The Great Lone Land
A Tale of Travel and Adventure in the North-West of America.
By The Right Hon. Lieut.-General Sir William Francis Butler, G.C.B.

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Page 3.

Office ofthe Commissioner,
North-West Mounted Police,
1st February, 1882.

The Right Honorable
The Minister of the Interior,
Ottawa,

SIR,- In submitting my annual Report, I shall first call attention to the surrender of Sitting Bully and the refugee Sioux.

It is, I think. a matter of the utmost congratulation that the Dominion Government has thus peacefully effected the surrender of a warlike and powerful nation of Indians, whose presence in our country has necessarily been a source of continued and perpetual anxiety. In connection with this surrender I trust tha Go Government has every reason to be gratified with the manner in which its policy has been carried into effect by the force under my command.

It will be remembered that in 1877, soon after the Custer gifht, Sitting Bull and his followers, numbering some 150 lodges, crossed the boundary line to seek shelter in British possessions. It was astounding with what rapidity the news of Sitting Bull's safe arrival in Canada was transmitted to other branches of Sioux who had, up to that time, remained in the United States. This news quickly had the effect of rendering our country attractive to the remainder of the hostile Indians who had taken part in the Custer fight, their numbers being augmented by large bands of Indians of the same tribes who previously had been located on American reservations-in other words, a general stampede took place, and in an extremely short time Canada became the home of every Sioux Indian who considered himself antagnostic to the American Goverhment. In all, they numbered some 700 lodges; these lodges being crowded, it may safely be estimated that they ocontained eight souls to a lodge; thus suddenly five thousand six hundred souls. In addition to Sitting Bull, we had such cecebrated chiefs as "Spotted Eagle," "Bear's Head," "The Flying Bird," "The Iron Dog," "Little Knife," "Broad Trail," and many others.

At that time the savage warfare that these Sioux Indians had engaged in against the United States was afresh in the mind of the public, as were also the many Indian outrages committed against the American settlers; the press teemed with graphic descriptions as to the doings of the savages, whose presence caused such consternation among settlers and intedning immigrants. Their power and warlike dispositions was quoted again and again. Recollections of the Minnesota massacre were publicly revived, and large numbers of United States troops were hurried forward and posted along the Western Frontier. It was not then to be wondered at, that when the Sioux crossed over into Canadian territory, universal uneasiness prevailed.

Not only were the fears pf our actual and intending settlers aroused, but out own Indians and Half-breeds looked with marked, and not unnatural, disfavor upon the presence of so powerful and savage a nation(for such it really was) in their midst. We were assured on all sides that nothing short of an Indian war would be on our hands; to add to this, serious international complications at times seemed inclined to oresent themselves. Both the American and Canadian press kept pointing out the possibility of such a state of affairs coming about.