

right of possession or jurisdiction over said lands, nor has their right to lease said lands in any way been recognized by the United States. But on the contrary, all such pretensions have been denied and repudiated by the Government.

It is true the Cherokees have for many years been leasing these Cheyenne and Arapahoe lands to cattle syndicates, and collecting a large revenue therefrom, which they had no right to collect. And as a matter of justice and equity they should be required by the Government to account to the Cheyennes and Arapahoes for their proportion of moneys so received.

As previously stated, it is not the fault of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes that they did not locate on their treaty reservation so soon as the disturbance between them and the settlers quieted.

On several occasions they made the attempt, but the influence of cattle syndicates, who had possession of their lands, and the Cherokees, who were receiving a large revenue therefrom, was greater than that of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, and so they were compelled to remain away.

On September 20, 1880, the Secretary of the Interior authorized them to locate on their treaty reservation, but again they were ordered to remain away, as will be observed from the following communication: