

Department of the Interior  
Office of Indian Affairs  
Washington

December 6, 1875.

Sir:

I am instructed by the Hon. Secretary of the Interior under date of the 3d instant to direct you to notify Sitting Bull's band and other wild and lawless bands of Sioux Indians residing without the bounds of their reservation, who roam over Western Dakota and Eastern Montana, including the rich valley of the Yellowstone and Powder Rivers, and make war on the Arickarees, Mandans, Gros Ventres, Assinaboins, Blackfeet, Piegans, Crows, and other friendly tribes, that unless they shall remove within the bounds of their reservation (and remain there) before the 31st of Januray next, they shall be deemed hostile, and treated accordingly by the military force.

You will acknowledge the receipt of this order and notify this office of the execution of it.

Very respectfully

Your obdt. servant,

Edw. P. Smith,

Commissioner.

John Burke, Esq.,  
U. S. Indian Agent,  
Standing Rock Agency,  
Dakota Ter'y.

Same letter to H. W. Bingham, Agent Cheyenne River; E. A. Howard,