

suspecting the government of a want of good faith in its care of the rights and interests. Agent O'Neil has lately reported that many laws enacted by the legislature of Idaho, in direct violation of the intercourse act of 1834, are in operation upon the reservation, under which charters for ferries and bridges have been granted, and roads laid off. Without more definite information than he has given, I am not prepared to make any suggestions in regard to the matter. If it be as he states, then injustice is manifestly being done, and proper steps should be taken to determine such legislative enactments to be of no force.

DAKOTA SUPERINTENDENCY.

Powerful and warlike Indians are to be found among the nine bands of the Upper Missouri Sioux. The most peaceable disposed tribes are the Yanctons, Poncas, Arikarees, Gros Ventres, Mandans, Assinaboines, and Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Sioux. Notwithstanding their solemn treaty obligations to be friendly, assumed scarcely a year since, some of the nine bands of Sioux have been waging war against the government for months past. Elsewhere in this report I have noticed more particularly the cause and events connected with our present Indian difficulties in the countries watered by the Powder and Platte rivers.

The Sisseton and Wahpeton Sioux, located in the northeast part of the Territory, near the Minnesota border, are friendly. An agent has been appointed to take charge of them, and as far as means are available they will be furnished with such things as the treaty with them ratified last spring, stipulates shall be provided.

From the report of Agent Hanson, in charge of the Upper Missouri Sioux, it will be seen that a general desire has been manifested by them to plant. With judicious efforts by the department, sustained by liberal appropriations for the supply of agricultural implements, it is thought that many may be induced to settle, abandon the chase, and labor for a support.

Amidst surrounding difficulties, with influences strongly calculated to involve them in the hostilities of others, the Yancton Sioux, under Agent Conger, have remained true to the government. They have sustained this summer a heavy