tected. They appeared to be re-assured, and we had no further difficulty during the two days we were on our way to the Fort Walsh, but upon our arrival there they refused to enter the Fort. ~~SB saying, that he had~~ had nev r been in a Fort, and that he would rather camp outside. However, upon my giving him my word that there were no Americans inside, and getting all our men outside the gate to shake hands, he at last consented, and told me how he believed everything I had told him. That evening I got a letter from General

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Terry, informing me that the Commission would soon start fromBenton, and they hoped to be at the line about the fourteenth, I at once started for the Boundary with the escort, and on the evening of the fifteenth met the Commission, composed of Generals Terry and Lawrence; Secretary, Colonel Corbin; Aide to General Terry, Colonel Smith, together with several newspaper correspondents, who accompanied the. We at once started North, and reached Fort Walsh the next evening at sundown. WInspector Walsh reported to me upon my arrival, that he had great difficulty in getting the Indians to remain; they sayd they had come up, as they understood the Queen had desired them to come, but that there was no use their seeing the Americans, as they couls not believe anything they said; that no matter what terms were offered thay would not accept them, as thay had no confidence whate ver in the promises of the Americans generally.

The conference took place on the afternoon of the 17th. There was a doubt at first as to whether the Indians would shake hands with the Commissioners as is usual before commencing a "talk" but that was soon settled b the entrance of "Sitting Bull" who shook hands warmly with me, and then passed the Commissioners in a most disdaiful manner. They all listened in silence to General Terry, whil he made known to them the desire of the American Government that they should return, and the terms offered; but it was evident from their manner and the tone of their speeches in reply, that they had come determined to believe nothing that was told them. The terms offered were the same as your letter of the 20th August had led me to expect, viz.: the surrender of their arms and horses, in fact terms identical with thise which had been granted to the Bands who had surrendered to the American Troops. I do not think it ~~is to be wondered at th~~ that the fear expressed on your letter has been realizedm and th t the Sioux have bejected the terms proferred. Enclosed I beg leave to send y you a statement of the proceedings at the interview.

After it was over I had a private conference with the Indians with the object of setting before them the position they stood in with reference to both the American and Canadian Governments, and of obtaining from them the information indicated in your letter of th 20th August.

Enclosed I also send you a statement of that interview. From this it will be seen that they claim to have been driven off their land by the Americans, who, they say, were always the agressors and never kept any promise made to them. It is almost impossible to procure from Indians any distinct statement of facts, they always deal in generalties, and although during my interview with them I was continually trying to keep them to the points I wanted information upon, I could get no more satisfactory statement of their greivances than the one enclosed.

Itbis a matter of common notoriety all through this western country, that the Indians are systematically cheated and robbed by the agents and contractors; the former on a salary of $1,500 a year, have many of them been known to retire with fortunes after two or three years incumbency of their offices. The Indians know of these scandals, and as a consequence have lost faith in