

Chief in this country. I asked them the following questions: "Do you know that you are in the Queen's country?" There ~~was answer in~~ answer was, that they did. I asked, "What have you come for?" They replied, that they had been driven from their homes by the Americans, and had come to look for peace. ~~They had been told by their grand-fathers that they would find peace in the land of the British; their brothers the Santees, had found it years ago and they had followed them; they had not slept sound for years, and were anxious to find a place where they could lie down and feel safe; they were tired of living in such a disturbed state.~~ I asked them, "Do you intend to remain here only during the cold months of winter, have peace, and when spring opens to return to your country across the line and make war?" They answered, no, they wished to remain, and prayed that I would ask the Great Mother to have pity on them.

I then explained the laws of the country to them as had been our custom in explaining to other Indians, and further told them they would have to obey them as the Santees and other Indians do.

The several Chiefs then made speeches in which they implored the Queen to have pity on them, and that they would obey her laws. I told then I would send what they had said to the Queen's Great Chief. In conclusion, I told them there was one thing they must bear in mind, the Queen would never allow them to go from her country to make war on the Americans, and ~~the~~ return ~~to her~~ for her protection, and that if such were their intentions they had better go back and remain.

The following day the Chiefs waited upon me with White Eagle for spokesman, and prayed that I would allow them a small quantity of ammunition for hunting purposes as their women and children were starving; they were using knives made into lances for hunting buffalo, and others were lassoing and killing them with their knives, some were using bows and arrows, and that killing this way was so ~~severe~~ severe on their horses that they were nearly used up, and if they did not have any ammunition they must starve.

I replied that the Great Mother did not wish any people in her country to starve, and if she was satisfied that they would make ~~her~~ no other use of ammunition other than for hunting, she would not object to them having a small quantity; ~~but they~~, and that the Santees who had always obeyed the laws could be allowed a small quantity; but they the Uncapapa's Agallallas and others were strangers, and might want ammunition to send to the people whom they claimed as brothers on the other side of the line. This, they declared they did not wish to do. I then told them I would meet Mr. Le Garre, a Wood Mountain Trader, who was on his way with some powder and ball and 2,000 rounds of improved ammunition to trade to the Santees, and would allow him to ~~relieve them~~ trade to them as a small quantity for hunting purposes only; this appeared to relieve them ~~greatly~~ greatly.

On my return I met Mr. Le Garre, who ~~is~~ is a reliable man, and a Justice of the Peace, and explained to him what I had told the Indians regarding ammunition, and cautioned him as to the quantity that he should give, and to thoroughly satisfy himself that it should be used for no other purpose than for hunting. As he had only 2,000 rounds of fixed ammunition it would only amount to $2\frac{1}{2}$ rounds per family, I cannot believe ~~there~~ that there is any danger of any of it going across the line. Mr. Le Garre seemed to ~~think~~ think we did quite right in allowing them a small quantity, not that he cared to trade it, but he did see how they could have subsisted if this permission had ~~been~~ not been given, as only a small portion of them had muzzle-loading guns.

My opinion is ~~that~~ that these Indian will remain at Wood Mountain at this winter (owing to the change in range of the buffalo, there being plenty at Wood Mountain and east of here this winter, which has not been the case for years before), and, from

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what I can learn, there are more Indians coming; of this I am certain, ^{not} as I could not get positive information, and my impression is they will obey the law, while in our country they will be influenced in a great measure by the Santees; while they remain some provision should be made by which they may obtain ammunition which they absolutely require to keep them in food.

The Santees claim the right to have Ammunition with other British Indians, and as camps are adjoining it will be difficult to give to one and refuse others.