

Indians to close up. I then called Little Wolf and all his men to me and they formed as usual in a circle round me seated on the ground.

I told them that the orders were positive and imperative in regard to arms. I had no option in the matter; that I must not only satisfy myself, but I must take such measures as would satisfy those who issued the orders in regard to the terms through which they secured peace.

Enumerating the arms surrendered when I reached the wagons and that it was only natural to suppose that 33 men would have more than 30 stand of arms, that at that time some of them were troubled with suspicions and distrust and it was perfectly natural they should try and retain some of their arms to protect themselves from these imaginary dangers and those who had so retained arms must now give them up. They said they had given up all they had. I asked them if they could all arise, throw back their blankets and show me that none of them had arms on their persons, they said they could and did. I then had my scouts examine every pack and bundle and they could find no arms. I had concluded that if they had any pistols they would naturally wear them on the day of reaching the Post as of course there would be more or less uncertainty in their minds as to what disposition would be made of them, and that this measure would effect as complete a disarmament as could be secured. I reached the post at 11 a.m. and camped the two companies with the Indians awaiting further instructions. While the command was out the thermometer indicated 33 degrees below zero, it has snowed and rained, and the ice has gone out of the streams leaving them swollen, difficult and dangerous to ford. No men were lost and but two condemned quartermaster horses abandoned, and the stock generally