Excerpt from D. D. Mitchell's letter of Nov. 11, 1851 transmitting his report and treaty recently concluded at Fort Laramie between himself and Agent Fitzpatrick as Comm. of U.S. various Prairie and Mountain tribes:

The most important provisions in the accompanying treaty I consider to be the following: 1st, The right acknowledged, and granted on the part of the Indians, to the United States, to establish roads, military and other posts throughout the Indian country, so far as they claim or exercise ownership over it. 2nd, The solemn obligations they have entered into, to maintain peaceful relations among themselves, and to abstain from all depredations upon the whites passing through the country, and to make restitution for any damage or loss that a white man shall sustain by the acts of their people. 3rd, The settling up of all former complaints on the part of the Indians for the destruction of their buffalos, timber, grass, etc. caused by the passing of the whites through their country: the presents received at the time were considered as full payment. 4th, The promised annuity of $50,000 for fifty years, to be delivered in such articles as their changing condition may from time to time require. As this is the only article in the treaty that will cost money to the Government, I will briefly state the reasons by which I was influenced, and the good results which I believe it will ultimately produce.

Fifty thousand dollars for a limited period of years is a small amount to be distributed among at least fifty thousand Indians, especially when we consider that we have taken, or are rapidly taking away from them all means of support, by what may be considered a partial occupancy of their soil. On the score of economy, to say nothing of justice or humanity, I believe that amount would be well expended. In the opinions of the best informed persons (who had an opportunity of judging) it will in all probability save the country from the ruinous and useless expenses of a war against the Prairie tribes, which would cost many millions, and be productive of nothing but increased feelings of hostility on the part of the Indians, and annoyance and vexation to the Government. The lessons of experience taught us during the Florida War, and which