sending in about twenty-five lodges which he came across on his way out.) On April 14 the late hostile camp arrived, and numbered by actual count nine hundred and seventeen souls, under Roman Nose, Touch the Clouds, Red Bear, and High Bear.

This was the first break in the firm ranks of the hostiles, and Spotted Tail felt assured that the Cheyennes would soon come into Red Cloud, and that Crazy Horse with about two hundred lodges would not be far behind. These predictions have all been ended. All the hostiles came in except a remnant under Lame Deer and Fast Bull of perhaps sixty lodges of Minneconjous and Sans Arcs who refused to accept terms of peace. But I venture the prediction they will be drawing rations at some agency inside of sixty days. Nine lodges of these Indians surrendered here on the 24th ultimo.

This great result has been mainly accomplished by Spotted Tail. He has, though an Indian untutured and uncivilized, been the means of saving hundreds of lives and thousands of dollars of treasure to the Government. What reward of recognition he is entitled to for accomplishing this grand result I leave for those in power to determine.

NUMBER OF INDIANS.

The number of Indians at this agency is no longer a vexed question. The first correct census ever taken of the Indians here was made by First Lieut. M. C. Foot, Ninth Infantry. This census was completed October 26, 1876, and showed an aggregate of 4,775 persons, including whites and half-breeds. Previous to that there had been fed, on paper, 9, 170, as shown by the number reported and certified to by Agent Howard, Lieutenant Foot's predecessor.

When I took charge of the agency I regarded Lieutenant Foot's census as my basis; and in support of its correctness I invite attention to subsequent accessions and losses:

Aggregate of census by Lieutenant Foot.....4,775

Wahzhazas and other Brules transferred to agency from Red Cloud prior to