

On the 4th December he again arrived here en route to (*vid* Qu'Appelle) Winnipeg, and after remaining a few days fitting up, etc., left on the 12th inst. for Qu'Appelle.

On both occasions I furnished him with whatever stores, rations, etc., he required.

#### 27th NOVEMBER.—HERD.

Owing to there being no feed for cattle here (the country having been all burnt over in the fall) I was obliged to send the ox train and beef cattle with waggon Master McArthur in charge, to foot of this mountain to winter.

#### HAY.

Not having men who thoroughly understood working a mowing machine, nor a sufficient number available to do the work, I found it would be impossible for me to put up the quantity of hay required.

I therefore engaged two men to cut 50 tons, at \$3.00 per ton.

Seventy-five tons were cut by members of the force, twenty-five of which were destroyed by prairie fire leaving me but 100 tons.

#### INDIANS.

Within the last year very few buffalo have been in the section north of the line; consequently the Indians have camped the greater part of this time on the White Mud River.

It was the intention of many (perhaps 200 lodges) to put up during the autumn a supply of meat sufficient to carry them through the winter, and camp in Ouillette's Couleé, six miles from this post, during the cold months; but in this they could not carry out their wish owing to the grass in this whole section having been destroyed by fire.

With the exception of Broad Trail and about 50 lodges, the entire Teton camp is now two miles south of the line on White Mud River, where they hope to be permitted to remain during the winter.

They were forced to this move to provide themselves with wood.

Considering the agitated state in which these people have been kept during the last year by Crow and other Indians stealing their horses and killing their young men while following the chase, and General Miles' expedition driving them from the hunting grounds of Milk River to the boundary line, their conduct has been extremely good; but this good conduct on the part of a great many is only reached by their fear of being sent back to the United States by the Canadians, in the event of their committing any depredation north of the line.

There are some very good people in this tribe, people whose constant cry is for peace and rest, and who will make any sacrifice to maintain it, yet there are others who cannot be trusted.

#### HALF-BREEDS.

With the Half-breeds, like the Indians, the disappearance of the buffalo north of the line has forced a great number of them south of the line to Milk River, where they have erected houses and formed a village, consisting of 150 families.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

J. M. WALSH,

*Supt. N.W.M.P.*

The Commissioner,  
N.W. Mounted Police,  
Ft. Walsh.