

OTTAWA, 29th December, 1882.

The Right Honorable  
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit the following Report of the survey of the boundaries of Indian reserves in Treaties 4 and 7, North-West Territories, during the past season.

I am happy to have the honor of reporting that the surveys are now so well advanced, that any complications likely to arise for a want of knowledge of their location and extent, will be avoided.

The following list shows what has been done:—

Indian Head Reserves.....	220 0 sq. miles.
Muskow-pectung's Band.....	58.8 "
Sarcee Reserve.....	110 0 "
Blood ".....	650.0 "
Piegán ".....	183.4 "
Grazing ".....	95.0 "
Total area surveyed.....	1,317.2 "

I prepared for an early commencement last spring, by having a full supply of provisions laid at Fort Qu'Appelle in the fall and stored there for the winter.

I left Ottawa on the 22nd March, and arrived in Winnipeg on the 28th.

Owing to snow blockades on the Canadian Pacific Railway between Winnipeg and Brandon, I did not reach the latter city until the 14th April.

On account of the depth of snow, and sleighing likely to continue for a few days longer, a bob-sled attachment was applied to the waggons as far as Fort Ellice, where I arrived on the 19th, in time to cross the Assiniboine River on the ice.

At Fort Ellice I met Chief Gambler, whose reserve is to be located some distance north of there, on the east side of the river.

This Indian chief was very anxious that I should visit his reserve and mark out the boundaries for him. I told him that I would go if possible, so he sent down Thomas Spence and a couple of ponies to bring me up. When Spence arrived opposite Fort Ellice the ice was in a very unsafe state for a man to cross even on foot, I, therefore, had to put off visiting the Gambler's reserve, as it would have caused too serious a delay of the whole party,

On the 22nd I left Fort Ellice for Fort Qu'Appelle, prairie navigation having fairly opened.

The part of the journey westward was achieved under many difficulties; we had very cold weather, with frequent rain and snow storms, which rendered camping out very disagreeable, if not dangerous to both man and horse, after wading all day through deep snow water and slush.

Some of the streams west of Ellice were so high that the waggon-box and cover had to be utilized as a boat to ferry our stuff across. The bridge built by the Crooked Lake Indians, over Weed Creek, was carried away by the flood, and I had to strike south to the trail and make a ferry.

We reached Fort Qu'Appelle on the 30th April.

I found that the mules had wintered splendidly at Mr. Andrew Klyne's, in the valley of the Qu'Appelle. They had been very carefully attended to and were all very fat.

A few days were occupied in getting things ready for work. The carts and harness were overhauled, repainted and oiled.

On the 6th May I was obliged to dispense with my cook, who claimed to be a professional one at the time of his engagement at Winnipeg. This inconvenience at the time was counterbalanced by the effective services rendered during the season by Thos. Clancy, one of the best cooks I have yet seen on the plains.