

ammunition. The courier rode 155 miles since yesterday noon.

WASHINGTON, July 27.—A dispatch sent by Agent Teter of Fort Hall, Idaho, Indian agency from Idaho Falls, shortly after midnight, was received at the Indian bureau today. It stated that the agent had joined General Coppinger en route to the scene of the trouble. Messengers from the agency have returned from Jackson Hole and report the Indians will not resist arrest. The dispatch makes no mention of the reported wholesale massacre at Jackson Hole and little credence is given the massacre story by the bureau officials. They say in the event of such massacre the bureau would be immediately notified by the agent or his representative.

WASHINGTON, July 27.—No information has been received at the war department in confirmation or denial of the reports of the Indian massacre at Jackson Hole.

The department up to noon had no positive information whether the troops had reached Market Lake, but it is taken for granted they have, as General Coppinger and command are due there at 8 o'clock today. They will reach Jackson Hole in about twenty-six hours, it is thought.

WASHINGTON, July 27.—The Indian bureau has received a dispatch from Agent Teter saying there is absolutely no truth in the report of the massacre of Jackson Hole settlers.

A special to the *Tribune*, dated Cheyenne, Wyo., July 26th, contains the following official report to Governor Richards:

MARKET LAKE, Idaho,
July 24, 1895.

W. A. Richards, Governor:

In obedience to your verbal orders, given July 17th, directing me to proceed to Jackson's Hole and report the cause of the disturbances between the settlers and Indians in Uintah county, Wyoming, I proceeded to Marysvale, arriving there on Saturday evening, July 20th. On Sunday forenoon, July 21st, at the Marysvale post office, a conference was held between T. B. Teeter, agent of the Fort Hall Indian reservation, and about fifty-five of the settlers of Jackson's Hole. Captain William House, of the Indian police (a Shoshone Indian) was also present at the meeting. The conference between Indian Agent Teeter and the settlers was of a very unsatisfactory character, and created some bitter feeling.

In an interview on Sunday afternoon, July 21st, with a grievance committee of four prominent residents of Jackson's Hole, the following statements were given me as the grounds for the actions of the settlers in trying to prevent, or suppress, the wanton and unlawful killing of game. They claim that Bannocks, Shoshones and Lemhi Indians to the number of 600, at a low estimate, have for the last six years been wantonly and indiscriminately slaughtering elk, deer and antelope in large numbers, and in a great many instances for their hides only. Owing to the insufficiency of the game laws prior to those passed by the third legislative assembly, it was absolutely impossible to protect the game from these annual raids of the Indians.

In 1894, owing to the repeated petitions of the settlers and complaints of

the county authorities of Uintah and Fremont counties, the department of the interior, by a circular letter of instructions, under date of February, 1894, instructed the Indian agents of Fort Hall and Shoshone agency to issue no passes to Indians for the purpose of leaving their reservations under any circumstances, and especially not for the purpose of hunting.

During the spring of 1895, the settlers of Jackson Hole determined to see to the enforcement of the game laws against all parties, Indians and white men alike. On the 7th day of June a Shoshone Indian was arrested for unlawfully killing game. He had in his possession between thirty and forty hides of elk and deer killed within a period of twenty days. The Indian was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of \$15, which was paid by one John Carnes, a squawman and a resident of Jackson's Hole.

On the 24th day of June a process was issued for the apprehension of nine Bannock Indians, and placed in the hands of Constable William Manning for service. On the 26th day of June the constable and two deputies came upon seven of the Indians in the Fall river basin, in the act of taking the hides off of nineteen head of cow elk, which had been just killed. The Indians resented any interference, and threatened the constable and deputies with personal violence if they did not immediately leave the vicinity, and threatened the deputies that if they or the people of Jackson Hole in any manner interfered with their hunting, they would kill every man, woman and child in Jackson Hole.

At this time the constable, being unable to make any arrests, returned to Jackson Hole and reported the fact. At this time the settlers were somewhat excited, by reason of the fact that one John Carnes had communicated to them that he received a letter from Fort Hall from a half-breed Indian police and relation of his, that the Bannock Indians intended to go on the warpath, and proposed to hunt in Jackson's Hole, or kill every settler therein, and advising him (Carnes) to leave the country without delay. This letter being read by some of the settlers, caused further excitement, and precautions were taken for protecting homes and families.

On the 2nd of July a warrant was issued for eight Indians, who were arrested, having in their possession over 150 hides of animals killed from the 25th day of May, 1895, the date of passes issued by Agent Teeter of Fort Hall to the Shoshone Indians, up to July 2nd. Upon due trial six of the Indians were convicted and two discharged from custody. Those convicted were sentenced to pay a fine of \$75 and costs, and upon failure to pay, to be committed to jail. These six escaped from the guard on the 16th day of July, 1895.

On the 10th day of July a warrant was issued for ten Bannock Indians and placed in the hands of the constable and sworn deputy. The arrest was then made, and every precaution taken to keep the Indians from escaping. On Saturday evening after the arrest, the Indians determined to escape, and coming close to a bunch of timber, knowing they were carefully watched by the men in charge, they

made an attempt to escape. In their efforts to stop them the deputies killed several Indians, and the remainder effected their escape. The squaws who were in the rear ran into the timber, and in the conflict lost a young boy about two years old, who was taken to Jackson's Hole, called for and then sent to the Shoshone agency.

On Friday, July 19th, Captain John Smith, a prospector and miner, in charge of some of the Gros Ventre mining properties, was returning to his camp, when he was fired on from ambush by five Indians and shot in the right breast. The wound, however, was not a serious one, and Captain Smith returned the fire, killing one of the Indians, and the others made their escape.

It is estimated that 3,000 head of elk have already been killed by the Indians this season. Bands of elk are lying on the hillsides shorn of their hides only. Motherless calves follow the horses of the settlers as they pass through the country, their mothers having been killed by the Indians. This is the cause of the trouble between the Indians and white men of this county, and the settlers are determined to protect the game and enforce the state laws at all hazards.

The agent at Fort Hall arrived here on the 20th of July and gave the settlers no satisfaction whatever, and seemed disposed to think that the Indians had a perfect right to hunt on any unoccupied lands of the government at all seasons.

The ambushing of Captain Smith has aroused anew the slumbering excitement of the settlers, and may probably result in other conflicts between the whites and the Indians. In August, 1894, the Bannock Indians rounded up a bunch of antelope among the settlers' houses, and killed some twenty odd head, and by their promiscuous firing endangered the lives of the occupants of the houses. The seven Indians under arrest had in their possession four green (domestic) calf hides. Horses and cattle are yearly shot by the Indians in this country by reckless firing in pursuit of game. It is also claimed that tourists and hunters are engaged in the unlawful killing of game, a matter which should have attention at the hands of the proper authorities.

I have the honor to submit herewith, for your consideration, the foregoing report, covering some of the causes of differences between the white men and the Indians.

(Signed.) FRANK A. STITZER,
Adjutant-General.

PORTLAND, Oregon, July 27.—An Indian war, similar to that which has broken out between the Bannocks and Utes and the settlers in Wyoming, may engage the attention of the Oregon authorities in the near future, unless the Interior department at Washington takes immediate steps to prevent the Indians now on reservations in this state from indiscriminately slaughtering game and fish in season and out.

Ever since Fish and Game Protector McGuire has been in office, he has had trouble with reservation Indians. Last summer the Indians, about 100 in number, came down from the Warm Springs reservation and fished out of the Clackamas river, in the vicinity of the new experimental hatchery, a spot which has been their favorite fishing