

goods and did not need the outfit on his return to Fort Garry.

I also bought five sacks of flour from the government stores from stock they had on hand to meet requirements of the Indians in the treaty negotiations, a half keg of tea, and a half keg of sugar from a ten gallon barrel. I took all the tobacco I could get, as there had been a heavy run on this luxury item. Taking advantage of the lower prices of the traders anxious to clear their stocks for the return journey, I was able to practically name my own price for the things I wanted.

The cart that I had purchased from Alexander Kennedy was iron bound, the first to make an appearance in the trade, so I was not afraid to load heavy. I was very well pleased with myself as I made the rounds of the traders preparing to leave, picking up bargains wherever I could. Money, my friend, had a great deal more value in those days and I still had money in my pocket when my carts were loaded.

William Bull was usually the best of companions but for the first few days I thought he was very quiet and somewhat despondent. Actually he seemed to be occupied in some deep thought, so I finally asked him what was troubling him.

"The chief has asked for a great stretch of land about which he now speaks as if it had already been promised to him. I listened carefully to your interpretations of the Governor's answer to his request. The Governor stated that he had no authority to grant any such request and merely stated that as James Seenum was a chief and had asked, he would pass the request on to his superiors. Is that right, Peter?"

"Yes, it certainly is. To have an unrestricted amount of land for one chief would have broken the terms of the treaty to all those others who had already signed. Surely Chief Seenum does not think that he has been promised the land from the Dog Rump Creek as far west as the Whitemud River, with the Beaver River at the north and the Saskatchewan River as its southern boundary?"

"Yes! That is exactly what he told me only the last night before the camp broke up. I tried to explain to him that this was not true but he would have none of my explanation, and we had some words between us. That is why I asked to go along with you. It would be a good thing if you would speak to him about the real truth as spoken by the Governor."

"Well of course I will talk to him, but if he does not listen to the words of his own councillor, how will he listen to me? If he is not satisfied with the terms of the treaty why did he sign? It seemed to me that he understood everything that I spoke about the night of the first council of the chiefs." I explained to them