

the Crows, who are the true allies of the Government in this matter, desiring the construction of the railroad as a barrier against their inveterate enemies, the Sioux, reports that this has caused a great depression among the people, being taken as an indication of the weakness of the Government. It is also known from other quarters that the more turbulent of the Sioux are proportionately elated and encouraged in their opposition. But, notwithstanding the naturally critical character of this enterprise, and the misadventure accompanying its first step across the Missouri, it is believed that the road will be enabled to proceed to completion as rapidly as its finances will permit with nothing worse than threats on the part of the Indians, the stampeding and running off of loose stock belonging to engineering and construction parties, and occasional firing into camps at night by small parties of Indians wishing to be thought particularly heroic.

As previously stated, the number of Indians between the projected line of this road and the British possessions, is approximately 36,000, and the number between the same line and the Union and Central Pacific Railroads, on the south, 92,000.