Proceedings of the Indian Peace Commission 1867 November

Proceedings - Drafts
1867 - Nov. 2

Head Quarters, Division of the Mo.
Saint Louis Mo. Nov. 2d. 1867

A meeting of the Commission was held at these Head Qrs at 11 o'clock A.M. this day: Present, Messrs Taylor, Sherman, Henderson, Augur, Harney and Sanborn.

Various papers presented by Lieut Genl. Sherman, were read: [See appendix]

On representations made by Genl. Sherman, - he was, on his own motion, and application, excused from serving on the Commission until the 14th day of the present month

At the request of Genl. Sherman, a letter was ordered to be addressed to him setting forth the important points embraced in the stipulations of the treaties recently concluded at Medicine Lodge Creek, Kansas, with the Kiowas, Comanches and Apaches - and the Arapahoe & Cheyenne Indians - [See appendix]

Commissioner Henderson requested to be excused from serving on the Commission for the meeting at Fort Laramie, Dakota Ter: and on motion of Commissioner Harney his request was granted.

Commissioner Henderson moved that when the Commission adjourns at Ft. Laramie it adjourn to meet in Washington City on

the second monday, the ninth day — of December next.

On motion of Commissioner Henderson the Commission adjourned to meet at the Southern Hotel at 11 o'clock A. M. on the 3d instant.

A. J. H. White
Secretary.

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Proceedings
and papers
Meeting Nov: 2d 1867
at
Hd Qrs Dist: of the Pac
Saint Louis

Proceedings - Drafts
1867 Nov. 11

Indian Peace Commission
Fort Laramie, Nov: 10th 1867

A meeting of the Commission was held at this place at 12 o'clock M. this day: Present, Commissioners Taylor, Harney, Augur Terry, Sanborn and Tappan.

Comm: Sanborn presented a letter, to him, from L. P. Bradley, Lt. Col: 27th Infty, Bvt. Brig Genl. Commanding Post, Fort C. F. Smith, in relation to Indian Affairs in the North, which was read and, on his motion, made a part of the record of the Commission [See appendix]

Doctor A. M. Matthews, Special Agent for the Crow Indians, was sworn and made a statement of his experience amongst the "Crows", and the hostile "Sioux", "Cheyenne" and "Arapahoes" of the North. [See appendix]

At 1½ o'clock P.M. on motion of Comr. Sanborn, the Commission adjourned, to meet on the 12th inst: at 10 o'clock A. M. for the purpose of holding a preliminary council with the Indian delegation, representing the Crow Nation

A. S. H. White
Secretary

P.S. See statement of Gov: Hunt hereto appended.

A. S. H. W.
Secy

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Proceedings

Meeting Nov: 11. 1867

Fort Laramie,

Dakota.

Proceedings - Drafts
1867 Nov. 12

My friends of the Crow Nation. At our invitation you have come a long way through much difficulty to meet us. We have travelled a great distance to see you and to take you by the hand as friends and brothers.

Your great Father at Washington - though so far away from you is well informed of your friendship toward his white children and of the many proofs of fidelity you have given to the Government in the past. He is also acquainted with the some of the troubles and difficulties that surround you. He has sent us to see you - that we may learn more fully from your own lips all about your situation and to take all necessary measures - to relieve you from your troubles and to make your road smoothe and pleasant for the future.

We learn that valuable mines have been discovered within the limits of your country - by the whites, and in some instances taken possession of - that roads have been laid out and are travelled through your lands - and settlements made upon them - that as a consequence your game is driven away and is fast disappearing. We know also that the white people are rapidly increasing all around you and are taking possession of all the most valuable lands and occupying them

Now under these circumstances we are sent by your Great Father and the Grand Council at Washington - to arrange some plan by which to relieve you as far as possible from the bad consequences of this state of things and to protect you from future difficulties.

We desire to set apart a certain tract of your country to your seperate use and benefit as a home for yourselves and your children forever upon which your Great Father and the Grand Council of the whites will never permit the white man to trespass. We wish you to designate a section of country within your limits which will suit you and be satisfactory for this purpose.

When this tract is thus selected and set apart for your exclusive occupation ~~you~~ desire ~~to~~ purchase of you the right to settle upon occupy and use the remainder of your lands as our people may desire - leaving you the right to hunt upon it all peacefully as long as the game lasts.

Upon the Reservation you may select we propose to erect a House for your Agent to live in a mill to saw your timber when you may need it - and a mill to grind your wheat and corn - a blacksmith shop - and a house for your farmer and such other buildings as may be necessary.

We also propose to furnish to you upon said Reservation - some horses and cattle to enable you to begin to raise for yourselves a sup-

ply of stock - with which to support your families when the game shall have disappeared.

We desire also to supply you every year with a reasonable amount of clothing to render you comfortable - and all necessary farming implements to enable such of you as may desire it to make your living by agriculture. And in order that your children may become intelligent like the whites we will send you teachers to educate them ~~your children~~.

You have made our hearts glad by coming to see us so far, and you shall not leave us empty handed. We have presents on the road for you which we expect every day.

We will always feel grateful to you for the friendship you have given to our people. We wish to hear from you everything you have to say. We will consider it well and will answer you in a friendly spirit.

Port Hudson
Nov. 12

Proceedings - Drafts
1867 Nov. 13

Fort Laramie, Dakota Ter:
November 13. 1867

At a meeting of the Indian Peace Commission held at this place at 6 o'clock P. M. on this day,

Commissioner Tappan's motion - seconded by Genl. Harney - that General Augur be requested to furnish without delay fifty ponies as presents for the Crow delegation now here, at $80 each, was ~~adopted~~ carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6½ P. M.

A. S. H. White
Secretary

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Proceedings.

Meeting, Nov. 13th 1867

Fort Laramie D.T.

N. G. Taylor
President of
the Indian Peace
Commission at
Fort Laramie
Nov: 13th 67.

To accompany the
"Council proceedings"
November 13/67
Fort Lara

all [illegible] hen [illegible] e give.)

He loves his red children and wants them to

e and prosper – he does not want them to

erish.

Part of reply of Commission to Speeches of Crow Chiefs – by Pres. Taylor

Nov 13th 1868

You ask that we abandon the Powder River road and withdraw our solders from that line. The great Father and the Grand Council at Washington sent us here to examine that among other troubles – & when we sent for you and the Sioux to meet us here we expected to consul with you all about it. We are sorry all who are interested about the posts and road are not here. If they were here we might settle the question now according to your wishes.

As it is we can only say to you what we wish you to take back with you and tell to Red Cloud and all the Indians in your Country – We will consider your wishes about withdrawing our posts from the Powder River and abandoning the route through your country till we meet ~~in the S~~ when the grass grows next year.

The season is so far gone now – the winter is

is so near – the distance is so great – and the property so bulky and heavy that we have at the posts that we could not ~~give them up~~ leave if we would without great suffering and loss. Now if the Indians will stop the war – if from this time forward they will cease to make raids on our people – quit attacking our people – ~~and~~ and seizing their ~~our~~ property – if they will keep the peace in good faith and commit no further hostilities until we hold our great peace council next year – we may do as you wish us to do about the road and the posts. But if the Indians keep up the war this winter and will not have peace – we can make them no promises except to meet war with war. ~~If we~~ The roads and posts are held by us for war purposes ~~alone~~ and to protect the whites, Indians, against bad people. If war continues they will still be held. If a good lasting peace is made with all the Indians ~~we~~ ~~will~~ and faithfully kept we will abandon ~~recommend the~~ the road and ~~or pay you first~~ of the government

# Speech of Commissioner Taylor.

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At our invitation you have come a long way, through much difficulty, to meet us. We have travelled a great distance to see you and to take you by the hand as friends and brothers.

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We learn that valuable

mines have been discovered, within the limits of your country, by the whites, and in some instances taken possession of; that roads have been laid out and are travelled through your lands, and settlements made upon them; that as a consequence your game is driven away and is fast disappearing.

We know also that the white people are rapidly increasing all around you and are taking possession of all the most valuable lands and occupying them. Now under these circumstances we are sent by your Great Father and the Grand Council at Washington, to arrange some plan by which to relieve you as far as possible from the bad consequences of this state of things, and to protect you from future difficulties

We desire to set apart a certain tract of your country to your separate use and benefit as a home for yourselves and

your children forever, upon which your Great Father and the Grand Council of the whites will never permit the white man to trespass. We wish you to designate a section of country within your limits, which will suit you and be satisfactory for this purpose. When this tract is thus selected and set apart for your exclusive occupation, we desire to purchase of you the right to settle upon, occupy and use the remainder of your lands as our people may desire, leaving you the right to hunt upon it all peacefully as long as the game lasts.

Upon the reservation you may select, we propose to erect a house for your Agent to live in, a mill to saw your timber when you may need it, and a mill to grind your wheat and corn, a blacksmith shop, and a house for your farmer, and such other buildings as may be necessary.

We also propose to furnish to you, upon said reservation, some horses and cattle to enable you to begin to raise for yourselves a supply of stock, with which to support your families when the game shall have disappeared.

We desire also to supply you every year, with a reasonable amount of clothing to render you comfortable, and all necessary farming implements to enable such of you as may desire it, to make your living by agriculture. And in order that your children may become intelligent like the whites, we will send you teachers to educate them.

You have made our hearts glad by coming to see us so far, and you shall not leave us empty handed. We have presents on the road for you, which we expect every day. We will always feel grateful to you for the friendship you have given to our people. We wish to hear from you everything you have to say. We will consider it well and will answer you in a friendly spirit.

Part of reply of Commission to speeches of Crow Chiefs - by President Taylor, November 13th 1867.

You ask that we abandon the Powder river road, and withdraw our soldiers from that line. The Great Father and the Grand Council at Washington sent us here to examine that among other troubles, and when we sent for you and the Sioux to meet us here, we expected to counsel with you all about it. We are sorry all who are interested about the posts and road are not here. If they were here we might settle the question now.

As it is we can only say to you what we wish you to take back with you and tell to Red Cloud and all the Indians in your country. We will consider your wishes about withdrawing our posts from the Powder river and abandoning the route through your country, till we meet when the grass grows next year

The season is so far gone now, the winter is so near, the distance is so great, and the property so bulky and heavy that we have at the posts that we could not leave if we would without great suffering and loss. Now if the Indians will stop the war - if from this time forward they will cease to make raids on our people - quit attacking our people and seizing their property - if they will keep the peace in good faith and commit no further hostilities until we hold our great peace council next year, we may do as you wish us to do about the road and the posts. But if the Indians keep up the war this winter and will not have peace, we can make them no promises except to meet war with war. The road and posts are held by us for war purposes, and to protect the whites and Indians against bad people. If war continues they will still be held. If a good lasting peace is made with all the Indians and faithfully kept we will abandon the road, or satisfy you for it.

or scalping for it

Say to the Sioux that

posts - because we will not need them. The Great Father prefers peace because he knows that war is bad for all engaged in it - He is not afraid of war - for he has soldiers like the grasshoppers for number and plenty of guns powder and ball and could make the plains and mountains as

Proceedings - Drafts
1867 Nov. 15

Fort Laramie, D.T.
November 15th 1867

At a meeting of the Commission held on the evening of this day at Ft Laramie, there were present Commissioners Taylor, Harney, Augur Terry, Sanborn and Tappan.

It was agreed on motion of Comm^r Sanborn that a treaty be prepared to be signed, by the Chiefs of the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians now on the Republican, at North Platte as soon as practicable; the treaty to contain a provision that all other bands of Sioux and Cheyennes shall receive the same benefits upon their signing it.

The following resolutions were adopted at said meeting: viz.

<u>Resolved</u>. That Bvt. Major General Augur and Bvt. Major Genl. Terry, Commissioners be and they hereby are excused from further attendance upon the Commission at this place and they are authorized to proceed to the Head Quarters of their respective departments, for the purpose of attending to their official business as department Commanders, before the meeting of the Commission in Washington on the 9th of December.

<u>Resolved</u> That Bvt. Major General Harney and the Hon John B. Sanborn, be and they hereby are designated and appointed to remain at

this place and complete the arrangements for supplies, now being made with the Crow Indians through their representative Chiefs & Headmen and to attend to such other official matters pertaining to the Commission as may require their attention.

Resolved, That the Hons: A. G. Taylor and S. F. Tappan, Commissioners, be and they hereby are appointed and designated to proceed to North Platte, there to superintend the signing, by the Indians, of the treaty heretofore agreed upon with the Sioux and Cheyennes now on the Republican Fork

The meeting adjourned at 7 o clock P. M.

A. J. W. White
Secretary

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# Proceedings

Meeting Nov: 15/67

Fort Laramie
D. T.