

Report of Supt. Crozier Cont'd.

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territory, and on an Indian Reservation, and the authorities may compel them to return, which, of course, would mean the return to this side; and, again, where there are so many different tribes assembled together it would be only natural if they had trouble among themselves, which would, in all probability, be the means of many of our Indians returning, in fact our Indians are hunting in a foreign country, and many things may occur to make them return to their own ~~country~~ and if they do, having no means of gaining a living themselves, it may be necessary to feed them. I have not had any direct news from the buffalo country for about ten days, or two weeks, but when I last heard the majority of the Indians were near the big bend of the Milk River. I don't anticipate that they will return, at any rate in large numbers, until towards spring, when I certainly think it is quite probable, but as it is a matter of such grave importance, I suggest the desirability of being prepared, even if such an event were only possible. In the meantime the stock of provisions laid in for Indians will be considerably reduced, as it is now certain a considerable number, as before said, will have to be fed during the entire winter.

L.N.F. Crozier
Supt. Commanding.

James Macleod Commissioner.

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respecting the Sioux and other Indians, and small bands commenced coming into Battleford in an almost starving condition, and the arrivals continued to the extent of about two thousand, consisting of Crees, Saulteaux, Assiniboine, Sioux, Blackfeet, Circees, and Bloods.

It was feared at one time that the presence of such a large ~~num~~ number of mixed tribes would lead to trouble, but they were all assisted by the Indian Department. Some of the tribes that did not belong to the Saskatchewan were given rations to take them back to their own localities, but the majority of them remained here until after the annuity payments in August.

James Walker
Supt.

LtCol J.F. Macleod.

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Battleford, 10th November, 1879/

SIR, - I have the honor to report that, on the 30th October last, Charles Mair and Thomas McKay, Esquires, Justices of the Peace of Prince Albert, arrived at