

Time occupied in transit of correspondence :

Gain in time.

Between	By present Route.	By proposed Route.
	Days.	Days.
Ottawa and Fort Walsh.....	15
do Maple Creek.....	7
do Fort McLeod.....	20	12
do Calgary.....	23	15

Total cost of present Route..... \$13,400

do of proposed..... 11,134

Reduction in cost.

Decrease..... \$ 2,266

The present services between Assiniboine and Fort Walsh, Benton and Fort Macleod, would of course be dispensed with. The contracts do not expire until the 1st April, 1883, but I am informed the contractors would probably be willing to terminate them at an earlier date for a small compromise.

I may state that offices will no doubt, during the coming summer, be required at several points on the Railway, and that a communication being established to and from the end of the track, all these offices could, without additional expense, receive and despatch their mails.

By the autumn of 1883 it is expected that the end of the track will be at Calgary which is a centre for the ranche country, and which will be the most convenient distributing point for mails going southward 100 miles to Fort McLeod and northward 220 miles to Edmonton. Calgary is 245 miles west of Maple Creek and 846 miles west of Winnipeg.

At Calgary there is a settlement numbering about 300 souls. There are also stationed at this place 60 or 70 mounted police.

About twenty-five miles west of Calgary is the Cochrane ranche, comprising within its limits 210,000 acres, and stocked with about 500 horses and 18,000 head of cattle.

At Morleyville, 17 miles beyond the Cochrane ranche, and forty-two miles west of Calgary, there is a settlement consisting of about sixty souls.

On the trail between Calgary and Fort McLeod there are two small settlements. The one at High River, thirty-five miles south of Calgary, consisting of about fifty souls; the other at Willow Creek, about twenty-five miles south of High River, and thirty miles north of Fort McLeod, consisting of twenty souls.

Fort McLeod is a centre for the settlements on the Belly and Old Man Rivers, as also for the settlement at Pincher Creek, thirty-five miles west, (probably the largest in that part of the country), which consists of about eighty souls. There are also in the neighborhood of Pincher Creek several small ranches.

Between Calgary and Edmonton there are two small settlements, the one where the trail crosses the Red Deer River, the other where the trail crosses the Battle River.

Discontinuance of present services to Forts Walsh and McLeod.

Probability of new offices being required on line of railway, serving Western Terminus. Completion of railway to Calgary and new arrangements consequent therein.

Cochrane Ranche.

Morleyville.

High River.
Willow CreekFort McLeod.
Pincher Creek.Crossing of Red Deer River.
Battle River