

what I advance. You say that the officers and Interpreters of the Indian Department would require 900 Rations: but you have forgot the twenty engages attached to the Department. You may probably recollect that many Indians were waiting my arrival, and that from their having no provisions themselves, I was not only obliged to feed them during their stay, but I was necessitated to give them provisions to preserve them from starving, on their way home, at least three hundred miles. Since my arrival here, there has been fifteen hundred Indians to visit me. The severity of the season has obliged several of these parties to stay two or three days. Could I allow them to die of hunger? If you will have the goodness to examine the enclosed account of the distribution of the corn, you will find that more than a fourth part of it was given out for distant expeditions, showing the necessity of the most frugal management of Provisions. I have in no ways been profuse. I am mortified beyond measure to think that I should incur the reproach of want of consideration from you, it is unmerited. Under God my exertions have brought this country under the Dominion of Great Britain. Would I by my folly cause the loss of it? I have received the warm thanks from Four General Officers for my services. These are honors that the voice of calumny cannot pluck from me. They will descend with me to the grave.

You tell me in future to make no purchases for the Indian Department, without your knowledge. Please inform me if this prohibition extends to the whole line of country over which I am Superintendent. I shall give no provisions to Indians according to your orders, except when on service, and that I can spare from my own rations.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient,
and most h'ble Servt,

*Captain Bulger,
Commanding*

Fort McKay, &c.

R. DICKSON,
Agt. & Supt.

P. S.—Had I not furnished the Indians with provisions,