

*Myrcook*

The Indian Supply train of Maj Myrcook Indian Agent returning to Fort Larned, lost 29 mules and a horse, believed to have been run off by one of the war parties of Arrapahoes. The train of the wood Contractors in route to this post from Fort Larned met a war party of Arrapahoes about 25 miles east of this Post, who demanded their provisions and threatened to fight them. if they did not give them up, being unarmed they gave up all the provisions they had. The Indians ran off six of their mules, which were eventually recovered at Fort Larned.

I sent Lieut Chas. M. Shepherd U. S. Infantry with seven (7) men of Troup "B" of the Cavalry to escort the train to this post, he arrived this evening and reports that while in route, he was met by a war party of about 25 or 30 "Cheyennes" who demanded rations which he refused and warned them to keep away from the train, they hovered about the train making dispositions, as if they intended to attack it and again demanded rations, which were refused. The chiefs name was "Medicine Wolf"--he was told that the train had no rations, as the Arrapahoes had taken them all, and if he wanted rations, they must go to the Fort and see the chief there.

These Indians crossed from South of the Arkansas--A copy of Lieut Shepherds report is herewith enclosed.

I would respectfully suggest that no trains be permitted to travel the Santa fe route, unless the train men are fully armed and equipped. The Indians soon become acquainted with their helpless condition and take advantage of it, to insult them, take their rations and threaten them, though as yet they have committed no violence--if the trains were in a condition to resist, it would obviate this.

In regard to the peace made with these Indians at "Medicine lodge creek," by the Indian Commissioners, I have no confidence whatever in its binding effect upon the Indians. They will keep it or not according to their whims or caprices.