

kill white men as to try to be good Indians, for they got no protection or extra reward for being good." When I told them these Sioux would be punished, they said, "We have heard that before. We'll wait and see." While I am not disposed to be needlessly alarmed, and do not agree with the writers of articles published in numerous Territorial papers, of a sensational character, on this subject, yet I think there is danger of some of the young warriors from friendly Tribes falling off and joining with these hostile bands, until with these accessions, they would be somewhat formidable and might make a simultaneous attack on the white settlers in some localities if they are thus allowed to gather head.

The true policy, in my judgement, is to send troops against them in the winter,- the sooner the better, and whip them into subjection. They richly merit the punishment, for their incessant warfare on friendly Tribes,- their continuous theiving and their numerous murders of white settlers and their families or whitemen wherever found, unarmed.

The Gov't owes it, too, to these friendly Tribes, in fulfillment of Treaty stipulations. It owes it to the Agents and employees whom it has sent to labor among the Indians at remote and almost inaccessible places, beyond the reach of aid in time to save. It owes it, too, to the frontier settlers who have, with their families, braved the dangers and hardships incident to pioneer life. It owes it to civilization and to the common cause of humanity.

Very respectfully,

Your obt. Servt.,

Hon. E. P. Smith

Commr. Ind. Affairs

Washington. D. C.

(Sgd.)

F. C. Watkins,

H. S. Ind. Inspector.