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June 5. - Arrived at Fort Berthold. The Mandans and Gros Ventres live together at this place, in a village built principally of dirt lodges, with now and then a log cabin, well built, with fireplaces and chimneys, after the western style. They received their goods with much satisfaction, in value \$2,418 82.

These are a good people; peaceable, reliable, and honest. They cultivate corn, pumpkins, beans, &c., producing more than they consume. This is done with the hoe. They know nothing of the use of the plough, and request that the government assist them in ploughing and fencing and in building houses. They desire a school, also, for the instruction of their little ones. They have many complaints to make against the Sioux; were still in mourning for their chief, Four Bears, killed, as before stated, by a Yncton Sioux. They live in constant dread of the Sioux; are very poor, from the fact that the Sioux steal their horses, and frequently their crops, when raised; without horses they cannot pursue the buffalo, and such is their fear of the Sioux that they will scarcely venture out far enough to procure meat sufficient for their families. They pleaded with me to procure a military force to drive those Sioux from their country, and to stand between them, as they were liable at any time to be exterminated. They keep as far as it is possible the treaty made at Laramie, and desire to make a new treaty with the government, and will do anything that the government require of them; and I do commend this people, as also the Arickarees, to the special consideration of the department.

Same day (June 5) we passed to the opposite side of the river, where the Rees are building, upon a beautiful slope overlooking the river, their new village, quite convenient to a fine body of timber. They were so harassed by the Sioux at their old village, (Fort Clark,) some eighty miles below, that they were forced to abandon it; also their corn patches, which they had tilled for many years, for new ones, scratched among the weeds and bushes in the bottom at their present place with hoes. Their village is built principally of dirt lodges;