

that their lives should be spared if she would give them up, to which she agreed. Subsequently the man was brought in at the demand of Agent Tatum; the woman, being sick, was not brought in. He expressed a preference for returning with the Comanches, and was allowed to do so on the express condition that at any time when they wished to come in, or leave the Indians, they should be permitted to. He now says that he did not dare to express his actual feelings at that time as his wife was sick in camp, and he feared to leave her, or say anything to endanger her. The Indians had threatened to shoot him on the spot, if he expressed a choice for remaining at the Agency; two of them entered the office with him, having revolvers concealed under their blankets for that purpose. The same men accompanied him to the doctor's, and wherever he went, giving him no opportunity of stating his real inclination, or the true reason for his wishing to return to the camp, which was on his wife's account. They have now travelled six nights, keeping themselves concealed by day, during which time they have had but little to eat.

These Mexicans were taken care of by the agent for some time, until an opportunity occurred of sending them to a place of safety.

31st. — The agent received official information from the head of the department, that government, in consequence of the Modoc tragedy, contrary to its promises made to the Kiowas to release their chiefs, Satanta and

Big Tree, had countermanded its order for their release. This appears to me as unjustifiable an act as it would be to violate the treaty stipulations with Mexico on account of misdemeanors of the people of England or France. The Kiowas had never even heard of the Modocs. ~~See Appendix B.~~

Having had an opportunity of knowing their determination to follow out, to the best of their understanding, the instructions received from Washington, and fearing that a breach of faith, in a matter regarded by them as of so great importance as the release of their chiefs, will have a tendency to weaken, if not entirely destroy, the confidence they are beginning to repose in the government, — to their own hurt, and, perhaps, to the shedding of much blood, — I believed that it would be right for me to write a condensed statement of facts, that have come under my own observation, to be forwarded by the agent to the head of the department. Accordingly I wrote the following letter for the purpose: —

KIOWA AGENCY, FORT SILL, 5TH MONTH, 31st, 1873.

JAMES M. HAWORTH, *United States Indian Agent.*

RESPECTED FRIEND: Having an opportunity, possessed perhaps by no other individual, to know the state of feeling of the Kiowa Indians towards the Agency and general government, also their great anxiety for the restoration to them of their chiefs, Satanta and Big Tree, and believing, from my acquaintance with the tribe, that the latter act, on the part of the government,