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Santa Fe N. M. August 14 1886.

Hon. Grover Cleveland,
President,



Sir,-

We are much surprised to learn that opposition is being made to the proposition of Gen. Miles to remove portions of the Apache Indians from their present reservation in Arizona.

It does not seem possible that such opposition could originate with persons who comprehend the situation here and the need of radical measures for the pacification of our Indian troubles, or that it could be inspired by a desire to promote the civilization and welfare of these Indians, or the peace and successful development of these territories.

Many of us have resided here for years, have seen this country the victim of Indian raids year after year, and have a right to be credited with intelligent and practical views on this subject. We are firmly convinced that no permanent cessation of these raids, or enduring safety to the isolated camps of miners and ranchmen, can be secured so long as the Chiricahua and Warm Springs bands of these Apaches are permitted to remain in any part of these territories. For two hundred years they have been traditional enemies and at constant war with the white race. It is true there are but few of them, less than five hundred all told, but there are enough, owing to the generally rugged and inaccessible character of the country they infest and raid, and the isolated nature of the settlements, to keep a very large scope of country in a state of ferment, and thereby to retard the development of valua-

ble mining, ranching and grazing properties upon which this country largely depends for its prosperity.



Generations of hostility show them to be implacable, and that nothing short of extermination will stop their raids so long as they remain here in proximity to their traditional enemies. So long as they are here, that process of extermination will go on, but at a fearful cost of life and property to our people and of treasure to the government. For every warrior killed some boy is now growing up to take his place.

The boys of today are the outlaws and bandits--the Jus, the Nanes and the Geronimos--of tomorrow. It has been so for generations and will continue so, if they remain here, till they are exterminated; all the interests of these territories, in the meantime languishing and their development paralyzed, by the presence of an element that momentarily threatens destruction to our most important industries.

The other bands of the Apaches are peaceful, and in the main, self-sustaining. There is no special occasion or desire for their removal, but the removal of the others named we deem imperative to the restoration of confidence and tranquility to these territories. The lives and property of large numbers of people, and the development of the extraordinary sources of wealth to the country found here are at stake in this matter, and we sincerely hope and pray that the suggestions of Gen. Miles, in the premises, may be adopted.

Gen. Miles has so far since he has been placed in command here, by the wisdom of his plans and the vigor of their execution, kept the actively hostile portion of these bands out of New Mexico and finally driven them out of Arizona. They are now in a corner and are

driven them out of Arizona. They are practically conquered and are understood as being desirous to return to the reservation. To permit them to do so would be simply to tempt fate, and a repetition of the folly of two years ago--another drunken debauch and a murder of some of their number at the first opportunity, and a return to the warpath of pillage and murder to escape punishment. That will be the inevitable result if they are permitted to return. Of this we repeat that we are firmly convinced, and that no permanent peace can come to New Mexico or Arizona till these bands are removed to distant and isolated localities.

Very respectfully,

Edmund G. Ross, Governor

Geo. W. Lane, Secretary

Geo. W. Julian
Surveys General

H. M. Atkinson

Chas. Easley
Register Land Office

Leigh O. Knapp
U. S. Receiver

J. N. Smith
Special Agent G. L. O.

Henry C. Waldo
L. Bradford Prince

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1880
7.1.1880

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U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE MANSION.

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2087 HQA 1886

The within communication is respectfully referred to the

5024 HQ 1886

File with 1066 a.g.o. 1886

SECRETARY OF WAR.



By direction of the President:

DANIEL S. LAMONT,

Private Secretary.

Santa Fe, N.M.

Aug 1st. 86

Governor E. G. Ross
et al.

3600B / Ends

For removal Chiricahua
and Warm Springs bands
of Indians from Arizona
to distant and isolated
localities



Localities Recd a.g.o. Sept 22. 86
Lieutenant General
Recd back Sept 23 1886

2087

Headquarters of the Army,
Washington, D. C. Sept. 22^d, 1886

Respectfully ~~submitted~~ referred to the
Secretary of War.

All of the Indians herein
referred to have been
removed from Arizona.

P. H. Sheridan
Lieut. General,
Commanding.

O.B. 44
262

Seen by the Lt. General
Tracy. Sept 25. 1886



Lieut Genl

Recd. back a.g.o. Sept. 25. 86.