

## THE UPPER MISSOURI SIOUX.

### Monthly Report of the Government Agent—Arrival of Annuities—Causes of Discontent—Encroachment of the Military on the Camping Grounds—Violation of Promises by the Agents.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Nov. 28.

The following was received to-day, by the Indian Bureau, from Gov. FALK:

CROW CREEK AGENCY,  
DACOTAH TERRITORY, Oct. 31, 1866. }

SIR: I have the honor to submit my monthly report, for the month of October, 1866, of the condition of the Upper Missouri and Sioux Indians under my charge. In my monthly report for the month of September, preceding, I stated that I feared difficulty might be the result of the non-arrival of their annuities. In view of the lateness of the season I then thought it improbable that the goods would arrive by boat, if at all, this Fall, the low stage of water rendering navigation of the Upper Missouri impracticable. A few days subsequent to forwarding that report the annuities alluded to arrived at Yankton in charge of a special agent, and a short distance above Yankton the boat met with an accident which will delay the delivery of the goods at the proper points one or two weeks.

The Indians are now all out on their usual Fall hunt, having been advised by me some five or six weeks since not to fail in providing their usual Winter supply of meat by waiting for their annuities, concerning which I was unable to gain any information. It is a bad season of the year to call them in, but their goods being here, and no place being provided for storing those above Crow Creek Agency, I have done so. A slight change of feeling has evinced itself among these Indians within the last two months. Several Mackinaw boats, loaded with returning miners from Montana, have been fired into in the vicinity of Fort Rice. This was done probably by the Uncpapa and Upper Yanktonia bands. If by any of the Sioux under my charge, it was in the region of country frequented by the Lower Yanktonias, Lower Brule, Two Kettle, Blackfeet, Maine, Coujou and Lausares bands. No depredations beyond a few cases of petit-larceny nature have occurred. But these acts, taken in connection with the language sometimes used by these Indians in council, convince me that the slowness with which the Government redeems its promises, and the many arbitrary measures of the military, in this region of the country, are sowing seeds of trouble.

The Lower Brule band were promised by the Treaty Commission that work should be done for them this Fall on their Treaty Reservation at White River. Notwithstanding that I have scarcely made a report during the last six months, in which I have not urged that steps should be taken in this direction, nothing has been done, and as Winter is close at hand, of course nothing now can be done beyond making preparations for next Spring's ploughing, etc.

The military forces here have taken an extensive reservation for their own use, and prohibit Indians camping thereon.

The Government has made, heretofore, the precedent of purchasing an extinguishment of Indian title to lands for all purposes whatever, for the time being at least.

The lands embraced within these military reservations are suddenly snatched from the possession of those Indians, just after treaties of an annuity between them and the Government have been negotiated, taken without compensation and always to include the best timbered lands in the country where timber is so scarce. The order in relation to the sale of ammunition to the Indians has called forth some bitter threats from them, and if peace is more desirable than war, I beg to advise the Department that throughout all the sections of the country frequented and claimed by Indians at peace with the United States, the military should be subordinate to the civil officers of the Government.

(Signed.) J. A. HANSON,

U. S. Indian Agent, Upper Missouri Sioux.

Hon. A. J. FALK, Governor and Ex-Superintendent Indian Affairs, Yankton, D. T.