are is not a good farming country and that they would like to remove to some good place in the northwest portion of the Crow country. (See two reports from Agent Upshaw, dated, respectively, December 17 and 19, 1889, copies herewith.)

In view of all the facts set forth, and to carry out the purpose indicated in your indorsement on Inspector Armstrong's report, I would recommend that the whole matter of selecting and procuring a reservation where the two bands of Cheyennes may be brought together and permanently located, and conducting the necessary negotiations with them, and with the Indians of any reservation where it may be found desirable to locate them for such portion of their reservation as may be necessary for that purpose, be committed to the charge of a commission to be composed of three trusted and thoroughly competent men, to be appointed for that special purpose; and to that end I would further recommend that Congress be asked for the needed authority and means to accomplish that object, any agreement made under such authority to be ratified by Congress before taking effect.

I have had prepared and herewith transmit a draught of an item to be inserted in one of the appropriation bills, which I think will meet the



case, and would suggest that, if the plan herein set forth meets with your approval, the same be transmitted to Congress, with request that the subject receive the early attention of that body.

Inspector Armstrong's report is herewith returned, and two copies of this report inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE, TONGUE RIVER AGENCY,  
*Lame Deer, Mont., December 19, 1889.*

SIR: American Horse and Brave Wolf, two of the principal men of the Northern Cheyennes, have requested me to say to you that they have come to the conclusion that this is not a good farming country, and they would like to have the President move them to some more favorable point west of here and have their relations, now at Pine Ridge Agency, moved to the same place with them, and they wish, with a few more and an interpreter, to visit Washington and confer with you upon the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. UPSHAW,  
*United States Indian Agent.*

Hon. T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.*

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE, TONGUE RIVER AGENCY,  
*Lame Deer, Montana, December 17, 1889.*

SIR: Referring to Department letter (L. 14283—1889) dated October 7, 1889, in which it is stated that "the plats and field-notes of the surveys are in this office and copies will be sent you as soon as they can be prepared," and I am asked for information as to the "present condition, disposition, and character of the Indians of this agency. About how much land within the reservation and adjacent surveyed townships, reserved for their use, is valuable for any purposes. \* \* \*

"Would the Indians willingly consent to remove to some more favorable location?"

The "copies of plats and field-notes of surveys" have not been received, and the season is so far advanced that their receipt after this time would preclude the possibility of their use in making estimates on the ground of the cultivatable land within the boundaries specified until next spring.

I learn from the newspapers that a bill has been or will be introduced in the present Congress by the Hon. T. H. Carter, Representative from this State, for the removal of these Indians to some other location. In view of the foregoing facts I deem it proper to make the following statements at this time from the data on hand without waiting for the plats, field-notes, etc. It may be proper to state that this report is made after nearly four years' connection with these Indians, for whom I have formed a strong attachment; that my term of office expires July 26, 1889, and that at present I design at that time, or when removed, returning to my home in Texas, so that I have no personal interest in any change of location or disposition of these people.

From the data before me it will require about 68,240 acres of agricultural land to locate these Indians as per terms of circular issued September 17, 1887, by the honorable Secretary of the Interior. While from the estimate made in this office the agricultural land on the reservation and on Tongue River, from the mouth of Hanging Woman Creek down to the mouth of Stebbins Creek, excluding land claimed by settlers, amounts to 33,280 acres. A portion of this land is susceptible of irrigation, but at what cost it is impossible to estimate in the absence of surveys made for the purpose; without irrigation crops are very uncertain in this dry climate.

I found it difficult to purchase hay for agency use raised on the reservation this past season (30 tons), and the season of 1886 was drier than this. The range on and contiguous to the reservation is thought to be one of the best in Montana. The timber lands between the Resebud and Tongue Rivers have some of the best pine in the country. One saw-mill is established near the northeast line of the reservation. The water on the reservation is alkaline, but there are many springs of good water, though it is all "hard water."

The Indians have cultivated but little land, though they have been pressed to do so, but there is little or no market for any surplus here, and the returns for farm work

are too remote and uncertain to induce an Indian to do much labor in that direction without more pressure than has been at my command. They have built for themselves about 130 log cabins, which I estimate to be worth to any farmer from \$25 to \$40 each.

Until recently all the men of any influence have on every occasion expressed a very great desire to remain here, claiming that though they are a conquered people and have no rights, General Nelson A. Miles, who captured them, gave them this country, as a free gift, partly in reward for their faithfulness as scouts against the Nez Percés and Sioux. A few days ago, however, two of the principal men came to the office and said they were at last satisfied that this was not a good farming country, and that they would like for the President to move them to some good place in the northwest part of the Crow country, and locate the Pine Ridge Cheyennes with them. They stated that they did not wish to go east. Ever since I have been here these people have begged to have the Pine Ridge Cheyennes brought to them. At one time 200 Pine Ridgers were removed from here to their agency by the Army, and the removal came very near causing very serious trouble. That occasion was the only one since I have been here when a collision has appeared imminent.

As to the superiority of the northwest of the Crow country to this, I have no personal knowledge.

The question of their removal or non-removal, it seems to me, should be settled as soon as possible.

In the event that their removal is deemed desirable, I would advise that a representative party of them should be sent to see the country to which they are to be removed; that as many of the Pine Ridge (Cheyenne) Indians as desire (all, if possible) be located with them.

That they be located in severalty at once, never being allowed to camp, even on any other than their own locations.

That those who have cabins built here be re-imbursed in a sum equal to the value of the labor expended upon them.

That the locations be made with a view to proximity to points suitable for school buildings.

That the Indians be employed in the erection of all agency buildings.

That the Indians be furnished with sash for windows, nails, lumber for floors and doors, but be required to build their own houses of logs (the only comfortable cheap house which can be built in this region). It would be well for them to have chimneys to their houses, but I have been unable to get an Indian to build a chimney, and as a matter of encouragement they should be given a box stove when they have completed a house.

The ration of sugar and coffee should be made full, but the agent should be directed to withhold the sugar and coffee ration from all families who do not send their children regularly to school, and otherwise act progressively, and proportionately increase the ration of those who do.

Finally, I would advise that the agent have the support of a small number of troops until his police force becomes thoroughly efficient.

The foregoing recommendations are made for the benefit of the Indians and my successor. Being a thorough Democrat and an ex-Confederate officer, I do not expect a re-appointment, but I have an earnest desire to see a people whose men are brave, and women virtuous, advanced in civilization and materially and morally benefited.

Trusting that my report may be received in the spirit in which it is conceived, and be of benefit to the people to whom I am attached,

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. UPSHAW,  
*United States Indian Agent.*

HON. T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.*

PINE RIDGE AGENCY, S. DAK., April 7, 1890.

SIR: \* \* \* The attention of the Department has frequently been called to condition of Cheyennes at this agency; their dissatisfied condition and determination to do nothing to better their condition. They now openly say they will leave here this spring, and therefore have no intention of putting in crops, and will not do any work here, and refuse to put their children to school. They may be held here by force, but it is questionable if it is good policy to keep them at Pine Ridge agency any longer. The police can not do it.

The nine hundred Cheyennes on Tongue River, Montana, and these five hundred Cheyennes of the same band here, should be concentrated at one agency. The Sioux do not want them here, and they do not want to stay. They can be kept here as prisoners only.

The Tongue River Reservation is, I know, wanted by cattlemen. They should be a secondary consideration. These Indians should be concentrated there—and a reservation obtained for them from the Crows and the Cheyennes should be moved to it—agency, etc.—and they will then be satisfied, settle down, and go to work. No good can ever come to the Cheyennes if the course pursued towards them during the past six years is continued, and much bad may result.

Why should Indians be forced to stay where they never located through choice? Put them where they want to live and can make a living, and then make them stay there and do it.

Without some prompt action regarding this beef matter, and also in the Cheyenne matter on this reservation, the Department may this summer or fall expect trouble.

I have thought this matter of sufficient importance to lay it before the Department, and go in person to ask some action. I have seen this Cheyenne matter brewing for two years, and I see now these Sioux put back in the principal industry on which they have to depend.

With prompt action in this matter and a proper arrangement of districts for issuing of rations, a plan for which I will submit, these people will go ahead, if not, they will go backward, which to them is the easiest road.

Respectfully,

FRANK C. ARMSTRONG,  
*United States Indian Inspector.*

HON. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

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ITEM.

To enable the Secretary of the Interior to appoint a commission, to consist of three persons, with authority to negotiate with the northern band of Cheyenne Indians on the Tongue River Reservation and in its vicinity, in Montana, and with the band of Northern Cheyenne Indians on the Pine Ridge Reservation, in South Dakota, and with the Sioux Indians of said Pine Ridge Reservation, for such modification of their treaty and other rights as may be deemed desirable by said Indians and the Secretary of the Interior, and for the removal of said northern bands of Cheyenne Indians to a permanent settlement together upon one of the existing reservations in Dakota or Montana; and if the result of such negotiations shall make it necessary, to negotiate with any other tribes or bands of Indians for such portion of their reservation as may be necessary for the permanent settlement of the said northern bands of Cheyennes as herein contemplated, ten thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be immediately available; but no agreement shall take effect until ratified by Congress.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, May 1, 1890.*

SIR: Referring to office report of April 23, 1890, recommending the appointment of a commission to negotiate with the northern band of Cheyenne Indians on the Tongue River Reservation and in its vicinity, in Montana, and with the band of Northern Cheyennes on the Pine Ridge Reservation, with a view to uniting them upon some existing reservation, I now have the honor to transmit herewith copies in duplicate of certain letters (2) and petitions (2) and a newspaper clipping, filed in this office by Hon. T. H. Carter, of the House of Representatives, for consideration in connection with the proposed removal of the Tongue River Cheyennes, in which the petitioners are especially interested.

I would respectfully recommend that the papers be transmitted to the Senate and House Committees on Indian Affairs, if the Department deems them of sufficient importance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

MILES CITY, April 18, 1890.

MY DEAR SIR: I fully intended writing you several days ago, so as to give you a little new light on the conduct of the Cheyennes, but every day was full of duties and I allowed myself to put it off. The inclosed clipping will indicate to you the movement of their allies from Pine Ridge. William Henderson, one of our men, came in from our upper ranch to-day, and he assures me that the Pine Ridge Indians are now here, and since their arrival there is considerable excitement among them. The settlers are moving away for safety from the surrounding neighborhood, and Lame Eagle, a Pine Ridge Indian, told Bill Henderson that the settlers are moving from the Upper Rosebud. This of itself is a very uncomfortable situation, and one attended with great danger, particularly to the women and children. Major Upshaw has grown unpopular with them, and I understand they have threatened to cut out his heart and shake it in his face. These are the facts that caused him to send in his resignation.

The people at the Mission too are alarmed and feel that trouble is brewing. They no longer hesitate to kill cattle on sight, and whenever they want them. From every information I can gather, these Indians have killed more cattle during the past winter than for three before. Mr. Carter, I can not picture this to you nearly as bad as it is, and I am trembling for the safety of settlers. Something must be done and done immediately, if the people are protected. By this time you will have a petition from Mr. Drake for the agency. I indorsed him believing him to be the better man. In conversation with J. A. Campbell I find he is very strongly opposed to their being moved to the northeast corner of the Crow Reservation, and I do not know that we can beat him. The necessity of a friendly move in this matter suggests a point farther west on the Yellowstone River, just east of Huntley, where that unreserved bottom lies, close to the mouth of Prior Creek. Major Upman intimated to me that the above location would make a very desirable one for the Cheyennes, and that he will do everything he can to accomplish it, provided we ask him.

We are having a very dry spring here and the country is showing it very much. I trust you and Mrs. Carter are very well. My kind regards to you both.

Very truly yours,

JOHN SCOTT.

Hon. T. H. CARTER, M. C.,  
Washington, D. C.

MILES CITY, MONT., April 19, 1890.

My DEAR SIR: Find herewith clipping from the Yellowstone Journal of this date which shows perhaps as clearly the situation and condition of affairs in the neighborhood of the Cheyenne Indian Reservation as I could state it, except that I might add that trouble has been brewing for some time.

For the last few months the Indians have been restless and moving about more than usual and have gone so far as to order white men to leave their ranches on Tongue River, and I believe they have killed more cattle in the last six months than in two years before; at least they were killing more near the ranches and more are found. The last few days they have killed animals for John Bowman, George Vichan, and Lum Holt, all small ranchmen on Tongue River who try to keep their small herds well in hand. The larger herds suffer more than these. Mr. Matt. Winters, the man with whom you and Mr. Scott took dinner on Otter Creek, came in late last night bringing his family and has arranged for them to remain in town until such time as they will think it safe to return to the ranch.

Mr. Lum Holt, who lives on a ranch just above the mission, has also sent his family in to remain until he considers it safe to return.

These men are both old frontier men and not easily frightened, so I think the situation must be anything but pleasant to those living in the neighborhood, especially those with families.

Other families have gone to their neighbors a few miles away to remain until things are quieted down.

While I do not myself think that the Cheyennes dare make a break on the citizens, I would not advise families of women and children to remain in the neighborhood.

Trusting that you will soon be able to bring about a change of these Indians, I am, respectfully, yours,

T. J. BRYAN.

Hon. T. H. CARTER, M. C.,  
Washington, D. C.

[Copy of newspaper clipping.]

*A war cloud.—Reports from the Cheyenne Agency on the Rosebud are indicative of trouble.—Settlers on Tongue River becoming alarmed for the safety of their families.*

## TROUBLE AT CHEYENNE AGENCY.—A REPORTED UPRISING OF THE AGENCY INDIANS.

For some days past there have been rumors in circulation of a bad state of affairs at the Cheyenne Agency on the Upper Rosebud. As nearly as the facts can be traced, the trouble arises from the discharge of an interpreter, at the agency, by Captain Upshaw. The Indians were much displeased at the discharge of their interpreter, and in their pow-wows over it made such violent demonstrations that Agent Upshaw was induced to call upon the military at Fort Custer, at the same time telegraphing his resignation to the Indian Office at Washington. In response to his appeal for troops, two companies of cavalry were dispatched from Fort Custer on Sunday last, arriving at the agency the same day. Nothing definite has been learned of the actual condition of affairs at the agency, but it is believed from collateral circumstances that they are, to say the least, stormy.

It is known that many of the Pine Ridge Cheyennes are now present at the Rosebud Agency, and as these Indians are a turbulent class who are constantly fretting under their retention at Pine Ridge by the Government, instead of being sent to live with their relatives and friends on the Rosebud in Montana, it is safe to be presumed that their mission is to fan the flame of opposition to Agent Upshaw's rule. Then too, late arrivals from Tongue River in the vicinity of where Black Wolf and his entire following except two aged squaws have departed for the Rosebud Agency. The feeling among the settlers on Upper Tongue River is that of great insecurity, especially among those who have women and children to protect. No one seems willing to admit that they fear an outbreak and depredations on the whites, yet they all know the character of the Cheyennes so well as to feel confident that if any trouble occurred at the agency involving bloodshed, the old warlike craze of the savages would be aroused, and that they would be more than likely to start out on the war-path, leaving a trail of blood and desolation behind them. Matt Winters arrived in town last night from his ranch in the vicinity of Black Wolf's camp, bringing with him his family. Matt brings the news of the departure of the Tongue River Indians for Rosebud, and says that there is a general uneasiness among the settlers as to what may result. It would seem, however, that with a strong body of soldiers now at the agency, and plenty more within six or eight hours' call, there should be little chance or inclination for the Indians to make trouble.

ROSEBUD; MONT., *March 24, 1869.*

His Excellency BENJAMIN HARRISON,  
*President of the United States:*

The undersigned, citizens of Custer County, irrespective of party, do most earnestly pray that you may cause that portion of our county known as the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, located on Tongue River, Lame Deer and Rosebud Creeks, to be thrown open and restored to the public domain and the Indians removed, for reasons which are fully set forth in the letter accompanying this petition and which, we believe, will be found sufficient.

John T. Robertson, Frank C. Robertson, W. B. Dow, Sam. Thompson, S. P. Snider, John Cooley, Rosebud, Mont.; Emil Tilleson, C. Monroe, M. S. Bean, Peter St. German, John (his x mark) Lewis, W. H. Rue, Charles Richards, Thomas Bancroft, Frank Downhow, Robert E. Rice, H. A. Godley, C. C. Downhour, Lee; F. S. Franklin, E. Huntington, Lame Deer; A. Hislop, I. Davidson, J. McRae, Lee; J. W. French, N. R. Pressay, Muddy; F. W. Burn, Brandenburg; W. W. Alderson, Muddy, Mont.; A. B. Taliferro, W. N. Stanton, A. W. Lemley, Frank Cox, Lou Alderson, Charles B. Jeffers, Muddy; Gean Hailert, George Taillery, Muddy, Mont.; C. C. Hutton, J. C. Hutton, U. M. Holmes, Isaac Chambers, Muddy Post-office; J. W. Hutton, H. L. Young, H. Godfrey, F. A. Waxham, T. Frazier, F. Lowery, Muddy; Patrick Lynch, Lame Deer; Chas. Rhinehart, J. F. Miller, S. O. Caswell, Lee; J. J. Thompson, W. J. Brown, F. Ramsay, Muddy; C. M. Lee, Lee; C. F. Van Blankenden, C. L. Bedell, W. M. Rue, J. L. Roberts, C. S. Younger, Walter Lock, Greenleaf; Geo. H. Vickers, Geo. W. Burgess, R. R. Gibbons, H. S. Gadway, Lame Deer; John Baringer, R. Mackay, F. H. Baringer, R. C. Mason,



Brandenburg; Emery Bailey, Henry Bailey, George Snider, Rosebud; Grant Eman, Langin River; Freeman Philbrick, E. C. Philbrick, E. M. Philbrick, Hilan Brany, Wm. H. Udy, Frank Sprague, W. E. Sandwin, John Ewil, E. E. Hatch, Rosebud; R. M. Burris, H. Bollmeier, J. D. Sprague, H. S. Sprague, Wm. Hamilton, Louis Ellingsan, Tobias Larsen, Thos. Ellingson, Fred Mobley, Ed. Watson, G. L. Pulman, James M. Brown, Howard S. Sprague, T. J. Graham, Rosebud, Mont.; W. W. Beasley, Geo. M. Beasley, Wm. Swontz, Nat Beasley, Guss Stohn, Frank W. Beasley, Byron W. Strong, C. Leseur, D. Heaton, John Laughrey, Charles L. Willcott, M. T. Lessick, Frederick Dross, Eleazer Hill, Charles Blankenburg, John Godwin, W. A. Bowles, Geo. F. Vose, Rosebud; James Kennedy, Sand Creek; Martin Paulson, Tim Sutherson, Rosebud; W. M. Revil, Benj. Bwot, E. J. Beeman, S. Tomlinson, G. W. Weeks, A. W. McIntosh, E. Y. Leonard, C. F. Brandt, C. S. Bestor, B. Slogger, H. L. Ferguson, S. Smith, Alex Spencer, Chas. W. Graham, Montfort Bray, Jesse Garland, Thos. Bryant, Edward Burt, O. W. Henderson, William Bray, sr., A. M. Cru, D. C. Wheeler, W. Westaby, O. C. Merritt, Rosebud, Mont.

MILES CITY, MONT., May 27, 1889.

His Excellency BENJAMIN HARRISON,  
*President of the United States:*

The undersigned, citizens of Custer County, Mont., irrespective of party, do most earnestly pray that you may cause that portion of our county known as "The Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation," located on Tongue River, Lame Deer and Rosebud Creeks, to be thrown open and restored to the public domain for reasons which are set forth below, and which we think will be deemed sufficient.

This reservation was created by an executive order after white settlers had taken up homes within its limits, and the order preserves to these settlers the rights of occupancy and ownership, but it also surrounds each of them with Indian territory over which the Indians can and do roam at will, committing continual trespass on the cattle, sheep, and crops of the white settlers who have no redress and can have no escape save by deserting the homes on which they have spent years of toil, to begin the struggle anew elsewhere. In this respect this reservation is an anomaly and stands distinctive among the Indian reservations of the country; the experiment (if such it is) of sandwiching whites and Indians together has long since proved abortive, and should, if the benefits and comforts of either race are to be considered, be ended without further delay.

The reservation is notoriously illy adapted to the proper care and supervision of the Indians, and also for their subsistence by farming; its only arable lands lie in the valleys of the Tongue and Rosebud, two parallel streams 25 miles apart, and separated by a mountainous divide that is almost impassable, making communication between the two bands or camps of Indians very difficult at all times and at some seasons impossible; in the valleys of these streams the best locations were taken by white settlers before the Indians were placed here, and these valleys are so circumscribed in area that there is but little arable land for apportionment to the Indians for agricultural purposes, certainly nothing like what they would be entitled to under the usual apportionment of 160 acres to each head of family, etc. Again, one of the indispensable requisites of farming in this country is irrigation, and this having been recognized by the early settlers on these streams, it is a fact that as much and more water than these streams usually carry has been covered by water rights, so that were it proposed to aid these Indians in their farming operations by the taking out of an irrigating ditch, there would not, in four seasons out of five, be any water left for their use, as in seasons when water is needed each settler uses to the full extent of his right. Though reports have been made that these Indians were successfully practicing agriculture and bettering their condition it is a fact beyond controversion that they have steadily retrograded in the past five or six years, and are not and never have been worthy of comment in this regard.

The location of these Indians in the valleys of the two streams mentioned to a great extent bars two highways from the southeastern part of our county to Miles City, the county seat. Previous to the creation of this reservation, Miles City was the principal cattle-shipping point for eastern Montana on the line of the Northern Pacific road, but one season's experiment sufficed to show that it was impossible to drive a herd of wild cattle or horses through an Indian camp, and as they occupy the only roadway on each of these streams, all attempts to drive to Miles City were abandoned, and as a consequence our county seat has lost much business and prestige from this cause.

The lands now occupied by these unproductive wards of the nation would, if vacated by them, be quickly taken up by bona fide settlers, who would at once become tax-payers. That this is important may be judged by the statement that our county, now containing but 1,200 tax-payers, is burdened with a debt of \$300,000, the reduction of which, and our rate of taxation, can only be accomplished by the settling up of the country, and it is an injustice to the people of this county to keep any portion of it adapted to settlement tied up in this way.

In conclusion, we beg to offer the suggestion that these Cheyenne Indians could be very advantageously located on some portion of the Crow Reserve, near the line of the Northern Pacific road, where, at least, the cost of hauling their supplies a long distance by wagon would be saved,

Towner Savage.  
Tully & Freese.  
Miles, Stowell & Ulmer.  
I. Orschel Boo.  
Leighton & Jordan.  
Carl Wodritski.  
Gustave Hannaller.  
Moran & Co.  
E. B. Weinek.  
Cashier First National Bank.  
R. G. Redd, Mayor Miles City.  
J. C. Callahan, manager Macqueen House.  
W. E. Savage.  
R. C. Richmond.  
J. Wughy.  
Peter Atcher.  
C. B. Towerst & Co.  
W. Binonett.  
E. H. Johnson.  
H. J. Batcheller.  
Cashier Stock Growers National Bank.  
Johnson & Graham.  
C. L. Merrill, county treasurer.  
William Harmony.  
E. A. Keesler & Co.  
S. Gordon, editor Yellowstone Journal.  
S. A. Hauffman, county commissioner.  
J. W. Watson.  
S. G. Evans.  
George Semore.  
E. J. Jones.  
W. H. Ross.  
Edmond Arnold.  
J. W. Stowell.

James H. Garloch.  
W. C. Jackson.  
A. H. Swerdfiger.  
S. C. Reese.  
I. Basiuski & Bro.  
Birkle & Truscoff.  
Miles & McIntire.  
F. C. Westerolt.  
A. T. Campbell & Co.  
Lee Eisenberg.  
H. C. Bill.  
J. B. Collins.  
Merrill, Butler & Potter, Stock-Growers' Journal.  
Larry Kendall.  
T. J. Franklin.  
N. L. Lausing.  
Thomas W. Deskert.  
Geo. W. Albertson, county commissioner.  
John W. Wausland.  
A. D. McAusland.  
F. W. Judd.  
L. J. Thompson.  
J. Dear, county clerk,  
James McFarland.  
M. G. Maples.  
R. J. Stuart.  
William Cornaway.  
G. W. Savage.  
W. L. Avery, Northern Pacific Railroad.  
C. A. Griffith.  
Loring B. Rea.  
Luther J. Whiting.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE, OFFICE OF INDIAN AGENT,  
*Pine Ridge Agency, S. D., April 21, 1890.*

SIR: I send two police, Hunts Horse and Running Horse, to accompany the Cheyennes now at the fort back to the agency. Tangle Hair was given a pass to visit Fort Robinson on the 14th instant for ten days. When getting it he asked permission to take a party of about twenty with him, but I refused, informing him that the practice of leaving the agency in large parties must be stopped, and that the pass was for himself alone. These people have been depredating upon the stock of settlers all winter, and, I am sure, make their visits to the fort a cover for this work. There is a very restless spirit among the Cheyennes. They are not satisfied to remain at this agency with the Sioux.

They are making no effort to farm this spring, and show in various other ways that they expect to move out. I think when their horses are strong enough they will attempt to get away.

The last census shows their number as follows: Families, 157; males over eighteen years, 131; males under eighteen years, 131; females over fourteen years, 185; females under fourteen years, 100. Total of all ages, 557. The older ones are a portion of the Sitting Bull war party that was captured in 1876-'77 with Wild Hog.

They have done no good since coming here in the fall of 1883, and it is pretty evident that nothing good can be accomplished with them while separated from their brethren in the north.

While they have the same rights upon this reservation as the Sioux, they are willing to relinquish all their rights and interest in this reservation to be permitted to move to Tongue River. They explain their eagerness in signing the Sioux bill last summer by saying they thought if they gave this land to the Government they would be permitted to go away.

Very respectfully,

H. D. GALLAGHER,  
*United States Indian Agent.*

Col. J. G. TILFORD,  
*Commanding Fort Robinson, Nebr.*

FORT ROBINSON, NEBR., *April 24, 1890.*

Official copy respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, Department of the Platte, for the information of the department commander.

J. G. TILFORD,  
*Colonel, Ninth Cavalry, Commanding Post.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
*Omaha, Nebr., April 26, 1890.*

Official copy respectfully furnished the commanding general, Department of Dakota, through headquarters Division of the Missouri.

JOHN R. BROOKE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

FORT ROBINSON, NEBR., *April 24, 1890.*

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,  
*Department of the Platte, Omaha, Nebr.:*

I have the honor to inform you that on the 20th instant a band of Cheyenne Indians under Tangle Hair arrived at this post.

Tangle Hair had a pass for himself from Agent Gallagher. On telegraphing the agent he requested that they be held until police could be sent to take them back to the reservation.

The police arrived yesterday, but believing that it will have a good effect on the restless element among the Cheyennes I have concluded to hold this party as prisoners until definite instructions shall be received from department headquarters.

They have wagons with them, and their stock is so much run down that there is little danger of an attempt to reach Tongue River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. TILFORD,  
*Colonel, Ninth Cavalry, Commanding Post.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
*Omaha, Nebr., April 26, 1890.*

Official copy respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, Division of the Missouri, inviting attention to inclosed copy of telegram of this date to the commanding officer Fort Robinson, Nebr.

JOHN R. BROOKE,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

[Copy of telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
*Omaha, Nebr., April 26, 1890.*

COMMANDING OFFICER,  
*Fort Robinson, Nebr.:*

Turn Chief Tangle Hair and party over to Indian police from Pine Ridge Agency. Send as escort troop of cavalry under a discreet officer to see that they return to their agency. Telegraph departure of Indians from post.

By command General Brooke:

M. V. SHERIDAN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Official copy.

M. V. SHERIDAN,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,  
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Chicago, April 28, 1890.

Official copy respectfully submitted to the major-general commanding the division, in connection with my telegram sent him this day.

I have referred copies of the foregoing correspondence to the commanding general department, for his information.

R. WILLIAMS,  
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*Copies of correspondence relative to Cheyenne Indians leaving their reservation in the Department of Dakota.*

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, D. C., April 19, 1890.

COMMANDING GENERAL,  
Department Platte, Omaha, Nebr. :

The Major-General Commanding the Army directs you to instruct commanding officer Fort Robinson to communicate with agent of Pine Ridge Agency and act independently if necessary in preventing Northern Cheyennes at that agency in joining those at Tongue River Agency, or in going to any other locality; also to keep General Ruger fully advised. Please acknowledge receipt and report action.

SAM'L BRECK,  
Acting Adjutant-General.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
Omaha, Nebr., April 19, 1890.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY,  
Washington, D. C. :

Your telegram regarding Cheyenne Indians received and orders given.

JOHN R. BROOKE,  
Brigadier-General.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
Omaha, Nebr., April 19, 1890.

COMMANDING OFFICER,  
Fort Robinson, Nebr. :

Communicate with agent at Pine Ridge Agency and act independently, if necessary, in preventing Northern Cheyennes at that agency in joining those at Tongue River Agency, or in going to any other locality. Report action.

JOHN R. BROOKE,  
Brigadier-General.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
Omaha, Nebr., April 19, 1890.

COMMANDING GENERAL,  
Department Dakota, St. Paul, Minn. :

Under orders of major-general commanding I have directed the commanding officer Fort Robinson to prevent Northern Cheyennes at Pine Ridge Agency in joining those at Tongue River, or in going to any other locality. Shall keep you advised.

JOHN R. BROOKE,  
Brigadier-General.

[Telegram.]

FORT ROBINSON, NEBR., April 20, 1890.

Brig. Gen. JOHN R. BROOKE,  
Omaha, Nebr. :

Have requested Indian agent to inform me of departure of Indians. Will hold troops in readiness to intercept Indians when reported.

J. G. TILFORD,  
Colonel Commanding.HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
Omaha, Nebr., April 21, 1890.

SIR : Referring to telegram from these headquarters of the 19th instant, regarding the preventing of the Northern Cheyenne Indians at Pine Ridge Agency from joining those at Tongue River Agency, or in going to any other locality, the commanding general directs me to say that the commanding officer of Fort Robinson should send out an officer or one or more of his scouts to or in the vicinity of Pine Ridge Agency, to ascertain the intentions of the Indians at that agency, or of any proposed movement by them, so that the post commander may keep himself fully informed of the situation of affairs that he may be prepared to intercept and turn back the Indians should they attempt to leave their reservation.

The commanding general also directs that these headquarters be frequently advised by telegraph or otherwise of the condition of affairs at the agency and of any information with respect to the Indians referred to which will aid in carrying out the directions of the Major-General Commanding the Army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. V. SHERIDAN,  
Assistant Adjutant-General.COMMANDING OFFICER,  
Fort Robinson, Nebr.HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
Omaha, Nebr., April 23, 1890.

Official copies respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, Division of the Missouri, for the information of the division commander.

JOHN R. BROOKE,  
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, April 30, 1890.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,  
Major-General, Commanding.WAR DEPARTMENT,  
May 6, 1890.

Official copy respectfully furnished for the information of the honorable the Secretary of the Interior.

REDFIELD PROCTOR,  
Secretary of War.