

break up and spread over the prairie, either to hunt, plunder, or come into the posts to beg.

This report, dated at Fort Sully, Dakota Territory, August 20, 1869, is a most comprehensive and correct statement of the condition of the Dakota Indians at the close of the Red Cloud war.

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CHAPTER XXXVII

Establishment of Whetstone Agency - War with the Cheyennes - A Period of Peace - Red Cloud and Spotted Tail Make Their First Visit to Washington - Red Cloud's Speech - Go to New York - Reception at Cooper Institute - Go Home Satisfied.

As soon as Spotted Tail and the Brules signed the Laramie treaty in the spring of 1868 they started to establish themselves near the Missouri River. Pursuant to the contract of the treaty, General Harney went to the Missouri River and began the construction of their agency at the mouth of Whetstone Creek, eighteen miles above Fort Randall. About 1,000 mixed bloods, and of the most friendly of the Brules, settled down in the immediate vicinity of the agency, but Spotted Tail, fearful of the river influences, and particularly of access to liquor, upon his young men, kept them back from twenty-five to 100 miles away from the Missouri. They did a little planting, but were mainly subsisted by the government, and thereafter gave very little concern to the authorities.

As has been stated, after the terms of the treaty were made known to the hostiles there was, during the season of 1868, scarcely any trouble north of the North Platte and the Big Horn Mountains. During the war Roman Nose and Medicine Man, with their bands of Northern Cheyennes, had been the faithful and effective allies of Red Cloud, but now the Cheyennes had important business in their own country. The Kansas Pacific was shoving on to Denver, directly through the heart of the Cheyenne range, and Roman Nose obstinately contested its passage. The time had come for reciprocity on the part of / the Dakotas, and while