

It is the desire of the Lieutenant-Governor, that you should examine the matter entirely from an independent point of view, giving His Honor, for the benefit of the Government of Canada, your views of the state of matters on the Saskatchewan, in reference to the necessity of troops being sent there, basing your report upon what you shall find by actual examination.

You will be expected to report upon the whole question of the existing state of affairs in that Territory, and to state your views of what may be necessary to be done in the interest of peace and order there.

Secondly, you are to ascertain, as far as you can, in what places, and among what tribes of Indians, and what Settlements of Whites, the small pox, is now prevailing, including the extent of its ravages, and every particular you can ascertain in connection with the rise and the spread of the disease.

You are to take with you such small supply of medicines as shall be considered by the Board of Health here suitable and proper for the treatment of small-pox; and you will obtain written instructions for the proper treatment of the disease, and will leave a copy thereof with the Chief Officer of each Fort you pass, and with any clergyman, or any other intelligent person belonging to Settlements outside the Forts.

You will also ascertain, so far as is in your power, the number of the Indians on the line between Red River and the Rocky Mountains, the different Nations and Tribes into which they are divided, and the particular locality inhabited, and the language spoken, and also the names of the principal Chiefs of each tribe.

In doing this, you will be careful to obtain the information, without in any manner leading the Indians to suppose you are acting under authority, or inducing them to form any expectations based on your enquiries.

You will also be expected to ascertain, as far as possible, the nature of the trade in furs conducted upon the Saskatchewan, the number and nationality of the persons engaged in what has been called the fur trade there, and what portion of the supplies, if any, comes from the United States Territory, and what portion of the furs are sent thither, and generally to make such enquiries as to the course of trade in that region, as may enable the Lieutenant-Governor to form an accurate idea of the commerce of the Saskatchewan.

You are to report from time to time as you proceed westwards, and forward your communications by such opportunities as may occur.

The Lieutenant-Governor will rely upon your executing this mission with all reasonable despatch.

The Lieutenant-Governor understands that the compensation for your services is to be what you are receiving since your employment by Col. Wolseley, that is to say, in all, one pound a day, with travelling expenses. It is understood that you are now receiving the sum of six shillings and sixpence per diem from your position in the army, and that the balance, with travelling expenses, is the amount to be borne by the Government of Canada.

I have, &c.,
(Signed),

GEORGE A. HILL,
Private Secretary.

A. Butler, Esq.,
69th Regiment.

(550.)

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE PROVINCES,
OTTAWA, 8th November, 1870.

SIR,—I have had the honor to receive and lay before His Excellency the Governor (No. 478.) General in Council your Despatch, No. 20, of the 13th ultimo, reporting 9th Sept., 1870. that urgent representations had been addressed to you, to send troops to