

SASKATCHEWAN DISTRICT.

Inventory at the commencement of Outfit 1874	...	...	...	\$39,128
" close of Outfit 1876	...	...	...	156,544
		Increase...	...	\$117,400
Supplies furnished in 1874	...	...	...	\$106,894
" " 1875	...	...	...	107,437
" " 1876	...	...	...	155,699
In Outfit 1874 the Cash Sales were	...	...	...	\$4,800
And Goods traded for Furs and Provisions	...	...	...	49,900
In Outfit 1875, the Cash Sales and increased amount of transfers to Districts were	...	...	...	\$20,000
And Goods traded	...	...	...	111,000
In Outfit 1876 the Cash Sales and extra transfers, as compared with Outfit 1874, amounted to	...	...	...	\$49,000
And Goods traded	...	...	...	114,500

It will thus be seen that there has been an increase of fully \$60,000 in the amount of Goods traded in Outfits 1875 and 1876, compared with Outfit 1874. The returns of Beaver, Robes, Lynx, Marten, Mink, Musquash, and Otter, valued at the same rates for each Outfit, amount in

1874 to	...	...	...	...	...	£6,353
1875 to	...	...	...	...	...	£8,439
1876 to	...	...	...	...	...	£5,846

so that, notwithstanding an increase of more than 100 per cent. in the value of goods traded, the returns of Outfit 1876, actually show a falling off of some £500, as compared with Outfit 1874.

The sales to the Government and others in the three Outfits were \$4,800, \$16,000, and \$29,000 respectively, and the accounts of the District show the following results:—

Outfit 1874, an apparent Profit of	...	...	\$66,939
" 1875	"	...	19,031
" 1876	" Loss of	...	7,384

The falling off in the last Outfit, as compared with 1874, being upwards of \$70,000.

There is a large amount of Capital employed in the trade in this District, where the bulk of the provisions are obtained for transport and other purposes.

In 1874 the Capital employed in the District was \$180,000

"	"	1875	...	265,000
"	"	1876	...	320,000

the latter yielding neither interest nor profit; while the Officer in charge of the District stated that upon the whole he had done very well.

In handing his accounts of Outfit 1876, Mr. CLARKE stated that in consequence of the steamer "Northcote" not reaching her destination last season, arrangements had to be made at Carlton for the transport of supplies to other Districts, which otherwise would have suffered to a considerable extent. A large amount of Pemican had been provided for the trade of these Districts.

Mr. CLARKE reported that the Comparative Statement of the Returns of Saskatchewan District Outfit 1875-6, showed an increase in the present year's work of \$2,729. The Fur and Robe Returns pointed to a decrease of \$11,366, which amount was more than met by the increased Returns of Pemican and Leather.

It may be observed that these articles are either transferred to other Districts or valued upon Inventory, and that even with the sales to the Government, amounting to \$29,000, the result of the trade of the District for Outfit 1876, is so very unsatisfactory, that the Chief Commissioner has been called upon to obtain from Mr. CLARKE further explanations.