

arrived, I left Cypress Hills, as soon as Welch returned, for this place, and a few days after my return here Mr. Welch arrived at this post with the prisoner "Pox" in charge. "Little Black Bear," the Cree Indian Chief, kept his promise. Inspector Crozier, now in command at Cypress, writes to me:—I have the honor to report that the Cree Chief "Little Black Bear" sent information by his son on the morning of the 14th instant, that the Blood Indian "Pox, Woman's Breast," whom we sent after when you were at this post, was again in his camp, twenty-five miles from here.

"I at once sent Sub Inspector Welch, and a detachment of a constable and four men to arrest him. I am glad to be able to report that Mr. Welch was successful, and brought the prisoner to the Fort the same evening.

"The Little Black Bear' rendered Mr. Welch every assistance, and even had a dance given, in order to detain the prisoner until the arrival of the Police. Apparently none of the people in his large camp knew what we were after. The prisoner was completely taken by surprise."

About 700 American Sioux Indians, with their families, have recently crossed the border and located themselves at Wood Mountain, in Canadian Territory. An officer of the Police Force has visited them, and reports that they are friendly and peaceably disposed, but the presence of so large a body of Americans on Canadian soil is not unattended with anxiety.

During the past year 39 men have taken their discharge at the expiration of their term of engagement, 7 have been dismissed, 18 have been invalided, 2 have been allowed to purchase their discharge, 1 has deserted and 1 has died. Total 68.

During the same period 18 have been re-engaged for a second term of service, and 63 new men have been engaged. Total 81.

The present strength and distribution of the Force is as follows:—

Places.	Commissioner.	Assistant Commissioner.	Surgeons.	Veterinary Surgeon.	Quarter-master.	Inspectors.	Sub-Inspector.	Constables and Sub-Constables.	Horses.
Fort Macleod.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	1	5	103	105
Fort Walsh, (Cypress Hills).....	1	.....	1	1	4	95	90
Fort Calgary.....	1	1	35	37
Fort Saskatchewan (Edmonton and Tail Creek).....	1	1	20	18
Battleford and Carleton.....	1	1	11	16
Swan River.....	1	1	.....	1	1	29	10
Shoal Lake.....	1	7	4
Qu'Appelle.....	5	4
Beautiful Plains.....	4	3
	1	1	3	1	1	6	13	309	287

The expenditure during the fiscal year ended 30th June last, for Mounted Police service was \$369,518.39 but that amount included \$41,184.47 arrears of the fiscal years 1873-74 and 1874-75, also a charge of \$19,762.95 for miscellaneous stores taken over from Her Majesty's North American Boundary Commission in 1874-75.

The crops of the Mounted Police farm at Swan River promised favorably in the early part of the season, but were totally destroyed by grasshoppers during July and August.

The ravages of the grasshoppers also caused great scarcity of hay at Swan River Barracks.