

but among the Indians there was no peace whatever until the Government came into the North-west ; and not until the Government established a police force in the country was there any guarantee of peace between the tribes, or between these and the whites.

The writer says Crowfoot was eighty years old, and Mr. Lacombe twelve years younger. Most certainly I would take the priest to be the elder of the two ; and as I saw Crowfoot shortly before his death, I would say that he was not more than sixty-five.

The writer is also astray in his geography. He speaks of Edmonton in the Peace River district, whereas Edmonton is in the Saskatchewan valley, which empties into the Hudson Bay. He also speaks of Mr. Lacombe going still further north to Lac La Biche, 400 miles ; whereas Lac La Biche is about 150 miles north-east of Edmonton, and in those early days to be reached before Edmonton from the east.

The writer also says that Crowfoot died an old bachelor, whereas to my personal knowledge he was during the last twenty years of his life a pronounced polygamist ; and to-day one at any rate, if not two, of his wives mourns his death.

As to advising Crowfoot and his people against the evil influence of the whites when the railroad would come, Crowfoot shared his confidences on these matters with other missionaries as well as with Mr. Lacombe, and on several occasions came all the way up to Morley to see myself in connection with these very questions of the railroad and the near approach of the whites.

Another mistake the writer makes is about the numerical strength of the Blackfeet as compared with other tribes. The Crees have been, and are to-day far more numerous than the Blackfeet ; and as to fighting strength, the Stonies, though fewer in number, were more than their match.

Yours truly,

JOHN McDOUGALL.