

Chief Beardy was very troublesome. The Commissioners had appointed Carlton as the place at which the treaty would be made, but Beardy pointed out another place; he said he had a vision that the treaty was to be made on such a hill, and not at Carlton. The Commissioners did not approve of it, and went on to Carlton, and he did not attend at the treaty. Then the Commissioners sent a messenger to him, and he states the circumstance as follows:—

"I sent a messenger, Mr. Peter Ballenden, to Duck Lake, to inform the Indians that I would meet them at the encampment of the Carlton Crees, about two miles from the Fort. On the 17th, on his return, he informed me that the Chief said, "he had not given me leave to meet the Indians anywhere except at Duck Lake, and that they would only meet me there."

Beardy did come in, I believe, finally, and joined in the treaty, but he has been a troublesome Indian. When the telegraph people were going through that country he unloaded their carts and threw their stuff away, and the Government had to pay the contractors some \$600 for damages. He has always been troublesome. It is as well to read a little from the report of what was said at that treaty. They asked that food should be given to them. The report says:—

"A spokesman, the Pond Maker, then addressed me, and asked assistance when they settled on the land, and further help as they advanced in civilization. I replied that they had their own means of living, and that we could not feed the Indians, but only assist them to settle down. The Badger, Soh-ah-moos, and several other Indians all asked help when they settled, and also in case of unforeseen troubles in the future. I explained that we could not assume the charge of their everyday life, but in a time of a great national calamity they could trust to the generosity of the Queen."

In all the correspondence there never were any hopes held out to them that they were to be fed. There was a short-hand reporter there, and everything was taken down that was said. And in no part of the report will it be found that the Commissioner held out to the Indians any hope that they were to be fed by the Government. Now, what are we doing? In addition to giving them farm implements and instructors, and furnishing them with seed and industrial schools and cattle and all those things, we have

been spending half a million of dollars annually for food, and that food is distributed in this manner:—There are certain reserves where pork is distributed, and other reserves where beef is given. The latter are in the ranche country, to the south west where they have been in the habit of using beef or buffalo meat altogether, and there the Indians are fed with beef. There has been some little trouble about some pork having been sent there. The Indians for a time did not like the pork; but they want a ration of pork once a week now. There was some little jarring at that time, but since it was discovered the commissioners had given them beef. They give each Indian a pound of beef a day, and half a pound of flour under Treaty No. 7, for every man, woman and child. It is issued three times a week. The system is to give the food to the aged and infirm and the widows and orphans regularly—all those who cannot help themselves. But the Indian that will not do anything on his own land, or do anything to support himself and his family, the farm instructor is directed not to give him rations. If the Indian works on his own land, and does something towards earning his own living, then he receives his rations for himself and his family the same as the others in the tribe. Those are the instructions to farm instructors, and I cannot tell you how they are carried out. The instructions seem to be reasonable, and it does not seem to be any cause for this rising. The Indian is given oxen and a plough, and seed grain and implements and cows, and he has his land to work, and if he will only do something towards earning his own living and cultivating the soil, he gets his rations regularly. The Indians in the Edmonton and Fort Pitt district get a pound of flour per day and one-third of a pound of pork for each man, woman and child. That seems to be a very fair ration when it includes every little papoose. This bacon that is distributed is all meat and no bone, and I think that amount of food is quite sufficient for the Indians to subsist on. That is the condition of affairs, and we cannot conceive that there is any real cause for this uprising. No doubt the Indians have been misled. We cannot divest ourselves of the idea that they are children to a certain extent; that they are easily led