

white settlers, remain together, so long ~~it~~ will actual war exist; and if if there be an earnest desire on the part of the law-making power of the government to save the weaker party from absolute annihilation, some provision must be made for separating these conflicting races. As long as Ind are allowed to hunt up to our very roads, there will be constant conflict and consequent murders. The territory indicated

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by Gen Buford, between the Platte and Smoky Hill, with the longitudes of Plum Creek and Pole Creek, seems to have been chosen for the very purpose of continuing strife with the so-called friendly Soo and Cheyennes.

If the Interior Dept determine to locate these people in that place, I assert that I have not troops enough to prevent these constant outbreaks. The country ~~which is the~~ ~~country~~ to which these Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas, Comanches, and Navahoes ought to be conducted and restricted is the "Ind country" west of Arkansas; ~~all~~ ~~railroads~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~country~~ and if some form of government could be given them, with a pledge to keep out all railroads and all white settlers, there would be some hope that the tribes might survive some years, and assimilate with the Cherokees and Creeks. In like manner, if the Sioux can be prevailed upon to keep north of Neb, west of the Mo river, and east of say the parallel of the ~~mouth~~ mouth of the Yellowstone, (Muscel Shell is too far west, X they would have a range as large as they ought to want, until necessity would force them to live on and cultivate the little strips of land that are fit for corn along the banks of the Mo river.

If some general plan of this sort can be agreed upon, and be made clear and specific by law, and not by the mere vague consent of the Ind, we can co-operate cheerfully with the efforts of whatever agents the general government may intrust with the execution of the plan; and so far as I am personally and officially concerned, I wish to be understood as not wanting to have anything to do with Ind Agencies, Ind trading, ~~Ind~~ or making Ind treaties. It is an influence that might become as corrupting and mischievous to the military as it is generally believed to have been to the civil agents of government; only I would like to have some power to prevent the Ind with whom we are now at war or certain to become so, from being supplied (as was done last fall) with the very arms and munitions with which they have fought us. I would also like to have some check against making gratuitous presents to hostile Ind the same as to the friendly.

These roving tribes have no real chiefs, but they are a pure democracy; each man does as he pleases regardless of his so-called chief, and at this very moment, what we term their war parties are made up of every tribe. Soo, Cheyennes, Comanches, and Kiowas, all fighting together in large or small bands. Their families are kept far away with the old and friendly chiefs who disclaim the war with all its attendant consequences, but stand ready to celebrate the dance over the scalps brought in by their more valourous and venturesome ~~and~~ young braves, and ready to enjoy their share of the stolen horses, mules and plunder. To deal therefore with these professedly friendly chiefs is but a mockery. The time is now opportune for declaring all treaties abrogated by reason of their hostile ~~acts~~ acts, and to prescribe by law terms binding on all alike, but just, liberal, and fair in their character, and then we, the military, will know exactly what to do and what to enforce. As the case now stands we are put to fearful expenses in maintaining troops and posts where the Ind are professedly peaceful, but who may at any moment break out in open war. Far better would it be at once to assume the fact that all Ind, not on fixed reservation, are at war, and when it is ended we can keep our troops in cheaper and more available localities, and soon save the costs of the war. Congress alone