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lodge and on the prairie, should be selected for its intrinsic worth alone, always preferring plainness and durability to cheapness or beauty.

The very locality of his life and the nature of his pursuits are such that, to be of any permanent good to him, his clothing should be strong and substantial, and the implements for procuring and preparing his food plain and durable; for his is a restless, changeful life, and far remote from shops and stores where an injured and useless article can be repaired or replaced at will.

Should an entire or even partial change in some of the articles usually sent meet with your approbation and approval, I would respectfully recommend that the following be dispensed with altogether, or at least largely lessened in quantity, to wit: calico, one-half of the bread, one-half of the coffee, fish hooks and lines, mirrors, combs, thread, and American vermilion; and that there be substituted, in lieu of these, shirts, bed ticking, flour, powder, ball, one point blanket, Chinese vermilion, and about three dozen plain and substantial saddles suitable for the prairies.

The best of calico is so flimsy in texture that it is of no real benefit to the recipient; the bread is so illy adapted for safe transportation in camp that it is lavishly consumed and wasted on the payment ground, besides being liable to great injury incident to its long passage and change of climate; the coffee is so little preferred, and so difficult of preparation in the lodge, that one-half of the usual quantity sent would be ample for the present wants of the Indians; fish hooks, combs, mirrors and thread are not used and not desired, and the American vermilion is so inferior to the Chinese that even a much less quantity of the latter is preferred. And it is the expressed wish and desire of many of the Indians that a sufficient number of saddles, at least for the chiefs, may be furnished them next year.

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This noble animal, so necessary to the Indian, in number and importance long the recognized monarch of the plain, is fast passing away, and soon the only tangible