

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
WASHINGTON, March 24, 1882. }

*John D. Miles, Esq., U. S. Indian Agent, Cheyenne and  
Arapahoe Agency, Indian Territory:*

SIR — In reply to your letter of the 6th inst., in which you say that relying upon the information given them by the Secretary of the Interior in person, at Washington, September 20, 1880, the Cheyennes are organizing a move to locate on the north side of the Cimarron river, upon the lands embraced in their treaty reservation, and that you fear trouble between them and the cattle men, who are there under authority from the Cherokees, I have to inform you that this office has heretofore held (see letter to you of June 26, 1879,) that as the Indians refused to locate upon the lands set apart for them by the treaty of October 28, 1867, and accepted other lands in lieu thereof, they would not now be allowed to occupy the same. A portion of the land given them by the above treaty has been granted to other Indians, who are now occupying the same, and if the Cheyennes were permitted to return to the former reservation, serious complications might arise.

I do not find that the assurance of Secretary Schurz is of record, and have no other evidence of it than the statements of the Indians as reported by you.

As at present advised, it would seem to be best that the present reservation should be confirmed to these tribes, as recommended in your annual report of last year, and the matter will be laid before the Honorable Secretary of the Interior at once, with a view to securing the necessary legislation.

You will therefore direct the Indians to remain within the limits of the reservation as established by the executive order