

1877

I WILL FIGHT NO MORE FOREVER

Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce

Joseph, Chief (Indian name: Hinmaton-Yalaktit) (1840-1904) American Indian chief of the Nez Perce tribe of Idaho. Chief Joseph and his tribe were defeated and captured in 1877 by Colonel Nelson A. Miles. I Will Fight No More Forever (1877) - This is Chief Joseph's Surrender Speech rendered into verse. Opening lines: I am tired of fighting. / Our chiefs are killed.

I WILL FIGHT NO MORE

I am tired of fighting.
Our chiefs are killed.
Looking Glass is dead.
Toohulhulsote is dead.
The old men are all dead.
It is the young men who say no and yes.
He who led the young men is dead.
It is cold and we have no blankets.
The little children are freezing to death.
My people, some of them, Have run away to the hills And have no blankets, no food.
No one know where they arePerhaps they are freezing to death.
I want to have time to look for my children And see how many of them I can find.
Maybe I shall find them among the dead.
Hear me, my chiefs, I am tired.
My heart is sad and sick.
From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever.

THE END