

10R-1876

p.28, Fort Berthold Indian Agency, Dakota, Sept. 8., 1875,

C.W. Darling

The number of Indians belonging to this agency I estimate at not over 1,500. There is a party of about 100 Gros Ventres (seceders) who have spent all of their time for several years at and around Fort Buford, Dakota, one hundred and thirty-five miles above this agency, on the Missouri River. They are considered as belonging here, though they receive no supplies of goods from the agency except as small parties visit it. There are also quite a number of Rees and Gros Ventres enlisted as scouts at Forts Lincoln, Stephenson, and Buford, having their families with them, who draw no rations from agency unless present at the issue. (All scouts and families are included in the issue of annuity-goods.) Forty-four Rees have been and are with General Terry as scouts, fighting their hereditary enemy, the Sioux. There were killed with Colonel Reno in the bloody fight on the Little Big Horn River. July 1 I took a census of the Indians present at the agency, and as there were none known to be absnet except as scouts and seceders, I was able to ascertain