

that they will henceforth be as lawless and wicked as their associates.

I would recommend that, since it is not the fault of our friends among the Sioux that they desire to break off their friendly relations, but a matter of necessity, since the government failed to lend them the aid promised by General Harney and others to send them their annuities as usual, should they decline to receive them, that they be given to the Mandans, Gros Ventres, Arickarees, and Assinnaboines, to assist them in agriculture, building of houses, schools, &c. A school established near the Rees and Gros Ventre village would also accommodate the Assinnaboines as well.

Father De Smet, who has spent his life among the Indians, desires the department to aid him in establishing a school at this place. He proposes to apply \$2,000 annually of his own private means for this purpose, collecting from the several tribes of Indians such children, as they could be induced to give up, and educate and instruct them in agriculture. I am satisfied, from my knowledge of this good man, that he has more influence with the Indians and would accomplish more good than any other man who could be sent into the Indian country.

I would recommend that this agency be divided into two agencies, the Sioux comprising the first, the Mandans, Gros Ventres, Arickarees, Assinnaboines, and Crows the second; that agency improvements for the Sioux be placed opposite the mouth of the Cheyenne river, on the Missouri, and the second be placed about the mouth of the Yellowstone. I would recommend that suitable agency buildings be furnished each agency disconnected with any fur company's trading establishment.

The agent cannot feel free to correct every wrong that he sees while he is dependent upon the party for shelter and the necessaries of life, disconnected with civilization, and no power to sustain him. This old American Fur Company (so called) is the most corrupt institution ever tolerated in our country. They have involved the government in their speculations and schemes; they have enslaved the Indians, kept them in ignorance; taken from them year after year their pitiful earnings, in