

I have held several Civil Courts, both at Fort Walsh and MacLeod. Since I returned from the east, claims for over eight thousand dollars have been entered and adjudicated upon.

Since my return to the North-West, in order to visit the different Posts, and carry out the duties I was instructed to perform, I have travelled in waggons and on horseback over two thousand three hundred miles.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES F. MACLEOD,

Commissioner.

To the Right Honorable,
Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD, P.C., K.C.B.,
Minister of the Interior,
Ottawa, Canada.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT JARVIS.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN, 3rd January, 1880.

SIR,—I have the honor to report that during the last year the duties connected with this post have been carried on in as satisfactory a manner as possible, considering the small number of men, and the wretched horses now in possession of the detachment.

The conduct of the men has been exemplary, though they have been doing severe work.

There are only three horses fit for the saddle and two ponies fit for light training. Four of the eleven horses have been left here, unfit for use, by parties from other divisions.

This year I travelled 1,080 miles on duty connected with the Indian payments, besides many times to Edmonton on Indian business. Nearly the whole of my time was taken up with this duty until the arrival of the Indian Agent at now Edmonton.

I paid the Indians at Edmonton, Battle River, Victoria, White Fish Lake and Lac la Biche, in all amounting to nearly 3,000 Indians, and was thus employed from the 18th of August until the 8th October.

There have been, until the 20th December, five persons in the lock-up; three waiting trial, one lunatic, one convicted of murder, and executed on that day. The prison accommodation is quite insufficient, the building when put up being made in a hurry, and intended for a temporary guard-room.

I have the honor to recommend that a building of at least 50 x 30 feet may be allowed for a guard-room and prison combined.

I also recommend that a building for quarters, recreation-room and cook-house may be put up; and the present quarters used for stores; there being no regular store-room, supplies are liable to damage and serious loss.

A recreation-room would be a valuable addition to the Fort, as it could be used for a court-room and many other purposes, and do away with the inconvenience of using the officers' mess-room. On account of the liability of prisoners escaping, I thought it advisable to enclose the buildings with a stockade eleven feet high, which I did this spring. Nearly all of the pickets have been on the ground for the last three years, and were fast going to decay. This has very much improved the Fort, and lessens the duties, fewer men being required for guard.

I may here state that it is most difficult to carry out the duties required with so few men as I have at present.