Office Supt Ind Affairs
Dayton O.T. July 21st 1856.

Sir

I have received additional letters from Agent Ambrose informing me that he thought he would be able to start by the 6th or 10th of this month if an escort could be obtained that soon, but from the general tenor of his letter I think it doubtful about his getting off by that time. He represents that a tremendous effort has been and is being made to alarm and prevent those Indians from coming in and that great anxiety is manifested by them on that subject but believes they may be induced to come, ~~but~~ thinks as in his form communication that one hundred troops are necessary to afford the proper protection.

I am compelled to forward to him and to Sub Agent Drew ~~for a large~~ very considerable amount ~~the form of stuffs about 4000 the latter 1500~~ The alarming representations of the condition of affairs before mentioned and fact I have render it doubtful whether a messenger can carry safely that amount of funds, unless indeed he be acquainted with the country and people. I am unwilling to intrust the money to any one unless it be to a regularly appointed agent of the government & there are none at all available ~~is two and comes~~ ~~at this~~ but Raymond and yourself. The question is who will go. Raymond is entirely unacquainted with the country and people, he is not the kind of man I desire for this particular service besides ~~being young~~ and, as the agent going, ought to aid in the removal of those

Indians ~~and~~ I opine his services would be of but little importance to these Indians or the Agent in charge.

Your long acquaintance with these Indians, the confidence they repose in you, and your acquaintance and familiarity with the people along the line of travel points you out as the person above all others to perform that service. These latter considerations are of the utmost importance, besides you have seen the point at which they are to stop and can explain fully to them the policy to be adopted.

I do not ~~say you must go~~ design this as a positive order to go, but I would wish you to do so, if it would meet your approbation; for very much depends upon the success of this movement.

Should you conclude to take the trip, I can arrange the papers and accounts here, and assist you in regard ~~the matter of the grand transfer~~ to your responsibility of property ~~to receive your power and responsibility~~ at that point, ~~to prevent injury~~. ~~And you could go and in with the Pagan Chief camp~~. By the arrival of the Indians ~~in the [illegible]~~ I will have cleared the South western arm of the prairie and prepared buildings for their reception in the fork as intimated in our conversation, and at the same time have the trail opened from that point to the fishing grounds.

I send this up by messenger — and if you conclude to go, please come down immediately. Cruz will go below on the first boat for the articles called for in your memorandum.

I regret to learn of Wyeth's death, and the great amount of disturbance in camp. Doctor

westfield starts up in the morning and will remain. We have finished the distribution of goods to Indians to day - they will start from Fort Camp Tomessar - Should the matter be honorable

Metcalfe

nment

281 Feb: 21.

In Record