

Frederic Remington, in Harper's Weekly:

"One thing is certain - the wild tribes are steadily retro-  
grading under Interior Department management. I do not for a  
moment want to be understood as censuring the present administration  
in particular. **It** was as true of the last administration as it is  
of this one, and it will be as true of the next as it was of the  
last. **It** is the system which is responsible. We are year after year  
oppressing a conquered people, until it is now assuming the magnitude  
of a crime. Any administration which will change this order of  
things will have one claim on immortality.

"Now we will suppose that the American people desire to do  
justice to the wild Indians; we will suppose that they want to avert  
the interminable Indian outbreaks; and we will assume that they have  
the best interests of the American army at heart; and then we will  
turn them all over to the War Department. Since the Indian ring found  
the Apaches unprofitable, and they passed to the War Department, you  
do not hear of outbreaks among them. **It** was only through the  
statements of a general in the United States Army that the United  
States Senate learned that the <sup>468</sup> / Sioux were being starved. The army  
people would like to take the Indians, as they do not doubt their  
own ability to handle them; and the thing furthest from their minds  
could be to precipitate hostilities with the red men, since the War  
Department does not regard Indian campaigning as war. The War  
Department could then organize them into a semi-industrial military  
force, much after the fashion of the Cossacks, whose company chief is  
responsible for their operations in peace and their deeds in war. He  
is both the head of the village and the war chief. Four or five  
irregular cavalry regiments could be organized at the discretion of