

Aug 20/91

Small writing paper:

Camp near McLaughlin's Ranch  
Aug. 20th, 1891.

MCL-40

My dear Major:

Enclosed is a letter just recd. from Capt. Lee - It speaks for itself -  
After reading please return it to me - I am very sorry that he was not in  
Washington but in case he has an opportunity I think he will do all in his  
power for you - I hope he is mistaken about the friendship of Army officers  
injuring you - I expect it might be best to treat his letter as confidential but  
I thought you might be on your guard about the spy system - Now that Stewart  
is free. . . . .

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) W. F. Drum

(Note on back - Capt. Lee's letter returned to Col. Drum in the field, on Sept.  
2/91) (Sgd.) McL.

Letter attached on ~~long ruled notebook paper~~ <sup>looked up -</sup>

Note on back: Aug. 20/91 Copy of Capt. Jessie M. Lee's letter to Col. Drum relative  
to Agent McLaughlin)

(copy)

Chicago, Illinois.  
August 20th, 1891.

My Dear Colonel Drum.

Yours of 13th inst.

has just reached me here. I have just returned from Pine Ridge and Fort Niobrara  
where I have been looking into the Indian Soldier business. I expect to leave  
in a day or so for the department of Columbia, and I hope that will conclude  
my traveling work. I regret exceedingly to hear that any one would think of  
making any complaints against Major McLaughlin; and I also regret that any credence  
should be given to such complaints, against the best Indian agent in the service.  
In my official report through military channels I took occasion and pleasure to  
say as much. I had heard much of Major McLaughlin's <sup>very</sup> good work, but when I saw with  
my own eyes what he had done and what he was doing I realized that "the half  
had not been told me." The department should hold up his hands and support him