

APPENDIX C.

REPORT OF SURVEYOR KENNEDY.

FORT McLEOD,
4th Dec., 1882.

SIR,—I have the honor to present you with the following medical Report for the year 1882.

FORT WALSH.

I was stationed at this post up to the 14th of June, when I was relieved by Dr. Jukes. I again took over the hospital from him on July 10th, and finally relinquished it to Dr. Jukes on the 15th of October.

The medical history of the post for the time during which I was in charge, or, roughly speaking, up to the middle of October, does not present many features for congratulation. A very large number of cases were treated, and many of them were of a most serious nature. I regret that, owing to my not having a copy of the records, I am unable to give a detailed statement, but this will probably be done by Dr. Jukes. I have notes, however, of thirty-eight (38) cases of *malarial fever* occurring up to October 15th. I believe that the highest number of cases reached in any former year was seventeen (17), so that it will be seen that there was a remarkably large increase. And not only were the cases numerically increased, but the character of the fever was also considerably severer than in former years. And in a certain percentage of the patients—and that not a very small one—unmistakable typhoid symptoms were developed. This, taken by itself, would argue deficient sanitation, but does not necessarily do so in this case. Every sanitary precaution that could be taken—short of pulling down most of the fort,—was taken. Malarial fever is *endemic* in Fort Walsh, as has been frequently pointed out in former reports. The typhoid symptoms occurring this year, and rendering the fever so much more serious, I regard as due to the character of the buildings, the deficient drainage and indifferent ventilation. The old log buildings were long ago reported on as unfit for habitation, and for a time were very little used, until the increase in the Force last summer made it necessary that they should be called into requisition again. And in regard to drainage and ventilation, although both are improved, it is not difficult to see that they could not be very efficient in these rudely constructed huts, with mud roofs and floors laid on the earth. Other auxiliary causes might be indicated, but it is unnecessary to pursue the subject further, as I understand it is the intention to abandon Fort Walsh during the coming year, and provide good, substantial quarters, built on a more modern system. Should this be done, it is to be confidently expected that the cases of fever traceable to preventible causes will be in the future very few and far between.

The number of men discharged by me as invalids this year was only four (4) as compared with fourteen (14) in 1881. Four others were afterwards sent from McLeod and discharged on the certificates of Dr. Jukes.

Up to the middle of October there was one death, that of Constable Johnston, accidentally shot on the 23rd of May. Although on the spot within a minute or so of the occurrence, I was unable to do anything for him, the ball having passed through the apex of the heart and death being almost instantaneous.

The only other case I need mention is that of Constable Murray. On June 26th, information was received that this man had been accidentally shot in the side