

It is stated that the Americans have a trading post at Belly River, 60 miles from the boundary line, where they exchange whisky, arms and ammunition of the most improved description, with the Blackfeet Indians, for their products. Those articles, it is stated, are regularly smuggled across the boundary line.

Lt. Butler is of opinion that the suppression of the liquor traffic of the West can be easily and ought to be accomplished.

His recommendations for the preservation of peace, in the regions of the Saskatchewan, as well in the interest of colonization of the fertile belt as the prevention of Indian wars, is, first, the appointment of a civil magistrate or commissioner, after the model of similar appointments in Ireland and India, who should reside in the Upper Saskatchewan.

Second.—The organization of a well equipped force of from 100 to 150 men, one-third to be mounted.

Third.—The establishment of two Government Stations, one on the Upper Saskatchewan in the neighbourhood of Edmonton, the other at the junctions of the North and South branches of the River Saskatchewan below Carlton. The establishment of these stations to be followed by the extinguishment of the Indian Title, within certain limits, to be determined by the geographical features of the locality.

Some organization of this kind is necessary, or settlement by whites cannot take place. People will not build houses, rear stock, or cultivate land, where their cattle are liable

to be killed, or their crops stolen. The Upper Saskatchewan offers conditions not only of fine soil and climate, but all farm produce at that point now sells enormously high. For instance, flour sells from \$12 to \$25 per hundred lbs; potatoes, \$1.25 to \$1.75 a bushel; while there are persons who would at once begin farming if adequate protection were offered. These consist of old servants of the H. B. Co., and others who have spent their lives at the Great West, and who now desire to settle down.

In all these arrangements, however, it is above all things necessary that the Indian rights be fairly dealt with, and an amicable settlement made. At present, the Indians are well affected towards Great Britain; and Lt. Butler says: "It is astonishing with what religious veneration large silver medals have been preserved by their owners through all the vicissitudes of war and time, and with what pride the well polished effigy is still pointed out, and the words 'King George' shouted by the Indian, who has yet a firm belief in the present existence of that monarch."

Lt. Butler further states that if such an officer as he recommends is appointed he should make himself acquainted with the Plain tribes and visit their camps annually.

The final conclusion of this report is that our North West Territory is at once the garden and the wilderness of the world; and that the establishment of law and order are necessary before the immense population that must some day occupy it, can begin to make its entry.

Treaty with North West Indians.

In September 1870, Lieut. Gov. Archibald, of Manitoba, had an interview in St. Peter's parish with some of the Indians of his Province. There were present the Saulteaux tribe, and the Christian Swampies, under their chief Henry Prince. The Saulteaux have their grounds near the Winnipeg river, from the Lake of the Woods to Lake Winnipeg. Their late chief, Peguis, was always loyal to the Crown. A number of the Swampies, a tribe of the Crees, living among the morasses near Norway House, having been converted to Christianity, were, under the auspices of Ven. Archdeacon Cochrane, settled at the mouth of Red River, and united with the Saulteaux under the headship of Peguis, to whom his son, Henry Prince, has now succeeded. As so few of the Indians were present, nothing was done at the meeting in September, beyond the promise that a council should be held in the spring, in which arrangements should be made satisfactory to all. The Council then promised, was held on the 27th July 1871, at the Stone Fort, whither His Excellency was accompanied by Mr. Simpson, the Commissioner and several other gentlemen, Rev. H. Cochrane, an Indian clergyman of the Anglican Church, acting as interpreter. The proceedings lasted till the 3rd July, when at last a treaty was signed and ratified to the following effect:

The Chippewa and other Indians inhabiting the district, cede to the Queen and her successors all lands from the boundary line to the mouth of the Winnipeg, and from a line due north from the centre of

Roseau Lake on the east to the rapids of Assiniboine on the west. Her Majesty the Queen undertakes to lay aside and reserve for the sole and exclusive use of the Indians, certain tracts, viz. :—

For the bands of which Henry Prince is chief, so much land on both sides of Red River, south of St. Peter's parish, as will furnish 160 acres for each family of five, or in that proportion for any larger or smaller families; and for the Indians of whom Na-sha-ke-pe-nais, Nana-wanan-Re-We-tay-ash and Wa-ko-Wush are the chiefs, so much land on the Roseau River, beginning from the mouth of the river as will furnish the same quantity to each family; and for the Indians of whom Ka-ke-ka-penais is chief, so much on the Winnipeg River, above Fort Alexander, beginning a mile above the Fort, as will furnish the same quantity to each family; and for the Indians of whom Oo-za-we-Kwan is chief, the same allowance on the south and east side of the Assiniboine, 20 miles above the portage. A further tract is also reserved enclosing these reserves equivalent to 25 square miles of equal breadth to be laid out round the reserve. If any settlers are on any of the reserved lands, Her Majesty to deal with them as she deems just, but the extent of land allotted to the Indian is not to be diminished.

As a token of Her Majesty's satisfaction with the good conduct of the Indians, every man, woman and child belonging to the bands is presented by the Commissioner with \$3.

Her Majesty agrees to maintain a school