

The next morning Red Cloud ordered me to take the lasso and catch two of the best ponies in the herd. After I had accomplished my task I brought the ponies to the chief, when two Indians appeared and mounted the ponies and galloped away. Red Cloud then told me they were going over to the Arappahoe village and thence to the Fort, to tell the traders they could come and trade for me. I almost shouted for joy when the chief told me if I didn't keep quiet he would not let me go I endeavored not to let him know. How my heart was longing to get free from bondage and I wasn't sure he was telling me the truth, or a falsehood, as they had told me they were going to sell me. So I would keep up courage but this time it really seemed to me that I would get free.

About four o'clock that evening the Indians returned from the Fort and told me the traders were coming to the Arappahoe village that night and would be over the next day. Fortunately the traders arrived the next day. How I rejoiced in my own mind, for I thought they would surely trade for me this time. The traders were Mr. Coffey a French man a Sioux by the name of Suisnett and a Arappahoe called Black Eyes, when they arrived they had a big feast for them and after the feast the traders told the chief, they had come to trade for me. But the old chief told them he would not let me go unless they would give him what he thought I was worth. So Mr. Coffey the Frenchman told Red Cloud the government would give sixteen hundred dollars, \$1600.00 in trade for me. Mr. Coffey I was almost sure could make a trade which would effect my release, he was personally acquainted with Major Wood who sent him. Mr. Coffey resided near Fort Laramie, and was married to a squaw so he was perfectly free from all Indian attacks and spent his time as a trader. He was therefore