

The present condition of affairs is an ample vindication of the foresight which established Fort Assinniboine two years ago, expensive as its establishment has been. As I write 12 officers and 240 men are moving out from it to drive off foreign Indians and half-breeds who have intruded upon the Indian reservation, between the upper Missouri and the boundary.

The flood in the Missouri River last April devastated the bottom lands from below Pierre to below Sioux City, causing a widespread destruction of property, especially in and about the towns of Yankton and Vermillion, and the neighboring valley, leaving many of the inhabitants not only destitute of means, but absolutely without shelter or fuel, and many without clothing.

to place marked on page 111.