

"They also told the Blackfeet that if they would come to help them against the Americans, that after they had killed all the Whites they would come over and join the Blackfeet to exterminate the Whites on this side.

"They also told him that the soldiers on this side were weak, and that it would take them but a short time to take any forts that they had built here, as they had taken many strong stone forts from the Americans, at small loss to themselves.

"The Blackfeet had sent an answer to the Sioux a short time before I arrived, to the effect that they could not smoke their tobacco on such terms, and that they were not willing to make peace with the understanding of helping them to fight the Whites, as they were their friends and they would not fight against them.

"The messenger from the Blackfeet to the Sioux had just returned when I got to their camp, with the answer the Sioux had sent.

"They said that as they would not come and help them against the Americans, that they would come over to this side and show the Blackfeet that White soldiers were nothing before them, and that after they had exterminated the soldiers and taken their forts they would come against the Blackfeet.

"In consequence of this message the Blackfeet nation, when I reached their camp, were in a state of uncertainty, not knowing how to act. 'Crow-foot,' the Head Chief of the Blackfeet was authorized by the nation, all of whom were present, to ask me whether in case they were attacked by the Sioux without themselves being the aggressors, and called upon us, for the Mounted Police, to help them, we would do so. I told them that in case the Sioux crossed the line and attacked the Blackfeet, without the Blackfeet giving them any cause to do so, that we were bound to help them, they being subjects of this country, and having the right of protection as well as any other subjects.

"They were well pleased at what I told them, and said that they intended always in future to be at peace with the Whites, and particularly with us; that they saw the way we had dealt with them since we had been in the country, and they were sure we were their friends.

"The Chief told me in these words; he said: 'We all see that the day is coming when the buffalo will all be killed, and we shall have nothing more to live on, and then you will come into our camp and see the poor Blackfeet starving.' 'I know,' he said, 'that the heart of the White soldier will be sorry for us, and they will tell the great mother who will not let her children starve.' He said 'We are getting shut in, the Crees are coming in to our country from the north, and the White men from the south and east, and they are all destroying our means of living; but still, although we plainly see these days coming we will not join the Sioux against the Whites, but will depend upon you to help us.'

"The Chief then told me that the Blackfeet had told him to tell me that as we were willing to help them, in the event of the Sioux attacking them, that they would, in case of being attacked, send two thousand warriors against the Sioux.

"I thanked them for their offer, and told them I would inform you of all they had told me, and that as long as they were quiet and peaceable they would always find us their friends and willing to do anything for their good.

"They expressed great satisfaction at all I had told them, and promised to do nothing without letting us first know, and asking our advice.

"I distributed some tobacco among them, and told them to let us know of any movements of the Sioux to the north.

"I left them on Friday last, camped altogether about 30 miles above the mouth of the Red Deer River. I brought the prisoner with me without any trouble, and arrived here this day."

A copy of this report was forwarded by His Honor the Deputy Governor, to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, from whom the following reply was received by His Excellency the Governor General:—

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Deputy Governor's despatch, No. 21, of the 26th August, enclosing a report of Sub-Inspector Denny, of