treaty promising protection of life, person, and property, could not be carried out. At Standing Rock the Court of Indian Offenses was just and impartial although the judgments were often severe. The judges always punished any person brought before them on the principle that they would not have been arrested if not guilty of some offense. However, there was sense in this for every time an Indian criminal was released it proved an encouragement to crime by others.

As time went on the Indian police had to be increased in number for it was no unusual thing for some Indian to get a bit hurt and take it out on anyone who crossed his path. (Thunder Hawk)

Decision of the Supreme Court: The Court had no jurisdiction over Indian offenders against Indians."

In addition to the guard house, stoppage of rations was a common punishment to the Indians, but this was only a punishment to the innocent. The offender simply visited his friends who treated him as a hero, while his wife and children starved at home. Confinement in the guard house, although not at first regarded as a disgrace or involving any stoppage of food, in time became a cause of ridicule. From Indian standpoints the offences for which they were punished were not offences at all and the agent appeared in the light of a tyrant. In view of this feeling on the part of the tribesmen the law in the Indian police is all the more remarkable. Crimes understood to be crimes by the Indians were of rare occurence.

In 1882 Red Cloud under the influence of squaw men and white men on and off the reservation, tried to defy the government. The Indian