

Forest and Stream
April 11, 1889

Editor, Forest and Stream:

I trust that through your paper some effective protest will be made against allowing Indians from the reservations to use the Yellowstone National Park for a hunting ground. At present bands of roaming savages bid fair to destroy not only all the game, but also all the forests. Every Indian hunting party habitually starts forest fires, which destroy vast quantities of woodland. The forest fires started by these roving bands have caused such devastation as to become a serious menace to all the settled districts. The water supply is a matter of vital consequence to the settlers on the plains near the Rockies, and nothing interferes with it so seriously as the destruction of the woods. It is urgently necessary that these bands be restrained; they should never be allowed off the reservation unless a responsible white man is with them. Capt. Harris has done all he could for the Park. I hope the Indian Department will back him up more efficiently than it has done for the past four years. The Agent of the Bannocks, Shoshones and Crows must be made to understand that these Indians can no longer be allowed to waste and destroy round the Park at their pleasure.