

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 ⁴⁶⁸ / 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