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Thomas Henry Tibbles papers - Omaha Ponca Relief Committee, 1880

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was joined by Mr Henry Fontenelle, who had preceded me, and was to act as interpreter. Arriving at Arkansas City, the terminus of the railroad, June 15th about noon, I immediately hired a team and drove to the Ponca Reserve, and stopped at the first Indian house that I saw. I arrived in daylight. I had no disguise whatever as telegraphed by Agent Whiting. The sun was about an hour high. Very soon afterwards fifteen or twenty men of the tribe assembled. They informed me that the chiefs of the tribe were absent on a visit to the Cheyennes and would not be back for several days, but that one of their leading men was there

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