

In addition to the Indians herein mentioned as being present at Fort Peck, we had brought from the Milk River agency ten of the leading chiefs. After a few days' stay at Fort Peck, they all got sick, and were sent home before the council. The Indians from the Platte agency and from Grand River, also, returned home before the council. The former were sent home on account of their long absence, and the necessity for the presence there of the agent. We sent the latter home because their presence did not ⁴⁶⁰ seem to conduce to the object we had in view. The Tetons were jealous of them because of their being agency Indians, and suspicious that they visited Fort Peck only to secure a portion of the presents and annuities to be distributed. Of Red Dog we cannot speak in too high terms. He seemed to know just what was necessary to be done and how to do it. He recognized the disaffection of the Grand River Unkpapas, and, even though their demeanor toward him was far from friendly, he possessed the ready tact to mollify them, and exerted the most wholesome influence in reconciling all differences. He has the hearty thanks of the commission for his presence and efforts, and we regret that it was not in our power to give him some substantial evidence of our appreciation of his conduct. Dr. Daniels, United States agent at the Red Cloud agency, was also of the greatest service to us on account of his familiarity with the several tribes of the Dacotah Nation, and with their language. His interpreter, Joseph Bisnet, we found of great service, and entirely reliable.

We made our entire tour of more than six thousand miles, much of it in the region frequented by what had been considered hostile Indians, without any military protection or escort whatever. To say that we were entirely unmolested by Indians is the strongest evidence we can give of their friendly disposition toward the whites.

We brought with us to Washington besides the agent, A. J. Simmons, of the Milk River agency, and William Benoiste, interpreter, the following Indian chiefs (and young warriors from those now at Fort Peck, in accordance with your suggestion) Medicine Bear, Afraid of the Bear, Black Eye, Black Cat Fish, Skin of the Heart,