

Refer in reply to the following:

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, November 22, 1890.

To the U.S. Indian Agent,
Yakama Agency,
Fort Simcoe, Yakima Co.,
Washington.

Sir:

Your attention is invited to the prevailing threatening excitement among the Sioux of North and South Dakota and some other Indian tribes connected with the "ghost dances", of which you are doubtless posted by press reports or otherwise.

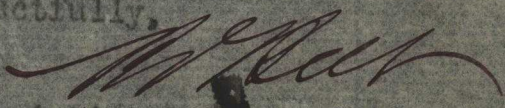
It is very important in view of the tendency of such excitement to spread, and obtain a general hold upon the Indians, that this office be kept advised as to the condition of affairs at each Agency, with a view to the adoption of all proper precautionary measures to prevent an outbreak of the Indians and to enforce obedience by them to all regulations of this Department.

You are therefore instructed to keep this office fully posted by letter, - or by telegraph if the emergencies should require it, - of the condition and temper of the Indians under your charge, showing whether any excitement or spirit of disobedience to orders or the regulations of this Department, which may exist among them is growing; whether an outbreak is threatened thereby, and what measures should in your opinion be adopted to preserve peace or enforce obedience to the orders of this Bureau by the Indians.

I do not desire any sensational reports on the subject, but wish to be kept advised as to actual facts upon which to base action to prevent trouble from the Indians.

Very respectfully,

(Cooper)


Acting Commissioner.

L.

Handwritten scribbles and marks in the top left corner.

*June Office
Mr. 24/90*

*R. H. Bell, Notary
Open letter
about ghost
dances*

*Washington,
D. C. 24th Dec. 1890.
Yours very truly,
John A. Baskin*

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Department of the Interior

File in Indian Affairs