

the loss of time required for the Indians to go down to the lower Agency for their rations.

All is quiet at the Crossing; I shall go out there again in a few days. Pocklington is now there getting the work started.

The Bloods are doing well, but I shall not be able to get as much land ploughed on that reserve as I should wish.

The Piegans have nearly all their crops already in, and if we have anything of a season they will get a very large yield.

I intend to start for Calgary in a day or two, but have not been able to go up there before, as I have been waiting for Mr. Wadsworth. He has not yet arrived; I am afraid he will be too late to make much use of what seeds he may have. Parsnip seed I am much in need of.

I have had a great deal of trouble to get men to work on the reserves and farms, and only wish Mr. Wadsworth had been here with the men, as it would have saved a great deal of expense.

Mr. McLeod left here to-day for Fort Benton.

Axes, hoes and harrows are the articles most needed on the reserves.

We have made quite a reduction in the ration list at the Crossing in the last month. Mr. Dowling's mistakes out there last fall have given endless trouble, and will cause more at the next payments. I beg to acknowledge medal by last mail, which I will give to Eagle Tail.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. E. DENNY,
Indian Agent.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
OTTAWA, 27th March, 1882.

The Right Honorable

The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have considered the despatch and the accompanying papers forwarded to me in your letter of the 20th March, No. 28,748, relative to the incursions of Canadian Indians into the United States, and American Indians into Canadian Territory.

I feel very confident that for the future our Indians will not cross the boundary in anything like the number they have hitherto done, and had not the American traders on the Missouri River held out inducements to our chiefs to come south, very few would have done so this winter.

The suggestion made by His Excellency the Governor-General to grant permits to Indians who wish to cross the border, would, I think, answer well in Treaty 7.

Previous to the establishing of the International Boundary, the Piegan, Blood and Blackfeet Indians occupied the country of North-West Montana in the United States Territory and Fort MacLeod in Canadian Territory.

The Indians living north and south of the boundary are intermarried and are continually visiting each other. It would be considered a great hardship were we to forbid them continuing their visits.

It has come to our knowledge that the South Piegans have invited our Indians to join them in the hunt, both in the fall of 1881 and 1882, and as the United States Piegans obtain permission from the Indian Agent to leave their reserves, I should not think the American authorities would object to our Indians joining them for the same purpose or to their visiting their friends, provided they were furnished with a permit from the person authorized to issue such on this side. This system would answer for the Assiniboines who also have relations living south of the line.