

The region of country is well adapted to a settlement of this kind, being well watered, containing timber and much fertile land, excellent natural pasturage, abundance of game, fish, &c. Here assist them in agriculture, building houses, establishing schools, &c., for each tribe on their own tract of land; thus giving such limits as would not at first seem to change the modes and manners of hunter-life for that of agriculture, yet compel them to labor in part for subsistence, and, as they become accustomed to labor, restrict their several allotments, and finally divide in severalty. I believe in this way this people would be controlled and would soon become successful agriculturists, and by the products of their labor sustain themselves.

The adoption of this policy would be less expensive than any other to the government. This would rid that vast region of mineral country south and west of the Missouri river and east of the Rocky mountains of those small parties of roving Indians, opening thousands of fertile valleys to emigration and vast plains for the growth of cattle. From the altitude of this country, the pure waters, and the universal growth of buffalo grass, which is a species of the blue grass, I believe this to be the finest wool-growing country, the world ever procured.

Again I would insist upon the department sending, by the first boats in the spring, one regiment of cavalry to protect emigration, force the Sioux to remove to their own country, thereby saving those small tribes from utter ruin.

Secessionists of every grade, height, and color should be forced to quit this country. They will, as a matter of course, use their influence to the prejudice of the government, and, with those Sioux at best ill-disposed towards the white man and his government, are capable of doing much harm.

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Hon. Wm. P. Dole,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.