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destitution food was gratuitously supplied when there was little chance of the parties being able to pay for it. These the Department will be willing to pay for.

In regard to the price charged for Flour viz. 12 cts. a pound the Department is informed that no more than 10 cts is charged for the best quality at these posts and the Hudson Bay Company's price for Strong Baker's is 9 cts.

It would appear therefore from the information before the Department that only a small portion of the supplies charged for were issued gratuitously and which the Department should and is willing to pay for, but that the greater portion were issues made in the usual way and charged to the individuals who will be looked to for payment and who are no doubt able to pay in time.

Your obedient servant,

*Tom Lean*  
Secretary.