

nels. My reason for writing so fully on this subject is, that I can see that it is not by the receipt of rations or annuities they will be made self-supporting, but by the encouragement they get in farming and being taught useful trades. The older Indians will die out without ever learning or doing much, as their old habits and prejudices are too deeply rooted; but there are several thousand children growing up, who can and will learn easily, and these are the material to work on.

The Blackfeet will doubtless raise good crops this year, which will, I hope, settle and encourage them, but they will still visit the Bloods and Peigans with whom they are related.

I understood that this Treaty was to be divided in which case the Blackfeet, Bloods, and Peigans should be in one division, and the Sarcees and Stonies in the other. Mr. Nelson, D.L.S., is this summer definitely fixing the limits of the reserves, and also laying out the timber limits for the Indians. Mr. Nelson has taken great pains to take the chiefs with him, and has pointed out to them where the lines of the reserves run.

It would be advisable if maps of the reserves were sent to this office as soon as possible, as many questions arise as to the exact position of the different lines which I cannot answer unless I am made acquainted with the surveys, which heretofore I have not been.

The Indian Department's herd of cattle did not do so well as might have been expected, and the sale of that herd not long ago at a good price, takes away another source of expense and anxiety. Fifteen cows from this herd were sent by me, under instructions received, to Mr. Lucas, in charge of a Government farm in the Edmonton District. I also sent cows to some of the reserves, for the use of the men employed. This herd of cattle has been kept up for the use of the Indians when they should require them, but as they could not keep them, and did not want them, it was thought best to get rid of the herd and the expense. As it is the Indians have received many things from the Government not promised in the Treaty, and I do not think that they are entitled to anything in lieu of these cattle.

The most central point for the head quarters of this Treaty is certainly Fort MacLeod, being close to more than half the Indians in the Treaty (the Bloods and Peigans), and the next largest tribe, the Blackfeet, are within only a day and a half's drive. As a new site is chosen for the town of Fort MacLeod, good buildings should be erected for the Agency storehouses, Indian waiting room and stables, also room for men who come in from the reserves, on duty, which will save much expense in the way of horse feed and board for the men. I am having a good supply of hay put in for the Agency, so I hope that next winter livery bills will cease. A room will be put up for the medicines, and a room in which the doctor can see and attend to sick Indians. I am keeping down the blacksmithing expense as much as possible, and since I have been allowed to have our work done by outside blacksmiths, and the salaried blacksmith has been dismissed, I think the work will be done cheaper than formerly.

I am now receiving my supplies for this year, and am glad to see that we are getting in a good supply of what is needed; and, indeed, I must say that I have no cause to complain as to the manner in which my suggestions and recommendations for what was needed in this Treaty have been met by the Department.

I have made many visits to the reserves in the Treaty during the summer, and my time has been fully occupied in keeping matters running smoothly and in travelling among the Indians. The Commissioner's late visit to all the reserves, was a most satisfactory one, and in all the reserves the Indians were very glad to see him, and many matters that needed arranging were settled.

I received instructions during the summer to have a trail cut through the Crow's Nest Pass, to join the trail being cut from the Kootenai. We were supposed to cut a good trail for cattle and horses, as many parties were waiting for the completion of the road to come over with stock. I sent a party of five men up in charge of Mr. McCord, Instructor of the Blood Reserve, and in two months the trail was finished at an expense not exceeding \$1,500; the road cut is a 12 foot trail, and a good one for a