

of the constables are men of very limited means; they require all their honest gains to meet current household expenses, and can therefore, ill afford to render service a whole year without pay during the time.

My proposition is, that, for the future, the constables be paid off quarterly. This would give them the benefit of their earnings at short intervals; it would render unnecessary their running into debt on account of their expected pay, and it would be more gratifying and encouraging to them, as they would, at all times during the year, feel that they were enjoying the fruits of their labor. It is to be remembered, moreover, that, although we have been professing to pay them only at the year's end, some of them have, in fact, been repeatedly receiving advances on account, which, besides being irregular, operates unfairly for those who get nothing. Those understanding that their pay is not obtainable only at the year's end, do not ask for, and consequently do not get anything until then, although they may require advances quite as much as those who receive them.

This irregular system, if allowed to continue, will inevitably put us in this dilemma—either to make advances to all, or refuse all. The former would occasion needless trouble and account-keeping—the latter would in some cases entail real hardship.

On every consideration, therefore, I think it would be better if the constables were paid off quarterly and I respectfully submit the proposition to your Honorable Council for consideration.

If it be adopted, I would further suggest that as the fiscal year commenced on the 1st. June, the constable year should begin at the same date, instead of as at present, on the 1st September.

I remain, Sir,

Your humble and obedient servant,

JAMES ROSS,
Sheriff.

Red River Settlement,
March 11th, 1862.

It was moved by Mr. Robert McBeth and seconded by Mr. John Inkster, That the constables shall, for the future, be paid half-yearly. Carried unanimously.

It was moved by the Bishop of Rupert's Land and seconded by John Inkster, That William McTavish, Esq., Francois Bruneau, Esq., and Thomas Sinclair, Esq., be appointed a committee to collect and arrange the Local Laws of the District of Assiniboia. Carried unanimously."

(To be Continued.)

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