

twenty-five depositors. This amount does not include any payments made through the department other than *bona fide* accumulations of savings.

I have before referred to the weakness of this division, considering the number of patrols and outposts which have to be furnished. Frequently there are hardly sufficient men in the Post to perform the necessary duties from day to day.

The total distance travelled by the horses of this Division from 1st June to 30th November was 26,317 miles.

The division has been inspected twice during the year—first in July by the Inspecting Superintendent, and also during the present month by the Assistant Commissioner. On both occasions I was pleased to receive the commendatory remarks of the inspecting officers, who will have furnished you with detailed reports of their inspections.

My saddlery, harness and other equipment is complete in every way, and in good order and condition. I have a most efficient saddler in the division, who takes interest in his work, and the harness and saddlery are kept in thorough repair, and always fit for service.

The barrack buildings at this Post have all been put in thorough repair during the past summer, and they are now as comfortable as any I have ever seen in the country. The buildings, as you are aware, are frame, lined on the inside with rough boards and brown building paper. This is a material which will not stand much wear and tear, and I would recommend that the inside of the buildings be plastered during the coming summer. This would render the barrack rooms permanently suitable for our requirements. You are aware of the condition of the buildings which formed the old Post, and that they are worse than useless as barrack rooms, or even workshops. The completion of the new post, so far as to render the use of the old buildings unnecessary for any purpose whatever, would be of great advantage to us.

On the score of economy, as well as the comfort and well-being of the men, I would recommend that the purchase of iron cots, similar to those used in Her Majesty's Army, be taken into consideration. The cots can, I believe, be purchased at a cost of about \$5, and are practically indestructible, while the ordinary board and trestle arrangement, owing to the price of lumber in this country, costs nearly the price of the iron cot in the first instance. The amount saved in repairs would alone pay for the cots in a year or two, while the comfort of the men and appearance of the barrack rooms would be materially increased.

There are four stables in occupation here, three of which are log buildings and one frame, similar to the barrack buildings. This latter is an excellent building, and designed to secure thorough ventilation in summer and warmth in winter. Only one of the log buildings is in any way suitable for stables; but, owing to the imperfect drainage, none of the log stables are, in my opinion, healthy. Being built of logs, they are low, and cannot be easily ventilated, nor are they warm in winter.

A wash-room is much required here. At present a portion of each barrack room is partitioned off for use as a lavatory, but this is inconvenient, and produces a degree of dampness in the room that is not agreeable.

A waggon shed is a necessary addition to the buildings at this Post. There is a log building, not otherwise used, which would fulfil all requirements with little alterations.

For the safe-keeping of ammunition, powder, &c., a new magazine is required. The one at present in use was built in the winter of 1884 to meet an emergency, and is now in want of considerable repair. During the wet weather of last spring and early summer it was found necessary to remove all the small-arm ammunition to the Quartermaster's store, an undoubtedly dangerous proceeding. The artillery ammunition, being packed in metallic cases and waxed, kept in good order, but this only comprised a small portion of our stores.

The well at this Post furnishes all the water required for the horses, but the supply is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the whole Post. In the well-house a tank holding thirty barrels is always kept full of water, and thirty more are