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National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center

Thomas Henry Tibbles papers - Bright Eyes, Susette La Flesche: Speeches, 1880

Extracted on Mar-28-2024 08:34:03

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MAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER WE ARE OR NOT. IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT "YOU CANNOT COMPEL THE GOVERNMENT TO RIGHT A WRONG UNLESS THE PEOPLE DEMAND IT." I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER IT IS BECAUSE THE PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW ENOUGH OR CARE ENOUGH TO DEMAND JUSTICE FOR A HANDFUL OF HELPLESS PEOPLE IN THE ABSOLUTE CONTROL OF ONE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, WHO HAS UNLIMITED AUTHORITY TO KILL AND BUTCHER IF THEY DO NOT OBEY HIS IMPERIOUS WILL, OR WHETHER IT IS BECAUSE THIS ONE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL IS GREATER THAN THE PEOPLE WHO ELECT HIM, OR HE IS SO GREAT IN HIMSELF THAT HE CAN AFFORD TO DEFY PUBLIC OPINION, OR HE HAS MADE MONEY OUT OF IT. IT IS YOUR PLACE TO FIND OUT WHICH. ¶ DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS THREE TRIBES, THE NEZ PERCES, THE PONCAS AND THE CHEYENNES HAVE BEEN FORCI-

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