

The council then adjourned till noon to-morrow. I send you these speeches condensed and stripped of useless repetitions. The reply of the Commission will be forwarded as early as possible./p.207/

General Sherman's Speech--Speech of Senator Henderson--Reply of the Indian Chiefs, "Swift Bear," "Man-that-walks-under-the-Ground," "Pawnee Killer," and Big Mouth"--Commissioners deliberate--Pawnee Killer departs in Anger--A decision.

NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA, September 20th, 1867.

The Grand Council, according to agreement, met again to-day. The reply of the Commission was delivered by General Sherman in his own peculiar and pointed manner.

"Friends, we have heard your words, and have thought of them all night, and now give you our answer. You say that the Smoky Hill and Powder River roads are the principal causes of your troubles. The Government supposed that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes agreed to give up that road four years ago, and it has been travelled by the whites ever since. Military posts and mail stations were built along it two years ago, and they were not then considered to be a cause for war. Government thought that to build an iron road would be nothing more to you. To us it was more convenient and rapid, and it was necessary to our people in Colorado and New Mexico, and the road will be built.

"We are to meet the Cheyennes next month, in October, on the Arkansas, and if we find that the road is damaging to them, we will make them compensation. /page 208/ But the road will be built, and you must not interfere with them.

"The Powder River road was built to furnish our men with provisions. No white settlements have been made along the road, nor does travel destroy the buffalo, nor the elk, nor the antelope. The Indians are permitted to hunt the buffalo as usual. The great Father thought that you consented to give up that road at Laramie last spring; but it seems that some of the Indians were