

money by mail if I would pay the usual insurance, as we do with annuity moneys, which I agreed to, it costing \$20.76 for the forwarding of the \$30,000.00. I also had to send the cheque to Mr. Agent Day for his endorsement before I could cash it.

On Wednesday, the 26th ultimo, we proceeded to Thunderchild's reserve, taking with us half the money and two policemen. We met the Band at 2 o'clock, there being a pretty full attendance of all Indians on the reserve having votes. I explained the terms contained in the form of surrender forwarded by the Department, reading one year's rations (as per advice to Mr. Day) instead of six months' as typed in the form. The Chief, who spoke first, and every Indian that followed, except two or three, objected most strongly to accept one year's rations instead of the five asked for in their proposal to the Department. They talked the whole afternoon on this point. The Agent and I consulted on the matter, and saw that there was force in their objection that next year, while they might break up land, they could have no crop, except perhaps a patch of potatoes on the sod, until the following year, namely 1910. We were about twenty miles from a telegraph station and could not well consult the Department, so we agreed to offer two years' rations. Even with this concession the whole forenoon of the following day was taken up in discussion and two or three attempts at voting which were unsatisfactory. In the afternoon, we tried again. The Chief stood aside and would not vote until others voted.

This

Peer  
Copy