

up this whole country to the Ind., which is a different question entirely, I do not recommend the giving up of these posts.

The Union Pacific Ry, besides its great national importance, is very essential to the interests of the dept., in the way of moving troops and supplies at a great saving of time and money. I have therefore, endeavored in every way possible to assist in its construction, deeming its completion to the Black Hills even, in its effect upon Ind affairs, as equivalent to a successful campaign. The 30th inf, part of the 4th, part of the 26th, 4 co.s of cavalry, and 4 Co. s of Pawnee scouts, have been occupied in its care during the entire summer, escorting engineers and commissioners and protecting grading and working parties.

The overland mail stages have required guards at their stations between Julesburg and Denver, and between Ft. Sanders and Bridger, as also guards to their coaches on parts of their routes. Part of the 4th inf and part of the 36th inf are now occupied on that duty.

The telegraph lines have asked for guards at some of their most exposed stations and I have furnished them, as well as escorts for their repairers whenever required.

(Same Letter)

The 200 Ind scouts authorized for this dept were all enlisted from the Pawnees, and organized into 4 co of 50 each under Maj North, an efficient officer, who had commanded a company of them during

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ing the war. They were officered from men most of whom could speak their language and mounted on common Ind ponies. I have never seen more obedient or better behaved troops, and they have done most excellent service.

Should it become necessary another year to carry on a war against the hostile tribes, I respectfully recommend that Cong be asked to permit me to organize three battallions of four hundred each, from the friendly tribes in this dept. It opens to these people a useful career, renders them tractable and obedient, and educates and civilizes them more effectually than can be done in any other way. They are peculiarly qualified, too, for service on the plains. They are unequalled as riders, know the country thoroughly, are hardly ever sick, and never desert, and are careful of their horses. Moreover, I have never seen one under the influence of liquor, though they have had every opportunity of getting it. As the season for active operations closes they can be discharged to go home and look after their families for the winter. This they prefer. I propose to discharge my Pawnee scouts early in Dec.

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The order for opening the new or Bozemen's route to Mont was first made by Maj Gen John Pope, when commanding the dept of Mo., and I was never informed that it conflicted with any treaty with the Soo; or that the treaty had been wrongfully exacted from self-created chiefs of that nation by the commissioners duly appointed. The road was called for by the growing settlements in Mont, it being several hundred miles shorter than the old road round by Salt Lake, or by Ft Hall, and the estab of the new posts (Ft Reno, Phil Kearney, and C F Smith) was but the prolongation of the line since estab from Ft Leavenworth to Ft Laramie, and would