

We are sent to you as a Commission by the President of the United States, at the request of the Government of the Dominion of Canada, to meet you here to-day. The President has instructed us to say to you that he desires to make a lasting peace with you and your people. He desires that all hostilities shall cease, and that all shall live together in harmony. He wished this not only for the sake of the Whites alone but for your sakes too. He has instructed us to say that if you return to your country and refrain from further hostilities, a full pardon will be granted to you and your people for all acts committed in the past, and that, no matter what these acts have been, no attempt will be made to punish you or any of your people; what is ~~past is forgotten~~ shall be forgotten and you will be received in as friendly terms as other Indians have been received. We will explain to you what the President intends to say when he says you will be treated the same as other Indians who have surrendered. Of all the Bands who were hostile to the United States your Band is the only one not surrendered, every other Band has come into their Agencies. Of these Bands ~~that~~ that have come in not a single man has been punished, every man, woman and child has been received as a friend, and all have received the food and clothing supplied for their use. Every one of you will be treated in the same manner. It is true that these Indians have been required to give up their horses and arms, but part of these have been sold and whatever money has been received for them will be expended for their benefit. Already 650 cows have been purchased for the use of the Indians on the Missouri River. If you abandon your present mode of life the same terms are offered to you.

The President can not nor will not consent to your returning to your country prepared for war. He cannot consent to your returning prepared to inflict the injuries you have done as in the past. He invites you to come to the boundary of this country and give up your arms and ammunition and go to the Agencies assigned for you, and give up your horses except those required for peace purposes.

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Your arms and horses will be sold, and cows bought, with which you can raise herds to supply you and your children long after the game has disappeared. In the mean time you will receive clothes and provisions the same as the other Indians have received. We have come many hundreds of miles to bring you this message; we have told you before that it is our desire that we should all live in peace; too much White and Indian blood has already been shed, and it is time that bloodshed should cease. Of one thing, however, it is our duty to inform you, that you cannot return to your country or your people with arms and ammunition in your possession, and should you attempt to do so you will be treated as enemies of the United States. We ask you to carefully consider what we have told you and take time and weigh the matter well, and when you have done so we shall be glad to meet you and await your answer.

SB. said:--For 64 years you have kept and treated my people ~~bad~~ bad; What have we done that caused us to depart from our country? We could go nowhere, so we have taken refuge here. On this side of the line I first learned to shoot; for that reason I come again; I kept going round, and was compelled to leave and come here; I was raised with the Red River Half-breeds, and for that reason I shake hands with the people (Col. Macleod and Major Walsh). In this way was I raised. We did not give you our country; you took it from us; see how I live with these people (the Police); look at these eyes and ears; you think me a fool, but you are a greater fool than I am; this is a Medicine House; you come and tell us stories, and we do not want to hear them; I will not say more; you can go back home; that's enough-say no more. I shake hands

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