

28 Gorham St.  
Cambridge, Mass.  
26 Apr. 1935

WMS

Dear Prof. Campbell:

Many thanks for your kind letter of Apr. 1 in re the use of bugles by the Indians. It seems to settle the question of whether the Indians ever were drilled to manoeuvre by bugle-calls: the only instance I have found where it is asserted that they did so manoeuvre was in peace-time as a display before a white mission, mentioned in Robert M. Wright's book on Dodge City. I remembered the story about the Indian chief who had the brass-studded lap-boards, when you mentioned it, but had forgotten about the bugle: the chief was Satanta and Mooney's "Kiowa Calendar" gives the reference, the 12th Report of the Indian Office, as well as many other instances, for all of which I thank you. The calendar mentions the use of a bugle by the Kiowas in the first battle of Adobe Walls, in 1864: it also gives the amusing story of a Kiowa camp being stampeded in the winter of 1869-70 by Satanta blowing his bugle in an attempt to locate the camp, the occupants of which thought the soldiers were coming. So there is no question that there was a bugle in the Kiowa camp at least from 1864 to 1870 and no reason to doubt that there might be others among the Cheyennes and other tribes. The appearance of a bugle among the Kiowas as early as 1864 eliminates, too, all necessity of a Negro deserter to act as a bugler, since Negro cavalry weren't used on the frontier, that I can find, till 1867.

It is interesting to note, however, that those who heard the bugles used among Indians in Texas commented upon the skill with which <sup>they were</sup> ~~was~~ played. George H. Pettis, writing about the fight at Adobe Walls in 1864, mentions that whoever used the bugle then was something of a joker, since whenever the bugles