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### Outrages committed by Indians on western and southwestern frontiers. (To accompany H. Res. no. 288.).

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OUTRAGES COMMITTED BY INDIANS ON WESTERN AND  
SOUTHWESTERN FRONTIERS.

[To accompany H. Res. No. 288.]

MAY 16, 1870.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CONNER introduced the following papers relative to outrages committed upon and damages sustained by the people of the western and southwestern frontiers by Kiowa, Comanche, and other Indians:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, D. C., March 10, 1868.*

SIR: I transmit herewith a copy of several communications submitted to this office by Holmes Colbert, Chickasaw commissioner, in his letter dated 15th ultimo, relative to raids and depredations by wild Indians upon the Chickasaw settlements, and the killing of some of the people. The matter has been referred to the President by the Secretary of the Interior for his consideration, with a request that military protection be afforded the Chickasaws. As it is believed the outrages complained of are chargeable to members of the Comanche and Kiowa tribes, I am directed by the Secretary of the Interior to instruct you upon the subject. You will, without delay, make inquiry respecting these raids and the parties engaged in them; and should it be found that Indians under your care are implicated, you will take energetic steps to prevent any further invasion by them of the Chickasaw country, or the repetition of their outrageous acts. Endeavor by all available means to keep your Indians within their own country; stop their roaming into countries of other tribes, if possible, and impress them with their treaty obligation to refrain from the commission of any act injurious to the person or property of all persons sustaining friendly relations with the United States. You will report to this office fully upon the subject; and should your endeavors and influence to induce the roving and evil-disposed Indians of your agency to return to and remain within the bounds of their own country prove ineffectual, such further action will be recommended to be taken as the case may require.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. G. TAYLOR,  
*Commissioner.*

J. H. LEAVENWORTH, Esq.,  
*United States Indian Agent.*  
(Care J. R. Meade, Esq., Towanda, Kansas.)

WASHINGTON, *February 15, 1868.*

SIR: I have to inclose a letter received this morning from Governor Harris, of the Chickasaw nation; also, inclosing one from Captain George

Washington, chief of the Caddoes. If anything more than has already been submitted is necessary to satisfy the government of the necessity for immediate action, it will be found in the papers now laid before you.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

HOLMES COLBERT,

*Chickasaw Commissioner.*

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,

*Commissioner of Indian Affairs.*

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, CHICKASAW NATION,

*January 23, 1868.*

DEAR GENERAL: Since writing to you, I have received the deposition of Joseph Davis and Hok-ah-loon-tubby, which you will find inclosed. There are others that can be of service if Mr. Ed. Perry will take the trouble of getting them. He is still getting depositions; he will send me Clayborn Factor's in a short time. The legislature will meet on Monday, the 27th instant, for the purpose of taking into consideration the existing troubles by Comanches, Kiowas, Osages, and other tribes. Times are getting too hot to lay still. Government has taken no steps to put down this thing; and, in order to save life and property, we have got to shoulder our arms and march up to the music. Colonel Pickens and G. D. James pursued and caught up with those Indians, eleven in company, and exchanged a few shots; they wounded one or two Indians, and got Dave Pickens wounded by an arrow, but not fatally; night came on and closed the fight. The next day pursued the Indians to the head-waters of Mud Creek, but did not overtake them. I send you a copy of a letter from George Washington to me, in reply to one from me. I asked the commander of this district to give us protection, and have asked the agent for the Comanches to scrip them, the Comanches, and all tribes of his agency, on their own soil. Could you and Holmes not induce the department to take steps and put down the hostilities of those tribes? If something is not done very soon, I shall be compelled to call on the Choctaws for assistance to stop the ingress of all naked tribes into our nation. We have lost too much by them. Not less than four thousand head of horses have been taken out of the country by these very naked fellows, who now live and foster on government provision, under a cloak of treaty. Government might just as well make treaties with these Indians. The wolf will respect a treaty just as much as Mr. Wild Indian. I fear the next letter you get from this country will be one to inform you of war between the wild Comanches and Kiowas, and the Choctaws and Chickasaws; we can only hope the government will check it in the bud. The troops at Arbuckle are no protection to the country—they take no interest in this matter. I have never called on them, thinking they know their duties. More anon.

Your friend,

C. HARRIS,

*Governor.*

CAMP WASHINGTON, *January 8, 1868.*

DEAR SIR: Your letter in reference to the recent depredations and murder by some unknown Indians, at or near Mrs. Toustikell's, duly came to hand; and in compliance with your wish I started to Fort Cobb to obtain all information possible, and explain to the Comanches and

other Indians, this your mild but firm disapproval of the conduct of those who ought to be our allies, and your solemn warning to those that persist in taking the lives and property of their Chickasaw brothers, and, I may say, one of the few nations among those friends. From all that I can learn, it is the No-co-me and Yam-per-riken bands of Comanche Indians that are depredating and horse-stealing around Fort Arbuckle, accompanied occasionally with a few Kiowas. It was they who killed the Shawnee some time ago, and stole horses from around Smith Paul's and Arbuckle. But previous to the murder of the Chickasaw girl, a Delaware boy met four Osages at the crossing of Rush Creek on the Cobb road, one of them riding a remarkable horse, on account of a bent fore-leg; and some time afterward the same horse was found with horses that were taken from Caddo Creek about the time of the killing of the Chickasaw girl. During my stay in the Liacia district, a Delaware, while out hunting, discovered a party of nine Osages on foot coming southeast; but soon as they were discovered they came on to Shirley's trading-house, and returned, making a lame excuse for their appearance in so suspicious a way. As soon as the agency and all the friendly Indians are established at Cobb, it will be of some protection to this country. But little good need be expected of the prairie Indians, as they seem to have forgotten already their late treaty on the Arkansas, and are now going in large parties into Texas.

I am, sir governor, your friend, &c.,

G. WASHINGTON.

CYRUS HARRIS,

*Governor of the Chickasaw Nation.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
March 6, 1868.

SIR: I inclose herein a copy of a letter from J. M. Waide, a citizen of Denton County, Texas, dated 10th January, ultimo, reporting that on the 5th of that month a raid was made by about one hundred Indians upon the citizens of that section of Texas, in which they killed eight persons, took captive two women and eight children, and carried off a large number of horses.

You are directed to make a prompt investigation of this matter, and to report the facts to this office without delay.

It is suspected that the Indians guilty of the outrages stated by Mr. Waide belong to the tribes under your charge. If it be so, you will take steps to procure the release of the captives, whose names are given in Mr. Waide's letter, and to cause the stolen horses to be delivered up.

In this connection I will state that a letter will be addressed to you shortly upon the subject of raids and depredations by, as alleged, Kiowas and Comanches upon Chickasaw settlements, lately complained of by authorities of the Chickasaw nation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. G. TAYLOR.

J. H. LEAVENWORTH, Esq.,

*United States Indian Agent, Towanda, Kansas.*

(Care J. R. Meade.)

DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS,  
January 10, 1868.

DEAR SIR: Your position as an officer of the government, together with an acquaintance that dates back to our infancy, induces me to write, in order to get you to exert your influence with the government in behalf of the citizens of this portion of Texas. On the 5th instant about one hundred Indians made a raid upon us and killed eight persons and captured two women and eight children. On the night of the 5th a small party of men charged them on the open prairie, and the two ladies effected their escape. One of the children the Indians killed; the other seven are still captives in their hands, and, of course, will be offered at some of the agencies by these Indians for the government to purchase. In addition to the above outrages, they stole and carried off about three hundred head of horses.

The settlers west of here are fast moving in, and unless something is done to stop these outrages the frontier will be broke up. Our country is thinly settled, and no portion of it able to defend itself. We are now organizing companies to scout, and will try to keep them off until spring. Is the government buying horses for the Indians? If so, the stock-raisers of this portion of country would be glad to sell out, as it is impossible for them to sustain themselves against these Indian raids which occur to some extent every light moon. What will be the best course for the parents of the captured children to pursue in order to reclaim them? Can the citizens reclaim their horses?

The names of the captured children are: Manasco, two; Shiggs, 1; Fitzpatrick, two; Long, two; and one negro boy. Some of the parties losing horses are: Kelly, branded K.; Davidson, D.; Finley, L. F.; Weedman, F.; Night, N.; Baily, B., and divers others, besides my own loss about forty head, branded H. B. and 63. Let me hear from you soon.

Your obedient servant,

J. M. WAIDE,  
*Formerly of Elizabethton, Tennessee.*

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,  
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs.*

[Copied from the Fort Smith Weekly Herald of Saturday morning, February 15, 1868.]

ANOTHER RAID OF WILD INDIANS INTO THE CHICKASAW COUNTRY—  
MURDER OF A WHOLE FAMILY.

Since the publication of the news furnished us by Dr. Reagles, post surgeon of Fort Arbuckle, and since he left that place, there has been another raid into the Chickasaw country. We learn that some time last week a band of wild Indians went to the house of Overton Love, a Chickasaw, living on Red River, about twenty miles from Fort Arbuckle, and killed him and all of his family. This news is reliable, as it comes from good authority.

The only way to put a stop to these raids and murders by these roving bands of wild Indians is to send a large military force—cavalry—and reoccupy Fort Cobb; infantry will be of little or no service. In former times, when Fort Cobb was occupied by United States troops, there was quiet along the borders of Texas and the Chickasaw country.

WEATHERFORD, TEXAS, *December 3, 1866.*

DEAR SIR: I send you a few lines of inquiry for my son who was captured and carried off by the Indians, on the 20th of August last, supposed to be Comanches or Kiowas; you will please make all inquiry you can, whether they have got him yet or not, and do all you can for his ransom.

He was seven years old last March; has blue eyes, nearly white hair, rather dark complexion. Has a scar across his nose, made by a pocket knife; his name is John C. Frémont; we always called him Frémont. I see in my paper (Missouri Democrat) an account of the Box family being given up by the Kiowas.

If you can hear anything of my son please to inform me immediately, and oblige.

Yours, &c.,

UPTON O. BLACKWELL,  
*Weatherford P. O., Parker County, Texas.*

Official copy:

G. A. HESSELBERGER,  
*2d Lieut. Third United States Infantry, Post Adjutant.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FORT DODGE, KANSAS, *December 28, 1866.*

Respectfully referred to Colonel Leavenworth for information relative to the boy John C. Frémont, who was captured by the Indians on the 20th August last.

H. DOUGLAS,  
*Major Third Infantry, Commanding Post.*

DENTON, TEXAS, *April 16, 1870.*

DEAR SIR: I have seen Mrs. Box relative to the charge against Lieutenant Hesselberger, and she says there is no truth in the report. She has never heard a word from her claim. I told her to see her attorneys and advise them to confer with you. Freeman stayed with me the other night; he has lost the use of his right arm from the effect of a wound received in a fight with the Indians. It was Horseback's son that was killed in that fight and not Asahabbass, as first reported by me. I learn that several of the Indians who were wounded in that fight have since died at Fort Sill. Freeman wants to know if he can recover anything for damages sustained on that raid. McDonald, one of the white men wounded in the fight, has since died. How are you progressing with our claims? Will you succeed in getting a commission appointed? Let me hear from you.

Yours, respectfully,

J. M. WAIDE.

Colonel J. H. LEAVENWORTH.

KIOWA AND COMANCHE INDIAN AGENCY,  
EUREKA VALLEY LEASED LANDS,  
*May 21, 1868.*

SIR: On my arrival at the Creek agency, on my way out from Washington, in February last, to the leased lands in the Indian country, I

heard rumors of raids into the Chickasaw country by wild Indians, supposed to be Comanches, and some thought the Osages were also concerned in these outrages.

As soon as I reached Fort Cobb, or its vicinity, I commenced inquiries as to these reports, and soon found they were true, so far as the Comanches were implicated, but could not learn that the Osages were connected with them in any way, although some had been seen in that part of the country. The parties implicated in the raid into the Chickasaw country and Gainsville, Texas, are Yam-per-riku, No-co-me, and Pen-a-tacker, Comanches. These three bands were largely represented at the council held by the peace commissioners at Medicine Lodge Creek last fall, and received large gifts from the commissioners, and made fair promises of good faith and friendship to the whites and friendly Indians. Soon after they left the council grounds, however, a raiding party was gotten up under the leadership of Two Bears, or Parry-wah-segmer, and Fo-to-way, or Silver Broach sons, one a Yam-per-riku and the other a Pen-a-tacker, both having been at the council, and with twelve other Comanches made a dash on the Chickasaws and into Gainsville, committing murder, stealing, and robbing, as has been reported to the department by Hon. Holmes Colbert, Chickasaw commissioner, and others. I inclose herewith two statements of Mr. P. McCusker, who was appointed by the peace commission last fall to remain and travel with the Kiowas and Comanches. From his statements the department will at once see that Mr. McCusker wishes to let Little Crow off as easy as possible, and would attach the leadership to others; but such is not the case. Little Crow is a great chum of Mr. McCusker, and is the leading brave of the Yam-per-riku band of Comanches, and is aiming at the head of his father's band—his father, Parry-wah-segmer, always leaving him in charge of the band when he is absent, thereby showing conclusively to my mind that he was the leader, and should be held strictly responsible for these outrages. In reference to the raids of other Comanches, I can only say they have all, without an exception, as bands, been engaged in acts of violence and outrages in Texas, and should be dealt with severely. I have, since I have been here, recovered four captives from the Comanches, all white but one. That was a black boy, captured some two years since, near Fort Arbuckle, by the Quocha-taker band. One was a girl of about twelve, smart, and quite intelligent, who had been shamefully abused by the No-co-mes who captured her, besides killing her mother and infant brother, thereby making her an orphan, her father having died some time before. The other two were boys of some ten years of age, captured by a party of Comanches, of No-co-mes and De-na-ways, or Lion Eaters. The Quorra-da-chor-koes, or Antelope Skinners, known as the Staked Plain Indians, who came in to see me, have a number of captives, some of whom they have held for a long time, but I could not induce them to bring them to me unless I would make large promises to them, of goods. This I could not do; consequently the children and other captives remain in their hands. How the department will regard these things I cannot say; but I will say my patience with them and their promises are exhausted.

In relation to the Kiowas I have a sad report to make. About the 1st of January last, Perry-wah-soit, or Heap of Bears, a Kiowa chief, started out at the head of a raiding party of nearly one hundred men, proceeded into Denton County, Texas, as stated by Mr. J. M. Waide to the department, 10th January, 1868, and killed eight persons, took two women and eight children captives; one woman escaped, the other was



left at their first night's camp, unharmed. Six of the children, including one black boy, perished with the cold or were killed before reaching their camp. Two little girls, of about three and five years, alone remain alive; these two, after a great struggle, I got from them, and have them with me. I met the chief and his party, and from them got all the particulars of their outrageous conduct. These two little girls were met by the Indians on the road in a wagon with their father, mother, infant brother, and uncle. The two men, the mother, and infant brother were killed, and the little girls were taken captives. When these two little girls were brought in the Kiowas said they (the two) were all the captives they had, but their statement was false. They now hold five, and I found it was impossible for me to recover them without a long and severe struggle. One of those they now hold, from all I can learn, is a girl about twelve or fourteen years of age. She is held by a Kiowa by the name of Tunland Mountain. He promised me most faithfully he would go to his camp, and in three days bring the child to me. I waited for him to return ten days after the time, but he failed to return; and other Kiowas told me he would never give her up, for reasons that I do not wish to state here. The other Kiowas holding captives are well known to me, and as the whole tribe are more or less implicated in these cruel acts I recommend that their annuities, as well as the Comanches', be stopped, and all confiscated for the benefit of the orphans they have made; the guilty demanded—according to our treaties with them—for punishment; and if not delivered up, then let them be turned over to the military, supported by the Navajoes and civilized Indians, to make short and sharp work with them, until they can see, hear, and feel the strong arm of the government.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. LEAVENWORTH,

*U. S. Indian Agent.*

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,

*Commissioner of Indian Affairs.*

Since making the above report Colonel Leavenworth has received, from reliable parties in Eureka Valley, communications dated as late as July 8, giving the details of still further outrages committed by the same bands of Indians. The leader of one band alone has eleven captives in his hands, and refuses to deliver them up only on the payment of an exorbitant amount of money.

*Recovered from the Indians by Colonel J. H. Leavenworth.*

Mrs. Caroline McDaniels, in the fall of 1865; Rebecca Jane McDaniels, in the fall of 1865; Louisa E. McDaniels, in the spring of 1866; Alice Taylor, in the fall of 1865, aged about twelve years; James Taylor, in the fall of 1865; Dorcas Taylor, in the fall of 1865; James Ball, in the fall of 1865; Willie Ball, in the spring of 1866; Mrs. Elizabeth Sprague, in the fall of 1865; James Benson, in the fall of 1865; John C. F. Blackwell, in the fall of 1866; Oley Motte, in the spring of 1867; Vina Mars, in the spring of 1868, aged about twelve years; Jonny Kirkendall, in the spring of 1868; Alexander Holt, in the spring of 1868; Charley, black boy, in the spring of 1868; Tom Baily, in the summer of 1868; Helen, (name not known,) in the spring of 1868, between five and six years of age; Heloise or Sada, (name not known,) in the spring of 1868, between three and four years of age. When Helen and Heloise, the two little girls, were captured, Mr. Waide and Mr. Menasco both write that the raid was made by a party of Indians of about one hundred; killed eight



persons, captured two women and eight children. The two women escaped. Six of the eight children captured were frozen to death, or killed before reaching their camps, the two little girls, alone, remaining of sixteen; and shall they, made orphans as they have been by the ages, be cast upon the cold charity of the world, or shall they be provided for from the moneys of the tribe, who acknowledge to their agent they met a wagon with two men, one woman, and three children; they killed the two men, the woman, and young child, a boy; and from the little ones, the fact that their father, mother, young brother, and uncle were killed, there is no doubt.

At the time Mrs. McDaniels was captured her husband and sister-in-law were killed.

Mrs. Sprague's oldest daughter, of sixteen years of age, was killed and her other three children captured with her; two died in the Indian country.

In the summer of 1866 a party of No-co-mes charged upon Mr. Bobb's house, in Montague County, Texas; killed Mrs. Bob while defending her children; captured Mrs. Sarah Jane Luster, and Biantha Bob, aged eleven, and Rudolphus, aged thirteen. Mrs. Luster made her escape from the Comanches; recaptured by the Kiowas, and, after great suffering, made good her escape from the Kiowas. Biantha Bob was ransomed by Dr. Stone, and Rudolphus was ransomed from the No-co-mes by a Pen-a-tacker chief by the name of Asa Hobit, or the Milkyway. He said he could not bear to see the white man weep for his child.

The Box family, mother and three daughters, were given up or purchased from the Kiowas by the military at Fort Dodge in 1866. When captured Mr. Box was killed.

Two of the five captives I reported as held by the Kiowas in my report of the 21st of May, 1868, have been given up at Fort Larned, one by Sa-ton-tu and the other by Timbird Mountain. Neither of these captives was ever near my agency or my camp. I have never failed to get a captive when they came near me, notwithstanding Mr. J. E. Tappan reports they were given up to their agent and then taken back. Now, it is reported that two boys and one girl were captured by the Comanches on the 7th of June last, and one man killed, and the Indians acknowledge it; and it is also reported to the department, from all sources, that the Indians are raiding all the time into Texas, and that the chiefs acknowledge themselves unable to control their young men. What should be done with them with this fearful list of crime and outrage? Read Mr. Todd's and Mr. Menasco's letters, and then say, shall this supineness of the Indian Department continue, or shall the bureau be turned over at once to the War Department? There is no doubt on this subject. Let the officers of the army act as local agents, and the honest quartermasters buy their goods.

D. G. Menasco's daughter, eight years old, taken from Cook County, Texas, 5th January, 1868, by J. A. Evarts Sherman, Grayson County, Texas.

Thomas Fitzpatrick, Montague County, Texas, three children, from one to five years old, on 6th January, 1868; eight or ten persons killed on the head of Elm Creek, and got into Gainsville, Texas.