

of furs and robes, and Legare supplied them with ammunition and provisions. So pleased were the Teton Sioux with their newhome in the country of the Big Woman that the camp was rapidly increased until the month of June, 1877, it contained 800 lodges, or 4,000 souls. During this year Major Walsh again visited Wood Mountain, this time to station a small force of mounted police there, which was added to until it became quite large, when a regular post was established.

From the first the presence of so large a body of hostiles in British territory was a source of great uneasiness to the governments of Canada and the United States. Tremendous efforts were made on both sides to return the of the line to secure the return to the American reserves. Agents were sent out by the United States into Canadian territory to tell them that should they return they would be well received. One of these, John Howard, was the first to suggest to Legare that it might be worth ~~his~~ his while to attempt the surrender of the Indians. This was in 1878. "Jean Louis" discussed the matter with Chief No Neck when about seventy lodges were present. He gave them something to eat and tobacco to smoke, and "spoke them good", but their answer was that they "would not believe one word of good of the United States." His efforts were therefore ineffectual. In 1879 large bands of Sitting Bull's Sioux crossed the boundary into Montana and commenced killing cattle and stealing horses. General Terry sent General Miles into the field again to hunt down the hostiles. On the 17th July Lieutenant Philo Clark came up with the Indians and a fight occurred between Beaver Creek and Milk River, and Sitting Bull withdrew his forces, first to Milk River then into Canadian territory again. Many captives were taken, however, and dissatisfaction took possession of the Sioux. This fight has been described as the "beginning of the end" of the

Page 338

trouble with SB. Gall and Rain-In-The-Face, rivals of the absolute ruler, did all in their power to destroy his influence with his band. A period of terrible starvation impelled the Indians to look favourably upon a surrender that would allow them to return ~~to~~ under the wing of the American Government. In January, 1880, forty-one families travelled to Poplar River and surrendered, handing over their guns and ponies. Between January and April the number of those who had surrendered grew to 1,116, in all 109 men, 209 women, 424 boys, and 374 girls. In October Spotted Eagle with 65 lodges gave himself up at Fort Keogh, in December Low Dog left Wood Mountain with his followers for the same purpose. During 1880 Minnecongong, Iron Dog, Waterspout, The-One-That-Killed-The-Whiteman, Hairy Chin and many other noted chiefs returned to the American side. By the beginning of 1881, of the monster camp of 4,000 Teton Sioux, only five hundred remained with Sitting Bull in British Territory.

Altho Legare had done all in his power to secure the surrender of these thousands of Indians, it was ~~making~~ the remaining band, including Sitting Bull and his more immediate followers, that he had particularly to deal. Whether it was because they had been more nearly concerned in the Custer massacre and the other outrages, or not, those remaining absolutely refused to go. The ~~like~~ efforts of both governments to secure the surrender did not abate. So long as they remained north of the boundary, United States troops had to be kept in motion at a cost of millions to guard against their incursions. At the same time their presence caused the greatest uneasiness amongst the Indian ~~xxx~~ tribes in the Canadian North west. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Dakota was sent to ~~make~~ make overtures with them. Numerous letters of assurance were forwarded to them through the Canadian Mounted Police. Lieut.-Col. Macleod, Commissioner of the N.W.M.P.; Lieut.-Col. Irvine, Assistant Commissioner; Major Walsh, Inspector commanding at ~~Fort Walsh~~ Wood Mountain; Major Crozier, Inspector commanding Fort Walsh; Inspector Macdonnell and other officers of the Canadian Northwest Mounted Police, as well as Lieutenant-Governor ~~xxx~~ Dewdney, did all in their power to induce a surrender. In February, 1881, Major Crozier made a last