

ground by the Medicine Men. I was then asked "You say bad news?"  
What is it?"

With these people all important questions are duly reflected upon before being answered. I sat in silence while every eye was upon me - the time had come when the message was to be known. After a short pause I answered "Washington's heart has suddenly become hard and cold, he has closed his hand upon your two Chiefs Satanta and Big Tree". I was asked "Why has Washington's heart suddenly become so hard?" I explained the "Tragedy" of the Lava Beds", as then understood, saying "The Modocs have killed three of his big chiefs (the first report was that Colonel Meacham was also killed) and Washington's heart became very hard toward all his red children.

The whole assembly sat in entire silence for some minutes (perhaps a quarter of an hour) then commenced a discussion as to what they should now do. Washington had, without any cause from them, violated his agreement, and they were no longer bound by theirs; What if the Modocs had done bad; they had never before heard of that tribe; did not know there was such a people on the earth. Little Robe, Satanta's brother was violent in his speech and gesture, and had to be moderated by his chief - who explained to me "He Pappoose".

A stormy council followed. I never witnessed so exciting a discussion among Indians. Kicking Bird was <sup>openly</sup> ~~publicly~~ censured for advocating a "Peace Policy" in order to secure their release. Some of the War chiefs were so far forgetful of their dignity as to arise to their feet while speaking. When the excitement rose too high the Medicine Man (who preserved his composure) would commence filling the pipe; the storm cloud continued to darken. All present had taken the pipe. This among Indians is