

above class of whites number about seventy-seven. Though the force of example does not always work to the advantage of the Indians by the class of whites mentioned, yet in the main it is to their advancement, they (the Indians) learning from the whites, whom they recognize as relatives, much more readily than from others not connected with them. These Indians, in connection with the whites, have cultivated about four hundred and fifty acres of land the past season.

The principal chiefs among them are Swift Bear, of the Corn band, and Big Mouth, an Ogallala. The latter appears to have little or no influence or control over his associates. The former seems to be a good Indian, and does all in his power to induce his people to cultivate the soil, and has worked a small piece of ground the past season himself.

Spotted Tail, a Brule chief of great influence, has not as yet settled down near the agency, but has a roving camp, varying in distance from thirty to sixty miles. All accounts from him agree in stating that he is decidedly for peace, and does all in his power to influence his people to settle down and remain in some permanent location. He informs me his people do not like the location of this agency, but much prefer the forks of the White River, some eighty miles distant, in a north-westerly direction. He claims that there is more tillable land, running water, and more timber than at this point, and, from accounts gathered from white men, his statements are correct. The forks mentioned are about one hundred miles distant from the mouth of said river where it empties into the Missouri. He also claims that it would be much better to be located back from the Missouri River, on account of the evil influence of those navigating the same. Whisky could not be obtained, or bad white men could not associate with his people so readily. There is much truth in his statements; nevertheless, his band may be induced to come into this agency as the work here progresses, and the signs of improvements are made visible. There are a number of Ogallalas with Spotted Tail, nominally under Black Bear, who partake of the same inclinations. Within this month (August) a party of Indians arrived in Spotted Tail's camp, under Red Leaf and Big Horn, from Fort Laramie. These latter bands have promised to come in and locate permanently at the agency. A