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Ben (Benjamin H.) Clark Collection

Clark, Ben (Benjamin H.). Papers, 1863–1907. .10 feet.

Interpreter and scout. Military orders and personal correspondence (1863–1907), most notably from Gen. Nelson A. Miles, received by Clark while serving as an interpreter and scout for the U.S. Army at Fort Reno, Indian Territory.

Box C-46

Folder 1:

Item:

1. Copy of General Orders 100 War Department Series 1877 regarding rations for Indians (no date)
2. Discharge statements from the U.S. Army for Private Benjamin H. Clark, December 31, 1863 and given January 18, 1864. On the back of the plastic folder: discharge statement from the U.S. Army for Private Benjamin H. Clark dated July 18, 1865, and given the same day.
3. Printed reports and letters from Gen. P. H. Sheridan, including: September 26, 1868; a list of murders, etc., committed by Indians from August 3 to October 24, 1868, officially reported to the Headquarters Department of the Missouri in the field; October 15, 1868; November 1, 1868; engagements and casualties during the War of 1868 and 1869 against the Hostile Indians; and tabular statements of the murders, etc., committed by the Indians in the Department of Missouri and Northern Texas, 1868 and 1869
4. Orders to Clark to return a discharged soldier from Fort Arbuckle to the camp on Medicine Bluff Creek (January 29, 1869)
5. Special Order 110 from Camp Supply, Indian Territory ordering Clark to accompany a squad of men to Pond Creek Station (August 21, 1869)
6. Special Order 142, Camp Supply, Indian Territory ordering Clark to scout a new wagon road from Camp Supply to Fort Dodge (October 14, 1869)
7. Special Orders 135 from Fort Dodge to Clark to carry messages to Fort Hays (August 17, 1871)
8. Orders transferring the scouts to an officer (May 31, 1872)
9. Orders for Clark to visit the Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency (June 20, 1875)

10. Special Order 170 from Camp Supply, Indian Territory, ordering Clark to proceed to the camp of the Arapaho hunting party (November 6, 1875)
11. Copy of a letter from Camp Supply to Agent Miles of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency regarding the movement of Clark and troops to the Agency (December 4, 1875)
12. Letter from Ben Clark to an unknown officer (February 5, 1876)
13. Copy of letter regarding telegram 76, relieving Clark from his present duties (February 11, 1876). [telegram is not present in file.]
14. Special Orders 118 from Camp Supply, ordering Clark to move to Fort Dodge carrying dispatches (August 1, 1876)
15. Quartermaster dispatch from Camp Supply to Clark, ordering him to bring a mule belonging to the post (September 24, 1876)
16. Special Orders 142 from Camp Supply regarding Clark being relieved of duty at Camp Supply to go to Fort Reno (October 7, 1876)
17. Special Orders 4 from Fort Reno, ordering Clark to proceed to Cheyenne, Wyoming to partake in a General Court martial (January 5, 1877)
18. Special Orders 41 from Fort Reno, ordering Clark to scout a practicable wagon route between Fort Reno and Old Fort Cobb (March 18, 1877)
19. Special Orders 146 from Fort Reno, ordering Clark to proceed down the Fort Elliot Road (September 17, 1877)
20. Special Orders 184 from Fort Reno, ordering Clark to proceed to Chicago, Illinois for temporary duty there (November 17, 1877)
21. Special Orders 109 from the Headquarters of the Military Division of the Missouri, ordering Clark to proceed to Bismarck, Dakota Territory (November 26, 1877)
22. Special Order 47 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to proceed to Fort Leavenworth for temporary duty there (April 22, 1878)
23. Notice of a document sent by the Department of the Interior to Clark (April 29, 1878). The document is titled "Ethnography and Philology of the Hidatsa Indians"

Folder 2

Item:

1. Special Orders 53 from Headquarters Department of Dakota, ordering Clark to escort the Nez Perce prisoners to Fort Buford (May 3, 1878)
2. Special Orders 3 from Fort Benton ordering Clark to proceed to Fort Buford (July 6, 1878)
3. Special Orders 117, ordering Clark to proceed to Fort A. Lincoln (July 12, 1878)
4. Copy of a telegram from Col. Gibbon to Clark ordering Clark to proceed to Fort Lincoln (July 17, 1878)
5. Copy of a telegram from Capt. Smith to Clark ordering Clark to take the Cheyenne Indians then at Fort Lincoln to Fort Reno (July 18, 1878)
6. Copy of a telegram from Capt. Smith to Clark regarding transportation to Fort Leavenworth (July 19, 1878)
7. Special Orders 175 giving order of troop movements (July 24, 1878)
8. Letter from Albert to Clark regarding stores issued to Clark (July 25, 1878)
9. Letter to Clark regarding the expenses of the Nez Perce Indians (October 7, 1878)
10. Letter to Clark regarding the expenses of the trip with the Nez Perce Indians (October 11, 1878)
11. Pay voucher for expenses incurred (October 17, 1878)
12. Letter to Clark regarding pay vouchers (October 17, 1878)
13. Copy of a Quartermaster report for Clark, one with a copy of a telegram attached (November 22, 1878)
14. Special Orders 23 ordering Clark to proceed to Fort Elliott (November 30, 1878)
15. Letter to Clark regarding pay vouchers (October 23, 1878)
16. Special Orders 51 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to report to Agent J.D. Miles at the Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency to accompany a delegation of Northern Cheyennes to Washington, D.C. (May 2, 1879)
17. Special Orders 141 ordering Clark to report to Kansas City, Missouri to meet with Senator Kirkwood (July 22, 1879)
18. Letter to the Chief Quartermaster regarding the claim of Clark for reimbursement of expenses incurred while traveling under orders (December 16, 1879)

19. Statement from the Treasury Department allowing Clark to Claim \$166.75 for expenses incurred (January 6, 1880)
20. Letter from Col. McKenzie to Clark regarding the opening of the new post (June 21, 1880)
21. Letter to Clark regarding appropriations of funds (July 19, 1880)
22. Orders 125 from Captain Randall at Fort Reno authorizing Ben Clark to accompany Agent Miles of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency to Washington, D.C. as interpreter. August 6, 1881.
23. Copy of several telegrams regarding the orders of Clark to accompany Little Chief and his band from the Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency to Pine Ridge Agency, Dakota Territory (all are dated September 5, 1881)
24. Letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Agent J.D. Miles regarding the removal of Little Chief and his band to Pine Ridge Agency (September 9, 1881)
25. Orders 156 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to accompany the band of Little Chief to Pine Ridge (October 6, 1881)
26. Letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs Price to Agent J.D. Miles of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency regarding the closing of grazing rights on Indian lands at the agency (July 12, 1882)
27. Letter from Agent Miles to Major Bennett of Fort Reno regarding the cattle companies on Indian lands (October 26, 1882)
28. Orders 189 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to visit certain cattle camps and ask them to remove from the Indian lands since they are in violation of instructions and notices from the Indian Agency (November 6, 1882)

Folder 3

Item:

1. Letter from Capt. Adams to Clark regarding an application for a military map, which will be furnished by the Chief of Engineers (January 23, 1883)
2. Letter to Clark regarding the issue of beef (February 21, 1883)
3. Letter to Clark asking him to run a survey of the cattle still in Oklahoma and to whom they belong (February 22, 1886)
4. Orders 26 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to proceed for Washington, D.C. (February 11, 1887)

5. Orders from the Headquarters of the Army for Clark to return to Fort Reno (February 28, 1887)
6. Orders 205 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to Minco and back on public business (December 5, 1890)
7. Letter from Col. Alvord giving Clark's qualifications as a scout (June 17, 1893)
8. Orders 85 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to accompany soldiers of Troop B, Third Cavalry Regiment to the Cherokee Strip to investigate charges regarding cattle grazing on the land (June 25, 1893)
9. Orders 156 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to accompany a detachment of Troop A, Third Cavalry to Council Grove Timber Reservation to expel anyone there cutting grass without proper authority (October 6, 1893)
10. Letter from the Record and Pension Office to Clark regarding Clark's term of service in the U.S. Army (January 19, 1894)
11. Letter from Edgar Allan, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, to Clark asking him for the Indian names for streams and rivers near Greer County (February 26, 1894)
12. Orders for Clark to appear as interpreter of one O'Hara, for the murder of a Cheyenne Indian (April 6, 1894)
13. Letter from the aide-de-camp of General Miles to Clark, thanking him for his offer of help (July 12, 1894)
14. Two copies of Orders 93, instructing Clark to proceed to Enid, Oklahoma Territory "without delay" (July 23, 1894)
15. Letter from Lt. Col. George A. Purington to the Asst. Adjutant General of the Department of the Missouri, requesting the continuance of the service of Ben Clark as interpreter (August 26, 1894)
16. Recommendation of Gen. Nelson A. Miles that Clark be retained as the Fort Reno interpreter (August 31, 1894)
17. Letter from the aide-de-camp of Gen. Miles to Clark, concerning the recommendation Gen. Miles made that he be retained as post interpreter (September 5, 1894)
18. Notice of increase in the salary of Ben Clark at Fort Reno from \$60 per month to \$75 a month (November 1, 1894)

Folder 4

Item:

1. Letter requesting Clark to furnish information on the Kiowas for Gen. Brooke, as Clark furnished Col. Pearson with information on the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes (January 26, 1898)
2. Letter from Col. Pearson's aide-de-camp requesting that Clark furnish information (January 31, 1898)
3. Letter of thanks from Gen. Brooke to Clark for his Report on the Comanche, Kiowa-Apache, Delaware and Wichita Indians (February 24, 1898)
4. Letter from George Andrews, Asst. Adjutant General for the Department of the Missouri, remarking on the valuable services Ben Clark provided as interpreter at Fort Reno (April 9, 1898)
5. Letter from Gen. E.V. Sumner to Clark regarding personal (June 8, 1898)
6. Letter from Lieut. Col. Bailey to Clark formally thanking him for his services rendered as the interpreter at Fort Reno (July 18, 1905)
7. Special Orders 137 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to escort one Field Artillery battery to Caldwell, Kansas and another to Fort Sam Houston, Texas on the return trip (November 17, 1905)
8. Special Orders 137 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to assume the duties of caretaker of the Fort Reno Reservation (March 4, 1906)
9. General Orders 26 from Fort Reno ordering Clark to take charge of transportation for a practice field March (April 14, 1906)
10. Special Orders 86 from Fort Reno ordering Corporal John C. Turner relieved from special duty as range rider, and Pvt. Harry C. Ross detailed on special duty as range rider, June 16, 1906.
11. Field Orders 7 ordering Clark to return from Kansas to Fort Reno (August 1, 1906)
12. General Orders 86 from Fort Reno ordering certain men to help Clark on a practice march (October 21, 1906) (One original, two photocopies)
13. Telegram authorizing Clark to proceed to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas with the cavalry (June 22, 1907)

14. Copy of endorsement of Gen. Albert L. Myer on the application of Clark, Interpreter, for the position of Caretaker of the Fort Reno Military Reservation (December 6, 1907)
15. Orders to Ben Clark to take up the position of caretaker of the Fort Reno Military Reservation upon its abandonment, and authorizing a salary of \$720 per year for this year (December 7, 1907)
16. Efficiency Report on Ben Clark in his position of Interpreter and Caretaker of Fort Reno (December 31, 1907)
17. Letter from the Office of the Quartermaster, Fort Reno, to Clark notifying him that Mr. C. Madsen, Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal at Guthrie has been assigned as an additional caretaker at Fort Reno. Mr. Madsen is permitted to live in one of the public buildings on post and pasture some cattle on the reservation, in lieu of money compensation (January 11, 1908)

Also in this folder:

- Dinner menu for the St. Nicholas Hotel, New York (April 30, 1880)
- Christmas Dinner Menu from the St. Nicholas Hotel (1883)
- Pamphlet on the Hoffman House Hotel, New York (no date)
- Program of the Follies Parisiennes (November 24, 1883)