

PHILIP WELLS (Interpreter).

The Indians having assembled, a short council was held, with Philip Wells as Interpreter.

By the Chairman (to the interpreter):

Question. Give your full name. - Answer, Philip Wells.

Q. Are you the interpreter here? - A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been interpreter here? - A. Since the spring of 1880; that is, to make a regular business of it.

Q. Will you tell these Indians that we have come from Washington, where the Great Father lives, to have a friendly talk with them. We have not come to make any new agreement with them. We have only come to talk their affairs over with them. We want to know how they are getting along and what they want. We want to see if anything is going wrong with them, and we want them to answer all our questions just as they want to, so as to have us understand about them. If anything is wrong we want to know about it, and no harm will come to any one of them for anything he says to us. Ask them if they have any one of their number whom they would like to have talk with us. Ask them if they will not select four or five of their number who will talk to us, and tell us what they want. (No response.) Ask them if they have selected anybody to talk to us.

EAGLE CLAW.

Eagle Claw spoke as follows: My father sitting there (pointing to the chairman), I want you to hear me. Our agent is a very good man, and you can never find another man like him. I am glad to think that your visit here will be something to my benefit in the future. You (addressing the Indians), my friends around here, must not talk foolishly, but with wisdom. Our country is small and it is very precious to us, but the Great Father is rich, and his lands are as numerous as the blades of grass, so I want you to be guilty of no bad talk, but