

and this class of Indians are ever ready to circulate Idle rumors and sow dissentions to discourage the more pro-gressive but only a very few of the Sioux could now possibly be untied in attempting any overt act against the Government, the removal from among them of a few individuals (The leaders of disaffection) such as Sitting Bull, Circling Bear, Black Bird & Circling Hawk or this Agency, Spotted Elk and his Lieutenants of Cheyenne River, Crow Dog & Low Dog of Rosebud and any of like ilk of Pine Ridge would end all trouble or uneasiness in the future.

By far the larger number of Sioux are well disposed, and they are at this Agency some very reliable and trustworthy Indians, whose sincerity & truthfulness is of a high order, and in my investigating what grounds, if any, there were for the rumor of a contemplated out-break, I talked with several confidentially in regards to the matter and each replied than any fears of an uprising were entirely groundless, and assured me that if such was being meditated by even a few, it could not be kept a secret from them.

There are also on our police force some excellent men upon whom I can implicitly rely, and I have instructed them to be doubly vigilant and report to me everything learned at home or from other Agencies, and should anything of importance come to my knowledge I will advise you promptly.

I have, however, every confidence in the good intentions of the Sioux as a people. They will not be the aggressors in any overt act against white settlers, and if justice is only done them no uneasiness need be entertained.

I am, sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(signed) James McLaughlin

U. S. Ind. Agt.