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United States. Office of Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C.: G.P.O., [1846-1850]

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

TRANSMITTED

WITH THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

AT THE

OPENING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS,

1846—1847.



WASHINGTON:
RITCHIE AND HEISS, PRINTERS.

1846.

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REPORT
OF
THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, November 30, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the usual annual report of the operations during the past year, and the present condition of business, in this branch of the public service.

Since the last report, the emigration of Indians from east of the Mississippi to the new homes set apart for them west of that river, has been as follows: One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six Choctaws, and sixty-four Chickasaws from the State of Mississippi; three hundred and twenty-three Miamies from Indiana; a party variously stated at from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifteen of different bands from New York; and one hundred and four Creeks from Alabama. Nine hundred and fifty Sacs and Foxes have also been removed from Iowa to the country set apart for them southwest of the Missouri river.

The contractors for the removal of the remaining Choctaws in Mississippi failed to proceed with the emigration of those Indians according to the terms of their contract, a prominent one of which was that they were to "act with the greatest energy and industry, and to use all proper and persuasive means to induce the said Indians to remove within the shortest practicable period." The emigration had so far ceased that the agent of the government, Major William Armstrong, reported the contract forfeited, and took charge of a party who had assembled for emigration, and removed and subsisted them under the direction and at the expense of the government. It was evident that, under the then existing arrangements, little or no further emigration could take place, and that the contract certainly could not be carried out within the stipulated time, ending the 31st of next month. Evidence being furnished, however, that the business could be transferred to other and more efficient agents, by whom the removal could be effected by the 30th June next, and it being important to complete it within the shortest practicable period, and the proposed new proceeding appearing at the time better adapted than any other to secure that end, the Department consented to a new arrangement extending the time for the completion of the business to the period stated; and taking satisfactory security for its completion by that time.

Under the arrangement thus made, active measures were adopted and are now in progress, and the latest intelligence indicates that the whole emigration will be accomplished by the time limited. Two thousand were expected to leave for the west during this month, and the remainder in different parties within reasonable periods thereafter.

Of the Miamies who were under treaty obligations to emigrate, thirty were permitted to remain to gather their fall crops on condition of removing immediately thereafter.

It is regretted that, in consequence of the improper interference and influence of alleged creditors and other interested white persons, the removal of these Indians could not be effected without incurring the expense of send-

ing a company of troops to coerce them into a compliance with their treaty stipulations. The time fixed for their emigration had expired; and May last was designated for their removal. They were, however, then unwilling to remove and petitioned for further delay. They were allowed until August, when they promised to leave without causing any trouble or difficulty; but at that time they refused to go unless arrangements were made for the payment, out of their annuities, of alleged debts contracted subsequently to the ratification of their last treaty. This had before been positively refused both by the Department and the President. Provision to a very large amount had been made for the payment of debts contracted prior to the ratification of the treaty; and under an agreement between them and this class of their creditors, and by authority of a resolution of the Senate of the 24th of February last, their annuities were already subject to a charge of twelve thousand five hundred dollars annually for five years, for the payment of a remaining balance of those debts. The debts contracted after the ratification of the treaty, if contracted at all, were allowed to be incurred with a full knowledge that the Indians were required to remove, and that all their means would then be necessary for their comfortable establishment at their new homes in the west. They were probably incurred by a comparatively few, and they the more idle and vicious of the tribe; and it would have been very unjust, especially to the upright and industrious, to permit the common means to be taken to pay them, particularly when those means were already sufficiently reduced by the existing charges upon them. These debts were, therefore, regarded as private transactions between the creditors and the individual Indians who contracted them; and the President determined that they should in no way be recognised as just or fair demands upon the annuities of the tribe. Out of a spirit of revenge, or in the hope of coercing a different result, the creditors, and others interested, did all in their power to prevent the Indians agreeing to remove; inducing them to believe that if they would hold out in their determination, the government would yield. All peaceful and persuasive means having been exhausted, there was no alternative but to send troops to compel, if necessary, a compliance with the stipulations of the treaty, which, as the law of the land, it was the duty of the President to see fully carried out. Fortunately the mere presence of the troops was sufficient to convince the Indians that they had been deceived, and to induce them to go promptly and quietly, and they are by this time establishing themselves in their new homes. Much credit is due to Mr. Sinclair, the superintendent of removal, for his great firmness and activity, and to Captain Jouett, the commander of the troops, for his peaceful agency, in carrying out the views of the government.

The emigration of the party of New York Indians, I regret to state, turned out less fortunately than there was reason to anticipate. The Department was unwilling to undertake the emigration of a less number than two hundred and fifty, as the expenses were considered too great to be incurred for a smaller party. On being assured by a delegation here in September 1845, that that number were ready and willing to go the succeeding month, an agent was appointed to take charge of and accompany them; but upon the express condition, afterwards reiterated, that no party of a smaller number than two hundred and fifty should be started. He was required to report when the requisite number were prepared to go, when further and more detailed instructions were to be given. Early in November, it appeared that there were not so many willing to go that fall, and the agent

was informed that the measure must be abandoned for the present; but a few days after he apprized the Department that two hundred and sixty had enrolled, and further instructions and funds for the expenses of the party on the route were sent to him. Finding, however, on the 8th of December, that the party had not set out, although he was urged to use activity and diligence, the Department wrote to him requiring the abandonment of the measure for the present, as it was too late to go by water, and the government was unwilling to subject the Indians to the hardships and discomforts of a land route, and was indisposed to incur the additional expense to which the emigration of the party in that manner would give rise. Information afterwards received, rendered it very doubtful whether there were in fact more than a very few individuals disposed to emigrate; and as the subject had become one of much controversy and dissatisfaction among the Indians generally, commissioners were appointed to attend a general council of the tribe on the 2d of June last, in order to ascertain the real wishes of the Indians, it being the determination of the Department to abandon any further proceedings in the matter, should it appear on investigation by the commissioners that there were not two hundred and fifty who really wished to emigrate. The emigrating agent was duly notified of the appointment of these commissioners and the object, when, it appears, that instead of awaiting the result of this investigation, and the further orders of the Department, he went to work and collected all whom he could induce to join him, and started with them west. The number he afterwards reported to have taken west was two hundred and fifteen; but as the sub-agent for the New York Indians reported that only one hundred and fifty-three of those Indians went with him, any beyond that number must have been from Canada, who, according to the instructions, should have been excluded.

No intelligence of these unauthorized proceedings was received until the party was a considerable distance on the route, and hence there was not time sufficient for making those preliminary arrangements which were requisite for their reception and comfortable accommodation in their new country. In consequence of this circumstance, and of the season being unusually warm and unhealthy, they have suffered considerably from sickness and death. By instructions on several occasions, as the facts became known, the Department did all in its power to remedy the evils to which they were thus subjected. Copies of those instructions, and extracts from the letters to the emigrating agent, are appended—A, B, C, and D.

In consequence of the uncomfortable situation in which these Indians found themselves, a portion of them (number not known) became dissatisfied, and have recently returned or are on their way back to New York.

During the past year, treaties have been made with the Kansas Indians; the kindred bands of Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies; the Cherokees; the Comanche, and nine other tribes and their associate bands of the wild Indians of the southwestern prairies, and with the Winnebagoes. The three first were ratified by the Senate; the fourth was submitted to that body, but for want of time, it is supposed, not acted on; the last will be submitted at the approaching session.

By the treaty with the Kansas, two millions of acres in the eastern portion of their country were purchased, of which five hundred and seventy-six thousand acres are set apart for the future home of the Chippewas, Ot-

towas, and Pottawatomies. It was chiefly with a view to this arrangement, and the location of other tribes, as well as to create a small fund for the support and improvement of the Kansas, that their surplus lands were purchased.

By the treaty with the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, they sold to the government their two separate reservations—one in Iowa, the other on the Osage river, west of the State of Missouri—containing together about six millions of acres; and they agreed to remove within two years after the ratification of the treaty to their new home in the Kansas country. For some time past these Indians, though of the same stock, speaking the same language, and united by the ties of kindred, have been separated and had different and, to some extent, unequal interests, which gave rise to jealousy and dissatisfaction. They are now, in accordance with their wishes, to have a common home, where they may reunite with common and equal interests, which will render them much better contented, and the relations between them and the government more simple, satisfactory and economical. This treaty embraces an entirely new principle, by which, after a certain period, should there be any decrease in the number of the tribe, their annuities are to diminish in proportion, so that their general interests and resources will remain the same in proportion to numbers, instead of increasing with any decrease of the tribe. The operation of this principle will, it is believed, be salutary. The practice has been to stipulate a fixed sum for the annuities of the different tribes with which treaties have been made, so that in case of a decline in numbers the general and individual interests of those remaining are proportionately increased. The greater the resources of a tribe the greater the hope and chance of gain by whiskey sellers and other interested and avaricious persons; and hence the inducement to such persons to encourage dissipation and debauchery among the Indians, calculated to engender disease, and to shorten and destroy life, when the resources of the survivors would be thereby augmented, and their chances of gain increased. Hence, also, the liability of those of a tribe not addicted to such self-destructive habits, feeling less interest in, and making less exertion for, the welfare of their more unfortunate brethren, by whose deaths they would be benefited. During even the limited time I have been charged with the administration of the affairs of this Department, I have become satisfied that there is no evil so great to which a tribe can be subjected as the possession of resources, not the fruit of their own industry and frugality, in the form of large and extravagant annuities. They lead to indolence and to other habits, which not only prevent their moral and social improvement, but tend eventually to their corruption and diminution, if not extermination. When misapplied or withheld for their own benefit by the chiefs, into whose hands they are by law made payable, as is more or less liable to be the case, dissatisfaction, and even strife and bloodshed may be the result. When duly paid over to all those entitled, the Indian, who is naturally improvident and has little regard for money when it comes into his possession, after supplying his temporary wants, has the means of living for a time, independent of industry or exertion, in idleness and profligacy, until the indisposition to labor or the habit of intemperance becomes so strong, that he degenerates into a wretched outcast, and eventually parts even with his actual necessities in order still longer to avoid exertion for a subsistence or to obtain the means of further indulgence in drink; thus

reducing himself to a state of the greatest want and suffering. It would be far better for every tribe if the means at their own disposal, which are not derived from their own industry, were sufficient only to satisfy such actual necessities and wants as they could not provide for by their own exertions; so that they would have no surplus to tempt them into idle and dissipated habits, or to make them victims to be preyed upon by depraved and avicious whites.

In the negotiation of the treaty under consideration, other new and important principles were acted on. The government declined to assume any of their debts or to interfere in any way with the relation of debtor and creditor. It also declined to make any special or individual grants or reservations of land, thus avoiding the great labor and care which would be thrown on the Department by the location and sale of such grants, as well as the odium of any apparent partiality in favor of those to whom they might have been made.

The treaty with the Cherokees, which was made with the representatives of the three parties into which those people have for some years been divided, and between whom, as is well known, the most unfortunate differences have existed, so far appears to have been productive of the happiest effects. All parties seem to have united to carry out in good faith the judicious provisions of the treaty; to forget ancient feuds and past misunderstandings; to re-establish their original relations of good fellowship; and to resume the progress in civilization and prosperity for which they have heretofore been so highly distinguished. Since the provisions of the treaty were generally made known in the country, not a murder or outrage, unfortunately of frequent occurrence previously, has been reported. Measures are in progress for making the settlement with the Cherokees, required by this treaty, on account of the expenditures under that of 1835-'6, and the Department hopes to complete it in a satisfactory manner at an early period in the approaching session of Congress.

The treaty with the Comanche and other wild Indians of the prairies, provides for a good understanding between them and our government and citizens, and the friendly Indians on our borders; and for the manner of conducting our relations with them. These Indians are of a wandering and mischievous disposition, and have it in their power to inflict much injury upon our frontier citizens. In their predatory excursions they have not only committed numerous murders and carried off and destroyed much property, but they have been in the habit of taking captive women and children with the view of obtaining a ransom for them, and when this has not been realized, the situation of these captives has been deplorable; being subjected to a life of much hardship, and but too frequently to great cruelty and outrage. The treaty provides a remedy for these evils; and it is believed that its principal and most important provisions could be carried into effect in a manner satisfactory to the Indians, at a comparatively trifling expense to the government. It is to be regretted that there was not time to act upon it at the last session, as the Indians may become dissatisfied with the delay in the fulfilment of some of its stipulations and be disposed to resume their former mischievous habits. With the view of preventing this, as far as possible, it was deemed prudent to send an agent from Texas, with whom they are acquainted, to meet them, in order to explain the causes of the non-fulfilment of the treaty, and to counsel them to remain peaceable and to abstain from the commission of any outrages. Of the re-

sult of this mission there has not been time to hear. It is hoped that the treaty will be taken up and acted on by the Senate at an early period of the next session. The detailed report of the commissioners who negotiated it was not completed in season to be laid before that body previous to adjournment, but it will be submitted to Congress at an early day next session, under a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 10th of August last.

The treaty with the Winnebagoes, if ratified, will secure to the government all the remaining lands of those Indians in Iowa, which, including those they possessed the right to use as hunting grounds, are estimated at about four millions of acres, most of it of excellent quality. These lands, and those purchased of the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, comprise a large body said to be well suited to settlement and cultivation, for which purposes they are beginning to be required, in consequence of the rapid increase of population in the new and flourishing State of Iowa. On the removal of the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, and the Winnebagoes, which may be accomplished at furthest in the course of two years, that State will be almost entirely freed from an Indian population, which has already been a source of great annoyance and dissatisfaction to her citizens; and the Indians will be placed beyond the reach of those evils and influences, growing out of the contact and pressure of a white population, which almost always has proved more or less injurious to their prosperity and welfare. Efforts were made in the negotiation with the Winnebagoes to induce them to consent to remove south of the Missouri river, under the belief that a better and more comfortable home could there be found for them; but to this they positively refused to consent, seeming to be prejudiced against going in that direction, and to prefer a location on the Upper Mississippi among the Sioux or Chippewas. The treaty provides for their location north of the river St. Peters, and it will be greatly to their interest to select one sufficiently distant to be beyond the reach of the white population, which, before many years, will probably settle upon and fill up a country adjoining and north of Iowa sufficient in extent for another State; so that their new location may be permanent, and the government be relieved from any future interference between them and the citizens of the United States.

The Chippewas of the Mississippi and lake Superior still own a considerable extent of country east of that river and in the vicinity of that lake. A portion is said to be so well adapted to agricultural purposes, and a part so rich in minerals and ores, that it will probably at an early day attract a considerable white population. The principal means of subsistence of these Indians is the chase: they are widely dispersed, so that but little supervision can be exercised over them, and hence ardent spirits can be introduced among them with facility and little risk of detection. While they remain in their present situation, but little if any thing can be done to give them the benefit of the benevolent policy of the government for the improvement of the Indian race. Until a change shall have been effected in the feelings and disposition of a tribe, and their wandering and unsettled habits shall have begun to give way to some more settled and regular mode of life, there is but a barren field for the moral and intellectual teacher. Such a change can be brought about only by concentrating them within fixed and reasonable limits, where they are given to understand that they are to reside permanently, and where they will reap the benefit

of any arrangements they may make for their subsistence and comfort. Game will soon become scarce, and they will be compelled gradually to resort to agriculture and other pursuits of civilized life, when a fruitful opening will be afforded for efforts for their moral, intellectual, and social improvement. By being concentrated, ardent spirits can also to a much greater extent be kept from amongst them. The purchase of the lands of the Chippewas east, and their removal to those owned by them west, of the Upper Mississippi, which are believed to be ample for their accommodation, and suited to their condition and wants, would be the first and necessary step towards bringing about those desirable results among these people. For further information as to the expediency of negotiating with them for their lands east of the Mississippi, I respectfully refer to the reports of Governor Dodge, W. A. Richmond, and their sub-agent, J. P. Hays, numbered 4, 6, and 7.

An appropriation of two thousand dollars was made at the late session of Congress for defraying the expenses of a negotiation with the Menomonic Indians for their lands in Wisconsin. In all such cases, recently, the Department, before appointing commissioners to negotiate, has deemed it proper, in order to proceed understandingly and to avoid a useless expenditure of public money, to obtain all the information that could be procured in reference to the fair value of the lands desired to be purchased, the disposition of the Indians to treat, where they would prefer a future location, and such other particulars as would indicate whether a negotiation would probably be successful, and what would be the most judicious and economical mode of proceeding in it. If such information clearly indicates that an attempt at negotiation would be unsuccessful, it would be useless and improper to expend the public money in making it. If the contrary, the Department is then enabled to give precise and specific instructions, so as to relieve the person or persons selected to conduct the negotiation from an onerous and embarrassing discretion, and to ensure that the terms of the treaty shall be such as the Executive can sanction, and feel justified in recommending to the favorable consideration of the Senate. Being without such information with respect to the Menomonies, Governor Dodge was requested to procure and furnish it. From his partial reply and subsequent annual report, No. 4, there appears to be no prospect of a negotiation with those Indians being successful unless conducted in this city, and provision be made for their half-breed relatives, and for the payment of their debts; as those relatives and the creditors exercise a controlling influence over them. The appropriation is insufficient to defray the expenses of a delegation to this place, including the necessary outfit and presents, and the resolution of the Senate of March 3, 1843, precludes any provision in a treaty for the payment of Indian debts—a resolution which has been strictly adhered to in all recent negotiations.

An unfortunate misunderstanding has for some time past existed among a portion of the New York Indians. On the application of these Indians, the legislature of New York, in March, 1845, passed an act for their improvement, which gave them a municipal organization and more distinctly and satisfactorily defined the relations between them and the people of the State generally. It prescribes the manner of determining who were to be recognised as chiefs; that the names of those so recognised should be recorded; and it provided for the appointment of municipal officers, and amongst others a treasurer, who should give bond and security for the

faithful performance of his duties, one of which, under the law, is "to receive all moneys belonging to the nation, and to expend the same according to the directions of a majority of the chiefs in council." After the passage of the law the chiefs assembled, their names were duly recorded, and the several officers provided for, appointed. Subsequently, a portion of the chiefs of the Cattaraugus reservation, from some cause not satisfactorily understood, became dissatisfied with the organization under the State law, and caused their names to be erased from the record. These chiefs and their partisans are represented to comprise nearly one-half of the head-men, warriors, and others, of the Indians on this reservation. There thus became a law and an anti-law party. Each had contracted debts for which they were liable, and were therefore anxious to obtain the control of the annuities due from the general government, in order to be sure of the means of meeting these liabilities. With the earnest co-operation of the Society of Friends—who for some years have taken a deep interest in the welfare of these Indians, and expended much money, and made great exertions for their benefit and improvement—the Department did all in its power to reconcile the antagonist parties. Among other means resorted to, was the withholding of their annuities, the receipt of which at an early period was of importance to them; but this, and all efforts for the purpose, proved unavailing. Under these circumstances, the Department came to the determination to regard the officers who had been elected and appointed in conformity with the State law, and the chiefs whose names remained on record, as the only duly constituted and legal authorities of these people. This course seemed the more proper, as it was in accordance with the spirit of the State law, and the counsellor appointed by the State, for the benefit of the Indians, had given the opinion that the law had "been legally adopted by the nation, and that the officers, who now hold their appointments under it, were duly and constitutionally elected, and have a right to execute it; and that any resistance to them in the lawful execution of their duty would be criminal." The Department therefore decided to place the annuities in the hands of the treasurer of the nation, but with the stipulation that all the just debts of both parties should be paid which were of the character of those it had been customary to pay out of their annuities. At the desire of the Indians of the law-party themselves, the Department also required its agent to see that the money and goods were fairly distributed among all of both parties who were entitled to share in them, so that there could be no just ground of complaint from any quarter. Time sufficient has not yet elapsed to be informed of the result. The Indians of the Allegany reservation are all well satisfied with the organization under the law, and are living contentedly and harmoniously under the operation of its beneficial provisions.

Under the 4th section of the act of 27th June last, a person was appointed to "ascertain what annuities or moneys have been wrongfully withholden from the Seneca Indians, by the late sub-agent of the United States, and so lost to them." The best time for entering upon this investigation was when the Indians assembled to receive their annuities, the payment of which was deferred in consequence of the difficulties before adverted to. This has also, no doubt, delayed the investigation and the report of the result, which has not yet reached the Department. When received it will be submitted to Congress as required by law.

In conformity with the 2d section of the act mentioned, the United

States stock, amounting to seventy-five thousand dollars, held in trust for the Seneca Indians, has been cancelled and the Indians credited with that amount, upon which they are to be paid annually an interest of five per cent.

The 3d section of the same act authorizes the President to receive the amount held in trust for the Senecas by the Ontario Bank of New York, and to deposit it in the Treasury to the credit of those Indians, whenever they shall authorize such transfer. The amount held by the bank is forty-three thousand and fifty dollars, upon which an interest of six per cent is paid to the Indians annually, being one per cent more than the act provides shall be paid by the United States in case of the transfer. The agent was instructed to acquaint the Indians, at the annuity payment, with the provisions of the law, and to ascertain their wishes on this subject. A report from him in relation to it has not yet been received.

Circumstances have prevented the surveying and marking of the northern and western boundary lines of the Creek country, and the western line of the cession made by the Kansas in their late treaty, for which appropriations were made at the late session of Congress. In the first, the supervision of Major Armstrong, the acting superintendent of the western territory, was necessary, which could not be had in consequence of his exclusive attention being required by other important duties. In order to save expense, it was the intention that both of the surveys referred to should be made by an officer of the topographical engineers, and with this object in view it was important to obtain a plat and the field notes of the original survey of the Kansas country, by which the cross line could be run without the delay and cost of retracing the exterior lines of the whole country, or the greater portion of them, so as to be able properly to fix the cross line. No plat or field notes being found in the Department, it was supposed that the gentleman who made the survey had them in his possession. An application was therefore addressed to him on the subject, to which no answer was received, and it became too late in the season to proceed in the business. Measures will be adopted to have both surveys made as early as practicable next year.

The governor of Wisconsin was duly notified of the provisions of the act of 6th August last, restoring the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin, who had previously been made citizens of the United States, to their former position and Indian form of government, except such as desired to remain citizens of the United States, who were to be enrolled by the Indian sub-agent at Green Bay, under the direction of the governor of the territory. The act also required the sub-agent to divide the country owned by the Stockbridges between the two parties, in proportion to numbers. How far these duties have been executed is not known, as no report has yet been made on the subject.

As required by a law of the last session of Congress, the balance due to the Wyandott Indians for their improvements in Ohio, according to their first appraisement by Messrs. Kirby and Walker, has been paid to the several persons entitled thereto. This has been done by special agents, without expense to the United States or any deduction from the amounts due to the claimants.

Under the act of the last session, requiring a census and statistics of the several Indian tribes to be taken, instructions and forms were prepared and sent to the different agents, upon whom the law imposes the execution of

the duty. But few reports on the subject have reached the Department, and the others cannot now be received in time to accompany this report. When they shall all have come in, a special report will, if required, be made on the subject.

The remittance of the annuity and other moneys annually payable to the Indians, was delayed this year beyond the usual time, in consequence of the provision in the 1st section of the act of 27th June last, that no further sums should be placed in the hands of any superintendent or agent until his accounts for the previous year had been settled, and he had satisfactorily shown that all balances in his hands in favor of the government were ready to be paid over on the order of the Department. The accounts for the previous year had all been settled; but it necessarily took some time to obtain from the different superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, the requisite evidence that the balances were ready to be paid over on demand, in the proper description of funds. I am happy to state that the evidence on these points was, in every case, satisfactory. The delay in the remittance of the annuities, thus occasioned, caused inconvenience to some of the more distant tribes, particularly the Chippewas of lake Superior and the Upper Mississippi, as the payment at so late a period interfered somewhat with their going on their fall hunts, and other arrangements for procuring subsistence and necessaries for the winter.

Statements E and F show the amounts invested in stocks for Indian tribes, and those not so invested but held in trust for them, and on which they are annually paid an interest by the United States.

The amounts applicable to expenditure in this branch of the public service, under the various heads of appropriation, and those drawn therefrom during the fiscal year ending the 30th June last, will be shown by the annual statement of the appropriations and expenditures required by law, and furnished to Congress by the Second Comptroller of the Treasury, through the Secretary of War. The particular application of the moneys expended will be exhibited by the report of the Second Auditor, under the 13th section of the act of June 30th, 1834, organizing this Department, which requires copies of the accounts of "all persons whatsoever charged or trusted with the disbursement or application of money, goods, or effects of any kind, for the benefit of the Indians, to be annually laid before Congress by the proper accounting officers."

On examining the statement furnished, by the Treasury Department, of the balances under various heads of appropriation remaining unexpended on the 30th June last, it was found that many of them were of long standing and for a greater period than that limited by the 10th section of the act of 30th March, 1795, which provides that, with certain exceptions, all appropriations that have existed for more than two years after the expiration of the calendar year in which they were made, if not for purposes in respect to which a longer duration is specially assigned by law, shall be deemed to have ceased and been determined. In regard to balances of appropriations made for the purpose of carrying into effect the stipulations of Indian treaties, which require a longer period than two years, the Attorney General decided, in February, 1839, that they were not of the class which, under the act of 1795, should be considered as having terminated after the expiration of the two years. The accumulation of old balances on the books of the treasury having, however, been so fruitful a source of confusion and perplexity in the appropriation accounts, and led to the constant

bringing up of old claims against the government, which, though generally unfounded, require much time and trouble to decide, (which should be bestowed on important matters of current business,) it was deemed best, for these and other reasons, to cancel all such balances that were not in whole or in part required for expenditure within the present fiscal year. Should it hereafter be found that any of these balances will be wanted, Congress can be asked to re-appropriate them; and by this course that body will be better advised of, and can exercise a more rigid supervision over, the annual expenditures of the Department, than if those expenditures were, as heretofore, to a considerable extent, made from old balances. Of the amount of these balances under appropriations which have remained upon the books of the treasury for two years, and reported to this office as applicable to the surplus fund, there was designated as no longer required for the objects for which the appropriations were made the sum of \$540,448 81; \$442,676 70 of which has been cancelled, leaving a balance of \$97,772 11, which the Comptroller decided, it seems, to withhold from the operation of the surplus fund law. In addition to the above, there has also been designated of the appropriations generally applicable to this branch of the service, the sum of \$565,781, making the whole amount of the balances under appropriations thus designated by this office to be cancelled, \$1,106,229 81.

It having been found that in some cases balances under old heads of appropriation, to an amount exceeding, it is believed, \$100,000, had accumulated in the hands of agents, peremptory instructions were some time since given to refund all such balances to the Treasury, except so much only as will be absolutely required for expenditure within the present fiscal year, in order that the money may be applicable to other necessary purposes of the government.

In my report of last year, I stated that the claims of Choctaws to land under the 14th and 19th articles of the treaty of 1830, reported upon by the commission which expired by limitation on the 17th of June, 1845, so far as you concurred in the judgment of the commissioners, had been acted on by this office, with the view of placing in the possession of the various Indian claimants the evidence of the admission and settlement of their claims. The cases in which you differed with the commissioners were those in which the testimony showed that the claimants had been dispossessed of their improvements by white men before the expiration of five years from the ratification of the treaty, and not by the sale of their land by the government. As construed by the Department, the law admitted claims of the latter class only. The attorneys for the Indians being dissatisfied with this view, the question at issue was submitted for the opinion of the Attorney General. His opinion, which to some extent modified the construction of the Department, was received on the 4th of August last; and, as soon as Congress adjourned, I commenced the investigation of the claims supposed to be affected thereby. This investigation led to the admission of three hundred and seventy, and the rejection of three hundred and ninety-six claims.

Upon the adjournment of Congress, I also proceeded, under the joint resolution of August 3, 1846, to examine the claims of the Su-quah-natch-ah and other clans of the Choctaw Indians, which were left undetermined by the commissioners for the want of the township maps.

The number of these cases was three hundred and thirty-eight; of which one hundred and seventy-one were admitted, twenty-five suspended for further information, and one hundred and forty-two rejected.

The disposition of these two classes of claims, and of a few which had previously been admitted by your two immediate predecessors, but not consummated at the time, enabled the Department to transmit to its agent, for delivery to the Indian claimants, seven hundred and fourteen pieces of scrip, viz: two hundred and fifteen for heads of families, two hundred and forty-six for children over, and two hundred and fifty-three for those under, ten years of age, at the date of the treaty. This scrip is for one-half of the claims only. In the aggregate, they amount to 256,800 acres of land; equal in value, at \$1 25 per acre, to \$321,000.

A very large number of claims for land purchased of reservees under the various treaties, have been examined and disposed of during the past year. All deeds and other contracts proved to have been honestly and fairly made, and the consideration shown to have been adequate and actually paid, have been approved and transmitted to the parties entitled, or to the General Land Office, as the case required: some have been retained for further evidence, and the others rejected.

The final settlement of the question of jurisdiction, and the increasing importance of that remote but interesting country, will render it necessary to make some provision for conducting our relations with the Indian tribes west of the Rocky mountains, for whom there are now no agents of any grade or description. A sub-agent, it will be recollected, was appointed some time since to visit these tribes, and, from personal observation and inquiry, obtain such information as would enable the Department to suggest suitable measures for extending over them the benevolent and fostering care of the government. His reports, extracts from which accompanied my last annual communication, developed the resources and other advantages of the country, as well as the capacity and general inclination of the Indians to engage in the various pursuits of agriculture and the mechanic arts. This gentleman having returned last winter, and the whole subject having been laid before Congress, it was not deemed advisable to continue a service that was circumscribed in its objects, and originally designed to be temporary.

Some provision should also be made for the protection and security of our citizens, and the maintenance of peaceful relations with the various tribes, within the boundaries of Texas. The necessity for some action of this kind is greatly increased by the events which are now transpiring on the borders of that State.

These tribes are of a roving and unstable disposition, and are probably among the most barbarous and least civilized portions of the Indian race. Their position and present relations towards the general government are anomalous, and not altogether free from embarrassment and difficulty. The lands which they occupy, as well as most of the other rights they enjoy, are under the control and legislative authority of the State, and it is questionable whether the intercourse act, and other laws for the government and regulation of Indian affairs, can be extended to these people without interfering with the local jurisdiction of Texas. The mischievous habits of these Indians, and the influence they exert among the neighboring tribes, as well as a proper regard for the security of our own citizens, who have already suffered so much from their predatory and marauding excursions, will commend this subject to the attention and early consideration of Congress.

The cause of education has received that attention which its great im-

portance would appear to demand. Its advantages and meliorating influences are beginning to be seen and felt in the forests and among the savages, as well as among the more cultivated regions and enlightened circles of our country. The direction which has recently been given to the system, by combining with letters a knowledge of agriculture and the mechanic arts, has opened a new era in the progress of Indian civilization. The prejudices which existed against schools, and which have hitherto been regarded as an almost insuperable barrier to the intellectual improvement of the red man, are fast giving way before the evidences by which he is surrounded, in the increased happiness and prosperity which are every where apparent to his view; and many of the tribes are now petitioning for the establishment among them of institutions, the introduction of which they would once have opposed as injurious to the character and interests of their people. Reports have not yet been received from all the superintendents and teachers in the Indian country, but those that have come to hand give the most favorable and gratifying accounts of the condition of the various schools under their care.

The Choctaws are manifesting a most extraordinary zeal in the advancement of this great cause. With a liberality which is truly commendable, and which, it is hoped, may soon be imitated by other tribes, they have set apart and agreed to apply \$18,000 of their annuity money, in addition to the \$8,500 expressly provided by treaty, and \$2,000 furnished from the civilization fund, to the education of their youth. They have already among them three academies, besides several small schools for boys, and no less than five seminaries for the instruction of females, all of which have been placed under the immediate charge and management of the Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist churches. Contributions are also made from these societies, amounting in the aggregate to about \$2,000. The importance of these institutions, and the extent of their operations, will be seen from the large amount which is thus annually expended in their management and support. All these schools are conducted on the principle alluded to, of combining letters with manual labor, and are shown, by the report of the experienced and efficient agent of the Department, as well as by those of the teachers, to be in a most flourishing condition. The farms cultivated by the boys are said to have produced sufficient corn the past year for the consumption of the schools. The females are taught sewing, knitting, ornamental needle work, and the various duties of the household and dairy, in addition to the usual and ordinary branches of a common school education.

Arrangements are in progress to establish two manual labor schools among the Creeks, at distant and suitable points, and one among the Chickasaws, who, imitating the example, and to some extent the liberality of the Choctaws, have set apart and appropriated, by an act of their council, the sum of \$6,000, to be annually applied to its support. Arrangements were also made, some time since, for the establishment of a manual labor school among the Osages. The buildings have been erected, and the other improvements are so far completed as to render it probable that the institution will be put into operation about the first of January. It has been placed under the charge of the Catholic Missionary Society at St. Louis. The manual labor school at Fort Leavenworth, under the superintendency of the Methodist Episcopal Society, and that of the Friends in the same agency, have been eminently successful in advancing the great objects for which they were respectively established. The Choctaw

academy, in Kentucky, is reported to be in a flourishing and highly satisfactory condition; and the pupils, many of whom are boys of much promise and influence among their respective tribes, are making great proficiency in the arts of civilization, and such literary attainments as are deemed most essential to their future usefulness.

The other schools from which reports have been received are also represented to be in a prosperous condition, and to be exerting a happy and beneficial influence in reforming the habits and improving the situation of the Indians.

The general introduction of manual labor schools among the Indians, and the purchase of such tools and agricultural implements as are necessary for their management and successful operation, will be attended with much expense, and will require all the funds that are in any way applicable to objects of education. A portion of these funds has heretofore been applied to the education of boys at literary institutions in the various States, and even to the preparation of some of them for the practice of the learned professions; and although important advantages have thereby resulted in the diffusion of information among the different tribes, yet it is believed that the money can now be more beneficially expended at the homes and in the midst of the Indian people. The prejudices of the red man will be thus more easily overcome, and the benefits extended alike to both sexes of the tribe.

In manual labor schools a knowledge of letters will go hand in hand with the acquirement of a practical use of the tools of the artisan and the implements of the farmer. Those which have already been established in the Indian country afford abundant evidence of the advantages of the system, and its superiority over any other plan of education for the Indians which has yet been tried or suggested. To induce the untutored savage to enter upon any new course of conduct, or to adopt any plan of operation, or of subsistence, different from that to which he has always been accustomed, you must convince his senses that some beneficial result is certainly to follow. He must experience the advantages, in order to appreciate them. Let him merely look on and observe the white man laboring in his fields and maturing his crops, and he learns comparatively nothing; but place in his hands the plough, the axe, and the hoe, and teach him how to use them; let him see the product of his labor in the abundant yield of the necessaries and comforts of life; and then, and not till then, can you exemplify to him the difference between the civilized and the savage state. Let him sit down amidst his family and his people during the inclemency of winter, surrounded by the fruits of his labor, raised at a more congenial season, and he will soon be able to appreciate the difference between the hard and precarious life of a hunter and that of an agriculturist. Thus, by making popular, through these means, one of the objects in view—and this not the least important to the Indian—the other will increase in estimation, by the evidences it will soon furnish of the mental elevation of the educated Indian, when compared with his uninstructed associate.

The reports of the different superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, indicate that there has been some improvement in the condition and affairs of the Indians generally during the past year, though in many instances there has been an increase in the traffic and use of ardent spirits. Were it not for the almost uncontrollable propensity of the Indians generally for this destructive article, especially among the less civilized, and the facility

with which it continues to be supplied to them by abandoned and unprincipled white men, in defiance of law and all the exertions of the Department and its agents, the progress of the various tribes in civilization, and in the resources and comforts of civilized life, would be far greater. Whiskey is the greatest obstacle to their rapid moral and social elevation, and no means should be spared to break up the traffic in it, now and heretofore so extensively and injuriously carried on among the Indians, principally by the description of persons mentioned. In former reports from this office, the inadequacy of existing laws to effect this object has been adverted to; and a sense of duty, as well as the dictates of humanity, impel me again to call attention to the subject.

Under the present laws, the only penalty for introducing liquor into the Indian country, and selling or bartering it to the Indians, is, in the former case, a forfeiture of the article if found, and in the latter a fine if convicted of the offence. The profits of the traffic are so great that the risk of detection and loss of the article is, and will be, incurred without hesitation; and the fine is of little or no effect, because such persons rarely, if ever, possess any available property or means by which the fine can be recovered. I agree with my predecessor, that a much more effective remedy would be found in an amendment of the present trade and intercourse law, by which the offence would be made criminal, and the persons convicted of it subjected to imprisonment for such time as Congress may prescribe, or the court, in view of the circumstances and extent or criminality of the offence, might in their discretion think proper.

According to your directions, a circular was issued on the 2d of October last, and copies sent to all the superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, informing them that hereafter no powers of attorney from Indians to white persons would be recognised, nor any money be paid upon them; but that all claims of Indians must be presented to the Department through the proper agent, when they would be promptly acted on, and the sums found due to the claimants be paid to them at their homes, without any deduction for expenses or for the collection of the amount. This measure was deemed necessary and proper, in order to prevent advantage being taken of the ignorance or necessities of the Indians, by persons who sometimes purchase their claims for a mere nominal consideration, or who make excessive and unreasonable charges for collecting them.

This office is about entering upon a revision of the general regulations, prescribed in 1837, for the management of its general business, which, in consequence of change of circumstances, and of new elements of business having arisen, have, in some measure, become obsolete or inapplicable to the present condition of things, and therefore require alteration and amendment.

Under the regulations recently prescribed for this office, a new classification and assignment of its business among the clerks has been made, which it is expected will lead to its being more promptly and satisfactorily despatched. The new classes and more perfect system of records which these regulations require, will also, it is believed, produce greater facility and accuracy in the transaction of its business.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

ACCOMPANYING THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

- A. Extracts of instructions of the War Department and Indian office to A. Hogeboom, superintendent of the emigration of a party of New York Indians.
- B. Letter to Thomas H. Harvey, esq., advising him of the removal of said Indians, &c.
- C. Letter to the same, respecting the condition of the said party of Indians after their arrival west.
- D. Letter to the same, relative to the distressed situation of the above named Indians, &c.
- E. Statement of investments in stocks for Indians.
- F. Statement of interest appropriated for certain tribes, in lieu of investing the sums provided by treaty in stocks.

Reports of superintendents, agents, and sub-agents.

- No. 1. Report of his excellency Governor James Clarke, superintendent ex officio.
- No. 2. Report of Amos J. Bruce, agent for the Sioux.
- No. 3. Report of Jonathan E. Fletcher, sub-agent for the Winnebagoes.
- No. 4. Report of his excellency Governor Henry Dodge, superintendent ex officio.
- No. 5. Report of Albert G. Ellis, sub-agent for the Menomonies and others.
- No. 6. Report of James P. Hays, sub-agent for the Chippewas of Mississippi, &c.
- No. 7. Report of William A. Richmond, agent and acting superintendent at Detroit.
- No. 8. Report of James Ord, sub-agent at Sault St. Marie.
- No. 9. Report of William Armstrong, agent and acting superintendent, Western Territory.
- No. 10. Report of James McKissick, agent for the Cherokees.
- No. 11. Report of James Logan, agent for the Creeks.
- No. 12. Report of A. M. M. Upshaw, agent for the Chickasaws.
- No. 13. Report of James S. Raines, sub-agent for Senecas, Shawnees, and Quapaws.
- No. 14. Report of Marcellas Duval, sub-agent for the Seminoles.
- No. 15. Report of Thomas H. Harvey, superintendent at St. Louis.
- No. 16. Report of Thomas P. Moore, agent for tribes on Upper Missouri.
- No. 17. Report of John Beach, agent for the Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi.
- No. 18. Report of Robert B. Mitchell, sub-agent at Council Bluffs.
- No. 19. Report of Richard Hewitt, sub-agent for the Wyandots.
- No. 20. Report of William E. Rucker, sub-agent for the Sacs and Iowas.
- No. 21. Report of Alfred J. Vaughan, sub-agent at Osage river.
- No. 21a. Report of William P. Angel, sub-agent for New York Indians.
- No. 21b. Report of Joseph Sinclear, late sub-agent for the Miamies.

School and farm reports.

- No. 22. Report of Thomas S. Williamson.—Sioux.
 No. 23. Report of S. R. Riggs.—Sioux.
 No. 24. Report of S. W. Pond.—Sioux.
 No. 25. Report of D. Lowry.—Winnebagoes.
 No. 26. Report of Albert G. Ellis.—Menomonies.
 No. 27. Report of Albert G. Ellis.—Schools of Green Bay sub-agency.
 No. 28. Report of John N. Chicks.—Stockbridges.
 No. 29. Report of C. G. Lathrop.—Oneidas.
 No. 30. Report of S. Davis.—Oneidas.
 No. 31. Report of T. J. Vanderbrock.—Menomonies.
 No. 32. Report of Isaac Wanby.—School in Calumet county, Wisconsin Territory.
 No. 33. Report of S. Hall.—Chippewas.
 No. 34. Report of E. H. Day.—Chippewas.
 No. 35. Report of J. Johnson.—Chippewas.
 No. 36. Report of P. H. Beaubien.—Chippewas.
 No. 37. Report of L. H. Wheeler.—Chippewas.
 No. 38. Report of P. P. Lefevre.—Ottowas and Chippewas.
 No. 39. Report of P. Dougherty.—Chippewas of Michigan.
 No. 40. Report of L. Slater.—Ottowas of Michigan.
 No. 41. Report of G. M. Smith.—Ottowas of Michigan.
 No. 42. Report of A. Bingham.—Chippewas of Michigan.
 No. 43. Report of W. H. Brockway.—Chippewas of Michigan.
 No. 44. Report of William Armstrong.—schools western superintendency.
 No. 45. Report of R. D. Potts.—Choctaws.
 No. 46. Report of P. P. Brown.—Choctaws.
 No. 47. Report of A. Wright.—Choctaws.
 No. 48. Report of E. Hotchkin.—Choctaws.
 No. 49. Report of C. Kingsbury.—Choctaws.
 No. 50. Report of J. B. Ramsay.—Choctaws.
 No. 51. Report of W. L. McAllister.—Choctaws.
 No. 52. Report of C. Byington.—Choctaws.
 No. 53. Report of E. T. Perry.—Cherokees.
 No. 54. Report of S. A. Worcester.—Cherokees.
 No. 55. Report of J. Hitchcock.—Cherokees.
 No. 56. Report of R. M. Loughridge.—Creeks.
 No. 57. Report of E. B. Duncan.—Chickasaws.
 No. 58. Report of S. G. Patterson.—Quapaws.
 No. 59. Report of W. Patton.—Manual labor school.
 No. 60. Report of T. F. L. Verreydt.—Pottawatomies.
 No. 61. Report of E. McCoy.—Pottawatomies.
 No. 62. Report of T. Hurlburt.—Pottawatomies.
 No. 63. Report of J. Meeker.—Ottowas, west.
 No. 64. Report of B. M. Adams.—Weas.
 No. 65. Report of F. C. McCreary.—Sacs and Iowas.
 No. 66. Report of S. M. Irvin.—Sacs and Iowas.
 No. 67. Report of J. W. Foreman.—Sac and Fox farmer.
 No. 68. Report of Samuel Bissell.—Ottowas of Michigan.

APPENDIX.

A.

Extracts from instructions of the War Department and Office of Indian Affairs to Abraham Hogeboom, superintendent of the emigration of a party of New York Indians.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *September 12, 1845.*

SIR: There is an existing treaty between the United States and the several tribes of Indians residing in New York, by which the government agree to superintend and pay the expenses of their emigration to the country beyond the Mississippi, set apart in said treaty for them. An arrangement has been made with a delegation now here, to send out a party this autumn, provided two hundred and fifty will actually go. In case this number should agree to emigrate, (and the President is assured by the delegation which has been here that they will,) it is necessary to send an emigrating agent with them, to accompany them to their new home in the Indian country. My object in now writing to you is to offer you this agency. They say that a party to the number of 250 will be ready to leave in the fore part of October.

The government will not undertake the emigration of these Indians unless two hundred and fifty of them now residing in the State of New York, exclusive of Canada Indians, shall muster themselves and actually go with the agent.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, *October 2, 1845.*

SIR: Your letter of the 20th ultimo, addressed to the Secretary of War, has been received and referred to this office.

I enclose herewith the copies of two letters—one addressed to the Indian chief, and the other to Mr. Osborne, the sub-agent at Buffalo—from which you will learn all that is contemplated by the Department in relation to this matter. Two hundred and fifty Indians is the smallest number that will be emigrated; and as soon as you can learn that there are that number prepared to start, and will inform this office thereof, instructions and money will be sent to you.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *November 4, 1845.*

SIR: The object of the government is, and has been, to encourage the emigration of the New York Indians; but not discovering a disposition on their part to go in any considerable numbers, it has not been thought expedient to countenance the removal of small bands, on account of the expense; and more particularly as it would not contribute but in a very small degree to the desirable end—the emigration of the whole body. A delegation lately appeared here and assured the President that at least 250 were willing to remove this fall. The government complied with the wishes of the delegation, on the express condition that that number would enrol themselves and go to the new home provided for them. You were selected as emigrating agent, and to act only in the event that 250 would go. This condition was explained to you when you were offered the appointment; but this number not being found willing to emigrate this fall, the measure of course falls through, for the present at least.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
December 8, 1845.

SIR: The Department has been much disappointed in the course the business has taken in relation to the removal of the New York Indians. When the delegation was here, it was understood that the number required, 250 *New York Indians*, would be ready to emigrate immediately after the 4th of October.

Your letter of October apprized the Department that the required number was not enrolled, and the reply of the Secretary of War to you was written on the supposition that the effort had entirely failed; but your subsequent letter stated that more than the number required had agreed to emigrate, and would be ready to set out on the 20th of November. Though the Department thought this very late, yet, as it might be in season for transporting them by water, it was concluded to let the emigration go forward six days after, viz: the 26th November. We are apprized that the party had not gone, as you then wrote for assistance, and it is presumed that the Indians will not leave until you get a response to that application.

Though authority was given for one assistant, it is very evident the party cannot go by water. Indeed, it is so late that it is not possible to have the advantages of water communication.

When the delegation were here, there was not a thought entertained that any other mode was to be resorted to; and it was only upon the ground that they would be ready to go by water that the government engaged to attempt the emigration; and it will not change the mode, attended, as a change must be, by a large additional expense. The Indians that were here, understood the views of the government on this point, and spoke of an emigration in the spring, provided they should not get ready in requisite numbers to go in the then approaching autumn.

As the lakes and rivers will be frozen, the removal will be of course given up for the present.

The New York Indians only were to be emigrated, and the requisite number (250) were to be composed exclusively of New York Indians. We have no report on that point.

B.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, June 10, 1846.

SIR: Information has recently been received at this office that A. Hogeboom has started for St. Louis with a party of New York Indians, in number about 200. This act of starting with a less number than 250, in connexion with the recent action of this office, looking to a suspension of the emigration for a time, was wholly unauthorized, and of course unexpected; but as the party are without the reach of the Department, measures must be taken to subsist them. I have, therefore, to request that you will give directions to the Osage sub-agent to invite proposals, and enter into contract, for their subsistence for twelve months, as contemplated in my instructions to you of 14th November, 1845, to which you are referred.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent &c., St. Louis, Mo.

C.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, September 30, 1846.

SIR: Enclosed are copies of a letter and enclosure from Philip E. Thomas, of Baltimore, a member of the Society of Friends, who for some years have taken a deep and active interest in the welfare of the New York Indians; and also a copy of my answer thereto, in relation to the condition of the party of those Indians removed west by Doctor Hogeboom. Relying on your active and efficient supervision over all the affairs of your superintendency, the Department has felt no apprehension as to the situation of those people, and now feels confident that, as stated in the letter to Mr. Thomas, they can have undergone no material degree of hardship, or it would have been reported. Still, in order to quiet the apprehensions of their friends in New York, it is deemed proper to call your particular attention to the subject; to request that you will cause the sub-agent, under whose charge they are, to do all in his power for their comfort, and to report to the Department any measures which should be adopted therefor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

D.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, October 29, 1846.

SIR: I transmit herewith a copy of a letter just received from James Cusick, one of the party of New York Indians removed west last summer by Doctor Hogeboom, from which it appears that there has been much sickness and mortality among these Indians, and that they are in a distressed situation.

It is presumed that, in accordance with the instructions from this office to you of the 10th June last, measures were duly taken for the subsistence of the Indians in question, and that the sufferings they may have undergone, must have arisen from want of clothing and medical assistance, of which this office has had no advice.

It was with some difficulty that any satisfactory data could be obtained by which to determine the amount to which these Indians are entitled, under existing treaties, in common with their brethren remaining east; and, though attended with some uncertainty, a division has been fixed upon, which gives to them the following sums:

For the sixty-two Senecas that removed, out of permanent annuity of \$6,000, per act of 19th February, 1831, the sum of	\$142 91
For the same, out of \$5,805, being amount of interest on investments due 1st July last, per 3d and 5th articles of treaty of 20th May, 1842, the sum of	138 26
For the whole party removed west, in common, out of the permanent annuity of \$4,500, per 6th article treaty of 11th November, 1794, the sum of	197 48
Making	478 65

For which a requisition has issued in your favor, and which you will please expend for clothing, medicines, attendance, and such other purposes as you may judge best suited to their present condition and necessities. For the above sums you will account, severally, as follows: 1st. "Fulfilling treaties with the Senecas of New York, per act 3d March, 1845." 2d. "Trust fund, interest on investments to Senecas of New York;" and, 3d. "Fulfilling treaties with Six Nations of New York, per act 2d March, 1845."

Mr. Cusick's letter, supported as it is by the statement of Captain Burbank, is calculated to excite much anxiety on account of these Indians. They were removed contrary to the instructions and expectations of the Department at the time, and their having gone was not known until they were some distance on the route. There was, consequently, no opportunity for making the requisite preliminary arrangements for their comfort and welfare on their arrival west. After giving you the instructions of June 10th, for their subsistence, much had to be left to the judgment and views of duty, under the circumstances, of yourself and the Osage sub-agent, under whose immediate supervision they came, in regard to what was further requisite to be done for them.

In my letter of the 30th ultimo, your attention was specially called to their situation, and no doubt is entertained that your answer to that communication will show that you have done, or caused to be done, all that could be, under the circumstances, for their relief. Should the amount now remitted not be sufficient to cover the expenses of what you have already done, or what it may, in your judgment, be further requisite to do for them, in addition to their subsistence, for which there is a special appropriation, you will please report promptly, accordingly, and the necessary funds will be furnished. Funds will also be remitted on account of their subsistence, when this office is informed that they are needed.

The \$3,000 referred to by Mr. Cusick as due to the Tuscaroras, under the treaty of 1838, has never been appropriated by Congress. The proportion due to those west will be asked for at the approaching session, and when obtained will be promptly sent to them. With reference to the wish of these Indians to go to the Shawnee country, adverted to by Mr. Cusick, it was supposed that they had gone to the country of the Sandusky Senecas, as George Jemison and others, in a letter of 30th July last, stated that they had accepted an invitation to reside awhile with those people, (whose sub-agent had kindly undertaken to attend to their business and wants.) thinking their health would be thereby improved.

In a letter to you of the 9th ultimo, one of the same tenor and date having been addressed to Major Armstrong, your attention was called to an application of these people to be transferred from the Osage to the Neosho sub-agency, and your views thereon requested. No answer has been received to either communication.

At your earliest convenience please favor me with a reply to this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Supt. Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

E.

Statement exhibiting the amount of invest

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.
Cherokees - -	Kentucky	5	\$94,000 00	-	\$4,700 00	-
Do - -	Tennessee	5	250,000 00	-	12,500 00	-
Do - -	Alabama	5	300,000 00	-	15,000 00	-
Do - -	Maryland	6	761 39	-	45 68	-
Do - -	Michigan	6	64,000 00	-	3,840 00	-
Do (education) - -	Maryland	5	41,138 00	-	2,056 90	-
Do - -	Missouri	5½	10,000 00	-	550 00	-
				\$759,899 39		\$38,692 58
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (mills.)	Maryland	6	130,850 43	-	7,851 02	-
Do do - -	Pennsylv.	5	28,300 00	-	1,415 00	-
Do do - -	U. S. loan, 1842	6	39,921 93	-	2,395 31	-
Do do - -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	157 50	-	7 88	-
				199,229 96		11,669 21
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (education.)	Indiana	5	68,000 00	-	3,400 00	-
Do - -	Pennsylv.	5	8,500 00	-	425 00	-
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	5,556 71	-	333 40	-
				82,056 71		4,158 40
Incompetent Chickasaws	Indiana	5	-	2,000 00	-	100 00
Chickasaw orphans - -	Arkansas	5	6,000 00	-	300 00	-
Do - -	Pennsylv.	5	1,450 00	-	72 50	-
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	433 68	-	26 02	-
				7,883 68		398 52
Shawnees - -	Maryland	6	29,341 50	-	1,760 49	-
Do - -	Kentucky	5	1,000 00	-	50 00	-
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	1,734 71	-	104 08	-
				32,076 21		1,914 57
Senecas - -	Kentucky	5	-	5,000 00	-	250 00
Senecas and Shawnees - -	Kentucky	5	6,000 00	-	300 00	-
Do - -	Missouri	5½	7,000 00	-	385 00	-
				13,000 00		685 00
Kansas schools - -	Missouri	5½	18,000 00	-	990 00	-
Do - -	Pennsylv.	5	2,000 00	-	100 00	-
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	2,700 00	-	135 00	-
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842	6	4,444 66	-	266 67	-
				27,144 66		1,491 67
Menomonies - -	Kentucky	5	77,000 00	-	3,850 00	-
Do - -	Pennsylv.	5	12,000 00	-	600 00	-
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	26,114 88	-	1,566 89	-
				115,114 88		6,016 89
Chippewas and Ottowas	Kentucky	5	77,000 00	-	3,850 00	-
Do do - -	Michigan	6	3,000 00	-	180 00	-
Do do - -	Pennsylv.	5	16,200 00	-	810 00	-
Do do - -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	5,387 87	-	269 39	-
Do do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	16,588 97	-	995 34	-
				118,176 84		6,104 73
Creek orphans - -	Alabama	5	82,000 00	-	4,100 00	-
Do - -	Missouri	5½	28,000 00	-	1,540 00	-
Do - -	Pennsylv.	5	16,000 00	-	800 00	-
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	13,700 00	-	685 00	-
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	23,513 40	-	1,410 80	-
				163,213 40		8,535 80

E.

ments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited, until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
\$94,000 00	-	Semi-ann'ly	New York	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of Dec., 1835.
250,000 00	-	do	do	do	do
300,000 00	-	do	do	do	do
820 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	do
69,120 00	-	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
42,490 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of Feb. 27, 1819.
10,000 00	-	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
	\$766,490 00				
150,000 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of Sept., 1833.
21,250 50	-	Semi-ann'ly	Philadelphia	do	do
44,204 40	-	do	Washington	do	do
156 00	-	do	do	do	do
	218,619 90				
72,264 09	-	do	New York	do	do
7,352 50	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
6,016 05	-	do	Washington	do	do
	85,632 64				
6,000 00	2,000 00	do	New York	do	Treaty of May, 1834.
1,254 25	-	do	do	do	do
508 01	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
	7,762 26		Washington	do	do
33,913 40	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of August, 1831.
980 00	-	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
2,032 03	-	do	Washington	do	do
	36,924 43				
5,880 00	4,900 00	do	New York	do	Treaty of Feb., 1831.
7,121 87	-	do	do	do	do
	13,001 87		do	do	do
18,000 00	-	do	do	do	Treaty of June, 1825.
1,730 00	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
2,727 27	-	do	Washington	do	do
	5,026 30		do	do	do
	27,463 57				
75,460 00	-	do	New York	do	Treaty of Sept., 1836.
10,235 00	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
29,604 48	-	do	Washington	do	do
	115,299 48				
75,460 00	-	do	New York	do	Treaty of March, 1836.
3,000 00	-	do	do	do	do
13,912 50	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
5,426 46	-	do	Washington	do	do
	18,183 30		do	do	do
	115,932 26				
82,000 00	-	do	New York	do	Treaty of June, 1832.
28,487 48	-	do	do	do	do
13,840 00	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
13,840 00	-	do	Washington	do	do
	26,656 04		do	do	do
	164,823 52				

E.—Statement exhibiting the amount of

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.
Choctaws, under convention with Chickasaws.	Alabama	5	-	\$500,000 00	-	\$25,000 00
Delawares, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	-	7,806 28	-	468 38
Osages, (education)	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	\$7,400 00	-	\$370 00	-
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	24,679 56	-	1,480 77	-
Choctaw orphans	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	26,387 44	32,079 56	1,583 24	1,850 77
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	23,109 09	-	1,155 45	-
Stockbridge & Munsees	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	-	49,496 53	-	2,738 69
Choctaws, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	60,893 62	5,204 16	-	312 25
Do do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	1,545 44	-	77 27	-
				62,439 06		3,730 88
				2,181,821 32		114,118 34

investments in State stocks, &c.—Continued.

Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited, until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
-	\$500,000 00	Semi-ann'y	New Orleans	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of Jan. 17, 1837.
-	9,144 27	do	Washington	do	Treaty of 1838.
\$7,474 74	-	do	do	do	Treaty of 1825.
27,656 76	-	do	do	do	do
30,461 70	35,131 50	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
23,312 16	-	do	do	do	do
-	53,773 86	do	do	do	Treaty of May, 1840.
68,236 73	6,096 16	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
1,530 00	-	do	do	do	do
	69,766 73				
	2,232,832 45				

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, September 30, 1846.

F.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sums of money provided by treaty in stocks.

Names of tribes.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares - - - -	\$46,080	5	\$2,304	Treaty September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas - -	200,000	6	12,000	Resol'n Senate May 27, 1836.
Sioux of Mississippi - - -	300,000	5	15,000	Treaty September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri -	175,400	5	8,770	Treaty October 21, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi -	1,000,000	5	50,000	Treaties October 21, 1837, and October 11, 1842.
Winnebagoes - - - -	1,100,000	5	55,000	Treaty November 1, 1837.
Iowas - - - -	157,500	5	7,875	Resol'n Senate Jan. 19, 1838.
Osages - - - -	69,120	5	3,456	Resol'n Senate Jan. 19, 1838.
Creeks - - - -	350,000	5	17,500	Treaty November 23, 1838.
Senecas of New York - - -	75,000	5	3,750	Treaty May 20, 1842.
Choctaws - - - -	43,600	5	2,180	Treaty September 27, 1830.
	3,516,700		177,835	

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, June 30, 1846.

No. 1.

IOWA SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Executive Office, Burlington, October 2, 1846.

SIR: The annual report called for by the rules and regulations, showing the condition of the Indian tribes within this superintendency, would have been submitted at an earlier day but for the fact that the report, &c., from the St. Peter's agency was not received until within the present week, thereby depriving me of the data and information necessary to its enlightened preparation. It is now most respectfully submitted, with such suggestions as commend themselves to my mind as proper and called for.

Since the removal of the Sacs and Foxes to their new home south and west of the Missouri river, but two tribes or nations of Indians have been embraced within the Iowa superintendency, viz: the Winnebagoes and the Sioux. The Winnebagoes, according to the accompanying report of the sub-agent, number between twenty-four and twenty-five hundred; they are located upon a strip of country forty miles in width, extending from the Mississippi to the Des Moines, a direct line commencing at the mouth of the Upper Iowa, on the first mentioned river, and terminating at the second fork of the Des Moines, passing through its centre.

This country was ceded to the United States by the Sacs and Foxes,

and Sioux, in the treaty of the 15th July, 1830; and, from the fact that it interposed a barrier between these warlike and hostile tribes, has since been called the "Neutral Ground." The Indian right of occupancy extends only as far from the Mississippi river as the east fork of the Red Cedar, but they are secured in the right to hunt as far west as the Des Moines, which makes the entire country theirs for all useful purposes. Although beautiful to behold, and unsurpassed in the advantages which it presents for agricultural pursuits, its comparative destitution of game, joined with other deficiencies of an important character, render it less suitable to the wants of an Indian population than many other regions. In this respect it is acknowledged to be far inferior to the former home of the Winnebagoes in Wisconsin, to which fact, doubtless, is to be attributed the disposition they have constantly manifested to return to the east bank of the Mississippi. Still, although not esteeming their home very highly, the repeated failures which have attended the efforts of the government to extinguish their possessory right show a singular unwillingness on the part of the Indians to dispose of it. This feeling, I have reason to believe, is in consequence of a belief which has obtained general prevalence among the tribe, that they are to be secured in no final resting place—that, if they accept the overtures of the government, in a very few years they will be required to remove from any new home which may be assigned them; again, in the natural course of events and the fulfilments of destiny, to be driven to some point still more remote from the graves of their ancestors, and, perhaps, to a country less adapted to their peculiar wants, and a climate less congenial to their tastes and habits.

They cite, with much apparent plausibility, the history of their past transactions with the government, as illustrative of the fate that awaits them if they again consent to remove; and refer feelingly and eloquently to the superiority of the country formerly owned by them on the Fox and Rock and Wisconsin rivers, over that which they at present inhabit.

Notwithstanding all this, I still believe it possible to effect a purchase of the Neutral Ground, provided a satisfactory home can be offered to the Indians; and being thoroughly convinced that such a consummation would be beneficial in the highest degree to both parties, I cling to the hope that a final arrangement to that effect will be entered into with the delegation of chiefs now at Washington. A great and increasing objection with the Winnebagoes to their present residence is its proximity to the white settlements; they are not slow to perceive the hurtful and pernicious influences resulting from the intercourse which necessarily attends this proximity, and would gladly be relieved from them. While they remain where they are, they cannot hope to escape this prolific source of evil and collision, which, instead of abating, must continue to increase. They have no choice, therefore, left, but to continue in their present country, and submit to the contaminating influences of civilized men, goaded on by cupidity and avarice, or to betake themselves to a new home, where, for a time at least, and to a limited extent, they will be free from encroachments and annoyance. Although, as a tribe, much given to habits of drunkenness, they evince upon all occasions such a correct appreciation of the evils brought upon them by the facilities at present afforded of obtaining liquor, that, to free themselves from the temptation, I entertain but little doubt they will give their consent to remove in the event of a suitable location being offered them. Whiskey, during a portion of last summer, has been sold to them with great impu-

nity: for several weeks the usual restraint imposed by the presence of dragoons at Fort Atkinson was withdrawn, which afforded an opportunity for a golden harvest to dealers in this illicit commerce; but recently a volunteer mounted force has been stationed there, specially charged with the suppression of the infamous traffic, from which some good may be expected.

The progress of the Winnebagoes in agricultural pursuits has, it will be seen from the report of their sub-agent, been quite flattering within the past year; and if their advance in learning and education has not come up to what might be hoped for, there is evidence of capacity among their youth greatly exceeding that which many have been disposed to award to savage minds. From a people depending exclusively on the chase for subsistence, and entertaining what seemed to be an insuperable aversion to the arts of husbandry, they have not only got to be the patrons of agriculture, but a number of them have absolutely become practicable cultivators of the soil. During a visit which, in the discharge of my duty, I was called on to pay to the agency in the month of August last, I had an opportunity of witnessing the farming operations carried on by and for the benefit of the Winnebagoes, and was highly gratified at the evidence thus afforded me of their growing disposition to betake themselves to the pursuits, and to live after the manner, of the white man. The awkwardness which attended their first attempts in the use of farming utensils, if it has not wholly disappeared, is certainly much less striking, while a tolerably good knowledge of the use of various implements of handicraft has been imparted to a considerable number of the tribe. The exercises which upon this occasion I witnessed in the school were of the most interesting character, fully confirming the impression previously entertained by me as to the utility and usefulness of that institution. It is highly creditable to the government, that, in the guardianship which it exercises over these people, it affords them the means of education and intellectual culture. Without these, civilization would be a mockery, if not an absolute curse.

The chief, and, indeed, I might say the only source of trouble with the Winnebagoes for the last several years, has been the difficulty of restraining them within their own proper limits, as designated in the treaty under which they hold the lands which they at present occupy. Entertaining a strong partiality for their former home in Wisconsin, and with nothing but the Mississippi river to separate them from it, they have persevered in the practice of visiting it in considerable numbers to the great annoyance of the white settlers, and despite the efforts, coercive as well as persuasive, which have been made to prevent them from so doing. During one of these visits the past winter a collision took place between the intruders and citizens, some distance up the Wisconsin, which resulted in the death of two of the Indians, and the forcible expulsion of the others from the eastern side of the river. The occurrence gave rise to some excitement, and fears were entertained of further difficulty; but the Indians, admonished of their danger, quietly returned to their assigned country, and have since abstained from further acts of trespass. A judicious arrangement made by the agent, by which those most in the habit of leaving their lands have been located on the Red Cedar, thus removing them as far as possible from the Mississippi, will, I think, prevent a recurrence of similar troubles in future.

The annuities paid the Winnebagoes, in proportion to population, exceed those of any other tribe of which I have any knowledge. In money

forty-eight thousand dollars is annually distributed among them, while nearly an equal sum is invested for their benefit in the purchase of provisions, clothing, guns, ammunition, &c., and for farming and education purposes. With such means, it might reasonably be concluded that they are a contented and happy people, in the enjoyment of the comforts of life; but the reverse of the case is the fact. The money annuity is scarcely paid to them before it finds its way into the hands of the traders; and the goods and provisions, or at least a considerable portion of them, are as speedily turned over to the whiskey-sellers, in exchange for the poisonous article in which they deal. In this way the Indians are enabled to gratify the cravings of their appetites for intoxicating liquors, thereby appropriating the supplies furnished them by the government to the purposes of self-destruction. It is no uncommon occurrence for an Indian to leave one of these dens of infamy stripped of his horse, gun, blanket, and indeed every thing belonging to him of the slightest value. The consequence is, that before the next payment he finds himself reduced to extreme want, and has no choice left but to apply to the traders to be relieved from destitution and suffering brought upon him by his own imprudence. I regret to say that it is not in my power to suggest any course by which the Indians can be protected against their depraved appetites, other than that proposed in the preceding part of the report. All attempts to enforce the laws against the unprincipled men who furnish them with liquor have thus far proved abortive, and I have no reason to believe that the offenders will in future be less vigilant in evading the proof of their guilt.

Sickness has been more prevalent on and around the neutral ground the past season than heretofore. The Indians, it is proper to say, have not been the exclusive victims of affliction, although, from their habits and modes of life, more than a proportionate share of suffering has fallen to their lot. The medical aid secured to them under treaty stipulation was promptly and beneficially rendered; but owing to the impossibility of inducing them to follow the prescriptions of their physicians, a much larger number of deaths have occurred, and annually occur, than otherwise would be the case. Billious fevers, and fevers and chills, are the diseases from which they have most suffered.

The country owned and occupied by the Sioux or Dacotah nation of Indians is of vast extent. It stretches from the Mississippi to the Missouri, and from the northern line of the Neutral Ground to the head waters of the first mentioned river. As might be expected of a region with such extended bounds, and running into so high a northern latitude, there are portions of it which may be set down as entirely valueless, either as regards capacity for the support of an Indian population, or adaptation to farming or other purposes by the whites; stretches of marsh and prairies destitute of game, and so inhospitable as to refuse more than a stinted yield of the commonest products of the earth. Of many other sections, however, a far different picture is to be given. The lower division is described by reliable explorers as possessing great advantages, mineral as well as agricultural; and there can be little doubt, should the Indian title to the lands fronting on the Mississippi be extinguished, that the country would speedily fill up with a hardy northern population.

The Sioux, although of one family, are divided into several tribes, and reside at a great distance from each other. The aggregate strength of those embraced within my superintendency is reported at something over nine

thousand, but this enumeration is not to be strictly relied on. But a single tribe, viz: the Mendawakantons, numbering over two thousand, and occupying the country in the immediate vicinity of Fort Snelling, receive annuities from the government. It is the boast of these people that they have ever been friendly to the whites, and it is certain that they have given but little trouble by outbreak or failure to perform their engagements with the government. Nomadic in their habits, and subsisting chiefly by the chase, it is not surprising that but limited success has attended the efforts made to direct their attention to planting and agriculture. Much, however, I think, may be expected from perseverance. Game, from its increasing scarcity, must soon become a precarious dependance, and then the cultivation of the soil must be resorted to as a measure of necessity, and in self-defence. A strong desire exists among the Sioux to increase their annuities; and, should the policy of the government render the purchase of a portion of their lands desirable, either as a home for other Indian tribes, or for settlement by the whites, the information I am in possession of leaves no doubt upon my mind that it might be easily effected.

I beg leave to call the attention of the Department to a subject requiring the interposition of the government, and to which reference was made in the report submitted a year since by my predecessor in office. From an examination of the report of the agent at St. Peter's, it will be seen that the half-breeds and others, British subjects, residing on the Red river of the North, persevere in their intrusions into the Sioux country, notwithstanding Major Sumner, at the head of the military force, visited them in the summer of 1845 for the express purpose of cautioning them against a repetition of their practices. These men pursue the buffalo for their hides, penetrate annually into the Sioux country in considerable numbers, and dispose of the avails of their hunts to the trading posts belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company.

They all reside on British soil, and should not be permitted to rob tribes, with which our government has engagements, of their means of subsistence, either for their own enrichment or that of the mammoth company whose agents they are understood to be. Until recently no notice has been taken of their intrusions upon our soil, and aggressions upon the rights of our Indians, which are represented as having been practised for several years; but now that the facts have come to light, and have been communicated to the Department, it is hoped efficient measures will be adopted towards effecting the proper corrective. The number of animals slaughtered in the Sioux country the past spring is said to be incredibly great, even exceeding the estimates of former years. The Sioux justly complain of the injury which is thus inflicted upon them, the effect being to deprive them of their chief dependance for subsistence, or at least to render it uncertain and precarious.

Much suffering is reported to have taken place the past winter among the more northern tribes, owing to the scarcity of buffalo, and destitution on the part of the Indians of guns, powder, &c., with which to take small game; and apprehensions are entertained that a similar state of things may be looked for the ensuing winter. The same destitution still exists, and their corn crop is reported to be a total failure. Governmental aid to these tribes, however limited, would bring healing on its wings. They are truly objects of pity, and should not be permitted to starve or perish.

Indulgence in the use of intoxicating liquors seems to be the besetting

vice of the Indians; and the Sioux, although not so enslaved by their appetites as the Winnebagoes, cannot be said to constitute an exception to the remark. They are blessed in the fact that their facilities for obtaining whiskey are but limited, owing to their remoteness from the white settlements, else drunkenness would probably be as prevalent among them as among their more southern neighbors. As it is, I am sorry I do not feel authorized to say that temperance is on the advance among them.

The reports of General J. E. Fletcher and Major Bruce, of the Winnebago and St. Peter's agencies, are herewith transmitted, with the usual accompanying papers, to which, for information not contained in this communication, you are respectfully referred.

The usual estimate of funds required by treaty stipulations for this superintendency the ensuing year, accompanies this report.

Very respectfully, I remain your obedient servant,

JAMES CLARKE.

Hon. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, War Department.

No. 2.

ST. PETER'S AGENCY,
Iowa Territory, September 1, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of this agency:

The Mendawakanton Sioux number this year, agreeably to the lists furnished by the chiefs and headmen, two thousand one hundred and forty-one; they inhabit some seven or eight villages on the Mississippi and St. Peter's rivers. Under the treaty of 1837, they annually receive from the United States, with ten thousand dollars in specie, which is paid to heads of families, ten thousand dollars' worth of goods, and five thousand five hundred dollars' worth of provisions, which is paid to the chiefs of the villages, and by them distributed to the several families. Under the same treaty, provision is made for farmers and blacksmiths. The farmers report a larger amount of corn the present year than usual, which, added to their annuity and the product of their hunts, would enable them, with little economy, to live in comfort and abundance.

But I am sorry to be obliged to report that their habits of indolence, and want of knowledge of the value of time and property, almost forbid any hope of their improvement, either in morals or intellect. Their living, too, in the immediate neighborhood of whiskey dealers, renders their case hopeless. Habits of intemperance are on the increase, and many deaths are the consequence.

The sickness which prevails the present season is without a parallel in this section of the country.

The smiths employed under the treaty of 1837, with the Mendawakantons, are of the first class of mechanics; and these have been diligently employed in making and repairing every description of useful work for the Indians and farmers, for the use of Indian farms.

The farmers, in anticipation of a large increase of stock for which I have contracted, for the use of the Sioux, have secured a large amount of hay.

Of the bands of Sioux who reside at a greater distance from the agency,

and who mostly depend upon the chase for a subsistence, it is impossible to ascertain the number, as they are very averse to let it be known; but from the best information on the subject, made by persons who have visited them frequently, the number and the location contained in the accompanying statistical table may be relied on as correct as can be arrived at. The small quantity of corn planted by the Sioux of the Upper St. Peter's has almost entirely failed, owing to the drought that prevailed in that region the past summer, and the traders report the buffalo as having almost entirely disappeared from that part of the country; consequently, a great amount of suffering may be anticipated by the Indians the next winter and spring.

It again becomes my duty to call your attention, and the attention of government, to the inroads of the half-breeds and freemen of Red river into the Sioux country.

It is reported to this office that a larger number of them than usual went last spring into the Sioux country in pursuit of the buffalo. It is almost incredible, the quantity of those animals that are annually destroyed by them. The products of these hunts are usually taken to supply the Hudson's Bay Company trading posts.

The returns from the different traders are represented as greater in quantity the last season than at any time for some years, but the very low price paid for furs will prove nearly ruinous to those engaged in the business.

I have been credibly informed, by persons direct from the Red river settlement, that the Hudson's Bay Company have established one or more trading houses near the line, and furnish large quantities of rum or other intoxicating drink to the Indians, who visit them from this side for the purpose of trade. Would not a representation of these facts, made by our government to the British minister, and by him to his government, have a tendency to stop these practices?

The Sioux have so far remained at peace with their red neighbors, although some of them express a wish to have the treaty with the Chippewas abrogated, while others express a desire to have it observed.

In the spring of the year 1845, one of Goodroad's band was killed by two Chippewas of the band of Pillagers, who reside on *Otter Tail lake*. The relations of the young man who was killed still retain a wish to avenge the blow. There was in the neighborhood of this place a chief of a different band of Chippewas, with a party of his people, who had been on a visit to the fort. To secure this party from an attack from the Sioux, the commanding officer, Captain Backus, immediately sent for and had them brought to the fort; and to reconcile the Sioux, two of their number were given up by the chiefs as hostages, to be kept until the offenders were given up by their people, or taken by the proper authorities, to be dealt with according to law. These facts were reported by the commanding officer to the officer commanding the Department, who ordered that the hostages should be kept until the pleasure of the authorities at Washington should be made known: since which time, nothing has been done. The force at this point has been too small to send a sufficient force to take the offenders, even should an order to that effect be issued.

Some time last month one young man, belonging to Goodroad's band, who was out hunting in the neighborhood of the headwaters of the Des Moines, was killed by some Indian party, supposed to be Pottawato-

mies from the Missouri, as their trail led in that direction. The Sioux, from what I can learn, are determined to strike a blow in return some time this fall, if they can find any of the Pottawatomies, or Sacs and Foxes, in that section of country.

The chief of the Little Crow's band, who reside below this place about nine miles, in the immediate neighborhood of the whiskey dealers, has requested to have a school established at his village. He says that they are determined to reform, and for the future try to do better. I wrote to Doctor Williamson soon after the request of the chief was made, desiring him to take charge of the school, but have not yet heard from him. He has had charge of the mission school at Lac-qui-parle for some years; is well qualified, and, in addition, is an excellent physician. He would be of great advantage to this band, and to the Indians generally in this vicinity.

I transmit, herewith, the school report and accompanying letter of the Rev. Doctor Thomas S. Williamson, of the Lac-qui-parle mission school, marked A.

Also the report and letter of Stephen R. Riggs, of Traverse des Sioux mission school, marked B.

And also the report of the condition of the school taught by the Rev. Samuel Pond, with his letter on the subject, marked C.

The above mission schools are entirely supported by the A. B. C. F. M., and donations from charitable persons in favor of foreign missions.

I also send you the report of Dr. George F. Turner, surgeon U. S. army, and physician for the Sioux, in reference to the prevailing causes of disease amongst the Dakotas of this agency, marked D.

In consequence of severe indisposition, I have been compelled to submit this short and perhaps unsatisfactory report. I have had but short intervals free from pain for the last three weeks, and have been compelled frequently to stop in consequence of a return.

With greatest respect, your excellency's obedient and humble servant,
AMOS J. BRUCE,

Indian Agent.

His Excellency JAMES CLARKE,
Supt. Indian Affairs, Burlington, Iowa Territory.

No. 3.

TURKEY RIVER SUB-AGENCY,
August 15, 1846.

SIR: The Winnebago Indians number at the present time about 2,400. They are located in twenty-two detached parties or bands, in that part of the Neutral Ground lying between the east fork of the Red Cedar and a line twenty miles west of the Mississippi. A map showing the location of the several bands and the sites of the public buildings is herewith transmitted. Each band has a chief or headman. There are seventy-five half breeds living at the present time among the Indians. A majority of these half-breeds live in the neighborhood of the sub-agency. Of the Winnebagoes, two bands, consisting of about 300 in number, follow the chase for a subsistence; the balance are, more or less, engaged in agricultural pursuits.

They raise corn, oats, potatoes, beans, turnips, squashes, and other vegetables; they all, however, depend, in part, on hunting and fishing for a living. The half-breeds depend partly on themselves, and in part on the Indians, for a support.

Believing it to be the first and most effectual step towards the civilization of Indians to engage them in agricultural pursuits, I have the past year directed my efforts particularly to this object. The result has at least equalled my expectations. Some six of the chiefs, and several of the headmen of the tribe, have gone into the field and held the plough in a farmer-like manner from day to day. This is considered encouraging, as it is by the Indians held to be degrading for a man to work. Some of the Indians have this year cultivated their corn with the plough. The result has been such as will probably induce the general adoption of this mode of cultivation. Most of the bands have applied to be furnished with harness, wagons, and ploughs, which articles have been furnished them as far as practicable. Two wagons, ten sets of harness, ten sets of gears for ploughing, and ten ploughs, have been loaned to them. The Indians have, in all cases, furnished their own horses to use in the plough and wagon. They have this year cultivated 365 acres of land: of this, they have ploughed eighty acres themselves; 255 acres have been ploughed for them; and it is estimated that they have cultivated 30 acres without ploughing. Three additional fields have been ploughed and fenced this season for the bands who moved from the Mississippi and Root rivers, and are now located on the Iowa.

The Indians have excellent crops this year, which would not suffer by a comparison with the crops raised in the adjoining counties. I intend to organize an agricultural society, awarding suitable premiums for the best crops, with a view to excite emulation and promote industry. The crop raised by the Indians themselves, with the surplus of the agency farm, added to their annuity provisions, will afford them a comfortable support the present year.

The disposition of these Indians gradually to adopt the habits of civilized life, is manifest by their use of the plough, the harrow, and the scythe; by their applications to have dwelling-houses, warehouses, and root houses built for them; by their partially adopting the dress of the white man, and by imitating his mode of burial. Some time in July last a young Indian and squaw applied to have a license obtained for their marriage according to the laws of the Territory; the license was obtained, and they were married by the Rev. David Lowry. The parties were full-blooded Winnebagoes, and were members of the school.

It would be a delightful task to lead this people, step by step, in the path of civilization and improvement, if that path were not blocked at every step by a whiskey keg, and every effort to promote their welfare and happiness thwarted and counteracted by a set of heartless whiskey dealers established along the line of the Indian country, a few feet beyond the jurisdiction of the military officer and the sub-agent, for the purpose of plundering these Indians of their money and their goods; to rob them of their food, their clothing, their virtue, and their health: but it is idle to complain; the laws of the Territory are inoperative and impotent to remedy this evil; and the hope, once entertained, that the state of public morals among the hardy settlers of our frontier would become sufficiently eleva-

ted and correct to forbid the longer existence of these nuisances, has ceased to exist.

The farms have this season undergone considerable repairs. It was found necessary to repair all the fence. Some 8,885 rails and stakes have been made and used on the farm at the agency. To this farm an addition of 100 acres has been made this season; this was done with very little additional fence, forty acres of the ground added having been formerly cultivated. There has been an average force of about ten hands constantly at work on the farms since the middle of last March. The number of acres cultivated by the hands employed, exclusive of the land ploughed for the Indians as statéd above, is 237—48 acres in wheat, 19 acres in oats, 2½ acres in peas, 80 acres in corn, 10 acres in potatoes, 77½ acres in beans and turnips. The land cultivated in beans and turnips was intended for corn, but the spring was late and the ground wet, and could not be ploughed in season. Our wheat and oats were good, and were harvested in good condition; corn and potatoes promise a fine crop.

We have a carpenter's shop attached to the farm, in which one man is employed most of the time in making coffins for the Indians, and in making and repairing tools for the farms and for the Indians.

The blacksmiths and assistants have been employed in making hoes, axes, hatchets, knives, traps, and fishing spears, and in repairing these and numerous other articles for the Indians; also, in making and repairing farming implements, and shoeing horses and oxen, for the use of the farm and for the Indians.

The Winnebago school is in successful operation under the superintendence of the Rev. David Lowry. I have frequently visited the school and inspected the boarding and the clothing departments. I find that the children in attendance are well supplied with wholesome food, and are suitably clothed. Neatness, order, and cheerfulness are apparent throughout the establishment. Mr. Lowry's management of the school is, I think, judicious—patience and kindness are substituted for passion and severity. The general system of education adopted in the school is similar to the system ordinarily adopted in primary schools. The capacity of the scholars to learn is similar to that evinced by white children of the same age. The progress of the scholars attending the school is not equal to the progress usually made by white children; which difference on the part of the Indian is accounted for by his irregularity of attendance, and the influences to which he is subject when absent from school.

Believing that a practical knowledge of agriculture and the formation of industrious habits is to the Indian youth of at least equal importance to the acquirement of literary knowledge, I recommended to the principal of the school that the boys attending the school, of suitable age, should be employed in manual labor a part of every day in fair weather. The plan met his approbation, and was acted upon for a time; but the resignation of the male assistant teacher interrupted the regular employment of the boys in the field. The vacancy alluded to being now filled, it is understood that manual labor, both in the field and in the shop, will be a part of the system of instruction in the school.

There are at present three female and two male teachers employed in the school. For a more particular and detailed account, I will respectfully refer to the report of the principal of the school herewith transmitted.

If it was considered probable that the Winnebagoes would long occupy

their present home, I should deem it my duty respectfully to suggest to the Department the expediency of establishing branches of this school, or the establishment of additional schools at a point on the Iowa river, and also on the Red Cedar; and I will here remark, that three bands of the Winnebagoes have concentrated on the east fork of the Red Cedar, and built the best village in the nation, and have upwards of 100 children of a suitable age to attend school.

Considerable sickness prevails at the present time among the Indians under my charge. Their physician is constantly employed in the duties of his profession.

The Winnebagoes have been on terms of friendly intercourse with the neighboring tribes of Indians during the past year.

The collision which occurred last winter between a party of Winnebagoes and the citizens of Grant county, Wisconsin Territory, will, it is believed, operate to deter the Indians from roaming in that vicinity. I trust that hereafter there will exist no ground of complaint against the Winnebagoes for trespassing on the citizens of Wisconsin.

It is made the duty of agents and sub-agents "to superintend and manage the intercourse of their respective tribes with other tribes, and with the citizens of the United States." The sub-agent receives instructions from the Department to keep the Indians under his charge from wandering about the country and committing depredations upon the citizens: it is presumed that a majority of the citizens wish these instructions carried into effect, while a few invite and encourage the Indians to visit them for the purposes of trade. Urged by their inclinations, the Indians comply with these invitations; depredations and outrages sometimes follow, and the sub-agent is blamed by the community for suffering a state of things to exist which it was not in his power to prevent. I deem it but justice here to say, that I am convinced I should not have been able to carry into effect the instructions of the Department to collect and keep the Winnebagoes within their proper limits, but for the aid rendered me by one of the licensed traders in this sub-agency, by his refusing to trade with the Indians at a trading-house on the east side of the Mississippi, where they had formerly resorted in great numbers, and by using his influence to persuade them to keep within their own country. Had all the traders taken the same stand and used their influence in the same way, I should have had far less trouble in the discharge of my duty.

I am convinced that the interest of the Winnebagoes would be consulted by certain changes in the laws governing trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes; but it is presumed that these laws are considered well adapted to subserve the interests of the Indians generally. Suggestions upon this subject might, therefore, be considered uncalled for here, as I am expected to confine myself to such matters as are made by the regulations the legitimate subjects of a sub-agent's annual report.

Letters designed for this place should be directed to Turkey river sub-agency, via Prairie du Chien.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. FLETCHER, *Sub-agent.*

His Excellency JAMES CLARKE,

Superintendent Indian Affairs,

Burlington, Iowa Territory.

No. 4.

SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN,
Madison, October 8, 1846.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I submit my annual report of the state and condition of the Indians, accompanied with an estimate of the appropriations necessary to enable the department to comply with the stipulations of subsisting treaties with the tribes at present residing in this superintendency, and for the payment of the contingent expenses of the different sub-agencies in this Territory.

The annual reports of the sub-Indian agents for the Green Bay and La-Pointe sub-agencies are herewith enclosed, with their accompanying documents; they are full and satisfactory, and present to your department the true state and condition of the Indians committed to their charge by the government.

The condition of the Menomonic and other Indians of the Green Bay sub-agency has not been materially changed, with the exception of the Stockbridge Indians. The act of the last Congress, having repealed the act of 1843, is calculated to produce again a change in the condition of these Indians, and it will take some time to determine what effect the act referred to will have on them as a people: they are now agriculturists, have long since abandoned the chase, and are to a certain extent a civilized people.

In my last annual report I recommended the extinguishment of the Indian title to the whole of the Menomonic country as early as practicable. I deem that measure of the first importance to the future growth and prosperity of the northern portion of this Territory.

From the proximity of the settlements to the Indian country, it is desirable, if the whole of the Menomonic country is not purchased, that that part of their country bordering on the Wolf and Wisconsin rivers should be owned by the United States; it will be the means of preventing intrusions on the lands of the Indians, which is the subject of much complaint at present. Should the resolution of the Senate, however, remain in force, preventing allowances to the traders and half-breeds, it will be difficult to effect a treaty with the Menomonies; these traders, and relations of mixed blood, have a controlling influence over them as a people.

It appears from the report of Mr. Ellis, the sub-agent, that a portion of the Menomonies are becoming an agricultural people; and several hundreds of them have attached themselves to the Catholic church, and have lately erected for themselves log houses, and many of the Menomonic families are desirous to send their children to school. The reports of their teachers will give your department detailed information on that subject. I respectfully recommend that the small amounts required by the sub-agent for the repairing of school-houses, and the incidental expenses necessary to make them comfortable, will be allowed by your department.

The sub-agent for the Chippewa Indians, in his report, states that no material change has taken place in the state and condition of the Indians of his sub-agency.

The Chippewas of lake Superior show a disposition to improve, and are slowly advancing towards civilization, and are extending the agricultural operations every year.

The Chippewas on the lower Mississippi the sub-agent represents as retrograding every year, by the pernicious influence brought to bear on them in the sale of whiskey, and that no hope exists of bettering their condition while they occupy their present location, and suggests the propriety of purchasing their country east of the Mississippi, and their removal to Leach lake or Red lake.

On this subject, I am not prepared to express my views to your department: it is the first suggestion made by any of the agents of the government to extinguish the Indian title to the whole of the Chippewa country east of the Mississippi. It is of the first importance to know that their condition as a people would be improved by their removal.

The sub-agent states that the relations of the Chippewas and Sioux are of an amicable nature; though the murder of one of the latter remains unatoned for, yet no attempt to revenge the murder of the Sioux had taken place; they have waited patiently for a settlement of the matter, according to the terms of the treaty of peace entered into between these tribes; that he had received my letter of instructions dated on the 22d of July last, and, as directed, he had addressed Colonel Bruce, the Sioux agent, on the subject, and that he will, with Colonel Bruce, take the necessary measures to procure the arrest and delivery of the murderers.

I respectfully submit to your Department an extract from my last annual report:

“The humane policy of the government has had the most beneficial effect in restoring the Sioux and Chippewa Indians, lately, from their hostilities towards each other. The upper bands of the Chippewa Indians on the Mississippi, I am informed, are in the habit of visiting the British settlements on the north Red river annually. I think it would be good policy to make a few presents to the chiefs and warriors of those bands of the Chippewa Indians that do not receive a part of the annuities at La-pointe. The British government has already exercised a great influence over the Indian tribes of the northwest; and it has, in a great degree, been owing to their making to the Indians in our territory, annually, presents in goods of a superior quality, that they have acquired that influence. It is certainly the policy of our government to counteract British influence within the territorial limits of the United States.

“A few presents, in medals, swords, laced coats, &c., for the chiefs and warriors of the upper bands of the Chippewas, would have a good effect in conciliating their good will, and making them friendly to the United States, and putting it out of the power of the British agents to control them to the injury of the United States.”

The Winnebago Indians have been less trouble this season to the frontier settlers than heretofore. The Winnebago chief, called the “Dandy,” still remains on the waters of the Wisconsin river, with a small band of Winnebagoes. This chief was made a prisoner by the dragoons last winter on the Wisconsin river, and made his escape after he was taken to Prairie du Chien. The killing of the two Winnebagoes at Musconda last winter, (the details of which I submitted fully to your Department in the months of February and March last,) has had a good effect in restraining the Winnebagoes and keeping them more within the limits of their own country, and has prevented their committing their usual depredations on the frontier settlements in Wisconsin. The sub agent of the Winneba-

goes, General Fletcher, has done every thing in his power, I have no doubt, to keep the Winnebagoes within their proper limits.

HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

HON. WILLIAM MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

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SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Madison, September 26, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose herewith, for your information, a letter from A. G. Ellis, esq., sub-Indian agent for the Menomomie Indians, in answer to my letter to him of the 20th ultimo, requesting him to obtain information from the chiefs of the Menomomie Indians on the subject of the sale of their country to the United States. Not having received an answer to my letter from the sub-agent as early as expected, I addressed him again on the subject referred to him, and suggested to him the propriety of convening the chiefs of the Menomomies and the principal men at the annuity payment, and obtain from them (if in his power to do so) answers to my inquiries, contained in my letter above referred to, and advise me of the result without delay.

By a reference to the treaty concluded with the Menomomie Indians on the 3d of September, 1836, you will perceive by a provision in the 2d article of that treaty that the sum of \$97,710 50 was paid to their traders, and \$80,000 as an allowance to their relatives of mixed blood. At the treaty referred to I acted as the commissioner on the part of the United States, and I am satisfied that no treaty could have been made with the Menomomies without making some provision for their traders and relatives of mixed blood. The relatives of the Menomomies of mixed blood are among the most respectable of the old settlers at Green Bay and vicinity, and I have no hesitation in expressing my opinion that no treaty can be made with the Menomomies in this Territory without making provision for their traders and half-breed relations, and that the treaty should be made at Washington, where the chiefs of the Menomomies could act independent of the influences that would be brought to bear on them here. The enclosed letter of the sub-agent no doubt presents the facts truly as far as he has presented his views; but does not answer your inquiries. As early as I can hear from him I will again address the department.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

HON. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

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SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
Green Bay, September 10, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th ultimo, informing me of the wish of the honorable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to obtain, if possible, the

views of the Menomonie Indians in relation to a cession of their country to the government, and the selection of their future home; and, if willing to sell, what consideration money would probably be required. I do not expect to be able to answer these several inquiries very fully, but respectfully submit the following:

Your excellency is aware that the Menomonies are in a great degree under the influence of their traders; and that they will probably be so, especially in a matter of this importance. The appropriation lately made by Congress having been noticed through the newspapers, the public here are looking for a treaty, and I find the matter has been spoken of by the traders to the Indians. Some half dozen of them (the traders) profess to have large claims, and are looking to a treaty for payment. It is agreed among them that they must secure themselves *now*, (should a treaty take place,) as it is the last chance—the Menomonies not having sufficient country to produce a second treaty. It will, therefore, be very difficult, if not impossible, to treat with these Indians without meeting this influence, and providing for satisfaction of traders' claims; but this cannot, I suppose, be done on account of "the resolution of the Senate," alluded to in your communication.

As to the disposition of the Indians themselves, I can only presume that they would readily sell for a fair price, and could without difficulty be located southwest of the Missouri, or elsewhere, as might be desired by the government.

I cannot conjecture what sum would satisfy them. Without claiming to be very accurate, (for there is no sufficient data,) I will suppose that the Menomonies have still unceded a country about 160 miles long and some 80 broad—equal, probably, to nearly ten millions of acres; which, at six cents the acre, would produce the sum of \$600,000. An annuity of \$30,000, for 15 years, would absorb \$450,000; \$50,000 of the balance might be applied to educational purposes, (say \$2,500 per annum for 20 years,) which would leave \$100,000 with which to appease traders and half-breeds. This sum (to be paid, perhaps, among them severally, according to schedule, by instalments, for some ten years, *as a part of* the annuity) is as little as would suffice to still their claims.

It is thought by some that, if not the whole, a cession of at least part of their lands might now be obtained, to wit: the south part, as far north as township 28 of the public surveys, which would take all their country (including most of the Wisconsin pines) immediately necessary for settlement. On this tract it is very difficult to keep our citizens from entering. In fact, they are already encroaching on considerable parts of it.

Now, in all this I am aware, most excellent sir, that there is very little of what is required by the honorable the Commissioner, to wit: "the views of the Indians" themselves. And, in fact, I cannot, until they are assembled, obtain their views, except by indirection, through their traders and half-breeds; and I have not thought it policy as yet to broach the matter openly to the Indians. As to the views of the traders, half-breeds, and some of the *whites* of the neighborhood, I arrive at them every hour without much seeking. They are to the same intent *that the Menomonies must not treat without liberal allowances to their creditors*. This sentiment pervades but a part of the white citizens. Yet, well as your excellency is acquainted with the state of affairs, you would be somewhat surprised to find the extent of it, and the boldness with which it is avowed by men

claiming the first respectability among us. One of our oldest citizens, an attorney, has desired that his opinion to that effect should be stated to your excellency, and that all his influence in support of it will be given to the Indians and French inhabitants.

From the whole phasis, it will be perceived how difficult it will be to obtain a cession of the Menomonie country, while the resolution of the Senate, cutting off allowances to traders and others under Indian treaties, remains in force.

On the whole, were I to venture any counsel, it would be that your excellency should appear, (perhaps rather unexpectedly to the traders and whites,) at the approaching annuity payment, empowered and prepared to submit to the Menomonies a proposition for the purchase of their country, to which they would be compelled to reply before the malign influence could organize itself to defeat the government.

The whole authority of the nation will be assembled there, and the subject not taking them by surprise—for, as I said before, they are aware that the thing is contemplated—the Indians would be prepared to act. Not yet being in possession of the funds, or advised when the money for this annuity payment will be placed at my disposal, I cannot now fix on the day; probably, however, it will be about the 30th September instant.

The course proposed would, in case no treaty should be concluded, enable your excellency to avoid the necessity of expending any very considerable portion of the appropriation, as the Indians will be subsisted in the ordinary way during their annuity payment.

Should it be decided otherwise, and the honorable Commissioner adhere to his plan of having the Indians inquired of, before appointing a commissioner to treat, I can conveniently do it at the annuity payment, and be able, no doubt, after that, to lay before your excellency the views in full of the Indians, and such other facts as may transpire being likely to have a bearing on the subject.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,

Sub-Indian Agent.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Supt. of Indian Affairs, Madison.

No. 5.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
Green Bay, September 24, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The several accompanying papers will serve greatly to abridge this my annual report.

Since my last, but few changes have taken place in the affairs of this sub-agency.

The *Oneidas* of Duck creek continue to advance slowly in civilization. I respectfully refer to the paper marked "Census and Statistics, &c., of the *Oneidas*."

I beg leave here to correct a statement in my last annual report, in regard to the quantity of land in their reservation, which is a little more than

three townships, (nearly 70,000 acres,) instead of two townships, according to former statement.

A portion of the first Christian party are still desirous to remove to Missouri. I have steadily advised them that so soon as 250 were ready to emigrate, the government would aid them, and not before such number would enrol. A small party (some 50 or more) is, however, endeavoring, on their own resources, to remove this fall.

The balance, including the great body of the tribe, are opposed to removal, and are comparatively contented and happy where they are. Their whole number is about 720.

The *Stockbridges*, east side of Winnebago lake, some 280 in number, are a civilized people, having nearly laid aside their language and adopted the manners and customs of the whites. For a more particular notice of them, I respectfully refer to the paper accompanying, marked "Census, Statistics, &c., of the Stockbridges."

The *Menomonies*, with few exceptions, remain as heretofore: the number about 2,500 souls—most of them resident on their own lands: those still lingering on the ceded lands have engaged to remove (by small parties at a time) within the present and the coming year. They are probably encouraged, to a certain extent, to remain on the ceded lands, by certain persons engaged in the Indian trade. The wholesome regulations under the act for regulating trade and intercourse with them have no force when the Indians are on the United States lands; hence it is very desirable that they should remove to their own country.

They continue to complain of the encroachments of the whites, especially in the neighborhood of the Wisconsin river. While the troops are withdrawn from that region it will be difficult to prevent these encroachments. There should be either a purchase of all the Menomonic country south of and to include township No. 28 of the public surveys, or efficient measures taken to remove the whites, intruders on the Indian lands, immediately; which can only be done by the aid of troops, under the direction of the President of the United States, according to the 10th section of the act to regulate trade and intercourse. I earnestly commend this matter to the consideration of the department.

The Menomonies are a brave and patient people, the firm friends of the government, and rely with abiding confidence on its justice and magnanimity. The greater share of them are hunters, living exclusively by the chase and the fisheries; for the last they resort to Green Bay, and the rivers falling into it, where they take at all seasons of the year, but especially in winter, large quantities (beyond their own consumption) of *trout* and *sturgeon*. When the Menomonies shall leave the shores of Green Bay, the sturgeon fisheries will cease—none but the Indians being able to endure the cold and fatigue of taking them.

Some three hundred of the Menomonies are Christians and *farmers*: the number is increasing, and the tribe will ere long become civilized, and abandon the chase. On a late visit to their village, I counted sixty-two log houses, erected by themselves, most of them comfortably finished and occupied. They made me a set speech, with great earnestness, at their village, about boards *to build with*, desiring the establishment of a saw-mill on their lands for their use. They have cleared up from the heavy timbered lands small fields, which are well fenced, and fine crops of corn and potatoes occupy every foot of ground: they will raise enough at lake

Pah-way-hi-kun this year for their subsistence. The teams, farming utensils, &c., supplied them by the government, are in good order and highly prized: the quantity, annually, should be increased.

This band of the Menomones have a proper sense of the importance of education, as indispensable to their success in the new mode of life they are essaying: they will send their children assiduously to the schools. Touching this subject, I beg leave to refer to the paper accompanying, marked "School Report."

As a tribe, the great body of the Menomones are inclined to intemperance; but when on their own lands they seldom get liquor, and there is a grand improvement in this respect perceptible. Especially is this to be said of the farming band—they find occupation for their time, the which keeps them away, in a good degree, from places of drinking, and temptation to intoxication.

The two blacksmiths among them are constantly employed—faithful men, and highly valued; but they are unable to do all the work wanted: the farming Indians especially are not supplied, the blacksmith at that village being constantly employed on guns, traps, &c. If practicable, I should be pleased to have an additional blacksmith for the farming village.

Besides the pure *Menomones*, there is quite a number of anomalous Indians, hitherto undescribed in this sub-agency. There is always discovered at the annuity payments *several hundred* relations of the tribe, whole bloods and half-breeds, of other tribes. They are a band of the *Ottawas* and *Pottawatomies*, mixed with the Menomones, who inhabit on the ceded lands southeast of Green Bay, Fox river, and Winnebago lake, thence through to the Milwaukie river and lake Michigan, to the number of perhaps three hundred; also, a band of the *Winnebagoes*, full and half-breeds, with the Menomones, who wander over the ceded lands south of Fox river, west of the Wisconsin river, and on part of the Menomonic country, to the number of some two hundred and fifty; also, a band of *Chippewas*, whole and half-breeds, that inhabit on the borders of the Menomonic country, on the north, to the number of some four hundred.

These several bands never fail to appear at the Menomonic annuity payment, claiming that having been, equally with the Menomones, the original owners of the country ceded at the treaty of 3d September, 1836, they are equally entitled to a share in the annuity. In this claim they are sustained by their traders and some few of the Menomones, and it is matter of no little difficulty to exclude them.

The Menomonic chiefs, themselves, have not always been agreed on the question, and former agents have differed upon it, so that no settled rule has as yet prevailed. Ought not the head of the Department to make some order on the subject?

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,

Indian Sub-agent.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison, W. T.

No. 6.

LAPORTE SUB-AGENCY,
August 15, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to report that no material change has occurred in the office of this sub-agency since the date of my last annual report.

The Chippewas of the Lake still show a disposition to improve, and are slowly advancing towards civilization. They are extending their agricultural operations every year, and many of them express a desire to build and live in permanent habitations. The greatest obstacle to their improvement—the idea that labor is degrading—has in a great measure been overcome in these Indians, and the greatest portion of them willingly assist in the cultivation of the portion of land assigned them by the farmer.

I am not one of those who expect a people as ignorant and degraded as these were, and still are, immediately to abandon habits and associations which have been upon them from birth, and become civilized and enlightened. It will require years, even with the most rapid advances for which we can hope, to entirely break up and destroy their affection for a wild and wandering life; but, with a faithful and patient application of the present policy of the government, I am led, from observation of its effects upon them for two years, to look forward to the time when the Chippewas will be a civilized and comparatively enlightened people. That they possess natural intelligence equal to any other, we have evidence in all on whom a fair experiment has been tried.

For any great improvement, as far as education in letters is concerned, we must of course look to the rising generation; of the old we can expect nothing more than to teach them the better to provide for their temporal wants. When this is done, we have attained a great object in the way of example to the young.

It is much to be regretted that these Indians are not occupying a territory where they would be free from the fear of removal, which is a great drawback to their improvement. Had they a country which they could be assured would be their permanent home, the persons employed among them by the government would have more influence in inducing them to labor, &c., and the improvement of the Indian would be much more rapid.

The Indians on the lower Mississippi are retrograding every year, and every year the pernicious influence brought to bear upon them in that region is increasing. The facilities for procuring whiskey are unlimited, and consequently there is no hope of doing any thing to better their condition while they are permitted to occupy their present location. The country (particularly that on the St. Croix) is becoming thickly settled with whites, and, under existing circumstances, it is not to be expected that the two races will live amicably together. Depredations upon the property of the settlers, and difficulties between individuals, whites and Indians, are frequent occurrences. These evils are growing; and it is to be feared that if not checked, they will in time assume a more serious form. The late example of the Winnebagoes should teach us the propriety of guarding in time against a similar state of affairs in this region.

In view of these facts, I would beg leave to suggest that these Indians should be removed at the earliest practicable date. The future good, both of whites and Indians, demands that such a course should be

pursued; and the longer it is delayed, the more difficult will be its execution.

To remove them to the lands still held unceded by them east of the Mississippi would be useless, as, from the facilities for communication, it would be impossible to prevent their return in detached numbers; and, moreover, the Territory of Wisconsin will in a short time be claiming her place as a State in the Union; and to carry out the policy of the government, these lands will also have to be purchased in the course of a few years at farthest. If such should be the desire of the government, I am led to believe that a treaty to extinguish the title of the Chippewas to the whole or any portion of their lands east of the Mississippi could be effected immediately, without difficulty. A considerable portion of these lands, as your excellency is aware, are, by the terms of the La Pointe treaty, made the common property of the Indians parties to that treaty; whose assent, except that of the bands at present occupying the lands, would readily be given, as it will be a matter of indifference to them, when required to remove, whether they are placed east or west of the Mississippi.

These lands embrace an area of about 10,000,000 of acres, extending from the northern boundary of the St. Peter's purchase to the Canada line, including the north shore of lake Superior, which, we are informed on good authority, is equal to any other portion of the lake Superior region, as mineral land. A considerable portion of the remainder is represented as valuable for agricultural purposes.

The streams are numerous, and afford excellent water power; but, with the exception of the Mississippi, are unsuited to navigation with any other craft than the bark canoe. Even the stream mentioned would not admit of navigation with large craft. The navigation is once completely interrupted, above the falls of St. Anthony, by the falls of Pukaguma, one day's march above Sandy lake.

If a purchase should be made, a home could be procured for the Indians west of the Mississippi, simply by permitting the Leech lake and Red lake bands to participate in the annuities, and by making a provision, as in the La Pointe treaty, that the lands of the Mississippi bands should be held in common. There would, however, be the objection to this location, that it would bring the Chippewas and Sioux into still closer contact.

A treaty for this or any other purpose can be effected in the best manner by inviting the chiefs of the different bands to Washington and treat with them there, as they will thus be removed from the influence of interested persons, whom existing regulations will induce to throw every obstacle in the way of the government should negotiations be carried on in the Indian country.

The relations of the Chippewas and Sioux have been of an amicable nature, although the murder of one of the latter remains unatoned for. They have made no attempt to avenge it, but have waited patiently for a settlement of the matter according to the terms of the treaty of peace entered into between the two tribes. I received on the 22d ultimo the communication of your excellency respecting this matter, and have, as directed, written Colonel Bruce, the Sioux agent, on the subject, and will with him take the necessary measures to procure the arrest and delivery of the murderers.

I see no reason why the government should not take the settlement of all matters of this kind, whether occurring between different tribes, or in-

dividuals of the same tribe, entirely out of the hands of the Indians, and at once punish the aggressor. This is a thing expected and desired by the Indians themselves; and a few examples would put a stop to their murders altogether.

I hope your excellency will again press upon the Department the propriety and importance of making annually some presents to the Indians near the British line. Although the feelings of these Indians are at this time friendly towards the government of the United States, they still retain a portion of that affection for the British government which was engendered by the unneighborly present system, from which, in case of a rupture of the amicable relations now subsisting between the two nations, we have, from past experience, much to fear. This influence, by the means recommended in your last report, can be entirely destroyed.

I have made it a point to make to such of these Indians as have visited this place such small presents of provisions, tobacco, &c., as the limited means allowed me for that purpose would permit, and I have always found that the smallest present was received with thankfulness and as an evidence of the care of their Great Father.

There has been but little liquor taken up the Mississippi above Crowwing river, except what has been taken by the Indians themselves. I visited the country on the upper Mississippi in March last; and although complaints had been made that licensed traders were dealing in liquor, I was happy to find that, with one exception, they had conformed themselves to the laws in all respects. A few kegs of whiskey have been brought across the line and disposed of to the Indians at Red lake. This place is about four hundred miles from La Pointe. It is, therefore, impossible for the agent here to do much to check the evil.

There is no inducement to bring liquor to this island except during payment. Heretofore we have been able to prevent its sale to any extent; but should the difficulty of preventing its introduction increase as it has for the last two years, as it doubtless will with the increasing population and facilities for communication, it will be necessary to remove the place of payment into the interior, as it will be almost impossible to make a payment here, not to speak of the probable consequences after a payment, should any quantity of whiskey be sold.

There appears to be a desire widely extended to induce Congress to annul the clause in the treaty of 1842, continuing in force the laws of the United States over the territory ceded by that treaty. This it is to be hoped may not be done so long as the Indians are permitted to occupy the land. Should it be thought proper by Congress, at any time, to throw the country open, the removal of the Indians should be provided for at the same time.

Reports from the several teachers, herewith enclosed, (numbered from 1 to 4 inclusive,) will inform you of the condition, prospects, &c., of the schools within this sub-agency.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, after years of perseverance against adverse circumstances, has been forced to abandon the school and mission station at Pukaguma, despairing of effecting the smallest further good among the Indians at that place. This school was commenced and continued for some time under the most flattering circumstances; but of late years, the Indians, in the face of the most unmeasured exertions, have been going downward, till it was thought best to

abandon the station altogether. This board has, within the last year, established a new station and school at Bad river, from which, connected as it may be with the farming station at that place, we have reason to hope the best results.

The schools of the Methodist Mission Society at Fond-du-Lac and Sandy lake have been regularly kept during the year, with the exception of a short intermission in the latter this spring. The number of pupils taught in this school is not given in the teacher's report. From the character of the Indians, I presume the attendance has been small. As none of these schools are boarding schools, it is impossible for the children to attend regularly, as they must of course accompany their parents in all their wanderings; and hence arises the greatest difficulty against which the teachers have to contend, as it is impossible to make much impression where the pupils are in the school but one or two days during the week. If the \$2,000 education fund of the Chippewas could be expended on a small manual labor boarding school, even should the number of pupils taught annually not exceed ten, I am convinced that it would be productive of more final benefit to the nation.

The knowledge of letters is not, in my opinion, by any means the most important part of the education of an Indian. All experience teaches us that if he is not taught also some practical application of the knowledge he has gained, we had much better have left him in his natural state. If he has not this, and is turned back among his people, he has no object to which to apply his new gained knowledge. He feels no sympathy with the minds with which he has to associate, and, as a natural consequence, is dissatisfied with his condition, and sinks again into the vices of his race, to which his education enables him to add those of the white man.

I enclose, also, reports from the blacksmith, farmer, and carpenter, employed under treaty stipulations, to which I refer you for an account of their labors during the year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. P. HAYS,
United States Sub-agent.

To his Excell'y HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Madison, Missouri.

No. 7.

MICHIGAN DISTRICT, OFFICE SUPT. IND. AFFAIRS,
Detroit, October 30, 1846.

SIR: In consequence of the delay in receiving the remittances for disbursement within this district, and my necessary absence on official duties, this communication bears a later date, and will be found less full and interesting, than I desire. Since the last annual report, the business of this office has been greatly increased by the discontinuance of the dormitory at Mackinac, the keeper of which has heretofore discharged many of the duties at that station, and by the abolishment of the Saganaw sub-agency, the business and responsibilities of which agency now devolve upon me. There consequently exists a necessity for the employment of a competent clerk, as in the other superintendencies of the United States, which clerk might also perform the duties of messenger; the amount saved in the dis-

continuance of the two offices above alluded to (unless the decision of the Department in regard to them should be reconsidered) would justify an appropriation for this object; the difference in the expenses under that head, during the present year, being less than in former by about eighteen hundred dollars. In collecting and disbursing the funds this year, it will be necessary to perform about 6,000 miles travel, near 5,000 of which have been accomplished since the receipt of the remittances of the 4th of September, during very boisterous weather and on routes of great hazard.

It is desirable that the remittances should be made during the month of July in each year, if possible, in order that the time of the annuity payments may be so fixed as to permit the Indians to assemble and return to their homes in season for the harvest, and prepare for their hunts at the proper time. The delay this year was a serious disappointment to the Indians, and to those at La Pointe in particular, as the supplies furnished by the government (though larger in amount than heretofore) were exhausted, and they were compelled to sustain themselves from their own means during their long and anxious stay at the pay-ground.

The sub-agent at La Pointe informed me that the Indians expressed a desire to cede to the United States that portion of the country not included in the treaty of 1842, and lying on the northern shore of lake Superior, between the St. Louis and Pigeon rivers.

This, with the subject of the reservation at Sault Ste. Marie, was noticed and recommended in my last report, and my views have not changed in regard to the importance of both measures.

From an examination of the report of Jas. Ord, esq., sub-agent at Ste. Marie, with those of the missionaries and teachers within that sub-agency, it will be seen that the condition of the Indians continues to improve; they are becoming more sober, industrious, and religious, and those who are engaged in the work of their civilization take renewed courage from the results of the past year. Within the Mackinac agency a steady advancement is apparent among them. Many have purchased lands, erected comfortable houses, commenced the cultivation of the ground with a view to produce more than sufficient for their own consumption: this, with their fishing and hunting at their proper seasons, has enabled them to improve their condition materially.

Through the liberality, energy, and perseverance of the Rev. F. Pierz, a missionary and teacher among them, a saw-mill has been erected during the season, which furnishes them lumber for buildings and the construction of boats and vessels, which many are doing and abandoning the use of the canoe. The chiefs in council requested the continuance of the dormitory, and desired their wishes made known to the Department: my recommendation in this regard was, some time since, communicated. They also joined in a petition, and made an open request, to have the balance of their debt fund (meaning the \$300,000 mentioned in the 5th article of the treaty of May 27, 1836, and the amendment thereto) applied to the payment of their just debts, and the balance appropriated to the purchase of lands and making improvements thereon for their future home. Were the money so applied, I think it would relieve them from debt and provide them with lands and comfortable improvements. A portion repeated the heretofore expressed wish that they might be granted the privileges of citizenship, saying it would stimulate them to greater efforts in qualifying themselves for the enjoyment of those rights. And although I am gratified to say that a very few may be found who would, perhaps, appreciate such

privileges, still, much has yet to be done for them, and great changes accomplished, before such an extension would be founded in a just regard to their own or the public good. The Chippewas of Saganaw continue to advance steadily in improvement; an increased number of acres have been put under cultivation the past season, and they have been blessed with abundant crops. The great change manifested in the character and condition of this band within a few years is truly astonishing. From being an idle and dissipated race, they have comparatively become a sober and industrious people, proud of having land and property of their own, and anxious for the education of their children, and striving for general advancement in their condition.

The exertions of the missionaries, teachers, and officers situated among them, have been unremitting in producing the change. The Ottowas of the Grand river are in a more comfortable state than in previous years; and as the sale of liquor is gradually being abandoned by the whites, it produces a change and happy improvement in the condition of the Indians. When kept sober they are industrious, and provide for their support from their hunts and cornfields. Some have bought lands and made improvements, with the intention and expectation that they will enjoy a permanent home; desiring to remain and die upon the land of their birth, and be buried mid the graves of their fathers.

The few Pottawatomies remaining in the State are generally well situated, receiving the benefits of missionary schools, and making considerable advancement in agricultural pursuits.

That portion of the Swan creek and Black river band remaining in Michigan express dissatisfaction at the condition of the negotiation for the sale of their lands, as stipulated in the treaty of 25th May, 1836: the causes of complaint will be understood by reference to my letter of May 11, 1836.

Should I be permitted to visit Washington during the winter, it would afford an opportunity to examine the situation of this question, with that of others connected with the affairs of this district, and enable me to explain to the Indians, more fully than can be done from any information existing in this office, the views and action of the government upon this and other questions, and the true position of existing relations and previous transactions with them.

I would here state that those persons in the public service connected with the Indian Department in this district, including the missionaries and teachers, have been faithful in the performance of their duties; and that to the reports of some of them, which are herewith, I most respectfully refer you for a more detailed account of the condition and prospect of the Indians within their charge.

No. 1.—Jas. Ord, sub-agent, Sault Ste. Marie, report.

No. 2.—Peter P. Lefevre, Bishop, &c., report, schools and missions.

No. 3.—Rev. Abel Bingham, do do

No. 4.—Rev. Wm. A Brockway, do do

No. 5.—Rev. P. Dougherty, do do

No. 6.—Rev. Leonard Slater, do do

No. 7.—Rev. Geo. N. Smith, do do

WM. A. RICHMOND,
Acting Supt. Ind. Affairs.

HON. WILLIAM MEDILL;
Com. Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 8.

SAULT ST. MARIE,
Michigan, October 1, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to report the physical condition of the Indians of this sub-agency to be more promising and prosperous than it has been during previous years.

From their hunts and from fishing they have been able nearly to liquidate their debts to their traders, and many of them have been supplied with provisions and clothing for the winter. They are very anxious to have houses to live in, instead of lodges, and many of them intend to get out logs and bark for the erection of a number during the ensuing summer. Their crops of potatoes have been abundant and excellent. The Ance Indians, I learn, will have a great quantity for sale. The Indians near the Sault have expressed a desire to obtain land, on which to build and live like the white people. Their visits to the village are not so frequent, and their stay seldom longer than necessary to make their sales and purchases, and to receive articles from the blacksmith's shop. Instances of drunkenness are fewer than formerly amongst those visiting the Sault. Could the annuity payment be made in July or the early part of August, it would be of advantage to all, more especially to those from a distance, as they remain a month or six weeks at Whitefish point before they receive their annuities. Were they furnished with goods and provisions by the government to the amount of their annuities, they would derive more benefit from them than by receiving payment in money.

The progress in learning of their children, at the schools of the Sault, is not such as to justify the annual expenditure, under the treaty, for education. There appears to be a decreasing disposition on the part of parents to send their children to school. Many of those who have left school apparently derive little advantage from what they have learned, and frequently fall into dissipation and indolence.

When they are taught to read and write, and cipher, and instructed in useful trades, they will be better prepared to gain a subsistence. I know of no instance of an Indian being employed, unless it be in such services as can be performed by an uneducated Indian.

[Sickness has prevailed at the Sault among the Indians, which has been fatal in several cases to children and old persons.

Not an instance of riotous or disorderly conduct amongst the Indians has occurred during the year.

In consequence of the resignations of the carpenter and blacksmith at the Ance, in the early part of the season, and the difficulty of supplying their places in proper time, the requisite reports and returns are not received. The operations of their successors are conducted with vigilance and promptitude.

The farmer will have hay and oats enough to keep the yoke of oxen under his care.

The Ance band have a yoke of oxen which they purchased with their treaty money, which they will be likewise able to keep during the winter.

The schools of the missions at the Ance are well attended, and give general satisfaction. The efforts of the missionaries for the welfare and happiness of the scholars under their charge at the Ance, are acknowledged and commended by all who have visited these missions.

The above, and the accompanying papers, numbered from one to seven inclusive, are respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES ORD.

To. **WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.,**
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit, Michigan.

No. 9.

CHOCTAW AGENCY,
 October 10, 1846.

SIR: The necessity of discharging duties assigned me in other quarters by the Department has prevented me from spending much time in the western superintendency since the date of my last report; I am, therefore, unable to do more at present than make a very brief statement of its condition.

So short a time has elapsed since the Cherokee treaty was concluded, that no opinion can be formed as yet of the probable result. If the expectations of the parties are realized and harmony is restored, the good effects will not be confined to the Cherokees. Apart from the actual violence and bloodshed which their unhappy dissensions have led to, many of them have ceased to cultivate the earth, more have abandoned their homes, and the impression has prevailed that a large portion intended to seek a new residence beyond the territory they now occupy. Thus the Indian tribes are not only deprived of the example which the foremost among them ought to set, but are led to regard their present location as by no means permanent. All feel that if the line they have been so often assured was to be the perpetual boundary between them and the whites is once broken, not one tribe only, but all, must move farther west. It is evident that with the prospect or probability of speedy removal, no man, certainly no community, can ever set seriously about the work of improvement. It is therefore not the least among the benefits which would result from the effectual settlement of the Cherokee difficulties, that all idea of a change of country will be effectually dispelled, so far as they are concerned. When it is once understood by the Cherokees that they are permanently established in their present homes, and that nothing further is to be gained by agitation, their leading men will doubtless apply themselves in earnest to the advancement not of their own people only, but of their race. That they will do this, we have the best assurance in the benevolent regard which they have manifested on various occasions for the welfare of other tribes. As a matter of course, efforts springing from the bosom of the parties to be benefited are more likely to prove successful than those, however well meant, which come from abroad. All, or nearly all that could be expected from external aid, I apprehend has already been done for the Indians. What remains—and it is considerable—must be done by themselves. The chief reliance, of course, is upon the proper training of youth; but this is necessarily a slow work, rather affecting future generations than the present, and limited to a comparatively small number. The Choctaws, for example, educate less than 500—not exceeding one-tenth of their children. If the unlettered, full-blooded Indians, especially the

males, could be induced to apply themselves more generally to agricultural or mechanical pursuits; if they could get in the way of exchanging more extensively produce instead of annuity moneys, for supplies furnished by traders, the results would unquestionably be speedily and perceptibly beneficial. The main obstacle to the improvement of the Indian is found in his aversion to labor. "He disappears," it has been well remarked, "before the white man, simply because he will not work." To get rid of this obstacle is the problem. It has already been partially overcome in the semi-civilized tribes. Among all of them men are occasionally found of industrious habits; and the demand for their labor, whenever it has existed, has been supplied to some extent; but this, unfortunately, in most cases does more harm than good, as the tendency is generally to expose them to demoralizing influences. When they work in the States, but few of them can resist the temptation to spend their wages for liquor. If some mode could be devised of employing them profitably at home, and the desire to accumulate could be aroused, very much would be effected.

The report of their agent and other accounts represent that the Creeks have made fine crops this year. It is said that they work more and raise more corn, in proportion to their numbers, than any other tribe. They have for some time past been in the habit of bringing rice into Arkansas and into the Choctaw country for sale. The quantity raised during the past season, I am informed, is much larger than usual.

The Creeks complain very much that goods are still sent in place of money for the interest on what is due them for lost property. So far as the government is concerned, the substitution is exceedingly expensive; the cost of getting the goods from New York to the Creek agency amounting every year to nearly 5 per cent. on their value. The sole object is to benefit the Indian by protecting him from fraud in securing the full worth of his money, and by furnishing him with articles he requires cheaper than they could otherwise be obtained. But the Creeks say that the articles are not generally such as are wanted; that even if they were, they are never received until long (sometimes a year) after the other annuities, and that they cannot be conveniently and equitably divided among the proper recipients, the owners of the lost property. As to protection from imposition, one single fact they mention speaks for itself. A majority of the claims of the Upper Creeks were sold in advance this year, at a considerable sacrifice, to one of their own people. My own opinions on this subject have been repeatedly expressed. I have never doubted that the best course for the Indian was to pay him in money, and then give him an opportunity to expend it to the best advantage by encouraging competition among traders. In this way you not only please the Indian best, but you take an effectual mode of promoting civilization.

No report has been received at this office from the sub-agent for the Seminoles. Their leading men have gone with a large party on a hunting expedition to the prairies, and are not expected to return until spring. It is understood that the game has become exceedingly scarce, and in all probability one or two trips of this kind will teach the Seminoles that they can only look to the proceeds of their labor for subsistence.

You have already been informed that the Chickasaws are desirous of procuring another country. The object is to dissolve their connexion with the Choctaws, among whom the Chickasaws, in 1837, purchased the right to settle and live, with separate subordinate jurisdiction over a particular

tract known as the Chickasaw district, one of the four into which the Choctaw country is divided. This district is ruled by Chickasaw officers exclusively, but is subject to the laws of the Choctaw general council, in which it is fully represented. Not more than one-third of the Chickasaws live in their own district. The rest are scattered among the Choctaws, who speak the same or very nearly the same language, and with whom they intermarry; and as the Choctaws are four times as numerous, they very naturally fear that at no distant day they will become merged in that tribe, and thus lose their separate national existence. Upon this apprehension a few of the leaders have operated for the purpose of getting the main body beyond the reach of influences likely to prevent them from acquiring control of the Chickasaw fund. I am satisfied that the Chickasaws could not procure a better country; and as the evil they dread is rather of an imaginary than a real character, true kindness requires that all idea of removal should be discouraged. At present they are doing very well. They have erected several buildings for public worship, made large appropriations for schools, and raised 40,000 bushels of corn this year over and above what will be required for consumption. To say nothing of the wealthier half-breeds, who own large cotton plantations, very many of the uneducated full-blooded Indians have valuable improvements on the routes travelled by the Texan emigrants. They find a ready market for their produce, and are learning to acquire and take care of property. To all of this class the evils necessarily resulting from removal would more than counterbalance any possible good.

It will be seen that the Neosho sub-agent gives a favorable account of the tribes under his charge. He makes no mention of the party of New York Indians that visited the Senecas not long since, and applied to the Department for permission to reside among them. I have recently learned that several have died, and that the rest are likely to return to their proper homes in the neighborhood of Fort Scott.

About 1,000 Choctaws have joined their brethren in the west during the past year. The greater part, so far as I can learn, have suffered, like all other new comers, from the change of climate; some of them to a very great extent, particularly the Leaf river Indians, who emigrated in May last. Before they left Mississippi I paid them their scrip, and was struck with their appearance in many respects. They are distinguished from the other Mississippi Choctaws by the circumstance that most of them are members of Christian churches. Many years since, one of their number, Toblee Chubbee, became a convert, and exerted all his influence, which seems to have been considerable, in reforming his people. He induced them to lead sober and industrious lives, to abandon the habits of Indians, and to dress and live like white people. For the most part they had comfortable homes, and it was with some difficulty they were persuaded to emigrate; in fact, not until they had seen some of their western brethren, and heard their accounts of the schools, churches, and other improvements in the west. When they did go, they not only had more property, but were altogether superior in appearance to any Indians I had seen in Mississippi. As I had taken considerable pains to persuade them to remove, it may be conceived that I felt greatly shocked, on my recent return to this place, to find them all, without an exception, greatly reduced by disease. The other emigrants I have not seen, but understand they have

suffered nearly if not quite as much. Nothing is allowed them by government for medicines or medical attendance. This I cannot but regard as wrong. The country they leave is healthy. Some of them were, prior to their emigration, the most hearty, robust looking people I have ever seen. They leave against their own inclination, at the solicitation of the government. On the route, when they seldom need it, medical aid is furnished; but after their arrival, when sickness is inevitable, they get none. By affording very little assistance, many lives might be saved. Besides, health and strength are more essential during the first year after their removal than at any subsequent period, as they have their cabins to build, farms to open, and other labors to perform, incident to a change of residence.

Those who came in 1845, and about half of this year's emigrants, have either made or purchased improvements in the different districts, and gone to work. They have harmonized with the other Choctaws better than could have been expected. As far as I have been able to observe, the best feelings prevail among them. Some of the new comers have been elected to office by the old settlers.

It is, of course, impossible to form an opinion at this time of the probable result of the efforts to effect an emigration this fall. There is every reason to believe that there will be a much more hearty co-operation on the part of the agents or attorneys than heretofore. Those who control the different parties, however, have so long restrained them from emigrating, that they will find it difficult to persuade them to an opposite course.

As to the other, or, properly speaking, the western Choctaws, those who have so long been under my own immediate charge, I have but little to add to what has already been stated to the Department. Their crops during the past year have been remarkably abundant. Those who raise cotton, it is true, have lost a great deal from the ravages of the worm; but the main staple, corn, has never turned out better. The quantity of stock raised among them is increasing considerably, and many of them are getting into the way of raising sheep, to which their country is well adapted. Their national council, which is now in session, has before it a proposition to pass laws for the collection of debts, which heretofore has not been done, though their courts frequently try the right of property in cases of some magnitude. At this time a suit is pending in one of them involving an estate valued at \$20,000. These courts are regularly organized, with judges and juries, and the suits are conducted on both sides by professional advocates, of which there is a large number. There are also among the Choctaws several ministers of the gospel, chiefly full blooded Indians.

Further and more satisfactory information in regard to the Choctaws can be given when the statistical returns, recently called for by the Department, are completed. These can, perhaps, be more easily furnished by the Choctaws than by most other tribes, as their organization is peculiarly favorable; the three districts being sub-divided into sixty companies, each company headed by a captain, living in the midst of, and personally acquainted with, his people and their condition.

In conclusion, it gives me pleasure to express the opinion that, notwithstanding the country is involved in a war, the utmost confidence may be placed in the different tribes in this superintendency. Apart from the deep interests they have at stake in their annuities and investments, I am more

than ever convinced that their sympathies are entirely with the government and people of the United States.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

WM. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, &c.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 10.

CHEROKEE AGENCY,
Cherokee Nation, September 20, 1846.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of the condition and affairs of the Cherokee tribe west of the Mississippi river:

I take occasion to premise, that the unhappy political animosities and internal feuds which have existed among these people as a nation, for several years past, have, to a considerable extent, checked their progress, and paralyzed their advancement in the advantages of education and agricultural pursuits; and the deplorable effects of those elements of discord, which have so frequently broken forth within the last year, have kept the community under a feverish excitement, and habitual disquietude. But, surrounded by those disadvantages as these people have been, yet many of them evince a laudable zeal in the promotion of education, agricultural pursuits, domestic economy, and industry, the beneficial effects of which are to be seen among those who have thus directed their attention, in the neatness and style in which they live, with all the essential necessities and comforts of life about them; and I am much pleased to be enabled to remark, from actual observation, that the wearing apparel manufactured from the raw material in the nation, by female industry, in the application of spinning wheels and looms, would well compare with the household economy and domestic productions of private and family occupations of the same character in most of the States.

Religious denominations, church members, and institutions for education.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions among the Cherokees have four stations, the guardianship and care of which are assigned to the following gentlemen, missionaries:

Rev. S. A. Worcester,	Park Hill mission.	} <i>Native preachers.</i>
Rev. Eleazer Butler,	Fairfield do.	
Rev. Worcester Willie,	Dwight do.	
Rev. John Husk,	Honey Creek do.	
Rev. Stephen Forman,	Fork Hill do.	

The aggregate number of church members connected with this missionary institution is 249.

The whole number of scholars taught at the Park Hill mission for the past year has been 33: the average attendance of pupils is estimated at 16, eleven of whom were Cherokees, and five white children.

Connected with Mr. Worcester's mission, he is intrusted with the care

and supervision of a printing press, from which are issued a large number of religious tracts and moral essays, spelling-books, almanacs, &c.; some of which are printed partly in Cherokee, and partly in English—some in Choctaw, and some in the Creek language.

The Dwight mission institution is devoted exclusively to the education of females, and its operation appears to be very judiciously arranged, as well for the purpose of promoting education as for the system adopted affording the means of instruction in the essential and necessary branches of domestic pursuits and household economy. Connected with the details of this institution there are ten persons employed, to wit: Rev. Worcester Willie and Mrs. Willie, missionaries; Rev. Jacob Hitchcock and Mrs. Hitchcock, superintendents of secular affairs; Mr. James Orr superintends the farming department, aided by Mrs. Orr, who has the supervision of the household economy connected with this branch of business; Mr. Kellog Day is a regular bred mechanic, attached to this institution; Mrs. Day, Miss Ellen Stetson, and Miss Giddings, have charge of the girls during school hours, teaching spelling, reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, modern and ancient history, and composition; Miss Stetson instructs the girls also, when out of school, in knitting, spinning, needle-work, &c. About fifty scholars have attended this school the last year, though the average number in attendance is estimated at about forty.

The Methodist Episcopal church in the Cherokee nation is supplied with two missionary preachers; the Rev. Edward F. Peery being the presiding elder, under whose direction and care are the following reverend gentlemen, viz:

Rev. David B. Cumming,	Rev. Thomas Ruble,
Rev. Thomas Burtolph,	Rev. Andrew Cunningham.

Native preachers.

Rev. William Cory,	Rev. William M'Intosh,
Rev. John F. Root,	Rev. Sus-si-wa-le-to.

Their system of ministerial labors appears to be judicially arranged: while some are assigned to local duties, and more circumscribed bounds, others are required to extend their services over more comprehensive circuits, and thus, by a methodical system, which appears to be beneficially adjusted, their religious example and moral influence are extended to all parts of the nation.

The number of members attached to this church is estimated at 1,400.

In regard to the means by which the preachers are supported, it appears they are furnished by the society; and the aggregate appropriation for this purpose, at present, is \$2,360.

There are four Sabbath schools in the nation under the care of this society.

I addressed a letter to Doctor Butler, who is the principal missionary in charge of the Fairfield mission; also to the Rev. Mr. Jones, of the Baptist mission, and to Mr. Payne, commissioner of common schools in the Cherokee nation, requesting each of those gentlemen to be so obliging as to furnish me with reports of the condition and progress of their respective charges. From some cause, I have received no communication from either of those gentlemen on the subject above referred to, and much regret that it is not in my power, owing to the absence of the desired information, to

make such representations in regard to those institutions as would be either useful or interesting.

For a more minute and detailed account than is herein set forth, in reference to the Park Hill and Dwight missions, and also of the Methodist Episcopal church in the Cherokee nation, I beg leave to refer to the reports of the Rev. Mr. Worcester and Rev. Mr. Hitchcock as to those two missions, and to the report of the Rev. Mr. Ruble as to the Methodist Episcopal church, which reports are herewith forwarded.

In regard to the temperance society in the nation, it is making considerable progress in the acquisition of members. I have not received a report from the secretary of that institution, though I have requested it. But, from the fact of its members amounting to 1,700, agreeable to last year's estimate, according to the best information I have been enabled to obtain as to its probable increase, I would suppose it must now number near or quite 2,000, whose united influence in the cause they so laudably promote, it is hoped and believed, bids fair to produce a very desirable effect on a large portion of the community.

In regard to the preachers and teachers whose names have been mentioned, I take occasion to remark, that I have not had an opportunity to form a personal acquaintance with all: those with whom I have become acquainted are exemplary in their habits and commendable in their deportment; and I feel authorized to add, upon information derived from reliable sources, that those whom I only know from character are no less worthy of the high trust confided to them, in impressing pious duties and moral principles generally among the people, and particularly in regard to those placed under their immediate care and tuition. And I take great pleasure in further adding, upon information the correctness of which I do not doubt, that the ladies who are engaged in tuition attend to the respective duties they have undertaken with a care and assiduity highly creditable to themselves as well as beneficial to their scholars.

There is a weekly newspaper printed at Tahlequah, the seat of government in the nation, edited by Mr. William P. Ross. This paper is printed partly in the English and partly in the Cherokee language, and I believe has quite an extensive circulation.

The Cherokee nation is abundantly supplied with salt water, and mostly of an excellent quality. Some two or three establishments are now in successful operation manufacturing salt, realizing a very handsome profit; and it only requires the application of adequate capital, aided by the necessary skill and enterprise, to make the business a source of much national wealth, there being many places, as I am informed, at which salt water could be procured.

In regard to the agricultural operations of the country, perhaps appearances are less favorable than they have been for several preceding years, which appear to be owing to the excited and unsettled state of affairs in the nation during the present year. Many fields are left entirely uncultivated this season. It is believed, however, there is sufficient land in cultivation to afford a supply for internal consumption, the appearance of crops now presenting the prospect of a fair average production, and there being many excellent farms in the nation which in size I would suppose range from 20 to 100 acres, according to the capacity of the proprietor. Such farms appear to be conducted with skill and industry, and offer a fair reward for the labor bestowed.

The staple productions of the country are corn, wheat, and oats. Some farms in the southern part of the nation are well adapted to the production of cotton, and afford pretty fair average crops of that article, though not equal to the production of a more southern latitude.

As the wild game of the woods is entirely exhausted, or nearly so, in the nation, there is therefore but little inducement now to indulge in the chase, either as a means of subsistence or object of amusement; and although many among the most indigent of the nation are disinclined to the pursuit of steady habits of manual labor, and under moderate inducements would still prefer the hunter's life, yet, under existing circumstances they find it essentially necessary to devote some portion of their time to the cultivation of small pieces of ground as a means of obtaining subsistence.

Legislative, judicial, and executive departments.

The legislative department consists of an executive committee and national council. By a regulation of the government the nation is divided into eight districts, each of which is entitled to two members in the executive committee, and three in the national council. The executive officers and legislative body are elected by the popular vote of the nation, and hold their offices for four years.

The judicial department consists in the establishment of a supreme court, composed of a chief justice and four associate judges; and two circuit courts. The nation being divided into two judicial circuits, a circuit judge is appointed for each. There are eight district courts, there being eight districts in the nation: a judge is appointed for each district.

There are, therefore, connected with the judiciary system fifteen judges.

The supreme court holds its session annually; and having appellate jurisdiction as well as original jurisdiction in some cases, it decides upon controverted points of law brought up from the circuit courts for final action. The circuit and district courts hold their sittings semi-annually.

The principles of the government in *form* partake very much of the republican system of the government of the United States, and of the different States. In regard to judicial proceedings, the technicalities observed in the transaction of business in the State courts are not required, and perhaps it is best so. The important right of trial by a jury of the nation, and of the parties to plead and be impleaded, either personally or by council, is wisely interpolated into the Cherokee system of jurisprudence.

The executive branch of the government is composed of a principal and an assistant chief. In the absence of the principal, the executive duties devolve on the assistant chief.

Cherokee difficulties.

In regard to the repeated murders and other outrages growing out of the political animosities and party divisions of the Cherokee people, to which I have slightly adverted in the commencement of this report, I conceive it would be unnecessary for me at this time to go into a minute and detailed account of the facts and circumstances connected with these transactions, as I have endeavored to keep the Department advised of those occurrences as they transpired; and this conclusion is superinduced from the fact of Colonel Medill, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, having lately made an elaborate

report to the honorable the Secretary of War, in relation to the disturbances and difficulties of the different parties in the nation, on which the whole grounds of their respective complaints have been thoroughly examined and so fully set forth, that it is believed nothing I could now say would throw any additional light on the general subject of their national difficulties. I will, however, briefly remark, that since the first of November last there has been thirty four murders committed in the nation, including two or three cases close to the line. I think it proper to explain, though, that from the best information I could obtain, about twelve of those cases resulted from causes unconnected with political strife, or party animosities; the balance may be fairly attributed to that source.

It is a matter of notoriety, that all the parties to this great Cherokee controversy have appealed to the President of the United States, setting forth their respective grievances and causes of discontent in the most forcible lights and imposing forms their respective cases were susceptible of receiving, and that he has heard them with patience and attention, manifesting a deep solicitude for the final adjustment of this long-pending and complicated subject; and it is believed he has been actuated from considerations of liberality and of justice in the appointment of a commission, of high reputation for integrity of purpose and soundness of judgment, to investigate their respective demands, and settle all matters of difference between the parties; as well to reconcile their mutual allegations against each other, as to adjust any equitable and proper claims they may be entitled to on the government.

The labors of those gentlemen, it is hoped, will restore quietude to these people, and thereby re-unite them in their national ties and long-lost brotherly attachment; which event, it is believed, would prevent a recurrence of the calamities with which they have been so unfortunately enthralled; the clouds of discord with which they have been so thickly surrounded, would be thereby dissipated, and a new and brighter era dawn upon their national policy and social intercourse, the happy effects of which would soon be visible in their political economy, the harmony of the judicial administration, and the general prosperity of the nation.

If, however, it should be found impracticable to effect these desirable objects, the design of which has required much labor and patient investigation, why then it would seem, as a dernier resort, that a final separation, on some terms, must be the alternative.

All of which is very respectfully submitted.

JAS. McKISSICK,
Agent for Cherokee nation west.

Major W. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, &c., Choctaw Agency.

No. 11.

CREEK AGENCY, *October 1, 1846.*

SIR: But little change has taken place in the condition of the Creeks since my report of last year. The crops of the present year are abundant; so much so that a large surplus of almost every thing cultivated by them

will be left for sale. Large quantities of rice have been raised—principally by the people of the upper towns. This is an article not generally cultivated to any extent heretofore, and very seldom for sale until this year. I am informed that much of it, well cleaned, can be had on the Canadian at quite a low price. Stocks of horses, cattle, and hogs, are becoming abundant; and large numbers of the latter will be offered for sale during the approaching winter.

The only event of notice that has transpired during the past year is the arrival, in their country west, of one hundred and four emigrant Creeks. They express themselves as being much pleased with their new country. They are quite an industrious class, and have made fine crops; and have saved from their rations sufficient stock cattle to satisfy their present wants. I regret to state that they have suffered much from sickness, though not more than could be reasonably expected from the hardships incident to a journey of such extent, and undertaken at such a season of the year. Those who have been sick are now recovering their health, and, as they are generally temperate in their habits, they will doubtless hereafter enjoy it.

The general council of the nation commenced its sittings on the 22d ultimo. One of the most important acts dependent upon it, was the appointment of a second chief of the lower towns—that office having been rendered vacant by the death of U-fau-la-harjo. The office has devolved upon Mr. Benjamin Marshall, formerly national interpreter, an educated half-breed of wealth and standing. He is of course favorably inclined to religion and education, and much good may be anticipated to arise from his appointment. I am happy to state that the council is at present engaged in a revision of the laws of the nation, many of which, though not sanguinary, are unnecessarily severe and arbitrary. No change in the system of the government of the nation can be yet expected.

The establishment and location in the nation of several tradesmen and mechanics, citizens of the United States, speak in favorable terms of the advancement of these people in civilization. The example also of some, in causing the erection of neat and substantial houses for dwellings, has been followed by many. There are two tailors, one cabinet-maker, five carpenters, one silversmith and jeweller, one bricklayer, two masons, one boot and shoemaker, one mill-wright, one miller, and one blacksmith, who follow for a livelihood their different trades and occupations, and are encouraged to reside in the nation by the patronage of the Indians. The water-mill, built by the upper Creeks out of their annuity, is in operation, and contributes much to their comfort. They also employ an additional blacksmith, who they pay out of their annuity.

The school at the Presbyterian Mission is the only one of importance now in the nation. As regards its condition, I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying report of the Rev. Mr. Loughridge, the principal of the institution.

The manual labor schools promised the Creeks by the treaty of the 4th January, 1845, have excited great attention. Their erection is anxiously hoped for by many.

Depredations committed by different roving bands of Osages upon the property of Creek citizens, and which have engendered rather hostile feelings, are the only things calculated to disturb the general harmony and

peace of this section; and there is but little doubt entertained that this difficulty will be amicably settled.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES LOGAN, *Creek Agent.*

Capt. W. ARMSTRONG,

Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

No. 12.

CHICKASAW AGENCY,

September 1, 1846.

SIR: In making this report there will be only a slight difference from my last.

The Chickasaws, in September, 1845, received an annuity of sixty thousand dollars. Up to that time, and during the payment, there was considerable contention and unfriendly feeling among some of the Chickasaws, all of which was reported to the honorable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, by you, at the time. I am happy to say that that feeling has in a great measure subsided, and apparently better feelings exist.

The health of the nation for the last year has been remarkably good, and at this time, which is considered the most unhealthy season of the year in all the south and west, they are enjoying better health than they have been since they emigrated.

Their crops are abundant this year. They have had a fine season, and have not been idle. They will have a surplus of at least forty thousand bushels of corn, for which, unfortunately, they will have no market. Their crops of cotton, wheat, oats, and rye, are much better than they have been any previous years.

It is pleasing, sir, to see the red people improving so fast in agriculture. Their stocks of horses and cattle are also improving, both as to quality and number. In a few years they will have an abundance, and will be able to send large lots to market. Their country, for stock raising, is superior to any I ever saw. On the prairies, their horses and cattle can subsist during the winter, and keep in good order. There is no such thing known as feeding stock cattle or out horses, with the Chickasaws, at any season of the year.

The Chickasaws still continue to move into their district, and those who have recently moved in are much pleased. If those who still reside in the Choctaw district (and at some considerable distance too) would examine the country, in two or three years nearly all of them would move in. The more I explore and examine their district, the more valuable I find it to be. There is land enough of good quality, well adapted to the culture of corn, wheat, rye, oats, potatoes, and beans, for double the number of their tribe. Their district is superior to either of the other districts of the nation in land, water, and minerals. I have seen specimens of iron ore, found in large quantities in the district, that were said (by good judges) would yield seventy-five or eighty per cent. There are some good salt springs that could be worked to great advantage, and there are several medical springs, which have proved to be of great benefit to invalids who have attended them during the two last summers.

About eighteen months since the Chickasaws made an agreement with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to establish a manual labor school in their district; which agreement was to be approved by the honorable Secretary of War. When it was submitted to him, he made some few objections to it, and returned it to the Chickasaw council for their further consideration. At the council which was held on the 24th ultimo, they entered into another agreement with the same church, which they are in hopes will meet the cordial approbation of the honorable Secretary. They appear to be more anxious now to have their children educated than they ever were since I have known them. I have been constant in my advice to them on that subject, and am in hopes, in a few years, to see every Chickasaw boy and girl at school. The Chickasaws have money enough to educate them all, and they could not put it to a better or more profitable use. A few letters from the honorable Secretary of War and Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to the Chickasaws, on the subject of education and building up academies, would be thankfully received, and would cause them to push forward in the "great and good cause."

The Rev. E. B. Duncan and lady, of the Methodist Society, have been engaged with a small school among the Chickasaws for the last two years, and I am happy to say that the children under their care have improved very much. Mr. Duncan has also preached to the natives, and has been well and kindly received. The Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury, a Presbyterian minister, who resides near Fort Towson, visits the Chickasaws once a month, and he has also met with a kind reception. It will not be out of place here to name a circumstance that speaks well of the natives: they have, during the last summer, built two large churches for the purpose of public worship.

There are three public blacksmith shops for the Chickasaws. One is within four miles of the agency; one near Fort Towson, and one on Brushy creek, about sixty-five miles from the agency. Mr. Srygley and Mr. Caudle, who occupy the first-named shops, have discharged their duties well. Mr. Lewis, who occupied the shop on Brushy, I was compelled to discharge for neglect of duty.

Several of the half-breeds have blacksmith shops of their own. Some have fine horse mills for the purpose of grinding corn and wheat, and some have most excellent cotton gins.

I regret to say that some of the Shawnees and Kickapoos have committed some depredations upon the Chickasaws this year, in the way of stealing horses, and killing cattle and hogs. Some of those tribes of wild Indians that live on Red river, that treated with Gov. Butler and Col. Lewis, are still committing depredations upon the citizens of Texas; and I have but little doubt but that some few of the Shawnees and Kickapoos are doing the same, in the way of stealing horses. I would not be the least surprised if the government would be compelled to take the same measures to make those Indians peaceable, that General Washington did with the Northwestern tribes in 1794. If they will not hear the talk of the President, make them hear it. Let them know, and know well, that our citizens are not to be murdered, nor their property stolen from them.

Fort Washita is situated on the False Washita river, about twelve miles east of the small Cross-timbers, which is near the route that all the disaffected Indians from the north go south. From forty to sixty miles there are a number of what we call wild Indians, who could come into the set-

lements either north or south of Red river, commit depredations, and be off without our being able to follow and recapture our property, owing to the small number of troops now at the fort. The fort is now commanded by that valuable officer Brevet Major George Andrews, and he has only a part of a company of infantry. From the peculiar situation of Fort Washita, there should be at least two companies of dragoons added to the command now stationed there; which amount of troops would be sufficient to render that protection which is necessary. I will take the liberty of enclosing to you a letter directed to me by the citizens of this district, on the subject of their being protected.

Sir, it is with great pleasure and gratification that I can say to you, that I have not seen a single *Chickasaw drunk this year*; but regret that I cannot say the same for some of the white men in their nation:

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,
A. M. M. UPSHAW,
United States Agent for the Chickasaws.

Major Wm. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

No. 13.

NEOSHO SUB-AGENCY,
September 17, 1846.

SIR: I again have the honor of reporting the condition of the Indians in this sub-agency. The Quapaws are improving in many respects. They have used more industry during the last year than they usually have; they have, nearly every one of them, who had any farms at all, enlarged them; they have repaired their fencing, and many of them that had no farms before have fenced and broke them fields, and have corn growing this season. I think they have at least a fourth more ground in cultivation this season than they ever have had before. They have worked their crops better than usual. Their farmer early last spring stocked their ploughs, and had all their farming utensils in good repair; he then encouraged them to begin to farm early; he would go with them in the woods and show them the kind of timber that was best for rails; he then showed them how to make their fences; he showed them the best ground to make farms on; he taught them how wide to make their corn rows, and how many grains of corn to plant in each hill, none of which they appeared to understand before. He sowed some wheat for several of them last fall, and they reaped good crops of wheat this summer, which has pleased them very much. They have had several sprees of drinking since they laid by their crops, in which several Indians have been killed or stabbed; they promise now that they will drink no more; but they will drink if they can get the liquor. The only possible way to keep them from drinking is to keep the liquor from them. I have just visited the school among them; there are about twenty scholars, mostly boys; they all look healthy and intelligent, and are advancing tolerably fast in learning.

I have no doubt but this school will prove a great blessing to the Quapaws. The chiefs are still very anxious, they say, that their Great Father should send them their money for education purposes. I have been fur-

nished with a report of this school by the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson; it is herewith enclosed, and marked A. The number of Quapaws will prove considerably greater this year than the last, as many of their Red river brethren have come and settled themselves with them here.

The Senecas have been very sickly during the last year, and many of them have died. There is no other visible change among them since my last report.

The mixed band of Senecas and Shawnees have been generally healthy, although they live so near the Senecas. I know of no alteration whatever among this tribe since my last report. They have had good crops growing, and will raise a plenty to live on the present year.

The smiths among all these tribes keep them supplied with every necessary tool to work with.

Every thing within the bounds of this sub-agency appears to be peace, harmony, and good-will; not the slightest interruption pervades the country to my knowledge.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

JAMES S. RAINS,
Neosho Indian Sub-agent.

Maj. WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Choctaw Agency.

No. 14.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 15, 1846.*

SIR: Under the regulations of the Department, it is my duty to report to you the condition of the tribe committed to my charge. In pursuance of which I herewith make known:

That, since my report of last year, nothing has occurred to disturb the peaceful relations of the Seminoles with the United States, or with any of the surrounding tribes. And although conflict of interests between the Seminoles and Creeks was anticipated, and provided for by the commissioners who made the late treaty, I am happy to say nothing has occurred which required *even a reference* to the United States authority.

They appear to be satisfied in being guarantied by the treaty to have the right of self-government, so far as relates to their "town laws," &c. willingly acknowledging the supremacy of the Creek "general council."

The tribe is divided into twenty-five "towns," or bands. Last year there were twenty-seven; but two of them having lost their headmen, have attached themselves to other bands. Each town has its own governor, or headman, "town laws," &c.—the general council of the Seminoles having a supervisory control over all the towns; in which council a majority of the headmen, with the approbation of the governor, or king, are competent to pass laws for the government of the whole people, provided they do not conflict with the laws of the "Creek general council."

Micco-nuppe is the Seminole king, or governor; Cowoch Coochee, or Wild Cat, his "counsellor and organ," who has to assist him in determining what the king *ought to do*; and five other chiefs—to wit: Tusse Krai, Octi-archee, Pascofar, Echo-emathla, and Passuckee-yoholo—who may be called the executive council.

The greater number of the Seminoles live between the North fork of Canadian and Little river, on the north of the main Canadian; their territory is mostly prairie land, with, however, a sufficient quantity of timber for all the purposes of many times their number. A large proportion of the land is good, and well adapted to the culture of all kinds of grain; and for stock-raising it is unsurpassed by any portion of the Indian territory I have seen.

The climate is variable, and the bleak blasts of winter, driving across those prairies, are peculiarly severe on the Seminole, coming from so genial a climate as Florida; where such a thing as a snow storm, they say, never was seen. Last winter was one of the severest ever experienced in the west; and the "big frosts" which were sent by the "Great Spirit," caused much suffering, and not a little grumbling among them, and induced many to deny the words and doubt the wisdom of their "Great Father," who "promised them in exchange for Florida, a country better suited to their habits of life," &c.

Another source of discontent among them was the want of provisions. They had removed too late in the spring to raise any considerable quantity of corn, and by the provisions of the treaty they were subsisted only six months, which ended in January; from which time until in May, (when I procured corn for them on the credit of their annuity,) many of them suffered immensely. Although the hardships of last winter may ultimately be of benefit to them; yet it was an ordeal through which, to pass, however serviceable to future results, any of us would have murmured at.

As a body, the Seminoles are, like the Creeks, an agricultural people—their principal subsistence being corn and vegetables. There have been among them the past year some, whom I am aware of, living solely by the "hunt." Every man has his rifle, but he looks to the earth for his subsistence; and the proceeds of a hunt are for the purposes of trade with the merchants. How long this will continue I cannot say, but think, hereafter, there will be many who will depend, like the roving Delaware, altogether on the hunt.

Wild Cat and several of his men, after his return from the Comanche country, where he had been with Commissioners Butler and Lewis, went out on an "exploring hunt." Since which, probably 250 men under him (Wild Cat) and other "headmen," have gone out, intending to remain several months. They, before leaving, got a considerable quantity of merchandise to trade to the Prairie Indians, to buy peltries, &c., with which they are to extinguish their home debt; and it much depends upon the success of this first party whether many engage in the chase (and traffic combined) for their future support.

On the Canadian, at different points, from 5 to 20 miles distant from my agency, are located several bands of Delawares, Shawnees, Qua-saw-das, and Kickapoos—numbering in all about 200 men—who rely solely on hunting and trading with the wild Indians for a living. Their women and children are generally left at their towns to make a little corn, &c., for themselves, while the hunters are out; which is generally from September to April or May. These bands have been there for several years, and are uniformly friendly—not only with our border tribes, but with the whites also; and, indeed, are looked upon by the Creeks and others as a protection from the incursions of the Prairie Indians. They are allowed, I believe, no other privileges than the location as a home; and nothing is expected in return but their friendship and assistance, if necessary, against

roving parties. I refer to these bands and their character (although many of them are beyond my agency, over the Canadian) merely as information to the Department; and, as being the nearest government officer, it might be expected I should have an eye to them.

The Seminoles yet remaining in Florida are the subject of considerable solicitude to their western brethren. They desire them to remove, and would assist in persuading them to do so, being convinced that they would be better off united to their tribe, than isolated as they are; and, if it is the intention or desire of the government ever to remove them, I believe the plan proposed by me to the Department, with the concurrence of the western Seminoles, would best effect that object; and I hope, therefore, it may be acted on.

The Seminoles at this time, I am confident, are disposed to be quiet and as friendly as most of the Indians on our frontier; and have had experience sufficient to learn them it is to their interests to be so. If there has been any one thing more than another which tended to change their views about the United States, it was the visit of Wild Cat and delegation to this city two years since. They then, for the first time, had the least conception of the strength of our government; as they certainly did not learn it in the Florida war. The effect of which was rather to raise them in their own, as it did in the estimation of other tribes, as "braves and warriors," than to break their spirit as a nation. These are facts given to the Department that it may view, in a proper light, the feelings of the Seminoles. The real desire of peace and rest, and their own interests pecuniarily, rather than a want of the spirit of resistance, induces them to keep order. In giving this opinion—living in the country, and having advantages which enable me to speak understandingly—I hope I may be excused by certain demagogues, who have no larger "hobby" to ride themselves into notice on than frightening old women and weak-minded men by their continual cries about the "defenceless frontier;" the "embittered and ruthless *Seminole*, just removed from the swamps of Florida, burning with all the *vengeful spirit* of the Indian," &c.; making "capital" for *themselves*, by "banking" upon the credulity of the ignorant.

That *bane* of the Indian, whiskey, continues to be carried up into the nation, and will in despite all the efforts to put a stop to it under the existing law. To effect anything like a cure of the evil, it is indispensable to have the co-operation of the Indian authorities themselves; but, when a tribe have not become sufficiently civilized to feel a moral restraint, it is out of the question to expect co-operation in putting down a moral evil; and I therefore think that it should be made to the interest of a certain body of Indians to capture whiskey, by giving them something in return for all they should capture and deliver to the United States authority; or, instead of destroying it, have it conveyed below the line and sold, and the amount above the necessary expenses paid to the individual capturing.

Of the progress of education among the Seminoles, but little can be said, as they neither have nor want a school; and I am satisfied that they would be improved by a school conducted only on the manual labor principle. Education itself holds out no inducement to *them*; and, therefore, it is necessary to adopt some plan by which the children will be provided for temporally, when the advance of the mind will be a consequent of their temporal improvement. This institution should be in the Seminole or Creek country—the former, if there are funds sufficient to have one dis-

inct from the Creeks. Thus located, where the mother could see that her child was taken care of without trouble *to her*, it would occasion at first but little, and shortly no opposition. A distinct school would be preferable on account of the feeling which would soon grow up in its favor as the Seminole school; but if the funds for Seminole education are not sufficient, it would then be advisable to add them to the Creek fund, with the privilege of sending a certain number of Seminole boys. As to little "cornfield schools," it would be next thing to throwing money away; and to take them off entirely among the whites would be, in my opinion, worse; and, moreover, would not be consented to by the Indians.

The crops of the present year are generally good; and the Indians having opened and worked a considerable quantity of land, the yield will be sufficient for all their wants until next season. Some few individuals have their own fields separate and apart from the "town field"—each "town" having one in common for all of the band.

The products are corn, sweet potatoes, rice, beans, and ground-nuts or goober peas.

Their cabins are much better than those they have heretofore lived in, although nothing to brag on, and furnished, not with "articles too numerous to mention," but such only as are absolutely necessary—a stool or two, pestle and mortar, "hominy baskets," two or three pots or kettles, with "sofky" spoons, and a beef hide in the corner, which serves as a bed.

The issue of agricultural implements (provided for in late treaty) instead of money, is much better for the Seminoles, and has, so far, given satisfaction. I deem it proper here to record my present opinion in regard to paying Indians their annuity partly in goods. Where the Indians have advanced no farther towards civilization than the Seminoles, I (contrary to the expressed opinion of most Indian agents) believe that it is decidedly to their benefit to receive a part in goods—receiving nearly double the amount from government which they would were the money expended by individuals in the Indian country for the same purpose; and it is further advisable, for the reason that, if the money were paid to them, there is at least two chances to one that the greater part would be spent for whiskey.

Since my last report, payment has been made for abandoned "improvements" in Florida to the amount of \$12,600; and it is worthy of remark in this place, to say, to the credit of the Seminoles, that although there was no law to force them, or even influence used, they immediately and willingly paid all the debts which they had contracted and given "papers" for, taking nearly the whole amount turned over: showing an example of honesty to their *more civilized brothers*, (red and white,) which is well worthy of imitation.

If the Seminoles have any religion, I am not aware of it. I have not seen it; and I incline to the opinion that all their views on the subject may be expressed in the following words: "Live as you please, but die brave;" for, let death come in any form, only give them a chance to speak beforehand, and it will be "I'm a man and a warrior, and not afraid to die."

From the foregoing, you may judge *how far* the Seminoles have advanced in civilization; and, although I cannot discover the "rapid advances" which have been reported by predecessors, I am confident they have not retrograded; and equally certain that a long time must elapse, requiring the exertion and perseverance of the philanthropist, assisted by the fostering care of our government, before the Seminoles will be as far advanced

as what many of their red brethren now are. If, however, one were to judge of the condition of the various tribes by some of the "reports" given each year, commencing about fifteen years back, and read them in order, he would arrive at the conclusion that, at this time, the Indians were certainly on a footing with, if not superior to, the whites in improvement; but the payment of debts to merchants and others by the Seminoles, without the force of law, (referred to above,) would of itself debar *them* from claiming any degree of advancement in civilization.

Accompanying this report, I give you such statistics of the Seminoles as it is at present in my power to present.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-agent.

Hon. WILLIAM MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 15.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, September 5, 1846.

SIR: In making this, my annual report, I shall necessarily have to confine myself in a great degree to some general observations, as no reports from the agents and sub-agents have yet been received.

During the last fall, the border tribes of Indians suffered severely from autumnal fevers, which prevailed to an unusual degree in the west: these fevers, in the hands of the physicians, readily yield to medical treatment; and, indeed, with the grand specific, quinine, at command, persons of ordinary intelligence, in the absence of the physician, manage them with a good deal of success; but in the absence of medical treatment, and with the poor and imprudent diet and irregular habits of the Indians, the fever often proves distressingly fatal, as was the case last fall with different tribes. An annual fund of six hundred dollars, if placed in the hands of the superintendent at St. Louis, to be invested in medicines and distributed to such persons among the different tribes as he might select to administer them to the Indians, would no doubt save much suffering and life.

With the exception of a few localities, the corn crop among the Indians last year was very abundant; several tribes raising a considerable surplus.

I have been gratified, from personal observation, to witness the rapid improvements among many of the tribes in agriculture and the general conveniences and comforts of life. The tribes among which these improvements are most visible are the Shawnees, Wyandots, Delawares, Kickapoos, Munsees, Stockbridges, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies of the Osages. The improvements among these people are, to my mind, evidently attributable to the happy influence exercised over them by their missionaries with their schools.

The school among the Iowas, under the direction of the Presbyterian mission, is now about to go into operation upon an extensive scale; the missionaries have the confidence of the Indians, and I shall look, with I think well-founded expectations, for successful results. The party of Iowas that went to Europe in 1844, under the conduct of Mr. Melody, re-

turned last fall evidently with impressions favorable to the adoption of the habits of the whites. Mr. Melody is entitled to much credit for the care which he took of them, in keeping them from places of vice, and placing them in positions where impressions are likely to be made in favor of Christianity and civilization.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has established a school among the Kansas Indians, and as additional provision has been made by their late treaty for education, it is hoped that the school, with the missionary efforts, may do much for the improvement of these poor, degraded, yet docile people. The schools mentioned in my last report are progressing with favorable results.

The efforts of the government agents, seconded by the traders, have up to this time proved unsuccessful in keeping spirituous liquors out of the Indian country; it is brought in by the Indians and obtained from persons who keep it especially for them, just within the State line. The laws of the State have hitherto been ineffectual in suppressing this traffic. It is, I fear, only to be effected by the moral improvement of the Indians. We must look to the missionary and the schoolmaster as the most reliable means of effecting the improvement.

The school among the Pawnees was interrupted during the present summer by a large party of Sioux, who visited the village during the absence of the Pawnees on their summer hunt, committed depredations upon the property of the whites, and burned the Pawnee village. The Pawnee children who remained at school, were concealed in time by the whites by placing them in the cellars, otherwise they would have all been murdered. After the Sioux had retired, the whites evacuated the place and came to Bellevue, bringing with them the children, where I presume they will remain until the return of the Pawnees to their burnt village.

The Pawnees have a considerable fund for education and farming, which, if placed in the hands of the Presbyterian Missionary Society, (at the head of which is the Rev. Mr. Green, of Boston,) who have a mission among them, under such regulations as the Department might see fit to adopt for the establishing of a manual labor school, I believe that much might be done for their improvement. The farming operations among them by the government I consider a failure. I have no doubt they would receive much more grain from a manual labor farm in the hands of the missionary than they now do, besides the advantage of having their children taken care of and taught to work. The consent of the Pawnees would be necessary to effect the arrangement.

Not much, however, can be done for the Pawnees in the way of improving their condition until they are protected at home from their ruthless foes the Sioux. It is greatly to be hoped that the line of posts contemplated to be established from Missouri to the mountains, will tend to preserve peace between the different tribes.

I have suggested, in a former annual communication, the advantages that would result to the Indians in holding a general council, under the direction of the government, at some designated point, for the purpose of inducing them to enter into treaties of peace and friendship. A treaty of this kind was made by a large number of tribes in November, 1833, at Fort Leavenworth, under the direction of Mr. Ellsworth, and I am informed that its conditions were observed and respected for years. The simple circumstance of bringing them together in a friendly way, would have a good

effect; and were such a council held every three or four years, I have reason to believe its consequences would have been salutary. Surely the government, taking into view its humane and philanthropic policy towards the Indians, would be amply repaid, in the security of human life it would effect, for the two or three hundred head of cattle that might be consumed on the occasion.

The houses of the Osage chiefs, under their treaty of 1839, were built during the latter part of last year, and placed in the possession of those entitled to receive them.

The large sum in my hands for agricultural implements, stock, &c., for the Osages, remains, as you are aware, unexpended. I consider it unwise to expend it until they become more local in their habits, and have some practicable idea of the value of such supplies. Their mills, school-houses, fields, &c., for a manual labor school, are by this time nearly finished and ready for use. The Osages have frequently expressed a desire that their school should be placed under the direction of the Catholic mission. Your letter of the 19th March last, consenting that it should be so placed under certain prescribed conditions, was received and handed to the Rev. J. Van Dewelde. The acceptance of the conditions was declined by the board of advisers to whom he submitted your proposition, on the ground of their pecuniary inability to furnish the means necessary to start the institution into operation. Mr. Van Dewelde's reply was forwarded to you under cover of my letter of the 9th of July last, since which time no measures have been taken with regard to the school.

A fund of nine hundred dollars was raised by the ladies of the city of New York, in connexion with the Presbyterian Missionary Society, last spring, for the purpose of educating Ottoe and Omaha children, with a promise that it will be continued for some time. There is no school at present among either of these tribes. It is intended for the time being to take a certain number of these children to the Iowa school and mission, which is under the patronage of the same society. The society have it in contemplation to establish a mission and school among the Ottoes at some future day. It is to be hoped that this generous liberality on the part of the ladies of New York may be most profitably expended, in order that they may be induced to continue their liberal donations.

The Ottoes have a considerable fund for education and farming, besides a fund for agricultural assistance. I would suggest that the same disposition be made of these that I had the honor to recommend should be made of the Pawnee funds. Farming for the Ottoes by the government proved a complete failure, and has for several years past been abandoned. Their fund for agricultural assistance, whenever they shall give evidence of a disposition to use it profitably, shall be expended for them as provided by their treaty.

The Omahas are a poor dispirited people. They have for some years been living about eighty miles above Council Bluffs, near the Missouri river. Owing to the frequent attacks of the Sioux and Poncas, they have for several years made but little corn, and have consequently been exceedingly poor and destitute. Last fall they moved down for protection in the neighborhood of Bellevue, where they received considerable assistance from their friends the Pottawatomies. The six hundred dollars which you authorized to be used in procuring provisions for them, was of incalculable benefit; it enabled them to plant their corn and to stay at home and work it. The last

information I had concerning them, was that they had a fair prospect of raising a good crop.

The country immediately bordering on the north side of the Platte, and extending up for some distance between the Horn and Missouri rivers, is claimed by both the Ottoes and Omahas. It was on this disputed land that the Omahas settled last winter and planted their corn. The Ottoes threatened to drive them off. When I was at the Council Bluffs in May last, I called a council of the principal men of both nations, and gave them a talk on the subject. After a good deal of consultation on both sides, the Ottoes consented to let them remain, and they broke up and separated apparently in good humor with each other. I would beg leave to call your attention to my report of 1845, for my views in relation to the necessity and manner of settling this dispute about the land.

The Sacs and Foxes, as you are aware, have emigrated in a very irregular manner. A considerable portion of the Foxes with the head chief, Pow-e-check, are yet on the north side of the Missouri river, in the Pottawatomie country. The principal men have assured that they will move over this fall. A portion of the Sacs have planted corn on the Shawnee lands, near the Kansas river, and a portion of them, with a part of the Foxes, have moved to the selection No. 3, on the Osage river, where it is expected they will all move during the next fall.

It is believed that the Pottawatomies, both of the Osage and the Council Bluffs, will, during the winter and the next spring, remove to their new homes on the Kansas. I would, therefore, earnestly press the necessity of their being paid as early the next spring as possible the \$50,000 for their improvements, and likewise the amount provided for their emigration. It will also be necessary during the spring and summer, should they remove, (as I have no doubt they will) that they should receive their subsistence money; and as they will be in an entirely new country, they will need the use of the interest on their improvement fund. Nothing is more important for preserving the respect of the Indians for the government, than a prompt compliance on its part with all the treaty stipulations. Before the Kansas can emigrate, it will be necessary that their land should be surveyed, and a commissioner appointed to view the country west of the land which they have sold, to ascertain whether there is timber sufficient for their farming purposes; and if not, to select another location for them, agreeable to the provisions of their treaty. In my communication of the 3d of July last, I recommended that the duty should be assigned to agent Cummins.

In consequence of the removal of the Pottawatomies from the Osage, and the emigration of the Miamies to that neighborhood, it will be necessary to make some change in the agency. By a reference to the map you will observe that it will be geographically convenient to place the Peorias, Weas, Piankeshaws, and Miamies in the same sub-agency, and to attach the Ottowas and Chippewas to the Sac and Fox agency.

The Peorias have rapidly decreased within the last few years. They have no annuity, no smith, and live a considerable distance from where they can get any smiths' work done. They now number about sixty, and have a valuable body of land for its extent. They are anxious to sell, and to go and live with their neighbors, the Weas and Piankeshaws, who speak the same language, and are in fact the same people. The Weas and Piankeshaws would gladly receive them if they could bring with them a smith, which they need equally with the Peorias. I would suggest, for the purpose of saving this remnant of an excellent people from early extinc-

tion, that their land be purchased, and a smith given to them at a fixed price—paid, say \$600, to cover all expenses of smith and shop—together with an annuity per capita equal to the Weas, which is quite small. I am aware that the government has no immediate use for the land, but I would urge it, as good policy on the part of the government, to extinguish the Indian title to lands that they have no need of, wherever it can be done on advantageous terms, and with benefit to the Indians.

The large body of unappropriated land on the Kansas river is well adapted for the location of Indians; and I think the policy of the government should be to get as many of them located in that particular section of country as practicable. It is a farming country, and calculated to sustain a dense population; and the more closely the different tribes are brought in proximity to each other, the more efficient may be made the superintendence of the government, and the more the expenses of such superintendence be diminished. The policy of locating Indians upon large tracts of country, which are of no value to them except for agricultural purposes, I think has had a tendency to retard their improvement. I have observed that those neighborhoods that are most thickly settled, (provided they be not in villages,) advance more rapidly in general improvement than scattered settlements. By bringing them into close neighborhoods they will profit by the industry, enterprise, and success of each other. The lands lately obtained of the Pottawatomies, on the north of the Missouri river, were ceded to the United States by the first article of the treaty of Prairie du Chien of July 15, 1830, with the Sacs and Foxes, Medawakkanton, Nahpercoota, and Lasseton bands of Sioux, Omahas, Iowas, Ottoes, and Missourias, with this condition: "But it is understood that the lands ceded and relinquished by the treaty, are to be assigned and allotted, under the direction of the President of the United States, to the tribes now living thereon, or to such other tribes as the President may locate thereon, for hunting and other purposes."

It is evident from the conditions of the cession, that this land was not intended for whites, but for Indian purposes; and the government has heretofore acted upon this construction in relation to what is called the Platte purchase, and which now makes a part of the State of Missouri. By reference to treaties with the above-named parties (see Treaty Book, pages 674, 676, 683, 684, 690, and 694) it will be seen that the government entered into treaties with them for the final extinction of the Indian title to the Platte country before it was opened for white settlers; and, in these treaties, the government further pledges itself to a strict observance of the conditions of the treaty of 15th July, 1830.

The reservation is one which can be of no practical use to the Indians concerned, and I presume could be purchased at a small cost.

I would again call the attention of the Department to the necessity of buying out a road or roads to the mountains, and paying the Indians, through whose country they might pass, such compensation as the government might deem proper. No people, probably, are more tenacious of what they consider their rights, than the Indians. I do not believe that the amount they might be paid would be with them a matter of so much consideration as the acknowledgment of their rights by the government. A trifling compensation for this right of way would be calculated to secure their friendship towards the whites while passing through their country.

The condition of the Indians on the western prairies, who live almost

exclusively upon the buffalo, must, by the force of circumstances, in a few years be exceedingly precarious.

The buffalo is already greatly diminished in number, and, judging from the comparatively limited country upon which they range, must, in process of time, be entirely destroyed. The emigration to the west is already keeping up an almost continual tide of travel over the plains, and all experience proves that game rapidly disappears before the fire-arms of the white man. Notwithstanding that the Indians kill great numbers of the buffalo, they do not kill them wastefully; and are exceedingly careful not to alarm them when they have no use for them. Not so with the white man; he kills for the sake of killing; and complaints have reached this office from the Indians that the whites are wantonly destroying the buffalo—often killing them for their tongues.

When the buffalo becomes scarce, the stock and persons of the emigrants will hardly be safe in meeting with half-famished savages in pursuit of game, especially when they look upon the emigrants as the cause of the scarcity of their source of subsistence.

It would seem to me that the attention of the government should be directed to the future condition of these Indians, in order that the effect of the crisis, which must inevitably come upon them from the causes above referred to, may be relieved as much as possible. My personal knowledge of them and their country, does not enable me to make any suggestions; but it is to be hoped that the highly intelligent officer, Colonel Moore, who is now in the Upper Missouri, will make such suggestions as will be calculated to inform the Department in reference to the course that would be best calculated to promote the interests of those distant tribes, and to save them from final extinction.

There is at this time, and has been for several months past, a large number of Mormons (supposed to be from four to eight thousand) in the Indian country. They have passed into the Pottawatomie country at the Council Bluffs. A large number of them have crossed the Missouri river, and are on their way to Grand Island, in the Platte or Nebraska river, where they have made arrangements to winter. Another portion of them are desirous to remain until next spring on the Boyer river, in the Pottawatomie country; to which they have obtained the consent of the Indians. The sub-agent at that place reports that they are conducting themselves well, and do not seem disposed to interfere at all with the Indians. I have instructed him to use his influence to prevent a waste of timber by them.

I would beg leave to call your attention to the anomaly that exists in the compensation of the officers of this department. I presume that it is the desire of the government that the salaries of officers for similar services should be equal. The compensation to agents is \$1,500, with the necessary houses for their residence furnished by the United States; that of the sub-agent is \$750, with houses as for agents. There is not a shadow of difference in their duties, responsibilities, or authority. The only difference is in the mode of their appointment. I cannot see the least reason or justice why an agent with, in some instances, not a tithe of the responsibility of some of the sub-agents, and only separated by a few miles, should receive double the compensation. Common justice requires that the salaries of the agent and sub-agent should be equalized; and that the "sub" should be discontinued, as not at all applicable to their services.

The anomaly does not stop here: it equally applies to the compensation

of the superintendent. The business of this office has been regularly increasing for several years. The disbursements now annually amount to nearly \$500,000; his salary is \$1,500, out of which he has to pay house rent in this city, where it is presumed rents are as high as in any other city in the United States, and to be subject to many other expenses incident to a city life, which makes his salary very little better, if any, than the \$750 of the sub-agent.

The superintendent's salary is much less than that of other officers of the government in this city, whose duties or responsibilities are not greater.

I would respectfully suggest the propriety of a revision of the existing rules and regulations of the Department, many parts of which are now obsolete. They might be greatly abridged and simplified; and I would also call your attention to the necessity of enlarging the power of the agents, &c., to administer oaths in the Indian country or within their respective agencies.

Permit me, before closing, to advert to one other subject which seems to me to demand the attention of the Department, namely: the Pottawatomie land reservation claims. These reservations were doubtless intended for the individual benefit of the reservees. Many of them have been already disposed of by consent of the President, and, if a tenth of the rumors be true in relation to the sales, with but little benefit to the reservees. These claims are a source of constant inquiry, complaint, and dissatisfaction on the part of the reservees, and the heirs of deceased ones. Most of them are entirely ignorant of the mode of doing business; and the lands are deteriorating in value from the removal of the timber by trespassers, and the accumulation of State taxes. It is extremely important that this cause of discontent should be removed, and that the government, if practicable, should take some steps to enable holders to dispose of their reservations to advantage. I would suggest that, for the information of parties claiming as reservees, a statement be made for each of the Pottawatomie sub-agencies, showing the reservations that have been sold, by whom, and to whom; also, those unsold, and stating in what cases the President will consent to sales; and also establishing rules for the guidance of both seller and purchaser.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon WILLIAM MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington city.

No. 16.

UPPER MISSOURI AGENCY,
September 21, 1846.

In compliance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I respectfully submit the following report:

My long communication of July 20, embodies in substance nearly all the information that I have been enabled to obtain, but not in a shape adapted to an annual report.

I met my predecessor, Major Drips, as I ascended the river, and delivered the letter of the head of the Department to him. On my arrival at

Fort Pierre, a horse and a mule were handed over to me by Mr. Picotte, of the American Fur Company, for which I receipted. He had nothing else belonging to the government.

The band of "Yancton Sioux" had been notified to assemble at Fort Lookout or Campbell's trading house, to receive \$5,000 in such articles as their chiefs and braves had designated, in lieu of that amount stipulated by treaty to be delivered to them in agricultural implements, but which they had declined receiving. They had been disappointed in not receiving these articles the preceding year, and my reception would have been any thing but cordial had I not been so fortunate as to procure and bring them with me. Upon ascertaining that the goods were on board the boat, the Indians not only received me graciously, but with much more marked manifestation of pleasure than they usually display.

I have already furnished you a list of the articles purchased, delivered, and receipted for. The entire day was chiefly devoted to hearing and replying to the speeches of the headmen and braves. I availed myself of this occasion to explain very fully the objects of my location among them, and the anxiety of the President for their welfare. I informed them that their Great Grandfather (the President) regretted their unwillingness to receive agricultural instruments; that the buffalo, deer, and antelope were rapidly diminishing, and that they must in a short time turn their attention to agricultural pursuits, or perish; that the President deprecated the continuance of the wars they waged against the Pawnees, Arickarees, Gros Ventres, Crows, Ponkas, &c., as alike unnatural, wanton, and destructive to all parties; that I was especially instructed to ferret out and punish all those bad white men who introduced fire-water among them, and that I would reward them for every white man they arrested engaged in this unlawful traffic, or whose liquor they destroyed; that if their wars could not be otherwise restrained, the President would station his soldiers in their country to prevent them from destroying each other. To this "Iowa," the principal chief and orator, replied: That he fully concurred with me in the necessity of devoting a portion of their time to raising corn, pumpkins, squashes, beans, &c.; that he regretted more than I possibly could the introduction of "fire-water" among his people; that he never had used it, and hence his green old age. But his unmanageable young men went to St. Peter's and sold their skins, horses, and even squaws, for whiskey; that the use of it not unfrequently led to murders among themselves; that if I could be multiplied twenty times I could not guard against this evil over such an extensive territory; but perhaps the soldiers on the St. Peter's might break it up in that quarter if directed to drive bad white men from the public lands, and also from the Indian territory. Upon the subject of their internal wars he was very laconic and decided; remarking, "that if their Great Grandfather desired them to cease to war with their enemies, why did he not send each of them a petticoat and make squaws of them at once?"

He complained that petty tribes had been allowed schoolmasters, farmers, and blacksmiths, whilst the great Sioux nation had none.

I explained to him the reasons for this omission, and intimated that I had no doubt they could get a portion of their boys educated at the Choctaw Academy.

He answered, "No! They would return as the few who went to St. Louis had—drunkards—or die whilst away. *Here, here is the place—here*

it is always healthy." I left them with a promise to return about the 20th of July, and proceeded to Fort Pierre, 1,500 miles above St. Louis, the central and principal trading-house of Pierre Chouteau, jr. & Co., commonly called the American Fur Company. Here I met a large number of lodges of the Tetowans and the Bruellas bands of Sioux.

After giving a feast to the chiefs and braves, of coffee and pilot bread, I distributed powder, lead, tobacco, knives, &c., among them. I was, in return, invited to their council lodge to hold a talk, and to partake of a dog feast, their favorite dish. Having no prejudices upon this subject, I cheerfully united in the feast. After many speeches and a full explanation of all the subjects previously adverted to, the council terminated.

The next morning we set out for Fort Union, near the mouth of the Yellow Stone, about 700 miles above this point. From hence, as we ascended, the banks of the river exhibited strong traces of iron and stone coal. After journeying about three hundred miles we reached Fort Clarke, contiguous to which reside the entire Arickaree nation. They had been recently visited by the measles; and, in consequence of their ignorance of the disease, and its appropriate remedies, it destroyed a large number of them.

Attributing this scourge to the whites, they were said to be much exasperated; accordingly, every proper precaution was adopted to prevent a surprise, as they are known to be peculiarly treacherous. They, however, met us with great apparent cordiality. We held a long talk with them, in which they made many apologies for their threats, and for the ignorance of their young men in attributing their affliction to their white brethren. I distributed the usual presents and took leave, promising to call on my return. These Indians live in a perpetual state of war with the Sioux and other tribes. In consequence of their inferiority in number, they are compelled to live in two fortified towns. They are proverbially treacherous and thievish. It was this band that committed the outrage upon the late General Ashley and his party, and against whom Colonel Leavenworth was sent. That officer, doubtless, in obedience to his orders, attempted rather to overawe them than to punish them, and to this day the Arickarees and the Sioux, the allies of our army on that occasion, ridicule the expedition; as an Indian, in his unreformed state, can only comprehend the law of strict retaliation, and always construes forbearance into fear, although our government and its troops were undoubtedly influenced by the purest philanthropy.

These Indians, in common with all the other tribes, manifest great mechanical ingenuity. They grow large crops of corn, potatoes, &c. &c., which they sell to the whites, who in turn sell it to the Sioux. From their concentrated condition, a suitable manual labor school and a sincere and efficient missionary might reclaim these people from destruction.

The next village is the Mandans. This noble race of Indians has been nearly annihilated by the small pox. Although neighbors to the Arickarees, they are free from all their vices. I had a very satisfactory interview with them, and, making them presents, left for Fort Berthold, situated at the Gros-Ventre village, who are concentrated in a town protected by pickets, and maintain perpetual war with the Sioux. This tribe is remarkable for their attachment to the whites, and their fidelity to their engagements; yet, from the vast superiority of the Sioux in number, this tribe, as well as the Arickarees, must at no distant day be extinguished, unless the gov-

ernment interfere in such a manner as to put an end to these unnecessary wars. After a long talk with the chiefs and braves, and a distribution of presents, Four Bears, their most distinguished chief, came forward with a human scalp fastened to a pole, (the scalp of Bonaventura Lebrun,) and presenting it, addressed me as follows: "My father, we have often been told that you pale faces below are as numerous as the grass in the prairie; we find it hard to make our young warriors, who have never seen your great cities on the big salt lake, believe this. Look here! (holding up the scalp,) a Sioux did this deed, and they have perpetrated many such outrages. If you are so numerous and powerful, why is this tolerated? Surely this man has some friends and relations below. He did not spring spontaneously from the ground, like a tree. If not, why is he not revenged? They are killing your men to-day, and stealing your horses to-morrow, and yet no step is taken to punish a Sioux. If you are so powerful, something must be wrong. We are afraid our great father here (the agent) does not tell these things to our Great Grandfather on the border of the big salt lake, or he would send his soldiers here to prevent or punish such conduct. When you go down you must not hide it from him, nor speak to him with a forked tongue. Surely, then, our Great Grandfather will awake, and put an end to these scenes." I repeat this at Four Bears' earnest request. This is one of the fruits of these wars. Eight white men have fallen victims to it within the past year.

If a white man takes up his residence with one tribe, whether a renegade from society, or a licensed trader in the regular pursuit of his business, he is identified with the tribe with which he may live, and his property stolen or his life taken as readily by a hostile tribe as if he constituted one of the nation.

In my reply to Four Bears, among other matters, I intimated a wish and expressed a hope that the government would adopt prompt and efficient measures to terminate these wars, by stationing a few troops near them, and urged them to set the example of forbearance.

On my return, I ascertained that when I was passing up they were preparing for a war expedition, and that in consequence of my representations they had deferred it until *next spring, to learn what their Great Grandfather intended to do in reference to this subject*. Their local position, also, invites a school and other measures in aid of the cause of civilization and Christianity.

We reached Fort Union on the 4th of July, situated three miles above the mouth of the Yellow Stone: the weather cold enough to require a fire. This is the country of the Assinaboines, and they ordinarily trade at this point; but, since our government has very properly prohibited the introduction of liquor, they have been induced to trade with the British, who procure their liquor from the Selkirk settlement, from Fort Hall, on the Columbia. They were deaf to my remonstrances, and announced their fixed determination to trade where liquor could be had, regardless of distance, expense, or inconvenience.

Thus it is we have been cut off from this valuable trade, without the slightest amelioration of the condition of the Indian, and this unhappy state of things must continue unless the recent Oregon treaty (of the terms of which I am wholly ignorant) has provided a remedy, or an adequate force is employed to arrest this trade. To these Indians I also made small presents.

Above this the next fort and trading house is Fort Alexander, about 400 miles above this point on the Yellow Stone, at which the Crow and Snake Indians trade. These are comparatively moral and sober tribes—always regarding the life of a white man as sacred. They are, however, warlike and brave.

The Chouteau Company have also another trading house, Fort Lewis, about six hundred and fifty miles above this, on the Missouri, where the Blackfeet, Gros-Ventres of the prairies, Blood Indians, Pedgans, and Catawahas trade. There is also another trading company on Bear river, of Messrs. Bridge and Vasques, who trade with the same Indians.

These Indians are represented as faithless, vindictive, and merciless. It is, however, said to have had its origin in some cruel and base acts of white men in their country. Certain it is, that several outrages have been perpetrated both by Indians and whites in this remote quarter of the country, that ought to have been investigated and punished long since. I need hardly say I shall do my utmost to prevent the recurrence of such affairs, and to cause the authors to be punished should they recur.

I returned to Fort Pierre on the 19th July, and immediately set out, according to promise, for Fort Lookout, 90 miles below this, it being the headquarters of the Yancton and Santie bands of Sioux. I soon arrived among them, and remained three days; but, as all the principal men were out hunting, and would not return before the 20th of August, I returned to Fort Pierre, having experienced a taste of prairie travelling under a scorching sun, and being compelled to travel the first day about forty-five miles before we obtained water for ourselves or horses.

Whilst making preparations to visit the Platte, an express reached this apprising the Chouteau Company that an opposition trading company had been organized in Saint Louis, under the name of the "St. Louis Fur Company," and that a boat containing their outfit would soon ascend the river.

The agent of the first named company addressed me a formal request to search this boat, stating that he had been informed that a large supply of liquor for the Indians was on board. I accordingly awaited their arrival; and, when they did arrive, made a thorough search in the presence of the agent desiring it, without discovering any liquor. I also examined their invoices, and swore their clerk to their accuracy. After examining their license, they departed for the Yellow Stone.

They have established their principal post for the Sioux at the mouth of Medicine creek, forty-five miles below Fort Pierre. The rivalry between these companies is very bitter, and the jealousy intense. I hope this may at least result in benefit to the Indians, if to no one else.

An arrival from the Platte apprizes me that all the chiefs and braves of the Ogalalla Sioux have gone on a war party against the Crows, and hence would render a visit to them at present useless.

The Indians of the Platte complain bitterly of the passage of the Oregon emigrants through their country; and also of the wanton destruction of game, the firing of the prairie, and other injuries. They say they should be compensated for the right of way, and the emigrants restricted by law, or the presence of a military force, from the unnecessary destruction of game. There is doubtless some foundation for these complaints; but it is no less true that the poor emigrant is frequently severely taxed in the shape of beggars; that they dare not refuse, under penalty of being robbed of their

stock. Much of this dissatisfaction is produced by renegade white men, who live with the Indians, and who have thrown off the restraints of civilization, and are, in every sense, much worse than the native Indian.

It is every way desirable that at least the vicious portion of this population should be expelled from the country.

Adjoining this branch of the Sioux live the Arapahoes and the Cheyenne Indians, residing between the Arkansas and the north fork of the Platte. These Indians have been plundered and demoralized by a band of unlicensed traders, procuring their liquor from Taos, in New Mexico. Some of these traders are Mexicans, and some citizens of the United States.

It is to be hoped that the troops to be stationed in that quarter, united with the exertions of the agent, may be enabled to break up this destructive traffic.

It seems to me that the number of Indians embraced in the upper Missouri agency, the extent of the country owned and occupied by them, their relative position, and the character of the different tribes, or the value of the trade with them, have been very imperfectly understood. The Sioux alone are believed to have upwards of 5,000 lodges, averaging over ten souls to each lodge. A glance at the map will disclose the extent of the country. Their ceaseless wars, and fierce and treacherous character, have been already adverted to.

The company of Choteau & Co., alone, have in the country goods to the amount of \$120,000—original cost. The Saint Louis company twenty to \$30,000, besides the companies of Bridges & Vasques, on Bear river, and others on the Platte. The expenses of these traders are very heavy, and consequently the prices of their goods must correspond. Sugar and coffee, formerly one dollar per pound, now 75 cents; ten cent calico, one dollar per yard; and even large quantities of corn have been brought from Saint Louis and sold at 75 cents per gallon, and often higher.

You will readily perceive that I consider it necessary to make a radical change in this agency. As at present organized, the agent is charged with the duty of resisting and punishing infractions of the intercourse law, whether committed by a large and powerful trading company, or a band of lawless unlicensed traders. The first have the power; from their extensive intercourse with the Indians, and the number of their employees, to counteract every movement adverse to their schemes, and to render his stay in the country impossible by denying him shelter or aid of any kind; while the second travel in small armed bands, prepared to resist the execution of the law by a single agent and his interpreter.

To achieve the benevolent objects of the government, a few troops would be required, under the command of a firm and intelligent officer, at or near the Yellow Stone; a similar number at or near Fort Pierre, and on the Platte. A single company of the mounted regiment at each of the first named points would be quite sufficient. At both points, horses are kept fat all the year without corn or salt: a single man guards 100 horses. In August, as much prairie hay is cut and cured as subsists them through the winter. The soil is strongly impregnated with salt and alum, and the country perfectly healthy.

Either an agent at the Yellow Stone, and another on the Platte, or an appropriation to pay for the services of men to be employed in this service,

under the direction of the agent, is indispensable to the accomplishment of the objects of the government.

Nothing can be more apparent, that no one man can perform the duties of this agency *as it should be done*. If it requires an agent for so many of the small concentrated and semi-civilized tribes, less than the number indicated would be inadequate. This change, with cheap agency houses, rendering them completely independent of the different trading companies, and the institution of manual labor schools, would go far to preserve, reform, and elevate these neglected children of the forest. Schools I regard as of primary importance; no rational expectation can be entertained of success in the propagation of Christianity, until a foundation has been first laid by a more general diffusion of knowledge. This accomplished, and the spread of the Christian religion will be an easy task. If a small portion of the large sums now lavished in India, and in other foreign nations, was devoted to these neglected people, incalculable good might be done. Let their zeal for the propagation of the good cause begin at home, and exert itself in lifting from almost brute degradation the original owners of the soil of our great, free, and prosperous country. You have recommended that the funds for education and for agricultural purposes be placed in the hands of the American board of missions, under such conditions and restrictions as might be agreed upon by the Department and the board.

This suggestion is a very good one, if the character of teacher and missionary can always be united. The missionary and teacher should invariably be a married man; Christianity is the only religion that places woman upon an equality with man. The Indian woman must be raised from the abject condition of being mere "hewers of wood and drawers of water," to a level with their Indian lords and masters. They must be impressed with the sinfulness of polygamy; and a female teacher is indispensable in the accomplishment of these objects, while a male teacher could impart such instruction as his sex need—the mechanic arts, cultivation of the soil, the folly and sinfulness of wars, horse stealing, drunkenness, &c.

As an illustration of an Indian education, a few days since a party of braves who had returned from an unsuccessful buffalo hunt came to beg some ammunition. A very old man strongly recommended his son to me, because he had individually stolen twenty horses from the Pawnees. In these achievements he had displayed skill, cunning, and bravery, qualities highly cherished by the Indians.

On the 21st of August, I was notified by the Yanctons that they desired my presence at Fort Lookout, at the distribution of their goods. On the 23d I reached that place, and found an encampment of 400 lodges of the Yanctons, besides a host of stragglers from nearly all the bands. The goods received by them on the 19th of June remained untouched. Some bad white men had excited them greatly, by representing that a part of their goods had been taken by the American Fur Company. I assembled the chiefs and braves, and employed a special interpreter selected by themselves, and laboriously explained the price of every article when delivered to them, and compared it with the prices they had been accustomed to pay, and succeeded in satisfying them that every thing had been conducted fairly. This over, at the various feasts they renewed the discussion of all the topics partially discussed at a previous interview: their want of a school, and a practical farmer and blacksmith; regretted their rejection of agricultural instruments on a former occasion; said they had hired the traders

to plough and plant a large quantity of ground in corn; that their ignorance of the fact that the corn required to be ploughed more than once, and *also hoed by the squaws*, together with the dry season, had made their crop prove almost a failure. They urged these and kindred subjects with great earnestness. Of course I could do nothing more than promise to represent their wishes to the government, and to express my opinion in favor of their views. They renewed their complaints against the citizens residing on the St. Peter's, Des Moines, &c., furnishing their young men with liquor, and cheating them out of their guns, horses, and buffalo robes; and expressed the opinion that the recent purchase of the Pottawatomie lands by the government would greatly increase this evil, by bringing lawless border settlers into immediate contact with their people. After hearing all their grievances and wants, I left them. The evil apprehended might be, to a great extent, obviated, by a removal (after the termination of the war with Mexico) of the dragoons from Fort Leavenworth, where they are not, in my judgment, required, to Vermillion. If higher up the river, the dragoons could be usefully employed and cheaply subsisted; and the position at present occupied by them is every way admirably adapted to infantry or artillery. Since the first institution of this agency the game has greatly diminished, and will continue to diminish; and the Indians, conscious of this fact, are beginning to cast off their nomadic character, and exhibit a strong disposition to turn their attention to growing corn, &c.; and if the government mean to render their parental care of them efficient and practically useful, it appears to me they should encourage and aid them in their efforts. The amount allowed to these Indian tribes for presents is a mockery, and only calculated to embarrass the agent. This will be made more apparent by recurring to the number of Indians, and the fact that these articles are obliged to be purchased in the country at the prices fixed by the traders, as the agent has no place of deposit for the goods, and no means of transportation for them if he had; no other boats but those belonging to the trading companies ascend the river as high as necessary, and they carry only for their owners.

On the 31st of August I left for Vermillion, 400 miles below Fort Pierre, at the mouth of l'Eau-qui-court, the dividing line between the Sioux and Poncas. On that side of the Missouri I found an encampment of 200 Mormons, and perhaps a similar number of Poncas. The Mormons were building houses to winter there, intending to proceed in the spring to California. The Indians received them with pleasure, regarding them as a protection against the Sioux. I also learned that a war party of the Sioux had only a week previous surprised a party of the Poncas, and killed one and wounded another. I had a very full conversation with President Miller, the leader of the Mormons, and regard him as a very intellectual man. He declared that the bad treatment of a few had not weakened their devoted attachment to our free institutions. Most of his followers are originally from New England. As soon as I reached Vermillion, I ascertained that the disorders represented to prevail there had been greatly exaggerated. One Indian had been killed, the result of whiskey procured from the St. Peter's settlement. I conversed and held a talk with, and distributed presents among them. One of their most intelligent, and at the same time troublesome chiefs, brought up the treaty of 1830; and presented his view of the provisions of it, obviously for the purpose of spreading dissatisfaction, and increasing his own consequence. Not having been furnished

with the treaty, I could only assure him and them that I would procure it, and that the government would do them justice.

In giving the Yanctons a feast, in reciprocation of the dog feast, I presented them salt, and they used it freely. As the salt lake is not very distant, and calculated to furnish salt for the whole nation of Sioux, I inquired why they did not procure it. They answered that the Yanctonies claimed the exclusive use of it. I told them that it certainly belonged to the nation. They said they held the right of the several bands into which the nation was divided sacred. Each band claims the exclusive use of certain portions of their common territory, as each State with us claims exclusive jurisdiction of the soil of their own State. That they were divided into the Tetonsarans, Yanctons, Yanctonies, Ogalallas, Two Rille band, Brucellares, &c. This entire country seems to be peculiarly adapted to horses and cattle; to the former of which, and to his dog, the Indian is much devoted, using the horse in his wars and in the pursuit of buffalo, and the dog to haul his wood, and, when driven to it or as a rare luxury, as food. The wild animals of the country consist of buffalo, elk, antelope, deer, (common and black tail,) grisly bear, big horn sheep, innumerable wolves, prairie dog, badger, &c.; and the fruit of superior red and yellow plums, wild cherries, gooseberries, service berries, buffalo berries. A kind Providence has supplied many plants adapted to the few diseases prevalent here. But three of these have attracted my particular attention; in French, (most spoken here, after Indian,) pinette de prairie, or, in English, balsam or weed, an excellent remedy for dyspepsia or diseases of the kidneys; blackroot, an infallible cure for the bite of the rattlesnake; and sarsaparilla.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

T. P. MOORE,
Indian Agent, Upper Missouri.

To Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

P. S.—Since the foregoing was prepared, I am apprized of the appointment of Captain Thomas Fitzpatrick to one of the agencies recommended by me. A better selection could not have been made. T. P. M.

No. 17.

AGENCY FOR SACS AND FOXES,
Osage River, September 1, 1846.

SIR: Within the year which has elapsed since the corresponding date at which my last annual report of the affairs of my charge was rendered, a vast change has taken place with reference to many of the most important circumstances of their condition. This change, connected as it so intimately is with much that is of paramount concern to themselves, cannot fail to offer subjects for observation, as regards their future, of the deepest interest to those whose taste or feelings may lead them to be thus observant; while such as are led, from official position, as well as those who, from other situations, and from peculiar motives of conduct, are similarly led, to consider an imperative sense of duty as involving and now demanding, if possible, more than heretofore, its own vigorous, vigilant, and unwearying

exercise, must, if true to their duties and convictions, as also to a sentiment of humanity, not only observe with a still more intense solicitude, but be also continually prepared to exert such influence and apply such action as their observation may properly indicate. Nor will watchfulness and readiness be alone sufficient, for unless to these shall be joined a fixed determination, they will prove but of little avail. Therefore, a resolution is no less essential to fulfil towards these people, so deserving of our deep regard, every duty, alike indifferent to unfounded prejudice or dissatisfaction, to clamor or to threatenings, from whatever source they may spring; and the official who prescribes to himself and attempts to practise this course can expect no easy task, thrust into collision, as he often is, with such ever-varying and discordant interests around him—forced now to conciliate, again to control, and not infrequently to combat them.

Our legislature and our administrative government, with those who serve it, bear a relation of most responsible importance to our red neighbors, and to none of them at the present time, as I think, more than to the tribes with whose charge I am vested. The one must appropriate and the other apply the annual stipends which treaties require, and too many there are who, if this were promptly effected, would gladly relieve us from the exercise of any other sense or duty of responsibility, unless it were to relax a little from the stringency of our already feeble and inadequate enactments. But while selfishness, with its many and ever-accompanying attributes, would thus easily desire contentment, the eye of humanity ranges over a wider vision. Contemplating a more extended prospect, it sees that although much to rejoice over has been already effected, much to increase the beauties of the scene yet can and should be done. And the heart of humanity, thankful to that legislature by which, at different periods, so much has been accomplished, lives upon the hope that the growing necessity, becoming day by day more palpable, aided by a heart-born importunity, respectfully repeated, will ere long induce it to accomplish more.

As I said at the commencement, the Sacs and Foxes have been subjected to a great change: to this change, with greater or less readiness, they must now accommodate themselves; and besides that during the process of such accommodation our feelings and sympathies would most naturally be called into action, it does not appear that a more fitting period could offer in which, if rightly directed, they could prove more eminently useful. Hitherto, and for so long a term of years that even their own history is based at best upon an uncertain tradition, they have owned and occupied the region whose last remaining portion they have finally yielded up; and, deserting forever the hunting grounds of their ancestors, leaving behind them their early neighbors and early friendships as well as enmities, they are transferred to a strange climate, and to a land the home, even within the recollection of the present race, of their deadliest foes, there to seek new friendships and alliances, and perhaps entail upon their posterity new enmities. Reared upon prairies once rich in game, even its rapid disappearance in recent years would not constitute a necessity sufficient to overcome their fondness for a life endeared by habit and early partiality. But now brought to a country comparatively without game, aware of their situation, their thoughts seem to be settling upon some other plan of subsistence. It is these and similar considerations which lead me to view their change as bringing up subjects of interest, not to themselves alone, but

likewise to those whose aim is to advance the causes of civilization, of moral and religious culture.

Again, these people have come out from a country endeared by tenderest recollections: their cradle, the home of their youth, the sepulchre of their ancestors, and of many dearest friends; thus left to the uncertain guardianship of strangers, to be too often sacrilegiously betrayed. We are prone to attribute to the red man a stolid indifference to such subjects; but I know with what reason, or rather with what want of it. We understand the influence of such sentiments upon more cultivated natures; and may it not be that upon those confined to a more limited range of thought, and strangers to many of the reflections that bring comfort to us, these feelings may be more keenly impressed? Not only have they thus removed, but with a promptitude and a fidelity, if not without a parallel certainly not surpassed, and most fully corroborating the high character which I have been ever proud to give them. Adhering with an unabated pertinacity to their primitive wildness, studious of no change, their nature has stamped upon it many of the noblest traits: a fidelity, a regard to truth, a sense of honesty and honor, a pride of person and nation, which even, when compared with their more civilized Indian neighbors, gives them in the eye of the multitude the higher ground. Is not here a field and call for action upon the legislative power to step to their rescue? upon the Christian to look upon the ready whitened harvest? upon each to render to the other that co-operation without which the unaided labors of either might prove ineffective?

Does the public officer propose to the Indian any measure tending to his benefit, unless it may happen to accord with his various interests that are clashing against each other and himself? (and this among so many could be only by chance:) these, by the inciting of feigned suspicions, by imparting false motives, by pandering to debasing lust and vitiated appetites, and by many other iniquitous means, are ever ready (and too often successful) to gain the advantage. The low, vicious, and profligate half-breeds and other characters, usually dependent for their precarious living upon those they serve, become willing instruments; to-day serving this interest—tomorrow bought over by an additional dollar to its opposing one; acquiring from their association among the Indians much influence over them by thus holding up their *true friend* as an object of jealousy, rendering them the easy dupes of the hard-hearted speculator. Thus, when it is proposed to employ a physician, to erect a little hospital in which the sick can be cared for and his life prolonged, or to send some of their youths to a distant school, opposers soon start up, with whom the question appears to be, will not this take a few dollars from their means? And the officer who persists in pursuing his convictions of duty must often find unpleasant collisions forced upon him; perplexity in performing his duties, of which advantage will be endeavored to his discredit; clamors and attempts to impair the confidence which may be entertained by those to whom he is responsible. But while I speak thus, I should do wrong not to say there are those interested among the Sacs and Foxes from whom I have always experienced the most cordial assistance in fulfilling my duties and in promoting benevolent designs. Still, "these things ought not to be."

With the exception of about one hundred, in which number were many of the sick and infirm, the Sacs and Foxes passed out of their former country within the period prescribed by treaty. They, however, did not

all continue their emigrating march with equal perseverance. Different influences—some extraneous and improper, others originating among themselves, and less avoidable—created delays, whereby a portion of the tribes have not even yet arrived at their new home. By the commencement of the current year the entire tribe of Sacs, with about one fifth of the Foxes, had concentrated upon the Kansas river, there awaiting the arrival of the remainder, in order to a joint examination of the two tracts which the Indian Department had offered them, from which to select one to become their future home. The consent of the Indians upon whose land they had halted had been obtained for their temporary stay. But the other portion of the Foxes, with their principal chief among them, not appearing up to so late a period that planting of corn could be no longer deferred, the bands which had crossed the Missouri, forming as they did a large majority of the united nation, and including among them all who had thus far manifested a continued compliance with their obligations, believed longer delay unjustifiable. They proceeded to a selection, by which the tract lying upon the head of the Osage river became their home. A large number of these Indians immediately commenced their settlement upon this tract, while the remainder, having already undertaken farming operations upon the land where they had wintered, deemed it most advisable to remain until after the maturing of their crop, with the intention of then joining their brethren. The distance is thirty miles, and my greatest assurance of a prompt fulfilment of their expressed intention rests in the fact that these form the bands under the immediate influence and control of Keokuk.

By the treaty of 1842 the Sacs and Foxes ceded all the lands then remaining to them in Iowa, agreeing to remove therefrom by the 11th October, 1845. During the interval, the United States were to select a home for them upon the Missouri, or some of its waters. This was done, and before the last day of September, 1845, the Sacs had departed from Iowa. On the 8th October the Foxes began their march, so by the 11th of that month the entire nation, except about a hundred before spoken of, had actually left their former home. At some time previous to date of starting, it had been determined in council that, owing to their abundant supply of horses and plentiful crop, they would need no assistance in removing. Those parties which availed themselves of the arrangements made by Keokuk, with the concurrence of the undersigned, completed their journey by direct routes at an early day, without inconvenience or suffering; while a portion, whom sinister influences led to reject our arrangements, selecting circuitous routes and delaying upon their march, were subjected to some embarrassment. The band of Foxes which is yet behind, in passing through the country of the Pottawatomies, was induced to make a halt there. I am told they were invited to stop by the chiefs of that people. They are ancient friends and allies, and speak a language almost identical. An unfortunate jealousy against the Sacs has prevailed among these Foxes for many years; and possibly the persuasions of the interested, combined with other considerations, have been more or less effective in causing this halt. But it is to be presumed that the entire people will be congregated here by the period for the annuity payment of the present year.

The tract of land which, by treaty, and by successive acts of the government and Indians in accordance therewith, has now become the home of the latter, lies in contact upon two of its sides with lands of partially civilized Indians, the Shawnees and Chippewas. It is pleasantly situated,

moderately well timbered, the timber being of excellent quality. Its varieties of surface and scenery are agreeably diverse. Spring water is scarce, while that of the streams is deemed fatal to health, and a rocky substratum renders it difficult to procure wells. The climate appears pleasant. We had heard no other than a very sickly character ascribed to it; but thus far at least, notwithstanding a long duration of excessive heat, our exposed situation, and unacclimated habits, our apprehensions have proved entirely unfounded. A growing acquaintance with the country has served to change my original impressions concerning it, and my opinion is becoming daily confirmed that it at least ought to satisfy the Indians. It is of essential importance that the Chippewa boundary line be established and marked out without delay. We are about 65 miles distant, by the road at present used, from Westport, Jackson county, Mo., to which place letters should be addressed.

Thus far I have received no instructions in regard to such agency buildings, smith shops, &c., as are contemplated. The smiths have erected a temporary forge, where they can perform such mending and other work as is within their means; but these are limited, because until I have some place for the security and protection of the iron and steel, for the due preservation and safekeeping of which I should be accountable, I am unwilling to incur the risk of bringing it out.

In September of last year, there were 2,278 Indians of the Sacs and Foxes.

Herewith please find the several papers annually required of me.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN BEACH,
United States Indian Agent.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

No. 18.

COUNCIL BLUFFS SUB-AGENCY,
September 11, 1846.

SIR: The time having arrived at which it is made my duty to lay before you an annual report of the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency, I have the honor of submitting the following:

There has been no material change in the condition or habits of the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomes, of this sub-agency, for the past year—health excepted. The largest portion of this nation are located on or near the Missouri river; they have suffered much with diseases of different character—some of the most malignant; the number of deaths is estimated at one-tenth part of the population. I cannot too strongly impress upon you the necessity of furnishing this nation with a physician as soon as convenient.

Their agricultural pursuits are not as good as last year, owing to the wet, backward spring; however, they will raise a tolerable crop of corn, potatoes, pumpkins, and beans. The unsettled condition of this nation for some years has prevented their making the improvements necessary for convenience and comfort.

This nation has no school nor religious denomination among them; both of which I hope will be furnished at the earliest convenience.

The nation has two blacksmiths, who have been constantly engaged during the spring in making and repairing agricultural implements, and the remainder of the season in making and repairing guns, traps, axes, knives, fire-steels, &c. They are constantly engaged, and contribute largely, but cannot supply all their wants.

Some efficient step should be taken, if possible, to prevent the frequent use, and ease of obtaining and introducing whiskey to this nation. The article is kept in great abundance near the State line, where the squaws and young men exchange horses, guns, blankets, and other articles that they can get on credit from the traders, for whiskey. If the State would enact a law imposing a heavy fine on any white person who should be found in possession of any property known to have belonged to an Indian, and enforce it by imprisonment in jail or penitentiary, it would to a great extent stop the use of this pernicious article. A fine without a penalty is of but little use.

I am of opinion that it would be to the interest of the nation to have the number of traders reduced, and require those that remained to furnish goods at a given and reasonable per centage; and, further, require them not to extend their credits beyond one-half of the amount annually received.

It is a general opinion that competition will regulate trade. It is not so here. When the Indian is hungry and naked, and an opportunity offers to buy whiskey with goods, he will buy at any price demanded. There is no doubt, at first sight, some will say that to carry out my views in this matter it would create a monopoly by legislative action: if so, the same objection would apply to the appointment of sutler for the convenience of soldiers at any of the military posts.

I am of opinion that a few white men of industrious habits and good morals would be advantageous to this nation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. MITCHELL,
Indian Sub-agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 19.

WYANDOT INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
October 9, 1846.

SIR: Nothing remarkable has transpired at this sub-agency since my last report. The people of the Wyandot nation are generally in the full enjoyment of good health; they have been visited by no prevailing disease during the past unusually hot summer.

They are making commendable advancement in agricultural pursuits, as you will discover from the accompanying statement of the "Census and Statistical Report" of the Wyandot nation. Their new home begins to exhibit the advanced civilization and improvement of this people. With a soil unsurpassed in fertility, contiguous to an improving and well settled portion of the State of Missouri, and with ample advantages for transport-

ing their surplus produce to market, their country will soon rival that of their white neighbors.

The majority of the Wyandots have already erected permanent and comfortable houses, and have made and are making such other improvements as their time and means would permit. They have been much embarrassed, and their improvements much retarded, for the want of their improvement money due from their Ohio lands. That difficulty is now removed, and they are rejoicing that the justice of the United States government enables them to relieve themselves from a heavy indebtedness, incurred on the faith of that fund: at the same time that it places them in a condition to improve their habitations and enlarge their agricultural operations, we may hope that hereafter there will be no serious obstacle in the way of their steady advancement in the arts and comforts of civilization.

But while I am gratified in being able to speak highly of the improvement of the Wyandots in other particulars, candor compels me to say that many of them are the degraded victims of intemperance; they have not escaped the too common fate of the Indian, in his intercourse with the designing white man, and, with the means in their power, spend their time in riotous dissipation.

These are the only exceptions to the general good character and prosperity of this people, and the degradation of this class is the more apparent when contrasted with the fine deportment of the others.

They have among them men of intelligence and highly cultivated minds, who would do no discredit to any enlightened society. They have many (and I am happy to say a majority) who are orderly, temperate, and industrious, many of whom are exemplary members of the church.

They have, also, an organized and well-encouraged temperance society among them, in which strenuous and zealous efforts are made to reclaim that portion of the people who have fallen to the lowest depths of degradation, with the aid of the white man. It is too well known, however, that no moral influences are sufficient to restrain the appetite of the Indian for whiskey; at the same time, none but the most stringent and well enforced laws can curb the cupidity of that class of white men who are engaged in this disgraceful traffic. A great difficulty exists in the enforcement of the existing laws, in the punishment of offences committed within the limits of Missouri. The fact that the testimony of the Indian is not received in such cases, in connexion with the extreme technicality of criminal practice, renders conviction nearly impossible. We are compelled to witness the daily effects of the brutalizing practices of white men in our vicinity, while we are powerless to inflict punishment, the craft of the whisky trader easily [evading] the only kind of proof we are allowed to use in court. This unwise restriction upon the use of Indian testimony, in cases of this description, should, in my humble opinion, be removed. I should then entertain a hope of greatly diminishing the traffic in ardent spirits with the Indians, and more especially if to this could be added imprisonment; for but few men engage in this low grade of business who are able to pay a fine when assessed. In almost all cases, they are as destitute of permanent means as they must necessarily be of moral honesty. Consequently, the Missouri statute has no terror for them. I am proud in being able to bear testimony that all the most virtuous citizens of the State of Missouri (and they are not a few) show these disturbers of the peace no countenance whatever.

It would be well worthy the consideration of the Department to devise

some means by which this difficulty can be removed; this once effected, and you have done more to raise the standard of Indian character, and to perpetuate the race of the red man, than has or can be done by all the means made use of for years past or to come.

And permit me here to suggest that some person, familiar with the necessities of the case, be authorized by the Department to bring this subject before the legislature of Missouri at its next session, and urge the adoption of such measures by the State government as would be effectual in removing this difficulty. I have the confidence to believe that much good would result from such a course.

The Wyandots were called together by me, after my arrival here with their annual annuity, and decided, by a general vote, that the annuity for the current year should be paid to heads of families and individuals by their agent in person. I accordingly proceeded to make the payment, and have just concluded it.

Owing to the great amount due the Delawares for lands, \$10,000, and the other debts of the nation being considerable, the *pro rata* amounted to but \$16 50; formerly they have divided \$20 *per capita*.

I am gratified, however, in being able to inform you that the people seem well satisfied with the amount they received, and seem rather to rejoice that their lands are being paid for, as they had contracted.

The only remaining uneasiness with the Wyandots is, that the contract which they entered into with the Delawares, in relation to their purchase of lands of the latter, has not yet been ratified by the government. Although they do not attach blame upon the government for this delay, it nevertheless is to be regretted that delay was found necessary. Both Wyandots and Delawares are now anxious for the adoption of what is termed a "tri-party treaty," for the final settlement of this important question, important to both nations; especially important to the Wyandots, as they feel timid about making permanent improvements until their title is made good to them. To some it answers as an apology for their doing little or no work whatever. It is again important to the Wyandots that this question of title should be settled, that they may use the large amounts of money which many of them have in making improvements for themselves, before it is eked out elsewhere and for less important purposes.

The church established in this nation by the Methodist Episcopal Society is now under the care of Rev. James Peery, a worthy missionary of that connexion. The church is in a flourishing condition, and has many exemplary members among the people of the nation; their meetings are well attended, and are marked by great propriety of deportment. Truth compels me to say that I have never witnessed better order in church, nor more devoted worshippers, than are to be found in a Wyandot meeting.

There is a fund arising from the valuation of the "Mission Farm," on the Wyandot reservation in Ohio, which the Wyandots are very desirous should be retained in the nation and expended in the erection of a suitable house for worship. I fully concur with people in that the remaining balance of said fund should not be withdrawn from the nation. A large proportion of this fund has already been paid to the Missionary Society, and even-handed justice would seem to aid us in the above opinion. It is to be hoped that the Department will take such steps in regard to this matter as will meet the wishes of the people.

The schools established (two) in this nation, under the direction of the

council, are in a flourishing condition, and promise much for the future. The late appropriation of their annual "education fund" came in good time, and I have no doubt but it will be properly applied by the chiefs, to whom I have paid the amount due for two years past, \$1,000.

The Wyandots number about 565 souls who reside here; there are some others scattered in various places, the number or condition of whom I have no means of knowing.

We have an abundant crop of corn, beans, potatoes, and other vegetables, more than sufficient for the use of the people.

My statistical report and census will contain much information, which otherwise would have been embodied in this report.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD HEWITT,
Indian Sub-agent.

HON. THOS. H. HARVEY,
Supt. Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 20.

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY, *September 25, 1846.*

SIR: I entered on the duties of the office of sub-agent on the 11th ultimo. I found the condition of the Sacs and Foxes much better than I had anticipated; their moral and intellectual character is much superior to what I had been led to expect, and I was well pleased to find them anxious to turn their attention more to the cultivation of the soil. They have already expressed a strong desire to have more ground broke and fenced. Their present year's crop of corn, pumpkins, beans, potatoes, &c., is abundant, though much of it has been raised in patches, protected only by a light temporary fence, of their own construction. They are particularly anxious to have a mill erected, which would be of incalculable advantage, not only for the grinding of their own grain, but in preventing their frequent visits across the river—the keeping them farther from temptations, which they have hardly the power if they have the inclination to resist.

I regret I cannot speak as favorably of the condition of the Iowas, although they have raised an abundant supply of corn, beans, &c., the present season; but their proximity to the whites seems very unfavorable to their moral improvement, since, by that means, abundant facilities are afforded for gratifying their thirst for whiskey; for which they often sacrifice their most necessary comforts, even giving a horse at times for a gallon or two of whiskey.

It is a great misfortune that our frontier is infested with so many desperadoes, who are alike regardless of the laws of God and those heretofore framed by man.

For a more particular account of farming transactions, I refer you to the reports of J. W. Forman, Sac and Fox farmer, and F. C. McCreary, Iowa farmer, herewith transmitted.

I beg leave to refer you to the report of the Rev. S. M. Irvin, for infor-

mation respecting the progress of the manual labor boarding school under his charge.

Respectfully, &c.,

W. E. RUCKER,
Indian Sub-agent.

TO THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
St. Louis, Mo.

No. 21.

OSAGE RIVER SUB-AGENCY, *September 4, 1846.*

SIR: In obedience to the regulations required by the Indian Department, I have now the honor to lay before you my annual report of the affairs of this sub-agency, and of the condition of the several tribes of Indians located therein.

In my report of last year, dated 20th September, 1845, I intimated my inability to give you a correct statement of the number of individuals comprising the various bands inhabiting this sub-agency. By a reference to the pay rolls of last year, I now state their number as follows, viz:

Pottawatomies of the Prairie	-	-	-	-	496
Do of the Wabash	-	-	-	-	735
Do of the Saint Joseph	-	-	-	-	710
					<hr/>
Pottawatomies, total	-	-	-	-	1,941
Ottowas	-	-	-	-	284
Chippewas	-	-	-	-	27
Piankeshaws	-	-	-	-	101
Weas	-	-	-	-	147
Peorias and Kaskaskias, estimated at	-	-	-	-	130
					<hr/>
Total	-	-	-	-	2,630 souls.

The foregoing is an exhibit of the Indian population of this sub-agency, as it appeared in the pay rolls of the annuity for last year, (1845;) but the number stated is not truly exact. It is a custom with the Indians here, particularly the Pottawatomies, to include the names of those persons who have died the year previous in the annuity pay rolls, so the relatives of such deceased person can have the benefit of his annuity for the year past. The number customarily included in the pay rolls necessarily increases the population apparently; and without taking the course of a regular census, we can never arrive at the correct number of any tribe at any given period. The number above stated is as correct as can be obtained; and no material difference exists between the numbers now and last year. During the last season disease has made less havoc among these people than in 1845, and, as they are a prolific race, it may be presumed that the population at this time will show an increase on last year's enumeration. The number of the Peorias and Kaskaskias is estimated and believed to be nearly correct. Their annuities having a few years ago expired, by limitation, no data can be obtained from pay rolls.

It is gratifying to state that sickness has been much less prevalent than

last year. Individual and fatal cases have, of course, occurred; but these may be traced to exposure and carelessness, rather than to epidemic visitations. Upon the whole, the Indians of this sub-agency have been highly favored by an overruling Providence; for, notwithstanding their natural indolence, and their limited knowledge of agriculture, and owing to the propitiousness of the past season, they have raised, generally speaking, good crops, and in such supplies as to render the benevolence of government, at least for this year, unnecessary.

Enclosed you will find the several reports of the various Christian missionary establishments, located in this sub-agency, on the subject of schools and education. I beg to refer you to said reports. The Roman Catholic mission on Sugar creek, among the Pottawatomies, pursue, in a quiet, unostentatious way, their wonted path in the continuance of good works. The reverend fathers, by their untiring zeal, and the ladies of the Society of the Sacred Heart, on whom the female school depends, are entitled to the respect of all persons acquainted with their exertions. The school at the Wea mission, under the superintendence of the Rev. B. Adams, in which he is very ably assisted by Miss S. A. Osgood, merits particular notice—it is on the manual labor plan, and numbers about 20 scholars, male and female. Recently I was present at an examination of the pupils of this school, and was highly pleased and gratified at the progress made by the boys. They answered questions in orthography and arithmetic with ease and promptitude, and replied to interrogatories of utility and general knowledge with a readiness that was truly and agreeably astonishing. Mr. Adams and Miss Osgood deserve much credit, and it is to be hoped that the establishment will produce a change in the Wea people generally, whose habits, the bitter fruits of dissipation, have to be deplored.

The Ottowas are making rapid advances in farming, and are adopting those customs so essential to the comfort of civilized man. The annuities they receive are, individually considered, trifling; yet they have raised this year produce in abundance, and have supplied their recently arrived neighbors—the Sacs and Foxes—with plenty of cheap vegetables and other agricultural products. There has been recently erected among them, (the Ottowas,) by and through the exertions of the Rev. Jonathan Meeker, a new and commodious church. This is but another evidence of the efforts of this devoted missionary, whose unwearied zeal for the present and future welfare of the Ottowas has made them a truly industrious and moral people.

There are two missions located among the Pottawatomies, of Pottawatomie creek, where principally reside about one-half the Saint Joseph band. The one belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the other to the Baptist persuasion. I am sorry to say that, owing to the dissipated and reckless course of life pursued by the denizens of this neighborhood, little can be expected from the efforts of even the most devoted Christian teachers. A female school is kept in operation under the auspices of the Baptist mission, superintended by Miss E. McCoy; and too much praise cannot be awarded to this young lady for her unwearied attention and devotion to the scholars placed under her charge.

The Methodist society have no school here. Scholars wishing to avail themselves of instructions offered by this persuasion, are sent to the Methodist manual labor institution, situated among the Shawnees within the Fort Leavenworth agency.

I have occasionally, this past summer, and even recently, visited the settlements of the several tribes subject to my care; and I am happy to state that, from the favorableness of the past season, they have, and will raise, a sufficiency of agricultural products to supply their wants until next year. They have generally secured good crops of small grain and vegetables. The corn crops look promising everywhere. Prairie hay has been cut for the stock during the coming winter. I cannot withhold my meed of praise to the Peorias and Kaskaskias. These people receive no government annuity; they have to depend entirely on their own labor: yet, with their limited means, they have exceedingly promising crops of corn, and will be rewarded with plenty the coming winter. It may probably not be out of the way to mention that they are principally members of the Roman Catholic church.

For many years past the reports of superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, have teemed with complaints on the subject of whiskey selling to Indians. To defeat the course pursued by unprincipled white men—squatters on the Indian border—seems to be, indeed, a hopeless task. Whiskey can be procured on the line adjoining this sub-agency—viz: Van Buren county, Missouri—in any quantity. The Indians addicted to dissipation do not go into the State to drink, but rather bring it into their own country by horse loads.

To procure it, they barter away their blankets, guns, and even their ponies. In their villages, to the annoyance of the good people of their own race and of the whites residing among them, their drunken revels take place. In such scenes, man presents himself in his lowest degradation. Here, family quarrels of ancient date—feuds, which have slept for generations—suddenly awake revenge, retaliation, and their concomitant; the thirst for blood takes possession of the inebriated mind of the Indian; he strikes; he kills his foe—not his own personal enemy, but the descendant of his great, great grandfather, probably—and glories in the deed. Whereas, such is the Indian's disposition, if he had been sober, he would have given to the same man, if in distress, half of his earthly goods. Those acquainted with the Indian character know that, in his sober moments, the red man is the most tractable, peaceable, and naturally polite being in existence—a being susceptible of improvement—showing his acknowledgments for favors granted, by his exertions to deserve them; but, in his drunken paroxysms, a most reckless savage creature, void of every consideration except that which conduces to the indulgence of the moment. If the traffic in whiskey could be entirely suppressed—could the article be placed entirely out of their reach—it is my candid opinion that they would become a happy people, and eventually assume their station among the nations of the earth, which, by adverse circumstances, and their own perversity, they have hitherto forfeited. I am, through the Indians themselves, familiar with the names of several whiskey sellers on the line—viz: in Van Buren county, Missouri—and I append them to this report. For an agent, alone and unaided, to endeavor to suppress this whiskey traffic is preposterous. With the best intentions, he can only look on and deeply regret the supineness of legislators. I have to reiterate what I stated in my last year's report: that whiskey drinking is not general among these Indians. Some portions, and particular villages, are only addicted to this vice. I am happy to state that the ratification of the late treaty with the Council Bluff Indians, and those of this sub-agency, is hailed with much

satisfaction by the Pottawatomies residing here. I am of the opinion that many will emigrate next spring to the Kansas river country. The treaty contains so many favorable features that it is to be hoped, when the Pottawatomies shall be concentrated on their new lands and form one people, after a separation of so many years, they will conduct themselves so, assisted by the advantages secured to them by the late favorable treaty, as to become a sober, moral, industrious, and religious people—a consummation most devoutly to be wished by every good man.

Agreeably to usage, I enclose, herewith, a list of the employees of government attached to this sub-agency on the 1st instant, (September 1, 1846;) at the same time I may say that I have every reason to be satisfied with the performance of the several duties assigned them. The smiths have been employed in the manufacturing and repairing of farming tools and other useful implements. The millers have regularly attended to their grinding.

With the white residents of this sub-agency I live on the most friendly terms; and I am happy to give my testimony as to their moral worth, and their strict observance of the regulations imposed by the intercourse law.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

ALFRED J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

HON. THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 21 a.

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK SUB-AGENCY,
Ellicottville, October 23, 1846.

SIR: I have delayed until this time to submit the annual report required of me by the regulations of the Department, of the situation of the Indians in charge of this sub-agency, in the hope of being able at the same time to communicate a full report of the statistics required by the recent instructions, prepared under the act of the last session of Congress. In this latter particular I have been disappointed, and now think it advisable to delay no longer the submission of such information as may be in my possession, reserving for a future opportunity a more full and detailed statement.

Since entering upon the discharge of the duties of my office, (July 1, 1846,) I have not been able to visit all the tribes within the limits of the agency; and many circumstances have combined to prevent me from procuring the proper information to be embodied in this report. During the past year an unhappy difficulty has existed among the Senecas on the Cattaraugus reservation, in relation to the provisions of a law of the legislature of New York, passed April 15, 1845. Upon this subject the Indians at Cattaraugus have been divided, and the party opposed to the law have been excessively jealous of every effort to obtain a census of their number. I have made persevering efforts to fulfil the instructions of the Department, of September 1, 1846, but as yet have been unsuccessful. The chiefs and warriors opposed to the law have refused to communicate the numbers and respective ages of the members of their families, or to

furnish any of the statistics of the produce of their farms, or the description and value of their stock and farming utensils. I visited their principal chiefs at their houses, and endeavored to explain to them the views of the government in calling for the information I was required to furnish, and to impress upon them the propriety and necessity of a prompt and cheerful compliance on their part. I also employed Mr. Zachariah L. Jamieson, an intelligent chief, to aid me, and to visit in person the several families, and endeavor to persuade them to give us the necessary information to enable me to fulfil my instructions. After several councils, and many days of delay, the party opposed to the law finally communicated, through their chiefs, a peremptory refusal to permit the enumeration to proceed. I am consequently unable to return the statistics, as desired by the Department. I hope, however, after the payment of the annuities, to be able to complete this census. The difficulty in the way of the enumeration was connected with the control of their annuity funds; and that matter being disposed of, I do not doubt but they will permit me to proceed, should the Department deem it advisable at so late a period.

The same difficulty mentioned above, though arising from another cause, has been met with on the Tonawanda reservation. The chiefs in council have resolved not to leave their reservation, and to persevere in an application to the government, to modify their last treaty with the Ogden company. They have, somehow, imbibed the opinion that the census now required has some connexion with their difficulties, and they refuse to permit the enumeration to be made in the manner required by the Department.

Unless otherwise directed, I shall persevere in my endeavors to complete the census in the form desired, and I hope to succeed in season to forward the same to the Department before the meeting of Congress.

I am happy to be able to report, that the Indians residing within this sub-agency are making steady advances in improvement, both in the arts of civilized life and in the cultivation of letters. Their schools are increasing, and generally well attended, and a growing interest in the instruction of their children, is everywhere manifest among them.

Their progress in agricultural improvement is manifest from the returns I have been able to procure of the census, and from personal observation of their farms and fields previous to the harvest. Their crops, the present season, have been unusually large, and have all been secured without injury. Their stocks of cattle and horses are rapidly increasing, and many of them have become not only prosperous but wealthy farmers. The number of idle and dissolute are diminishing, and, with proper encouragement, the great mass will, in a comparatively short time, be enabled to live in circumstances of comfort. The chase is almost entirely abandoned as a means of support, and is only resorted to as a pastime, or at those seasons of the year when farming operations are usually suspended.

From the persevering efforts of the chiefs, assisted by their friends, the evils of intemperance among them are rapidly disappearing. The laws of this State against *selling* or *giving* ardent spirits to Indians, are stringent and severe, and with the aid of those among them who take an interest in their welfare, I have been for some time past enabled to render the penalties of the law effective in preventing the traffic.

The number of Indians at present residing within the limits of this sub-agency, as furnished by themselves, is as follows :

Tuscaroras, residing in Niagara county	-	-	-	280
Oneidas, residing in Oneida county	-	-	-	159
Cayugas, residing with the Senecas in western New York	-	-	-	88
Onondagas, residing in Onondaga county	-	-	-	375
Onondagas, residing on the Allegany reservation, in Cattaraugus county	-	-	-	88
Onondagas, residing on the Cattaraugus reservation, in Erie county	-	-	-	25
Onondagas, residing on the Tonawanda reservation, in Genesee county	-	-	-	7
Onondagas, residing with the Tuscaroras	-	-	-	22
Senecas, residing on the Allegany reservation	-	-	-	811
Do do Cattaraugus reservation	-	-	-	1,261
Do do Tonawanda reservation	-	-	-	576
Do do Buffalo	-	-	-	30
Oneidas, Onondagas, and Buffalo Senecas, residing at Tonawanda	-	-	-	79
Whole number	-	-	-	<u>3,751</u>

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. ANGEL.

Hon. WM. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 21 b.

ON BOARD STEAMER COLORADO,
Near Evansville, Indiana, October 14, 1846.

SIR: I have been so busily engaged in collecting the Miamies, and getting them thus far on their way to their new homes, that it has not been in my power until now to make my annual report. The Miamies have been in a state of perfect confusion for the past year; and very little attention has been by them paid either to farming or the chase. By the treaty of 1840 the tribe agreed to remove within five years from the lands they sold in Indiana to the country assigned them west. This time expired in November last; but, at their request, the period for removal was postponed to April last, at which time I assembled the chiefs and called upon them to comply with their treaty stipulations with the government and quietly remove.

At that time they gave me no decisive answer; but at a subsequent council in May, they asked to be permitted to remain until the first of August, promising that at that time they would take us by the hand and remove to their new homes without asking further delay, or giving any further trouble. When this promise was made I thought I could rely upon it, but I soon found that the Indians were acting in bad faith, and that an arrangement had been entered into by a portion of the traders and some unprincipled designing men, with a few of the chiefs, that additional time

should be asked under the pretence of want of preparation for removal, in order the better to enable them to thwart the government in its policy.

Soon after the council in May, the most extravagant promises were made the Indians by men who they were led to suppose possessed great influence with the Department; and by divers appliances they were induced to raise a large sum of money, not merely to defray the necessary expenses of a trip to Washington, but also to pay the *tremendous* influence which they were promised would be brought to bear upon the administration, and which they were assured would obtain for them an exchange of country, or permission to remain in Indiana, or, in fact, almost anything they could desire.

After applications of this character had been made, and promptly decided against by the Department, a copy of the decision was read and explained by me to the Indians. These men, however, still assured the Indians that no such decision had been sanctioned by the President; on the contrary, they declared that they possessed assurances from him that if the Indians should refuse to emigrate without it, their applications would be granted. Under these circumstances, I found it impossible to persuade the Miamies to keep their faith with the government, and so reported on the 19th of August last, with the suggestion that if the Department deemed it advisable to order a small force, its presence would induce them to remove peaceably. The force was furnished, and the result has been as predicted. A detachment of United States troops, under the command of Captain Jouett, arrived at Peru on the 26th September, and the Miamies left that point on the 6th of October. They are now with me, here, proceeding to their new country, contented and cheerful. The Indians, if left to act for themselves, I think, feel disposed to be honest and to do what is right; but when it is to the interest of traders to induce them to act otherwise, they too frequently succeed; and I will here repeat what I have stated in a former communication, that I am clearly of the opinion that it would be an excellent arrangement for the Department to supply the Indians with such goods as they stand in need of, and to prohibit all trade with them.

It is certain that this tribe will be beggared if the cormorants, who have been living from their means, are longer permitted to prey upon them, notwithstanding the large annuities they received. Since the treaty of 1840 the government has paid of their debts \$350,000, and assumed the payment out of their annuities of \$62,500 more. Large collections have also been made by the traders from the Indians, individually, at every payment since, amounting to at least \$35,000 each year. Notwithstanding all this some \$80,000 more is claimed; and the attempt of the traders to force the government to assume the payment of this amount has been the principal cause of all the difficulties that have been encountered in getting the Miamies to remove.

The Miamies have no school amongst them, and, with very few exceptions, seem to care little about the education of their children. They will, I hope, feel and act differently in relation to this subject when they are removed from the influences that have heretofore operated upon them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH SINCLEAR,
Sub-agent, Miamies.

COL. WM. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

LAC-QUI PARLE, June 30, 1846.

DEAR SIR: At the date of my last annual report, Mr. Huggins and family were absent from the station; they returned about the last of October. The laborers at this station, since that time, are Thomas S. Williamson, A. M., M. D., Messrs. Alexander G. Huggins, and Jonas Pettijohn, Mrs. Williamson, Mrs. Huggins, Mrs. Pettijohn, and Miss Jane S. Williamson. Mrs. Pettijohn and Miss Williamson give their time and attention to teaching at all times when they can have scholars. In the winter and spring, so long as we could have any regular school of boys, Mr. Huggins and myself attended to teaching them. At other seasons of the year, Messrs. Huggins and Pettijohn are chiefly occupied in agricultural and mechanical labors. At all seasons a large part of my time is occupied in efforts to impart religious instruction, giving out medicine, and attending on the sick, and in conversing with the natives, with a view of convincing them of the importance of knowledge, and of the necessity of abandoning their present customs, and adopting the habits of civilized life.

No alteration worth naming has been made on the buildings here since the last report, but we have added a little to the size of our field, and have now eight or nine acres under cultivation; on this we hope, with the blessings of God, to raise not only a sufficiency of provisions for ourselves, but a large supply to give to the needy about us. So long as the principal men of the tribe and the parents of the children are opposed to their learning—utterly careless about it—we have no reason to expect that the children will be very anxious to learn; and giving them something to eat is the most effectual means of securing their attendance at school.

Many of the Indians here had good crops of corn last summer, but others had but little, and some none; and much of what was made being consumed in wakan feasts, in which a man eats enough in a single evening to do him a week; there has been, and I suppose still is, much suffering for want of food.

The want of a team prevents us from ploughing for them this year, but Mr. Huggins furnished a plough to the *Ile-wakenyan*, chief of the *Ti-zaptana*, and assisted him in making harness, with which he said he would plough for his band, and we afterwards heard he was doing so. Mr. Huggins also assisted one of the band here in making a harness for his horse, with which, using the plough you gave the chiefs of this band some years ago, he ploughed his own field and one or two others. There are others who would have ploughed, if they had had harness. The chiefs and some of the principal men from Lac-traverse, were to see me this spring, to beg seed corn and a plough and harness, but we had neither plough nor harness to spare. The Indians on the Upper St. Peter's are now pretty well supplied with horses, and if you could furnish them with a few good light ploughs and harness, it might be the means of their planting more, and so prevent much suffering among them.

Herewith you will receive a sheet showing the names, supposed ages, and studies of our schools the past year. By comparing this with former reports, you may see that our school has not been so well attended the past year as some former ones, and that there is especially a diminution of writers and those attending to arithmetic. Many who formerly attended school, and had made good progress, have moved to other parts of the country. The past winter was unusually mild and without snow, in con-

sequence of which most of the young men were absent hunting muskrats, at the season when they usually attended school. There are two other circumstances which may be mentioned, which appear chiefly to have impeded our school the past year. The first is, the want of any religious interest about the concerns of their souls. Some years ago, numbers here were inquiring what they must do to be saved. Such were anxious to learn, and have their children learn to read God's word, that they might secure eternal life; and their improvement, not only in reading, but in other things, was rapid. Some who appeared to be converted have deceased; some have moved to other parts of the country, and a part of those who remain have backslidden, and dishonored their profession. God seems to have withdrawn his spirit, and it is hard to interest the people in learning any thing good. Of the other circumstances alluded to, namely, the violent breaking up of our school last winter by the principal men in our neighborhood, you have already heard. The primary cause of this seems to have been a false report circulated by some evil disposed persons that we were paid for teaching the children here out of money due them—the Medawakantonwans—for their lands sold the United States. Many of the Sioux think this report true. Some of the Medawakantonwans requested the Indians here to break up the school. Some of the principal men here hoped, by making a show of compliance, to gratify their friends the Medawakantonwans, from whom they receive many presents, and at the same time extort pay from us for the privilege of teaching their children. As we refused to yield to such unrighteous demands as they made, they appointed half a dozen of them as a guard to cut up the clothes of any who might be found coming to school or meeting. Made proclamation to that effect, and enforced it, by cutting the blankets of a number whom they found in our house or on the way to meeting. Thus our school was stopped at a time when, by much labor, we were getting the children interested in their books; and for a whole month, at much the best season of the year for teaching, we could have no school except the few who were learning English, with whom, as they did not live in the camp, they did not think fit to meddle. In this time the children, who had begun to love their books, lost all interest in learning. Many of the larger boys, and some of the smaller ones, imbibed so much of the spirit of their fathers that they thought it honorable to annoy us in every way in their power.

I am sorry that the introduction and consumption of strong drink is rapidly on the increase here, and is exerting a most disastrous influence. O, that in all future treaties for the purchase of land, a provision might be inserted that no intoxicating drink should be sold on said lands so long as they shall remain the property of the United States.

Since I commenced writing this I have heard of the death of one of the most influential men of this neighborhood—killed in a drunken frolic.

Please accept of our thanks for the good advice you gave Ussi-yah-deya, the principal chief here, when he last visited you. It has had a good influence on him and some others. All those about us now profess friendship, and show that they have confidence in us by coming to us for food and medicine, and to get us to store their property for them.

Desiring that Heaven may bestow on you and your family the best of blessings, I remain, respectfully, yours,

THOMAS S. WILLIAMSON,
Missionary of A. B. C. F. M.

Col. A. J. BRUCE,
Indian Agent, near Fort Snelling.

TRAVERSE DE SIOUX, August 12, 1846.

*Annual report of the mission at Traverse de Sioux, under the care of the
A. B. C. F. M.*

Stephen R. Riggs, A. M., missionary ; Robert Hopkins.

The Indians here have shown a remarkably good state of feeling towards the mission, and have committed no depredations on the property belonging to it during the year. Still, but little desire is manifested to have their children and youth educated, or their temporal condition bettered by the adoption of the habits and customs of civilized or christianized man. As they raise but little corn, or often gather little rice, they are necessarily absent many months in the year seeking something to subsist upon ; this makes our school intermittent and irregular. During the last winter thirty-four children attended school ; and that they might be more permanently located, we have from year to year urged upon them the advantage of planting more corn. For this purpose, last spring, Big-walker, (who is since dead,) with his near relatives, formed a new village, where Mr. Hopkins ploughed about four acres of new land. This land has produced a good crop, as also their old fields beyond the river, a part of which Mr. H. also ploughed. More corn is now being gathered in here than has been done for several years past. The prospect of an abundant crop of rice is said, also, to be very good.

Mr. Hopkins spent more than a week last spring in ploughing new fields for Sleepy Eyes and his party, at Swan lake. These fields were necessarily small, and some of them did not receive that attention which even Indians are accustomed to bestow upon them, owing to the fact that their more immediate wants could be satisfied only by going to the buffalo region. If those Indians who plant were under no temptation to hunt the buffalo, their condition and prospects would be better than they are at present. Many of those who spent the last winter on the Coteau des Prairie, were, in the spring, suddenly reduced to a state of great starvation by the disappearance of these cows of the plains.

The whiskey trade seems to be going on more briskly this season than heretofore. I do not know a single Dakota man who lives at this place, or comes here frequently, who does not sometimes get drunk ; and many of them drink to great excess every opportunity. Death, in various ways, follows very swiftly. I confess that, for the great body of the nation, I have but little hope that they will not continue to go on in one or more of the broad roads that lead to their destruction. Still, a remnant I hope will be saved, and undoubtedly it will be the desire of every benevolent and good man that this remnant be made as large as possible.

In closing this brief report, I would respectfully suggest whether it would not be both benevolent and wise in our government to embrace all opportunities to impress upon these Indians the great facts of their condition. Not only in their present course they are working out their own destruction, and that they must seek to change entirely their customs and habits, (which I doubt not you do,) but that if they would continue to exist at all, it must be as individuals and not as a nation ; that the holding land in common is injurious to their interests as individuals, and that no guaranty which our government can give them can possibly secure it to

them, in this way, for any great length of time ; and, finally, that the sooner they come under the restraints and protection of law, the better it will be for themselves and their posterity.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. R. RIGGS.

To Col. A. J. BRUCE,
Indian Agent, St. Peter's.

No. 24.

OAK GROVE, August 12, 1846.

SIR: I submit to you the following report of the condition of our Indian school, taught at this place during the past winter. The whole number of our scholars exceeded thirty, but the average attendance during the continuance of the school (that is, from September to May,) was but ten. While the Indians were all here, during the winter, the average daily attendance was fifteen.

Four of our scholars were taught to read English, the others were instructed only in Sioux.

We find it difficult to maintain a school in summer, as the children in pleasant weather prefer playing to reading, and we have no regular school except in cold weather. Parents manifest but little anxiety to have their children taught ; but, during the past winter, there was less opposition to our school than formerly. Most of the Indians belonging to this band, who have children, are willing to have them instructed. Many who care but little to have their children taught to read Sioux, wish to have them learn English ; but we have taken little pains to teach them English owing to the difficulty of doing it while the children remain with their parents. Many of them might no doubt be gathered into a boarding school, but this would be attended with more expense than the society by which we are supported would be willing to incur, especially as these Indians have ample funds of their own set apart for the purpose of education.

We are supported in our labors here by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, at an expense of about two hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

Yours, respectfully,

S. W. POND.

Col. A. J. BRUCE, *St. Peter's.*

No. 25.

WINNEBAGO SCHOOL, August 15, 1846.

SIR: I entered on the duties of superintendent of the Winnebago school on the 1st day of May last. Eighty-five children were found registered on the daily list ; but, as usual at all Indian schools, the whole number were not in constant attendance. Twenty new scholars have been added in the course of the summer : making one hundred and five now connected with the institution.

The improvement of the pupils is in the various stages of an elementary education, from the alphabet to a respectable knowledge of figures, geography, &c. Herewith you have a sample of their writing. Several others, equally as creditable, might have been obtained, but the children were absent. Many are just beginning to form letters. The proportion of males and females in the school is nearly equal. The latter have a few the most.

The girls, as heretofore, are taught to sew ; and, with the assistance of the lady in charge, make all the clothes worn at the school. The boys have been called out at regular periods to labor on the farm, and it is intended to make manual labor a part of the system of instruction.

To those capable of comparing the present condition of the Winnebagoes with the past, the tribe will appear greatly improved. They own more property than when their school commenced ; their physical sufferings have been much diminished, and many of their youths are educated. Their disposition to cultivate the soil is increasing. They employ their horses in ploughs and wagons, and would live in houses, but have been discouraged by government, owing to their unsettled state. Their numerical strength is also increasing.

No one cause has more retarded the progress of improvements among the Winnebagoes than a want of a permanent home. * * *

* * * * *

This state of uncertainty has not only discouraged the Indians and kept them in confusion, but prevented the erection of such additional buildings for the accommodation of the school as the increased number of scholars required. We are now laboring under much inconvenience for the want of more room in the school, and, without repairs, the present building will not be comfortable for the winter.

So long as the children of the Winnebagoes are leaving school, and are obliged to return to a homeless and houseless people, their education can be of but little service, and the customs of the *wigwam will be continued. But give them a home that they can call theirs forever, and their circumstances will soon create literary wants and dictate a change of habits.*

Whiskey, and intercourse with the whites, continue to be the *stereotyped curse* of the red man, and will remain so until the light and truth and principles of religion can be made the basis of a new arrangement among the Indians. To raise a nation from a savage to a civilized and happy state without the aid of religion, is impossible.

I have more than once suggested the propriety of sending off, with the consent of parents, a few of the most promising children of the school to complete their education in some religious white community. I have also urged the necessity of a small printing press *here*, to be employed in throwing out moral sentiments among the children adapted to their capacities and circumstances. A practical printer might serve as teacher of the school. The Indian boys would soon learn to set type, which would not only be a source of amusement but of thought.

In attempts to elevate a nation, success depends on a variety of *little*

things. In the moral, as well as the natural world, great effects proceed from little causes ; nor must we become impatient should the result of effort be delayed. Those who have labored longest and been most successful, know that to change the habits of a people is not the work of a day.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. LOWRY,

Superintendent Winnebago School.

Gen. J. E. FLETCHER,

U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

No. 26.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY, GREEN BAY,
September 22, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: I have lately, in compliance with the regulations, completed a tour of inspection of the several Indian schools of this sub agency. I have, with much concern, found that the one for which the fund of \$1,500 annually was doubtless mainly intended, to wit: among the Menomonies, has been the most inefficiently conducted, and produced the least good to the Indians of all.

The (hitherto) superintendent, the Rev. Theodore J. Vanden Broek, does not, and never has *lived* at their village, but nearly thirty miles distant, and has spent but a few days, in the course of the year, at lake Pah-way-hi kun: he has left the school to the care of others; and it has, in fact, had but little care from any one.

The principal men of this band have presented formal complaints against him for neglect of the school and a waste of the money, and desiring him to be withdrawn from among them; this they repeated, for the third time, a few weeks ago.

From their complaints, as well as my own knowledge, I have been induced to signify to him that, after the 1st instant, this department will no longer recognise him as the superintendent of the school at lake Pah-way-hi-kun, and to request him to withdraw from their village.

A full statement of the matter has been made by me to the Right Rev. John M. Henni, Catholic bishop of Wisconsin, and Mr. Vanden Broek's proper superior, with a request that he would supply his place as *superintendent*. I have also stated to the bishop that it is the desire of the Department to establish, without delay, *two* good English schools at lake Pah-way-hi-kun, and requested him to name two teachers, subject to the approval of the Indian Department, who shall *enter into contract with the sub-agent* for the faithful discharge of their duties.

The right reverend bishop has responded, approving of the course taken by me, and has withdrawn Mr. Vanden Broek from the mission. He has also named two teachers for lake Pah-way-hi-kun, one of whom has entered into contract.

I have thus, most excellent sir, made a move towards establishing, as I trust, *schools among the Menomonies*. But, to carry out my views, it is indispensable that I should have permission to expend forthwith the sum of \$150 in *finishing* a school-house—the body of which has, with a praiseworthy zeal, been put up by the Indians themselves. I propose to make

this expenditure out of the fund applicable for educational purposes, so as not to draw upon the Department. It is wanted to finish the two floors, four windows, one door, a part of the covering, a stove, benches, and such other incidentals as may be necessary to make the house comfortable for the purpose.

Trusting that I shall be seconded in this endeavor for these interesting people, I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALBERT G. ELLIS, *Sub-agent*.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 27.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY, GREEN BAY,
September 24, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: I completed, on the 10th of September, a tour of inspection of the several Indian schools in this agency. The following, in relation thereto, is submitted :

1. *School among the first Christian party of the Oneidas, at Duck creek.*

Their school-house is in an unfinished state ; \$100 is necessary to complete it.

This school is established by the Protestant Episcopal church, and is under the superintendence of the Rev. Solomon Davis, a native Oneida Indian being a teacher. The Indian language only is taught ; though I understand, from Mr. Davis, that the English will be taught in future.

The general appearance of the children, and the interest they appear to take in their studies, is highly interesting. Number of scholars 35.

According to the report of Mr. Davis, the Protestant Episcopal church has expended, since October last, the sum of \$275, for the benefit of this school and the mission to which it is attached. This school is useful ; improving the character of this people. It will be of the first importance to have the English language taught in it.

2. *School among the Orchard party of the Oneidas, at Duck creek.*

It was closed at the time of my visit ; the Rev. Curtis G. Lathrop being in attendance at the Methodist conference. Mr. Lathrop teaches himself. It numbers 45 scholars—20 males, 25 females. It is taught regularly in the English language ; in which the pupils make good progress. It is highly useful, and should be suitably encouraged. I am unable to state the amount of support given to this mission by the Methodist Episcopal church. Their log school-house is in a dilapidated condition ; some \$150 will be necessary to aid them in building a new one.

3. *Among the Stockbridge Indians, east side of Winnebago lake.*

There are two schools, under the supervision of a board of school commissioners. In both there are 110 scholars—male and female ; and

resemble, in their advancement and general learning, a similar number of scholars in any of our country common schools. Nothing but English is taught; and they all speak it fluently. The process is *completing* their civilization, and will soon induce them to lay aside entirely their own language. The teachers are employed by the commissioners, from time to time, as the fund allowed by government will pay. The schools are at this moment discontinued, but will be opened again in a few days. Their school-houses are tolerable, and nothing is necessary on that account.

4. *Among the Brothertown Indians, east side of Winnebago lake.*

The same general remarks made of the Stockbridges are applicable here. They have two excellent schools, under the territorial township system, (for they are citizens of the United States,) of commissioners and trustees. Not having received their annual report, I am unable to give the precise number of scholars or the teachers' names. They have about 100 scholars, all reading and speaking fluently the English language. They are a civilized people, and have laid aside (lost) entirely the Indian language. They have no need of aid on account of their school-houses; both of which are good.

5. *School among the Menomonies, at lake Pah-way-hi-kun.*

I have reserved this to the last, wishing to call particular attention to it. The fund of \$1,500 per annum was doubtless mainly designed for the benefit of this tribe. I have been deeply concerned to find that, hitherto, it has produced no improvement to these people. *I cannot find one of them, either adult or child, that can read a word of English*, (except a few that were educated, some years ago, at Green Bay mission school;) and their whole Indian literature may be comprised in about 100 pages. The fund applied for their benefit, thus far, has been utterly wasted. Of this the Indians are deeply sensible, and show it in the most earnest remonstrance to me, and supplications for the establishment of *English schools*.

On visiting lake Pah way-hi-kun in August, I found that they had but a miserable apology for a school; and that it had been open but a small part of the time for the year past. The professed superintendent, Rev. T. J. Vanden Broek, does not, and never did, reside there; and only visited there occasionally, at long intervals, leaving the school to the care of an assistant, whom he so poorly paid, that he did not find time to give it attention. It was (when opened at all) kept in a miserable room, in a trader's house, without convenience of any kind, and but illy supplied with books; and, on the whole, appeared to me calculated rather to disgust the children than advance them in learning.

The Indians presented, at three several times, the most formal complaints against Mr. Vanden Broek for neglect of them, desiring me to have him removed, and a good school opened without delay. Considering what had come under my own observation, and the complaints of the Indians, I felt compelled to desire Mr. Vanden Broek to withdraw. I laid the whole matter before the Right Reverend John M. Henni, Roman Catholic bishop of Milwaukie, and Mr. Vander Broek's proper superior, with a request that he would supply his place as superintendent. I also stated to him that it was my determination to establish, if possible, two good *Eng-*

lish schools forthwith at lake Pah-way-hi-kun, and desired him to name two teachers, subject to the approval of the Indian Department, who should enter into contract with the sub-agent for a faithful discharge of their duties. The right reverend bishop promptly replied, approving of the course I had taken, withdrawing Mr. Vanden Broek, and named a new superintendent and two teachers, one of whom has already entered into contract.

There is but one school-house at lake Pah-way-hi-kun, and that is exclusively used as a church; the Department has no control over it; and I find it indispensable to expend some \$150 in finishing a log building which has lately been erected expressly for the purpose by the Indians themselves. I beg to refer to the communication I had the honor to forward to your excellency, on this point, on the 22d instant. If sustained in these endeavors by the Hon. Wm. Medill, I have good hopes of being able to make the educational fund tell, in future, for the benefit of the Menomonies.

Hitherto there has been a radical defect in the mode of disbursing the fund. The teachers have been employed by, and made responsible not to the agents of the government, but to the several superintendents of mission schools, &c., alleged to have been established among the Indians. In too many instances, mere pretences of schools have been set up to claim the fund, while no valuable services have been rendered.

It is my desire, in future, if I can obtain the approbation of your excellency and the Hon. William Medill, to place teachers *under contract*, and not to pay money, (at least so far as the Menomonies are concerned,) except on contract duly performed. It is my design, furthermore, to require *monthly reports* (according to the blank sample herewith enclosed) from the teachers, in order that we may have some evidence of the services, and the progress of the pupils. And while it shall be the pleasure of the government to continue me in this trust, I propose making *frequent visits* to these schools.

The Menomonies should chiefly occupy our care in this matter; the allowance to them should be increased from \$750 to \$850, by a deduction from the other schools. They are keenly sensible of their need of education, and will then, I am sure, appreciate the efforts of government in their behalf.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALBERT G. ELLIS, *Sub-agent*.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

A report of the schools among the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin Territory.

First term, but one school, taught from January first to March seventh, 1846; in all, nine weeks and two days. Number of different scholars, eighty; average attendance, fifty. These divided into classes as follows:

First class numbered twelve—six males and as many females; ages from fourteen to twenty; studies, geography, Adams and Colburn's arithmetics, United States History, writing, and spelling; conduct and capacity to learn generally very good; lost time in attendance, from one to two weeks of the whole term.

Second class had in it twelve—eight boys and four girls; ages from nine to twenty; with two exceptions, the conduct and capacity of this class pretty good; studies attended to were Olney's small geography, Colburn's Mental Arithmetic, reading, spelling, and writing; time of attendance varied from four weeks to about the entire term.

Third class embraced nine—all boys; ages from eight to twelve; studies, reading, writing, and spelling. In conduct and capacity, this class was among the best and brightest in the school. Attendance, from two-thirds to the whole time taught.

Fourth class contained thirteen—four males and nine females; ages from six to fourteen; studies were reading, writing, and spelling; with one exception, the conduct and capacity of this class would even do honor to more civilized and intelligent communities; some in the class, in consequence of sickness, attended but a month; most, however, were punctual.

Fifth class numbered five—all boys; capacity to learn, the poorest in the school, though in conduct pretty good; ages from eight to twelve; studies were reading, spelling, and forming letters and figures upon the slate. In attendance, the most irregular.

Sixth class embraced three—all girls; progress made very rapid; principal studies, reading, spelling; and, as the fifth class, were exercised in forming letters and figures on the slate. In attendance, this class was the most punctual.

Seventh class comprised two girls; capacities to learn very poor, though in conduct pretty good; ages about eleven; attendance very irregular; studies reading and spelling.

Eighth class consisted of ten—ages from four to nine; with two or three exceptions, very good to learn; all these commenced with their A, B, Cs, but were left in words of two and three syllables, at the close of the term. Besides regular reading, the class was practised in learning and answering questions respecting noted Bible characters, with other useful lessons and questions; in attendance very irregular.

Two or three other small classes may only be noticed as having made good proficiency in reading and other things taught them. A few young men came in from time to time to write and cipher, who likewise made good progress.

The whole school was more or less exercised in reciting simultaneously the multiplication table, the abbreviations, and in singing, the latter of which was peculiarly pleasing both to parents and children.

The above apparent irregularities in attendance may be accounted for, in most cases, by the unusual prevalence of the whooping cough in the early part of the spring, and which ultimately brought the school to a close much sooner than was intended.

The second term of school reported commenced on the 26th of May, extending to the 19th of September, 1846—in all sixteen weeks. Number of scholars attending the two schools taught during the term were one hundred and ten—average attendance, seventy.

The school in the south district, taught by Miss C. A. Stewart, reports as follows: Different scholars in attendance, fifty-four; average number from thirty to thirty-eight.

First class contains three—two males and one female; ages from twelve to sixteen; studies, Adams's Arithmetic, Olney's Geography, reading, writ-

ing, and spelling; conduct and capacity very good; absences vary from one to nineteen days of the whole term taught.

Second class has nine—seven males and two females; ages from six to twelve; studies, Parley's Geography, Colburn's Mental Arithmetic, reading, and spelling; capacity and conduct pretty good; absences from seven to twelve days of the whole term reported.

Third class comprises twelve—ten males and two females; ages from eight to fourteen. This class commenced in words of five letters, and have gone through the Pictorial Spelling Book, containing one hundred and sixty-eight pages, and are now reading in Sanders's First Reader; with one exception, capacity and conduct very good.

Fourth class contains three—all females; ages about eight; commenced with their abs, and have gone through the Pictorial Primer, a book containing forty-eight pages; conduct and capacity good.

Fifth class, numbering twenty-seven, has been divided into three or four minor classes, but called one class because all in their A, B, Cs; out of the whole twenty-seven, three, seemingly not far from idiocy, continue in their letters. The rest have made commendable progress, and now spell in words of two and three syllables; conduct of this class ordinary; eighteen males and nine females.

The above is a condensed report, noticing only the most important things. On account of the unsettled state of affairs in the tribe, this district has been much neglected. Having no school for the last five or six years, the children, who have grown up during that time hardly knew what a school was, or what it was to get a lesson; consequently, the teacher has had a very hard task through the summer. It will be seen above that about two-thirds of the school commenced their letters. The rest, from irregularity and other causes, may not have made the advances that might be wished; still, so far as approbation of the teacher's services are concerned, it is the united impression of both trustees and people that she has spared no strength nor pains in trying to advance and improve the children. This school, as well as the other, is intended to be continued, if possible, the winter and year.

The north district school, taught by Miss E. S. Newhall, would report as follows: Number of different scholars, fifty-six; average attendance, thirty-six; number of classes in the school, twelve.

First class numbers thirteen—five boys and eight girls; ages from ten to sixteen; conduct and ability, the best in the school; studies, arithmetic, geography, reading, and writing; in attendance, rather irregular.

Second class has eight—one male and seven females; ages from nine to thirteen; studies, the same as the first class, with one exception; conduct and capacity generally good; attendances, vary from seven weeks to the whole term reported.

Third class comprises five—three boys and two girls; ages from seven to thirteen; conduct, good; capacity, ordinary; studies, reading, spelling, and arithmetic; attendance, from one week to the whole of the term.

Fourth class, containing six boys and six girls, commenced in words of three letters, and have read through the Pictorial Primer, a book of forty-eight pages, several times; conduct and capacity generally very good. Four of them have attended but only six weeks; the rest have been somewhat regular.

Fifth class, composed of twelve, began their letters; but, from irregularity,

one has failed to learn them at the end of the term. Only four of the whole number have attended regularly through. These read in words of four letters.

It will be seen that all the classes have not been particularly noted in the above, because the report is written in such a way that each class noticed comprehends one or two others studying different branches. Irregularities in attendance have arisen from various causes. The fruitful summer brings with it greater temptations for children to ask leave of absence from school of their parents than the winter. And parents, in a community no more enlightened than this, and where the tribal affairs lie in so perplexing a state, are apt to show greater lenity to children, and indifference to privileges, than others. The trustees and school commissioners are, however, in no way discouraged, but rather the contrary. As long as a pleasant home and a fruitful soil keep and support a people gradually rising in learning and industry, they must necessarily come to maturity, though the work of perfection be slow.

JOHN N. CHICKS,
JEREMIAH SLINGERLAND,
School Commissioners.

No. 29.

ONEIDA WEST MISSION, DUCK CREEK,
July 30, 1846.

SIR: I herewith present you my annual report for the year ending July 31, 1846. I did not arrive at this mission until the last of November; and, having much to do to prepare for winter, I was unable to begin the school until the 12th day of January; since which time it has been taught regularly (except the usual vacations of spring and summer) five months lacking five days. The whole number of pupils that have attended is 45—males 20, females 25; 10 are over 13 and under 18 years of age; 7 are under 5; the rest are between the ages of 5 and 13; 2 study arithmetic, 9 write, 7 are in their letters, and the remainder are learning to read and spell only. The English language only has been taught; 8 have attended this school that belong to the first Christian party. The children board with their parents. There seems to be an increasing interest in the school. The children have made as good proficiency as could be expected under the circumstances. Most of them discover a disposition and capacity to learn. We regret that their attendance is so irregular as greatly to hinder their progress in learning. I have tried different ways to overcome this evil, but with little success as yet.

We started a temperance society at this mission on the 20th of April last. We now have on the list 90 names—all men and women but 8 or 10. Only 4 or 5, as yet, have been reported as guilty of violating their pledge; and these will be reformed, if possible, by the labors of the committee appointed to that work. We are quite confident of success in our temperance enterprise, for the chiefs of this party are the leading men in it.

This nation suffers greatly from the sale of intoxicating drinks at the town of Green Bay. No dram-shop is allowed in the nation. Large, or-

derly, and attentive congregations attend the church at this mission regularly on the Sabbath. As I have been here so short a time, I am not prepared to say much concerning the improvement of the people generally.

Submitted by your humble servant,

CURTIS G. LATHROP,
Methodist Episcopal Missionary at Duck creek.

Hon. A. G. ELLIS,
Indian Agent at Green Bay.

No. 30.

ONEIDA MISSION, DUCK CREEK,
Wisconsin Territory, September 2, 1846.

SIR: The school at this station has been continued during the past year. Average number of scholars, 30—one-half being females. The children have been instructed in the common branches of education; their improvement is highly satisfactory. The school and mission enjoy the patronage of the domestic committee of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal church, who have expended for its support, from the 1st of October last, the sum of \$275. The number employed in the mission is four—myself, wife, teacher, and interpreter.

According to the census of last year, the whole number of the tribe is 720. Over 500 of this number belong to the first Christian party of Oneidas, and are under my charge. A large majority of them are sober and industrious in their habits. As a tribe, they have abandoned the chase, and are depending entirely upon the cultivation of the soil for subsistence.

I am, sir, your friend and most obedient servant,

SOLOMON DAVIS.

A. G. ELLIS, Esq.,
United States Sub-agent, Green Bay.

No. 31.

Annual report of the Catholic Mission Schools of the Little Chute, Fox river, and Pawagan, at the Wolf river, Wisconsin Territory.

Theodore J. Vanden Broek, principal; established for the benefit of the Menomonic Indians; from September, 1845, to September, 1846.

The Roman Catholic sect of Menomonies, who are living at the lake Pawagan, and some of whom at the Little Chute on Fox river, and at Green Bay, are in number about 350. They are not much acquainted with the English language, of which it is not intended to keep them in ignorance, as is erroneously supposed, but because they are usually wont to converse with French missionaries. Their intercourse in civil and religious business is most commonly with French people; moreover, their books of religion are all written in their own language, so that there exists in

their minds a desire of adhering to their former customs and language that becomes exceedingly difficult to eradicate.

Hence it was deemed necessary, in order that they might become good and civilized Christians, to instruct them in the duties of religion—first, in their own language; and also that their attainment of the English might be more easily effected.

They are advancing considerably in religion, perfection and reformation of their morals.

On the last annual payment, in October, 1845, strangers and visitors, while in their church, were amazingly astonished at witnessing their religious order and skill in church music.

This last year they were taught the English language, in which they have not made much progress; however, most of the children understand spelling and some reading, and a few writing. Nevertheless, many of them can read and write in their own language.

At present, the teachers are Messrs. Peter Webster, Thomas McGogh, and myself.

THEODORE J. VANDEN BROEK,
Missionary and Superintendent.

No. 32.

To the commissioners of common schools of the town of Manchester, Calumet county, Wisconsin Territory.

We, the trustees of school district No. 2, in said town, in conformity with the laws for the support of common schools, do certify and report:

First. That the number of scholars in said district between the age of four and the age of sixteen years, is 57; of which 34 are males, and 23 are females.

Second. That two qualified teachers have been employed in said district school during the past year—both males—Lyman P. Fowler and George W. Hallock.

Third. That to said teachers have been paid the sum of, to wit: to Lyman P. Fowler thirty-six dollars, for two months' services; and to George W. Hallock the sum of sixty dollars, for five months' services.

Fourth. That the length of time which schools have been kept during the year, is seven months; all of which has been kept by male teachers.

ISAAC WANBY,
WILLIAM DICK, JR., } Trustees.

MANCHESTER, Sept. 25, 1846.

We, the undersigned, trustees of district school No. 2, in the town of Manchester, do certify the above report to be correct and true.

ISAAC WANBY,
WILLIAM DICK, JR., } Trustees.

No. 33.

LA POINTE, July 30, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose to you my annual report, as superintendent of the schools and mission station at this place, under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

The two schools heretofore reported—one for males, and the other for females—were regularly kept in operation until the 1st March; at which time the parents of nearly all the children attending the boys' school removing to their places of sugar-making, and taking their families with them, the school was suspended. The former teacher of this school removing from this place in May, the school has not been resumed. The other school has been in operation to the present time, with the exception of two weeks vacation in the Spring. The number of pupils on the teachers' lists has been 90—54 males, and 36 females. They have been taught to read, some in English, some in Ojibwa, and some in both languages. The branches attended to are reading, writing, spelling, elements of geography, arithmetic, history, composition, and needle-work.

The ages of the pupils vary from five to sixteen or eighteen years.

There has been, as heretofore, much irregularity in the attendance of the children, owing to the migratory habits of the Indians, the want of interest on the part of parents in the improvement of their children, and great deficiency in family government. The children are partly full Indian, and partly mixed blood. The greater portion are mixed.

During the past year, Mr. Wheeler has removed from this place, with his family, to Bad river, to the place where the government farm is located. Mr. Sprout, the former teacher of the boys' school, has left the service of the board. In consequence of the unrestrained introduction of large quantities of intoxicating liquor among the band at Pokaguma, and the consequent dissipation and recklessness of the Indians, the mission station there is about to be abandoned. Mr. Ely, who has for some years past taught an Indian school there, is expected to remove to this place and take charge of the boys' school. As soon as practicable after his arrival, the school will be put in operation again.

A spelling-book in Ojibwa, with a translation of most of the lessons into English, has been prepared, and was sent to Boston to be printed several months ago. It is prepared and printed at the expense of the A. B. C. F. M. We expect to have copies of it in our school, soon.

The individuals now connected with this station are, Rev. S. Hall, missionary; Mrs. Hall; Edmund F. Ely, teacher of the boys' school; Mrs. Ely; Miss Abby Spooner, teacher of the girls' school. Number of pupils, males 54, females 36—total 90.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. HALL.

To JAMES P. HAYS, Esq.,
Sub-agent at La Pointe.

No. 34.

In obedience to your request, I send you the following report of the school of Fond-du-Lac mission:

The whole number of scholars taught, 40. Average number in daily attendance, 15; whole number of males, 30; whole number of females, 10. Branches taught, reading, writing, and figures.

The scholars are making fine progress, and a desire seems to be manifest among them to learn. I hope soon to be able to report a much larger number in daily attendance.

E. H. DAY, *Teacher.*

No. 35.

SANDY LAKE, June 8, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In obedience to your call, I herewith present to you my report of this place. During the past fall and winter the Indians have followed their usual hunts, and very few have remained here. During that time I have taught what children were here.

Since their return from their sugar and spring hunts I have not been able to teach, having many things to attend to—assist what little I could the farmer, making garden for myself, and preparing my school-house. I have just got through repairing it, and will soon commence teaching. However, I have had a regular Sabbath school in our house.

I am not able to give you the number of pupils who do attend our Sabbath school, but I am happy to state to you that there has been a gradual improvement in industry, morality, and religion. Our meetings have been well attended. The most marked evidence of improvement, and the surest pledge of advance we find in the increasing attention given to the truths of the Gospel here lately, is, that a family have given us their names as being determined to abandon their old religion and superstitions, and as wishing to become like good Christians. As a missionary, I have *endeavored*—I say *endeavored*—to do good to my Red Brethren at this place and elsewhere, and to impart to them what little understanding I have, (though I have but very little,) and to assist them all I can for their temporal good; for this spring I have given for seed $23\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of potatoes, which I have distributed among them.

The Indians at this place, generally, begin to see the importance of becoming settled down, and trying to raise something for their living: however, this is the farmer's business to report. One great hindrance, however, to their spiritual and temporal welfare, I found among them, viz: the use of ardent spirits; and some of these Indians go down below and bring quantities of it to this place.

I hope, sir, the day is not far distant when every Indian of this band shall become the happy subject and give full evidence of the reality of the white man's religion.

The present prospect of this mission is cheering of doing good in spiritual matters, though I have many difficulties to contend with; but I feel for these my Red Brethren, that I cannot let them go without making a fair trial.

Your obedient servant,
JOHN JOHNSON.

Mr JAMES P. HAYS,
Sub-agent, Indian Department.

No. 36.

SANDY LAKE INDIAN FARM, *June 30, 1846.*

DEAR SIR: Herewith is my report of work done by me at this station since the 1st July, 1845.

I made and cut, since the time above mentioned, 18 tons of hay. I have cleared 10 acres of land, and, I very much regret to say, without the help of the Indians. I have ploughed 23 acres of land for the Indians, and 4 acres for the use of our station; also, 1 acre for their missionary established here. Also, made $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile of fence, (picket fence, with pins,) and cut 4,500 rails, which I have drawn from about 3 miles. I have drawn and cut a barn, 24 by 26, which I have raised and covered. I have also drawn a house for Martin Luther, from about 3 miles, and one for the striker. I made, also, 1 ox sled, 3 yokes, 1 harrow; hung 2 grindstones; and divers other things belonging to a farm—pitchforks, rakes, &c.

The Indians have planted 124 bushels of potatoes this spring, and 7 bushels of peas, and a great quantity of squashes and corn; I could not ascertain the quantity. One of these Indians here, named Martin Luther, has sowed oats, and other things, more than any other person here. He is the only industrious Indian here. The rest of the Indians are very much pleased to have gardens, provided they do not work to get them; in general they are pretty lazy. The prospects here would be very flattering, were it not for the liquor they bring here every day; that is the only obstacle in our way, for, instead of working, they keep drunk.

As hope is a good post, I rely altogether on it for better success with the Indians.

The following is the stock on hand—implements, &c.:

2 yoke of oxen, 1 bull, 1 cow and calf, 1 horse, 1 plough, (the other is broke,) 2 harrows, 4 scythes, 3 snaths, 3 scythe stones, 10 ox bows, 3 yokes, 2 chains, 4 hay rakes, 2 cast-steel hay forks, 1 bush scythe, 3 augers, 3 gimlets, 2 ox bells, 1 American axe, 1 grindstone, 2 spades, 1 hand-saw, 3 planes, 1 ox sled.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL H. BEAULIEU,
U. S. Indian Farmer.

TO JAS. P. HAYS, Esq.,
Sub-agent of Indian Affairs, La Pointe.

No. 37.

BAD RIVER, *July 31, 1846.*

SIR: In compliance with your request, I would state, in relation to our missionary operations at Bad river, that we commenced clearing land and preparations to build a year ago last spring, and have now, as the result of these labors, some twelve acres of land cleared and a part of it under cultivation, planted chiefly with potatoes. We have also a pasture fenced, and stable built for our cattle. Our house, which is a commodious building, a story and a half high, was so far completed last spring that we moved into it with our family the first of May.

For several years past a school has been kept here every spring, while the Indians have been at the gardens. Last year we kept a school, for the first time, in the fall, while the Indians were here gathering their crops, after payment. This last spring a school was kept by Mrs. W. and myself, until the Indians left us. The building we have hitherto occupied as a school-house is a temporary log shanty, too far from the house to be convenient, and unfit for permanent use. We have the timber on the ground for a good building near the mission premises, which we hope to finish soon, to be used for a school-house and a place for holding public worship.

The great hindrance to a prosperous school here arises from the unsettled habits of the people, and the little importance they attach to the education of their children. While there are children enough here for a male and female school, each numbering twenty-five scholars, the average attendance as yet in our school, for children of both sexes, has not been more than from twelve to twenty; though at times, for a few days, we have had as many as thirty. We shall endeavor, on our part, to render the school as efficient as practicable; and hope, if the people advance in civilization, especially if brought under the influence of the Gospel, to see our school prosperous, and see all our labors crowned with more abundant success. The Indians of this band last year remained at the gardens, and at the sugar camps near by, one-half of the time. This is a greater portion of the year than they have ever remained here before. In respect to their disposition to cultivate the soil, it can be said to their credit that they cultivate double the amount of land now that they did four years ago.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

L. H. WHEELER.

TO JAMES P. HAYS, Esq.,
Sub-agent at La Pointe.

No. 38.

DETROIT, *September 30, 1846.*

DEAR SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit a tabular report of the Indian schools connected with the Catholic mission under my charge, together with a list containing the names, ages, and sexes of the scholars who have attended school any portion of the year.

It affords me great pleasure to communicate the deep and increasing interest manifested by the Indians, generally, upon the important subject of education. The scholars have made good improvement in their studies, and, by their deportment, gained the esteem and respect of their teachers. In some of our schools the number of pupils has greatly increased, and their attendance has been more regular; though in this respect some of the scholars, particularly among the largest, have suffered great loss, as many of them had indispensable duties to perform at home. However, the parents, generally, show great eagerness to have their children educated, and will often endure privations rather than keep them from school. I feel happy in stating that the Ottawa Indians of the Catholic missions of Arbre Croche, Middletown, Lacroix, Cheboygan, and

Manistie, have this year more than ever turned their attention to the necessary parts of domestic economy. Their conduct has, in general, been most exemplary and edifying. Industry and sobriety seem to be great objects of emulation among them; so that, with regard to civilization, intelligence, morality, religion, and the securing of comfortable means of support from their agricultural efforts, their condition is most flattering.

With regard to the Catholic mission among the Chippewa Indians, on the western side of Anse Kewawenon, I cannot but say, with deep sensation of joy, that the rapid progress in civilization and happiness of life which the Indians of this missionary establishment exhibited in a very short period since their conversion, has become a subject of admiration to all those who visited the Anse during the two preceding summers. They have entirely abandoned their savage habits and mode of living, and are become a good, industrious, and sober band of Indians. They now all live in houses, and cultivate the ground. They have a farmer with them, whom Rev. F. Baraga hired for three years, and two yoke of oxen to plough a large piece of ground, of about 25 acres, which these Indians themselves have cleared in the middle of a thick wilderness, and enclosed within a common fence. In this common field each family has a lot, which they cultivate according to their wants. The present number of families belonging to this establishment is thirty-three; some more families from the inland purpose to embrace the Catholic religion, and settle at the Anse.

The change for the better is indeed surprising in this band of Indians, especially their sobriety. Before their conversion they were all confirmed drunkards, without exception. But now, they have all given up drinking, and bound themselves by solemn promise to abstain from ardent spirits; and they also do all in their power to prevent liquor being brought in their village. They had made this promise a long time ago in the hands of Rev. F. Baraga, their missionary and teacher; but when I had the pleasure of visiting them last July, they all took the pledge of total abstinence at my hands. This pledge is printed in the Chippewa language, and was administered with impressive solemnity, before the altar in the missionary church at the Anse.

I have the honor to be, with high regard and esteem, your obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFEVRE, *B^p Z. C. A. D.*

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, *Esq.,*
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 39.

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY,
September 26, 1846.

SIR: In presenting the annual report of the mission school and station at Grand Traverse bay, it will be my object to give, as it is doubtless the desire of the government to receive, a brief detail of facts showing the condition and improvement of this people. Last fall I felt it to be my duty to report the conduct of an Indian who brought liquor to this place. The better portion of the people wished this to be done, and the reproof he

received at the office was salutary on more than himself. A portion was displeased with my reporting him. Subsequently to their return from payment, I found it necessary to separate from our church a man who had been guilty of repeated immoralities. This also gave offence to some of his friends. These feelings we are satisfied were fostered and aggravated, if not directly yet indirectly, by visits from the Catholic priest of the Little Traverse, who comes under the cover of visiting his members, but most manifestly to make proselytes. Meetings in opposition to our meetings were commenced under the care of an Indian. Much effort was made during the winter to get members; and by representation that the instruction we gave was hard to learn, and the other was easier, and imposed less restraint on wrong doing, a number were induced to submit to be baptized, and were enrolled as Christian Indians. Most of them, it was well known by those acquainted with the individuals, although baptized, were the same unchanged heathens. The summer has shown this to be true, as they were the first to join in drinking when an opportunity offered. These efforts have drawn some away from the school and our instruction on the Sabbath. Some dissatisfaction was also manifested with respect to the teacher of the school; partly owing to his want of good management in the school, and partly in consequence of his correcting some of the children, which gave offence, and probably originated some false reports respecting him. On reporting the facts to the officers of the board, they thought best that he should relinquish the charge of the school.

One further fact has had an influence on the school this summer, viz : A number of families went to the fishing ground, which occasioned the withdrawal of some of the children, not only during the time of absence, but previous to their going. Having enlarged their gardens and increased their planting, they had an increased amount of labor to perform, which required all hands to finish in order to be ready by the time the fishing season commenced. From the causes above stated, the attendance on the school has not been as large as in some former years.

The labor of instructing a rude and ignorant people like the Indian, is one of much trial and many discouragements; and where there is so little family government, where the children are allowed to go and come, and do as they please, it is very difficult to secure any thing like the regular attendance common in well regulated schools, without which the improvement must be slow.

Order as well as attendance is necessary; to obtain which, discipline must be exercised. This, in some cases, will excite bad feelings, which may be so fostered or inflamed as to induce the parents to neglect the means of instruction afforded their children.

While the attendance on the school has not been as numerous, the improvement has been greater. Since the teacher withdrew, I have had the charge of the school until another teacher can be procured. There are enrolled, and have been in attendance more or less during the year, forty-four boys and fourteen girls—all full blood Indians. Seven white children belonging to the families under the direction of the government have also attended. The average attendance has been from twenty-five to thirty most of the time. Of those who attended, six have made proficiency in reading, writing, and arithmetic, four have been studying geography, four read books in the English and Indian languages, eight are spelling in the

English and Indian spelling books; twenty are spelling in the Indian only. I send herewith a list of the names of the scholars, their ages, and the proficiency of each noted. The school has been open during the year, except a week the last of December, and while the families were absent at their sugar camps. It was closed on the first of the present month, (September,) in order to get the use of some lumber from the old school-house to complete a new one now erecting.

Besides the regular school, I formed a writing class in the winter, for such as could not attend the school. They met one evening in the week at the mission-house. Regular preaching to the people has been kept up on Sabbath morning and evening, and on Wednesday evening. A Sabbath school has been held on Sabbath afternoon, attended chiefly by the adults. Visiting the sick, administering medicines, and giving them such counsel and instruction as I thought would promote their welfare, in addition to the foregoing, constitute the means employed for their improvement. As the result of these means, the following statement gives an imperfect view: eighteen can read their own language; ten more, adults, who have only attended the Sabbath school, are beginning to read. They are becoming more industrious, more cleanly, more sober; they are beginning to have good houses and furniture. As evidence of their industry, compared with former days, I would state: six years ago the site occupied by the village was a dense thicket. The village extends near a mile in length, containing some twenty log houses and some good log stables, belonging to the Indians. During that period, they have cleared and cultivated some 200 acres of new gardens, besides what additions were made to their old ones. Then, they seldom raised more than a scanty supply for their families; now, they raise and sell some hundreds of bushels of corn and potatoes. Comparing their improvements with those of some other bands, who have had teachers for years before these people began to emerge from savage life, they are deserving of commendation. Visiting a village this summer, the inhabitants of which have been highly commended for what they had accomplished, I was struck with the contrast. Not a building that I saw had any thing but a bark roof on. Here both of the chiefs have good houses, with shingle roofs. There are six other good houses belonging to the Indians, with shingle roofs. This has required much labor, and indicates a good degree of industry. This has been done while the paralyzing uncertainty whether they can remain here weighs constantly on their minds. In abstinence from beastly intemperance they are improving. Soon after I first came among them, they had a drinking frolic. Every man present but one was drunk, and threats were made against my life if I did not go away. The one was kept sober by our taking him away from the scene. The next frolic, I hired one of the chiefs to abstain and aid me in getting material for my house. Now, even when some go and bring liquor here, only a part can be induced to drink. The most of them would live here during the year and never taste or desire it; but when they go to their payment, meeting with their friends, their resolution is often overcome. We can number some twenty-five or thirty who have not drank any thing for three years past, to our knowledge. If drinking is discouraged, and they are properly encouraged to sobriety, we may hope to see a new generation of sober men and women growing up here.

A church has been organized, with which twenty of the native people are connected.

They are still anxiously inquiring if they will be permitted to purchase land here.

Fearing they may not, some have purchased, and others think of selecting and making purchases of the land now in market, that they may have a refuge to fly to if they cannot remain here. This does not appear to me to be for their best interests. Would it not be for their future welfare if they could receive land here in exchange for their portion of the fund due them when they give up their reservation, in the title held in trust for them? Would it not be for their good to have the laws to some extent brought to bear on them? Their own customs are often very oppressive. As an illustration, a little boy handling a gun accidentally shot a child; the father made threats of vengeance unless large presents were given; and to save the life of the boy, the relatives had to make up a large present, consisting of a number of guns, and traps, and blankets.

Yours, respectfully,

P. DOUGHERTY.

WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

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No. 40.

OTTOWA COLONY, *September 30, 1846.*

SIR: In compliance with your request, I herewith present the condition of the Ottowas, and the school established among them at this station.

To confine my remarks on the state and condition of the Ottowas connected with this station, I might relate to you some cases of encouragement. In consideration of the wise and benevolent policy which characterizes the government of the United States towards the Indians, and particularly my own concern for their welfare generally, I am induced to embrace them as a people in submitting my report. The habits of the Ottowas, I am constrained to confess, have not been bettered for the last ten years, with the exception of those who are connected with the mission stations; their degradation has increased annually. Upon the consummation of the treaty of 1836 with the Ottawa and Chippewa tribe, it was necessary for them (at least a part) to retire from the ceded country. My being the only teacher among the Ottowas, at that time, who was under the patronage of government, brought me under the fearful responsibility of advising them in their future course. On account of their universal prejudice to a removal to the country assigned them west of the Mississippi, I came to the conclusion, with the approbation of the foreign board of missions, to purchase land, and that each person hold the same by a deed. This plan has been followed by others, until I now have the satisfaction of seeing five or six stations exerting a healthful influence over those connected with the charge. That which is to be lamented is, that a majority of those east of the Mississippi are disconnected with missions, and are continually becoming more and more degraded. Ten years have already expired in which the government have appropriated funds for the civilization of the Ottowas; and only the same length of time in

future, and the stipulations of the treaty will be fulfilled. Since the time is now half expired, reason and philanthropy would dictate that we take into consideration what has been effected, and whether we have managed the affairs of Indian reform in the best possible manner. The plan of our operations has been as follows: I selected the very best timbered openings, and contiguous to which are large lakes which abound with a variety of fish, and much game near us, and withal surrounded mostly by a religious and industrious community of white people. The land is enclosed by a good fence, and each family has a comfortable log-dwelling, with a frame barn to secure their grain. Their secular advantages and privileges for the support of themselves and families, have been as good as their white neighbors. Notwithstanding our favorable location, and the privileges and advantages they derive from our labors, they are far behind that which is desirable in refined taste, improved manners, industrious habits, or in being consistent Christians. Our educated boys and girls are as destitute of a principle of excelling in good breeding and moral worth, and correct deportment, as those who never have received instruction. I attribute the cause of our little success with those of the educated to the denying them and their nation their wonted independence, which is so necessary for the salutary advancement and dignity of any people. In our civil code, we refuse them the privileges of American citizens. We have quenched their council fires, and deny them an elective franchise. The educated youth have nothing to excite them to emulation; they cannot hold office of trust while others must make and execute laws for them. To elevate their character, one or two things must be done: either remove them west of the Mississippi, and give them the same independence with other prosperous tribes, or, for the last resort, secure to them the privileges of citizenship within the States. The greatest discouragement in our labors arises from the deterioration of the morals of our youth. They leave the school with no prospect of holding any honored station in society. They mingle with their countrymen, and are obliged to resume their old habits; and, having more knowledge than those who are less favored, they become more degraded. The result is, that education is despised, and useful knowledge is held in small repute by the untaught savage.

Since my last report, and during the fall and winter, I had much to discourage me in my labors on account of the prevalence of intemperance. In commencing operations in the spring, to the present, scarcely an instance of drunkenness. Each family was ambitious to excel his neighbor in cultivating the most extensive field. A greater variety of seed was cultivated, and now a greater increase of products than any year previous. One Indian raised about sixty bushels of good wheat; others, less quantity. They have all a supply of corn and potatoes. There is an evident improvement in agriculture, and an apparent disposition to increase their means of support.

School.—The winter school was kept as usual. The summer quarter commenced with new interest and satisfaction. Having received a part of a supply of books from the Ottawa press west of the Mississippi, I introduced the new system, particularly among the adults, of the syllabic plan, in their own language. The result has been pleasing to me and gratifying to those who attended. Before the close of the summer term three could read in the New Testament, and ten to fifteen in easy reading.

Between thirty and forty have received instruction. It is hoped that the interest now felt on the subject of education will not be easily obliterated. The plan was adopted among the Cherokees and other tribes with success, and I hope the plan may be adopted at each of the stations in your superintendency, to continue at least until each person may read the wonderful works of God in his own language.

Moral state.—I might state that the Indians have done well, and “are good;” but I recoil at the expression, when I know the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; and who can know it? They confess they are wicked, and that they have no goodness in themselves. Meetings have been sustained every Sabbath, and attended with interest.

I have visited the Huron band, residing at Notwa Sepee. They are decidedly in favor of temperance, and a religious life generally. Occasional visits have been made by itinerant preachers. We have been blessed with health the past year. We trust that the connexion of the goodness of God to us in temporal and spiritual things may lead us to unfeigned repentance.

I am, with respect, sincerely yours,

L. SLATER,
Superintendent and Teacher.

Hon. W. A. RICHMOND,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit.

No. 41.

OLD WING MISSION, *September 10, 1846.*

SIR: Agreeably to the regulations of the Department, I send you my annual report.

You have been informed of the fact that I spent a part of the last season on a journey to Vermont, my native State, for the health of my family. We had spent about six years of privation and trial away from friends and every improving association, and considered it our duty to make the journey, in order to recover our bodily health and refresh and invigorate our minds, that we might return to our work with renewed energy and interest. Such has been the consequence.

While east, we collected a small amount of clothing in Swanton, my native town, (about \$30 worth,) and nearly the same in Enosburgh, Vermont, for the family of our chief; but, to the great grief of our mission, he died soon after our return, and did not enjoy the favor; but it has been faithfully put into the hands of his family, who were in indigent circumstances, and has been a great relief to them. The death of the chief, Oge-maire-mire, (Joseph Wakazoo,) was severely felt by all who had an interest in the welfare of the Indians. He was about seventy years of age—died suddenly, of a congestion of the lungs. Medical aid was obtained for him, but all to no purpose; and when he closed his eyes with the setting sun, on the 18th of last October, I almost felt that the doom of our mission was sealed. He was wise in council, noble in spirit, and upright in life. His advice was sought for, far and near, among his fellow red men, and he should be regarded as a benefactor of his race.

In his brother, Peter Wakazoo, who is now our acting chief, we hope we may have one who will equal the one we have lost.

I commenced school soon after my return last fall, and continued it till late in the spring, when the Indians went to the shore of Black lake, four miles from the school-house, where they still continue, and will till after payment. The number of scholars on my list is—

Males	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Females	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
My own children	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
							—
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
							—

The course of instruction has been the same as last year—the alphabet, spelling, reading, writing, and singing, with the addition of ciphering, and something of geography. The attendance of the scholars has been more uniform, and their conduct and progress better than any former year.

I also taught a Sabbath school through the winter, which I think was very useful. Our meetings on the Sabbath have been kept up through the year, with very few unavoidable exceptions, and they have been decidedly interesting generally; and the effect of Gospel truth on the mind and heart is more obvious than formerly. The habits of the Indians during the past year, in relation to the use of ardent spirits, especially at home, have been very good. There have been some instances of drunkenness abroad, under the tempting influence of wicked white men, who, when they can find nothing else bad enough to do, will get an Indian drunk that they may rob him the easier. It is a curse to our land that there are such men in it; they are worse than the worst Indians, and need a house of correction for their benefit; but the prevalent and increasing feeling of our Indians is, that it is a bad business to drink whiskey.

During the year the farming interest has increased considerably; about 7,000 rails have been split, by the assistance of the farmer, and a portion of them laid up into fence. He has also, in company with the Indians, done a considerable amount of logging, ploughing, and harrowing; they have planted their corn and potatoes in rows, which makes the farming of several families look quite systematic and pretty. The crops are very good; the amount of corn will be greater than the colony will consume.

Now, in summing up the progress of the year, I may safely say that the advance has been in a higher ratio than any former one; but there are two important impediments which I must name: one is, the intrusions of the Catholic priest from the station at the Rapids, who went so far at one time as to come into our meeting during worship, and call out a part of my congregation, &c. The other is, the Indians living on the shore on Black lake (an unhealthy place) in hot weather. The evils resulting are these:

1st. Their children cannot be in school in the summer season.

2d. They are at a distance from their farms when it is very important they should be on them.

3d. I have no doubt it is the cause of quite all the sickness they experience.

The past month they have had a good deal of the fever and ague, and there have been a few deaths by dysentery; but I do not think the sick-

ness and deaths have more than equalled the white settlements. In this region, generally, they are becoming sensible of these evils, and manifest a strong determination to live permanently on their farms as soon as they can get their houses completed; so that I hope this evil will occasion its own remedy. I have no doubt but our colony location is decidedly a healthy one.

I will only add, that I have obtained a place for the two young men, Joseph and Mitchell, in the Kalamazoo branch of the Michigan university, under the kind patronage of a committee of the Kalamazoo presbytery, and the Marshall Congregational Association.

I remain, truly, your humble and obedient servant,

GEO. N. SMITH.

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, Esq.,

Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit, Mich.

No. 42.

BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE,

Sault Ste. Marie, September 25, 1846.

SIR: In presenting to you the eighteenth annual report of the mission under my charge, I beg leave to acknowledge the Divine goodness to us in the preservation of our lives, and in continuing to us, in the main, the blessings of health.

The laborers connected with this mission the past year are myself, Mrs. Bingham, Rev. James D. Cameron, Shegud, a native assistant, and Miss Susan A. Warren, who has been an assistant school teacher most part of the year.

Our school has been continued with regularity through the year, with our usual vacation of nine days, including two Sabbaths at the close of each quarter.

The number of pupils on our list has ranged from 26 to 43; the last two quarters numbering 39 and 41. The Rev. Mr. Cameron had a small school part of the time at Tikuamina, or Tequawmenang, last winter, in which he reported 20 in attendance, but not so many at any one time; children attended in the day time, and adults in the evening.

Our most forward scholars, reported some years past, have been dismissed; and so far as their vacancy has been supplied, it has been mostly with new beginners, or small scholars; and hence we have none as forward as several of them were. The common elementary branches, however, have been taught—reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography; but no English grammar the last two quarters. Their progress has been tolerably good; better the last three than the previous year.

We had eleven boarding scholars through the winter, and until the last of April, since which three have left. One was a mixed blood youth, who was taken when between nine and ten years of age, and, on leaving the mission at 21, entered a store as a clerk in a respectable establishment in our place; and, so far as my knowledge on the subject has extended, has given good satisfaction. The other two were full-blood Indians, and both had given evidence of having become pious while attached to the mission, and were members of the mission church. One was a young man,

probably 21 or rising, when he entered the mission; can now read the New Testament decently in Indian, and passably in English, and has acquired considerable knowledge of common business. He has spent the summer under Professor Marther in the exploring business in the mineral country. The other is a female, who, through the urgency of her relations, returned to live with them.

Of the eight remaining beneficiaries, six are girls, and two boys; not more than one over twelve years old, and from that down to about seven. Our boarding scholars can all read decently in the Scriptures; so that they read with us in our family devotions morning and evening.

A Sabbath school has been maintained through the year, in which the pupils have received general instruction from the Scriptures, and have committed portions of the inspired word to memory, which has ever proved to be excellent employment for their Sabbath hours not spent in public worship. Our religious services with the Indians at the station were intercepted for about four months during the year, for want of an interpreter suitably qualified; but when I have visited them at their locations, one has been at hand. Moreover, the Rev. Mr. Cameron has been stationed at Tequawmenang the past season, and has held regular Christian worship with the Indians there; and five have publicly professed Christianity during the year. Religious worship has also been regularly maintained at the station through the year, but only with the white population when I had no interpreter for the Indians.

Those who have professed Christianity have generally maintained their Christian profession; and probably as few defections have been found among them as in our Christian churches among the white people, who are capable of reading the Scriptures for themselves.

Our Indians are evidently improving in civilization, industry, and business. Four young men connected with our mission have, since the opening of navigation, put up, brought to this place, and sold 105 barrels of fish, and have made preparations to enlarge business during the fall fishing; and most of the Indians among us who are under any considerable influence of the missionaries are engaged in that or some other business that will afford a comfortable living.

In the month of June, I visited White Fish point, where those young men were taking fish, and could not fail of noticing their industry. They appeared as industrious and perseveringly engaged in their business as American farmers do in times of haying and harvest, and yet they could find time to attend religious meetings in the evenings. They are strict in observing the Sabbath, and faithful in attending to the common duties of religion.

At Tequawmenang bay their gardens look well, and some of the families have raised a large supply of potatoes, of an excellent quality; and have also corn, pumpkins, squashes, beats, turnips, &c. One family obtained a cow last fall, which they kept in fine order through the winter, and took her and her calf to their fishery with them in the spring, which added much to their comfort. I noticed in their bark lodge a milk shelf filled up with pans of milk, and found that the women made a good supply of butter, and of a good quality. I was also much pleased to see her set before her children a dish of bread and milk, which in my view seemed more to resemble the habits of a New England farmer, than of an Indian of the forest. These small beginnings intimate what a state of civilization they

might shortly be brought to, had we the means at hand of setting them down on land in their native climate that they could feel might permanently be their home.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,

Superintendent Baptist Mission.

To JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Sub-agent, Indian Agency.

No. 43.

SAULT STE. MARIE, *August 28, 1846.*

SIR: In accordance with the instructions of the Department, I have the honor to make the following report of the state of the missions of the Methodist Episcopal church under my superintendence:

Sault Ste. Marie.—The state of things at this station has not materially altered since my last report. There has been a new frame barn built, which is well filled with hay and grain; there is in charge of the mission one pair of horses, one wagon, and eight head of horned cattle, together with the ordinary farming tools. The school has been kept in regular operation with the exception of a vacation of about three weeks at the season of sugar-making. The whole number in school has been 24, with an average of about 18. There are at present but four children that board in the mission family; there have, however, been more until recently, and it is presumed that others will be received soon.

Keewawenon.—The missionary at this station has been indefatigable in his efforts to do the Indians good. There are four head of cattle belonging to the mission, together with the ordinary farming tools, all of which have been used to good purpose. The whole number of children in the school has been 23—boys, 15; girls, 13—with an average of about 18, except during the time of sugar-making, when there are not quite so many.

Fond-du-Lac.—The beneficial effects of the labors bestowed upon the people of this station begin also to be clearly seen. Their gardens have been considerably enlarged, and at the time of my visit to them, in July, looked remarkably promising. The school has been in progress during the year, and a part of the time the attendance has been good and the progress commendable; but, as the people are not yet altogether local in their habits, it is not always easy to keep the children as regularly in school as they ought to be. I think there is reason to hope that the condition of these people, especially the rising generation, will continue to improve physically, mentally, and morally.

Sandy lake.—I have not been able to visit this remote inland station during this year; but I learn from the missionary that he has taught school as regularly as the children could be made to attend; many of whom are kept from school, especially during the winter season, for want of comfortable clothing. This is very much to be regretted; but I hope the time is not distant when their own improved economy, aided by Christian liberality, shall enable every child in the tribe, clothed and comfortable, to attend at the place where their mental and moral wants shall

be regularly attended to. In conclusion, I would remark that, though there are difficulties and discouragements connected with missionary and educational operations among these people, (the principal of which, in one way or other, grew out of the nefarious whiskey trade,) yet, in dependence upon Him who has said "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," we are determined to hold on to the even tenor of our way, believing that diligence and perseverance will yet accomplish the desired object of bringing them from their state of mental and moral darkness to a state of mental illumination and religious enjoyment.

All which is respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, as ever, yours truly,

W. H. BROCKWAY,

Superintendent of Missions, Michigan Conference.

To JAMES ORD, Esq.,

Indian Sub-agent, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

No. 44.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October 20, 1846.*

SIR: The subject of education is daily attracting increased attention among the southwestern Indians. This has been more particularly the case since the Choctaws set the example of voluntary contribution, by devoting to that object \$18,000 of the annuities paid them distributively. The idea of creating schools themselves, in their own country, under their own control and supervision, has had great effect upon the adjoining tribes, inducing some of them to take decided steps of a like nature. To what extent this spirit prevails in this superintendency, the reports transmitted a short time since from the different agents will enable you to judge. Others, herewith submitted, relate exclusively to the Choctaw schools. You will find in them full accounts of the number of pupils, branches taught, method of instruction, general system pursued, &c.

Notwithstanding the details are minute, the progress made cannot well be estimated. The reports state the quantity read or studied, and the other modes of employment; but do not, and cannot, show the actual advancement. The children are improved rather in their habits than in what they learn from books. The greater part of them, brought up in ignorance and idleness, strangers to any kind of restraint, when they enter school begin an entirely new life. They are subjected to wholesome discipline, acquire habits of industry and cleanliness, learn the value of time, exercise their mental faculties, and, what is after all the main point, (for it involves the chief distinction between savage and civilized races in most, if not all the Choctaw schools,) great pains are taken to instil correct principles, and to impress upon the minds of the pupils proper ideas of the obligations of duty. To what extent benefits result in these various particulars, no adequate idea can be formed from any report, nor in any other way than by the personal observation in individual instances of teachers or friends. Others can only judge by the general effect after the lapse of years.

The Choctaws have three academies and some smaller schools for boys, and five female seminaries. The management is intrusted to the Presby-

terian, Baptist, and Methodist societies. In thus dividing their schools among different denominations, they have shown a commendable degree of liberality.

The Presbyterian missionaries were the first to visit the Choctaw country; have been a long while in it; and as they are, for the most part, men of elevated character, leading exemplary lives, laboring faithfully not only as preachers, but also as instructors and physicians, they have acquired the confidence of the Choctaws, who are very naturally, under all the circumstances, inclined to give them the preference.

The entire school fund is expended under the control of the different societies. They appoint the superintendents and teachers, and make a liberal additional appropriation for each school. It is therefore their interest as well as their duty to scrutinize closely the expenditures of their agents. Reports of their operations are made annually to the Choctaw council, which has the right to terminate at any time the existing connexion. The duty of inspecting the schools and ascertaining their condition is assigned by the council to five trustees; four of them native Choctaws; myself the fifth. The trustees also select the pupils.

Attached to each of the male academies is a farm, cultivated mainly by the boys. Corn enough to supply their wants has been raised during the past year. Their instruction in the school-room so far has been chiefly confined to the simple and more elementary branches of an ordinary common school education. The female schools deserve particular notice. The superintendents are generally men of experience and ability, devoted to the cause they are engaged in. Some of the ladies employed as teachers are highly qualified, and have been very successful. After school hours the girls are instructed in sewing, knitting, ornamental needlework, &c., and are divided into classes, performing by turns the duties of the household and the dairy. The system adopted is, in my opinion, well calculated to prepare females for usefulness in after life. A striking proof that it works well is found in the increasing disposition among all classes, especially the full-blooded Indians, heretofore indifferent on the subject, to secure its benefits for their daughters.

Notwithstanding the school fund is comparatively large, it is insufficient for the wants of more than one-tenth of the Choctaw children. The consequence is, that the number of applicants always greatly exceeds the number that can be received in the schools. The duty of selection therefore becomes exceedingly delicate. The trustees often find it difficult to refuse pressing solicitations for the admission of persons beyond the proper age. Many of the students at this time in the different institutions were, when they first entered, altogether too old to derive the advantages which otherwise might reasonably be expected from the outlay. Under the most favorable circumstances, the obstacles in the way of educating Indian children are considerable. In most cases they know nothing of English. Their associations at home are not of a kind to stimulate or awaken their powers of thought. Their minds are in a state of apathy. A long time must necessarily elapse before they learn to think in another language, or to comprehend matters which other children, brought up under more favorable auspices, are familiar with at a much earlier age, and before they have even seen a school. It is obvious that to overcome these difficulties, instruction should commence at the earliest practicable period. If no beginning is made until after the habits are

fixed and the character is formed, the efforts to improve are likely to result in disappointment.

The reports of the agent and of the different superintendents exhibit the state of the schools among the Cherokees. This tribe, with a larger average of intelligence than can be found in any other, has, from various causes, done very little in the way of education during the last few years. Their internal difficulties adjusted, they will doubtless make a more judicious application of their means in furthering this great object.

The Creeks, more opposed in former times to instruction and innovation of all kinds than any other Indians, are rapidly changing for the better. At their own request, provisions were made in the treaty of 1845 for the support of two manual labor schools; one to be located on the Arkansas, the other on the Canadian. I have received several communications from the chiefs urging that these schools be put in operation as soon as possible. The Rev. Mr. Loughridge, a missionary of the Presbyterian board, who has been laboring among them many years, has made a very favorable impression. They wish him to take charge of the school in the Arkansas district. No superintendent has been selected for the other, but arrangements are in progress which it is hoped will enable both establishments, before long, to receive students.

The Chickasaws are better able to provide for the instruction of their children than any other tribe in the superintendency, and I understand, at a late meeting of their council, made a liberal appropriation for the purpose. They had previously submitted to the Department the plan of an institution on the manual labor system, which has been substantially approved. The Methodist society has undertaken the management, and selected the Rev. Mr. Browning, a gentleman possessing the requisite qualifications in a high degree, for the superintendent. As this school progresses, others will doubtless be established. The ample means of the Chickasaws certainly cannot be more advantageously expended.

There is one school in the Neosho sub-agency. The report of the teacher will show its condition.

For further information I must refer you to the statement of the different teachers. I regret exceedingly that the pressing nature of other official duties has prevented me from giving more attention to the various schools in the superintendency, but hope hereafter that personal observation will enable me to speak more fully of their condition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 45.

ARMSTRONG ACADEMY, *September 1, 1845.*

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your instructions, I herewith transmit a report of this institution for the past year.

The institution is located two miles south of the road leading from Fort Towson to Fort Washita, fifty-five miles west of the former and thirty

east of the latter. It is near the dividing ridge of the waters of Boggy and Blue rivers, and twenty miles northwest of the nearest point of Red river. The country around is the best quality of upland, and will admit of a dense population.

In consequence of the failure of the contractor to complete the buildings agreeably to contract, the school did not go into operation until the 2d of December, 1845. The number of scholars expected was 35; but 33 were sent, and during the latter part of session but 30 attended, some having run away, and others returned home in consequence of sickness.

On the 1st of November last, the American Indian Mission Association (under whose direction this institution is placed) appointed the Rev. P. P. Brown as teacher, and Mr. H. W. Jones as farmer, with Mrs. Brown and Miss Chenoweth to assist in the domestic affairs of the institution. From various causes they did not arrive here until the 10th of February, since which time they have been engaged in their different spheres of labor. Previous to the arrival of this reinforcement the whole labor of the institution devolved upon me, in addition to teaching the school. I could not pay that attention to every separate department of labor which each demanded. Since the arrival of these missionaries, each one has labored in his or her appropriate department, and, we have reason to believe, not in vain.

The boys, when not engaged in school, have devoted the time allotted to work in clearing land and cultivating the farm. The following is the result of their labors:

They have cleared about 10 acres of land, and made a part of the rails to fence it. We had, previous to this, a field of 40 acres in cultivation. Ten acres have been added to this, part timber and part prairie. This field of 50 acres has been cultivated in corn by them, in addition to a garden and three acres of sweet potatoes. The crop has been well attended to: and should nothing befall it, I think we shall make a sufficiency of corn, peas, beans, pumpkins, and turnips, for our consumption. Hay and fodder for our stock have been secured partly by the students. The time devoted each day to labor has been about 2 or 2½ hours.

I have recently had a horse mill completed for the use of the institution, which will add materially to our benefit.

Every day's experience goes to strengthen me in the belief that schools conducted upon the manual labor system are the only ones that will eventually benefit the Indians much. There is an aversion to labor on the part of many, and complaints are sometimes made that the children labor too much. You are well aware that in every age, among enlightened or unenlightened nations, idleness has always been one of the most fruitful sources of vice. Hence the necessity of instilling into the youthful mind habits of industry, if they would be virtuous and useful members of society; and I am happy to say that some at least of our pupils seem to appreciate our instructions on this subject, by their willingness to do whatever they are required.

On the 27th of July, a public examination of the school took place, in presence of Captain Robert M. Jones, trustee, Colonel Silas D. Fisher, chief, and other influential men of the district, with which they manifested much satisfaction.

I am well aware that no institution for youth can prosper that is not conducted upon religious principles, and our attention has been directed

to imparting such instruction to these youth, the beneficial effects of which have been apparent in some of them. Six of them have made a public profession of religion during the past session. In addition to this, the evils of intemperance have been set before them, and twenty-eight of them have signed the temperance pledge.

Enclosed is also the report of Rev. P. P. Brown, teacher, which will fully explain to you the progress of the pupils of this institution.

All of which is respectfully submitted, by

Yours, sincerely,

RAMSEY D. POTTS,

Superintendent of Armstrong Academy.

Capt. Wm. ARMSTRONG,

Agent for Choctaws.

No. 46.

ARMSTRONG ACADEMY, September 1, 1846.

SIR: In accordance with the wishes of the superintendent, I send you a report of the progress and present situation of the pupils in the literary department of this institution.

Of those composing the number present at the annual examination—

18 commenced in the alphabet,

4 do two letters,

4 do easy reading,

3 do First Reader, McGuffey's,

2 do Second Reader, McGuffey's.

All have been engaged principally in reading and spelling.

Of those who commenced in the alphabet—

1 reads in the Second Reader,

6 read in the First Reader,

5 read in easy reading, in Elementary Spelling Book ;

4 have just commenced easy reading,

2 do do words of two and three letters.

Of those commencing in two letters—

1 reads in the Second Reader,

1 do First Reader,

2 read in easy reading.

Those commencing in easy reading read in First Reader.

Do in First Reader read in Second Reader,

Do in Second Reader read in Third Reader, and study Olney's Geography.

22 have learned to write.

19, since the first of June, have studied Emerson's First Part North American Arithmetic.

Twenty of our number are full-blood Choctaws. The others are mixed more or less with white blood.

REMARKS.

You will see, by the above schedule, the different degrees of progress the pupils have made in turning over leaves and passing through books.

I do not consider this a correct method of ascertaining the advancement of any school, and especially among the Indians.

Some pupils of sprightly talents are frequently pushed through a book with locomotive speed, as if knowledge were measured only by the number of pages passed over, and the advance in learning calculated by the rapidity with which books are turned off. They receive the praises of doating parents, and the flatteries of admiring friends, as prodigies of learning, when really their actual advance in knowledge is quite limited.

Others, with searching minds, by plodding perseverance, although they thumb but a few pages, and are looked upon as possessing but ordinary capacities, are laying the foundation for a rich store of knowledge, and, in point of actual improvement, are in advance of the former.

Among our Indian schools, a much stronger proof presents itself of the incorrectness of this method of reporting.

Some pupils understand English from the start, and are able to progress rapidly and understandingly.

Others are wholly unacquainted with it; and, with minds utter strangers to discipline, rude and uncultivated as their own native forests, destitute of the advantages of previous study, commence the study of a language different from their own tongue in its style, mode of expression, intonation, and construction; and with no help from grammars and lexicons, but dependent upon the oral instructions of teachers generally unacquainted with the Indian tongue.

In the one case, the pupil has but the orthography and orthœpy of the language to learn; the construction, the intonations, and the mode of expression, he has learned from his mother's lips, and been trained to it, long before he knew what was in a book, or what a book was for.

In the other, he has not only the spelling and the pronunciation to learn, but the meaning of every word, the method of putting words together to form a correct and intelligible sentence, and the manner of expressing sentences, in order to convey the correct meaning.

The books, also, in use for white children, or those understanding English, are not adapted to the wants of Indian children. They are generally sufficiently simple at the beginning, but advance too rapidly; making it necessary for the pupil to read and re-read, and the teacher to repeat his explanation again and again, before the pupil fully understands it.

Can, then, the actual relative improvement of the two be estimated by the number of leaves each has studied?

At the commencement of our school, twenty-two spoke the Choctaw language, knowing nothing of English; and a portion of those who did understand it spoke it but imperfectly.

Believing that the use of English, as the means of intercourse, not only in school hours but at all times, stood first in importance at the commencement of their education, our efforts on the part of those unacquainted with the language have been almost entirely directed to the attainment of that object.

To secure such a result of our labors, we very well knew that positive rules forbidding the use of Choctaw, although effectual while the pupils were in our presence, would not be when an opportunity for infringement, without discovery, presented itself. And, further, such rules would encourage trickery, and foster a deceitful disposition, so destructive to the

morals and future good of those for whose benefit these schools were instituted.

We therefore endeavored to enlist their efforts in favor of the change, keeping constantly before their minds the advantage to be derived from it, and the necessity of their being interested in it; and we are truly happy to report, "success has crowned our efforts."

Some have advanced very slowly, and with great difficulty, but with unyielding perseverance; and so great has been their desire to learn the English, and bring the Choctaw into disuse, that they would prefer to remain silent when their knowledge of English was too limited to express themselves intelligibly, rather than use Choctaw. And not only has the English language become the means of intercourse between teacher and pupil, but also between the pupils themselves; not only in school, but in the field, on the play ground, and in their rooms.

We conceive the success of these efforts will be attended with much benefit to these untutored "sons of the forest." For not only does it open the fountain of knowledge, where the soul can satisfy the ardent desire, the burning thirst, which a sip at its sweet waters creates, but it clearly demonstrates the falsity of the belief, so prevalent among their more enlightened white neighbors, that the Indian loves only the chase and the battle field; that he delights only in scenes of blood and the carnage of savage warfare; that his soul is dead and his ear deaf to the soft strains with which science would woo him into her paths; that his eye sees no beauty in the walks of literature; that there can be no delight to him in turning over the musty pages of by-gone times, in delving for the hidden truths of philosophy, and searching out the deep things of God.

I rejoice that the light of science is dawning upon his darkened mind; that he is burying the tomahawk and scalping knife beneath the tree of liberty, and smoking the pipe of eternal peace with all his brethren.

The schools now established in this nation can do much; and, I trust, with the blessing of the Giver of all Good, will elevate this people to a standing equal to the most favored nations on earth.

Yours, respectfully,

P. P. BROWN.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
United States Agent for the Choctaws.

No. 47.

WHEELOCK, September 29, 1846.

DEAR SIR: I now send you the annual report of the female school at Wheelock for the year ending July, 1846, and also the report of the Norwalk school for boys for the same time.

WHEELOCK FEMALE SCHOOL.

The whole number of pupils the last year has been 50; average attendance 46; whole number boarded, 37; on the appropriation, 24. Of the 13 boarded, not on the appropriation, 8 have paid board, 2 have had board for assistance rendered in the family, 2 have been supported by the mission, and 1 by benevolent friends in the State of Mississippi.

The school is in two divisions, each division having its own teacher.

Primary department.—Miss Tracy continued to have the instruction of this department till March, when declining health made it necessary for her, though reluctantly, to give up the school and return to her friends in Connecticut. She was diligent, efficient, and successful as a teacher, and much beloved by her pupils and the Choctaws as far as she was known. She was succeeded by Miss M. Cotton, from Massachusetts.

In this department the whole number of pupils has been 28; average attendance, 24: 11 are new beginners, having entered the school within the last year, and 5 of these are on the appropriation.

The books used are the Testament, Child's Guide, Common School Primer, Webster's and Gallaudet's spelling books, Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic, Parley's Geography, Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, Watts's smaller catechism, and Emerson's Historical Catechism of the Bible. In using the spelling book, the sounds of the letters, the figures designating the sounds of the vowels, the characters used in writing, the abbreviations, &c., have been committed to memory by all the more advanced pupils.

Arithmetic.—16 have committed to memory the arithmetical tables of weights, measures, &c.; 12 have studied Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic.

Geography.—16 have studied Parley's Geography; 12 to the 33d lesson, and 4 to the 21st lesson.

Natural Philosophy.—12 have studied Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, 1st part.

Catechism.—20 have committed to memory Emerson's Historical Catechism of the Bible. 12 attend to writing.

Higher department.

Miss Dolbeare continues the efficient teacher of this department. Whole number of pupils, 22; on the appropriation, 12.

Books used.—Gallaudet's and Town's spelling books, with the defining of words; Bible, Easy Reader, Intelligent Reader, Gallaudet's Natural Theology, Smith's Arithmetic, Smith's Geography, Smith's Grammar, Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, Comstock's Youth's Book on Astronomy, and Emerson's Historical Catechism of the Bible.

Arithmetic.—4 have studied and reviewed Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic; 18 have studied Smith's Arithmetic: 5 through the ground rules, 13 through vulgar fractions, and 2 through interest and equation of payments.

Geography.—4 have studied and reviewed Parley's Geography; 9 have studied and reviewed Smith's Geography: 4 have gone to the 245th page, and 5 to the 100th page.

Natural Philosophy.—22 have studied and reviewed Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, 1st part; 5 have gone to the 96th page, 2d part; and 4 to the 68th page, 2d part.

Grammar.—5 have gone through with Smith's Grammar; 4 to the 80th page, and 4 to the 26th page. All those in grammar attend to parsing, and the more advanced to the correcting of ungrammatical English.

Astronomy.—9 have studied Comstock's Youth's Book on Astronomy. All in this department have learned Emerson's Historical Catechism of the Bible, and all spend a portion of time every day in writing.

In both departments the Bible is made a daily study; and, at the opening of the school in the morning by the teacher, all that can read are required to recite a verse from that Holy Book.

From five to five and a half hours daily are devoted to recitations of the various exercises of the school-room. The afternoons of each day are devoted to work, as knitting, netting, and needlework, plain and ornamental. The girls, when out of school, are also required to take part in the domestic employments of the family; and for this purpose are divided into companies, each division taking its turn in rotation.

NORWALK SCHOOL.

This school is located about five miles west by north from Wheelock. Connected with the station are C. C. Copeland, steward, and Mrs. Copeland; H. Pitkin, teacher, and Miss M. Cotton, assistant in the family.

The school went into operation, under the appropriation, in February last. The whole number of pupils has been 32; average attendance, 25. Whole number boarded, 21. Of these, 14 are on the appropriation, 6 have paid board, and one has been supported by the mission. Most of those on the appropriation are beginners, and quite young; but their proficiency has been highly satisfactory. Eight on the appropriation begun with the alphabet, and have been through and thoroughly reviewed the Common School Primer, and committed to memory a variety of useful and interesting matter; 5 have been through with Emerson's Mental Arithmetic, 3 have begun the 2d book of Emerson, 3 have begun Smith's Arithmetic, and are well acquainted with the ground rules and with federal money; 12 have commenced Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, and one is studying Olney's Geography.

Singing is made a daily exercise in the school. Besides daily singing, three hours in each week are spent in learning, reciting, and practising the first lessons in music. The Bible in this, as well as in the Wheelock school, is a daily study. The teacher has been indefatigable and highly successful in bringing forward his pupils.

The means for the literary and religious improvement of the Choctaws have been increased during the past year. The four Gospels have been printed in the Choctaw language and circulated among the people. Several religious tracts have also been published, and the Choctaw arithmetic and spelling book have been reprinted. The Sabbath schools connected with the station have been sustained with unabated interest.

The Gospel is still the wisdom and power of God unto salvation to many: 64 have, since the last report, been received into the church at Wheelock, and publicly professed their faith in Christ. Two natives have been licensed to preach the everlasting Gospels, and two more are studying, under the care of the presbytery, for the ministry. There are, in connexion with this station, nine places for preaching, the farthest of which is sixty miles distant. At five of these places public worship is kept up steadily on the Sabbath, and occasionally at the others. In the absence of the pastor, the religious exercises are conducted by the licentiates and elders of the church. A review of the past year shows us what sense of gratitude we have for what the Lord has already accomplished among this people, and encourages us to prosecute our labors with unremitting zeal.

Respectfully and affectionately,

ALFRED WRIGHT.

To Major WM. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, W. T.

No. 48.

GOOD WATER, C. N., August 22, 1846.

DEAR SIR: I herewith transmit to you a report of the Koonsher Female Seminary for the year ending July 24, 1846. At our examination we had fifty-two scholars; forty-four were boarders, and eight were day scholars, boarded by their parents. The school was arranged in the following order, viz:

In Miss C. L. Downer's department there were twenty-six.

- 1st class, 9.—This class went through with Mitchell's Geography and Murray's Grammar: in arithmetic, to compound interest. Attended to reading, spelling, and writing. Memorized daily in the Definer and Scriptures.
- 2d class, 9.—This class studied geography, arithmetic, reading, spelling, and writing, and memorized Scripture daily.
- 3d class, 7.—Philosophy, geography, arithmetic tables, reading, spelling, and memorized Scripture.
- 4th class, 1.—Reading and spelling.

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In Miss C. M. Belden's department there were twenty-six.

- 1st class, 12.—This class in arithmetic; Emerson's First Lessons, entire; attended some to geography; stops and marks; abbreviations; reading and spelling, and memorized Scripture daily.
- 2d class, 5.—Emerson's First Lessons; abbreviations; stops and marks; reading, spelling, and Scripture, daily.
- 3d class, 9.—Reading and spelling.

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Thirty have been boarded through the whole term. Fourteen were selected to come on the 1st of October; but all did not get in at that time, and one not till March. All but one of the first selection learned to read in the Testament, and some of them very well. One of the older girls was taken away by her parents, and her place was filled by one quite small. One was exchanged by the commissioners. Forty-four was the number designed for this school as regular boarders. By putting up a house 26 feet by 18, in addition to what we had before, we have ample accommodations for them all, as regards working, lodging, &c.

The commissioners, together with the two chiefs, Col. Leflore and Col. Fisher, expressed their entire satisfaction with the advancement of the scholars since the last examination; and also of the buildings. The parents of the children present expressed themselves as highly pleased with the performance of their children. It is well-merited praise to say, that our teachers have spared no pains to advance and improve their pupils.

A Sabbath school has been sustained during the whole session, and the progress made in acquiring the knowledge of the doctrines and duties taught in the Bible has been good. Twenty-four of our scholars are professors of religion; and, if we judge the tree by its fruit, I am happy to say that their conduct so far accords with their profession. We have rea-

son to believe that God has bestowed his best of blessings on us and this vicinity during the past year. Nothing but the Holy Spirit could effect such changes as have been effected. Family altars have been erected, where the morning and evening prayer ascends to God. Persons of all ages have turned from a course of intemperance, idleness, folly, and sin, and are now clothed in their right minds, and are now, by precept and example, supporting the institutions of the Gospel. For this blessing we cannot be too thankful. Since this church was established, in April last, there have been 51 members added to it. For spreading the Gospel, we have raised more than \$100; for building a church, more than \$400. We have the materials for a framed house 42 by 32 feet, all, or nearly all, on the ground. We know that God in a peculiar manner blessed the pilgrims when they landed at Plymouth, and it is affirmed for a fact that they first built school-houses, then churches, then their own dwellings.

There has been quite an advance in farming this year; crops of all kinds look well, and better than I have ever seen them before. *Temperance* is gaining ground; and in several Saturday and Sabbath schools in this vicinity quite a number of adults and children have learned to read their own language.

Respectfully and affectionately yours,

E. HOTCHKIN,

Superintendent of K. F. Seminary.

Major WM. ARMSTRONG,

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Choctaw Agency.

No. 49.

PINE RIDGE, CHOCTAW NATION,

September 30, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In making another annual report of the Chu-ah-la Female Seminary, I would gratefully acknowledge the kind providence of God in preserving the lives of all connected with the station, and in granting to us such a measure of health as that we have been able, without interruption, to prosecute our various labors.

In the seminary we have but one session a year; most of our pupils live at such a distance that we cannot enjoy the benefit of a short recess in the spring, as is the case at some of the other schools. The term commenced on the 1st of October, 1845, and closed on the 15th of July, 1846.

Miss Harriet Golding, from Ware, Massachusetts, took charge of the school about the 1st of January last. The number of scholars has been thirty-five, whose attendance has generally been regular. Thirty boarded at the seminary, and five boarded at home. Of the thirty boarded at the seminary, twenty-four were on the appropriation; the board of three was paid by their parents, and three were boarded for the labor they performed when out of school.

9	studied	practical arithmetic;
18	do	mental arithmetic;
12	do	Morse's Geography;
9	do	Parley's Geography;
7	do	English grammar;
1	do	History of the United States;
20	wrote.	

With the exception of four, all could read in the Testament and other reading books.

Much labor has been bestowed on the school by Miss Golding since she took charge of it; and I am happy to have it to say that the fruits of this labor, in the improvement of the pupils, have been very gratifying. Much has been done, by familiar questions and answers, to give the pupils an understanding of their studies, and of what they read.

The examination at the close of the term was attended by the trustees of the schools, by the chief of the district, and by a large number of the parents of the children, and other friends. All appeared gratified with the improvement that had been made.

Out of school, the girls have been divided into companies. Each company, alternately, a week at a time, has labored with Mrs. Kingsbury in the kitchen and dining-room. When not thus employed, they have, under the direction of Miss Dickenson, been engaged in sewing, knitting, &c., and in making various articles of fancy work. Their improvement in industry has been very commendable.

A Sunday school has been taught at the seminary, which all the pupils boarding with us have attended. In this school special pains have been taken to make the pupils acquainted with the Christian Scriptures, and to impress on their minds the importance of obeying the Divine commands.

My labors in preaching the Gospel have been continued the past year much as heretofore. There are five churches, the members of which are scattered over the country, from Fort Towson to the Washita, to which I preach and administer the Christian ordinances. To these churches there have been added, the past year, fifty-four members, viz :

To the Pine Ridge church	-	-	-	-	29
To the Mahew do	.	.	.	.	6
To the Mount Pleasant church	-	-	-	-	12
To the Chickasaw do	-	-	-	-	5
To the Six Town do	-	-	-	-	2
					<hr/>
Total	-	-	-	-	54
					<hr/>

The *whole number* of members in the above churches is about 280.

Several native Sunday schools have been taught within the bounds of my labors, which I have aided by supplying books, &c.; but the number of learners in these schools I am not able, at this time, to give.

A commodious framed school-house, 36 feet by 24, with a piazza on each side, and of a good height, and well lighted, has been built for the Chu-ah-la Female Seminary. It will be ready to be occupied at the commencement of the ensuing term.

Respectfully, yours,

C. KINGSBURY,

Superintendent of Chu-ah-la Female Seminary.

Major WM. ARMSTRONG,

Superintendent, Western Territory.

No. 50.

SPENCER ACADEMY, *October 6, 1846.*

DEAR SIR: Important changes have, as you are aware, taken place in the management of this institution during the last year. At the meeting of the last general council it was deemed expedient, in order to secure the greater efficiency of this institution, that the entire control of it be transferred to the board of foreign missions of the Presbyterian church. This offer was made to that board without any solicitation whatever on its part; thus affording a very gratifying evidence of the nation's confidence in those who are conducting missionary operations, and their enlightened views as to the propriety of having their institutions placed under religious influence, as also of the happy results of previous missionary labors among them, which have won their confidence, and formed these views. The board, though pressed with calls from various quarters, felt that this was one of too much importance and interest to be neglected, and accordingly accepted of the institution, on the conditions proposed by the council, and immediately prepared to take actual charge of it. Owing to unavoidable delays, they could not get a superintendent on the ground until the end of May. I then arrived; and, on the first of June, the whole affairs of the institution were transferred to my hands by Mr. Reuben Wright, the former acting superintendent. The principal teacher, Mr. Wilson, having very unexpectedly, both to the board and to myself, resigned his office, left immediately on my arrival. This threw us into considerable embarrassment, as it was impossible to procure a teacher in his place under some months at least. However, by the assistance of Mr. Wright, we were enabled to go through the remaining six weeks of the term more successfully and profitably than was anticipated. The examination at the close did credit to both teachers and pupils, I believe, in the estimation of the trustees and other gentlemen who attended it. The number of pupils on the first of June was 98.

The financial concerns of the institution have also been such as to greatly embarrass our operations. My first inquiry was after the accounts, in order that I might be able to ascertain the precise state of the funds. I soon found, however, that no accounts had been kept there that would enable me to learn any thing with certainty concerning this; and, though I was told it was in debt, it was not until after much inquiry, and the lapse of nearly three months, that I learned the extent of that debt. Indeed, I am not certain *now* that I know it. So far, however, as I have been able to ascertain it, the following is a brief statement of the financial affairs of the institution on the first of June, when I took charge of it: There had expired 11 months of the financial year; expend-

itures of these 11 months, so far as I have been able to ascertain -	\$10,333 50
Income for the same period, at \$8,000 per annum -	7,333 33
Actual debt on the 1st June, 1846 -	3,000 17

There was on hand a small supply of provisions and some clothing, which might be considered as a small offset to this debt. An inventory of these was taken at the time; but I have not, at present, the means of estimating the value of the clothing on hand; and, indeed, it will not relieve the board from their present embarrassment in the least, as, being ig-

norant of this, they had already purchased clothing for the coming year.

They will have to incur considerable expense, also, in furnishing bedding, room-furniture, table ware, and farming utensils; most of which have been nearly worn out or destroyed. Some of the buildings need considerable repairs. A new school-house is very much needed; and several smaller, though not less important improvements, are also required, which will demand a considerable expenditure. These, however, must be delayed, until sufficient funds come into our hands for this purpose. For the good of the institution, they should not be delayed a single day.

As yet, the board have received no portion of the appropriation. They have not only advanced two thousand dollars, the whole of their appropriation, but above two thousand more; and still further advances must be made before any of the funds of the institution can come into their hands, which, I suppose will not be till the first of January next. This has been very embarrassing to the board, who did not anticipate any such delay in the funds of the institution being paid over to their hands. It is also an unfavorable circumstance that the expenses are always in advance of the appropriation. In conducting an insitution like this, it is a great advantage to have its funds in advance. As it is at present, they must be always expended before they are received. I know, however, of no way, at present, to meet this difficulty. Still, however, the board feel that Spencer Academy is an institution which gives promise of such extensive usefulness to this rising people, that they are willing to encounter some difficulties, in order to give it full efficiency. It is an institution which reflects great honor on the nation, and all who had any share in founding it—in which I believe you had a prominent part. And I trust you will yet see your exertions greatly rewarded, in the abundance and extent of the blessings which it will hereafter be the instrument of conferring on this nation, whose interests you have so long been watching over.

Our helpers have not yet come on. We need very much a steward and farmer in addition to our present force, and these we expect as soon as the board can find the right kind of men. Mr. Oliver P. Stark, a graduate of Princeton, who has been appointed principal teacher, arrived a few days since; and, with the aid of proper assistants, we entertain the most sanguine hopes in regard to the progress of the students; and we look forward to the time when Spencer Academy will furnish a thorough English and classical education to Choctaw youth—such as will fit them for eminent usefulness.

In the training of these youth, we shall ever aim, as the very highest point of education, to imbue their minds with sound religious principles. To this end, the facts and doctrines of the Bible shall be industriously taught to every pupil; and every means used, also, to form him to correct manners and industrious habits. And, we trust, the hour is not very far distant when, through the blessing of God, students shall proceed from Spencer Academy, who, in moral character, general intelligence, manners, and scholarship, would do honor to any similar institution in the United States.

Very respectfully, yours,

JAMES B. RAMSEY,

Superintendent of Spencer Academy.

Major WM. ARMSTRONG, *Supt. Indian Affairs.*

No. 51.

FORT COFFEE ACADEMY, *August 1, 1846.*

DEAR SIR: In obedience to the powers that be, I hasten to submit the following, as the annual report of our schools at this place and New Hope. The examination took place here on the 24th July, and closed the next day at New Hope. I am sorry to say we had but one trustee present, (Mr. McKenny;) Mr. Luce, your clerk, was present, and was solicited to take your place, which he did cheerfully. The chief of our district, some of the captains, and other officaries of the nation, with parents, guardians, &c., were in attendance.

The school-room.—We teach six hours each day, from 9 o'clock a. m. to 12, and from 1½ p. m. to 4½. During the hours of school the students are orderly, and for the most quite industrious in their studies. Twenty-three of them read fluently in the fourth book of Goodrich's series, and a proportionate number in the third, second, and first. In reading they have generally progressed well. Twenty-nine are engaged in the study of the arithmetic; about ten of these had made a commencement before the opening of the last session; most of them, however, had progressed but little, and only three had reached the compound numbers in Ray's Arithmetic. Several of them advanced, during the past session, as far as profit and loss, and quite a number understood fractions well. Some who commenced the arithmetic about six months before the session ended, have advanced as far as vulgar fractions, and have a pretty thorough knowledge of all the previous rules.

There are nineteen who are studying English grammar. All these (except three, who had progressed as far as the adverbs before) were entirely fresh in this study the past session. The farthest advanced class in grammar can analyze any of Kirkham's prose or poetry lessons, and correct his false syntax by applying rules. The study of geography was not introduced into the school until some time after the opening of the last session. There are ten students of this department, who have been half through Mitchell's Geography, and have reviewed the greater part of it. About six months of the latter part of the session N. Webster's Dictionary was used; by the aid of this and their other books the students generally acquired a pretty extensive knowledge of orthography, a branch of so much importance in all their studies. Upon the whole, the intellectual character of our school promises well; and having witnessed the examination last year, I may be allowed to say, further, that the progress of the young men was very satisfactory to me. Mr. Wilson, long a teacher in this country, was present, to whom, in connexion with others present, I refer you for further information, lest I should be considered as saying more than might be said in modesty by me. The studies mentioned above were, likewise, the studies of our female department; that department cannot compare in examination with this, only in so far as the disadvantages of that and the advantages of this are considered. It will be sufficient to say, the past is the first session of that department. In making an undisguised report to you, I must say I consider it unfortunate to place young men and young ladies so far advanced in life in these schools as some we have. They are confirmed in habits opposing close application, either in or out of schools; and I am decidedly of the opinion that neither they nor the nation will ever realize much, though they spend

even a series of years at school. Better a thousand times for the nation that they send us children, by *no means* over fifteen years. Our schools are on a system well adapted to circumstances. I mean the manual labor system. With us it works well. The young men work on an average, the session through, two and a half hours per day. The past session they have by no means been idle. They have repaired all our old fencing, enclosed about 25 or 30 acres of river bottom, and cleared as much as twenty acres, which, when added to our old lands, make about sixty acres, being the sum total of the Fort Coffee farm, excepting the six or seven acres cultivated at New Hope. From the most of the farm we have the promise of a fine yield. The old building which used to stand at the east end of the house occupied by the mission family, has been removed, is rebuilding, and when finished will make us a very convenient barn. We have procured the lumber for the purpose of erecting a large two story frame building on the same foundation. The young men have sunk us quite a cellar, and have, by the assistance of the carpenter, nearly all the larger framing timbers ready for use. This building is greatly needed; we number fifty-four boys, and are full to overflowing. We are not so precise in rising at the *very second*, previously agreed on, as I am led to believe from reports others are; we are not governed by the second, but by the large bell; it is governed by a sleepy-headed steward, and he by a greater or lesser disposition to sleep. However, he taps the bell in pretty good time, and we are all up directly, and, as other decent persons, ready for breakfast, which is about sunrising. After which, and before we leave the table, we have a portion of Scripture read, singing, and prayer. We dine between 12 and 1 o'clock, sup near sun-setting, after which comes family worship again. Our female school numbers twenty-five regular boarders, besides some ten or twelve day scholars, whom we furnish with books, paper, and ink; so you see we are educating ninety-one children, boarding and clothing seventy-nine, and shall certainly be unable to do more until we find ourselves able to make other improvements. We have been rather pressed, having so much debt hanging over us when I arrived. However, if we had the payment due us we should not only owe no man any thing but have a few dollars ahead. We have regular preaching at both schools. Several accessions to the church this year; some appear to be really pious. We keep up a regular Sunday school, and have a tolerably good Sunday school library. The temperance enterprise takes with us finely; sixty-nine of the students and twenty-two others have taken the pledge of "tee-totalism." While the teachers and families have suffered much from sickness, the students have been wonderfully blest with health. And first, to our heavenly Father are praises due, for such an abundance of mercy through a year of so much labor as well as sickness. And next, to an intelligent and successful physician, Dr. Meek, who is, with his lady, in charge of the female branch of our school. In conclusion, permit me to acknowledge your kindness in many respects, which I need not mention. Mr. McKenny, our trustee, has been a co-worker with us in the cause of education and sustaining the schools.

The highly intelligent mercantile association, Berthlett, Heald & Co., have shown us many favors; so you see I acknowledge a heavy obligation which I shall never be able to raise. Rev. Mr. Graham, our principal teacher, has borne a large portion of the burdens, and deserves great

praise; and his assistant, Mr. Linebargo, also. And now, sir, having drawn largely on your time and patience, I must take the liberty of subscribing myself,

Your humble, but much obliged and obedient servant,

W. L. McALISTER,
Supt. Fort Coffee Academy.

P. S.—I forgot to mention the service of the female school to us here. The girls made us about 100 pairs of pants, shirts, and a great deal of knitting; besides making much of their own clothing.

W. L. Mc.

COL. WM. ARMSTRONG, *Supt.*, &c.

No. 52.

STOCKBRIDGE, NEAR EAGLETOWN P. O., CHOCTAWS,
September 3, 1846.

DEAR SIR: A merciful Providence has spared my life another year, and I am permitted to prepare for your perusal another report respecting my labors and those associated with me. I will insert the names of those here who are under the direction of the American Board of Missions, viz:

At Stockbridge: Cyrus Byington, minister; Mrs. Byington.

At Iyanobi Female Seminary: Mr. David H. Winship, steward and farmer; Mrs. Winship, Miss Lydia S. Hall, and Miss Harriet N. Keyes, teachers.

As the school became larger, Miss Emily Dwight, a sister of Mr. Jonathan E. Dwight, a native, was employed to assist them. She was also a member of the school.

On the first day of October, 1845, the seminary was in readiness to receive twenty-four beneficiaries, whom the trustees might select. That number has been received, boarded, and taught. Besides the beneficiaries, forty other scholars entered the school and received instruction. The whole number was 64. At the close there were 57—of these 17 were boys.

The school was in session from the 1st of October till the 21st of July, 1846, excepting a vacation in April, from the 6th to the 20th day.

The branches of study taught, were the English language, reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, geography, natural philosophy, English grammar, and sacred music. They have been daily taught in the Scriptures, and on the Sabbath a large Sabbath school has been collected, when all of us at times go in and assist, together with some of our neighbors who act as teachers.

On Monday evening of each week, we usually held a Bible class. Miss Hall, in her writing report, says "their progress in English is astonishing. Choctaw is seldom spoken, almost never, unless occasion calls for it. Heedlessness is the principal fault we have to contend against, and that vacancy of mind which is the result of no training; yet we have much to encourage us. Of the girls at our home, it may be said with emphasis, they are gentle, affectionate, and obedient. From the least to the greatest of them—4 years to 20 and upwards—if engaged in what they know to be wrong, in school or out of school, a look is sufficient to check them.

Like all children they will repeat the offence. They strive to please us, and a look or word of approbation is appreciated according to its full value. After the April vacation, with very few exceptions, the pupils promptly returned. A weekly prayer meeting and a missionary society is sustained by them."

At the commencement of their labors, the two teachers were entire strangers in this land; and when the beneficiaries came together, many of them were strangers to each other, to the teachers, to a school room, and to books, and had a very imperfect notion of the object in view, and of what they must do as members of the school. It may be of some service to bear this in mind, that a due degree of candor and forbearance may be exercised.

In the school room Miss Hall, assisted by Miss Dwight, had the chief care of all the pupils. At other times, Miss Keyes had the principal charge. She also taught music and heard some of the classes read. In her report, I find that "sixty-eight dresses were made, twenty pairs of pantaloons, and thirteen comfortables; two quilts were pieced, mostly by the smaller girls, and one of them has been quilted by the larger ones. The number of pieces that were begun and finished, within the year, is 230; sixteen of the boarders only were large enough to render much assistance. This number was also employed in household matters by turns, six at a time, for the greater part of the year. They have also, by turns, taken care of their own apartments, and attended to the washing and ironing of the school. The improvement of most of them has been quite satisfactory. Several have been taught to knit, four to knit lace, and one to knit ladies' caps."

Mrs. Winship has charge of the girls while attending to domestic labors; and, with Mr. Winship, she has the care of boarding them all. It is a rule in the family to give the children food four times in each day—breakfast, dinner, and supper are the regular meals. In addition to this, there is a luncheon or *snack* between breakfast and dinner.

Mr. Winship has the care of the farm, the buildings, and other labors. The farm is yet small, but quite fertile. We are gradually enlarging it. Eleven cows have been purchased. Two of them died this summer. We have a few swine, and shall be obliged to purchase most of our meat for the coming year. We also need some additions to our buildings. These we hope to make slowly, as our means will bear, without creating a debt.

I will here present a summary view of our receipts and expenditures.

RECEIPTS.

In the year 1844 there was received from the nation	-	\$1,600 00
In the year 1845 there was received from the nation	-	800 00
In the year 1846, being the last half of the sum for 1845	-	800 00
In the year 1844 there was received from the American Board of Missions.		
In the year 1845 there was received from the same	-	657 52
In the year 1846, first 6 months	- - -	211 69 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	- - -	<u>4,069 21$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

EXPENDITURES.

In the year 1844 there was expended	-	-	-	\$1,186 02
In the year 1845 there was expended	-	-	-	\$2,271 17
In the year 1846, first six months	-	-	-	1,323 19
				<hr/> 4,780 38 <hr/>

The allowance for the current year, when received, we trust, will enable us to meet all, or nearly all, our expenses.

The annual appropriation from the nation is	-	-	-	\$1,600 00
Do do the American board	-	-	-	320 00
				<hr/> 1,920 00 <hr/>

This sum we design to apply thus :

For the board, books, &c., and medicines of 24 pupils, at the rate of \$50 per year	-	-	-	\$1,200 00
For the salaries of the steward, his wife, and the teachers	-	-	-	450 00
For their board, for repairs, for losses, and all other incidental expenses	-	-	-	270 00
				<hr/> 1,920 00 <hr/>

We have much reason to be truly thankful to the Lord for his blessings on our labors during the past year. Our opportunities for preaching the Gospel are increasing, and have become more hopeful. Our Sabbath schools have done quite well. The people are improving. There is evidence of something like a new generation rising up. This can be noticed in our schools and religious meetings; and yet, alas! there are some who find their way too often to the grog-shops just over "the line." There has been more drunkenness and more murders than usual during the past year. The late emigrants have to bear the blame of much of this. They have not yet all fallen into the good habits of the old settlers. The season is fruitful, and the crops appear well. There has been much fatal sickness among our people. This is indeed a dying people, and it is a good work to help them to useful and divine knowledge, and try to raise them up. In regard to many of the Choctaws, we have found our books in their language very useful in giving them, in a way easy to them, many useful ideas. We find it the easiest, and cheapest, and most effectual way to give the *genuine Choctaws* useful knowledge, to employ their mother tongue. For many others, the English is altogether the best; but to those who have no opportunity to learn English we must present truth in a language they can hear, and which they love.

Our most enlightened Choctaws view the subject of education very justly. The importance and the power of the Christian religion to help a people even in this life, they see and acknowledge. If the American States must fill their land with school-houses and churches, and their houses with books, in order to maintain their station among the nations of the earth, it is plain that the red man needs the same. Groggeries, frolics, plays, ball sticks, blow guns, and bows and arrows, can never raise a people. Many of our people see and feel this.

Not long since I made a missionary tour as far west as the Washita, and

had a very pleasant time. I attended many interesting religious meetings, and was treated with great kindness. I saw but one red man who was drunk, and was told that he was a Creek.

I availed myself lately of an opportunity of sending you a copy of the four Gospels in Choctaw, prepared for the press by the Rev. A Wright. I hope you will receive the work. I presume it will be left with Captain Rogers, Fort Smith, by the Rev. Mr. Buttrick, of the Cherokee mission, who is now visiting us.

Dear sir, it has seemed good to our heavenly Father to afflict us, in removing our youngest child, a son, in his third year. We weep!

We were much gratified last summer in having a visit from your son Francis, in company with Mr. Wilson. We should be pleased to meet him again, accompanied by his father.

May the Lord greatly bless you and your family. There is a better world than this, where our departed kindred in the Saviour have gone to dwell. There may we obtain a mansion.

With much respect and affection, I am yours, &c.,

CYRUS BYINGTON.

Col. WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,

Acting Superintendent Southwestern Territory.

No. 53.

PARK HILL, August 22, 1846.

DEAR SIR: Your communication came to hand in due time. You desire information of the state and condition of the "Methodist denomination" in the Cherokee nation, which I will try to furnish you. The Cherokee district includes four circuits in the Cherokee nation. Rev. Edward T. Peery is the presiding elder.

1. *Upper Cherokee.*—Two preachers were appointed to this circuit at the last session of the Indian mission conference—Rev. David B. Cumming and Johnson Fields, (the latter a native;) he has since died, and Rev. W. Cany, a native, has been employed in his place. There are about 30 preaching places in the circuit, 672 church members, 2 churches, (or preaching houses,) and 1 Sabbath school.

2. *Tahlequah circuit.*—Thomas B. Ruble and Rev. William McIntosh are the preachers appointed to this work; the latter a native. This circuit includes 12 preaching places, 155 church members, 2 churches, and 1 Sabbath school. The Rev. Thomas Bertholf lives in the bounds of this charge. He sustains a superannuated relation to the church this year, but has regained his health and preaches frequently. He receives a salary from the missionary society, and is a citizen of the nation by marriage.

3. *Lower Cherokee.*—Rev. John F. Boot and John Boston are the preachers who labor in this circuit—both natives. There are on this circuit, as last returned, 333 church members, 1 church, and 1 Sabbath school. The number of preaching places about 20.

4. *Barren Fork.*—The preachers—Rev. Andrew Cumming and Tussivalite; the latter a native. Church members 202, 1 church, 2 Sabbath schools, and about 15 preaching places. This part of our work has, perhaps, suffered more than any other the past year from the difficulties in the nation.

It will be perceived from the above that the Methodist Episcopal church south, has in this nation a membership of nearly 1,400, supplied by five white and five native missionaries, who, by the aid of some local preachers, carry the Gospel to almost every neighborhood in the nation. The society supports these men at an annual cost of about \$2,360. The society owns no property in the nation. The meeting houses have been built by the church members. Rev. E. T. Peery has his residence at this time amongst the Wyandots. Rev. D. B. Cumming resides in Missouri. Thomas B. Ruble's family are also in Missouri. Rev. A. Cumming has no family. An application was made last fall to the national council for the privilege of erecting a preacher's house in the nation, which was not granted. We have no schools under our direction. Some two or three local preachers have been employed the past year in the public schools. The church at present is in a prosperous condition. She expects that her missionaries will pay every possible attention to the subjects of education and temperance, while they are endeavoring to carry the Gospel of Christ to the perishing poor.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

THOMAS B. RUBLE, for
E. T. PEERY,
P. E., Cherokee District.

Col. JAMES McKISSICK,
Cherokee Agent, west.

54.

PARK HILL, August 18, 1846.

SIR: In reply to your communication of July 3d, received August 12th, permit me to say, first, in regard to the number of preachers in the Cherokee nation, under the care of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, there are at present—

Missionaries.—Rev. Elizur Butler, M. D., at Fairfield,
Rev. Worcester Willey, at Dwight,
Rev. S. A. Worcester, at Park Hill—3.

Native preachers.—Rev. John Huss, at Honey Creek,
Rev. Stephen Foreman, at Park Hill—2. Total, 5.

Rev. D. S. Buttrick still resides at Dwight, but has asked and received a dismissal from the service, being in very feeble health.

The numbers of churches under the care of the missionaries of the same board, as nearly as known, are—

Church at Dwight	-	-	-	-	-	45
Fairfield	-	-	-	-	-	88
Park Hill	-	-	-	-	-	35
Mount Zion	-	-	-	-	-	30
Honey Creek	-	-	-	-	-	51
Total	-	-	-	-	-	<u>249</u>

The only schools at present under the care of the board, in the nation, are a female boarding school at Dwight, and neighborhood schools at

Fairfield and Park Hill. The last named has, for some time past, been partly supported by tuition fees from the scholars. Respecting the schools at Dwight and Fairfield, you will, I suppose, receive information from the missionaries at those stations. The school at this place the past year has had only about 33 scholars in all, attending more or less. Average about 16. Five were whites, (four of them my own children,) the rest Cherokees.

You are aware, I suppose, of the existence of the printing press under my care at this station. Since my last report to your predecessor in office, which was dated July 18, 1845, we have printed—

In the Cherokee language.

				Pages in all.
The Cherokee Almanac for 1846,				
half English - - -	12mo.	36 pp.	1,000 copies—	36,000
Cherokee Primer, 5th edition - -	24to.	24 pp.	5,000 copies—	120,000
Sermon and Tract - - -	23	24 pp.	5,000 copies—	120,000
				276,000

In the Choctaw language.

Regeneration, repentance, and judgment -	12 mo.	28 pp.	2,000 copies—	56,000
Salvation by faith, and other pieces -	"	12 pp.	2,000 copies—	24,000
Fraud detected and exposed - - -	"	9 pp.	2,000 copies—	18,000
Choctaw Arithmetic - - -	"	72 pp.	2,000 copies—	144,000
Choctaw Spelling Book - - -	18 mo.	36 pp.	1,000 copies—	36,000
Choctaw Spelling Book - - -	"	108 pp.	1,000 copies—	108,000
				386,000

In the Creek language.

Muscogee Catechism - - -	24to.	31 pp.	600 copies—	18,600
				18,600
Total pages - - -				680,600

We have prepared at this station, and had printed in Boston, a Singing Book in the Cherokee language, consisting of 88 pages, 8 vo.—600 copies.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. A. WORCESTER.

Colonel JAMES MCKISSICK,
United States Agent for the Cherokees.

No. 55.

DWIGHT MISSION, CHEROKEE NATION,
August 31, 1846.

DEAR SIR: Your letter, dated August 4th, was not received until the 25th. This will account for my not writing sooner. I embrace the first opportunity to answer your inquiry. There are now 10 persons connected with this mission—4 males and 6 females, viz: Rev. Worcester Willey, missionary; Mrs. Willey; Jacob Hitchcock, superintendent of secular affairs; Mrs. Hitchcock; James Orr, farmer; Mrs. Orr; Kellogg Day, mechanic; Mrs. Day; Miss Ellen Stetson and Miss Eliza Giddings, teachers. Miss Giddings has charge of the girls in school hours; teaches them spelling, reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, modern and

ancient history, and composition. Many of the scholars have made commendable improvement in the above named branches. Miss Stetson instructs the girls out of school in knitting, spinning, various kinds of needle work, &c., &c. None but females are taken into the family as boarders. About 55 different scholars have attended the school the last year, but the average number of boarders has been about 40.

There are 44 members in the church. The congregation on the Sabbath have varied from 40 to 130 or 140. The cause of temperance in this part of the nation is on the advance.

Several very interesting temperance meetings have been held, and a large addition has been made to the list of subscribers to the temperance pledge.

In addition to the regular meetings on the Sabbath, at this place, Mr. Willey has occasionally preached in 4 or 5 other neighborhoods, from 3 to 17 miles distant. Supposing the above to be the substance of the information you ask for, I subscribe myself your most obedient servant,

JACOB HITCHCOCK.

JAMES McKISSICK, Esq.
Cherokee Agent.

No. 56.

MISSION-HOUSE, CREEK NATION, *October 6, 1846.*

DEAR SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the War Department, I send you the following report of the Presbyterian mission school among the Creek Indians.

It is with pleasure I inform you that our labors during the past year have been crowned with greater success than usual. The school is larger and more interesting; better attention is given to religious instruction; and many of our neighbors are becoming more temperate and considerate.

During the past session of eight months, ending 14th August last, 42 children (18 males and 24 females) attended the school. Twenty-one of these boarded in the mission family, free of expense. Some of the children were, however, quite irregular in their attendance at school.

The studies pursued were about the same as last session, viz: Spelling, reading, writing, mental and practical arithmetic and geography. Owing to the increase of beginners, there has been a greater proportion in the lower classes than during the session previous.

Many of the pupils evince a high degree of natural talent, and their progress is in every way equal to what is common in schools among the whites. This is especially the case with those who speak both languages. The children who board in the mission family are required to engage actively two or three hours each day in some useful employment—the girls in knitting, sewing, cooking, or aiding about the dairy, as the case may be, according to their turn—the boys in working on the farm, in the garden, or chopping firewood, &c.

We are more and more convinced, from experience as well as observation, that it is of the utmost importance to have the children under the constant influence of the teacher, both in and out of school: and hence, that *boarding schools* under a *strong Christian influence*, is the only plan

that will meet the present wants of this people, and finally succeed in civilizing and Christianizing the rising generation. This now is the favorite plan with the people, and we rejoice to know that it is the policy adopted by our government in regard to the appropriation of their school funds.

The people generally are truly anxious to have their children educated. They begin to feel its importance, both in regard to their individual and national prosperity. We are not able to meet a tithe of the applications for admittance into our school.

The attention of the Creeks to the preaching of the Gospel is much improved within a few years past; but still there is evidence of a strong, deep-rooted prejudice, with many, against the Christian religion. Many of them have, however, laid aside their superstitions, and are now consistent Christians. A church has been organized at the station, consisting of 14 members, besides the missionaries. Many others are much interested in the subject.

While speaking of the Christian religion, and of the labors of missionaries here, I would respectfully state my conviction of *the solemn responsibility* resting upon our government, in regard to the spiritual interest of this people. They have been taught to look to the government as a kind of guardian over them; as their adviser in those things which will be of most advantage to them as a nation. In this way schools have been recommended, and provision made for their support; and, perhaps, too, it has been recommended to the people to receive Christian ministers among them as teachers and preachers. But still, when they come among them, they do not come by the authority or direct recommendation of the government, but *as private individuals*. Consequently, as the Indians do not feel the importance of this subject, and as it is not insisted upon by the government, they conclude that it is of little consequence; and the missionary is informed that they *do not wish preaching among them*; that it cannot be of so much importance as he represents, otherwise the government would have told them so, and sent it to them. Thus the Gospel is often rejected, or at least the influence of the missionary much circumscribed.

But let the same *encouragement* and toleration of religion be extended to this people which is enjoyed in every other part of the United States; and let the minister of the Gospel come out under the recommendation of the government, and it would be attended with the best of consequences. Opposition to the Gospel would cease, and hundreds would then attend to it where now there are but tens.

Our government has the confidence of this people, and they expect it to take some step in *reference to Christianity, if it is worth their attention*.

I was forcibly struck with these facts while making a tour lately in the southwestern part of the nation, especially among the Seminoles. Some of their principal men, when asked if they would like to have schools and preaching among them, replied that they did *not know*; but supposed that if it was good for them their *Great Father*, the *President*, would send it to them. Christianity is therefore neglected, and even *rejected*, because not sent to them by what they suppose to be the proper authority.

I am also happy in being able to inform you that something is being done towards the amelioration of the great evil of intemperance among this people. Two years ago the temperance cause was revived at this place,

and the pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks was circulated and signed by a number. Since then efforts have been made to bring it before the minds of the people in different parts of the nation; so that now we have on our rolls upwards of two hundred signers, most of whom, we have reason to believe, keep the pledge.

This success is the more encouraging because it is the result of but little effort. We intend making greater efforts, and hope to gain greater victories over this fell destroyer of the Indian race. Nothing, we believe, is doing more towards the ruin of this people than whiskey. By it their health is undermined, their wealth squandered, their energies, mental and physical, paralyzed, and hundreds of them are brought to an untimely death by this fascinating poison.

Such, my dear sir, is a general outline of our plans of operation here, and the success attending our labors among the Creeks.

With much esteem, I remain your sincere friend,

R. M. LOUGHRIDGE,

Missionary.

Colonel JAMES LOGAN,
Agent for the Creeks.

No. 57.

PLEASANT GROVE, *September 8, 1846.*

DEAR SIR: In compliance with duty, I again give you the state of the mission and mission school under my care.

We have this year, as in the past years, been prevented from effecting as much good as we otherwise might have done, for the want of a suitable interpreter; yet we have had some interesting meetings among the *real* Chickasaws, and regret that they could not be continued. Among the more enlightened, many have been led to forsake the error of their way to seek the living God, and many added to the church. Two frame church-houses, thirty feet square, are building on Red river by the free contribution of the citizens. Dissipation is less frequent than formerly.

The school has never been in a better state than the past session. It has consisted of about 20 scholars—4 in grammar, 6 in writing, 2 in geography, and some 10 or twelve in reading, spelling, &c. Our examination was quite interesting to all present.

From the interest the people manifest for preaching, schools, &c., we are encouraged to think that this nation and people are on the advance, and will soon vie with any in the Territory.

Yours, respectfully,

E. B. DUNCAN.

Col. A. M. M. UPSHAW,
Chickasaw Agent.

No. 58.

QUAPAW MISSION, INDIAN TERRITORY,

September 5, 1846.

DEAR SIR: The spring and summer session of Crawford Seminary connected with this mission, closed on the 31st of August. The school

has been kept in regular operation through the year. It is to be regretted that some of the scholars are frequently absent, which, to some extent, has retarded their improvement. During the spring and summer, however, their attendance has been unusually regular, and their progress in learning considerable. Little change in the number of scholars has occurred during the past year. Our number is 16 boys and 4 girls. The institution, in my humble judgment, maintains an honorable comparison with any of our common English schools, and the Quapaw children have given ample evidence of their aptitude and ability to learn.

We think, all things considered, the school is in a prosperous condition; and, if Providence permit, we will prosecute our labor with renewed courage and diligence.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL G. PATTERSON.

General JAMES S. RAINS,

United States Indian Agent.

No. 59.

INDIAN MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
October 26, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with instructions I would beg leave to present you with the third quarterly report, for the current year, of the condition of the Indian manual labor school, now under my superintendence. The school closed its summer session the 31st of August, and the examination showed that the pupils have made good progress in the different branches of learning they have been pursuing; showing that the efforts made at this institution to improve the intellectual powers of the children of the wilderness have not been in vain. It is not to be disguised, however, that the greatest difficulty we have to contend with, in regard to their mental culture, is to get the Indian youth to *feel* an interest in books; such an interest as would induce them to apply themselves to reading and study, when they shall have retired from school to mix and mingle with their friends and relations, and form character for themselves in coming time.

The number of children, and the different tribes to which they belong, may be set down as follows: Delawares, 32—13 males; 19 females. Number of others, 61—41 males; 20 females—in all, for the quarter, 92. For further particulars, I would most respectfully refer you to the statistical report for the last scholastic year, which I presume has been forwarded you before this time by Major Cummins, the agent for Fort Leavenworth agency.

The school has been in vacation some five weeks, and the winter session is now being opened under tolerably favorable circumstances; and it is to be hoped that after a short time, the number in school will be as great as at any former period.

The general health of the place has been good; at least much better than during the same period last year.

Our farm is in good condition, having yielded an abundant harvest of

wheat, corn, vegetables, &c., which has been gathered, or is now ready to be gathered into the garner.

Our mills and shops are doing well, affording considerable assistance to the Indians around, in various ways. The shops furnish the more industrious and enterprising with wagons, and such like, by which they are enabled to make, for themselves and families, something to subsist upon. Of the mills I must speak more definitely. There has nothing been done for the Indians in all this section of country, in the way of improvements, which is of equal importance, or any thing like equal importance, with the erection of the steam flouring and saw-mill at this place. Here, the Indians from several tribes around, get a large quantity of their breadstuffs; such as flour and corn meal. But this is not the only advantage derived—the saw-mill furnishes them with lumber for building, and furnishing their houses; and what is of still greater importance to them, the mills, and especially the saw mill, offers to them inducements to industry. We purchase from the Indians all our saw logs, our steam wood, &c., thus giving them employment, and furnishing them in return, flour, meal, sugar, coffee, salt, and such other things, in a dry goods line, as they or their families may need, and those things which, in many instances, they could not have without these facilities, at least to any considerable extent.

* * * * *

I have the honor to be, dear sir, your obedient servant,

W. PATTON.

HON. WM. MEDILL.

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington City.

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No. 60.

SUGAR CREEK CATHOLIC MISSION,
September 2, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your instructions, I have the honor of delivering to you the annual report of our schools amongst the Pottawatomies.

You are not unacquainted with the Indians amongst whom we reside; you perfectly know their state of improvement, and with what earnest the larger portion of them behave themselves as true Christians, and as people of civilized manners. Since, therefore, you are not ignorant of the care and industry with which they have begun to turn their chief attention to agricultural pursuits; and since, at the same time, you are personally informed how obstinately sickness has, from last fall till almost the present day, been raging amongst them, you will not be surprised at my stating that our scholars have been found this year considerably less regular in their attendance at school; for as on one side the parents are very desirous of training their youths from their early years to habits of industry, and as, on the other, we have hitherto been destitute of the means necessary to erect and duly to carry on a manual labor institution; and as, moreover, the former, under the pressure of sickness with which several of them have been visited, needed the assistance of their children, it is but natural and reasonable that they, under such circumstances, should wish to have their children rather engaged at home in their several necessary

household employments, especially since the dwellings of several are at no small distance from our establishment. However, this impossibility of having constantly a numerous attendance, has not prevented us from complying with the wishes of the government. Our school has been regularly kept up throughout the year, even during the most severe spells of the wintry season. The same teachers that had the care of our schools the preceding year, have again been employed in teaching, after the same plan as then stated, the different branches of school education. In the male class we have taught spelling and reading both in the English and in the Pottawatomie languages : writing, arithmetic, geography, and grammar, in the female school. The good ladies of the Sacred Heart, who were intrusted with the care of the girls, have, moreover, added to the different literary studies the teaching of all that belongs to a perfect economical education, and many of the refined arts of female academies. As to what regards the number of pupils, the accompanying schedules, stating the name, age, and different studies of each individual, show that that of the male scholars amounts to 74, and that of the females to 47 ; so that the total number is not less than 121 attendants—a large number, indeed, flattering our hopes with the fairest prospect ; for if we had the means of establishing at our mission a boarding school, in which we could combine literary instructions with the teaching of manual and mechanical arts, I feel confident that not only the greater number even of those who now are the most irregular, but that many others besides, would be constant in attending, and their progress would not fail to be far more considerable. As, however, this is not as yet in our power, we trust that our worthy government officers will continue to afford us their efficacious assistance towards the daily improvement of the Indians ; thus to dispose them to reap the expected fruits from the like institution when we shall be able to realize its establishment.

Dear sir, most respectfully yours,

J. F. L. VERREYDT.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 61.

POTTAWATOMIE BAPTIST MISSION STATION,
Iowa Territory, August 20, 1846.

SIR: In regard to the school taught by me at this place, under the management of the board of the American Indian Mission Association, I beg leave to report that, in consequence of the contemplated removal of these people from their present to their new location on the Kansas river, under the stipulations of their late treaty, no attempt has here been made to put into operation, as was the design, a manual labor school, being deemed by the board, in view of the early and certain removal of the Pottawatomies, inexpedient to enter upon any outlay of the kind. I have, therefore, to say that the school has, since my last report, been conducted, as was the case last year, on the principles of a day school.

The number of scholars reported last year as enrolled, was twenty—fifteen boys between the ages of seven and eighteen, and five girls between the ages of eight and eighteen ; eleven of the whole in reading, the balance in spelling more or less.

During the past year a few girls have boarded in the mission family a portion of the time, and meals furnished the male pupils lodging at home ; yet the average attendance upon the school has been perhaps less than the year previous. In consequence of much sickness prevailing in this country, not only during last autumn, but during the past winter and spring, perhaps no just conclusion can be drawn in regard to the practicability of conducting day schools among these people ; but I am well convinced in my own mind that the Pottawatomies as a people are too wild and ignorant to be benefited to any extent by efforts of this kind.

Instead of being able to report considerable progress on the part of my pupils, justice requires me to say that, in the aggregate, no advance over last year has been made. It requires very great effort on the part of the teacher to bring up the studies of new pupils to the stage of those constantly leaving. I therefore leave the number of pupils enrolled, and progress in their studies, as in my last report.

The denomination of Christians with which I am connected, many years since conducted a flourishing manual labor school among the Pottawatomies while located on lake Michigan. Among the Pottawatomies here and at Council Bluffs, many of the pupils of this establishment are found under circumstances of great encouragement to the friends of manual labor schools. It is now the purpose of the board of the American Indian Mission Association to immediately, on the arrival of the tribe (now happily united again as one nation) on their lands on the Kansas river, re-open for their benefit a manual labor school adequate to their wants in this respect. In the past, abundant evidence is found that an institution of this kind well conducted, with the preaching of the Gospel, would rapidly and substantially elevate the character of the tribe.

In consequence of delays in the execution of the designs of the society patronizing me, growing out of the stipulations of the late Pottawatomie treaty, I avail myself of the occasion to visit my relatives, designing to be absent ten or twelve weeks ; on which account it will be impracticable for you to make the annual examination of the school.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. McCOY, *Teacher.*

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN,

United States Indian Sub-agent.

No. 62.

POTTAWATOMIE, *September 5, 1846.*

DEAR SIR : Although our mission premises are located at this point, our labors extend to but a small part of the Pottawatomie tribe. We labor among the Chippewas, Peorias, Weas, and Piankeshaws. These are but fragments of tribes so reduced in numbers that we do not feel justified, under all the circumstances of the case, in establishing a mission for the exclusive benefit of any one of them.

The Chippewas are improving some temporally, and will, perhaps, raise enough this year for their subsistence. In their social and moral habits they are also improving some. There seems a disposition among them to merge with the Ottowas, as they are near neighbors and speak dialects of the same language.* Indeed, the Chippewas have already dis-

used their own dialect and assumed the Ottawa, as the latter far outnumber them.

The Peorias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, speak dialects of the same language, and are, perhaps, nearly on a par in regard to temporal circumstances and social and moral habits. All have horses, and most of them cattle and hogs, and generally raise sufficient corn for their consumption. Some among them have embraced the Christian religion, and manifest the sincerity of their profession by the consistency of their general deportment. There is but little energy manifested by them generally in regard to improving their condition, either temporally, socially, morally, or intellectually.

A few of the Pottawatomies on this creek are men of intelligence and worth—an honor to their tribe and to the churches to which they are attached; but, as it regards the greater part of them, I cannot say that I see any improvement among them.

We have no school attached to this mission, but send all the children we can obtain to the Indian manual labor school situated in the Shawnee country. A good number from the above-mentioned tribes are now receiving their education at that institution.

We have about fifty church members in this charge.

Yours, most respectfully,

THOMAS HURLBURT,

Missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN;

Indian Sub-agent.

No. 63.

OTTOWA MISSION STATION, *September 7, 1846.*

SIR: This mission was commenced in 1837, and is under the direction of the executive committee of the American Baptist Missionary Union, at Boston, Massachusetts, the corresponding secretary of which is Rev. Solomon Peck.

The missionaries at the station are myself and wife; native assistant, Shaw-bone-da. For some years past we have not taught an English school; but have used our influence to induce the Ottawas to send their children to the schools among the Shawnees, about twenty of whom are now there. But our time has been principally taken up in writing and printing elementary books, hymn books, portions of Scripture, &c, in the Ottawa language—in teaching such to read, write, and cipher, as do not understand English—in administering to the sick—in persuading all to adopt habits of temperance, industry, and virtue; and in proclaiming to them the Gospel of the Savior.

The improvement among the people has been great. From 80 to 100 read in their own language; about two thirds or three-fourths of the nation have become strictly temperate—about 90 have become hopefully pious; and, as a nation, the Ottawas may be said to have adopted the habits of civilization.

During the last year it has been more sickly in the nation than it was ever known to be before: about one-seventh part of them have died. They have suffered much on account of the floods of the two last years,

but Providence has kindly favored them the present season with good crops, especially of corn.

We have religious meetings four days in each week. They are generally well attended. 36 of the Indians have united with the Ottawa Baptist church since the date of my last annual report.

Yours, most respectfully,

JOTHAM MEEKER,
Superintendent and Teacher.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 64.

WEA BAPTIST MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
August 21, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In accordance with your request, I proceed to submit the following as the annual report of the school under my care. Since you have made yourself so well acquainted with this institution and its policy, by your highly appreciated visits, I deem it unnecessary to enter into particulars.

From my last year's report you are aware that, from sickness, we were compelled to suspend our school for a time. We were, however, enabled, through the blessings of Providence, to resume our labors about the 1st of December, and have, through many difficulties, kept the school in successful operation up to the present time. We have taken into the school (between the ages of six and sixteen) twenty children—sixteen boys and four girls: they will probably not average more than sixteen regular scholars; seven of whom can read, some are writing, studying arithmetic, geography, &c., while the smaller ones are advancing as rapidly as we could expect. Our school is taught five days in the week, six hours per day. The sabbath is devoted to moral and religious instruction, at which time they are also taught to sing—an exercise for which they have great fondness as well as aptness. The remainder of the time is principally taken up in manual labor appropriate to their sex. We have made a field of twenty-five acres, besides considerable additions to our buildings. It may not be amiss here to remark that the board of Indian missions located at Louisville, Kentucky, and from which we draw our support, purpose enlarging operations here until we are enabled to report a large school, conducted strictly upon the manual labor system. Our meetings for public worship are generally well attended. Our hopes would be very sanguine, and our prospects of bettering these people fair, were it not for the fact that while we are laboring to advance them in civilization and Christianity, the enemy on the borders are equally engaged in inducing them to take of the maddening cup, thereby robbing them of their blankets, and every means of support; besides sinking them (some at least) deeper and deeper into vice, ignorance, and wretchedness.

The managers of this institution are the undersigned and wife, natives of Kentucky; and Miss S. A. Osgood, teacher, a native of Indiana.

All which is respectfully submitted.

B. M. ADAMS.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

No. 65.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,
September 21, 1846.

DEAR SIR: Severe sickness, as you are aware, has prevented me from submitting this report sooner; and even now I have to employ the aid of another. The past year has been one of considerable trial and difficulty, arising mainly from the want of permanent and suitable assistance. Last fall, the Rev. S. M. Coon, who had received a temporary appointment to this mission, left the station for Pennsylvania, after (both himself and his wife) having suffered the most severe sickness, and becoming completely discouraged and disheartened about their health. They have since received an honorable dismissal from the services of the board.

To reinforce the mission thus reduced to one family, the board, during the winter, appointed the Rev. Edmund McKenney, who had for two years been superintending Spencer Academy, among the Choctaw Indians, to this place. Mr. McKenney, with his family, reached this in May last. Subsequent to his arrival, it was resolved by the board to establish a mission among the Otoe and Omaha Indians, near the mouth of the Great Platte river, and, with Mr. McKenney's consent, to transfer him to that mission; the Rev. Wm. Hamilton, who for the past year has been with his friends in Pennsylvania, having determined to return to this station. Accordingly, early in August, Mr. McKenney and family, with Mr. Bloohm, an assistant recently appointed, from England, set out on their new and interesting mission; which again reduced this mission to its former small number. But, since I began to write, Mr. Hamilton has arrived, and in himself and his family we hope to find permanent and efficient help.

Another great difficulty under which we labored was that of finding suitable hired help to assist in the labor of the school, particularly female help. A great deal of this is necessary in Indian schools, particularly at their commencement. But this we could not get, at any price; and we were under the necessity of commencing the school with such help as was very inadequate to the task. Early in the season, the house was so far completed as to enable us to commence receiving scholars; and it was, indeed, a pleasing experiment. The great difficulty was to keep too many from coming. They were anxious to come in, at almost every age and from all quarters, and also of both sexes; but, from the want of help, and being limited by the board to twenty-five scholars from the Iowas, we could take in but a few of those who applied. Still, our school presented an interesting and encouraging appearance, until the sickness of myself and wife, and of some of our hired help, rendered us unable to sustain it as it was; and it gradually, and I must say necessarily, diminished to the small number you found when here—I think not over nine or ten Indian children.

It is proper for me here to remark, that our encouragement in the school has been entirely from the Iowa nation. Though our doors have been opened as widely for the Sacs, yet they have not sent a child to the institution. There is, in this respect, a remarkable difference between these two tribes; though the Sacs seem, in many respects, to be far before the Iowas—less drunken, better off for provisions, more high-minded, noble, and independent, and often more judicious in their conduct towards the

whites ; yet, in point of having their children educated, and in their desire to learn and adopt the ways of the whites, the Iowas seem to be many years in advance. The plan of the board is to support about 25 children from the Iowas, 25 from the Sacs, and about 40 from the Ottoes and Omahas. A request has been made of these tribes for this number of their children, but, from some prejudices and unsettled difficulties, they (at least for the present) decline sending their children.

We are anxious that the Sacs should decide soon on the subject of sending their children to the schools ; for, until they determine not to send, we must reserve room for them. We feel great anxiety that they should send, and believe that your agency will have a happy influence in this affair. Government officers, who pursue a proper course with these Indians, soon gain a happy and controlling influence over them. This was obviously verified in a visit of Major T. H. Harvey, superintendent Indian affairs, last fall. He was here several days, and seemed to lay himself out entirely for the welfare of the Indians, making every selfish interest and ease bend to the promotion of their interests. The effect was, that although the immediate apparent fruits were not commensurate with the efficient, appropriate, and untiring labors of Major Harvey, yet he secured an influence over them which but few other men have acquired. We hope that the Major will visit us again this fall ; and if your united influence will not induce the Sacs to send some of their children to the school, we shall, for the present, despair of getting any.

Our large building for the boarding school is about completed, except the entrances at the back doors, and some work on the yards or play grounds. These yards are in the rear of the building—one for the boys and another for the girls—having no entrance except through the halls of the house. Though there is but one building, yet it is so constructed, and the play grounds so attached, that the boys and girls do not necessarily come together, except at meal times and at worship. We have on hand a quantity of ready-made clothing for both sexes, and a large quantity on the way from the East ; also, bed clothes and other articles. We have a mill in operation, and about all the necessary fixtures for carrying on the school on quite an extensive scale ; which we hope, with the blessing of a kind Providence, soon to do.

This is, perhaps, about all, touching our own affairs, that will be interesting to you ; and modesty, and perhaps prudence, too, would say stop here. But I believe I cannot close without submitting a remark with regard to the poor Iowas. For nearly ten years I have witnessed, with painful anxiety and solicitude, their downward progress. When we came among them (early in the year 1837) they numbered 830 souls ; now they will not number 500. Nor is this all. Though the efforts of the mission have been for their good, joined with the benevolent designs of government, those who yet remain are no better off than they were ten years ago. They have, also, commencing subsequent to that time, had the advantage of an annuity of nearly \$8,000 per annum ; but all to no purpose. Their nearness to the whites, and the facilities they have for getting whiskey, seem to be great obstructions to their improvement. But even this latter, I think, may be traced to a higher source, viz : the manner in which their annuities have been paid out. Their annuities at present amount to about \$16 to each person ; yet it is so managed by the chiefs that the nation never get a dividend in money of more than \$4 each, and

for some years past the common people have not handled one dollar of cash. The chiefs claim the control of the money, and hitherto have obtained it; and the consequence is, that a chief may go one or two thousand dollars in debt, and have the nation pay it. Such, too, is substantially their practice. The chiefs go to the traders, and buy a large amount of goods, or a number of horses, or a quantity of provisions, or even whiskey, and it is paid. This would not be so unfair if the chiefs, after making the purchase, would make a fair division of the goods or property among the nation; but they are given to a few of their favorites called "braves," and a few particular friends, while the poor and the industrious get no benefit from it at all. In this way the chiefs secure the influence of the braves, and the braves, in return, sustain the chiefs; and the common people have been drilled along, from year to year, until it seems they conclude it is the only way in which annuities can be handled. Hence it has come to this, that the common people are disposed to urge the chiefs to go in debt, with a scanty hope that they may get some small morsel of provision, or article of clothing, such as the chiefs may see proper to give them *as a free gift, and not as their right*. Thus it is that the poor are penned and cramped on every hand, without any motive to spur them to economy and action. But let each one receive a full share of the annuity, and soon there would be a great change. A family of six or seven persons would receive about \$100. With a part of this they might buy a cheap pony, (which they often want,) a part would be laid out for clothing, and a portion laid up to buy provisions throughout the ensuing year, which can always be had cheaper for cash in hand. A few of the vagrants might for a time lay out some for whiskey; but it would soon prove so unprofitable, that they would likely abandon it. Thus, give them their rights; throw them upon their own individual resources; let them know and feel a right in property, and the change would be obvious at once.

Some steps to prepare the way for this change in the mode of paying the annuities, have already been taken. Two of the chiefs being desirous of having houses built, promised, and fully agreed, that if the nation would agree to pay for the building of these houses, they would forever afterwards agree to divide out the money equally. But without vigilance and firmness on the part of government, when the money is placed before them, their honor and promises will soon be buried in the "money-boxes," and they will feel like handling it, as heretofore.

But, by taking advantage of these preparatory steps, with the aid and influence of the Department, I hope you will be enabled to make this important change in the manner of payment, and thus be the means of removing a woful barrier, which to me seems to be at the very foundation, to a radical and most happy change among the poor down-trodden Iowas.

But I must not weary you or myself, altogether. May every blessing attend you, and may your efforts for the improvement of these tribes of red men be attended with success.

With high regard, I am, &c. &c.,

S. M. IRVIN.

Major RUCKER,
Sub-agent, Great Nemaha, Mo.

No. 66.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION, *September 10, 1846.*

SIR: I entered upon the duties of Iowa farmer on the 13th of April last. I began ploughing for them about the first of May, with three ploughs, and continued until about the 20th of June, when their ground was finished. I can form but a very poor estimate of the quantity of ground ploughed; but all was broke that was heretofore cultivated by them, besides many new patches. Their crops of corn, beans, pumpkins, &c., are very good; and, unless they are needlessly extravagant or wasteful, they have an ample supply for the next year.

Having been confined by sickness for some time past, I have been compelled to hire a hand in my stead, who is, and has been, engaged in hauling in their crops.

They expressed a desire some time since to have some wheat sown, which I have promised them to do whenever they get the ground in order.

I have been but little acquainted with their farming operations heretofore; but, from the testimony of others, I am of opinion that their present crop is larger than any previous one. The principal portion of the labor, however, was done by the squaws—the men generally preferring the chase, or the haunts of the whiskey trader, to habits of industry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. RUCKER, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent.

F. C. McCREARY.

No. 67.

SAC AND FOX PATTERN FARM,
September 8, 1846.

SIR: The farming operations of the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri have been quite successful, as far as product is concerned, the present year. They have made fine crops of corn, and all vegetables usually cultivated by them have yielded largely. The crops of wheat raised on the pattern farm (amounting to some 60 acres) are not so good as last year, but will make, I think, 700 bushels, including that already ground, and what has been retained for seed. We have also 60 acres of excellent corn on the farm, not more than one-third of which will be required for the stock. It will be for yourself to determine the most proper disposition of the balance. If the present policy of raising a surplus on the pattern farm be continued, I would suggest the propriety of purchasing a considerable number of young cattle, and feeding them during the spring months. In this manner a very large number might be kept comparatively without cost. The uplands afford a most bountiful supply of fine grass from April until October, and the bottoms of the Missouri river an equally fine supply of rushes and swamp grass until February. Two months' feeding in the spring, with an Indian (who can be hired for a trifle) to herd and salt them during the balance of the year, is all the attention that even a thousand head would require.

This policy would soon lead them to entirely abandon their annual visits to the buffalo country, prevent the frequent difficulties with hostile tribes, which they generally encounter while on the prairies, and have a

tendency to discourage their wild and roving habits, which more than any thing else prevent them from adopting habits of civilization.

They express a great desire to get a mill built, which I would earnestly recommend as soon as the state of their funds will permit it. They have been compelled, heretofore, to take their wheat across the Missouri river to the mill, which is not only troublesome and expensive, but leads them to drunkenness, and often to difficulties with the whites. I would recommend the erection of a horse or ox mill near the farm house, so that it might be attended to conveniently and guarded against accident. The farm being well supplied with wagons and teams to do all the heavy hauling necessary in its erection, would greatly abridge the expenses. I think that less than \$1,000, with the other facilities we are in possession of, would build a mill entirely sufficient for all their necessities.

It gives me pleasure to report that the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, as a nation, have plenty of all the necessaries of Indian life, and that they manifest an increasing interest in the cultivation of the soil; which only needs the fostering hand of government to properly direct and encourage, to make them an agricultural people.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

JOHN W. FOREMAN,
Sac and Fox Farmer.

WM. E. RUCKER,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha Sub-agency.

No. 68.

TWINSBURG, October 1, 1846.

DEAR SIR: At the close of another quarter, it becomes my duty to report in regard to the Indian youth that have placed themselves under my care for the purpose of receiving an education. The number requisite have been with me, attending to their studies with usual, and I may say with increased success. Their studies are, geography, English grammar, arithmetic, reading, spelling, writing, and learning the English language. Some of them declaim and prepare compositions weekly. I am exceedingly interested in them, for they are truly an interesting class of youth.

During a vacation in the summer, I had the pleasure to visit some of their friends in the neighborhood of Mackinac, and found them decidedly among the best class of Indians.

They seemed very glad to see me, and expressed much gratitude for the kindness they have received.

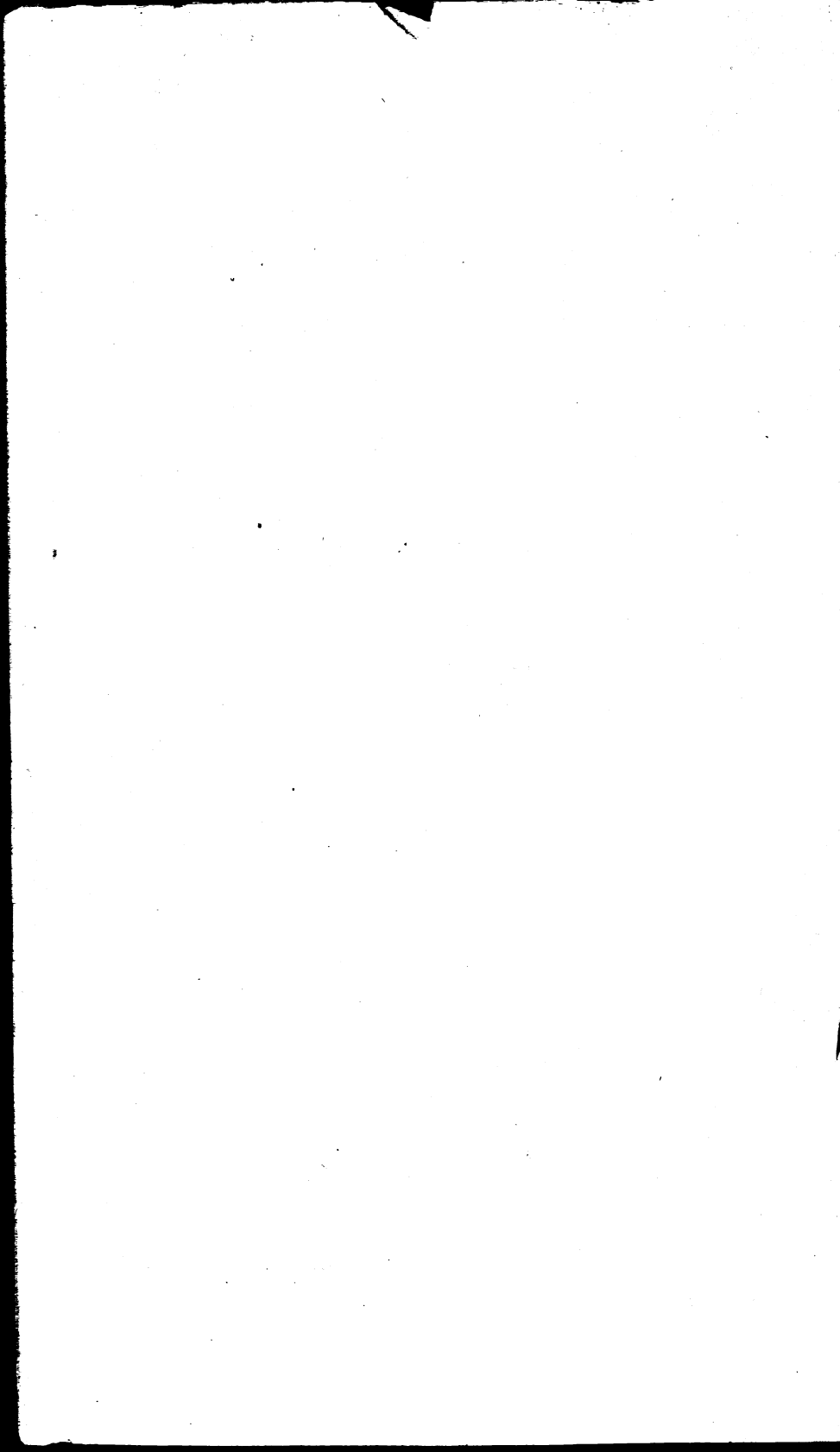
I doubt not others will endeavor to avail themselves of similar privileges. Nothing would gratify me more than to train these sons of the forest, so far as I am able to do it. Nothing but education can save them from entire extinction. If I shall have the honor to close the reports of the year, I will send you specimens of their writing, &c., as I know you might be interested to receive them.

* * * * *

Your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL BISSELL.

WM. MEDILL, Esq.,
Office Indian Affairs.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

TRANSMITTED

WITH THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT,

AT THE

OPENING OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRTIETH CONGRESS,

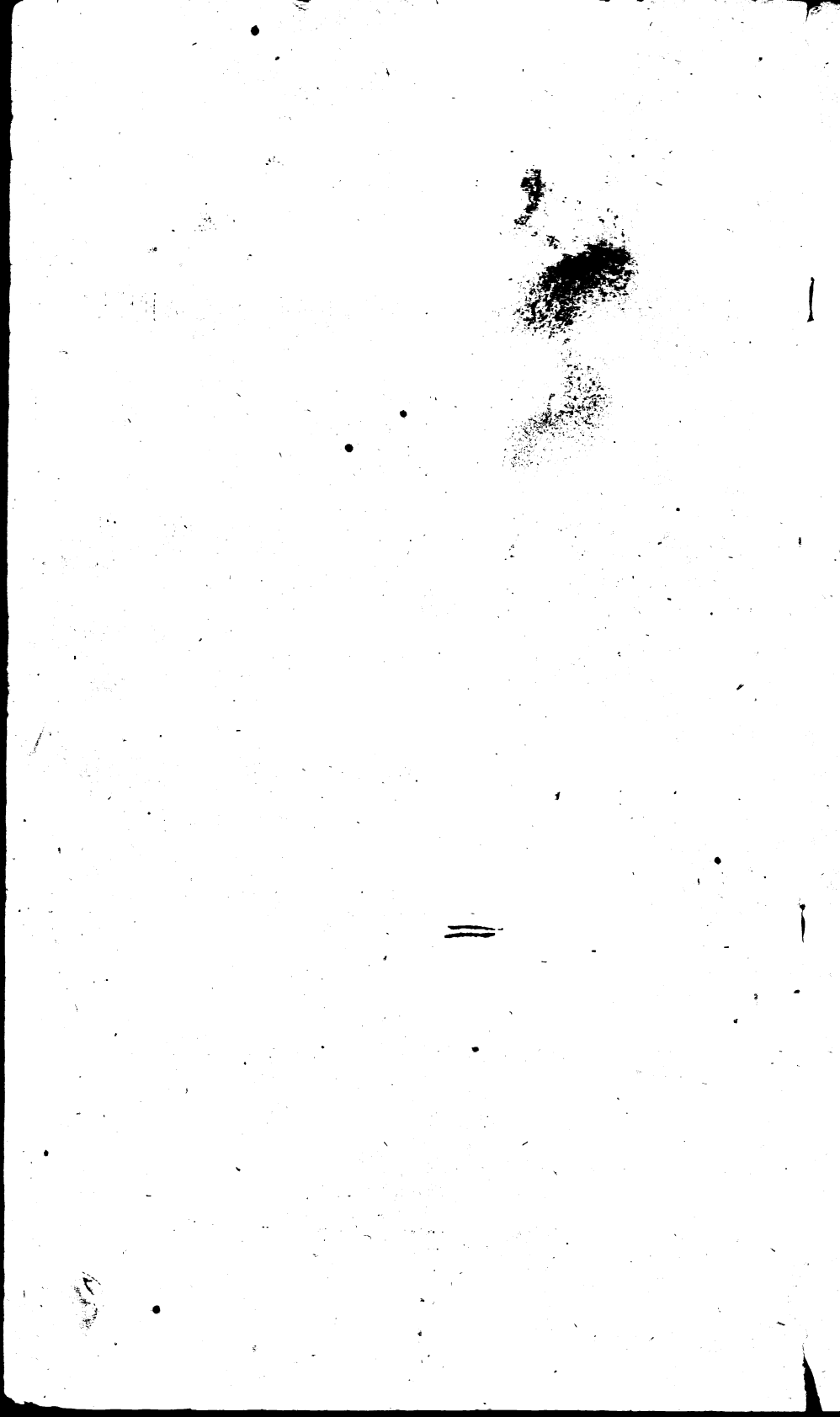
1847....1848.

WASHINGTON:

WENDELL AND VAN BENTHUYSEN, PRINTERS.

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1848.



REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
November 30, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to submit a general view of the condition and operations of this branch of the public service, during the past year.

Since my last annual report, nineteen Creeks, forty-four Chickasaws, and a few Cherokees—number not known—have emigrated themselves; and one thousand six hundred and twenty-three Choctaws, have been removed from east of the Mississippi to the country of their brethren, west of that river. A small number of Miamies, left behind when the great body of that tribe was removed from Indiana last year, chiefly to enable them to gather and dispose of their fall crops, are, it is believed, either now on the way, or are about starting for the west.

By the treaties of 1838 and 1840 with the Miamies, and by a joint resolution of Congress, approved March 3d, 1845, a portion of them, about one hundred and sixty-one in number, are permitted to receive their annuities, and, as they claim, to remain permanently in Indiana. It is regretted that they could not have been removed also, as it is believed that it would have been both better for themselves, and beneficial to their brethren who have emigrated. It is doubtful whether they can prosper and be happy where they are. They will, in a great measure, be compelled to give up their own peculiar customs and habits, without adequate previous preparation for the change; be under the operation of laws, the reasons for, and advantages of which, they do not understand; while they must soon be hemmed in by a thrifty white population, having in its superior resources, and greater energy and industry, every advantage over them; and with which, from their origin, peculiar tastes, and backwardness of improvement, they cannot coalesce nor be upon any footing of equality. With their brethren west, they could live as they have been accustomed; their peculiar social wants and sympathies could be gratified, and they would not, as among the whites, be discouraged, by great disparity in circumstances and civilization, from making proper exertions for improving their condition. From being now somewhat advanced in the elements of civilized life, they would serve as an example for the emulation of their brethren west, and as a guide to them in the brighter path upon which they themselves had entered. It is hoped that, even before they suffer in any material degree from the

disadvantages under which they must necessarily labor where they are, they will become convinced that it would be far better for them to emigrate and be with their brethren in the west.

A portion of the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, whose lands in Iowa were purchased by the treaty of October 11th, 1842, that, at the date of my report last year, had halted in the Pottowatomie country, have since gone forward; so that the whole of those united tribes are now comfortably settled in the new country assigned them, by their own consent, on the head waters of the Osage river, immediately south of the Shawnees. Now that they are beyond the reach of those unhappy influences, engendered by the proximity of an Indian and white frontier population; and so greatly prejudicial to both, it is hoped that, with the aid of judicious efforts, and advice from the agents of the government, they will soon commence and pursue a course of improvement, which, in a few years, will be attended with gratifying results in their moral and social advancement. Though the Department labored without success, during the past year, to induce them to consent to the establishment of schools among them, and to turn their attention in some degree to agricultural pursuits, it does not feel discouraged, but hopes, ere long, to be able to effect a change in their prejudices and feelings on these important subjects.

Confident hopes were entertained that all the Choctaws remaining east of the Mississippi, would, before this time, have been removed, but the Department has been greatly disappointed. Under the circumstances stated in my report of last year, the contract for their removal, made on the 5th September, 1844, with Alexander Anderson and others, and which expired by limitation on the 31st of December, 1846, was extended to the 1st day of June last. It is due to the new agents, who then took charge of the business, to state that it was pushed forward with a greater degree of energy than it had been before; yet, at the end of the period of extension—during a space of almost three years—there were nearly as many still remaining east as had gone west; only a little over a moiety of the number (seven thousand) estimated to be east when the contract was entered into, having been removed. Efforts were made to induce the Department to consent to a further extension of the contract, or to grant a new one on the same terms as those of the old contract; but both propositions were declined. It was considered that this system had been fairly tried, under circumstances as favorable to success as could well be enjoyed, but had in effect failed; or, at least, had accomplished results so limited and unsatisfactory, that it became the duty of the Department to endeavor to devise some other mode, which would probably be more successful. After much inquiry, and a full examination of the subject, it was determined to take the whole business into the hands of the government, to be managed by agents of its own selection and appointment; and measures have been adopted accordingly.

It having been represented that individuals, who were connected with the emigration of those Indians under the expired contract, had, in the expectation of its being renewed or extended, collected

and prepared parties of Indians for emigration, and thereby incurred expense, the Superintendent was authorized to receive all such, and to pay to the persons who collected them a just remuneration for their services and expenses; or, if they so desired, to permit them to remove the parties to the Choctaw country west, allowing them a reasonable sum therefor, not to exceed the average rate which it cost the government to remove similar parties, or the price stipulated in the contract with Anderson and others.

It may not be improper here to give a brief explanation of the situation of these Indians, and of the position held by the general government towards them. The 14th article of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit creek, of 1830, by which the Choctaws sold all their remaining lands east of the Mississippi, and agreed to remove west of that river, provided that each Choctaw head of a family, desirous of remaining and becoming a citizen of the States, should be permitted to do so, on signifying to the agent his intention to that effect, within six months after the ratification of the treaty; and thereupon should be entitled to six hundred and forty acres of land, and for each unmarried child, over ten years of age, living in the family, three hundred and twenty acres, and for each child under ten one hundred and sixty acres, to be secured to them in fee simple, if they resided on the lands for five years from the ratification of the treaty, with the intention of becoming citizens. It was also stipulated that such persons should not lose the privilege of a Choctaw citizen; but that, if they ever remove, they were not to be entitled to any portion of the annuities of the nation. It being represented that there were many persons entitled to the benefit of the provisions of this article, who, from circumstances beyond their control, had been prevented from complying with the conditions imposed by it, Congress authorized the appointment of commissioners to investigate their claims, whose report, so far as confirmed by the President and Secretary of War, should be final. Where the Indians were found entitled, and the land could be allotted to them consistently with the provisions of the treaty, that was to be so done; but where the land had been sold, or was so encumbered that it could not be so assigned to them, they were to be given certificates entitling them to enter elsewhere the same quantity of unsold lands of the United States. Of these certificates, which are denominated scrip, not more than one half was to be delivered to said Indians until after their removal to the Choctaw country west of the Mississippi, leaving it discretionary with the Department to deliver the other half, either east or west of that river as might be deemed most advisable and proper. By a subsequent law Congress funded the half not deliverable east, at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, allowing an annual interest of five per cent. thereon. It will thus be seen that, with those who elected to remain, the relations of the general government had become materially changed. It had no further special duties to perform, or peculiar obligations to fulfil towards them, but to set apart and secure to them the lands to which they were entitled under the treaty. This was done as far as possible, and when not, the best practica-

ble remedial measure was adopted. They had severed their connexion with the general government as wards, and voluntarily placed themselves under the legislative control of the States. Their situation was, however, an unhappy one. In the midst of, and far inferior to, an increasing white population, they could not prosper; but on the contrary, must decline and eventually become outcasts if they remained where they were. They also were an incubus upon the improvement and prosperity of the sections of country where they resided, and the State of Mississippi especially, within whose limits the great body of them were, was anxious to be relieved from their presence. Under these circumstances, the general government, at the request and urgent solicitation of the delegations in Congress from the States of Alabama and Mississippi, took them again in charge, and assumed the obligation of removing all who could be prevailed upon to go to the country of their brethren west of the Mississippi, who were willing to receive them; where they would be free from those influences operating east, for their decline if not entire destruction, and where they would feel more at home, and be more prosperous and happy. The government in thus resuming, to some extent, its former relations towards these people, and thereby subjecting itself to a heavy expense, felt justified in making such arrangements as were deemed necessary for the protection and security of their property. Hence a portion of their scrip was funded, and the balance directed to be paid over to them in such a manner as was deemed most beneficial for them, and at the same time best adapted to facilitate their removal. The especial policy and object of funding a portion of the scrip was to put them, with respect to an annual income, upon some footing of equality with their brethren west, who receive large annuities from the government, in which, by the treaty, they are not permitted to participate, while the remainder would enable them to adjust their affairs east, and procure such articles on their arrival in the west, as would place them upon a similar equality with respect to the necessaries and conveniences of life.

The scrip issued was placed in the hands of the agent for the tribe, to be delivered to the Indians as they were emigrated by the contractors; and by regulations established by the General Land Office, it was made receivable for lands from a transferee of an Indian, only where the transfer had been witnessed and certified to by that agent. The first instructions enjoined that it should not be delivered to the Indians until after their removal west, unless its payment east would manifestly tend to facilitate their emigration, in which event the agent was authorized to deliver it after the parties had started for their new homes, or assembled for that purpose under such circumstances as to justify the belief that they would certainly go. The greater part of the scrip that has been delivered has been so paid; but, on a full consideration of the whole subject, the Department is satisfied that, instead of having expedited the emigration, it has greatly retarded it, in consequence of the contest carried on between speculators and those preferring claims against the Indians, to get possession of it—most, if not all of whom had

acquired more or less influence over the Indians, through which they would endeavor to delay their emigration, in the hope more effectually of securing the scrip, which, in most instances, has been obtained from them for a very inadequate consideration.

By the late treaty with the united nation of Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottowatomies, they were allowed two years from the 23d of July, 1846, within which to remove from their separate residences, near Council Bluffs, on the Missouri, and on the Osage river, to their new country, purchased of the Kansas, where they are all again to be united and live together. Through the judicious counsel and prudent efforts of the able and efficient Superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, however, they were induced to agree to remove this fall, provided the moneys stipulated in the treaty to enable them to do so were sent out in season. This was done—the payment made to them—and they have carried, or are carrying out their promises in good faith—those from the Bluffs having, at the last accounts, advanced a considerable distance on the route, and those from the Osage having either started, or were about starting. It is confidently expected that, with the exception of a small band which determined to remain and hunt on the headwaters of the Des Moines, as has been their practice heretofore, all will arrive in their new country in season to make the requisite arrangements for their comfort during the winter, and be prepared to commence their farming operations with the opening of the spring.

The 5th article of the treaty of January 14, 1846, with the Kansas, provides that, if the lands still held and retained by them, west of those ceded by the first article of that treaty, are deficient in timber, the President shall cause a suitable country to be laid off for them, near the western boundary of their cession to the government; in which event, they cede the remainder of their country not ceded by the first article of the treaty. In the contingency mentioned, the running of the western boundary of that cession, as provided for in the third article, would have been a useless and unnecessary expense. It was therefore determined first to explore the country about where the line would run, and west of it. This was done, and the country found to be without sufficient timber to render it a suitable and comfortable home for the Kansas. The agent, Major Cummins, who made the exploration, was instructed in that case to select some other section that would answer the purpose. He accordingly selected and caused to be laid off, by well defined metes and bounds, a tract twenty miles square, on the head waters of the Neosho, south of the Shawnees, and immediately west of the new country of the Sacs and Foxes. Major Harvey, the Superintendent at St. Louis, having approved the selection and recommended its confirmation, it was submitted through you to the President and confirmed accordingly. It is expected that the Kansas will remove to this country early in the spring, in time to put in their crops, and to make other requisite and necessary arrangements for the year.

The Winnebagoes have only been awaiting the purchase of a home for them, in conformity with the third article of the treaty.

October 13th, 1846, in order to commence their removal from the valuable lands they now occupy in Iowa, which they ceded to the United States, and which are already beginning to be required for settlement and cultivation, by the rapidly increasing population of that State. By the terms of the treaty, the country for their future residence was to be explored and selected by their own people, or by an agent of their own appointment; and soon after the treaty was concluded, Mr. H. M. Rice, duly appointed as their agent, explored and selected for them the section of country lying between the Watab river, a tributary of the Mississippi, on the south, and the Long Prairie river, and the Crow Wing into which it empties, on the north. Although this is high up on the Mississippi, and at present considerably in advance of our white population, yet the Department desired that they would select a position still further north, in order that, for a long time to come, they might be beyond the reach of our population, now so rapidly extending in that quarter; and until, under the beneficial operation of the system of policy now being pursued for their improvement, they would be better fitted for living in contact, and for intermingling freely with the whites. They would not, however, consent to go elsewhere; and as the land belonged to the Chippewas of the Mississippi and Lake Superior, it became necessary to enter into negotiations with them for it.

One reason which has been urged in favor of the Winnebagoes being located at this point, is that they will be interposed to some extent, and be the means of preserving peace, between the Sioux and the Chippewas, who are hereditary enemies, and are engaged in frequent collisions; and between whom there has for some time been no little danger of serious difficulties and bloodshed. This and other considerations led the Department to determine, if practicable, to acquire also from the Chippewas an additional tract adjoining and north of that intended for the Winnebagoes, lying between the Long Prairie and Leaf rivers—both emptying into the Crow Wing—the extreme northeast point of which is high up on the dividing line between the Sioux and Chippewas. This is a desirable country, well adapted to the principal branches of agriculture, and well suited for a residence for the Menomonies or other Indians who may prefer a northern location. The negotiations were successful; two treaties having been made with different parties of the Chippewas, alleging separate interests in the lands, by which they ceded both the tracts mentioned, containing about 1,557,000 acres. These treaties have already been submitted for the consideration of yourself and the President, and, if approved, for transmission to the Senate for its constitutional action. It is important that they be finally acted on at an early day, in order that, if ratified, the Winnebagoes may have ample time to prepare for removal, and be enabled to take possession of their new country sufficiently early to put in their crops, and to make other requisite arrangements in the spring for a permanent residence.

Without the lands thus ceded by the Chippewas, they still have sufficient quantity, west of the Mississippi, for a suitable and

comfortable residence for the whole of them, now living both east and west of that river. As stated in my last annual report, they are now scattered over so immense an extent of country, that but little, if any thing, can be done for their civilization and improvement, while whiskey-sellers and other persons of an improper character, have free access to them, to take advantage of their weaknesses, corrupt their morals, and rob them of their means, in defiance of all the efforts and exertions of the officers of the government. It would be far better for them if they were all concentrated in their country west, where they could be almost effectually protected from the pernicious influences now operating to bring down upon them misery and degradation. The lands they still own east of the Mississippi, and of a line extended nearly due north from lake Winibegoshish, through the "big fork," to Rainy lake, our northern boundary, lie between that boundary and a line nearly due west from opposite the junction of the Crow Wing with the Mississippi river, to about $92^{\circ} 18'$ or $20'$ of longitude, thence due north to the St. Louis river, and down that river to Lake Superior. It is computed at 10,743,000 acres, some of which is represented to be well adapted for settlement and cultivation by a white population, and a portion to be valuable for its mineral resources; but the greater part is believed to be of comparatively little value for any purposes of civilized life: on these points, however, the Department has no authentic information. A great number of these Indians live south of this section, on lands ceded by them to the United States by former treaties; and from which they are under obligations to remove whenever required by the President. For the convenience and benefit of the white population, as well as for their own good, they should be notified at an early period to leave these lands, and to seek a home on their own further north. In doing this, they should be encouraged to settle as near the Mississippi as possible, in order to be convenient to the agency, which it is in contemplation to remove from Lapointe, on Lake Superior, where it now is, to some point on or near and west of the Mississippi. On that river, the agency will be nearer and more convenient to the great body of the Indians, particularly if those now on the ceded lands settle in that quarter, while it will have a tendency to draw all of those east in that direction; and, in conjunction with other proper measures, gradually to incline them in favor of a removal and settlement west of the Mississippi.

The commissioners appointed to negotiate with the Chippewas, were instructed to proceed to the Menomonic country, on finishing that duty, for the purpose of negotiating with them also, for the lands they yet own in Wisconsin. The acquisition by the government of these lands, now much wanted for settlement and cultivation, is of much consequence to our white population, and to the prosperity of that section of Wisconsin; while it would be much better for the Indians, surrounded and pressed upon as they in a great measure are by whites, and suffering all the evils and disadvantages of such a position—to them an unnatural and unfortunate one—to sell out and remove elsewhere. Their situation is similar

to that of the Winnebagoes, and the same strong and cogent reasons that exist in favor of a change in the one case, obtain also in the other. One of the commissioners was taken ill and obliged to return before reaching the Chippewa country, and the other was so unwell, after terminating the negotiations with the Chippewas, as to be unable to proceed to the Menomonie country. He returned through Wisconsin, however, and had some opportunity of gathering information as to the views and feelings of the Menomonies on the subject of a cession of their lands. He was perfectly satisfied that to make a treaty with them now, on any thing like reasonable terms, or upon conditions that would be judicious and satisfactory to the government, is utterly impracticable. They are greatly in debt to traders and others, and are almost entirely under the influence and control of their creditors and half-breed relatives, who, expecting to profit largely by what may be allowed for their lands, not only stimulate them to demand an exorbitant price, but dissuade them from treating at present on any terms, in the hope that the resolution of the Senate, of March 3d, 1843, which prohibits provision being made in treaties with the Indians for the payment of debts, will be repealed. In this I trust and believe they will be disappointed. The resolution was a wise and salutary provision, and has been attended with the most beneficial results. Before its adoption, traders and others, in anticipation of a treaty being made with a tribe, in which debts would be provided for, induced them recklessly to run in debt, by every means by which they could tempt their uncontrolled and unregulated fancy and inclinations, so that a great, if not the greater portion of the consideration paid for their lands, fell into their hands. Treaties, in fact, were made almost exclusively for the benefit of such persons; for, through their influence over the Indians, they could dictate whatever terms they pleased. Being immediately and constantly associated with the Indians, and having the power through credits and representations to make them believe that they are their best and only true friends and benefactors, their influence is still most powerful—greater probably than that of the government is or can be; yet, since the adoption of the resolution in question, the pernicious system of excessive credits, in anticipation of a treaty, has in a great measure diminished. Under these circumstances, the Department has been compelled, at least for the present, to abandon all idea of negotiating with the Menomonies.

From the accompanying papers (marked F) it will be perceived, that difficulties of a grave character exist among the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin. A law of March 3d, 1843, passed at their own request, or on the application of a number of them, made them citizens, and provided for a division of the lands in their reservation among them in severalty. By an act of August 6th, 1846, this law was repealed, and the Stockbridges restored to their position and customs as Indians, except such as preferred remaining citizens, and would come forward and register their names with the sub-agent, within three months. The reservation was then to be divided between the parties, in proportion to numbers—one part to

be called the citizen, and the other the Indian district—and the lands in the former to be allotted in severalty, as under the first law. The citizen party refused to come forward and enrol their names, alleging that they were already invested with citizenship and all its privileges, of which Congress had no power to deprive them; and that they were unwilling to do anything that would lead to the assignment, which had been made of the lands, being disturbed—many of them having been sold to innocent purchasers for a valuable consideration. There was thus no basis for a division of the reservation between the parties, and it being therefore impracticable to proceed further in the execution of the law, according to its intent, the Department required the sub-agent to obtain all the information in his power, upon the several questions involved, in order that the whole subject might be fully laid before Congress for its consideration.

It will be seen that the citizen party insist upon the right of citizenship, notwithstanding their refusal to enrol their names; whilst the other party contend that, in consequence of that omission, all are again Indians, and the lands not subject to division; and they have called upon the sub-agent to have all white persons removed from them. The right of many of those claiming to be members of either party, particularly the Indians, to be considered as Stockbridges, entitled to an interest in the lands, is strongly contested; and the residences and improvements of those of the one, are so intermingled with those of the other, it would seem impracticable to separate them in the manner required by the law, without compelling many, at a great sacrifice, to abandon their property. It would also appear that a number of individuals, of both parties, have sold the lands which were allotted to them to persons who purchased in good faith, and for a valuable consideration; and who, if the law of 1846 were carried out, would lose what they paid for the lands, and what they may have expended in improvements, as well as their time and labor. The Department is disposed to concur in the opinion expressed by Governor Dodge, that the only practicable remedy for the difficulties which have thus arisen, is for the Stockbridges to dispose of the whole of their lands, and such of them as choose, to remove where they can adopt such form of government as they may prefer.

Unfortunate collisions have taken place between some of the tribes in the northwest, attended by bloodshed and loss of life. The Sioux, one of the most restless and mischievous of our tribes, have committed attacks on the Omahas, the Ottoes, the friendly Pawnees north of the Platte, and the Winnebagoes; which, in the case of the Ottoes, led to retaliation, followed by a second attack from the Sioux. These Indians are divided into separate bands, headed by different chiefs, and occupy a large extent of country on and above the St. Peter's, between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. A portion only—those living on the Mississippi—receive annuities from the United States; and having been concerned in the attack upon the Winnebagoes, orders were given for their punishment, and for withholding their annuities until they made full and

ample satisfaction. Understanding this, they manifested contrition for the outrage, and voluntarily came forward to make such reparation as the case admitted. They acknowledged their error in suitable and becoming terms to the Winnebagoes, and entered into an arrangement to pay them four thousand dollars, in four equal annual payments, for the use and benefit of the relatives of the individuals who were slain. This arrangement was entirely satisfactory to the Winnebagoes, and a good understanding seems now to subsist between the two parties. The Winnebagoes were much exasperated, and it was with considerable difficulty that, with some of the Pottowatomies who had come to their aid, they could be prevented from taking violent revenge. Much credit is due to General Fletcher, the sub-agent, to the commanding officer at Fort Atkinson, and to Henry M. Rice, esq., a resident trader, who, by their firm and judicious efforts, prevented such a result; and who with the co-operation of the agent for the Sioux, were mainly instrumental in settling the difficulty in the peaceful and satisfactory manner in which it was arranged. The other attacks were made by the Sioux residing on or in the vicinity of the Missouri river, to whom we pay no annuities, and whom it is difficult to control. A party of Pawnees residing south of the Platte, who are also evil disposed and treacherous, made an attack in the spring on a party of emigrants to Oregon, and did much mischief, though no lives are reported to have been lost. Instructions were given for the punishment of both them and the Sioux by a military force, and for taking hostages for their future good conduct. For the more effectual protection of our citizens emigrating to Oregon, and of the Omahas, Ottoes, Poncas, and other weak tribes in the vicinity of the Sioux, on the Platte and Missouri rivers, it may be advisable to establish a small military post somewhere near the mouth of the Platte, which, in connexion with that to be established near Grand Island, on that river, would, no doubt, effectually prevent such occurrences in future. An attack was also made last winter by the Iowas on a lodge of the Omahas; but the Department having directed their annuities to be withheld, they made satisfactory reparation for the injury inflicted. This prompt and determined course on the part of the government will, it is believed, prevent any such conduct on their part in future, and have a salutary effect upon other tribes who were present at the council at which the matter was arranged.

With the exception, possibly, of the mischievous Pawnees, south of the Platte, it is not known that any of the Indians, with whom we have any immediate intercourse, or over whom this Department has any means of exercising a control, have been concerned in the attacks upon our trains on the Santa Fe route, during the past year. Property, which was, no doubt, plundered from the trains, has been found in the possession of two or three of the tribes with whom we have treaties, and to whom we pay annuities, but they alleged having received it in trade from other Indians out on the prairies. They all cheerfully gave it up, so far as is known, except the Pawnees, who were compelled to do so. An impression

has prevailed that the depredations were committed principally by the Comanche and other Indians from within the borders of Texas. If so, it must have been those whose principal haunts are far up on the Rio Grande and the Arkansas, with whom we have had no intercourse, and who are beyond the reach and control of the agents of this Department. It is the opinion of the agents that there is no effectual mode of checking them in their career of mischief, and teaching them proper respect for the United States, but by sending a military force to chastise them, and to compel them to enter into stipulations for their good conduct hereafter. It is, however, the impression that a portion, at least, of the marauders were from New Mexico, and that some of the attacks were instigated, if not participated in, by white persons, whether Mexicans, or renegades and out-laws from our own country, is not known. The measures and precautions which it is understood were directed by you to be adopted by the military branch of the service will, it is hoped, prevent their repetition.

The late treaty with the Cherokees appears to have produced the utmost harmony among those people. All party distinctions and past misunderstandings have been laid aside, and they are moving forward with increased acceleration in the path of civilization and improvement.

In my report of last year I stated that measures were in progress for making the settlement required by this treaty; and, that hopes were entertained of completing it at an early period in the then approaching session of Congress. It was subsequently ascertained, however, that this could not be done until the claims and other business before the commissioners, then sitting under the seventeenth article of the treaty of 1835, were determined and fully disposed of. Those commissioners—being the fourth board which had been appointed under that article since 1836—convened at the capitol for the transaction of business July 31, 1846, and continued in session about one year, the period for which the commission had been renewed. Ample notice of the time and place of their meeting, and of their readiness to enter upon the discharge of their duties was given, and every necessary facility afforded to the claimants and their attorneys for the presentation and thorough examination of their respective demands; and, from their report to the President, of July 23, 1847, it appears that they have acted upon and decided every case which was before them. They say that "the claimants were not taken by surprise, nor were their cases ever acted on without giving time for preparation. After all proper delay, the claims brought from the west by the former commissioners were taken up and examined several times with care. The commissioners have succeeded in disposing of every one of these claims; and they now complete their official term, after having examined and determined upon every case before them, and, without a single demand unadjusted and undecided." The recorded proceedings of these commissioners, in which are set forth their opinions at length in every case, evince a degree of ability, impartiality, and patient investigation, which would render their decis-

ions "final," in the judgment of every one who is not influenced by interest, if, indeed, they were not expressly made so by the provisions of the treaty. Regarding these claims, and all others arising under the treaty of 1835, as having thus been disposed of, the Department has resumed its inquiries, and will now be able, it is confidently expected, to complete the settlement referred to in a satisfactory manner at an early day.

The Indians residing on the Allegany and Cattaraugus reservations, in the State of New York, are represented to be in a favorable and highly prosperous condition. The course pursued by the Department, in refusing to recognize those chiefs and other persons claiming authority, who declined to comply with the requirements of the laws, passed by that State in 1845, for the better protection and municipal organization of the tribe, was attended with the happiest results, and all parties have now quietly acquiesced in its just and salutary provisions.

Feelings of much dissatisfaction continue to exist among those who reside upon the Tonawanda reservation, in relation to the treaties of 1838 and 1842, by which that reservation was ceded to Messrs. Ogden and Fellows. It is regretted that they do not see the propriety of peaceably removing therefrom, and of joining their brethren on the reservations above named, which are amply sufficient in extent and resources for all; and where, under the fostering care extended to them both by the General and State Governments, and the benevolent efforts of the Society of Friends for their moral and intellectual improvement, they would soon forget their supposed grievances, and become happy and contented in the enjoyment of a permanent and undisputed home.

The Senecas declined acceding to the transfer of their funds, now in the Ontario Bank of New York, to the Treasury of the United States, as provided for by the third section of the act of June 27, 1846. This was occasioned, no doubt, by the difference in the rate of interest which they would thereby be entitled to receive.

The report of the commissioner appointed under the fourth section of the same act, "to ascertain what annuities or moneys have been wrongfully withholden from the Seneca Indians, by the late sub-agent of the United States, and so lost to them," has just been received, and in a few days will be laid before you for transmission to Congress as required by law.

In remitting the annuities for the present year, instructions were given, under the authority vested in the President by the act passed at the last session of Congress, to pay them over in all cases to heads of families and others entitled, according to their just proportions, instead of to the chiefs; or to such persons as they might designate, as required by the previous law. They were paid over accordingly, greatly to the satisfaction of the Indians generally, except in the case of the Sacs and Foxes, whose agent, on pretexts wholly unjustifiable, paid over theirs to the chiefs, much to the injury of the mass of the tribe; as a fair division of the annuities would have given to each individual from *thirty-two to thirty-five dollars*, whereas it is reported that a large portion of them received

only *three dollars*; and many, it is represented, are already beginning to complain of their consequent necessitous condition. As far as possible, all the facts and circumstances connected with this nefarious transaction will be fully inquired into.

The different mode of payment authorized by the new law is equitable and just, and cannot but be attended with the most beneficial results. Instead of the chiefs and their special retainers and friends, or interested white persons by whom they are influenced and controlled, becoming enriched at the expense of the tribe generally, as under the old system, it will give to every one his just and proper share of the bounty of the government. It will also tend to check the inordinate system of credits which has heretofore prevailed, by which the idle and profligate were enabled to pledge and sweep away a great portion of the funds of the tribe, so that when the rapacity of the chiefs and their friends had been satisfied, there was but little, if any thing, left for the upright and industrious. A copy of the instructions, which more fully show the unfairness and injustice of the old system, and the propriety and advantages of the new, accompanies this report, (marked A.)

The annuities of many of the tribes are very large—much greater in amount than is requisite for their actual wants at any one period. The consequence is, that after supplying their more immediate necessities, the excess enables them to indulge in idleness and profligacy, or is wasted for articles of no real value to them. They will scarcely provide for their wants even during the winter; and when spring comes, they are in so great a state of destitution, that they are compelled to resort to hunting for a subsistence, instead of turning their attention to agriculture. It has, therefore, been determined, after a full consideration of the subject, that when the annuities are sufficiently large, they shall be divided and paid semi-annually—one-half in the fall, and the other half in the spring. The different tribes have been notified accordingly, and, so far as is known, all cheerfully consent to the arrangement, except one tribe, acting under the influence of interested white men, who are opposed to the change for purposes of their own. The spring payment will so far supply their necessities as to enable them to put in their crops, and, to some extent at least, await their maturing: where not sufficient for the latter purpose, a portion can resort to hunting, and the others remain to attend to the cultivation of the crops; and they will be encouraged to pursue this course. In this way much more attention may be paid to the peaceful and more profitable pursuits of agriculture, which will tend greatly to their advancement in civilization, and to increase the resources and comforts of civilized life among them.

Statements G and H exhibit the investments in stocks on Indian account, and the annual interest thereon; and also the amounts not invested but held in trust by the United States, the interest upon which is annually appropriated by Congress. In conformity with the policy stated in my report of last year, the large sum of \$1,096,564 81, being balances of old appropriations not required for current expenditures, or the objects of which had been accom-

plished, has been carried to the "surplus fund," as the cancelling of such appropriations is usually termed. I also stated in that report, that large balances had accumulated in the hands of some of the agents, and that they had been required in all cases to return all amounts, not needed for expenditure within the last fiscal year, to the Treasury, where they would not only be more safe, but, instead of lying idle with the agents, would be available for other purposes. The sum thus withdrawn from the custody of agents, and replaced in the Treasury, was \$284,849 91.

A large number of claims for land purchased of individual grantees, under various Indian treaties, have been examined during the past year. All sales shown to have been made for a fair and reasonable consideration, and the money either paid or deposited with the Department, have been reported to and approved by the President; and the deeds or other evidences of sale transmitted to the General Land Office, or to the purchasers, with a view to the issuing of patents. Claims for lands purchased of reserves—Indians or persons of Indian descent—under the treaty with the Pottowatomies of October 20, 1832, have also been presented for approval. It appears by an opinion of the Attorney General, that the title in fee simple to these lands still remains with the United States; the reserves having, by the terms or provisions of the treaty, retained only a possessory or usufruct right. The Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottowatomies, in the treaty of 1833, sought to remedy this state of things, and to obtain the title in fee simple with the power to alienate; but the Senate refused its sanction, and the provision was stricken out. Sales having been made, however, of certain portions of these reservations, Congress, by special enactment in 1839, and again in 1841, relinquished the fee simple or reversionary interest of the United States to the purchasers, upon their satisfying the President that they had paid to the reserves a fair and adequate consideration. By the treaty of 1837 with the Pottowatomies, the sum of \$4,000 was stipulated to be paid to one of those reserves for five sections, and Congress, in 1839, appropriated a similar amount for five other sections relinquished to the United States.

There are still a number of sections which are claimed by individual reserves, all of whom, it is believed, have emigrated and are now residing with their brethren west of the Mississippi river. Some have sold to individual purchasers and no doubt received their money; while the others are insisting upon the same compensation from the government which was paid to those who have relinquished to the United States. The lands embraced in these reservations lie in Illinois, are favorably located, and much wanted for settlement and cultivation; and the people of that State are solicitous for the extinguishment in some way of the Indian title, so that they can be brought into market. The peculiar situation of these lands, and the necessity which exists for some speedy action, have thus induced me to bring the subject to your special notice.

A statistical account of the various tribes, including a digest of their industrial means, peculiar habits, resources, and employments

of every kind, is essential to an accurate knowledge of their condition and prospects; and would very materially aid the Department in suggesting the most suitable measures for their improvement. The act of June 27, 1846, requires "a census and statistics to be taken and collected" by the officers of the Department, and a subsequent resolution of the Senate authorizes the Secretary of War to avail himself of all the means at his command, to collect such practical information respecting their "condition, habits, and progress," as may be considered useful and necessary. Neither the act nor resolution, however, provided any specific means for the purpose, or enjoined further action than might be found convenient and practicable, consistently with a proper execution of the current and ordinary duties of the agents and sub-agents. The result of these efforts, so far as the same had then come to hand, was communicated to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the House of Representatives, prior to the adjournment of the last session of Congress, and was printed in report No. 53. From the lateness of the season, and the hurried manner in which the facts and statements had necessarily to be taken, they are probably less accurate than they could have been rendered under other and more favorable circumstances. But they contain important information which has been made the basis of further and more extensive inquiries.

The 5th section of the act of March 3, 1847, makes provision for collecting and digesting "such statistics and materials" as will tend to illustrate the "history, present condition, and future prospects of the Indian tribes of the United States." Under this provision, immediate steps were taken to prepare and issue to the agents and sub-agents, forms for a complete census; and there has also been prepared a list of queries, so arranged as to direct attention to the most useful and important topics. These inquiries have been sent not only to the agents of the Department, but to persons in every quarter of the country, who were supposed to possess the desired information; and, in this manner, an extended interest has been imparted to the subject. The office has endeavored to avail itself of the observations and experience of persons who have passed much of their lives on the frontiers, as well as others, however widely situated, who have directed their researches and given their reflection to the history and condition of the red man, and who feel a benevolent desire for his elevation and improvement. The answers which have already been received are of the most interesting and satisfactory character.

The cause of education is steadily advancing. The effects already experienced have satisfied the Department of its great importance. While tribes remain in the aboriginal or hunter state, there can be no just or adequate appreciation among them of the practical use of letters. Agriculture and the mechanic arts serve to awaken a new interest, by teaching them the true relations they bear to each other and to the civilized community around them. It is at this point that the advantages of education are first seen and appreciated. A knowledge of letters is no longer regarded as an

acquisition, which, though adapted to the wants of the white man, is superfluous and wholly unnecessary among themselves. Such were the opinions heretofore entertained by a large majority of the tribes, but the prejudices of the chiefs and other leading men in favor of the hunter state, and against the introduction and use of letters, are gradually giving way before the steady progress of instruction.

Schools have been kept up and maintained among all the tribes where they had before obtained a footing. In some, the number of teachers and places of instruction have been greatly increased; whilst those who have made the greatest progress, and are farthest advanced in civilization, are asking for a higher order of information, and manifesting an increased interest for the extension to, and more general diffusion of, the benefits of the system among the females.

Time and experience are essential to the development and correct application of all systems of instruction. The practice so long pursued of selecting a few boys from the different tribes, and placing them at our colleges and high schools, has failed to produce the beneficial results anticipated; while the great mass of the tribe at home were suffered to remain in ignorance. It has, therefore, been nearly abandoned, and will be entirely discontinued as soon as existing arrangements will justify a withdrawal of the boys who are now at such institutions, and all the means and resources at the disposal of the Department be applied to the establishment and maintenance of manual labor and other schools in the Indian country. The advantages will in this way be extended to both sexes, and be more generally diffused among the great body of the tribe.

In every system which has been adopted for promoting the cause of education among the Indians, the Department has found its most efficient and faithful auxiliaries and laborers in the societies of the several Christian denominations, which have sent out missionaries, established schools, and maintained local teachers among the different tribes. Deriving their impulse from principles of philanthropy and religion, and devoting a large amount of their own means to the education, moral elevation and improvement of the tribes, the Department has not hesitated to make them the instruments, to a considerable extent, of applying the funds appropriated by the government for like purposes. Their exertions have thus been encouraged, and a greater degree of economy at the same time secured in the expenditure of the public money. And while the schools and academies under their charge have been seen to flourish, the Department has a sure guaranty in the high and sacred obligations under which they act, for the faithful application of the means assigned them.

The accompanying reports will exhibit the progress which has been made during the past year, the present state and condition of the schools, and the increasing interest which the subject of education is attracting among a very large number of the tribes.

It is regretted that no report has yet been received from the

Cherokees, but they are represented to have appropriated the sum of \$35,000 for the establishment of two seminaries, near Talequah—one for males, and the other for females—and to be now engaged in erecting the buildings, which are to be of brick, and in making the other necessary improvements. Besides the neighborhood schools, which are located in the various precincts, the Choctaws have three academies for the instruction of boys, and five seminaries for females; in carrying on and maintaining which they annually expend about \$30,000. The manual labor school established among the Osages, which was placed under the care and superintendence of the Catholic society, went into operation on the 1st June last, and promises to be attended with the most beneficial results.

Arrangements were made during the past summer with the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal church, for the establishment of a manual labor school among the Chickasaws, that tribe having appropriated from their own means the sum of \$5,000 for the erection of the necessary buildings, and \$6,000 annually for carrying on and maintaining the school. Contracts were also entered into—one with the Methodists and the other with the Presbyterians—for the establishment of two manual labor schools at different and convenient points among the Creeks. The sum of \$6,000 was appropriated for the buildings and improvements, and \$4,000 annually for their support in each case. Provision has likewise been made for a manual labor school among the Quapaws, which will probably be ready to go into operation in the spring, under the superintendence of the Methodist church; and a contract has just been closed with the Catholics for a similar institution among the Miamies, for which they have consented to make an annual appropriation from their annuities of \$2,000. These societies, by the terms of the several contracts, are to receive \$50 for every scholar which they shall maintain and educate. This is to include boarding, clothing, stationery, medical attendance, and every other necessary expense.

Efforts have been, and will continue to be made, to induce other tribes, having large annuities, to suffer some part of them to be applied to the extension and maintenance of a system which is so essential to their prosperity and happiness.

One of the most important duties devolving on this office, is the proper administration of the law in relation to the granting of licenses to trade with the Indians. Traders necessarily have the means of acquiring much influence over them, and can exercise much power for good or for evil; and hence great care should be taken to license none but persons of proper character, who will deal fairly, and co-operate with the government in its measures for meliorating the condition of the Indians. The importance of the subject, it is feared, has been too much overlooked, and licenses have been granted to many persons who should never have been permitted to go into the Indian country. In order to give the Department an entire supervision over the system, the law requires that when licenses are granted, they shall be forthwith reported to this office for its approval or disapproval; but this has rarely been done in a proper manner, and in many cases not at all. On looking

into the regulations adopted by one of your predecessors, some years since, they were found to be defective, not being sufficiently specific, nor requiring that care and precaution requisite on the part of the agents and sub-agents. New and more perfect regulations were therefore prepared, and recently adopted by you, a copy of which is annexed (marked B.)

All the agents of the Department concur in the opinion, that the law passed at the last session of Congress, adding the punishment of imprisonment to the fine formerly imposed for introducing or disposing of intoxicating liquors in the Indian country, and making Indians competent witnesses in trials for such offences, will be productive of much good. Its effects have already been sensibly felt. But this great evil can never be very materially diminished until there is some legislation on the part of the States adjacent to the Indian country, to prevent the traffic in ardent spirits along their borders; which, in some places, are said to be lined with dram-shops, to which the Indians resort, and whence the pernicious article is taken into the Indian country in a manner which defies detection. These places are the scenes of frequent broils and disturbances, and sometimes of murders, which may some day lead to very serious consequences, involving the tranquility of the frontier, and the lives of our citizens residing on or near it. Not only good morals and the dictates of humanity, but duty towards their frontier population, would seem to call loudly upon the States referred to, for some stringent and effective measures for the suppression of the evil. With the view of calling the attention of the proper authorities of those States to the subject, you addressed them an earnest letter on the 14th of July last, a copy of which is annexed, (marked D,) to which a reply has been received only from the Governor of Arkansas, also annexed, (marked E.) A copy of the regulations issued for carrying the law into effect, (marked C.) is likewise appended.

Provision having been made for that purpose at the last session of Congress, the Department appointed a special agent to visit the Comanche and other wild tribes in Texas. From his reports, it will be seen that the most friendly understanding continues to exist between those Indians and the United States. Nearly all the tribes, parties to the treaty of 1846, were recently assembled in council, when the agent, Maj. Neighbors, distributed among them the valuable presents which were promised by that treaty. During the council they gave renewed assurances of their determination to observe the several stipulations of the treaty, to refrain from committing depredations, and to live in peace and amity with the people and government of the United States.

In my report of last year, I called your attention to the peculiar situation of these Indians, and to the anomalous character of their relations to the general government. Texas, on coming into the Union, expressly reserved the right to, and exclusive jurisdiction over, all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within her limits. She has accordingly disposed of large tracts, situated in those sections of the State where the Indians have long been accustomed

to hunt, and which they have therefore always considered as belonging to themselves. The purchasers of these tracts have recently been engaged in surveying and marking their boundaries, with a view to the introduction and settlement upon them of a white population. This has been done without first obtaining the consent of the Indians, and, if thus persisted in, will, it is feared, become the means of interrupting those peaceful relations which now so happily exist among these numerous and savage tribes. This subject is one that must necessarily soon commend itself to the attention and serious consideration of the proper authorities.

The unprotected and greatly exposed condition of our fellow-citizens in Oregon, will no doubt attract, as it merits, the attention and early consideration of Congress. The peculiar stipulations under which that territory was so long occupied, have been terminated; but the interests and influences which in the meantime grew up are very far from being removed. Many persons owing allegiance to foreign powers, whose interests and feelings are averse to the extension in that quarter of our rightful authority, are still residing within the acknowledged jurisdiction of the United States. The number of Indians in Oregon has been estimated at about thirty thousand souls. Their knowledge of the relations which they now bear towards the United States, must be extremely limited, whilst their principal trade continues to be carried on with the subjects of foreign governments. The various bands residing in the British possessions, north of the 49th parallel of latitude, and in Upper California, south of the 42d, afford a ready and convenient means of reaching these Indians by persons inimical to the United States, and of exciting among them feelings of dissatisfaction and hostility towards our citizens.

Under these circumstances, the Department, soon after the adjournment of Congress, assumed the responsibility of appointing one of our citizens in Oregon, whose standing and efficiency are well certified, a sub-agent for the various tribes within that territory. He was instructed to visit the different bands, to counsel with and disabuse their minds of any injurious impressions that may have been made upon them, and to endeavor by suitable presents, and by every other proper means within his power, to establish and maintain peaceful and friendly relations between them and the citizens of the United States. No report, however, or other intelligence from this officer has yet been received by the Department.

The reports of the superintendents and agents, exhibit in detail the state of affairs among the various tribes up to this time, and give some indication of their prospects for the future. The strongest feelings by which an Indian in his uncivilized state is actuated, being a passion for war and a desire of revenge for injuries either suffered or fancied, it is a matter of surprise that collisions and bloodshed do not more frequently occur among our more remote tribes, with whom we have but little intercourse, and over whom it is difficult to exercise any control. With the exception of the few cases of difficulty already noticed, however, tranquility has generally prevailed, and continues to prevail among the different

tribes, and between them and our frontier population: and whilst there is much stated in the reports to deplore, in relation to the effects of the use of ardent spirits by the Indians, furnished to them by persons actuated only by a heartless and unhallowed desire of gain, and which greatly embarrasses the government in carrying out the benevolent policy adopted for their moral and social elevation, there is on the other hand many gratifying evidences of a real and substantial improvement in their condition and prospects.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS.

ACCOMPANYING THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

- A. Annuities, instructions in relation to the payment of.
- B. Licenses, regulations concerning the granting of.
- C. Spirituous liquors, regulations concerning the introduction into the Indian country of.
- D. Spirituous liquors, letter of Secretary of War to governors of States on subject of suppressing trade in.
- E. Spirituous liquors, answer of the governor of Arkansas to the letter of the Secretary of War.
- F. Stockbridges, papers relative to the difficulties of the.
- G. Stocks, statement of investments for the Indians in.
- H. Statement of interest appropriated for certain tribes, in lieu of investing the sums provided by treaty, in stocks.

Reports of superintendents, agents, and sub-agents.

- No. 1. Report of Wm. A. Richmond, acting superintendent and agent, Detroit.
- No. 2. Report of James Ord, sub-agent at Sault Ste. Marie.
- No. 3. Report of his Excellency, H. Dodge, superintendent ex officio, Wisconsin.
- No. 4. Report of James P. Hays, sub-agent at La Pointe.
- No. 5. Report of Albert G. Ellis, sub-agent at Green Bay.
- No. 6. Report of Thomas H. Harvey, superintendent, St. Louis.
- No. 7. Report of Richard W. Cummins, agent at Fort Leavenworth.
- No. 8. Report of John Beach, agent for the Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi.
- No. 9. Report of G. C. Matlock, agent, Upper Missouri.
- No. 9½. Report of Thomas Fitzpatrick, agent, Upper Platte and Arkansas.
- No. 10. Report of Amos J. Bruce, agent at St. Peters.
- No. 11. Report of John Miller, agent at Council Bluffs.
- No. 12. Report of Jonathan E. Fletcher, sub-agent for Winnebagoes.
- No. 13. Report of Alfred Vaughan, sub-agent on Osage river.
- No. 14. Report of R. B. Mitchell, sub-agent at Council Bluffs.
- No. 15. Report of Richard Hewitt, sub-agent for the Wyandotts.
- No. 16. Report of Wm. E. Rucker, sub-agent, Great Nemaha.
- No. 17. Report of Samuel M. Rutherford, acting superintendent and agent, Western Territory.
- No. 18. Report of James McKisick, agent for Cherokees.
- No. 19. Report of A. M. M. Upshaw, agent for Chickasaws.
- No. 19½. Report of James Logan, agent for Creeks.

- No. 20. Report of M. Duval, sub-agent for Seminoles.
 No. 21. Report of Wm. P. Angel, sub-agent for New York Indians.
 No. 22. Report of Robt. S. Neighbors, special Indian agent, Texas.
 No. 23. Report of Robt. S. Neighbors, special Indian agent, Texas.
 No. 24. Report of Robt. S. Neighbors, special Indian agent, Texas.
 No. 25. Report of Robt. S. Neighbors, special Indian agent, Texas.

School and farm reports.

- No. 26. Report of F. H. Cumming.—Ottowas of Michigan.
 No. 27. Report of P. Dougherty.—Ottowas of Michigan.
 No. 28. Report of George N. Smith.—Ottowas of Michigan.
 No. 29. Report of P. P. Lefevre.—Ottowas and Chippewas of Michigan.
 No. 30. Report of L. Slater.—Ottowas of Michigan.
 No. 31. Report of W. H. Brockway.—Ottowas and Chippewas of Michigan.
 No. 32. Report of A. Bingham.—Chippewas of Michigan.
 No. 33. Report of S. Hall.—Chippewas of Mississippi.
 No. 34. Report of L. H. Wheeler.—Chippewas of Mississippi.
 No. 35. Report of Thomas H. Williamson.—Sioux.
 No. 36. Report of R. Hopkins.—Sioux.
 No. 37. Report of S. R. Riggs.—Sioux.
 No. 38. Report of R. Hopkins and A. G. Huggins.—Sioux.
 No. 39. Report of J. D. Blanchard.—Delawares.
 No. 40. Report of Francis Barker.—Shawnees.
 No. 41. Report of Edward McKinney.—Ottos and Omahas.
 No. 42. Report of S. Allis.—Pawnees.
 No. 43. Report of David Lowry.—Winnebagoes.
 No. 44. Report of Jonathan Meeker.—Ottowas, west.
 No. 45. Report of E. McCoy.—Pottowatomies.
 No. 46. Report of B. M. Adams.—Weas.
 No. 47. Report of J. F. L. Verreydt.—Pottowatomies.
 No. 48. Report of S. M. Irvin and W. Hamilton.—Sacs and Iowas.
 No. 49. Report of S. Lyda.—Iowa farmer.
 No. 50. Report of J. W. Forman.—Sac and Fox farmer.
 No. 51. Report of Samuel M. Rutherford.—Schools in western territory.

APPENDIX.

A.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, August 30, 1847.

SIR: In placing in your hands for distribution to the several agents for payment to the different tribes of Indians of your superintendency, the annuities due to them for the present year, it becomes necessary to call your attention and that of the agents to the 3d section of an act of Congress approved the 3d of March last, which provides "that all annuities or other moneys, and all goods stipulated by treaty to be paid or furnished to any Indian tribe, shall, at the discretion of the President or Secretary of War, instead of being paid over to the chiefs, or such persons as they shall designate, be divided and paid over to heads of families and other individuals entitled to participate therein; or with the consent of the tribe, be applied to such purposes as will best promote the happiness and prosperity of the members thereof, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of War, not inconsistent with existing treaty stipulation. And no such annuities, or moneys or goods, shall be paid or distributed to the Indians while they are under the influence of any description of intoxicating liquor, nor while there are good and sufficient reasons for the officers and agents, whose duty it may be to make such payments or distribution, for believing that there is any species of intoxicating liquor within convenient reach of the Indians; nor until the chiefs and head-men of the tribe shall have pledged themselves to use all their influence, and to make all proper exertions, to prevent the introduction and sale of such liquor in their country; and all executory contracts made and entered into by any Indian for the payment of money or goods, shall be deemed to be null and void, and of no binding effect whatsoever." These provisions are wise and beneficent, and, if properly carried out according to their spirit and intent, must be productive of the greatest good to those of our Indian tribes to whom annuities are payable. It is probably one of the most salutary laws affecting our Indian relations that has ever been passed. Annuities, especially when large, instead of being the source of benefit and the means of moral and social improvement of the Indians, have but too generally been productive of much evil among them. Instead of being used to procure the necessaries and comforts of life, and to multiply the means and facilities of obtaining a certain and comfortable subsistence, they have too often proved only the fruitful source of bad habits, profligacy, and vice, contributing to the Indian's love of indolence and natural disinclination to anything like continuous and profitable labor.

Under the law, as it heretofore stood, the annuities were payable to the chiefs only, or to such persons as they might designate. When so paid, it was too often the case that the upright and well-disposed reaped little or no benefit from them whatever, the idle and profligate recklessly incurring large debts on the faith of them, which, through improper influences, the chiefs would be induced to recognise and sanction as national and binding on the whole tribe, and ordered to be paid out of their annuities, thus robbing the better class to make good the improvidence of the worse, and producing an oppressive inequality among the individuals of the tribes, discouragement to those who would have made a beneficial use of their just share, and general discontent and dissatisfaction. When the money is paid to the chiefs, and the national credit is based upon their authority, the benefits of the funds of the nation too often enure principally to themselves and their special retainers and friends, and the mass of the tribe get little or nothing, and what they do get, is at a sacrifice of a proper personal independence. The power of the chiefs to make such divisions of the funds as they choose, enables them to control the sentiment and to overawe the individuals of the tribe generally, thus converting what was intended to be a national blessing into a national curse. But when each individual goes to the pay-table and gets his due proportion, it produces a just idea of individual right, and each knows exactly what he has to rely upon, and that beyond it the support and maintenance of himself and family depend upon his own exertions.

The operation of the system of making the payments to the chiefs was also liable to be, and in some cases was, attended with pernicious effects in regard to them. It left the way open, if it did not offer, inducements to their being bribed to allow unjust and unfounded claims against the tribe; and, through the influence and exertions of persons preferring such claims, led to their being depressed or elevated in standing and influence with the tribe, according to their dispositions to oppose such demands, or their willingness to allow them; thus giving rise to dissensions and heart-burnings fatal to peace and harmony among themselves and the tribe.

The full power given to the Department by the law will enable it to check, to a great extent, if not entirely to cure these evils, wherever they exist. Individual payments will put a stop especially to the reckless running into debt to which many of the Indians have become so prone, and the encouragement held out for them to do so, in the expectation that the chiefs can be prevailed on to order payment out of the general annuities.

The power conferred by the law to withhold the annuities when the Indians are under the influence of intoxicating drink, or while there is any liquor within their convenient reach, or when they do not manifest a proper disposition to co-operate with the authorities of the government in their efforts to put a stop to the use of ardent spirits and the nefarious traffic in them in the Indian country, may be made the effective means, to a great extent, of rooting out this great and prevalent evil. The attention of the agents and sub-agents will be called particularly to this subject, and they are re-

quired to use the power thus given by the law in the most equitable manner for the accomplishment of this great object.

Since the passage of the law, letters have been received by the President and this Department from some of the traders and alleged creditors of the Indians against *per capita* payments, which they represent as an innovation upon past usages, and a consequent invasion of their vested rights. But notwithstanding the law heretofore required the annuities to be paid to the chiefs, or to such persons only as they might designate, they have in nearly all cases, for several years past, been induced by their own people to consent to *per capita* payments to the individuals of the tribe, which has accordingly been done, as is shown by the returns in the office of the Second Auditor. The law of the 3d of March is, therefore, no departure from the custom which has prevailed for some years, nor is it any violation of the rights of those who may have claims against the Indians. The money will be paid over to the families and individuals of the different tribes, and they will be free to apply it towards the discharge of their just and acknowledged liabilities.

As the responsible guardian of the interest and welfare of the Indians, and in pursuance of the discretionary power vested in him by the law, the President therefore directs that hereafter all annuities and other money and goods due to the Indians be paid and distributed to heads of families, and to individuals without families entitled to participate therein, unless a different mode of payment or distribution is expressly required by treaty stipulation; in which case, the views of the tribe in general council will be taken; and if the mode prescribed by treaty be insisted on, after a full explanation and due consideration, it will be adopted.

It is alleged by the writers of the letters referred to that the provision of the law declaring null and void executory contracts with the Indians, if applied to past transactions, will be *ex post facto*. As no such question, however, is raised by enjoining *per capita* payments which, as stated, is only in accordance with the course pursued in your superintendency for several years past, it is unnecessary to inquire how far the Indians are capable of making contracts with individuals of a legal and binding nature, being considered in the light of wards under the guardianship of the government. It is certain that no such contracts are provided for, either by law or regulations; are therefore without legal authority, and that they could not be enforced against the Indians, as there are no civil courts or remedies in the Indian country. Before they could be entitled to any consideration from the Department, on moral or equitable principles, they should be shown to have been made under justifiable circumstances, and for a fair and just consideration. Contracts, or other obligations for the payment of money, are said to exist between traders and alleged creditors, and the Pottowatomies and one or two other tribes, which would be carried out, if the government would pay the money to the chiefs. But, as the law was passed, to cure the evils which have resulted from this mode of payment, the President would not be justified in permitting this to

be done, unless fully satisfied that the contracts were made under such circumstances and for such consideration as entitled them to be respected, and as would justify a departure from the policy of the law. This could only be ascertained by the claims on account of which such contracts or obligations were granted being submitted to this Department, with all the facts and circumstances, for investigation and for the consideration of the President.

There is no disposition on the part of the government to interfere with or to throw any obstacle in the way of the payment by the Indians of their just debts, either individual or national. The payment of their annuities to them individually will enable them to discharge those of the former class; and on its being ascertained by a full and fair investigation by the Department, that if any of the tribes owe any, which should justly be considered of the latter class, and which were justified by the circumstances and objects under and for which they were created, no objection will be made to the Indians setting apart such portions of their annuities for their payment as can, properly and consistently with their individual wants and necessities, be spared for that purpose. But all such claims must be presented prior to the first of April next, in order that they may be investigated, and such arrangements made in regard to their payment as may appear to be requisite and proper, prior to the annuity payments next year; and you will please cause all claimants to be notified accordingly. It is a leading object of the Department to have all old transactions with the Indians finally arranged and closed, and that hereafter all intercourse and trade with them may be regulated and conducted according to simple and well defined principles, by which all parties may clearly understand their relative positions, duties, and rights. It must be distinctly understood, however, that hereafter no national debts will be paid or in any manner recognized by the government, unless justified by paramount necessity, and the facts and circumstances rendering their creation necessary be first communicated to the Department, and its assent obtained before any liability whatever is incurred.

It is not intended by the directions herein contained, to debar the Indians from setting apart such portions of their annuities as they may see proper for purely charitable purposes, or for such national objects as may be calculated to improve their condition and to advance their general welfare—such as schools, and the encouragement of agriculture and the mechanic arts, &c. On the contrary, they should be encouraged and stimulated to make such a disposition of a portion of the ample income which they, in most cases, enjoy; as money so applied will result in national and individual benefit, and lessen the means of evil-disposed individuals to indulge in vicious propensities, and render it necessary for all to adopt more industrious habits in order to obtain the necessaries and comforts of life.

Nor are these directions intended to apply to the \$50,000 payable to the Pottowatomies under the 5th article of the treaty of June, 1846, which is set apart for certain specific purposes. It is represented that, at the making of the treaty, there was an understand-

ing as to the manner in which this sum should be paid, and you are authorized to cause it to be paid accordingly.

The case of Joseph Roubideaux, to which you have specially called the attention of the Department, the President is willing to make an exception, in consideration of your having satisfied yourself last year at the annuity payment of the Iowas and the Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri, that his trade with those Indians had for years been fair and liberal; that the Indians admitted, and you were convinced that his claims were just, and that you consented to their giving their written obligations for paying him in three instalments, one of which was paid last year, and promised your influence in having the other two paid this and the next year. Under these circumstances, which constitutes Mr. Roubideaux's case a special one, you are authorized to permit this arrangement to be carried into effect, if still desired by the Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,

Supt. of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

B.

REGULATIONS

CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF LICENSES TO TRADE WITH THE INDIANS.

1st. Licenses to trade with the Indians will be granted only to citizens of the United States, of unexceptionable character, and who are fit persons to be in the Indian country. They will not be granted to any person who may previously have had a license, which was revoked, or the forfeiture of whose bonds was decreed, in consequence of the violation of any of the laws or regulations, or of being an improper person to be in the Indian country.

2d. Licenses will not permit the introduction or sale, in the Indian country, of any description of any intoxicating liquor, any uniform clothing, other than that of the United States, nor any medals, flags, arm bands, or other ornaments of dress bearing the figures, emblems, or devices of any foreign power; nor will they authorize any trade with a tribe or tribes with which intercourse may have been prohibited by the President of the United States.

3d. The applications for licenses must be made in writing, to the proper agent or sub-agent; or in case of their absence or inability to act, to the superintendent of the district in which the tribe or tribes may be located, with which the license to trade is desired.

4th. The application must set forth the name and residence of the person or persons desiring the license; and if a firm, the style

and designation thereof; the place or places where it is proposed to carry on the trade; the amount of capital to be employed at each place, and the names and capacities of the agents, clerks, and other persons it is proposed to employ therein, or in connexion therewith. If such persons be not known to the officer to whom the application is made, satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable character and fitness to be in the Indian country must accompany the application.

5th. If, after the license shall have been granted, it be desired to employ other persons than those named therein, either to fill vacancies or otherwise, their names, the capacity in which it is proposed to employ them, and if not known, satisfactory testimonials, as required in the preceding paragraph, must first be furnished to the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent, as the case may be, and his permission in writing obtained therefor. On such permission being given, the fact will immediately be reported to the Department, with the names and capacities of all such persons, and the names and capacities of those in whose places any of them are to be employed. A separate list of persons, other than citizens of the United States, permitted by law to be employed by traders in the Indian country, such as "foreign boatmen and interpreters," will be transmitted annually on the 30th September, for the previous year, to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

6th. All licenses will be in the form hereto annexed, and will embrace the same particulars required by the first sentence of paragraph four, to be stated in the application. No trade will be permitted with any other tribe or tribes, or at any other place or places, than those specified in the license.

7th. When the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent shall have determined to grant a license, the same, duly executed, will, before being delivered, be transmitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs "for his approval or disapproval," as required by the 2d section of the act of June 30, 1834, "to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes," &c., and will be accompanied by the application and the testimonials in favor of the persons to be employed. In case any of those persons are so far favorably known to the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent, that he does not consider testimonials in their favor necessary, they may be dispensed with, by his endorsing on the application accordingly, prior to its transmission with the license.

8th. The bond required by law to be given by the person or persons to whom a license may be granted, that they "will faithfully observe all the laws and regulations made for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and in no respect violate the same," will be according to the annexed form. Duly executed, and approved by the person issuing the license, who will also certify to the sufficiency of the sureties, it will be transmitted, with the license and other papers, to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

9th. No license will be granted for a longer period than one year; but, at the end of that time, if the agent, sub-agent, or superintend-

ent be satisfied that the trade has been conducted properly, and that the laws and regulations of the Department, and the terms of the license, were duly observed, new licenses may be granted without the formality required by the fourth paragraph of these regulations, a new bond being given and transmitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, as provided for in paragraph eighth.

10th. The principals of all trading establishments will be held responsible for the conduct and acts of the persons in their employ in the Indian country; and an infraction of any of the terms or conditions of a license, or any of the laws or regulations, by such persons, will be considered good and sufficient cause for revoking the license, in the same manner as if committed by the principals themselves.

11th. Before new or additional goods are carried into the Indian country for the purpose of trade, notice thereof shall be given to the proper agent or sub-agent; and a copy of the invoices thereof, together with a list of the old goods on hand at the time, and their value, shall be furnished the said agent or sub-agent, under oath, or otherwise satisfactorily verified, so that the Department may, at different periods, be advised of the quantity and description of goods on hand at any trading establishment.

12th. Any license may be revoked by the proper superintendent whenever, in his opinion, the person or persons licensed, or any of those in his or their employ, "shall have transgressed any of the laws or regulations made for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, or that it would be improper to permit them to remain in the Indian country." Any infraction of the laws or regulations, or of any of the terms and conditions of a license, with all the circumstances connected therewith, and all improper conduct on the part of traders, or any person in their employ in the Indian country, will be reported without delay to the superintendent of the district within which the same shall have occurred, in order that he may take into consideration the propriety of revoking the license: All cases of licenses refused or revoked, with all the facts and circumstances, will be promptly reported to the Department, a right of appeal to which, in such cases, is reserved to those feeling themselves aggrieved.

W. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, November 9, 1847.

Form of licenses.

Be it known that [name or names in full and place of residence of each; and if a firm, add, partners trading under the name and firm of ———, giving the style or designation of the firm,] having filed his [their] application before me for a license to trade with the [name of the tribe] tribe of Indians, at the following named place [places] within the boundaries of the country occupied by the

said tribe, viz: [*name, if any, and specific locality of place or places,*] and having executed and filed with me a bond in the penal sum of [*amount of bond*] dollars, with [*name sureties*] as sureties, conditioned as required by law, for the faithful observance of all the laws and regulations provided for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, humanity, and correct business habits of the said applicant [*applicant*], and being satisfied that he [*they*] is a citizen [*are citizens*] of the United States, as required by law, he is [*they are*] hereby authorized to carry on the business of trading with the said [*name of tribe*] tribe of Indians at the above named place [*any one or all of the above named places*] for the term of one year from the date hereof, and to keep in his [*their*] employ thereat the following named persons, or any of them, in the capacities affixed to their names respectively, viz: [*names and capacities of employees,*] all of which persons I am satisfied from my own knowledge, or from the testimonials which have been placed in my hands, sustain a fair character, and are fit to be in the Indian country.

Given under my hand and seal this — day of —, eighteen hundred and —.

[*Signature, official title, and seal.*]

Form of bond.

Know all men by these presents: That we [*name in full of the person or persons licensed and of their sureties, together with the place or places of residence of each, as in the license,*] are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the sum of dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, and each of us, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents; sealed with our seals, and dated this day of —, one thousand eight hundred and forty —.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas [*name and title of agent, sub-agent, superintendent, or acting superintendent,*] hath granted to the said [*name of person or persons licensed as above*] a license, dated [*date of license,*] to trade for one year with the [*name of tribe*] tribe of Indians, at the following described place [*places*] within the boundaries of the country occupied by the said tribe, viz: [*name, if any, and designation of locality of the place or places.*]

Now, if the said [*name of the person or persons licensed,*] so licensed, shall faithfully conform to, and observe all the laws and regulations made, or which shall be made, "for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and in no respect violate the same," and shall trade at the aforesaid place [*places*] and no other, and shall in all respects act conformably with the license

granted to him [*them,*] then this obligation to be void, else to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed and sealed in presence of

[SEAL.]
[SEAL.]
[SEAL.]

Circular to superintendents, agents, and sub-agents.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, November 17, 1847.

SIR: In transmitting for your information and future guidance the enclosed regulations concerning the granting of licenses to trade with the Indians, I desire to call your attention at the same time and in connexion therewith, to the 13th, 14th, and latter clause of the 15th sections of the "Act to regulate trade and intercourse with Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," approved 30th of June, 1834; and likewise to the 21st and 22d paragraphs of Revised Regulations, No. IV., adopted May 13, 1837, copies of which are doubtless in your possession, or if not, can be readily obtained on application to the proper superintendent, or to this office.

Recent occurrences in the Indian country, the peace of the frontier, and the unwarrantable interference of certain white persons with the administration of the affairs of this Department, especially at some of the late payments, call for the utmost vigilance on the part of the officers of the government, and a prompt and rigorous enforcement of these just and salutary provisions of law.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

C.

REGULATIONS.

The attention of all the officers and agents of the government in the Indian country, and of all persons residing or entering therein, under license or permission, is called to the 20th and 21st sections of the act of June 30th, 1834, and to the 2d section of an act, approved the 3d of March, ultimo, the great object of which is to save our Indian population from the ruinous effects of the use of intoxicating liquors.

These laws impose upon commanding officers* of military posts,

and superintendents of Indian affairs, agents, and sub-agents, the following duties :

1st. To cause promptly to be prosecuted, any and all persons guilty of giving, or in any way disposing of spirituous liquor or wine to an Indian, in the Indian country, or of introducing, or attempting to introduce the same therein ; such persons, in the one case, being liable to a fine of five hundred dollars and imprisonment for two years ; and, in the other, to a fine of three hundred dollars and imprisonment for one year.

2d. To search for any spirituous liquor or wine which there is reason to believe has been, or is about being introduced into the Indian country, which is not intended as a part of the military supplies authorized by this Department, and, if found, to destroy it ; and to seize upon the property of the person guilty of the offence, with which the same may be found, and deliver it over to the proper officer, to be proceeded against by libel in the proper court ; such property being liable to forfeiture, one half to the use of the informer, and the other to that of the United States. It is also the duty of any person, in any way in the employment of the government—and the same may be done by any Indian—to destroy any spirituous liquor or wine found in the Indian country.

3d. If the person guilty of introducing, or of attempting to introduce, spirituous liquor or wine into the Indian country, be a trader, it is the duty of the proper superintendent, agent or sub-agent immediately to revoke his license and to put his bond in suit.

4th. To destroy any distillery in the Indian country for the manufacture of ardent spirits, and to cause to be promptly prosecuted any person or persons who may erect or carry on such distillery, in order to recover the fine of one thousand dollars prescribed for such offence.

It is also provided that in all prosecutions for the offences mentioned in the first of the foregoing heads, Indians shall be competent witnesses.

All military officers in the Indian country, and the superintendents, agents, and sub-agents of the Indian Department, are required and enjoined to be vigilant and active in the execution of the duties imposed upon them by these laws, which are appended hereto for their more particular information as to the nature and extent of their respective duties ; and it is expected that all other persons in the employment of the government, or who are licensed or permitted to be in the Indian country, will, on every occasion, aid those officers and agents in the most effectual manner in their power.

Any omission on the part of the officers of, and persons employed in the Indian Department, particularly, or on the part of those licensed or permitted to be in the Indian country, to do all that can justly and fairly be done to put an end to the infamous traffic with the Indians, in or through intoxicating liquors, will be regarded as good cause for their removal in the one case, or in the other for the revocation of their licenses or permits.

Now that Indians are made competent witnesses in our courts, for

the purpose of further enabling the government to destroy an evil which has been so destructive of their best interests and happiness, it is expected that the chiefs and others, who desire the welfare and prosperity of their people, will cooperate with the agents of the government in arresting this great source of mischief to the Indian race. Those who fail to do so by every proper means in their power cannot be regarded as desiring or caring for either.

By the 3d section of the act of the 3d ultimo, it is provided that "no annuities, or moneys, or goods, shall be paid or distributed to the Indians while they are under the influence of any description of intoxicating liquor; nor while there are good and sufficient reasons for the officers or agents, whose duty it may be to make such payments or distribution, for believing that there is any species of intoxicating liquor within convenient reach of the Indians; nor until the chief and head-men of the tribe shall have pledged themselves to use all their influence, and to make all proper exertions to prevent the introduction and sale of such liquor in their country."

W. L. MARCY.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *April 13, 1847.*

"AN ACT to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," approved June 30th, 1834.

"SECTION 20. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person shall sell, exchange, or give, barter, or dispose of any spirituous liquor or wine to an Indian, (in the Indian country,) such person shall forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars; and if any person shall introduce, or attempt to introduce, any spirituous liquor or wine into the Indian country, except such supplies as shall be necessary for the officers of the United States and troops of the service, under the direction of the War Department, such person shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars; and if any superintendent of Indian affairs, Indian agent, or sub-agent, or commanding officer of a military post, has reason to suspect, or is informed, that any white person or Indian is about to introduce, or has introduced, any spirituous liquor or wine into the Indian country, in violation of the provisions of this section, it shall be lawful for such superintendent, Indian agent, or sub-agent, or military officer, agreeably to such regulations as may be established by the President of the United States, to cause the boats, stores, packages, and places of deposit of such person to be searched, and if any such spirituous liquor or wine is found, the goods, boats, packages, and peltries of such persons shall be seized and delivered to the proper officer, and shall be proceeded against by libel in the proper court, and forfeited, one half to the use of the informer, and the other half to the use of the United States; and if such person is a trader, his license shall be revoked and his bond put in suit. And it shall moreover be lawful for any person in the service of the United States, or for any Indian, to take and destroy any ardent

spirits or wine found in the Indian country, excepting military supplies as mentioned in this section.

“SECTION 21. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person whatever, shall, within the limits of the Indian country, set up or continue any distillery for manufacturing ardent spirits, he shall forfeit and pay a penalty of one thousand dollars; and it shall be the duty of the superintendent of Indian affairs, Indian agent, or sub-agent, within the limits of whose agency the same shall be set up or continued, forthwith to destroy and break up the same; and it shall be lawful to employ the military force of the United States in executing that duty.”

“AN ACT to amend an act entitled ‘An act to provide for the better organization of the Department of Indian Affairs,’ and an act entitled ‘An act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers,’ approved March 3d, 1847.

“SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the twentieth section of the ‘act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers,’ approved June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, be, and the same is hereby so amended, that, in addition to the fines thereby imposed, any person who shall sell, exchange or barter, give, or dispose of, any spirituous liquor or wine to an Indian, in the Indian country, or who shall introduce, or attempt to introduce, any spirituous liquor or wine into the Indian country, except such supplies as may be necessary for the officers of the United States and the troops of the service, under the direction of the War Department, such person, on conviction thereof before the proper district court of the United States, shall, in the former case, be subject to imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years, and in the latter case not exceeding one year, as shall be prescribed by the court, according to the extent and criminality of the offence. And in all prosecutions arising under this section, and under the twentieth section of the act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers, approved June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and thirty-four, to which this is an amendment, Indians shall be competent witnesses.”

D.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *July 14, 1847.*

SIR: I would respectfully, but earnestly, invoke the aid of the executive and other authorities of Missouri, Arkansas and Iowa, in the efforts which this Department is now making, to suppress the traffic with the Indians in ardent spirits. The most stringent laws have been passed by Congress for this purpose, but as these

are operative only in the Indian country, they fail to reach the most prolific source of this great evil, which is within the limits of the States adjoining our Indian territory.

It would be a useless task to depict to you the extent of the injuries which this instrument of evil has inflicted upon the red race of this continent. They are well known to you in common with the whole country. There can be no doubt that to it more than to any other agency, is to be attributed the rapid decline of that race in morals as well as numbers.

While the Indians remained in the States, surrounded by and intermixed with a vicious white population, who preyed upon them by corrupting their morals and taking advantage of their weaknesses, there was but little, if any, chance to interpose with any effect to shield them from the debasing influence of ardent spirits; but, now that they have been removed entirely beyond our white settlements, and no one is permitted to enter their country without permission from the proper authorities of the United States, the hope is entertained that, with the co-operation of the States along whose borders they are located, this evil may be materially checked, if not entirely overcome.

I have the honor to transmit herewith, a copy of regulations issued a short time since, to which are appended the existing provisions of laws for preventing the introduction of ardent spirits and the traffic in them in the Indian country. These laws give the Department and its agents such control as will enable it, to a great extent, to prevent intoxicating liquors being taken into the Indian country for purposes of traffic, either by licensed traders or others. But a comparatively small part of the injury suffered by the Indians has, however, arisen from the use of spirits introduced in this way. The risk is too great to encounter it to any considerable extent. The principal mischief is done by and through the dram-shops and traders in the article along the lines between the States and the Indian country. Indians cross the line and visit those shops, where they are permitted to indulge freely so long as they have the means of paying. They frequently awake to consciousness only to find that they have been plundered of their money, their rifles, their blankets, and everything of value they brought with them, which they are told they have traded for whiskey, or gambled away while in a state of intoxication. Not satisfied with such opportunities of selling liquor to the poor Indian, the traders in it within the State lines send emissaries, who are generally corrupted Indians of both sexes, with it in such quantities as they can easily carry and conceal, who barter it away to the Indians. In all cases the Indian is wronged, cheated, robbed; and the consequence is, the engendering of a feeling of unfriendliness, if not of revenge, against the white man for these great injuries. Whatever insecurity there may be for our frontier population, it is mainly, if not entirely caused in this manner. It is, therefore, a high and imperative duty, both of the General and State governments, not only to the Indians, but also to our own citizens, to make every effort to break up this nefarious traffic along the State lines. Without the co-operation of the State

authorities, this can never be done. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that you present the subject to the notice of the legislature of your State, and recommend the enactment of such laws as, in your judgment, will best tend to effect the great and important end in view.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. L. MARCY.

His Excellency, J. EDWARDS,

Governor of Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo:

“ “ T. D. DREW,

Governor of Arkansas, Little Rock, Ark.

“ “ —, *Governor of Iowa, Burlington, Iowa.*

E.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Little Rock, July 28, 1847.

SIR: Yours of the 14th instant is just at hand, urging the necessity of co-operation on the part of the State governments on the Indian border with that of the General Government, for the suppression of the sale of ardent spirits to the Indians on the frontier, and requesting the executive to bring the subject to the notice of the legislature.

Notwithstanding my efforts had been used to this end by a special message to the general assembly of this State in 1844, without any sensible effect, be assured, sir, that it will still be my purpose, by drawing to it the attention of the next legislature, to prepare the way, by a gradual course, in the enactment of fit and proper laws for its suppression.

In our community it is found difficult to pass stringent enactments of this kind, and more difficult to enforce them, in advance of the establishment of public opinion on the side of law and order. Mild and salutary laws—going but half way in the accomplishment of an object like this—will doubtless succeed. This much will go to strengthen public opinion, which, in the end, will itself call for the most stringent prohibitory enactments, and afford a guaranty of their execution.

The facilities for evading the force of law about the Indian line are too well understood by corrupt men to hope that this great evil is to meet with a speedy and successful remedy.

In the district court of the United States, while sitting here for the trial of offences, the subject of jurisdiction appears to be involved in almost every case I have witnessed, and new points are continually arising, notwithstanding a prior settlement of almost similar cases, presenting, perhaps, but a shadow of difference—such as not to be perceptible to the uninformed. It is impossible to anticipate these apparently small difficulties, which, with the causes I

have adverted to, may possibly delay the extinguishment of the evils complained of.

Would it not materially aid those engaged in the execution of the laws now in force, and such as may be enacted by the States on the Indian border, to cause to be published such portions of the intercourse law as are pertinent, accompanied by settled points of jurisdiction, in many of the newspapers on the frontier for a considerable time, that every reading man may have a chance to familiarize himself with the law—that it may become a topic, out of which much good may grow from free discussion, in the way of establishing in the community that state of public opinion to which I have alluded, and which is believed to be so essential to success.

With sentiments of respect, I am yours, &c.,

THOS. S. DREW.

Hon. WM. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

F.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY, GREEN BAY,
December 23, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: In obedience to your instructions, dated the 3d September last, covering those of the Hon. Mr. Medill, of the 18th August last, directing the sub-Indian agent, at Green Bay, to carry into effect certain provisions of an act of Congress, approved 6th of August, 1846, entitled an act to repeal "An act for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians, in the Territory of Wisconsin, approved March 3d, 1843, and for other purposes," I proceeded, on the 6th day of September last, as commissioner for that purpose, to Stockbridge, the place of residence of these Indians, and convened them in council.

The instructions of your excellency, with those of the Hon. Mr. Medill, and the act of Congress of 6th August last, were read and explained to them. After which, a "book of enrolment" was opened for the entry of "the names of all such person of the tribe as should desire to become and remain citizens of the United States," and all such invited to come forward and enter their names.

After some deliberation, those of the Stockbridges, usually denominated "the citizen party," intimated, through one of their leading men, that it was doubtful whether they would enrol their names, giving an opinion that they were already "citizens of the United States," and that no further proceedings now could strengthen their title to that prerogative.

Willing to afford them time for due consideration, I informed them that the law required the commissioner to keep the book open for the term of three months, "within which time it shall be the duty of all desiring citizenship to come forward in person and make their application;" that upon the expiration of that time,

which would be on the 16th day of December then ensuing, the book would be closed. I further informed them that the book would be kept at the office of the sub-agent of Indian affairs at this place, (Green Bay,) and accessible at all times, during the three months, to any person of the Stockbridges who might wish to apply for citizenship and enrolment of his or her name.

Agreeably thereto, the book was so kept open the full time of three months. On the 16th day of December instant, I again repaired to Stockbridge, and assembled the tribe, informed them that the three months was about expiring, and invited such of them, if any there were, as "wished to become and remain citizens of the United States," to come forward and make their applications. None such appeared, or made application for citizenship, and the book was closed.

Accompanying this report is a paper marked A. which was handed to me by Mr. *John Chick*, one of the Stockbridges, with a request that I would forward it to the War Department with my report.

About the 1st of December instant, the *Rev. Cutting Marsh*, a respectable Presbyterian clergyman, and for many years past a missionary (of the American board of foreign missions) to the Stockbridges, called at this office with a view specially to confer with me on the subject-matter of the act of Congress of August 6th, 1846, and to ask me to embody in my report, (when it should be made,) and present to the War Department, his views in relation thereto.

Considering that his long residence among that people, and his unblameability of character entitled his opinions, and especially his statements of facts, to no ordinary weight, and being unwilling to incur the risk of mis-stating either his opinions or evidence, I requested him to reduce them to writing. He has done so, and they are herewith submitted in the paper marked B. The only part of his paper that needs any explanation from me, is that part in which he speaks of the north part and the south part of the reservation, and the anticipated exchange of lands, and removal of individuals from one part to the other. The explanation is, that the *Indian party*, so called, have arranged the thing in advance so as to take the north part of the reservation themselves, and leave the south part to the *citizen party*; as they now live promiscuously throughout the reservation, they would require removals both ways.

Having proceeded thus far, and none of them having made application for citizenship, there appeared to me but one class of persons to be recognized among them, so far as the act of 6th August, 1846, is concerned, to wit: Indians. At least, the proceeding to enrol applicants for citizenship had made no division of the tribe. I doubt not, however, that the question being reversed, and such as wished to become and remain Indians, being invited to enrol, a separation of the parties would at once be produced. I did not, however, feel authorized to make this test under the act, or without further instructions.

There are some difficulties of rather a serious character in the way of carrying this act into effect; they are alluded to by the Rev. Mr. Marsh. The principal one appears to be, that the reservation has been parcelled out, surveyed into lots with metes and bounds, and divided among the Stockbridges, under the act of 1843; that many of the lots so surveyed, and set apart to individuals, have been sold in a most formal manner to sundry innocent purchasers. It would be impossible to divide the reservation into *two districts*, as contemplated by the act of August 6, 1846, without disregarding entirely the proceedings already had under the act of 1843.

There is a lamentably bad state of feeling between the two parties—to such a degree as forbids all hope of any amicable arrangement between them; the government will then probably be under the necessity of interfering in some way.

I respectfully submit this report to your excellency, and ask for further instructions.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

To his Excellency, HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison, W. T.

Postscript.—I am this moment waited on by one of the "Indian party" of the Stockbridges, as a special messenger, with a complaint that the authorities under the laws of Wisconsin, in their township government in Stockbridge, are enforcing the collection of taxes of the Indians, as heretofore, under the act of 1843.

They wish to be informed if there is no way of stopping the proceeding. They are advised by good lawyers that it is illegal, which is clearly my own opinion; and I have so informed their messenger. At the same time, I know of no power that can be exercised, by the sub-Indian agent, to arrest the proceeding.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

STOCKBRIDGE, W. T., *November 20, 1846.*

The undersigned committee, by request of a great portion of the male inhabitants of the town, formerly of the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, would respectfully state to you, that they are citizens of the United States, and that their lands have been divided according to law, and in accordance with the fundamental law of the Stockbridge nation; and that they see no necessity or propriety of troubling the government of the United States, or its agency, of making a second application for citizenship, which have already been granted to them, and are recognized as such in courts of records; and furthermore, are recognized as such by the opinions of three of the

ablest and most learned counsels of the Territory. Now, sir, considering all these circumstances, we see no necessity of making further movement about the matter—that we are well satisfied to rest under the operation of the act of 1843.

In regard to their money matters, they would respectfully state that the Stockbridge people were secured by the said act of 1843, as it can be seen, if it were properly noticed, in the last section of the act—that they shall receive all their moneys due them from the United States as though the act had never been passed.

Notwithstanding some portion of the moneys to which they are justly entitled have been withheld for some years back, while they remained as a tribe or nation of Indians, and since they became citizens of the United States, they still strongly hope that the officers over to all the Stockbridge people residing in Wisconsin, all the moneys due them from the United States; and also to have the same, when ready for disbursement, to be placed in the hands of the Indian agent, with instructions to distribute it among said people in the same manner as their lands have been disposed, and not to have the officers withhold it as a penalty for their becoming citizens.

We cannot yet believe that it is the intention of the officers of the general government to wrong us, as it were, with their eyes open.

We subscribe ourselves as yours, most respectfully,

JOHN W. ABRAMS,
DANIEL DAVID,
JOSEPH L. CHICKS,
JOHN N. CHICKS,
TIMOTHY JOURDAN,

Committee.

To A. G. ELLIS, U. S. Sub-Indian Agent.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY, GREEN BAY,
January 14, 1847.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: On the 23d of December ultimo, I had the honor to submit to your excellency a report of my doings under the act of Congress of the 6th of August, 1846, "to repeal an act entitled an act for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians," &c.

Soon after the 16th December last, when I closed the "book of enrolment," (which had been kept open for the three months, as required by the law,) the "sachem" of this tribe, Mr. Austin Quinney, called on me to declare the tract occupied by them, which had been their reservation previous to the passage of the act for their relief, approved March 3d, 1843, *Indian country*, and to notify the white inhabitants to leave the boundaries of the same. This request was made by him on the grounds that no person of the tribe having *applied for citizenship* while the book of enrolment was kept open, the whole tribe was to be regarded as Indians, and, of course,

the reservation as Indian country. I stated to the "sachem" that I did not consider the action of the Department, under the act of 1846, for their relief, as yet complete; that further instructions might possibly be received which would require an enrolment of those wishing to "become and remain Indians;" the which, if done, would at once produce a division of the tribe; which, it appeared to me, might be done in accordance with the law. They, however, appeared impatient, and intimated an intention to set up their former government with rigor over the whole reservation.

In the meantime, a person assuming to be a *collector*, under the territorial township government, was demanding of these Indians the payment of certain *taxes* for the support of the town and county government. I promptly advised this collector of my opinion that these people could not be legally taxed since the passage of the act of 1846, which "restored the Stockbridges to their ancient privileges." The collector, however, disregarded these admonitions, and proceeded to distrain property for these taxes. This was, to some extent, resisted by the Indians, though the collector, seconded with the aid of "the citizen party," succeeded in seizing a considerable amount of property.

The Indians became excited, and invited the Oneidas to aid them, with a force of numbers, to retake their property from the collector and the citizen party. On Friday last, when I arrived there, I found a force of some thirty Oneidas, and as many Stockbridges, assembled; they had already, the day before, broken open several buildings, entered some two or three houses of citizen Indians and white men, and retaken property. This state of things was producing a state of feeling which, it appeared to disinterested observers, would soon lead to *bloodshed*.

I immediately assembled the Indians. I advised the Oneidas that their proceedings were ill-advised, and that they should repair to their village without delay.

I then counselled the Stockbridges that they should suspend further action in pursuing after distrained property, and to disperse to their several places of abode until the matter could be referred to the superintendent for his direction.

The complaints of the Stockbridges are—

1. That, although Congress has passed an act (of 1846) to restore them to their ancient privileges, still it is disregarded by the citizen party and the whites, who are endeavoring to compel them to pay taxes.

2. That the white families, some twelve in number, who have got into their reservation under the act of 1843, are not yet removed; and that, until they are, they will have no benefit from the act of 1846, passed for their relief.

The whole case is surrounded with difficulties. Under the act of 1843, the whole reservation was laid off and surveyed into small lots, and apportioned to the different individuals of the tribe. The whites who are on the reservation have, as they allege, purchased in good faith, paid valuable consideration, and made valuable im-

provements. They evince a willingness to refer the matter to the judicial tribunals.

For the present, quiet is, I believe, restored in that village; but the exasperated feeling of the parties is such, particularly of the Indian party, that it will probably ere long again be disturbed.

Enclosed herewith is respectfully submitted the communications of Messrs. Marsh and Colman, and others, touching this matter.

I respectfully ask that the matter may engage the early attention of the Department, and that an expression may be given as to whether any further action will be ordered under the act of 6th August, 1846.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

To his Excellency, **HENRY DODGE,**
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison, Wisconsin Territory.

STOCKBRIDGE, *December 3, 1846.*

DEAR SIR: At your request I will mention some of the difficulties which appear to me to be in the way of carrying into effect the act of 1846, for the relief of a portion of the Stockbridge Indians, called the "Indian party," unless it is altered or modified in some form.

In the first place, the Indian party, as well as the citizens, availed themselves of the act of 1843, and have sold lands in every part of the township or reservation, and have given warrantee deeds. There are but few of the Indian party but what have sold, some more and others less, land under that act; amongst these are the two leading men of the party, viz: John W. Quinney and Austin E. Quinney; and the same may be said of the citizen party with regard to sales of land.

Said lands were sold by both parties, and deeds given in good faith; if any advantage has been taken in any instance, it has not come to my knowledge. Neither has any land been bought for ardent spirits, or when the owners were intoxicated. Provided said sales should be declared null and void, not one who has thus sold land has the means of remunerating the purchasers for the original cost and interest. But, upon some, considerable improvements have already been made by the purchasers, who are now actually occupying them; and how are these citizens to be repaid, as the Indians have not the means? The citizens who are now occupying these lands are, without exception, sober, industrious men, and are not able to lose what they have paid out, as well as the improvements.

The farms in the north and south parts of the township are of unequal value. There are, for example, two of the citizen party in the northern part who will have to remove if the act is carried into effect; and one of them has a valuable framed barn, but there is only one framed barn in the southern part, and that is not worth

half as much as the one he now has. Who is to pay these men the balance for what they have to give up? for the Indian party have not the means. The same is the case with regard to the Indian party; some of them have valuable farms in the southern part of the township, which they must leave; but who shall remunerate them for what they have to give up in case of removal? The citizen party certainly cannot do it in a single instance. More than this, the Indian party, according to the late act, contemplate, I am informed, depriving hereafter the citizen party of moneys received from the United States, which will render them less able to pay any balance.

If it is said that the \$6,000 which the nation is expecting to receive from the government must be taken to enable them to make the transfers, and pay their creditors for lands, &c., I reply, the nation now owes a heavy debt which, with the individual debts, will require more than that sum of money to pay, aside from their sales of land.

But there is another feature in the recent act which appears to me truly surprising, and that is, it contemplates depriving the citizen party, after enrolment, of any moneys from the United States.

This appears to me to be placing very serious obstacles in the way of Indians becoming citizens, instead of encouraging it, as it appears to me true philanthropy would. The very munificent appropriations of money from government, in years past, for the promotion of education amongst Indians has appeared to me to be dictated by such a spirit; and especially the pains taken to encourage schools by the government, has said to the civilized world, and particularly to the Indians, the object is to elevate them in the scale of intellectual beings—to induce them to abandon the pagan state, and raise them to a level with civilized men, and to all the privileges and enjoyments of such a state. If this is not the object, I would say, far better never appropriate another dollar to the hitherto supposed most laudable object of civilizing the Indians. Because a useless expenditure of money, to elevate them a little, and not continue to do it until they arrive to that state in which they are qualified to become citizens; because when a beginning has once been made there should be no stopping place until they reach this point. In the half civilized state they are incapable of self-government, nor are they qualified to become citizens. If they are to be abandoned, better do it in the pagan state than to elevate them a little and then do it; because *total ignorance* suits the no-government state of all uncivilized Indians much the best. But there is still another objectionable feature. If the Indians are told that the government will have no sympathy for them, so soon as they leave the Indian state, what a damper that will put upon all efforts to instruct their children. How paradoxical to say to the Indian, instruct your children, we will appropriate money and send you teachers, &c., but if you rise so high in the attainment of knowledge, and of the useful arts, as to be prepared to leave the Indian state and take your place amongst civilized men, we will have no sympathy for you! What a disappointment of long-

cherished hopes, on the part of the Indians, and what a waste of time on the part of teachers and missionaries! That the Indians are capable of being raised to a level with civilized white men, I have most abundant reason to believe, after a residence of many years amongst them. There is another consideration of great moment, which I would urge upon the attention of every true philanthropist, and that is, that civilization and christianity united can alone save the Indian from entire extinction. The Indian state must pass away—it is among the things which have become old, and is ready to vanish away. This state is a most powerless, destructive thing to the true interests of mankind. And leave the Indians to the native state, and in a few generations there will not be a tribe within the limits of the United States. God has made the earth to be inhabited—the Indians in their native state will not do it. But the population of our own country and foreign emigration are going to multiply, replenish, and subdue the earth in these United States; and what, then, must become of the Indians who will not do it, or avail themselves of civilization, and thus aid in accomplishing the purpose of the Creator?

Yours, very truly,

CUTTING MARSH.

To A. G. ELLIS,

U. S. Sub-Indian Agent, Green bay.

STOCKBRIDGE, *January 15, 1847.*

DEAR SIR: The circumstances in which we are placed, compel us to address you, and claim your protection against the outrages and violence of mob law that prevails in this town at present, and to all appearances is likely to continue, unless effectual measures are taken to prevent it. The Indian party of the Stockbridge people have called in the assistance of the Oneidas to aid them in resisting the execution of the laws of the United States, in the collection of taxes among them, and it is supposed that some thirty or forty are now on the spot for this purpose. Yesterday, under the guidance of the headmen of the Stockbridges, they broke open one barn, and entered houses wherever they chose, in search of property that had been taken for taxes—no place being secure against their violence. Unless some effectual measures are speedily taken to keep the Oneidas at home, and prevent such outrages in future, we fear that life will be sacrificed in this unfortunate affair.

Yours, with great respect,

CUTTING MARSH,
HENRY R. COLEMAN,
LEMUEL GOODELL,
JOHN C. WHITNEY,
JESSE MILLS.

- Mr. A. G. ELLIS,

U. S. Sub-Indian Agent, Green Bay.

GREEN BAY, December 24, 1846.

DEAR SIR: The "Indian party" of the Stockbridge Indians have just applied to me for counsel and advice in their present difficulties. It appears that notwithstanding the passage of the law by Congress at its last session for their "relief," they are still harassed and threatened with the enforcement of the laws of our Territory for the collection of taxes. Their lands have been again assessed and taxed, and a collector (a white man) has called upon them for the payment of the taxes assessed upon *their Indian lands*, and threatens to levy on and sell their cattle, and other personal property, to pay these illegal and unjust exactions. I have advised them to refuse payment, and peaceably and quietly to resist their collection; and I deem it proper to notify you of this unfortunate state of things, in order that you may notify the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, so that the authority of the government may be interposed to prevent the enforcement of unjust impositions; and to stay the proceedings of a few designing white men, who have got amongst them, and create great vexation and trouble between the two parties of these harmless and much injured people. Unless something is done to prevent it, I fear some unfortunate collision between the parties may be the consequence.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

HENRY S. BAIRD,

Attorney for Indian party.

A. G. ELLIS, Esq.,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, April 16, 1847.

SIR: The pressure of business towards the close of the late session of Congress, and since the adjournment, has prevented my communicating with you at an earlier period, in relation to the difficulties among the Stockbridge Indians, in reply to your letter and the report of Sub-agent Ellis on the subject.

By the act of March 3d, 1843, the tribal character of those Indians was taken away, and they were to become citizens of the United States on the filing of the report of the commissioners chosen to carry out its provisions, and of a map showing the division and assignment required by it of the lands in severalty. These papers were duly executed and filed, and all the pre-requisites to citizenship fulfilled, and the Stockbridges, therefore, to all intents and purposes, became citizens, with all the rights, privileges, and immunities of citizenship. The act of August 6th, 1846, repealed that of 1843, and provided that all who desired might return to their original position as Indians, and that those who preferred remaining citizens, should have the right to do so on their coming forward and enrolling their names, with that view, within three

months after the opening of registers, and notice to that effect being given by the sub-agent at Green Bay, whom the act constituted a commissioner to carry out its provisions. It was further provided, that the lands of the Stockbridges should be divided between the two parties in proportion to numbers—one portion to be called the Indian, and the other the citizen district; and that those in the latter should be subdivided and assigned, in severalty, to the individuals of the citizen party. Due notice was given, and afterwards repeated, for all to come forward and register their names, who intended remaining citizens, but none did so; the members of the citizen party alleging that it was a useless procedure, as they were already invested with the rights and privileges of citizenship under the act of 1843, of which they could not be deprived by a subsequent act. On the other hand the Indian party allege, that as none came forward and enrolled themselves as citizens, all are again now Indians, and the lands their property in common, as they were prior to the act of 1843; and they have applied to the sub-agent to have all the white persons upon them removed as intruders.

In a letter a short time since received from Austin E. Quinney, he alleges that he has been elected sachem of the tribe, and claims payment of certain moneys due under the treaty of September, 1839, which, since the act of 1843, could not be paid over, because that act, in abolishing the tribal character of the Stockbridges, carried with it the sachem and councillors, to whom, or to such persons as they should appoint, the treaty referred to specifically provided the money should be paid.

The whole subject is one of no little difficulty, upon which the Department can come to no definite determination without further and more particular information on several points.

The Indians having acquired citizenship under the act of 1843, serious doubts are entertained, whether, without their own consent at least, this right can be annulled by a subsequent law. Those intending to remain citizens having refused to enrol their names—we do not know how many there are—and there is, therefore, no rule by which to make the division and assignment of the lands required by the act of 1846. If such division be practicable at all, in view of the parties living intermingled with each other, it can only be affected by ascertaining the number and names of those intending to resume their aboriginal position, and of those who desire to continue citizens of the United States under the act of 1843. This can be done only by reversing the mode of proceeding presented by the act of 1846, and deducting the number favorable to that act from the whole number, or by requiring both parties to enrol themselves on separate and distinct lists, which would probably be the fairest and most impartial course. You will, therefore, please instruct the sub-agent to ascertain and report the number and names of each party accordingly.

It is represented that many of the Stockbridges, including members of the Indian party, have sold or assigned the lands allotted to them, in severalty, under the act of 1843. While it is also alleged

that this has been done under circumstances which entitle the sales or assignments to no very favorable consideration, it is desirable to know how far this has been done by members of either party, and how far the sales have been for a valuable consideration, and it has been paid to the vendors or been adequately secured to them. The object is to ascertain to what extent innocent purchasers, if any, who bargained fairly and in good faith, have acquired rights which in justice should be respected and protected.

As it may have a material bearing on the course hereafter to be pursued in this matter, it is deemed important to ascertain, with as much particularity as practicable, how far the Stockbridges of both parties accepted and exercised the rights of citizenship conferred on them by the act of 1843, and to what extent they have been recognized by the authorities of Wisconsin, and been made subject to the laws of that Territory.

The Department also wishes to be informed to what extent the Stockbridges have actually re-organized themselves under their original form of government, and in what mode they have chosen a sachem and councillors.

It is represented that much excitement, and very nearly bloodshed, have been occasioned by the authorities of Wisconsin endeavoring to enforce the laws of the Territory for the collection of taxes upon the Stockbridges. It is hoped that the authorities will see the propriety of desisting, if practicable, from any such attempts, until the unfortunate disputes and difficulties among those Indians shall have been in some way settled by the government; and Mr. Quinney will be informed by the sub-agent, in answer to his letter which has been referred to, that until that shall have been done, he cannot be recognized as sachem, or that the Indian party has any properly organized government or officers.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

His Excellency HENRY DODGE,

Governor of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

GREEN BAY SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,

July 16, 1847.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Your communication of the 1st of May last, covering a letter of instructions from the Hon. Mr. Medill, touching the case of the Stockbridges, was duly received.

In obedience to the requirements of the Hon. Commissioner, I repaired to Stockbridge on the 24th day of May last, when, after assembling them in full council, I opened the subject, read and explained fully the Hon. Commissioner's letter, and gave each party a copy. I soon found they would require much time for deliberation, and that some subsequent day would have to be fixed for their action, especially in the matter of furnishing me with the lists

of the separate parties. Accordingly, I met them again on the 7th of July instant, and spent three days in the prosecution of the business.

I found no little difficulty in making such lists of these Indians and their different parties, as would enable me to present a tolerable clear view of the facts. On obtaining that of the Indian party, (paper marked A,) as furnished by themselves, the citizen party objected to a great part of the names on various grounds, some of which appeared to be of sufficient importance to demand presentation in this report.

1st. That the Indian party had included in their list names of persons who had sold out all their interest in Stockbridge, to the United States, at their treaty of 3d September, 1839, and enrolled themselves as constituting the "emigrating party for Missouri."

2d. That a large proportion of the persons named in the list given in by the Indian party, had virtually *accepted* of the act of 1843, and confirmed the proceeding of the commissioners chosen to carry it into effect, by receiving the lands set apart to them in severalty by the commissioners, and by subsequently selling and deeding away much of the same, to bona fide purchasers, in the ordinary manner; and also by voting at elections under the laws of the territory, and in many other ways recognising the act of 1843.

3d. That the Indian party had included in their list, without being able to name them, a large number (80) of Munsees (said to be) in the State of New York. The citizen party allege that these Munsees are entirely unknown here; that, if any such exist at all, they must live in *Canada*; that the only Munsees who have ever come here to claim any right in these lands were *Kill Snake* and *Big Deer*, and their families; and that they both sold out, with others of the emigrating party, in 1839.

I have endeavored to set forth those several objections more particularly on a *tabular statement* of a list of the Indian party, as shown in paper marked B.

The citizen party presented me with a document, (marked C,) signed by their principal men, but declined giving any formal list that might go to form a basis for any new division of lands. Being determined, however, to obtain their names and numbers with as much particularity as possible, I proceeded, in council of both parties, to call them out by name, (using the last year's annuity roll for that purpose,) and set down the names of individuals and heads of families, and their numbers, as exhibited in paper D. This list is admitted by the citizen party to be complete. Objections were raised by the Indian party to a few names as shown in marginal remarks.

These two lists, with the remarks attached, will, it is believed, enable the Department to judge of the relative force of the two parties, and who of them are entitled to land in the tract, and those who, under all the circumstances, should be heard in their pleas, either for or against the act of 1846.

A list of the sales of land, since the report of the commissioners,

under the act of 1843, with the grantors' and grantees' names, dates, considerations, &c., will be found over the certificate of the register of deeds for the proper county, in a paper marked D D.

I was doubtful in what manner to procure the other items of information called for in the Hon. Commissioner's instructions—finally adopted the plan of addressing letters to two of the most respectable gentlemen in the vicinity, and who have been long and intimately acquainted with the Stockbridges and their affairs. Copies of these papers will be found in papers marked E and F, and their answers G and H. These responses of Messrs. Marsh and Whitney may be implicitly relied on. The former has been their missionary for seventeen years, under the patronage of the American board of missions; and the latter has been their chief friend, *financially*, and their confidential adviser for more than twenty years, and is now especially so of the Indian party. They are both gentlemen whose character for candor and integrity is beyond all question.

* * * * *

The evidence in support of the claim of the Indian party, to having organized under their ancient form of government, since the passage of the act of 1846, is objected to by the citizen party on the ground that the *notice* for the *election* was not sufficient, and that, therefore, many desirous of participating in the choice of officers were not present.

I have now only to mention a lengthy and somewhat formal communication, presented to the honorable the commissioner by the Indian party, marked K, which closes the list of documents.

I do not know whether it is expected of me to submit any advice as to the solution of these difficulties. I hazard but a single remark. The occasion (but not a principal one) of the opposition to the act of 1846, is the *forfeiture* created by the *proviso* to the 2d section, of all right to receive any portion of any annuity by any "who may become citizens."

On the other hand, it appears to me that the main source of the opposition to the act of 1843 has been the desire on the part of a few of the Indian party to control *en masse* the application and disbursement of the moneys due and payable [to the Stockbridges from the government on whatever account. The \$5,000 appropriated by the act of 6th of August, 1846, is a fruitful source of this disposition. A single individual claims already \$2,000 of this appropriation, and is expecting to have it paid to him soon.

I would suggest, then, that the sooner this fund is paid, the better; and most especially that it be paid *to the Stockbridges per capita*.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

To his excellency, HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. T.

(a.)

List of the names of the heads of families and other adults of the Stockbridge Indians, who have and now do dissent to the act of the Congress of the United States, approved March 3, A. D. 1843, entitled "An act for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians in the Territory of Wisconsin," and who approve of the act of said Congress, approved on the 6th day of August, A. D. 1846, repealing the first mentioned act. And the undersigned declare hereby their desire to remain under the government of their own laws and usages, and under the protection of their several treaties with the government of the United States.

Names of heads of families, &c.	Adults.		Children.		Total.
	No. of men.	No. of women.	No. of boys.	No. of girls.	
Austin E. Quinney	1	1	3	4	9
John Metoxan	1	1	.....	1	3
Benjamin Pye, sen.....his x mark	1	1	.....	.....	2
Garret Thompson	1	1	3	.....	5
Elisha Honkapot.....his x mark	1	1	1	.....	3
John W. Quinney.....	1	1	2	1	5
John P. Quinney.....	1	1	1	.....	3
Nancy Hunt.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Peter D. Littleman.....	1	1	1	3	6
Jonas Thompson	1	1	1	1	4
James Joshua.....his x mark	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Joseph M. Quimuckhant.....	1	1	2	1	5
Simon S. Metoxen	1	1	2	3	7
Benjamin Pye, 2d.....his x mark	1	1	1	3	6
Thomas Schanandoah.....his x mark	1	1	.....	.....	2
Aaron Turkey	1	1	3	2	7
Abram Pye.....his x mark	1	1	3	2	7
Benjamin Pye, 4th.....	1	1	.....	1	3
Benjamin Doxtator.....	1	1	1	.....	3
Dr. Big Deer.....his x mark	1	1	.....	2	4
Moses Charles	1	1	1	1	4
Benjamin Pye, 3d.....his x mark	1	1	1	.....	3
Washington Quinney.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Eli Williams	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Samuel Stephens.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
David Palmer.....his x mark	1	1	1	.....	3
Jacob Konkapot.....his x mark	1	1	.....	1	3
Daniel Metoxen.....his x mark	1	1	.....	.....	2
Thomas S. Branch	1	.....	.....	.....	1

(a)—Continued.

Names of heads of families, &c.	Adults.		Children.		Total.
	No. of men.	No. of women.	No. of boys.	No. of girls.	
Widow Elizabeth Palmer..her x mark	.....	1	1	1	3
Widow Elizabeth Aaron...her x mark	.....	1	1	2	4
L. T. Peters.....	1	1	4	.....	6
Catharine Butterfield.....	.....	1	.....	1	2
Samuel Miller.....	1	1	4	2	8
Louisa Jameson.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Jacob Jehoiakin.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Sally Quinney.....	.....	1	1	1	3
Widow Hannah Marquis.....	.....	1	1	.....	2
Anna Turkey, widow.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
George T. Bennett.....	1	1	.....	1	3
Jeremiah Slingerland.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
John Yocum.....his x mark	1	1	1	2	5
Mary Hendrick.....	.....	1	1	1	3
Elizabeth Wilber.....	.....	1	1	5	7
<i>Absent.</i>					
John Killsnake.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Aaron Konkapot.....	1	1	.....	1	3
Mary and Louisa Konkapot.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2
John W. Quinney, jr., and sister....	1	.....	.....	1	2
Elijah Lowry.....	1	1	.....	.....	2
Carissa Miller.....	.....	1	2	.....	3
Rachel Calom.....	.....	1	.....	1	2
Elizabeth Pye.....	.....	1	5	.....	6
Abram McKown.....	1	1	.....	.....	2
John Hatchet.....	1	1	.....	.....	2
Jeremiah Slingerland, jr... }	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henry Slingerland..... }	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Munsees in New York State.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
Phebe Skicket, widow.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Jemima Doxtator.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Josiah Abrams, wife and sister.....	1	2	.....	.....	3
Jonathan C. Johnston.....	3	1	.....	.....	4

Tabular statement of a list of the Indian party of the Stockbridges, showing the objections made by the citizen party to certain names thereon.

Names.	Missouri or emigrating party, who ceded their rights at the treaty of 1839.	Munsees.	Persons unknown here.	Absent.	Persons who have sold lands under act of 1843.	Not objected to on any account.	Total.	General remarks.
Austin E. Quinney.....					9		9	Grand sachem of the Indian party.
John Metoxen.....						3	3	
Benjamin Pye, sen.....					2		2	
Gerritt Thompson.....					5		5	
Elisha Konkapot.....	3						3	Vide treaty September 3, 1839, article 2, and schedule of the emigrating party.
John W. Quinney.....					5		5	Man of chief influence of this party; educated; intelligent.
John P. Quinney.....					3		3	Was elected, and served as collector of taxes under laws of territory, 1845.
Nancy Hunt.....			1				1	
Peter D. Littleman.....					6		6	
Jonas Thompson.....						4	4	
James Joshua.....					1		1	
Joseph M. Quinney.....						5	5	
Simon S. Metoxen.....					7		7	
Benjamin Pye, 2d.....						6	6	
Thomas Skenandoah.....					2		2	
Aaron Turkey.....					7		7	
Abraham Pye.....						7	7	
Benjamin Pye, 4th.....					3		3	
Benjamin Docksader.....						3	3	
Dr. Big Deer.....	4	4					4	Munsee, who joined emigrating party and sold out in 1839.— Vide treaty of 1839.
Moses Charles.....						4	4	
Benjamin Pye, 3d.....					3		3	
Washington Quinney.....						1	1	
Eli Williams.....	1						1	Vide schedule of emigrating party, treaty of 1839. This man went to Missouri, and returned; charged with murder. Objected to as a full-blooded negro; never adopted into the tribe.
Samuel Stevens.....							1	
David Palmer.....					3		3	
Jacob Konkapot.....	3						3	A son of Robert Konkapot; went to Missouri and returned.
Daniel Metoxen.....						2	2	
Thomas S. Branch.....	1						1	Now in Canada; sold out in 1839.
Elizabeth Palmer.....						3	3	
Elizabeth Aaron.....							4	
Ziba T. Peters.....	6						6	Vide schedule of treaty of 1839.
Catharine Butterfield.....						2	2	
Samuel Miller.....						8	8	
Louisa Jameson.....						1	1	
Jacob J. Maikum.....			1	1			1	Not here for many years; as likely to attach to one party as the other; purposes not known.
Sally Quinney.....			nearly			3	3	
Hannah Marquis.....						2	2	
Anna Turkey.....						1	1	
George T. Bennett.....					1		1	Formerly of the citizen party; has sold out all his lands; expects to get it all back again under act of 1846.
Jeremiah Slingerland.....						1	1	
John Yoocum.....					1		1	Same expectation by him as by Bennett.
Mary Hendrick.....							3	Claimed by both parties; preference not known in council.
Elizabeth Wilber.....							7	Same as Mary Hendrick.
John Killsnake.....	1	1		1			1	Canada Indian; this man and Big Deer, the only Munsees that ever came to the country; Killsnake absent; place of abode not known.
Aaron Konkapot.....	3			3			3	} Descendants of other Konkapots who went to Missouri.
Mary and Louisa Konkapot..	2			2			2	
John W. Quinney, jr., and sister.....						2	2	Not here for many years, preferences unknown.
Elijah Lowry.....						1	1	Same remark as above.
Clarissa Miller.....			1				1	Same as above; preferences unknown.
Rachel Calvin.....						2	2	Same as above.
Elizabeth Pye.....					6		6	Same as above.
Abraham McKown.....			1	1			1	Same as above; hardly a member of the tribe.

(b.)—Tabular statement of a list of the Indian party of the Stockbridges—Continued.

Names.	Missouri or emigrating party, who ceded their rights at the treaty of 1839.	Munsees.	Persons unknown here.	Absent.	Persons who have sold lands under act of 1843.	Not objected to on any account.	Total.	General remarks.
John Hatchet	1	1	.....	.....	1	Same as above.
Jeremiah Slingerland and Henry Slingerland	2	2	.....	.....	2	Never been here.
Phebe Skiket, (who?) Missouri	1	1	.....	.....	1	Same as above.
Jeremiah Docksdader	1	1	.....	.....	1	Same as above.
Josiah Abraham, wife, and sister	3	3	.....	.....	3	Who are they?—unknown.
Jonathan C. Johnson	4	4	.....	.....	4	Unknown.
Munsees in the State New York	80	80	80	.....	.....	80	Not known; probably most of them in Canada.
	24	85	96	112	58	60	260	

(c.)

STOCKBRIDGE, CALUMET COUNTY,
Wisconsin Territory, June 7, Anno Domini 1847.

SIR: The undersigned, formerly of the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, respectfully represent that they became entitled to all the privileges of citizenship in the United States, by an act of Congress approved March 3, 1843, entitled "An act for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin."

They further represent that the said tribe did throw aside their own form of government, and avail themselves of all the privileges conferred upon them by the said act of 1843; that they have given and received titles of lands by warrantee deeds and mortgage, and the bonds are on record in the county register's office; attended as petit and grand jurors in district courts, and participated in the elective franchise in the election of officers, as members of the legislature of the Territory, and delegate to Congress; that some of the individuals calling themselves members of the Indian party have been elected to local offices, under the laws of the Territory, availed themselves of the law in the collection of debts, and, wherever it was necessary, for the redress of grievances; and it is not known whether they ever have attempted to clear themselves from the law by claiming to be Indians, (excepting in one instance—a Sambo, claimed to be a Stockbridge Indian, when in fact he had not a drop of Stockbridge blood in him—) but in all cases have stood by the issue in law.

They further represent, that Congress did pass an act approved August 6, 1846, to repeal the aforesaid act of 1843, and to restore the Stockbridge tribe of Indians to their ancient privileges; but they do not recognise in Congress any power to disfranchise them of their rights as citizens of the United States. They, therefore, will not make application; and pray now to have granted anew what they already possess to the fullest extent, or enrol themselves so as to make a rule by which a chance for a new division can be given; for all those lands which they have sold and disposed of in good faith, for valuable considerations, to innocent purchasers, they will forever hold good, and the titles, as they themselves will forever remain citizens of the United States. And do hereby, as they have heretofore, earnestly and solemnly protest against any infraction of their rights as such, or reversal of the decisions and assignments of lands of their commissioners, which were executed in good faith, under the direction of legal counsel, and with the law of Congress open before them.

JOHN W. ABRAMS.
 JOHN N. CHICKS.
 JOSEPH L. CHICKS.
 DANIEL DAVID.
 WILLIAM GARDNER.
 JACOB MOORE.
 JOHN LITTLEMAN.

his
ISAAC × JACOBS,
mark.

his
JOB × MOORE,
mark.

HARVEY JOHNSTON.
JOHN WILBER.
JOSIAH C. CHICKS,

Justice of the peace in same county.

his
JOSEPH × DOXTATOR.
mark.

ISAAC SIMMONS.
DERING DAVIDS.
LEVI KONKAPOT.
JOHN MOORE.
LEWIS BOMAN.
HENRY MOORE.
JACOB CHICKS.
JACOB DAVID.
TIMOTHY JOURDAN.

Witnessed by ARNOLD RHODES.

To A. G. ELLIS,
The Sub-Indian agent.

The undersigned, citizens of the town of Manchester, in the county of Calumet, and Territory of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that, to our certain knowledge, the Stockbridge nation or tribe of Indians have for the last three years participated in all the privileges of citizenship in said territory; that they have both purchased and conveyed away lands by deeds of warrant; that they have sued and been sued at courts of law; that they have exercised the elective franchise; and that they have served as jurors in the district court in said territory; and that they have on all such occasions demeaned themselves as good and wholesome citizens.

T. COMMICK.
JAS. CRAMOND,

Justice of the peace in and for county of Calumet, W. T.

WILLIAM DICK.
JAS. KUNF.

LEWIS FOWLER,

Register of Calumet county.

● RANDAL, ABNER,

J. P. of Calumet county.

ALEXANDER G. DICK.

ARNOLD RHODES.

R. S. HAYWARD.

JOSEPH TOCUS.

NATHAN EASTMAN.
JOHN W. JOHNSON, jr.
JOS. HAMMON.
JOHN MOUTHERS.
R. P. EATON, (of Calumet.)
JOHN A. EASTMAN, (Fon du Lac.)

To A. G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian agent.

(d.)

List of the citizen party of the Stockbridges, obtained by inquiry, in full council of both parties.

Names.	No.	Remarks.
John W. Abrams.....	6	
John N. Chicks.....	7	
Joseph S. Chicks.....	4	
Daniel David.....	3	
William Gardner.....	10	Objected to by the Indians as not being born of Stockbridge blood. It appears he had been adopted at a regular council.
Jacob Moore.....	1	
John Littleman.....	2	
Isaac Jacob.....	3	
Job Moore.....	6	
Harvey Johnson.....	6	Objected to by the Indian party as being born of white parents. He had been adopted by Indian parents, but not ascertained whether recognised fully by the tribe. His wife is a Stockbridge.
Josiah Chicks.....	4	
Joseph Docksdader...	1	
Isaac Simmons.....	2	
Margaret Beaulien...	2	
Darius Davids.....	3	
Levi Konkapot.....	1	
John Moore.....	1	
Lucy Konkapot.....	1	
Lewis Beauman.....	7	
Abigail Moore.....	4	
Henry Moore.....	2	
Jacob Chicks.....	4	
Jacob David.....	9	
Timothy Jourdain....	8	
Sophia Moore.....	1	
Mary McAlister.....	4	
Catharine Franks....	3	
Catharine Mills.....	1	
Delilah Sicketer....	1	
Amelia Fidler.....	1	
Jane Dean.....	3	
Betsey Wvall.....	1	
Nancy Ham.....	1	
Betsey Managro.....	3	
Charles Stevens.....	1	

(c.)

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY, GREEN BAY,

May 27, 1847.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: Herewith I submit respectfully for your examination, copy of a communication from the War Department, dated the 17th April, 1847, relating to the affairs of the Stockbridge Indians, and the proceedings had by me in December last, under the act of Congress of August 6, 1846, which repealed the act of March 3, 1843, and conferred upon that tribe the privilege of returning to their former Indian state.

From this paper you will perceive that the Hon. the Commissioner of Indian Affairs has made it my duty to collect and report on several points, preparatory to some further action by the Indian Department in the case. Much of this data can only be obtained by the courtesy of persons who, like yourself, have resided among and near those Indians for a length of time, and who may be disposed to give information to the government.

Presuming that in common with others, from motives of philanthropy, you may be willing to give your aid towards some adjustment of the difficulties existing among this unfortunate people, I respectfully submit the following list of inquiries, with the request that you will make written replies to each, or to such of them as you may be able to; and to communicate any other facts in relation to this subject that you may suppose will be useful, and aid the Department in coming to just conclusions in the premises.

1st. Have the Stockbridges, since the report of the commissioners for carrying into effect the act of Congress of March 3, 1843, for the relief of the Stockbridges, *sold lands*; and

2d. If any of them, of either party, have so sold, their names and those of the purchasers are desired?

3d. If any of the Stockbridges have sold land, it is desired to be known whether they did so for a valuable consideration, either paid or adequately secured?

4th. Are there innocent purchasers, who bought these lands in good faith, and whose rights, thus acquired, ought to be respected and protected?

5th. To what extent have the parties accepted and exercised the rights of citizenship under the act of 1843?

6th. To what extent have they been recognised as citizens by the authorities of Wisconsin, and been made subject to the laws of the Territory?

7th. To what extent have the Indian party of the Stockbridges re-organized themselves under their old form of government; and in what manner have they chosen a sachem and counsellors?

I am, Rev. sir, very respectfully, your obedient,

A. G. ELLIS,

U. S. sub-Indian Agent.

To the Rev. CUTTING MARSH,

Missionary among the Stockbridges.

(f.)

STOCKBRIDGE, CALUMET COUNTY,
July 6, 1847.

DEAR SIR: Yours of May 27th was duly received. I feel a strong degree of reluctance to take any part which shall subject me to the charge of taking sides with either party, still it is just that the Hon. the Commissioner of Indian Affairs should be furnished with all the information which can possibly be collected in this stage of the Stockbridges' affairs, in order that justice may be done to all parties concerned.

I will, therefore, answer the questions put in your letters, so far as I am able, or think it necessary.

1st. "Have the Stockbridges, since the report of the commissioners for carrying into effect the act of Congress of March 3, 1843, for the relief of the Stockbridge Indians, sold lands?"

They have; and, sir, I deeply regret, and am pained to hear, that any of the Stockbridges desire to have those sales set aside, made under the circumstances in which all were.

2d. "The names of all such are desired, and those of the persons to whom they sold."

For a list of the names, I refer you to the one which the county register of deeds has made out, and upon it the Department may safely rely as being correct in all respects.

I have seen a list of the names of the Indian party which have sold lands, and declare it correct according to the best of my knowledge. I am amongst the number of purchasers. Although my name will not appear on the register's list, as the man of whom I purchased died soon after, and I did not get my deed recorded, as I did not fear any other title ever being given.

3d. "Did they sell, or not, for a valuable consideration, either paid or adequately secured to them?"

They "did receive valuable consideration," viz: money, oxen, cows, horses, and goods, to my certain knowledge. If, in any instance, advantage was taken by any purchaser, I have not heard of it. Some have sold land for the payment of debts previously contracted.

4th. "Are there innocent purchasers who bought these lands in good faith, and whose rights thus acquired ought to be respected and protected?"

Certainly, in my opinion. My reasons for believing are the following: As the citizen party carried into effect the act of 3d March, 1843, and made due returns of their doings, I supposed, and others better acquainted with law than myself also supposed, that the citizen party, at least, were to all intents and purposes citizens.

Furthermore, when I ascertained that the Indian party was selling and giving warrantee deeds without any condition, either expressed or implied to the contrary, I confidently expected that they would confirm the sales, provided they ever became released from the act, as they intended and expected they should be. In view

of such a course the only opinion which can be expressed by those who desire to have justice done, is that it is high-handed fraud.

I will take the liberty to mention my own case. I purchased two lots of an aged man, Jeremiah Johnson, a member of the citizen party, when he was in the last stages of consumption, with the confident feeling that the title would never be called in question. Whether the Indian party got relieved from the act or not, I never expected that they would interfere with the other party's rights. I bought not for the purpose of speculation, but as a deed of charity to the aged and infirm widow whom he was going to leave behind. He was very poor, and his wife was past labor, and she was going to be left with a grandson, who also had a young family and was very poor. Fearing that she would often need things which his grandson could not provide for her comfort, he was very anxious to sell his lots, and have the money deposited where the old woman could draw upon it as often as her necessities required; besides, if not sold in his lifetime, the old woman could not give a deed of them. The purchaser who was expected did not arrive, and the old gentleman was fast failing, and I felt it to be a duty to do something for the future comfort of his widow; for as long as she was able to work she was industrious, and, besides, was much respected. I therefore purchased and gave one dollar per acre for the whole of the two lots, amounting to about one hundred and thirty-two dollars. This appeared to me to be a just and equitable consideration.

To show the nature of the sales, I will mention two other cases, and quote from the deeds as they stand recorded in the register's office, viz: John W. Quinney and Austin E. Quinney. I shall quote verbatim et literatim as I found them in the register's book, so far as I go; and there is no man in the community who understands the nature of a contract better than John W. Quinney. There are none in the nation so ignorant as not to be able to understand perfectly well the meaning of a contract; and it is not too much, therefore, to say, that they would never have thought of refusing to confirm every sale, had they not been put up to it.

"This indenture, made the sixth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, between John W. Quinney, of Calumet county, Wisconsin Territory, party of the first part, and Henry Eugene Eastman, of Brown county, party of the second part, witnesseth: That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of one hundred and twenty dollars, in hand paid by the party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold, remised, released, aliened, and confirmed, and by these presents doth grant, bargain, sell, remise, release, alien, and confirm, unto the said party of the second part, and to his heirs and assigns forever, all that certain lot, piece, or parcel of land, situated, lying, and being in Calumet county, and known and particularly described as lot number fifty-one (51) in the "Stockbridge reservation," in said county, and containing fifty-eight acres of land, more or less, according to the re-

corded map or plat of said reservation. And the said John W. Quinney, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, doth covenant, bargain, grant, and agree, to and with the said party of the second part, and his heirs and assigns, that at the time of the ensealing and delivering of these presents, he is well seized of the premises above conveyed as of a good, sure, perfect, absolute, and indefeasible estate of inheritance in law, in fee simple, and has good right, full power, and lawful authority to grant, bargain, sell, and convey the same in manner and form aforesaid, and that the same are free and clear of all incumbrances of what kind and nature soever; and that the above bargained premises, in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said party of the second part, will forever warrant and defend.

JOHN W. QUINNEY.

Signed, sealed, and delivered }
 in the presence of }
 JOHN P. ARNDT,
 S. R. COTTON.

“The above certified to by John P. Arndt, justice of the peace for the county of Brown.”

The other deed was given by Austin E. Quinney to Daniel Butler, of Green Bay, and he received the money for his pay:

“This indenture, made the third day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, between Austin E. Quinney and his wife, of the county of Calumet, Wisconsin Territory, parties of the first part, and Daniel Butler, of Brown county, &c., party of the second part, witnesseth: That the parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and two dollars, lawful money of the United States, to them in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby confessed and acknowledged, have granted,” &c., &c., “sixty-two acres and a half of land, be the same more or less,” &c., &c.

AUSTIN E. QUINNEY.

her
 JANE × QUINNEY.
 mark.

Signed in the presence of
 CUTTING MARSH,
 PAUL D. HAYWOOD.

“The above deed is certified to by Paul D. Haywood, justice of the peace for Calumet county.”

This latter deed was made out in the usual form, the same as the other; and to quote the whole, I deem it unnecessary for the present occasion, but in it the *survey* and *map* are particularly recognized.

In view, sir, of such instruments, and deliberately and voluntarily subscribed to in the presence of competent witnesses, I ask, how can they be set aside without the most palpable injustice?

Is it possible to suppose that candid men, honest and upright in all their dealings, men of business, too, and well acquainted with law, would purchase lands, give a valuable consideration, and pay, too, what they considered a fair price for the lands so purchased, when they were in doubt about the titles? especially when the vendors expressed no doubt, made no reserve whatever, and voluntarily offered to give warrantee deeds?

Yet, sir, under these circumstances, and in the manner as above described, have the lands in Stockbridge been sold.

5th. "To what extent have the parties (Indians) exercised the rights of citizenship under the act of 1843?"

The list above referred to will show to what extent the Indian party have availed themselves of the right of selling land; and all that has been deeded away or mortgaged to citizens of the United States, or to one another, has been according to the laws of the United States, and not according to Indian laws or custom. A number of the party have voted at elections; some have served as jurors, others have prosecuted, and one, who usually held some office every year under the Indian government, was collector in 1845."

6th. "To what extent have they been recognized as citizens by the authorities of Wisconsin, and made subject to the laws of the territory?"

At all the elections, their votes have been received the same as other citizens of the United States; they have been taxed the same, have prosecuted, and have been prosecuted the same; and in no case have they been excepted to because they were Indians. In short, sir, since the passage of the act of 1843, all the Indian laws previously existing have been suspended; and all legal business of whatever kind, so far as it has come to my knowledge, has been done according to the laws of the United States. Since the Indian party re-organized their government last winter, I have not known them to do any business according to it.

7th. "To what extent have the Indian party of the Stockbridges re-organized themselves under their old form of government, and in what manner have they chosen a sachem and counsellors?"

"I was informed by one of the leading members of the party at the time, that they had chosen their officers the same as before; but I do not recollect to have seen any public notice posted up as formerly announcing when the election would take place, or what officers were to be chosen; and have been informed that no such notice was given, although the meeting was held at the usual time at which they formerly met for the election of such officers.

Yours, very respectfully,

CUTTING MARSH.

To A. G. ELLIS, esq.,

U. S. Sub-Indian Agent, Green Bay.

(g.)

SHEBOYGAN, June 17, 1847.

SIR: Yours of the 28th May would have been answered ere this, but for the want of time to get the information that you require; and now I cannot answer all of the questions with as much precision as I wish. As to the sales of lands by the Stockbridges, after the division by the commissioners and their report, there has been land to a large amount sold, and they have received their pay in most cases, I think; and the prices paid have been all they were worth, so far as I have bought, (and I have bought more than any other individual.) I should be glad to get what I paid for them, and I think that nearly all that have bought would be glad to do the same. The most of the purchasers bought in good faith, and ought to be protected; in fact, I do not know of but one case that I think there was fraud in the purchase, and that was one of the citizen party of that tribe that defrauded one of the Indian party. There is but very few of the whole of the two parties but what have sold land. I think not more than ten that is old enough to sell or give titles. There is some of the Indian party that have held office and voted at the elections with the citizen party, at their town and county elections.

They were authorized by the legislature of the territory to form a township government, and they have chosen their officers, levied and collected taxes, and one of the Indian party, John P. Quinney, acted as collector in 1845. They have held courts, served as jurymen; their property, both cattle and land, have been sold on execution, and the laws have been exercised over them the same as any other citizens.

As to the re-organization of the Indian party, they held their election as formerly, before the law passed for making them citizens, but the citizen party did not attend. I think that they are fully organized under their former laws; that is, the Indian party. There is quite a number that now, and some that always, have claimed to belong to the Indian party that have voted, held office, and sold land.

The above is as near to the facts that you wished to get at as I can give them to you, and I had more or less business with them for the last twenty-five years.

Yours, respectfully,

DANIEL WHITNEY.

A. G. ELLIS, *Sub-Indian Agent, Green Bay.*

(k.)

The Sachem and Councillors of the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, in Wisconsin Territory, to the Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington.

We have seen your communication to his excellency the Governor of this Territory, of the 16th April last, touching the difficulties and embarrassments under which our people live and still suffer.

We are pained to learn, as we do from that communication, that obstacles still lie in the way of rendering to us that full measure of justice which was contemplated by the act of the Congress of the United States, approved August 6, 1846.

Relying upon the assurances given in that act, and upon the treaties heretofore made by the United States, and which that act recognizes, we had hoped that our troubles were ended; and, having complied with the terms of that act, by the recognition of our government in its "ancient form," and in accordance with our ancient laws, we hoped that the moneys which were our due, under the stipulations of our treaties with the United States, would be promptly paid, (for our necessities require this,) and that hereafter we were to be relieved from the disturbances of those restless and ill-advised persons among us, who have sought to overturn the laws and abolish the government of their nation.

To effect these objects of the utmost importance to our peace and welfare, we cheerfully impart such information as we can upon those points which are the subject of inquiry in your letter, above referred to.

When the act of 1843 was passed, declaring us to be citizens of the United States, upon certain conditions, which we were neither to perform, nor had we any power to prevent the performance of; and when we saw a distribution of lands made under the proffered sanctions of that act, in which not only the whole body of our reserved lands, which we had garnered up as the sole hope of our posterity, were dissipated at once; but in which many of the possessions of individuals were recklessly disposed of, without consulting the wishes of the proprietor,—and all this at the bidding of certain men, not the choice of the nation, and neither whose age, discretion, or general habits entitled them to the confidence of the nation; and whose conduct in that particular case proved them to be utterly unfitted for the high trust they assumed.—When we saw all this we submitted, not with the deference *due* from the *wrong* to the *right*, but with the deference exacted from the weak by the strong. We adjured the principle of that act; we deplored its practical effects upon our condition. We were advised by those skilled in a knowledge of your laws that it was unauthorized by your own constitution. Still we offered no resistance; we felt that it held out no privileges to *us*. But we quietly yielded to its burdens, preferring to appeal to the very government which had (we believed) through mistake, inflicted the wrong, (a government to

the justice of which our fathers had taught us to trust,) to relieve us from that wrong. We made our appeal, and the Congress of the United States listened to us. They repealed the act of 1843; but in the meantime, that former act had been singularly disastrous in its effects upon our condition.

At the time of its passage most of our people were owing debts to our white neighbors, to pay which we chiefly relied upon the payment of moneys due us from the government of the United States. About four thousand dollars, being part of the amount due under the treaty of '39, had been regularly appropriated according to our laws, and granted to individuals to whom it was to be paid, as soon as received; but the men appointed to carry out the provisions of said act, arrogated to themselves the authority to dispose of it, disregarding the rights of individuals to the same, and absorbed it under various features. By the passage of the act (as is well known to the Department) all our means to support our public schools were cut off, by destroying at once the national character of our tribe, and the official character of those who alone could represent the tribe. Thus shortened in our means, new demands were made upon us. All were called upon to pay taxes, for the support of a government for whose existence our fathers have often fought, but to the *support* of which, they never designed their sons should pay tribute. With our diminished means, finding it impossible to meet their old and new demands, the holders of our previous liabilities turned in their constables upon us, and the county authorities turned in their collectors, and under their mutual levies and distresses, our personal property was fast dwindling away, which drove us to the worst evil of all, *to part with some of our land!* Here we deem it worthy of particular notice, that for the purpose of securing a permanent home, a portion of our people wished to become citizens of the United States!—But who, after the passage of the act of 1843, availed themselves of the earliest opportunity to part with all the land (or nearly so) allotted to them. The number of those persons are but few, compared with those to whom the land was secured by a treaty with the United States, but we discovered that this party, now called the citizen party, sold land mostly for the purpose of raising additional influence to sustain them; and we have felt all this influence exerted in opposition to us. A few of our people have also sold lands because they were told they could do so, who did not wish to become citizens; some out of mere disgust of the coercive means used to make them citizens, others who were discouraged of finding relief from trouble from their great father. We have also been told that much of our land has been sold for taxes. Though the amount of land sold by those called the Indian party is not very great, yet it is enough for the use of those who wished to commit them, to *proclaim* their acceptance of the law of 1843. On the whole, we believed, if we remained citizens, we should ere long be turned out of our possessions by the curious operations of the white man's law. We forbear going into the history of wrongs and oppressions visited upon us, because we refused to become citizens; but for all which we

would respectfully refer the Hon. Commissioner to the document 447, printed by order of the House of Representatives, at the 1st session, 29th Congress, and other documents relating to our affairs &c., filed, and may be found both in the War Department and the General Land Office.

Thus oppressed and desponding, we hailed with great gladness the passage of the repealing act of 1846—not because it did or could redress the evils already inflicted, but because we thought it insured us against the recurrence of similar ones. We trusted that those of the citizen party would be content with the full measure of distress they had visited upon us through the instrumentality of the law of 1843, and would avail themselves of the provision made in the 2d section of the law of 1846, for their professed wants, and seek under the auspices of a more powerful and (it may be) happier government, for that prosperity to which their faithlessness to our laws had not entitled them. But in this hope we were again disappointed. They rejected the proffered privileges they had sought, unless (it would seem) they should be coupled with grievous wrongs to us. They refuse, by enrolling their names, to show how many are willing to assume the obligation of allegiance to the United States. We met this difficulty in accordance with the suggestions contained in your letter, and have submitted to Mr. Ellis the names and number of those of us who desire to remain under Indian laws—the only laws which afford us any assurance of prosperity. We have organized a government for ourselves based upon those laws. In that organization, the undersigned have been unanimously chosen to the offices of sachem and councillors. We ask again, most respectfully, to be reorganized as such, according to the stipulations of the act of 1846. We ask that the country granted to the *Stockbridge* and *Munsee* Indians, upon the faith of a solemn treaty, may be protected to those tribes. If that country must be further reduced to satisfy the demands of those who spurn our society and our laws, let it be done, and let us know what we may look upon as the home of our living, and what we may rely upon for the graves of our dead. Believe us, we are not thus tenacious of our national character and rights, from a mere romantic love of, and preference for, Indian habits and customs. True, we have some veneration for the memory of our fathers, and we have some pride in the recollection of those (our ancestors) who welcomed yours to American shores; who nursed them through the weakness of infancy to the strength of manhood; who fought for them the battles of that independence which alone gives you the power to dispose our fate and to speak our doom. But, above all, we have the abiding faith that we must be a people by ourselves. Our God hath made us distinct from you—we must remain so or perish. We can never participate in the wealth or the social privileges of the whites, however we might be made participants in their political privileges. Our limited possessions are not necessary to the glory or the prosperity of the United States; and to be valuable to us, they must be secured against the purchases of the whites. To encourage agriculture among our people, we allot to each male adult or head of a

family, a tract equal to his capacity to cultivate, and the balance we hold in common as a reserve, to be allotted to those who shall come after us. If our lands were to be held by each individual in fee, with full power to sell at pleasure—and surrounded as we are by a white population, eager and apt for acquisition—the generation which shall succeed us would find themselves without a home.

Surely it will not be deemed unreasonable in us that we feel a thrilling interest in the destiny of our race, and that we take some thought for its welfare. That we are obliged to this end to make frequent appeals to the government of the United States, is the result of events, not of our own ordering. Still, we ask only for the true observance of those treaties which have been quite as productive of good to that government as to us. After the repeal of the act of 1843, we resisted the payment of taxes to the government of this territory. We were advised that the laws of the United States were supreme over its territories, and that, as the law of 1843 furnished the only authority for levying taxes upon us, so the repeal of that act took away all such authority. We offered no resistance to the former law while it existed; but when it no longer existed, we felt authorized to prevent your subjects from trampling at once upon your laws and upon our dearest rights.

There is one remark in your letter to Governor Dodge which occasioned us some surprise—it is this: “The act of August 6, 1846, repealed the act of 1843, and provided that all who desired might *return* to their original position; and that all who preferred *remaining* citizens should have the right,” &c. We have looked in vain for any such provisions in the act of 1846. We do find the repeal of the laws of 1843; and we find the whole Stockbridge nation restored to their ancient form of government, with all powers, rights, and privileges held and exercised by them under their customs and usages, as fully and completely as the above recited act had never passed; and we also find a provision enabling those who so desire (not to remain, but) “to become” citizens.

Now, although it matters not to us whether “we remain” in the Indian state or “return” to it, so long as we are permitted to enjoy that state; still, we have been advised that it makes a material difference in the understanding and interpretation of that law which reading it receives; and we have been advised that the law of 1846, drawn in view of 1843, was of no binding force. We may have been wrongly advised.

Again we repeat our regrets. Let the government of our choice be recognised; let the protection of American law be thrown *around* the Indian country, and not *over* it; let it be a bulwark to protect us against the encroachments of the whites, and not a whirlwind to scatter dissension and discord among us. We will add no more, and subscribe ourselves,

Most respectfully yours, &c., &c., &c.,

AUSTIN E. QUINNEY,
Sachem.

SAMUEL MILLER,
Z. T. PETERS,

his
 JONAS X THOMPSON,
 mark.
 JOHN W. QUINNEY,
 JOHN P. QUINNEY,
Councillors.

To the Hon. WM. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, at Washington, D. C.
 STOCKBRIDGE, W. T., July 7, 1847.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
Green Bay, July 19, 1847.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The enclosed document was received by mail since my report in the matter concerning the Stockbridges was forwarded. It may not, probably, be of much consequence, at least so far as the *Stockbridges* are concerned; but, as it is sent to me with that view, I have respectfully to request that it be laid before the Hon. the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the other papers submitted.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 ALBERT G. ELLIS,
U. S. Indian Sub-Agent.

His Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison.

CALUMET COUNTY, }
Wisconsin Territory. }

We, the undersigned, white citizens of said county, do hereby certify that Samuel Stephens, whose vote was rejected in the election of commissioners under the act of 1843, for the partition of the lands, was not a Stockbridge Indian, and that Zeba J. Peters, Thomas S. Branch, and Elisha Konkapot, and Doctor Big Deer, were of enrolled emigrants, and not voters of the Stockbridge tribe, having sold out by the treaty of 1839; that John Killsnake was a British Indian, and not of the Stockbridge tribe; and that Adam King was an Oneida Indian, and, therefore, not a Stockbridge voter.

We also certify that we were present at the election superintended by John S. Horner, register, and that we believe all the proceedings were conducted at that election fairly and honestly, and that we believe all charges of bribery and corruption on the part of John S. Horner were false, and not of the slightest foundation.

JESSE MILLS,
 JACOB C. HORN,
 JOHN DEAN,
 DANIEL H. WHITNEY.

STOCKBRIDGE, W. T., July 10, 1847.

A list of lots and parcels of land sold by the Stockbridge Indians, in the county of Calumet, since the 3d of March, 1843; together with the names of the grantors, and also grantees, description of the lands sold, consideration, and date of the deed, are as follows, to wit:

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Description.	Section.	No. of acres.	Consideration.	Date of deed.
Jacob Davids and wife Jerusha.....	Charles Stephens	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	60	\$200 00	September 14, 1843
John A. Chicks.....	Paul D. Hayward.....	In lots 84 and 83.....		15	175 00	September 28, 1843
Isaac Jacobs and Lucy Jacobs	Alonzo J. Sampson.....	Bounded.....		20	55 00	October 18, 1843
George F. Bennett.....	Do.....	Do.....		42 $\frac{1}{2}$	106 25	October 17, 1843
Jacob Davids and wife.....	George White.....	Do.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	135 00	September 21, 1843
John W. Abrams and wife Mariett.....	Erastus Welch.....	Lot NE. $\frac{1}{4}$ 68.....		31 $\frac{1}{4}$	150 00	November 21, 1843
John N. Chicks and wife Hannah.....	Joel S. Wright.....	Lot 159 E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 34.....		105	210 00	January 8, 1844
Charles Stephens.....	Moody Mann.....					
John N. Chicks and Hannah Chicks.....	George Bennett.....	Lot 103.....			100 00	January 6, 1844
John P. Quinney and Sally Quinney.....	John Moore.....	Lot 129.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 00	February 5, 1844
Daniel Davids and Margaret Davids.....	Catharine Mills.....	Bounded.....		40	80 00	February 12, 1844
John N. Chicks.....	Daniel Whitney.....	Lot 24.....		85	297 50	February 21, 1844
Joseph L. Chicks and wife.....	Do.....	Lot 118.....		62		
Do do.....	Do.....	Fraction 122.....		1	(*)	Do.
Jacob Chicks and wife.....	Do.....	Part lot 21.....		5	500 50	Do.
Joseph Manauge.....	Do.....	SE. corner.....	2	40		
Do.....	Do.....	NE. corner.....	5	20	75 00	Do.
Harvey Johnson and wife.....	Do.....	SW. contra SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	3			
		N. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	4		75 00	February 22, 1844
Moses Doxtator and wife.....	Do.....	Bounded.....	11	60	75 00	February 21, 1844
John Yoccum and wife.....	Do.....	Lot 6.....		68	132 00	Do.
George T. Bennett and wife.....	John A. Chicks.....	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ 82.....	8	31 $\frac{1}{4}$		
		S. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$		30	100 00	January 6, 1844
Jesse Mills and wife Catharine.....	J. P. Drake.....	Bounded.....		31	62 50	February 26, 1844
John Littleman.....	Henry Welch.....	Part S. $\frac{1}{4}$ 56.....		50	150 00	February 22, 1844
Do.....	Do.....	Lot 157.....		9	120 75	Do.
Do.....	George Cook.....	Part S. $\frac{1}{4}$ 56.....		5	15 00	Do.
Harvey Johnson and wife Scepta.....	Alexander Price.....	Bounded.....		10	30 00	March 14, 1844
Isaac Jacobs and wife.....	John P. Drake.....	Lot 31.....		66	132 00	March 11, 1844

STOCKBRIDGE DIFFICULTIES.

John W. Abrams.....	Jesse Mills.....	Lot 130.....		52 $\frac{1}{2}$	142 00	April 9, 1844
Isaac Jacobs and wife.....	John W. Abrams.....	Lot 155.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	158 00	March 11, 1844
Jesse Mills.....	Do.....	Part lot 58.....		40	165 00	April 9, 1844
George T. Bennett and wife.....	William D. Colburn.....	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ 103†.....		31 $\frac{1}{4}$	17 86	June 10, 1844
Do do.....	George H. White.....	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	7	60	50 00	June 8, 1844
Josiah C. Chicks and wife.....	W. T. Eustis.....	Lot 1.....		43 $\frac{1}{2}$		
		Lot 2.....		47 $\frac{1}{2}$	276 25	February 21, 1844
		Lot 106.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$		
William Gardner and wife.....	Do.....	SW. corner.....	1	40		
Do do.....	Do.....	NW. corner.....	6	70	212 50	Do.
Do do.....	Do.....	NE. corner, free.....	3	40		
			12	20		
John N. Chicks.....	William T. Eustis.....	Lot 4.....		58 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Do.....	Do.....	Lot 18.....		74	3-100	727 70
Do.....	Do.....	Lot 28.....		72	5-100	
Timothy Jourdon and wife Priscilla.....	Do.....	Lot 112.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 00	Do.
Jacob Davids and wife.....	Do.....	Lot 5.....		65	75-100	
Do do.....	Do.....	Lot 128.....		55	100-160	224 00
Catharine Butterfield.....	Daniel Whitney.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	1	60	30 00	Do.
Jeremiah Johnston.....	Do.....	Lot 99.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	Do.
Timothy Jourdon and wife.....	Do.....	Lot 111.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	March 15, 1844
Charles Stephens.....	William T. Eustis.....	Lots 94, 92, 117†.....		187 $\frac{1}{2}$	166 50	January 15, 1844
Harvey Johnson and wife.....	Charles Chatman.....	Lot 8.....		74	7-100	32 00
J. L. Chicks and wife.....	Francis Gilbert.....	Lot 102.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	March 15, 1844
John N. Chicks.....	E. Sherwood.....	Lot 110†.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 00	July 1, 1844
J. P. Quinney and Sally Quinney.....	Betsy Manauge.....	84.....		5	(§)	June 25, 1844
Do do.....	Moses E. Merrill.....	25, 26, and 27.....		212 $\frac{1}{2}$	400 00	April 24, 1844
George T. Bennett and Sally Bennett.....	Francis Gilbert.....	Lot 103.....		60	50-100	July 11, 1844
Daniel Davids.....	Holmes & Allis.....	Lot 60†.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 00	July 3, 1844
John W. Abrams and wife.....	John Balwin.....	Part lot 58.....		7 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 00	July 13, 1844
John N. Chicks and wife.....	Richard Fidler.....	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 32.....		3 $\frac{1}{4}$	52 50	September 16, 1844
W. Gardner and wife.....	Daniel Butler.....	Lot 87.....		5	67 00	August 31, 1844
John N. Chicks and wife.....	J. C. Horne.....	Lot 29.....		69	12 00	December 20, 1844
Isaac Jacobs.....	Robert Forbes.....	Lot 158.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	145 00	August 23, 1844
J. W. Abrams and wife.....	Henry Moore.....	Part lot 124.....		5	130 00	October 14, 1844
A. Turkey and Hannah Turkey.....	Benjamin Welch.....	Part lot 41.....		62	15 00	September 16, 1844
John Welch.....	Jesse Mills.....	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ 6†.....		57	125 00	September 25, 1844
Jesse Mills.....	John Welch.....	Part 136.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	300 00	January 15, 1844
Hannah Yoccum.....	William Gardner.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	60	300 00	October 25, 1844
Betsey M. Scipio.....	Adam Sheriff.....	Part lot 132.....		31 $\frac{1}{4}$	30 00	September 21, 1844
					95 00	October 7, 1844

STOCKBRIDGE DIFFICULTIES.

* Nothing.

† Mortgaged.

‡ About.

§ For love and good will.

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Description.	Section.	No. of acres.	Consideration.	Date of deed.	
Margaret Davids	Edward Howell	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	5	20	\$22 50	November 10, 1844	
Do	Do	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	8	40			
M. Doxtator and J. Doxtator	Do	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	5	20			
J. Doxtator	Do	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	8	(*)	22 50	November 14, 1844	
John N. Chicks	Jesse Mills	SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ lot 82		15	12-100	39 06	December 6, 1844
Joseph Doxtator	Ansel Huntington	NE. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	7	40	76 88	December 2, 1844	
Do	Do	SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	6	20			
Do	Do	Lot 145		62 $\frac{1}{2}$			
John Moore	Daniel Whitney	Lot 105		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	November 28, 1844	
Thomas Skenedor and wife	Do	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	13	60	75 00	December 26, 1844	
James Joshua	Do	Lot 19		79	10-100	80 00	October 18, 1844
Peter D. Littleman	Do	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 00	December 12, 1844	
Aaron Turkey and wife	Erastus Welch	Part lot 65		9 $\frac{3}{8}$	44 25	December 6, 1844	
Isaac Jacobs and wife	Henry Modlin	Part lot 66		50	155 00	October 9, 1844	
Joseph Chicks	Nathan Goodell	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	6	60	30 00	December 23, 1844	
Lucy Konkapot	Daniel Whitney	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	16	60	75 00	December 12, 1844	
William Gardner	Daniel Butler	Part lot 87		52	51-100	115 00	September 23, 1844
Jacob Davids	Do	Lot 133		(*)	50 00	December 20, 1844	
John W. Abrams and wife	Morris Francis	Part lot 48		2 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 00	December 16, 1844	
John N. Chicks and wife	Nathan Goodell	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	3	75	93 75	February 14, 1845	
Do do	Do	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 82		(*)	148 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do	
George T. Bennett and wife	Do	Fraction 86		12	36 00	February 15, 1845	
Jesse Mills and wife	Do	Bounded		15	12-100	60 00	February 18, 1845
P. D. Littleman and wife	Jacob C. Horne	Do		12	34 00	February 13, 1845	
Unice Abrams, or Quinney	Latson Dick, jr.	Lot 52		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 00	February 28, 1845	
John N. Chicks and wife	Eliph. Mathews	Lot 54		20	50 00	July 28, 1845	
Jesse Mills and wife	Do	Bounded		30	37 50	January 17, 1845	
Thomas Schenador and wife	Nathan Goodell	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	26	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 75	February 26, 1845	
Jacob Chicks and wife	Do	Lot 10		78	56 00	February 25, 1845	
Isaac Simmons	Do	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	40	45 00	March 1, 1845	
Betsy Waitt	Margaret Bennett	Bounded		12	24 00	February 5, 1845	
Charles Scheton and wife	Daniel Whitney	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	60	75 00	February 8, 1845	
		N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$					

STOCKBRIDGE DIFFICULTIES.

Harvey Johnson and wife	Do	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	5	20	30 00	January 9, 1845	
		N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	8	40			
Aaron Turkey and wife	Do	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	18	60	75 00	December 23, 1844	
Jesse Mills and wife	David Wiggins	Lot 130		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	150 00	May 30, 1844	
James Joshua	George T. Bennett	Lots 114, 115		125	125 00	March 5, 1845	
George Bennett and wife	Nathan Goodell	Lots 114, 115		125	250 00	Do	
John N. Chicks and wife	F. Sherwood	Lot 110		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	November 14, 1844	
Jacob Davids and wife	William Gardner	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	60	75 00	March 24, 1845	
Daniel Davids	John Baldwin	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 56		31 $\frac{1}{2}$	50 00	October 3, 1844	
Joseph Chicks and wife	Elisha Donslow	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 33		56	87-100	300 00	September 25, 1844
Betsy Palmer	Daniel Whitney	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	13	60	47 00	April 4, 1845	
Eliz. Palmer	Do	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	15	60	47 00	Do	
Thomas Skenedor and wife	Do	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	23	60	40 00	March 13, 1845	
		E. $\frac{1}{4}$ S. $\frac{1}{2}$	23	60			
Benjamin Pye and wife	Do	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	18	20	30 00	Do	
		N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$	18	40			
Aaron Turkey and wife	Do	Lot 42		50	7-160	95 00	March 12, 1845
Lucretia Davids	Do	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	5	60	30 00	March 5, 1845	
Sarah A. Wilber	Do	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	2	20	30 00	March 13, 1845	
Josiah C. Chicks and wife	Nathan Goodell	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 20		45	56 25	April 7, 1845	
Daniel M. Metoxen	Elizabeth Palmer	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 75		61 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 00	March 27, 1845	
Isaac Simmons	Nathan Goodell	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	40	45 00	April 22, 1845	
Do	Do	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	18	20			
John A. Chicks and wife	Do	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	3	35	93 75	April 23, 1845	
Do do	Do	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	3	35			
Jesse Mills and wife	John N. Chicks	Lot 131		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	300 00	May 8, 1845	
Henry Moore and wife	Nathan Goodell	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	11	40	45 00	April 26, 1826	
Do do	Do	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	14	20			
John N. Chicks and wife	Jesse Mills	Lot 81		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	300 00	May 8, 1845	
John W. Quinney	H. E. Eastman	Lot 51		58	125 00	May 6, 1845	
Do	Oscar Wright	Bounded		50 $\frac{1}{2}$	172 50	June 17, 1845	
Do	H. S. Wright	Lot 55		5	15 00	June 16, 1845	
Peter D. Littleman	Daniel Whitney	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	13	20	30 00	July 15, 1845	
Do	Do	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	18	40			
Timothy Jourdan and wife	Do	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. fraction $\frac{1}{4}$	9	150	60 00	Do	
		E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. fraction $\frac{1}{4}$					
Simon Metoxen and wife	Do	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	17	40	30 00	June 6, 1845	
Do do	Do	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	17	20			
John P. Quinney and wife	Do	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$	12	60	80 00	August 19, 1845	
		N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$					

STOCKBRIDGE DIFFICULTIES.

* Number of acres not given.

LIST—Continued.

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Description.	Section.	No. of acres.	Consideration.	Date of deed.
John P. Quinney and wife.....	Daniel Whitney.....	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	19	60	\$80 00	August 19, 1845
John Yocum and wife.....	Do.....	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$				62 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	August 12, 1845
Garret Thompson and wife.....	Do.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	24	60	50 00	July 16, 1845
Do do.....	Do.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ lot 107.....	19	62 $\frac{1}{2}$		August 19, 1845
Benjamin Doxtator and wife.....	Do.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{2}$	19	60	30 00	August 19, 1845
Benjamin Pye, sen., and wife.....	{ Zebra T. Peters, John Littleman, and John W. Abrams. }	Lot 64.....		$\frac{1}{2}$	2 50	August 26, 1845
Josiah Chicks and wife.....	Daniel Whitney.....	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	3	17	20 00	August 18, 1845
Hannah Yocum.....	Do.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ lot 111.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	20 00	August 24, 1845
Simon S. Metoxen and wife.....	P. D. Hayward.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	15	49	5-100	35 00
Do do.....	Do.....	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. 12 SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	15	16			August 5, 1845
Darias Davids and wife.....	John N. Chicks.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	5	60	60 00	September 6, 1845
Benjamin Pye, 4th.....	Nathan Goodell.....	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	13	20	50 00	September 19, 1845
Do.....	Do.....	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	18	40		
Austin E. Quinney and wife.....	Daniel Butler.....	Lot 9.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	102 00	November 3, 1845
John P. Quinney and wife.....	James N. Lane.....	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	20	120 00	November 4, 1845
Do do.....	Do.....	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$		40		
John N. Chicks and wife.....	James Munagg.....	Bounded lot 84.....		9	9 00	October 7, 1845
Betsey Scipio.....	Daniel Whitney.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	5	60	40 00	November 17, 1845
Do.....	Hannah Marquiss.....	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	20	20	30 00	October 14, 1844
Do.....	Do.....	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	20	40		
John Wilber and wife.....	Isaac Jacobs.....	Lot 151.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 50	July 17, 1844
John W. Abrams and wife.....	Maria Dana.....	Part lot 58.....		6	20 00	July 19, 1845
Jacob Horne and wife.....	Richard Spencer.....	Bounded.....		12	60 00	November 13, 1845
Thomas Skenedor and wife.....	M. S. Gibson.....	(*).....				
David P. Palmer.....	Jacob C. Horne.....	Lot 98.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 00	February 16, 1846
John Wilber.....	Daniel Whitney.....	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	8	60	30 00	February 10, 1836
David P. Palmer.....	Jacob C. Horne.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	11	60	55 00	February 16, 1846
John A. Chicks and wife.....	Adam Sheriff.....	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	13	20	34 00	February 21, 1846
Do do.....	Do.....	S. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	12	10		
Jesse Mills and wife.....	Lemuel Goodell.....	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 81.....		31	62 50	March 9, 1846
John Moore.....	Henry Modlin.....	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 38.....		50	100 00	March 25, 1846
John W. Abrams and wife.....	Arnold Rhodes.....	Part lot 48.....		27	94 00	March 30, 1846
Daniel Davids and wife.....	Do.....	Do.....		12	33 00	Do.
John Moore and wife.....	John Moore.....	Lot 69.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$	300 00	April 13, 1846
John Moore.....	Do.....	Lot 9.....		77	10-100	Do.
Do.....	Lewis Bowman.....	Lot 129.....		10	40 00	March 9, 1846
John P. Quinney.....	Joseph Munagg.....	Part lot 84.....		1 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	April 22, 1846
Aaron Turkey and wife, and Benjamin Pye, 3d, and wife.....	Henry Modlin.....	Part lot 65.....		45	180 00	April 23, 1846
William Gardner and wife.....	Joseph Otis.....	Sch. lots 2 & 3 in lot 83.....	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	166 00	166 00	December 20, 1845
Jacob Chicks and wife.....	Do.....	Sch. lots 2 & 3 in lot 84.....				
Jacob Chicks and wife.....	Cutting Marsh.....	Sch. lot 1.....		(†)	40 00	May 20, 1846
Charles Seketon.....	Rufus S. Bennett.....	No. $\frac{3}{4}$ frac. lot 4, and bounded.....		9 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 00	April 27, 1846
George T. Bennett and wife.....	Do.....	Part lot-113.....		14	28 00	May 20, 1846
John Littleman and wife.....	George Bennett.....	(†).....				
Moses Doxtator and wife.....	William Scott.....	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ S. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	8	30	100 00	March 24, 1844
Do.....	Do.....	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	11	60		
John W. Chicks and wife.....	Alexander J. Ervin, esq.....	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	8	30	37 50	June 4, 1846
Daniel Davids and wife.....	John Mathews.....	Lot 53.....		66	150 00	November 18, 1843
Daniel Davids.....	E. G. Ellis.....	Lot 60*.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$		July 13, 1844
John W. Abrams and wife.....	Nathaniel H. Johnson.....	Part lot 58.....		6	9-10	68 00
Jesse Mills and Catharine Mills.....	Ansel Huntington.....	Lot E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 81.....		31 $\frac{1}{2}$	300 00	January 25, 1847
Peter D. Littleman.....	Thomas Doxtor.....	Part lot 127.....		$\frac{1}{4}$	5 00	February 9, 1847
John P. Quinney and wife.....	Lemuel Goodell.....	Bounded.....		2	5-160	3 75
Do.....	Do.....	Lot 131.....		62 $\frac{1}{2}$		April 7, 1847
James N. Chicks and wife.....	Rufus S. Bennett.....	Bounded as follows: Joining on the east end of the 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ above described.....		30	400 00	February 27, 1847

STOCKBRIDGE DIFFICULTIES.

STOCKBRIDGE DIFFICULTIES.

* Mortgaged.

† Number of acres not given.

‡ First description above.

REGISTER'S OFFICE, Calumet county:

I, Lewis Fowler, register of deeds for the county of Calumet, hereby certify that the foregoing is a list of the deeds and of lands sold in the town of Stockbridge, sold by the foregoing named grantors to the foregoing grantees, acting under the act of Congress of March 3d, 1843, according to the records of this office. As certified by me this the 5th day of June, 1847.

LEWIS FOWLER,
Register of Deeds for Calumet County, Wisconsin Territory.

A list of tracts or lots of land sold and recorded in this office since the 5th day of June, 1847, are as follows, to wit:

Name of grantor.	Name of grantee.	Section.	Description.	Consideration.	No. of acres.	Date of deed.
Rufus S. Bennett and wife.....	Hannah W. Chicks.....		Lot 113.....	\$30 00	14	April 8, 1847
James Joshua.....	Daniel Whitney.....		Lot 149.....	104 50	54 25-100	November 12, 1845
Peter D. Littleman and wife.....	Do.....	18	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	35 00	60	June 5, 1846
Joseph McAllister and wife.....	Do.....	11	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	30 00	20	May 22, 1846
Henry Moore.....	Do.....	{ 11	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	{ 30 00 }	20	May 25, 1846
		{ 11	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$			
John Moore and wife.....	Do.....	{ 2	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$	{ 50 00 }	60	November 17, 1845
		{ 5	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$			
David P. Palmer and wife.....	Do.....		3-5 of lot 121.....	75 00	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	November 13, 1845
Jacob Horne and wife.....	Do.....	11	N. $\frac{3}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$	30 00	60	November 9, 1846
David Palmer.....	Do.....	10 {	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$	60 00	120	November 13, 1845
Do.....	Do.....	15 {	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$			
Do.....	Do.....	16 {	S. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$			
Joseph Chicks and wife.....	Do.....		Lot 22.....	130 50	8 75-100	August 4, 1846
Peter D. Littleman and wife.....	Do.....	{ 19	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$	{ 35 00 }	40	{ February 19, 1845
		{ 24	N. $\frac{1}{4}$ E. $\frac{1}{2}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$			

STOCKBRIDGE DIFFICULTIES.

The above is in addition to a similar list taken from the records of this office, and certified by me the 5th of June, 1847; which above list of deeds of land lying in the Stockbridge reserve, and recorded in this office since the list above referred to, was taken from the records of this office, as certified by me at Manchester, this 7th of July, 1847.

LEWIS FOWLER,
Register of Deeds for Calumet County.

G.

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING

The amount of investments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

G.

Statement exhibiting the amount of invest

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.
Cherokees	Kentucky	5	\$94,000 00		\$4,700 00	
Do	Tennessee	5	250,000 00		12,500 00	
Do	Alabama	5	300,000 00		15,000 00	
Do	Maryland	6	761 39		45 68	
Do	Michigan	6	64,000 00		3,840 00	
Do (education)	Maryland	5	41,138 00		2,056 90	
Do	Missouri	5½	10,000 00		550 00	
				\$759,899 39		\$38,692 58
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (mills)	Maryland	6	130,850 43		7,851 02	
Do do	Pennsylva.	5	28,300 00		1,415 00	
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	39,921 93		2,395 31	
Do do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	157 50		7 88	
				199,229 96		11,669 21
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (education)	Indiana	5	68,000 00		3,400 00	
Do do	Pennsylva.	5	8,500 00		425 00	
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	5,556 71		333 40	
				82,056 71		4,158 40
Incompetent Chickasaws	Indiana	5		2,000 00		100 00
Chickasaw orphans.	Arkansas	5	6,000 00		300 00	
Do	Pennsylva.	5	1,450 00		72 50	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	433 68		26 02	
				7,883 68		398 52
Shawnees	Maryland	6	29,341 50		1,760 49	
Do	Kentucky	5	1,000 00		50 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	1,734 71		104 08	
				32,076 21		1,914 57
Senecas	Kentucky	5		5,000 00		250 00
Senecas and Shawnees.	Do	5	6,000 00		300 00	
Do do	Missouri	5½	7,000 00		335 00	
				13,000 00		685 00
Kansas schools	Missouri	5½	18,000 00		990 00	
Do	Pennsylva.	5	2,000 00		100 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	2,700 00		135 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	4,444 66		266 67	
				27,144 66		1,491 67
Menomnies	Kentucky	5	77,000 00		3,850 00	
Do	Pennsylva.	5	12,000 00		600 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	26,114 88		1,566 89	
				115,114 88		6,016 89

G.

ments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
\$94,000 00		Semi-ann'y	New York..	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of Dec., 1835.
250,000 00		do	do	do	do.
300,000 00		do	do	do	do.
880 00		Quarterly..	Baltimore..	do	do.
69,120 00		Semi-ann'y	New York..	do	do.
42,490 00		Quarterly..	Baltimore..	do	Treaty of February 27, 1819.
10,000 00		Semi-ann'y	New York..	do	do.
	\$766,490 00				
150,000 00		Quarterly..	Baltimore..	do	Treaty of Sept., 1833.
24,259 50		Semi-ann'y	Philadelphia	do	do.
44,204 40		do	Washington, D. C.	do	do.
156 00		do	do	do	do.
	218,619 90				
72,264 09		do	New York..	do	do.
7,352 50		do	Philadelphia	do	do.
6,016 05		do	Washington, D. C.	do	do.
	85,632 64				
	2,000 00	do	New York..	do	Treaty of May, 1834.
6,000 00		do	do	do	do.
1,254 25		do	Philadelphia	do	do.
508 01		do	Washington.	do	do.
	7,762 26				
33,912 40		Quarterly..	Baltimore..	do	Treaty of Aug., 1831.
980 00		Semi-ann'y	New York..	do	do.
2,032 03		do	Washington.	do	do.
	36,924 43				
	4,900 00	do	New York..	do	Treaty of Feb., 1831.
5,880 00		do	do	do	do.
7,121 87		do	do	do	do.
	13,001 87				
18,000 00		do	do	do	Treaty of June, 1825.
1,730 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do.
2,727 27		do	Washington.	do	do.
5,026 30		do	do	do	do.
	27,483 57				
75,460 00		do	New York..	do	Treaty of Sept., 1336.
10,235 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do.
29,604 43		do	Washington.	do	do.
	115,299 43				

G

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.
Chippewas & Ottowas..	Kentucky..	5	\$77,000 00	.....	\$3,850 00	.....
Do do ..	Michigan..	6	3,000 00	.....	180 00	.....
Do do ..	Pennsylva..	5	16,200 00	.....	810 00	.....
Do do ..	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	5,387 87	.....	269 39	.....
Do do ..	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	16,588 97	.....	995 34	.....
				\$118,176 84		\$6,104 73
Creek orphans	Alabama..	5	82,000 00	.....	4,100 00	.....
Do	Missouri..	5	28,000 00	.....	1,540 00	.....
Do	Pennsylva..	5	16,000 00	.....	800 00	.....
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	13,700 00	.....	685 00	.....
Do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	23,513 40	.....	1,410 80	.....
				163,213 40		8,535 80
Chectaws, under convention with the Chickasaws.	Alabama...	5	.....	500,000 00	.....	25,000 00
Delawares, (education).	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	.....	7,806 28	.....	468 38
Osages, (education)....	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	7,400 00	.....	370 00	.....
Do do	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	24,679 56	.....	1,480 77	.....
				32,079 56		1,850 77
Choctaw orphans.....	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	26,387 44	.....	1,583 24	.....
Do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	23,109 09	.....	1,155 45	.....
				49,496 53		2,738 69
Stockbridge & Munsees.	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	.....	5,204 16	.....	312 25
Choctaws, (education).	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	60,893 62	.....	3,653 61	.....
Do do	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	1,545 44	.....	77 27	.....
				62,439 06		3,730 88
				2,181,821 32		114,118 34

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
September 30, 1847.

Continued.

Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
\$75,460 00	.....	Semi-ann'ly.	New York..	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of Mar., 1836
3,000 00	.....	do	do	do	do.
13,912 50	.....	do	Philadelphia	do	do.
5,426 46	.....	do	Washington	do	do.
18,183 30	.....	do	do	do	do.
	\$115,982 26				
82,000 00	.....	do	New York..	do	Treaty of June, 1832
28,487 48	.....	do	do	do	do.
13,840 00	.....	do	Philadelphia	do	do.
13,840 00	.....	do	Washington	do	do.
26,656 04	.....	do	do	do	do.
	64,823 52				
.....	500,000 00	do	New Orleans	do	Treaty of January 17, 1837.
.....	9,144 27	do	Washington, D. C.	do	Treaty of 1838.
7,474 74	.....	do	do	do	Treaty of 1825.
27,656 76	.....	do	do	do	do.
	35,131 50				
30,461 70	.....	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
23,312 16	.....	do	do	do	do.
	53,773 86				
.....	6,096 16	do	do	do	Treaty of May, 1840.
68,236 73	.....	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
1,530 00	.....	do	do	do	do.
	69,766 73				
	2,232,832 45				

H.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sum of money provided by treaties and laws in Stocks.

Names of tribes.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares	\$46,080	5	\$2,304	Treaty September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas	200,000	6	12,000	Resolution of Senate, May 27, 1836.
Sioux of Mississippi	300,000	5	15,000	Treaty September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri...	175,400	5	8,770	Treaty October 21, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi.	1,000,000	5	50,000	Treaties October 21, 1837, and Oct. 11, 1842.
Winnebagoes	1,185,000	5	59,250	Treaties Nov. 1, 1837, and Oct. 13, 1846.
Iowas	157,500	5	7,875	Resolution of Senate, January 19, 1838.
Osages	69,120	5	3,456	Do. do.
Creeks	350,000	5	17,500	Treaty November 23, 1838.
Senecas of New York	75,000	5	3,750	Treaty May 20, 1842, and law of Congress June 27, 1846.
Kansas	200,000	5	10,000	Treaty January 14, 1846.
Pottawatomies	643,000	5	32,150	Treaty June 5, 1846.
Choctaws	872,000	5	43,600	Treaty September 27, 1830, and laws of 1842 and 1845.
	5,273,100		265,655	

INTEREST IN LIEU OF STOCKS.

No. 1.

OFFICE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Detroit, November 20, 1847.

SIR: My absence and engagements upon official duties, and attending the payment of annuities to the several tribes of Indians within this district, and that of Wisconsin, renders the transmission of my annual report thus late.

The general condition of the Indians within the Mackinac agency, is as comfortable, and their improvement as rapid, as can be expected, under the embarrassments consequent from (and the increase of the white population in their vicinity) the scattered condition of the bands.

It is greatly to be desired that some arrangement be made for collecting the dispersed families into colonies or larger settlements, where they may receive the full benefit of the teachers, mechanics, and farmers, who are provided for their improvement.

Those who are located near the schools and missions are progressing, while those remote, or who but seldom come within their influences, are making no advancement. The farmers and mechanics afford much aid to those near at hand, but can be of little service where their labors are extended to different localities, requiring much time in making preparations, and in travelling from place to place.

The Ottawa, Griswold, and Black river (Old Wing) colonies have each fine tracts of land, and by the aid of the farmers and teachers, have made some improvement and advancement towards civilization. Their progress, however, is likely to be interrupted by the appearance of white settlers who are surrounding them, a fact which has always operated disastrously to their welfare.

The missionaries labor hard, and those employed to aid them make great efforts to retain them and to keep proper influences in operation, but they are perplexed with difficulties arising from the contiguity of the white population.

About nine hundred of the Ottawa Indians reside in the valley of the Grand river, and on the streams emptying into it; and are without any aid from schools, carpenters, or farmers. The smith's shop at the mouth of "Thorne Apple," is of service to them in repairing guns and traps, and the few who have land and cultivate it, procure utensils necessary for their labors.

Those situated upon the Muskegon, White Pear, Marquette, and Manistee rivers, are in a worse condition, being too remote from the smith's shop to be profited by it.

All of them would be much improved by gathering together in two or three communities upon locations to be selected between the Muskegon river and Mackinac, which would be adapted to their condition, affording them room and grounds for hunting and agriculture, waters for communication and fishing, and a climate healthy and congenial to their constitution.

They would then be so situated as to receive instruction from

those provided to aid them, and the plan would readily be adopted by them if sanctioned and proposed by the government.

The means which are now scattered, to but little use, would render all recipients of its benefits and schools; agriculture, mechanics, and general improvement, would be encouraged amongst them.

They are greatly distressed from fear of their removal west, and have but little courage to make improvements, or receive instruction, while they are upon lands not their own, and with the prospect of removal continually before them.

The bands residing at Grand Traverse, Scheboygan, and Little Traverse, have purchased lands, and, with the aid of the mechanics and farmers, have erected substantial and comfortable dwellings, improved their lands, and from their fields, hunting and fishing, provide abundantly the necessities of life.

Those inhabiting the islands and north shore of the straits of Mackinac and Lake Michigan, obtain their subsistence mostly from hunting and fishing; and although a few attend the Catholic school, and are engaged in agriculture to a small extent, their condition is not as comfortable as those residing at the points first mentioned.

The Chippewas at Saginaw still continue to improve in agriculture and morals, and this is mainly attributable to their disuse of whiskey.

Although they are in detached settlements, yet, having teams and farming implements at most of the points, the overseer of farming is enabled to do them much good, by his frequent visits among them.

It is difficult for him to visit all of them without the use of a boat, and the Indians have requested that one be furnished for the purpose, and that it be considered as a part of the appropriation for their agricultural purposes. It would, doubtless, be of great convenience and aid in the discharge of his duties.

The teachers and missionaries are zealously engaged in leading them in the way of improvement, and are doing much to save them from the destructive influence of drink.

The Pottowatomies of Huron continue to reside upon the land purchased two years ago; have increased in numbers, and have made some excellent improvements; have a school and preaching among them.

The Pottowatomies at Pokagon are under the care of the Catholic missionary and teachers, and are generally sober and peaceful. With the exception of the prevalence of the small-pox during the last winter among a few of the bands, they have generally enjoyed good health, more especially when they have refrained from intoxicating drinks.

For information in regard to the condition of the Indians within the Sault Ste. Marie sub-agency, I respectfully refer you to the report of James Ord, esq., herewith, and those of the missionary teachers and others, whose duties have been discharged among them.

The several bands of this sub-agency would be more happy and prosperous if located upon the south shore of Lake Superior, where

they would be more secluded from the whites, and where the teachers and mechanics could better aid them in the work of improvement.

A large amount of work has been performed at the smith's shops during the past year, and the farmers have generally succeeded in raising good crops. The schools are well attended as usual, and the results in each department as satisfactory as may be expected under the present system and scattered state of the Indians.

The subject of the debt fund held by the government, was again brought to my notice by the Ottowas and Chippewas in council, and a request made that I should present the subject to their great father at Washington, and urge upon him the importance and justice of having such disposition made of the matter as would relieve them from embarrassment, and secure to them their lands and improvements for their permanent homes.

They urge, and with good reason, that, so long as this fund is unapplied, the traders will continue to make credits, and induce the Indians to trade, in the hope that ultimately it will be adjusted from this source; and soon the whole will be absorbed, leaving nothing to purchase lands and make improvements as they now desire.

The division of the annuity of 1836, and the proposition of semi-annual payments, does not meet with favor among them. It is attended with a loss of time and expense in attending payments, as many have to make long and tedious journeys, and in the spring time, after the season of sugar-making, they should be engaged in preparing and planting their fields.

As a general thing, these Indians are as comfortable in the spring as any other season; they have the avails of their winter hunt and sugar season to depend upon.

After the next spring payment, they desire that one only per annum should be made.

The matter of the reserve at Sault Ste. Marie is assuming more importance since my last report. The legislature of Michigan have incorporated a company for the construction of a canal, the route of which crosses the reserve; and I am informed the work will be undertaken next season. Some settlement should be made satisfactory to the Indians before any commencement of said work.

I have frequent application for aid in sending Indian boys abroad, that they may receive advantages at academies and seminaries. The establishment of the right kind of schools, where manual agriculture and mechanic instruction should accompany that in letters, would afford them advantages of this kind at home.

The amount expended yearly is abundant for this purpose, but it is so divided, owing to the scattered state of the Indians, that its benefits are comparatively small. Several young men are now abroad, supported by the charity of societies and individuals, and more are seeking opportunities for like advantages. Shall they be denied when the means are ample, if properly applied?

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following reports:

- No. 1. James Ord, esq., sub-agent, Sault Ste. Marie.
 No. 2. P. Paul Lefevre, bishop, report school and mission.
 No. 3. Rev. Abel Bingham, school and mission.
 No. 4. Rev. W. H. Brockway, do do
 No. 5. Rev. P. Dougherty, do do
 No. 6. Rev. George N. Smith, do do
 No. 7. Rev. Leonard Slater, do do

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

WM. A. RICHMOND,

Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

To Hon. WM. MEDILL,

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 2.

SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN,

October 20, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency, during the year, has improved, especially of those on Lake Superior.

At the Ance Kewewena, they have raised abundant crops of potatoes: it is said they will have a large quantity for sale. With their oxen, of which they have two yokes, they have done much towards clearing spots of gardens. Their stock of cows and hogs have increased considerably. These means of supply and comforts which these Indians possess, and are seeking to augment, have been promoted by the exertions of the missionaries and the government operatives who are with them, and who have been active in preventing the introduction of whiskey at the Ance.

The Indians are laudably exerting themselves to prevent its introduction; they have recently destroyed a keg of whiskey which had been brought amongst them by some Indians from Lake View Deserts.

At the Sault they have also an unusual supply of potatoes. The fish taken at the falls, and at their other fishing places, enabled them to support, during the summer, their families, notwithstanding the high prices of provisions.

Sickness has been prevalent amongst them: the number of deaths, however, has not exceeded that of last year.

They appear anxious to put up houses for themselves, and the logs and barks for several have been got out; they have been, however, unable to get plank and nails to complete them.

The Sault band have sold not less than 400 barrels of fish; last spring they made about 8,000 pounds of maple sugar. The turnips, pumpkins, and corn, gathered this fall, have been as abundant as at any previous season.

Their hunts have not been very successful in consequence of the decrease of game.

Some families of the Sault band, and those of Drummond Island, went, the latter part of July, to the Manitou line Island to receive the annual presents of the British government. I learn that all who were there from the United States received presents. Those who went from this sub-agency were induced to do so by the persuasion of the band resident on the Canada side of the Sault.

Although the sale of liquor has been carried on at the Sault to a great extent, no instance of personal violence amongst the Indians has occurred.

As long as the Indians live at or near the Sault, the efforts of the missionaries, by temperance pledges, and other means to prevent intoxication amongst them, will prove fruitless.

The missionary schools at the Sault have been conducted with constant care and attention on the part of the teachers.

At the quarterly examination of the scholars, under the supervision of the Rev. Abel Bingham, they gave proofs of application and improvement.

At the examination of the scholars, under the supervision of the Rev. Wm. H. Brockway, the children answered with an eagerness and readiness expressive of their desire to learn and of application to their studies.

For the details in regard to this school, I have respectfully to refer to the reports of the Rev. A. Bingham, numbered 4, and of Rev. Wm. H. Brockway, numbered 5, enclosed herewith.

The school of the Rev. Frederick Baraga, at the Ance Kewewena, is, I learn, constantly attended by about 60 scholars. No report has been received from Mr. Baraga.

The Rev. Mr. Peitzel's school is well and regularly kept—in it not less than 20 children are taught.

The reports of the carpenter and blacksmith, at the Ance Kewewena, evince that their services have contributed much to the improvement and welfare of Indians at that place.

No detailed report has been received from the farmer. The foregoing is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES ORD.

WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.,

Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Detroit, Michigan.

No. 3.

SUPERINTENDENCY INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR WISCONSIN TERRITORY,
Madison, October, 21, 1847.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I submit my annual report of the state and condition of the Indians, accompanied with an estimate of the appropriations necessary to enable the Department to comply with the stipulations of existing treaties with the tribes at present residing in this superintendency. The annual reports of the sub-Indian agents for the

Green Bay and Lapointe sub-agencies are herewith enclosed, with their accompanying documents.

From the report of the sub-agent of the Green Bay sub-agency, it appears that the Oneida Indians have become good farmers and tillers of the soil; that the schools established for the tuition of their children are doing much good for their advancement and civilization, and that these Indians have attached themselves to the different religious churches established in their country. The Stockbridge Indians are placed in a most unpleasant condition. The citizen party adhere to the act of Congress of 1843, providing for them the rights of citizenship; the Indian party protest against the act of 1843, and adhere to that of 1846, repealing the former and restoring the tribe to its ancient privileges. It appears to me that the proper policy of the government would be to purchase the country remaining to the Indian party, and removing them south of the Missouri river or west of the Mississippi. A portion of the Stockbridge people living as citizens, and a part of them as savages, will produce a most unpleasant state of feeling, and the sooner they are separated the better for both parties. The citizen party will be under the protection of our laws, while the Indian party will be surrounded by the white settlements, and will be placed in a most deplorable and hopeless condition.

The Menomonie Indians.

There have been no changes in the state and condition of this tribe since my last annual report. From the report of the sub-agent, it appears that there are two classes among this tribe; one that follows the chase, (the greater proportion of the tribe,) and a farming band that is increasing in numbers. In my former annual reports, I have expressed my views fully as to the propriety of extinguishing the Indian title to the whole of the Menomonie country, and removing them south of the Missouri or west of the Mississippi river. Should the United States hold a treaty with the Menomonies for their country, and they should retain a part of the country for a future home, they would probably in a few years be surrounded by our advancing settlements, which would place them, with their present love of ardent spirits, in a most degraded state, and this remnant of a once powerful tribe of Indians would soon disappear. The humane policy of the government in removing the Indians from the east of the Mississippi to the country assigned them west of the States of Missouri and Arkansas, is surely the proper one. It has been the means of saving the lives of thousands, and has placed them where they can become agriculturists and stock raisers, and where they will be gradually withdrawn from the chase and their wandering habits of life.

Should the Menomonie Indians be unwilling to remove south of the Missouri river, a purchase of a country of sufficient extent could, no doubt, be made from the Sioux Indians, bordering on the Mississippi or Saint Peters' rivers. The utmost harmony and good

feeling has heretofore existed between the Sioux and Menomonic Indians.

The difficulty in making a treaty with this tribe of Indians, I have heretofore presented fully to your Department. The northern portion of the territory is settling rapidly in the direction of the Fox river, and a part of the Menomonic country is much wanted now for settlement, particularly that portion of it between the mouth of the Wolf river and the portage of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, and bordering on the Wisconsin river, in the direction to the Plover portage.

The Chippewa Indians.

No material change has taken place in the state and condition of this tribe since my last annual report. The late treaty held with the Leach Lake band, for the extinguishment of the Indian title to a large extent of the Chippewa country, if approved by the President and ratified by the Senate, will be productive of much good. It will increase the amount of the annuities paid the Chippewas—upon which they place great reliance—and will place them more under the control of the agents of the government, who have heretofore exercised but a limited influence over them.

From the reports of the sub-agent, it appears that the Chippewas are improved in their agricultural pursuits, and that their condition is better than it was four years ago.

Could the whole of the Chippewas be removed west of the Mississippi, where they would be out of the reach of the advancing settlements, it would be the means, to a certain extent, of placing them out of the reach of whiskey sellers, who are more destructive to the Chippewas than their enemies when in a state of war. The Chippewa that killed the white man on the St. Croix was tried and discharged by the court in St. Croix county. From the report of the sub-agent, it appears that, in returning from the annuity payment, some of the Chippewas met with whiskey dealers, and, when in a state of intoxication, commenced a fire on the whites, and wounded several of them without killing any person.

The Chippewas appear to be on friendly terms with the Sioux and other Indians. From the present state of our Indian relations on the Upper Mississippi, the establishment of a military post is of the first importance, to maintain peace between the several nations of Indians, and to prevent the introduction of ardent spirits into the Indian country.

My views on that subject have been fully submitted to your Department in a communication I had the honor to make a short time since. From the great emigration to the St. Croix and Chippewa country, to which the Indian title has been extinguished, it would seem that the attention of the government should be directed to that interesting portion of our territory.

From the report of the sub-agent, it appears that the small-pox had made its appearance in one of the bands of the Upper Wisconsin river last winter, but had not extended its ravages beyond that

band. It appears that a part of the Chippewas that attended the late annuity payment were vaccinated for the small-pox. I fully concur with the sub-agent in recommending to your Department the propriety of having the whole tribe vaccinated at the expense of the United States.

HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 4.

LAPOINTE SUB-AGENCY, *September 15, 1847.*

SIR: The annual payment of the Chippewas of the Mississippi and Lake Superior was concluded on 3d instant, to the entire satisfaction, so far as I have learned, of all concerned. The Indians did not assemble in as large numbers as usual, which is to be attributed to the fact that much sickness has prevailed, and still prevails, throughout the nation. The general reply of the Indians when asked why more of their number had not come to payment, was, that they had staid at home to take care of the sick. The disease which affects them at this time is of a bilious character, and is not generally fatal. The small pox broke out among the Indians of the Wisconsin river band last winter, and great fears were entertained that it would from thence be communicated to the whole tribe. About eighteen fatal cases occurred, but providentially its ravages extended no further than the band in which it first made its appearance. Mrs. E. F. Ely, one of the missionaries connected with the American board of commissioners for foreign missions at this place, was busily employed during the payment, and vaccinated the greater number of those present. The Indians are, with good reason, very much afraid of the small pox, and very anxious to be vaccinated. I respectfully recommend that the Department will provide means to have the operation performed on every individual of the tribe; which can be done within the year, on all who visit this place, at a very trifling expense. The expense at farthest will not exceed fifty or sixty dollars.

The relation of the Chippewas with other tribes have been amicable, as a general thing, during the year; the only difficulties which have occurred have been between individuals. A white man was killed by an Indian of Saint Croix last winter; the circumstances attending I had the honor to report at the time, as I was on the spot soon after the occurrence. The Indian was delivered to the authorities of Saint Croix county. He had his trial at the May term of Saint Croix county court, and was acquitted on the ground of self-defence.

A difficulty occurred on Sunday, 5th instant, between several whites and Indians, which, as it will doubtless go forth to the world as an Indian outrage, it will be necessary to mention. Several men

in a boat overtook the Indians of the Wisconsin river and Pelican lake bands, who were on their way home from the payment, at the mouth of Bad river, and sold them whiskey. On the morning of the 5th, the Indians, not yet recovered from their last night's debauch, demanded more liquor, which being refused them, on the plea that it was all gone, they attempted to search the boat. One of the Indians sprang on the boat and was immediately knocked into the river, by one of the whites, with a clubbed rifle. The whites shoved off their boats, and the Indians seized their guns and fired after them. The only serious injury inflicted was upon one man, who, it appears, was a passenger on board the boat, and received a ball which lodged in his right arm, near the elbow; several others received a pigeon-shot or two in their bodies. This is the first instance of an Indian raising his hand against a white man on Lake Superior, which has ever come within my knowledge; but it is no more than I would expect under the circumstances. If men will pursue this traffic, they must look for such results, and have no right to complain of receive sympathy. The Chippewas as individuals, and as a nation, are well disposed, and will continue to be so as long as the cupidity and heartlessness of the whiskey dealer will permit. I fear that, in our accounts of outrages and crime, we have done the Chippewas, if no other tribe, injustice in many cases; for I find on comparing them with almost any civilized community of the same size, for four years, there will be found the smaller aggregate of crime on the part of the savage; and every crime of any magnitude which has been committed may be traced to the influence of the white man.

More liquor has been sold at this place during the last payment than in any former year; and such have become the facilities for its introduction, that the impossibility of preventing it entirely is reduced to a certainty. We had a small detachment of soldiers here during the payment, but I find that they are but of little use, as far as the prevention of the sale or the introduction of liquor is concerned, as the sight of a soldier is evidence of danger to a whiskey pedlar, and he is of course on his guard. One resolute, authorized man, having no other business to attend to, will do more to prevent it than a regiment of troops. The crew of one of the vessels which lay in our harbor during the payment, aided by a number of other persons, set at defiance our military force, and refused to permit her to be searched. The circumstances I had the honor to report in my respects of the 24th ultimo; it will not therefore be necessary to revert to them here. The greater part of the liquor sold was in pint bottles, which were carried in the pockets of those who disposed of them, and detection, to say the least, was difficult. We succeeded in destroying about ten barrels of whiskey, including barrels, kegs, demijohns and bottles.

I was informed some time since that the two Chippewas so long confined as hostages at Fort Snelling, had been set at liberty; this was an act of justice. There appeared to be no disposition among the chiefs of the Chippewas to do anything towards effecting the delivery of the real murderers, and no good could result from any

longer confinement of those who had been delivered. When at Fort Snelling last winter, I had a conversation with the commanding officer respecting the propriety of sending a military force to Leach lake to demand the delivery of the murderers, or, in default of their delivery, to bring down the chiefs who had signed the treaty of peace; but as one company of his command had left a short time before, and the garrison was weak, he did not think it prudent to send so small a force as he would be able to spare so far into the Indian country. I think it was an oversight in the treaty between the two tribes to bring within its provisions bands so far distant, who received no annuities, and were in a measure beyond the reach of the agents of the government. When the late treaty, which I am informed has been concluded with the "Pillagers," goes into effect, they will be more under control. The annuities of a tribe or band is the strongest hold which the government has upon them.

What effect the release of the hostages will have on the peaceful relations of the tribes, remains to be shown. I apprehend nothing from it, further than private revenge by some of the relatives of the murdered man. No treaty can be made between these two tribes which will prevent private murder and outrage; for, among the Chippewas at least, there is no principal chief—no tribunal before which an offender can be brought to answer. Each band has its own chief, whose name stands at its head on the pay-roll, and through whom, as a general thing, communications are made to the government and its agents; but any power or authority he may possess by right of place over any other Indian, is nominal.

While on this subject I beg leave to suggest that the sending of a small military force into the Indian country, on any occasion, is productive of evil effects on the minds of the Indians—the authority of the agent, unaided, is much better than a small force. The Indians are quick observers; and, in the latter case, conclude at once that coercion of some kind is intended, and the force should be large enough to carry out the intention to the full extent, and to avoid even the possibility of failure.

The prospects of the Indians for the ensuing winter are as promising as on any former year. Advices from inland represent the rice crop as plentiful, and, as many Indians remained at home, there will be no lack of assistance to collect it. The reports of the farmers which I enclose, numbered 1, 2, and 3, give promise of a sufficient supply of potatoes, &c., for the wants of the Indians within their reach. With the annuities and other assistance received from government, and the least exertion on their own part, there is nothing to prevent the Chippewas from living in (to them) a comfortable manner.

In speaking of improvements among the Indian tribes, I have perceived that writers are prone to express themselves in such a manner as to mislead the public and make it believe, on the one hand, that the Indians are much farther advanced in the social scale than they really are, or, on the other, that they are much lower than a fair representation of facts would place them; and moreover, the public is too much given to expect that results which must, with

the best success for which we have any reason to hope, occupy the patient labor of the Department for years, shall be crowded into the short space of one. Much error is scattered respecting the character, condition, &c., of the Indians, by the remarks of those who visit their country for the first time and obtain, at most, but a glimpse of their state and manner of life. As it strikes at first view, favorable or unfavorable, such is the report. One writer will describe an Indian tribe as possessing all that is noble and exalted, while another will scarce admit them on equality with the higher order of brutes. This I wish, if possible, to avoid; and when speaking of improvement among the Chippawas, do not wish to convey the idea that, as a general thing, there is any near approach to the white man's life, or the white man's ways, for such a result is yet far distant; but that a great improvement has occurred in all their relations no one who has watched their progress for even the few years that it has been my duty so to do, can for one moment doubt.

They plant to thrice the extent, and are yearly increasing the amount; and men who, four years ago, would have considered it a lasting disgrace to perform any kind of agricultural labor, now lay hold manfully and consider it highly honorable. They are fast abandoning the principal of a community of property, and each man begins to feel that his business is to provide for his own family, and to make provision in time. They have abandoned, to a considerable extent, the ceremonies and practice of their heathen worship and heathen creed; and, although they may practice it, acknowledge the truth and superiority of the white man's religion, many of them have adopted, in whole or in part, the dress of civilized men, and live, so far as their circumstances will admit, in a civilized manner.

I enclose (numbered 4) reports from Rev. Sherman Hall, respecting the condition of the schools under his charge, as superintendent of missions for the American board of commissioners for foreign missions. This board have had two schools and employed three teachers during the year. From the teachers of the schools at Fond du Lac and Sandy Lake, I have received no reports; from my knowledge of the Indians at the latter place, I should suppose but little had been effected. Mr. E. H. Day continued his school at Fond du Lac up to June of the present year, at which time he left for the East, and has not yet returned. I presume the school was discontinued on his departure.

My opinion with regard to the application of the school fund remains unaltered from last year. I consider the plan, as proposed, of a small manual labor boarding school as the only one calculated to benefit the Indians, to the extent contemplated by the Department. The success which has attended the schools at present in operation has been produced by unwearied exertions against the apathy of parents, disinclination and actual inability of the children to attend during the greater part of the year. When the treaty of Fond du Lac (1847) goes into operation, there will be, if I am rightly informed, an addition to the school fund, which will make

it sufficiently large to sustain a boarding school such as contemplated. If it be necessary that the amount provided by the treaty should be expended on the Mississippi, the amount under the treaty of 1842 can be added to it, and the school be established there.

I also beg leave again to mention that the benefits received from the employment of a carpenter, do not amount to the value of the money expended. If the money, instead of being sent under the head of carpenters, could be placed in the hands of the agent to be expended in building houses, &c., it would be much better, as one man can do but little towards erecting the log-houses, such as are built. I presume this change could be effected by the consent of the Department, at the request of the Indians.

The circular requiring statistical information, &c., was not received by me till our census roll for payment was almost completed; and I found it impossible to detain the Indians long enough to perform the duty at that time. I have, however, commenced it, and hope to be able to render the proper information by the time stated.

Our annuity goods of this year were all of a superior quality. Some slight alterations will be necessary in the invoices for next year, which I have noted in the list enclosed, (No. 5.)

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES P. HAYS,
U. S. Sub-Agent.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Madison, W. T.

No. 5.

GREEN BAY SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
September 30, 1847.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Since my last annual report few changes have taken place in this sub-agency.

The *Oneidas* are quietly, steadily advancing in all the essentials of civilization, except with the first Christian party, for the want of an English school. They cultivate with good taste and great perseverance pretty extensive farms, cleared up from very heavy timber lands; from which they derive ample means of support, independent of the chase, which they have in fact nearly abandoned. They live in good log and framed houses, well furnished, and have abundance of stock, cattle, horses, and farming utensils.

The first Christian party have a neat, commodious church, opened every Sunday by their missionary, which they generally attend; the worship being the Protestant Episcopal.

For the condition of the school at this time, I respectfully refer to the report of the Rev. Mr. Davis, herewith submitted.

The school of the *Orchard party*, in charge of the Rev. Mr. Lathrop, of the Methodist Episcopal church, is kept in the English language; the teacher, like others of this sub-agency, is under con-

tract, and returns to this office, registers, monthly, of the attendance of the scholars, from which the abstract is derived in the statement of the schools accompanying this report. The Orchard party is deriving essential benefit from this school, as is instanced in their general intelligence and advancement.

The Oneidas are not disposed to sell nor remove; and of late none are desirous of going to Missouri.

The *Stockbridges* remain much as heretofore. They are a civilized people—speaking, reading, and writing the English language, dressing in our costume, and living entirely from agriculture. They are sober, industrious, moral, and generally intelligent. They are mainly indebted for their improved condition to the conjoined efforts of the government with those of the American Board of Foreign Missions, under the immediate superintendence of the Rev. *Cutting Marsh*, for many years their able, faithful missionary.

There has been an unfortunate struggle between parties in this tribe, apparently about citizenship, but really for power and authority between rival chiefs and head-men. One party adheres to the act of Congress of 1843, providing for their naturalization as citizens; the other protests against the act of 1843, and adheres to that of 1846, repealing the former, and restoring the tribe to its ancient privileges. These matters had produced no little ill-feeling; but for the last few months it has in a good degree, subsided, and the parties are comparatively quiet. Their schools are in a prosperous condition, and have an important influence in forming the civil and moral character of the tribe.

The *Brothertowns* have laid aside entirely their character as an Indian tribe—having become citizens of the United States. The only cognizance this agency has of them is a supervision of the expenditure of the fund for educational purposes. Their two schools are well organized, and eminently useful.

The *Menomonies*.—But little change is to be noted in this tribe within the year. They consist of two classes—the *hunting bands* and the *farming band*. The former still comprises a large proportion of the whole tribe, though the latter is daily increasing in numbers. The tribe is gradually becoming sensible of the superior advantages of civilization, and will, in a few years, imitate the example of their neighbors, the New York Indians, and abandon the chase.

A portion of the hunting bands still linger on the ceded lands along the shores of Green Bay and along its tributaries, on account of the sturgeon fisheries, from which they derive their main support. The head chief of one of those bands, with a few of his warriors, lately paid a visit of ceremony to the Oneidas, at Duck creek, with a special view to see for himself, “*how Indians could live on farms.*” The Oneida chiefs received him courteously; gave him and his warriors a sumptuous dinner, and exhibited to him their farms, houses, barn, stock, utensils, &c., &c. The Menomonie chief retired evidently pleased and favorably impressed with the improved condition and independent style of living of his New York brothers, the Oneidas. Notwithstanding many of the Menom-

onies are opposed to any change in their mode of life, and view that of farming with distrust, yet it is apparent that these prejudices are fast giving way, and that numbers of them will very soon join the farming band.

The stock-cattle and farming utensils delivered to them annually under treaty stipulations, are highly prized and eagerly sought. At the coming annuity payment, a quantity of seed wheat will be delivered them by their own request.

There is a very serious drawback on the farming operations at lake Pah-way-hi-keen, in the unsuitableness of their present location; which is, along the border of that lake, low, wet, but destitute of running water, and very unhealthy. No less than fifty-four deaths have occurred at that village within the past twelve months. To further the humane policy of the government (and the wishes of their intelligent missionary, Rev. F. J. Bondurel,) for their advancement in agriculture, education, and Christianity, there should be a treaty with the Memomonies for a cession of the greater portion of their lands; a suitable reservation set off for their future homes for agricultural purposes, and provision made for the support of the schools, for building them a mill, and for furnishing them agricultural implements, seed, cattle, &c. A majority of the chiefs are already desirous of such an arrangement, on which basis I have no doubt a treaty could be made.

I have the satisfaction to report this year, that, since September last, there have been two schools, bona fide, kept regularly in the *English language*, among the Memomonies at Lake Pah-way-hi-keen—one by the Rev. F. J. Bondurel (before mentioned) for boys, and the other by Mrs. Rosaline Dousman for girls; and I cannot speak too highly of the constancy and self-denial of those worthy persons in their labors for these people. Several of the Memonomie youths can now read and write easy lessons in English. I beg leave here to give an extract from one of the Rev. Mr. Bondurel's letters to me, dated 13th September, instant, as follows, to wit:

"The pupils of both schools have made more progress in their studies than I really anticipated. It is highly gratifying to think that our hopes have been fully realized, notwithstanding the many difficulties that have been thrown in our way. * * * All the scholars of the first and second class write with a degree of taste that promises much for the future. The pupils of the first class and four of the second, read passably well. I have introduced English singing into the schools—nothing could please the pupils so much as this. I assure you, sir, they play their part pretty well! All the Indians are pleased, above anything I could express, to see that their children read, write, and sing *just as well* (so they say) as the Yankees do! It is not my province to trace out in this place the progress that the junior part of this mission has made in the path of virtue. But it may be charitably supposed by yourself, as a Christian, that the moral part, the main object of our studies, has not been neglected by me as pastor; and that the cause of humanity, in attending the sick and the dying, in rescuing many, by a prudent and timely use of medicine, from the grasp of death, has been pro-

claimed with joy and edification in every recess of the Indian settlement."

The zeal of the Rev. Mr. Bondurel in this enterprise is worthy of all praise; but the same discouraging obstacle is complained of by him, that hinders their agricultural advancement, to wit: the unsuitableness of their present location. Their settlement, besides being as before remarked, extremely unhealthy, is *strung along the borders* of Lake Pah-way-hi-keen for eight miles. This form of the settlement renders it nearly impossible to get the small children into schools in the winter season, on account of the distance many of them necessarily live from the school houses.

Mr. Bondurel, in concert with the chiefs of the farming band, has selected a fine site for a settlement in an elevated district of healthy land, with a good stream for mills passing through it, whither he is desirous of gathering the farming band of the Menomonies. But to meet his views, as before observed, a treaty should be had, and a *reservation* located to them which would ensure permanency to the possession of their improvements.

For a more particular view of the *schools* in this sub-agency, among this, as well as the other tribes, I desire to refer to the *abstract* herewith submitted, made out from the monthly reports of the several teachers, and which I desire may be made a part of this report. From this abstract it will be perceived that, for the past year, there has been in this sub-agency 11 teachers employed in all, and 244 scholars taught. The improvement in the whole has been highly creditable to the teachers and the efforts of the government.

The foregoing might properly close this report concerning the Indians belonging to this sub-agency. In my last annual report I stated, that besides the Menomonies there were bands of other tribes in the vicinity—*Ottawas, Pottawatomies, Winnebagoes, &c.* Within the last few days complaints are made by the whites, settlers bordering on the Fox river, in Winnebago and Marquette counties, of serious depredations by the Indians. I immediately directed my interpreter, Mr. Charles A. Grignon, to repair to the neighborhood, with a view at once to enjoin the Menomonies to observe good order, and to procure and furnish to the Department, without delay, *correct information* as to the true nature of the disturbance. He has not yet returned. In the meantime, I learn, from sources I think to be relied on, that the depredators are none of them Menomonies. It appears that, in addition to the bands of the Pottawatomies and Winnebagoes that have for many years ranged over the country in question, there was, the spring and summer past, quite a large band of the Pottawatomies, that emigrated to the Missouri, returned, and located themselves in the neighborhood of Green lake, Fon du Lac, and Fox river, both in the Indian country and on the ceded lands. I judge this to be true, and that they are the depredators complained of by the whites of that neighborhood, from the fact that the Menomonies have complained of these new intruders as causing them great trouble, by destroying their fields of corn and generally plundering them of their effects.

The return of Mr. Grignon will put me in possession of the facts

of this affair, and I will lose no time in communicating them to your Excellency.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALBERT G. ELLIS,
U. S. Sub-Indian Agent.

To the Excellency, **HENRY DODGE,**
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison.

No. 6.

ST. LOUIS SUPERINTENDENCY,
Fort Leavenworth Agency, October 29, 1847.

SIR: In making my annual report, I take pleasure in informing you that the Indians in this part of the superintendency—embracing those on the Missouri and its tributaries—have been healthy during the present year, and are unusually so at this time.

Where any attention has been given to agriculture among the tribes, labor has been rewarded with abundance, with the exception of the Pawnees, whose country has suffered during the past summer from severe drought. Some of the tribes in this superintendency are becoming good farmers, especially in the Fort Leavenworth agency.

I learn from the Turkey river sub-agent, General Fletcher, that a considerable of agricultural emulation exists in that sub-agency. The sub-agent, no doubt, has been highly instrumental in exciting an interest among the Winnebagoes for agricultural pursuits, by establishing an agricultural society, and offering premiums.

I regret that it is not in my power to report that the Indians have continued in peace with each other. With regard to their feelings towards the whites, there is no doubt, that with a few exceptions, they are peaceable and friendly. The idea that seems to prevail to a considerable extent in the States, that there is danger of an outbreak or general border war, has not, in my opinion, any foundation to sustain it. I have visited this fall a number of tribes, and have found them entertaining the most kindly feelings towards the whites, and increased confidence in the government. This has been especially manifested by the Pottowatomies, one of the most powerful of our Indian tribes in population, wealth, and intelligence, in the superintendency.

The war parties so common among uncivilized Indians, I regret to inform you, have greatly increased during the present year, and especially in their fatal consequences to some of our border tribes. War parties upon a large scale have been fitted out by the Sioux, amounting in number in some instances, to seven or eight hundred warriors. Within the last few months, they have made several attacks upon tribes which the United States are using efforts to civilize, killing over one hundred and fifty, and have threatened to carry on a war of extermination against the Pawnees, Ottos, and

defenceless Omahas. In their late attack upon the Ottos, and hostile visit to the Pawnee and Omaha villages, they were in the immediate vicinity of Bellevue, where a number of white families reside. From the increasing boldness, and desperate determination of the Sioux, if not speedily checked, I consider the population of western Missouri and Iowa as by no means safe from their attacks; and as the Pottowatomies no longer oppose a barrier to their incursions on the northwest, it would be difficult to conceive the dreadful consequences that might follow a descent of these desperate savages upon the western portions of these two States. From the best information I can obtain, it appears that the greater part of the Sioux engaged in these war parties, are from the St. Peter's bands. While at the Council Bluffs a few days ago, I was informed that they were about starting a large war party against the Pawnees. I requested the volunteer companies then on the point of marching up the Missouri country, if they came across them, to demand a number of their principal men to be held as hostages for the future good conduct of their nation.

All the tribes that make periodical hunts upon the prairies, are in the habit of sending out war parties, but with the exception of the Sioux, these are generally small.

Your instructions to withhold the Iowa annuity until they should make reparation for their wanton attack upon an Omaha lodge last winter, were carried into effect, and resulted in an amicable arrangement. The principal chief, and others of the Iowas, directly your instructions were made known to them, hastened to the Council Bluffs agency, met the Omahas in council, made peace and other arrangements for reparation to the entire satisfaction of the Omahas. It is believed that this prompt measure will have a favorable effect in future, not only upon the Iowas, but upon the other tribes that were present at the council.

It is difficult for persons at a distance to conceive all the bad effects produced by these incessant wars among the Indians, but especially upon those that the government and missionary societies are trying to civilize. The frontier tribes exposed to these attacks are compelled, for protection, to live in villages, which is very prejudicial to agricultural pursuits, so necessary in the promotion of their civilization; and when they go on the buffalo hunt they are compelled, for safety, to take along the entire tribe. In consequence of the continual aggressions of the Sioux, missionaries, after several years of effort among the Pawnees, and after having gained their confidence in a very favorable degree, have been compelled, with great reluctance, to abandon them for the present.

From the impracticability of keeping hands at the Pawnee village, (the Sioux having visited it twice this year—on one occasion killing 23 Pawnees,) I have thought it advisable, for the present, to suspend all operations by the farmers, and have accordingly discharged all the persons employed on the farms; the Sioux in their last visit having destroyed the implements—in fact, everything about the village that could be readily destroyed.

Taking into view the great benefits that would result to humanity,

and the advancement of civilization, by putting a stop to Indian wars, I would again recommend what seems to my mind the only feasible mode, that is to say, a general council on the plains in the buffalo country, in the month of May or June, of as many Indian tribes as could be induced to assemble, for the purpose of forming treaties of peace and friendship; the United States to be a party, for the purpose of enforcing the observance of such treaties and of punishing delinquencies. The Oregon battalion could be present, without much inconvenience, as its presence would give importance to the negotiations and overawe the turbulent. Negotiations thus entered into, I am inclined to think, would be observed in good faith, which would be of incalculable advantage to the Indians. Before they can be civilized they must be taught to believe that it is more honorable to become tillers of the soil, and to provide for their families, than to destroy each other for some trifling or imaginary wrong; it would also give additional security to our white people in crossing the plains, as it is the war parties that generally do all the mischief.

The Pawnees, from the frequent robberies they have committed on the whites, have become exceedingly obnoxious; they greatly annoyed the government trains bound to Santa Fé last fall. From the best information I can obtain, they have not done much mischief this year. You are aware that the mischief has been attributed, and I think justly, to that portion of the band on the south of the Platte river. It is notorious that those on the north have been anxious that their friends on the south side should be forced over to join them, in order to check them in their depredations and increase their means of protection against their enemies, the Sioux. I have recommended that the village on the south side should be destroyed and its inhabitants driven over to their friends on the north side, and that some of their principal men should be kept in confinement as hostages for the good conduct of their bands.

During my late stay at the Council Bluffs agency, I was visited by a delegation of Pawnee chiefs, to learn from me the wishes of the government in their regard. They informed me that, when on their return from their hunt, they found that the Sioux, to the number of some 600 or 700, had been to their village and destroyed everything that could be destroyed; they, for the preservation of themselves and families, had crossed to the south side of the Platte, where they now are, and where they are anxious to have their farmers and missionaries; that they were desirous to listen to the words of their great father; that they knew that even if the white troops were sent to drive them from there, they would spare their women and children; but that if they returned to the north side, without sufficient protection, the Sioux would kill men, women, and children. The Pawnees have some excellent traits of character—they are sober, industrious, devoted to the whites who live among them, and desirous to learn their habits.

Should they have protection from the Sioux, I would recommend that their farming fund be, with their consent, applied to the

manual labor system. I consider the plan of making corn for the Indians worse than useless; not a single instance has come to my knowledge where the government has undertaken to farm for Indians in which their supply of corn has not been diminished; the Indians become indifferent when they have white men to work for them, and the whites themselves are but too apt to acquire the indolent habits of those around them—the result is that but little corn is raised and little or no instruction imparted; all that is necessary in farming for Indians, is to teach them to substitute the plough for the hoe, and this they can learn by their communication with the manual labor schools.

The many acts of violence that have been committed on the plains by what are called the "wild Indians," call loudly for some more energetic system than any yet put in practice in relation to Indians. The application of our humane system to these people is entirely insufficient to restrain them; we must deal with men as we find them, not as we would have them to be. Many acts of the most flagrant character committed by the Sioux within the last few years yet remain unpunished. The difficulty of obtaining evidence, and other difficulties incident to roaming tribes, make the trial of an Indian little better than a farce in their estimation, and they often laugh at them. When acts of violence, murder, robbery, &c., are committed, the guilty should be demanded, and if not surrendered, some of their principal men should be seized and held as hostages until they are given up. There is no difficulty in ascertaining the guilty among Indians, as those acts that the whites would seek to conceal, the wild Indians boast of as great exploits. They should be tried by a military court when practicable in their own country, and their chiefs, when seized as hostages, should be put to labor, and not returned to their people loaded with presents. In fine, they must be made to feel the power of the government.

The practice that still obtains of furnishing Indians with guns as part of their annuity, and permitting their traders to sell them such articles, should, in my opinion, be discontinued. When the Pawnees received guns at their annuity payment, they traded them to the Comanches; and the Osages in the fall generally procure a large number of guns for their winter hunt, which they exchange in the summer with the Comanches and other southwestern tribes for mules—thus supplying these Indians with weapons to be turned against ourselves. I would, therefore, recommend that an order be issued interdicting traders from selling guns, powder, lead, or balls of any description to the Indians, and that neither guns nor ammunition be furnished by the government in the shape of annuities, as for all the purposes of the buffalo hunt, the arrow is known to be equally, if not more, effective.

During the last summer, I addressed circulars to the several agents and sub-agents in this superintendency, in order to ascertain the number of murders committed by the Indians upon each other, the cause and the propriety of applying the criminal laws of the United States to the border tribes. I have received various

letters in reply, which are herewith enclosed, marked from letter A to G inclusive, to which I beg respectfully to call your attention. The many Indian murders that occur among the border tribes, and especially among those who are remarkable for temperance, is truly deplorable. The mode of punishment, if punishment it may be called, is calculated to increase the murders to an almost unlimited extent; the murderer may be killed by the next of kin to the deceased, and so on without limit. The government in many instances, and especially of property, acts as the guardian of the Indians, and applies the criminal laws of the United States to murders committed by Indians in their own country upon whites. There can, therefore, I should think, be no doubt as to the power of the government to make the law general in its application, so as to hold the Indian amenable for the murder of one of his own nation equally as of a white person; humanity would seem to indicate this policy. I am sure it would meet the approbation of the Indians. Many of them are aware of the necessity of law; but they say they could not execute it if they had it, and, therefore, wish the United States to make and execute laws for them. The murder of a white man among the civilized Indians is rarely ever heard of, while the murder of their own people is of frequent occurrence. Why is it so? Because they would be punished by the laws of the whites. The Indians are generally a law-abiding people; hold them responsible for the murder of their own people, and it would become a rare occurrence. The prospect of a long confinement would, probably, be more effectual even than death. I cannot too strongly urge the subject upon your attention.

Education begins to attract increased attention among the Indians. I have not had an opportunity of visiting many of the schools this fall; the reports of the agents and teachers, however, will give detailed information on the subject. While at the Bluffs, I visited the improvements being made by the Rev. Mr. McKinney, under the direction of the Presbyterian Board of Missions. It is intended for the education of the Ottoes and Omaha children, and will be ready in a few weeks for their reception. The Ottoes agreed in council to appropriate their annual school fund to the education of their children in this school. Ladies in New York, connected with this society, have made a very liberal provision for the education of both Ottoes and Omaha children. Mr. McKinney is a gentleman of energy, and experienced in the management of Indian schools.

I visited a small school, taught by Miss Osgood, under the patronage of the Western Baptist Mission among the Weas; the children are boarded in the school and are progressing well.

During my late visit to the Miamies, they appropriated from their annuity two thousand dollars per annum for education. Their school will be put in operation at the earliest practicable day, under the charge of the Catholic church. From their success with Pottowatomies, on Sugar creek, it is expected they will succeed in checking the vices of this small remnant of a once interesting people.

Your liberal proposition for establishing schools among the Potto-

watomies in their new country, was received by me in July last, but as they had united as one nation, by their late treaty, I thought it injudicious to ask their concurrence until they could be met in a united council; it is expected that they will meet in a few days in their new country. Major Cummins has been instructed to visit them there, and to show them their boundary lines, and knowing that the Major possesses the full confidence of the nation, I have requested him to lay the proposition before them.

Having taken an interest in the establishment of the school among the Osages, I would remark that I understand from the gentleman who has charge of it, that it has opened under very flattering circumstances. Early next year, it is expected that the Methodist church will commence a manual labor school among the Kansas Indians.

The Pottowatomies, although not compelled to emigrate under their late treaty, until July, 1848, have commenced their emigration under the most satisfactory circumstances. I attended the payment at the Council Bluffs sub-agency, and urged their immediate emigration; they entered into it with great spirit, and immediately after the payment started for their new homes, crossing the Missouri river at different points, in large parties. The chief of the Miamies, with a small portion of his band, also left the country with the intention of hunting on their way. That portion on the Osage were to have left last week. I presume before this reaches you, the Pottowatomie emigration will have been completed. They will, therefore, consider themselves entitled to the annuity, under their new treaty, one year after emigration.

The law of the last session of Congress, making it penal to introduce spirits into the Indian country, it is believed has already had a beneficial effect. Several prosecutions will be made at the next court against both whites and Indians. The Indians who will be presented are intelligent, and are otherwise most appropriate subjects for the application of penal law. A few such prosecutions will doubtless have a very happy effect in deterring Indians from introducing ardent spirits into the Indian country.

The law of the last session of Congress declaring void all executory contracts of Indians, must be considered by *all who have not been, or are not expecting to be benefitted by such contracts*, to be wise and salutary. Had its existence been coeval with our Indian relations, there is no doubt, in my mind, that the government would have been saved much trouble, and the Indians protected from incalculable frauds. Those who have any acquaintance with Indian transactions know with what facility bonds can be obtained from them, especially by those who have an influence over them, such as is usually possessed by their popular traders.

At the late Pottowatomie treaty (at both the Council Bluffs and Osage river sub-agencies) the Indians gave their notes to the traders for more than ninety thousand dollars; and, as I understand, these notes were given upon no other evidence than the simple statement of a clerk that the Indians owed so many thousand dollars. This case, I presume, is not an exception to the usual mode of obtaining Indian bonds or national notes; and I am free to declare, from my

observation, that they should only be considered as partial or presumptive evidence of debt. Your instructions requiring the annuity to be paid to the heads of families, and individuals without families, and that no debts should be paid by the Indians out of their undivided annuity until the debts have been found to be just, after previous investigation, I have cause to believe is entirely acceptable to the Indians, where they have not been tampered with by interested white men.

The only grounds of objection, it seems to me, that can exist on the part of the claimants is delay; and this is only partial, for as the Pottowatomies are by much the largest debtors, they have paid all they intended to pay at their late payment out of the fund set apart for debts, improvements, &c., and consequently cannot pay any more until they receive their annuity, under their new treaty, so that the interval will give ample time for investigation. But were it even otherwise, a partial delay should not weigh a feather in comparison with your desire to protect the interests of the Indians; and assuredly no fair and correct trader ought to desire, for a moment, to shield his accounts from the strictest scrutiny.

I believe there are very few tribes in this superintendency who are now in the habit of making national debts. The Pottowatomies certainly have not been; but as has been the custom heretofore at treaties, they have been induced to close up the debts of all their tribe who have individually proved delinquent, thus making the provident pay the debts of the improvident.

The laws and instructions based thereon, requiring the annuities to be paid to heads of families, &c., cannot but prove beneficial in its effects. *Chief payments* are known to be highly prejudicial to the interests of the mass of the tribe. The property of the tribe is appropriated mainly to the benefit of the chiefs, and their immediate personal friends, often the most corrupt and degraded of the nation. The propriety of the measure is too palpable to require a remark to support it.

The Indians have been informed, in accordance with your instructions, that hereafter their payments would be semi-annual instead of annual. This arrangement will no doubt increase the value of the annuity, as it will shorten their credits, and enable them to trade more for cash. The spring, with the improvident Indian, is generally the severest season of the year; their annuity is expended, their credit exhausted, and instead of devoting their time to planting, &c., they are compelled from necessity to devote a large portion of it to the procuring immediate subsistence.

The only objection I heard made to the semi-annual payments, and to heads of families, was among the Miamies. This I understood to be the objection of the Indiana traders, who had come on this summer to take off, as they did last spring, more than two-thirds of their annuity. I learn that they were told that if they received their semi-annual payments, that the government would defraud them; but if they would refuse to receive the half year payment, that the government would change its policy and pay them annually, and as heretofore. When I arrived at their

village, I found that they had determined, in a counsel held with their sub-agent, not to receive their semi-annual payment. I took every opportunity of exposing the conduct of the Indiana traders to the Indians, and of presenting the paternal intentions of the government towards them. As soon as the sub-agent arrived, we opened a roll, and invited all who wanted money to come forward and give in their families; about one-third of the nation, at first, came forward; the roll was then completed from the *ration roll*. As soon as the dollars began to circulate, the entire nation manifested a disposition to participate in the payment; all received \$60 50 for each person, (semi-annual payment.) I am sure all were delighted, with a few exceptions only, of those whose pecuniary interest would have been advanced by a *chief payment*, to the serious prejudice of their own people. The Miami annuity gives them about \$120 each, per annum. With this large sum they have not been able to obtain credit for the last eight months for more than \$15, notwithstanding it was their first year in the country and that they needed more than ordinary supplies. This restriction of their credit was in consequence of the uncertainty of the payment of their annuity.

Some additional legislation is required for the punishment of persons who may be found endeavoring to defeat the policy of the government in its intercourse with the Indians; in the case of the Miamies it was palpable. George Hunt, a half-breed Miami, one of the party permitted to remain in Indiana, and formerly United States interpreter, was present as the hired tool of a part of the Indiana traders. He went so far as to threaten to kill the first Indian that would receive his annuity. I do not mean to express any opinion to the prejudice of *the claims of Indiana traders*, but I do protest against the conduct of a *portion of them* in prejudicing them in the first place against emigrating, and afterwards following them to this country and endeavoring to defeat the policy of the government.

I would here remark, that the intercourse law gives authority to remove from the Indian country persons who are obnoxious to the laws; but such persons may return the next day, and the farce of removal be thus continued, from day to day, without any means of remedying it. I would respectfully suggest that some changes be made, so as to give effect and permanence to the removal of improper persons from the Indian country.

So far as I am advised, the payments this fall have been made with promptness and according to your instructions, except that to the Sacs and Foxes, under the agency of Major Beach. I have no official information on the subject; but, from rumor, the money has been disposed of in violation of positive instructions. I presume, however, that it will be made the subject of special investigation.

The Indian trade is probably the most fruitful source of difficulty in all our Indian relations, and, I doubt not, has presented more obstacles to the government, and to the philanthropists, who go among them to civilize them, than any other cause. Too great a facility has been afforded for the admission of immoral persons into the In-

dian country as traders and engagees. It is found that many go into the Indian country to avoid the restraints of civilized society, and contribute, by their vicious habits, rather to degrade than to civilize the Indians. No white man should be permitted to go into the Indian country whose moral character is not good.

The objections to the Indian trade, as at present conducted, are easily seen, but I am at a loss to suggest any adequate remedy. The Indians, in many instances, are made to pay enormously for their supplies. For instance, I was told by a trader that he sold to the Pawnees last spring less than a pound and a half of powder (a tin cup full and a half by measure) and a proportion of ball for a buffalo robe, and a three-point white blanket for two robes; and the Pawnees' robes are said to be the best.

The regulations require that the trader should keep up a permanent establishment, yet this is merely nominal with those who pretend to it; they do but little business except about the time of payment. Semi-annual payments, with a relaxation of the restriction to keep up a permanent establishment, would enable the Indians to procure supplies on better terms, and to diffuse the trade among a meritorious class of citizens that cannot afford the expense of keeping up a permanent establishment.

The Mormons who have settled on the south of the Missouri river, and on lands claimed by the Omahas and Otoes, have informed me that they would leave next spring. They have made some improvements in building, breaking up of lands, &c. When they leave, I fear that the above-named tribes may come to an open rupture in relation to the ownership of the lands and the improvements. It is important that the title should be settled; if there is any evidence in the possession of the Department, by which it can be adjusted, it should be done without delay; if not, it would be best to purchase it by a joint sale to be made by the two tribes.

The large tracts of land held by many of the tribes in the country west of the Missouri is calculated to retard their improvement. No people will improve fast in civilization who can, without hindrance, change their location at will; to improve, it is necessary that men should be brought into constant social intercourse. I would respectfully suggest that these fine rich lands must be subjected to the plough sooner or later, and that the interest of the Indians would require that they should be brought within more circumscribed limits, and their title to lands, not necessary for their use, be extinguished; but, at the same time, I would repudiate any suggestion that would have a tendency to remove them from their present location.

The civilization of the Indians is no longer a mere speculative idea. Remove from among them bad white men and their contaminating influence, and substitute an efficient administration among them, aided by energetic missionaries, with the manual school system, and it will be found entirely practicable.

An opinion prevails that the buffalo must soon disappear, and thereby cut off the support of the several tribes that are at present subsisted by them. As they become scarce, hostile tribes will be necessarily forced to pursue them into each other's country, and

deadly wars may be expected to follow. Humanity would indicate that the government should begin to look to the period, and provide a country suitable for agriculture for these roaming tribes, who have not lands fit for farming, and to direct the attention of the tribes to the subject in time.

I cannot close this report without calling your attention to the settlement of the Pottowatomie land reservation claims. For this purpose I would beg to refer you to my annual report of 1846 on this subject. Some of those who have sold and made deeds, complain that the money agreed on has not been paid. It should be inquired into, and justice, if possible, be done to the reservees.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

HON. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Office.

SUPPLEMENTAL.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS.

St. Louis, November 19, 1847.

SIR: In my annual report, which I was late in preparing, and which was done on the road during my late visit to the Indian country, I omitted some subjects which I should have brought to your notice, and which I now beg leave to supply, although it may be too late to accompany my report.

Being aware that education forms an important feature in your policy for the improvement of the Indians, and that the missionary teachers frequently complain of the difficulty they find in obtaining and keeping the children at school, in consequence of their desire to be free and unrestrained, and of the disposition of their parents to indulge them, it becomes necessary to adopt some plan for obviating this difficulty, and thereby rendering the object sought after more attainable. With this view, it seems to me that the improvement contemplated would be facilitated, where there are boarding schools established, by placing the orphan children under the care and direction of such schools. This would secure them constant scholars, whose improvement would be more rapid and thorough than those under the more immediate control of their parents, while at the same time it would secure a better and more comfortable provision for the orphans themselves than they at present enjoy. When the tribe has an annuity, it is frequently a subject of contention among individuals as to whom the orphan shall belong, not so much for the protection of the orphan, as for the right to receive his or her portion of the annuity.

In cases where the school fund is sufficient for the education of all the children, the orphans' annuity might be retained by the government, and paid over when they arrive at maturity, which would

enable them to commence life under advantageous circumstances; otherwise, it should be used in defraying the expenses of their education.

Since my return to St. Louis, I have heard from most of the agents, and of their annuity payments, all of which have been satisfactorily made, except that to the Sacs and Foxes in the Sacs and Fox agency; that payment was made, to my great astonishment, *in direct violation of positive instructions*. On my return from Washington with the funds on the 1st of September, I found Major Beach at this place waiting for those of his agency. He left his agency without instructions or authority to do so; but it is proper to state that he was written to in Iowa, (where he went on a visit to his family,) and directed to come to St. Louis for his funds, by my direction, before I left Washington. Had he remained at his agency, he would have been some six or eight days later in reaching St. Louis.

It being my intention to superintend the Pottowatomie payment, at the Council Bluffs, with a view to hasten their emigration, it became necessary that the money should be paid to the agents early in September in order to enable me to do so.

To accommodate Mr. Beach, who was anxious to return to his agency, I turned over to him the annuity money before the receipt of the instructions from Washington, which he was assured would be received in a few days. I paid over, also, the annuities to Majors Cummins, Vaughan, and Hewitt, under similar circumstances, and *with positive directions to all of them not to make payment until they should receive the instructions*. All strictly observed my directions except Mr. Beach.

In a paper appended by Mr. Beach to one of his vouchers, he says, "just before leaving St. Louis, with the annuity of 1847, the Superintendent of Indian Affairs instructed me not to pay the Sacs and Foxes until I should hear from him—this was September 2d. I reached my agency September the 10th; — days elapsed and I heard nothing from the superintendent. I had a person waiting to bring the mail from Westport, (our post office,) which came to that place on the 15th of September, as well as on the 11th and 13th—they all came at once. I had obtained the mail of the 8th in person. The mail of the 18th also came safely to me. On the 19th I received nothing from the superintendent. I felt under no obligations to him to remain here *indefinitely* for the want of the proper orders to pay," &c. Under ordinary circumstances I should not have considered it important to have hurried the instructions, it being too early for payment; but intending to set out, as I before remarked, for the Bluffs, I considered it important that it should be done before I left; the instructions to Major Beach were mailed at this place on the 8th of September, as you have been heretofore advised. A gentleman of this city started about the same time for the Sac and Fox agency, for the purpose of receiving money from a trader. On arriving at Westport, he learned that the instructions had not yet been received. He determined to remain at Westport until they should arrive—the mail for Westport lies over at Independence (12 miles from Westport) several days. This gentleman

being anxious to return to St. Louis, obtained an order from the postmaster at Westport, on the postmaster at Independence, for the Westport mail, and brought it up at his own expense. In this mail was a packet for Major Beach which doubtless contained the instructions. He volunteered to take the packet to the agency, and it was accordingly entrusted to him. On the road to the agency, he met a person riding rapidly, who inquired of him if he had the mail for Maj. B., and, on being answered in the affirmative, presented an order from Maj. B. for it, stating that the Indians were very impatient, and that it was important that the instructions should be received as early as possible—that as he had a fresh horse he could reach the agency in a shorter time than the other. The mail was accordingly given to him, but which Maj. Beach says never came to hand. This was some days before the payment.

From the facts and circumstances that have come to my knowledge, there is no doubt on my mind that the instructions fell into the hands of those who were interested in defeating the intentions of the government, viz: to pay the money to heads of families, and to investigate the so called *national debts*, before the Indians would be permitted to pay them out of their undivided annuity.

It is to me astonishing that Maj. Beach should complain of delay in regard to the time of payment. Last year he had the funds in his hands more than six weeks before he made the payment, which did not take place until the 24th of October. I was present at the payment, and heard no complaint about delay. It is generally admitted by all, even by traders themselves, that late payments are best for the Indians. When the weather is cold, they buy substantial clothing for their families—when warm, it is otherwise. Major Cummins, an agent of great experience and sagacity, took up his funds about the same time, the 6th of September. He paid the Kickapoos, Delawares, Shawnees, and other Indians, during the last weeks of October. About the 25th, many of the Sacs and Foxes were in the vicinity of the agency, and few, if any, more than three days' travel from there. I am equally astonished that any pretence should have been made that these Indians were suffering for provisions, when the agent had, in his control, ample means under the fifth article of the treaty of 1842, applicable to the purchase of provisions, &c.

The Sacs and Foxes divide their annuity into equal portions between the two tribes. If the money had been divided per capita, they would have received between \$32 and \$35 each. The Foxes, however, received, as I am informed, but \$3 each. Both tribes have already made complaints of their destitute condition.

The excitement and threats of the Indians spoken of were, no doubt, assumed for stage effect. The character of the government, and especially of the Indian service, requires that the whole matter should be subjected to the most searching scrutiny.

Major Sublette is instructed to inquire into the circumstances of the payment, and report the result to this office, but not having the power to compel the attendance of witnesses, or to make them an-

swer, if not so inclined, his investigation must be necessarily defective.

A body of troops, say a company, should always be in attendance at payments, not to averawe the Indians; for I will repeat what I have often said before, that there is no difficulty in doing business with them, but to keep the whites within the pale of the law.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

HON. W MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 7.

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY, *October 30, 1847.*

SIR: a full and complete report of the affairs of this agency, should have been made long since, but other important duties and a crippled thumb, have prevented me from making a report at the proper time.

* * * * *

On the 27th day of October, I completed the last annuity payment I had to make to the various tribes, within this agency, and have the satisfaction to say, that during my travels of some 250 miles among the various tribes, I did not see a drunken Indian; and, as is usual at my annuity payment, I had not the least difficulty or unnecessary trouble. The various tribes received their annuity thankfully; the most of them, as they often do, requested me to give their thanks to their great father. While on the subject of the payment of annuities, I will remark, that I cannot express myself in as strong terms as I wish, in favor of the present laws and regulations, in regard to the mode of making annuity payments to the Indians. They are so just and equitable, that I do not see how any objection can be made to them. They secure to the Indian everything that justice and equity could require. They will eventually secure to the government a stronger influence over the Indians, for they are not insensible to justice and their common rights. It will have a tendency to make them more economical, and prevent them from making large national debts—so ruinous to the red man. If I could write, I could mention many other evils that the law and regulations will save them from.

All the tribes within this agency are peaceable and friendly among themselves, and with all other tribes, and it is very gratifying to me to be able to state, that during the last seventeen years, not a serious difficulty of any kind has taken place between them and the whites.

The Kansas, Shawnees, Delawares, Kickapoos, Stockbridge,

Munsee and Christian Indians, are the tribes that are placed under my care, all of whom, except the Kansas, are doing well, becoming more and more civilized, and better agriculturists every year. This year they have raised an abundance of corn to do them—many of them will have to spare; some have already sold considerable lots of corn; many of them raise oats and some wheat, and all raise vegetables of various kinds—pumpkins, cabbages, potatoes, &c. &c.

These tribes send many of their children to school. There are two manual labor and one common school among the Shawnees, one common school among the Delawares, and one among the Christian Indians, and, until lately, one among the Stockbridges. At the Methodist manual labor school among the Shawnees, this year there are 125 scholars—78 males, and 47 females. Of this number, the Delawares furnish 19 males and 19 females; the Shawnees furnish 21 males and 9 females; the balance of the number is made up from various other tribes. At this institution they are endeavoring to give males and females at least a common English education. The males are taught the various branches of agriculture, some of them are placed under mechanics, to learn trades—such as wagon-makers, blacksmiths, and shoemakers. The females are taught all the duties of housewifery, cooking, spinning, weaving, knitting, &c.

The religious Society of Friends (orthodox) located among the Shawnees, average about 50 scholars this year—about 25 males and 25 females. This institution is conducted very much on the same plan of the one mentioned above, except that they have no mechanics. Great care is taken in this school, and the one mentioned above, to engraft good morals, and improve the condition of the Indian children, and the Indians generally.

The Baptists also have a mission among the Shawnees, and generally keep up a small school. This year they had fifteen Shawnee children at school.

The Baptist mission located among the Delawares has, this year, about 23 scholars. I am, at this time, unable to state the particulars of this school.

The society of Moravians have a school among the Christian Indians, the superintendent of which has not made a report to me this year, and I have not had it in my power to visit the school. This school has heretofore been doing well, and I have no doubt has this year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHARD W. CUMMINS, *Indian Agent.*

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 8.

AGENCY FOR SACS AND FOXES,

Osage River, September 1, 1847.

SIR: Within the past twelve months the Sacs and Foxes (formerly of the Mississippi) have become settled upon the tract of

country assigned to them, under the treaty of 1842, for a permanent home. Already several villages have sprung up, and their numerous fields of corn give evidence of a commendable industry. Still their agricultural labors are confined within a narrow range, both as regards the quantity of tillage, and the variety of products. Eventually, and that at a period of time not distant, agriculture must become their principal reliance for support, although as yet, their own aversion to labor, combined with a natural prepossession for that erratic life, in the pursuit of which, until in recent years, their subsistence had been chiefly procured, renders the approaching necessity for a change of habit less apparent to themselves. They still devote a great portion of their time to hunting, which, in the year past, has met with very good success. In fact, their buffalo hunt, from which they returned in the early part of August, proved to be more fortunate than any ever before effected by them. The buffalo were found at a very short distance from their country, by which they were enabled to pack home a much larger supply than usually their horses can transport.

At my recommendation, a little over one hundred acres of prairie land was broken up and fenced, in fields from five to thirty acres, during the last spring, and probably application for the similar preparation of about one hundred and fifty more will be made in season for next year's cultivation. In addition to that, I have had ploughed nearly or quite as much, in small patches, dotted along the creek margins, in the soft timber land, which has been under tillage, the whole promising a good crop. The soil is greatly inferior to that of the country which they last occupied, and as the Indians have not yet learned to compensate for this disadvantage by an increased amount of labor, their harvest will not favorably compare with that of previous years.

The receipt of annuities, or at least of such large ones as are paid to the Sacs and Foxes, is, I believe, looked upon by most of those familiar with their effects upon the Indians, and unprejudiced by any personal interest, as a real evil to the recipient. I am firmly convinced that it is so. If in the olden time it was only in the love of money that every evil found its source, in our day and among these people with whom the love of it is so little, that it is cast from the hand as freely as the dust from the moccasin. Money itself is that to which we may justly ascribe the production of almost all the difficulties that oppose their advancement, and, in this day, when benevolence is scanning every corner of our land in search of objects for its exercise, cause them to view with indifference, and even to reject with contempt, those plans and efforts in which their future welfare is so intimately blended. These annuities are the chief attraction which draws the whiskey merchant to the frontier. And even while a hope that the portion received from the government will prove adequate to supply his wants, the native energy of the Indian, whatever it may be, will be dormant, while listlessness and indolence, with the whole train of vices they engender, will maintain chilling influences, and point to him

as the only object where improvement rests, while all around him is progressive.

The act of the last session of Congress, imposing additional penalties, and increasing the means of conviction for the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian country, will, no doubt, be productive of much benefit, and tend, in a great degree, to suppress the traffic, in so far as it may have been carried on upon the Indian side of the boundary; still, it is not to the Indian country alone that this iniquity was confined, the greater portion of the intoxicating articles used by the Indians being usually brought among them by individuals of their own number, who go into the State and there purchase them; nor do I suppose that the evil can be checked until the sale of ardent spirits is entirely suppressed over a distance of at least fifty miles from the Indian line.

The Sacs and Foxes pertinaciously reject every overture for the admission of schools or missionaries among them. During some months past, I have had an application for the promotion of these objects pending before them. My opportunities for knowing the prejudices and apprehensions concerning them, existing among the Indians, suggested the necessity for much caution. The request was at first submitted to only two of the principal chiefs, and would not have been laid before the nation at large, could the assent of the chiefs been obtained; but the two to whom I had at first applied, although they appeared to approve of my proposal, feared to communicate their approval without consultation with their head men; and when the subject was brought before these in council, some slight hopes which I had cherished were at once dispersed by their unequivocal dissent. It should be borne in mind that this application was merely for their permission that the requisite buildings for a missionary establishment should be erected, and that its conductors should reside in their country, with the full understanding that none of their means should be asked for towards its maintenance. So liberal an offer has never before been made to them, nor one calculated in its own terms to show them that the actuating principle grew from a higher motive than merely to obtain some of their money—an argument which, I have reason to fear, has too often been used to defeat previous efforts in cases where they did not bear within themselves evidence of its falsity. I must own that I was greatly disappointed, for I had hoped and desired differently, yet I trust not so as to be deterred from a repetition. I had supposed that the opportunities which, since their removal to their new home, these Indians had acquired of observing among many of their neighbor tribes the benefits they had derived from civilization, would have exerted a salutary influence in dissipating many of their own groundless scruples; and no doubt these had been in some degree effective; but, unfortunately, the vices of civilization, which too often seem to find in Indian enlightenment a better adaptation to their own progress than in the uncultivated mind, are many times too prominent to escape notice, even were there not persons ever ready, by perverted appeals and unfair arguments,

to render their unsightliness more apparent, and falsely exhibit them as the necessary consequencés of improvement.

At the present time, when our country is at war with a foreign power, and many of the more distant Indian tribes are disposed to embarrass its movements, and have committed aggressions upon its citizens and property, it gives me more than ordinary pleasure to say that I have every confidence in the friendly disposition of the Sacs and Foxes; that they have been in no way accessory to any of the recent outrages, or aware that they were in contemplation by those who perpetrated them; and that no apprehensions need be entertained of any departure from their present pacific and orderly deportment, so long as our government continues faithfully the fulfillment of its recognised obligations towards them. They are also generally at peace with their Indian neighbors. They are too remote from the Sioux to be in danger of meeting with them. Their summer hunts carry them upon the ground traversed by the Pawnees, and they expect (should they come in contact with them,) and are prepared for, a fight; but thus far they have not met.

A special form being now prescribed in which many statistical details will be embraced, setting forth the improvement and condition of the Indians, to be collected at the annual payment of annuities—subjects of that nature are now passed over which would otherwise have come within the range of this report.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,
JOHN BEACH,
U. S. Indian Agent.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 9. ●

UPPER MISSOURI AGENCY, *October 17, 1847.*

SIR: In presenting my annual report, I have but little to communicate, and must necessarily be brief.

The Indians are in good health; and doing unusually well—their resources amounting to \$300,000 for the last season, which may be estimated as follows:

75,000 buffalo robes, at \$3 per robe	\$225,000
Furs, peltries, &c., &c.	35,000
Miscellaneous trade	40,000
	<hr/>
	\$300,000

The aggregate amount of which is, as above stated.. \$300,000 and would be amply sufficient to supply all the wants of the Indians, but for the extravagant prices of goods, which are unreasonably high, and should be curtailed.

There are two licensed trading companies in this district of country that use a capital of \$175,000; the larger portion of which is idle capital.

• The Indians have been greatly imposed on in their intercourse

with the whites, in conducting the trade of the country. That system of trade which is now, and has been for years, carried on in this country, should be speedily abolished; and I need only add, that the system is that of "hawking and peddling" goods over the country, using the various posts of trade as places only of deposite.

The interests of the Indians require a change in the manner of conducting the trade of the country, which has been conducted for years to the great prejudice of the Indians, and contrary to the provisions of the intercourse law and the regulations of the Department.

To more effectually guard and protect the Indians from imposition and fraud, on the part of white men and traders in the country, I would suggest the following rules, viz:

1st. Require the trader to have a license for each separate trading post—his license to name the place of trade and the Indians with whom he intends trading; and, at the time of making application, to furnish, on oath, an invoice of merchandise for each post, the amount thereof to be embodied in his licenses; also, to give bond, with security, for each separate post of trade, and to be bound in said bond, to furnish, on oath, at the expiration of his license or termination of his bond, a balance sheet, showing the amount of goods sold, the kind sold, the balance of stock on hand at invoice prices, &c., by means of which the Department can determine whether the Indians have been fairly dealt with; also the propriety of a renewal of license; and in every instance to confine the trade to the various places of trade as designated in the license.

2d. The traders, upon application for a license, should furnish a list, on oath, of the white men they wish to introduce into the Indian territory, with satisfactory evidence of their good character, and that they were citizens of the United States—their names to be embodied in the bond and license. And as they introduce them into the country, I would hold them responsible for any fraud or imposition they may practice on the Indians.

3d. Require them to furnish, on oath, a list of all persons now in the country in their employment, with satisfactory evidence that they are men of good character and citizens of the United States; and for all such as could not come up to the rule, I would require the person or trader, who introduced them into the country, to turn them out forthwith.

For a non-compliance with the above, I would make it a good and sufficient cause for a revocation of license and a forfeiture of bond.

There are about five hundred white men in this district of country, the greater portion of whom are foreigners by birth, and many who never were citizens of the United States. The interests of the Indians require the expulsion of many of these men, and speedy and prompt action should be taken to turn them out of the country.

I have addressed letters to the various traders, calling their attention to the intercourse law, and the regulations of the Department for the government of trade in the Indian country, requiring a strict compliance with the same; and I have also informed them

of the contemplated changes in the manner of conducting the trade of the country.

Of the Indians I have but little to say, as I am preparing, in detail, a report of the statistics of the country, the manners, customs, habits, and character of the Indians in my district.

The Indians have been extravagantly estimated by my predecessors in office—they having estimated the Sioux alone at fifty thousand souls; and I am at a loss to know from what source they derived their information, as they could not have obtained it from the Indians themselves. There are nine tribes in the agency, and they may be estimated as follows:

The various bands of Sioux	number	2,520 lodges,	cont'g	19,660 souls.
The Arickarees	"	240	"	"
The Gros Ventres	"	150	"	"
The Mandans	"	40	"	"
The Poncas	"	200	"	"
The Chayennes	"	317	"	"
The Crows	"	530	"	"
The Blackfeet	"	810	"	"
The Assineboines	"	980	"	"

The aggregate number of which is 45,946

Total number of lodges 5,587, which would be a fraction over eight souls to the lodge.

The Sioux, Chayennes, Gros Ventres, Mandans, and Poncas are excellent Indians, devotedly attached to the white man, and live in peace and friendship with our government; and they are entitled to the special favor and good opinion of the Department for their uniform good conduct and pacific relations.

These people manifest a disposition to be instructed in the agricultural and mechanic arts, although they have made but little improvement as yet. They are highly susceptible, in my opinion, of a speedy and rapid improvement in the arts and habits of social life. They receive no annuity, have no schools or missionaries among them, at a great distance from the States, with a large number of *rascally* white men among them, and it is quite reasonable that they should have made but little improvement. These people are opposed to the introduction of ardent spirits into their country; but, like almost all other Indians, will use it if you give it to them; and when under its influence are a dangerous and troublesome people. When free from alcoholic influence, there are no better people.

I cannot too strongly urge upon the Department the propriety of doing something for these tribes; their necessities, wants, &c., require it, and humanity and the principles of philanthropy and religion demand that something should be done to civilize and Christianize these unfortunate people. Now is the time for action with them; for in a few years the game, their only means of living, will be extinguished, and they will then be poor indeed. While there yet exists game in the country, they should be given personal security from domestic war and strife. Give them permanent locations and secure residences, with notions of property and of right

and wrong, and Christianity and order will naturally spring up of themselves. I would advise the Department to establish an institution of learning—a manual labor school—at some convenient point on the Missouri river for the benefit of said tribes, the exclusive management of which I would give to the Catholics; not that I am a Catholic, but that I believe the Catholics are more successful in their attempts to civilize the Indians. Besides, they are a pious, good people, who give high evidence that they feel a great interest for the Indians; and they generally possess, to a more eminent degree, the confidence of the Indians than the Protestants; and I am for those who are capable of doing most good. An institution of this kind would do much good towards settling and locating these tribes; it would tend to bring together, in concert of action, and unite in feeling, principle, and interest, six of the tribes of the nine in the agency, and would thus be the means of uniting in interest twenty-seven thousand three hundred and six souls.

I induced a delegation from the principal bands of the Sioux, to visit the Gros Ventres, Mandans, and Arickarees. They were kindly received, and had many presents given them of robes, pipes, tobacco, and horses, after which they returned home, having promised to return with their people, and talk over and settle their difficulties. They kept their promise, and returned in a short time with 3,000 of their people, held a grand talk, smoked the pipe of peace, exchanged presents with mutual pledges of love, friendship, and good faith, and it is devoutly to be hoped that these pledges may never be broken.

The Arickarees are situated on the Missouri river, between the Gros Ventres and Sioux, and are much better Indians than they have character for being. They are inclined to treachery, are thievish and great libertines, yet they are better Indians than the Blackfeet and Assineboines, yet not so good as the Gros Ventres, Poncas, and others above mentioned.

The Crows, Blackfeet, and Assineboines, have made no improvement whatever, tenaciously adhering to all the ferocious customs and miserable expedients of savage life.

These Indians are excessively fond of ardent spirits, (with the exception of the Crows, who have never been known to drink or use strong liquors;) are also thievish, treacherous, and are only to be kept under through fear; for they still continue to despise and hate the white man, and every effort made to gain their love and friendship has been made in vain.

These people are susceptible of improvement by kind and conciliatory measures—you must first gain their friendship before you can do any good for them.

The Indians generally have been remarkably pacific in their relations for some time; but God only knows how long they will remain so, as war seems to be the natural element of the untaught Indian.

I would suggest the propriety of a grand council of the various tribes of the Missouri Indians. Fifty thousand could be assembled at short notice on the Vermillion, 1,000 miles above St. Louis, at

very little expense to the government, if done in the spring or summer months. And I would suggest the propriety of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and the superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, as well as the agents and sub-agents of the various tribes, being present. My opinion is, that much good could and would be effected by a meeting of this sort; and unless something of this kind is done, I fear it will be a long time before our government will succeed in putting an end to their domestic feuds and wars.

The late law of Congress, to prevent the introduction of ardent spirits into the Indian country, has had a very happy effect; and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs is certainly entitled to great praise for the vigorous efforts he has made to arrest this great evil. And should our government establish, as contemplated, a military post at Fort Laramie, every avenue will be closed for its introduction into my district of country. I am informed by the traders that since they have ceased to traffic in ardent spirits, the resources of the Indians have greatly increased, and their demand for the substantial articles of trade has augmented 200 per cent.; that the Indians enjoy much better health, look much better, and are a much better people; and that you now rarely ever hear of a murder being committed; whereas, when whiskey was plenty in the country, murder was a daily occurrence.

To more effectually guard against the introduction of, and traffic in, ardent spirits in the Indian country, I would apply the common law principle, which is laid down in *Hawkins' Pleas of the Crown*: "If a man does an act, of which the probable consequence may be, and eventually is, death, such killing may be murder, though no murder be primarily intended. Such is the common law principle, that if a man does an act, the reasonable probability of which is death, he is guilty of murder, although he did not intend murder." Thus is it with a man who sells or furnishes the wild Indian with intoxicating liquors—he is a murderer—for in this case, there is a more than reasonable probability of death; there is a certainty of death in some shape or other; and such is the view taken of it by the *Divine law*, which may be found in *Exodus xxi. 29*. In view of these things, I would like to see the law a little more rigid, and changed so as to hold the whiskey seller responsible for all the mischief done by the Indian while under its influence. To illustrate: should an Indian when drunk commit a wanton, wilful, and malicious murder, the man who furnished him with the means of intoxication should be held responsible and tried as an accessory to the murder, and on conviction thereof, expiate his crime and offence in the penitentiary or under the gallows.

Upon the subject of an agency house, I am of the opinion that it would be impracticable to establish one at the present time; the unsettled condition of the Indian does not require it to be done. But the necessity of a place of head-quarters, for the safe-keeping of government papers and property, is apparent. On my arrival in the country, I could not find a single paper of any description whatever—nothing that would show there ever existed such an

office as an Indian agent's. I have rented a comfortable office, and have opened a set of books, &c., the rent of which I shall expect the Department to pay, which can be done without an additional appropriation or remittance, as the sum heretofore allowed for contingencies will be sufficient for all useful purposes.

I have had great difficulty in procuring the services of a competent interpreter—one that could speak both the Indian and English languages. There are many who speak the French and Indian. I employed Henry Shattalion, a Frenchman, as interpreter from the 1st to the 30th of June, one month; and I have had the services of Louison Freniar, a half-bred Sioux, for the quarter ending on the 30th September. I found Freniar a good man, as well as a good interpreter; he is a native of the country, and a half-breed. This man I have appointed interpreter, and respectfully ask a confirmation of his appointment.

There is no necessity, in my opinion, for a military post in this country; the one contemplated at Fort Laramie will be sufficiently near for all useful purposes.

Owing to the great distance from my district of country to St. Louis, or the settlements, it will be impossible to be regular in my communications to the Department, and absolutely impossible to make my quarterly returns regularly. I must, therefore, ask the indulgence of the Department, that I may be permitted to make my returns annually instead of quarterly; and this can be a matter of but little importance, as the disbursements are almost nothing.

I have the honor to be, sir, your very obedient servant,
G. C. MATLOCK,
Indian Agent.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 9½.

BENT'S FORD, ARKANSAS RIVER,
September 18, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations and instructions of the Indian Department, I have the honor of submitting the following report:

I left St. Louis about the 20th of May, and proceeded to Fort Leavenworth, for the purpose of joining the first troops leaving there for Santa Fe. On my arrival at Fort Leavenworth, I ascertained that Lieutenant Love (an excellent young officer of 1st dragoons) would start in a few days for Santa Fe, in command of an escort of dragoons, furnished the paymaster in charge of the government funds. Lieutenant Love invited me to join him, which invitation I gladly accepted; and, having some further preparations to make, I repaired immediately to Westport for that purpose. Having soon completed my arrangements, I set out from

Westport, and joined the command, on the Santa Fe road, on the 10th of June, seventy-five miles from Leavenworth. We travelled along happily and with much expedition, until we arrived at Pawnee Fork, a tributary of the Arkansas river, three hundred miles from Fort Leavenworth. Here we came up with two large government trains, loaded with commissary's stores for Santa Fe, together with a few traders, who were travelling with them for protection. They had been detained at this place several days on account of high water. During their detention, and two days before our arrival, they were attacked by a large body of Indians, but sustained no loss, except one man slightly wounded. On the opposite, or west side of the stream, were also encamped a return train from Santa Fe, (empty,) and bound for Fort Leavenworth. After the unsuccessful attempt of the Indians on the east side, they dashed across the stream, and drove off, and killed nearly all the cattle belonging to the return train, and left the party without the means of hauling the wagons farther. Therefore, by the imbecility and bad management of the party, over twenty more wagons, with their necessary accoutrements, were added to the frequent losses sustained by the government on that road, and from like causes. From their own account, they had more than sufficient time to have secured the cattle within the enclosure formed by the wagons, but did not attempt to do so until they were in possession of the Indians, when it was found to be too late. The morning after our arrival at Pawnee Fork, the waters having subsided sufficiently to let the wagons pass over, all hands made preparations for a fresh start; but, before leaving, Lieutenant Love gave directions to the commanders of each train, to travel and encamp as near him as would be convenient during the remainder of the trip, or at least until they passed through the most dangerous part of it. These directions were very agreeable to one of the men in charge, but to the other, was quite the reverse; he remarked that he had already received his instructions from the quartermaster at Fort Leavenworth, and was not disposed to submit to further instructions. Lieutenant Love told him he must submit, as he would not suffer so much government property to run the risk of falling into the hands of the Indians. The fording of the stream was then commenced, and found to be slow and difficult, which operation consumed the greater part of the day; however, all passed over without any accident, and encamped on the west side of the stream in good order, and ready to pursue the journey on the morrow. The next morning all were moving in good time—Mr. Hayden (the stubborn man) in front, and a considerable distance in advance. He observed to some of his men at starting, that "if those gentlemen in the rear encamped near him that night, they would have to travel after dark." However, we travelled on rapidly, and came in sight of him near sundown, and encamped at least a mile from the Arkansas river, and out on the level plain. Lieutenant Love bore off towards the river, and encamped on its banks, being the most convenient for grass and water, as well as safest from an attack,

particularly from a party of horsemen. Lieutenant Love was by no means satisfied with the isolated position of Hayden's train, but, it being late, he concluded to let it remain for the night, with a full determination to compel him to comply with his orders for the future. The opportunity was too favorable for the Indians to let it pass without making an effort; if the Indians themselves had made the selection of the ground, they could not have chosen a more favorable position for the accomplishment of their plans. The next morning, as soon as the cattle were turned out of the *caral* to graze, the Indians made a charge, and succeeded in driving them off. Lieutenant Love (as was his usual practice every morning) was out at the time, on the highest point, with his spy-glass, reconnoitring the country around, before he permitted his horses to be taken out to graze; he soon discovered the difficulty at Hayden's camp, and immediately ordered his men to saddle and mount instantly; the order was soon obeyed, but just at that moment, and when Lieutenant Love was about to lead his men to the rescue, a large body of Indians, not before discovered, made a demonstration near our camp, seemingly with the intention of attacking us, which they would have certainly done, if Lieutenant Love had led off his whole command. This sudden and unexpected manœuvre of the Indians changed the intentions of Lieutenant Love, and it was that only which caused the success of the Indians that day; if Lieutenant Love had led off his command in pursuit of the Indians with the cattle, he certainly would have defeated them, and retaken the cattle. But his own camp would have been in danger of being defeated, and robbed, and he very prudently remained in it—at the same time, sending twenty-five men, under the command of a sergeant, to the assistance of Hayden. Those men charged gallantly amongst the Indians, who, by the time they reached them, were a long distance off, and not being supported by the men of Hayden's train, as was expected, were completely overpowered by numbers, and defeated, with the loss of five men killed, and six severely wounded; the remainder being obliged to make a precipitate retreat, in order to save themselves from the overwhelming numbers that surrounded them; for, by this time, many of the party which had threatened our camp, finding we were prepared for them, and not daring to attack us, dashed off at full speed, and joined the other party with the cattle. This reinforcement of the Indians proved fatal to the dragoons. Here, then, was a dilemma—five men killed, six severely wounded, thirty wagons, with their loading, left without the means of taking them to their destination, and all this arising from the stubbornness and self-will of one man. I am very certain that, if Hayden had obeyed the order of Lieutenant Love, and encamped where he should have done, no such misfortune would have happened.

At this unfortunate encampment we were obliged to remain several days, on account of the inability of the wounded to travel; but, so soon as they were sufficiently recovered to make slow and easy marches, we again set out, taking with us Hayden and his train—

the other train with us having escaped injury or accident; and having to each wagon five and six strong yoke of oxen, were divided out equally, according to the weight to be hauled, some with two yoke, others again with three. In this way, averaging from five to eight miles a day, we reached the government depot, now called Fort Mann, twenty-five miles below the crossing of the Arkansas river. At this place, I intended to remain until an opportunity offered to go to Bent's Fort; but, finding Fort Mann abandoned, and a perfect wreck, I gave up the idea of halting, and, as there was no other resource, continued on to Santa Fe, where we arrived, without any further occurrence worthy of notice, on the 6th of August, just two months from Leavenworth. Mr. Hayden, his party, and whole train, were left in deposite at Fort Mann, with instructions to remain until relief could be sent him.

I feel a strong disposition to say something in regard to the condition of New Mexico; however, I presume it has been represented by more experienced and abler hands. Yet, I doubt much whether the government is in full possession of all the facts, or at all aware of the deplorable condition of that country. The Indians are ravaging the territory throughout, murdering and carrying off the inhabitants to a much greater extent than heretofore; and what would seem very strange, they carry their hostilities (except when they want presents, and then they are as gentle as lambs,) almost within gun shot of the head-quarters of the army of the west.

The state of discipline amongst the volunteers, the efficiency of the officers of the law civil and military, and which of the two have the prerogative, or whether either exists—on all those matters I am unable to decide, or give an opinion. It has been matter of surprise to many, that in a country so healthy and salubrious, and with so gentle a climate as New Mexico, so many volunteers should die of disease. Let those wonderers pay a visit to Santa Fe, and remain one week, as I have done, and observe the life there led, day and night, and they will be still more astonished that so many have lived. I remained in Santa Fe one week, when I found an opportunity of getting to my destination, in company with some volunteers whose term of service had expired, and who chose to pass by this place, where I arrived on the 29th August, being over three months from Saint Louis getting to my destination. Before leaving Santa Fe, I met with the man whom I had all along intended to engage as interpreter for the Chyennes and Aripohoes, he having been in charge at Fort Mann at the time of its abandonment, and the garrison being reduced to seven men, he was obliged, like myself, to keep with the current of travel, and got to Santa Fe a short time before us. I engaged him for three months only, at twenty-five dollars per month, for the purpose of making an excursion with me amongst the Chyennes and Aripohoes. This is the only way that men of that description can be engaged for the sum that the Department allows for that purpose; and it is only when they are disengaged that they can be had on such terms—the traders paying them more for the winter's trade;

besides finding them in provisions, &c., than the Department allows for the whole year. However, under the present circumstances, and while so many different tribes are to be dealt with, all speaking different tongues, the mode I have adopted, and intend for the future to adopt, is the best and most economical. Good interpreters value their services in this country at a high rate; but no man, of any kind, could be hired here at three hundred dollars per annum, without provisioning him also. Soon after my arrival here, I had a very satisfactory interview with a large portion of the Chyennes, and a few of the Aripohoes, who, on hearing of my arrival, hastened to see me, no doubt expecting to receive presents, but in that they were sadly disappointed. I directed the chiefs and braves to assemble in council, which they soon did, and by the assistance and kindness of the people of this fort, I was enabled to provide them with a feast of bread, coffee, &c., which is always expected by those Indians on such occasions. After the feasting was ended, I made them a speech, in which I explained the object of my visit amongst them, and the kind intentions of the United States government towards them, as well as towards the Aripohoes, Sioux, and all Indians who conducted themselves in a peaceable and proper manner towards us, as well as each other. I also told them that I was particularly instructed by their great father to ascertain what Indians were engaged in plundering and robbing travellers on the Santa Fe road, and throughout the country, in order that when he sent his soldiers into the country, the innocent should not suffer equally with the guilty. In fact, I explained to them the policy and intentions of the government towards Indians generally, and that their great father was disposed to treat them more like his children than like enemies; but that there were some things which he could not overlook, and these were, the murdering and plundering his people—the perpetrators of which would be speedily and severely punished. I reminded them of the great diminution and continual decrease of all game, and advised them to turn their attention to agriculture, it being the only means to save them from destruction. I pointed out and enumerated the many evils arising from the use of spiritous liquors, and advised them to abandon altogether so degrading and abominable a practice.

In reply to what I had said, one of the principal chiefs (Yellow Wolf) spoke as follows: "My father, your words are very good; the Chyennes all hear and cherish them, and those that are absent shall hear and remember them also. My father, we are very poor and ignorant, even like the wolves in the prairie; we are not endowed with the wisdom of the white people. Father, this day we rejoice; we are no more poor and wretched; our great father has at length condescended to notice us, poor and wretched as we are; we now know we shall live and prosper, therefore we rejoice. My father, we have not been warring against your people; why should we? on the contrary, if our great father wishes our aid, the Chyenne warriors shall be ready at a moment's warning to assist in punishing those bad people, the Comanches." Here I interrupted

him, saying that their great father had plenty of soldiers at his command—moreover, it was not his wish to embroil his red children in war with each other—on the contrary, he wished to see them unite in harmonious brotherhood. He continued—“Tell our great father that the Chyennes are ready and willing to obey him in every thing; but, in settling down and raising corn, that is a thing we know nothing about, and if he will send some of his people to learn us, we will at once commence, and make every effort to live like the whites. We have long since noticed the decrease of the buffalo, and are well aware it cannot last much longer. Tell him also,” he said, “that the white people, a short time ago, killed one of our wisest and best chiefs; that the tears of the orphans and relatives of the deceased chief are not yet dried up; yet we still remain the friends of the whites.” A government train of wagons passing early last spring, and arriving at the Arkansas river, were discovered by a party of Chyennes returning from the Comanches. The chief of the party, (Old Tobacco,) who has always been considered a good Indian, and very friendly to all Americans, determined to apprise the party thus discovered, of the near vicinity, and hostile intentions, of the Comanches. On entering the camp of the whites for that purpose, he was fired upon and severely wounded, and died of his wounds five days after. Before dying, he called his family and relatives together, and told them not to avenge his death; that his friends had killed him without knowing who he was. What is meant by drying up tears is, payment for the dead man; it is a custom of all the Indians of this country to demand payment for all such occurrences, whether it happens by accident or design. When a refusal to pay is given, and when the case is between different tribes, war ensues; if the occurrence has taken place between families of the same tribe, payment or retaliation is the consequence, and not unfrequently leads to a separation of the tribe. Therefore, under all those circumstances, had I means and power, I would have dried the fountain from which flowed their tears for the deceased chief.

On the conclusion of the “big talk” with the Chyennes, I addressed myself more particularly to the Aripohoes, who were present, remarking that all they heard, applied equally to them as well as all other Indians who conducted in a peaceable and proper manner, and asked what they had to say in reply. They said, “their ears were open and heard all, but could make no answer at present, inasmuch as they knew not the sentiments of their tribe; moreover; that some of their people had already joined the Comanches against the Americans, which he much regretted; therefore, he was ashamed to talk.” I advised him to send for his people, and all might yet be well; he promised to do so. I purchased some tobacco and distributed it amongst them, and then adjourned the council.

I do not wish to be understood as placing much confidence in the profession of the Indians of this country; neither do I in those of any other. Circumstances and necessity may seem to change their

disposition; but ingratitude, low, mean cunning, cowardice, selfishness and treachery, are the characteristics of the whole race. Yet I believe the Chyennes are serious in their professions of friendship; they plainly see what must befall them on the extinction of game, and therefore wish to court the favor of the United States government, hoping to obtain assistance. Many of them appear very desirous to commence raising corn, but I fear the effort will be found too laborious for them, unless they are encouraged and assisted. If the government wishes those Indians to settle down, they must give them some assistance, at least towards a beginning. A few dollars expended with those who are now willing to commence, might work some good, and be the means of inducing others to follow the example; and by the time the buffalo is all gone, those Indians will be prepared to live without them.

The Chyennes claim this river and the surrounding country, without any definite or defined limits; and, together with the Aripohoes and Sioux, occupy indiscriminately the whole country along the eastern base of the Rocky mountains, from the northern frontier of New Mexico up to the Missouri river, without regard to lines or limitations of boundary; and sometimes they extend their war and hunting excursions across the mountains, into the country of the Snake and Utawa Indians—as well as south into New Mexico, east down the Arkansas, Kansas, Platte and Missouri, to almost the very borders of our western settlements.

The Chyenne Indians, from the best authority, will not number over 280 lodges, and not exceeding 500 warriors. The Aripohoes, from a like source of information, are about 350 lodges, and can raise 800 warriors. The Sioux Indians of the north fork of Platte, and who roam in this country also, are about 800 lodges, and can turn out from 2,000 to 2,500 warriors; the average number of the Sioux to each lodge is greater than those of the others.

The above Indians are all immediately in this agency, and may, by proper management, and by keeping liquor from amongst them, be kept quiet and tranquil. The Aripohoes are most to be dreaded, not on account of their superior bravery and courage, as they do not excel the others in that respect; but they are becoming very insolent of late, arising, no doubt, from the frequent defeats of the whites on the Santa Fe road, and perhaps they think that they could be as successful as the Comanches.

The Comanches and Kiaway Indians have been making endeavors to induce those here to join them in the war, representing the great advantages as well as the profits, without incurring the least risk. They have represented the whites who travel the Santa Fe road as easily killed as elk or buffalo, and not at all to be compared with the Texans. This is the Comanches's report to the Chyennes and Aripohoes, who have told me of it.

I received information, a few days ago, from the north fork of Platte, that a man by the name of John Ruchare, or Richarde, had been selling liquor to the Indians all summer. This same John Richarde is notorious in this country for violating the law in that

respect, and has been known to declare frequently that he would continue to do so in defiance of all law, and in despite of all the agents the government might send into the country.

It is 380 miles from this to Fort Laramie, on the north fork of Platte, in the vicinity of which those violations of law are carried on. I shall leave here in a short time for the purpose of visiting Mr. Richarde, as well as some others who sometimes follow the same occupation; and, if I had a few men with me, and under my control, I would soon teach these gentlemen that a compliance with the law was the most profitable course. But being alone, and without means, not even for the hiring of a few Indians to assist and accompany me, it cannot be expected that I can accomplish all that is required by the Department. However, I shall endeavor as far as possible to fulfil my instructions, and will start for the north fork in a few days, or at least as soon as I can find an opportunity to forward this document. At Fort Laramie, I hope to find United States troops, who will assist me in putting down this abominable practice. I have no apprehension about the large traders and men of capital, such as Pierre Chouteau, jr. & Co., nor from this establishment, (Bent's.) Those two, being the principal traders in the country, have long since ascertained that the traffic in spirituous liquors was becoming very unprofitable, and therefore have, I believe, discontinued it altogether; and, I have no doubt, would willingly assist in putting it down. This laudable change in their business has not emanated from a regard for the law, nor from philanthropic motives, but from the fact of its becoming a great nuisance, and very dangerous to those having large investments in the trade, and whose expenses were heavy; and, not being able to compete successfully with the numerous small traders who infest the country, and whose expenses were comparatively nothing—whose whole stock in trade amounted to only a few trinkets and three or four hundred gallons of liquor, procured on the Missouri frontier, New Mexico, or of the Hudson Bay Company. The above causes, together with the great diminution of the proceeds of the Indian hunts, arising out of so much of their time being spent in drunkenness and debauch, have caused this great change.

I have been thus particular in showing the causes of its declination, not for the purpose of making it appear unnecessary to guard against it in future; on the contrary, to advise increased vigilance in order to prevent its revival.

It is greatly to be regretted that so little attention has been paid to the laws regulating intercourse with the Indians, as great evils have arisen from their neglect; and I know of none greater than permitting the licensed trader to take so many men of bad and desperate character into the country, and at the expiration, or before their term of service expires, casting them adrift amongst the Indians. It is by this class of men that great mischief has been done, and the law violated, as well while in the service of the traders as afterwards.

Many of those men not being American citizens, but Canadians,

Mexicans, and Europeans, are not satisfied with violating the laws, but have been known to make and cause great mischief, by inciting the Indians against the government and people of the United States. Perhaps the evil does not exist now to such an extent as formerly, as there is not the same amount of business done, and therefore not the same number of men required.

About seventy-five miles above this place, and immediately on the Arkansas river, there is a small settlement, the principal part of which is composed of old trappers and hunters; the male part of it are mostly Americans, Missouri French, Canadians, and Mexicans. They have a tolerable supply of cattle, horses, mules, &c.; and I am informed that this year they have raised a good crop of wheat, corn, beans, pumpkins, and other vegetables. They number about 150 souls, and of this number there are about 60 men, nearly all having wives, and some have two. These wives are of various Indian tribes, as follows, viz: Blackfoot, Assineboines, Arickarees, Sioux, Aripohoes, Chyennes, Pawnees, Snake, Sinpach, (from west of the Great lake,) Chinock, (from the mouth of Columbia,) Mexicans, and Americans. The American women are Mormons; a party of Mormons having wintered there, and, on their departure for California, left behind two families. These people are living in two separate establishments near each other; one called "Paublo," and the other "Hard-scrabble;" both villages are fortified by a wall 12 feet high, composed of *adobe*, (sun-dried brick.) Those villages are becoming the resort of all idlers and loafers. They are also becoming depots for the smugglers of liquor from New Mexico into this country; therefore they must be watched.

The Comanche and Kiaway Indians are those who have been infesting and marauding on the Santa Fe road all summer and spring; but, from information received from the Chynnes and Aripohoes, are now gone south. There are also a few of the Aripohoes with them, and, in my opinion, some of our Missouri frontier Indians, either Delawares or Osages, or both. One Delaware who made his escape from Taos, after the battle of that place, has been known to have spent the spring and part of the summer amongst the Comanches. At Taos he fought desperately against the Americans, and is supposed to have killed the gallant Captain Burgwin, and three or four of the regulars, who were shot down in the assault on the church. After the defeat of the insurgents, he made his escape from that country, came out to the Arkansas river, where he found the Chyennes, told them what had happened at Taos, and that in the battle he killed five Americans. He used every effort in his power to induce the Chyennes to join him in a war against the whites, representing them as bad people, and the ruin of all Indians. This argument having failed, he remained but one night, and started the next morning for the Comanches. This Delaware, who is well known in this country by the name of "Big Negro," is now at home near Westport. He arrived there a short time since, and had in his possession a rifle known to have belonged to a man by the name of Tharp, who was killed in June on Walnut creek,

near the Arkansas river. The fact of his having this rifle in his possession is sufficient proof that he has been warring against us ; at any rate, he is well known to have taken an active part against us in the insurrection of Taos. He has now gone to the States, no doubt for the purpose of getting supplies and inducing more of his tribe to join him. Such vagabonds should be looked after, as they are much to be dreaded, and may cause great trouble in this country. They should be prevented from intermingling with the Indians as much as possible.

I am of the opinion that the government should at once put forth strong and energetic measures for the subjugation of those Indians who have been committing so many depredations during the past two years. Commencing in good time (and whatever is done, let it be done effectually, as no temporizing policy will answer) will prevent others from entering on a like course, and awe them at once into a state of tranquility. This is not mere supposition ; on the contrary, I am convinced that by teaching any one of those formidable tribes a good lesson, would be sufficient instruction for the whole of those on the east side of the Rocky mountains.

The lenient and temporizing policy which the government has always pursued with Indians on our western borders, and those living heretofore within the now boundary of the Union, will not do with the Indians inhabiting this great expanse of desert. In the case of the former, disagreements would frequently arise, and war ensue ; but, before much blood was shed, on came the tides of emigration so numerous, and in such rapid succession, that what was expected to have become the scene of war, became that of peace, tranquility, and civilization. I am fully convinced that the force of emigration has done more towards the settling and tranquilizing the Indians than anything else.

In this country it is far otherwise. Here is an immense desert, inhabited by many wild, roaming, and formidable tribes of savages, whose occupation is war and the plundering of their fellow men. And, inasmuch as the country they inhabit is altogether unfit for a civilized population, the savages now in occupation must always remain it. This desert and its inhabitants, intervening as they do between our late territorial acquisition and the United States, require the particular attention of government, or what would be much more advantageous, of an efficient military force, merely for the purpose of teaching the inhabitants thereof that we are their superiors in war as well as in every thing else. This lesson once taught, and our ability and willingness to punish insult and injury shown, I repeat, is all that is required to make the inhabitants of this country quiet and peaceable. I am well aware that the intentions of the government towards the Indians are conciliatory and humane. But those of this country who know not our strength, and attribute our forbearance to a dread of their great prowess, must be dealt with in precisely the opposite manner ; which I hold to be the most judicious and economical, as it will be a great saving of blood and expenditure of money ; and is, on the whole, the most philantro-

pic. Let them know they cannot pursue a marauding life with impunity, and they will soon turn their attention to something else.

I have entertained ardent and strong hopes that, inasmuch as the subjugation of the Indian tribes of this country would be considered a very peculiar service, a very peculiar force, and otherwise organized than that composing the army of the west, would be raised for that purpose. But I perceive it is otherwise, and that the same system, (that of the men electing their officers,) and all the evils arising out of that system, is still continued. I have no hesitation in saying that they will not answer the purpose required, for reasons, some of which I will give: The service being the most arduous, difficult, and of a very peculiar nature, will require great skill and experience in the management of a campaign, as well as a complete knowledge of the Indian character, habits, manners, and customs; and, above all, a thorough acquaintance with their mode and manner of warfare. Those are rare qualifications, and not likely to be selected out of a set of aspirants by those who know or think nothing about the capacity of their leader. It is only after they commence military duty, and on the march to New Mexico, that they find out they did not elect the proper candidate. Then follows a petition to the officer to resign; next a refusal of the officer to comply; then follows dissatisfaction, disgust for the service, and insubordination, which very naturally ensue, as men dislike very much to obey an order coming from an officer whom they consider unfit to command. Under these circumstances, they arrive in Santa Fe, dispirited, and, together with their horses, broken down and unfit for service, at least for a time. This should not be, nor would it, if men of experience had the command. They have a very excellent road from Fort Leavenworth all the way to Santa Fe, with plenty of grass and water at proper distances, except a few days on the Cimerrane; yet they cannot accomplish the trip without the utmost difficulty. Now, let me ask how, under all those circumstances, such a force can ever accomplish the subjugation of the Comanches and Kiaway Indians, who are represented (and truly) as very expert horsemen, and almost continually on the move, whose flight (when necessary) across and over the desert is like unto the flight of birds over dreary and barren wastes which they inhabit, and in which lies their strength and security more than in any thing else.

I do not wish to be understood as casting reproach or reflection on the volunteers in mass; on the contrary, I have a high opinion of the material of which they are composed; it is the system of officer-making that I am opposed to. It is a want of the proper knowledge of the enemy they will have to contend with; it is a want of a proper knowledge of the best and safest mode of campaigning in the country—those are what I most dread. Show those men the enemy and they will do their duty; but I doubt much their ever getting a sight within striking distance; the enemy, however, will frequently strike them, when least expected and unprepared.

I will now show the kind of force which I should like to see

organized and ready for service in this country, and at this time: 250 mounted riflemen, armed with short and handy rifles, not too heavy; one hundred well disciplined dragoons; one hundred Mexicans, armed with lances and a pair of horse-pistols, mounted on their own native horses; and two or three mountain howitzers, with a few men to manage them. Let all, then, be put under the command of an experienced officer, who understands well the nature of his duty in every particular, who would in a short time accomplish the desired object.

Of the 250 riflemen, I would have as many procured in this country as could be had. They would soon teach the others the real art of campaigning, and infuse a spirit of cheerfulness and contentment, which is rarely to be found amongst "green-horns;" they would also show an example of obedience and subordination which they well know how to appreciate, as well as practice. One hundred active and efficient Mexicans can be easily obtained for a service of the kind, and when serving and uniting in concert with Americans, will be found brave and daring to a fault, and cannot be excelled in the whole world for a service of the kind; of this I have had many proofs and long experience.

I received an order through your office from the adjutant general at Washington, on the commanding officer at Bent's Fort, for the Indian goods which were left there, last year in deposite. I presented the order to Captain McKisick, acting quartermaster at Santa Fe, who informed me that the goods had all been taken to Santa Fe, and mostly distributed, no doubt to those Indians who are now devastating the country. This I consider bad policy, and well calculated to keep the Indians in a state of hostility; by such a course they have two sources of gain, and are very apt to take advantage of both. For my own part, I must state, that I have and will labor under disadvantages and embarrassments for the want of at least a part of those goods, which were distributed so liberally amongst the vagabond Indians of New Mexico. Any one at all acquainted with the character of the Indians of this country must know how difficult it is to get along without some means, even as an inducement for them to collect together for any purpose. The fact is, they have been greatly corrupted by the traders, in the great competition in trade, which existed here for the past eight years. The Chyennes have wondered that their great father has not sent them something, as a token of regard for their good behavior, and at the same time remark, that it was only those Indians who were in the habit of plundering the whites that ever get any thing in that way. The above remarks were not made to me, but reported by others. However, I believe it to be the impression of many Indians; and for that reason, I hold it the duty of every officer intrusted with the management of such affairs to be very particular in the distribution of presents to Indians.

There are many more subjects in regard to this country and its inhabitants of which I would have gladly spoken, but I fear I have already become tedious and tiresome in the length of this

report; but that has arisen from the great interest which I feel in every thing which concerns the far west.

I should have written sooner, and oftener, but my isolated position here affords but few opportunities; and even now the time of the departure of this report is very uncertain.

Should any thing worthy of notice occur during my journey to the north fork of the Platte, I will write again from that place.

I am now in a state of recovery from a very severe indisposition, which attacked me on my way from Santa Fe to this place, and caused great debilitation and nervousness, which I hope will be an apology for the inaccuracies which may be found in this communication.

I intend to visit St. Louis early in the spring, or as soon as the winter trade is over; at which time I will arrange my accounts. The uncertainty of travel, and the dangers of the road, have prevented me from sending them with this.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

THOMAS FITZPATRICK,
Indian Agent, Upper Platte and Arkansas.

To THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
*Superintendent Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, Missouri.*

No. 10.

ST. PETER'S INDIAN AGENCY,
September 15, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of this agency:

The Mandawakanton Sioux of this agency (who alone of all the Sioux of this agency receive any annuity from government) have heretofore and still manifest and express the most cordial good will towards the government and whites; and, with very few exceptions, towards their red neighbors. In the unfortunate affair with their Winnebago neighbors last spring, there were but a few of the above bands engaged. The whole of the responsibility has been thrown on their shoulders, when in fact the larger number of those engaged in the business are suffered to escape unpunished. In consequence of the treaty made by the Sioux chiefs with the Winnebagoes, the whole of the burden falls upon the Mandawakantons; and, as but two of the bands had any hand in that affair, they think it hard to be made to pay the penalty which should, as they say, be borne by the Wahkpakootas, who had more than two to one in the party that committed the outrage. Agreeably to the list furnished by the chiefs and head men of the villages of the Mandawakantons this

season, they number 2,135. The amount of sickness this season has considerably lessened this number. The deaths reported amount to 148. The whooping cough carried off a number of children this summer, since which the bilious fever and cholera morbus has prevailed and taken off a large number of grown persons. The following is the number of deaths that has occurred in the several villages of the Mandawakanton Sioux, as reported.

Black Dog's village.....	13
Goosroad's village.....	29
Little Crow's village.....	10
Red Wing's village.....	23
Sixes' village	37
Lake Calhoun village	36
<hr/>	
Total.....	148
	<hr/>

Wahbashaw's village has escaped the scourge. Although a large number of this village have been sick with ague and fever, there have been no deaths up to this date. The other villages are generally convalescent. There are still a number of cases of fever and ague prevailing.

The stopping of the provisions, consequent upon the difficulty with the Winnebagoes, has been severely felt by the Sioux, coming upon them at a time of such general distress, and at a season of the year when they were in the habit of living almost entirely upon the provisions received from government. The orders to withhold the provisions I viewed as imperative; still I could not do otherwise than assist the officers of the fort, the traders, farmers, and missionaries, generally, in their exertions to alleviate as much as possible the sufferings of the Sioux, by having some of the flour baked into good wholesome bread and distributed to the sick and convalescent.

The farmers generally report an average crop of corn; but owing to the sickness of the Sioux, a great part of the corn crop has been destroyed by the blackbirds.

The condition of the upper Sioux has been far more favorable the past year. Buffalo, about the head of St. Peter's river, have been much more abundant than usual, which is to be accounted for by the fact that the prairies farther north were burned over, so that these animals were driven to seek subsistence in a more southern region. Whether they will remain through the coming winter or return towards the Red river, cannot now be predicted; but the general impression is, that they will take the latter course. Should this be the case, the upper Indians will doubtless suffer great privation, especially as large bands of Sioux of the plains have been furnished with corn by the Sissetons of Lac Traverse; by which improvidence on the part of the latter, their winter supply of this important article will be materially curtailed.

I am happy to say that the energetic measures taken by the com-

manding officer at Fort Snelling, in seizing large quantities of liquor in the hands of some of the upper Indians, who came down and crossed to the ceded land in Wisconsin to procure it, has had a very good effect upon the Indians generally. They have been deterred, in many instances, thereby, from coming down to get whiskey, when they otherwise would have transported large quantities far into the country. In many cases, the regularly licensed traders are confounded with dealers in whiskey, under the general name of traders. This is doing great injustice to those men who are legally in the country, and who generally do all in their power to exclude liquor from the Indian territory. The force at Fort Snelling must be increased, if it is expected that the general military police of the country can be properly attended to. There is but one company of infantry to guard a frontier of hundreds of miles; and, however efficient they may be, the number is entirely too small to effect the object which the government has in view in checking, in the bud, any evil which may eventually involve the peace of the whole northwest.

The Hudson's Bay Company of Red river have, within a few months, been guilty of a gross violation of our soil, which I deem it my duty to bring to the notice of the government. Mr. Kittson, a gentleman of veracity, who is in charge of the Fur Company's trading post at Pambina, near the British line, stated that two men deserted from the detachment of British regulars stationed at Fort Garey, (Red river,) and came to his post, asking to be employed until an opportunity offered for them to reach the States. Mr. Kittson positively refused to have anything to do with them, except so far as to furnish them with food, and strongly advised them to return to their post. This they refused to do; and Mr. Kittson was surprised, shortly afterwards, at the appearance of a detachment (*armed*) of the Hudson's Bay Company's police, the leader of which stated to Mr. Kittson that he had come to apprehend the two men, and asked him (Mr. Kittson) if he would resist the attempt. Mr. Kittson, in reply, stated that he protested against such a violation of American soil; but that he would not interfere by force to prevent the accomplishment of their object, as he had neither the power nor the authority to do so. The armed party thereupon seized upon the two deserters, took them to Fort Garey, where they were delivered to the custody of the commanding officer, and punished, by severe lashing, according to the custom of the British army. The whole proceedings manifest a gross disregard of the sanctity of our soil, and, I think, deserve the notice of our government. The effect of such illegal and high-handed measures is particularly bad upon the different tribes of Indians who become cognizant of them, as they are led to think the United States unable to resist or punish intruders upon our territory.

The \$300 worth of ammunition and fish spears, fish lines and hooks, for the use of the Sisseton Sioux of Big Stone lake and lake Traverse, is still on hand—not having been called for; but the prospect for the coming winter is unfavorable, and the neces-

sity of the Indians will probably be as great or greater than the last season. If it is the pleasure of the Department, the above articles will afford them a great relief during the winter and ensuing spring, and I would respectfully recommend that they be given to them this fall.

I would call the attention of the Department to the fact that there is a band of Chippewas, called the Pillagers, who reside on *Otter Tail lake*, who have, from time immemorial, carried on a war against the Sioux, and who have done all in their power to excite the Mississippi Chippewas to violate the treaty of peace made with the Mandakawanton Sioux. This band causes much trouble, by their frequent hostile parties penetrating into the Sioux country, sometimes as far as St. Peter's river, and, murdering one or two, immediately flee to their own home. Some time in July last, two or three came down, and killed a woman of Goosroad's band in sight of the village, and succeeded in making their escape, although hotly pursued for some distance.

The Sioux of Lacque Parle, some time since, fell upon a party belonging to the Pillagers, and killed seven of them. This is almost the only instance of the Sioux killing any of that band for years. The above facts I had the honor of communicating to the Department shortly after they took place.

The Sioux returned from the Winnebago village, where they went to treat with them, and arrange their difficulties. Two lodges of Wahkpakoota Sioux, living on Canon river, were killed by (as the Indians think) the Pottowatomies, as they were returning home from the Winnebago village, where they had left them.

The farmer belonging to Wabashaw's band reported to me, on the first of the month, that the Winnebagoes had killed all of the oxen (fourteen in number) belonging to that band. The chief informed me that the chief of the Winnebagoes acknowledges the fact of their killing twelve, and that they were willing to pay for them. I immediately despatched the farmer to the sub-agent, to notify him of the facts, and request him to have the same number returned to that band.

Since the Sioux have settled the difficulty with the Winnebagoes for the outrage committed by a few young and foolish men and boys, they have frequently expressed their regret that it should have taken place, and manifest a desire to remain on their former friendly terms; at least, this is the wish of the principal chiefs and soldiers of the Sioux who have expressed an opinion on the subject.

I am sorry to have to report that the habits of the Sioux, if any change has been made, are rather worse than better; their fondness for whiskey is ultimately to be their destruction. The facility of procuring this article, I have little doubt, has been, and will in future be, the death of a great number.

The mortality which has prevailed in the different bands has, in some instances, been promoted by the use of whiskey or other intoxicating liquors. I have heard of some instances where Indians

were attacked with fever, and during the time the fever was at its height, they have resorted to drinking. The result might easily be predicted; the next day, or at farthest two, they were dead!

I herewith transmit the report of the Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, of Little Crow's village; the report of Messrs. Hopkins and Higgins, of the Traverse des Sioux mission school; the report of the Rev. Mr. S. R. Riggs; of the Lacque Parle mission school, and, also, the report of Mr. Hopkins, of Traverse des Sioux, dated April, 1847.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
AMOS J. BRUCE, *Indian Agent.*

Maj. T. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 11.

COUNCIL BLUFFS AGENCY,
September 10, 1847.

SIR: Under the regulations of the War Department it becomes my duty to make known to that Department the condition of the Indian tribes in this agency.

I arrived here on the 9th of October, 1846. My first interview was with the Ottoes and Missourias. Their village is situated some ten miles from Bellevue on the great Platte. They are divided into six bands, and each band has its chief. Three of the bands live on the north in one village, and the other three live on the south of the Platte in three separate villages. There is one chief who is considered as head, and is consulted as such in all important matters. On my first talk, they told me that they were very poor, and complained that they had no ploughs, nor no person to learn them how to work, for a long time, in consequence of which they had but little corn. They were anxiously waiting the arrival of their annuity, as they could not go out on their fall's hunt until they received it. From unavoidable causes this was not paid until about the first of November. Owing to their late start on the hunt, the agent was compelled to kill for them a larger quantity of beef than he would otherwise have done. When I use the word compelled, I do not wish to be understood that I was at all in any personal danger, but I knew these people were starving, and knew that even white men, with all their civilization, strengthened by Christianity, were not entirely scrupulous about legal rights when they, their wives and children were starving. Of course we could, or should not, expect more of the wild man. They made a tolerable hunt of deer, and caught a great deal of fur. One of their traders informed me that he thought their hunt was worth \$2,000.

I suggested to the superintendent at St. Louis the propriety of employing a certain number of hands by the month, for some three months, to farm for the Ottoes and Missourias. I received a communication on the subject, stating that my views of farming for them

were approved, and that I was authorized to hire six men, with two good farm horses each, and to allow \$30 per month each. They were accordingly employed for the term of three months. We met with a difficulty at the start. The Indians, it will be remembered, live on either side of the river. They have had a large farm in a partial state of cultivation on the north side of the Platte. They have had many jars and difficulties. In one of these they killed several of their tribe, and one of their best chiefs about it, and are very jealous of each other. They have not exceeding 50 acres at this time on the north side of the river, and that in detached parcels. In consequence of these things, the Indians on the south side of the Platte refused to have any corn raised for them on the north side; at the same time promising, if I would send three of the farmers over to their side, they would furnish a craft and aid the men in crossing and re-crossing the river. On that promise, three of the farmers crossed and built themselves a shanty. The Indians, on their part, complied in part with their promises until about the last of May, when they became very lazy about crossing the river; and about the first of June, the chiefs all left on a visit to the Iowa Indians, some distance below here. Shortly after their departure, some of the young men broke the lock and forced the door of the farmers' shanty open and stole all their provisions, not leaving them one article of food. They remained in that situation until they dug a canoe. All things considered, it was thought advisable to dismiss the three hands on the south side of the river, as there was no certainty that they could possibly labor to profit. On the north side the farmers worked some 50 acres of corn, which at present promises a plentiful crop, so far as observation and experience will go, which, by the by, are not very bad teachers. I am satisfied that if the Ottoes and Missouriias had ploughs and gearing, that, with the aid of some person to assist them in gearing, &c. &c., they could do well, and will make more corn than will be made by their farmers. The idea of Indians working when they can get white men to work for them, is as vain as it is futile. The chiefs promised me that they would furnish their farmers some young men to remain with them and learn to work. After their corn was planted, you could scarcely ever see an Indian in the field, and at no time but very few men. There are difficulties in getting Indians to work with white men, situated as they now are. The white man has his bread and meat, &c., while the Indian has to depend on a very different mode of subsistence, and often precarious. If he has corn, it has to be pounded to a kind of meal, or boiled; perhaps to resort to roots, or to angle or hunt for his food. The Ottoes are brave Indians. Like all other Indians, they are fond of ardent spirits, though I believe they do not run after it as some others do. Horses are their only stock, having neither cattle nor hogs. They express desires of having this kind of stock at present. I would doubt the propriety of government doing much for them on that subject at this time, as they have some young men that would kill and steal them on first sight. Their smith renders them great service. He has made, the present year, or twelve months past, 300 axes, 100 tom-

ahawks, 100 hoes, 45 tin kettles, 29 tin cups, 25 hand shovels, together with a great deal of other work, such as fire steels, butcher knives, cold chisels, repairing guns, &c., &c. But very few iron kettles have been made by the smiths in this agency, owing to the fact that the sheet-iron sent up last fall was so inferior that it could not be worked.

The Ottoes and Missouriias number about twelve hundred. They have an annuity of \$2,500 annually.

Omahas.—This tribe of Indians lives at present in about 5 miles from Bellevue, on a small water course, called the Passio. This tribe is very poor; they have no annuity from government, except blacksmith and striker; they are very anxious to sell part of their land, so as to provide themselves with arms; they are scarce of fire-arms, and suffer greatly from their inveterate enemy, the Sioux, who appear to be determined to exterminate the Omahas, Ottoes, and Pawnees. They have killed in the last year about eighty Omahas. This tribe would wish to live some 70 or 80 miles above this place, on a tract of country where they formerly have lived, but the Sioux were so hostile and numerous that they could not remain there. They have suffered from the chills and fevers since they came down here a great deal. On my arrival here last October, I found several sick; I had brought some medicine for my own use; I visited some three lodges; they exhibited not the picture but the *fact*, of misery and want; in one of these I found two blind squaws, and one other almost helpless from age. In one side of the lodge there was a young man, to all appearance very low; on examining, I found the disease was bordering on typhus; I gave him quinine freely, and he commenced mending immediately. I believe there was no instance where they took quinine freely but what they recovered. The quantity I had was small, being only for my own use, as before stated, and I was blessed with health, and, consequently, needed none. I have troubled you with this digression merely to show that a very small outlay for medicine would save much suffering, and many lives. The same diseases in an Indian require the same treatment that would be required in similar cases in the white race.

These were once a considerable tribe, but from the ravages of cholera, small-pox and wars, they are reduced to but little more than one thousand. At present there are a great many children among them. If the government would establish a post anywhere near the Missouri river, some distance above the mouth of the Platte, on the south side of the Missouri river, it would afford protection to the Omahas, Ottoes and Poncas; this, with one at Grand island, would embrace the Pawnees also. The idea of a station at Table creek, or Fort Harney, and then christened with the name of protection—protection for what? Not the Indians. Some of the knowing ones have urged as a reason that the Platte river is so difficult of crossing, that it would embarrass the troops; *that*, in my humble opinion, is one of the strongest reasons why it should be above the Platte. The Sioux living north of the Platte; where do the small tribes live, the Omahas, Poncas, Pawnees,

and most of the Ottoes? Why, north of the Platte? Then, if the fort is south of the Platte, it is protection in name only. There is no scarcity of suitable situations near this place, (Bellevue;) there is good water, soil and timber, with one or two good mill-streams, on each of which there is an excellent mill-seat. Above this place, about 15 miles, on the south side of the river, the Mormons have an excellent overshot mill, and from 300 to 500 acres of prairie broken up and mostly all in sod corn, &c., &c. They speak of leaving next spring, and would be glad to get something for their mill, &c. I would remark that there is an unsettled dispute between the Ottoes and Omahas about a part of their lands; of this the Department has been informed by the superintendent, in his communications of September 10, 1845, and September 5, 1846. In addition to what the superintendent has said on the subject, permit me to remark that the government, according to treaty stipulations, is bound to build a horse-mill for the Ottoes, which would be of but little use to them. There is an excellent stream, with several good mill-seats, convenient to these two tribes. It would not be more than four miles from the school that is now being established by the Rev. E. McKinney, per order of the Presbyterian board of missions, for the benefit of the children of these two tribes. Much depends on the success of this institution, and it should be sanctioned and supported by every philanthropist, and all who have any feelings for suffering humanity. I brought before the Ottoo chiefs, for their consideration, the propriety of uniting their educational fund with the Presbyterian mission fund, for the purpose of establishing a permanent school in their vicinity, which seems to meet their cordial approbation. With a little addition of funds to the horse-mill fund, there might be an excellent water-mill built, which would be calculated to unite them more permanently in feeling, and be a strong inducement for them to settle down in agricultural pursuits, and cease their roaming, or they otherwise must perish, as that will be their ultimate doom, for it will be impossible for them to procure a subsistence by the chase long, as the buffalo are fast disappearing.

It is near two years since the Omahas moved down here. There is another source of trouble with these Indians. There is a large body of the Latter Day Saints, or Mormons, stationed on their lands. Although they consented to let these people remain in their country the last winter, (1846-'47,) they say they expected them to prosecute their journey last spring, and leave their country. There has been one Mormon killed by Indians; the Mormons charge it on the Omahas. There has been no investigation of the occurrence, from the fact that the agent was absent on business at St. Louis, and, since his arrival, the Indians have been on the hunt. The interpreter states that he apprehends that there will be difficulties between the Indians and Mormons, if they remain on their lands. The Indians have killed a great many of their cattle, and plead justification on the ground that the Mormons are destroying their game range, and cutting down and destroying their timber. It is not to be expected that from 3,000 to 5,000

people, with a large quantity of stock, could do otherwise. Timber here is an object, the greater portion of the country being destitute of timber. If these people were on the north side of the river, in what was called the Pottowatomie purchase, there could be no serious objections.

Although these two tribes have been living contiguous to, and had intercourse with the whites, they unfortunately appear only to have learned their vices. The Omahas, as I have been informed by their interpreter, have given, in the last twelve months, some 30 horses for whiskey, not getting more for a poney than from two to four gallons, and that well watered. This trade has been carried on by the Pottowatomie half-breeds, on the opposite side of the river. The river was frozen over for the most part of last winter, which gave them great facilities in crossing for the article. It appears almost impossible to prevent them from getting it. I am sorry to state that there are men who live on or near the State line of Missouri, who keep whiskey, as I am told, to sell to these half-breeds and Indians. These unfortunate creatures, when spoken to about the impropriety of drinking, frequently reply, the white man makes it and sells it to us. Nothing short of divine or supernatural power will reform or cure their thirst for whiskey. I am in great hopes that the late amendment to the law in regard to making an Indian a competent witness, will have a salutary influence in the Indian country; and could it reach those base men who keep it along the line, for the purpose of selling to the Indians, it would, in a great degree, effect the desired object.

Their blacksmith has rendered them similar service to that of the Ottoo smith.

Pawnees.—They have had a school for the last two years. It has been under the care of Lester W. Platt until May last, when Mr. Platt was removed, and Samuel Allis succeeded him. Mr. Allis has been with the Pawnees some twelve years—has travelled with them in company with the Rev. Mr. Dunbar, who was laboring under the American Board of Foreign Missions. Mr. Allis is very much esteemed by the Pawnees. The Rev. T. Ranney has been associated with Mr. Dunbar. They appeared to be encouraged with the prospect of doing good; but, in the month of June, 1846, a war party of Sioux came to the Pawnee village in such numbers, manifesting so much hostility, and shooting at some of the whites, that they considered it prudent to leave the village. They saved the Pawnee children that were attending school by putting them in the cellar. The Indian tribe was out on the hunt. Immediately after the Sioux left, the farmers, missionary, and school teacher, with the children, came to Bellevue, at which place the school is still continued. From that time they have been without a farm, and have been dependent on the teacher for both food and clothing. The missionaries have not yet returned, but are willing so soon as they can get a sufficient protection. There have been from fifteen to eighteen persons there this summer and part of the spring. Owing to the backwardness of the season, the cattle could not subsist on the range before the first of May. These men were em

ployed under the direction of Alexander McElroy. They have put in a considerable quantity of corn at their former farm; but, owing to the very dry season, the product will be small. On the 15th of August, four of the hands were discharged; some time previous, three others left. Judge McElroy informed me, in a letter dated the 12th of August, that it would be impossible to complete the work in the four months for which he hired hands; but he could get the heaviest done, &c. &c. On the 28th of August, Mr. McElroy, with all the hands that he had hired, came to Bellevue, at which time and place they were discharged. He states to me that only one-half of the ground is picketed in, and but one block-house finished, sufficient only for defence; one other block-house and blacksmith shop raised, but not covered in.

On the 31st of August, the hands left at Pawnee—interpreter, blacksmith, and striker—also came to Bellevue, and reported that, on the same day that Judge McElroy and hands left, there were Indian signs seen; and, on the next day, nine Ponca Indians came, and made sign that they were Omahas, and, by that means, were permitted to approach. They then told them they were Poncas. It will be recollected that they speak the same language of the Omahas, and were once, no doubt, a part of the same tribe. They are still friendly. They told the interpreter that they and another band had run to see which would get first to the Pawnee village, to get Pawnee scalps, and that they must kill these people, pointing to three Pawnee squaws and a boy that were with the whites. The interpreter, who is an old Indian trader, and well up to managing Indians, led them into his house, and gave them a feast, thereby enabling two of the squaws and boy to run off. They purchased the third squaw by giving blankets, tobacco, calico, and nearly all of their clothing. They then told him that it was not good for him and the other white men to be there; that, if the other band came, they would have scalps; and that, some three or four days off, there were 800 lodges of Sioux, and, if they come and did not find Pawnees, they would kill white men, &c. It is possible this was for the purpose of getting the whites to leave, that they might plunder. The interpreter thinks there was certain danger, and he has lived twenty-five or thirty years amongst the Indians. On the evening of the 1st instant, Judge McElroy returned from seeing his family. On consultation with him on the subject, it was thought all-important to complete the works—at least, so as our people can protect themselves; to do which, all things considered, it was thought advisable to get some more hands, to at least put up the picketting, and put the place in a situation so as to insure the purpose intended. We got four hands besides the superintendent, interpreter, blacksmith, and striker. I am aware that the agent has taken a responsibility that, under different circumstances, would not be justified; but the government has already, the present season, expended some \$1,500 in getting the works in their present—some more than half finished—condition; and now, to abandon the place, to again be burned, (which would certainly be the case,) would be a worse than useless waste of public funds. It is supposed that the present hands

can complete it, or put it in a situation that they can defend themselves, in one or two months at farthest. Owing to the unsettled situation of the Pawnees, their smiths were unable to do as much for them as they otherwise would have done. They made a considerable number of axes, iron kettles, tin buckets, &c.

I would remark as it regards the moral condition of the Indians in this agency, that it is to be regretted that they have made but small advances in their knowledge of Christianity. Their ideas of a supreme being, or of a future state of rewards and punishments are altogether confused, and in fact it might be said to amount almost to no correct knowledge, though from what I have learned of the Pawnees, they are in the advance on that subject, and that is owing to the influence of missionaries amongst them. The Rev. Timothy Ranney remarked to me with tears, that he did not know how to give them up, and that he considered the Pawnee Indians affording one of the most encouraging prospects for doing good, that he then knew of, provided the missionary labors could be continued. I would remark that the only difficulty was the want of the necessary protection from their enemy, the Sioux and Ponca Indians.

I cannot conclude this report, already longer than was anticipated, without urging on your consideration the propriety or impropriety, of the practice carried on here by licensed traders. In making these remarks, the agent wishes to be understood distinctly as making no invidious distinctions between the American Fur Company or any other company. The law is thus: "And no trade with the said tribes shall be carried on within their country, except at suitable and convenient places, to be designated from time to time, by the superintendent, agent, or sub-agent, and to be inserted in their licenses."

Mr. P. A. Sarpy has a regular trading house in this agency, but so soon as the Indians are out long enough to have any skins, robes, or peltries, you will see the clerks, strikers, and sometimes half-breeds, hurrying off in pursuit of the Indian's hunting ground or camp, with pack mules and horses. I think I would hazard nothing in saying that a great portion of the trade is carried on in that way, and miles, yes, many miles, from their store-houses. This may be all right, at least it has been practised, as I am informed, previous to my arrival here, but to my mind it is wrong. In the first place, the principal has to keep on hand a number of extra hands at various prices, ranging from one to six hundred dollars per annum. Those with numbers of horses, mules, and oxen, are kept for the purpose of packing or hauling, as circumstances require. All this cost and expense the trader lays on his goods and the Indians have it to pay. The greater part of all this cost would be saved by the trade being carried on at their store-house or houses. This is not the only evil attending the above practice; there is an additional temptation to those maurauding parties to attack and plunder the camps where the trader has his goods; it was in an Indian camp that one of P. A. Sarpy's hands had his goods last winter, when the Sioux came on them and killed the most of them,

and it was by the use of his heels that the trader saved his scalp, leaving all his goods to the enemy. If the practice is wrong, could it not be all measurably remedied by making it a forfeiture of license to carry his goods from his store-house or houses, for the purpose of traffic in the Indian country?

The nearest post office to this place is at Austin, Atchison county, Missouri; it is forty-five miles from this point, Bellevue.

In conclusion, as it regards the condition and prospects of education in this agency, I would respectfully refer you to the reports of Samuel Allis, and the Rev. E. McKinney, marked A and B. All of which I would respectfully submit for your consideration.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JOHN MILLER,
Indian Agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

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No. 12.

TURKEY RIVER SUB-AGENCY,
October 6, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my annual report of the condition of the Winnebago Indians.

The result of efforts to advance the general interests and improvement of the Indians under my charge has not been so flattering the past year as I had anticipated. The barbarous attack of the Sioux upon the Winnebagoes last spring interrupted the operations of the bands who occupied farms on the Red Cedar river, and were among the most industrious and prosperous in the tribe; still something has been effected in the way of improvement. The Winnebagoes have cultivated their lands better and raised better crops this season than usual. An agricultural association was organized in the tribe last spring, and suitable premiums promised for the best crops. After harvest, a committee was appointed to examine the farms and award the premiums, which consisted of wagons, harnesses, ploughs, and other farming implements. The Indian crop this year is estimated at 11,000 bushels of grain.

There has been an average number of six laborers employed on the farms since the 1st of April, who, in addition to the assistance rendered the Indians in ploughing and fencing their fields, have cultivated one hundred and fifty acres of land, and made one hundred and forty-three tons of hay. The crop raised on the agency farm this season is good.

The Rev. David Lowrie reports the school under his charge as being in a more prosperous condition than at any former period. The children are instructed in the elementary branches usually taught in common schools.

Further details of the school, and also of the farms, will be communicated in the statistical returns required by existing regulations.

The blacksmith and assistants employed for the Winnebagoes have discharged their duty faithfully. The two shops near the sub-agency have reported work done the past nine months amounting, at the usual prices charged for work, to some \$1,279 28. The work done in the shop located on the Red Cedar river is not reported.

The tribe were assembled last week to receive their annuities, which were paid as usual to the heads of families. The amount in money paid to each individual of the tribe this year was \$18 50. After receiving their money, the Indians paid their debts promptly. The debts paid were principally individual liabilities to the traders for goods and provisions obtained on credit since the payment last fall. The giving of credit to the Indian is the principal means by which the trader obtains his influence over him; the Indian considering it a great favor to obtain credit of his trader. The policy of granting facilities for obtaining an influence, often used for mercenary ends, to the injury of the Indians, and sometimes to the prejudice of the government, is, at least, doubtful. If the trader is allowed to credit the Indians, that credit should be obtained through the government agent. This would not only secure to the government the influence now secured by the trader himself, but would afford protection to the Indian against extortion. It would be an additional security to the Indian if the trader were allowed to receive only a given profit on his goods.

License to trade with the Indians has been, heretofore, too easily obtained. It would be but a just application of the laws of trade if, on obtaining a license, the trader were required to pay a sum not less than \$100 per annum as an equivalent for ground rent, and for timber used for building, fencing, and fire-wood. The money thus obtained to be applied to the hospital or school fund for the benefit of the Indians.

Strict scrutiny should be observed in regard to the character of persons permitted to reside among or trade with the Indians. The red man forms his opinion of civilized society, and of the morals and religion of the white man, from the character of the few whose conduct he has an opportunity to observe. It would be a salutary regulation to prohibit persons from entering into the Indian country except on business for the government, or by the written permission of an officer duly authorized to give such permission.

The annuity goods and provisions furnished the Winnebagoes the present year, are generally of a good quality, and well adapted to their wishes and wants. The tribe are well supplied with clothing, provisions, and money for the coming winter.

The health of the tribe is unusually good for this season of the year. Their physician reports that bilious and congestive fevers, and fever and ague, have been the principal diseases prevalent among them the present season, and that the Indians have suffered far less from sickness this year than they suffered last year.

There has been less drunkenness among the Winnebagoes this year than formerly. I attribute this reformation, however, rather to the late act of Congress, enforced by the dragoons under Captain Morgan's command, than to any voluntary abstinence on the part of the Indians. If the States and Territories adjoining the Indian country would enact laws prohibiting the sale of liquor to the Indians, similar to the act of Congress approved the 3d of March last, the introduction of intoxicating liquor into the Indian country would be entirely suppressed.

A temperance pledge was signed by eighty-two Indians of the tribe in July last; and the chiefs have pledged themselves to "use all their influence, and to make all proper exertions to prevent the introduction and sale of whiskey and other intoxicating liquors into their country."

The present location of the Winnebagoes, and the circumstances by which they are surrounded, are peculiarly unfavorable. The facility with which they obtain intoxicating drinks precludes all hope of their moral improvement; and the knowledge that their present residence is only temporary, prevents them from investing capital in permanent improvements. It is very desirable that the benevolent and liberal intentions of the government towards this people, should, with as little delay as practicable, be carried into effect, by removing them to a permanent home, where the usual motives which stimulate industry can be brought to bear upon them.

Another obstacle to the prosperity of the Winnebagoes is the weakness of their government. The chiefs of the tribe dare not make, or attempt to enforce, laws for the punishment of crimes. The government of the United States cannot better consult the interests of this people than by enacting and enforcing a wholesome code of laws for the punishment of crimes among them, and for the protection of their persons and their property.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 J. E. FLETCHER,
Indian Sub-Agent.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 13.

OSAGE RIVER SUB-AGENCY, 1st September, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to lay before you the annual report of the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency. Since my last year's communication, of the 4th September, 1846, the number of Indians attached to this district has been increased, by the accession of the party of the Miamies of Indiana. They reached the lands assigned them in the early part of November last. Very soon after their arrival, they caused to be built twenty-five good and substan-

tial log-houses, and which they paid for out of their annuity last spring.

I contracted, upon their own authority and wishes, the breaking up, fencing, and planting of 227 acres of prairie, in detached pieces, in such quantities and on such spots which they themselves designated—the cost of the work to be retained out of the annuity due them for this year. At the last annual payment made to them in March last, you induced them to consent to lay aside the sum of \$1,500 out of the annuity of 1847, to be appropriated towards the erection and maintenance of a school on the manual labor plan, and which they (the Miamies) desired should be under the directions of the fathers of the Roman Catholic church; but from recent communications received, and a late opposition of the Miamies themselves, no preparations are making towards the attainment of this laudable object. The moral condition of the Miamies is truly deplorable. They possess the finest portion of land within the limits of the sub-agency; their annuities are enormous, compared with the number of recipients; they are entitled to innumerable advantages in the shape of blacksmiths, millers, and agricultural assistance; salt, tobacco, &c., secured to them by treaties; still they are a miserable race of beings, considering nothing but what contributes to the pernicious indulgence of their depraved appetites for whiskey.

You are aware, sir, that only a portion of the Miamies emigrated last fall; the remainder, those who remained back in Indiana, are now on their way hither and may shortly be expected. When they shall again be concentrated, the question may well be asked, will the Indiana influence prevail among them as heretofore? That such influence has existed; that it has been detrimental to the Indians and vexatious to the government, no one acquainted with them will deny.

Let this influence be destroyed; let the State of Missouri adopt rigid laws to suppress the whiskey doggeries along the line, and there may be still hope for the Miamies, if not for the present, at least for the rising and coming generations.

The Pottowatomies have been more unsettled and more unsteady in their habits this year than formerly. This must, in some measure, be attributed to their contemplated removal to the Kansas country. Some have planted and will raise a limited quantity of corn and esculent fruits; others again have not applied themselves to farming at all this year. Those who have planted, speaking generally, will not raise a sufficiency to carry them through this coming winter, provided they remain; but they have pledged themselves, in council assembled, that they will remove this fall in the event of the payment being early enough for them to get off. I said the Pottowatomies have been more than usually unsteady; drunkenness, and its dire companion, murder, have prevailed to a greater extent this year than for years previous; even the hitherto exemplary Indians on Sugar creek have not escaped the infection. I am, however, happy to state that a reaction is taking place. Some of the old and steady denizens of Sugar creek have taken the matter

in hand. They have called councils, invited the attendance of their brethren on Pottowatomie creek, and mutually have pledged themselves to adopt rules, fines, and penalties for the introduction of spirituous liquors within their limits. It is pleasing to see the energies with which the movers of this truly desirable object press onward to suppress the use and abuse of ardent spirits amongst their people. The law of Congress of March the 3d last, and the regulations of April 13th last, cannot effect the squatters along the line of Missouri, from whom the Indians procure whiskey. If the legislature of Missouri would enact stringent laws, visit with imprisonment any violation of the same, and allow Indian testimony in such cases, we would then enjoy happy times. The well disposed and respectable citizens of the adjoining counties would hail the enactment of such laws with joy. Pursuant to instructions received last spring, Major J. Beach, agent of the Sacs and Foxes, and myself, were appointed commissioners to locate and survey 13 square miles for the Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river. The survey was completed last March, and a plat and the field-notes of the same forwarded to your office.

The Chippewas, Ottowas, Peorias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, have, as usually, planted with the expectation of good crops, though I am afraid the recent dry weather will be the means of curtailing the produce which, from the favorable signs in the earlier part of the season, they had a right to anticipate.

The Peorias have, as usual, been very industrious and exemplary. With no annuity or pecuniary aid from government, it is surprising, to those acquainted with the listless habits of Indians, to observe how well these people have managed. I read with pleasure your remarks respecting this remnant of excellent people embodied in your last year's report. They are still anxious to sell their country and incorporate themselves with the Weas and Piankeshaws. I should be most happy to see something done for these people.

The claimants of Pottowatomie reservations granted under treaties made east of the Mississippi, lying in Indiana and Michigan, are occasionally making inquiries respecting them. I can only give assurance that the subject has been brought to the notice of the Department by yourself in your last annual report, and that it will in good time receive the attention of the government.

The general health of the country and the Indians subject to my charge has been good this year. Few deaths have occurred by the visitation of God, but I am sorry to add, that there have been 12 deaths by violence; 9 Pottowatomies and 3 Miamies have fallen by the knife, and some 4 or 5 have died from the effects of intemperance.

I enclose, herewith, the various school reports of the teachers attached to the different missionary establishments of this sub-agency, to which I beg to refer you.

The Roman Catholic Church at Sugar creek numbers some 1,300 communicants, and much praise is due to the zealous fathers of this persuasion for the good they have wrought among these people; two schools are in operation. The female school, under the

direction of the ladies of the Sacred Heart, deserves particular commendation.

The school at Wea, in charge of the Rev. Mr. Adams and Miss S. Osgood, the teachers, sustained by the Baptist denomination, appear to afford all the happy results that could be expected of an institution of the kind. The young lady in charge of the department of letters is eminently qualified for the task, and seems entirely devoted to her work. Under the tuition of such a mind as hers, imbued by the most Christian benevolence, the pupils cannot fail to make rapid improvement, and from the influence of pupils so trained, on the future state of their kindred, we cannot but anticipate the most happy consequences.

The school hitherto taught by Miss E. McCoy, on Pottowatomie creek, as a day school, under the patronage of the same society, in view of the early removal of the Pottowatomies, has been changed to a boarding school of five scholars, under the tuition of Miss E. McCoy, a young lady in every respect possessing the best qualifications of a teacheress. These little girls have made pleasing and rapid progress in letters and the various duties of domestic arts.

The Baptist mission station, among the Ottowas, in charge of Rev. Mr. Mecker, still continues to afford the most unequivocal evidence of the practicability of reclaiming from a rude state to one of industry, morality, and decorum, the American Indian. Mr. Mecker has exerted over the Ottowas the most happy influence, the fruits of which is perceived in the rapid improvement of this people. Perhaps no effort of the kind has ever proved more successful.

I have to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 ALFRED J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

HON. THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 14.

COUNCIL BLUFFS SUB-AGENCY,
 September 30, 1847.

SIR: The time having arrived at which it is made my duty to lay before you an annual report of the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency, I have the honor of submitting the following:

There has been no material change in the condition or habits of the Chippewa, Ottawa, and Pottowatomie Indians of this sub-agency for the past year, except in the use of intoxicating liquor—which was used to excess up to the receipt of your circular, containing the law as amended on the 3d March, 1847, and which has had a happy effect. The quantity of liquor used since that time has been comparatively small, and with slight amendments, the evil may be almost entirely remedied—that evil which has so long proved so destructive to this unfortunate race—as follows, viz: requiring all

white persons who are permitted to reside in the Indian country, to take an oath to co-operate with the government officers in keeping and observing the laws and regulations of the United States, pertaining to the Indian territory, while they remain in the Indian country, and that they will not introduce any intoxicating liquor of any kind into the Indian country, or be in any way privy thereto; for it is in vain to hope for a speedy advance to the civilization of the Indians without an entire stop is put to the use of intoxicating liquors, as they have no discretion in the use of this article. Its use enervates the mind and body, produces sickness and death, and is the principal cause of the carnage and bloodshed so frequent among these several tribes. Now, I would suggest, that if the several States adjoining the Indian territory would enact laws, admitting Indian testimony consistent with the law as amended 3d March, 1847, it will greatly aid in putting an end to this pernicious article, that has so long proved destructive to the red man of the forest; and I would respectfully suggest, whether, if the several tribes before referred to, were requested by the heads of this Department, they would not lend their aid in so great an enterprise. I believe they would. I would further represent that the agricultural pursuits have been less the past year, owing to their intentions to emigrate to their new homes this fall, which I fear will be defeated—their neglecting to make hay in the proper season; and I would further represent, that this nation has no school or religious denomination with them, each of which I consider necessary. Schools, in my opinion, should be conducted on the manual labor system. Each day should be divided equally, one half in tuition, and the other half at labor, giving frequent lectures, showing them the advantages they receive over those who have not been at school and receiving an education. By taking them young and continuing a steady mild course up to manhood, will be a sure guarantee to civilization. To send Indian children out of their country to school without learning them to labor, is spending money in vain. They return to their old playmates too proud to work, and will resort to anything for a livelihood without work, and their education only qualifies them to do more mischief; therefore, all the children, of or near the same age, should be sent to school at the same time, and continue in school to a maturer age; and by the frequent lectures and the aid of those who have the control of them, training them up in the habits of a friendly character and intercourse with each other, in a few years we will be able to prevent both envy and bloodshed, which are of too frequent occurrence. This plan, if carried into execution, cannot fail; that is, if we have all the Indian children of the same age receiving an education at the same time. They receive the same kind of instruction, and are by nature the same people; but by being raised by different tribes, as a matter of course, they partake of the same feelings and dispositions of those with whom raised; and if all were educated at the same time, under the same kind of instruction, they would be strongly influenced by that education, and especially if continued in school until mature age. Perhaps some may look upon my plan of civilization

as an expensive one; but what can we do, and especially of this importance, without expense. If we fit out a regiment of troops for six months, there is expense—much more in keeping up a standing army; and let me ask, is the money necessary to commence and keep up manual labor schools among all the Indian tribes, to be compared with the loss of life so frequent in the forest and on the prairie every year, and which will continue until the Indians are in some way civilized as a Christian nation? Is this not their duty?

This nation has two blacksmiths, who have been constantly employed during the winter and spring in repairing guns, traps, and other implements, suitable to their hunting excursions, and in the fall and summer in repairing wagons, making log-chains, and other articles for emigrating to their new homes. Their miller has been constantly engaged in grinding and sawing, and has contributed largely to their wants in breadstuffs. This nation is slowly advancing towards civilization, and justice compels me to say, there are some men among this nation of a fair order of intelligence, their minds well cultivated, and who would do no discredit to an enlightened community. A large number of them are disposed to use some industry, so far as to make a moderate support; but few think of making any thing to sell. Their anticipated move this fall has prevented many of them from raising crops at this place. I hope that they will be able get to their new homes this fall; but if they should fail, it will probably prevent a crop to be raised by them another year; if so, it will require strict economy, or they must suffer, as there is but little game in the country to which they go.

There is one thing more that I would represent: that is, that some of the Indians have been down and examined their new homes, and have brought an unfavorable report—that is, that the country is not good; but I have met it promptly, and have told them that it was not the intention of the government to make their condition worse; that when they went down and examined the whole country, I thought they would be better satisfied. But some have gone back to Milwaukie, as I am informed; yet I believe they were induced to go back by their relatives and friends.

All of which I most respectfully submit.

Very respectfully,

R. B. MITCHELL,
Indian Sub-agent.

TO THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 15.

WYANDOTT INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
October 20, 1847.

SIR: Agreeably to the requirements of the regulations of the Indian Department; the following report is most respectfully submitted:

Since my last annual report but few striking or important changes have taken place amongst the Indians under my especial charge. The great body of the nation is advancing with a steady and even tread in the path towards civilization. The more advanced see, nay, feel the great importance of not only becoming civilized, but enlightened. Few, if any, of the North American tribes have advanced farther towards the much desired goal than have the Wyandotts; they can boast many men of acquirements and letters. The arts and sciences find their votaries among this people. The spirit of improvement is abroad amongst them. Many have, during the past season, erected comfortable houses, extended their fields, and purchased horses and oxen to carry on their farming operations. The fertility of the soil of the tract of country on which the Wyandotts are settled, and the skill with which many of them cultivate it, were referred to in my last annual report. The circumstances then warranted me in so favorably noticing these facts, but the evidences which have transpired during the past season make what was then said still more palpable; for I venture the assertion that better crops of corn cannot be found in any other section of the country. Some of them have also made experiments the past season in wheat growing, and their efforts, it is gratifying to inform you, have resulted in the most complete success. Every other species of agricultural products usually cultivated in the same climate are produced in abundance, and to the greatest perfection on the lands of the Wyandotts.

A commendable zeal for the education of the youth is felt by many of these people. Notwithstanding the fund of five hundred dollars annually appropriated by the government for that purpose is ample, several families have sent their daughters and sons to select schools abroad, some few of whom have recently returned with educations and accomplishments rarely met with amongst their more highly favored white neighbors. Amongst these are the daughters of W. W.; one of whom has since accompanied me to St. Louis and purchased a piano, and I understand is quite proficient in the use of it. Strange sounds these in an Indian country! Yet the philanthropist, it is hoped, may safely look forward to no very distant day when not only the Wyandott, but many other aboriginal tribes of our country, shall have fully emerged from the savage state into the full blaze of civilization.

There are two schools in the nation for the education of the youth of the same; they are kept in operation the most of the time, and in which boys and girls are taught promiscuously. I am not able to give the number of scholars taught, from the fact that the teachers have not kept the necessary records. I am aware, however, that the number is comparatively small. In not being able to procure a regular attendance of children consists the great difficulty of educating them well at home. Parents and guardians are too neglectful of the important duty of enforcing such attendance; very many of them having little or no education themselves, cannot see the value of it in others. The amount appropriated by government

annually (\$500) for educational purposes is amply sufficient to give every youth in the nation a good education.

The church established in this nation by the Methodist Episcopal Society is under the care of Rev. James Peery, and from the best information I am able to obtain, is in about the same flourishing condition as when I last had the pleasure of noticing it. There is now a brick church building, in progress of erection, of commodious dimensions, and will be completed in about one month and a half, the fund for which was mostly raised by private subscription among the people. The church now numbers two hundred and forty members, two native preachers, and four exhorters.

However pleasant the evidences of the onward and upward advancement of this nation towards the much desired desideratum of complete civilization, and the almost entire rectitude and moral deportment of the greater portion of the nation, I am again compelled to call your attention, and that of the Department, to the painful fact, that intemperance still stalks abroad among them. From this destroying and demoralizing scourge, I fear they never can be delivered, so long as the degraded *white* man is able to avail himself of the facilities of sowing broadcast the never-failing cause of dissension and brutalization in the form of ardent spirits. It is idle, worse than idle, to attempt to reclaim the wretched *Indian* victim of the use of *whiskey*, if it is possible for him to procure it. A perfect slave to his appetite, he knows no moral suasion. The only means of his deliverance must be sought in fettering the cupidity of those who are so unprincipled as to furnish, for paltry gain, the means of his destruction.

Although Congress, at their last session, have done, seemingly, all within their power to do, and for which every agent must feel grateful, yet there is much to be done before this otherwise prosperous and happy people can be saved from inevitable destruction.

Notwithstanding the privileges granted the prosecutor by the late enactment—such as the use of Indian testimony, punishment by fine and imprisonment, &c.—the remoteness of the courts in which we may prosecute, and the expense attendant upon such prosecution, renders the law all but inoperative; add to this the fact that we have those privileges above mentioned only against offences committed within the Indian territory, and you will readily see that enough has not yet been done.

Could we have a similar enactment by the legislature of the State of Missouri to that of the United States, we should then have laws sufficiently stringent to punish the guilty, and in all human probability we should be able to put the enemy to flight, and thus leave the field clear for the full exercise of the philanthropist in teaching the *red man* the real value of sobriety, industry, and the inestimable advantages of Christianity.

Notwithstanding this nation has not been scourged the past season by any prevailing epidemic, (this section of country having been generally unusually healthy,) still they have to mourn the loss of some of their best men. The diseases by which they were cut down were those incident to all new western countries, mostly

brought on or aggravated by improper exposure, and in many instances without the aid of proper medical skill. A reckless disregard of exposure and hardship is almost proverbial of Indian character. Persons unacquainted with their peculiar habits when in health, their total disregard of everything which would be calculated to obviate or lessen disease, or contribute to their comfort, cannot appreciate the real causes of the rapid decline of this once powerful, almost innumerable people.

The late regulations in the Department in making semi-annual payments of annuities, and in causing payments to be made to heads of families and individuals, has created some considerable excitement among the Indians—principally, I think, brought about by interested white men. My own impressions are decidedly in favor of both of these arrangements; and, further, I am strongly of the opinion that, when the Indians have time to see the benefits arising from the above mentioned alterations, which must inevitably accrue to them, they will be found willing to acknowledge that those changes have been made with a single eye to their interest. Much of the trouble and vexation that is met with in the Indian country is justly chargeable to that class of white men who infest the frontier—men with small means, and who, in the hope of increasing it, become the constant advisers and pretended friends of the Indian, and by these means hope, and often succeed, in defrauding them, and creating difficulties between them and those whose intentions and actions are perfectly honorable.

The Wyandotts have lately re-organized a temperance society. At the first meeting, forty names were obtained to the cold water pledge. Something may be looked for from this movement in restraining the appetite for strong drink for a time at least.

A few words upon the subject of civilization and of Christianizing the Indians. Experience proves that whatever has been done, has been done by the persevering efforts of men whose *whole* aim has been directed to this object, and whose lives were a practical example of the precepts they taught.

No where can correct moral deportment and true sincerity of heart, kind feeling, and pure motives, be found in greater perfection than in an *Indian religious family*. The great bar to their improvement is overcome when they throw aside old superstitions and long standing customs peculiar to themselves. The tenacious adherence of the Indian to the ancient dress and customs of his people is a great bar to civilization; but when he has been induced to throw them aside, and adopt the habits and pursuits of civilization, he rapidly embraces the peaceful pursuits, and accedes to the requirements of Christian life; and if then he is led and advised, and cheered, and countenanced by the hand of Christian fellowship, benevolence and charity, his improvement and happiness are in a great measure secured.

The manual labor system, in my opinion, has the preference, and may yet do much for their advancement in habits of industry and religious instruction; but, in my humble opinion, it should be totally unconnected with any species of trading, speculation, or

money-getting on the part of those who are their recognised religious teachers. I cannot promise much for their spiritual welfare (or worldly) when the absorbing question with the recognised minister of peace is not "how much good have we done these people the past year," but rather, "how much money have we made," and how much can we make during the next. Much cannot be beneficially done to advance the Indian character, while a spirit of gain is manifested by those to whom they look for spiritual aid.

The Indian must feel that the white man in his heart is his friend, and, not doubting this, you may do almost what you please with them; hence the necessity of great sincerity of purpose on the part of those in any way connected with them.

There are men among the various tribes who have devoted their whole time and talent to improving and Christianizing and elevating the Indian character. Their efforts are often crowned with success, and the evident results are to them a rich reward, and they deserve well of their country; but they do not grasp with avaricious hands—they pray and counsel—they distribute with charity.

I am, dear sir, yours, most respectfully,

RICHARD HEWITT,
Indian Sub-agent Wyandotts.

Hon. T. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

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No. 16.

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY,
October 1, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor, herewith, of enclosing the annual reports of the Rev. Messrs. Hamilton and Irwin, of the Iowa and Sac mission, of Mr. John W. Forman, farmer for the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, and Mr. Frederick Lyda, farmer for the Iowas, together with a few hasty suggestions of my own.

It will be observed from a perusal of the mission report, that the manual labor boarding school, though not very extensively patronized by the Indians, is diffusing some benefit to such as avail themselves of its advantages, and still holds out ample inducements to others. But for the corrupt influence of the whiskey traders, who live so near, I am satisfied that the school would soon have as many scholars as the building is calculated to accommodate. During the winter months they have a fine school, but when the spring returns it is difficult to prevent many of the children from returning to their old dress and habits, the blanket and the bow and arrow. Of one thing, however, I am satisfied: if the means now in operation do not finally reclaim these wayward and unfortunate people, I consider their case a truly hopeless one. I am fully convinced that the "manual labor boarding school" system is the only practicable means of their civilization and Christianization, and I am equally certain that those in charge of the institution among the Iowas use the most efficient means within their power to render them its full

benefit. As to their ultimate success, I do not feel entirely prepared to speak, but I hope for the best.

The Sacs still refuse to permit their children to go to the school; and from the feeling of enmity and continued ill-will existing between the two tribes, I have but little hopes that they will ever permit them to mingle with the Iowas. Their jealousies and complaints of each other are continual, and I have small hopes of its being otherwise while they live so near together.

It will be observed from the reports of the farmers, that both tribes have made fine crops, and that their conditions in regard to the actual necessities of savage life are prosperous. As to their advancement in the agricultural line but little can be said. Their improvements in this, as well as in every other branch of civilization, is slow, notwithstanding I am satisfied that the utmost exertions are used to improve them. I think the system of farming for them, at first adopted and since pursued, of raising large quantities of grain for them, a bad one, and I shall hereafter either abolish it entirely or greatly modify it. I conceive the real duty of a farmer to be, instructing them and working *with* them, not *for* them.

I have entered into a contract to have a mill erected for the Sacs and Foxes, which they have been a long time asking for. I hope it will be in operation by the 1st of January, as stipulated in the contract.

It will be observed by the report of Mr. Forman, Sac farmer, that the Sacs desire an exchange of their lands for part of the Kickapoos', lying north of Wolf river. If this can be conveniently done, (and I see no reason why it cannot, if both tribes are willing, as stated,) I believe it would be a good arrangement for the Sacs and Foxes, as they are much further from the whiskey traders where they now are than at their old village near the mouth of Wolf river. Both they and the Kickapoos have, I presume, much more land than either tribe really need or will ever improve.

The adoption of the system of paying to the heads of families, as a permanent measure, will, I think, have a most beneficial influence upon them. They must be taught the benefits arising from the rights in private property, before they will make much exertion towards improvement.

The Sacs and Foxes received their annuities on the 22d of September, and divided \$17 per capita, paying besides a debt of near \$1,500 to their trader.

In accordance with instructions, the Iowa funds have been withheld until an arrangement can be effected with the Omahas for their (the Iowas) attack upon them last winter. I think this an excellent example to set them, and am satisfied that the withholding their money a single day, after it is on the ground and ready for them, would do more towards restraining these "war-parties" than all the advice that could be given them.

Your obedient servant,

W. E. RUCKER,
Indian Sub-agent.

To Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 17.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October 20, 1847.*

SIR: During the last year, eight parties of Choctaw emigrants, amounting in all to 1,619, have been removed from Mississippi. Of these, 360 were of the Shuk-hu-nat-chee band, formerly settled on a stream of that name, flowing into the Tombigbee; 425 were "Mogolushas," chiefly from Neshoba county, Mississippi; 650 were "Sixtowns," from the southern sections of Mississippi and Louisiana; and the rest were from the country watered by the Big Black and Pearl rivers. About half the entire number have settled on the Arkansas, and the remainder on the waters of Red river. The different parties vary considerably in their habits and character. Some are sober, industrious, thrifty, and anxious to improve their condition. Others, again, are indolent, improvident, and intemperate. To the first class, the Shuk-hu-nat-chee, with but few exceptions, belong. They are, in general, decently and comfortably clothed; about one-third of them are members of religious societies, and nearly all have provided themselves with cabins and fields, making this year, notwithstanding the usual acclimatory sickness, respectable crops of corn.

The Mogolushas differ widely from the Shuk-hu-nat-chees. They have always been regarded as improvident, turbulent, and reckless. Many of them had, on their arrival, large sums of money, derived from the sale of land scrip. These spent most of their time in drinking and fighting, to the infinite annoyance of the more peaceable and well disposed of their neighbors. Their means, however, soon gave out, and, I understand, about half of them have shown a disposition to labor.

The "Sixtowns" are said to be, with the exception of one or two small bands, the most ignorant of the Choctaw race. They have, hitherto, been more strongly attached to the customs of their ancestors, and more obstinately opposed to innovation, than any other portion of the tribe. They are not so quarrelsome as the Mogolushas, and not so industrious as the Shuk-hu-nat-chees. Prior to their emigration, they led wandering lives, ranging over a considerable scope of country, and seldom remaining long in one place. It was, therefore, supposed that the greater part would return to their former haunts. It is said, however, that not a single family has gone back. On the contrary, they bid fair to make very good settlers. A portion of those included under the head of "Sixtowns," are better known as Bay Indians. These came up the Washita in April last, and settled in the southeastern corner of the Choctaw country. They have intermarried with the French, and adopted, in a great degree, their manners and peculiarities. I have not seen them, but understand that in dress and appearance they resemble the lower classes of the creole population of Louisiana. Considering their mode of life and peculiar condition, it is rather remarkable that, apart from the Bay Indians, who are a distinct body, in many respects different from the others, there are no half-breeds among the Sixtown emigrants.

The Bay Indians and other Sixtowns, who came about the same time, arrived too late to plant corn this year. Those who came in January last, and in the spring of 1846, are said to be doing tolerably well.

The other emigrants that removed during the last year generally resemble the Mogolushas in their character and habits. They did not reach this country until long after the usual planting season.

Colonel McKean, who has had charge of the emigrants settled on Red river, as issuing commissary, reports that a very large majority of those who arrived on the 1st day of April, 1845, have built comfortable cabins, cleared fields, are doing well, and are well satisfied with their new homes. "Some of them," he adds, "have planted cotton this season, and I think, as they get more ground cleared, they will still increase the production of cotton, as the merchants are giving two cents per pound in the seed." The parties that arrived in 1846, he represents, are in like manner doing well—building houses and clearing land. Some of them have raised this year, more than enough produce for their subsistence.

In addition to the advantages arising from soil and climate, they have, in the interest on the sums invested for their benefit, an income well adapted to their wants, amounting, on an average, to about \$5 each; enough to be of material assistance in various respects, but not enough to obviate the necessity of labor; though whether annuities are ever of any real permanent advantage to Indians, is matter of doubt. There can be no question that large sums of money, in their hands are a source of positive injury. Some evidence of this is found in the fact that those of the emigrants who sold their land scrip for money are poorer, and worse off in every respect, than those who received no pecuniary consideration in exchange. "They buy no ponies," said one of the Leaf river emigrants, speaking of the parties that sold, "no cattle, no ploughs; nothing but whiskey and a little calico."

Accounts from the other Choctaws, the "old settlers," represent that their crops have been unusually abundant this year, the season having been remarkably favorable. It is said that there will be a large surplus of corn, and that over one thousand bales of cotton will be shipped from the settlements bordering on the Red river. I am not able to give you the exact number of the tribe, the census returns being still incomplete; but it is the opinion of its more intelligent members that, notwithstanding the last year has been unusually sickly, the population is increasing. The settlements are extending westward rapidly, already reaching 200 miles west of the Arkansas line. Whether at present they are materially improving as a people, I am not able to judge, not having been long enough among them; though, from the statements of the very respectable and intelligent gentlemen who have resided among them the last twenty years as missionaries, it would seem that they are. The Rev. Mr. Kingsbury, after lamenting a temporary increase of intemperance in neighborhoods where parties of the late emigrants have settled, and expressing a regret that the laws have not exerted

that restraining influence over a certain class of the population that they formerly did, adds, that nevertheless "a very perceptible progress in industry and general improvement is manifest;" and the Rev. Mr. Wright speaks in strong terms of the great and continued amelioration of their condition. He also mentions the gratifying fact, that there are among them many hundreds of professing Christians, "whose consistent lives attest the sincerity of their convictions." An excellent opportunity will soon be afforded of observing how far the Choctaws are able to help themselves, which, after all, is the best test of the extent of their improvement.

The period during which blacksmiths were to be provided by the government is about to expire, and the time is also at hand when the greater part of the annuities at present distributed among them will cease to be paid. Should these circumstances stimulate them to make good by their own exertions the deficiency, it will furnish strong proof that the labors for their advancement are not thrown away.

It will be seen, by the report of their agent, that the Chickasaws have also been fortunate in their agricultural operations this year, and that they are able to furnish the troops at Fort Washita with most of the supplies required for their use. They complain—I apprehend with good reason—of the conduct of the Kickapoos and other Indians supposed to be connected with them in horse-stealing. Similar complaints have been frequently made by the Choctaws and Creeks. In fact these depredations are carried on to such an extent as to call for the most energetic measures to remedy the evil. I regret to learn that the Chickasaws desire so large a portion of their income paid them as annuity. They already receive, in this way, more than enough for their wants; and it would certainly be much better in every respect if they could be persuaded to make some more useful disposition of their means.

No reports have been received from the agents for the Creeks and Seminoles. From other sources I learn there is likely to be some disagreement in the former tribe concerning the division of their annuities, which have heretofore been paid to the chiefs, and not—as in the more usual manner—to heads of families. The disputes will probably relate to the amount to be allowed to the chiefs for their services. Another source of dissatisfaction with the Creeks generally, is the payment of part of their annuity in goods. They complain that the goods are not, and cannot be, divided fairly; that they are never so well suited to their wants as articles purchased expressly for their use by traders living amongst them, and understanding exactly their condition and necessities; and, furthermore, they allege that it generally happens that the goods do not reach them until after the season when they are most required. How far these allegations are true, I am not able to say. As to the impression generally prevailing, that such complaints emanate from the traders exclusively, and not from the Indians, I am satisfied, from my own observation among other tribes, that it is not correct. There is a strong disposition on the part of all Indians that know anything about money at all, to want whatever may be due

them paid in money, and into their own hands, if it is to stay there only a minute; still they want to see it, to feel it, to handle it. This disposition may be laughed at as absurd. It nevertheless exists; and an Indian is much better satisfied, though he gets for his money but half its value, if he can feel that it is his own, and that he has the absolute management and control of it. Apart from this feeling, my own conviction is very strong that it is much the best plan to pay all annuities intended for distribution at all in money, and then open the door to the freest competition among traders. You thereby teach Indians the value of money and goods, and give them some idea of the principles of commerce. Moreover, traders encourage them to develop their resources. They buy their hides, tallow, cotton, corn, or whatever they may have to sell, and in that way, among the Choctaws at least, do a great deal to promote agricultural industry.

The report of the agent for the Cherokees holds out strong inducements to believe that the effort made by the government in 1846, to settle the difficulties among them, will prove successful. It was hardly to be expected that animosities of so bitter and deadly a character would at once be effectually dispelled; and the fact that no outbreak has occurred during the year which has elapsed since the treaty was concluded, is of itself a strong proof of the wisdom of that measure. It is certainly to be hoped that there will be no further occasion for interference in their domestic affairs, and that the experiment of self-government may in their case have a fair trial. The opinion has indeed been more than once expressed by persons thoroughly conversant with such matters, that there can be no permanent and effective improvement in any tribe until it manages its own affairs, and forms a character for itself, by undergoing the trials and reverses which States, as well as individuals, must necessarily encounter in their transition from infancy to mature age. The signs of returning tranquility among the Cherokees are various. The cultivation of the earth, which has been neglected to a deplorable extent, is resumed. All idea of a division or change of country is abandoned, and their present location is regarded as permanent. One of the best indications, however, is the appropriation of \$35,000 for the erection of two seminaries in the neighborhood of Tahlequah—one for males, and one for females. Of the precise manner in which the money is to be expended, I am not informed. But it appears to me much better that they should control the expenditure themselves, even if their means are not applied to the best advantage, inasmuch as a degree of experience may be acquired by the management of such matters almost as valuable as the education proposed to be secured for their children.

I cannot give you any information concerning the Osage and Neosho sub-agencies, not having received any reports from Messrs. Bunch and Raires.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,

Acting Superintendent, Western Territory.

Hon. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 18.

CHEROKEE AGENCY,
Cherokee Nation, September 29, 1847.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit the following report, in regard to the present condition and general appearance of matters and things connected with the Cherokee tribe of Indians, west of the Mississippi river.

In reference to the administration of the civil government of the nation, embracing the legislative, judicial, and executive branches, no material alteration has taken place since my last report, in which I represented the principles upon which it was founded, and the mode of its administration; it would, therefore, be unnecessary to repeat what has heretofore been said on the subject of their national affairs.

A short time before my last annual report, a compromise had been entered into between the different parties in the Cherokee Nation, by their respective delegates, then at the city of Washington, which opened the way to a friendly intercourse between the parties, and the bitter animosities which had long interrupted the tranquility of the nation and the prosperity of the people, were agreed to be mutually forgiven; by which compromise, the delegations representing the different parties, were authorized to enter conjointly, as the representatives of the whole Cherokee people, into a treaty with commissioners on the part of the United States; which commission and joint delegation made and agreed on a treaty, settling all matters of difference between the different parties of the Cherokees and the government of the United States, upon the principles and in the way pointed out and set forth in said treaty. The consequences to grow out of this treaty were looked to with much interest by the well-disposed and reflecting portion of all the parties; but, at the time of making my last report, sufficient time had not elapsed to develop its practical effects, and, indeed, for some time immediately succeeding its promulgation, things did not present so favorable an aspect as was desirable, or that could be considered very flattering. I am gratified, however, to be enabled to state, that at this time, and for some months back, a much more general and social intercourse, and friendly feeling among the people generally, is visible, than has been for years heretofore; and it is to be hoped, that this desirable intercourse and mutual deportment of courtesy and friendship will increase. The tranquility restored by this compromise and treaty has imparted a general stimulus to industry, which is visible in the tillage of the soil and the cultivation of crops of the present season, which look unusually promising, and will doubtless afford an abundant supply for home consumption and probably a considerable overplus. The season has been very favorable to the production of grain, and all other vegetables raised for domestic use; and the general health of the country, this season, has thus far been very good. Upon the whole, the affairs of

the nation may be considered in a much better situation than they were last year. Owing to the party and political differences which have for upwards of seven years agitated the nation, much diversity of opinion has heretofore existed between the different parties in regard to the propriety and necessity of dividing into separate and distinct governments, either by a partition of the country they now occupy, or by the government of the United States providing a new home in a distant country for a portion of them, by which they would be finally separated. The provisions of the late treaty, however, have dissipated that policy, and it now seems to be the settled opinion, that the country they now inhabit is considered their permanent home as a nation. The settlement of this question has imparted energy to the undertaking of national improvement, and given permanency to their designs. In addition to the eight public schools in the nation and the missionary establishments, the authorities of the nation have resolved on building two seminaries, near Tah-le-quah, or the council ground—one for the education of males, and the other for females. This laudable undertaking has been embarked in with commendable energy; and, since the commencement of the manual labor, has given daily employment to about seventy-five hands, including mechanics and ordinary laborers. The buildings are of brick, and will be large and commodious. The probable cost is estimated at about \$35,000.

When the work is finished, it is contemplated to employ reputable and competent teachers, male and female, to take charge of those institutions, where the higher branches of education will be taught, and thereby the inconvenience and expense of sending the youths of the nation to distant schools to complete their education, will be superseded.

Within the six weeks last past, there has been several camp meetings held in different parts of the nation. Those meetings have been generally very well attended—the meeting held in the vicinity of Tah-le-quah, very numerous; and it is gratifying to be enabled to state, on reliable authority, that the Cherokee people, when assembled at those meetings of public worship, have behaved with becoming decency and order, and that a goodly increase of members have been added to the church. Native preachers of different denominations, as well as white men preachers attached to the different churches, meet together at those appointed camp meetings, and labored in brotherly concert to promote the great cause of religion and morality, and their united labors seem to indicate quite an encouraging effect.

In regard to missionary institutions in the Cherokee nation, I believe there are no changes in the administration or government of those institutions since my last report. I will barely remark, however, that the American board of commissioners for foreign missions have four stations in the nation, as I learn from the report forwarded me by the Rev. Mr. Worcester.

The Methodist Episcopal church in the nation is supplied with two missionary preachers, under whose direction there are five native, and five white men preachers. The information in regard

to the Methodist Episcopal church, however, is predicated on the report I received last year.

The Baptist Cherokee mission, I have been informed, organized themselves into an auxiliary missionary society to the mother board in Boston. This mission supports, by their united efforts, two schools.

The missions of the United Brethren's church at this time, I believe, have but one school in operation in the nation, which is under the care of the Rev. David Z. Smith.

It may be proper to remark, that I have addressed letters to the following gentlemen, requesting them to report to me in detail the condition and progress of the institutions under their respective charges, to wit: Dr. Butler, of Fairfield mission; Rev. Mr. Willie, of Dwight mission; Rev. Mr. Ruble, of the Methodist Episcopal church; Rev. Mr. Jones, of the Cherokee Baptist auxiliary society; and the Rev. Z. Smith, of the United Brethren's church. I have also addressed Mr. Payne, commissioner of common schools, and Mr. Reese, secretary of the temperance society, requesting an official report from each; but from some cause, I have received no communication or reports from any of the above named gentlemen, in reference to the objects embraced in my letters.

The only report I have received is from Mr. Worcester, of Park Hill Mission, which I herewith transmit. Should the other reports asked for, or any of them, be sent on before it is too late to meet the wishes of the government, and afford the information desired, I will immediately forward them to the Department. I have waited for those reports to the last hour.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JAMES MCKISICK,
Cherokee Agent.

Col. SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Sup. Western Territory, Choctaw Agency.

No. 19.

CHICKASAW AGENCY,
September 21, 1847.

SIR: No very material change has taken place since my last annual report; the most important is the arrival of forty Chickasaws that emigrated themselves from their old nation in Mississippi, to their new country west, and they appear much better pleased with their new country than they expected.

A number of Chickasaws, who have been living in the Choctaw district, since their removal west, have, within the last nine months, moved into their new district, and a number are making arrangements to move in this winter.

I feel satisfied now that in the course of a few years all the Chickasaws will be once more together; and they ought to be so, for they have a beautiful country, well adapted to all their wants, with a fine climate, and they will be much better contented; there

will not then be that jealousy existing among them that did exist a few years since, and the unkind feelings which exist between them and some of the Choctaws, I think, will be entirely removed. They will be more convenient to the place of paying their annuities and their schools; (should they have any.) They have fine crops this year of corn, cotton, oats, potatoes, &c. Their supply of corn this year will be very great, larger than it was the last year; their stocks of horses, cattle, and sheep are improving, but they have not succeeded so well in raising hogs as they ought; it only requires a little attention to raise fine hogs in this country.

But, sir, I must say that the Chickasaws are improving every year in their habits of industry. I know of but few in the nation that do not make more corn than will subsist them; they raise a great many fowls, and those that are situated within from 10 to 20 miles of Fort Washita, furnish it with butter, potatoes, chickens, eggs, &c. The merchants generally get contracts to furnish the fort with corn, but they are furnished by the Chickasaws. This year the contract is for only seven thousand bushels, the Indians could furnish forty thousand at the contract price, which is 43 cents, but their corn will be of little use to them, as they have no way of shipping it to any foreign country. Had they navigation, their country would be much more valuable, but they can in this country live very independently.

They last year received an annuity of seventy thousand dollars, but they have since requested that upwards of a hundred thousand should be paid to them this year. They strongly insist on receiving the interest on their vested funds yearly as annuity, except what they wish for schools, and to pay blacksmiths, and for iron, steel, &c., all of which is agreeable to the 11th section of the treaty of 24th May, 1834, between the United States and the Chickasaw Indians.

At this time there is no school among the Chickasaws; a young man, by the name of Akin, belonging to the Methodist Episcopal church, taught school a few months this year, and he had from thirty to forty scholars; but, from some cause or other, he did not suit, or the Indians did not suit him, and he left. For nearly three years the Chickasaws have been trying to make arrangements to have a large manual labor academy, but have failed in their arrangements until a short time since. I heard through the Rev. Mr. Browning, that the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs had made arrangements with the Rev. Mr. Berryman to establish an academy among the Chickasaws; but, as yet, I nor the Chickasaws know nothing of the agreement; the cause probably was the death of Major Armstrong, the last acting superintendent west, which caused a suspension in business in that department. I presume that I will shortly be informed on the subject by yourself.

The Chickasaws have great anxiety to have their children educated, and what is most astonishing, the full-bloods show as great a desire as the half-breeds; but they are *all* very anxious on this

all-important subject, and I am in hopes, in a few years, to see at least three large institutions of learning in the Chickasaw district.

At this time there are no preachers of any denomination in the Chickasaw district, which I regret very much, for there certainly is room for some of these good people, and subjects for them to teach the everlasting truths of the blessed gospel.

The Chickasaws have been harrassed by the Kickapoos, and some of the travelling Cherokee horse thieves. The Kickapoos were sent out of this country in 1841; they got permission from the Creeks to settle in a part of their country; they go every fall to the State of Texas to hunt. Hunting is their occupation, but from the best information I can get, they commit depredations upon the citizens of Texas, and upon the Indians south of Red River. In a letter I received from Major Neighbors, agent for the Texas Indians, he informed me that they had stolen upwards of two hundred mules and horses from Texans and Indians. The Kickapoos are furnished with an outfit of powder, lead, and other articles, by the merchants that are licensed to trade with the Indians north of Red river; they generally get those articles on a credit, with a promise that they will bring in their peltries in the spring. They do bring in a good many peltries, and they bring in a good many horses and mules also; and, as they travel through the Chickasaw country, they steal horses and kill the stock sometimes of the Chickasaws. This hunting band of Kickapoos, I think, are as void of principle as any Indians can be. It would be of great benefit to the southwestern country if the Kickapoos and Cherokees could be made to go to their own nation, where they could be controlled by their agent and chiefs. The command at Fort Washita has been so reduced (which is now only a part of one company of infantry) that it is impossible to keep those roving bands out of the country, or to keep them from going into the State of Texas. I am in hopes that in a short time a company of dragoons may be ordered to the post, but, as it is, every exertion is used by that diligent and most excellent officer, Brevet Major George Andrews, United States army, to render me every assistance in keeping every thing quiet on this frontier.

The public smiths for the Chickasaws have all discharged their duty faithfully this year. As another report will be made by me during this winter, I will close this.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. M. M. UPSHAW,

United States Agent for the Chickasaws.

COL. S. M. RUTHERFORD,

Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

No. 19 $\frac{1}{2}$.CREEK AGENCY, *November 9, 1847.*

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the War Department, I beg leave to submit the following as a report of the condition of the subjects of this agency.

It affords me true pleasure to be able to note the continued advance of the Creeks in all that pertains to civilization and enlightenment. It has been very truly remarked that the progress of Indians generally, in the arts and habits of civilized life, is so extremely slow, as to scarcely attract notice, even through a course of years. In our first acquaintance with them we perceive them to be a wandering predatory people, subsisting upon the results of the chase and the spoils of war. In emerging from this state, we still observe that they are disposed to evade most of the laws and principles of civilized life, addicted to vice in its worst shapes, and averse from, and prejudiced against, all that would have a tendency to ameliorate their condition and reform their habits.

In my first official acquaintance with these people, in 1838, and but a short time after the emigration west of a considerable portion of them, they possessed the character of an agricultural people—not always, indeed, devoting their time and attention to farming operations after the modern manner, but still producing by their labor a sufficiency of corn and other vegetable productions for their consumption; some of them, the wealthy slaveholders particularly, raising large quantities of surplus for sale. They were, however, at that time far from being a happy or contented people. The nation was divided into two parties, each rivalling the other in animosity and bitter hatred, excited with jealousy and discord, and requiring great exertions on the part of the government officers to prevent bloodshed and bring about an amicable understanding. At that time very few of them could be said to be exempt from the vice of drunkenness. Carousals, frolics, and gambling could be daily witnessed in all public places, by all classes and sexes. Prostitution and poverty abounded, and the former was so general as to cause several portions of the nation to acquire a notorious fame. Religion was scoffed at and made a mockery of, and all efforts that were made to introduce schools and education proved utter failures. At that time an individual appeared to be moved by no other incentive but that actuated by nature, for food and clothing. Had he money or valuables, it was quickly lavished in the indulgence of ardent liquors or lascivious pleasures, he having the assurance that after all was gone, his gun (game being then abundant) would still produce a further supply sufficient for his wants. Now, a wonderfully visible improvement is apparent. Gradually, and as the game has disappeared, the Creeks have been taught the advantage of placing their dependence upon their skill and labor. Blessed with a country of abundant extent, well timbered and watered, of fertile soil and of comparative healthfulness, offering every facility for the rearing of stock, and for the following of agricultural pursuits, they were ultimately persuaded

to seize that which they so bountifully possessed, and which so alluringly tempted them to change their condition, and to become a sober, steady, and industrious community, seating themselves at their homes, rendered permanent to them by the assurance of the government of the United States, and appreciating and enjoying all the comforts and endearments of the social circle. So it is, and this is the picture I have to present of the Creeks generally at the present time; and, moreover, as their moral character and condition has improved, their mental capacities have increased as a consequence. They have become conscious of the advantages accruing to them from receiving and encouraging religion and education, upon which subjects they feel a great interest. The prejudices formerly indulged against the people of the United States have become extinct, and the fostering care and kindness of the general government understood and appreciated. At peace among themselves, and upon the warmest expressions of friendship with their neighbors—with all the elements of prosperity around them—they present every appearance of a happy and contented people.

I mentioned in my report of last year that the Creeks would have a large surplus of corn left for sale; so it proved to be, nearly 100,000 bushels having been exported from the country, a large portion of which was purchased for shipment to Ireland and other foreign countries. It is computed that about 1,000 head of pork hogs were sold during the winter. The large stocks of cattle owned by the Creeks have attracted the attention of drovers from Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana, and several hundred head were sold to them during the spring and summer. The crops of the present year are good, though, owing to the extremely backward spring and wet summer, not so much surplus will be left as from those of last year. Large numbers of pork hogs will be offered for sale during the approaching winter.

Much may be said upon the subject of whiskey; I will, however, confine myself to a few remarks. I made it my first duty, upon the reception of the Commissioner's letter, accompanied by a copy of the late act of Congress in regard to the sale and introduction of liquor into the Indian country, to make known the same to the authorities of the nation, and to express to them my determination to rigorously enforce it, without respect to persons. It may be proper to remark here, that I have, from time to time, labored assiduously to convince the chiefs that much, if not all, rested with themselves to suppress the trade; and I so far succeeded as to cause, three several times, a decree to be passed by the general council ordering the destruction of all liquors that could be found, and subjecting the punishment of a hundred lashes upon all who might thereafter introduce it. The consequence was, for a short time, none of it was to be seen; but the high price of it, in consequence of its scarcity, was too great a temptation to the cupidity of some of the chiefs themselves, and others possessing great influence, who immediately entered into the trade, and maintained the monopoly of it until it became known to those in the habit of pursuing it as an avocation, who again engaged in it. It

is brought in by the Indians exclusively, who send or take canoes or boats into the State; obtaining their lading about nightfall, they immediately depart, keeping under the high banks of the river to evade notice; when they arrive at home it is safely secreted, and sold out by jugfulls to others who attend the gatherings, and who retail it out by the dram. Many of the chiefs, and all the enlightened portion of the community, have expressed pleasure at the exertions of the government to remedy this evil, and have assisted me in ferretting out and destroying several barrels. The last general council passed a resolution to co-operate with me in prohibiting its introduction, and ordaining its destruction wherever found. I am, however, I regret, not prepared to say that there is no liquor in the country; that there is some I am convinced, for there are many who have expressed themselves determined to keep it, saying that they are a free people, entitled to their privileges equally with the whites; "and should the government build walls around their country as high as the trees, they will still find means to bring whiskey to all those who want it."

I have to notice the arrival in their new country of thirteen self-emigrant Creeks, with their negroes, &c. They have expressed themselves delighted with their new homes on this fertile soil; have raised excellent crops and are now vigorously engaged in forming farms. The most of them have enjoyed excellent health; they are all of the better class, and will add, from their experience gained by a long residence among a respectable and enterprising white community, much to the growing prosperity of the country.

The school at the Presbyterian mission has continued in regular and successful operation during the year. No detailed report of its condition has, however, been furnished me.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES LOGAN,
Creek Agent.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 20.

SEMINOLE SUB-AGENCY,
September 30, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations, I herewith report the condition of the Seminoles.

They are at peace and on good terms with all the surrounding tribes, although there is considerable jealousy existing between them and the Creeks; they apparently believing that the Creeks are over anxious to bring them absolutely and entirely under the Creek laws; and the Creeks, on the other hand, distrustful of the disposition of the Seminoles to submit to such restrictions, as they consider by treaty, they have a right to impose. However, I have

no anticipations of trouble between them should a proper course of policy be adopted by the Creeks, which I have no right to doubt will be done.

The health of the Seminoles has been generally good, and I think their numbers rather increasing than otherwise; but a correct census not having been taken, as contemplated, it is impossible, as yet, to state positively any thing about their numbers.

The crops have been very abundant, much more being raised than will be required for the subsistence of the tribe; in fact, I think they will bear a comparison, as *agriculturists*, with almost any tribe on this border. Their crops consist of corn, rice, potatoes, pumpkins, groundnuts or goober peas, beans, &c.

The hunt of last year was, in a measure, unsuccessful, and the Indians have not, in so great a number, engaged in it this fall. The debts which they incurred for goods preparatory to going out last season, have not yet been entirely extinguished, and the price of peltry, at present, holds out but poor inducements to the hunter, particularly where game is as scarce as it is in this country.

The goods, &c., furnished per treaty, January 4, 1845, did not give that satisfaction which was desired, although it relieved their wants to a considerable extent. They complained of the great quantity of strouding and such other articles as cost high. They wish such goods furnished as will be suitable for the women and children—blankets, linseys, domestics of different kinds, and common prints.

They also complain that there are balances of money, under old treaties, which, if not annulled by the war, are still due, and which they ask may be paid.

Whiskey continues to be introduced into the country; in fact the late law has considerably animated the trade, from the belief that it would now be worth more, the danger of introducing it being enhanced. My own opinion has ever been that the law does more injury than good, aside of the policy of passing laws which cannot be enforced; and it is impossible for agents to keep it out of the country so long as the Indians themselves desire to bring it in.

The subject of education is thought about as little of, as if it was only intended for white people. They feel themselves, and desire to be considered, as decidedly beyond the pale of civilization, perfectly satisfied to walk in the "footsteps of their predecessors," showing, as far as mental improvement is concerned, a philosophy in being satisfied with their present state, which, considering their being human, is truly astonishing. Other people make serious charges against Providence for their misfortunes, troubles, or wants, but the Seminoles never accuse the "Great Spirit" of doing any injury, but give him the credit side of the account, and leave Istahtutkee to answer for the debit.

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Respectfully submitted, by your most obedient servant,
M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

To Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 21.

NEW YORK SUB-AGENCY,
Ellicottville, September 30, 1847.

SIR: In pursuance of the regulations of the Department, I have the honor herewith to submit to you a statement of the present condition of the Indians within the limits of this sub-agency.

Very little of change in their general circumstances has taken place since the date of my last report. During the summer, I have visited each of the bands, except those residing at Tonawanda, and was able to observe but little alteration in their prospects, and that in the direction of a gradual improvement and progress in their agricultural pursuits. The season has been highly favorable to the growth and maturity of their crops; and the aggregate produce of the harvest must greatly exceed the supply required for their subsistence. I am happy to perceive among them a growing spirit of industry—slight and gradual, it is true, but still advancing—which is manifested in clearing new lands, enclosing the old with better fences, and erecting and repairing both houses and barns; and there are now but few families who have not comfortable homes and a sufficient supply of the necessaries of life.

The condition of their schools is about the same as at the date of my report last year. An increased interest is likely to arise in regard to them, through appropriations that have recently been made by the State of New York, for the purpose of building houses and employing teachers. At St. Regis and Onondaga, these houses have been already erected, and in each of them schools are now in successful operation. A house will be erected the present season at Cattaraugus, and one at Allegany the ensuing summer, with the funds thus provided by the State. Among the Senecas, a deep solicitude is felt by a few of the more enlightened and intelligent chiefs for the prosperity of the schools, and the subject is seriously discussed among them of appropriating to educational purposes the whole or a large part of their lost annuities, should they succeed in recovering them through the agency of the commission authorized by Congress at its session of 1846.

The difficulty that existed at Cattaraugus last year in relation to the law of New York, passed in 1845, for the protection and improvement of the Seneca Indians, I am happy to say, appears to be entirely removed. At a recent council held there for the payment of annuities, I observed that the dissenting chiefs, comprising in their number many valuable men, had enrolled their names under the law, and were present participating in the proceedings. A spirit of harmony and good feeling prevailed during the entire council; and the organization, in pursuance of the act referred to, appears to be complete, and under circumstances highly favorable for testing the application of the principles of civil government to the affairs of the Indians.

The Tonawanda band still refuse to leave their reservation, or to accept the annuities which arise from the sale of it. The Ogden

Company have, however, sold parcels of it to different individuals, and twelve or fifteen families have settled upon it under such purchases. In attempting to settle upon this tract, while in the possession of the Indians, many unpleasant contentions and controversies have arisen, involving serious consequences, and resulting in complaints in our criminal courts. If this mode of settlement is continued on the part of the purchasers, these troubles must inevitably be increased, and assume still more serious aspects as they progress from time to time. The company claim the right to enter upon any portion of these lands which they find vacant, by virtue of their purchase; and the Indians insist that no purchase of the lands has been made that is binding upon them, and that their possession of a part is possession of the whole. They express a willingness to have the whole question tested in a court of justice, and to abide the decision of any competent legal tribunal. At the same time, they declare that they will not be driven off by the company by force in the manner attempted, and will defend their possessions to the shedding of blood.

It is of vast importance to the Indians, and to all concerned, that this controversy should be ended by a settlement of the dispute. Until this be done, the Tonawanda band cannot be expected to advance in the same proportion as their other brethren. Their time is engrossed with this (to them) absorbing question, and their energies are directed towards warding off or counteracting the efforts made to remove them. In these efforts are absorbed a very large portion of their annuities, so much so, that of their share of the permanent annuity for the present year no part of it was distributed to the people. In the meantime, their schools are neglected, and, for a considerable period, none has been kept within the boundaries of the reservation. Aside from providing for the support of their families, the one great business of their lives seems to be the adoption of means to preserve their homes and lands, and to annul or defeat the contract or treaty under which they are claimed.

I do not feel competent to suggest a course proper to be pursued under these circumstances. I regarded it as a duty to present the facts to the Department, and have done so in the hope that some remedy may be devised for existing and accumulating evils.

Some time in August last, about 94 of the emigrating Indians, who removed west last summer (1846) in the charge of Dr. Hogeboom, returned to this State, leaving some ten or twelve to follow this fall, after they have gathered and disposed of their crops. The whole number who emigrated, as nearly as can be ascertained, was 186. Of this number 82 died at the west, 10 are yet remaining there; and of those who have returned 20 have settled at Tuscarora, and the balance at Cattaraugus. They are all, I believe, with scarcely an exception, in a destitute condition, and many of them are yet suffering from disease. They are (most of them) quartered with their friends, and are kindly treated, so that their wants will be cared for, and no actual suffering is known or believed to exist among them.

There is yet an unsettled difficulty between the Tuscarora band and the Ogden Company, in relation to the valuation of their improvements. As this difficulty results from a contract entered into between the parties, in connexion with the treaty of 1838, but without the intervention of the government, I am not aware that the Department can have any control over it, or that any suggestions on my part are necessary in regard to it. I hope, however, it may be compromised without serious difficulty.

The population of the tribes within this sub-agency is gradually increasing, and apparently keeping pace with their improved circumstances. As nearly as I now can determine, they number at present as follows:

Senecas.....	2,700
St. Regis.....	457
Onondagas.....	375
Tuscaroras.....	300
Oneidas.....	210
Onondagas residing with the Senecas.....	140
Cayugas residing with the Senecas, about.....	60
Oneidas residing with the Senecas, about.....	30
	4,272

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. ANGEL, *Sub-agent.*

HON. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 22.

TORREY'S TRADING HOUSE, June 22, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings and observations since the 16th May.

On the 22d of May, I arrived at the principal village of the Comanches, which was situated about one hundred miles north of Austin; the village consisted of about two hundred and fifty lodges. All the principal chiefs were present, with the exception of Santa Anna. The head chiefs were Pa-ha-yu-ca, Mo-co-cho-copie, and Po-chian-a-qua-hiep, with a large number of the principal men and warriors. I was met at some distance from the village by the head chief, and received a very friendly reception. I remained in their village three days, and was treated with the utmost kindness during my stay. The day after my arrival I held a council with them, and explained to them fully the action of the government in relation to their affairs; also the determination of the Department to do every

thing necessary for their benefit and welfare, which proved generally satisfactory.

During the talk I had the treaty read and interpreted to them; they appeared well satisfied, and made no objection to any of its provisions, until I explained the amendments, and informed them that the 3d and 5th articles were stricken out, when there were strong objections on the part of the chiefs to any alteration of the original treaty. Po-chan-a-qua-hiep (Buffalo Hump) said: "I cannot agree that the 3d article in the treaty shall be stricken out, for that article was put in at my request. For a long time a great many people have been passing through my country; they kill all the game, and burn the country, and trouble me very much. The commissioners of our great father promised to keep these people out of our country. I believe our white brothers do not wish to run a line between us, because they wish to settle in this country. I object to any more settlements. I want this country to hunt in."

Pa-ha-yu-ca said: "We all object to any alteration in the treaty. The men that made that treaty were the best men we had; and when we made it, we considered it all good, and I do not wish to alter it now. The third article was put in at the request of my principle war chief for the protection of my people."

I explained to them fully that the alteration made no difference in the general bearings of the treaty; and for their satisfaction read your letter of instructions as far as related to their affairs, and had it fully interpreted to them; after which they appeared to be well satisfied. I find that they are violently opposed to any extension of our settlements, and much annoyed by, and very suspicious of, any persons that visit their country. They made many remarks about the heretofore proposed line to be run between them and the whites, and wished to discuss that matter, which I saw would lead to warm words, as they appeared much excited when the subject was broached. I avoided all discussion of the matter; and when they wished to know how it would be adjusted, I told them I knew nothing in relation to it at present, but tried to satisfy them by an assurance that all those matters would be settled by the government in good time, and to their entire satisfaction. They finally, after much talk, agreed to defer all such matters; and, by the time our council was over, all appeared in good humor, and pledged themselves to do all in their power to carry the treaty into effect, and abide by its several stipulations.

For the last few months our settlements have extended very rapidly, and, unless checked, will continue to do so; also, frequently large parties of surveyors penetrate many miles into the country now occupied by the Indians. These movements keep the Comanches and many other tribes in continual excitement; and unless some measures can be adopted by the Department to check the surveyors, it will finally lead to serious difficulties. From these causes the Comanches are in a doubtful state of quietness, and there is no telling how soon there will be a general outbreak among them. The present laws of Texas do not acknowledge that the Indians have any right of soil; and those persons holding land claims

contend that they have the privilege of locating wherever they choose. Under these circumstances the Department must be aware that the agent of the Indians can effect but little towards preventing those persons from going into the Indian country.

These parties do not in any manner interfere with the Indians or molest their property. They confine themselves entirely to surveying, and treat the Indians in the kindest manner whenever they approach them in a friendly way.

I have watched their movements narrowly, and can see nothing wherein they violate the treaty stipulations with the Indians; the only cause of dissatisfaction being a jealousy on the part of the Indians that they will have their hunting grounds taken from them. The Comanche chief (Santa Anna) talks of these matters with more intelligence than any of the other chiefs, and is devotedly attached to the whites. He says if the other chiefs were better acquainted with the whites, all probability of war would cease; and that he does every thing in his power to induce them to remain quiet. The other chiefs are very jealous, and accuse him of having sold himself to the whites, &c. He recommends that a delegation of from fifteen to twenty of the principal chiefs of the Comanches be formed, at as early a period as convenient to the Department, to visit Washington and other parts of the United States; and is decidedly of opinion that such a measure would do more to secure their friendship and ensure peace than ten times the cost expended in presents.

I am decidedly of his opinion, and would respectfully, but earnestly, recommend its consideration to the Department. •

Pa-ha-yu-ca, one of the principal chiefs, accompanied me to this place, and I gave him some presents. He left well satisfied.

On the 30th of May, I arrived at the village of the Caddoes, Ionies, and Onadakoos, situated on the Brazos river, 45 miles from Torrey's trading house. I found everything perfectly quiet in their village, and the Indians well satisfied and friendly. They are cultivating large fields of corn, and appear to be in a prosperous condition. The village consists of about 150 houses, built of wood and covered with grass. I held a talk with the chiefs, and found everything in a healthy condition. From the frequent depredations committed by the Wacoos, Witchetas, Tah-wah-ca-roos, and Keechies, I found it necessary, at as early a day as possible, to give them my attention; and apprehending great personal risk in visiting their villages, well knowing their hostile character, I applied to Captain Howe, commandant of this frontier, for an escort of rangers for that purpose, and to assist in recovering horses that had been stolen from our citizens, as I was informed by good authority that there were a large number of stolen horses in their village. Captain Howe refused to furnish me the escort required, upon the grounds that he had no orders to send troops into the Indian country. Seeing the great necessity of action, I determined, at all risk, to go to their village, and accordingly engaged the services of a small party of Delaware Indians—six in number—to accompany me.

On application to the chief of the Onadakoos, he sent Pow-iash, second chief, with six of his warriors with me; Jose Maria, the

principal chief, having been thrown from his horse and badly injured, was unable to accompany me in person.

On the 10th instant, we arrived at the village of the hostile bands, and, finding that the friendly Indians would sustain me in any measures I might adopt towards them, I determined on the boldest course as the best that could be adopted. Accordingly, as soon as the chiefs could be assembled, I made a formal demand of the horses, and threatened them, in the strongest terms, if my request was not complied with. After much counselling among themselves, we were invited to a council in their village. We attended the council and were treated in a most friendly manner. Our council lasted four days, during which time all matters of difference were discussed at length, and the following conditions agreed upon:

1. That they were to restore all the horses and mules, &c., that had been stolen, both from the whites and friendly Indians, since the treaty was concluded between them and the United States Commissioners.

2. That they are not to steal any more horses or mules from the whites or friendly Indians, or commit any act of hostility whatever.

3. When all the stolen property is given up they are to be entitled to all the privileges of the treaty that they had violated, and shall be entitled to the same considerations as other tribes that are friendly with the United States.

In accordance with said agreement they delivered up 46 head of animals, which were all that were in the village, the largest portion having been driven to the main Wichita village, which is situated on the Wichita river. The chiefs present immediately despatched men for the horses, which are to be delivered up in the course of the next month. The Keechies, on my arrival at their village, immediately delivered into my possession seven head of stolen horses, which were all that that tribe had stolen. They also gave many proofs of friendship in the assistance they gave me against the Wacoes, Wichitas and Tah-wah-ca-roos. The friendly Indians that accompanied me (Powiash, Ionie and John Conner, a Delaware) gave me great assistance, and, by their untiring exertions to effect a friendly arrangement with these bands, gave evidence of the friendly disposition of the people, and their attachment to the United States. I have great confidence in the durability of the present friendly arrangements, and hope the Department will not in future be troubled with complaints of Indian depredations from these bands.

Having in the last month visited every band on our immediate borders, I can at present detect nothing of a hostile character, or that would induce me to apprehend anything like a general outbreak from any tribe. The depredations committed are confined almost entirely to horse-stealing; and I am confident that, in a short time, if the Department would allow me to call the assistance of troops for the arrest of said thieves, and bring them to proper punishment, our frontier would enjoy perfect tranquility.

At present none of our wild tribes are under the influence of

moral obligations. None consider it criminal to steal or murder, and they have no punishment for such offences. The authority of the chief only extends to the personal influence he may exercise. It therefore devolves entirely on the agent of the government to bring these thieves and murderers to punishment for such offences when it becomes necessary. I find, during the time there was no resident agent among the Indians, many vexatious disputes have arisen among the different bands—one between the Caddoes and Wacoes, on account of the Wacoes having stolen some horses from the Caddoes. The result was that the Caddoes killed two Wacoes, one of them a chief that visited Washington last summer. After much discussion I have settled the matter to the satisfaction of both parties.

I have used every exertion to settle all such matters, and am happy to say that I have been generally successful; and at present see no cause of dispute among the different bands. I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the necessity of employing a blacksmith for the Indians. I found, on my arrival at this point, that the Indians were much dissatisfied on account of the blacksmiths refusing to do their work as formerly. I was compelled to have their work done, and have agreed with Mr. Sutton (one of the smiths appointed by Messrs. Butler and Lewis) to do the work until the Department could advise me what course to adopt in relation to that matter.

I find some of the bands very destitute of clothing, and in some instances they find it difficult to subsist by hunting. The Comanches subsist to a great degree upon horses and mules. They all expressed much anxiety for the coming council, as they expect a good supply of clothing. I have done all in my power to impress upon them the necessity of settling down and making corn, and have used my influence to encourage those that were already engaged in farming.

The Caddoes, Onadakoos, Wacoes, Tah-wah-ca-roos, Keechies and Witchitas are making corn this year to a considerable extent. The Comanches, Lipans and Ton-kah-was subsist entirely by hunting.

At present all the tribes require constant attention, and, if we preserve peace, will require that attention for some time to come. From their great ignorance of the habits, manners and customs of civilized life, they are very credulous, and are liable at all times to be led astray by designing persons.

Having been informed, since my arrival at this point, of the intention of the government to establish immediately a line of posts on our Indian borders, this will supercede the necessity of any suggestions from me, as I am fully convinced that no other measure is so well calculated to hold those bands that may have a disposition to depredate so completely in check.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian Agent.

Colonel W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 23.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, August 5, 1847.

SIR: I this day arrived here from the Camanche country, after an absence of three weeks, and hasten to inform you that difficulties of a serious character have occurred between a band of that tribe and the surveyors employed by the German colonists.

The particulars, as far as I have been able to learn, are as follows, viz: About the 13th of July, ultimo, a party of Camanches made an attack upon four surveyors of Mr. Hays's company, and have either killed or taken them captive into their country. Information to this effect reached me by express from Colonel John C. Hays, commanding on the frontier, whilst on my way to the Indian country, the 16th of July, ultimo, requesting me to proceed immediately to the Camanche camp and ascertain the facts whether they had, or intended to commence hostilities. On my arrival in that section, I learned from the surveyors that immediately after the occurrence, the Camanche chief, Santa Anna, had went to the different parties of surveyors and notified them to leave that country, as his tribe would not permit further surveys to be made.

I found that the Camanches, a few days previous to my arrival, had, with all their families, horses, &c., started north for the "Grand Prarie." With the hope of overtaking and pacifying them, I followed in their trail about two hundred and fifty miles above the settlements, but found that they travelled with such speed that it was impossible for me to do so. I was accompanied by Jim Shaw and a small party of "Delawares," who deemed it imprudent to advance any further, should there even be a probability of reaching them in any short time.

I have taken measures to open a communication with them through the friendly tribes, and hope ere long to be able to lay before the Department their intentions. From the best information in my possession, the difficulty originated in a great measure from a failure on the part of the "German Emigration Company" to comply with stipulations of their contract, by sending their surveyors further up than the point agreed upon—the Camanches being at all times jealous of any encroachments by the whites, and much opposed to the extension of our settlements. From information derived from other friendly Indians, I learn they have been induced to believe by some few renegade Indians and Mexicans, residing at or about San Antonio, that the whites intend to deprive them of their whole country, and were preparing to make an attack upon them; which, I presume, was in part the cause of the difficulty and their precipitate flight from our borders. Being apprehensive that the disposition of our citizens to extend their surveying in that part of the country, until recently, alone frequented by them as their hunting ground, I considered it proper to call the attention of the Department to that subject—which I did in my report of June 22—and had hoped that before any difficulty transpired, I would have been advised what course to pursue, or language to hold to the In-

dians regarding the boundary between them and the whites. I am now more fully convinced than ever that our friendly relations with them cannot be maintained permanently until that question is finally settled and put at rest. Believing that the Executive of Texas might check the surveyors and prevent any further rupture or difficulty with them until the Department could advise me on the subject, I to-day conversed with him relative to the matter, but he assured me that there is no law that would authorize him to exercise such authority; yet he suggested that it would be well, and no doubt have a beneficial effect, for the Department to notify the surveyors that such as persisted in their encroachments on their hunting grounds and the Indians, that hostilities would be alone between them, and that the consequences would rest upon those thus intruding. As soon as I can see the Indians, every exertion will be used to pacify, correct the erroneous impressions made by designing persons, and induce them to await the further action of the government. I have learned since my arrival in the settlements that some difficulty also occurred between some prairie Indians, supposed to be "Lipans," and Mr. Lewis and his party, who were bearing despatches from Colonel John C. Hays to Major General Taylor, the Indians having attacked them on the "Lorado" road, about fifty miles from San Antonio, which resulted in the death of three of the Indians, and Mr. Lewis being badly wounded. They whipped off the Indians and succeeded in reaching "Lorado." In consequence of this, and information that they had stolen property, Colonel Hays despatched a small party of rangers to the "Lipan" camp, who, finding some of the property, attempted to recover it, when the Indians commenced stringing their bows, and gave other evidence of a disposition to fight; they were fired upon by the rangers, and one or two of them wounded; but they, with the balance of the band, made their escape.

These "Lipans" have resided on the Rio Grande and Neuces during the past summer, and beyond my control. I have sent for their chiefs to meet me at Torry's trading house, and hope, after the council, to induce them to occupy a position within my reach, so that they may have proper attention, and be prevented from committing any depredations should they be so inclined. So far as relates to these charges against the Lipans, I do not vouch for their correctness. Up to the present time all other tribes in Texas evince the most friendly disposition.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,

Special Indian Agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 24.

SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
Torrey's Trading House, September 14, 1847.

SIR: Having this day returned from the Indian country, I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings and observations, since the 9th of August:

Having failed to see the Camanches on my previous visit to their country, as reported, and apprehending serious difficulties with them, unless the evil influences under which they were laboring at the time were removed, I determined to use all the means in my power to open a communication with them at as early a period as practicable. For that purpose, on the 10th of August, I started for the trading house of Messrs. Torrey & Co. When about sixty miles west of Austin, I fell in with the main body of the Ton-ka-was, who informed me that the Camanches were located on the clear fork of the Brassos river, about 350 miles west of Austin. I found the Ton-ka-was, as usual, perfectly friendly. I arrived at this point on the 13th of August, and finding that the *presents* for the Indians had arrived at Galveston, made the necessary arrangements with Messrs. Torrey & Co., for their transportation to this place. I also entered into a contract with Mr. George Barnard to furnish the supply of provisions necessary for the coming council.

These arrangements were all completed by the 20th, on which day I started for the Camanche country. On the 23d, I arrived at the village of the Caddoes, Ionees, and Onadakoos. I had a talk with the chiefs, and found them all perfectly peaceable and friendly. The drought has been excessive during the whole summer; and although the crops were very promising in the early part of the season, there was a perfect failure in the corn crop. They complain of great scarcity of provisions, and their chief, Jose Maria, said that it was with much difficulty their people were able to subsist; the tribes were necessarily much scattered in pursuit of game, and other means of subsistence. I found also that large quantities of whiskey had been introduced among them since my former visit, which has in some degree disorganized them. These Indians are very fond of spirits, and it is with much difficulty that I can get sufficient information from them to arrest the trade. The chiefs have now pledged themselves to give me information in future, that will enable me to stop its importation into their country.

On the 28th, I arrived at the village of the Keechies, about 175 miles above this place, where I found a considerable body of Indians of the following tribes, viz: Keechies, Caddoes, Ionees, Wacoos, Tah-wa-caros, Wichitas, and some few Pawnee Mahaws. They were assembled for the purpose of holding a grand medicine dance, which was in full operation at the time of my arrival, and continued for four days afterwards.

I found the Indians residing in that neighborhood, viz: the Keechies, Wacoos, Wichitas, and Tah-wah-caros, (whose village is about six miles further up the river,) in a very contented and happy condition, they having made fine crops of corn, beans, pump-

kins, melons, &c. We were treated in a very kind and hospitable manner by them, invited to their dance, and furnished with what provisions we required. They appeared *very* friendly, and in the several talks held with them during my stay, expressed themselves willing to abide by the friendly arrangements made with them when I visited their country in June last.

I can as yet trace no act of hostility or theft to them since that time. The only point wherein they have failed, is in the delivery of a large portion of the stolen property. They make many excuses on that point, and still detain a large number of stolen horses—which can only be recovered by a resort to force. Having no instructions to that effect, I have thought it best to let that matter rest for the present, provided they do not commit some other act of hostility.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to an act of rascality which transpired in the Wichita village, (as detailed to me by the Wichita chief, Tah-wah-kee, or White Crane,) soon after the visit of the detachment of the United States dragoons from Fort Smith to their country. A trader from the Choctaw nation (whom I have since learned is named Dick Humphreys) accompanied the dragoons, and remained for the purpose of trading with the Indians. He was at the village at the time of the arrival of the chiefs, who were despatched for the stolen horses in that country. I gave the chiefs a paper certifying their intentions, and a copy of the agreement made with me by the chiefs of the Wichitas. The Wichitas wishing to know the contents of the paper, gave it to the trader to read to them. He told them that the paper required them to deliver up *only* ten good horses, and that they might keep and sell the balance. They accordingly brought in but ten head of animals. I have since been creditably informed, that Humphreys purchased a large number of horses and mules from the Indians at that time.

We were detained, on account of heavy rains and high water, for several days at the Keechie village, and on the 2d instant, Mo-pochoko-pee, (Old Owl,) 2d chief of the Camanches, with several chiefs and a large party arrived at our camp.

As soon as the usual ceremony of smoking was over, we commenced a *talk*, in which we fully discussed the cause that led to their flight from their usual hunting grounds. As I anticipated, the difficulty was caused in part by misunderstanding with the surveyors of the German colonists; but principally by false representations made them by the Mexicans at the town of San Antonio. From the best information that I am able to acquire from the Indians, there is a considerable party of Mexicans at that place, who are opposed to the United States government, and are doing all in their power to create disaffection among our several bands of Indians. Although I have given that matter my attention, I have as yet been unable, from the great caution with which they have conducted their attacks, and the many jealousies growing out of the unsettled state of our Indian affairs with which I have to contend, to ascertain the names and exact location of the offenders.

Mo-po-cho-ko-pee informed me that one of his war chiefs visited San Antonio, about the middle of July, and saw a large number of troops—probably Colonel Hays's regiment. The Mexicans informed him that these troops were raised expressly to make war with the Indians; he immediately became frightened, and returned to camp with the startling news. About the same time, Mo-po-cho-ko-pee, with another party, met some German surveyors with a Mexican interpreter, who informed him that the whites were about to send troops into the Camanche country, to kill the whole of them and dispose of their lands. Immediately on the receipt of this intelligence, although himself and Santa Anna did not believe it, and used all means in their power to prevent any movement, the whole band determined to abandon their hunting grounds, and located themselves beyond the reach of our troops. They disavow any intention to commence hostilities.

On the 6th instant, I assembled the different tribes at the Keechie village, and held a council with them; when I announced to them the arrival, at Torrey's trading house, of the presents promised by their President. The announcement was hailed with general satisfaction; and the several tribes have agreed to assemble at this place, for the purpose of receiving them, at the full moon, 25th of September.

The Camanche chiefs, Mo-po-cho-ko-pee and Santa Anna, have given many evidences, within the few last months, of their attachment to the whites, and their determination to abide by the stipulations of the treaty. About the middle of August, a band of about 600 Kiowas, on their way to this frontier, were met by the Camanches at the clear fork of the Brassos. The Kiowas avowed their intention to commit depredations on our settlements. The Camanches immediately interfered, and informed them that the whites were their friends, and if they committed any act of hostility, they (the Camanches) would make war upon the Kiowas; this induced them to fall back. After the Kiowas abandoned their hostile intentions, they expressed a wish to attend our councils, and make a treaty with the whites. I should have brought them in if they had been within a reasonable distance, but found their village to be on the waters of the Canadian, and my other duties would not admit of my going so far for them. The Camanches informed me, that if I did not go in person they would not attend the council.

Notwithstanding the many rumors that found their way into the newspapers of this country of Indian depredations, I sincerely believe that our friendly relations with the wild, or prairie Indians generally, are on a firmer basis at this time than at any former period. There has not been, to my knowledge, a single act of hostility committed within the limits of our settlements, and but one act (the murder or capture of the surveyors mentioned in my report of August 9th) within the limits of this agency since my report of 22d June.

I have had information of depredations committed on the Rio Grande, but the Department must be aware that an agent can exer-

cise no influence over those bands, who visit the vicinity of our troops on the Mexican frontier.

These reports have prevented the friendly intercourse and confidence that would otherwise have existed between the Indians and our frontier settlers, and it is with the utmost exertion that I have been able to keep peace with them; in fact, I have been in the limits of the settlements but one day since the 16th of July.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Department to the fact that large quantities of spirits are regularly introduced among our wild Indians by the nations residing east of Red river. While at the Keechie village, a party of these traders, (six men in all; two whites, Robt. Wilson and son, three Beluxies, and one Creek Indian,) arrived at that place with about 40 gallons of whiskey and a quantity of powder and lead. I had no force to arrest them, but induced them to return without disposing of their goods, by threatening to induce the Indians to seize their goods and put them to death if they commenced the trade.

Also, on the 11th instant, I fell in with a party of Cherokees, with six kegs (30 gallons) of whiskey, (on their way to the Caddoe and Ionie village,) which I seized and destroyed. The Indians are disposed to think I have done them injustice; and I should be pleased if the Commissioner would give me some definite instructions as to the manner of proceeding in such cases.

In the absence of all law regulating intercourse with our wild bands, and the serious difficulties attending the introduction of ardent spirits into their country, I shall be compelled, for self-preservation and the protection of our frontier settlers, to deal with the traders in the most summary manner. Not wishing to do so, until full notice was given to all concerned, I have, thus far, confined myself to the destruction of the spirits, and warning the offenders of the consequences of the second offence.

Since my last report, the ranging companies, ordered for the frontier defence, have arrived at their several stations. There are two companies stationed on the Brassos river, near this trading post. Captain Ross, who is in command, is using very active measures to arrest the traffic in whiskey, and to prevent evil disposed persons from going into the Indian country. The most friendly understanding exists between the Indians and troops; and although the latter have been scarcely a month on the frontier, the effect of their presence is very perceptible, in the perfect quietness and general good conduct of the Indians.

For the information of the Department, I deem it proper to state that the principal war chief of the Camanches, Buffalo Hump, is still in Mexico, on a foray, with from six to eight hundred warriors. He crossed the Rio Grande, near the mouth of the Pureo, about the first of August; since then, I am unable to trace his route, but learn that he designs visiting Chihuahua, Parros, and surrounding country; on his return to attack some of the towns on the Rio Grande, probably San Fernando, or its vicinity. One of his avowed intentions, is revenge for the defeat of a party of Camanches, near Parros, by the Missouri volunteers.

Since my communication of the 9th of August I have not been able to see any of the Lipans. I am informed by the Camanches, that they have joined a band of Apaches, who, at present, are located on the Rio Pureo, about 400 miles west of this place. I shall, as soon as the present council is over, take measures to open a communication with them. The Camanches assure me that they have no hostile intention.

Finding that the different bands of Indians were much scattered, it became absolutely necessary to employ one additional interpreter, during the time the Indians were assembling, to hold the coming council. I therefore, on the 20th August, employed Colonel L. H. Williams, as interpreter for the Caddoes, Ionies, &c., during the time of council, which I hope will meet with the approbation of the Commissioner.

I feel fully assured that I shall be able, during the coming council, to remove everything like disaffection from the several tribes, and hope to combat successfully *all* evil influences that have been brought to bear on our wild or prairie tribes.

I deem it unnecessary to make any further suggestions at present, as the council is close at hand, when all matters appertaining to our relations and measures for the preservation of peace with the wild tribes will be properly considered, and the developments laid before the Department, at as early a day as practicable.

I have the honor to be; very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian Agent.

To Col. W. MEDILL,
Com'r of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 25.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
 October 12, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings and observations since the 14th of September:

In accordance with the contract made for the transportation of the Indian goods, they arrived at this point on the 24th of September. On comparing the contents of the several packages with the invoice, I found them all correct and in good order. Mr. Barnard also complied promptly in furnishing the necessary supplies of provisions, and at the time appointed (the 25th September) everything was in readiness, and most of the bands of Indians had already assembled for the purpose receiving their presents.

The several bands having been much scattered, I could not commence the distribution until the 28th, by which time they were all well represented, there being in attendance the following tribes and bands, viz: The Camanches, Ionies, Caddoes, Onadahkos, Wacoos, Keechies, Wichitas, Tahwaccaros, Tonkahwas, and the

bands of Delawares, Shawnees, and Cherokees that reside in Texas, also some few Beluxies, Kickapoos, and Pawnee Mohaws.

There were also in attendance a considerable number of our citizens, with Lieutenant Colonel H. P. Bell, commanding this frontier, and several other officers. On the 27th, the chiefs were all assembled in council, and the treaty read and explained to the several bands. Also, the views contained in your several communications, so far as was deemed most proper for the maintenance of our peaceful and friendly relations with them. From the best estimate that could be formed, there were present at the council about 2,200 Indians of all classes. Among the number were counted *sixty chiefs* of the several bands. The Camanches are fewer in number, in proportion to the number of their tribe, than any other, although three out of the four principal chiefs were in attendance, viz: Pa-ha-yu-ca, Mo-po cho-ko-pee, and Santa Anna. Po-chana-qua-heip, the principal war-chief, being on a foray in Mexico with most of the warriors, was the cause of the small attendance from this tribe.

During the council I avoided as much as possible any discussion of land matters, or questions of boundary, but assured the Indians again of the intention of the Department to "do them justice in all matters," and that the general government would settle all such matters in proper time to their entire satisfaction. I directed my attention particularly to counteracting the many evil influences that have been brought to bear on the several bands within the last few months, and, as far I could, to ferret out the persons who had been practising on their credulity.

I found, from conversations had with the several chiefs, that the late misunderstanding was caused by *lies* that had been circulated among them. Some by the Mexican residents of San Antonio, some by the small bands of Indians that visit the prairie tribes for the purpose of trade, but principally by the German emigrants who are settling in the immediate vicinity of the country now occupied by the Camanche Indians. The three principal chiefs of the Camanches assured me that Dr. Shubert, an agent of the German colonists, had informed them that the troops raised last summer in Texas were for the purpose of making war on the several bands of Indians, and that the government designed to have them *all massacred* when they met in council this fall. About the 1st of September Santa Anna, with a small party, started for San Antonio, he passed through two of the German settlements, and was again told that he would be put to death if he visited the American settlements, and other falsehoods well calculated to alarm him. The consequence was, he returned without visiting San Antonio, where he was anxious to go for the purpose of seeing Colonel Bell, as he wished to assure him of the friendly disposition of the Camanches.

Although our frontier settlers have several times this summer been greatly alarmed, and the newspapers of Texas have published numerous rumors of "Indian hostilities," I am unable, (although I have been considerably associated with the several bands during the whole summer,) to trace any disposition in any band to com-

mence hostility; in fact, the great fears expressed by almost all the bands of an intention on the part of the *whites* to commence war, show plainly that they do not wish to engage in a war that they *all* know to be profitless; and I am convinced that, if the Indians can possibly avoid it, we will have no Indian war at present. These reports are circulated by designing persons to serve their own ends, and it is greatly to be regretted that our public journals should give them publicity, as the circulation of such reports is well calculated to prevent that friendly intercourse that would otherwise exist between our frontier settlers and the several Indian bands. Although these reports keep our border tribes in constant excitement, I have no fears of their leading to a general outbreak. I have been able, thus far, to contend successfully with all such evil influences. and from the many pledges given me during the council, I feel confident that they will have less weight in future.

I also endeavored, as far as practicable, to carry into effect the views contained in your communication of 2d of August, and have carefully avoided all promises for the future, and discouraged, as much as I deemed it proper to do so, all expectation of more presents. I have endeavored to have it expressly understood that they need not expect anything more until some further action of the government in the matter.

As evidences of the friendly dispositions of the Indians, I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the "talks" of the principal chiefs, which I have deemed proper to forward with this report. During the time the Indians remained at this place, they conducted themselves in such a manner as to inspire every one present with the belief that they were sincere in their many professions of friendship for the government and citizens of the United States; and each principal chief pledged himself, in presence of the assembled tribes, to assist the agent of the government in carrying into full effect the several stipulations of the treaty.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the great scarcity of provisions at present among the several prairie bands. Almost every tribe have made complaints of the difficulty they have in procuring the means of subsistence. I cannot see how they are to subsist during the present winter. The bands generally acknowledge the necessity of turning their attention to farming, and could be induced to do so with little trouble if they were provided with the means, and guaranteed their lands. They will be obliged to turn their attention to agricultural pursuits for a livelihood, as the buffalo and other game have almost entirely disappeared from our prairies.

I have endeavored to encourage them in farming as much as possible, and have promised to assist such as wished it in procuring seed, &c., for their next planting. I have considered it my duty to discourage, as much as possible, the small bands of the tribes residing east of Red river from passing through the country occupied by the prairie Indians. In order more effectually to put a stop to these proceedings, I held a council with the bands of

these tribes that attended the council, and notified them that they must either return to their tribes or settle in some place where they could be held responsible for their acts.

The Delawares, Shawnees, and Cherokees, have agreed to settle and plant corn the next season, and I think their influence will be beneficial in inducing the wild bands to follow their example. In distributing the presents, I endeavored, as far as possible, to distribute them to the several tribes in proportion to their number; and as the number in attendance was not so great as I anticipated, I deemed it most proper not to make any material addition to the original purchases.

I expect, during the present fall, (as soon as the Camanche warriors arrive from Mexico,) large parties to visit the trading-house. It will probably be necessary to make some provision to give them some presents, and the small balance of the appropriation might be used in procuring provisions when the several bands visit the agency for the purpose of transacting their business.

During the whole time the Indians remained at this place, the utmost harmony prevailed, and they generally expressed themselves well satisfied with the treatment they received while here. The demand for provisions appeared to be greater than was anticipated. Although I exceeded the estimated quantity—about 20,000 pounds of beef—I was not more than able to supply the demand. By the 5th instant, the several bands had all departed for their hunting grounds, and we have perfect quietness on our frontier. I feel fully assured that, unless the Indians are improperly *interfered* with, we have nothing to fear for the future.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian Agent.

Col. WM. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 26.

Report of F. H. Cumming, superintendent of the colony of Ottawa Indians at the Griswold mission, in the State of Michigan.

The present number of Indians comprising the band under the charge of the Protestant Episcopal church in the State of Michigan, and who receive pay from the government of the United States, is one hundred and nine.

The number of children who attend school varies from five to twenty-five. It is exceedingly difficult to secure the attendance of the children to the system of instruction devised for them. For this, various reasons might be assigned: the principal, however, will be found to be, their unwillingness to learn the English language; the indifference of the parents to the subject; the wandering mode

of life, to which they are proverbially partial. They must have their seasons for hunting, for making sugar, for attending to payment, and for visiting. When they go forth on any of these expeditions, *all* the members of each family go; consequently, the operations of the school must be suspended until they return.

The colony, when at home, are generally very regular in their attendance upon public worship twice on each Lord's day, are neat in their appearance, and seem to pay good attention to the services of the resident teacher and missionary, who preaches the Gospel to them by an interpreter, conducting, however, a good part of the worship in their own language.

The bishop of the diocese has lately procured for the mission a small but very fine toned organ, with which the Indians are much pleased. By means of this, the chaunts of the church are performed in their own tongue, or, in the words of the resident missionary and teacher, "the organ has been made to speak Indian."

The health of the band since the last report has generally been good. This may be attributed in no small degree to the disuse among them of ardent spirits. With very few exceptions, they have kept themselves free from drunkenness for the whole of the past year.

The band is at peace among themselves, and have made considerable advancement in the practical knowledge of agriculture. About sixty acres of their land is under good improvement. They have had very fine crops, the last year, of potatoes, corn, and wheat.

In visiting their huts, or rather, I should say, their houses, (for many of them have very comfortable log dwellings,) I have been surprised at the quantity of grain and vegetables I have seen laid up for winter.

The resident teacher and missionary is very kind to them, visiting them in their sickness, counselling them in their difficulties, and exerting himself much to promote their best temporal as well as spiritual interests. The assistant teacher and interpreter is not backward in carrying out the instructions he receives from those whose duty it is to direct him.

The deaths during the past year have been *nine*, viz: *six* adults and *three* children.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. H. CUMMING,

Superintendent by the appointment of Rt. Rev. Samuel A. McKoskry, D. D., of the colony of the Ottawa Indians at the Griswold mission, Michigan.

To the Hon. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 27.

GRAND TRAVERSE, *September 16, 1847.*

I have just returned to the station after an absence of three months. I left the station to attend to the publication of some translations I have been making for the use of the school and people. The school has been kept in regular operation during the past year, with the usual vacations. The average attendance has been about 30. I herewith send a roll of the names of those children who have attended school, with their age and their state of improvement. A portion of the people are from year to year making advances in the knowledge and arts of civilized life. They deserve commendation and encouragement.

There are some individuals who appear determined to defy all effort to prevent intemperance among them. They have taken special pains to go and get liquor, and bring it here and sell it. The report of Mr. Campbell will, I presume, make you acquainted with the principal facts respecting this matter.

Several things are producing the conviction on my mind that the time has come when the interests of these people will be promoted by deciding definitely the question of their future location, by securing to them the lands they now occupy by sale or otherwise, or fixing them on some other permanent home, while they have some means of aid from their annuities. The following reasons have induced this opinion.

1. They are unwilling to make much further effort at improvement in buildings while they have no assurance of remaining to enjoy them.

2. The time has about come when they should be spreading out on their lands, with more room for raising domestic animals than they can have clustered together in a small village.

3. Becoming uneasy lest they may have to leave here, they are beginning to make purchases, here and there, at distant points, which will scatter them into such small bands that it will be almost impossible to collect them into schools and meetings for improvement.

But little further advantage, I apprehend, can be secured to them by lengthening the time of a temporary reservation; and the government would probably not lose any thing by giving them the opportunity of purchasing together on their present location, as the question appears to be settled that individuals may purchase places of their own choice.

Yours, very respectfully,

P. DOUGHERTY.

WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.

No. 28.

OLD WING, August 31, 1847.

DEAR SIR: The time has again come when I suppose it is necessary, as in years past, to send you my annual report. Last fall was a time of much and severe sickness in our colony, as in all the settlements in this region. There were a considerable number of deaths among our Indians, principally women and infant children. For a time our prospects were gloomy, but hope revived on the setting in of winter; and this season, up to the time the Indians left, their health was very good, and they seemed to have forgotten that they were once sick; and I here repeat, what I have before said, that our location is, in my opinion, decidedly healthy; there is nothing in the colony, or near it, that looks unhealthy, and I have not had a case of fever in my family since we came here.

I commenced the school last fall as soon after the payment as I could collect the scholars, and continued it till late in March, when they became so much engaged in sugaring that the children could not attend; and the progress of the scholars was decidedly good. The list was not as great as last year, but the general attendance, I think, was about the same. The following is the list:

Of Indian scholars—males 12, females 11	23
White scholars—males 3, females 2	5
	—
Whole number	28
	==

The progress of the scholars was better than last year; the course of instruction the same, except advancing; several have learned to write a fair hand who never made a letter before; several who began the winter with the alphabet, (small children,) read and spell in readings of one or two syllables; others older (from 7 to ten years) read better: others (10 to 14) read quite well in Scripture lessons by spelling out some of the hardest words. The whole school has been taught in general questions of arithmetic, geography, and astronomy, also in daily exercises of church music. All the instructions of the school are in English, but the scholars are very diffident about speaking it when out of school.

Our meetings on the Sabbath have been kept up, with few exceptions, until the Indians left a short time since on account of the small-pox in the Dutch colony near us. This colony now numbers about 1,500; what its influence will be on our mission the future must determine; we hope it may be good eventually, but the Indians were not prepared to defend their fields against the large numbers of cattle and hogs the Dutch are bringing in, especially as they have to be absent, and cannot watch them. Considerable damage is already done, but the farmer is making vigorous efforts to secure them.

Since the 1st of last October, I have employed no interpreter, but have conducted religious worship, schools, &c., in the Indian language myself, and have so far succeeded as to be understood,

and I hope it has been profitable to the Indians. If I had a faithful interpreter and a good man combined, I should think it a great object; but as I cannot find such a one, I shall do the best I can myself. The great obstacle in our way, as in years past, is that the Indians go to the lake shore to spend the summer, away from the school and their farms; if this one evil could be remedied, (and I hope we shall finally overcome it,) we should have fair prospects of success; as it is, our advance is encouraging, especially as respects civilization, intelligence, and in comfortable and permanent means of support.

I remain, dear sir, your humble and obedient servant,
 GEORGE N. SMITH.

WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 29.

DETROIT, *September 30, 1847.*

SIR: Having already forwarded a report to the Indian Department, in answer to a circular dated July 20th, 1847, I have the honor herewith to transmit for your consideration a tabular report of the Indian schools connected with the Catholic missions under my care, together with a list containing the names, age, and sex of the scholars of some of our schools, who have attended school any portion of the year.

I take pleasure in stating that the proficiency of the scholars has in general been satisfactory and encouraging for the time they have attended school, and in particular those of Macinac Point, St. Ignase, and Ance Kewewenon. The improvement of the scholars of Arbre Croche, Middletown, and St. Croix, is not so satisfactory, in consequence of irregularity in attending schools, caused by long and frequent absence of families from home pursuing their various avocations, and particularly during a considerable part of last winter and spring on account of the small-pox, which began to prevail amongst them in the very worst form, and seemed to threaten their several bands with extermination, which I believe would inevitably have been their fate but for the great and charitable exertions of their clergymen, Reverend Messrs. Pierz, Meak, and Piret, who innoculated about one thousand of these Indians, affording them at the same time all the care and attention that was in their power to bestow; and thus succeeded in averting this dreadful calamity.

I am also happy to say, that in general there is a continued improvement in industry, morality, and religion, among our Catholic Indians, and that their number has this year been increased by about two hundred converts to the Catholic faith. But still it must be confessed that the improvement of many is but gradual, and much slower than would gratify the philanthropic desires of those who are endeavoring to aid them and devote themselves entirely to their good. This is explained chiefly by the absence of motive

to personal effort, resulting from the insecurity of property, and the very uncertain and unsettled condition in which they live. They are naturally of a wandering disposition, and love to make their living by hunting, being much encouraged thereto by traders. Their inclination for wandering and seeking their existence by the chase rather than by agricultural pursuits, is much strengthened and increased by the thought that they cannot be allowed the right of citizenship, to purchase land in their own name, and permanently settle on it. This thought continually preys upon their minds, and creates a certain indifference, and even distaste for any improvement of the mind or habits. They despair of ever obtaining a permanent location for themselves and their posterity, where they shall not be importuned to emigrate and give place to the white man. Hence national as well as individual motives to exertion are wanting, and the chief care with many is to supply present wants and enjoy the gratification of the day, unconcerned about the consequences of to-morrow. Hence also, it is, that the ties of love and affection which unites them to their children, being naturally very strong, they are not willing to be long deprived of their presence, and thus, withersöever the parents wander the children must wander with them. Were it not for the influence of our religion, which conscientiously obliges them to care for the education of their children, we could hardly get them to send their children to school at any time. Could these hindrances be removed, or could these Indians obtain a full assurance from the part of government that they may validly purchase the lands which they may choose to improve and settle upon, without fear of being compelled to abandon it, without doubt they would feel much encouraged to unite themselves into large bands, which would form so many permanent settlements or flourishing villages, where, under the benign and vigorous influence of our holy religion, the establishment of settled habits of industry, sober occupation, and useful knowledge would become objects of deep interest to them; while the thrift in agriculture, mechanic arts, and other branches of domestic economy, would ensure to them all the necessaries and comforts of life.

Please accept the assurance of my high consideration of respect, with which I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFEVRE, *Bp. & C. A. D.*

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, *Esq.*,

Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 30.

OTTAWA COLONY, *September 30, 1847.*

SIR: I herewith transmit my report for the year ending this day.

The fond hopes entertained previous to the time of my last report of giving new life and energy to the cause of education generally among the Ottawas, has not been realized as was anticipated by us. We commenced, as reported in my last, giving instruction

to young and old on the new system with good success ; created a taste for knowledge to all those who were favored with instruction, and should have realized all that we anticipated could we have received a supply of books adapted to the several capacities of our pupils. We made application to the press west of the Mississippi for books, but from a want of a direct communication they have not arrived, though forwarded some time since.

We have endeavored to keep in operation the school at all times when the Indians were present to send their children. For want of books in the Ottawa tongue we are obliged to resume the instruction in English studies with but little success, as the natives generally preferred reading in their own language. There has been from ten to fifteen in English, while we have had twenty-five to thirty in the Indian language. Many can already read the New Testament in their native language.

To excite an interest on the subject of education generally among the Ottawas and Chippewas, it is necessary that the new system of instruction should be adopted by the several mission stations within your superintendency. By referring to the reports made by agents and missionaries among the Cherokees, you will at once see why an advance of fifty years was made in their condition as a people, when a printing press was established, and a weekly paper issued, adopting the syllabic plan of instruction. It is hoped every evangelical missionary station will adopt the new method, and co-operate in advancing this important step to civilization and happiness among the Ottawas and Chippewas.

Since the date of my last report we have sustained the loss of many adults and children by the stroke of death. Among those who have died was Noon-day, the chief. He was an intelligent and useful man in his tribe. This colony, and the church connected with it, feel that their loss is irreparable. He was a friend to the white man, and had adopted his habits and religion. He was considered by his people, and no less by his white neighbors, as a man of judgment, integrity, and of great worth.

Agricultural interest. The Indians have become more satisfied that to depend on hunting and fishing for a livelihood is too precarious for their interest and happiness. To advance their farming interest they have stipulated to appropriate two hundred dollars to purchase more land. Many families have sown wheat this fall for the first time. They have cleared rising twenty acres of new land and broke up seven acres of it, in addition to their former improvements. They have raised their usual quantity of corn, beans, squashes, and pumpkins ; but few potatoes were raised, fearful of a continued rot.

They manifest an increased interest in agriculture to promote which they have had repeated councils, and have come to the conclusion that their future farmer, furnished them by the United States government, should be one of their own people, instead of a white man. The two stations, viz : Griswold and Ottawa, recommend Nebeneksee as their future farmer, and asks, by the accompanying document, his appointment. The present farmer resigns

with the understanding that the Indian should succeed him. This colony, with the other established in the vicinity, suffers for the want of a smith to repair their tools. The present smith furnished by government for them is located at such a distance that little or no benefit is received from the shop.

Moral and spiritual state. Since the death of the chief, who was the spiritual father to the colony, and the recent death of other members of the church, there has been a defect in morals. There have been many who have given themselves to beastly intoxication. The state of things at times has been very discouraging; while some have thus disgraced themselves and families, there are others who have been steadfast and unmoved by the surrounding influences; this alone has encouraged me to continue to use exertions to meliorate their condition. One important cause for this state of things may be a competition for chieftainship. The present chief was elected by ballot; one of the unsuccessful candidates took offence, and he, with his friends, have endeavored by the use of liquor to bring contempt upon the administration of his rival.

We continue to sustain our meetings on Lord's day, and on week days, with apparent interest and success.

With great respect, I am, dear sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

L. SLATER,
Superintendent Ottawa School.

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit.

No. 31.

SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN,
September 1, 1847.

SIR: I embrace the present opportunity of making you acquainted with the present condition of the missions under my charge, which I will endeavor to do as briefly as the nature of the case will admit.

Sault Ste. Marie.—At this station I think the people continue to improve their condition. They have planted more ground than formerly, and the crops never looked more promising than at present. As a further evidence of general improvement, I would add, that when I first came here the mission owned but one single cow, and the Indians not one; now the mission have seven head of cattle, and individual Indians have fifteen head, which they provide for and keep well. The premises have been considerably enlarged and much improved during the past year. The school, I think, has been doing as well, and the attendance perhaps more regular, than in any former year. The whole number in school has been 38, average number about 24.

Kewawenon.—At this place, also, I think there has been a steady improvement in the condition of the people in almost every respect. Some of the families live every way as well, even better, than many

white families, especially in the newly settled part of the country. They are building a neat and commodious church, which is expected to be fit for use before winter. The school has been regularly taught, and, I believe, with a good degree of success. Their fields are being enlarged every year, and their stock of cattle is regularly increasing in numbers.

Fon-du-Lac.—Though the Indians of this part of the country are yet in rather a wild state, they are evidently beginning to improve their condition, and there has been a very considerable change for the better during the past year. Their fields have been enlarged—the school has been much better attended than formerly—and a respectable number begin to listen with attention to the preaching of the gospel.

Sandy Lake.—I visited this station for the first time a few weeks since. Considering the amount of missionary labor here bestowed, I think the prospect of doing good is quite encouraging. The crops looked remarkably well. The school is regularly taught, though the missionary finds it somewhat difficult to make them realize the advantages of having their children educated, so as to keep them constantly in school. The Sabbath I spent with them, there was a respectable number of persons who listened to the preaching of the gospel, and some individuals, I believe, are devotedly pious. There is in the missionary department, every where, difficulties and discouragements to be met with, but these we believe will all give way before Christian patience and manly perseverance; and if we may judge of the future by the past, we trust that the missionaries of this board will not be second to any in their efforts to improve the condition of this people, physically, mentally, and morally.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. BROCKWAY,
Superintendent of Missions.

JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 32.

BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE,
Sault Ste. Marie, Sept. 30, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with the requirement of the Department, I forward to you the 19th annual report of the mission under my care and superintendence.

The laborers connected with this mission are, myself, Mrs. B., Rev. J. D. Cameron, Sheguel, a native assistant, and Miss Adeline Culver, assistant school teacher.

Our school has been continued through the year without interruption, although, in consequence of ill health of teachers, several changes have been made, or different persons have been employed.

The pupils enrolled on our catalogue for the several quarters during the year, have numbered from 27 to 53. The first quarter

after my last report we had but 27, owing to the fact that there were two other schools opened in the neighborhood within 100 rods of ours; these reduced ours to that number for the first quarter, but the 2d we had 44, the 3d we had 53, and the 4th, 35.

Arithmetic, geography, English grammar, and philosophy, are taught in connexion with the minor branches usually taught in common schools.

Owing to the frequent changes of our teachers the past year, possibly our scholars may not have made all that progress they would have done under one steady and competent teacher, but we think their progress has been tolerably good, and that at the present they are doing quite well.

Eight boarding scholars have been supported at the expense of the mission the most part of the year. But a few weeks since three left, which leaves our present number but five. They are from 10 to 13 years of age, and all except one, are studying arithmetic and geography, and several of them, with others, write compositions. We also maintain a Sabbath school at the station in which the boarding scholars are instructed in the general knowledge of the scriptures, committing portions of them to memory, in common with other Sunday school scholars from the town. During the past year, I have also opened a Sabbath school among the Indians, when I have visited them at their locations; calling the youth and children together, I have instructed them between the services on the Sabbath, and have had the happiness of seeing them much interested in it. Also, when they have visited our place, I have pursued the same course, and have been much gratified with their good attention and apparent desire to learn. I have had 20, or rising, together on such an occasion, but probably from 13 to 15 would be a fair representation of our number. These do not include our boarding scholars at the station.

I have also travelled some 300 miles, or rising, in visiting the Indians at their different encampments to preach the gospel to them, and when not absent on those missionary tours, maintain regular Christian worship at home.

We have 34 Indian and half-blood church members connected with our mission—17 males and 17 females. One half-blood ordained minister, and one full-blood native assistant, who maintains religious worship with his clan in the absence of an ordained minister.

Our Indians are advancing in civilization and in business habits. They have enlarged their improvements the past year, and improved them with good rail fences. The amount of land they have under improvements I am not now able to give. I have failed of getting the amount of produce raised by them in general. I have only taken it from four families. These four, have raised the past year 182 bushels of potatoes, a small amount of corn, pumpkins, turnips, and other vegetables; have made about a ton and a half of maple sugar; and four young men belonging to them and specially connected with the mission, have entered, with a good deal of perseverance, into the fishing business. The present season they have

caught and brought to this place and sold 142 barrels of fish; and last fall, between the time of my report and the closing of navigation, they brought to our market 43, which, during the year, amounts to 185 barrels. They are now preparing for their fall fishing.

In relation to temperance movements I may add, I have 53 native signatures to my temperance pledge, whom I think design to maintain the warfare on which they have entered. I have a large number more who signed the pledge for a limited time, many of whom may not be inclined to renew their pledge; and yet it is possible that most of them may.

May the Lord not only dispose them to renew their pledge, but also to abandon forever the use of alcohol.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Sup. Baptist Mission.

JAMES ORD, Esq.
Sub-agent, Indian Department.

No. 33.

LA POINTE, *September 14, 1847.*

SIR: In presenting a report of our operations at this station during the past year, I have to note no important changes in the course pursued by us from that given in former reports. We have continued our labors as usual, endeavoring to instruct all who were willing to receive instruction from us, in the duties and doctrines of the Christian religion, and in letters.

In August of last year, Mr. E. F. Ely, who was formerly a teacher in the school at Pokegama, removed with his family to this place. In October, he commenced his labors as teacher in the school. At that time the two schools, which had for several years been taught separately, and kept in different parts of the village, were united, and have been taught through the year by Mr. Ely and Miss Abby Spooner, conjointly. This arrangement, however, is thought not to be the best, and they are now again separated, and will be taught separately hereafter.

The school, during the year, has numbered 65 different scholars, 43 males, and 22 females. It has been kept in operation regularly during the year, except the usual vacations.

Early in the winter several of the scholars were taken out of the school, to attend a course of instruction from the Rev. Mr. Scolla, Catholic priest at this place, and but few of them have yet returned. The proficiency of the scholars who have been regular attendants, is very satisfactory. The branches taught have been spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and composition. The scholars are taught in the Ojibwa and English languages. The schools are open and free to all who choose to avail themselves of their privileges, no charge being made for books or other expenses.

During the past year the Ojibwa and English spelling book,

mentioned in my last report as being nearly ready for use, has been introduced into the schools, and used, it is believed, with good effect.

I am, sir, with much respect, yours, &c.,

S. HALL,

Superintendent of the schools of the A. B. C. F. M., at La Pointe.

JAMES P. HAYS, Esq., *Sub-agent.*

No. 34.

BAD RIVER, *September 9, 1847.*

DEAR SIR : In presenting you a report of our operations, &c., at this station, during the past year, we remark that nothing has transpired in the history of this people, or of our labors among them, which makes it necessary for me to say anything essentially different from what was contained in our report of last year. The Indians, as a body, have been here rather more of the time than they were last year. They have enlarged somewhat the size of their gardens, and give some indications of an increased desire to adopt a settled mode of life. This desire has been gaining strength, we think, for several years, and must almost of necessity increase in proportion as the people turn their attention to the cultivation of the soil. The rewards of industry in this line are so much more certain, and purchase for them so many more of the comforts of life, than a precarious dependence upon fishing and hunting, that they already begin to see and feel the difference. The cultivation of the soil also compels them to labor, and, in a measure, obliges them to be more fixed in their place of residence, and thus has a tendency to break up their roving, indolent habits. Six years ago, when I first came into this country, the people raised from the cultivation of the soil not more than one-third of what they will probably realize this year from their gardens. They did not raise potatoes enough for their own use, besides being dependent upon the mission for seed to plant; and of corn they raised still less, nearly the whole of which was consumed on the ground where it was gathered. When they went to their sugar camps in the spring, they purchased on credit of the traders nearly all the provisions they had to take with them. When they left the sugar camps, it took nearly all the sugar they made to pay their credits, and they returned again hungry to their gardens. Last year they had corn all winter; took but little credit when they went to their sugar camps; had corn and potatoes to eat and to plant when they returned to their planting grounds, and had also most of their sugar to consume themselves, and to sell to purchase articles of clothing, &c., for their families.

We are sorry to say that the desire of the people for schools and religious instruction is not as great as it is for improvement in other respects. We have kept a school during the past year three

months, which is all the time the Indians have been here in a body. The payment was so late last year that the people remained here but little over a month, before they left to make their fall fishing; and while they are in their sugar camps, though near by, it is impracticable to attempt to sustain a school among them. We have had in our school more than fifty different scholars, but the average attendance has not been more than ten or twelve. Our meetings have been attended more regularly, by those who have attended scarcely any at all, than they were last year; but the number has been small, not averaging more than twenty who speak the Indian language. We have now all the buildings erected necessary for our present operations: consisting of a comfortable dwelling-house, school-house, barn, and wood-house. We have five head of cattle, some fifty acres of land fenced for a pasture, a meadow near by, which furnishes us with what hay we need. We cultivate some four acres of land, chiefly devoted to potatoes, corn, and oats, and have in addition a small garden.

We are in a condition now to prosecute our labors here more vigorously than we were last year. And if the people are kept as free from liquor as they have been heretofore, and can be encouraged to improve their condition without being harrassed with constant fears of a removal, we shall feel more encouraged to continue our labors among them than at any former period.

I am, sir, respectfully, yours, &c.,

L. H. WHEELER.

To JAMES P. HAYS, *Sub-agent at La Pointe.*

No. 35.

First report of the mission school at Kapoja—usually called among the white men Little Crow's village—for nine months ending August 31, 1847. The mission family at this station consisted of Thos. S. Williamson, A. M., M. D., minister and superintendent of the school, Mrs. Margaret Williamson and five children, and Miss Jane S. Williamson, teacher.

NEAR FORT SNELLING, September 7, 1847.

We arrived here on November 20, 1846, and on the first Monday in November, Miss Williamson opened school, and has taught regularly from that time to the present, except when the Indians have all been absent for a week or two, which has occurred two or three times. For twenty-one weeks she was assisted by Miss Margaret Renville, who was educated in the mission school at Lacqueparle, and for a short time the superintendent attended to teaching the men and larger boys.

For full half the time embraced in this report, owing to sickness of the Indians, or to most of them being absent from the village, the school has been very small, not averaging more than two or three scholars per day, exclusive of our own children and one or two that we have boarded; but, whenever any have come willingly

to learn, they have been attended to, though they have come one at a time and unseasonably. In this way, not less time and labor have been devoted to our school, scarcely averaging nine scholars, exclusive of four of our own, than are commonly given to a school of thirty, when they are punctual in their attendance. We have, also, suffered much inconvenience from want of a proper school-house, being compelled to teach in our sitting room, where we are interrupted by visiting and the noise of our own children. Had we been provided with a good school-house, distinct from our dwelling, as we hoped to be, it is not improbable the average number of scholars might have been nearly double what it has been, and their progress in like proportion. Most of the Dakotas, who reside here, are still strongly attached to the religion of their ancestors, and have no wish to hear God's word, and little disposition to learn, or have their children taught to read. There is a great difference in this respect between those who have always resided in this neighborhood and those who have resided for a time near the mission at Lacqueparle. The average attendance of natives on our public worship on the Sabbath, has been twelve or thirteen—most of whom have resided at Lacqueparle. All the scholars in the first and second class, and most of those in the third, have resided more or less in the same neighborhood, and most of them have attended school there. The accompanying table will show the names, number, and progress, of the school here, so far as an account has been kept of it; the figures to the right hand of the names show the days of attendance, but in many cases not fully; for, owing to the difficulty of getting the name properly, or some other cause, it has often happened that individuals have attended school a number of days before their names are taken down. The ages of the scholars are from six years to upwards of forty. More than half are between ten and twenty.

Counting sixty days for a quarter, the average attendance would be for the first quarter..... $7\frac{1}{2}$ scholars.

Second do 8 do.

Third do $10\frac{3}{4}$ do.

Experience has convinced us that the Dakotas, living among their relations, are not likely to learn English enough to be much benefitted by it; on which account we have labored chiefly to instruct them in their own language, not neglecting at the same time to teach English to any who manifest a disposition to learn it. Four can read it with more or less fluency, and converse in it a little; others have made less progress.

In conclusion, it gives me much pleasure to say that, through your influence, and that of Capt. Eastman, Mr. Sibley, and others, the Indians of this village use much less intoxicating drink than formerly, and that even those of them who evinced no disposition to avail themselves of any instruction have treated us kindly, and appear to confide in us as friends.

Your obedient servant,

THOS. S. WILLIAMSON.

To Col. AMOS J. BRUCE.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number that read and write legibly.....	3	4	7
Do read, but do not write.....	5	12	17
Do of spellers.....	9	11	20
Do learning alphabet.....	2	7	9
	—	—	—
Baptized.....	19	34	53
	8	13	21

No. 36.

TRAVERSE DES SIOUX, *April*, 1847.

DEAR SIR: The following is the report of the school at Traverse des Sioux, under the care of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. The males are taught by Mr. Alexander G. Huggins; the females by Mrs. Huggins, in sewing in knitting:

Our school commenced the 15th of December, 1846, and continued until the 12th of March; when the people left for their sugar-camps. We consider all those scholars who attended school as many as four days. By this rule, their number is 25. The aggregate of their attendance is 320 days; so that the aggregate attendance of each scholar falls a little short of 15 days. Much of the time embraced in this report, very few were near enough to school; but if they had been generally impressed with the utility of education, they would have been much more regular in attendance, as well as more assiduous in improvement. Several men have come to school a few times with a determination (as they said and we believed) to learn to read—thinking thereby to equal their white neighbors in the means of information; but the ridicule of their people soon overcame them. I have been delighted to observe in a few Dakota men a high sense of the value of intelligence, and of the knowledge of books as a means thereof. But who can transgress hoary customs, withstand the frowns of friends, and disregard the ridicule of ingenious satirists? After their morning recitations, Mrs. Huggins instructed the girls in the use of the needle. Three made themselves two pillow-slips apiece of calico patchwork, and four made one apiece. They are very fond of this business, and would gladly occupy all their school time in it, if their instructors would permit. Mrs. Huggins offered to teach all to knit who wished to learn; but few were disposed to learn. One young woman knit a good pair of double mittens, and commenced a pair of stockings, which she would probably have finished if she could have remained here a sufficient time. Three others commenced stockings, but did not finish them. Knitting requires more patience than Dakotas like to exercise.

Only two of our scholars read the Bible intelligibly, and they received most of their instruction at Laqueparle. Six others (three boys and three girls) may perhaps be said to read a little. If they could be regularly instructed, in a short time they would

be good readers. Of the rest, some spell in two syllables, some in one, and some have not well learned the alphabet. One young man learned to read pretty well while Mr. Riggs was here, but he has not recently given much attention to it.

It may be proper to add, that a considerable number of children have received instruction in times past who were not in this neighborhood the last winter.

Yours, &c.,

R. HOPKINS.

To Colonel BRUCE, *Indian Agent, St. Peters.*

No. 37.

LAQUEPARLE MISSION, *June 15, 1847.*

DEAR SIR: I have now the honor to submit to you the following, which is the twelfth annual report of the Laqueparle Station, under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Laborers—S. R. Riggs, A. M., missionary, and Mrs. Riggs; Jonas Pettijohn, farmer, and Mrs. Pettijohn, female teacher.

Since my transfer to this place, (the 1st of October last,) we have reported school for two quarters; neither of them, however, quite full, owing to the absence of the Indians for a short time in the winter. The whole number taught has been 74, viz: 42 males and 32 females; but the average attendance was only 22. Teaching a-b-c's, spelling, reading, and writing on slates, occupied most of the time. A few spent some time at arithmetic. An Indian young man assisted us in teaching about six weeks, for which we paid him \$10. During the winter, Mr. and Mrs. Pettijohn had two girls boarding in their family; at present they have three. But little was done by the women in knitting, &c., owing to the appearance of the buffalo early in the season. We had anticipated scarcity this spring, but the great abundance of fresh meat furnished by this noble animal has preserved their corn; so that there is still much more than the ordinary quantity on hand at this time of the year.

The usual amount of land has been planted in corn this spring. Some have ploughed with their own horses; and without any assistance from white men, their old fields, and some have even made new ones. Others have received some assistance in ploughing from those engaged in the fur trade and the mission. The plough which was furnished them by your kindness, some eight years since, is now worn out. They are in need of a new plough or two, and some collars, harness, and chains, with a few dozen hoes. A few dollars spent in this way will, I am persuaded, do them more lasting good than if expended in any other way. They will beg and receive, and be beggars still; but the more they can be brought to depend upon their own exertions, and the sooner they can be brought to feel that a comfortable independence can be obtained by their own industry, the better. Rendering them assistance in

this direction—helping them to keep themselves—we feel to be vastly important.

But holding, as we do, the gospel of Christ as the civilizer of nations, that its truths, heard and obeyed, fit men for living here and hereafter too, we make it our chief business to declare unto them the whole counsel of God. "Line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little," is, so far as we have yet been able to discover, our only practicable line of operations. As has been remarked of the inhabitants of Paraguay, that, contrary to the declaration of the Apostle Paul, that "faith cometh by hearing," in their case it seemed to enter only through the mouth; so we have found it to be too true of the Dakotas. Still, our hope is in God, "who raiseth up the dead and quickeneth whom he will," that He will even here make manifest the great power of the gospel in the salvation of many. There are at present connected with this church twelve native members, two of whom reside at Big Stone Lake.

In closing this report, I would respectfully call your attention, and through you the attention of our government, to one thing which appears to me to operate unfavorably to the civilization of this people. I refer to the unequal bearing of the laws upon different classes of persons who live in this country.

A white man, half-breed, or Indian, who dresses like a white man, is, by the construction of the law, liable to be punished by fine, imprisonment, and banishment, for taking ardent spirits into the Indian country for the purpose of traffic; but an Indian or half-breed who wears the Indian dress may buy, sell, and use ardent spirits without there being *ordinarily* any cognizance taken of the fact. The whiskey destroyed by the efforts of yourself and the commanding officer at Fort Snelling forms the glorious exception, and not the rule. Again, a white man, half-breed, or Indian, who dresses like a white man, subjects himself to a fine if he attempts to carry on a trade in furs without a regular license from the agent; while an Indian or half-breed who wears Indian clothes may carry on such a trade, buying furs with whiskey, or whatever he may have, without any cognizance being taken of the fact. This inequality of the bearings of the law on one who dresses as a savage and one who tries to conform to the habits and customs of civilized men, operates in favor of leggings, breech-cloth, and blanket. Some years ago, five young Indians at this place wore pantaloons; but they have all returned to the Indian dress. There they find less restraint. On this account we would urge the propriety of bringing *all* under the restraints, and making *all* liable to the penalties of the law. By this means some of the difficulties now felt in executing the laws on a certain class would be done away; and the *bonus* which now *seems* to be held out to those who continue in the savage state would be withdrawn.

Yours, truly,

STEPHEN R. RIGGS.

Colonel A. J. BRUCE,
Indian Agent, St. Peters.

No. 38.

TRAVERSE DES SIOUX, *July, 1847.*

DEAR SIR: Since writing the report of our school, left at your office in May last, we have witnessed some new interest among the Dakotas of this neighborhood in raising corn, and particularly in using their own horses and the ploughs you gave them two years ago for that purpose.

Within the four years this station has been occupied, we have frequently met with discouraging incidents; occasionally, with cause of encouragement. Among the obstacles to their civilization, the jealousy they feel towards every thing that originates among civilized men is prominent. There is among them a strong impression that they are an entirely different kind of beings from white men, and that they are in duty bound to adhere to the usages of their ancestors. Hence, some of their wise men informed them that those who learn to read, plough, and so on, can never be good hunters, nor can they ever attain to the knowledge and habits of civilized men, but they will be outcasts from society and must soon perish.

This superstition (which seems to be general among Dakotas) operates strongly against success in teaching them to use the plough, and might have entirely prevented it for a long time, had not stern hunger, joined with common sense, pressed them into the measure.

We have made a great many attempts to induce them to employ their own horses in ploughing their fields, but until this spring they would neither use them themselves nor allow us to do so. Last year one family even went so far as to prohibit us from ploughing their field with our own team, supposing that ploughing would increase the labor of cultivation without improving the crop. This was a rare case. Most of those who plant have been pleased to receive this kind of assistance, but very few have ever tried to hold the plough. The reason of their unwillingness may be partly indolence, partly prejudice, and partly a persuasion that they cannot succeed.

Last spring soon after the people returned from their sugar-camps, they asked us to help them make their fields. We answered that we would endeavor to plough with our oxen as many new fields as they desired; but, that if their old fields were to be ploughed, they must put their own horses and hands to the work, and we would help them.

After the new fields were finished they plead earnestly to have the oxen work on the old ones, but, as we were firm, they could not succeed. At length the chief (Mazaxa) came and asked us to help him put his mule to work in connexion with a horse belonging to the station. We consented and succeeded well. The others looked on and saw as much ground prepared for the seed in an hour with the plough as they could dig in days with the hoe. They surveyed their intended fields, (and their persons spoke of their empty larders, and examined their poor hoes,) then turned their eyes to the plough

moving steadily and briskly through the earth. The contrast was too great to be unnoticed. They saw now for the first time an Indian man assisting to plough with his own donkey. That which had for three years been to them a matter of speculation, or positive unbelief, became, in the fourth, practical experience. Their doubts and scruples were now overcome, and one of us was kept busy until all the fields in this village were ploughed.

The two neighboring villages soon heard of the results of the movement, and made haste to adopt the plan, which we were glad to assist them to carry out; but before the ploughing spirit was generally diffused, two or three families had almost finished their planting. For these and a widow who had no horse, no ploughing was done.

The whole number of families planting here this year, is twenty-four; last year, eighteen families planted.

We think it would encourage and materially aid this people in learning to cultivate the earth, if you could furnish them with about two dozen of good hoes.

Please accept our thanks for the influence we find you exerting upon the Indians among whom we live in favor of schools and civilization.

Yours, &c.,

ROBERT HOPKINS.
ALEX. G. HUGGINS.

Colonel A. J. BRUCE,
Indian Agent.

No. 39.

DELAWARE BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE,
September 4, 1847.

DEAR SIR: In presenting my annual report of the school at this station you will allow me to remark, that the other departments of our labor are still kept in operation, affording, too, some little evidence that our efforts are not entirely lost. Discouraging as is the work in which we are engaged, I am aware that we may seize with too much avidity upon omens that may seem to augur good, and speak too sanguinely of that which is but hope within us. And on the other hand we find a liability to magnify upon the influences that are retarding our prospects.

It is difficult for me to satisfy myself with a few passing remarks on the state of general improvement among the Delawares, but my present design will admit of nothing more. With a portion of them there is evidently an advance; a part of those who have declared in favor of education and Christianity are making progress that reflects honor upon their professions, while others are doing less, and others still doing nothing. Those who are clinging to the "way of their fathers," to say the best of them, are but on a stand; and others of them are making fearful strides in the vices of low white

men. Horse-racing, gambling, intemperance, profanity and Sabbath-breaking are taught by precept and example in the army movements among us. It is already esteemed a mark of greatness to be able to curse and swear, and deride religion and morality "like a white man."

The number of Delaware children in our school is 23; the whole number taught by us in the year is 28; which, together with 5 white children, makes our entire number 33. My remark in my last report to you, in regard to improvement of our people, accords still with my observations, viz: that the first steps in education are taken with about the same facility as in schools of white children, but farther practical education moves much more tardily. I am still of the opinion that our school is better adapted to the wants of those for whom we labor by its being conducted more like a private family than a common school.

I am, in haste, very respectfully, yours,

J. D. BLANCHARD,

Sup't Delaware Baptist Mission School.

Major R. W. CUMMINS,

U. S. Indian Agent, Fort Leavenworth Agency.

No. 40.

SHAWNEE BAPTIST MISSION,

August 18, 1847.

SIR: The following is submitted as a summary report of the operations of this mission station the past year, under the patronage of the A. B. M. U., whose executive committee is located at Boston, Massachusetts:

Preaching has been regularly sustained on Sabbath days at the station, and among the Indians in different neighborhoods during the week. Eight have been added to the church, four have been excluded; present number of members, twenty-five. These include such only as have hopefully been converted from heathenism, and, in general, manifest a laudable interest in embracing the habits of civilized life.

In the Sabbath school twenty scholars have repeated lessons from the Bible, scripture questions, hymns, &c. This effort commends itself as a delightful and profitable way of spending the leisure hours of the day of rest, counteracting on the part of the pupils the disposition to wander abroad, and deepening in the hearts of the teachers an interest in their present and future good.

Our English boarding school has averaged fifteen scholars; one of these is about four years of age, the others ranging from eight to sixteen; these are learning to read and write the English language. Some have advanced to a desirable knowledge of geography, and have some knowledge of arithmetic and English grammar. While small, and in the rudiments of education, these scholars are usually contented and happy; becoming larger, they grow uneasy

through a desire to be earning something. It is to be regretted that this desire is encouraged by the parents. The adult population are gradually learning to read our translations in their own language. Four laborers have been regularly employed; two in secular and domestic cares, and two in imparting religious knowledge, and instruction in letters. It sometimes appears as though enlightened views of missionary labor were destined to prevail. The great amount of drinking which at one time prevailed appears to have been occasioned, in part, by the influence of soldiers and wagoners connected with the Mexican war.

The suffering from sickness has been less than in the years preceding the present. No very fatal disease at any one time prevailing, yet we are constantly called upon to administer to the sick. A supply of medicine from the government would be of essential service, as many who desire to use it are unable to pay for their medicine.

Very respectfully submitted,
FRANCIS BARKER,
Superintendent of Mission School.

Major R. W. CUMMINS,
U. S. Agent, Fort Leavenworth Agency.

No. 41.

OTTO AND OMAHA MISSION, *September 16, 1847.*

DEAR SIR: The following statement is made in order to enable you to inform the Indian Department of the condition and prospects of the mission established at this place by the Presbyterian board of foreign missions, and now under my care.

The mission family arrived here on the 2d September, 1846. A small log house was immediately commenced, and finished in about six weeks, sufficient for our accommodation during the winter. Until about the 1st of April last, nothing of great importance could be done for the good of the Indians. Every effort, however, was made, by frequent visits to their villages, to ascertain their true character, and their feelings in relation to the introduction of Christianity and its attendant blessings. To some considerable extent the gospel was preached among them; and whenever opportunity was afforded it was gladly embraced for this purpose, whether in public or in private.

About the date last mentioned, directions were received from the board to put in a crop sufficient for the subsistence of the family, and to afford provision for such children as might be taken into our contemplated boarding school. In the latter part of May, the secretary of the board visited the station, and fixed upon a plan for the school. The labor of procuring timber was commenced in the beginning of July, and finished in the second week in August. Most of the materials are now on the ground, and it is hoped that in ten days' time from the present date the building will be raised.

The building will be a substantial log house, two stories high. It will be 64 by 28 feet in front, with two side wings; one of which will be 30 by 18, and the other 30 by 22. It is calculated this house will afford accommodations for the mission family, with proper assistants, and forty Indian children. The intention is, that these children shall be equally divided between the two sexes; and that thirty of them shall be Omahas, and ten Ottoes. In case the Ottoes accede to the proposal made to them in relation to their school fund, twenty Ottoe children will be taken, and the proportion between the two tribes altered accordingly, until greater accommodations can be provided for them.

The principal reliance of this mission for support, at present, is upon the sum of \$900 per annum, pledged for the education of Omaha children, by some benevolent ladies of the city of New York. A New York Sabbath school has added \$90 per annum. Various congregations also of the Presbyterian church appear to have been touched with a feeling of compassion for these poor suffering Indians. In this way large contributions have been made in kind, sufficient, it is believed, for clothing the scholars for one year. So great an interest has been manifested in this matter that we regard it as a favorable indication from the Author and Giver of every good and perfect gift towards the Ottoes and Omahas. We have reason to believe that funds will not be wanting to carry on this mission, and provide for the support and education of all the children who may be committed to our care.

It is hoped that our boarding school will go into operation, at farthest, by the 1st of December next. There has been great difficulty experienced in procuring materials, and it may be that my expectations in regard to this matter may not be realized. But no effort will be spared to accomplish this result, as it is exceedingly important to take the scholars into school about the time their parents start on the winter buffalo hunt.

Last spring the Omahas complained of want of means to cultivate the soil, and expressed a desire to go to work, by which I was induced to write to the board on the subject. Some of the good people to whom the matter was made known, responded to the appeal by subscribing \$200 for the purpose of breaking prairie for them. Information of this donation was received so late that the whole sum could not be judiciously expended. As it was, a plough was purchased, a ploughman employed, and the oxen belonging to the mission used; so that in season for late planting we succeeded in breaking twenty acres. The sod corn in this region has done remarkably well this season, so that we have reason to hope for a good yield, which will certainly make an important addition to the Omahas' means of subsistence.

The condition—both social and moral—of the Ottoes and Omahas is truly deplorable. Their ignorance of the principles of true religion and morals is extreme; and hence there is little that bears a resemblance to law or order among them. Their entire destitution of the arts which minister to the comfort of civilized life leaves them almost always both naked and hungry. Their life of hunting

is entirely opposed to their improvement in any of those respects mentioned; and at the same time, while it leaves them constantly exposed to their enemies, tends forever to confine them in their wretchedness, with destruction as the only alternative.

The plans of the Board of Foreign Missions contemplate two objects—first, to make known to these benighted people the saving truths of the gospel; and, secondly, to provide means for the education—both physical, mental, and moral—of their children. In process of time, one ordained missionary will be provided for each tribe, whose special duty it will be to preach the gospel, both publicly and privately, in season and out of season. In this matter, and indeed in all our other operations, we go upon the broad principle, that the gospel is the only civilizer. The root of heathenism is in the heart; hence the remedy must be applied there.

To carry out our educational plans, our main reliance will be upon the boarding school. It is hoped, if God smiles upon the effort, that at some future day the school will be so enlarged as to include all the children of the two tribes of a suitable age. In addition to this, some provision will be made as soon as possible for a day school in Bellevue. At present the wants of the place are partly supplied by the Pawnee school; but larger provision seems to be needed. If no other arrangement can be made, it has been proposed to furnish a meal a day for those children who are near enough to this station to live at home and come daily to our school.

In all efforts for the good of the Indians, a state of quiet and peace is especially needed. The truth of this remark has been made manifest by the occurrences of the year. In the spring, the Indians were forced to leave their villages and go on the hunt before the planting season was fairly over by an alarm from their enemies—the Sioux. Quite lately, the Ottoes have suffered a murderous attack from these Indians; and now serious apprehensions are entertained respecting the fate of the Omahas, whose stay on the plains has been protracted beyond the usual period. It has become very evident that, unless the United States furnish efficient protection to these people, *their progress in civilization, or even their continued existence, is impossible.* In addition to this, there is reason to fear that, when our school is put into operation, the Sioux may be attracted to this point for the sake of destroying the children in the absence of the parents. Humanity and justice require the speedy use of appropriate means of defence, that a calamity so much to be dreaded may be avoided.

Having given you a brief statement of our plans and efforts for the improvement of the Ottoes and Omahas, it remains only to say that our only hope of success is in the powerful grace of God. There is nothing in the Indian character to encourage effort. To the eye of man, the task appears to be a hopeless one. We remember that it is the Divine decree to save the world by the foolishness of preaching; at the same time we look back over the history of the Christian world to see what has been accomplished by this despised means, and we are constrained to say, "Behold what God hath wrought!" Hence we cannot hesitate—hence we hope against

all human appearance of hope—hence we pray for a persevering spirit, having the promise that in due season, if we faint not, we shall reap.

With much respect, and earnest desire for your welfare, and the good of the Indians, truly, yours, &c.,

EDWARD MCKINNEY.

Major JOHN MILLER,
Indian Agent, Council Bluffs Agency.

No. 42.

BELLEVUE, COUNCIL BLUFFS AGENCY,
September 16, 1847.

SIR: Agreeably to your request, and in compliance with the regulations of our government, I address a few lines to you, giving a brief statement of the Pawnee school.

We have in our family ten Pawnee children, which we board and clothe; also four half-breeds which attend school, two of which are Pawnees, and two belonging to the Ottoo interpreter; also three white children—making in all seventeen. We have had three children under our care since the 6th of May last. During that time they have made some progress in learning, although, owing to Sioux frights, and other causes known to yourself, they have not progressed as they would, had they been properly situated. Some of them read quite well in readings, and spell words of three or four syllables as well as the generality of white children. Seven of those who board in our family are girls and three boys. Some of the girls are very pretty sewers, and are quite handy at housework. You know, sir, the Pawnee children were brought here fourteen months since to save them from their enemies, and of course have very limited means to labor for their support; consequently there is quite a bill of expense comes on the teacher for provisions and clothing; I hope, therefore, the government will deem it proper to foot such bill of expense. There is no doubt but these children would flourish under a well regulated school of the manual labor system; but, sir, will you, or any officer of the Indian Department, tell me how this can be done under the existing circumstances of the Pawnees. They are hunted (as you well know, sir) more eagerly than the ferocious wild beast hunts his prey; and it is not enough that they are in pursuit of the Pawnees themselves, but they are determined to destroy every effort of the government and missionaries, and white men's lives are in danger.

If any one needs proof of this, I will refer them to the destruction of three thousand dollars expense of five or six months past, of labor, tools, &c., by the Sioux and others, and I very much fear the result of six months to come if government do not interfere. I hope to be pardoned for my plainness. I have had the experience

of thirteen years hardships, privations, and loss of property, and what is more, have been shot at, as also my wife; but we have reason to be thankful to Him who stays the hand of the destroyer, that our lives have been spared through dangers, seen and unseen, and are yet here to witness scenes of cruel bloodshed, as well as yourself.

With the above remarks I close by asking if something cannot be done to protect the Indians under your agency, if not, schools and every effort to benefit them, may (in my opinion) as well be abandoned.

Very respectfully yours, &c.,

SAMUEL ALLIS,
Pawnee Teacher.

Major JOHN MILLER,
Indian Agent.

No. 43.

WINNEBAGO SCHOOL,
September 25, 1847.

SIR: Since my last annual report, one hundred and forty-four scholars have been added to the school, making, with the number then reported, two hundred and forty-nine, now receiving instruction at the institution.

The average attendance of the pupils within the past year has been greater than at any former period, and it would be easy to increase the number here and to locate schools at other villages, provided the appropriation would admit of it.

The following are the studies of the children, viz:

In geography and history.....	14
In arithmetic.....	30
In Worcester's 4th reader.....	2
In McGuffey's 4th reader.....	6
In do 1st reader.....	4
In do 2d reader.....	15
In do spelling book.....	37
In Sander's series.....	21
In eclectic primer.....	42
In words of one syllable.....	26
In alphabet.....	52

Forty of the above number are writing—most of whom present a fair legible hand.

A portion of the girls' time has been regularly devoted to domestic economy, such as knitting, sewing, washing, &c., and the boys have been employed on the farm, where suitable labor could be found.

I have never seen less intemperance among the Winnebagoes, since my first acquaintance with them, than during the last year, nor have they shown stronger indications of a disposition to cultivate the soil. The men are often seen at work, and they appear to appreciate more and more the labor of horses and use of wagons. Their fields have yielded an abundant harvest, so that but little suffering may be apprehended during the ensuing year from hunger.

I forbear making any suggestions at present, respecting future operations, inasmuch as the Indians are supposed to be on the eve of removing to their new homes, and it is not probable that changes would be deemed expedient, till after their settlement.

I will only add, that with me it is no longer a question of doubt respecting the practicability of civilizing the Winnebagoes. Should this desirable object fail to be accomplished, the blame will rest not on them, but upon those in charge of their interests.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. LOWRY,

Superintendent W. S.

General J. E. FLETCHER, *U. S. Sub-Indian Agent.*

No. 44.

OTTAWA MISSION STATION, *August 10, 1847.*

SIR: Since my last annual report, the blessings of Providence have continued to attend our labors. Four weekly meetings for preaching and prayer have been kept up, and nine have been added to the "Ottawa Baptist Mission Church" by baptism.

In October last, Miss E. S. Morse, of the Cherokee mission, was instructed to teach a district school among the Ottowas. She arrived in June, and opened a school at the Ottawa station. The number of children who attended is 17—average number 11—of whom are in the alphabet, 5; orthography, 12; reading, 10; writing, 8; arithmetic, 5.

The Ottowas, as a nation, are gradually improving their houses, fields, and stock, and are becoming more industrious, temperate, moral, and religious.

The general health of this people has been much better during the last year than it was the two preceding years.

The missionaries at this station are three in number, viz: myself and wife, and Miss E. S. Morse, who labor under the patronage of the executive committee of the American Baptist Mission Union of Boston, Massachusetts, of which Rev. Solomon Peck is corresponding secretary.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOTHAM MEEKER.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN, *Indian Sub-agent.*

No. 45.

POTTAWATOMIE BAPTIST MISSION,
August 12, 1847.

SIR: At the date of mine of last year, I was flattering myself that ere this we should have had our school in successful operation at the new house of the Pottawatomies; but in this I have been disappointed, as they show no disposition to leave their present house. This we exceedingly regret, as we cannot, in the short time allowed them to remain here, organize a boarding school.

The board of the A. I. M. Association have appropriated \$1,500 for the erection of buildings at the contemplated residence of the Pottawatomies, and we wait with much solicitude their advances on that subject, especially as the feeling gains among them that they cannot live in the country assigned them by their last treaty. At the earliest moment, however, after they shall have indicated their place of settlement, our buildings will be put under contract. At the instance of those who superintend this school, and when it was expected that the Indians would move last spring, the number of boarding scholars was reduced to five, who have been regularly taught by me. In the meantime, I have devoted all the time that the school did not require to the study of the language.

Four of the pupils are females, from six to twelve years of age. One boy, six years old. All make pleasing progress in study. One little girl, six years old, taken last January, then entirely ignorant of our language and letters, now spells with facility on and off the book, in tables of five syllables, and reads in McGuffey's second reader. Another, taken about the same time, spells and reads; a third reads, writes, and studies first lessons in arithmetic; the remaining two spell in two letters. They have also been taught sewing, knitting, and domestic economy.

No children are more sprightly, or promise more from natural endowments than these: hence my opinion is, that the difficulty of elevating the Indian lies not in a want of mental capacity or peculiarity of character, but in the debasing effects of influences which hang around him from his cradle to the grave. In the fact that some have attained to stations of respectability in the midst of all opposition, is found abundant evidence that he is highly susceptible of ascending in the scale of civilization. The difficulty is not in himself, but in the circumstances under which he is found. Who would think of teaching religion or letters in our cities where the abandoned sons of ocean hold their midnight revels? and yet it would be as easy to impart such instruction there as here. As well might the government expect the rose to bloom on a burning kiln as that morals, letters, or religion, could be taught amid the steams of alcohol.

Intemperance, leading to degradation and poverty, is the great obstacle with which we have to contend, and, Atlas-like, is growing in strength and magnitude. Can it be arrested? Would it not be better, rather than suffer the present state of things to exist, to give

all that is due the Indians at once to those who injure them, and thus buy a truce with evil until the hand of charity, untrammelled, might do its office?

If woman may be allowed to feel any interest in the honor of our country and of humanity, permit me to appeal to you and to the government in behalf of this afflicted and much injured race—the orphan of the American family.

Respectfully,

E. McCOY.

A. J. VAUGHAN, Esq., *Sub-agent*.

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No. 46.

WEA BAPTIST MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
August 14, 1847.

DEAR SIR: I received yours of the 8th instant in due time, but have not had leisure until now to answer your request. During the past year not only our missionary family, but the Indians of these tribes have suffered much from sickness. They number considerably less now than they did twelve months ago. Their rapid decrease is doubtless attributable, in part, to their free access to whiskey dealers on their borders.

I am sorry to say that one of their own race, who has lately emigrated to this country, has contributed more or less to this sad work. Public worship has been interrupted at the station by the introduction of spirits by the aforesaid emigrant. But notwithstanding the above trade is persisted in *almost* unmolested, we are not without hope that our labor is not altogether in vain. The advancement of these tribes in civilization and industry, though gradual, is very perceptible; many of their former prejudices and superstitions have given place to better things. The school has been prosperous and encouraging during the past year, averaging between ten and eighteen scholars; the parents of whom express entire satisfaction with its rules and order. They seem to be gaining confidence in their missionaries, and are becoming *willing* for us to control their children without any dictation from them. In a word, there is much encouragement, and great cause for Protestants to prosecute their work among these people. I cannot conclude without alluding to our worthy friend, Baptiste Peoria, who has done much for the Wea and Piankeshaw Indians. His influence is not only great, but his counsel good, rendering himself of great service with the missionary in elevating these people from their present degraded condition.

I am, sir, with respect, your obedient servant,

B. M. ADAMS.

Colonel A. J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 47.

SUGAR CREEK CATHOLIC MISSION,
August 7, 1847.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with my duty of giving you the annual report of our mission and schools amongst the Pottowatomie Indians here at Sugar creek, I hereby lay before you the following few statements concerning the same, as I deem it unnecessary to mention in detail what you yourself have been able to see and witness amongst our Indians.

The Pottowatomies who live at our mission form a congregation of upwards of 1,300 members of the Catholic church, accustomed to sober, industrious habits, emulating the white man in the various duties and exercises of a civilized life; and being so remarkable for their piety and assiduous attendance to church duties that our church, large as it is, is unable to contain the thronged multitude of Christians. Our schools, also, have been in constant operation; the male English class numbers seventy-eight attendants, the female class sixty. The same branches of useful knowledge we have labored to impart to our pupils as in the preceding years, as the accompanying schedules of the studies and progress of each individual testify; though, for further information as to the particulars of the system of teaching we have adopted for our schools, the education we give to our scholars, &c., reference may be had to our preceding reports, in which we presume this has sufficiently been specified. Wherefore, passing over this subject, I beg leave to add one word more about our missions.

Long since we used, in our excursions, to visit the Peorias, a destitute, forlorn tribe of Indians, who seemed not only to need our assistance, but to be truly worthy of it. The wretched state in which we first found them was really pitiful; but, thanks to Him who calls himself the father of the poor, no sooner had they begun to embrace the doctrines of the Catholic church, than they began to emerge from their state of wretchedness; they became models of temperance and industry; and, I may say, that their condition, both in a moral and temporal point of view, has been so admirably improved that they have excited their neighboring brethren to a laudable emulation; wherefore, almost the whole tribe of Piankeshaws have commenced to tread in the footsteps of the former, and, like them, to live as good, sober, industrious members of our church; others are preparing likewise to quit and change their old modes of living; and, in fact, so favorable are the dispositions of many of the Indians towards a change for the better, and the habits of civilization, that, in correspondence with this general manifestation of good will, we have determined upon extending and multiplying our missions as much as our means will allow; and that if the government and its respectable officers should lend us the hand, and bear part of our expenses, we doubt not

but we shall effect, ere long, still more good amongst our Pottawatomies and their neighboring red brethren.

Dear, sir, most respectfully, yours,

J. F. L. VERREYDT.

COL. VAUGHAN,

Pottawatomie Sub-Agency.

No. 48.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,
September 30, 1847.

SIR: The work of missions and improvement by schools among Indians are so gradual and slow in their progress, and so mixed up with collateral affairs, that it is difficult for those most intimately associated with them to tell, at any time, just how much is accomplished. Like other works of improvement, the first and most important work is to lay a good foundation. How far we may have succeeded in laying a foundation is not for us to say—nor indeed, is it possible for us precisely to tell.

Whatever we have yet accomplished, is in preparing the way and laying a foundation for future usefulness. Long as we have been among the Iowas, we have not evidence to believe that any one of the adult Indians of the nation or village has yet experienced a change of heart. The only case of hope was the girl in our family, who died last spring. When told on her death-bed that she must soon depart, her reply was, (and the last sentence she spoke,) "Oh! then, won't I see Moses and the Lamb?"

Our buildings are now up and our school in operation. Since the first, we have received in all about seventy scholars, though, at the present time, there are not in constant attendance over twenty. Some have run away—and some are helping their parents to take care of the fall crops. As soon as their corn is gathered, and they are ready to start on the hunt, we hope to have as many as we can take from the Iowas.

The Sacs have not yet sent any, nor do we know that they will—though the last interview with them was more favorable than usual. When Mr. Lowrie, from New York, the corresponding secretary of the Committee on Foreign Missions, visited us last spring, he told us to divide our stock of clothing with the Sacs, even should they not send any children to the school. This was thought proper, particularly in view of the large sum they paid yearly to the school, and for which they have received no return. The offer was made, and the effect was evidently favorable.

We have lately received two boys from the mountains, said to be of the "Blackfeet" tribe. They are fine little boys. We are indebted to the agency of a Mr. Papau, a gentlemen in St. Joseph, for having them brought to our school. We have also two children who are half Osage. The children who have remained with us,

have made commendable progress, both in the Indian and English languages; have memorized between seventy and eighty questions; also a number of hymns in their own language, which they can sing beautifully without any assistance. In needle and kitchen work, the girls have also well advanced. We have been at a loss for suitable help, both in teaching and in the kitchen, which is a serious draw-back in our work, but we are not in the least discouraged.

Our little press has until lately been idle for some time—not being able to gain time from other duties to attend to it. Portions of the Scripture have been translated, and a part of Matthew's gospel printed. A synopsis of the Iowa language has been prepared and is now in the press. We have also an elementary and hymn book printed and in use in the school.

Our help at the station, with the compensation allowed, is as follows:

Mr. Hamilton and wife,	\$200,00
S. M. Irwin and wife,	200,00
One hired hand on farm, at \$11 per month, ..	132,00
Two girls in kitchen, one \$40, and one \$60, ..	100,00

Mr. and Mrs. Blooker are also here at this time, but expect to leave soon. We have also an occasional hand on the farm, and there is an allowance of \$25 to each white child in our families. The entire estimates of our expenses, one year, for forty scholars, including salaries, &c., but exclusive of clothing and transportation, is \$1,735,00, but we hope to get along on less the present year. We have a fine crop of corn, potatoes, beans, cabbages, &c. We have been favored with much better health than usual this season, which calls loudly for an increase of our energies and exertions in the work before us.

We do not think of anything more that may be interesting or proper for us to give in this report. Accept our best wishes for your comfort and happiness.

Yours, truly,
S. M. IRWIN,
W. HAMILTON.

W. E. RUCKER, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha, Mo.

No. 49.

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY,
September 30, 1847.

SIR: I entered upon the duties of my office on the first day of March of the present year; but the season was very cool and backward, and the Indians were very dilatory in preparing their ground for the plough, and even averse to having it ploughed until the

weather should become warm; therefore I ploughed very little until near the 10th of April, when I started two teams and kept them constantly going until it was too late to plant.

In consequence of their ground being mostly in detached pieces, (some of them less than one-fourth of an acre, and *many* less than half an acre,) it is impossible for me to form anything like a correct estimate of the quantity of ground ploughed; but I am confident it was as much, if not more, than they ever had ploughed for them before in any one season, and more than the Indians have attended as it should have been done to produce advantageously. I have in vain endeavored to persuade them to forsake their small patches and cultivate more ground in large bodies. Like many whites, they cannot be persuaded that any course is better than "the good old way" which their fathers and grandfathers followed.

The season has been very favorable, not only for raising the crops, but, thus far, for securing them; and the squaws, who perform all the labor, have taken such advantage of it (when sober themselves, and when not kept from work by drunken Indians) as to raise large quantities of corn, beans, pumpkins, squashes, &c., which they are now getting well secured in good condition. They have certainly much more than they can consume within the next twelve months unless they are extravagantly wasteful.

FREDERICK LYDA,

Iowa farmer.

WM. E. RUCKER, Esq.,

Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha Sub-agency.

No. 50.

SAC AND FOX PATTERN FARM OF MISSOURI,

October 1, 1847.

SIR: The farming operations of the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri have been conducted upon the same plan, and with about the same success, as in the two previous years. The crops raised on the Pattern farm are superior to those of any former year. The wheat crop will amount to about eleven hundred bushels, which, estimated at its real value to the Indians, would alone pay the salary of the farmer and assistant farmer. The corn crop amounts to between sixty and seventy acres, and is also very heavy. Their potato crop was small, but very good. They have all, without an exception I believe, raised a superabundance of corn, beans, pumpkins, squashes, &c., &c.

Since I had charge of the farming operations, the principal portion of the tribe have removed from their first residence, on their own land near the mouth of the Wolf river, some six miles higher up, and settled on the lands of the Kickapoos, with the consent and under an agreement with the latter tribe. They are anxious to have a field broke, and to make some permanent improvement

at their village. This would, I presume, be bad policy so long as the land belongs to the Kickapoos, as it might eventually lead to difficulty between the two tribes, which I have often told them. Under these circumstances they wish to effect an exchange of lands with the Kickapoos, to which they say the Kickapoos have agreed. The proposed arrangement, I understand, is this: the Kickapoos agree for the Sacs and Foxes to have the land north of Wolf river to the Kickapoo line, (which will include their present village,) running westward to the dragoon road from Fort Leavenworth to the Council Bluffs; for which they agree to take in exchange the same quantity of land from the eastern end of the Sacs and Foxes, lying on the Missouri river. I cannot forbear expressing the opinion that this would be a very advantageous arrangement for the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, as the location of their present village is a very fine one—land, timber, and water, all being good. Besides, it will place them at least eight miles from the whiskey traders on the Missouri; whereas, at their old village they could get whatever they were able to buy within two miles. This is the reason given by their chief, Ne-som-quot, for their removal; and I cannot too strongly recommend it to your notice. Another advantage which would be gained by their permanent settlement where they now live, is, that it would put a greater number of miles between them and the Iowas, with whom they are at continual variance for alleged thefts and depredations upon their property. I am satisfied that it would be greatly to the advantage of both tribes if they were much farther separated, as my observation has confirmed me in the belief that the two tribes can never live in peace while their villages are so near to each other. The blame, perhaps, rests on both sides; but this does not lessen the necessity for their separation. I am not aware of the official action necessary to effect the exchange of lands; but as both tribes are willing, and as it must be apparent that it would be greatly to the advantage of the Sacs and Foxes, and certainly not prejudicial to the Kickapoos, who have at any rate ten times more land than they need, I think that an agreement between the chiefs of the two tribes, made in the presence of their respective agents, and ratified by the Department, would be sufficient to justify the permanent settlement of the Sacs and Foxes at their present village. They say that they are anxious to raise cattle and hogs in accordance with the will of their great father, but that it is no use to try it while so near the Iowas, who would continually steal and kill them.

The line between the Iowas and Sacs is a source of continual complaint; and, if it has ever been established, its location is not properly understood by either tribe. I think it should be permanently fixed and marked to prevent difficulty. All causes of jealousy should be removed, as Indians are too apt to indulge this disposition even when there is no ground.

The Sacs and Foxes, according to the pay-roll of the present year, amount to one hundred and seventy-seven. This should not, however, be taken as an index of their true strength, as one-half of them, or more, have gone to the Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi since

their removal to the south. They have been led there by the very large annuity paid to that tribe, and the indebtedness and consequent poverty of their own; but a majority of them will return in a year or two, as their debts are now nearly paid, and the dividend hereafter will be larger. Many of them are now anxious to return, and would do so but for a false pride, and for fear of being laughed at by their former friends and associates. It will not be long before their pride will give way to their obvious interest, and they will perhaps all return.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. W. FORMAN,
Sac and Fox farmer.

Major W. E. RUCKER,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha Sub-agency.

No. 51.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October 20, 1847.*

SIR: In compliance with your recent instruction, I proceed to furnish an abstract of the reports of the superintendents of the different schools in this agency.

The Chuahla Female Seminary at Pine Ridge, near Fort Towson, is under the charge of the Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury; 44 scholars have attended during the last year. Of these 33 were boarders, and 11 day scholars; of the boarders, 24 were supported by the nation, the remainder by their friends, or by their own labor. In the school room the girls are under the charge of Miss Goulding, and are instructed in arithmetic, the elements of natural philosophy, geography, grammar, and history, besides the usual exercises in writing, composition, committing portions of Scripture to memory, &c., &c.

Out of school, the greater portion of the girls are employed, under the direction of Miss Slate, in making dresses for themselves and others, and in the manufacture of various articles of needle and fancy work. They have also made pantaloons and other garments for men, and have done a large amount of knitting and netting, &c., and they are divided into companies, which relieve each other from time to time in the labors of the kitchen and dining room.

The female school at Wheelock, 15 miles east of Fort Towson, is under the charge of the Rev. Alfred Wright; 24 pupils are educated and maintained at the expense of the nation; 13 attended as day scholars, boarding at home; and 8 were boarded at the expense of their friends, or in consideration of their services, making in all 45 scholars. The teachers are Miss Dolbeau and Miss Dickinson, and the branches taught are the same as at Pine Ridge, with the addition of an elementary work on astronomy. The course out of school is also the same.

Mr. Wright has also under his supervision, at Norwalk, 5 miles from his residence, a school for boys, under the immediate charge of Mr. H. U. Pitkin; 27 pupils have been in regular attendance. Their studies are similar to those of the girls at Wheelock. Instruction in music is also given, "on the plan of the Boston Academy."

The Rev. Cyrus Byington is superintendent of the Igunobi Female Seminary, near the southeastern corner of the Choctaw country. He reports 50 pupils, of whom 9 were small boys, attending from the neighborhood as day scholars. The teachers are Miss Hall and Miss Keyes, and the general arrangements, in school and out, is about the same as that described at Pine Ridge.

No report has been received from the Rev. Mr. Hotchkins, superintendent of the Koonshu Female Seminary. It is presumed that no material change in its condition has occurred since the date of his last report. The Choctaw trustees and others, who were present at the examination of this institution in July last, speak in the highest terms of its general management, and the progress made by the scholars.

The superintendent of Armstrong Academy, the Rev. R. D. Potts, does not state any facts in relation to the condition of his school, further than that the boys, after suffering a great deal from sickness, causing a suspension of operations, are at present doing well. He adds that there is a farm of fifty acres connected with the institution, cultivated chiefly by the boys, which yields an ample supply of corn, &c.

The Rev. J. B. Ramsey states that the institution under his charge (Spencer Academy) has also suffered severely from sickness, which assumed the form of an epidemic, and prostrated a large number of boys, terminating fatally in several instances. Of late, the health of the students, with one or two exceptions, has been good. The number in attendance at the examination in July was 78. Of their studies, Mr. R. says, "there is one small class reading in the Latin reader, and another class studying Latin grammar; the rest are in various stages of advancement. We have endeavored to pay more attention to the cultivation of music than formerly, and hope to be able to effect still more. Speaking and composition are weekly exercises." Out of school, the boys are required to spend two hours and a half daily in agricultural and mechanical labor, under the direction of their teachers.

The Fort Coffee Academy is divided into two branches; one for boys at Fort Coffee, the other for girls, at New Hope, 6 miles distant. At the former, the Rev. W. L. McAlister, the superintendent, reports 54 scholars; at the latter 25. The boys are instructed in grammar, geography, arithmetic and natural philosophy. The girls in geography, arithmetic, and grammar. "The boys," says Mr. McA., "have labored generally a part of each day on the farm, and the girls have been more or less employed about domestic affairs, when out of school."

All the establishments enumerated are supported by the joint contribution of the Choctaws and the different missionary societies.

The schools at Pine Ridge, Wheelock, and Igunobi, each receive \$1,600 per annum from the Choctaws. The Koonshu Female Seminary receives \$3,000; Armstrong Academy, \$2,900, and Fort Coffee and Spencer Academies, \$6,000 per annum each. There is also an additional allowance of \$333 33 per annum each to Armstrong and Spencer Academies; a like sum is paid to Mr. Wright for the school at Norwalk, and \$2,000 per annum from the civilization fund is expended at Spencer Academy. I have no data to show the exact amount contributed by the different missionary societies.

A short time before his death, my predecessor visited the schools under the care of Mr. Kingsbury and Mr. Wright, and, I understand, expressed the utmost gratification at the progress made by the scholars. At Pine Ridge, one of the students, a full blooded Indian girl, made several intricate and complicated calculations on the black-board, in his presence, with all the rapidity and accuracy of the most expert accountant; and, at Wheelock, under the management of the accomplished instructress in the higher department, the pupils showed a wonderful degree of proficiency in various branches. At this school, there were shown some very creditable specimens of drawings, executed by the scholars after receiving comparatively few lessons. The exhibitions, however, that made the greatest impression was at Norwalk. Besides the ordinary routine of studies, the teacher, Mr. Pitken, had taken great pains to interest the boys in vocal music. He had them so well trained that he could at pleasure cause the entire school, without the slightest discord, to sound any given note in the gamut. The perfection they had attained in their musical exercises was in fact astonishing, but it was by no means at the expense of other branches. Whatever they had learned at all, had evidently been taught thoroughly.

In regard to the schools in other parts of this superintendency, I have no information beyond what is contained in the reports of agents, herewith forwarded. The department is aware that manual labor schools are to be established among the Chickasaws, Creeks, and Quapaws. As yet, I believe, no actual steps have been taken towards the execution of these plans, further than the selection of a site for one of the Creek schools.

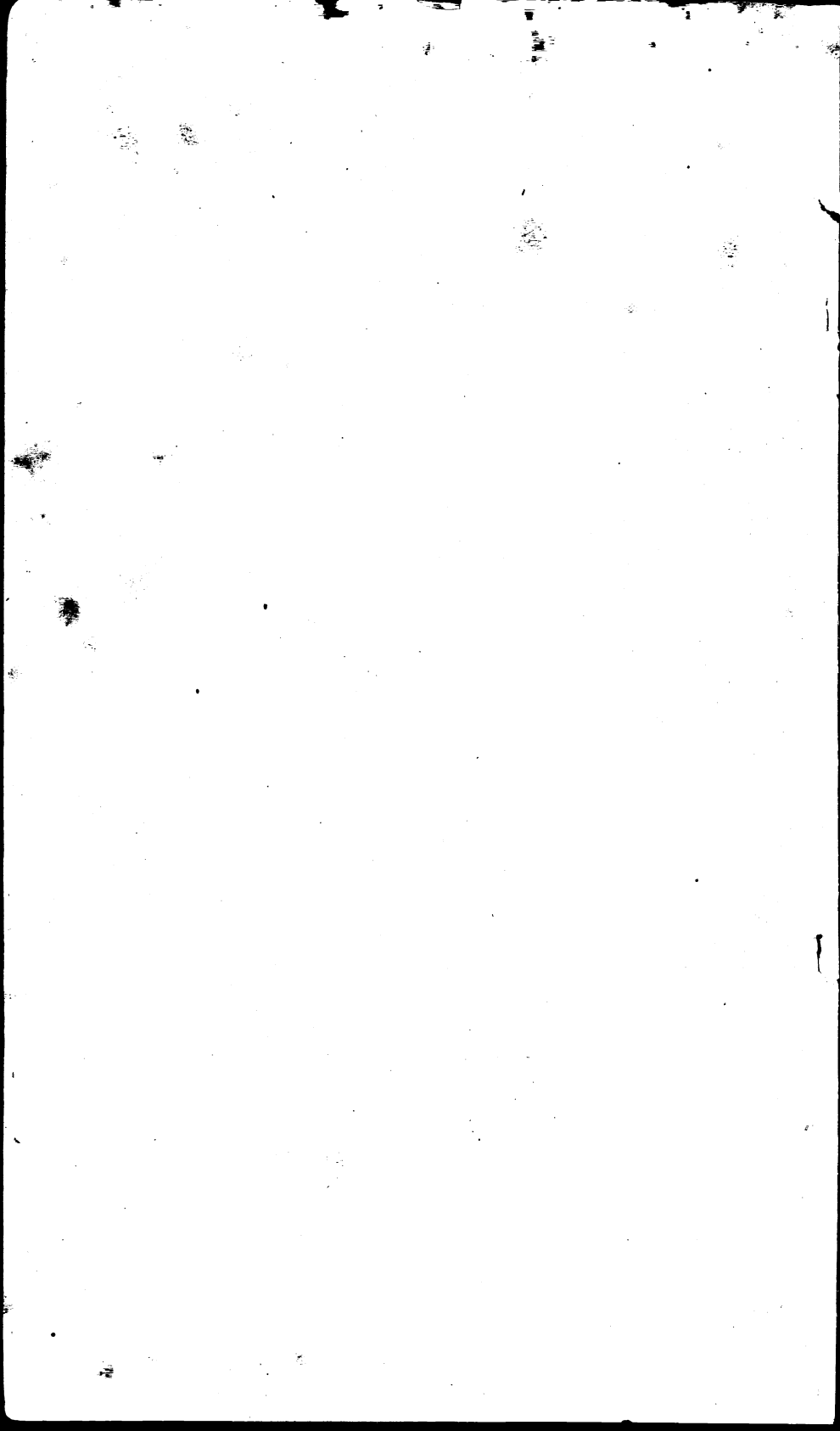
Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,

Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

Hon. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.



APPENDIX TO THE REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Sept. 1881

APPENDIX

TO THE

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

BENT'S FORD, ARKANSAS RIVER,
September 18, 1847.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations and instructions of the Indian Department, I have the honor of submitting the following report:

I left St. Louis about the 20th of May, and proceeded to Fort Leavenworth, for the purpose of joining the first troops leaving there for Santa Fe. On my arrival at Fort Leavenworth, I ascertained that Lieutenant Love (an excellent young officer of 1st dragoons) would start in a few days for Santa Fe, in command of an escort of dragoons, furnished the paymaster in charge of the government funds. Lieutenant Love invited me to join him, which invitation I gladly accepted; and, having some further preparations to make, I repaired immediately to Westport for that purpose. Having soon completed my arrangements, I set out from Westport, and joined the command, on the Santa Fe road, on the 10th of June, seventy-five miles from Leavenworth. We travelled along happily and with much expedition, until we arrived at Pawnee Fork, a tributary of the Arkansas river, three hundred miles from Fort Leavenworth. Here we came up with two large government trains, loaded with commissary's stores for Santa Fe, together with a few traders, who were travelling with them for protection. They had been detained at this place several days on account of high water. During their detention, and two days before our arrival, they were attacked by a large body of Indians, but sustained no loss, except one man slightly wounded. On the opposite, or west side of the stream, were also encamped a return train from Santa Fe, (empty,) and bound for Fort Leavenworth. After the unsuccessful attempt of the Indians on the east side, they dashed across the stream, and drove off, and killed nearly all the cattle belonging to the return train, and left the party without the means of hauling the wagons further. Therefore, by the imbecility and bad management of the party, over twenty more wagons, with their necessary accoutrements, were added to the frequent losses sustained by the government on that road, and from like causes. From their own account, they had more than sufficient time to have secured the cattle within the enclosure formed by the wagons, but did not attempt to do so until they were in possession of the Indians, when it was found to be too late. The morning after our arrival at Pawnee Fork, the waters having subsided sufficiently

to let the wagons pass over, all hands made preparations for a fresh start; but, before leaving, Lieutenant Love gave directions to the commanders of each train to travel and encamp as near him as would be convenient during the remainder of the trip, or at least until they passed through the most dangerous part of it. These directions were very agreeable to one of the men in charge, but to the other was quite the reverse; he remarked, that he had already received his instructions from the quartermaster at Fort Leavenworth, and was not disposed to submit to further instructions. Lieutenant Love told him he must submit, as he would not suffer so much government property to run the risk of falling into the hands of the Indians. The fording of the stream was then commenced, and found to be slow and difficult, which operation consumed the greater part of the day; however, all passed over without any accident, and encamped on the west side of the stream in good order, and ready to pursue the journey on the morrow. The next morning all were moving in good time—Mr. Hayden (the stubborn man) in front, and a considerable distance in advance. He observed to some of his men at starting, that “if those gentlemen in the rear encamped near him that night they would have to travel after dark.” However, we travelled on rapidly, and came in sight of him near sundown, and encamped at least a mile from the Arkansas river, and out on the level plain. Lieutenant Love bore off towards the river, and encamped on its banks, being the most convenient for grass and water, as well as safest from an attack, particularly from a party of horsemen. Lieutenant Love was by no means satisfied with the isolated position of Hayden’s train, but, it being late, he concluded to let it remain for the night, with a full determination to compel him to comply with his orders for the future. The opportunity was too favorable for the Indians to let it pass without making an effort; if the Indians themselves had made the selection of the ground, they could not have chosen a more favorable position for the accomplishment of their plans. The next morning, as soon as the cattle were turned out of the *corral* to graze, the Indians made a charge, and succeeded in driving them off. Lieutenant Love (as was his usual practice every morning) was out at the time, on the highest point, with his spy-glass, reconnoitring the country around, before he permitted his horses to be taken out to graze; he soon discovered the difficulty at Hayden’s camp, and immediately ordered his men to saddle and mount instantly. The order was soon obeyed; but just at that moment, and when Lieutenant Love was about to lead his men to the rescue, a large body of Indians, not before discovered, made a demonstration near our camp, seemingly with the intention of attacking us, which they would have certainly done if Lieutenant Love had led off his whole command. This sudden and unexpected manœuvre of the Indians changed the intentions of Lieutenant Love, and it was that only which caused the success of the Indians that day. If Lieutenant Love had led off his command in pursuit of the Indians with the cattle, he certainly would have defeated them and retaken the cattle. But his own camp would have been

in danger of being defeated and robbed, and he very prudently remained in it, at the same time sending twenty-five men, under the command of a sergeant, to the assistance of Hayden. Those men charged gallantly amongst the Indians, who, by the time they reached them, were a long distance off; and not being supported by the men of Hayden's train, as was expected, were completely overpowered by numbers, and defeated, with the loss of five men killed, and six severely wounded; the remainder being obliged to make a precipitate retreat, in order to save themselves from the overwhelming numbers that surrounded them; for, by this time, many of the party which had threatened our camp, finding we were prepared for them, and not daring to attack us, dashed off at full speed, and joined the other party with the cattle. This reinforcement of the Indians proved fatal to the dragoons. Here, then, was a dilemma; five men killed, six severely wounded, thirty wagons, with their loading, left without the means of taking them to their destination, and all this arising from the stubbornness and self-will of one man. I am very certain that, if Hayden had obeyed the order of Lieutenant Love, and encamped where he should have done, no such misfortune would have happened.

At this unfortunate encampment we were obliged to remain several days, on account of the inability of the wounded to travel; but so soon as they were sufficiently recovered to make slow and easy marches, we again set out, taking with us Hayden and his train, the other train with us having escaped injury or accident, and having to each wagon five and six strong yoke of oxen, were divided out equally, according to the weight to be hauled, some with two yoke, others again with three. In this way, averaging from five to eight miles a day, we reached the government depot, now called Fort Mann, twenty-five miles below the crossing of the Arkansas river. At this place I intended to remain until an opportunity offered to go to Bent's Fort; but, finding Fort Mann abandoned, and a perfect wreck, I gave up the idea of halting; and, as there was no other resource, continued on to Santa Fe, where we arrived, without any further occurrence worthy of notice, on the 6th of August, just two months from Leavenworth. Mr. Hayden, his party, and whole train, were left in deposite at Fort Mann, with instructions to remain until relief could be sent him.

I feel a strong disposition to say something in regard to the condition of New Mexico; however, I presume it has been represented by more experienced and abler hands. Yet, I doubt much whether the government is in full possession of all the facts, or at all aware of the deplorable condition of that country. The Indians are ravaging the territory throughout, murdering and carrying off the inhabitants to a much greater extent than heretofore; and what would seem very strange, they carry their hostilities (except when they want presents, and then they are as gentle as lambs,) almost within gun-shot of the headquarters of the army of the west.

The state of discipline amongst the volunteers, the efficiency of the officers of the law, civil and military, and which of the two have the prerogative, or whether either exists. On all those mat-

ters I am unable to decide, or give an opinion. It has been matter of surprise to many, that in a country so healthy and salubrious, and with so gentle a climate as New Mexico, so many volunteers should die of disease. Let those wonderers pay a visit to Santa Fe, and remain one week, as I have done, and observe the life there led, day and night, and they will be still more astonished that so many have lived. I remained in Santa Fe one week, when I found an opportunity of getting to my destination, in company with some volunteers whose term of service had expired, and who chose to pass by this place, where I arrived on the 29th August, being over three months from Saint Louis getting to my destination. Before leaving Santa Fe, I met with the man whom I had all along intended to engage as interpreter for the Chyennes and Aripohoes, he having been in charge at Fort Mann at the time of its abandonment, and the garrison being reduced to seven men, he was obliged, like myself, to keep with the current of travel, and got to Santa Fe a short time before us. I engaged him for three months only, at twenty-five dollars per month, for the purpose of making an excursion with me amongst the Chyennes and Aripohoes. This is the only way that men of that description can be engaged for the sum that the department allows for that purpose; and it is only when they are disengaged that they can be had on such terms—the traders paying them more for the winter's trade, besides finding them in provisions, &c., than the department allows for the whole year. However, under the present circumstances, and while so many different tribes are to be dealt with, all speaking different tongues, the mode I have adopted, and intend for the future to adopt, is the best and most economical. Good interpreters value their services in this country at a high rate; but no man, of any kind, could be hired here at three hundred dollars per annum, without provisioning him also. Soon after my arrival here, I had a very satisfactory interview with a large portion of the Chyennes, and a few of the Aripohoes, who, on hearing of my arrival, hastened to see me, no doubt expecting to receive presents, but in that they were sadly disappointed. I directed the chiefs and braves to assemble in council, which they soon did, and by the assistance and kindness of the people of this fort, I was enabled to provide them with a feast of bread, coffee, &c., which is always expected by those Indians on such occasions. After the feasting was ended, I made them a speech, in which I explained the object of my visit amongst them, and the kind intentions of the United States government towards them, as well as towards the Aripohoes, Sioux, and all Indians who conducted themselves in a peaceable and proper manner towards us, as well as each other. I also told them that I was particularly instructed by their great father to ascertain what Indians were engaged in plundering and robbing travellers on the Santa Fe road, and throughout the country, in order that when he sent his soldiers into the country, the innocent should not suffer equally with the guilty. In fact, I explained to them the policy and intentions of the government towards Indians generally, and that their great father was disposed to treat them more like his

children than like enemies; but that, there were some things which he could not overlook, and these were, the murdering and plundering his people—the perpetrators of which would be speedily and severely punished. I reminded them of the great diminution and continual decrease of all game, and advised them to turn their attention to agriculture, it being the only means to save them from destruction. I pointed out and enumerated the many evils arising from the use of spiritous liquors, and advised them to abandon altogether so degrading and abominable a practice.

In reply to what I had said, one of the principal chiefs (Yellow Wolf) spoke as follows: "My father, your words are very good; the Chyennes all hear and cherish them, and those that are absent shall hear and remember them also. My father, we are very poor and ignorant, even like the wolves in the prairie; we are not endowed with the wisdom of the white people. Father, this day we rejoice; we are no more poor and wretched; our great father has at length condescended to notice us, poor and wretched as we are; we now know we shall live and prosper, therefore we rejoice. My father, we have not been warring against your people; why should we? on the contrary, if our great father wishes our aid, the Chyenne warriors shall be ready at a moment's warning to assist in punishing those bad people, the Camanches." Here I interrupted him, saying that their great father had plenty of soldiers at his command—moreover, it was not his wish to embroil his red children in war with each other—on the contrary, he wished to see them unite in harmonious brotherhood. He continued—"Tell our great father that the Chyennes are ready and willing to obey him in every thing; but, in settling down and raising corn, that is a thing we know nothing about, and if he will send some of his people to learn us, we will at once commence, and make every effort to live like the whites. We have long since noticed the decrease of the buffalo, and are well aware it cannot last much longer. Tell him also," he said, "that the white people, a short time ago, killed one of our wisest and best chiefs; that the tears of the orphans and relatives of the deceased chief are not yet dried up; yet we still remain the friends of the whites." A government train of wagons passing early last spring, and arriving at the Arkansas river, were discovered by a party of Chyennes returning from the Camanches. The chief of the party, (Old Tobacco,) who has always been considered a good Indian, and very friendly to all Americans, determined to apprise the party thus discovered, of the near vicinity, and hostile intentions, of the Camanches. On entering the camp of the whites for that purpose, he was fired upon and severely wounded, and died of his wounds five days after. Before dying, he called his family and relatives together, and told them not to avenge his death; that his friends had killed him without knowing who he was. What is meant by drying up tears is, payment for the dead man; it is a custom of all the Indians of this country to demand payment for all such occurrences, whether it happens by accident or design. When a refusal to pay is given, and when the case is between different tribes, war ensues; if the

occurrence has taken place between families of the same tribe, payment or retaliation is the consequence, and not unfrequently leads to a separation of the tribe. Therefore, under all those circumstances, had I means and power, I would have dried the fountain from which flowed their tears for the deceased chief.

On the conclusion of the "big talk" with the Chyennes, I addressed myself more particularly to the Aripohoes, who were present, remarking that all they heard, applied equally to them as well as all other Indians who conducted in a peaceable and proper manner, and asked what they had to say in reply. They said, "their ears were open and heard all, but could make no answer at present, inasmuch as they knew not the sentiments of their tribe; moreover, that some of their people had already joined the Camanches against the Americans, which he much regretted; therefore, he was ashamed to talk." I advised him to send for his people, and all might yet be well; he promised to do so. I purchased some tobacco and distributed it amongst them, and then adjourned the council.

I do not wish to be understood as placing much confidence in the profession of the Indians of this country; neither do I in those of any other. Circumstances and necessity may seem to change their disposition; but ingratitude, low, mean cunning, cowardice, selfishness and treachery, are the characteristics of the whole race. Yet I believe the Chyennes are serious in their professions of friendship; they plainly see what must befall them on the extinction of game, and therefore wish to court the favor of the United States government, hoping to obtain assistance. Many of them appear very desirous to commence raising corn, but I fear the effort will be found too laborious for them, unless they are encouraged and assisted. If the government wishes those Indians to settle down, they must give them some assistance, at least towards a beginning. A few dollars expended with those who are now willing to commence, might work some good, and be the means of inducing others to follow the example; and by the time the buffalo is all gone, those Indians will be prepared to live without them.

The Chyennes claim this river and the surrounding country, without any definite or defined limits; and, together with the Aripohoes and Sioux, occupy indiscriminately the whole country along the eastern base of the Rocky mountains, from the northern frontier of New Mexico up to the Missouri river, without regard to lines or limitations of boundary; and sometimes they extend their war and hunting excursions across the mountains, into the country of the Snake and Utawa Indians—as well as south into New Mexico, east down the Arkansas, Kansas, Platte and Missouri, to almost the very borders of our western settlements.

The Chyenne Indians, from the best authority, will not number over 280 lodges, and not exceeding 500 warriors. The Aripohoes, from a like source of information, are about 350 lodges, and can raise 800 warriors. The Sioux Indians of the north fork of Platte, and who roam in this country also, are about 800 lodges, and can turn

out from 2,000 to 2,500 warriors; the average number of the Sioux to each lodge is greater than those of the others.

The above Indians are all immediately in this agency, and may, by proper management, and by keeping liquor from amongst them, be kept quiet and tranquil. The Aripohoes are most to be dreaded, not on account of their superior bravery and courage, as they do not excel the others in that respect; but they are becoming very insolent of late, arising, no doubt, from the frequent defeat of the whites on the Santa Fe road, and perhaps they think that they could be as successful as the Camanches.

The Camanches and Kiaway Indians have been making endeavors to induce those here to join them in the war, representing the great advantages as well as the profits, without incurring the least risk. They have represented the whites who travel the Santa Fe road as easily killed as elk or buffalo, and not at all to be compared with the Texans. This is the Camanches's report to the Chyennes and Aripohoes, who have told me of it.

I received information, a few days ago, from the north fork of Platte, that a man by the name of John Ruchare, or Richarde, had been selling liquor to the Indians all summer. This same John Richarde is notorious in this country for violating the law in that respect, and has been known to declare frequently that he would continue to do so in defiance of all law, and in despite of all the agents the government might send into the country.

It is 380 miles from this to Fort Laramie, on the north fork of Platte, in the vicinity of which those violations of law are carried on. I shall leave here in a short time for the purpose of visiting Mr. Richarde, as well as some others who sometimes follow the same occupation; and, if I had a few men with me, and under my control, I would soon teach these gentlemen that a compliance with the law was the most profitable course. But being alone, and without means, not even for the hiring of a few Indians to assist and accompany me, it cannot be expected that I can accomplish all that is required by the department. However, I shall endeavor as far as possible to fulfil my instructions, and will start for the north fork in a few days, or at least as soon as I can find an opportunity to forward this document. At Fort Laramie, I hope to find United States troops, who will assist me in putting down this abominable practice. I have no apprehension about the large traders and men of capital, such as Pierre Chouteau, jr. & Co., nor from this establishment, (Bent's.) Those two, being the principal traders in the country, have long since ascertained that the traffic in spirituous liquors was becoming very unprofitable, and therefore have, I believe, discontinued it altogether; and, I have no doubt, would willingly assist in putting it down. This laudable change in their business has not emanated from a regard for the law, nor from philanthropic motives, but from the fact of its becoming a great nuisance, and very dangerous to those having large investments in the trade, and whose expenses were heavy; and, not being able to compete successfully with the numerous small traders who infest the country, and whose expenses were comparatively nothing—

whose whole stock in trade amounted to only a few trinkets and three or four hundred gallons of liquor, procured on the Missouri frontier, New Mexico, or of the Hudson Bay Company. The above causes, together with the great diminution of the proceeds of the Indian hunts, arising out of so much of their time being spent in drunkenness and debauch, have caused this great change.

I have been thus particular in showing the causes of its declination, not for the purpose of making it appear unnecessary to guard against it in future; on the contrary, to advise increased vigilance in order to prevent its revival.

It is greatly to be regretted that so little attention has been paid to the laws regulating intercourse with the Indians, as great evils have arisen from their neglect; and I know of none greater than permitting the licensed trader to take so many men of bad and desperate character into the country, and at the expiration, or before their term of service expires, casting them adrift amongst the Indians. It is by this class of men that great mischief has been done, and the law violated, as well while in the service of the traders as afterwards.

Many of those men not being American citizens, but Canadians, Mexicans, and Europeans, are not satisfied with violating the laws, but have been known to make and cause great mischief, by inciting the Indians against the government and people of the United States. Perhaps the evil does not exist now to such an extent as formerly, as there is not the same amount of business done, and therefore not the same number of men required.

About seventy-five miles above this place, and immediately on the Arkansas river, there is a small settlement, the principal part of which is composed of old trappers and hunters; the male part of it are mostly Americans, Missouri French, Canadians, and Mexicans. They have a tolerable supply of cattle, horses, mules, &c.; and I am informed that this year they have raised a good crop of wheat, corn, beans, pumpkins, and other vegetables. They number about 150 souls, and of this number there are about 60 men, nearly all having wives, and some have two. These wives are of various Indian tribes, as follows: Blackfoot, Assineboines, Arickeras, Sioux, Aripohoes, Chyennes, Pawnees, Snake, Sinpach, (from west of the Great lake,) Chinock, (from the mouth of Columbia,) Mexicans, and Americans. The American women are Mormons; a party of Mormons having wintered there, and, on their departure for California, left behind two families. These people are living in two separate establishments near each other; one called "Punble," and the other "Hard-scrabble;" both villages are fortified by a wall 12 feet high, composed of *adobe*, (sun-dried brick.) Those villages are becoming the resort of all idlers and loafers. They are also becoming depots for the smugglers of liquor from New Mexico into this country; therefore they must be watched.

The Camanche and Kiaway Indians are those who have been infesting and marauding on the Santa Fe road all summer and spring; but, from information received from the Chynnes and Aripohoes, are now gone south. There are also a few of the Aripohoes with

them, and, in my opinion, some of our Missouri frontier Indians; either Delawares or Osages, or both. One Delaware who made his escape from Taos, after the battle of that place, has been known to have spent the spring and part of the summer amongst the Camanches. At Taos he fought desperately against the Americans, and is supposed to have killed the gallant Captain Burgwin, and three or four of the regulars, who were shot down in the assault on the church. After the defeat of the insurgents, he made his escape from that country, came out to the Arkansas river, where he found the Chyennes, told them what had happened at Taos, and that in the battle he killed five Americans. He used every effort in his power to induce the Chyennes to join him in a war against the whites, representing them as bad people, and the ruin of all Indians. This argument having failed, he remained but one night, and started the next morning for the Camanches. This Delaware, who is well known in this country by the name of "Big Negro," is now at home near Westport. He arrived there a short time since, and had in his possession a rifle known to have belonged to a man by the name of Sharp, who was killed in June on Walnut creek, near the Arkansas river. The fact of his having this rifle in his possession is sufficient proof that he has been warring against us; at any rate, he is well known to have taken an active part against us in the insurrection of Taos. He has now gone to the States, no doubt for the purpose of getting supplies and inducing more of his tribe to join him. Such vagabonds should be looked after, as they are much to be dreaded, and may cause great trouble in this country. They should be prevented from intermingling with the Indians as much as possible.

I am of the opinion that the government should at once put forth strong and energetic measures for the subjugation of those Indians who have been committing so many depredations during the past two years. Commencing in good time (and whatever is done, let it be done effectually, as no temporizing policy will answer) will prevent others from entering on a like course, and awe them at once into a state of tranquility. This is not mere supposition; on the contrary, I am convinced that by teaching any one of those formidable tribes a good lesson, would be sufficient instruction for the whole of those on the east side of the Rocky mountains.

The lenient and temporizing policy which the government has always pursued with Indians on our western borders, and those living heretofore within the now boundary of the Union, will not do with the Indians inhabiting this great expanse of desert. In the case of the former, disagreements would frequently arise, and war ensue; but, before much blood was shed, on came the tide of emigration so numerous, and in such rapid succession, that what was expected to have become the scene of war, became that of peace, tranquility, and civilization. I am fully convinced that the force of emigration has done more towards the settling and tranquilizing the Indians than anything else.

In this country it is far otherwise. Here is an immense desert, inhabited by many wild, roaming, and formidable tribes of savages,

whose occupation is war and the plundering of their fellow men. And, inasmuch as the country they inhabit is altogether unfit for a civilized population, the savages now in occupation must always remain it. This desert and its inhabitants, intervening as they do between our late territorial acquisition and the United States, require the particular attention of government, or what would be much more advantageous, of an efficient military force, merely for the purpose of teaching the inhabitants thereof that we are their superiors in war as well as in every thing else. This lesson once taught, and our ability and willingness to punish insult and injury shown, I repeat, is all that is required to make the inhabitants of this country quiet and peaceable. I am well aware that the intentions of the government towards the Indians are conciliatory and humane. But those of this country who know not our strength, and attribute our forbearance to a dread of their great prowess, must be dealt with in precisely the opposite manner; which I hold to be the most judicious and economical, as it will be a great saving of blood and expenditure of money; and is, on the whole, the most philanthropic. Let them know they cannot pursue a marauding life with impunity, and they will soon turn their attention to something else.

I have entertained ardent and strong hopes that, inasmuch as the subjugation of the Indian tribes of this country would be considered a very peculiar service, a very peculiar force, and otherwise organized than that composing the army of the west, would be raised for that purpose. But I perceive it is otherwise, and that the same system, (that of the men electing their officers,) and all the evils arising out of that system, is still continued. I have no hesitation in saying that they will not answer the purpose required, for reasons, some of which I will give. The service being the most arduous, difficult, and of a very peculiar nature, will require great skill and experience in the management of a campaign, as well as a complete knowledge of the Indian character, habits, manners, and customs; and, above all, a thorough acquaintance with their mode and manner of warfare. Those are rare qualifications, and not likely to be selected out of a set of aspirants by those who know or think nothing about the capacity of their leader. It is only after they commence military duty, and on the march to New Mexico, that they find out they did not elect the proper candidate. Then follows a petition to the officer to resign; next a refusal of the officer to comply; then follows dissatisfaction, disgust for the service, and insubordination, which very naturally ensue, as men dislike very much to obey an order coming from an officer whom they consider unfit to command. Under these circumstances, they arrive in Santa Fe, dispirited, and, together with their horses, broken down and unfit for service, at least for a time. This should not be, nor would it, if men of experience had the command. They have a very excellent road from Fort Leavenworth all the way to Santa Fe, with plenty of grass and water at proper distances, except a few days on the Cimerrane; yet they cannot accomplish the trip without the utmost difficulty. Now, let me ask how, under all those circumstances, such a force can ever accomplish the subjugation of

the Camanches and Kiaway Indians, who are represented (and truly) as very expert horsemen, and almost continually on the move, whose flight (when necessary) across and over the desert is like unto the flight of birds over dreary and barren wastes which they inhabit, and in which lies their strength and security more than in any thing else.

I do not wish to be understood as casting reproach or reflection on the volunteers in mass; on the contrary, I have a high opinion of the material of which they are composed; it is the system of officer-making that I am opposed to. It is a want of the proper knowledge of the enemy they will have to contend with; it is a want of a proper knowledge of the best and safest mode of campaigning in the country—those are what I most dread. Show those men the enemy and they will do their duty; but I doubt much their ever getting a sight within striking distance; the enemy, however, will frequently strike them, when least expected and unprepared,

I will now show the kind of force which I should like to see organized and ready for service in this country, and at this time: 250 mounted riflemen, armed with short and handy rifles, not too heavy; one hundred well disciplined dragoons; one hundred Mexicans, armed with lances and a pair of horse-pistols, mounted on their own native horses; and two or three mountain howitzers, with a few men to manage them. Let all, then, be put under the command of an experienced officer, who understands well the nature of his duty in every particular, who would in a short time accomplish the desired object.

Of the 250 riflemen, I would have as many procured in this country as could be had. They would soon teach the others the real art of campaigning, and infuse a spirit of cheerfulness and contentment, which is rarely to be found amongst "green-horns;" they would also show an example of obedience and subordination which they well know how to appreciate, as well as practice. One hundred active and efficient Mexicans can be easily obtained for a service of the kind, and when serving and uniting in concert with Americans, will be found brave and daring to a fault, and cannot be excelled in the whole world for a service of the kind; of this I have had many proofs and long experience.

I received an order through your office from the adjutant general at Washington, on the commanding officer at Bent's Fort, for the Indian goods which were left there last year in deposite. I presented the order to Captain McKisick, acting quartermaster at Santa Fe, who informed me that the goods had all been taken to Santa Fe, and mostly distributed, no doubt to those Indians who are now devastating the country. This I consider bad policy, and well calculated to keep the Indians in a state of hostility; by such a course they have two sources of gain, and are very apt to take advantage of both. For my own part, I must state, that I have and will labor under disadvantages and embarrassments for the want of at least a part of those goods, which were distributed so liberally amongst the vagabond Indians of New Mexico. Any one at all acquainted with the character of the Indians of this country

must know how difficult it is to get along without some means, even as an inducement for them to collect together for any purpose. The fact is, they have been greatly corrupted by the traders, in the great competition in trade, which existed here for the past eight years. The Chyennes have wondered that their great father has not sent them something, as a token of regard for their good behaviour, and at the same time remark, that it was only those Indians who were in the habit of plundering the whites that ever get any thing in that way. The above remarks were not made to me, but reported by others. However, I believe it to be the impression of many Indians, and for that reason, I hold it the duty of every officer intrusted with the management of such affairs, to be very particular in the distribution of presents to Indians.

There are many more subjects in regard to this country and its inhabitants of which I would have gladly spoken, but I fear I have already become tedious and tiresome in the length of this report, but that has arisen from the great interest which I feel in every thing which concerns the far west.

I should have written sooner, and oftener, but my isolated position here affords but few opportunities, and even now the time of the departure of this report is very uncertain.

Should anything worthy of notice occur during my journey to the north fork of the Platte, I will write again from that place.

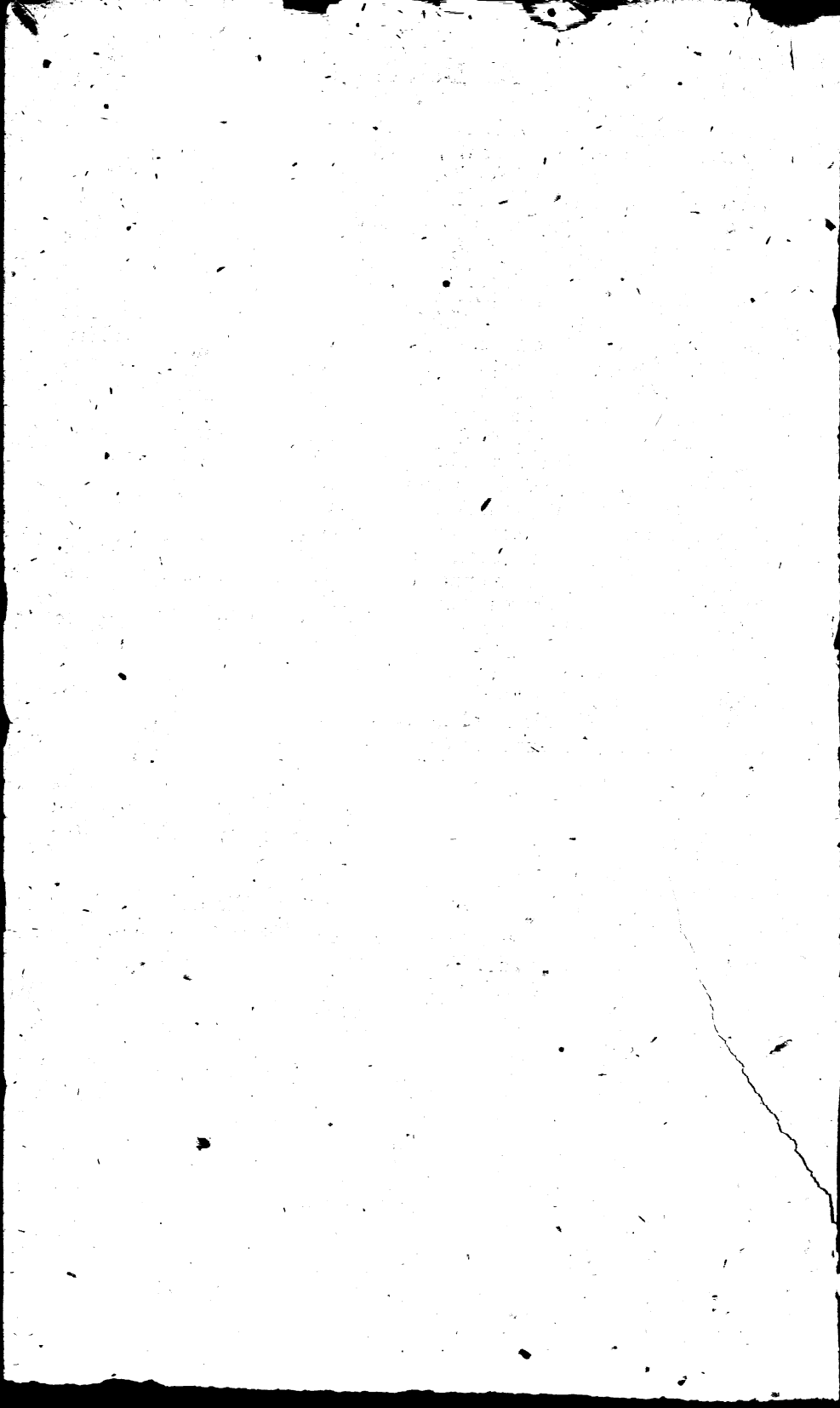
I am now in a state of recovery from a very severe indisposition, which attacked me on my way from Santa Fe to this place, and caused great debilitation and nervousness, which I hope will be an apology for the inaccuracies which may be found in this communication.

I intend to visit St. Louis early in the spring, or as soon as the winter trade is over; at which time I will arrange my accounts. The uncertainty of travel and the dangers of the road have prevented me from sending them with this.

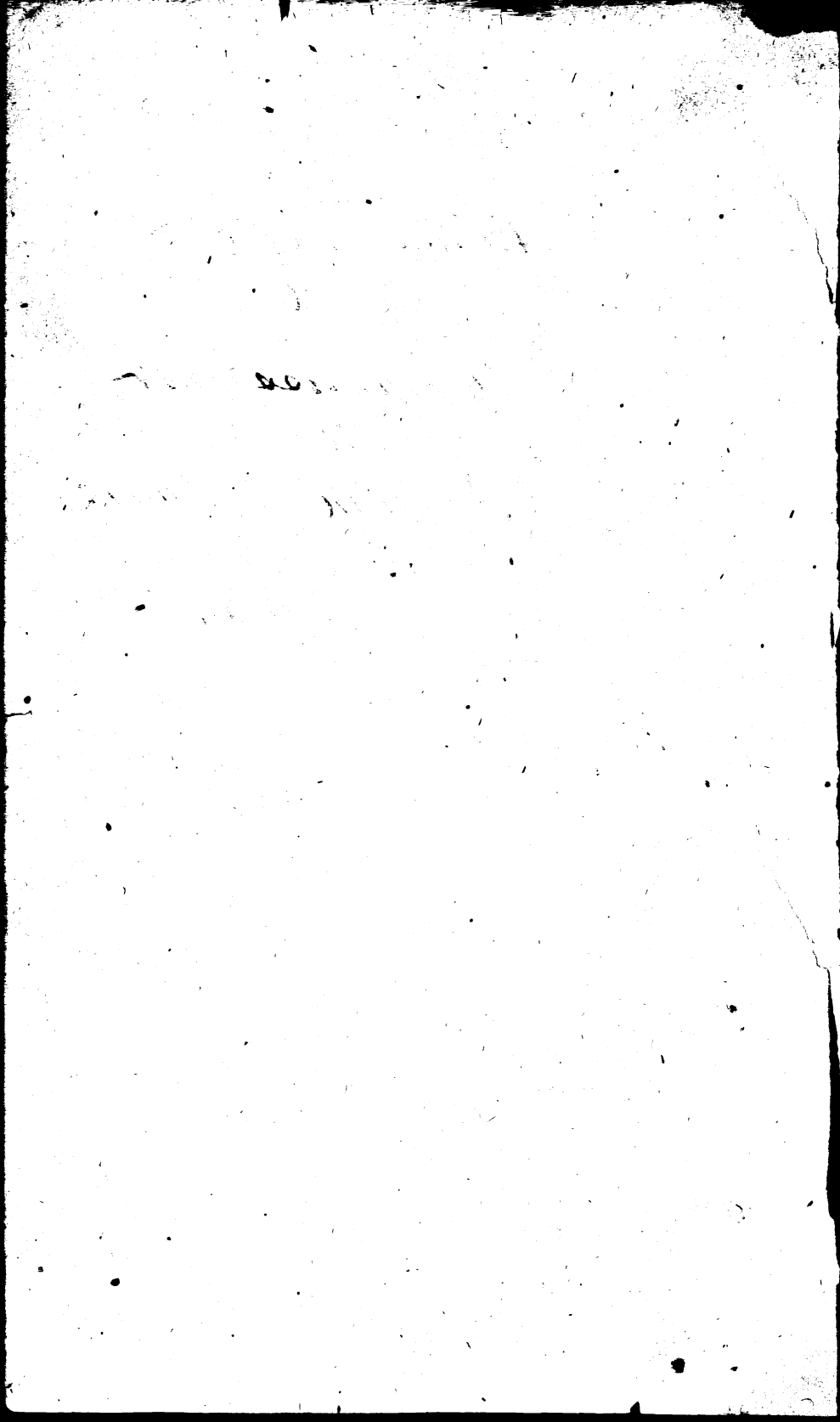
All of which is most respectfully submitted.

THOMAS FITZPATRICK,
Indian agent, Upper Platte and Arkansas.

To THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
*Superintendent Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, Missouri.*



Annual Report
of the
Commissioner
of
Indian Affairs
for
1848.



REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, 1848
Office Indian Affairs, November 30, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to lay before you the usual annual exposition of the condition and affairs of this branch of the public service; the details of which, to a considerable extent, will be found in the accompanying reports and statements of the superintendents, agents, and sub-agents of the Department, and other persons connected with it; some of which are of peculiar interest, and all worthy of perusal—furnishing, as they do, the latest and most authentic information respecting the condition and prospects of the remnants of an interesting people, who once held undisputed sway over the territory we now occupy, but who have gradually melted away before the advance of civilization, or, in broken groups, been swept westward by the pressure and rapid extension of a more intelligent and enterprising race.

While, to all, the fate of the red man has, thus far, been alike unsatisfactory and painful, it has, with many, been a source of much misrepresentation and unjust national reproach. Apathy, barbarism, and heathenism must give way to energy, civilization, and christianity; and so the Indian of this continent has been displaced by the European; but this has been attended with much less of oppression and injustice than has generally been represented and believed. If, in the rapid spread of our population and sway, with all their advantages and blessings to ourselves and to others, injury has been inflicted upon the barbarous and heathen people we have displaced, are we as a nation alone to be held up to reproach for such a result? Where, in the contest of civilization with barbarism, since the commencement of time, has it been less the case than with us; and where have there been more general and persevering efforts, according to our means and opportunities, than those made by us, to extend to the conquered all the superior resources and advantages enjoyed by the conquerors? Of the magnitude and extent of those efforts but little comparatively is generally known.

Stolid and unyielding in his nature, and inveterately wedded to the savage habits, customs, and prejudices in which he has been reared and trained, it is seldom the case that the full blood Indian of our hemisphere can, in immediate juxtaposition with a white population, be brought farther within the pale of civilization than to adopt its vices; under the corrupting influences of which, too

indolent to labor, and too weak to resist, he soon sinks into misery and despair. The inequality of his position in all that secures dignity and respect is too glaring, and the contest he has to make with the superior race with which he is brought into contact, in all the avenues to success and prosperity in life, is too unequal to hope for a better result. The collision is to him a positive evil. He is unprepared and in all respects unfitted for it; and he necessarily soon sinks under it and perishes. It must be recollected, too, that our white population has rapidly increased and extended, and, with a widening contact, constantly pressed upon the Indian occupants of territory necessary for the accommodation of our own people; thus engendering prejudices and creating difficulties which have occasionally led to strife and bloodshed—inevitable between different races under such circumstances—in which the weaker party must suffer. Hence, it is to natural and unavoidable causes, easily understood and appreciated, rather than to wilful neglect, or to deliberate oppression and wrong, that we must in a great measure attribute the rapid decline and disappearance of our Indian population. Cannot this sad and depressing tendency of things be checked, and the past be at least measurably repaired by better results in the future? It is believed they can; and, indeed, it has to some extent been done already, by the wise and beneficent system of policy put in operation some years since, and which, if steadily carried out, will soon give to our whole Indian system a very different and much more favorable aspect.

The policy already begun and relied on to accomplish objects so momentous and so desirable to every Christian and philanthropist is, as rapidly as it can safely and judiciously be done, to colonize our Indian tribes beyond the reach, for some years, of our white population; confining each within a small district of country, so that, as the game decreases and becomes scarce, the adults will gradually be compelled to resort to agriculture and other kinds of labor to obtain a subsistence, in which aid may be afforded and facilities furnished them out of the means obtained by the sale of their former possessions. To establish, at the same time, a judicious and well devised system of manual labor schools for the education of the youth of both sexes in letters—the males in practical agriculture and the various necessary and useful mechanic arts, and the females in the different branches of housewifery, including spinning and weaving; and these schools, like those already in successful operation, to be in charge of the excellent and active missionary societies of the different Christian denominations of the country, and to be conducted and the children taught by efficient, exemplary, and devoted men and women, selected with the approbation of the Department by those societies; so that a physical, intellectual, moral, and religious education will all be imparted together.

The strongest propensities of an Indian's nature are his desire for war and his love of the chase. These lead him to display tact, judgment, and energy, and to endure great hardships, privation, and suffering; but in all other respects he is indolent and inert,

physically and mentally, unless on occasions for display in council, when he not unfrequently exhibits great astuteness and a rude eloquence, evincing no ordinary degree of intellect. But anything like labor is distasteful and utterly repugnant to his feelings and natural prejudices. He considers it a degradation. His subsistence and dress are obtained principally by means of the chase; and if this resource is insufficient, and it be necessary to cultivate the earth or to manufacture materials for dress, it has to be done by the women, who are their "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Nothing can induce him to resort to labor, unless compelled to do so by a stern necessity; and it is only then that there is any ground to work upon for civilizing and Christianizing him. But little, if any, good impression can be made upon him in these respects, so long as he is able freely to roam at large and gratify his two predominant inclinations. Nor can these be subdued in any other way than by the mode of colonization, to which reference has been made. When compelled to face the stern necessities of life and to resort to labor for a maintenance, he in a very short time becomes a changed being; and is then willing, and frequently eager, to receive information and instruction in all that may aid him in improving his condition. It is at this stage that he begins to perceive and appreciate the advantages possessed by the white man, and to desire also to enjoy them; and, if too far advanced in life for mental instruction himself, he asks that it may be provided for his children. Such is the experience in the cases of several of the tribes not long since colonized, who a few years ago were mere nomades and hunters; and, when settled in their new countries, were opposed to labor and to anything like schools or missionaries; but who are now desirous of both the latter for the benefit of their children and themselves, and are becoming prosperous and happy from having learned how to provide a certain and comfortable support for themselves and their families by the cultivation of the soil and other modes of labor. The most marked change, however, when this transition takes place, is in the condition of the females. She who had been the drudge and the slave then begins to assume her true position as an equal; and her labor is transferred from the field to her household—to the care of her family and children. This great change in disposition and condition has taken place, to a greater or less extent, in all the tribes that have been removed and permanently settled west of the Mississippi. It is true, that portions of some of them enjoyed a considerable degree of civilization before they were transplanted; but prior to that event they were retrograding in all respects; while now, they and others who have been colonized and confined within reasonable and fixed limits, are rapidly advancing in intelligence and morality, and in all the means and elements of national and individual prosperity; so that before many years, if we sacredly observe all our obligations towards them, they will have reached a point at which they will be able to compete with a white population, and to sustain themselves under any probable circumstances of contact or connexion with it. If this great end is to be accomplished, however,

material changes will soon have to be made in the position of some of the smaller tribes on the frontier, so as to leave an ample outlet for our white population to spread and to pass towards and beyond the Rocky mountains; else, not only will they be run over and extinguished, but all may be materially injured.

It may be said that we have commenced the establishment of two colonies for the Indian tribes that we have been compelled to remove; one north, on the head waters of the Mississippi, and the other south, on the western borders of Missouri and Arkansas, the southern limit of which is the Red river. The northern colony is intended to embrace the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the upper Mississippi, the Winnebagoes, the Menomonies, such of the Sioux, if any, as may choose to remain in that region, and all other northern Indians east of the Mississippi (except those in the State of New York,) who have yet to be removed west of that river. The southern boundary of this colony will be the Watab river, which is the southern limit of the country of the Winnebagoes, who have removed there from Iowa within the last year. The Menomonies, now residing near Green Bay in Wisconsin, are to be located above and adjoining the Winnebagoes; a treaty having very recently been concluded with them to that effect. Above these, to our northern boundary line, and westward to the Red river of the north, the country is owned by the Chippewas, many of whom now live there, though they still own a large tract east of the Mississippi, computed at 10,743,000 acres, and lying above a line running nearly due east, from opposite the junction of the Crow Wing and Mississippi rivers, to a point about $92^{\circ} 15'$ west longitude; thence due north to the St. Louis river, and down that river to Lake Superior. Many live north of the above line, but, as stated in my last annual report, a considerable number still remain south of it, on lands heretofore ceded by them, which, for reasons given at that time, they should soon be required to leave for their own country. But with reference to the civilization and welfare of these people, it would be a wise, and even necessary measure, to purchase all the lands they own east of the Mississippi, and concentrate them altogether upon those that would still remain to them west of that river. Until this shall have been done, they will continue in so dispersed a condition that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to do anything effective towards their permanent improvement. You are aware that an effort to effect such a purchase was made last year and failed; but it is believed, that if renewed, in connexion with the removal of those on the ceded lands, and the transfer of the agency to the Mississippi from Lapointe, Lake Superior, where it now is, it would be successful. These people and the Menomonies being removed west of the Mississippi, the remaining Indians east of that river to be sent to this colony, would probably not exceed three thousand six hundred. Of the Sioux it is not probable many will remain for any considerable period in the Mississippi region. Wild and untameable, and scattered over an immense extent of country, no effort could concentrate them; and, living wholly by the chase, they will probably follow the buffalo and other

game as it gradually disappears, towards the Rocky mountains; either in the direction of the head waters of the Platte or those of the Missouri river, or both.

If the Kansas river were made the northern boundary of the southern colony there would be ample space of unoccupied territory below it for all the Indians above it that should be included in this colony. But the Delawares; Pottawatomies, and possibly the Kickapoos, who, or nearly all of whom, are just above that river, it would not probably be necessary to disturb. Above these; and on or adjacent to the frontier, are the band of Sacs and Foxes, known as the "Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri," the Iowas, the Ottoes and Missouriias, the Omahas, the Poncas, and the Pawnees. The last mentioned tribe are back some distance from the frontier, on the Platte river, directly on the route to Oregon, and have been the most troublesome Indians to the emigrants to that territory. By the treaty of 1833 they ceded all their lands south of that river, and obligated themselves to remove north of it; but as they are constantly liable to attacks from the Sioux in that direction, those south have never removed. As, however, there will soon be a military force in that region, which can afford them protection from the Sioux, they may properly be compelled at an early day to remove and to keep within their own country; and thus be out of the way of our emigrants. They are so obnoxious to the tribes south that they could not, for the present at least, be colonized with them. They must eventually be driven west or exterminated by the Sioux, who have a strong antipathy to them, unless a better understanding can be effected between them and the southern tribes, which will admit of their being moved down among or in the rear of them. No reasonable amount of military force could prevent their being killed off in detail by the Sioux, if they remain long in their present country. The other tribes mentioned can gradually be removed down to the southern colony, as the convenience of our emigrants and the pressure of our white population may require; which may be the case at no distant day, as the greater portion of the lands they occupy are eligibly located on and near the Missouri river, and from that circumstance, and their superior quality, said to be very desirable. Indeed, it would be a measure of great humanity to purchase out and remove the Omahas and the Ottoes and Missouriias at an early period, particularly the former, who are a very interesting people, being mild and tractable in disposition, and much attached to the whites. Were they in a better position; they might, with proper measures, be easily civilized, and be made the instruments of imparting civilization to others. Their proper position would be with the Osages or Kansas, as they speak nearly if not quite the same language, and are probably of the same primary stock. They are the original owners of the soil, and receive no annuities from the United States; and as they are circumscribed in their hunting expeditions by the Sioux and Pawnees, they are liable at times to destitution and great suffering. The Sioux also not unfrequently attack and murder them in their own country, so that their situation is truly an unfortunate one. Their

country is estimated to contain from five to six millions of acres of valuable land, which could be obtained at this time at a very moderate price; and so tractable is their character, there would be no difficulty in making ample provision out of the purchase money for their civilization and improvement. Reasons of a similar kind exist for buying out and removing at an early period, the Ottos and Missouriias, whose affinities of character and language are said to be with the Ioways. The lands claimed by them are estimated to embrace from two to three millions of acres. These two measures consummated, the Pawnees all removed north of the Platte, and the Sioux of the Missouri restrained from coming south of that river, there would be a wide and safe passage for our Oregon emigrants; and for such of those to California as may prefer to take that route, which I am informed will probably be the case with many.

Eventually, when the Sioux shall have left the Mississippi region, and the Pawnees been displaced in one or other of the ways mentioned, and when the other intervening tribes between the northern and southern colony, shall have been removed to within the latter, an ample outlet of about six geographical degrees will be opened for our population that may incline to pass or expand in that direction; and thus prevent our colonized tribes from being injuriously pressed upon, if not swept away; while to the south of the southern colony there will also be a sufficient outlet for such portion of our population as may take that direction.

In the able and interesting report of that excellent and efficient officer, the superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, he refers to the necessity of providing lands suitable for agricultural purposes, for such of the prairie tribes as have no lands of their own of that character; in order that they may be saved from the perils which threaten them when the resources of the chase, on which they now almost wholly rely, shall have been cut off by the extermination of the buffalo—a circumstance that must ere long occur; and he recommends that lands be obtained from the Omahas and Poncas for that purpose. This would be contrary to the policy I have recommended, and which I think is the correct one, of procuring and keeping open these lands for the egress and expansion of our own population; but aside from this, though pretending to no very accurate knowledge upon the subject, I am induced to believe, from such information as I have been able to obtain, that none of the tribes to which he refers will, or could be induced to incline eastward to the Missouri river; but that they will gradually follow the buffalo towards the Rocky mountains; and southward towards New Mexico, in which direction they may ultimately find a resting place. A considerable portion of the Sioux, and possibly the Pawnees, will probably take the same direction. Indeed, I am informed that there are now over two thousand Sioux living in the region of the head waters of the Platte river, where a few years ago there were none to be found. Such of that tribe as do not migrate in that direction, will, as heretofore stated, probably take their course up the Missouri river, in which direction a suitable spot could no doubt

be found for colonizing them and the other tribes in that quarter, should that ever become practicable. But should these views prove incorrect, suitable locations could no doubt be found among or in the rear of our colonized tribes, for such of those referred to by the superintendent, as might be compelled to come back to our western border to settle.

In order that the exterior organization of this Department may be more generally known and understood, I propose to give a brief outline of it, in connexion with the assignment and distribution of the various tribes over which we exercise any immediate supervision or control, among the different superintendencies, agencies, and sub-agencies. There is but one full superintendent of Indian affairs, but there are two acting superintendents of districts, who are at the same time local agents: the latter is a very imperfect and objectionable arrangement. The position and duties of a superintendent are highly important and responsible, and in many ways entirely incompatible with the local duties of agent. Officers of this grade are indispensable to the Department in the distant administration of its affairs, and in the local application of its policy and measures, according to the varied and varying situation, circumstances, and disposition of the different tribes. By constant and active supervision they can materially aid in preventing or correcting abuses or errors; and however well disposed may be the agents and sub-agents, the presence of the superintendent occasionally, to advise and direct, is of great convenience and assistance. For these and other reasons that might be given, and which on a former occasion I stated at length, superintendents should be free from all local duties as agent for a tribe.

The agent for the Choctaws, who resides in the Choctaw country, is the acting superintendent for what is called in the organization act of June 30th, 1834, the "Western Territory"—a designation much more appropriate than now. This superintendency, which might more properly be denominated the Southwestern Superintendency, embraces the following tribes, viz: The Chickasaws, the Choctaws, the Seminoles, the Creeks, the Cherokees, the Senecas and Shawnees, the Senecas, the Quapaws, and the Osages. The last mentioned tribe, the three immediately preceding, together, and the Seminoles, are respectively in charge of sub-agents, whose salaries are seven hundred and fifty dollars per annum, while the other tribes mentioned are in charge of agents whose salaries are fifteen hundred dollars.

The St. Louis or Northwestern Superintendency, the office of which is located at St. Louis, includes the following tribes, viz:

First. Those on and between the upper Arkansas and Platte rivers, consisting particularly of the Cheyennes, the Arapahoes, and the Sioux that have migrated to the upper Platte, and also such of the wandering tribes as from time to time may be within the country; all of which are in charge of and under the supervision of one agent. Second. The Kansas, the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, Ottawas, Chippewas, the Peorias and Kaskaskias, the Weas and

Piankeshaws, and the Miamies, in charge of one agent. Third. The Shawnees, the Pottawatomies, the Delawares, Stockbridges, Munsees, Christian Indians, and the Kickapoos, in charge of one agent. Fourth. The Wyandots, in charge of a sub-agent. Fifth. The Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri, and Ioways, in charge of a sub-agent. Sixth. The Ottos and Missouriias, the Pawnees, and the Omahas, in charge of an agent. Seventh. The Poncas, the Sioux of the Missouri, the Arickarees, the Minatarees, the Mandans, Cheyennes, the Crows, the Assinaboin, and the Black Feet, in charge of one agent. Eighth. The Sioux of the Mississippi, in charge of a sub-agent. Ninth. The Winnebagoes and the Chippewas of the upper Mississippi, in charge of one agent.

The third superintendency, which is located at Detroit, embraces the Indians within the limits of the State of Michigan, viz: the united tribes of Ottawas and Chippewas, the Chippewas of Saginaw, the Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river, the Pottawatomies of the Huron, and a portion of the Chippewas of Lake Superior; all of which are in charge of an agent, (who is the acting superintendent,) except the last mentioned Indians, and that portion of the Chippewas, of the united bands of Ottawas and Chippewas, living on or near Lake Superior, in the vicinity of the Sault Ste. Marie; which are in charge of a sub-agent.

The following Indians are not within any superintendency, viz: the Chippewas of Lake Superior, which are in charge of a sub-agent; the Menomonies, the Stockbridges, and the Oneidas, in charge of a sub-agent; the several bands of Senecas, and other Indians in the western part of New York, in charge of a sub-agent; and the Indians of Texas, which, so far as the care or supervision of this bureau is concerned, are in charge of a special agent.

Each agency and sub-agency has an interpreter, whose salary is \$300; and where there are different tribes within the same agency or sub-agency, speaking different languages, an interpreter is allowed for each if necessary. Besides the interpreters, there are employed at most of the agencies, under treaty stipulations to that effect, mechanics of various kinds, for the benefit of the Indians; such as blacksmiths, gunsmiths, carpenters, &c.; and, in some cases, farmers and laborers are employed to farm for and instruct them in the art of agriculture.

From the foregoing outline of the distribution and assignment of the different tribes, it will be seen that in some instances a number are within the same agency, and in charge of the same agent. Though some of these tribes are comparatively large, and, in their general disposition and habits, are as peculiar and as different from each other as are almost any of our colonized tribes, they yet live side by side, or near to each other, in peace and harmony; and they are as easily managed and controlled, and their affairs as efficiently conducted, as if they were all one and the same tribe. With good and efficient agents, the same system might be pursued with other tribes, which would admit of the discontinuance of a number of agents and sub-agents, and thus lead to a con-

siderable reduction in the amount now paid for salaries, contingent expenses of agencies, &c. The following is an extract from a report which I had the honor to make upon this subject on the 30th December, 1846, and which will be found in Document No. 70, House of Representatives, 2d session 29th Congress.

“The concentration of the Indians west of the Mississippi, since the act of 1834, (the act organizing the Indian department,) has almost entirely done away with the necessity which then existed, of having separate agents or sub-agents for each separate and distinct tribe or band. When, therefore, two or more tribes or bands are adjacent, between which there is a good understanding, it is believed that their affairs could be as well and satisfactorily, and certainly much more economically, managed by one intelligent and efficient agent, as if there were one agent or sub-agent for each. By this arrangement, there would be not only the difference in the amount of compensation saved, but also the difference in the expense between keeping up the house, office, &c. of one agent, and those of a greater number.”

In another part of that report, it was shown that even with the creation of two additional independent superintendencies, there might, by this plan, combined with a re-adjustment of the rates of compensation, be saved out of the \$29,250 per annum then paid for salaries of superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, the sum of \$11,650; “while the annual saving, in consequence of the reduction in the number of the establishments of the agents and sub-agents, would probably not be very far less.” This *projet* required the action of Congress to carry it into effect, and bills, embodying its essential features have twice passed one of the branches of that body.

The general condition and circumstances of the tribes embraced in the outline given, will be found described in the accompanying reports and statements; but the census and statistics now being taken and collected, in conformity with the fifth section of the act of March 3, 1847, will, in addition to their numbers, according to families, age, and sex, exhibit their actual condition, means, and resources, with a degree of minuteness and accuracy never before attained. This information will be not only of much intrinsic interest, but, properly used, of great practical value in the administration of the affairs of this Department, with reference to the melioration and improvement of the condition and circumstances of the several tribes immediately under our care. That already received has, in a striking manner, developed some of the evils existing in our Indian system, the extent of which could otherwise only be guessed at. The pernicious effects upon the welfare and prosperity of a tribe, of large money annuities, have been painfully demonstrated; so that in all future negotiations for Indian lands, the government will be recreant to its trust, and to all the dictates of humanity, if it do not strenuously endeavor to have as large amounts as possible of the purchase money set apart for such purposes as will have any tendency to elevate and improve the

condition of the tribes with which such negotiations are held—whether in a physical, intellectual, or moral point of view. Nor does its duty in this particular end here: every exertion should also be made to induce those tribes which are now entitled to receive large sums annually, to consent to the application of reasonable portions to purposes of that character. Efforts of this kind have already been made with several tribes, and with an encouraging degree of success. The less an Indian's expectations and resources from the chase, and from the government in the shape of money annuities, the more readily can he be induced to give up his idle, dissolute, and savage habits, and to resort to labor for a maintenance; and thus commence the transition from a state of barbarism and moral depression, to one of civilization and moral elevation.

In consequence of the difficulty in making the Indians comprehend the object of the inquiries, and their superstitious disinclination to furnish information respecting themselves or their affairs, unexpected delays have in some instances occurred in obtaining the particulars desired. The opposition to the measure has not been confined to the less improved tribes, with which it was supposed it would meet with less favor; some of those more advanced in civilization and intelligence seem obstinately to have taken up the impression, that the information is desired for some sinister and improper object, having reference to a change in their present position, or an interference in their domestic concerns. In consequence of this and other circumstances, complete returns have not yet been received, and none for several of the most important tribes. It is hoped, however, that the unfounded and unreasonable objections that have been made will soon be overcome; when it will be in the power of the Department to lay before Congress, in a condensed and classified form, a mass of information more interesting, and of more practical value, than any ever heretofore collected in relation to our Indian tribes.

The act above referred to requires not only a census and statistics of the Indian tribes, but also the collection of such materials as will tend to illustrate their history, present condition, and future prospects. This is a duty which we owe to ourselves, to posterity, to the peculiar and interesting people we have in a great measure displaced, and to the world. It is, however, a work of time; requiring great care and much effort and labor. The field of inquiry is a very wide one, and the reliable materials that have been published to the world, scanty, and incomplete. Besides the vague and imperfect traditions of the Indians themselves, which have to be obtained, compared and analyzed, there is much valuable information to be had from persons yet living, who have spent the greater portion of a long life among different tribes, and made themselves well acquainted with many interesting points in their history, as well as with their habits, manners, customs, observances, &c. Efforts have been made to obtain all such information, as well as to enlist the co-operation of such individuals throughout the

country, as, from a love of philosophical inquiry and investigation, have turned their attention to this highly interesting subject. Much curious and valuable material has already been collected; and when the sources of inquiry shall have been exhausted, the Department will be in possession of a large amount of information, valuable in itself, and of singular interest to all who have been, or hereafter may be, led to study the history or to reflect upon the destiny of the aborigines of this continent.

Since my last annual report, sixty-four Creeks and fifty-two Chickasaws have removed and joined their brethren west of the Mississippi river; and such of those tribes as are yet east, will doubtless soon follow. Sixty-one Miamies have also removed from Indiana, and joined that portion of the tribe which emigrated last year.

The emigration of the Choctaws remaining east of the Mississippi has been very limited; principally in consequence of their being averse to removal during the summer months. Only one hundred and eighteen have been removed; but the business of emigrating them having been thrown open to all persons of a proper character disposed to engage in it, arrangements have been concerted for a large emigration this fall and winter; which, from the latest intelligence received, it is hoped will include nearly, if not quite all, now east of the Mississippi. There is thus a prospect of successfully terminating this tedious and vexatious undertaking, in which a large amount of money has already been expended, and which the government voluntarily assumed at the urgent request of the States in which the Indians remained, especially of Mississippi, where the most of them were, and of which, by her laws they were citizens so long as they chose to continue there. All other means and exertions, compatible with the rights and interests of the Indians, and with the duty and obligations of the government towards them, having been tried without any commensurate or satisfactory degree of success, the present effort should, in my judgment, be regarded as the final one; and if it fail, the government should be considered as absolved from all further obligation in the matter. Every proper inducement will have been held out to influence them to remove; the government cannot compel them to go; and if they shall still persist in remaining, as they have been encouraged to do by a portion of the whites residing in those States, they should not be further harrassed, but be left to the quiet enjoyment of their rights and privileges as citizens. A copy of the instructions under which the present arrangements are in progress, are hereto appended, marked A, B, C, D.

Within the past year, the Pottawatomies, who have heretofore been separated, (the larger portion being in Iowa, and the others on the Osage river,) have completed their removal to their new country on the Kansas river, between the Delawares and Shawnees, where they are now comfortably settled. Thus happily re-united, not only among themselves, but in means and interests, and free from those adverse influences arising out of a contact with a white population, to which those in Iowa were subjected, it is confident-

ly expected, that under the measures and influences which may now be favorably brought to bear upon them for the purpose, they will enter upon a course of improvement, which, in a few years, will result in at least their comparative civilization. Much credit is due to them, not only for their prompt self removal, but for the peaceable and orderly manner in which it was conducted. It was a new feature in our Indian system, to see an entire tribe of Indians quietly organize, and leave their old homes, and peacefully, and without disorder of any kind, remove themselves to a new country, nearly two hundred miles distant from most of them, in conformity with a stipulation to that effect in a treaty which they had made with the government; and bearing their own expenses out of funds set apart for that purpose. The Kansas Indians deserve equal credit, having, since my last annual report, in the same commendable manner, removed themselves from their old country on the Kansas river, to their new, and to them, better location, on the head waters of the Neosho; where they are now well settled, and are already asking for schools and other means of improving their condition and circumstances. The experiment in the case of the Winnebagoes has also been successful; although their emigration from Iowa to their new country on the upper Mississippi was attended with some delay and difficulty; caused, however, by the unauthorized interference of interested white persons, and of a portion of the Sioux that were desirous to have them stop and remain in their country. Under the operation of improper influences, thus brought to bear upon them, a portion of the tribe, after moving some distance on the route, scattered in various directions; the most of them going over to the Missouri river, and to the Menomonic country, near Green Bay, in Wisconsin. The others safely reached their new country, which is admirably suited to them; much of it being well adapted to agricultural purposes, and to a considerable extent interspersed with lakes and streams, abounding with fish and wild rice. Since their arrival, most of those that dispersed have joined them, which, without doubt, the rest will soon do in order to share in the large annuities due to the tribe, in money, goods and provisions.

The removal of this tribe, and of the Pottawatomies, has entirely freed Iowa of her Indian population, which occupied some of the best and most desirable lands in the State, that will now be rapidly settled by our enterprising and industrious citizens. Indeed, so sweeping is the tide of emigration in that quarter, that it is already beginning to break over the northern boundary of the State, towards the rich and fertile lands on and south of the Minnesota, or St. Peters river; which are now owned by the Sioux Indians, and which it is important to acquire at as early a period as possible. There is, probably, no where within our limits a more desirable section of country than this—whether for soil or climate; and if opened to our hardy and enterprising pioneers, it would soon become densely settled with a prosperous and thriving white population. To the Sioux it is of no use whatever, as the game has almost all been destroyed; and from their present character and habits,

which have already been described, they cannot be induced to abandon the chase and their warlike propensities, and to any profitable extent, resort to agriculture, or any other species of labor. Being very mischievous and daring in disposition, it is necessary to keep a considerable space between them and our expanding population, in order to prevent difficulties which might lead to hostilities and bloodshed. For these, and other reasons that might be mentioned, sound policy would seem to dictate that an effort should be made, at an early day, to purchase this country of the Sioux, to defray the expenses of which an appropriation of about five thousand dollars will probably be necessary.

Wisconsin, like Iowa, may also soon be relieved from the Indian population within her limits. The Brothertowns were made citizens by an act of March 3rd, 1839; and the Stockbridges by one of March 3rd, 1843, which, however, was modified by the act of August 6th, 1846, providing for the return of such as so desired to their original position as Indians, and for a division of the lands of the band between the latter and those who prefer remaining citizens. The difficulties which prevented the execution of the latter act, were fully stated in my report of last year, and have not since been removed; nor do they seem likely to be. Under these circumstances, and as the position of these people is a very unhappy one, in consequence of the dissensions between the two parties into which they are divided, propositions have been made to them, for such as do not wish to avail themselves of the privilege of citizenship, to surrender to the government, on just and equitable terms, their interest in the lands, and to join their brethren in the west, who are living there prosperous and happy. These fair and liberal propositions, it is hoped, will be accepted. The small band of Oneidas, who were originally from New York, though never formally made citizens, may, from their position and circumstances, their civilization and intelligence, be substantially so regarded. A portion of the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, and the Menomonies, may therefore not improperly be considered as the only Indian population now in Wisconsin. The Chippewas, as heretofore stated, are remaining by sufferance on lands which have been ceded to the United States, and from which, looking only to their own benefit, they should soon be required to remove. The Menomonies, like all Indians unprepared for such a position, have for some years been suffering from those untoward circumstances necessarily arising out of a close contact with a rapidly increasing white population; to which, in turn, the vicinage of the Indians has also been a great disadvantage. For their own interest and welfare, as well as for the prosperity of that part of Wisconsin, it has for some time been an object of much importance to induce them to cede their lands, and to remove where they could reap the full benefit of the policy of the government for the civilization and improvement of our Indian tribes. This important object, which unfavorable circumstances and influences have heretofore prevented being effected, has at length been attained; a treaty having recently been negotiated with them by myself, in their country,

under instructions of the 14th of September last, by which they cede all their lands in Wisconsin, containing about 4,000,000 of acres, and agree to remove to those set apart for them on the Upper Mississippi, which are in all respects well suited to them; where, with proper care and attention, they must thrive and prosper; and where they and their neighbors and former associates and friends, the Winnebagoes, may be made the instruments of preventing, in a great measure, the sanguinary hostilities, arising out of the bitter and hereditary feuds existing between the Chippewas and Sioux, that so frequently occur between those two tribes. This treaty may be regarded as having substantially completed the extinction of the Indian title to all lands east of the Mississippi river, south of Lake Superior, subject to the jurisdiction and control of the general government.

Since the 4th of March, 1845, treaties have been negotiated with the following tribes, viz: the Comanche and other wild tribes of Texas, the Cherokees, the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, the Pillager band of Chippewas, the Kansas, the Potawatomies, the Winnebagoes, and the Menomonies. The first was a treaty of peace and friendship, for the purpose of giving some definiteness to our relations and intercourse with the various tribes within the boundaries of Texas; and the object of the second was to heal the bitter internal dissensions by which the Cherokees had so long been afflicted, and to provide for the settlement of all matters at issue between them and the United States: By the remaining treaties about eighteen and a half millions of acres of land were surrendered to the government, of which about two millions one hundred thousand acres have been assigned to other tribes as permanent homes; about two millions nine hundred thousand acres are held in reserve for a similar purpose; and the remainder, about thirteen and a half millions of acres, in the States of Wisconsin and Iowa, will now come into market and soon be occupied by a white population. This large extent of territory was obtained at a cost of about \$1,842,000, of which \$150,000 was the value of other lands assigned the Indians, and the balance was a consideration in money, a liberal portion of which was set apart for beneficial objects, and the remainder is to be paid in a series of years as annuities.

These treaties were all made without granting a single reservation, without assuming a dollar of any Indian indebtedness, and where removal was necessary, they provided for its being accomplished by the Indians themselves, which experience has shown can be done with less trouble and expense than by any of the modes heretofore adopted by the government. The Department has thus rid itself in these cases of three fertile sources of perplexity and embarrassing controversy, if not of corruption and fraud.

There has also been submitted to this office, a treaty concluded on the 8th of August last with the Pawnee Indians by the military authorities, for the acquisition of Grand Island in the Platte river, and a strip of country on the north side of that river some sixty miles in length, which I understand is intended for military purposes,

and where one of the line of posts on the route to Oregon is to be established. In this treaty the Pawnees pledge themselves to fidelity and friendship towards the United States, that they will not molest or injure the persons or property of our citizens, nor make war upon other Indians; and that, in all cases of difficulty, they will abide by the arbitration and directions of the President.

The last clause of the first section of the act making appropriations for the service of the Indian department, approved 29th July last, (pamphlet laws, page 99,) appropriated five thousand dollars "for the removal of the Catawba tribe of Indians, now in the limits of North Carolina, to the Indian country west of the Mississippi, with the consent of said tribe," no part of which sum is to be expended, however, "until the President shall first obtain a home for them among some of the tribes west of the Mississippi river, with their consent, and without any charge upon the government." The Department was without any information whatever in relation to these Indians, but supposing from their locality and former probable association to some extent with the Cherokees, that they might prefer a home among them, a letter was addressed, soon after the passage of the act, to the authorities of that tribe, to ascertain whether they would receive the Catawbas on the terms prescribed. Subsequently, information was obtained that they desired to join the Chickasaws, who had once invited them to do so; and a letter, similar to that to the Cherokees, was addressed to that tribe through the government agent. No answer to either communication has yet been received, though sufficient time has not elapsed for one from the Chickasaws. Every further necessary effort will promptly be made to carry out the law according to its tenor.

The fourth section of the same act required the number and names of the Cherokees in North Carolina, at the date of the treaty of New Echota, May 23, 1836, who have not removed west of the Mississippi, nor received the commutation for removal and subsistence allowed by that treaty, to be ascertained and reported to the Secretary of the Treasury, with reference to the amount of that commutation being set apart for their benefit, and interest thereon at six per cent. from the above date being paid over to them. The Department was embarrassed by the circumstance of no appropriation having been made to defray the expenses of this measure, in consequence of which it had no means of compensating any person to execute the duty. One of the gentlemen of this office, possessed of considerable information respecting the Indians in question, having however volunteered to perform the service, and on his own individual account to make arrangements for the amount of his expenses, until an appropriation therefor could be obtained of Congress, the Department, being desirous for the prompt fulfilment of the law, consented to the arrangement. He has but recently returned, after having completed the business, and the required report will in a short time be made to the Secretary of the Treasury, to enable him to fulfil the other provisions of the act. An item has been inserted in the estimates that have been submitted, for an appropriation of four hundred dollars, to reimburse

the expenses necessarily incurred by the person referred to in the execution of the law.

As required by the sixth section of the act in question, a commissioner was duly appointed to issue certificates for the amounts allowed on the claims against the Pottawatomie Indians, examined and adjudicated by General William B. Mitchell, in 1840. He was furnished with the necessary instructions and documents to aid and guide him in the execution of the duty, upon which he is presumed to be now engaged.

Pursuant to the determination announced in the last annual report, the annuities of most of the tribes have this year been paid semi-annually; and generally, it is believed, much to their interest and advantage. The Department has seen no reason to change its views on this subject. From various causes, inconsistent with and opposed to the true interests and welfare of the Indians, opposition to the measure was expected, but has not been realized, to the extent anticipated; and the policy should be continued with most if not all the tribes, whose annuities are sufficiently large to admit of a division of them being made with advantage.

The per capita mode of paying annuities has been attended with the happiest effects. It prevents speculation and extortion being practised upon the Indians, through the means of national credits, the benefits of which—if so pernicious a system can be attended with benefits—enure principally to the chiefs and their friends and favorites, to the injustice and wrong of the mass of the common Indians, while it gives to every one a knowledge of his just rights, and secures them to him. In the whole course of our Indian policy there has never been a measure productive of better moral effects. The Indians generally are much gratified with the change and grateful to the government for it; and it has secured their confidence and respect to a greater extent, probably, than was ever before possessed. Such being the case, it will be the duty of the government rigidly to adhere to the policy.

Time sufficient has not yet elapsed to test the expectations entertained as to the good results of the new regulations on the subject of granting licenses to trade in the Indian country, a copy of which accompanied my annual report of last year. They have however led to a more rigid and necessary supervision of the whole system, which must result in the correction of many of the abuses which had crept into it. The Department takes to itself but little credit for issuing them, for they are only what a proper compliance with the law and the rights and interests of the Indians required.

One of the greatest evils connected with the Indian trade heretofore, was the reckless system of national credits which prevailed among the tribes receiving annuities from the government, and of which those annuities were the basis. When payable they were generally absorbed by the debts due to the traders, and not unfrequently large balances were left, or alleged to be left, unpaid. There was generally little or nothing remaining for distribution among the individuals of the tribe, to aid them in supplying themselves with what was requisite for their maintenance and comfort

during the winter; or where balances were left, under the old system of paying the annuities into the hands of the chiefs, they and their friends participated most largely if not exclusively in them, as they had done in the credits, which were generally obtained on the authority of the chiefs. The mass of the Indians were thus wronged and robbed of their just rights, while no part of the very large annuities received by many of the tribes, could be obtained for any purposes of general utility and benefit. This corrupt and ruinous system has been broken up by the adoption of the *per capita* mode of payment, and the inflexible determination of the Department to recognize no further indebtedness on the part of the Indians; regarding all matters of account between them and white men as individual and private transactions, with which the government would have nothing to do.

When the instructions of August 30th, 1847, (a copy of which accompanied my report of last year,) were prepared, directing the annuities to be distributed and paid per capita, in conformity with the act of March 3rd, 1847, it was believed that there were few if any debts which could legitimately and properly be regarded as of a national character; the liabilities being incurred by individuals for their own personal benefit or that of their families. But as representations had been made that debts of that description did exist, which the new mode of payment would prevent being liquidated by the chiefs out of the annuities, and thus wrong and injustice be done to those to whom they were owing, it was provided in the instructions that all such claims might be transmitted to the Department, in order that the President might be able to ascertain what should justly be considered as being of a national character, and to decide what course should be pursued in regard to them. There have accordingly been submitted thirty-three claims against different tribes, amounting, in the aggregate, to \$162,908 01, nearly the whole of which, viz: \$157,684 22, is against the Pottawatomies, the Miamies, and the Sacs and Foxes—tribes receiving annuities more than sufficient for their actual wants, and who, for years, on receiving them, have paid large amounts for debts, over and above the enormous sum of \$721,066 34, which, during the last six years, has been specially set apart and appropriated, with the consent of the government, for liabilities of that character urged against those three tribes. It certainly seems incredible how, in any just and proper system of trade, such large balances could have accumulated against them beyond the immense sums that have been paid by and for them.

Annexed (marked E) is a schedule of the claims that have been presented, showing the result of a preliminary examination of them in this office; from which it will be perceived that some of them have heretofore been fully considered and rejected both by the Department and the President, and are not therefore entitled to a reconsideration; that others are for alleged depredations committed by the Indians, which cannot be included with ordinary debt claims, because a specific course is prescribed in regard to them by the 17th section of the act of June 30th, 1834, regulating trade and intercourse

with the Indians, while in none is there satisfactory evidence that the articles charged for were actually sold or furnished, or that the charges, which in many cases seem extravagant, are reasonable and just. It will further be seen that the charges are generally against individual Indians, and would therefore seem to be individual and not national liabilities; and that there is great diversity in the amounts, so that great inequality and injustice would result from their being paid out of the common funds. As the claims now stand, it is impossible to make any safe decision in regard to them, short of rejecting the whole; and under the circumstances, the best, and probably only practicable mode of making any satisfactory and final disposition of them, would be for Congress to authorize the appointment of a commissioner to investigate them on the spot, with power to take testimony and examine witnesses, in order to ascertain satisfactorily how far they should justly be regarded as national or individual liabilities whether the charges are just and reasonable, and all other facts and circumstances which should be taken into consideration in making a final decision upon them.

The law of March 3rd, 1847, imposing additional penalties and restrictions upon the crime of introducing spirituous liquors into the Indian country, and trafficking in them with the Indians, has been attended with the most salutary and beneficial results; though this great evil still continues to exist to a frightful extent. Some of the semi-civilized tribes, perceiving its ruinous effects, and appreciating the anxiety of the government to put a stop to it, have themselves, in the most commendable spirit, passed severe laws upon the subject; but it can never effectually be checked until the States adjoining the Indian country come forward and co-operate in the general effort against this unholy and iniquitous traffic, by passing stringent laws, restraining the evil disposed among their citizens on the frontier from engaging in it with the Indians. If this were done, and authority were given to the Department to punish the Indians themselves, in the manner recommended in the report of the superintendent at St. Louis, for their participation in it, this moral pestilence would soon be driven from the confines of the Indian country, which would be followed by the dawn of a brighter day upon the condition and destiny of our colonized Indians.

The general deportment of the more civilized tribes during the year has been most commendable; and the influence of their good example upon their less advanced and less fortunate brethren cannot but be salutary and beneficial. Indeed, they appear of late to have considerably improved in their general temper and disposition, especially those with whom we have treaty stipulations, and who receive annuities from the United States, which they have been made to understand are liable for any outrages or injuries they commit, whether upon our own citizens or upon each other. Occurrences of this kind have been less frequent during the past year than heretofore. But two of any consequence are known to have taken place—one, an attack by the Sioux on a steamboat, on the upper Missouri river, engaged in a trading expedition, in which a

white man, attached to the boat, was killed; and the other, an attack by the Iowas upon a party of Pawnees, in which some 12 of the latter were slain and scalped. The Indians alleged that they were instigated to the first by white persons in their country, supposed to be rivals in trade with those whose goods were on board the boat. A further report in relation to the causes which led to it, is soon expected, and, when received, the Department will be better advised as to the measures which should be adopted to punish the really guilty parties, and to prevent such outrages in future. The attack of the Iowas upon the Pawnees was unprovoked and wanton; and their annuities were directed to be withheld until they had made the most satisfactory reparation of which the case admitted. They accordingly entered into an agreement with the Pawnees to pay them eight hundred dollars out of their present year's annuity, which was satisfactory, and both parties bound themselves hereafter to submit all cases of dispute or difficulty between them to the President, and to abide by his decision.

The making of the annuities of a tribe liable for such acts of misconduct, has no doubt a restraining effect; but of itself, is not sufficient among the less civilized tribes. Their natural propensities are warlike, and success in war is the principal and most ready mode of obtaining distinction and power; and hence it is difficult, and often impossible, for the chiefs and the well disposed of a tribe to restrain the restless and ambitious from hostile aggressions upon Indians of other tribes. This can be done only by the prompt and rigorous interposition of the government; and it is strongly recommended by those whose judgment and experience are worthy of entire reliance, that power should be given to the Department in all such cases to arrest the guilty parties, and to inflict some proper punishment upon them, according to the nature and extent of the offence. Until those immediately concerned in such outrages, are made severely to feel that they are liable to be attended with consequences of a humiliating and painful character, they cannot be effectually checked. Where chiefs are implicated, they should be broke and degraded; and all concerned should be punished with confinement and hard labor at some of the military posts. Such a course of policy, rigidly pursued, would soon put an end to tribal as well as intestine wars.

Though most of the expenditures in this branch of the public service are in their objects and amounts specifically defined and fixed by law or treaty stipulations, so that there is but little scope for the exercise of executive discretion, the estimates recently submitted of the appropriations required for the next fiscal year, exhibit a reduction in amount compared with those of last year; whilst both are considerably less than those for the four preceding years, which averaged \$1,218,591.

The amount of those of last year was.....	\$392,134 68
Those presented this year amount to.....	857,473 45
Difference.....	<hr/> \$34,661 23

This result has been attained only by the most rigid supervision, for some time past, of the expenditures for such objects as are in any way subject to the discretion or control of the Department; and by cutting off all those which could possibly be dispensed with, without manifest injury to the service. Appended (marked F.) is a copy of a circular issued a short time since, imposing additional responsibilities and restrictions in reference to expenses of a contingent nature, which it is expected will lead to still further economy in the disbursements of that character.

The policy announced in my report for 1846, of surrendering to the Treasury all balances of two years' standing, not needed for the current expenditures, in order that they may be carried to the surplus fund and the appropriations cancelled, continues to be rigidly adhered to. This not only produces a greater degree of conformity between the amounts of the estimates and expenditures, but as the Department is compelled, when means are necessary for the objects for which the balances carried to the surplus fund were intended, to apply to Congress for new appropriations, it keeps that body better advised of the expenditures of the Department, and enables it to exercise a greater degree of supervision over them. The result of this policy, in reference to the balances dispensed with, has been as follows:—

Amount designated to go to the surplus fund in 1846,	\$1,096,564	81
Do do do 1847,	74,588	52
Do do do 1848,	157,374	37
	<hr/>	
	1,328,527	70
	<hr/>	

This system necessarily increases the yearly estimates to the extent that the old balances could be used; but this is far better than that those balances should be retained, and the estimates lessened accordingly, and a delusive view be thus presented to Congress of the probable amount of expenditures in the next succeeding year.

The accumulation of large amounts in the hands of disbursing agents has always been considered one of the most fruitful sources of malfeasance in the public service; leading, as it frequently does, to speculations with the public funds, and eventually to defalcations. The special attention of this office continues to be directed to this subject. As stated last year, the large sum of \$284,849 91, which had accumulated in the hands of the various agents, was withdrawn therefrom and restored to the Treasury; and the remittances are now so arranged and regulated, that they never have in their possession any thing beyond what is almost immediately required for expenditure.

Tables G and H are appended to show the amounts invested in stocks of various States and of the United States, for the benefit of several of the tribes, and the annual income therefrom; and also the amounts not invested but held in trust, and interest thereon annually paid, by the government.

In my report of last year, I noticed the peculiar situation of

certain Indian reservations in the State of Illinois, which had been set apart by treaty for the use and benefit of individual Indians, without vesting in them the fee, and which they could not therefore sell, as in other cases; but the act of the 9th of March last authorised them to do so, with the approval of the President. Regulations prescribing the conditions of such approval were adopted and widely circulated; but, so far, only four cases have been perfected in accordance therewith and approved. A large number of claims, by purchase, to other reservations, under various treaties, have been examined during the past year, of which upwards of fifty, having been perfected according to the regulations of the Department, have been confirmed.

Of reservations under treaties prior to 1830, about sixty remain untransferred, though about half of them are claimed by purchases which have not been confirmed, because the prerequisites thereto have not been complied with. By subsequent treaties, (principally those with the Choctaws, Creeks, and Chickasaws, of 1830, 1832, and 1834,) upwards of nine thousand reservations were set apart for individual Indians; the greater portion of which have been sold by the reservees, and the sales approved. The investigation and settlement of these cases has imposed upon this office a vast amount of labor and difficulty, there being many cases of fraud, and numerous contests between opposing claimants, which rendered necessary the greatest care and caution. Those remaining unsettled are generally now in such a situation that they may soon be disposed of; and as the evil and corrupt policy of granting reservations in Indian treaties has been discontinued, this tedious and embarrassing class of business may be entirely closed up at an early day, and the time and attention required by it be profitably devoted to the other important and increasing duties of the office.

Under the acts of August 3rd, 1842, and August 6th, 1846, there have been adjudicated three thousand eight hundred and thirty-two claims, including those of children, of that class of the cases arising under the 14th article of the Choctaw treaty of 1830, for which reservations could not be assigned in accordance with the specific provisions of that treaty, and for which those laws authorized the granting of scrip to the claimants; one half only of which was to be issued to them—the other half being required to be funded by the act of March 3rd, 1845, and on which interest, at five per cent., is payable to the parties, commencing on their arrival in the country of their brethren west of the Mississippi river. Of the half deliverable to the claimants, there has been issued a portion equal to 330,840 acres of land. The remainder is in the hands of the agent of the Choctaws west of the Mississippi, ready to be issued to the Indian claimants as soon as they shall have removed there, it being withheld till then, in accordance with the decision of the President of September 25th, 1847. (See appendix, B.) The whole amount of the scrip awarded on this class of claims is equal to one million four hundred thousand four hundred and eighty acres of land; one half of which only, however, will be absorbed by the unfunded portion of the scrip.

An increasing interest continues to be everywhere manifested in the cause of education. Many of the tribes which have heretofore refused to permit the introduction of schools into their country, are now coming forward and asking for their establishment; and some of them are even offering to appropriate a portion of their own means to the promotion of this great object. This gratifying change in their sentiments and views, has been brought about, in a great measure, by the system which has been pursued for some time, of imparting a knowledge of agriculture and the mechanic arts with that of letters, and the efficient co-operation of the different missionary societies in the efforts of the Department.

The number of schools in the Indian country has increased more rapidly during the past than in any preceding year, whilst the attendance and deportment of the scholars have been far more constant and exemplary than before. It appears from the reports made to this office, that there are now in successful operation among the different tribes sixteen manual labor institutions, at which are maintained and educated eight hundred and nine scholars; of which five hundred and seventy-seven are males, and two hundred and thirty-two females; and eighty-seven boarding and other schools, with two thousand eight hundred and seventy-three scholars—two thousand and seventy-three males, and eight hundred females. These schools are represented to be supplied with good and competent teachers, and to be otherwise in a prosperous and highly satisfactory condition. With the efforts of the government and of the various religious and philanthropic societies of the United States thus united, the blessings and advantages of this great moral enterprise, worthy of the age and of the country, may be extended to the whole of our aboriginal race.

There are also now under contract, and in progress of establishment, seven more large manual labor schools: one among the Chickasaws, two among the Creeks, one among the Miamies, two among the Pottawatomies, and one among the Kansas. The aggregate sum set apart by these tribes for the buildings and improvements is \$34,000, and that for their annual endowment and maintenance about \$26,000; which sums are in addition to the amount that is to be furnished by the missionary societies under whose care they will, in a great measure, be placed.

The Chickasaws are not disposed to stop with the establishment of one institution. They have recently authorized the Department to make arrangements for two more of the same description; and in a spirit of liberality that might be advantageously imitated elsewhere, have appropriated, from the interest arising from their stock investments, the sum of \$12,000 for the buildings, and a like amount annually for their maintenance and support. And the Creeks, unwilling to be surpassed by their neighbors in their appreciation of the advantages arising from the education of their children, have determined in council to apply the whole proceeds of the fund realized from the sale of their orphan lands, which was invested in stocks, to a similar purpose.

The Choctaws have not only made provisions for the maintenance of eight large boarding schools in their own country, but they recently appropriated and set apart the interest arising from certain moneys which they have invested in stocks of the United States, for the instruction of such of their youth as, at the annual examinations of their own schools, may appear to evince the most promise and aptitude for study, in the various branches of a classical and scientific education. In pursuance of this policy, they sent on, during the last summer, to the care of this Department, five very interesting and promising boys, who have been accordingly entered at Delaware College, and who, although never before out of their own country, were found sufficiently advanced after a few months preparation for admission into the freshman class, and where they have since, according to the report of the learned and distinguished president of that institution, (appendix I,) "maintained their standing, manifesting mental capacity, industry and self-denying application fully equal to any of their associates."

The schools in the Cherokee nation are under the supervision and control of their own authorities, and are shown by the report of the superintendent to the principal chief, a copy of which has just been received at this office, to be in a highly flourishing condition.

In the support and management of this important and extensive system, there is nothing whatever drawn from the Treasury of the United States beyond the permanent annual appropriation of ten thousand dollars for "the civilization of Indians;" which, in order to afford the same advantages to tribes not possessed of means of their own, and as a matter of philanthropy and sound policy, should, in my opinion, be increased to fifty thousand dollars.

The law establishing the territorial government of Oregon omitted to provide for the appointment of any agents in that interesting portion of our country. The President, however, pursuant to that provision of the law of June 30th, 1834, organizing the department of Indian affairs, which authorizes him to employ a competent number of sub-agents to reside at such places as he may direct, appointed three persons who have long resided in Oregon, and were represented to be well acquainted with the location and peculiar characteristics of the various tribes in that region, to act in that capacity, until more satisfactory arrangements can be made. The distribution of their duties and the boundaries of their respective agencies, have been left to the governor, who is by law the superintendent of Indian affairs in the territory, and to whom the necessary and usual instructions have been forwarded.

The fortunate termination of the war with Mexico, and the enlargement of our boundaries by the acquisition of California and New Mexico, will increase the number of Indians in the United States, and require the appointment of additional agents for the proper management of the affairs of this Department. The knowledge possessed by this office of the character, habits and location, of the various tribes within these territories, is too limited to justify it in making any specific recommendation as to the measures which should be adopted at this time. The extension over them of the

laws regulating our intercourse with the other Indians of the United States, and authority and means to appoint and maintain a suitable number of agents, will enable the Department to make such suggestions next year, for the consideration of the President and of Congress, as will lead to some more definite and satisfactory action on the subject.

From the various reports which have been received from Major Neighbours, the special and efficient agent of the United States in Texas, (copies of which are annexed,) it appears that peaceful and friendly relations with the numerous and warlike tribes of that State have generally been maintained. It may be, however, that this gratifying result is to be attributed, in some measure, to the large military force that has been kept on the frontier, and by which the whites as well as the Indians have been restrained from those acts of aggression which so frequently terminate in violence. Your attention has been called, in the two last reports from this office, to the peculiar situation of these Indians, and to the anomalous character of their relations to the general government. Texas, on coming into the Union, expressly reserved the right to, and exclusive jurisdiction over, all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within her limits. The existing laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, having been limited to certain geographical boundaries, and never having been expressly extended over Texas, are not believed to be in force in that State. The Department has therefore no power to prevent the settlement of disorderly white persons among the Indians, the introduction and sale of spirituous liquors, or the numerous other causes of strife and difficulty; and hence the duties of the agent have thus far been confined to such persuasive influences as he could bring to bear during his intercourse with the chiefs of the different tribes. By the 11th article of the treaty with the republic of Mexico, it will be perceived that the United States stipulate and agree to restrain all incursions of Indians from our territories into Mexico, for whatever purpose the same may be made, and when such incursions cannot be prevented, to punish and exact indemnity therefor, with the same diligence and energy as if they were meditated or committed within our territory and against our own people. Some legislation will be necessary for this purpose; and a proper observance of our stipulations with that republic, as well as the peace and safety of our own citizens residing on this new and extensive frontier, calls for such action as may be deemed requisite, at the earliest possible day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

DOCUMENTS

ACCOMPANYING ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
FOR THE YEAR 1848.

- A, B, C and D. Instructions in relation to removal of Choctaw Indians remaining east of the Mississippi.
- E. Abstract of preliminary examination of debt claims against various Indian tribes.
- F. Instructions enforcing economy in expenditures of a contingent character.
- G and H. Statements of moneys invested and held in trust for various Indian tribes.
- I. Report of Rev. James P. Wilson, president of Delaware college, in relation to Indian youths in that institution.
- No. 1. Report of Thomas H. Harvey, superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis.
- No. 2. Report of R. W. Cummins, agent for the Shawnees, Pottawatomies, Delawares, Stockbridges, Munsees, Kickapoos, and the Christian Indians, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 3. Report of J. S. Rains, agent for the Kansas, Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, Ottawas, Chippewas, Peorias and Kaskaskias, Weas and Piankeshaws, and the Miamies, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 4. Report of J. E. Fletcher, agent for the Winnebagoes, Chippewas of the Mississippi, and a portion of the Mississippi Sioux, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 5. Report of John Miller, agent for the Pawnees, Omahas, and the Ottoes and Missouriis, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 6. Report of G. C. Matlock, agent for the Indians of the upper Missouri, viz: the Poncas, Sioux, Arickarees, Minatarees, Mandans, Cheyennes, Crows, Assinaboins, and Blackfeet.
- No. 7. Report of Thomas Fitzpatrick, agent for the Indians on and between the upper Arkansas and Nebraska rivers, embracing Sioux, Cheyennes, Arapahoos, and other wandering tribes.
- No. 8. Report of R. G. Murphy, sub-agent for the Sioux of the Mississippi, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 9. Report of A. J. Vaughan, sub-agent for the Iowas and the Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.

- No. 10. Report of Richard Hewit, sub-agent for the Wyandots.
- No. 11. Report of S. M. Rutherford, acting superintendent of "western territory," and agent for the Choctaws, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 12. Report of R. C. S. Brown, agent for the Cherokees, and missionary reports for that agency.
- No. 13. Report of James Logan, agent for the Creeks, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 14. Report of A. M. M. Upshaw, agent for the Chickasaws, and missionary report for that agency.
- No. 15. Report of B. A. James, sub-agent for the Senecas, the Senecas and Shawnees, and the Quapaws, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 16. Report of J. M. Richardson, sub-agent for the Osages, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 17. Report of W. A. Richmond, acting superintendent for the district of Michigan, and agent for the Ottawas and Chippewas of Saginaw, Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river, and the Pottawatomies of the Huron, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 18. Report of James Ord, sub-agent for the Chippewas in the vicinity of the Sault Ste. Marie, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 19. Report of J. S. Livermore, sub-agent for the Chippewas of Lake Superior, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 20. Report of A. G. Ellis, sub-agent for the Menomonies, Stockbridges, and Oneidas in Wisconsin, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 21. Report of R. H. Shankland, sub-agent for the Seneca and other Indians in New York, and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 22. Reports of R. S. Neighbors, special agent for the Indians in Texas.

APPENDIX.

A.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, October 9, 1847.

SIR: The general government having assumed the obligation of relieving the States of the Choctaw Indians yet remaining east of the Mississippi river, so far as they can be induced to remove, and thereby rendered itself liable to the heavy expense, the subject of the best modes of consummating that obligation has been one of no little difficulty and anxiety. The system of removal by contract has been tried, under what were considered favorable circumstances, and, in effect, failed; for, during the long period of over two years and a half, under this system, only about half of the estimated number of Indians remaining east (7,000) were removed. The contract expired some time since, and it became a question of much moment, whether the same system should be continued, or whether some other mode could not be adopted, by which more rapid progress could be made, with the same or less expense. In anticipation of this difficulty, your predecessor, who was distinguished for his sound, practical judgment, and whose experience in the business was very great, was written to on the 3d of June last, and requested to communicate his views on the subject, to aid the Department in coming to a correct determination. His sudden and lamented death prevented our having the benefit of his advice. The late contract having expired, and all operations having ceased, it was necessary to come to some determination upon the subject; and, after much anxious reflection, it has been concluded that the best course to be pursued, and, probably, under the circumstances, almost the only justifiable one, is for the government to take the business directly into its own hands, and endeavor to remove the Indians through the instrumentality and exertions of agents of its own selection and appointment. The President has, therefore, ordered that the whole business be committed to the management of yourself, aided by such assistants as may be requisite for its prompt and economical accomplishment. A copy of his decision is enclosed.

Thomas C. Stuart, esq., has been appointed assistant superintendent, to have the immediate and active management of the operations east of the Mississippi river, under your directions and the instructions of this office. He has been required to give bond in the sum of five thousand dollars, and satisfactory sureties for the faithful performance of his duties, and that such sums of money as you may find it necessary to place in his hands are properly accounted for, though it is desirable that all the expenditures shall, as far as practicable, be made by yourself. This appoint-

ment was made because the accumulation of the business of your superintendency and agency, in consequence of the sickness and death of Major Armstrong, and your important current duties in both situations, particularly at this season, would prevent, at least for a time, your giving to the business the immediate and active exertions on the spot which are requisite. When you shall have been able so to arrange your other duties as to admit of your giving to this your active exertions both east and west of the Mississippi, the services and expense of the principal assistant may, it is believed, be dispensed with. Such other assistants and persons as it may be necessary to employ may be selected by yourself; and you are authorized to determine the rates of their compensation, according to the nature of the duties and the value of their services, not to exceed, if possible, the rates fixed in the regulations of the Department for the various kinds of service required in the emigration of Indians.

The number of Choctaws remaining east in 1844 was estimated, in round numbers, at seven thousand, of which, according to the returns received at this office, three thousand eight hundred and twenty-four have since been removed. They were principally those who intended becoming citizens of the States—that privilege being granted them by the treaty of 1830, on their notifying the agent of the government of their desire to that effect, within six months after the ratification of the treaty; which also authorized that after a five years' continuous residence, with the intention of becoming citizens, lands should be granted them in fee simple—six hundred and forty acres for each head of a family, and for the children forming a part thereof three hundred and twenty acres for each over ten and unmarried, and one hundred and sixty for each under ten years of age.

It having been represented that many entitled to these benefits had, from various causes beyond their control, been prevented from fulfilling the prescribed requirements, Congress authorized the appointment of commissioners to investigate their cases, whose report, when approved by the Secretary of War, was to be final; where, in the cases favorably acted on, land could be given in accordance with the provisions of the treaty, it was to be done; but if the land had been disposed of, or was so encumbered that it could not be given, the claimants were to receive in lieu certificates authorizing the location of the same quantity elsewhere. These certificates are known by the name of scrip, one half of which was not, under any circumstances, to be delivered to the claimants until after arrival west. A subsequent law funded this half, and allows the claimants an annual interest thereon of five per cent. if they remove west. The time and place of the delivery of the other half was left discretionary; and the decision heretofore was, that it should not be paid until after the arrival of the parties west, unless, in the opinion of the acting superintendent of the western territory and agent for the tribe, in whose custody it was placed, a different course was requisite to facilitate emigration. In that case he was authorized to deliver it east when the

Indians were so far on their route, or were assembled under such circumstances, as to satisfy him of their intention to emigrate. Being satisfied, however, that the withholding of it all until the arrival of the parties at their new homes will tend to expedite emigration, and thus to lessen the expenses attending it, as well as be for the interests and welfare of the Indians, the President has directed that it be withheld accordingly.

The Indians who were allowed lands, it is understood, have generally transferred them to individuals, who, after obtaining the patents, are to dispose of them, retaining one half of the proceeds and paying the Indian the other half. It is problematical whether in any such cases the Indians will ever receive any thing; but those who were allowed scrip have no such expectation to detain them east. They can get nothing until after their arrival west; and the sooner they go there the better it will be for them, not only on that account, but because it is not till then that the interest on the funded half of their scrip commences, which, in the event of removal, will be paid regularly once a year, and be of considerable assistance to them.

If those who were allowed lands realize any thing from their bargains, it will probably be taken from them for debts which they have already contracted, or if that be not done, they will soon expend the little they receive, and then be left destitute of all means and resources, in the midst of a white population, with which, in labor or enterprise, they cannot compete, and where they must suffer the greatest want, and become a set of wandering vagabonds, leading a life of privation and degradation, terminating in a miserable death. Such also will be the lot of those entitled to scrip if they do not go west; nor would the payment of the scrip east avert it, for they would soon squander what it would realize, and then be left destitute. How much better then for all to remove west, where there are plenty of excellent lands for all, where, with a little prudence, energy and enterprise, they could soon comfortably establish themselves and provide for their families; where they would have the advantage of excellent schools in operation, and about to be established, for the education of their children, and where they would be among brethren and friends who would rejoice in their prosperity, and in misfortune sympathize with and lend them a helping hand. Removing, they would have every prospect of soon bettering their condition; remaining where they are, their every step must, in the nature of things and according to all past experience, be rapidly downwards, even to the lowest depths of misery and suffering. On their own account, on that of their families, and especially for the interests and welfare of their children, they cannot too soon remove. These considerations, and others of a like nature which may occur to you, will be urged with all the skill and effect in the power of yourself and assistants, to induce them to consent to emigrate. Those to whom scrip is coming will be told that it is now in your hands ready for them, and that you will pay it to them on their arrival west, and all may be assured that there they will receive the kindest treatment both from

the agents of the government and their brethren, and that every thing in the power of the Department will be done to render them comfortable, happy and prosperous. Should you find it necessary to convince the Indians of the fact of the scrip being ready, and to influence them to emigrate, you may show, or cause it to be shown, to them, at the same time informing them of the amount it will probably realize them. And should you become satisfied that the measure would have a happy tendency, you are authorized to select, and take or send to the east, a few of the most judicious and influential persons who have been removed and established in their new country, and who can be relied on for the purpose, in order that they may co-operate with you by representing to their brethren the brighter prospects which await them west, and the great advantages of removal.

The expenses of the emigration must not be increased by keeping parties too long in camps prior to starting, nor by sending off detachments too small in number. The expense of emigrating a small party would be nearly as great as that of removing one considerably larger, the smaller requiring the same number of agents and nearly the same means of transportation. It must, therefore, as far as practicable, be so arranged that the Indians will not go into camp until a sufficient number can be induced to do so to form a party of a respectable size, and they should be removed as soon after assembling as possible, the means of transportation and subsistence being provided, or arrangements made therefore, beforehand. The routes by which the different parties should be taken must, in some degree, depend upon the section of the Choctaw country west, in which they are to be located, which, as far as can be done, must be determined beforehand. If it be necessary to induce them to remove, their wishes as to the route and the mode of transportation, whether by land or water, will be consulted; but the latter will, as far as possible, be adopted, as being the most economical. It may, as heretofore, be found that many of them have ponies which they will be unwilling to leave behind. Where they cannot well dispose of them before starting, and positively refuse to go without them, they will be permitted to take them; but, to whatever extent this is done, the means of land transportation should be diminished accordingly, as they can ride and carry many things upon them, which otherwise would have to be transported for them. Every aid in the power of yourself and assistants should be afforded them in disposing of such of their effects, to as much advantage as may be, as cannot well be taken with them; and every effort should be made to induce them to preserve what means they may have, and what they may, in this way, realize, in order that they may be able, as far as possible, to provide for their necessities and wants on their arrival in their new country. If any be sick, or it be necessary to assuage their fears, and to induce them to remove, medical aid may be employed on the route; but this must be done for the most limited period practicable, and on the most reasonable terms. All the operations must be in ac-

cordance with the prescribed regulations on the subject of emigration, and the strictest economy be observed.

It is represented that there are persons in Mississippi who were in some way connected with the operations under the late contract, and who, in the expectation of that instrument being again extended or renewed, have collected and have in charge parties of Indians for emigration. If this be the case, you are authorized to take such parties off their hands, and to make them such compensation for their services and expenses in collecting and keeping the Indians together as may be reasonable and just; not to exceed, however, the rate or amount of expense to which the government would have been put for the same parties, judging from the expenditure for the parties collected and prepared for emigration by its own agents; or, if any of the persons alluded to be desirous of delivering such Indians to you west of the Mississippi river, you may permit them to do so, taking care that each party be accompanied by an agent of the government, to see that they are properly subsisted and otherwise cared for; provided that the amount of compensation to be paid for collecting, subsisting and removing them, shall, in no instance, exceed the cost of those which may be removed by the government, or the sum per capita stipulated in the late contract with Alexander Anderson & Co. Parties removed in this way should be regularly mustered, and copies of the muster rolls, &c., sent to this office, as in the case of the Indians emigrated by the agents of the government.

It is important that the Indians be generally informed, as soon as practicable, of the change in the mode of operation, and of the wishes and intentions of the government with respect to them; and in order that no time may be lost, a copy of these instructions will be sent to Mr. Stuart, the assistant superintendent, and he will be instructed to proceed immediately to counsel with them on the subject. He will be directed, also, to keep you advised of his movements, in order that you may be able to communicate with him, and give him such instructions as you may consider necessary.

With reference to the payment of the scrip, full instructions will be given you at an early day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD, ESQ.,
*Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs,
Choctaw Agency, west.*

P. S. A copy of the instructions to Mr. Stuart is enclosed for your information.

B.

Having examined and duly considered the questions presented to me through the Secretary of War, connected with the removal of the Choctaw Indians yet remaining east of the Mississippi, I am of opinion,

First. That the whole business of removal should now, after the great delay and uncertainty connected with the contract system, which has been experienced, be taken in hand directly by the government and carried out, so far as well can be, by agents of its own selection and appointment. With this view it will be placed under the direction of the acting superintendent of the western territory and agent for the tribe, who will be aided by such assistants as may be necessary during the progress of the operations, and as may be sanctioned by the Secretary of War, and to expedite the business an experienced and competent person will now be appointed to take the immediate superintendence of it in such manner and under such regulations as may be prescribed by the said Secretary. This person will be required to give bond in a reasonable amount, to be determined by the Secretary of War, with satisfactory sureties, for the faithful performance of his duties, and for such sums of money being duly and properly accounted for as the government or acting superintendent may find it necessary to place in his hands. His compensation and that of the other assistants will be fixed by the Secretary of War.

Second. With respect to the certificates or scrip payable to the Indians, I am clearly of opinion that, as heretofore decided by the Secretary of War, there is full and ample discretion under the law as to the time and place of payment; and the government having at a heavy expense assumed the obligation of relieving the States of these Indians, it has a clear and unquestionable right to pursue such a course of policy in regard to the payment of the scrip, not inconsistent with the laws upon the subject, as in its judgment may tend to facilitate the emigration of the Indians, and to lessen the expense connected therewith. And being satisfied, after full and mature consideration, that the withholding of the scrip until after their arrival in their new country will have that tendency and effect, whilst the interests of the Indians will be thereby promoted, I direct that it be withheld accordingly. It will be delivered by the agent of the tribe as soon after their arrival as practicable and the best interests of the Indians may seem to require, under such regulations and instructions as the Secretary of War may think it right and proper to adopt. As heretofore, its assignment or transfer by the Indians to other persons must be witnessed by the agent in person, and be formally attested by him in writing, according to the regulations now in force; but he will in no instance certify such assignment or transfer without evidence full and satisfactory to him, that it was for a fair and adequate consideration, in order to secure justice being done to the Indians.

JAMES K. POLK.

WASHINGTON, September 25, 1847.

C.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, February 12, 1848.

SIR: I enclose for your information and government, a copy of a report from this office to the Secretary of War, which having been approved by him, extends the privilege of participating in the removal of the Choctaw Indians to all persons of a proper character disposed to enter into it.

As the payment for the persons removed will have to be made on their delivery in the west, you will keep yourself informed of the probable progress of the emigration, so as to transmit estimates of the funds which will be required from time to time for that purpose, in order that the Department may remit you the amounts in season for payment, on the delivery of the Indians to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

S. M. RUTHERFORD, Esq.,
*Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs,
Choctaw Agency, Western Territory.*

D.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, February 11, 1848.

SIR: Under the order of the President of the 25th September last, the system of general and exclusive contract for the removal of the Choctaw Indians, yet east of the Mississippi, has been discontinued and the business taken directly in charge by this Department. Instructions were issued on the 9th of October last, committing the superintendence of it to S. M. Rutherford, Choctaw agent, with the aid of an assistant, and such subordinate employees as might be found absolutely requisite. The instructions authorized the superintendent to receive parties of Indians which had been collected by persons under the expectation of the further extension or of the renewal of the expired contract with Alexander Anderson and others, and who had thereby incurred some expense, or to permit them to remove the Indians so collected, and to pay them a reasonable compensation for their trouble and expenses in both cases; so that the whole cost of removal, however, should not exceed twenty-six dollars and seventy-one cents per head—the rate stipulated in the Anderson contract.

From representations recently received from Mr. Rutherford, it seems probable that, in consequence of the extent and pressure of his duties as Choctaw agent west, and superintendent of the western territory, he will be unable, for some time, to give that immediate and active personal attention to the business necessary to ensure its rapid and effectual progress; while it is urged by the

representatives from Mississippi, and other gentlemen in and out of Congress who take an interest in it, that it would be much hastened, and its accomplishment secured at a much earlier day, by extending to all such persons as may be disposed to enter into it, the privilege of removing such of the Indians as they can collect for that purpose, on the terms already mentioned. How far this would be the case, this office is unable to form an opinion. It is disposed, however, to yield a proper acquiescence to the wishes of the gentlemen referred to, some of whom and their constituents are immediately and materially interested in the early completion of the emigration, and I therefore suggest for your approval the extension of the privilege adverted to in the manner stated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

Hon. Wm. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

The foregoing recommendation is approved: February 11, 1848.
W. L. MARCY.

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E.

INDIAN DEBT CLAIMS.—POTTAWATOMIES.

No. 1. *Ewings & Clymer* against Pottawatomies of the Osage river.—This claim amounts to \$4,773, and embraces balances of old accounts and charges for articles of merchandise of various kinds, including some provisions, against two hundred and four individual Indians, varying in amount, in each case, from 25 cents to 247 dollars. The dates of the charges are at various periods between November 3, 1839, and September 14, 1845. There is no data upon which to judge whether the charges are reasonable, as in many cases quantities and dates are not stated, and there is nothing to indicate the particular kinds or qualities of the articles. Some \$1,580 25 is the amount of old balances claimed as remaining unpaid, at various annual payments, during the time embraced in the charges, which are without any specification as to the time when the original debts were created, of what they consisted, what was the original amount, &c.; being just charged in gross, in each case, as a balance remaining unpaid at a particular time.

Of the amount charged, \$2,410 58 is for "depredateions and seizure of property belonging to us (the claimants) on Sugar creek, in the month of January, 1842," by the "Pottawatomies of the Wash," without any specification of what the depredateions consisted, what was the character of the property seized, or the circumstances under which the acts were committed.

Thus, of the whole amount charged, there is only some \$830 of which there is any specification or explanation whatever.

In regard to the depredateions and seizure of property, they can-

not be charged up as claims arising in the course of trade. Specific provision is made, in regard to such claims, in the 17th section of the intercourse act, of 1834, which requires a certain course to be pursued in regard to them. That course was adopted in this case; the claim was examined by my predecessor in 1845, and disallowed after a full consideration of all the facts and evidence, and so far as this office is concerned, that decision must be regarded as final.

There is a written obligation executed on the 16th of June, 1846, by eleven Indians, purporting to be the chief and head men of the band, promising to pay the whole amount of the claim out of the first money accruing under the treaty of 1846, viz: the funds set apart for debts, &c. But the Indians, from some cause unknown to the Department, failed to pay any portion of the amount out of that fund; and the obligation would, therefore, seem to be void as it respects any other fund belonging to them.

2. *W. G. & G. W. Ewing's* claim against same Indians, amounting to \$6,410 70.—This claim covers the period between January 1, 1845, and June 16, 1846. It consists of accounts against 360 Indians, individually, varying in amount from 62 cents to \$135 86. Some \$1,203 07 of the amount is made up of balances, without specification or explanation, charged as remaining unpaid after the annuity payment of 1845. There is a written obligation for the amount, given by the same eleven Indians, and in the same manner as in the preceding case, and to which the same remarks are applicable, as are also those in reference to whether the charges are reasonable.

3. *W. G. & G. W. Ewing* against Pottawatomies of Council Bluffs, amounting to \$40,351 07.—For goods and provisions &c., from 19th September, 1845, to 27th May, 1846, consisting of accounts against 609 individual Indians, varying in amount from 75 cents to \$1,192 58. Of the amount, \$32,167 17 consist of balances against various individuals of former accounts, and of notes amounting to \$1,392 22, in regard to which, no specification of the articles furnished is given, nor any thing that would enable the office to judge of the reasonableness of the charges. There is an obligation given by the chiefs and braves, for \$40,277 47, payable out of the annuities due the tribe, in instalments; the first to be \$13,000, and the remainder in each of the years, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851 and 1852. On this obligation is endorsed a credit of \$12,250, paid 1st October, 1847.

4. *W. W. Cleghorn's* claim; amount, \$3,568 64.—This claim is against 297 Indians, individually, varying in amount in each case, the smallest being 38 cents and the largest \$250 05. The earliest dates of charges are in June, 1837, and the latest in June, 1847. \$1,012 52 is made up of old balances (in one case a note for \$131 75) unpaid at various periods, without explanation or specification, and the remainder is generally for merchandise of

different kinds; of the reasonableness of the prices of which, as in the preceding claims, it is difficult to judge, as the quantities of the articles are not specified, being just charged in gross. There is a written obligation given by the same Indians, and in the same manner as in cases 1 and 2. There are also small amounts of cash charged; and, in one case, \$160 for building four houses and one stable.

5. *Moses H. Scott & Co.'s* claim; amount, \$3,500.—This claim is for merchandise, including provisions, at different periods, from March 1, 1843, to June 15, 1846, the whole being charged to the "Pottawatomie tribe of Indians," the names of the individual Indians to whom the articles were sold or delivered not being given in any case. There is a written obligation for the amount to Moses H. Scott from the same Indians, and given in the same manner as in cases 1, 2, and 4, and there is the same difficulty as to reasonableness of charges.

6. *J. B. Dutrois'* claim; amount, \$1,673.—For goods and provisions sold between September 8, 1844, and June 17, 1846, to 122 individuals, in amounts varying from \$1 to \$68 60. Written obligation the same as in cases 1, 2, 4, and 5; and same difficulty as to reasonableness of charges.

7. *P. Chouteau, jr. & Co.'s* claim; amount, \$7,163 28.—For goods and provisions from November, 1841, to June, 1846, consisting of accounts against 318 individual Indians, varying in amount from 25 cents to \$128 50. Of the amount, \$156 22 consists of balances against various individuals of former accounts remaining unpaid, in regard to which there is no further information than the simple charge of the balances. Nor is there any means of judging of the reasonableness of the charges. Written obligation from same Indians, as in the cases above referred to. This firm was paid \$11,250, on account of debt claims against the Pottawatomies at the annual payment of last year. Of the amount charged, \$300 is for depredations, to which the remarks in case number 1, in relation to claims of this character, apply. It must be specially proved up before the Department in the manner required by the 17th section of the trade and intercourse act of 1834, before being presented to the tribe and demand made for payment, which appears not to have been done.

8. Claim of *Pearson & Cooper*; amount, \$4,488 08.—Against 419 individuals, varying per individual from 50 cents to \$128 62. The charges bear date from 1840 to 1845, inclusive. The original amount of the account was \$1,000 more, that sum being credited and deducted in gross, as received from the Indians at the annuity payment last year. \$252 is made up of old balances, without specification, and there is nothing to enable the Department to judge of the reasonableness of the charges.

9. Claim of *Benjamin Holt*; amount, \$1,064 95.—This claim is wholly without items, being merely a schedule of amounts charged in gross to 30 individuals, varying from 50 cents to \$589. In the heading the allegation is made that the claim is "for merchandise purchased by said Indians," and an affidavit attached states that no part of the amount charged was for spirituous liquors. The amounts in three of the cases are charged as balances of notes; in one \$589, and in the others \$10 and \$15, respectively. In the two latter cases the notes are submitted; in the first it is alleged that the note has been lost or destroyed and cannot be found. There is nothing to show the consideration for, or circumstances under, which the notes were given, and no evidence of what were the articles of merchandise, the prices, or reasonableness of the charges.

10. Claim of *John H. Whitehead*; \$1,100 22.—This is a balance after deducting \$500 received from the Indians October 8, 1847. This claim is principally for provisions, and a small part for groceries, charged against 103 individual Indians, between January, 1840, and November, 1843, in amounts varying from 65 cents to \$354 03. Some of the charges appear to be very high, and there is nothing to show how far they are generally reasonable. In two cases the charges are for the amounts of two notes, (not presented,) one for \$110 and the other for \$37 50, given by two individuals; though for what consideration and under what circumstances do not appear. Mr. Whitehead states that he is ready to submit to any investigation to test the merits and justness of his claim.

11. *Stephen Cooper*; \$2,612 50.—All there is about this claim is a memorandum, of which the following is a copy, transmitted by Mr. Whitehead in a letter to the Hon. W. P. Hall, enclosing his own claim.

"COUNCIL BLUFFS, 1844.

"The whole amount of debts of Major Stephen Cooper, against the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawattomie Indians, is \$2,612 50, entirely for provisions."

12. *N. C. Owens*; claim of heirs of Elizabeth and Sarah Frances Owens; \$473.—This claim is presented in the form of a joint note of J. & L. Vieau for \$488, dated October 12, 1840, upon which there is a credit of \$15, leaving the amount stated as a balance. It is supported by affidavit of Henry Owens and Malcolm Clarke (whose credibility is not attested) that the claim is just, and the consideration of the note was flour furnished to the two Vieaus. There is nothing to show the time or circumstances under which the flour was furnished, whether at a reasonable price, or whether it was for private use or for purposes of speculation.

13. Claim of *Elijah Polk & Sons*; \$5,532 99, viz: 1. Robert Polk for \$697 92, is made up of charges against 39 individuals, and is for ammunition, dry goods, hardware, and provisions, including

groceries. The dates of the charges run from 16th June, 1837, to 5th May, 1838, and the amount of the individual accounts range from 75 cents to \$58 50. One of the charges is for balance due on note of \$157, and contains no other specification. 2. Robert Polk & Co., amount \$2,316 33, is for similar articles, and for horses, &c., furnished 210 individuals, whose accounts range from 50 cents to \$236 88, and are embraced in a period from 2d May, 1838, to 14th March, 1842. 3. Elijah Polk & Sons, amount \$2,518 74, is for similar articles, &c., and charged against 182 individuals, whose accounts range from 50 cents to \$239 26, and embrace a period from March 18, 1841, to November 10, 1846.

Appended to these claims, is a certificate of Major R. W. Cummins, Indian agent, recommendatory of the claimants as persons of good character, correct business habits, &c.; and to the aggregate of the claims is credited a national obligation for \$5,515, executed 13th June, 1846, which obligation has not been filed.

14. Claim of *E. H. Hubbard & Co.*, \$236 00.—Is for dry goods, ammunition, provisions, groceries, &c., furnished eleven individuals, whose accounts range from \$3 38 to \$60 97 each. The periods of the charges is not given, but the claim is headed with the year "1845." Accompanying the demand is an obligation signed by the "chiefs and head men of the Pottawatomie nation, agreeing to pay the amount, \$236, in two instalments, out of the first moneys accruing under the treaty of 1846," which is dated 17th June, 1846, and witnessed by the superintendent Indian affairs, at St. Louis, and others.

15. Claim of *William Bartlett*, \$1,049 99.—Consists of three separate accounts, for the years 1845 and 1846, containing charges against one hundred and nineteen individuals, whose personal accounts range from 50 cents to \$166 each, and are almost solely for provisions. With this claim is filed an obligation, signed by the "chiefs and head men, warriors, and young men of the Pottawatomie nation," agreeing to pay to the order of Andrew Jackson, the sum of \$1,050, which order is assigned on its back to Bartlett. This obligation is presumed to have been given to cover this claim, although there is nothing to justify the presumption, except the fact of its being filed with the papers in the case.

Miamies.

16. <i>W. G. & G. W. Ewing</i>	\$8,241 00
Less this amount credited in gross	3,000 00
Amount now claimed	<u>5,241 00</u>
17. <i>James H. Kintner</i>	<u>\$834 60</u>
18. <i>Tabor & Hamilton</i>	<u><u>\$6,300 00</u></u>

These three claims (the two latter of which are presented by the Messrs. Ewing, on powers of attorney) are based upon awards made in favor of the parties named, by a board of arbitrators, composed of E. Murray, W. Z. Stuart, and Graham N. Fitch, appointed under an agreement entered into between the tribe and their creditors, in the summer of 1846; and to sustain their demands, they file a certified copy of the report of awards, of the said arbitrators. In the papers submitted with these claims, there is nothing to show the nature of the indebtedness of the Indians, and nothing by which the reasonableness of the charges can be judged of, the periods embraced cannot be ascertained, nor whether the charges are against individuals or against the tribe collectively. In these cases there is no other obligation to pay these claims than what is contained in the agreement before referred to, viz: that both parties should abide the decision of the arbitrators.

19. <i>Berthelet & Avaline</i>	\$22,708 61
Amount deducted "on compromise"	3,308 61
	19,400 00

This claim embraces charges against 221 individuals, varying in amount per individual, from 25 cents to \$1,187 32. The charges bear date from May, 1842, to November, 1845, and are for merchandise and provisions mostly; \$148 50 are for whiskey, wine, and the transportation thereof; \$187 38 for balances from old accounts, and \$2,531 24 for "sundries," cash loaned, orders on individuals for tolls, &c., money paid, accounts of others, judgments, taxes, building houses, debts assumed, &c. In this case there is a special written obligation given for the amount, dated 28th February, 1847, purporting to have been signed by the "chiefs, warriors, heads of families, and individuals," 80 in number, witnessed by the government interpreter, George Hunt, stipulating to pay the same in three instalments, of which the first, amounting to \$10,000, has been paid and acknowledged on the obligation, leaving due the sum of \$9,400. This, like the preceding claims, was submitted to, and acted upon by, the arbitrators, who awarded the sum of \$19,200 09—the whole demand then amounting to \$25,079 34.

20. *E. French*, \$2,566 23.—Is for provisions and clothing to 89 individuals, varying in amount from \$4 to \$548 29, and the charges made within the years 1843 and 1846. The amounts charged up of balances from old accounts, amount to \$85, and are without specification. This claim was likewise before the board of arbitrators, who awarded the sum of \$1,635 37—the whole charges at that time amounting to \$2,358 11.

21. <i>M. & L. Falk</i>	\$8,197 35
Less this sum	3,209 38
Balance claimed.....	4,987 97

For goods, provisions, &c., sold between the 9th December, 1842, and 2d October, 1845, to 143 individuals, in amounts varying from 50 cents to \$300. \$173 38 are for balances from previous settlements, containing no specifications. This claim was also submitted to, and acted upon by, the board of arbitrators, who awarded the sum of \$3,886 31, the demand at that time amounting to \$4,922 01.

In regard to the six immediately preceding claims, it is proper to state that when the report of the awards made by the arbitrators was presented for the approval of the Department, it promptly and positively refused to have anything to do with it, the President having but a short time previously decided that the government would not recognize, in any shape, claims against these Indians which had arisen after the 25th February, 1841; the indebtedness of the Indians, up to that time, having been fully and finally settled, by the President allowing the sum of \$75,000 to be paid out of the annuities of the tribe in instalments of \$12,500 per annum; that the annuities in future would be paid over to those entitled to receive them, when each Indian could pay his individual debts, if he thought proper; and that such would be the settled policy of the government, and would, under no circumstances, be departed from. The claims were twice presented, fully considered, and rejected, both by the Department and the President.

22. *A. Coquillard, Samuel Edsall, and G. W. and W. G. Ewing*, \$7,621 60.—This is a claim set up for expenses and losses in carrying out the contract for the removal of the Miami Indians from Indiana, alleged to have been caused by the failure of the Indians to go at the time fixed upon and promised by them, and should not, in any manner or form, be recognized as a demand against either the government or the Indians. Although the contract for the removal of the Miamies has, so far, been carried out by the above parties, this has been done under arrangements which have never been recognized or sanctioned. With reference to any rights or interests under the contract, the Department knows and can recognize no one but the original contractor, Thomas Dowling; and were any such claim urged by him, it could not be entertained, because the contract fixed no time within which the Indians were to remove, and provided that the sum to be paid to the contractor should include, and be in full, for any and all objects and expenses whatever connected with, or growing out of, the removal of the Indians, and their subsistence for one year west. It was expressly stipulated that "no extra charge" should be paid "for any detention that may occur in the collecting and removing of said Miami tribe of Indians; but that all expenses, of whatever character, which may occur in the collecting, transporting, and provisioning any or all of said Indians, shall be paid by the said Thomas Dowling; and that, in no event, shall the United States hereafter be subject to any claim for damages or compensation for any loss or injury that may be alleged to arise out of this contract under any circumstances, or in any event whatever." The amount stipulated to be

paid to the contractor was, moreover, a most extravagant one, viz: \$55,000, the number of Indians being estimated at 650 only; about 383 of which have been removed. But were the facts otherwise, the failure of the Indians to remove at the time fixed upon was caused mainly, if not entirely, by the improper interference of their alleged creditors, among whom were some of the parties to the present claim, the object of delaying the emigration being to coerce the government to a recognition of the claims alleged against the Indians.

Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi.

23. *W. G. and G. W. Ewing*, \$8,720 83.—Contains charges against the confederated tribes, though stated on the back of the claim to be "owing by the Sacs, for dry goods principally, furnished at one time, viz: 16th April, 1843, to the nation, amounting to \$6,391 47, and for similar articles of dry goods, and for horses, bridles, &c., furnished to ninety-four individuals, between October, 1843, and September, 1845, for \$1,779 21; and for merchandise, &c., furnished "Hard Fish's band," from April to September, 1844, \$350 03; and to Pash-e-pa-hoe's band, from 30th August to 14th September, 1844, \$173 23; and to Keokuck's band, 11th September, 1844, \$26 89—\$8,720 83. The amount of the individual accounts range from \$2 to \$227 30; and the prices charged in the whole claim seem high.

24. *G. W. and W. G. Ewing*, \$770.—This claim is made out, as is the previous one, against the united tribes, but it is stated to be owing by the Foxes, and is made up chiefly of balances brought forward, purporting to be for horses sold to fifty-one individuals; the charges bear date 28th and 29th October, 1846, and there being nothing to show the original prices charged, it is impossible to judge of their reasonableness.

25. *P. Chouteau, jr., & Co.*, \$6,209 78.—Are charges against Hard Fish's band, bearing date from 20th January to 12th May, 1845, for \$975, and against 181 individuals, bearing date from September, 1844, to September, 1847, for \$5,036 78. The amount of the several individual accounts range from \$3 50 to \$104; and there is but one that comes up to the latter sum, whilst there are but very few of the others that exceed \$70. The articles charged for are provisions and dry goods, and there are balances from old accounts, which purport to be for horses previously sold, amounting to \$198.

26. *W. A. and J. B. Scott*, \$4,369 12.—For dry goods and other articles sold Hard Fish's band, between 23d September, 1844, and 16th July, 1845, among which may be enumerated as follows, viz.:
 1,763 yards calico, at from 20 to 31 cents per yard.
 420 yards cloth, averaging \$3 per yard.
 164 blankets, from \$3 to \$5 each; and, in addition to the above,

there are charges made for cash lent, \$23, and for balances due on old accounts, principally for horses sold, about \$300.

27. *W. A. and J. B. Scott*, \$1,752 73.—This account is for dry goods sold Keokuck, chief, between the 23d September, 1844, and 29th November, 1845, consisting of 574 yards calico, 222 yards cloth, 74 blankets, and numerous other articles, such as sheeting, shawls, shirts, flannels, &c., &c. A balance of \$15, from previous accounts, for horses sold, is also charged up.

28. *John H. Whistler*, \$4,312 94.—Against the united tribes, and is for articles purchased between the 1st June, 1845, and 5th October, 1846—such as provisions, dry goods, twenty horses, from \$20 to \$75 each; thirty-three saddles, at from \$10 to \$25 each; twenty swords, at \$8 each; twenty-eight epaulettes, at \$3 each; thirteen uniform coats, at \$30 a piece; sword-canes, at \$6 each; pistols, at \$4 50 and \$5; &c., &c.;—also charged for cash lent, \$34.

29. *Abraham Vanmeter*, \$600.—For twenty horses sold in October, 1846, to Hard Fish, chief, for the use of his band.

Iowas.

30. *Michael Robideaux*, \$700 00.—Is for blankets, cloths, and other articles furnished the tribe on the 16th October, 1841, and at fair rates. In this case, an obligation to pay the same out of their "first" annuities is filed, and the sub-agent for the tribe reports that the Indians, in council, admitted the correctness of the account, and expressed a willingness to pay it.

31. <i>F. C. McCreary</i>	\$240 87
Deduct amount paid out of annuity, Nov., 1846	100 00
	140 87
	140 87

The charges in this account are for cash loaned, \$21; and horses furnished to White Cloud, Little Wolf, and two or three other individuals; \$85 are for provisions for the tribe. There are, also, charges for two oxen killed, which should not be charged upon a claim arising in the course of trade, but being for depredations, should follow the course pointed out in the seventeenth section of the intercourse act of 1834.

32. *J. and B. H. Dixon*, \$2,455 28.—This is an account, in detail, for articles sold to individual Indians, in the period between the latter part of 1841, and the year 1845, inclusive. The charges are specific, and are, generally, for articles of clothing, groceries, ornaments, horses, &c. In another account, or rather an abstract of accounts, giving the aggregate amount of indebtedness for each of the years 1842, '43, '44, and '45, the amount is stated to be, \$4,458 75

And the credits during the same period

Leaving a balance of	2,228 75
	2,228 75

If the credits, above referred to, be applied to the first or detailed account, the balance left would amount to only \$285 28, and this balance, it seems, has been paid, for the sub-agent, in his letter transmitting this claim, refers to a receipt of the Messrs. Dixon for \$300 paid them in 1846, and states it to be his impression and understanding, that this was in full settlement of the Iowas' indebtedness to the claimants. It is, however, alleged that this payment was for provisions furnished at that time, and some affidavits are filed to sustain the allegation. But whether it was or not, and a balance is still due them, can, so far as the Department is concerned, make no difference in the view taken of the claims in question. The Messrs. Dixon were not trading under a license in the Indian country, but resided without the line, in the State of Missouri, and, such being the case, the transactions should be considered of a private character, as between individuals, and in no way be taken cognizance of by the government.

Weas and Piankeshaws.

33. <i>Ewings and Clymer</i>	\$4,244 85
Credits given on same	2,317 21
	1,927 64
Balance claimed	1,927 64

This is an account against the tribe, jointly, for goods purporting to have been purchased by Baptiste Peoria, between February, 1840, and February 7, 1843, and for cash paid at sundry times, viz.:

Amount paid at different periods	\$274 77
" " " Jim Peoria's outfit to the Snake country"	208 75
" " J. Peoria	68 25
" " On orders	82 00

The goods consisted of cloths, blankets, flannels, calicoes, sheetings, flour, bacon, ammunition, &c., but it is nowhere stated what proportion of the charge belongs to each tribe. The tribes are separate and distinct, though they do occupy a country in common. Their annuities are paid to each, separately, and the account should have been made against each.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, November 21, 1848.

F.

[Circular.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, September 9, 1848.

The attention of the superintendents, agents and sub-agents of this Department, is particularly called to the subject of travelling

and other incidental and contingent expenses connected with the execution of their duties. The expenditures of this character occasion a heavy draft upon the contingent fund of the Department; and every effort must be made to bring and keep them within as small a compass as possible. The travelling expenses of the two superintendencies west of the Mississippi river, must, necessarily, be considerable, as they embrace a large number of Indians, spread over a vast extent of country; and it is of great advantage to the service that the superintendents occasionally visit the agencies and sub-agencies within their jurisdiction, on tours of inspection, so as to be able to keep the Department properly advised of any abuses, irregularities, or delinquencies, and of the general state of affairs within their superintendencies. In some of the agencies and sub-agencies, however, it is thought that the travelling and other incidental expenses are unnecessarily large. The accounts for such expenditures are always the most difficult to understand and settle satisfactorily; and, on any inquiry, after settlement, into the necessity and propriety of such allowances, are the most difficult to explain. Hence, they should always be accompanied by the most satisfactory evidence and explanations, showing the objects or reasons of the expenditures or charges, and that they were necessary and proper. And in order to ensure proper economy, and to aid the Department in the correct adjustment of such accounts, the superintendents will exercise a strict supervision over expenditures or charges of this character. They will satisfy themselves in all cases, of their necessity or propriety; and, where it may be practicable, they may require the agents and sub-agents to consult them beforehand, and obtain their sanction to their being incurred. They will rigidly scrutinize the accounts and vouchers before transmitting them to this office, and, in all cases where they are not satisfied of the propriety of an expenditure or a charge, they will so notify the office, in order that the item may be rejected or suspended for further explanation by the agent or sub-agent, as the case may be. The Department is determined to reject and disallow every item where it is not made to appear, in the most satisfactory manner, that the charge or expenditure was necessary or in every way proper.

W. MEDILL.

G.

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

AMOUNT OF INVESTMENTS FOR INDIAN ACCOUNT

IN STATE STOCKS, &c.

G.

Statement exhibiting the amount of investments

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.
Cherokees	Kentucky	5	\$94,000 00		\$4,700 00	
Do	Tennessee	5	250,000 00		12,500 00	
Do	Alabama	5	300,000 00		15,000 00	
Do	Maryland	6	761 39		45 68	
Do	Michigan	6	64,000 00		3,840 00	
Do	Maryland	5	41,138 00		2,056 90	
Do	Missouri	5½	10,000 00		550 00	
				\$759,899 39		\$38,692 58
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pott's. (mills)	Maryland	6	130,850 43		7,851 02	
Do	Pennsylvania	5	28,300 00		1,415 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	39,921 93		2,395 31	
Do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	157 60		7 88	
				199,229 96		11,669 21
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pott's. (education)	Indiana	5	68,000 00		3,400 00	
Do	Pennsylvania	5	8,500 00		425 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	5,556 71		333 40	
				82,056 71		4,158 40
Incompetent Chickasaws	Indiana	5		2,000 00		100 00
Chickasaw orphans	Arkansas	5	3,000 00		150 00	
Do	Pennsylvania	5	1,050 00		52 50	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	433 68		26 02	
				4,483 68		228 52
Shawnees	Maryland	6	29,341 50		1,760 49	
Do	Kentucky	5	1,000 00		50 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	1,734 71		104 08	
				32,076 21		1,914 59
Senecas	Kentucky	5		5,000 00		250 00
Senecas and Shawnees	Kentucky	5	6,000 00		300 00	
Do	Missouri	5½	7,000 00		385 00	
				13,000 00		685 00
Kansas, (schools)	Missouri	5½	18,060 00		990 00	
Do	Pennsylvania	5	2,000 00		100 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	2,700 00		135 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	4,444 66		266 67	
				27,144 66		1,491 67
Menomonies	Kentucky	5	77,000 00		3,850 00	
Do	Pennsylvania	5	12,000 00		600 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	26,114 88		1,566 89	
Do	U. S. loan, 1847	6	12,900 00		774 00	
				128,014 88		6,790 89
Chippewas & Ottowas	Kentucky	5	77,000 00		3,850 00	
Do	Michigan	6	3,000 00		180 00	
Do	Pennsylvania	5	16,200 00		810 00	
Do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	5,387 87		269 39	
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	16,588 97		995 34	
Do	U. S. loan, 1847	6	1,900 00		114 00	
				120,076 84		6,128 73

G.

for Indian account in State Stocks, &c.

Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
\$94,000 00		Semi-ann'y	New York	Treasury, U. S.	Treaty, Dec., 1835
250,000 00		do	do	do	do do
300,000 00		do	do	do	do do
761 39		do	do	do	do do
64,000 00		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	do do
41,138 00		Semi-ann'y	New York	do	do do
10,000 00		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	do do
		Semi-ann'y	New York	do	Treaty, Feb. 27, 1819
	\$766,490 00				
130,850 43		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty, Sept., 1833
28,300 00		Semi-ann'y	Philadelphia	do	do do
39,921 93		do	Washington	do	do do
157 60		do	do	do	do do
	218,619 90				
68,000 00		do	New York	do	do do
8,500 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
5,556 71		do	Washington	do	do do
	85,632 64				
	2,000 00	do	New York	do	Treaty, May, 1834
3,000 00		do	do	do	do do
1,050 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
433 68		do	Washington	do	do do
	4,416 26				
29,341 50		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty, August, 1831
1,000 00		Semi-ann'y	New York	do	do do
1,734 71		do	Washington	do	do do
	36,924 43				
	4,900 00	do	New York	do	Treaty, Feb., 1831
6,000 00		do	do	do	do do
7,000 00		do	do	do	do do
	13,001 87				
18,060 00		do	do	do	Treaty, June, 1825
2,000 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
2,700 00		do	Washington	do	do do
4,444 66		do	do	do	do do
	27,483 57				
77,000 00		do	New York	do	Treaty, Sept., 1836
12,000 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
26,114 88		do	Washington	do	do do
12,900 00		do	do	do	do do
	128,779 98				
77,000 00		do	New York	do	Treaty, March, 1836
3,000 00		do	do	do	do do
16,200 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
5,387 87		do	Washington	do	do do
16,588 97		do	do	do	do do
1,900 00		do	do	do	do do
	117,967 76				

G—Continued.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.
Creek orphans	Alabama	5	\$82,000 00		\$4,100 00	
Do.	Missouri	5½	28,000 00		1,540 00	
Do.	Pennsylvania	5	16,000 00		800 00	
Do.	U. S. loan, 1843	5	13,700 00		685 00	
Do.	U. S. loan, 1842	6	23,513 40		1,410 80	
				\$163,213 40		8,535 80
Choctaws, under convention with the Chickasaws	Alabama	5		500,000 00		25,000 00
Delawares, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842	6		7,806 28		468 38
Osages, (education)	U. S. loan, 1843	5	7,400 00		370 00	
Do.	U. S. loan, 1842	6	24,679 56		1,480 77	
				32,079 56		1,850 77
Choctaw orphans	U. S. loan, 1842	6	26,387 44		1,583 24	
Do.	U. S. loan, 1843	5	23,109 09		1,155 45	
Do.	U. S. loan, 1847	6	6,200 00		372 00	
				55,696 53		3,110 69
Stockbridge and Muncies	U. S. loan, 1842	6		5,204 16		312 25
Choctaws, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842	6	60,893 62		3,653 61	
Do.	U. S. loan, 1843	5	1,545 44		77 27	
Do.	U. S. loan, 1847	6	9,550 00		573 00	
				71,989 06		4,303 88
				2,208,971 32		115,781 34

NOTE.—The States of Maryland and Pennsylvania retain an annual State tax out of the

WAR DEPARTMENT, Office Indian Affairs, September 30, 1848.

G—Continued.

Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
\$82,000 00		Semi-ann'y	New York	Treasury, U. S.	Treaty, June, 1832
28,487 48		do	do	do	do do
13,840 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
13,840 00		do	Washington	do	do do
26,656 04					
	\$164,823 52				
	500,000 00	do	N. Orleans	do	Treaty, Jan. 17, 1837
	9,114 27	do	Washington	do	Treaty, 1838.
7,474 74		do	do	do	Treaty, 1825.
27,656 76					
	35,131 50				
30,461 70		do	do	do	Treaty, Sept. 1830
23,312 16		do	do	do	do do
6,479 00		do	do	do	do do
	60,252 86				
	6,096 16	do	do	do	Treaty, May, 1840.
68,236 73		do	do	do	Treaty Sept. 1830.
1,530 00		do	do	do	do do
9,979 75		do	do	do	do do
	79,746 48				
	2,261,411 20				

interest as above set forth, under acts of assembly.

H.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sum of money provided by treaties and laws in stocks.

Names of tribes.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares.....	\$46,080 00	5	\$2,304 00	Treaty, September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas.....	200,000 00	6	12,000 00	Resolution of Senate, May 27, 1836.
Sioux of Mississippi.....	300,000 00	5	15,000 00	Treaty, September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri.....	175,400 00	5	8,770 00	Treaty, October 21, 1837.
Winnebagoes.....	1,185,000 00	5	59,250 00	Treaties, November 1, 1837, and October 13, 1846.
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi.....	1,000,000 00	5	50,000 00	Treaties, October 21, 1837, and October 11, 1842.
Iowas.....	157,500 00	5	7,875 00	Resolution of the Senate, January 19, 1838.
Osages.....	69,120 00	5	3,456 00	do do do.
Creeks.....	350,000 00	5	17,500 00	Treaty, November 23, 1838.
Senecas of New York.....	75,000 00	5	3,750 00	Treaty, May 20, 1842, and law of Congress, June 27, 1846.
Kansas.....	200,000 00	5	10,000 00	Treaty, January 14, 1846.
Pottawatomies.....	643,000 00	5	32,150 00	Treaty, June 5, 1846.
Choctaws.....	872,000 00	5	43,600 00	Treaty, September 27, 1830, and laws of 1842 and 1845.
	\$5,273,100 00		\$265,655 00	

WAR DEPARTMENT, Office Indian Affairs, September 30, 1848.

I.

Agreeably to your request, I send you a brief statement of the condition, progress, and prospects of the five Indian youths committed to my care.

Three young men, Lycurgus Pitchlym, Leonidas Garland, and William Howell, arrived at Newark, Delaware, on the 27th of April. On the arrival of the fourth, Allen Wright, who was detained a few days at Washington by illness, they all immediately commenced their studies. Being found on examination deficient in the requisite preparation for the freshman class in this institution, they were put upon a course of private study, to qualify them for admission the following September term. Though for a long time previously unused to study, and their habits of application necessarily interrupted, I was as much surprised as gratified to witness the cheerful alacrity and zeal, with which they commenced their labors and continued them, with unabated ardor and success, through summer term, and the long subsequent vacation, to within two weeks of the fall session. They then entered very creditably, and ever since that time have fully maintained their standing; manifesting mental capacity, industry, and self-denying application, fully equal to any of their associates. Their improvement, consequently, has been steady and rapid. In docility of disposition and morality, their conduct has been worthy of approval, even in a high degree exemplary.

Of the other Choctaw youth, who arrived only yesterday, Joseph Hall, I can merely state that he has been examined, and has entered on his studies with a view of making good all deficiencies, and joining, if possible, the present freshman class.

The young Chickasaw, Frederick McCalla, is at present in our preparatory department, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Meigs, and is doing well.

JAMES P. WILSON,
President of Delaware College.

Colonel WM. MEDILL,
Office of Indian Affairs.

No. 1.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, October 4, 1848.

SIR: In making my annual report of the condition of the Indians of this superintendency, for the present year, I regret that it is not in my power to state that their general improvement has been, in all respects, commensurate with the efforts made by the government and religious societies for that purpose, although equal, perhaps, to the expectations of those familiar with the many embarrassments which are met with at every step by the persons engaged

in those laudable endeavors. I think it probable, too, that we are apt to expect much more rapid improvement from our efforts on behalf of the Indian than a calm consideration of surrounding circumstances will justify. To reclaim men from barbarous customs which long habit has made a second nature, and to which they are attached by the superstitions of their tribe, must be a work of time, patience, and long and well directed effort; especially when we take into account the number of white men amongst them whose interest it is to confirm them in their savage habits and to excite their prejudices against all moral improvement.

The opinion advanced in my first annual report, (1844,) namely: that the improvement of the Indians can be best effected by education in habits of industry, letters, and the Christian religion, through the medium of manual labor schools conducted by missionary societies, has undergone no change. I am persuaded that just in proportion to the extension of these schools, and the ability and fidelity with which they are conducted, will be the general improvement of the Indians. That they are susceptible of such improvement, every candid man, unbiassed by prejudice and conversant with them, will admit; and, notwithstanding the frequent parade in some of the public journals of Indian atrocities, which, by the way, are generally exaggerated, I am of the opinion that, if we recur to the daily record of crime exhibited by these same journals, and the various shades of depravity developed by our criminal courts, the Indian population will bear a favorable comparison with many of those calling themselves civilized.

The Shawnees have several flourishing manual labor schools in their country, one conducted by the Methodists, in which are educated a number of Delawares, and youths of different tribes; another conducted by the society of Friends, or "Quakers;" and a small school under the direction of the Baptist Mission; the good effects of these schools are plainly to be seen by all persons who pass through their country. A school has been established among the Piankeshaws and Weas, by the Western Baptist Missionary Society, under the direction of the Rev. David Lykins; it is in successful operation, and has the confidence of the Piankeshaws in a high degree, on whom I think it has exerted a very salutary moral influence. The amount which you have allowed to this school out of the civilization fund (\$300) will doubtless be of great benefit, as well as an encouragement to the Indians. It is intended to establish a boarding school among the Ottowas; I cannot say when it will go into operation; they have made a small appropriation from their annuity, and are highly pleased with the sum (\$300) you have allowed to be expended for their school, out of the civilization fund. The Ottowas—those, especially, who have embraced the Christian religion—are steadily advancing in civilization, for which they are greatly indebted to their most excellent missionaries, the Reverend Mr. Meeker and his lady.

The school improvements for the Miamies, in charge of the Catholic society, have been in progress for some time; it is expected the school will go into operation this fall. The schools on Sugar

creek (Osage river) in Charge of the Catholics, have been discontinued in consequence of the emigration of the Pottawatomies. I have authorized the two missionary societies among them to board and educate as many children as their situation will permit, until the contemplated manual labor schools shall be in operation. A contract has been made with the Catholics, and another will be concluded in a few days with the Baptist society, for the manual labor schools to be hereafter conducted by each of those societies among the Pottawatomies; it is hoped that these schools will go into operation as early the next year as the magnitude of the improvements about to be made will admit. The Pottawatomies made a considerable advance in civilization while on Sugar creek, and it is expected that with their very ample means, and the aid of their zealous missionaries, their improvement will be rapid.

There was a school, a few years ago, among the Kansas Indians, but which was suspended in consequence of their emigration; a contract has recently been entered into with the Methodist Episcopal church south, for establishing a manual labor school among them, which is expected to go into operation some time next spring; they are very anxious for a school.

The Sacs and Foxes (late of the Mississippi) are the only Indians within this superintendency known to me, who are opposed to schools; how far their prejudices may relax by the death of their principal chief, Keokuk, who made no concealment of his opposition to schools, time can only determine.

The Wyandot education fund, as you are aware, is applied under the direction of their own nation, and from the talent, mental improvement and energy of character of the men composing the councils of that nation, you may be assured of its judicious application.

The Presbyterian school among the Iowas and Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Irvin, has extensive and valuable improvements, and I am gratified to learn that the zeal and industry of its conductors are enabling them to overcome many of the embarrassments that heretofore beset them, and that the school now promises to be of great utility. The same society has established a school near Bellevue for the education of the Ottoes and Omahas, under the direction of the Rev. Mr. McKinney; a gentleman of experience in directing such enterprises. All attempts at improvement in the Pawnee country have been suspended for the last year, in consequence of the destruction of their property by a large party of Sioux. The missionaries and teachers were driven in from the Pawnee country in the summer of 1846 by the hostile advances of the Sioux; since that time a small school has been taught at Bellevue, near the Council Bluffs agency. This school has been kept up mainly to serve as a nucleus for future operations, and keep alive the interest of the Pawnees in education. As a military post is about to be established in their vicinity, it is hoped that the government will hereafter be able to give the Pawnees effective protection against their enemies: if so, I am assured that a portion of their missionary friends will return

to them, when the moneys yet remaining to their credit may be advantageously expended for them. I am satisfied, from personal observation as well as information derived from others, that if the Pawnees and their missionaries could be fully assured of protection in their country, they would speedily improve in civilization, as they are habitually sober, and the men disposed to labor.

I learn that the Indians on the Upper Missouri have expressed a great desire to have schools and missionaries among them. The Rev. Mr. De Smet, of the Catholic church, is now on a visit to the Sioux; his plan is, if he can carry it out, to introduce among them a number of clergymen, in order, as far as practicable, to travel with them in their hunts, and exercise among them their ministerial functions. Taking into view the admitted influence of Catholic clergymen (black-gowns, as the Indians call them) over the Indians, such a course would have a most salutary effect in curbing and holding in check the untamed spirits of these wild Indians. Rev. Mr. De Smet is the great missionary pioneer of the Rocky Mountains; his high character, energy, and devotion to the improvement of the red man, should strongly recommend himself and his plans to the favorable consideration of the government. In the spring he intends establishing a mission among the Blackfeet Indians.

In my late visit to the Sioux of St. Peter's in July last, I had an opportunity of presenting to them the views of the government in relation to their improvement by manual labor schools; they seemed very little inclined to any extension of education among them, the absorbing subject being the possession of the \$5,000 fund, under their treaty of 1837, which is to be expended at the direction of the President; they are taught to believe that, were they to consent to an extension of schools among them, they would stand no chance of having this fund paid to them. I said all in my power to convince them that the President could not consent to its expenditure in any other way than for the education of their children. I trust that your late letter, addressed to their chiefs, will satisfy them as to the determination of the government upon this matter. I found among them a school taught by a Mr. Cook, who had been employed by their worthy and devoted missionary, Dr. Williamson. Under the authority of your letter of the 29th of June last, I appointed Mr. Cook a teacher, and authorized Dr. Williamson to appoint another for a band some distance below the school of Mr. Cook, whose chief came to me privately and requested a teacher, he being afraid to make the request in council. I was gratified to find that one of their principal chiefs has been for some time applying himself to learn to read and write; this is a favorable sign, and I hope will have a happy influence upon others. Taking into consideration the scattered condition of these tribes, and their antipathy to schools, I do not think it would be judicious at *this* time to press upon them manual labor establishments; the schools now among them will, I trust, in time remove their prejudices and gradually prepare them to receive manual labor ones. The various bands of what are called the St. Peter's Sioux are scattered over an immense tract of country; if I am not mistaken, the upper band

is some 150 miles distant from the lower; it is therefore impossible for the agent to give much attention to them, and from the same cause the efforts of the government for their improvement do not produce the results anticipated; add to this, their exposure to the evil influences of white settlements for more than one hundred miles with no other barrier between them than the Mississippi river; it would greatly benefit them, if their lands were purchased as high up as the mouth of the St. Peter's river, and themselves removed above that point.

I would here call your attention to the tract of land reserved by the Sioux for their half-breed relatives under the treaty of the 15th July, 1830. This land joins the State of Iowa; it is said to be valuable, and could be purchased at a very reasonable price; the half-breeds do not reside on it, and it is of no advantage to any one. The intention of both the nation and the government in thus providing for the half-breeds will be defeated, unless government purchase the tract. It is entirely too large for their use, and unless some action is taken in the matter it must continue to remain a waste. If it be deemed inexpedient to purchase it, I would recommend that the necessary steps be taken to ascertain the claimants, and to make a division of the land among them; otherwise it may at some future day be a source of embarrassment to the government, as it is at present an impediment to the settlement of the country. The tract of land between the two Nemahas, reserved under the same treaty for the half-breeds of the Yancton Sioux, Iowas, Ottoes and Omahas, should be either purchased or surveyed and assigned to the proper claimants; if it be not attended to in time, it will not fail to produce difficulty, should that section of country be ever opened for settlement.

The Pottawatomies who, at the date of my annual report of last year, had not emigrated, have since moved to their new homes, without causing the slightest embarrassment to the government; they deserve much credit for their promptness, especially as the entire emigration was effected within the time limited by the treaty for their removal. They are pleased, and justly so, with their new homes, and I am gratified to be able to inform you that they are now living in fraternal amity, after having lived in separate bands for so many years. After their schools, mills, &c., get into successful operation, I have little doubt but that their brethren in the north will join them.

It is to be regretted that the emigration of the Winnebagoes has not been more successful; not more, probably, than one half of the nation had arrived in their new country, up to the middle of last month. Their indefatigable agent, General Fletcher, doubtless did all in his power to effect their speedy and peaceable removal; and when he fairly supposed that everything was ready for a successful start, he was arrested by difficulties which were not foreseen, and which, with all his energy of character, aided by the company of volunteers from Camp Atkinson, he could not control. With the assistance, however, of the volunteers, and a part of Captain Eastman's company from Fort Snelling, he succeeded in getting

something less than one-half of them to their new homes; the remainder are scattered through the country—some in Iowa, some in Wisconsin, and some as far south as the Missouri river. It was found to be impracticable for the military to collect the stragglers, especially in so unfavorable a month as July; hence, all efforts on their part, for that purpose, have been discontinued since the 15th of that month. It is hoped that their large annuities, and the fine country selected for their residence, will do more towards inducing them to remove there than any other means that could be used. General Fletcher has despatched several of their influential men in quest of the scattered parties, in order to induce them to remove immediately, and to remove their prejudices against their country; and Agent Miller, at the Council Bluffs, has been instructed to do all in his power to induce those who have recently joined the Otoes and Omahas to move to their new country forthwith.

Since my last annual report, but few attacks have been made upon citizens of the United States by the Indians of this superintendency. I recollect at this time but one; that of the Sioux upon the steamboat *Martha*, loaded with the goods of P. Chouteau, jr., & Co., on her trip up the Missouri river last summer, in which one white man was killed. Agent Matlock, who was on board at the time, succeeded in pacifying the Indians and restoring quiet; his report of the investigation of the causes of this outrage, made at the time, has been already forwarded to you; he has been instructed to collect, in the country of the Sioux, what further information he can, with regard to the circumstances which led to the attack; when his report comes to hand, it will be made the subject of a special communication.

There have been fewer robberies committed by Indians upon our citizens on the route to Santa Fé, during the present year, than the two previous ones; it is certainly highly important that citizens passing from one portion of our country to another, for the purposes of commerce or settlement, should have efficient protection; and, for this purpose, I cannot too strongly recommend the views advanced by Agent Fitzpatrick, which have been communicated to you at different times through this office. Major Fitzpatrick's experience and frequent intercourse with the troops on the plains, together with his close observation, directed by a strong discriminating mind, entitle his opinions upon subjects of this kind to great weight.

War parties of one tribe against another have been much less frequent, especially among our border Indians, than heretofore. One occurrence, however, of the kind has taken place, that requires a special notice, namely: the attack made by a large party of Iowas, headed by their principal chief, *White Cloud*, last spring, upon a defenceless party of Pawnees, on their return home from the Council Bluffs agency, whither they had been for a supply of corn to save them from starving. The atrocity of this act is aggravated by the fact that the principal part of those killed were women and children. The Iowa sub-agent has been instructed to pay them no part of their annuity until they shall have made am-

ple reparation to the Pawnees. A similar outrage was committed last year, by the same Indians, upon a party of Omahas. In order to repress, in future, such wanton attacks, the leaders of the Iowa party should be *personally* punished in an exemplary manner.

The law of Congress passed on the 4th of March, 1847, more effectually to prevent the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian country, has not answered the purpose to the extent expected, as the Indians frequently succeed in smuggling in large quantities, which they procure in the State; the existing laws of the State of Missouri on the subject of selling to Indians are so inefficient that it is difficult to convict the seller, or to punish him effectually if convicted. Under these circumstances, it has occurred to me that a few prosecutions of Indians, found in the act of introducing spirituous liquors, would have a happy effect. Should the State of Missouri amend its own law on the subject of selling to Indians, it would go far to abate the evil; at present, Indians find no difficulty in purchasing as much whiskey as they have means to pay for in this State.

Much, it appears to me, might be done by the executive towards the suppression of this vice of drinking by the adoption of a regulation requiring officers commanding posts on the Indian frontiers to arrest all Indians found intoxicated or engaged in introducing whiskey into their country; to confine them for a short time for the first offence; to put them to hard labor, for a given period, for the second offence; and for the third offence to turn them over for prosecution, under the law of 1847. This mode of punishment, it is believed by many persons long acquainted with Indians, would be very successful.

In July last I addressed a letter to Captain Eastman, commanding at Fort Snelling, requesting his opinion as to the most efficient course to be pursued to suppress the introduction of whiskey into the Indian country; his letter, in reply, is herewith enclosed, (marked A,) from which you will perceive that I have adopted his views, with a slight exception. Captain Eastman has been long stationed at St. Peter's, and has had an opportunity of seeing much of the evil effects produced by the use of whiskey among the Indians; he has succeeded in capturing and destroying large quantities of liquor during the time he has been stationed there, and has acquired great experience in Indian affairs. From his uniformly kind and courteous treatment of the Sioux he has their confidence in a high degree. I cannot too strongly urge the adoption of Captain Eastman's plan; I feel confident it would effect much good. Such authority might with great safety be confided to officers commanding frontier posts. I have, without exception, found all the officers at our western posts, with whom I have had any intercourse, kind to the Indians, and zealous in carrying out the views of the Department.

The immense travelling of emigrant companies over the prairies, and the consequent increased destruction of the buffalo, has excited the anxiety of several of the western tribes for some years past. It cannot be disguised that the destruction of the buffalo by

the whites is far greater than by the Indians—the Indians viewing them as their means of subsistence, and never killing them except for the consumption of the flesh; whereas the whites often kill them for the tongues only, and, as it is reported, frequently for pastime. The country occupied by the buffalo is gradually and rapidly being circumscribed, which shows their great diminution. The time cannot be distant, when they will be insufficient to subsist the numerous tribes that now depend upon them for food. As that period approaches we may expect bloody conflicts, if not wars of extermination; the half starved bands will follow the buffalo into the lands of other tribes; the one pursuing their only support of life, the other protecting it against them, must necessarily lead to deadly strife. Many of the tribes that subsist upon the buffalo have no lands that will afford them an agricultural subsistence; and hence I would respectfully suggest that humanity to the Indians, as well as protection to our citizens on the plains, would require that the government should take timely measures for procuring and setting apart a tract of land on the south of the Missouri river, for the purpose of locating hereafter such of the prairie tribes as have not lands of their own suitable for agriculture; lands for this purpose could be procured from the Poncas and Omahas at a small cost. I had the honor some years ago of advancing similar views in a letter to your Department; and I find them strongly advocated by the Rev. Mr. De Smet, (whom I have alluded in a former part of this report,) in his "Oregon Missions," as follows, page 334: "Allow me the reflection, the ultimate fate of these fierce and lonely tribes is fixed at no distant date, unless looked to in time. What will become of them? The buffalo field is becoming narrower from year to year, and each succeeding hunt finds the Indians in closer contact. It is highly probable that the Blackfeet plains, from the Sus-cats-haw-in to the Yellow Stone, will be the last resort of the wild animals twelve years hence. Will there be sufficient to feed and clothe the hundred thousand inhabitants of these western wilds? The Crees, Blackfeet, Assinaboins, Crows, Snakes, Rickarees and Sioux, will then come together and fight their bloody battles on the plains, and become themselves extinct over the last buffalo steak. Let those who have the power and the means look to it in time. Let some effort be made to rescue them from the threatened destruction, lest, by guilty negligence, the last drop of aborigine blood indelibly stain the fair fame of the spread eagle, under whose protecting wing they are said to live. Justice makes the appeal." The foregoing are so apposite to my own opinions, and so beautifully and forcibly expressed by one practically familiar with the subject he was writing about, that I thought their insertion in this report would not be inappropriate.

The regulations of last November, in regard to the issuing of licenses to traders, which require that the person soliciting a license shall make his application in writing, furnish his bond, invoice, and testimonials of character, and that the license, accompanied by these documents, shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for approval or otherwise, are calculated to insure

uniformity and a due observance of law, and, at the same time, to prevent improper persons from getting into the Indian country through the sanction of the government; it is certainly strange that the law of 1834, requiring the action of the Commissioner on licenses, should have been so long overlooked.

The system of semi-annual payments, adopted by you this year, is of such manifest benefit to the Indians, (excepting small annuitants,) in enabling them to procure their supplies at fair prices in the spring and fall, that it stands in no need of commendation from me. A few persons, it is true, object to it on account of its increasing the business of the agent. I know no agency in this superintendency where the payments could not be made quarterly, if required, without devolving any *excessive* labor upon the agent; I speak advisedly on this subject; last spring, owing to the absence of the agent of the Osage river agency, who resigned in consequence of *ill health*, I made the payment in twelve days to seven different tribes; travelled over 160 miles; paid the different employees of the government; held councils with nearly all the tribes of the agency, in some of which important business was transacted, and during the whole time was laboring under great debility; and this is one of the largest agencies in this superintendency.

The contingent expenses of this superintendency have been greatly reduced within the last four years, especially in the item of transportation of annuity goods and provisions; but should the government continue to pay the transportation of the Winnebago provisions, *they will*, in future, be greatly increased. I know of no treaty stipulation or law that requires the transportation of the provisions for those Indians to be paid by the government. They are now large annuitants, have moved to a productive country, where they can, with ordinary industry, raise their own provisions, and it would be doing them a service could their annuity be so reduced as to make them rely more on their own labor. I would respectfully recommend that in future their provisions should be contracted for to be delivered in their own country, so as to relieve the government from the expense of their transportation.

The several tribes west of the Missouri, of which I am more particularly advised, have enjoyed this year fine health, and the agricultural portion of them raised abundant crops; they were never more kindly disposed towards the whites; and from all the information I have been able to collect, both from personal observation and the reports of others, their confidence in, and respect for, the government have increased very perceptibly of late.

The numerous traders west of the Missouri have, since my last annual report, conducted themselves with propriety, so far as I can learn, and thrown no embarrassments in the way of the government officers in the discharge of their duties; and it gives me pleasure to add that the agents and sub agents, without exception, have performed their duties with zeal and activity.

I should do injustice to my own feelings and sense of justice, were I to close this report without expressing my opinion of the many salutary measures adopted by you in relation to our Indian

affairs. These, carried out with firmness and decision, as they have been, have produced the most favorable results; and should your policy be continued but a few years longer, it will so advance the moral, intellectual, and physical condition of the Indians, and so elevate the Indian service, that the effects will remain even should a different policy be hereafter pursued.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

TH. H. HARVEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs.

HON. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 1—A.

FORT SNELLING, I. T., *August 6, 1848.*

SIR: I have just received your letter of the 26th ultimo, requesting me to recommend such means as will effectually stop the Indians from smuggling ardent spirits into their country.

As the white man who sells whiskey to the Indians cannot be reached by the present laws, some means should be taken to prevent the Indians from drinking or purchasing it, and this can be done only by summary punishment. By activity and vigilance, the troops at this post may capture a large quantity of whiskey from the Indians; but this does not prevent the latter from going directly back to the whiskey shops and purchasing more. Now, to make the efforts of the troops more effectual and perhaps break altogether the whiskey trade on the St. Peter's, I respectfully recommend that authority be given to the commanding officer to punish the Indian every time he is caught drunk, or with ardent spirits in his possession. This punishment to be hard labor under the charge of the guard; say twenty days for the first offence, and forty for the second. Should the Indian, after having received the second degree of punishment, still persist in violating the law, then leave it discretionary with the commanding officer to punish him as he thinks best. I do not believe any Indian would attempt to violate the law after having undergone the first punishment.

It is my belief, and also of those who have resided a very long time in this country, that if this course of punishment be taken with the Indians, that it will be effectual and the whiskey trade be broken up.

It is of no use for the government to attempt to ameliorate the condition of the Indians, until this villainous whiskey traffic be entirely rooted out from the country.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. EASTMAN,

Captain 1st Infantry, Commanding Fort Snelling.

Maj. THOS. H. HARVEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 2.

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY,
26th September, 1848.

SIR: Pursuant to usage, and in obedience to the requirements of the Department, I have now the honor to lay before you my annual report of the affairs and condition of the various tribes of Indians located within the precincts of this agency.

The tribes subject to my charge are the Kickapoos, Stockbridges, Delawares and Munsees, Christian Indians and Shawnees; to which must be added the united nation of Pottawatomies. The last named were placed under my care early last spring. The Kansas Indians, who for so many years were subject to my supervision, have been, since my last annual report, attached to another district.

As regards the first named six tribes, I have but little to add to my last year's communication, in reference to their general good conduct, their peaceable and friendly dispositions, and their efforts in the progress of agriculture. Their evident desire to attain, as far as in them lies, the blessings and benefits of industrious and moral lives; their care of property, procured by their own labor and exertions, must be apparent to all acquainted with them; for certainly, when an Indian becomes a property holder he begins to appreciate the true worth of economy; he abandons, then, that listlessness and indifference which seems to be inherent to the uncultivated native.

In compliance with the circular issued by the honorable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated May, 1847, I transmit, herewith, the census and statistics of the Kickapoos, Stockbridges, Delawares, Christian Indians and Shawnees. I must apologize for not furnishing them at an earlier date; the delay must be attributed to more pressing and important duties I was called upon to attend to. I hope, however, that even now they may serve the end required. Allow me to remark that I have taken great pains in collecting these statistics. I have valued the agricultural products at the market prices in this region; and here I am gratified in awarding my meed of praise to the Indians themselves, for the promptitude and willingness they evinced in giving in their various descriptions of property.

There were no questions asked as to the object or intention of the Department in desiring to ascertain their numbers and property; it was sufficient for them to know that it was the wish of their "Great Father" to learn their "ways and means," and, without a dissentient voice, they promptly came forward. I was much pleased, and I doubt whether a like quantity of "whites" would have been as willing to answer the call of the law as these simple-minded and primitive people.

A census and statistics of the Pottawatomies I have not been able to take; even if they had been taken, they would not fully have answered the purpose. These Indians have but recently emigrated to their new country; they have but few fields in cultivation, and are, moreover, not permanently settled as farmers. Some are still

living among the Kickapoos, whilst others, though not many, linger yet about their old haunts on the Osage river; as regards this tribe, whose interest and welfare you have had so much at heart, I shall speak more fully below.

The act of the 3d March, 1847, requiring the Indian department, under the direction of the Secretary of War, "to collect and digest such statistics and materials as may illustrate the present condition and future prospects of the Indian tribes," particularly the taking of a census, which was also the intention of the law, is worthy of commendation. The census and statistics now taken will form the basis of important knowledge as regards the industry and economy, the progress or decline of the various tribes. The ground work is now laid, and henceforth, say at intervals of four or five years, there can be no difficulty in arriving at true results; although the statistics which accompany this report will speak for themselves, I deem it not irrelevant to state the average fiscal means per capita of the following tribes, independent of the annuity they receive from government.

Kickapoos—average of agricultural products and hunts.....	} \$19 16	exclusive of annuity, which is....	\$14 41
Stockbridges.....do.....	37 26	.....do.....	1 11
Christian Indians.....do.....	22 76	.....do.....	3 03
Delawares.....do.....	22 17	.....do.....	7 20
Shawnees.....do.....	36 68	.....do.....	3 55

The number of persons as stated in the census will differ from the number called for in the annuity pay rolls. This is particularly the case with the Kickapoos; a considerable portion of the latter are not permanently settled as farmers, but rather lead an erratic life, being most of their time on Red river, and who only come to the north about payment time. These last named are, of course, not enumerated in the census. In the numbers of the other tribes the difference is not very material.

Of all the tribes on the border the Shawnees have made the greatest progress, and some of their farms will compare with many of the best within the State line; and in very many instances, they are superior both as regards management and culture. A few of the more opulent have negro slaves. The other tribes are likewise making laudable improvement.

You will observe by the statistics herewith, that almost every family is well supplied with farming stock; such as horses, oxen, milch cows, and other cattle, hogs and some sheep, and agricultural implements. They have raised abundance of corn, some wheat, potatoes, oats and garden vegetables; have made butter and cheese, and have cultivated fruit. Their hunts will appear of little or no moment. In fact, the "Indian hunter" has disappeared from among the border tribes, and the farmer has taken his place. All these Indians dwell in good log cabins, and some have extremely neat houses well furnished. They have their outhouses, stables, well fenced lots, and some have good barns. Indeed, a traveller passing through their country would fancy himself within the pale of the

"white settlements" were it not for the swarthy lineaments and strange language of the inhabitants.

The Stockbridge Indians, few in number, a very quiet, inoffensive and industrious people, are permitted by the Delawares to occupy a tract of country about six miles southeast of Fort Leavenworth.

The Christian Indians, are also located among the Delawares. As for the Munsees, they are now so amalgamated with their brethren (the Delawares) that they may be considered as a part of that nation.

You will please bear in mind that, with the exception of the Pottawatomies, the other tribes within this agency were not willing to receive their semi-annual payments last spring. They urged that the amount, per capita, would be so small that it would be of no service to them; and they requested me to keep the money until fall, and then give them the whole year's pay at once. As they were not suffering, but rather seemed well to do and contented, I acceded to their request. I am, however, decidedly of opinion that semi-annual payments are the most advantageous for Indians, and, no doubt, they will acknowledge this themselves whenever they can be brought to give them a fair trial.

Pottawatomies.—This large tribe, formerly divided into several distinct bands—each antagonistical to the other—each claiming interests denied by the others—the dire cause of jealousies and alienation—are, in virtue of their last favorable treaty, happily brought to assemble around one council fire, and to speak with one tongue. To your untiring exertions, and fatherly interest in the future welfare of this people, is this result mainly to be attributed. It affords me much pleasure to state that the last spring semi-payment, made in May, terminated in the most quiet and orderly manner. I had the satisfaction of seeing the two bands, viz: that from Council Bluffs and that from the Osage river, mingle with each other on the most friendly terms. I could discover no signs of a desire, by either party, to domineer or dictate. They sat promiscuously together, and exchanged their opinions with urbanity and good will. You will remember that, immediately before payment, and in your presence, the head man of the upper band, or Council Bluffs party, made an effort to revive those jealousies that have, for so many years, alienated the upper and the lower people. Your firmness and decision alone, and the just censure with which you met the scurrilous speech of the old chief, frustrated his unworthy design. It had a most beneficial effect, and, I am free to say, that there was not one Indian but was glad in his heart that this matter was put to rest so auspiciously.

Great attention was given in taking the pay-roll at the last spring payment. The united band numbers 3,235. I am informed that, in former years, the aggregate of the two bands, viz: that from Council Bluff, and that from the Osage river, amounted to upwards of 4,000. It would appear, then, that there is a material decrease in the united nation of Pottawatomies; but this is evidently not the case, for I have learned that, in former payments, particularly at Council Bluffs, the Indians were permitted to in-

clude in the pay-roll many of their relatives, who were non-residents—those who live in Wisconsin and Michigan, and who never emigrated. A decision was made to exclude non-residents, and the rule in future to be strictly adhered to; for these non-residents, were they even included in the roll, would never receive the benefits thereof, as their proxies have never been known to send them a dollar.

I am happy to state that the prejudices of the Pottawatomies, as regards their new homes, are fast disappearing. They begin to be convinced that it is a good country, with timber sufficient for all purposes. They cling with much tenacity to their pre-judgment of the land, and would have it, "nolens volens," a barren, timberless tract. They are, at last, compelled to admit that they were mistaken; and I hope they will not be slow, by a judicious cultivation of the soil, to prove the extreme fertility of some of the finest land of the west.

● The Pottawatomies are a quick and lively race. A greater portion of the lower band (from the Osage) had, previous to their departure from their old homes, made considerable progress in farming. With the advantages secured to them by treaty, and the ample agricultural fund to which they are entitled, they may, coupled with exertions on their own part, become a thriving and prosperous people.

While on the subject of these Indians, I may as well allude to a rather untoward event which took place last summer—July. It seems that a small party of Pottawatomies, connected with the family of old Pai-dah-go-shuk, together with a like number of Kickapoos and Sacs, went on an excursion to the plains to kill buffalo. In the course of their journey westward, they fell in with the main body of the Kansas Indians, who were then on the summer hunt, and camped in their vicinity. It happened that the Pawnees, roving that way, came upon the parties named, but probably ascertaining their numerical strength, were of necessity disposed to be friendly. The Pawnees despatched a messenger to the camps of the Pottawatomies, Kickapoos and Sacs, with assurances of friendship, and an invitation to smoke. The message was well received; but as the herald was returning, he was fired upon and killed by a young Kansas Indian. The main body of the Pawnees, who were in sight, seeing the fate of their messenger, made an attack on the four camps; an engagement ensued, which resulted in the death of five Pawnees, whose scalps were brought in by the Pottawatomies and Kickapoos. I am inclined to think that blame, in this matter, ought not to be attached to the Pottawatomies or Kickapoos; that they fought in self-defence is evident. But it is in every way unfortunate, as it has led to reprisals, and may end in further bloodshed; for, since the above collision took place, the Pawnees have lifted forty horses from the Pottawatomie settlements on Kansas river.

Information as regards the education of youth and the management of schools, will be found in the reports and schedules of the various missionary stations throughout this agency. These reports

and schedules not having all come in, will probably not accompany the one I am now transmitting; but when they shall have been collected they will be immediately laid before you, and that in a very short time. For the Pottawatomies, owing to their not being as yet permanently settled, no school report can be rendered; neither for the Kickapoos, the latter having no school amongst them. They are however very anxious to have a standing establishment for education in their settlement, and a short time back spoke to me favorably on the subject. I hope their wishes may be acceded to.

The blacksmiths among the Shawnees, Delawares and Pottawatomies, the other tribes within this agency not being entitled to smiths, have been employed in the making and repairing of agricultural implements and useful mechanical tools; and with one single exception, I have every reason to be satisfied with them.

Upon the whole, we may congratulate ourselves on the prosperous condition of the Indians of this agency. The health of the country has been good. No sickness of any consequence has prevailed, and crops of all descriptions are abundant. All these blessings call for fervent gratitude to the Giver of all good. Only one evil still remains: the addictedness of many of the Indians to the use of spirituous liquors. But this vicious propensity is, I am inclined to believe, gradually lessening; certainly, since the passage of the law of 3d March, 1847, less ardent spirits have been introduced into the Indian country by the natives themselves than formerly. The old men of the different tribes are active in suppressing the introduction of liquor. The Kickapoos and the Pottawatomies who reside with them, punish offenders of this stamp with stripes and public whippings. Occasional frolics and sprees will be taken by the young men in a mere spirit of bravado; but the practice is not general. There are more drunken Indians seen in the little border towns, within the State line, than in the Indian country proper.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICH. W. CUMMINS,
Indian Agent.

Major THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 2—A.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Department, I respectfully submit the following report of the condition of the school under my charge for the quarter ending September 30th, 1848.

The number of Delaware children for this quarter is thirty-one, fifteen males and sixteen females; of other tribes fifty-four, thirty-one males and twenty-three females; total number this quarter, eighty-five. They have been engaged as usual, in the schools a part of the time, and the other part at work. But as we had our summer vacation in the month of August, and the most of them

were absent for four weeks, they have not made as great proficiency as in some other quarters. Though they have now returned, and we are expecting a more regular and perhaps a fuller school through the winter.

We have raised tolerably good crops. But as we have had no rains here of much duration for two years, our excellent springs are failing very fast; our meadows and pastures have suffered greatly, and we have been compelled to haul water to keep our steam mill running for two months past.

The health of the institution has been better than common for this season of the year.

I have the honor to be, dear sir, your obedient servant,
THOMAS JOHNSON.

Superintendent F. L. Ind. M. L. school.

Hon. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner Indian Affairs,

Washington city, October 6, 1848.

No. 2—B.

SHAWNEE BAPTIST MISSION SCHOOL,
September 15, 1848.

SIR: In submitting my annual report of this mission station, allow me to say that no material change has taken place in our operations since the last year's report. The station, as then, continues under the patronage of the executive committee of the A. B. M. U., having its location in Boston, Mass.

Much perplexity attends the labor of elevating mind involved in the darkness of paganism. The encouragement to persevere is found in the necessity of the work, and in the obligations of the more enlightened to extend their sympathy to such portions of the human family as have enjoyed less privileges than themselves.

I am happy in adding my testimony to others, that the labors bestowed upon the tribes within your agency have been attended with a good degree of success. This is seen in the improvements made in the farms of the Indians—in the increasing energy and perseverance in labor among not a few—in the reformation of some who, among the many, have been addicted to habits of intemperance—and, what is not the least worthy of mentioning, in the religious observance of the Sabbath day.

Two of the scholars have left the school, and two others have been newly enrolled. As a general thing, it is found to be much easier for them to learn for sake of pleasing their teachers, than from desire of improvement; and hence they easily forget what they acquire. The most of the pupils have been regular in their attendance. During intermissions from study, they have been employed in manual labor—the males upon the farm, and the females in housewifery and needle-work. All of them, with the addition of other persons, have attended Sabbath school. Portions

of scripture and devotional hymns have been the subjects of recitation in the Sabbath school.

A new frame building, 28 by 40 feet, has been erected during the past year for the accommodation of the Sabbath services. Religious meetings during the week have been held at Indian houses in different neighborhoods.

Quite a laudable desire exists among the adult population, who do not understand the English language, to learn to read the translations in their own tongue.

Very respectfully submitted.

FRANCIS BARKER,
Superintendent, &c.

Major R. W. CUMMINS,
Fort Leavenworth agency.

No. 2—C.

KANSAS RIVER, POTTAWATOMIE COUNTRY,
September 25, 1848.

SIR: Permit me to report the following, respecting the Baptist mission school among the Pottawatomies.

This school, taught by me, and relinquished last fall, on the removal of this tribe to their new home on Kansas river, was there resumed the 20th of last March. A session of five months, ending August 20th, was taught.

Owing to the limited means and accommodations, the number of pupils was restricted to sixteen boarders, eleven of whom were girls, from the ages of five to fourteen years; five boys, from six to twelve years old; all Pottawatomies, except one, a full blooded white, the step-daughter of a Pottawatomie man. At the expiration of the session, four of the scholars had advanced to reading, three to writing, and one to geography and arithmetic; the balance were variously advanced in spelling, from two letters to two syllables.

All made pleasing progress in study, while some evinced great, if not uncommon, readiness in the acquisition of knowledge.

In addition to ordinary studies, the children received Sabbath school and other religious instructions. They were also taught domestic duties, in connexion with sewing and needle work.

It is now designed to close the present vacation as early as possible, and again open the school in temporary buildings, until those for the large manual labor school, in contemplation, are erected, when we hope to enter upon more extended efforts.

Respectfully,

E. McCOY, *Teacher*

Major R. W. CUMMINS,
U. S. Indian agent.

No. 2—D.

DELAWARE BAPTIST MISSION,
September 27, 1848.

SIR: In compliance with instructions recently received at this station, the following summary notice of the boarding school located here, is forwarded by the earliest opportunity.

The school, under the direction of the American Baptist mission union, was re-opened on the first Monday in July.

* * * * *

The pupils, with a single exception, being under fourteen years of age, are not advanced beyond the first principles of an English education.

It being of primary importance that the foundation of an education be carefully laid, much attention has been given to reading and spelling; and we are gratified with the measure of success that has thus far attended the effort made.

In the several classes there has been, apparently, a desire to maintain a respectable standing, which influences to commendable application.

We see no reason to doubt the entire ability of any of the number to pass on to the higher and more abstruse branches of study with hope of pleasing success.

Out of school the girls receive attention in the varied duties which their position in life may require at their hands.

Respectfully,

E. S. MORSE, *Teacher.*

J. G. PRATT, *Superintendent.*

To Major R. W. CUMMINS,
Indian agent, Fort Leavenworth agency.

No. 2—E.

26th, 9th month, 1848.

FRIEND CUMMINS: The following is the report of the school during the past year.

There has been in attendance, during the past year, including regular and irregular scholars, 33 boys, and 35 girls.

* * * * *

The children's capacities for learning are are about like white children, notwithstanding the disadvantage they have to labor under in not having as perfect knowledge of the English language as white children. It is truly astonishing to see the rapidity with which they acquire knowledge. The boys work on the farm part of the time, and soon learn how to do what they are set at. The girls spend a part of their time in doing house work, sewing, &c. Many of them do the sewing part of their own, and some of the clothes of the other children.

ELIZABETH HARVEY, *Sup't.*

No. 3.

OSAGE RIVER AGENCY, *September 7, 1848.*

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Department, I have the honor to submit, through you, my annual report, giving as near as possible the condition of the various tribes of Indians within this agency. The short time that I have had charge of affairs here, will be taken, I am sure, as an excuse for my not being familiar with all the minute affairs of this agency. I have devoted a considerable portion of the time I have been here to the Miamies, in consequence of difficulties that seemed to exist among these people. One of the principal causes of their dissatisfaction seems to arise out of the superintendent's intention to remove them from the place where they settled "near the State line," and locate them on the west side of their country, near the Weas, which I heartily concur with the superintendent should be done. It appears that these people are determined to extinguish, or at least to very much degrade themselves from their present unenviable condition, by drinking whiskey, which they obtain, without any difficulty and in great abundance, in the State, at little whiskey shops kept expressly for their use. To remove them to their new location, is getting them further from these dens kept for their destruction, as well as from the white men in the State, that appear to exercise an unlimited influence over them, and locate them in a better part of their country than where they now are. Over one-half of them have already removed, and appear to be well pleased with their exchange. Their smith shop, which is now in operation and doing all their work, their school, and all their traders, are located at their new village. I have refused to allow any trader to locate at any other point; and, if the government will now cause a good mill to be built at or near this point, as has been contemplated, I shall be able finally to succeed in getting them all to remove to this part of their land, although some of their chiefs say that they will never move. I have endeavored very hard to prevent these people from drinking so much. Their promises are very fair, but their acts are very different. While I can remain among them I can prevent them from drinking; but my agency being so large I cannot possibly devote any great portion of my time to any one tribe. Their school is not yet in operation, but the buildings are in progress, and will soon be ready for use.

The Ottowas I find to be almost entirely a sober people; very well disposed, industrious, and withal religious. They have among them a large quantity of stock of almost every description. They farm it to a considerable extent, and their crops at present are unusually good. They generally dispose of their surplus stock and produce to the Sac and Fox, and other tribes of Indians. They have no trader among them at present. These people have, it appears, been complaining for some time of depredations committed upon their property by the Sacs and Foxes. When I talked to the Sac and Fox chiefs about this, they admitted that some of their

young man might have done the Ottowas some damage, and they appeared anxious to have every difficulty settled. I then met both the Sacs and Foxes and Ottowas in council, and had no difficulty whatever in settling amicably to both parties all their difficulties, and restoring good feeling, which had to some extent been destroyed.

The Chippewas, a very small tribe, located between the Sacs and Foxes and Ottowas, talk of leaving their land here and going to Canada. Their chief has just returned from there, and tells his people he is having ample preparations made for them if they will go. I have advised them not to go, but to remain on their own land where they now are. They have a fine tract of land here, and are making good farms; and present at present a fair prospect of doing very well.

The Sacs and Foxes returned from their hunt in July, and reported a difficulty they had with the Pawnees.

It appears that they, with several other neighboring tribes, had met the Pawnees on the prairies, and were friendly, and while *Keokuk*, a Sac, was handing to a Pawnee the pipe of peace, a Kansas Indian that was in company fired and killed the Pawnee. The Pawnees, who were but a short distance off, seeing one of their men killed, immediately commenced the fight, and the Sacs and Foxes, as well as the other tribes, were forced to fight. They killed and scalped five of the Pawnees. No other Indians were killed, but several wounded. The Sacs and Foxes have gathered their crop and buried it, as they always do, and are now preparing to go out on their fall hunt, where they will remain until late in the winter. They have raised but little corn this year, but considerably more, I am told, than they did last year. Many of them say they wish to have a farm and raise more corn and vegetables. I have promised to have them farms made this winter, and afford them every encouragement in the noble enterprise. They have requested me to employ a doctor for them, which I have done, and he is now among them, giving general satisfaction, notwithstanding their prejudice to white doctors. These people have no school, and say plainly they do not wish one.

I visited the Kansas a few days since. They are about ninety miles from the agency. They are a very poor, degraded people—thievish, filthy, and unusually ignorant. They complain that they are only getting one-half of their money these times, although the persons who live among them, as well as myself, have explained the cause. I told them that they would now be paid twice a year in the place of once, but they cannot or will not understand it. They say they want the money just as they had it last year, or all that is due them for the year paid at the same time. These people are anxious for a farmer. They say they are going to work like their neighbors. They are also anxious for a missionary, and say they want their children to learn to read and write, and to work like white men, and not live, as they their parents are, like wolves. These people appear to be well aware of how far they are behind the other tribes in point of civilization. There are several other small tribes in this agency, not here named, but as there has nothing

come to my knowledge worthy of notice among them, I shall pass them by. The mechanics among all the tribes of this agency are supplying their Indians with every necessary kind of work, and giving general satisfaction.

Believing that it is the duty as well as the privilege of agents, sub-agents or superintendents to express their opinion respecting any law or regulation that may be made for the government of the Indian tribes, I beg your permission to say that, while there have been many issued that are highly commendable, and have and will meet the hearty approbation of every unprejudiced mind; among these, permit me to recommend, as foremost the regulation of April 13, 1847, prohibiting the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian country. Not only the Indians themselves, but the agents that have been among them, have felt and can see daily the happy effect that it has produced. But while I heartily approve of this, and many others which are unnecessary to be named here, there are a few that I cannot believe are consistent or will operate to the advantage of the government or Indians. The one I shall name first is the regulation of November 9, 1847, concerning the granting of licenses to trade with Indians. The 7th paragraph of said regulations provides that—

“When the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent shall have determined to grant a license, the same, duly executed, will, before being delivered, be transmitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for his approval or disapproval, and will be accompanied by the application and the testimonials in favor of the persons to be employed. In case any of the persons are so favorably known to the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent that he does not consider testimonials in their favor necessary, they may be dispensed with by his endorsing on the application accordingly.”

This supposes one of two things—either that the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent, has not the ability to determine who are fit persons to conduct trade with Indians, or that they are deficient in disposition; neither of which appears to me to be reasonable suppositions; for, in the first place, I suppose that no man would be appointed agent, sub-agent, or superintendent who had not both the ability and disposition to judge of the fitness of persons to conduct trade in their agency, sub-agency, or superintendency; and in the next place, the agents, sub-agents, and superintendents are generally acquainted with the persons making applications to trade with Indians. If not, the persons so applying for license can produce testimonials from persons with whom they are acquainted; but in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred the Commissioner of Indian Affairs never heard of the persons making the applications, nor those from whom he gathers testimonials. The Commissioner therefor can know nothing of the matter except what the agent, sub-agent or superintendent informs him of. Then, if the Commissioner is to be governed by the agent's, sub-agent's, or superintendent's opinion, why, I ask, should it not be left with them at the start? There is no power given, in these regulations, to the agents or sub-agents to revoke a license. The 12th paragraph provides

that the superintendent may revoke a license, but all that the agents or sub-agents can do is to report the misconduct of a trader to the superintendent, who will take into *consideration the propriety*, as the *regulations* say, of revoking the license. Under these regulations, before the agent or sub-agent could report the misconduct of a trader to the superintendent, and the superintendent institute an investigation and determine the case, the trader would have plenty of time to effect any infamous scheme he chose. It places the trader as it were out of the reach of the agents or sub-agents; and, instead of this, in my humble opinion, the agents and sub-agents should have full control over the traders. In short, the regulations clearly express a lack of confidence in the agents and sub-agents, and for no reason that I am aware of, except, perhaps, some agent or other has been suspected of sinister motives in licensing the traders in his agency; and I do not think that all agents should be thought to be dishonest because one was found to be so. My doctrine is to appoint no man to that high and responsible office of Indian agent, where he has, perhaps, one or two hundred thousand dollars to disburse annually, whom you are afraid to allow to decide who are competent to conduct Indian trade.

In relation to semi-annual payments to Indians, I am clearly of the opinion it is attended with no good to the Indians. When I first heard of this plan of payment, I was much pleased with it, but since I have witnessed its effects I have altered my opinion. In the first place, many of the annuities, when divided, are too small to enable them to purchase such things as are of much benefit to them. In the next place, there is always considerable excitement produced among the Indians by their chiefs and traders, at and previous to each payment, which absorbs everything, and the oftener this comes the oftener we have interruptions, and the attention of the Indians diverted from their other pursuits for a living. Under the present arrangement, in many of the agencies, it gives to the agent more than he can perform, if he does his duty to the Indians and government. For instance, my agency is about one hundred and fifty miles long, from the Miamies to the Kansas, embracing eight or nine different tribes, and some of them very large tribes, who receive a large and complicated amount of money, and having to make two payments each year in the place of one, the paying itself consumes the most of the time of the agents; consequently they have not the time necessary to spend among the different tribes at a time that is free from excitement, to exert his influence for good. My opinion is, that if you wish to have work well done, you must not give to your laborers too great a task. My predecessor, I am informed, resigned this agency because he thought the duties required were more than any one man could perform. I have not yet come to the conclusion that I cannot perform all the duties of this agency, yet I believe its duties are entirely too much for any one man. But if it is not the policy of the Department to reduce it, my utmost endeavors shall be exerted to perform every duty, for I have confidence in my own ability to do a great deal of hard work, such as has to be done in performing the duties of this

agency. In conclusion, I have to say that everything within the boundaries of this agency presents nothing but peace, harmony, and good will.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES S. RAINS,

U. S. Indian Agent for the Osage river agency.

Major THOS. H. HARVEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

NOTE.—The writer of this report, although he has certainly taken a very correct view of the qualifications which an agent should possess, does not seem to have made himself acquainted with the most common provisions of the law prescribing his own duties.

The 2d section of the "act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontier," approved June 30, 1834, provides that "no person shall be permitted to trade with any of the Indians (in the Indian country) without a license therefor from a superintendent of Indian affairs, or Indian agent, or sub-agent;"—that "the superintendent of the district shall have power to revoke and cancel the same whenever the person licensed shall, in *his* opinion, have transgressed any of the laws and regulations provided for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, or that it would be improper to permit him to remain in the Indian country;" and that "it shall be the duty of the persons granting or revoking such licenses, *forthwith* to report the same to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for *his* approval or disapproval." Thus, it will be seen, that it is a law of Congress which requires the license to be approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and which limits the power of revoking it to the superintendents of districts, and not a mere regulation of the Department, as was supposed by the agent.

No one, it is presumed, will contend, that a measure which requires the *approval*, of a subsequent and higher power, is in force, or in any way operative until such approval is obtained.

In reference to the animadversions of this agent upon these provisions of the law, and the course of the Department in making semi-annual payments where the annuities are large, it is only necessary to call attention to the following extract from the report of the superintendent of the district, residing at St. Louis, written, as will be seen, with the above remarks of the agent before him, and whose high standing and great experience as an officer entitle his views and opinions, in relation to matters of this kind, to more than ordinary consideration.

"The regulations of last November, in regard to the issuing of licenses to traders, which require that the person soliciting a license shall make his application in writing, furnish his bond, invoice, and testimonials of character, and that the license, accompanied by these documents, shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for approval or otherwise, are calculated to insure uniformity and a due observance of law, and, at the same time, to prevent improper persons from getting into the Indian country through

the sanction of the government; it is certainly strange that the law of 1834, requiring the action of the Commissioner on licenses, should have been so long overlooked.

"The system of semi-annual payments, adopted by you this year, is of such manifest benefit to the Indians (excepting small annuitants) in enabling them to procure their supplies at fair prices in the spring and fall, that it stands in no need of commendation from me. A few persons, it is true, object to it on account of its increasing the business of the agent. I know no agency in this superintendency where the payments could not be made quarterly, if required, without devolving any excessive labor upon the agent. I speak advisedly on this subject. Last spring, owing to the absence of the agent of the Osage river agency, who resigned in consequence of *ill health*, I made the payment in twelve days to seven different tribes—travelled over 160 miles—paid the different employees of the government—held councils with nearly all the tribes of the agency, in some of which important business was transacted, and, during the whole time, was laboring under great debility; and this is one of the largest agencies in the superintendency."

W. M.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, Nov. 30, 1848.

No. 3—A.

OTTAWA BAPTIST MISSION, INDIAN TERRITORY,
September 22, 1848.

DEAR SIR: Since the time of making out my last annual report our district school has been discontinued, and arrangements are now being made for opening a permanent boarding school, which will probably commence in the spring or summer of 1849.

The Ottawas have, for several years past, been making a gradual improvement in their houses, fields, stock, farming and household implements, &c., and have been increasing in their habits of industry, temperance, morality, and piety. Although their stock has, during the past year, much increased, still they will be able, probably, to sell about one half of the products of their farms to the Sacs, Foxes, and Pottawatomies.

Various efforts have been made during the last two years, by the United States' agents, the missionaries, and by yourself, to induce the Ottawas to exclude ardent spirits from their country, and to become temperate, but without much success, except within the bounds of the mission church. During the present year, however, the chiefs and principal men of the tribe have made a noble effort, and have succeeded in inducing the nation to make a law, in public council, to entirely prevent the introduction of all spirituous liquors into their country. Since the adoption of the said law, one person only has ventured to bring liquor, who was immediately fined ten dollars. Occasionally a few of the most worthless fellows go into the white settlements and take a spree, but it is hoped that even this will soon be stopped.

The station is patronized by the American Baptist Mission Union, whose seat of operations is at Boston, Massachusetts; Rev. S. Peck, corresponding secretary. The missionaries at the station are the undersigned and his wife, whose post office address is Westport, Jackson county, Missouri.

Most respectfully, I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

JOTHAM MEEKER.

Major T. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 4.

ST. PETER'S (WINNEBAGO) AGENCY,
October 4, 1848.

SIR: Since my last annual report of the condition of the Winnebago Indians, the most important event connected with them is their removal from the neutral ground to the country they now occupy. When the tribe was notified last spring, by the government, that their new home was procured for them, they decided at once to remove, and such arrangements were made as would have enabled them to remove comfortably, and with a very moderate expense, but the interference of interested individuals created dissatisfaction and disturbance among the Indians, which caused much delay, and resulted in scattering one half of the tribe. Some of those who turned back went to their old hunting ground in Wisconsin, others went west into the interior and western part of Iowa. I have recently been informed that a party of about one hundred in number have joined the Ottoes, southwest of the Missouri river.

The difficulties existing between the Sioux and Chippewas greatly embarrassed the removal of the Winnebagoes. They were induced to believe that they would necessarily become involved in the war between those tribes, and that they would be exterminated. Those who turned back were no doubt influenced by fear. It was with great difficulty that one half of the tribe, including all the principal chiefs, were persuaded to persevere in removing to their new home.

It is probable that a majority of those who have scattered will return and join their tribe this fall; and they will all ultimately come back, if they are not encouraged to join other tribes, and allowed to participate in their annuities. It will be difficult for these wanderers to subsist by their own exertions; want will soon compel them to return to their tribe. Two small parties, consisting of some thirty in number, have already come in, and the chiefs have sent a delegation to hunt up the absentees, and induce them to return. The Winnebagoes left Turkey river on the 8th of June, and arrived at the mouth of the Watab river on the 30th of July; the distance travelled, 310 miles.

The country for the Winnebagoes was judiciously selected. It is the best location that could be procured for them west of the

Mississippi river. A large proportion of the country is forest, which abounds with game and valuable furs; and the numerous rivers and lakes are well stored with excellent fish.

The Winnebagoes are well pleased and satisfied with the country which has been procured for them, and look upon it as their permanent home.

From the time the Winnebagoes received their annuities last fall, until they commenced preparations for removing in the spring, nothing of unusual importance occurred in relation to them. Their plentiful crop last season, together with their annuities, afforded them ample means of subsistence during the winter and spring. Ample provision has been made for their subsistence during the present year. Early in May, five men with a team and tools were sent from the agency on Turkey river to this country to commence improvements preparatory for the Indians. The amount of labor performed by them previous to the arrival of the Indians is not very creditable to their industry. About 150 acres of land at the former agency on Turkey river were put in grain last spring before the Indians left: three men were left to cultivate and secure the crop; which has proved to be very good.

The quantity of intoxicating liquor consumed by the Winnebagoes the past year has been far less than usual. The vigilance of the officers stationed at Fort Atkinson, and a few prosecutions commenced against persons for attempting to introduce whiskey among this tribe, has had the effect, in a great measure, to prevent its introduction and use.

The practicability of civilizing the Winnebago Indians is no longer considered doubtful. While the Winnebagoes occupied the neutral ground as a temporary residence, it was not deemed advisable to encourage them to invest their means in erecting permanent dwelling houses, planting orchards, &c., for the reason that it would but attach them more strongly to the soil which they must soon leave, and increase the obstacles in the way of effecting their removal from that country. The efforts made to advance them in civilization were chiefly directed to encourage them to cultivate the soil, and to adopt the use of common agricultural implements; also to substitute horse power for the labor of their women, in packing wood and other burdens. While occupying their former residence this tribe, or rather, the several bands of the tribe, had, to a certain extent, a community of interests, and the plan of operations adopted for them was calculated to encourage this system. Their ground was ploughed and fenced in large fields, and these fields assigned to different bands. Now the position of the tribe is different; it is expected that the Winnebagoes will occupy their present home for a considerable number of years, and it will be expedient to encourage individual interests. To effect this, it is considered best to prepare as fast as practicable small farms with comfortable dwelling houses, stables and out-houses, for such families as will occupy them. To protect these interests, and secure to the industrious the quiet possession of the fruits of their labor, laws are indispensable. The chiefs of the tribe have neither the

independence to enact, nor the power to enforce the laws, which, they are fully aware, are necessary to promote the prosperity of their people. The government of the United States must, for the present, enact and enforce these laws. The chiefs, and the industrious and well disposed portion of the tribe desire, and request the government to afford them this protection.

There is, at present, a disposition manifested by a considerable portion of the tribe, to make laudable efforts to improve their condition; some individuals have applied for assistance in building and furnishing dwelling houses after the fashion of the white man. Assistance will be rendered to such as will help themselves, in making such improvements as are deemed necessary for them. It is believed that a portion of the interest of the investment, stipulated in the fourth article of the treaty of 1846, would be well expended in building dwelling houses for such of the tribe as should, by industry and good conduct, prove themselves deserving of assistance.

The Winnebago school was discontinued early in May. Up to that time the school was well attended, and the usual progress made by the children. A statement in detail of the operations of the school cannot now be given, for want of access to the records, which were packed with the property belonging to the school, and have not yet arrived here. The Rev. D. Lowry, superintendent of the school, and Mr. Williams, assistant teacher, have assisted in the removal of the Indians. I have availed myself of Mr. Lowry's advice in selecting the location for the agency, and, also, in selecting locations for manual labor schools. One school house is now commenced near the agency. The funds now appropriated for education, in the several treaties with the Winnebagoes, are ample to support a sufficient number of manual labor schools to educate every child in the tribe. To bring the tribe generally to appreciate the benefits of education, and to induce them to send their children to school, will require persevering effort and judicious management.

The practicability of converting the Winnebago Indians to Christianity, is yet to be tested. No systematic and persevering efforts have been made to bring the truths of the gospel to bear upon them. The barrenness of their language, and the difficulty of translating the bible into it, are serious obstacles in the way of their religious improvement. But these obstacles are not insurmountable. It is hoped that the churches in our land will not longer overlook this tribe in their efforts to Christianize the American Indians.

During the past year, and especially during the past summer, the health of this tribe has been unusually good.

About one-third of the annuity goods due the tribe the present year have been paid to them since their arrival at their new home; the balance will be paid them with their money. The tribe are well satisfied with the kind and quality of goods furnished them. The annuity provisions furnished this year prove to be of excellent quality.

The Pillager band of Indians will receive their goods this year

at the mouth of Crow Wing river. I have not been able to visit this band, and therefore cannot, from my own observation, speak of their character and condition. They are represented as being very poor and destitute. The goods which they now receive annually from the government will be of great service to them. The Chippewas of the Mississippi, are well satisfied with the arrangements which have been made with regard to them. The Sioux and Chippewas are at present on friendly terms with the Winnebagoes; they say they wish to live in peace and friendship with their brothers, the Winnebagoes, and "eat out of the same dish with them;" which they literally do; the Winnebagoes have been liberal in presents to both tribes.

The Sioux and Chippewas continue hostile to each other. The chiefs of both these tribes have expressed a willingness to meet in council for the purpose of negotiating a peace. If I had the means to subsist a large party during a council, I would attempt to effect a reconciliation between these tribes in that way. The most reliable means of keeping these tribes at peace would be to establish a sufficient military force among them. It is important that a company of dragoons should be stationed on the southwestern boundary of the Winnebagoes. A well disciplined company at that point would hold the Sioux and Chippewas in check, afford the Winnebagoes the protection which they have been encouraged to expect, and which they need, and at the same time control any disorder that might arise among them. It is deemed important that the Winnebagoes should be withdrawn from the Mississippi river, and located on the western portion of their country; but it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to effect this the present season, unless a military force is stationed in the neighborhood.

Trespass to a considerable extent has been committed, the present season, in the hunting grounds of the Sioux by British half breeds. I have understood that quarrels have arisen between the parties, and serious consequences resulted. As soon as other duties will permit, this matter will be more fully investigated, and made the subject of a special report.

Letters to this agency should be directed via Fort Snelling.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. FLETCHER,
Indian Agent.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

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No. 4—A.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1848.

SIR: The Winnebago school closed early in May last, in consequence of the removal of the Indians, and owing to the very unexpected delay in that operation, it has not yet been opened; but we hope to be able to resume business in a short time.

Being now in the act of moving myself, with my family, &c., to the Indian country, and having no access to the teachers or records of the school, it is out of my power to give those details respecting the studies and progress of the children usually found in annual reports. From my last report, however, up to the close of the institution, it had been as well attended as at any former period, and the pupils manifested their usual interest in the branches of study assigned them.

It is now hoped that obstacles to the improvement of the Winnebagoes heretofore existing, and which grew out of their unsettled state, will cease to operate, and that *all* the means provided under treaty stipulations for their instruction will be immediately brought into action. The funds named in the treaty of 1846, in connexion with a manual labor school, should be united with the previous funds for the school and farm, and the whole expended in developing the moral, physical, and intellectual powers of the Indians.

A printing press would be of much service to the tribe, and though not specified in the treaty of 1846, yet the discretionary power granted by that instrument in carrying out its provisions, gives full liberty to provide one. The object is not, of course, to print books, but to publish in the first place a small juvenile newspaper, adapted to the capacities of the children at school, and those who may have left the institution. Such a paper would not only be interesting to the children, but through them much valuable information might be imparted to the adult Indians.

In calling the attention of the children to the arts of civilized life, those branches should be first presented which are best adapted to a semi-savage state. To teach a branch of domestic economy to a family still preferring the wigwam to the house, when a residence in the latter would be necessary to enable them to realize the advantages of such knowledge, would be worse than useless. Let families, therefore, be drawn as early as possible into houses, and feel that they are more comfortable *there* than in a wigwam, and you have them at once prepared to adopt habits suited to their new circumstances and to perceive the advantages. A tangible object before an Indian will affect him where theory and reasoning have no power over him whatever.

In efforts to induce the Indian to cultivate the soil, I am decidedly in favor of giving each family that may choose it a separate location, sufficiently remote from one another to permit the raising of stock, &c. We, ourselves, would not think of living together in villages, and attend to agricultural pursuits, raise cattle, hogs, &c. It would be much more difficult for Indians to do so who are destitute of law, often drunk, and disposed to kill and destroy the lives and property of each other.

In attempts to benefit these people, too much care cannot be taken in the selection of persons to labor with them. It is fifteen years this day since I came to the Indian country. During this time I have been a constant observer of efforts to improve our northern tribes, and am of the opinion that the greatest hindrance

in this work of benevolence is a want of proper persons to engage in it. Reference is not here made so much to habits of industry as to moral qualifications. Instead of learning virtue, the Indians too frequently learn vice from those sent to improve their condition. Allow me to add, in this connexion, that mere outward morality, detached from feelings of concern for the salvation of the Indians, is not sufficient. *The heart must be in the work.*

D. LOWRY,

Superintendent W. S.

Gen. J. E. FLETCHER,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 5.

COUNCIL BLUFFS AGENCY,
September 15, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor of submitting to you my annual report of the condition of the Indians of the different tribes of this agency.

The Ottos and Missourias, who for some years past have resided on each side of the great river Platte, were attacked last fall by the Sioux, on the north, and driven to the south of the river, since which time they have refused to live on the north. I could not prevail on them to have their corn planted on their farm north of the Platte, although they were promised if they would agree to attend their farm on the north that the government would furnish them a farmer to show them how to harness their horses, &c. On their positively refusing so to do, the agent did not consider it expedient to employ one for them. On the south of the Platte they can scarcely be said to have any farm, as the lands they cultivate are in small patches, perhaps not more than two acres in the largest, and many times not exceeding one-half or fourth acre.

In the instructions received from the superintendent of Indian affairs of the 24th February last, it was left discretionary with the agent to employ a farmer or not, to show them how to harness their horses, and instruct them in agriculture, &c., which would have been done but for the above reasons, and that it would have been a useless waste of funds to employ a man to superintend the cultivation of their small patches, too small, if possible, for a horse and plough to turn in. They have been left to depend upon their own exertions, and I presume they have done quite as well as they would have done had they been furnished with a farmer, situated as they were.

In the future, they will require considerably more corn than formerly, from the fact that the game is fast receding, and already so remote that but a few of their village attempt to go in pursuit of buffalo. Corn is their almost only support, and if they should remain where they now are, I would respectfully suggest the pro-

priety of having them some land broken up south of the Platte; their ponies are too light for breaking prairie land.

The Ottos, this year, have made a tolerable hunt; their spring and summer hunt is mostly valuable for provisions. The skins of the buffalo taken in these hunts are dressed and used for lodge skins and strouding for the squaws, &c.

Their blacksmith shop is of great advantage to their tribe; in fact their smith has made \$27 axes and hoes, also, 12 ploughs, 61 sheet iron kettles, 75 tin kettles and cups, and a number of fire steels, and cold chissels, besides stocking a number of their guns, as well as the repairing of many others. It is nothing strange, after a drinking frolic, to see them come to the shop with their guns smashed or broken, and done, evidently, by severe blows, either on the ground, logs, or trees.

They are dissatisfied with the plan of semi-annual payments; their annuity being only twenty-five hundred dollars, is so small, when divided, as to amount to but a fraction over one dollar per capita; which sum is insufficient to procure them a blanket or gun. The consequence is, that I fear much of the little will go for whiskey. If it were practicable, it would meet the views of the Indians much better to get their annuity in one payment than in two. I would remark, that as the Department has commenced semi-annual payments with the Indians, it would be best to continue it, as it will enable them more readily to procure ammunition for their spring and fall hunts, on which they wish, generally, to start by the first of October and middle of May; by which the Department will see the necessity of forwarding funds for annuity purposes in time for their different hunts. They number about 900 souls.

The Omahas have no annuity; they reside at their former village when not on the hunt. They have made perhaps a sufficiency of corn to do them the present season, provided they can make a good winter's hunt; their crop was cut short, owing to the drouth in June and July. They have also a blacksmith and assistant who render them similar service to that of the Ottoe shop.

The Ottos and Omahas would, in my opinion, soon become a prosperous people, were it not for the cursed traffic in whiskey that is kept up on the line of the States of Iowa and Missouri; there is no difficulty in the Indians obtaining any quantity of spirits on the western borders of these two States. If the legislature of each of these two States would incorporate a clause in their statute acts, making an Indian a competent witness against the whiskey seller, and add imprisonment to the fine, it would, in a great degree, break up the traffic, for in most cases the offenders have nothing to be come at, except their *bodies*. Already this season there have (as I have recently learned) been some fifteen or twenty of these two tribes' horses sold for whiskey. When they start on the hunt, they steal as many more from the whites, with perhaps a few others for interest. If such amendments were made to the laws, I do not believe that one-fourth of the troubles would take place between the border settlements and the Indians.

On the 8th of July last, I informed the Department that there was

danger of a war between the Ottoes and Omahas in relation to their disputed land claim. This matter has been pressed upon the department so frequently by the superintendent of Indian affairs and the former agent, as well as the present one, that anything more would be useless.

The Omahas number about 1,300 souls. These two tribes have a missionary and school establishment amongst them, which I hope will be of lasting benefit to them; for the particulars of which I would respectfully refer you to the report of the Rev. Edward McKinney, the superintendent of the institution.

The Pawnees number about 2,500. They have no annuity, and owing to their potent enemies, the Sioux, they still reside on the south of the Platte. In council, this fall, the chiefs of three bands of the Pawnees told me they were anxious to move on their own land, north of the Platte, that they wanted their Great Father to make the grand Pawnee band cross over with them; that if the grand Pawnees were with them, they would be better able to sustain themselves against the Sioux, and that they wish to move before they plant their corn, or as soon as they come in from their winter's hunt. These three bands seem more than willing to move; they say they cannot make corn on their present place, and they cannot get timber to rebuild their lodges. They are anxious to get their school teacher and blacksmith to reside in their village.

The government has purchased the past season for the Pawnees between seventeen and eighteen hundred bushels of corn, to keep them from suffering. There were some thirty or forty of these Indians who made their escape to this place last June, when they were attacked by the Iowas, whom the agent had to furnish with provisions until their people returned from their summer hunt. The Pawnees are still in a miserable condition; their crops this season have almost been an entire failure, owing to the drought. Their corn in the Platte bottoms was literally burned up. There are now near or quite one hundred of these Indians in here that were too old or too poor to go to the hunt; these creatures have to live, and to live they must eat. The agent has procured a small farm, out of his own means, and hired a hand to make his crop. I expect to employ these Indians to aid in gathering and shucking the corn, for which I expect to pay them well in corn, potatoes, &c., which, whilst it will relieve the government of the charge, will stimulate the Indians to habits of industry. There will have to be a quantity of corn purchased for the Pawnees next spring, or they will suffer, unless they make an unusual good hunt this winter.

Their school is still kept at Bellevue, under the superintendence of Mr. Samuel Allis; the children are making as good progress as could be expected, all things considered. I would respectfully beg leave to refer you to the accompanying report of Mr. S. Allis, in relation to the progress of the school, marked A.

Their smith and assistant have rendered much aid in making hoes, axes, buckets, iron kettles, &c. &c.

I will close this report by begging leave to make a suggestion on

one matter. These Indian chiefs look on labor as beneath men, and that squaws are alone to do all kinds of drudgery, or the poor of their tribe, captives taken in war, &c. Suppose every agent and sub-agent were to keep a farm, and when not engaged in their official duties, let them show those sons of the forest that they at least consider that labor is not only not dishonorable, but honorable and praiseworthy, and, in my humble opinion, a farm at each agency would be of great service to the Indians, as example has more influence than precept.

With great respect, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,
 JOHN MILLER,
Indian Agent.

Major THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintend. Indian affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

P. S. From indisposition in Rev. E. McKinney's family, he has not been able to furnish his report; so soon as it comes to hand it will immediately be forwarded to your office.

No. 5—A.:

BELLEVUE, UPPER MISSOURI,
 September 30, 1848.

DEAR SIR: Since my last annual report there has been no material change in the children under my charge as to numbers, but they have made considerable improvement in learning.

I need not say, as you are well aware, that the children are not commodiously situated for improvement, notwithstanding most of them are quite intelligent readers.

Last spring three of our former number of children were taken to their village by the parents. One of them a girl fourteen years old, who has lived in our family five years, was taken against her will to be married, and has ever since pined away, until about a month since was taken sick and died. Last spring two half-breed, and two weeks since two full blood Pawnees, were added to the school, making in all eleven Pawnee children in our family that attend school, besides sixteen half-breed Otoe, Omaha, Pawnee, and white children in the neighborhood that attend school, and have most of the time during the past year.

We have also a young Pawnee and his wife who assist in labor. The school fund for the Pawnees might be more economically expended to the advantage of the school, had the teacher better accommodations here, or (if they could be unmolested) conducted by a mission in their own country. We might at this time add several to our school of Pawnees here, one hundred miles from their village, had we the means of accommodation. We would like to be advised on the subject. To throw these children back on to the Indians, would be wasting all labor and expense, as has been the

case with their farming operations. I hope that something can be done to protect them from their enemies, the Sioux.

The Pawnees, as you know, sir, have, for the past year and still are, almost in a starving condition; they will of necessity call on the government the coming spring for more corn; there are but few families that have more than one or two bushels now, for eating and planting next spring. I have hired a competent female teacher for nine months past, who I have paid \$1 50 per week; my wife has superintended the work of the girls in the house, and my time has been spent in raising provisions to lessen provision expenses.

Yours, very respectfully,

SAMUEL ALLIS.

Major JOHN MILLER,
Indian agent, Council Bluffs agency.

No. 6.

UPPER MISSOURI AGENCY,
September 25, 1848.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the Department, I have the honor of submitting the following report:

Since my last report, the Indians under my charge have enjoyed, as usual, most excellent health, and there have been but few deaths from sickness. I regret to inform you that many of the Assineboin Indians died last winter of starvation; the buffalo having receded from their hunting grounds early in the winter, leaving them without the means of subsistence. These Indians reside at and near the mouth of the Yellow Stone. I have been informed by some white men in that section of country, that after these Indians had devoured their horses, dogs, &c., they were reduced to the necessity of devouring their own dead; and this is entitled to much credit, when we reflect upon the great depth of the snow and the intense cold weather in that region of country, coupled with the abject poverty of these Indians, and their great propensity for idleness. At the present time these Indians are doing well, the buffalo having returned to the country in great abundance.

The remaining tribes under my charge, the past season, have done unusually well, their trade being much larger than it has been for years. From returns made to me by traders, the trade may safely be estimated at \$400,000. Number of robes made, 110,000; 25,000 buffalo tongues, with furs, peltries, &c, to make up the amount of \$400,000.

The heavy trade of last season has induced others to apply to me for licenses to trade with the Indians under my charge. I have approved of and forwarded the license, bond, &c., of Mr. R. Pierson, A. Papin, and M. Robideaux, to trade with the Sioux, and the license of Mr. Peter A. Sarpy to trade with the Poncas. These

gentlemen are all old traders, and, under the presumption that their licenses would be approved of by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, have started their outfits to the Indian country.

Since my last report, the Sioux Indians have attacked and killed some twenty-eight Pawnees and twenty-six Ottoe Indians. This continuous state of hostilities with these tribes should be looked to by the government; unless something is done to put an end to existing hostilities between said tribes, the Ottoes, Omahas, and Pawnees will soon be extinct.

For the personal security of the last named tribes, I must again suggest the importance of a military post at or near the mouth of the Vermillion river. There are more reasons than one for a military post at this point. It would give personal security to the Otoes and Omahas; it would enable the government to put an end to existing feuds and petty wars between the various tribes in the Upper Missouri agency; it would enable the government to arrest and bring to justice the dishonest and disaffected white men now in the Indian country, of whom there are not a few. This point is 120 miles above the old Council Bluffs, and only twenty miles from the State line of Iowa; upon which line there are not a few settling with no ostensible object in view but to sell whiskey to the Sioux Indians and white men in the Indian country. This thing should be looked to in time; or, in the end, it will give the government much trouble. A military post at said point would prevent the introduction of whiskey through this channel, and enable the agent of the government to arrest all offenders. In urging the necessity of a military post at the Vermillion, I do not wish to be understood as advocating the policy of governing the Indians by military force. By a reference to the early history of the country we find the true policy a mild, conciliatory course, using the powers of persuasion, and treating the Indians as equals, &c. I take the position that to civilize the Indians, you must give them personal security from domestic war, with permanent habitations; and to do *this*, you must use forcible means with Indians that have been corrupted by white men.

I must again call your attention to the importance of an institution of learning for the benefit of the Indians under my charge. Father P. J. De Smet, a Catholic priest, a pious and good man, as well as a gentleman of extensive learning and experience in the Indian country, is now on a mission with the Sioux, Arickarees, Gros Ventres, and Mandan Indians, with a view of ascertaining their views in regard to schools, agriculture, &c. I cannot too strongly urge upon you the necessity of a co-operation with Father De Smet in such efforts as he may make for the benefit of the Indians. I will avail myself of the earliest opportunity of laying before you the opinions and views of Father De Smet.

In regard to trade and the traders in my district of country, I have but little to say. The company of P. Chouteau, jr., & Co., as it now stands under the new organization, I am satisfied with. The company of Harvey, Primeau & Co. occupy a different position, from the fact of the serious charges which have been made

against one of its members, Mr. A. Harvey, the senior partner. The other members of this firm, in my opinion, are good men, and have the confidence of the Indians. I have required the dismissal of many men (some of whom were principal traders) from the service of the company of P. Chouteau, jr., & Co., and Harvey, Priemeau & Co., which has been done, and the greater portion of those ordered from the country have left.

I found it impossible, as well as impracticable, to undertake to force a compliance with the law in relation to foreigners. You are aware that there are a great many foreigners in the upper Missouri, many of whom have been in the country for many years, and have large Indian families, to which they are attached. These men manifest a disposition to comply with the law, and say they went into the country ignorant of what the law really was. This I am inclined to believe; and, in consideration of these things, I believe the true policy to be to induce them, by mild measures, to visit the States, and become citizens of the United States, with a view of returning to the Indian country.

I could here swell this report into a volume, were I disposed to write upon Indian character, &c.; but I will not attempt the thing for fear I fall into the same errors that many others have done; i. e., writing things that are untrue, and of which they know nothing. I have long believed that there is no one subject about which so much is written that is untrue as that of the manners, customs, habits, and character of the Indians.

I have had in my employment this year Bruce Husband, a native of Scotland, Louison Frinear, Zephyr Rencontre, and Henry Onga, half breed Sioux, as interpreters; also, H. Onga as guide.

The Indians under my charge have been, as usual, peaceful in their relations with the whites. They have been guilty of no depredations, with the exception of the attack on the steamer Martha, of the details of which you are in possession.

Your obedient servant,

G. C. MATLOCK,
Indian Agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 7.

ST. LOUIS, October 6, 1848.

SIR: I am about leaving this place for my agency on the upper Platte and Arkansas; and, in consideration of the lateness of the season, deem it proper, before starting, (in order to comply with the rules of the Department,) to write from this place what must suffice for my annual report. I much regret that such must be my course, inasmuch as I intended to have written from the spot, and collected such information for the Department as would put it in possession of the present state of the country, and the Indians fo

whom I am appointed agent. On that subject I have said much heretofore, and will still continue to refer to it until the government puts forth such measures as will give protection to the citizens of the United States passing and repassing through that wild region. This can easily be done, and I know of nothing more important to be accomplished, in regard to that country, at the present time. It is true the government have made efforts of late (at considerable expense) to police the country and to protect travellers; but, I am sorry to say, to no purpose, other than to exhibit a weakness and want of power to chastise the Indians, or prevent their constant marauding on our citizens as well as on each other. For nearly a year past, the country alluded to has been occupied by a large force of volunteer troops, and much more in number than are actually required. On the Arkansas river were stationed a battalion of five hundred men—infantry, artillery, and mounted riflemen; but which, I believe, have acted altogether on the defensive, and did not even succeed in that, as the Indians took by force many of their horses. Five hundred men, properly armed and equipped, and under the command of an officer who knows his duty, and willing to do it, would soon put that country in such a state of safety that one man, with his wife and child, could pass to New Mexico, or the Rocky mountains, unmolested. On the Platte river, and its vicinity, were stationed six hundred men, intended for the protection of the immigrants to Oregon and California. Yet I know of no one year, since the first immigrant passed up the Platte river, that they suffered more than they have the present one.

This seems strange to have happened, almost in the presence of a large military force, sent out expressly to protect the immigrants, yet it is nevertheless true. The reason assigned (as I am informed) by the commanding officer for not interfering in behalf of the poor immigrant, was the starving and destitute condition of the Pawnee Indians, who were the main and principal depredators. This may be considered a very philanthropic view of the subject; but it seems to me much more so to prevent injury being inflicted on our own citizens first, and who were proceeding in a peaceable manner on one of the most arduous land journies ever undertaken by man; after which extend all suitable kindness to the Indian, in strict accordance with his deserts. It has always appeared to me that great error exists in the public mind, in regard to the relations between the white man and the Indian, inasmuch as whatever atrocities have ever been committed by the Indians are invariably attributed to the rascality and swindling operations of the white man. With such impressions on the public mind, and also entertained by the heads of government, no wonder, then, that the course of the commanding officer above alluded to would be considered highly proper.

I am aware that great violations of justice have been committed on both sides; but the Indians, of whom I now speak, (the wild tribes of the prairie,) have always kept far ahead of the white man in the perpetration of rascality; and I believe it is only in order

to keep pace, and hold his own with the Indian, that the white man is often obliged to resort to many mean practices. With this the poor immigrants have nothing to do; all they want is a free and unmolested passage through to their destination; and, in my opinion, they ought to have it, cost what it may.

It is the general opinion throughout the United States that Indians are very much imposed on by the white man who trades with them. This opinion is no doubt true, to some extent; but little more than the introduction of spirituous liquors, and the evils arising out of its intoxicating influence. In all other respects the Indians receive a very fair equivalent for all they have to dispose of; and it cannot be otherwise so long as the great competition that now exists continues. However, I am by no means satisfied that such competition is advantageous or beneficial to the Indian, either in a pecuniary or a moral point of view, inasmuch as the competitors, in many cases, resort to the most base and unprincipled means in order to carry out their plans against other competitors, and, in doing so, often use the poor deluded Indian as the instrument to carry out their base proceedings. It may easily be seen that such conduct is exceedingly demoralizing to the Indian; and, if a change could be instituted in the present system of trade, say something approximating to a sutlership in each tribe, or more, according to the character and standing of the person or persons engaged in it, my opinion is it would be far more beneficial to both parties than the present system.

I will leave here in two days for Bent's Fort, on the Arkansas river, in the vicinity of which I expect to find many of the prairie tribes awaiting my arrival. Before leaving there last February, I had an interview with some of the Kiaway chiefs, and who have been heretofore allies of the Comanches. They expressed themselves sorry for having any thing to do with the war against us, and promised to quit their country and all intercourse with the Comanches and join the Cheyennes, on the Arkansas, who are the friends of the whites. This course I approved, and since my departure from that country last spring learned that nearly all the Kiaways have moved to the country of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, and are living in perfect amity with the surrounding tribes.

It may be observed by the various letters and reports from New Mexico and the Indian country, that the Indians seem to have partially ceased their continual warring upon our people passing through the country, more particularly on the Santa Fe road, inasmuch as fewer attacks have been reported, and comparatively but little loss sustained the past season. To what to attribute this partial cessation of hostilities I know not, other than to the Indians having, in '46 and '47, secured so much booty by their daring outrages upon travellers, are now, and have been the past summer, luxuriating in and enjoying the spoils. Let not the government suppose, for a moment, that those marauding tribes who have been successful so long without meeting with any reverses will now desist, and abandon that war which they have found to be so profitable, without some great cause. That cause must be a thorough

knowledge of our ability and willingness to chastise them, not only for what they have already done, but also what they may attempt in future. On this subject I need say but little at present, having often before alluded to it, as well as having submitted plans for the complete tranquilization of all the wild tribes east of the Rocky mountains.

Now that the Mexican war is at an end, and an advantageous and honorable peace obtained, by which great and extensive territorial acquisitions have been gained; it is to be hoped that the government will immediately put in progress ample and efficient means for the protection of immigrants, and all American citizens, passing to and from said territorial acquisitions. To do this, a military station must be established on each of the great thoroughfares leading to the late acquired territory. These thoroughfares are the roads leading to New Mexico, Oregon, and California, each of which pass through the country of the Indians for whom I am appointed agent. In the vicinity of this road, and in the surrounding country, are to be found numerous Indian tribes, the most warlike and formidable of any of the wild tribes of this continent, and who subsist altogether by the chase; warring on, and plundering their fellow man. With these facts well known, it must certainly appear evident that something must be done to keep those Indians quiet, and nothing short of an efficient military force stationed in the country will do this, and the sooner it is done the better for all parties; because, should open hostility once commence against us by all those savages who acknowledge no superior in war, it would cost much blood and treasure to subdue them. On the contrary, if an active and efficient force is sent into the country at once, with instructions to punish all depredators, and let no violation of peace and harmony pass with impunity, then peace and order will soon follow, and the Indian become a much better being; and besides, very few troops will be necessary in the country afterwards.

In leaving here I will proceed to Westport or Independence, for the purpose of attaching myself to some party who may be going out to Santa Fé, in order thereby that I may have safety and protection from the dangers liable to occur to one or two men; but I hope ere long to see these dangers lessened so as to be able to travel through the country with small as well as large parties.

This communication is by no means what I wished it to be, as I am possessed of very little more information in regard to the Indians of my agency than I have already submitted in my last. However, on reaching my destination and ascertaining the state of the country and collecting material, I will write again.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

THOMAS FITZPATRICK,

Indian Agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

SAINT PETER'S SUB-AGENCY,
October 9, 1848.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian department, I submit my first annual report, at the earliest practicable moment of time since my return from St. Louis, with the annuity for the Sioux. Having come here so recently, it will not be expected that this report will be very lengthy and as full as would be desired by the Department or myself. On my arrival here, in July last, in company with Major Thomas H. Harvey, superintendent of Indian affairs of St. Louis, Mo., the chiefs in general council made complaints against their farmers, with one exception, and charged them with not having done their duty to them. I went and examined for myself several of the villages to see how the crops looked, and the mode of cultivation, and from what I could see and learn there was some cause for the complaints with some bands; others were actuated by other motives, to get their relatives appointed in place of those that were in. The farmers have had to labor under a good deal of difficulty for want of teams to do their work with, in consequence of the Indians killing their work oxen. They have taken young cattle and broke them to work, and, very often, as soon as the crop was planted they would kill them, and leave the farmer to purchase a team at his own expense to do the work for the Indians, which some have done. The farmers say they have ploughed as much ground as the Indians could cultivate, and in some instances more. From what I can learn, the farmer for the Wabasha band does not reside in the Indian country at this time, nor never has done so, although he was acting as farmer for the Indians, and was under pay at six hundred dollars per annum, till the first of August last, when he was dismissed. After the ground is ploughed, the women and children plant it, in a promiscuous way, about three feet each way, with from six to twenty grains in a hill. Of course it can make but a very scanty crop. The Indian men do very little work toward making corn, and, when urged to do so, will often say he is not a woman to cultivate the soil, and that it is a disgrace for a warrior to work, and seems to prefer an idle life, although it subjects himself and family to so many privations. Even extreme hunger and starvation would be the probable result if it was not for the commanding officer at this post, together with the traders and the interpreter, with a few more that lend and give to the Indians. It is supposed that the Mendawakanton Sioux have about four hundred acres under cultivation at the present time. I am fully satisfied that the system of farming has failed of accomplishing what the government had expected, in the way it has been conducted. It has cost the Indians, since the system was adopted, calculating the seven farmers at six hundred dollars per annum, an amount of \$4,200. Add to this the sum for teams, waggons, ploughs, axes, drawing knives, augurs, saws, and many other things too numerous

to be mentioned, say \$2,000 per annum, makes a sum of \$6,200 per annum for each year. Suppose this 400 acres to produce 20 bushels per acre as an average crop, it would be 8,000 bushels per annum; calculating it would be worth, on an average, 50 cents per bushel, \$4,000. Add to this for making hay, fencing, building store-houses, cabins for the Indians to live in, hauling goods, &c., say seven hundred dollars, make the sum of \$4,700 per annum. It will be seen, if this calculation be correct, to have cost the Indians the sum of \$1500 more than it was worth each year; those calculations are made upon supposition in part, but will be something near correct. Although the average given for corn is low, it will be as much as the Indians have realized. It would have cost the Indians less money to have bought the corn at once, and it seems that the Indians have not learned to farm, and will not try as long as they have others to depend on. I am unable to tell whether they will help themselves or not when their farmers are taken away; it seems, from what I have seen and been able to learn, there has been very little done towards civilization. After ten years' time has elapsed, and the expense of so much labor and so much money, it seems that some other means will have to be tried; and I would most respectfully suggest, that to elevate this people they must have law and order; as it is at present, there is no security of person or property, and should an Indian be industrious and get a little property, he is not sure he will be able to keep it a month. This will be seen by the following incident: a chief's son a short time since purchased two good horses, and had one before; a young man asked for the loan of one of them, and, on being refused, he went out and found the horses, and killed two of them and wounded the third one badly; and went off saying that if any person sought revenge he would kill them. It would be well to have some act passed to punish those persons, and leave it discretionary with the agents to have them put under guard and kept at hard labor for a reasonable time, for the first violation of the law, and double it for a second offence, and withhold their annuity in money and goods, and apply it to pay the injured persons as far as it would go. Something of this kind would do much to secure property to the Indians and citizens in the territory contiguous to the Indian settlements, and would have a beneficial effect towards civilizing the Indians.

If those bands on the Mississippi could be induced to move up on the St. Peter's river, above Fort Snelling, I think it would enable the agent, with the assistance of the commanding officer at this post, to suppress the use of whiskey to a very great extent. As the Indians are situated at present, they have only to cross the Mississippi to find a whiskey seller. For a distance of one hundred and twenty miles or more, the use of spirituous liquors is one grand obstacle in the way of civilizing the Indians, which I am well satisfied of, and nothing will be wanting on my part to suppress it, so far as I can do so; but this cannot be done without being backed by the arm of the government. The health of the Indians has been good during the present season, much better than usual for

several of the preceding years. Very few deaths have taken place among them since the last annual report from this agency. There have been some complaints made against some of the Wah-pa-koota Indians, that reside on the Des Moine river; they are a party of murderers that have left the main band for fear of being killed by their own people. Some of these Indians sent back three horses, that they had stolen from some white man that was engaged in trapping, and by some mismanagement, the horses were not turned over to the agency, but those that got them have promised to pay for them. James E. Gray and Henry Netherton are the claimants. Also several other articles were taken from them by the same Indians; it is also supposed the same party has robbed Mr. A. Randall, of the United States geological corps; they plundered him of most of his property; he has filed a bill of \$419 75 against those Indians in this office. For the security of the frontier settlements, and to our Indians, it would be well to have that party of depredators apprehended and punished for their bad treatment to the white people. By order of Capt. Eastman, one of the Sioux was arrested that was accused of aiding to murder three white men near the mouth of Black river, Wisconsin. The prisoner has confessed that there were two Sioux, and two Winnebagoes, that killed the white man. Those facts seem to have been known here for some time, but nothing was done until August last; as I was on my way down to St. Louis, I was informed by Mr. Bay that one of them was then near his residence and could be had. I requested him to make this known to Capt. Eastman as soon as possible, and he done so; and he was apprehended as before mentioned. I would call your attention to the subject, and have the murderer sent for, and brought to justice. The prisoner gives the following names as the murderers of Winnebagoes: one he calls Ugly Nose, or Payah Sheechah, supposed to be Red Bird; the other he calls Pah-hay-kee of the Sioux. He calls one Omah-haw-kuta, he that kills the Omahaw. This is the Indian that was supposed, or accused, of killing the sheriff of Prairie du Chien; the other Sioux is the prisoner's brother, who has been killed by one of the Sioux recently.

Such wholesale slaughter as this should be stopped as soon as possible, and I would most respectfully recommend this subject to your favorable consideration, that new orders be given to all the commanding officers of the northern posts, as well as agents and sub-agents, to have those murderers apprehended, as they have gone to the Missouri and upper Mississippi. There seems to be a great opposition to schools by the chiefs of several of the bands, and it is believed by many that this opposition is greatly increased by some telling them that if they will still hold out, and continue to ask for the additional five thousand dollars that is in the President's hands, and is to be expended in such manner as he may direct. Which I hope will be stopped in future, by his letter to them. I will have it explained to them by the interpreter, in a few days.

The school taught by Miss Jane Lamont, at Oak Grove, this year, has not been attended as well as formerly; the whole number of

scholars being only 18, and an average of 6 for the whole time. The causes for this falling off are various; the particulars will be found in the report of Rev. G. H. Pond.

The thirteenth annual report of mission station, at Lacquiparle, under the care of Rev. S. R. Riggs, missionary of A. B. C. F. M., has been discontinued for a time, and they have had to hire or employ native teachers at several of the villages. It is stated in the report that the Indians have raised a good crop of corn this season, and request some farming utensils from the government. For further particulars, I would refer you to the report.

From the report of the Rev. Robert Hopkins, at Traverse de Sioux, a station of the A. B. C. F. M, education appears to be discouraging at that post; but speak of the Indians as having shown considerable disposition to learn to farm, and are anxious for the government to give them some farming implements to work with. It seems to me that if government would send them, and all others of the Sioux that would show a disposition to cultivate the soil, it would have a very salutary effect upon them, and encourage others to follow the example. The report of the Rev. Thomas S. Williamson has not been handed in as yet, but will be forwarded as soon as it comes to hand. The six remaining farmers will be dismissed the 15th of this month. Which is most respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

R. G. MURPHY,

Indian Sub-agent,

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,

Superintendent Indian affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 8—A.

*Thirteenth Annual Report of the Mission Station at Lacquiparle,
under the care of the A. B. C. F. M.*

Lacquiparle, Aug. 30, 1848.

Laborers, S. R. Riggs, A. M. Missionary, and Mrs. Riggs; Jonas Pettijohn; farmer, and Mrs. Pettijohn.

Within the last year it has been found impracticable, owing to the situation of the Indians, to keep up the Dacotah school at the mission station, as much of the time as in former years. The deficiency in this respect I have endeavored to meet, in part, at least, by employing native teachers at the villages. This system worked pretty well for about two months last fall, during gathering, in which time I paid nearly \$60 to three young men engaged at three different villages. At two of the villages, I have two employed again this fall. Owing to the inexperience of the teachers, and other circumstances, the children have not made the progress that we could have wished. Still I am persuaded that we must look chiefly to native teaching, in future, to accomplish the work of edu-

cation among this people. Education is not valued as it ought to be, even by those who have learned to read, and one reason undoubtedly is, that it has not been brought into use. The "*Cui bono*" is not yet understood by them, and it will not be, until the schoolmaster from among themselves is abroad in the land. It seems to me that our government ought to adopt some vigorous plan of education among the Mendawakantons.

The Indians at this place, raised a very large crop of corn last year, but owing to the presence of about fifty strange Indians for a good part of the winter and spring, it was pretty much all consumed before they finished planting. The buffalo visited this region in the latter part of December, on their journey to the south. They were abundant all winter and spring, and still are to be found on the Coteau de Prairies, some fifty or sixty miles from this place. In this state of things I was fearful that our Indians would plant less corn than usual, with the expectation that buffalo would certainly visit them next winter, as they have done for two years past. But I am happy to say that my fears were not realized. More ground is under cultivation than formerly, and with the prospect of a very good crop. Some hired new fields to be ploughed; a few asked and received assistance from the mission in breaking their own horses into the plough. This, we think, is not labour spent in vain. Our wish is to teach them to help themselves. On this subject, I think the remarks of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs at St. Louis, on the 103d page of the last report, are worthy of the serious consideration and action of the government. It should be our object to make men of them, and not keep them babies; *ploughing for them is not teaching them to plough.*

In my last year's report, I mentioned that the Indians in this neighborhood and above needed some ploughs. At the villages here, a plough which many years ago was furnished by Colonel Bruce, this last spring Mr. Pettijohn stocked anew, but the irons are nearly worn out, and we are not in the vicinity of a blacksmith. We have two ploughs belonging to the mission which the Indians have had the use of. Last spring we were begged very hard by the Indians at the trading post on Big Stone lake to let one of our ploughs go up there, but we could not. I would again request that two new light ploughs be furnished for this place, and two more for the villages at Big Stone lake and Lake Traverse, also collars and hames, trace chains, singletree irons, and stretchers—some good hoes, too, would be a capital present.

Yours, truly,

S. R. RIGGS,

Missionary of A. B. C. F. M.

RICHARD G. MURPHY,

U. S. Indian Sub-agent, Saint Peter's.

No. 8—B.

OAK GROVE,
September 2, 1848.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with the rules of the Indian Department, I send you the following report of the mission school at this place:

The school is taught by Miss Jane Lamont, whose father (an Englishman) died about twelve years since.

Miss Lamont has lived in our family four or five years past as one of our children, and, for the last two years, has been principal teacher in the native school.

Five of the children who formerly attended the school, and had made considerable progress in learning to read, died last year. Ten or twelve others have left this place and reside in other villages. A few others who have learned to read in their own language, having arrived at that age when they feel ridicule and lay it to heart, have, on this account, left the school to forget what they have learned, and, perhaps, to be living demonstrations in the eyes of some, of the impossibility of doing Indians any good by instructing them in the art of reading. For these reasons, the number of scholars in attendance, during the last year, has been only about half as great as formerly reported. The school, however, has been in operation near two months longer than any former year. The attendance is very irregular, and, consequently, the children make but slow progress. The school has been taught between five and six months this year.

The whole number of scholars is eighteen; average attendance about six, daily.

The expense of the school for the year, including tuition, house room, fuel, books, &c., is \$100, paid by the A. B. C. F. M. Two or three who formerly attended school were taught to read the English language. At present they reside at another place, and the Dacotah (Sioux) language only is taught. The fear of the Indians generally, that if they allow their children to be instructed, their own money will go to defray the expense, and the apprehension that knowledge imparted to their children will overthrow their religion, which has its foundation in ignorance, and with it a class of persons who now rule the nation, are sufficient motives to induce by far the largest part of the Indians to oppose schools, an almost insurmountable obstacle. There are some among them who are better disposed, and in private manifest considerable anxiety to see schools established, but are prevented from openly favoring them through fear of offending the priesthood, and bringing themselves into disrepute. These desire to have their children instructed, but fear responsibilities. It is my decided opinion that if schools could be established on such a plan as to make it appear to the Indians generally that the United States government was responsible, or, at least, so as not to throw any apparent responsibility on any class or individuals among themselves, these last named persons would immediately avail themselves of the benefits

of such schools with great satisfaction; when, at the same time, if consulted on this subject in public council, would either say nothing at all, or else study to avoid offending their own people.

I do not think the number of this class is very considerable, but yet that it would be sufficient to furnish children for a boarding-school on a small scale, and if judiciously managed it would not be long before the children generally might be collected into manual labor schools, when they could be fed, clothed, and instructed at their own expense principally, without any serious difficulty.

As long as the Indians see any hesitancy on the part of the government on this subject, they will probably hold on for the money, and against schools; but if the government can take a decided stand, and by open action convince the Indians of such decision, their opposition would soon die away, and if they did not all submit to it cheerfully, they would yet submit with their significant *Takomni*, as they do to what is called fate.

Respectfully yours,

GIDEON H. POND.

Major MURPHY.

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No. 8—C.

KAPOJA, *September, 1848.*

DEAR SIR: I present the following brief report of our operations at Traverse de Sioux, a station of the A. B. C. F. M. We have been able to have but very little schooling—so little as to make it unnecessary to speak of it particularly. We have had on the Sabbath, during the past year, (with few exceptions,) public worship of God, consisting of preaching, singing, and prayers. These exercises have been conducted in the Dacotah language, without the aid of an interpreter. The average attendance of persons of a suitable age to profit by these exercises has been nine; the mission families and persons occasionally present, who are not acquainted with the Dacotah language, are of course not included. We hope the preached gospel has not been without its influence, though no one seems to have experienced a change of heart.

In our efforts to help these people to help themselves in secular things we have seen more apparent success. About twelve acres of land has been ploughed and planted chiefly in corn; as much as half of the ploughing was done with Indian ponies, the Indians themselves assisting. If they had been well supplied with ploughs and gears, I think more land would have been ploughed.

A little ploughing was done by the chief, *Mozaxa*, with his own horse, and only Indian help. Several also furrowed their ground into rows without any assistance from white men, and ploughed their corn when it had grown to a suitable size. Among a savage

people the idea of advancement is generally wanting. So soon as the idea of progress is fixed in their minds it may truly be said something has been done. Our people have been acquiring ideas relative to the practicability of cultivating the soil and the best means of doing so, and are employing their hands in labor in a manner that their fathers did not, and they would not, but for the assistance and instruction they have received. Indeed, it was not until we had ploughed their lands repeatedly, and had talked to them often and earnestly on the subject, that we could induce them to employ their own teams in ploughing their own lands.

We are now in need of some farming utensils, and are much gratified to hear that the Department are disposed to give us some gear, ploughs, and hoes. Some of the Indians in this vicinity may not feel much interest in the acquisition of these implements, but many feel the want of them deeply, and would be delighted to receive them; and if the government would furnish some, and exhort the people to use them if they wished to avoid starvation, we are decidedly of opinion that it would operate as an encouragement, a stimulus and an assistant.

As to particulars on this head, I will write to Major Harvey, St. Louis.

We have also been permitted to see some improvement in buildings. This, though small, merits notice as a commencement. Last spring two of our Indians, *Mazaxa* and his brother, built themselves log cabins. They cut the logs, and assisted in hauling them and putting them up; they plastered the cracks, and roofed them after the Indian fashion. *Mazaxa* has also a store-house commenced, which he will probably soon finish.

With respect, yours truly,

ROBERT HOPKINS.

Colonel B. G. MURPHY.

No. 8-D.

Report of Indian schools at Maposia, for the year ending September 28, 1848.

DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your request I submit the following statistics of the schools at this place. The schools were commenced May the 8th, immediately after our arrival, and were continued until September the 1st, at which time the Indians went away; making the time taught four months.

Male department.—Whole number enrolled, 27; average daily attendance for eighty days, 10.

Female department, taught by Miss Jane S. Williamson.—Whole number enrolled, 31; average daily attendance for eighty days, 13.

A want of interest always fails to produce application. Where

there is no motive, progress is necessarily slow. I fear but little can be done while the Indians continue their roving habits; but if a beginning is not made, there will be no result; and if the Indians are to be civilized, we must expect to commence with them as they are, not as we desire they should be. Yet there are a few who begin to see the advantages of civilized life, and act accordingly. We hope their number may be increased.

Yours, respectfully,

SYLVESTER M. COOK.

Major MURPHY,
Indian agent, St. Peter's.

No. 9.

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY,
September 28, 1848.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report of the condition of the Indians under my charge within this sub-agency.

According to the census taken at the last spring's payment of annuities, the Iowas number six hundred and sixty-nine, and the Sacs and Foxes one hundred and forty-nine. This, however, does not exceed half the actual number of the latter tribe, many of whom have temporarily attached themselves to the Sacs and Foxes on the Osage river, since their removal to that place.

When I took charge of this sub-agency in May last, I found the Indians a drunken and reckless people, particularly the Iowas. I have held several councils with them, and have neglected no opportunity of impressing upon their minds the innumerable evils resulting from their frequent indulgence in drinking. I flatter myself that my counsels have had a very happy effect, an obvious change for the better being already apparent. The chiefs and head men of both tribes have been constantly on the watch to detect every person, white or red, who might introduce liquor into the country, for several weeks past. I am pleased to say that their efforts have not been unsuccessful. Through information derived from them I was enabled, a few weeks ago, to apprehend three notorious whiskey sellers in an Indian lodge, near the hour of midnight. With a strong guard, I safely delivered them to the United States deputy marshal at St. Joseph, Mo., with such instructions as may enable him to prosecute them successfully.

The Sacs and Foxes are well provided for, having raised an abundant crop of corn and wheat, with the assistance of their farmer. Beside the produce of the present year, they have a large surplus of wheat of last year's crop. The mill built and put in operation during last winter and spring is kept running more than half the time, and affords them a full supply of meal and flour, besides grinding some for the Iowas when the Sacs permit it to be done.

The Iowas are not so well provided for as the Sacs, having no regular farmer. The land which was ploughed for them last spring was very nearly all planted, but much of it very late, owing to the excitement in the tribe about the time of planting, occasioned by their success in killing a few Pawnees. The drunkenness and debauchery which followed that barbarous transaction rendered them nearly all unfit for labor, or any kind of business, for some weeks afterwards. I think, from what I have seen, that they will have sufficient to carry them through the winter, after which they are not likely to suffer until the spring payment. I believe, as a tribe, they are easily managed, and they show every disposition to receive instruction. If their greatest curse, whiskey, can be kept out of their country, I entertain strong hopes of seeing their moral condition much improved in a few years. They have been quite sober and quiet for the last six weeks, ever since the arrest of the whiskey traders among them.

Enclosed you will receive the report of the missionaries who are located in this sub-agency. Their report will speak for itself. I cannot, however, forbear giving my unqualified testimony to the fidelity and untiring zeal with which these people discharge the important and arduous duties committed to their charge. The manual labor boarding school numbers at present thirty scholars, male and female. It is truly an interesting spectacle to witness their deportment, whether in school or out. Their manners and appearance would compare advantageously with the same number of children anywhere within the confines of civilization. At the chapel, divine service is publicly performed twice during the week. The deportment of the children on such occasions is also worthy of the highest commendation. In fact, I may say, without the least hesitation, that from the system pursued by the missionaries, great and lasting good must, and *inevitably will*, be the result of their labors. In so laudable and praiseworthy an effort, I promise my own hearty and constant co-operation.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,
 ALFRED J. VAUGHAN.
Indian Sub-agent.

Hon. T. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent, &c., St. Louis, Mo.

No. 9—A.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,
 September 25, 1848.

DEAR SIR: At present we have twenty-nine scholars in regular attendance at our school. Of these, 1 is studying English grammar and geography, 10 read, 14 spell, and 4 are yet in their letters.

These children are all connected with the Iowa tribe, except two, who are from the Blackfeet nation. A number of them are

learning to write, and succeed very well. About one-half of the teaching and learning is done in the Iowa language, and the other in the English. This seems to combine the advantages of giving them useful ideas in their own language, which they can understand, and at the same time of gradually introducing the English language. The teaching we do ourselves, dividing it equally between us.

The scholars have memorized in their own language a number of hymns, which they sing with ease; and also a good collection of questions, which they answer with readiness. Most of the boys are small, and unable to do much on the farm; but we find them as willing to do what they can as white boys of the same age. The little girls are quite industrious in the kitchen, and are making good progress in learning to do house and needle work.

Our help for carrying on the mission and school with the wages allowed, is as follows:

Wm. Hamilton and wife.....	\$200	per year.
S. M. Irvin and wife.....	200	" "
John Meyers and wife.....	200	" "
Two hired girls, \$50 each.....	100	" "
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	700	
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There are also seven white children in the mission family, who have an allowance of \$25 each—\$175.

We have, likewise, the privilege of hiring, as may be needed, another hand on the farm, and also what additional kitchen help may be necessary.

Since March last, the school has averaged twenty-five scholars in regular attendance, and our mission family during the same time (including white children and hired help) has been about seventeen. This makes our whole family forty-two persons, besides transient visitors and what has been given to the destitute Indians. Our entire expense for subsisting and taking care of this family for one year, ending the 30th June last, was as follows:

Hired help on the farm.....	\$157 00
Hired help in the kitchen.....	133 00
Provisions.....	439 64
Contingencies.....	85 78
	<hr/>
	815 42
	<hr/> <hr/>

This sum divided among the individuals of the whole family, (forty-two,) will show the cost of each to be \$19 41½; and, if divided among the scholars alone, it will give the cost of each at \$32 61½ for the year. This, it will be seen, is exclusive of clothing and medicine, and also the salaries of the missionaries.

Other duties have prevented us from giving much time to the printing press during the past year. The main work done upon it has been printing a small grammar of the Iowa language. This

is a small work of over 150 pages, intended to assist in getting a knowledge of the principles of the Iowa and Ottoe language. Including this work, we have printed during the year over 30,000 pages.

This is, perhaps, all the statistical information that may be interesting to you. We might now tell you of our difficulties and prospects, and philosophize on the management of missions and mission schools among the Indians; but we desist from such details, indulging only in the one general remark, that we are in several respects encouraged in our work, and have no cause to regret our undertaking. The scholars are much more regular in their attendance than they were during the preceding year, and manifest an increased disposition to remain; though we are not less rigid in our discipline, or more kind in our treatment of them than formerly. Some are now disposed to come whom we are rather unwilling to take, on account of their age and former habits. And when you shall be able to put a number of the poor little helpless orphans of the nation into our hands, beyond the control of their relatives, it will be a pleasure to us, and, we trust, a blessing to them.

We cannot close without adverting to the happy blow you have struck at the nefarious whiskey trade. The arrest of the three vagrant whiskey traders in the Iowa village has had a most happy effect in arresting the progress of this consuming plague of the poor Indian.

A strict adherence to, and the prompt execution of, the judicious principles which you have laid down to the Indians on this subject, cannot fail to produce a new era in their history.

Assuring you of our most hearty concurrence and co-operation in this work, and desiring that every comfort and blessing may attend you, we are, dear sir, most affectionately and sincerely, yours, &c.,

S. M. IRVIN.
WM. HAMILTON.

Colonel A. J. VAUGHAN.

No. 10.

WYANDOT SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
October 1, 1848.

SIR: In pursuance of the regulations of the Department, I herewith transmit my annual report upon the condition of the Wyandot nation of Indians under this sub-agency.

It affords me sincere pleasure to be able to inform you that the general condition of this interesting tribe has considerably improved within the past year.

The year now closed has been remarkable for the almost entire absence of disease and mortality among this people; in my last

report I alluded to the loss of some of their best men by disease incident to all new countries; and I consider it here not unworthy of remark that they have escaped these sufferings and loss of life; the contrast between this and the preceding years in this respect is obvious and striking.

This may be accounted for in part, from the fact that the health of the people in upper Missouri generally has been good; to this may be added that the Wyandots are becoming more comfortably situated, better and more comfortable dwellings, living better, and becoming more careful of wanton and unnecessary exposure, the necessity of which many have learned by past experience; in January last, however, they lost one of their most active, useful, and influential chiefs, in the person of Henry Jacquis, extensively known in Ohio and at Washington city, where he has frequently been sent as a delegate for the nation on public business.

It is truly gratifying to notice the evidences of industry and general thrift which display themselves on every hand amongst this people; they have raised large crops and a greater variety of vegetables and grains this season than any former one; the judgment, skill, and neatness with which they cultivate their lands are worthy of praise and commendation. The system, order, and comfort, which mark their dwellings, the appearances of good living, the neatness and cleanliness of their children, speak volumes in praise of the Wyandot women as good housekeepers, and efficient domestic economists.

It is nothing uncommon to see families of well dressed and respectable white people from within the State, paying friendly visits to, and enjoying the hospitalities of, Wyandot families with the greatest cordiality imaginable.

The two schools in the nation have been kept up without intermission, and an increase in the number of pupils. For three months during the past winter a third school was in operation, got up expressly for the more advanced scholars in the nation, where the higher branches were taught, the expense of which were in part made up by individual subscription, and the remainder paid out of the national school fund.

Although I stated in my last report that this fund (of \$500 per annum) "for educational purposes," was amply sufficient, yet upon reviewing that opinion, and the number of children in the nation, candor compels me to agree with the directors of the national schools, that a third one is absolutely necessary; hence an addition of some \$250, or more, out of their annuity, will become necessary for this purpose.

Besides the pupils taught in these schools, there are many attending the manual labor school in the Shawnee nation. Some attending the school kept by the Friends or Quakers, and some attending academies and seminaries in the State of Missouri.

During the past summer, some dissension has existed among the members of the church arising out of the division of the Methodist Episcopal church, which took place four years ago, by which a line of separation, separating the slaveholding from the non-slavehold-

ing territories, was agreed upon by the general conference of that church; by this prudential arrangement, all the Indian missions west of the States of Missouri and Arkansas, &c., under the patronage of that church were thrown into the southern division and under the pastoral care of the Methodist Episcopal church south. By the history of this church arrangement or ecclesiastical legislation, it appears that at the last quadrennial session, held in May last, the northern division, in its separate capacity, abrogated and annulled the *plan of separation* mutually agreed upon four years previous, and intend to invade the territory of the former.

From information on which I can rely, it appears that certain clergymen in Ohio, with a view to the furtherance of their plans, have been corresponding with such Wyandots as they were acquainted with and could be influenced; these communications are doubtless well seasoned with abolitionism, with a view of stirring up disaffection and discord among the people, and through them, among the Delawares, Shawnees, and Kickapoos, among which the southern division has missionary establishments; this movement has not been without its effects, especially among the Wyandots, who are, to a limited extent, slaveholders themselves, in producing strife and contention, not among the membership only, but through the nation generally.

A memorial was forwarded, not long since, by the disaffected members, addressed to the Ohio Annual Conference, praying the appointment of a preacher from that body, to reside among them as missionary.

A protest addressed to the same body was shortly afterwards adopted and forwarded by the nation, protesting against any interference in their affairs, and warning that body of the disastrous consequences that might follow them, from such agitations which would grow out of the stationing of a preacher from the north, when they were already supplied by the Indian mission conference.

The whole movement has no doubt originated in abolitionism, which seldom hesitates at the means to accomplish its purposes.

Should a preacher be sent here from the north (Ohio) contrary to the wishes of the nation, and he have no other authority than that given him by that conference, and he present himself, I shall be compelled, (in this novel case,) in the absence of special instructions, to enforce the "intercourse laws," however unpleasant it may be to my feelings.

Notwithstanding those engaged in the getting up this unpleasant state of things act with great energy, (an energy and perseverance worthy of a better cause,) and no little bitterness of feeling, I am bound in candor to believe, that their actions are prompted by an honest though a misguided zeal; their course of conduct proves conclusively, to my mind, that it is far easier to reason men into error than out of it.

Upon the subject of the new mode adopted in the payment of annuities, which last year seemed to be viewed with disfavor by some of the Wyandots, it is gratifying to state, that the "excite-

ment," alluded to in my last report, has entirely subsided. The first semi-annual payment was made last May, and the mode of payment (as per instructions) gave general satisfaction; the chief and main cause of dissatisfaction, during the payment made last fall, was the belief that obtained foothold among them, that the order for the payment or distribution of the whole amount of the annuity to the people, without regard to the public liabilities incurred, leaving their chiefs powerless and without means to meet those claims for which the nation was bound, was a step towards degrading their chiefs, destroying their government and their credit, and denationalizing them as a people. Such was the view taken at the time of the measure; but subsequent developments of the policy connected with this measure have convinced them of their error and allayed the irritation: this allowing their chiefs to make their annual appropriation of money for public purposes, which, when allowed by the Department, is taken out in bulk and paid over to the chiefs, and by them paid out according to their appropriation bill, thus securing an accountability from their chiefs of their public disbursements.

This measure, however, seems less necessary in this nation than in many others, as their chiefs are elected annually by the people, and are held to a strict accountability for their official conduct, and have been and are yet, as far as I know, correct and upright men.

At the late national election of chiefs, held on the 15th of August, I announced to the nation the information I received through a member of Congress, of the passage through both branches of Congress, of the joint resolution, confirming their purchase from the Delawares, of the territory on which they now reside; the intelligence was received with every manifestation of joy.

The long delay in sanctioning this purchase has been the means of retarding the nation, in some degree, in improvements; the uncertainty of the title, add to this the fact that the government had refused to erect any public buildings for the use of the employees of the government in the nation, was truly discouraging. This drawback to their enterprise being now removed, I anticipate a general spirit of enterprise and industry hereafter, the erection of many good buildings and other valuable improvements, and otherwise beautifying their beautiful country.

It is a matter of deep regret, that notwithstanding my efforts, seconded as I am by our chiefs, to suppress the fell, destroying vice of intemperance among this people, yet it still holds its hideous orgies.

From close observation, this vice seems to be confined to a particular class of persons, who may be said to be irreclaimably lost. It is, at least, some satisfaction, amidst unavailing regrets, to be able to say, that this class has not, through the season past, increased in numbers, nor do I look for a decrease, until death, which they are daily inviting, comes to their relief.

Within a few days, a grand council will be held in the Delaware territory, by the chiefs and head men of the following tribes of Indians, viz: Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Kicka-

poos, Sacs and Foxes, Pottawatomies, Miamies, Kansas, &c. The object of this appears to be, the adoption of measures promotive of peace, harmony, and good neighborhood; to concert measures to prevent and suppress acts of aggression upon the rights and property of each other, and to renew to each other the pledge of friendship, peace, and amity. Much good, it is hoped, will grow out of the deliberations of this congress of forest chieftains.

Although it will make the appearance of this report late, yet, for reasons which will be explained elsewhere, I have concluded not to forward it for some days; perhaps not until after the close of the above mentioned council; and, if so, I shall be able to give you a relation of their doings, &c.

October 20, 1848.

As I anticipated, I have delayed sending forward this paper until this time, but the contingency which was apprehended, and which caused the delay, has not, I am happy to say, occurred.

On my return from St. Louis with the annuity for this sub-agency, I learned that the council, before mentioned, was in session, and that the Wyandot council, through their head chief, had left a pressing request for me to attend. As soon as I could secure the funds in my possession, I repaired to the scene of operations; and, for grandeur of Indian costume, displayed on this occasion, the social and friendly feeling exhibited amongst the people there congregated, the enjoyment of the dance, and the great numbers engaged in them, contrasted with the sober and staid countenances of the older chiefs, the harmless countenance and the musical voice of the females present, was, altogether, such a scene as I had never witnessed, and one that my pen cannot describe.

Being the only officer of the Indian Department present, I was requested to address them, which I did, urging upon the indigenous or wilder tribes the necessity of joining their red brethren in the adoption of such wholesome measures as were calculated to promote peace and harmony, and a proper respect for each other's rights. I deeply regret that the Sacs, from some misapprehension and unfounded suspicions, suddenly left the council ground without explanation, and before the nature of their business had been fully explained; and, on the next day, while the council was in session, the Kansas chief announced his intention of leaving that day with his people, whether the business was completed or not. I, at the request of their "great uncle," Captain Ketchum, remonstrated with him; pointed out the impropriety of such a course, and earnestly advised him to remain and hand in his wampum in person, and see the ultimatum of the council, as it would give his great father, the President, pain to hear of his conduct. This had its desired effect.

The following tribes entered into the league, or compact, viz: Wyandots, Delawares, Pottawatomies, Shawnees, Ottawas, Kick-

poos, Miamies, Kanzas, Peorias, Weas, Piankeshaws, and Foxes. This ceremony took place on Sunday, the 17th; each chief handing in his wampum as his sign manual, or autograph. Hereupon, the council adjourned in due form, with an understanding that they meet again during the next season; when it is expected to obtain the attendance of many other tribes not represented at this.

After having witnessed this ceremony, and observing the devotion of our red friends on such occasions, I cannot but expect much good to result from yearly meetings of the kind, more especially should the Department think proper to encourage them in some substantial manner. And you will permit me to suggest that, in my opinion, it would be well for the Department to appropriate a small sum for the purpose of provisioning the Indians during such councils; it is not the amount that would so much benefit the Indians as this proof that the government favored their efforts in keeping up this congress of the different tribes which are in treaty with them.

Since my return from St. Louis, I have informed the Wyandot council of the addition of fifty dollars to their iron and steel fund, which gives great satisfaction. This amount annually added to the original amount will, in my opinion, be sufficient to furnish the shop with the necessary materials.

My annual census and statistical report will be forwarded at as early a day as possible.

I am, sir, yours, most respectfully,

RICHARD HEWITT,

Indian Sub-agent for Wyandots.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 11.

CHOCTAW AGENCY,

October 11, 1848.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations, I have the honor to report the condition of the different tribes within this superintendency.

Since my last annual report, one hundred and eighteen Choctaws have been emigrated from the States of Alabama and Mississippi, and settled in their country west. Of these, ninety-nine arrived in March and April last; the remaining nineteen in July and September. The parties that arrived in March and April received their scrip soon after their arrival. About half settled on the Arkansas, and the others went south to Red river. Those that remained here, nearly all built cabins and planted corn; but, by the time they had planted, it was too late in the season, with the amount of labor they were accustomed to give their crops, for the corn to yield them much in return for their industry. Those that went to Red river and planted corn made but little. The small

parties that arrived in July and September have also settled on the Arkansas and built cabins, and will be prepared, by the next season, to make a support from their little farms. Those of these last parties entitled to scrip received it shortly after their arrival. All that emigrated during the last year, and settled on the Arkansas and Red rivers, have enjoyed remarkably good health, and are much pleased with the country. The parties of Six Towns, and other clans that arrived west in June, 1847, also received their scrip in April, with few exceptions. They are represented to have good crops the present year; a fair proportion of them are said to be industrious and temperate—many belonging to religious societies. Like those that emigrated the present year, they have had unusual good health, and are well satisfied with the country.

The bad success experienced in effecting an emigration of the Choctaws from Alabama and Mississippi, during last fall and the early part of the winter, under the first regulations prescribed by the War Department, proved, at once, that they were not the kind suited to remove them to their new country west. Much opposition was unavoidably encountered by the assistant superintendent of emigration, Mr. Stuart, before their modification, and, finally, their abandonment altogether. But the present regulations, permitting all persons of proper character to embark in the emigration, is likely to do much good towards the removal of these people, as it is the only system, in my opinion, that can be adopted to effect it. With all the energy and perseverance of Mr. Stuart, and with all the influence he can bring to his assistance in this matter now, there is opposition still made by individuals who pretend to be interested in the scrip of the Indians. Many of them insisting that the scrip ought to be paid in Mississippi; and alleging that if such was the case all interference with these people would cease; and that their united energies would then be exerted to remove them west. This is plausible reasoning enough; but the true ground, as it is believed, of their opposition has not been told. These Indians are compelled to labor to some extent to procure the means of living. They are engaged, much of their time in the latter part of the year, in picking cotton from the field. Their labor cost the farmer but little; and hence arises the great opposition and interference of this class of persons, which are, by no means, small, with the emigration, under the mere pretext that they are interested in the Indians' scrip.

It is confidently believed that if the present system of removal had been authorized early last fall, large parties would have been emigrated then, if not the entire number of those that will ever emigrate under any circumstances. The information from Mr. Stuart upon this subject is, that the present prospect for emigration has greatly improved, and that large parties are expected to leave the old nation by the first or early in next month. Persons of influence among the Indians, I learn, are now engaged to conduct parties west, that have heretofore opposed removal in every form. And, from the efforts now being made, a large party is expected to arrive here by the first of December next. The Indians being

scattered over such an extensive scope of country, my own opinion is, that the emigration of them can only be effected in small parties of 50 or 100. Experiments that were made on more than one occasion in the past year, confirm this position as correct. Between 40 and 50 had been collected and were in camp, and the gentleman that expected to bring them on left camp for a few days, to see others and induce them, if possible, to join him. On his return, after an absence of only three or four days, his party had decreased in number from 40 or 50 down to 10. Outfits had been furnished to the greater part, if not to all, of those who abandoned the party. Whether this second thought of remaining east a while longer originated with them, or was the means employed by some of those persons affecting to be interested in the scrip of the Indians, is not known.

The late period at which the money was received for interest due to the Choctaws upon the funded half of their scrip, will, it is thought, prevent some of the most influential men among them from going to the old nation after their friends, as early this fall as they would otherwise go. Yet I hope all will go that may be able to induce one to emigrate. The receipt of the interest roll has given complete and universal satisfaction to all that I have seen or heard from since it came to hand. The opinion of many that had been here over a year, and had not received interest, was, that the amount would be lost to them, or it would be paid in such a manner and at such times that they could not depend upon it to benefit them much, if at all. As it is, all that have received scrip, even those who were paid it in April last, will draw interest up to the 1st of July, 1848. This fact, when known to those yet in Mississippi, will operate greatly in favor of emigration this fall and winter. Many of the principal men will go east for their friends and relations, and will urge it upon them to induce them to come west. Its effects will operate powerfully upon them, and will be difficult to combat by those that oppose emigration. If they were all here, their condition would be infinitely improved in every respect. The amount of interest due each, upon an estimated average, is about \$8; and, although this amount is respectable as a per capita payment, yet it is not sufficient to support them without laboring to some extent.

In May last, when the money for the annuity due the Choctaws for the first half of the present year was received, the chiefs were notified to have the rolls taken in their districts respectively, and forwarded, to enable me to make the payments accordingly. Upon receiving the notice issued, councils were called in the districts, and the chiefs replied that their warriors were opposed to a division of the annuity, and desired that the first half should remain in my hands until the residue for the last half should be remitted, so the whole amount could be paid them at the same time. Two reasons influenced them to take this course.

First. The amount heretofore usually remitted for the purchase of rations was withheld; and second, that the payment, if made at all, would take place in the most busy season of the year; which

might be the means of many of the poorer class, and those least able to bear it, of losing their crops. That this would have been the case, to some extent, I have no doubt, though it would have been confined more to the improvident and reckless than to the temperate and industrious portions of that class. I am well satisfied, from my experience and observation among the Indians, that the payment of annuities should take place among them as a body as seldom as the nature and circumstances of their condition will allow. It is a part of the character of the Indians to idle away much time, and money, too, if they have it, at those annual payments; and it follows, as a matter of course, that if they should be made semi-annually, the evil would be increased in the same ratio. It is doubtful with many familiar with the habits of the Indians, if annuities are of any permanent advantage to them in any case. This reasoning may appear absurd to some; but take the whole circumstances together, of benefit derived from them on the one hand, and the evil growing out of them on the other, and it is very questionable on which side the balance will be found.

One of the most difficult matters presented since my appointment, to accomplish, has been that of taking of a "census and statistical information of the Choctaws." Steps were taken a year ago, which were confidently hoped would effect this object, and which, I now regret to say, failed altogether to obtain the information sought. But, nevertheless, I have still endeavored on all occasions to make such arrangements as I thought would certainly succeed in effecting the completion of it at an early day. However, I have been again disappointed. But I believe now, in the midst of my labors in it, I shall be aided by the "general council" to accomplish it, I hope in a manner satisfactory to the Department. It will be urged by the chiefs and head men in council, and the importance of the measure pressed upon the consideration of that body, to appoint competent natives in each captain's company to take a census of the same, and as much of the statistical information as it shall be thought they can take with certainty and correctness. This help from the Choctaws will be opportune, and will enable me some time during the winter or spring to present as full a report as could be expected on the subject. As the tribe advances in civilization and education, opportunities will offer from time to time to make additions to it, until the whole shall present a correct result of the facts embraced in the resolution of the House of Representatives calling for the same.

The "old" and "new settlers" have been remarkably healthy during the last year. I regret to learn, however, that the corn crop of the present year will be short, yet a surplus is anticipated, but it will not be so large as that of last year. In a letter received from an intelligent trader in the south part of the nation, he says: The corn crop is unusually short, and it is impossible to state the number of bushels that could be called a surplus. He adds that about 300 bales of cotton will be made this year, principally by the late emigrants. An estimate of the present cotton crop with that of last year shows a balance of near 300 bales in favor of this

year. This fact argues well for the industry of the country. The Choctaws have a delightful country—good soil, and a climate favorably adapted to the growing of corn, cotton, wheat, &c.

The licensed traders among the Choctaws have kept large stocks of goods on hand during the last year, and have sold to the Indians at fair, reasonable prices. No complaints have been made against any of them for any violence or infraction of the intercourse law. The Indians are well satisfied that a fair competition among the traders is the surest means of goods being sold to them at fair and reasonable prices, and desire, as far as I have any knowledge on the subject, the continuance of all the establishments located in their country. These trading houses open to them a constant market for all the surplus produce raised—thereby encouraging industry among them. Also all other articles they have to dispose of, such as hides, peltries, furs, tallow, beeswax, &c., are either exchanged to the traders for goods, or sold for cash.

A change in the criminal laws of the nation is being discussed in the "general council" now in session, in relation to the mode of inflicting capital punishment, and it is hoped that the change will be effected. It is proposed that hanging shall be the mode in future, instead of shooting, as now provided for by law. If this is effected in the criminal laws, much good must necessarily flow from it. The crime of murder is not regarded at all, and the commission of it is thought by many to be rapidly on the increase among these people, and is becoming too common to let it remain longer without imposing restraints sufficient to check it. They do not appear to regard the consequences of death by being shot, while the mode of inflicting it by hanging creates in the Indian race generally, if not always, an unusual degree of fear.

The introduction of whiskey is still carried on to a considerable extent among the Indians, it being easily procured by them along the line, and in the States of Texas and Arkansas, from traders and grocery keepers. It is a traffic with these people that should and ought to be suppressed; and there is no mode that I can devise that would so fully and completely check it as the one suggested by the War Department a year ago, in a letter addressed to the governors of Arkansas, Missouri, and Iowa. It is believed that a greater quantity of ardent spirits now finds its way into the Choctaw country from Texas than Arkansas. All admit that its use is a great and ruinous evil, and retards much the prosperity of the Indians; and it is hoped that there is sufficient liberality and public spirit in the legislatures of the above States to concede to the general government the jurisdiction of all offences committed within their limits, by their citizens, against a wholesome and judicious law, to prevent the sale of it to Indians in quantities no matter how small. It is the opinion of many, however, that its introduction is now less than it has been for some years. But when its introduction will cease, there is no means of knowing.

That the Choctaws are improving as a people, there is no question. To what extent this improvement has reached can be better understood from the reports of those who have spent the most of a

long life immediately in their country, and with them. To place this important fact before the Department in as clear a light as possible, I avail myself of the occasion offered of making extracts from the reports of superintendents of schools, and of adding my own observations among them. It all proves that their moral, social, and religious condition is unquestionably improving. A respectable number of 'small schools are established, and taught by natives, in different parts of the nation. The Rev. Mr. Kingsbury says a great desire is manifested by the Choctaws for the education of their children. Many neighborhood schools have been established, which are taught by natives in their own language. These schools are attended both by adults and children. Mr. Copeland, the teacher in the Norwalk school, says "that it has been an object with us to cultivate, as far as possible, their social feelings, and our efforts have been crowned with a good degree of success." The Rev. Mr. Byington remarks "that the great subjects of temperance and industry demand attention at all times in this land. At times our people are very zealous in the cause of temperance, and are very successful." He adds, "that many Choctaws are industrious, and are improving very fast, while others are idle. In our schools, and in our religious assemblies, we think we see evidences of a great change for the better." The Rev. Mr. Potts states, "that there is a gradual improvement in the people in our vicinity. They desire to receive instruction, and have, of their own accord, established a Saturday and Sabbath school, taught by a native. Though intemperance prevails in this nation, in this neighborhood I have not known of a single case of drunkenness." Take the nation as a whole, so far as my knowledge extends, and there appears to be a gradual advancement in religion, morals, education, and industry.

By the report of Colonel Upshaw, Chickasaw agent, it will be seen that the health of that tribe has been good the past year, and that they are in a prosperous condition. Fifty-two have emigrated during the year from the old nation east, to the Choctaw nation west; a part settling among the Choctaws and the remainder in their own district. In February last, thirteen Chickasaw boys were taken to the Choctaw academy in Kentucky, and a like number that were there at school returned home. I presume that the Chickasaws have good reason to complain, in many cases, of the conduct of roving bands of Indians that pass through their country, and who no doubt commit many depredations against their property, as well as occasionally steal a pony from them, and the party of Cherokees referred to are not free from the justice of this accusation. The misunderstanding represented to exist between the Choctaws and Chickasaws arises, I presume, not so much from the Choctaw laws extended over the Chickasaw district, as from a disposition of the latter to complain under any circumstances. The laws of the nation are the same; it makes no difference whether the offender be a Choctaw or Chickasaw. And therefore, the Choctaws will not, under any circumstances, assent to any change within their own country, that would suspend the jurisdiction and opera-

tion of their laws over a part of it. Such an act would be regarded by them as a national sacrifice, and one that they will not make. I do not see that any permanent good could result from a withdrawal of the blacksmith shops, at present established in the Choctaw districts, solely for the benefit of the Chickasaws who prefer to live there. These tribes have intermarried, and under the convention between them the members of each have a perfect right to settle where they please within the limits of the Choctaw country. The building for the manual labor school, authorized to be established in their district, has not been pushed forward as fast as could have been desired. However, many inconveniences have been encountered by the superintendent, which has delayed the work. Materials, workmen, and lumber, have been difficult to obtain. No time is stated when this school will go into operation. I regret, exceedingly, that the introduction of whiskey has increased among the Chickasaws within the past year. Their corn is represented to be excellent and will yield a large surplus. It is worth about fifty cents per bushel.

It is highly gratifying to learn that the Creeks are improving rapidly in civilization and agriculture, and that there is a new impulse and an increased degree of energy manifested in the cause of education among them. Their old habits and superstitious notions are gradually giving way, and in their place a lively interest is taken in the advancement of their children in the useful branches of education and industry. Their agent speaks in flattering terms of the schools established among them, and that much permanent good has been effected by them in enlightening and Christianizing these people. Their crops have been injured by the drought, but an abundance will be made to meet the demand for home consumption. There is still a traffic in whiskey carried on among them, but it is thought to a much less extent than formerly, and intoxication or drunkenness from it is not so common. Sixty-four Creek emigrants arrived in their new country west, the present year, and they all express themselves as being well pleased with it, generally, and no serious cases of sickness have been reported among them. The unfriendly feeling that prevailed for a while between the Creeks and Seminoles, and at one time came very near producing an open rupture with the tribes, has been, through the influence and attention of their agents, aided by the Creek chiefs, so managed that it is thought it will eventually be settled to the satisfaction of both parties.

It will be seen from the report of the sub-agent for Quapaws, Senecas, and Senecas and Shawnees, that they have been healthy also the present year, and that their crops are good. They show evident signs of improvement in civilization and agriculture. The Quapaws have established among them a manual labor school, which is represented to be well conducted and popular, and gaining influence with the tribe. Many show an increased interest in the education of their children, while all approve it. As yet, the Senecas and Senecas and Shawnees have opposed the establishment of schools; but as they are now represented to be improving also in

agriculture, a hope is entertained that they can be influenced to yield their notions of opposition to a measure of such importance, and that schools will be established among them before a great while. The annuity to these tribes for the first half of the present year has been recently paid them.

I cannot give you any information of the Cherokee, Seminole, and Osage agencies, not having received any report from the agents of these tribes. However, from other sources I learn that no material changes have taken place since my last report. Mr. Duval, Seminole sub-agent, has not yet returned to his post, having been detained in South Carolina by sickness. He is now daily expected to arrive. Should reports be received from these agents, they will be forwarded immediately, and I regret that my absence will prevent me from accompanying them with such remarks as might appear necessary.

The annuities last year were paid to heads of families in accordance with your instruction, except to the Creeks, where it was paid directly to the chiefs, as provided for in the treaties with that tribe. All the tribes within this superintendency opposed a division of their annuities into semi-annual payments. They desire it all paid to them at one time, and that time to be as early in the month of October, in each year, as it may be found practicable to do it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. RUTHERFORD,

Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

Hon. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington city.

No. 11—A.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October 11, 1848.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit a general view of the reports of the superintendents of schools, received at this office, in accordance with your instruction of July last.

Fort Coffee academy is situated on a beautiful and commanding eminence, and immediately on the Arkansas river, about five miles from the agency. It is under the superintendence of the Rev. W. L. McAlister, and is divided into two branches: one for boys, at Fort Coffee, and the other for girls, at New Hope, distant about five miles, and from the agency one mile. Each of these schools has been well managed, and have acquired, in the past year, an increased reputation. Of the scholars attending them, much might be said of their general progress and advancement. Ninety-five have attended during the last year. Of these eighty-five are reported as the number boarded and furnished with everything at the expense of the nation and the missionary society, at both institutions. Ten were day scholars from the neighborhood, being boarded and furnished by their parents or friends. The studies at Fort Coffee have been reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English gram-

mar, chemistry, algebra, geometry, and Latin grammar. The studies in the female branch at New Hope have been the same, except chemistry, algebra, geometry, and the Latin grammar. I am informed by some of the Choctaw trustees, and other persons present at the examination in June last, and who are competent to judge, that the scholars at Fort Coffee acquitted themselves well, and reflected credit upon their teachers. Parents and guardians were highly pleased and gratified at the result. The examination at the female institution at New Hope, upon the different branches of education studied, gave full, complete, and entire satisfaction. It has elicited public opinion strongly in its favor, and renders the teachers universally popular with all, and especially so with those having children at it. Mr. and Mrs. Maris are the teachers in the seminary. Much credit is due Miss Carter for the general good deportment of the girls out of school. They were under her charge, and were instructed in sewing, knitting, &c., and in the general labors of domestic industry. It is not too much praise to say that the care and responsibility with which she has been charged was efficiently and well performed, and that the garments exhibited at the examination were well and skilfully made.

The Rev. Mr. McAlister says, "at the examination at this place (Fort Coffee) the attendance of parents, friends, &c., was more numerous than usual, which argues an increased interest on the part of the Choctaws" in the schools; * * * "and that, after the experiments already made, the friends of benevolence, and the Choctaws, have nothing to fear from the efforts being made in this nation to educate their children. Indeed, many of them in our schools manifest a capability to receive a finished education." The boys at Fort Coffee labor a part of their time upon the farm, which is in good condition.

The Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury is superintendent of the Chuahla female seminary at Pine Ridge, near Fort Towson. This institution has suffered, since my last report, from the effects of a destructive and frightful tornado. The extent of the damage sustained by it is well condensed in the report of the superintendent, and I shall, therefore, describe it in his own language. He says, "the circumstances under which I am called to report the present year are very different from what they have before been. On the 19th of March last, the station occupied by the seminary was visited by a terrific and destructive tornado, which laid the greater part of the buildings, fences, &c., in ruins. As the particulars of this calamity have been given in a former communication, I will simply remark on the wonderful preservation experienced by our numerous family. It excites our admiration, and calls for our devout gratitude, that, amid the destruction of almost everything else, the lives and limbs of so many individuals should have been comparatively unharmed. As one instance, twelve bedsteads were in one house, and, after the tornado, not a whole one could be made from what remained unbroken of them all; and yet seventeen females were in the house, and, with the exception of the small bone of one ankle, not a limb was broken, and no one otherwise seriously injured."

Thirty-three pupils were in the seminary, when its operations were thus suddenly and unexpectedly brought to a close. All were females, but one, and all boarded at the station. Of these, twenty-four were supported by the nation, five were boarded by their parents, and the remaining four received their board for what assistance they could render while out of school. The course of studies at the seminary were nineteen in arithmetic; twelve had gone half through fractions in Olney's Arithmetic; one was through compound fellowship; seven had gone through Emerson's first part, and were half through Greenleaf's Arithmetic; twenty-six studied Miss Swift's Natural Philosophy; fourteen went through and reviewed the second part, and twelve others went through the first part; twenty studied Morse's School Geography; twelve went nearly through, and eight others went through North America; three studied history; eleven studied Smith's English Grammar; four had gone through, and seven had commenced it; twenty-six wrote, and ten wrote composition imperfectly. All could read in the Testament but four, who had recently entered, and those that could read recited a verse daily from the Testament. Miss Goulding has continued the teacher in the seminary, and her labors have given complete satisfaction.

Out of school, the girls have been instructed in the various departments of domestic labor. They have been divided into companies, who weekly relieve each other in the dining room and kitchen, under the direction of Mrs. Kingsbury. And when out of school, and not in the dining room or kitchen, have been employed under the care of Miss Bennett and Miss Slate. Much attention has been given by these ladies to the instruction of their pupils in the making of garments, both for men and women, in knitting and fancy work, and in the other useful branches of domestic industry. The Rev. Mr. K. states that a commencement has been made towards repairing and erecting the necessary buildings, but unless he can receive some extra funds, considerable time must elapse before the ordinary allowance to the station will place it in a situation for the school again to be opened.

The Wheelock female seminary is under the charge of the Rev. Alfred Wright, and is located about fifteen miles east of Fort Townson. The Rev. Mr. W. is absent, and the duty of reporting to this office devolves on Mr. Copeland, the teacher at the Norwalk school. He reports forty-five pupils having attended during the year. The teachers are Miss Dickinson and Miss Dolbeare. The school is taught in two departments by these ladies. The pupils have made good progress in the branches taught. The studies pursued by the pupils, and the general arrangements in and out of school, are about the same as those described at Pine Ridge.

The Norwalk school for boys is about five miles from Wheelock, and also under the supervision of the Rev. Mr. Wright, and under the immediate charge of Mr. Copeland, who reports its condition. Thirty-one pupils have attended the last year; of these, sixteen are supported by the nation. The others have been sustained by their friends at school, or by the nation. The others have been sustained by their friends at school, or boarded at home. At this school the

pupils have also progressed well in general, and the branches studied have been about the same as those of the girls at Wheelock.

The Rev. Cyrus Byington is superintendent of the I-yah-nobi female seminary at Stockbridge, in the southeastern part of the Choctaw nation. He reports fifty pupils; of these, thirteen were day scholars, attending from the neighborhood; thirty-five were taught in arithmetic; of these, twelve were taught in numeration only; ten studied English grammar, and attended weekly to composition; ten studied geography; five studied the Illustrative Definer; thirteen studied Miss Swift's Philosophy for Children; four studied Botany for Children, and eighteen attended to penmanship. Singing has also been taught, and religious instruction given. The pupils are required to speak the English language entirely, even among themselves. An improvement in the general deportment of them is manifest. The teachers are Miss Keys and Miss Hall, and the general arrangements in and out of school is about the same as that described at Pine Ridge.

I regret that no report has been received from the Rev. James B. Ramsey, superintendent of Spencer Academy, for the present year. However, from the best sources of information within my reach, I learn that no essential change has taken place in the condition of the institution since his last report. At the examination in July last, the pupils acquitted themselves well; a considerable number of whom had but recently entered, and their progress, therefore, could not be expected to equal those who had previously attended; but I understand that the parents and trustees present were well pleased with the result.

The Koonsher Female Seminary is under the charge of the Rev. E. Hotchkin. He states that the pupils in the institution all suffered from inflammation of the eyes last winter, and that they lost a month's study from its effects; since, they have had tolerably good health, with a few individual exceptions. With one exception, for eight weeks at the commencement, the full number of boarders attended through the year. But four changes were made in the scholars. The new ones did not understand English, or know their letters. It is the opinion of the Choctaw trustees and others that attended the examination in July last, that greater improvement has been made within the past year than at any former period. The whole number of pupils who attended is fifty-nine. Of these, forty-four were furnished by the nation, and fifteen were day scholars. Miss S. C. Downer and Miss C. M. Belden are the teachers in the seminary. The studies have been about the same as at Pine Ridge, and the general arrangements out of school also, with the addition that the girls are instructed to card, spin, and weave.

The Rev. Ramsay D. Potts is superintendent of Armstrong academy. He reports that some changes have taken place in the Academy during the past year by an exchange of scholars, which increases the present number to fifty. Of these, forty-four are supported by the nation and board of missions, and five by individuals. The studies pursued have been from the first rudiments of educa-

tion to algebra. He adds, that in the acquisition of knowledge the students have, in a general way, come up to our highest expectations. It is supposed that the farm upon which the boys labor, a part of their time, will yield an abundance for the consumption of the institution for the ensuing year.

I have just received a report direct from the Rev. R. M. Loughridge, who has in charge the erection of buildings for one of the manual labor schools to be established among the Creeks. It is to be regretted that the buildings for these schools are not in a state of more forwardness. While the Indians are inclined to encourage learning, and the establishment of them, the work should be pushed forward with all the energy and means that could be commanded. The Creeks and Chickasaws have both long interposed objections to the establishment of such schools, and have but recently yielded their opposition upon that subject to the sound reason and better judgment of the Department.

The following is an abstract of the report referred to:

The buildings are pleasantly situated between the Arkansas and Verdigris rivers, about one and a half miles from the former, and two miles from the latter—about two and a quarter miles from the Creek agency, and about three miles from the steamboat landing. They are placed upon a high, dry, and beautiful ridge, connected with good land for cultivation; and the situation, it is thought, will prove as healthy as the country affords. It is well supplied with wood and water.

Several buildings have been erected at the new station. A hewed double log house, one and a half stories high, sixteen by eighteen feet each; a hewed log meat house twenty feet square; a crib and stable fourteen by twenty feet. A well has been dug which affords excellent water, and other improvements are being made. The erection of the buildings has been somewhat delayed for want of good and responsible workmen. This difficulty has, however, been overcome, and the work is now rapidly progressing, and will be ready for the reception of scholars by the first of July next. The whole amount expended at the station is about three thousand six hundred and thirty-seven dollars and thirty-seven cents.

The Choctaw schools are supported by contributions from the nation and the different missionary societies having the superintendence of them. Fort Coffee academy receives six thousand dollars per annum; the seminaries at Pine Ridge, Wheelock, and I-yah-nobi, each receive sixteen hundred dollars per annum from the Choctaws; the Koonsher female seminary receives three thousand dollars; Armstrong academy two thousand nine hundred, and Spencer academy six thousand dollars. An additional allowance of eight hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents per annum is also made to Armstrong and Spencer academies, and a like sum is also paid to Mr. Wright for the school at Norwalk. Spencer academy also receives two thousand dollars per annum from the civilization fund. I have no correct knowledge of the exact amount contributed by the missionary societies.

During the past year I have visited all these establishments

among the Choctaws, except Spencer Academy and the school at Norwalk, and I am truly gratified to have it in my power to state that the general arrangements at them, both in and out of school, are most excellent, and well and admirably calculated, in my opinion, to elevate the minds of the pupils. From the great amount of attention and labor devoted to them, they must leave these institutions of learning better prepared to discharge the duties and obligations of good citizens, husbands and wives.

I have already referred to the manual labor school to be established among the Creeks, under the charge of the Presbyterian board of foreign missions. The other, to be established among said tribe, is under the charge and direction of the Rev. T. B. Ruble, of the Methodist Episcopal conference south. The progress made in the erection of the buildings for this school, has been about as good as could reasonably be expected. Materials necessary for the buildings have been difficult to obtain, its location being remote from navigation. For further particulars of the progress made in the buildings, you are referred to the report of the Creek agent, and to that of the Rev. Mr. Ruble.

The school of a like character to be established among the Chickasaws has not progressed as well in the erection of the buildings, &c., as could have been desired. Many reasons are given by the superintendent, explaining the causes of hindrance experienced by him in the course of their erection, which accounts pretty satisfactorily for their present unfinished state. The buildings for the manual labor school authorized to be established among the Quapaws have been completed. They were erected under the superintendence of the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson. These buildings had progressed so far in April last as to admit the reception of scholars. They were completed in June last. The energy and perseverance of the superintendent, in pushing forward the work, is worthy to be especially mentioned to the Department.

In the reports of the agents and sub-agents forwarded, you have all the information received at this office of the progress made in the schools established among the different tribes within this superintendency.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Sup't. of the Western Territory.

HON. W. MEDILL,
Com. Indian Affairs, Washington city.

No. 11—B.

STOCKBRIDGE, July 20, 1848.

MY DEAR SIR: It becomes me, in presenting to you my annual report, gratefully to acknowledge the kind hand which has spared

my life, and those associated with me, another year; and, not only preserved us, but granted us many rich blessings.

At the missionary station with which I am connected, there are six persons residing and laboring, under the direction of the American board of missions, viz: Rev. C. Byington and Mrs. Byington, Mr. David H. Winship, steward and farmer at the I-yah-nobi female seminary, Mrs. A. H. Winship, Miss Harriet N. Keys, teacher in the seminary, and Miss Lydia S. Hall, supervisor of the girls, &c., when out of school.

The annual examination of the seminary was held, by the appointment of the trustees, on the 30th day of June last. The next term is to commence on the 21st day of September next. The length of the late session was 39 weeks.

The whole number of pupils was 50. The average number was 37. The number of beneficiaries provided for at the seminary is 30. Thirteen new ones were entered during the year. Thirty-five were taught in arithmetic; of these, 12 were taught in enumeration only. Ten have studied English grammar and attended weekly to composition; 10 have studied geography; 5 have studied the Illustrated Definer; 13 have studied Miss Swift's Philosophy for Children; 17 have studied the Little Philosopher; 4 have studied Botany for Children, and 18 have attended to penmanship. Singing, also, has been taught, and religious instruction has been given. Sixteen of those connected with the school are members of the church. They vary much in their ages and complexion, many being the descendants of white men by Choctaw mothers. The daily sessions were usually opened at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8, a. m., and closed at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1, p. m. For many months there was another session of one hour or more after supper. The school was daily opened and closed with religious exercises.

The scholars are required to speak the English language entirely, even among themselves; and it is seldom that a Choctaw word is spoken by them, except when their friends come and make a visit. The general deportment of most of the scholars has been good, and there is a manifest improvement of character in many of them.

In their manual labors they have been well occupied with what may be called their own work. Those who are large enough have alternately performed their tasks at the dining room and kitchen, and various household duties at the seminary. A little fancy work has been kept on hand as a reward for diligence and faithfulness. It is desired also as a recreation, and for the cultivation of a good taste and skill in the use of the needle.

Their labors in the dining-room and kitchen are systematized as much as possible. There are four classes in these labors, each class having some large and some small girls, and remaining a week at a time. They are taught to keep the rooms and tables in order, to prepare food, to make butter, soap, candles, &c. Some attention has been paid to making cheese, and a carpet. Several of the larger girls are capable of preparing an ordinary meal for the whole family, with the help of the small members of the same class.

The scholars have been a good deal afflicted with sore eyes, but they have been much favored with health, and no one of all the beneficiaries has yet been removed by death, to our knowledge. The average number boarded at the seminary is about 40. The hour for breakfast at all seasons of the year is 6 o'clock, a. m. Family worship is attended at the close of the morning and evening meals. In the morning, verses of scripture are recited at the time of worship.

There are nearly 40 acres of land under cultivation—18 in corn, 10 in oats, 6 in wheat, 3 in rye, 3 in potatoes, and a garden. A peach orchard has been planted, and a few apple trees. There are about 30 acres of the "woods" enclosed for pasturage.

A log barn, 30 by 20 feet, and a hewed log cabin, 20 by 18, have been built within about a year. A framed house for the use of the teachers and scholars, 36 by 18 feet, is now being built. A garden, containing nearly an acre of ground, has been enclosed with a good paling; and a yard, 200 feet by 100, around the school building, has been enclosed with a substantial paling.

There are two yoke of oxen, 1 span of horses, 3 milch cows, 18 head of other neat cattle, and 75 head of swine, at the seminary. We hope with the means allotted us, and with the practice of industry and economy, through the blessing of the Lord, to meet the expenses of these arrangements, and continue the operations of the seminary.

It should also be noted here that we have a large and useful Sabbath school connected with the seminary, and which meets in our new house for worship. Connected with this missionary station, and within its bounds, are four other Sabbath schools. Since 1836, there have been built five school-houses and two meeting-houses, besides the seminary buildings.

The Presbyterian church on Mountain Fork was organized in 1832. The whole number received from the beginning is 336. Of these, 21 were white people and 18 colored. But many have moved away, or united with other churches, and 120 have died. The whole number at the present time is 119. There are about seven different places where I preach the gospel.

The great subjects of temperance and industry demand attention at all times in this land. At times our people are very zealous in the cause of temperance, and very successful. I remember, some years since, when they ascertained that ten of their nation within a few years, and within this vicinity, had perished through the influence of whiskey, a great meeting was held, and the evils of drunkenness spoken of at great length. After that, for about six years, only one person, to my knowledge, died through intoxication. Since then it has been otherwise, and eighteen more have followed the ten spoken of above, making, in all, twenty-eight deaths by means of the whiskey bottle! We need help and encouragement. The Choctaws have for a long time been gradually acquiring property, and those who deal in whiskey know how to choose their range as well as old hunters know *when* and *where* game is *fat* and plenty, and the fur *thick, fine, and heavy*.

Many of the Choctaws are industrious, and are improving very fast, while others are idle. In our schools and in our religious assemblies, we think we see evidence of a great change for the better; and this is true not only of the red people, but of others who have none of the red man's blood. As an evidence of some industry, I can mention the single fact, that the merchants at the depot purchased one hundred and twenty bales of cotton the past year, and that most of the Choctaws in that vicinity have planted cotton this year, and their crops are said to appear well. The same holds true here as elsewhere, that those who are bent on being industrious and of making improvement will find a way and means for the accomplishment of their wishes, and will ordinarily find a rich reward through the blessings of our Father in Heaven, without whose blessing none can be good or happy. It is highly important to teach the plain truths of God's word. There we find the best support for virtue, and the strongest restraints upon sin. It is indeed a light to our feet, and a lamp to our path in all lands and among all people; and when there is a want of these blessed truths the people mourn. How long has this word of God been illustrated as true among the red men: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge?" We have much yet to do in order to raise up this people. They have made a good commencement in their system and manner of legislation, and in their administration of civil government as well as in their liberal provisions for the education of their sons and daughters, and the attention they have given to the gospel of our Lord and Savior.

Much yet remains to be done before these several departments of labor shall be complete. A good field is here spread out to the view of us all. May you and may I also live to see all this wilderness and these solitary places glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose.

With much respect, I am yours, &c.,

CYRUS BYINGTON.

Colonel SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Superintendent, &c., Choctaw Agency.

No. 11—C.

ARMSTRONG ACADEMY,
August 8, 1848.

DEAR SIR: Every one interested in the amelioration of the condition of the Indians, must feel gratified in knowing that they are gradually emerging from a state of ignorance to that of an enlightened people. The system at present pursued among the Choctaws to accomplish this desirable end is, no doubt, the best that has yet been devised; and, should it be persevered in in time to come, it will go far towards producing the desired effect. Idleness has ever been considered the parent of vice, and its effects are perceptible among the whites as well as the Indians; consequently, the

blending of labor with education is a great corrector of the evil. It is, therefore, important that habits of industry should be inculcated among the Indians.

Upon this principle we have endeavored to conduct this institution, hoping that it will have an influence, not only upon our students, but others also.

The progress of the boys has been as great as we could expect from their imperfect knowledge of the English language. The difficulties which they have to overcome in the acquisition of a foreign language are truly great; but, with commendable zeal, they endeavor to surmount them. But few of our students, when they entered the institution, knew anything of the English; but now all their intercourse with one another and the family is carried on in English. Thus has one great difficulty been overcome, and many of them pursue their studies with an increasing desire to know more.

Some changes have taken place in the school since my last report, by an exchange of scholars between this district and Mush-a-le-tube; with what advantage to either district time alone will tell. Upon the 1st of January, the school was increased ten in number, which makes forty-five in this institution under the appropriation of the nation and the board of missions; in addition to which, there are three boys supported by individuals in Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and two by myself, which made our number fifty during last session.

The studies pursued have been from the first rudiments of education to algebra. In the acquisition of knowledge the students have, in a general way, come up to our highest expectations. We have had every grade of intellect to improve, from the brightest to the dullest; consequently, it could not be expected that every one would make the same favorable appearance. This was perceptible at the examination held June 30, which, I believe, gave general satisfaction. All appeared as tho' they understood what they had studied.

The following is a schedule of the studies pursued:

First class.—Emerson's arithmetic, 3d part; geography, grammar, algebra, reading, writing, and spelling.

Second class.—Emerson's arithmetic, 3d part; geography, reading, writing, and spelling.

Third class.—Emerson's arithmetic, 2d part; geography, reading, writing, and spelling.

Fourth class.—Emerson's arithmetic, 1st part; geography, reading, writing, and spelling.

Fifth class.—Mental arithmetic, reading, writing, and spelling.

Sixth class.—Spelling, easy reading, and mental arithmetic.

Seventh class.—Spelling and mental arithmetic.

Eighth class.—Alphabet.

As before remarked, manual labor has been combined with other studies, and, as the result of the labor performed, we have, at this time, fifty acres of corn, and about eight in potatoes and other vegetables. The labor in this part of the crop has been done by the

students, with the exception of some assistance in breaking up and planting. In addition to this, they have cleared about twelve acres of ground. Last fall we sowed twenty acres of wheat, which, though injured some by the frost in the spring, has made a sufficiency for our own consumption.

We have never had a finer prospect of a crop, and, should nothing befall it, we shall have an abundance for our use, and, from present appearances, we shall have nearly pork enough.

In our instructions, we have inculcated the principles of our holy religion, and endeavored to impress upon them the obligations to God. These, we have reason to believe, have had, and still have, an influence. Without the blessing of God upon our labors, all will come to nought; and we therefore labor to make our students Christians, which has been attended with some success.

There is a gradual improvement in the people in our vicinity; they desire to receive instruction, and have, of their own accord, established a Saturday and Sabbath school, taught by a native.

Though intemperance prevails in the nation, in this neighborhood I have not known of a single case of drunkenness.

Take the nation as a whole, so far as my knowledge extends, there appears to be a gradual advancement in religion, morals, education, and industry.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your obedient servant,
RAMSAY D. POTTS,

Superintendent Armstrong Academy.

Colonel S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Agent for Choctaws.

No. 11—D.

Annual report of the Chuahla female seminary, for the year ending June 30, 1848.

The circumstances under which I am called to report the present year, are very different from what they have before been. On the 19th of March last, the station occupied by this seminary was visited by a terrific and destructive tornado, which laid the greater part of the buildings, fences, &c., in ruins. As the particulars of this calamity have been given in a former communication, I will simply remark on the wonderful preservation experienced by our numerous family. It excites our admiration, and calls for our devout gratitude, that, amid the destruction of almost everything else, the lives and limbs of so many individuals should have been, comparatively, unharmed. As one instance, twelve bedsteads were in one house, and, after the tornado, not a whole one could be made from what remained unbroken of them all. And yet seventeen females were in the same house, and, with the exception of the small bone of one ankle, not a limb was broken, and no one otherwise seriously in-

jured. The arm of an Almighty Protector was there, and to the rough wind He said, "hitherto shalt thou come, but no further!"

There were 33 pupils in the seminary when its operations were thus suddenly and unexpectedly brought to a close. With one exception all were females, and all boarded at the station. Twenty-four were on the appropriation; the board of five was paid by the parents, and the remaining four received their board for what assistance they could render while out of school.

Miss Harriet Goulding has continued the teacher in the seminary, and her labours have given universal satisfaction.

Much attention has been paid to the instruction of the pupils out of school, in the various departments of domestic labor. A company have been employed alternately, a week at a time, in the kitchen and dining room, under the direction of Mrs. Kingsbury. Those not in the dining room and kitchen have been employed, when out of school, under the care of Miss Bennett and Miss Slate. Much patient and persevering attention has been given by these ladies to the instruction of their pupils in the making of garments both for men and women, in knitting, in fancy work, and in other branches of domestic industry.

Miss Bennett had but recently commenced her labors in the above department, having come to our assistance in December last. She has generously declined receiving any compensation for her services.

The destruction of the station at Pine Ridge is, to us, a mysterious event. The school had never been more pleasant and prosperous than it was up to the very day that the place was laid in ruins. Every arrangement which seemed necessary to the successful prosecution of our work had been made. God had some wise and important end to accomplish by thus suddenly arresting our labors. What that end was we may not know *now*, but we shall know hereafter.

Mr. and Mrs. Breed, from Connecticut, who arrived in January last, have taken charge of the secular and domestic concerns of the station.

The school-house was entirely unroofed and otherwise much damaged. A dwelling-house, 40 feet by 20, two stories high, with a piazza on each side, was entirely demolished. This house was occupied by the pupils and the ladies who had charge of them out of school. Most of the out-buildings of the station were destroyed, and those not destroyed were much injured. A commencement has been made towards repairing and erecting the necessary buildings; but unless we can receive some extra funds, considerable time must elapse before the ordinary allowance to the station will place it in a situation for the school again to be opened.

Since 1840, until the past year, the field of my missionary labors has been quite extensive. I am now, in a great measure, relieved from that portion of the field lying west of the Boggy. In this field are four churches, with an aggregate of over 200 members. These churches are now under the pastoral care and instruction of the Rev. J. C. Strong and the Rev. Joshua Potter. The latter re-

sides at Mount Pleasant, on the Boggy, and has an interesting neighborhood school at his station, of about 25 scholars.

The church in this neighborhood, to which I preach something more than half the time, and whose house of worship is at Doaksville, has at present about 50 members. Thirteen have been added the past year. Both the congregation and the church have frequently changed since I commenced my labors among them. This in part has been owing to the change of troops at Fort Towson, which at times have composed a considerable portion both of the congregation and the church. Since 1837, more than 300 have been added to this church; of these, 160 have been dismissed by letter, to join other churches to which they have removed.

A weekly prayer meeting is usually held, and the monthly concert is regularly observed at two different places. The collections the past year for missionary purposes have amounted to \$164 68.

A great desire is manifested by the Choctaws for the education of their children. Many neighborhood schools have been established, which are taught by natives in their own language. These schools are attended both by adults and children.

All which is respectfully submitted.

C. KINGSBURY,
Superintendent Chuahla Female Seminary.

Colonel S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Superintendent, &c., Indian territory.

No. 11—E.

FORT COFFEE ACADEMY,
July 20, 1848.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to lay before you the annual report of our schools at this place and New Hope; and, as I consider any report unnecessary (saving your general report) to the Department, I shall be very brief, especially so, as we are immediately in your vicinity, you having so many opportunities of knowing the condition and prosperity of our schools. * * * * *

The students were examined on the following studies: spelling, reading, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, chemistry, algebra, geometry, and the Latin grammar. The students in the New Hope (female) branch of our school were examined on the following day. The studies of the female seminary were the same of the male, excepting chemistry, algebra, geometry, and Latin. It affords me a great deal of pleasure to say to you, in *truth*, that the students far surpassed any, the most sanguine expectations of a stranger. Your brother, Colonel R., and Mrs. Rutherford, were present when the children were examined in the female branch, to both of whom I refer you for an account of that examination. As far as I am informed, the schools are doing well, very well, through-

out the Choctaw territory. Indeed, many of the children in our schools manifest a capability to receive a finished education.

And, in conclusion, it is due to our teachers to say that they have labored hard and constantly to advance the children, and appear determined in future to do *even* more, if possible.

With great respect, I subscribe myself, yours, truly,
 W. L. McALLISTER,
Superintendent.

Colonel S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, &c.

P. S.—The missionary society is near one thousand dollars in advance of her obligations. \$100 have educated ninety-five children the past session; boarding, clothing, and furnishing eighty-five with everything. The farm on which the boys labor a part of their time is in respectable condition. The girls are taught housewifery in general. Some fine specimens of sewing were exhibited on the day of examination.

W. L. Mc.

No. 11—F.

KOWETAH, CREEK NATION,
August 28, 1848.

DEAR SIR: With pleasure I comply with your request, and herewith send you a brief report of the operations of the Presbyterian mission among the Creeks during the past twelve months.

At this station our operations have gone on about as usual. The boarding school is still conducted on the manual labor system, and is in a flourishing condition. The last session commenced on the 20th October, and continued until the 27th July last, with the exception of a recess of about four weeks. On the last day of the session we had a public examination of the school, when, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, many of the parents and friends of the children were present, and expressed themselves as being highly gratified with their performances, as evidence of their improvement.

The whole number of children in attendance during the term, besides three missionary children, *was forty-nine*, twenty-two boys and twenty-seven girls, of whom forty-two boarded in the mission family.

* * * * *

Mr. J. Silby, the teacher, says the children "generally have advanced very fast. In less than a year, some have learned to read and write pretty well, and to cypher a little; some of whom could not speak English. For the most part they have been obedient and well behaved, and are anxious to learn." I would further state that there has been a decided improvement in the moral deportment of most of the children; and the interest manifested by them in

the religious exercises at the station has greatly encouraged us in our work and "labor of love," and we hope that they will "not be in vain in the Lord."

The church at the station has been, during the year, increased by five additional members. The number of persons now in connexion with the church, besides the missionaries, is twenty—thirteen Indians, five blacks, and two whites. There is also a good deal of interest manifested by many of our neighbors, who are very regular in their attendance at church; but many others are equally inattentive, and are seldom seen at the place of worship. We have preaching occasionally at several other places, and find the people, generally, well disposed; considerable anxiety to hear the gōspel is manifested.

Preparations for the erection of a large brick building, for the manual labor boarding school, at Tallahassee, which, from various causes, has been much hindered, is now going on vigorously. Some of the out-buildings have been completed, viz: a double log house, two rooms below, 18 by 16 feet, each, one and a half stories high, and hewed inside and out. This will be used temporarily for a dwelling-house, but is intended finally for a work-shop; also a hewed log meat-house, 20 feet square; good crib cutting room and stable; a well has been dug and walled up with stone; and other improvements are being made, which will be needed for the successful operation of the school as soon as the main building is completed.

The strong desire for improvement in general, and for the education of the children in particular, which has been remarked for several years, is still manifest everywhere among the people. More schools, however, many more, and many more devoted missionaries, are needed, and must be had before much can be expected towards the civilization and evangelization of this long neglected but noble people.

May the Lord bless the means already in use, and increase the instrumentality a hundred fold, is the prayer of your obedient servant,

R. M. LOUGHRIDGE.

Colonel JAS. LOGAN,
Agent for the Creeks.

No. 11—G.

Report of Wheelock female seminary.

In the absence of Mr. Wright, it devolves on me to make a report of the Wheelock female seminary. This closed the session on the 11th instant. The whole number of pupils at the institution, during the term, is forty-five. This school is taught in two departments, by different teachers. Miss Dickinson has had twenty-three in her department.

* * * * *

The other department of this school has been taught by Miss Dolbeare, and consisted of twenty-two pupils.

* * * * *

The children in both these departments have been required to labor to some extent. They have made good proficiency in needle work, and have been taught to some extent to perform, in a proper manner, the duties of a housewife.

The teachers, in both the male and female schools, have been persons of intelligence and piety, and, so far as I am able to ascertain, their labors have been acceptable to the people, generally. The parents and friends of the children manifest a deep interest in the success of the boarding schools, and endeavor to sustain the teachers and others engaged in the work. Manual labor schools are the only institutions which promise to benefit the Choctaws materially. This people need to be instructed in regard to applying their labor so as to make it productive. Many of them are willing to labor to a considerable extent; but they seem at a loss to know how they may render their labor most productive. [This remark does not apply to all.] And manual laboring institutions seem to be just what is necessary to direct their efforts in such a way as to produce the greatest effect.

Yours, &c.,

CHARLES C. COPELAND.

No. 11—H.

NORWALK, C. N.,
July 19, 1848.

DEAR SIR: In the absence of Rev. A. Wright, the superintendent of Norwalk school, it becomes my duty to make the annual report.

The third session of this school closed on the 10th instant, and we have great cause of gratitude to our Heavenly Father for all the goodness with which he has surrounded us during the year now past. We have had but little sickness, either among the pupils or the members of the mission family; the hand of death has been stayed; the grim messenger has not been permitted to enter our dwelling.

* * * * *

The whole number of pupils that have attended the school during the year is thirty-one. The average attendance has been twenty-seven. Of these, sixteen have been supported by the appropriation; the others have been sustained by friends at the school, or boarded at home.

* * * * *

Good proficiency has been made in all the studies. There has also been a weekly exercise in declamation, composition, and vocal music. All who are able to write a legible hand have been required to write a composition in English regularly; and the teacher adds: "I am happy to say, that no exercise has been attended with better success. Most of the school are familiar with

the rudiments of vocal music, and a good proportion read plain sacred music with fluency. In their attention to instruction, there is a steady and manifest improvement, which is very gratifying to those who have the charge of them; and, with the blessing of God upon our labors, we can but cherish high hopes for the future usefulness of these youth."

The boys have been required to labor from two to four hours in each day; and, on Saturdays, they have labored one-half of the day, and the other half has been considered their own time. Many of them have labored during their play hours, for which they have been compensated. The money they have thus received has been voluntarily devoted to charitable purposes. On the whole, we feel that the members of this school have manifested a *desire* for improvement, which has been a great satisfaction to us, and, I trust, gratifying to their friends. It has been an object with us to cultivate, as far as possible, their social feelings, and our efforts have been crowned with a good degree of success. The boys have manifested a *willingness* to labor, and enter into all the plans we have adopted for their improvement. We can but hope that our labors will prove a lasting benefit to those who are placed under our care.

Respectfully, yours,

CHARLES C. COPELAND.

Colonel S. M. RUTHERFORD,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, Choctaw nation.

— — —
No. 11—I.

GOOD WATER, July 7, 1848.

I take this opportunity to forward the annual report of this station and school for the year ending July 7, 1848. Some other things, also, in connexion with our labors here, perhaps, will interest you. And, in the first place, we would recognize the hand of a kind Providence by which our lives have been preserved. And, with the exception of one or two individuals, we have had tolerably good health through the year. Miss Belden has suffered from illness; but she has been able to teach through the year, with the exception of three weeks. I have suffered, since the meeting of presbytery in April, from inflammation of the eyes. This is the second letter that I have attempted to write, and this puts me in misery; and this is my apology for not writing you before. A great part of the time I have not been able to read in family worship. The scholars have all suffered from this disease during the winter; they have lost more than a month of study hours in this term; and it has broken the regularity of classes, which is so desirable for the steady progress of a school.

We have had our full number of boarders, viz: forty-four, through the year, with the exception of one, for eight weeks, at

the commencement of the term. There were but four changes made in scholars. The four new ones did not understand the English, or know the A B C's; changes like this are not calculated to increase the immediate interest of a school, or decrease the labors of the teachers. But we think, and those who have visited the schools think, that greater improvement has been made this term than at any former one. The whole number who have attended during the year is fifty-nine—forty-four boarders and fifteen day scholars.

Miss L. C. Downer had under her charge 33, and Miss C. M. Belden, 25.

The Bible has been the text book in both schools. Connected with the day school, we have had an interesting Sabbath school. This arrangement I consider of vital importance to the welfare of youth. Their studies have been Union Questions, vol. 1st, Emerson's Evangelical Primer, containing doctrinal and historical truth, and the Assembly's Shorter Catechism. It is surprising to see how much knowledge may be obtained in forty Sabbaths, under faithful and judicious teachers. The knowledge of what we are to be and to do is an important branch of science. In the Sabbath school, I am happy to say, our scholars have made good progress. In the domestic duties of the family the children are required to take part, and for this purpose are divided into companies, each company taking its turn in rotation. Thirteen have learned to cut and fit dresses; forty-two can card and spin cotton; nine can weave. Forty yards have been woven by them this term. The filling for the above has been spun by the smaller girls. Some attention has also been paid to ornamental needle work.

The people generally are waking up to the subject of education and general improvement. In three different places Saturday and Sabbath schools have been commenced. The expense of these schools is raised by individual subscriptions. The whole number of learners is between seventy and eighty. The man of thirty or thirty-five years is seen sitting with the little child of seven or eight, learning to read their own language. Many of this people are determined to learn something; if they cannot learn the English they will learn their own language. The effects of these schools have so far been good. Their minds have been turned off from their former habits and customs, which have often prevented their making good crops. Another good effect is, these schools tend to instruct and elevate the mind. From twenty years close observation on the habits and manners of this people, I can truly say that the "ball stick and the violin" have done very little towards civilizing or Christianizing them. But, on the other hand, I am happy to say that schools and the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ has done much. I would not deny this or any other people of their pastimes, but I would recommend those which would elevate them. The Choctaws have this proverb now among themselves: "We begin to improve just in proportion as we give heed to the preaching of the gospel."

The prospects before us as a mission are still encouraging.

This church covers an area of ten or twelve miles in breadth to about forty in length. Within these bounds we have four places where religious meetings are held almost every Sabbath. At three of these places we have houses to meet in; at one we meet in the open air. At three of these places the attendance on preaching has been increasing during the year. Since my report of last July, eighty-two persons have been received into this church, as the fruits of a continued revival of religion. No extra means or measures have been used to arouse or awaken excitement. The truths of the gospel have been exhibited in a plain and simple manner before the mind. These truths, in the hands of the Holy Spirit, are like "the fire and the hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces."

Only let truth affect a man savingly and there will be improvement internally and externally, personally and relatively, at home and abroad, in his family and out of it.

With much respect, I remain truly yours,

E. HOTCHKEN,

Sup't. of Koonsher female seminary.

Colonel RUTHERFORD,
Agent for the Choctaws.

No. 12.

CHEROKEE AGENCY, October 10, 1848.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of the present condition of the Cherokee tribe west of the Mississippi river.

General good health prevails throughout the nation; but few cases of sickness, common to the country heretofore, have made their appearance within the last year.

The Cherokees are in a prosperous condition, so far as agricultural pursuits are concerned, many of them have large and extensive farms under good fences and well cultivated; all classes indeed have used great industry the present year, and, although their crops will be to some extent cut short on account of the drought, there will be an abundance raised for home consumption and to spare. The most of them have ample stocks of horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, &c., and I am happy to say that the difficulties that for some years past seemed to separate them into parties seems to have subsided. They are now seldom mentioned by any. Should they, as I trust they will, forget the past, and once more become united as a people, they are, with the advantages they possess, destined in a very short time to become an enlightened and intelligent people.

I visited Tahlaquah, the seat of government, a few days since. Their committee and council were in session; peace and good order prevailed to an extent not very common in legislative bodies, and I hesitate not to say that, if the different parties were again united

so as to confide in each other, that they are as capable of managing their own affairs, in a territorial or State government, as most people are in territorial or new State governments.

With regard to the females, they are generally industrious, and very neat in their household affairs. You generally find them neatly and fashionably dressed in home-made clothes of their own manufacturing; in passing through the country, the wheel and loom are frequently the first sounds that greet the ear. On your arrival at their houses, the neatness and taste they display in the selection of colors, and the manufacturing of the cloth, is not to be surpassed in any part of the government.

With regard, then, to the agricultural and household pursuits of the Cherokees, they are, from the best information I have been able to procure, in a rapid state of improvement.

With regard to the condition of the several schools and churches in the Cherokee nation, I regret that I shall not be able to make a minute report, though they are, as I am credibly informed, in a more prosperous condition than at any time heretofore.

I have written to the Rev. S. A. Worcester, Park Hill; the Rev. E. J. Peery, Tah-la-quah; the Rev. Evan Jones, Silvay's post office, and, through mistake, to the Rev. Jacob Hitchcock, Kedron, from neither of whom I have heard, except Mr. Hitchcock, whose letter I herewith enclose for your information. I have also written to Colonel W. S. Adair, superintendent of public schools in the Cherokee nation. I have seen Colonel Adair within the last few days. He had just made his annual report as school commissioner to the Cherokee council. I had an opportunity of examining it. I believed it to be an able report, made with much care and speciality. I am of opinion it will pretty well account for the orphan fund heretofore placed in the hands of the Cherokee authorities. I am promised a copy of the report referred to, and if it reaches me in time will enclose it with this report, for the satisfaction of the Indian Department.

I also find in this office two letters—one from the Rev. T. B. Ruble, dated October 6, 1847, to Colonel McKisick, and one from Rev. Evan Jones, dated 18th November, 1847, to Colonel McKisick—neither of which, I see, have been referred to in the colonel's report, (I suppose on account of their coming to hand at too late a date.) As I believe they will be of much interest to the Department, I herewith enclose them for your further satisfaction. I believe them well worthy of a place in your annual report; and should I still receive reports from the reverend gentlemen to whom I have written, I will enclose them to you. I presume the reason I have not heard from them is for the want of mail facilities.

Since at the agency, I have not, on account of the interposition of public business at the agency, had it in my power to visit the several schools in the Cherokee nation, so as to enable me to make such a report as is required by the rules and regulations of the Department.

With regard to the progress of religion and literature in the Cherokee nation, I am advised that I may readily set it down that

in each there has been at least an improvement of *ten per cent.* from the last year's report. The two several seminaries, spoken of by my immediate predecessor in his annual report of 1847, near Tah-la-quah, in the Cherokee nation, are still in progress of building. The female institution, I am informed, is now covered in, and some several of the rooms are plastered and undergoing a handsome finish. The male institution is also rapidly progressing; the walls are up to the second story, and it is expected it will be covered in during the fall season.

With regard to the Cherokee government, I see that my immediate predecessor, in his annual report of 1846, has given you a short, though very correct report. The political and judicial systems have underwent no change since that time worthy of note.

There have been several murders in the nation since I came into office, but they have been mostly among the Cherokees themselves, and subject to be punished by their own internal laws. In some cases they prosecute and punish with much promptness, but in others there seems to be a want of energy.

Since writing the above report, I have received the report of W. S. Adair, superintendent of public schools in the Cherokee nation, and herewith enclose it with the hope that it will be found a useful and interesting document to the Department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient and humble servant,

R. C. S. BROWN,
Cherokee Agent.

S. M. RUTHERFORD, Esq.,
Superintendent, &c., Choctaw Agency.

No. 12—A.

PARK HILL, Oct. 6, 1847.

DEAR SIR: Your communication of September 6th, came to hand not long since. In this you ask for information respecting the "condition and progress of the Methodist church in the Cherokee nation." The Methodist missionary board have had twelve missionaries employed in this work the past year. At the last session of the Indian Mission conference, Rev. T. B. Ruble was appointed to the charge of the Cherokee district. This district embraces five circuits in the Cherokee nation.

1. Upper Cherokee. To this charge Rev. D. B. Cumming and Rev. John F. Boot were sent at the last session of the conference, and J. R. Bird employed as interpreter. There are 538 church members, 7 local preachers, 6 sabbath schools, 181 scholars, 161 volumes in libraries, and 6 meeting houses, which have been built by the members.

2. Tah-le-quah circuit. This work has been served the past year by Rev. John T. Peery and Rev. Wm. McIntosh. There are 12 preaching places, 249 in society, 4 local preachers, 2 meeting

houses, 1 sabbath school, 35 scholars, and 100 volumes in library. Thirty-five children and 18 adults have been baptized, and more than 60 have been admitted into the church on trial during the past year.

3. Lower Cherokee. Rev. John Boston and Rev. Wm. Proctor have been laboring on this circuit the past year. There are 3 meeting houses, 18 preaching places, 337 church members, and 1 local preacher.

4. Barren Fork. Rev. Thomas Bertholf and Rev. Walker Cary have served here. There are, in this division of the work, 241 in society, 130 of whom have been received during the past year, 10 have died, and 10 removed; there is, also, one Sabbath school. This work is in a prosperous condition.

5. Webber's Falls. This field of labor was laid off at the last session of the conference, and is almost entirely new work, embracing the settlements on the Arkansas and Canadian rivers, among the most wild and unsettled part of the Cherokee nation—many of whom had not, in all probability, ever heard the gospel before. To this circuit, Rev. W. A. Duncan, with Isaac Sanders as interpreter, was sent to labor. But little fruit has yet appeared; there are 17 in society, 1 Sabbath school, and 15 scholars.

Of the above-named missionaries 4 are white and 8 native men. The annual cost to the board has been about \$2,070. We have no schools under our direction, yet the subjects of education and temperance are encouraged, so far as practicable, by all our missionaries.

Your most obedient servant,

T. B. RUBLE, P. E.,

Cherokee District.

Col. JAMES MCKISICK,
Cherokee Agent.

No. 12 - B.

Extract of a letter from Jacob Hitchcock, esq., superintendent of secular affairs for Dwight mission, C. N., to R. C. S. Brown, esq., Cherokee agent, dated September 28, 1848.

There is but one school connected with the mission station, composed wholly of females, except two or three lads that board at home. Fifty-two different scholars have attended the school more or less the last year. Forty-two of these have been boarded and taught gratuitously at the station. The average number of scholars was about forty-five. The scholars were very regular in their attendance, and there was but little change during the year; this was an advantage to the school, both to teachers and scholars. Miss Eliza Giddings is principal teacher, and Miss Julia S. Hitchcock, assistant teacher. The mission family is composed of eleven members, viz: Rev. W. Willey and Mrs. Willey; Jacob Hitchcock,

superintendent of secular affairs, and Mrs. Hitchcock; Mr. James Orr, farmer, and Mrs. Orr; Mr. Kellogg Day, mechanic, and Mrs. Day; Miss Ellen Stetson, directress of girls out of school; Miss Giddings and Miss Hitchcock, teachers, as stated above. The school has been composed wholly of native scholars. The following branches of education have been taught: spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, natural and mental philosophy, algebra, and composition. Many of the scholars made good progress in their studies, and at the public examination acquitted themselves much to their own credit and the satisfaction of a large number of spectators, comprising some of the leading men in the nation, among whom was the acting principal chief and one or two members of the legislature.

No. 13.

CREEK AGENCY, *September 11, 1848.*

SIR: I beg leave to present to your consideration the following report of the condition of the Creeks, and also, to refer you to the accompanying papers, being the reports of the different missionaries and teachers employed within this nation.

The untiring zeal and devoted exertions of the missionaries here have succeeded in producing an increased and growing interest on the subject of religion, education, and temperance; never since the Creeks were known, have these subjects been received by them with the interest and deep solicitude that now exists; a spirit of inquiry has sprung up, which, in manifesting itself, has produced results calculated to excite both surprise and gratification. Several of the chiefs and influential men have been converted, and their conduct, and the course they have pursued since the public profession of their convictions, have fully shown their sincerity and their determination to follow the line they have marked out with fidelity and truth; their example and influence have given countenance to the work and induced many others to follow, and has also had a tendency to suppress any manifestation of opposition. Several camp meetings have been held, which have been attended by numerous and respectable congregations, and conducted with the greatest decency and order. A tendency to throw aside their superstitions, customs and practices, and to disregard and ridicule the incantations and invocations of their medicine men and doctors, is also manifest and apparent, and which is good evidence of the growing intelligence and enlightenment of these people.

There has been in a course of operation during the year two schools in the vicinity of the agency: one under the charge of the Presbyterian, and the other of the Methodist society; one at the Presbyterian mission, and two at the settlement on the North Fork, in the Canadian district, one of which has been under the charge of Mr. Hay, a Baptist missionary, and the other of that of the Methodists. The accounts from all are highly flattering; that which

is most cheering, and at the same time most gratifying evidence of the interest abounding, is the pride and satisfaction evidently felt by the parents at the acquirements of their children; it is not uncommon for them to boast of their progress in learning, and that they can read, write and speak like a white man. This is the proper feeling, and induces the belief that the rising generation of the Creeks, will indeed be a different people.

The buildings for the two manual labor schools are both in the course of erection, the mechanics and workmen engaged on them being regularly and busily employed; every exertion is made by the different superintendents to forward the work; but owing to the distance from navigation, and the difficulty of obtaining supplies, no exact calculation can be made as to the time they will be finished and ready for operation.

That whiskey still continues to be introduced and used in the nation, and that there is no way to effectually suppress it, is but too true; it is not, however, so publicly exhibited; neither is intoxication so common, and I am convinced that much less of this pernicious article is used than formerly.

The crops which for some time were expected to be cut short by an excessive drought which prevailed throughout the nation, will, it is said, yet prove amply sufficient to satisfy the calculations made for their application; the farms of the Indians, though in most instances of small extent, not unusually contain different crops; the corn is most common. Wheat, oats and rice are raised in considerable quantities. I was surprised in travelling through the nation lately, to observe the many fine orchards, the neatness and regularity of the fences around the farms, and the improvements in their houses, and to see in many instances the furniture in them neat, cleanly, and appropriate; the spinning wheel and loom are in common use; but that which struck me most, was the introduction of Yankee clocks, an article not in general use among Indians.

There has recently arrived in their new country sixty-five emigrants; from the fact of their having scattered in different parts of the nation, where their relatives or friends lived, I have been unable to visit but few of them; those I have seen, express themselves as pleased with their new country generally; it must be expected, however, that many will have to suffer, or have suffered, with the sickness peculiar to the climate; though, so far, I have heard of no deaths, nor of any serious cases of sickness among them.

I have already informed the Department the result of the proceedings that arose from the proposal submitted by me to the general council for a per capita payment of the Creek annuity; I was of the opinion until recently, that it was the best and most judicious plan, and that a large majority of the nation were in favor of it. I have since had reason to believe otherwise; the design of the Department has emanated from the just and praiseworthy motive of securing to the common Indian that to which he is entitled equally with his chief, and to prevent fraud from being practised upon them by unprincipled traders, and there are many tribes to whom it will apply, and who have good cause to be thankful for its inter-

ference; with the Creeks, however, believe me it is otherwise; they have neither chiefs nor traders among them who cheat and defraud them. Their chiefs have certain duties assigned them, for which they are paid salaries by no means exorbitant or inadequate to the service rendered; after these are paid, the residue is equally distributed to every head of a family; the payment to the chiefs is made with the full concurrence and approbation of the tribe. With this, and with their legislation to which they have long been accustomed, they are satisfied that it is suited to their peculiar condition and wants. The fact of their undisturbed, peaceful and prosperous condition abundantly testifies this. I do not believe there is a community of people in the world who are living as happily and who agree together as well as do the Creeks at the present time. Crimes of any importance are seldom heard of; a case of horse stealing, for instance, has not come under my notice for more than two years, and this is of common occurrence among other tribes, and not unfrequent among the whites on the frontier. To what is this state to be attributed, unless to the influence and authority of the chiefs? Destroy this influence, which a per capita payment of the annuity would have a tendency to do, without materially benefitting the Indian, and you have anarchy and confusion, where was peace and harmony before; it would also induce designing and dangerous men to aim at the supremacy in order to effect objects unjust and dishonorable in their character. That alterations can be made to the benefit of the nation in the disposition made of the annuity, I am not prepared to deny; it is also evident that the number of their chiefs is unnecessary, and their laws in many instances are uncalled for, not to say absurd and ridiculous; but the reform required in these matters had better be left to themselves, and be effected gradually, by the force of time, circumstances, and their own experience. I am satisfied that an attempt to change their affairs and concerns, at the present time, would only lead to results the very opposite to that sought for.

The Creeks are on terms of friendship with all the neighboring tribes, and the best understanding and harmony prevails among them, with one exception, which is the Seminoles, who are virtually the same people; there is a mutual feeling of dislike and jealousy existing between the two tribes, which has been engendered, not alone from the fact of the Creeks having assisted in the late war against them, but from long settled hate and antipathy growing out of the causes that effected their separation, and vexed questions of ownership to certain negro property in the possession of the Seminoles. There are many fierce, intractable and obstinate spirits on both sides, who, upon the slightest provocation, would not hesitate to widen the breach between them. I am not aware that I have cause to anticipate the occurrence of difficulties; but that they have been prevented by the peaceful course and disposition of the Creek chiefs, and the prudent advice and watchful care of the Seminole agent, Mr. Duvall, is most certain; and through their medium is to be expected the eventual friendly settlement of the questions at issue between them. Many of the Seminoles are

settled among the Creeks in different parts of the nation; the main body of them, however, settled on the Little River, a branch of the Canadian, in the southwestern corner of the nation, and upon the verge of the immense prairies that extend from there to the Rocky mountains.

The health of the country is unusually good for the season of the year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES LOGAN,
Creek agent.

Col. SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Superintendent, Western Territory.

No. 13—A.

CREEK AGENCY, C. N.,
September 8, 1848.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the War Department, I send you the following report of the Presbyterian mission school among the Creek Indians, located near the Creek agency:

My labors in this school commenced on the first of June, and were continued until the vacation, which commenced on the first of September.

It is with pleasure I inform you that my labors, which were so recently commenced at this place, have been abundantly rewarded in the progress of the scholars—the most of whom, however, have been attendants upon other schools established from time to time in the neighborhood.

During the past three months, commencing on the first of June and ending with the last day of August, there has been an *irregular* attendance of about 25 scholars, but a more regular attendance of about 18 scholars.

The studies pursued were as follows, viz.: spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic.

The progress of the scholars has been, in all respects, equal to what is common in schools in the United States.

I am, dear sir, yours, most respectfully,

DAVID W. EAKINS.

By the General Assembly's Board of Foreign Missions.

Col. JAMES LOGAN,
Creek Agent.

No. 13—B.

CREEK AGENCY, *September 21, 1848.*

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to inform you that on last evening I received a letter from Walter Lowrie, esq., Secretary of our Board of Missions, dated 29th August, in which he says: "I have received from the War Department a circular requiring information to be given to the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, (Mr. Rutherford) as follows:—the situation of the buildings, the progress that has been made in their erection, and the *probable time* when the establishment will be ready for the reception of scholars."

I therefore hasten to comply with this requisition in regard to the Creek manual labor boarding school under the care of the Presbyterian board of foreign missions.

1. "The situation of the buildings." These are pleasantly situated between the Arkansas and Verdigris rivers, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the former, and 2 miles from the latter; about $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the Creek agency, and about 3 miles from the steamboat landing. They are placed upon a high, dry, and beautiful ridge, connected with a good body of land for cultivation, and we think the situation will prove as healthy as the country affords. It is well supplied with wood and water.

2. "The progress that has been made in their erection." A report of this has lately been made through our agent to the government. I will, however, again state that we have erected several buildings at the new station, viz: a double log house $1\frac{1}{2}$ stories high, with two rooms below and two above, 18 by 16 feet each, hewed inside and out. This is intended for a dwelling house at present, and for a work-shop for the boys when the school is put in operation; a large and substantial hewed log meat-house, 20 feet square; a crib and stable, 14 by 20 feet each, with a cutting-room between of 6 by 20, all covered under same roof. A large well has been dug, affording excellent water, and has been walled up with stone. Other improvements are being made at the station which will be important for the successful operation of the school, as soon as the main building is finished. The work on the main building has been much hindered for the want of good and responsible workmen. But that difficulty has been overcome; good workmen have been obtained, and the work is going forward vigorously. The stone foundations, which are very substantial, are nearly complete. The brick for the building are nearly all made. All parts of the work are progressing very well; and we think this extensive building will be completed as soon as could be reasonably expected from the nature of the case.

3. "The probable time when the establishment will be ready for the reception of scholars." If the calculations of the workmen be correct, we will probably be ready by the 1st of July next.

I will also beg leave to report, that—

4. The expenditures for the school and farm, for the erection of buildings, purchase of wagon and team, furniture, &c., &c., amount

to about \$3,639 37. Other accounts will soon be due, which will swell the sum considerably more. The vouchers for these expenditures will be forwarded to W. Lowrie, esq., New York, from whom I have received the money, and who will settle with the government for the same.

With much esteem, I remain your obedient servant,
R. M. LOUGHRIDGE.

Colonel SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Sup't, &c., Western Territory, Choctaw Agency.

No. 13—C.

ASBURY M. L. SCHOOL, *September 8, 1848.*

SIR: I hasten to inform you of the condition and extent of the operations of the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church south, connected with the Creek nation. Our work here, for several years past, has been carried on almost entirely on the circuit plan, white and native men both being employed in the work. These, for the most part, had to be unmarried men, owing principally to the great difficulty in any thing like a permanent family missionary residence, the leading policy of the nation being opposed to any and to all very extended and active missionary operations among them. But whatever now may be the feelings and views of a few of the leading men of the nation, with reference to the present and future good of the people, one thing is certain, they are behind the times. The common people, with many prominent leaders, are very far in the advance of them. Customs and usages, however ancient, are fast passing away; those of a higher and superior order are now obtaining, to the great satisfaction of a large portion of the Creek people. Many of them are quitting the ball play and the dance, which is sometimes made a ground of complaint against the missionary.

The majority of the Creek people are now in favor of educating their children, and adopting the habits of civilized life. During the past two years the demand has been repeatedly made, and with increased interest, for books, schools, missionaries, and teachers.

Could whiskey be kept out of the Creek nation, I see no earthly reason why they might not soon rank with the foremost of the tribes in point of general improvement. The Creek has a pliable, expansive mind. He is teachable; his habits, though of long standing, give way before the light of truth. Let but once the same amount of means and instrumentalities be brought to bear upon the Creek people that some of the other tribes have already been favored with, and the good accomplished will be more than double that in any other instance. We are led to this conclusion from facts as they present themselves in the history of benevolent enterprise, connected with other portions of the great mission field. But to the matter before us. Until the last session of the Indian mission conference, the Creek nation remained an integral part of

the Cherokee district, when it was made a separate charge, and divided into three mission stations, in view of its becoming a full district. T. B. Ruble was appointed to it, and also the superintendency of the Asbury M. L. school. He received his appointment in November, but did not succeed in getting the site for the requisite buildings, and a farm located, until late in the month of January. In this he had the efficient aid of Colonel Logan, Creek agent, and the hearty concurrence of Colonel Rutherford, superintendent western territory. The site is within less than a mile of the north fork, and five miles of its junction with the Canadian, south of the former and northwest of the latter. The river is sufficiently commanding, with good land for farming; good timber on the north and west, and quite a sufficient supply of water for all necessary purposes. The location is generally thought to be a good one, and as healthy as any to be found in the country.

Soon after the site was determined on, a purchase of some improvements on, and necessary to, the location, was made from the widow owning them; for three hundred dollars. These consist of about thirty acres cultivated land under good fence, a comfortable hewed log house, about twenty feet square, with a porch in front, smoke house, kitchen, stables, with a tolerable supply of fruit trees, &c. In February a contract was agreed on for the stone and brick work, with Webster & Reed, of Fort Smith, Arkansas; and, in the month of April a contract was entered into with J. J. Denny, esq., of Louisville, Kentucky, to furnish material and do the carpenter work. But notwithstanding the contractors commenced preparations immediately, little was done towards the buildings before the first of May. Since then the work has been progressing slowly. The foundation was completed and the corner stone laid on the 19th day of July. The occasion was one of much interest to the Indians, many of whom attended, with several of the principal chiefs. Notwithstanding the day was very hot, the addresses and all elicited the closest attention from them. When they were told by a native speaker that this was what they had been trying to get for several years past, they responded most heartily. All expressed themselves as much pleased with what they heard and saw. The building will be 110 feet long by 34 wide, with porch ten feet wide in front, three stories high, including the basement. Leaving out the halls, there will be twenty-one rooms, including those in the attic. The basement will be of stone, the balance brick. It is believed now that the building cannot be completed before next fall. We hope, however, that we may get into it before that time. But there are many hindrances in putting up so large a building here; suitable hands hard to obtain; transportation difficult.

On the farm we have raised about fifteen acres of corn—six of oats—some potatoes, &c. Two wagons, two yoke of oxen, two cows and calves, with some harness, hoes, spades, axes, &c., have been purchased for the use of the farm.

A Sunday school has been taught at the place part of the time since last spring. A regular day school was commenced the 8th of August, taught by Rev. W. A. Cobb, but is now suspended,

until after the approaching session of the Indian mission conference. The school was necessarily small, as we were only able to take in a few boys, the balance having to come some distance. Our school house is only a temporary affair, and not well adapted to the fall and winter season. The children in attendance were nearly all in the spellers, but made very respectable improvement for the time. The school will be commenced again as soon as practicable.

We have regular preaching at this place, and a society of some 50 members, mostly on trial. One-half of the above number, or more, have placed themselves under the watch care of the church during the past few weeks, and nearly the whole number since last spring. The spirit of improvement is very plainly at work among the people all around us.

North fork and Little river mission.—To this, Rev. W. D. Collins, with Rev. Daniel Asbury, a native preacher, were sent at the last session of the conference. There were in the society and under religious instruction, as last returned, 257 members, and 19 preaching places. This mission includes a large portion of the nation. But very little opposition exists any more among them to the gospel.

Creek agency mission.—Rev. W. A. Cobb was appointed to this work, and has labored there a good part of the past year. A native acted as his interpreter. The last returns show 315 under the watch care of the church, and 20 preaching places.

Mrs. Collins, who has had charge of the Muskogee mission school, near the Creek agency, reports as follows: "This school was established in February last. At its first organization, the number of children in attendance was small, and mostly very irregular in their attendance. The school, however, soon increased in numbers, and the children became more punctual in their attendance. Sixty names are now on the list, but many of them have entered school during the last few weeks, and many others have been absent from school from various causes, so much so that I think the average number in attendance during the term will not exceed 25. The scholars generally have made good proficiency, and some have advanced rapidly. Two little girls, in particular, whose English names are Martha Marshall and Elizabeth Brodnax, the former daughter of the second chief of the nation, the latter the daughter of Doctor Brodnax, have made unusually rapid improvement for the time they have been in school. I have been engaged in teaching among the whites for the last twelve years, and have never seen children among them make better proficiency than have these Indian youths who have attended school regularly. The girls have been instructed in plain sewing and embroidery, in which they manifest much skill. Thirteen of the students have been learning to write, nine have been studying geography, seven arithmetic, and two English grammar. All in attendance have received oral instruction in arithmetic and geography. There has

been a manifest improvement in the general deportment of the children, and I trust religious impressions made which will be lasting. At the commencement of the school, many of the boys were often kept away by attending ball plays, night dances, &c., but most of them have been induced to refrain from attending such places, especially ball plays on the Sabbath.

A Sabbath school of considerable interest has been sustained; many of the children are able to recite lessons from the Scriptures, while others recite from Caper's Catechism. The beneficial effects of the Sabbath school are very apparent. Twenty-one of the children, who are able to understand it, have signed the temperance pledge, and, so far as we have ascertained, all have kept it, with one exception."

The missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church south, have had four missionaries employed in this work the past year, three white and one native, besides others who act as interpreters. Some 622 are connected with the church and receive religious instructions. One thousand copies of a hymn book, of about 100 pages, in the Creek language, and also 1,000 copies of a small spelling book have been published by the board for gratuitous distribution among them. These they soon use to great advantage, as they learn to read their own language in a very short time. The instruction of the children and the cause of temperance each receive due attention.

Most respectfully, yours,

T. B. RUBLE,
P. E., Muskogee district.

Col. JAMES LOGAN,
Creek agent.

No. 13—D.

NORTH FORK, CREEK NATION,
July 26, 1848.

Report of the Baptist mission, under patronage of the American Indian mission, located at Louisville, Kentucky.

The society have been aiding a few men, mostly natives, for the last few years. Until December, they did not have a white man in the Creek nation. Great prosperity has attended the churches. The preaching of the natives has interested the tribe, and the different churches have always had large congregations, and at most of the monthly meetings have received members. Six years since the number of members in the nation did not exceed 150, with two churches and two or three preaching places.

At present there are seven Baptist churches and about ten preaching places, with 550 communicants. The denomination have had

superior native assistants. Rev. Joseph Island, whom every person loves to speak highly of, died last March. He was the first minister of the North Fork church, and continued their beloved pastor, in labors abundant, until death. At the time of his death the church numbered 175; now it numbers 210. Those added since have been deeply affected by his loss, and, no doubt, his death has been the means of their conversion. The society now have—

Rev. Americus L. Hay, at North Fork town.
 Rev. James Perryman, native, at Big Spring.
 Rev. Andrew Frazier, native, at Elk creek.
 Brother Sti-sock-kee, native, at Elk creek.
 Brother Yan-too-chee, native, at Creek agency.
 Brethren Jacob, Jesse, and Harry, Black-men.

A school was commenced last January—now has 30 scholars. For a day school the attendance is excellent. Five could read in easy lessons, and three spell words of one syllable. At the close of the first session, of 22 weeks, 21 were reading. Eight learned their letters first day by using the musical alphabet. The school could now have 100 pupils if the society could board them, but they have not the means, and would ask government aid. This they have done, and hope to succeed. The people ask for schools. They see how much benefit the Choctaws have received from their excellent boarding schools. They are much pleased that they are to have two in successful operation soon, and wish for another, conducted by the American Indian mission.

The classes in the Baptist school at North Fork are as follows: Six in third Eclectic Reader, Ray's Arithmetic, second part, Olney's Geography, and writing; eight in Eclectic Reader, second part Ray's Arithmetic, first part, six in First Reader, eight spelling, two in alphabet. The school has been taught one session of twenty-two weeks, and two weeks of the second session. Twenty-two of the scholars began in their letters. All are intent to learn, with the happiest feeling for each other, and dearly loving their school.

But a day school will not answer the purpose of education for the tribes. The Indian youth should be taught farming, and some of the simple trades, and the girls house-keeping. This is not likely to be done, only in the manual laboring schools. The government can, to the greatest extent, advance the true interest of the tribes, by establishing boarding schools. If the Indians should not recommend this course at the time, a good school will recommend itself to any tribe in a very short time.

At no time in the history of the Creeks has such great prosperity attended them as now. Several of the principal chiefs have united with the different churches, and are sending their children to school. Within the last six months seventy-five have united with the different Baptist churches in the nation. Congregations are becoming larger at each meeting. Our agent, no doubt, will speak of the secular condition of the Creeks. A bright day is dawning on the Creeks. Already the bright light is seen in every direction.

Will Colonel Logan, agent of the Creeks, accept of this report, and forward it to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs?

Yours, respectfully,

AMERICUS L. HAY,
Missionary of the A. I. M.

Colonel JAMES LOGAN.

No. 14.

CHICKASAW AGENCY,
August 22, 1848.

SIR: Having made a report in March last, I shall have but little to say in this. Since my last annual report, fifty-two Chickasaws have emigrated, but a large majority of them have located in the Choctaw district; they were persuaded to do so by interested persons, and also by some of the Chickasaws who are opposed to their people coming into the district, but some of the heads of those families have visited the district, and are very much pleased with it; some observed that they would not go a half mile to see a better country and are determined to move in early this fall.

The last of February I sent to Colonel Richard M. Johnson's school, in Kentucky, thirteen boys, and brought back thirteen to the nation; there were fourteen at the school, but one, a half-breed, by the name of Thomas, refused to return. After arriving at Louisville, Kentucky, he obtained employment on a steamboat and preferred to remain. I am happy to say that those that did come home, looked well, were well clad, and are very steady; all of whom can read and write. In our war with Mexico, there were three Chickasaws engaged. Mr. George Thomas, who was at New Orleans at the time they were raising volunteers, joined one of the companies, which was disbanded when the twelve months volunteers arrived at Camargo. Amos Colbert, a boy eighteen years of age, and Ti Chuck, a full blood Chickasaw, made their way to San Antonio, and there volunteered for the war; and, from what I can learn, they done good service; they have just arrived at home.

In May last, a delegation of eight Chickasaws visited Washington city on business of their nation. Colonel James McLaughlin, chief of the Chickasaws, was one of the delegation; they have all arrived at home in good health, and appear very much pleased with their visit; that is, those that I have seen. They have not yet informed the Chickasaws what they have done, but the chief has called a council of all the tribe, to collect on the 15th day of September next, at which time all things done will be explained to them.

The health of the Chickasaws (those who live in the district) has been unusually good this year; there are those who live at so great a distance from the agency that it is impossible to know their condition.

Their crops this season are very fine, better than I have ever known them; abundance of corn has been raised, and thousands of bushels to spare; large crops of wheat have been raised in the district; it will average from 25 to 30 bushels per acre, and weight, 67 pounds to the bushel; in a year or two no flour will be brought into the country from Arkansas or Missouri for sale; the Indians will make their own.

Their stocks of horses, cattle, and hogs, are increasing very fast; in this country heifers generally have calves at two years old; the Chickasaws are paying more attention to raising hogs than formerly.

Mr. G. S. Love has a fine grist mill, and also a threshing machine to clean wheat, moved by horse power. Colonel Benjamin Love has a horse mill, and a threshing machine is to be attached to it; Mr. Thomas Mitchell a horse mill and cotton gin; Mr. James Colbert, Jackson Kemp, Pitman Colbert, and Mrs. Susan Jones, all have cotton gins, and all raise fine crops of cotton. Mr. Harvey Bacon has a mill with water power; Colonel W. R. Guy, a saw and also grist mill, to grind corn and wheat; Isaac Love has a mill with water power, and in the course of one or two years, several other mills will be erected.

The Chickasaw district is a beautiful country; it is beautiful to the eye, and there is a large quantity of first quality land, equal to any I ever have seen—I never saw any that would produce better, and it is large enough for two such tribes, and it is a healthy country. In fact there are but few of the Chickasaws that know anything about what kind of a country they have. This spring I took a short trip west, and was perfectly astonished to see so fine a country unoccupied. Not long since I was conversing with Mr. Jesse Chisholm, a half-breed Cherokee, who is a man of good observation, and has travelled all over the south and west (west of the States) and all through New Mexico, and he says this is by far superior to any country he had ever seen.

Several of the streams in the district afford ample water power for mills and machinery of any kind. I visited this spring a creek that had a fall of 99½ feet, with water sufficient to run twenty thousand spindles. This creek is not more than 25 miles west of my agency. I am in hopes I shall be able to persuade some of the wealthy Chickasaws to erect a cotton factory at the place. I have in a former report mentioned that there were several valuable mineral springs in the district, among which may be found the "oil spring." A number of persons from Texas, besides Indians of various tribes, have visited this spring this summer and find it very beneficial. Some, who were very much afflicted with the rheumatism, were cured almost immediately.

I have heard of no complaints for the last few months of any of the several tribes of Indians that pass through this country, except the Cherokees. There is a party of them that continue to steal wherever they go. A few days since I was called on by a gentleman from Missouri, for assistance to follow some Cherokees that had stolen ten head of horses and mules from him as he was pass-

ing through the nation to Texas. He had two wagons, and they stole all his horses except two. The notorious "Tom Starr" was one of the party, so the gentleman informed me; (he had seen Starr once before.) I regretted that it was out of my power to render him assistance, as we have only a few infantry at Fort Washita—a part of a company—and only one officer; and yesterday I was called on by some Indians to know if I could aid them in recovering some horses that were stolen from them by the Cherokees, but I could do nothing for them, only advise them to go in pursuit themselves.

Without we have at least one company of dragoons at Fort Washita, we can never put a stop to those villians, both white and red, that commit depredations upon the good and peaceable citizens of this dirtrict.

There are two difficulties in the way that prevents the Chickasaws from being as harmonious as they would and ought to be. 1st, the Choctaw laws which extend over them; and 2d, that a large portion of the Chickasaws are living out of their district, and those who live out of the district, away from their own people, complain most of the oppression of the laws, and are the most dissatisfied portion of the tribe, and throw more obstacles in the way in carrying out the wishes of the government than all the balance of the tribe; and I would most earnestly suggest that all the public blacksmith shops be ordered by the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs to be located in the Chickasaw district. It would in a very few years prove of great advantage to the whole tribe. They would become more contented and friendly; but, as they now are situated, they never will be. I am in hopes the honorable Commissioner will carry out my suggestions, *as I do know it will prove a blessing to the Chickasaws.*

Were all the Chickasaws in their own district, you would hear no talk of wanting a new country; and I can see no reasons why the Choctaws would not be willing to withdraw their laws from over the Chickasaw district, if the Chickasaws were all in it. The country would stand as it now does; and what benefit can it be to the Choctaws to hold their laws over the Chickasaws? Were the Choctaws to withdraw their laws from over the Chickasaw district, I have no doubt in my mind that the two nations would be much more friendly than they now are, or ever will be, so long as the laws of the Choctaws are over the Chickasaws, and I would earnestly *recommend to the government to use its influence to make the above arrangement.*

I have thought it best to send the report of Rev. Westley Browning, respecting the progress and condition of the Chickasaw academy, as made out by himself, that you and the honorable Commissioner may know exactly what has been done.

The Rev. Mr. Couch has been preaching among the Chickasaws for the last eight or nine months, and as far as I can learn, he is well received and is doing much good for the people.

The blacksmiths have all discharged their duty well this year; I have not heard a single word of complaint made this season.

I regret to say that there is more whiskey brought into the nation this year than has been brought in for several years past. The most is obtained at Fort Smith, Arkansas. The Indians go there and purchase large quantities and bring into the nation.

All up and down Red river, on the Texas side, you will find whiskey shops. The Indians sometimes will give their horses, ploughs, and in fact, any thing they have for whiskey. One of those whiskey dealers will take an Indian's new plough for a gallon of whiskey, without the least ruffle of conscience.

I am happy to say that the Chickasaws are becoming more and more industrious every year; none of them are hunters, only occasionally for amusement.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. M. M. UPSHAW,

U. S. Indian Agent for the Chickasaws.

Colonel S. M. RUTHERFORD,

Acting Superintendent, W. Territory.

No. 14—A.

CHICKASAW ACADEMY, *August 23, 1848.*

SIR: The work of preparation for this school, located about ten miles northwest from Fort Washita, was commenced on the first of last January, and the progress made therein to this date is, in

Buildings,

one rough log cabin with end sheds attached, affording shelter at present to fourteen persons. One hewed log meat house, eighteen by twenty feet, sufficient to hang twenty or twenty-five thousand pounds of meat, finished, except the painting. One corn house, ten by twenty feet, shaded all around, for stable and wagon purposes. One hewed log building, twenty by thirty feet, two stories high, covered, and doors and windows cut; designed according to the plan of the institution for mechanics' shops, but which will be prepared as soon as practicable as a domicil for our families, workmen, and hands. The above buildings are intended, both in regard to structure and position, to form an integral part of the general plan of buildings, and are, consequently, put up in a substantial and durable manner.

I may add that all three of our workmen here wrought but little for the last six weeks, in consequence of sickness.

Farm and farming.

In this department our work is more advanced. For the first month or more I could procure no laboring hands, but by the middle of February I had employed four—in March two, and in April

two more, and for the last four weeks we have had ten. We cleared a lot of near four acres sufficiently early to plant with a variety of vegetables, which have already been of great service to us, and will be sufficient for the coming fall and winter. We have enclosed over fifty acres of wood land, with a fence nine rails high, and cleared and planted about eighteen acres with corn, the appearance of which is good. The balance of this enclosure is now chopped off and ready for rolling and burning; and a small part broken and sowed with turnip seed. We have over 14,000 rails made, and perhaps 11,000 or more of them put up.

The work has at all times appeared to progress slowly, and yet when it is remembered that we began not quite seven months ago, in a dense unbroken forest, in which was growing the wood of most of the implements with which the work has been performed, we look around us with feelings of gratitude and pleasure.

There are indications that the interest of the Indians in the enterprise is increasing, but when we shall have the pleasure of inviting them to send in their children to the school is uncertain. I conceive it quite impolitic to begin the school until we shall have erected our large boarding house, and shall have raised a good supply of provisions towards its support. When this shall have been accomplished, we shall have sufficient room to appropriate to just such a school as we would wish to begin with. One thing only we promise: that if means are not lacking, attention and effort shall not be wanting to as early a commencement as reason can require.

I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WESLEY BROWNING.

Col. A. M. M. UPSHAW,
U. S. Agent for Chickasaws.

No. 15.

NEOSHO SUB-AGENCY,
September 9, 1848.

SIR: In obedience to the regulations of the Indian Department, I have now the honor to submit my annual report of the affairs of this sub-agency, and of the condition of the Indians subject to my charge.

You are aware that I entered on the duties of my office on the 24th of June, and, in a short time after, I went for the half-year's annuity belonging to the several tribes. After my return, I was engaged, up to the 1st instant, in paying them off, &c. Of course it is not expected that my knowledge of their condition in morals, civilization, and in agriculture, would be as satisfactory as I would wish. I shall, therefore, confine myself to such matters as have come under my own observation, and such information as I have derived from others.

There are three small tribes located within the bounds of this sub-agency, to wit: the Seneca, Senecas and Shawnees, and Quapaws. I shall speak of them in the order here named.

The Senecas numbered, on the 15th day of August, the time they received their annuity, fifty-five men, thirty-nine women, and fifty children—total one hundred and forty-four.

The land belonging to this tribe lies west of the western boundary of Missouri, and runs to the Neosho; it is from twelve to fourteen miles north and south, and from eight to ten miles east and west; about one-third being prairie of the best kind, and well adapted to raising corn, wheat, oats, beans, potatoes, &c.; the upland I consider good, and is well supplied with plenty of timber of various kinds. The most of them look to farming for a support, and, from the appearance of their fields, I would say that they would raise enough for the present year.

The Senecas and Shawnees numbered, on the 30th August, sixty-four men, eighty-six women, and one hundred and three children; total two hundred and fifty-three. Their land lies north of the Senecas; is about six miles north and south, and from eight to ten miles east and west. It is divided into about equal parts of prairie and timber, and is about such land, or not quite as good, as the Senecas'. These people are, with a few exceptions, industrious and quite civil. They will raise enough for a support, and some few of them will have a surplus. I consider them more engaged in agriculture than either of the other tribes within this sub-agency.

The Quapaws numbered, on the 18th August, fifty three men, fifty-nine women, and one hundred and nine children—total two hundred and twenty-one. Their land lies north of the Senecas and Shawnees, and is about six miles north and south, and extending, from the western boundary of Missouri to the Grand river, from ten to fifteen miles east and west, and is mostly prairie. Their land is good, and beautifully lined with groves of timber, which makes it fine for raising stock. They are engaged in agriculture, but not to the same extent as the other two tribes, though, from appearance, they will raise plenty for a support.

The health of the several tribes has been good the present year, although I am informed that, in a few years past, they have suffered much from sickness. Since my residence among them, but one has died.

What kind of religion, if any, exists among these tribes is totally unknown to me, and from conversation I had with others, they gave me no account of any particular system of worship. It is true they have their regular dances, which they say is intended as an offering to the "Great Spirit" for his kindness to them. About the 20th of August they have a yearly festival, or corn dance, in which the whole nation assembles at the council house. They bring with them all kinds of produce raised during the year; the women cook it. They will dance for two or three days, and spend their time in eating and dancing, for the purpose of returning thanks to the "Great Spirit" for a plentiful harvest.

The Senecas, Senecas and Shawnees, have, as yet, refused to let teachers come among them for the purpose of educating their children. It shall be a duty that I will cheerfully perform, to use all my influence among these tribes to try and eradicate a notion so much at war with their social and moral happiness; and I am in hopes; before another year rolls around, to see missionaries settled among them. They are already beginning to see the advantages of it from their neighbors, the Quapaws.

The introduction of whiskey into the Indian country has been the great cause, as I think, why our red brethren have made such slow progress in civilization; to prevent its use has been the anxious and earnest desire of the Department. That men settle along the line for the sole purpose of selling them liquor, no man acquainted with the Indian country will deny. The laws of Missouri, and the late regulations of the Department, are adequate to check that nefarious traffic, if fully put in force by the several agents and State officers; and, at the same time, a proper appeal being made to the virtuous and good to frown down with contempt any man who engages in it. In all my councils I invariably bring the subject of liquor to the notice of the chiefs and head men, and urge upon them the propriety of their using their influence with the Indians to prevent them from drinking whiskey. They have promised me their hearty co-operation, and I have had the pleasure to see the chiefs, in full council, to their nation, advise them not to use it. Another mode I consider a wise and salutary one, and that is for the several agents to urge them to establish temperance societies. The example being set to a few, it is more than likely that in a short time it would extend its influence among others until much good may be done.

I enclose you (marked A) the report of the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson, superintendent of Crawford Seminary, located in the Quapaw country.

This institution is exercising and gaining considerable influence among these Indians; they appear to be anxious that their children should become educated as the whites. The chiefs have promised me to use all the means in their power to urge their people to send their children to school.

I made a public examination on the 17th August, in the presence of the whole nation, of the advancement made by the pupils at school. I consider them gaining an education as fast as could be expected. Some are reading well in the Testament—a book quite necessary for them to become acquainted with. Some are writing and spelling. The houses are large and commodious; the farm is in good order, and well cultivated; the boys and girls are well clothed and fed; they are not only taught the observance of good manners and morals, but are forced to practice it; they have the example of the whole family, belonging to the mission, before them, which is strictly religious and moral. I consider Mr. Patterson well adapted to the task assigned him by the Methodist Epis-

copal church, and take pleasure in recommending him and the institution to the fostering care of the government.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. A. JAMES,
Neosho Sub-agent.

Colonel SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Act. Sup. Ind. Aff., W. T., Choctaw Agency.

No. 15—A.

CRAWFORD SEMINARY,
Quapaw Nation, September 8, 1848.

SIR: At the termination of another year, it becomes my duty, as superintendent of the Crawford Seminary, to present to the War Department a brief report of this institution.

In doing this, it may be proper to state that this school was opened in the spring of 1842, under very unfavorable circumstances. Difficulties, growing out of our limited means of support during the first four years, brought about such a crisis in the affairs of the institution as, unless a new and more powerful impulse had been given to its movements, must have compelled us to abandon the enterprise entirely. Since May, 1847, we have been greatly encouraged to prosecute our labors with untiring energy, and the strong hold which the cause of education seems to have taken upon the minds of this people induces us to hope that the day is not far distant when this institution will compare favorably with the most flourishing in the Indian country.

Circumstances, which it was not in my power to control, prevented the erection of our new buildings at as early a period as was desirable.

It was deemed expedient to change the location to a more central point, about five miles distant.

The new establishment is beautifully situated near the east bank of the Pomme de Terre, or Spring river, immediately on the military road leading from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Smith, five miles west of Newton county, Missouri. The location is easy of access, pleasant, healthy, and fertile, and abounds with good timber, rock, water, and other conveniences.

The buildings are constructed on a convenient and economical plan, plain and substantial, and calculated to accommodate comfortably two families, several work hands, and forty Indian children. The farm is at a convenient distance from the house, and is well fenced and planted in corn, beans, pumpkins, melons, &c.

I have applied to the missionary board for funds to complete the workshops and furnish them with tools.

The school has been in successful operation at the new location since the first of April last.

The average number of pupils in attendance during the year has been twenty-four, only six of whom are girls. Our present number is twenty-eight.

About one-half of the children now at school have attended twelve or eighteen months, and are now spelling, reading, and writing well. The remainder have entered the school since we opened at the new location, and have made as much proficiency in learning as could have been expected.

The plan of instruction is based upon the principle that a little well learned is better than much half learned. Particular care is taken to teach and explain the leading principles of science, and to impart a thorough knowledge of the English language.

Six hours of each day are devoted to mental and moral instruction, and the remainder of the time to manual labor and suitable recreation.

The children are permitted to visit their homes on Saturdays, and required to attend Sabbath school and public worship every Sabbath. The government of the school is kind and parental, depending more upon the mutual confidence existing between teacher and scholars than in penalties and punishment for the violation of the rules of the school, but is uniform and decided.

The year is divided into four terms of eleven weeks each, which is closed by a public examination of all the students.

The present condition and prospects of the seminary warrant, and will call forth, every exertion to extend and increase its advantages.

I am, dear sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 SAMUEL G. PATTERSON,
Superintendent, Crawford Seminary.

B. A. JAMES, Esq.,
Neosho Sub-agent.

No. 16.

OFFICE U. S. SUB-AGENCY GREAT AND LITTLE OSAGE INDIANS,
 September 1, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you the condition of the Indians within the limits of this sub-agency, so far as I have been able to make myself acquainted with it, since the very recent period of my appointment—of my assuming the duties of sub-agent.

The Great and Little Osages are divided into five bands, each of which has at its head a principal chief, with his subordinates, for the management of its affairs. The chiefs and head men have but little authority over their people; but their decisions in council (which is composed of the principal chief of each band) are final and absolute, the common Indians not even having a right to express their wishes, no deference being had to public opinion. The chiefs might, by pursuing a proper course, wield authority sufficient to make this a thriving and flourishing people—I need not

say happy and contented; their habit of thinking only of the present, and never reflecting on the future, constitute them the most cheerful and contented people with whom I have ever had any acquaintance. Were the chiefs men of the proper cast, they could make such regulations, and enforce them, as would prohibit entirely the introduction and use of intoxicating liquors, thereby often saving to the Indians, their wives and children, their blankets, their only protection from the inclemency of the season. They are not, however, men of sufficient firmness, of sufficient love of their people, to make and then set the *good example* of obeying and enforcing, for any length of time, such wholesome regulations. The nation has no laws, saving a few customs relating to hereditary rights; none to sustain and protect the interest of the common Indian. In case of murder, when the perpetrator of the crime is known, the guilty one can appease the relations of the deceased by gifts, by purchasing their friendship—constituting it a private affair, a mere personal transaction, in which the community has nor takes no interest.

The Osages depend entirely upon the chase for a subsistence—visiting the prairie in the spring and summer to obtain supplies of buffalo meat, tallow, &c. They are simple in their habits and customs, but remarkably friendly, social and polite to each other and to strangers—practising hospitality as a virtue; in fact, laws are not necessary to restrain and cause these people to respect the personal rights of each other. I have made inquiries, and have not been able to hear of any two Indians in the nation having a difficulty unless when in a state of intoxication. The Osages have been charged with having participated in the attacks upon the government trains on the Santa Fé route; I have, however, been unable to discover even the slightest circumstances tending to establish the fact; but, on the contrary, there are abundant reasons to induce me to believe they are, as a nation of people, sincerely attached to our government and citizens.

The agricultural prospects of the Osages are by no means promising, several circumstances combined having influenced them to become indolent, and to relax in those exertions formerly made to raise by cultivation sufficient for a subsistence. Ten years since, and these Indians not only raised corn, beans, potatoes, &c., to an extent equal to the home consumption and demand, but generally produced a surplus. Those acquainted with their early history—with their past and present condition, and who have observed the gradual change that has been effected in their habits, from a life devoted in part to agriculture and the chase to one devoted entirely to the chase, will all agree that a close proximity of the whites to the Osages has not had a tendency to ameliorate the condition of the latter. Much, very much, can, however, be said in extenuation; in behalf of the Osages in an agricultural point of view, they have labored under many disadvantages; knowing the use of no other, they now, and have hitherto, depended entirely upon the use of the hoe, as an agricultural implement, with which to plant and cultivate their crops: the exclusive use of which made the cul-

tivation of the earth, for a subsistence, both arduous and laborious upon their squaws, slaves or wives, in comparison to the most favorite plan of procuring a living. Upon the settlement of southwest Missouri, the consequent reduction to them in the value of bread-stuff, and the increased facility for them to procure it, together with the circumstance of the high competition between the two trading companies, located here for several years; the high prices paid for furs, and the decreased value at which they disposed of their goods, in connexion with the fact of the Indians for two successive years having their crops entirely washed away by high waters, had the effect almost entirely to discourage, and cause them to abandon the culture of corn, and other articles necessary for a subsistence. Being an Indian of quick perception—fond of the chase—successful hunters, and nurtured in the belief that hunting was the most—the only honorable calling, it was only natural for them, under such circumstances, to prefer living by the chase exclusively—to take up and cherish the idea, it was preferable, when a bushel of corn could be bought for a coon skin, to hunt for the skin and make the purchase, than obtain the corn by cultivation. Living in close proximity to the settlements on Spring river, one of the most agricultural sections of Missouri, where they could barter a buffalo robe for twenty or twenty-five bushels of corn, and purchase flour for one dollar and fifty cents per hundred, the inducement was strong and the argument weighty to them, that a life by the chase was more preferable than a reliance (under such circumstances) upon agriculture and labor for a living.

Under such a state of things, the best exertions of the government agent, *if rendered*, could and did effect but little. I notice in the reports of your predecessor, that he represents the "game as getting scarce, and that the Indians would be compelled to rely on their industry and labor for a living." No doubt such was his belief, but certain the Indians did not view it at that time in the same light; these Indians have only come to a similar conclusion within the two or three years past. They now can see and give it as their opinion that ultimately they will have to make their living as the whites, that the game is fast diminishing from their hunting grounds, and that it is now time to make a gradual change in their way of living from a hunting to an agricultural life. The present is certainly the most propitious time to give these people encouragement to become farmers. In consequence of the large Indian population lately located on the frontier, they can easily be impressed with the idea that soon the time will come when they must labor or starve; that it will be impossible for them to sustain themselves by the chase. Once convinced of all this, it will be in the power of the government agent soon to change the nation from a wild, roving set of Indians, to that of settled agriculturalists. They are certainly deserving of the humane and friendly consideration of the government, having sold it a large portion of Missouri and Arkansas, together with a large portion of the Indian country west of Missouri. They have due them from government, oxen, wagons, and probably a few hundred head of milch cows, but this is

not the proper time to furnish them with such property. I can most earnestly recommend to your favorable consideration the propriety of having a farmer appointed for the Osages. The treaty provides for their wants in a very ample manner in every other respect, but so far as agricultural instruction is concerned, it is silent. It is a matter of great importance to them that they be induced to commence cultivating the soil during the balance of the time their limited annuity has to run; for under the treaty, the President can direct eight thousand dollars of their annuity to be paid in "goods, stock, &c."

Under these circumstances, should they now commence farming, it is possible they might be well provided for previous to the expiration of their limited annuity; as the President, in the event they should make even tolerable progress in farming, would doubtless have their farms well stocked under this provision of the treaty, such a disposition of the funds being of greater advantage to the nation than the payment in goods. Government has had at different times fields broke and fenced for them, but the fencing has either been allowed to burn down in the fall, when the prairies are burnt, or have been swept away by high waters, and the Indians have abandoned cultivating the land for reasons previously stated, that it was more profitable to live by hunting. I will speak for no Indians but the Osages, and with them experience teaches that individual property is prized much higher than a community of property, or property held in common for the use of the whole nation. The farms heretofore made have been held in common, each appropriating to his own use (during the season) a small portion.

At present the Osages only plant small patches on the creek bottoms, generally not more than half an acre in a patch, and at a distance from their towns, not within the range of their stock. These patches are broke up, planted and cultivated with the hoe, and are raised merely to feast on when they return from their hunting excursions on the plains. I am of the opinion, in the event the Department would allow the appointing a farmer to instruct them in the use of agricultural implements, to teach them how to hitch and work their mules, and to repair their ploughs when necessary, that these Indians would make more rapid progress in farming than any of their neighboring tribes. Being in the habit of using mules for riding, and acquainted with their management, they would learn to plough and work them with greater facility than oxen. They can easily be induced to sell a portion of their mules to enable them to have land fenced and broke, say from five to ten acres to each family; they can spare the mules for such a purpose, possessing as the nation does from ten to twelve thousand. These farms could be located near their lodges or towns, where it would be convenient for the whole family to perform a portion of the labor, and what is of more importance, having been made at the expense of the Indian, would be prized higher, and be better taken care of, than if it were a gift of the government. Should such a course of policy be carried out, the Indians would have something of value to leave behind them going on the hunt, and, as a natural

consequence, a portion of the nation would remain to take care of the home during the absence of the rest on the plains, when a foundation would be laid to stop their mingling with the wild Indians of the prairie, a matter of itself of great importance, as such association, to say the least of it, is contaminating in its influence. In the event anything is done to prevent their rambling on the plains, the transition to agricultural life can be easily effected. Their country is well adapted to raising wheat, corn, potatoes, &c.; and as the women are in the habit generally of performing most of the labor, the article of wheat can be raised to most advantage.

The Osages are on the most intimate terms with all their neighboring tribes, and in fact, with all the Indian nations on the frontier, with the exception of the Pawnees. The original cause of their difficulty has never been made known to me. They represent the Pawnees as being great rogues—constitutionally thieves, and as being the most successful Indians they meet on the prairie in stealing and running off their horses. They appear reluctant, living as they do on good terms with all the rest of their red brethren, and entertaining the belief it is necessary in order to ensure the happiness of their deceased friends to hang a scalp over their graves, to adjust their difficulties and make peace with the Pawnees; there would then be no enemy to whom they could turn their attention for scalps. We may hope that by using proper exertions in *effecting* and *perpetuating* so desirable an object, to see, at no distant time, the whole of the Indian tribes in the west living in peace and amity with each other. The Osages have been on the most intimate relations with the Comanches for a number of years, meeting them every season in the prairie for the purpose of trade. They have uniformly purchased a large amount of merchandise from the traders here in the spring, and carried to the prairie and bartered to that tribe. So very profitable has the trade been to each nation, it has had the tendency to cement them in the bonds of friendship. The Osages have carried to the Comanches guns, blankets, powder, lead, &c., and for a gun costing them at home twenty dollars, they have generally received one or two mules, worth to them on their return from forty to sixty dollars. The trade has proved equally profitable to the Comanches. Taking their guns into Mexico they would realize profits equally as great by bartering them to the Mexicans or other Indians in Mexican territory. The Osages received from the traders here, in the spring of 1847, twenty-four thousand dollars worth of goods, for which they pledged their annuity for that and the previous years. These goods they carried on the prairie and purchased with them from the Comanches near fifteen hundred head of mules, worth at that time sixty thousand dollars. Notwithstanding the intercourse between the two tribes has been so very profitable, yet its advantages have not been appreciated and improved by the Osages. It was and ever has been calculated to uphold them in the indolent life they appear so well to relish in their disposition to live without labor. On their return in the fall of 1847, with such a redundancy of property, it will not be varying much from the number for me to say

they sold five hundred head of mules for that number of gallons of whiskey; squandering in this way twenty thousand dollars worth of their property for the single article of intoxicating liquor, at the rate of forty dollars per gallon. There were then no government officers among them to protect their rights and see the salutary regulations of the Department enforced. On my entering the duties of agent, the crying evil, the use of ardent spirits by the Indians, soon became apparent. The Indians, in consequence of the introduction and use of whiskey, were constantly engaged in drunken revels, making it dangerous for what white people that were among them to remain, causing disease among themselves, and controversies which often resulted in the killing of some of the best of the Indian population. Under these circumstances, measures quick and decisive were necessary to be taken in order to cure the evil. Those who vended the liquor could not be reached, as none were cognizant of the fact but the two contracting parties, and thus the most stringent laws of Missouri were often violated and the perpetrator go unwhipped of justice; the laws of the State not admitting of Indian testimony against a white man.

After my taking charge of this office, the retailers of spirits to the Osages ceased to bring it into the Indian country, yet the Indians would often visit the State, bring the spirits into their country and retail it to their own people for their mules, blankets, &c., and at times, *probably in every instance*, would be acting as the agent of some unscrupulous white man. The Indians were fast sacrificing their property, and reducing their women and children to starvation. Under all these circumstances, having the interest of the Indians, the welfare of the whites located here, and the peace of the frontier at heart, I visited their towns, lectured them on the many disadvantages accruing to their people, consequent upon the introduction of whiskey into their country, and finally informed them it was not my object in visiting them to prevail on them to make laws and regulations to prevent its introduction, but that my object was to inform them, the next Indian who brought whiskey into the nation I would have taken by the dragoons and imprisoned at Fort Scott, in the guard house. Through the petitions of the principal warriors the Indians who were gone to the State were allowed to return with their whiskey without being subject to imprisonment, provided it was found out and none allowed to be drank; this had the effect of causing some twenty gallons to be spilled, which otherwise might have possibly been smuggled into the towns and used, an amount sufficient among these Indians to have caused the death of that number of persons. The regulation proclaimed by myself, backed by the troops of their great father, and admitted by the principal chief, (who accompanied me,) to be good, had the desired effect, the Osages being now a sober and temperate people. The regulation was made in February, and there has been (with two exceptions) no intoxicating liquor introduced into the country since. I hope, sir, in having pursued this course, to receive the approbation of yourself and the Department; if, however, I should be disappointed in that, my mind will ever

be relieved by the consoling reflection that no other course could have been adopted that would have effected the desired object. These Indians are all fond of drinking, yet a large majority can see the impropriety of indulging, and many consequently refrain from visiting the State, for fear they will be tempted to drink, knowing that when once started nothing short of a full satisfaction will suffice, and that in drunken sprees they frequently sacrifice more or less of their property. The most ample provisions are made by the United States laws to suppress the introduction into the Indian country and the vending of intoxicating liquors to the Indians; no provisions can be added nor amendments made to it that would better adapt it to the laudable object intended, yet it is not equal to effecting the desired object, where the allurements to carry on the traffic are so great. The distance of holding the courts is so great, that its enforcement is not only inconvenient but difficult. This law has, however, exercised a very wholesome influence, and has protected, to a great extent, the interest of the Indians. It is not the introduction of intoxicating liquors into the Indian country and the sale of them to the Indians by the whites, that operates so seriously to the disadvantage of the Osages. That traffic I have effectually checked. A portion of them will, however, cross the line into the State, purchase whiskey, and return back into the Cherokee country (known as the neutral land) and there drink it, being afraid to bring it home. This, I have been informed, has been practised of late by a few of the Osages—I am happy to say only a few. It does not affect the interest of the nation for them to drink at such a distance from home, only by setting a bad example for the rest to follow, and by exercising a very pernicious influence over the participators in such drunken revels. If the Osages should generally take to this practice, my authority and influence over them *may* be *sufficient* to stop them in such a dissipated career. My reason for mentioning it here in this incidental way, is merely to show the importance of my suggesting that an enactment by the Missouri legislature (similar to that of the United States) admitting Indian testimony before grand juries, to find, and in the circuit court to sustain, indictments found upon the statutes, "prohibiting the selling or giving of intoxicating liquors to Indians." Such an enactment would be effective of much good to the Indian population located on her western border. I will say here, in justification of the citizens of Missouri, that public opinion is strong against the traffic carried on in vending of whiskey to the Indians, and that her legislature has passed and has now in force the most stringent laws prohibiting such a trade, and will doubtless make any amendment to them (within the bounds of reason) that will effect the desired object. It will be in my power to prevent the Osages from drinking in their own country, (they may indulge in the State,) and you may rest contented that they shall continue a sober nation of people while I remain among them as their government agent.

The trade of the Osages in consequence of their starting late, and making a bad hunt last fall, was not valuable. It amounted

to near six thousand buffalo robes, worth to them three dollars; ten thousand deer skins, averaging seventy-five cents each, and other peltries, about two thousand dollars, amounting at twenty-eight thousand dollars. They have been and are to this time an industrious, persevering Indian; while on the hunt capable and willing to endure the greatest hardship. Taking their trade for the last thirty years, and making a similar estimate, it appears from the best data in my possession to have been worth from eighty to one hundred thousand dollars a year, and amounting in thirty years to one million two hundred thousand dollars. At a fair estimate, (drawing my conclusion from an intimate knowledge of the Indian trade,) this vast amount of peltries has been purchased by the trading community with goods, the original cost of which did not exceed five hundred thousand dollars. Philanthropists can only wonder at and lament the stupendous fortunes realized off of the Indian trade with this single tribe, and they in none the better situation therefrom, not having profited by the trade. However, these remarks are not intended to cast any reflections upon the traders; doubtless they were actuated by as humane and philanthropic feelings as were common to the age. It does, however, indicate the greatness of this once powerful tribe of Indians, whose very name is to this day a "terror to the wild Indians on the prairie." The capital employed in the Indian trade within this agency at this time is near twenty thousand dollars. The trading establishments are conducted by gentlemen of intelligence and respectability, to whom much credit is due for their prompt attention and assistance in every thing the government has ordered to be carried into effect. That it is their imperative duty to aid and assist the government officer in many things, they are aware. It is, however, for that free and cordial assistance rendered me in suppressing the liquor trade, I award to them the meed of approbation.

Herewith is forwarded the report of the Rev. Father Schoenmakers, the principal of the St. Frances mission, the Osage manual labor school. An attempt has been made heretofore at educating the Osage youth, but from some cause it did not prove successful, and the enterprise, after considerable expenditure, was abandoned. The present establishment was put in operation by the government as an experiment, with the intention of improving on the foundation, if peradventure it should be found advantageous—equal to the undertaking of improving the mental capacities of the children of the nation. The Osages exercised their own partialities in the choice of missionaries to whom they should entrust the educating of their children, by making known their preferences in council to be for the black robes, (as they called them,) the Catholics, which denomination was accordingly contracted with (through their principal) to take charge of the school.

The establishment is divided into a male and female department, the former being conducted by three teachers, two of whom are teachers of the Catholic persuasion. The female department is conducted by four highly accomplished sisters, the principal of whom having been formerly engaged in the same capacity in the

very justly celebrated female school at St. Genevieve, Missouri. The school for the boys was opened on the 10th May, 1847. It commenced with a limited number of scholars, but they have gradually increased in number until they now amount to forty. The female school was commenced on the 10th of October of the same year, and now has in attendance twenty-five girls. The object of these worthy missionaries appears to be to give these children a common English education. The boys are taught spelling, reading, writing, and arithmetic, having certain hours set apart for manual labor; or, as I might more appropriately say, for agricultural instruction. The girls are also taught reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic, and, in addition, sewing and knitting, and drawing for an amusement; they are also exercised in gardening at the proper time. The general system of education is such as is well adapted to prepare the pupils each to adorn their respective and appropriate spheres in common life. The pupils are about equally divided in each school, near half being full blooded Osages; indicating the very important fact that the Osages appreciate the importance and advantage of educating their children, and that the school is not only popular, but that it has the confidence of the Indians. The children appear happy and contented, and learn with greater facility than could be expected; they acquire a knowledge of penmanship more readily than the generality of white children, and are fully equal to them in some other branches. No doubt can be entertained of their capacity to receive instruction. The unmixed Osages, however, appear to learn with more readiness, and to progress faster than the half breeds. A considerable number of both boys and girls read and write well, and have made considerable progress in figures; being able to enumerate, add, multiply and divide numbers with ease and facility. From their dispositions, I entertain the fullest anticipation they will make rapid progress in geography. I can justly say, without depreciating the children of other tribes, that none equal those of the Osages in their capacity to receive an education. The buildings for their school are, and were not at first, such as the missionaries had reason to expect. They were intended to accommodate only twenty boys and the same number of girls, and for an experiment at educating the Osage children.

From the progress made by the pupils in learning, together with the popularity of the school among the Indians, we may reasonably and confidently infer that to enlarge the establishment would be to increase the benefits to the nation in a corresponding ratio. I have not the slightest doubt but the present worthy missionaries are fully competent and well calculated to confer on the Osage children the blessings of an education. Your attention is therefore asked to the propriety of erecting such buildings as will accommodate as many children as can be supported at school by the Osage school fund. I would recommend the erection of an additional building for the boys, (as they are already too much crowded for health,) the size to depend upon the number the Department determines on having in attendance on the school at a time. The

building in which the female school is kept is in need of repair. One of the chimneys, in consequence of the inferiority of the bricks, has fallen down; the chinking in the cracks (it being a log building) was indifferently put in, and the material of which the mortar was made was principally soil, but very little lime being used—the consequence of which was, it soon washed out by the dashing rains so frequent in this country. Unless some repairing is done to this building, the school will certainly be abandoned. The Department will not *certainly* expect females to reside in so uncomfortable a building, when so small an appropriation would make it comfortable. It was the understanding this building should be weather-boarded, but it was never done. Had it been built in strict accordance with the contract it would have answered the purpose much better; but notwithstanding strict and entire justice has not been done the government in these buildings, yet, for the interest of the Osage children, and as an act of justice to these ladies, I feel compelled to urge in the strongest terms the obligations of the government to repair and make the buildings comfortable. It was the understanding of the contracting parties that “suitable” buildings should be erected, furnished by government; and all I am now asking for these people is, that even-handed justice be done them. It would certainly be injudicious to allow this school to be abandoned when it bids fair to effect so much good. I certainly may hope soon to receive orders to have it repaired—made as it should have been under the contract.

I am able to inform you that the Osages are not divided at present (which is rather unusual) on any national question, nor are they operated on by any sectional or personal prejudices. All is peace and quiet through the nation, and, what is very important, no excitement whatever prevails.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
 JOHN M. RICHARDSON,
Osage Indian Sub-agent.

SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. T.

No. 16—A.

OFFICE OSAGE SUB-AGENCY,
April 14, 1848.

SIR: The unparalleled progress making by the Osage youths, at their manual labor school, induces me to call your attention to its situation.

From a letter of your predecessor (Mr. Crawford) to Major Harvey, superintendent Indian affairs, St. Louis, (under date of 25th of April, 1845,) it appears the present buildings were erected merely for an “experiment” for educating the Osage children; each building being calculated only for twenty scholars.

The school is ably and efficiently conducted by the Rev. Fathers

Schoenmakers and Bax for the boys' department; the female department by four sisters of the Sacred Heart, of the Catholic church.

The mission is beautifully situated in a healthy part of the country, on a slight eminence in the prairie, near to and on the east side of the Big Neosho, and immediately west of Rock creek. The present establishment, together with the farm and out buildings, cost something near three thousand five hundred dollars.

The school has certainly proved itself equal to the task of instilling into the minds of the Osage children the rudiments of a good English education; it has been in operation near twelve months, and many of the boys can write a good hand, read tolerably well, and have made considerable progress in arithmetic. The children appear to learn with great facility; they are happy and contented; it being a manual labor school, the boys are taught, out of school hours, the use of agricultural implements, and the girls to sew, make garden, and in fact everything connected with the domestic affairs of a family.

A large portion of the children at school are full blooded Osages, being of itself an evidence that the mission has the confidence of the Indians; that they attach some importance to an education, and are disposed to avail themselves of an opportunity to have their children educated. The school is certainly, if properly fostered and encouraged by the government, destined to be of incalculable advantage to the Osage nation.

The building for the boys is only intended for twenty; they have crowded into it at this time thirty-three—thirteen more than were provided for; many more have applied for admission for their children, but have been refused for want of room.

I would respectfully suggest the erecting a building sufficiently large, that the whole of the proceeds of the Osage education fund could be applied towards educating the children of the tribe *in their own country*, and at their *own mission*. I would further suggest, in the event a building is concluded on, a *roomy one* and a *good one* be erected. The present buildings are very indifferent, not worth two-thirds of their cost. If the fund will sustain 70 children, it appears a building 60 feet long, two stories high, and 30 feet wide, would be amply sufficient; such a one would cost (if it was a frame) from 1,500 to 2,200 dollars.

As it appears necessary, I will earnestly recommend and ask leave of the Department to contract for having a well dug for the use of the female school, and also for the building, a small house, say 18 by 22 feet, to answer the purpose of a barn, for the use of the female department of the mission. A good well of water is absolutely necessary for the health of the children and all concerned; the barn would be a great convenience; both the well and barn would not cost more than \$150.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

JOHN M. RICHARDSON,
Osage Sub-agent.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Com. Indian Affairs.

No. 16—B.

OSAGE MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
August, 1848.

SIR: In the middle of 1845, a resolution was passed at the Office of Indian Affairs, for establishing a manual labor school among the Osages, the progress of which it was hoped would insure lasting benefits to these Indians. Two buildings were consequently erected in 1846, being of sufficient dimensions to accommodate 20 pupils each, with the teachers; one of them to be devoted as a school for females, the other for male children. As it was hoped the Osages would avail themselves of the opportunity of education, the Office of Indian Affairs resolved to increase said school, and to erect, at the beginning of 1848, new buildings, should the Osages prove zealous for education. The efforts soon showed that they were not only ripe to change their mode of living, but also that they were deserving to have communicated to them the blessings of education and civilization. The Osages are convinced of the necessity of abandoning their hunting grounds, and to rely on their children for future support. With the exception of a very few, all seem eager to see their children raised like white people, in order that they may learn to speak their language and to imitate their industry. They have already sent a larger number of children than we can comfortably accommodate in our present circumstances. We have been, and still are obliged carefully to abstain from a positive refusal to receive their children, in order not to offend nor to quench their first favorable disposition.

On the 10th of May, 1847, we commenced the male school; but we were not a little terrified at the sight of the badly finished buildings. The great desire of parents to place their children under our tuition encouraged us in the undertaking. The rapid progress and perfect contentment of the first fourteen children drew soon a larger number of them. Many of these children begin to read and write well. They have a taste for arithmetic, and have already acquired a considerable knowledge of addition, multiplication and division. Geography has not yet been regularly taught, but we have reason to suppose that they will be equally successful in this as in any of the preceding branches. Parents and relatives are so much enamored with the American canticles as to make an attempt to imitate the good voices of these children; and what, perhaps, was the least expected, these children are moral and very submissive to their teachers. They are three hours daily exercised in agriculture or domestic exercises, according to a regular order prescribed to them at the beginning of each month.

The female school was opened on the 10th of October, 1847, under the care of four ladies. As to the capacity of these ladies, I need only mention that the superior has been for the last six years at the head of the flourishing female academy in St. Genevieve, Missouri. The same branches of learning, as mentioned above, are taught to their pupils, besides sewing, knitting, drapery,

and drawing; in a word, all that is necessary to make them useful mothers of families, able to instil industry and morality into the hearts of a future generation.

A few words on the state of the buildings: both houses have been so badly finished as to call for immediate repair, to protect us and the children against the inclement season; every visitor is satisfied that the Department never intended to make us live as uncomfortable as we have done hitherto. The superintendent, Major Harvey, promised me that both houses would be weather-boarded before last winter; he had directed Sub-agent Bunch to have the houses weather-boarded, but he failed to do it. The contractors, to suit their own interest, made mortar of mud, whitened with lime—sand has not been used; the consequence has been that the pointing of both houses is washed out by the rain, which makes the room swimming places after every storm; the plastering in the ladies' house is in great part fallen off from the ceiling, and partly from the division walls; one of the chimneys has tumbled down; the two others are in immediate danger, the bricks being little better than clay. I may say, in truth, that the houses are unfit for comfortable residences; moreover, they are too small to accommodate, to any satisfaction, our present number of pupils.

The existing well needs repair, it being, perhaps, the worst that ever was made by a contractor; another well is much needed for the female school, which is dependent on the one dry opposite to our house. The ladies have frequently applied for a barn and meat-house—they have no out-buildings whatsoever.

I hope I have said nothing but what can be testified by all who have visited this school. I have nothing exaggerated; we ourselves will be obliged, in order to afford some comfort to the ladies, to build for them a wash-house, milk-house, and root-house; all this, it seems, must be done at our expense, although we have sacrificed, in this first year, more than \$1,600 of our scanty money.

We also desire to be distinctly informed as to the precise number of boys and girls the Department wishes we should have in attendance at our school.

Respectfully, yours,

J. SCHOENMAKERS.

Mr. JOHN RICHARDSON,
Sub-agent for the Osages.

No. 17.

MICHIGAN SUPERINTENDENCY,
Detroit, November 6, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following communication in regard to the condition and affairs of the Indian tribes within this superintendency.

The Pottawatomies of Huron.—A remnant of this tribe have

purchased lands upon the head waters of the St. Joseph river, in the county of Calhoun, and have erected many comfortable dwellings and a school house, constructed fences, and made considerable progress in agriculture.

They are in charge of the Methodist missionaries, who have succeeded in securing a general and regular attendance at the school and religious meetings, and induced them to refrain from drink. They have generally assumed the dress of the whites; and, from their annuity, which is permanent, they have been able to procure farming utensils and stock, and a general appearance of comparative comfort mark their condition.

The Pottawatomies, parties to the treaty of 1829, own lands in Cass and Van Buren counties, upon which they have made some improvements, and erected a number of comfortable houses. Those of them at Pokagon village, are under the teachings of the Catholics, who have erected a church and school house, and have labored assiduously for their improvement in civilized manners and pursuits.

The Chippewas of Saginaw reside around Saginaw bay and along the rivers which empty into it; many of them are the proprietors of lands, upon which considerable improvements have been made.

These Indians have attracted the attention of different missionaries, who are laboring to bring them to understand the benefits of civilization, and their efforts have been blessed with good results; for, within the past five years, they have generally abstained from the use of whiskey, which was rapidly destroying them, and become sober and industrious. They are located in a section of great fertility of soil; the rivers abound with fish, and the forest with game; they are well supplied with utensils and stock; and, having the aid of a farmer and blacksmith, bid fair, under the instructions of the missionaries and teachers, to progress, and leave the succeeding generation much improved.

The Ottowas of Grand river.—A few of them own lands. Those at the Ottawa and Griswold colonies have fine tracts and comfortable improvements, with teams and utensils for farming. There has been less dissipation among them during the last year than formerly. The teachers and missionaries have taken renewed courage, and the increased farming operations, domestic comforts, and a more regular attendance of the children at school, are evidences of a change, which we hope will be maintained. Those in the valley of the Grand river have not the aid of a farmer; and, since the removal of the mission station from Grand Rapids, they have been quite neglected by the missionaries and teachers.

I am gratified to learn that a new effort has been made among them, and arrangements being made to secure them these advantages.

The Ottowas of Lake Michigan are making great efforts to secure themselves permanent homes, by purchasing lands along the rivers and bays of the lake; their position enables them, with moderate efforts, to live well; the land is very productive, the fishing

profitable, and the country still yields to the adventurous hunter a good return for his toil. Some of the bands express a desire to participate in the privileges of citizenship, and have presented a petition, asking that the subject should be brought to the notice of the State government. The great obstacle to their rapid improvement is found in their scattered positions, rendering the equal benefits of the mechanics, farmers, teachers, and missionaries impracticable.

Should the proper means be adopted for congregating them in communities, at favorable points towards the northern portion of the lower peninsula of Michigan, where the land is fertile, fisheries productive, climate healthy, and where for years they will be undisturbed by the approach of white settlements, it would facilitate their advancement and improve their condition, as all could then receive the benefits of the mechanics and others provided for their improvement and instruction.

Since my last report the Black river band of Ottawas (Old Wing colony) have determined to return north, and have purchased land along Lake Michigan, near Grand Traverse bay, well situated for the fisheries, and of productive soil, and a healthy location. They intend removing there next spring, having sold most of the land and improvements on the Black river, and commenced improving and clearing at their new location. They will be attended by the missionary who has labored among them since their settlement on Black river, and by the assistant farmer; and I have great confidence in the success of their undertaking. It will, at all events, remove them from the midst of a white settlement, where they are constantly exposed to temptation and vice.

The Chippewas within the Mackinaw agency, living upon the islands and main land north of Lake Michigan, have generally been engaged in fishing, which is found to be profitable, and yields them abundant means for support. With a few exceptions of those who abandon themselves to the vile use of whiskey, they are in a comfortable condition; many have made provision for the purchase of the lands occupied for their fields and camping sites, which are generally adjacent to fishing grounds and spots endeared to them by the tenderest associations of life.

Many of the Chippewas within the sub-agencies of St. Marie and La Pointe, have, within last year, purchased land, and express great desire to have permanent homes.

The schools have been better attended than heretofore; less drunkenness at times of payment, and a very perceptible improvement is manifested in their conduct and appearance.

No reports have been received at this office from either of the sub-agents, and it is presumed they have communicated direct to the Department, as they are aware of the desire to have early information from them.

A large amount of labor has been performed during the year by the farmers and mechanics, but so long as the Indians remain scattered, and in remote localities, the results of those instructing and laboring for their improvement will be comparatively small; an

if it is not the policy and intention of the government to provide for their removal west, it ought to take measures for congregating them at favorable points, where all could be benefitted by the means furnished for their improvement.

The missionaries and teachers have toiled assiduously, and their labors have this year been productive of good results. My absence, in compliance with the instructions of the Department to perform certain services within the La Point sub-agency, was prolonged; many difficulties had to be overcome, and much labor performed, the detailed particulars of which will be the subject of a special communication. It is believed that all has been favorably and satisfactorily arranged with the Indians, and that no further trouble will be had in that quarter.

For a detailed statement of the condition and progress of the schools and missions, I respectfully refer to the enclosed reports.

- | | | |
|---|----|----|
| No. 1. Peter Paul Lefevre, bishop, report of school and missions. | | |
| No. 2. George N. Smith, missionary, | do | do |
| No. 3. Leonard Slater, | do | do |
| No. 4. Peter Dougherty, | do | do |

With great respect, I am your obedient servant,

WM. A. RICHMOND,

Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

HON. WILLIAM MEDILL,

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington city, D. C.

No. 17—A.

DETROIT, September 30, 1848.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor herewith to enclose to you my annual report of the Indian schools under my superintendency for the year ending September 30, 1848.

It is gratifying to me to have to report a growing desire on the part of the Indians in general for the education of their children, which evidently results in their religious, moral, and intellectual improvement. The proficiency of the scholars who have attended regularly has been as great as any previous year, and some have improved beyond all expectation. The progress, however, of those of Pokagon, Mackinac, and Point St. Ignace, is not so satisfactory on account of their irregular attendance and too many distracting avocations, which render it sometimes very unpleasant and discouraging to the teachers. The great majority of these children have natural capacities enough to learn any science, but the great difficulty is to train them up to steady habits and assiduity, for many of them are so irregular in attending, and find so many reasons for absenting themselves from school, that it is even difficult for the teachers to know the exact number of those who have attended their school in the course of the year.

The progress of the Ottawa Indians, of the Catholic mission of Arbre Croche and its dependent stations, has, in respect to civilization and religious education, indeed been flattering. In their general manners and moral conduct they are making continual advances. Their schools have also been better attended than the preceding year, except at Middletown, where the greater part of the scholars did not attend more than a part of the year on account of their parents moving their dwellings to a more suitable location, about a mile and a half from their village, on the lake shore.

The condition of this mission is steadily improving, and its congregations constantly increasing by many conversions from paganism. During this year we had the happiness of receiving into the church about three hundred pagans, who embraced the Catholic faith and subjected themselves to the sweet yoke of Christ.

The Indians of this mission live chiefly by fishing. They cultivate, however, each family, from one to four acres of ground; raise corn, potatoes, and other vegetables; make their own clothing—some after the fashion of the whites, and some approaching it. They build neat houses, particularly now, since, by the exertions of Rev. F. Pierz, they have the use of a saw-mill. They saw lumber, make shingles, and substantial frame buildings are going up in every direction.

With regard to our mission at Ance, Kewenon bay, among the Chippewa nation, I state with pleasure that the condition of the Indians, under the charge of Rev. F. Baraga, is continually improving. They are become entirely sober, and are all faithful members of the temperance society. They never suffer a drop of liquor to be brought into their village; and the fur trader who lives among them was obliged to bind himself by writing never to keep ardent spirits in his house or store, or else they would not suffer him in the village. When pagan Indians from the inland, or half-breeds, happen to carry whiskey through the village for their own use, they are sure to have their bottles and kegs broken to pieces if these Indians discover them. Many instances of that kind are known. They are also becoming more and more industrious, and they help each other as much as they can in their work. In winter they join together and chop wood for one house enough for eight or ten weeks. The following day they chop for another house, and so on for all the houses in the village. They also follow the same plan in spring, planting their potatoes, turnips, and other vegetables. They join all together, men and women, tilling and planting all day, and every day they finish three or four fields. This mission is increasing every year faster than was anticipated at the commencement. The number of the Catholic Chippewa families belonging to this mission is now forty-two. The missionary church is now too small to contain them all, although it was thought in the beginning to be rather large for the place. The school is also regularly attended by all the children

of the mission that are able to receive instructions, and the scholars have in general made very gratifying improvement.

I have the honor to be, with high regard and esteem, your obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFEVRE,
Bishop of Detroit.

WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian affairs.

No. 17—B.

OLD WING, September 4, 1848.

DEAR SIR: As in former years I send you, in the following, my annual report. I taught school last winter, commencing soon after payment, and continuing till sugaring made it necessary for the scholars to leave. Our number was not as great as formerly, but more steady in attendance, and, consequently, the progress better; the course of instruction has been the same, except advanced. Number of males 9; number of females 6; whole number of Indian scholars 15; number of white scholars 7; whole number 22.

Our meetings on the Sabbath have been well attended, generally, and the truth listened to with interest, and I hope it is producing good effects—at least such appears to be the case—a decided revolution of views and feelings is evidently in progress on the subject of religion, but I am sorry to say, the cause of temperance has not advanced, the reason, however, is obvious—liquor has been abundant in our midst during the past year, and to the shame of American citizens be it said, there are those who will condescend to make an Indian drunk for the sake of a little paltry gain; it would not be difficult to keep this band of Indians a sober and industrious people but for such men, and it is strange that in our highly prosperous land they cannot find an honest employment by which to get a living.

But the absorbing question of the past year has been the moving of the mission, and after much anxiety and mature deliberation, and with the advice of the superintendent, it has been decided to move it, and it has only been with the view that a greater field of labor would be opened, and, consequently, more good result to the Indians, that we have made this decision.

Various causes have combined to make the Indians dissatisfied with their location here and prefer a location farther north, and in making this change several other bands have agreed to settle with us, and I have reason to hope and expect that all the Indians, or nearly all on this coast of the lake, will eventually concentrate at the same point—this we suppose to be an object of great importance, as many of them are so situated as to have no fixed home and are surrounded by the very worst influences, which render them miserable in the extreme, and by this course it is hoped that a great amount of wretchedness will be prevented and life saved.

Many of the Indians themselves appear to be fully aware of these things, and to realize that they must do something to better their condition or perish—with this view I started, in May last, in company with most of our band on a coasting tour to the north to examine the country—several other chiefs with a considerable number of their principal men joined us—we coasted as far as Grand Traverse bay, and after sufficient examination, unanimously agreed to settle on the lake shore in township 32, north of range 11 west—the land is a superior quality of timbered land, having, also, on its shore, an excellent trout and white fishery. After our return from the north, having had a fatiguing journey of about five weeks, I went with our chief, Peter Wakajoo, who is actively and wisely engaged in promoting the object, and a part of his band, to Ionia, and on the first of July purchased about two miles on the shore and several lots lying back. The other bands are to purchase after receiving their annuities this fall. Our band is now there preparing fields, so as to plant next season—they are to return soon to spend the winter, and we now expect to make our final move next spring. I am arranging, as opportunity offers, the sale of their lands here, a part of which have been sold for three to eight dollars per acre; thus they will obtain means to purchase more land at our new location than they owned here—also to begin their improvements there—and if God, who orders all things in infinite wisdom, bless our undertaking and labors, we hope the benighted Indian, to whom we are under greater obligation as a nation than to all others, will be greatly benefitted.

Your humble and obedient servant,

GEORGE A. SMITH.

WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.

No. 17—C.

GRAND TRAVERSE,
October 11, 1848.

SIR: In presenting my annual report, I would state briefly the state of the mission and the school at this place. A teacher, Mr. Andrew Porter, was secured, who took charge of the school in October last. The school has been kept in regular operation since, with the usual intermissions. There have been in attendance, during the year, forty-four Indian boys, twenty-six Indian girls, and ten white children. The average attendance of Indian children has been about thirty.

A few weeks since, a female school was organized, and Miss Isabella H. Morrison has been engaged to take charge of it for the winter. It is an experiment, but so far promises well. More female children, I think, will attend; those of more advanced age will come. Instruction in matters of domestic economy can be given, and all have a better opportunity to improve. Considerable sickness has prevailed during the year. Two of our most pro-

missing boys have died, and another lost an eye. They have been favored by a kind Providence with an abundant crop of corn and potatoes this season. The chiefs forwarded a petition last spring, asking for some horse carts, harness, and ploughs, in exchange for the services of the farmer. They have nothing by which they can make use of their horses, except one small wagon belonging to the assistant blacksmith, and an old cart belonging to the mission, which is kept in almost constant use. Several boxes of clothing have been received from the board of missions, and recently distributed. A commendable spirit of improvement is still manifested by most of the people.

Respectfully, yours,

P. DOUGHERTY.

WM. A. RICHMOND,

Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 17—D.

OTTOWA COLONY,

October 1, 1848.

SIR: As education, in its primary and popular sense, is regarded of the first importance in Indian reform, I would submit the following report for the year ending this date. Winter term commenced on the return of the Indians from their fall and winter's hunt, which was in January. The school continued five weeks; after which time, they repaired to their sugar camp. The time allotted the children was improved, though they had a limited time for study.

Summer term.—The white and Indian children were united in this term; rising thirty scholars attended. The proficiency of the Indian pupils was flattering and encouraging to the teacher. It was a common remark that the Indian children surpassed the white children in decorum and studiousness. This term continued four months.

To elevate the condition of the adults, and to promote their intellectual powers, as a preparatory step, I have published the first rudiments of the new system for reading in their own vernacular tongue. I have distributed to the natives about one hundred elementary and reading books, which were earnestly solicited and attentively perused by those who could understand. Most of the families are furnished with copies of the sacred scriptures in their own language.

Arrangement is in progress to issue a monthly publication, which will contain, in the first number, the elements of the Ottawa, Chipewea, and Pottawatomie languages. The succeeding numbers will embrace the general news of the day, translations of the Scriptures, hymns, moral anecdotes, the lives of eminent persons of their own people and others, together with all useful and important matter which may have a tendency to awaken the affection of the soul

to the Master of Spirit. The reading will be of that character which will be approved by all evangelical denominations.

There is an actual reform in the habits of many in this colony. It was remarked by one yesterday, "Why, there are none who drink now of us, excepting two or three." They are more industrious and sober in their habits than formerly; they have enlarged their fields and commenced in earnest to raise wheat, with their other products. They raised one hundred and seventy bushels wheat, five hundred bushels corn, and three hundred bushels oats, the present season. They have broken up new land from twenty to thirty acres; they are now putting in thirty-five acres of wheat. Some of their dwellings are furnished with tables, chairs, regular bedsteads, and clocks.

Several individuals own light two-horse wagons; of which they make almost constant use in securing their products, going to mill, and, on the Lord's day, to attend divine worship.

It has been a pleasure to me the past season to conduct worship in their language. Their good attendance and apparent interest rendered my preparatory studies, and the promulgation of the gospel, pleasant and satisfactory.

With high respect, I remain your obedient servant,

L. SLATER,

Superintendent Ottawa colony.

WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Indian Agent, Detroit.

No. 17—E.

GRAND RAPIDS, November 1, 1848.

SIR: In presenting you with another annual report of the state of the colony of Ottawa Indians, subject to my supervision, I would remark, that I have nothing material to communicate different from the statement I had the honor to forward you for the preceding year.

The number of Indians, at present connected with the Griswold mission, is about one hundred and thirty-four. Eight have died; several have been baptized by the resident teacher and missionary, the Rev. James Selking, who very effectually continues to labor among them; several have been confirmed by the Right Rev. Samuel A. McCoskey, D. D., who annually visits them; and there is good reason to believe many of them are well imbued with the true spirit of the Christian religion. The progress of intemperance has been much checked, and we hope the time is not far distant when its ravages will be seen no more among them.

They continue to improve in agriculture, and, consequently, those who pay attention to this pursuit find its benefits in an increase of the comforts of living.

The number of children that has attended school, during the past year, is about thirty, though eighteen is the highest number present at any one time.

In this department some change has been made. The assistant teacher, hitherto, has been a native; but, though he was well qualified for the office, still it was found difficult to induce the Indian children to pay proper attention to his instructions. We have now engaged a white man for this service, who also receives a few white children into the school. The plan, thus far, works well; the Indian children are much pleased in being thus associated with the former, have their emulation at times much excited, and have made better progress in learning than before we adopted the present mode. We trust we shall continue to derive benefit from it, and that some of the Indian children, at least, will thus be made to see the importance of acquiring a good if not thorough education.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. H. CUMMING,
*Superintendent of the colony of Ottawa Indians,
 at the Griswold mission in the county of Allegan,
 State of Michigan.*

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Superintendent, &c., &c.

No. 18.

SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN,
 November 7, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to report, in relation to the Indians of this sub-agency, that they manifest, especially those located at a distance from the Sault, a disposition to improve their condition. Aware that game is decreasing rapidly, they devote greater attention to fishing, in which some have been successful; not less than 1,200 barrels have been sold by those at and around the Sault.

The potatoes, though promising at first, are in several places affected with the rot.

In the latter part of November last, there were a few cases of small pox at this place, of white persons. The Indians at Goulay's bay, on the Canadian side, had many cases of it; two from the Sault fell victims. Immediate steps were taken to vaccinate all that required vaccination. No case of small pox occurred amongst the Indians living within this sub-agency. Cases of erysipelas are now at the Sault; those of the Indians are of a mild type, and yield readily to medical treatment. Agricultural and other articles from the blacksmiths' shops have been issued to a greater amount than heretofore.

At Taquomenon and Neomekong they have been furnished with doors and window sashes for six houses, which will be occupied the approaching winter, and four others put up and covered.

With respect to the Ance Indians, I am glad to state that they are in a promising way of advancement.

It is reported to me that they have raised, and have of potatoes,

3,000 bushels; turnips, 500 bushels; amount of furs sold, \$2,500; barrels of fish taken, 500; maple sugar made, 1,400 pounds; 37 head of cattle; number of dwelling houses, 60; boats, 10; canoes, 40; white fish and trout gill nets, 250. The number of Indians at the Ance, 257.

Of the schools, the efforts made by the missionaries to get scholars, and impart to them proper instruction, are constant. The schools of the Sault and Little Rapids are not on the increase. At the examination of Rev. A. Bingham's school, (whose report is herewith, marked A,*) in September, the Indian children were examined in reading, spelling, mental arithmetic and geography, in which they showed proficiency.

Of the advancement of the school at the Little Rapids, I have to refer you to the report of Rev. Wm. H. Brockway, marked B. From the Ance no other report has been received. The foregoing with the accompanying papers are respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JAMES ORD.

To WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.;
Acting Supt. Indian Affairs, Detroit, Mich.

No. 18—A.

MISSION HOUSE, SAULT STE. MARIE,
August 31, 1848.

SIR: In presenting to you this twentieth annual report of our mission, we would gratefully acknowledge the goodness of God, who has mercifully preserved our lives, and continued to us the measure of health by which we have been enabled to pursue an uninterrupted course of labor during the year.

The persons employed in the several departments of labor in this mission during the year are myself, Mrs. Bingham, Rev. James D. Cameron, Shyud, a native assistant, and Miss Adaline Culver, assistant school teacher.

A small boarding school has been regularly continued through the year. Since the last annual report, one mixed blood boy has been dismissed, and two orphan Indian boys, and one Indian girl, who is also destitute of parents, have been received.

Our present number of boarding scholars is seven—two boys and five girls. They are instructed in all the branches of labor, suited to their age and capacity, that comes within the range of the mission. We have had a good school taught through the year, with a vacation of one week at the close of each quarter.

The number of pupils enrolled on the catalogue for the several quarters varies from 27 to 67. The catalogue for the first quarter, ending September 24, 1847, contained 35—males 20, females 15.

* Omitted to be sent.

For the second quarter it contained but 27—males 16, females 11. For the third quarter it contained 56—males 34, females 22. And for the fourth quarter, ending June 23, 1848, it contained 67—males 41, females 26.

Reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, history, and philosophy have been taught in the school in the course of the year; and, we may add, some attention has been given to vocal music. In the various branches to which the pupils have attended, a considerable progress has been made.

We have a pleasant Sabbath school of about 30 scholars connected with our mission at home, and when I visit the Indians at their different locations, I generally collect the youths and children in a Sabbath school and instruct them there. And when they visit the place, I draw them into the school when practicable. Our home school is composed of Indian, mixed blood, and white children, taught according to their different capacities to receive instruction.

Singing of hymns and spiritual songs forms a part of our Sabbath school services, as well as family devotions, and in this our beneficiaries bear an interesting part. The greater portion of them also take an active part in reading the Scriptures at our family devotions.

On account of the small number of Indians remaining at our place who are connected with our mission, a part of our religious services on the Sabbath have been devoted to the white population for the past year, when I have been at home. But I have spent a portion of my time in travelling among them, at those seasons of the year when travelling is practicable, and not only teach them publicly, but also from house to house, or from lodge to lodge. We have a small church of about 30 members, besides a number who live on the Canada side of Lake Superior, most of whom appear decidedly to regulate their lives by the rules of the gospel, and evidently seem to enjoy the consolations of the gospel. Some defections have been found among them, as in Christian churches among the white people; but, probably, not more frequent than is common among them. The Sabbath is as strictly kept by them as by Christian congregations in the States. In their religious meetings they sing hymns translated into their own language, and pray understandingly and with a becoming spirit of devotion.

We have also a Bible class, which has been kept up most of the time for some years, which has generally been interesting, and well attended during the winter season; but not so much so in the summer, as the people of our place are too deeply immersed in their temporal concerns to give their attention to it. Yet a few have punctually attended through the summer.

Our Indians continue to make gradual advances in civilization; or, at least, they become more habituated to, and confirmed in, those civilized habits already adopted. Most of our young men are forming habits of industry and usefulness, devoting a portion of their time to the cultivation of the soil; another and a larger portion of it to the fishing business, and another portion, not suit-

able for either of those, to their former business, the chase. I understand that some of them, at least, contemplate purchasing land, and becoming citizens of the United States.

Several of them who are engaged in fishing, have, for two or three years past, done the best at the business of any men in these parts; and it is not an easy matter to find more industrious and persevering men among any people than they are. They have caught, and brought to market at this place, more than 200 barrels of fish within the past year.

May God graciously give to the Department, and all who are engaged in labors for the promotion of their temporal or spiritual benefit, a lively interest in their welfare, and that wisdom necessary to direct them to the adoption of the best measures to accomplish it.

With sincere respect and esteem, I remain your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Sup't. Baptist mission.

To JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Sub agent Indian Affairs.

No. 18—B.

SIR: As we are now in the last week of the present conference year, I avail myself of this opportunity to make you acquainted with the present condition of the missions in this district.

Sault Ste. Marie.—At this station I think there has been a gradual, but steady improvement in the condition of the people from my first acquaintance with them to the present time. In comparison with the untutored bands of the interior, they are already a civilized and Christianized people. The religious meetings have generally been well attended, and nearly all the members have held fast their Christian profession. The school also has been well attended, the whole number on the list having been 42, many of whom have made very commendable progress in the different branches usually taught in the common schools among the white population. There are eleven head of cattle belonging to the mission, besides sixteen head that belong to different individuals at the station. The crops of every description look unusually fair, and promise an abundant reward for the labor of cultivation.

Kewawenon.—At this station the condition of things in general is much the same as when I last wrote you. All that I have said of those connected with us at the Sault may be repeated with truth of those belonging to this station. For though much remains to be done, much has certainly been already accomplished in the great work of evangelization among them. The number in the week day school has been 23, and in the Sabbath school 42. There is a temperance society numbering 48 members. Most of them live

comfortably, and may be said to be doing well, temporally and morally.

Fon du Lac.—The Indians at this place are not so far advanced in civilization as those just mentioned; yet, since I first became acquainted with them they have made very perceptible improvement. Many of them now appear anxious to build themselves houses and make permanent improvement. They have listened with more attention than formerly to the preaching of the gospel, and a number have embraced the Christian religion. They have also manifested more concern for the instruction of their children, and the number in the school, I think, has been larger than any previous year. With patience and perseverance, we believe that good will continue to be accomplished.

Sandy Lake.—This is a remote inland station, and somewhat difficult of access. Some of the Indians still hold on to their old heathenism, but others have renounced the same as no longer worthy of their belief. There have been some omens for good even here, and the work, we believe, will be sure in its accomplishment though it may be slow in its progress. We doubt not that God has designs of mercy towards them, and that these bands will yet become a civilized and Christianized people. The school has been regularly taught whenever the children could be got in, which at times it is not easy to do, as the people at some seasons of the year have frequently to change places the better to obtain a subsistence. As the people become more settled in their habits, this auxiliary will doubtless become more and more useful in them.

I am, sir, respectfully yours,

W. H. BROCKWAY,
Superintendent of Missions.

JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Indian Agent, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

No. 19.

LA POINTE SUB-AGENCY,
October 16, 1848.

SIR: In making this, my first annual report, allow me to say that, owing to the shortness of the time during which I have had charge of this sub-agency, I have been unable to obtain all the information necessary for a detailed account of the condition of the Indians, and their interests embraced within its limits. So far as I have been able to observe, they are, at least in the more favored locations, making advances in those arts, customs, and habits of living which are calculated to add to their happiness. Nothing more forcibly demonstrates the great advantage they derive from

the missionary efforts, and schools among them, than to observe them as they assemble for payment from their various places of abode, and to note the contrast between those who are thus favored and those who come, perhaps, from the neighborhood of the whiskey seller.

The payment which closed on the 7th instant had excited much interest, especially with the Indians, and induced them to assemble at an early day; and, as the payment was late, the disagreeable necessity of having them here a long time was unavoidable. The Indians cannot be made to comprehend why one year the payment should be early, and another year late, and make many complaints against government on account of it. It would certainly be very desirable, if such a thing could be practicable, that government should fix a time for these payments.

It has been particularly gratifying that so little intoxicating liquor found its way to the Indians at this payment. It is computed by residents here that not one-fourth part the quantity has been sold to them at this as at previous payments. This result may be attributed to the determined efforts of the officers of this sub-agency, aided by the respectable citizens and traders. Liquor was found secreted in barrels of corn, buried on the beach and in other secret places, and destroyed. I have not known or heard of any drunken broils, or of any disturbances of any kind, during or since the payment. I had supposed the presence of a detachment of troops absolutely necessary, but I am now satisfied that their services can well be dispensed with.

I have received reports from the carpenter and blacksmiths, but they contain nothing particularly interesting. The desire to have comfortable houses built is increasing, and several have been built, and more are in progress at Bald river and at La Pointe. The blacksmiths annually use up all the iron and steel furnished them in making such articles as the Indians need.

I have received no reports from the farmers. I am satisfied that, as a general rule, Indian farmers do not render the Indians the service which they ought for the compensation they receive. It may justly be considered the most important office among them, and one most directly calculated to benefit them. Every effort should be made, by precept and example, to induce Indians to cultivate the soil. It not only affords them the means of comfortable subsistence, but is the first and most important step towards civilization. Where we find an Indian cultivating land, we almost invariably find one making rapid strides towards civilization. The office of Indian farmer, therefore, instead of being a mere sinecure, as is too often the case, ought to be one of toil and industry. The compensation demands it; justice to the Indians demands it.

Enclosed, marked No. 1, is the report of Rev. Sherman Hall, superintendent of the schools, under the direction of American board of commissioners of foreign missions. From the schools at Fon du Lac and Sandy Lake I have received no reports. Mr. Day, who, for some years has had charge of the school at Fon du Lac, is about

leaving for Eagle river, and his place is to be supplied by Mr. Holt, who will continue the school.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. LIVERMORE,

Indian Sub-agent.

HON. W. MEDILL,

Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 19—A.

LA POINTE, October 16, 1848.

SIR: I have just received your request to forward to you a report of the schools at this place and Bad river, under the direction of the American Board of C. F. M.

At this place, two schools were kept during the year ending with the first of June last, at which time I rendered a report to the Department, through Mr. Richmond. Accompanying that report was a list of the scholars, and a schedule exhibiting the branches of study to which each one attended. Our schools, during the period referred to, were kept in different parts of the village—one under the instruction of Mr. E. F. Ely, and the other under the instruction of Miss A. Spooner. At the former, 55 different scholars were enrolled during the year. The average daily attendance was 19. The whole number enrolled on the records of the latter school was 46, and the average daily attendance was 18. About the middle of July, Miss Spooner left this mission on a visit to her friends in the eastern States, and has not returned. Since that time there has been but one school kept in connexion with this station. The average daily attendance now is 18 or 20.

At Bad river there was a school kept, under the direction of Rev. L. H. Wheeler, during the year ending with May last, about five and a half months. This was all the time there were Indians residing there who were disposed to send their children to school. A school was maintained there during the last summer, until the Indians left their gardens and removed to the lake and to this place. The school was then discontinued for want of scholars. The Indians have been detained here for their annual payment longer than usual. On this account they are now but just returned to Bad river. The school there has probably re-opened. More than 50 different scholars attended the school there last year, though the average attendance did not exceed ten a day.

We regret to see so little interest taken by these Indians in the subject of education. Most of them attach little or no importance to having their children instructed. I have been informed that many of the head men have expressed a desire to have their school money divided among them, as their other annuities are, that they might expend it in the same way. We have had as many teachers employed as it required to instruct all those who were disposed to

avail themselves of instruction. There are few families belonging to the bands here and at Bad river, who could not, if they chose, keep their children in school during a large portion of the year. The American board, I have no doubt, would be willing to furnish a sufficient number of competent teachers to instruct every child in these bands the year round, if the Indians themselves were disposed to avail themselves of the advantages of instruction when placed within their reach.

In some respects these Indians are improving. Many of them are adopting partial habits of civilization. This is more and more apparent every year in the mode of dress, in their efforts to procure houses to live in, and in their enlarging their gardens and small fields. Many are much more industrious than formerly, and are much less disposed to depend on the same precarious modes of obtaining the means of subsistence, which almost universally prevailed among them formerly. These changes are most apparent among the younger portion of them. If the right kind of influences are brought to bear upon them, and they can be shielded from the degrading and destroying evils of intoxicating drink, I do not see why they may not eventually become a civilized and happy people. This, however, must be the work of time, and will require much perseverance on the part of those who are disposed to live among them for the purpose of teaching them letters, the arts, and the Christian religion.

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours,

SHERMAN HALL.

J. S. LIVERMORE, Esq.,
Sub-agent at La Pointe.

No. 20.

OFFICE SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
Green Bay, September 28, 1848.

SIR: In submitting my annual report for the current year, no material changes are to be noted among the tribes, since my last; in fact, that report may be referred to for the general condition of the Indians for this year.

The *Oneidas*, as heretofore, continue to advance in civilization and general improvement. But a few years more will be required effectually to settle their character as a civilized people. They all live by agriculture, and their little farms, stock and implements, would compare favorably with those of our own citizens generally, in a new country.

Their two schools are continued as heretofore; the one in English, the other in Oneida, though the latter is soon to be conducted in English.

The mission among the *First Christian party*, is now under the superintendence of the *Rev. F. R. Haff*, of the Protestant Episcopal church, whose report is herewith submitted. That of the *Or-*

chard party is under the superintendence of the Rev. Seth W. Ford, of the Methodist Episcopal church; his report is also enclosed. This tribe has a large and very valuable reservation, about three miles from the town of Green Bay, of which they occupy but a small part. Under the guidance of their two excellent missionaries, they are fast progressing to a state of independence; but one drawback is to be mentioned: too many of them still resort to this town for purposes of *intemperance*.

The Stockbridges remain much as heretofore. They are *farmers*, and belong to the pale of civilization and Christianity. They have nearly laid aside both their Indian costume and language. For the most part, they are temperate and industrious. The difficulties about citizenship, under the acts of 1843, and 1846, remain unadjusted, though the parties are, for the present, quiet, awaiting some action by the government. The recommendation of the Department, made last year to Congress, that they be invited to cede their rights, is still to be adhered to as the only practicable mode of adjusting those difficulties.

Their schools, under the general superintendence of the Rev. Cutting Marsh, are continued, and are highly useful.

The *Brothertowns*, as observed in my last annual report, are citizens of the United States, (by an act of Congress,) and compare advantageously with almost any other class; the only charge this sub-agency exercises over them, is the application for their benefit of a share of the "educational fund." Two excellent common English schools are kept open a great part of the year; they are well attended, and highly prized by this people.

The *Menomonies* are the most numerous and the most interesting tribe in this sub-agency. They are just beginning to change slowly, but surely, from the savage to the civilized state. Until within the last few years, but very few of them made any attempts to draw their sustenance from the soil. Now *one hundred and four families* (vide Rev. Mr. Bonduel's report) are living at Lake Pah-way-he-kume, including some five hundred souls, all of whom derive their support mainly from agriculture. Of these, fifty-seven families live in good substantial log-houses of their own construction. They have under cultivation 200 acres of land, well cleared and fenced. They have, according to the report of their missionary, raised the past season, six thousand bushels of corn, five hundred bushels of potatoes, one hundred and twenty-five bushels of oats, (by one man,) collected one thousand bushels of rice, and made thirty thousand pounds of sugar. When it is considered that this is but an infant settlement, having been commenced five years ago by wild Indians, with no resources but their hands, and but slight aid from the government, it may be adduced as evidence of a fixed purpose on their part to make full proof of the advantages of farming over the chase for support.

Succeeding as they have thus far, their example is fast having its influence on other portions of the tribe. The last season, the brother of the principal chief, Oshkosh, who is named *Osh ke ren-niew*, joined the farming band and professed Christianity; from his

influence, he is regarded as an important accession from the pagan ranks. Besides this brother of the head chief, a very influential chief has also lately joined the farming band.

All these advances by the Menomonies in civilization and Christianity have been greatly stimulated and confirmed by the faithful Christian labors of the Rev. F. J. Bonduel, of the Roman Catholic church, and the superintendent of their mission and schools. This gentleman continues his school for boys, and I cannot speak too highly of its importance in forming the character of the Indian youth which attend it. It is conducted entirely in English; and I have full confidence that, if not disturbed, it will in a few years be the means of enabling many of these sons of the forest to read, write and speak the English language with ease and correctness.

The school for *girls*, under the charge of Mrs. Rosalie Dousman, is also continued, and equally deserving of commendation. Herewith is respectfully submitted one of the monthly *registers* of each of these schools, to wit—for the month of August. They are presented as specimens of those furnished me every month. From them it will be perceived that 24 of each sex attend pretty regularly on the schools.

There is also herewith enclosed the general annual report of the Rev. Mr. Bonduel, together with other accompanying interesting papers, from which it appears that, beside the 48 children which attend regularly on the schools, there have been within his mission the current year, 51 baptisms, 29 converts to Christianity, 11 deaths, and 10 marriages; and that 109 members have been added to a temperance society, which now numbers 129 members.

In encouragement of the efforts of these simple-hearted natives, to emulate the character of the whites as farmers and Christians, every aid possible has been given them by this sub-agency, especially in the fulfilment of the treaty stipulation which furnishes them with stock cattle and farming utensils; and their appreciation of this little fund is shown in their anxiety for shares in its distribution, and the good use they make of the utensils and cattle.

The two blacksmiths in this sub-agency labor exclusively for the Menomonies; they are sober, faithful and industrious men, and give eminent satisfaction to the Indians.

The necessity of a treaty with the Menomonies for a cession of at least a part of the lands they occupy, becomes every day more and more pressing. The settlements of our citizens have now come up to the boundaries, which brings the two races in contact, and from which arise mutual complaints. It is nearly impossible to prevent the citizens from encroaching on the Indian land, and the Indians are constantly prowling over the ceded land. This state of things is greatly aggravated by the heavy and rapidly increasing trade to the lumbering country, on the upper Wisconsin river, which can only be approached by going directly through the Menomonic country, on the east side of the Wisconsin river; it cannot long continue, it is feared, without serious collision.

It must be conceded that very serious obstacles lie in the way of

treating with this tribe, while the United States Senate adhere to its resolution not to allow traders' claims. Nevertheless, an effort is respectfully recommended, and which, if made, I have great hopes may be successful.

In my last annual report, the attention of the Department was called to the fact that large bands of the *Ottawas* and *Pottawatomies*, as also of the *Winnebagoes*, were in this part of Wisconsin, leading a predatory kind of life in the neighborhood of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers—sometimes encamping on the ceded lands, and at others on the Menomonic lands. This evil has been greatly complained of the past summer, both by our citizens and by the Menomonies, and appears to be on the increase. They are troublesome, quarrelsome, both to the whites and the Menomonies, and their removal is recommended at the earliest possible moment.

I am, honored sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,

United States Sub-Indian agent.

Hon. WILLIAM MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

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No. 20—A.

LAKE POWAHEGAN,
September 1, 1848.

DEAR SIR: The report for this month not only exhibits the flourishing condition of our schools, both male and female, but also the rapid progress of our Christian Indians of Lake Powahegan towards civilization, notwithstanding the many obstacles thrown before them to create discouragement. Although the pupils of both schools as yet do not speak the language, which they continue to study with a good deal of zeal and perseverance; still, they are already able to appreciate the many advantages which they will gather from its knowledge in the course of a few years.

There is a tone and an appearance of happiness in this settlement at present which speaks volumes for the better condition of the son of the forest in future. Almost every family has got a fine field of corn and a good deal of vegetables for the winter. Nearly the two-thirds of the Christian families of this settlement live in log houses built by themselves. Pierre Lamotte, a chief, Pierre McRortibiensi, Joseph Langlois, and Jean Baptiste Akenibawi, another chief, have got, each of them, as good and as comfortable a house as any of our American farmers.

Their attention to Christian instruction, the generous effort that they have made out of their own accord to embrace and follow a sober and an industrious life, gives me confidence that their moral influence will be advantageously felt by our neighbor Indians, who as yet have not opened their eyes to the benignant light of religion.

A change for the better in their domestic condition has created

a taste for neatness, which is also striking in their dress, especially when they go to church. In ten years hence, the dross of their past life, moral and domestic, shall have been consumed by the fire of Christian charity, or disappear by the electricity of an active life. They will present the consoling spectacle of a new people, when compared with the miserable condition they lived but a few years ago. Their friends shall not regret their having tendered a helping hand to religion to rescue them from the grasp of vice and paganism; and, should their enemies grow in malice, triumph over humanity, and blast away all our hopes, even then, at least, we shall enjoy the sweet testimony of our conscience that we have done our duty.

With much regard and sincere affection, I have the honor to remain, honorable and dear sir, your most obedient servant in Christ,

F. J. BONDUEL,
Superintendent.

HON. A. G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian agent at Green Bay.

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No. 20—B.

Report of the school for the "Orchard party" of the Oneida Indians at Duck Creek near Green Bay, Wisconsin, August 8th, 1848.

DEAR SIR: In conformity with your instructions I hasten to make my report for the current year. As I have, however, been at this station only about nine months, I can of course report for only that length of time. This school being under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal church, I have kept it eight months in one of the rooms of the *mission house*, our school house being too much decayed to be made comfortable. Some of the children have made good proficiency in their studies, which have been conducted entirely in the English language. Many of them can read intelligibly in the New Testament and other books, and have made some advancement in learning to write. Their knowledge of penmanship and figures has already in many instances been practically beneficial to themselves and their parents. Their number and ages are as follows:—Over 12 years of age, 11; over 10 and under 12 years, 7; over 7 and under 10 years, 13; total 31. Some of these have attended all, and others only a part of the time.

This mission numbers ninety-one members, who are punctual in their attendance at church on the Sabbath, and in their daily walk give evidence of established moral and religious principles. The Oneida Indians have almost entirely abandoned the chase for a livelihood, and confine themselves exclusively to the occupations and pursuits of civilized life.

I believe, sir, that your instructions to teach these children exclusively in the English language will prove a lasting benefit to

them, as they can then have access to innumerable books in our language, when, on the other hand, there is little besides the New Testament, prayer book, and hymn book translated into theirs.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

SETH W. FORD.

Miss. for the Methodist E. Church, Wis. Con.

To honorable ALBERT G. ELLIS,
U. S. Sub Indian agent.

No. 20—C.

ONEIDA MISSION, DUCK CREEK, WISCONSIN,
August 30, 1848.

SIR: The superintendence of this mission was assumed by me on the first of April last, since which time the school has been conducted as it was under my predecessor, with the exception of a few weeks, when it was closed on account of the prevalence of small pox among the tribe.

As yet the Indian language only has been taught, but after the opening of the next quarter, which will take place in a few days, the school will be conducted in English. The number of scholars during the summer has been about twenty. During the winter the number is more than double. Their progress has been highly satisfactory to their teachers.

The mission, with which the school is connected, still remains under the patronage of the domestic committee of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal church.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

F. R. HAFF.

A. G. ELLIS, U. S. Sub-Indian agent.

No. 21.

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK AGENCY,
Ellicottville, October 4, 1848.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor herewith to submit the annual report of the condition of the Indians within the limits of this sub-agency.

I have this year received no instructions from the Department to take a general census of the Indians within this State. I have therefore been compelled to rely upon such information as I could obtain by writing to the several reservations. The statistics have not, in every case, been as full and complete as I desired; but as the period has arrived when my report should be forwarded to the Department, I find it necessary to embody such facts as I have in

my possession, and furnish a more detailed report at some future period.

The number of Indians at present residing within this State, as near as I have been able to ascertain, is as follows:—

Buffalo Senecas residing on Cattaraugus reservation.....				653
Cattaraugus do do do do				529
Senecas do Allegany do				810
do do Tonawanda do				505
Oneidas do in Oneida county.....				173
Onondagas do Onondaga county.....				310
Other Indians do do				97
Tuscaroras do Niagara county.....				320
St. Regis do St. Lawrence county.....				270
Total.....				<u>3,667</u>

There are Indians residing on some of the above reservations which I have not enumerated, as I have no means of ascertaining their number or class.

The number of acres improved land on said reservations		14,000
do meadow land do		1,400
do bushels wheat raised do		11,520
do do corn raised do		35,490
do do potatoes raised do		12,000
do do turnips raised do		423
do do oats raised do		28,860
do plough in use do		400
do horses do		1,000
do sheep do		839
do milch cows do		850
The value of horticultural produce.....	\$20,831	00
do land let at an average of \$250 per acre...	6,215	43
do avails from the chase.....	600	00

The improvement of land and the raising of grain, stock, &c., is increasing, and the products of the farms will this year exceed any former period in the history of the New York Indians. The chase, on some of the reservations, is nearly abandoned, and a good system of agriculture is springing up in its place.

The schools are in a flourishing condition. Charitable and benevolent societies have done much, aided by the liberal appropriations made by the legislature of this State, towards the erection of buildings, &c., to extend the blessings of education and civilization. By the perseverance of the chiefs, and the stringent laws of our State, scenes of intemperance are growing less numerous.

Not having been able to visit all of the reservations in this State, since my appointment to the sub-agency, I therefore cannot speak from personal observation of their general condition; yet from the

information with which I have been furnished, I am satisfied the Indians of New York are progressing in civilization, and are comfortable and happy in comparison with former periods.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. SHANKLAND,
Sub-agent.

To HON. WM. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 21—A.

Report of the state of the State school.

CATTARAUGUS RESERVATION,
September 4, 1848.

School commenced May 1, 1848. The average number of scholars in attendance is 19 *per diem*.

There are some 48 on my list. But there are some who are very irregular in their attendance; but they are improving as well in their studies as could be expected under irregularities.

I am, very respectfully, your servant,

C. T. CARRIER.

To N. T. STRONG, Esq.,

Attorney State school, Cattaraugus reservation.

P. S.—There are six white pupils who attend the school.

No. 21—B.

Report of the female boarding school on the Cattaraugus reservation, established and under the care of the Society of Friends.

9TH MONTH, 4TH, 1848.

Attended by from eighteen to twenty-five females, who are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography; and, during intermission of school, are instructed in the different branches of household business.

JOSEPH S. STRATTON,
ABIGAIL WALTON,
Superintendents.

No. 22—A.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
January 20, 1848.

SIR: Having this day arrived at Torry's trading-house from the prairies, I hasten to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings, observations, &c., since the 22d December, ultimo. Finding that the robbing parties of Indians reported had retired, I returned to the trading-house, at which place I arrived on the 30th December past. On the 1st January, Mo-pe-cho-ko-pie, one of the friendly Comanche chiefs, arrived near this post with six of the horses stolen from Captain Sutton's ranging company; but he was so much alarmed that he did not visit the trading-house, but left the horses at the nearest settlement, retiring in great haste to his camp, in consequence of which, I was unable to ascertain what party had committed the theft. I accordingly deemed it proper to proceed to the Comanche country, and adopt such measures as might prevent any further difficulty, and, if practicable, recover the balance of the horses. On my arrival in the country usually inhabited by that band, I found they had all gone high up in the prairies, and that it would be almost impossible, if not quite, for me to overtake them, not being prepared for a journey to so great a distance. I fell in with, on the prairies, several small bands of friendly Indians, principally Tonkahuas, who gave information relative to the movements of some other bands, and that the depredation was committed by the "Ten-a-wish," one of the "upper Comanches." As soon as the friendly chiefs heard of the robbery they proceeded to the country of the Ten-a-wish, and recovered all the stolen property that they found.

The six horses sent in were all that could travel in. The balance were in their camp ready to be given up. After arriving at the trading-house, I found that a party of "Delawares," who are in the employ of Torry & Co., had just arrived direct from the upper prairies, by whom I received the *talks* sent in by the friendly Comanche chiefs. They express a determination to keep their treaty, and to do all in their power to prevent the upper bands from molesting our settlements: They also sent a request that I should visit their country immediately, and receive the stolen property, and to hear the talks of the "upper bands," so as to convince the government that they were not to blame, or be held responsible for the acts of the Ten-a-wish; and express a willingness to assist me against those bands, should they commit any further acts of hostility; and gave me notice that a band of Ten-a-wish had started down for the purpose of attacking the "German settlements" on the "Llano" river. I immediately notified the troops stationed on this frontier, and have taken measures to have those exposed settlements also notified, and, if necessary, protected from the intended attacks.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Department to the fact that, in addition to the upper Comanche bands, there are now

assembled on the head waters of the Brazos river a very large number of Indians, consisting of the Ki-o-was, Yam-pa-se-cas, Muskeleros, &c. The avowed intention of the present assembling is to make preparation for a descent upon the northern provinces of Mexico, Chihuahua, and others, early in the spring. I am informed by the several friendly bands, who have been hunting in the prairies, and who have had intercourse with them, that they are counselling with the Comanches, proposing to unite and send several thousand warriors. I am unable to calculate the chances of an attack on our frontier settlements, all these hostile operations thus far being confined to waylaying the roads leading from San Antonio to the Rio Grande, with some slight skirmishing with our rangers in that section—thus far not having made an attack on our settlements. So long as I can preserve the friendship and confidence of these friendly bands of Comanches, I have no fear but, from the promptness with which they acted in the recovery of the stolen property, much is to be expected from their stability. In accordance with their request, although over three hundred miles west of this place, I shall proceed immediately to their camp, and hope to strengthen them in their friendly resolutions.

All the smaller bands are perfectly quiet and friendly, and I can detect nothing of a hostile or disaffected nature in their proceedings.

I would respectfully further call the attention of the Commissioner to the complaints, made by the Comanches, of the attacks on their "war parties" in Mexico, by our troops, by which a number of their warriors have been killed. They think it strange that we should endeavor to cultivate peace with them here, and attack them there when we are at war with that nation. They have not discussed this subject to any extent with me; but I am induced to call your attention to the subject; other friendly Indians having spoken of their dissatisfaction on that account, with the probability of its finally creating difficulties between us. The authorities of this State have ever shown a disposition to do all things necessary for the preservation of peace, and by maintaining the temporary boundary fixed upon, as well as by preventing surveying parties from penetrating into the Indian country, which has done much to reconcile them. The Indians have, with few exceptions, remained entirely above our settlements, and I hear of much more complaint from the numerous *whiskey vendors* along our borders about the "dullness of trade," than from one good citizen of depredations by the Indians.

I also deem it proper to call the attention of the Commissioner to an article published in the Houston city papers, relative to a battle between the Delawares and Comanches. I am unable to learn anything about it from the Indians; a considerable party of Delawares are now at the trading-house direct from the Comanche country; they, however, give no intimation of a misunderstanding between these tribes or any other Indians on our borders. I have just been informed that a battle has recently been fought between a small detachment of Captain Gillett's company and ten Indians,

who were supposed to be Lipans, in which seven of the latter were killed, and three of the detachment, including one lieutenant; a report of which has no doubt been made ere this to the Department by Lieutenant Colonel Bell. I have been unable to obtain any information from the several friendly bands respecting that party.

I have the honor, very respectfully, to be your obedient servant,
ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
United States special Indian agent.

Colonel WM. MEDILL,
Washington, D. C.

No. 22—B.

OFFICE OF THE TEXAN EMIGRATION AND LAND COMPANY,
Stewardsville, Denton county, Texas, February 18, 1848.

SIR: I am about to proceed with a corps of surveyors, accompanied by a sufficient armed force, to run, measure and mark, and otherwise define and establish the southern and western boundaries of the grant made to W. S. Peters, et al., by the republic of Texas, commonly called "Peters' colony," now belonging to the Texas Emigration and Land Company, whose legally and properly authorized colonial agent I am, and whom, in this communication, I have the honor to represent. By commencing at an established corner of said grant, situated about 36 miles southeast by south from the town of Dallas, on the Trinity river, in Dallas county, of this State; to run thence due west one hundred and sixty four (164) miles, and there to establish the southwestern corner of said grant; thence to run due north to the southern bank of Red river, and there to establish the northwestern corner of said grant or colony.

Having been informed that you are the United States' agent for Indian affairs in Texas, and particularly for that part of the State through which I intend to run, and that it is likely you might conceive it to be your duty to interfere with any party I might send on this expedition, as intruding on the rights of the Indians, and perhaps to stop or punish the persons sent out by me for the prosecution of the work, I have, in consequence of this, taken the liberty to send to you the following inquiries, which, as they are made solely for the purpose of avoiding any collision with the government authorities, I hope will be answered by you in a similar spirit of candor and good feeling.

Have you, either by law, or instructions from the proper authorities of the United States, or of the State of Texas, any authority of right to hinder any citizen of this State, or of the United States, from going into or prosecuting his lawful business in any part of the State of Texas, whether the country is occupied by Indians or not?

If you have, please inform me what is its nature, and how far it extends.

Should you have the authority, or conceive it to be your duty, to stop or otherwise interfere in any way with the party or parties of surveyors I shall send out for the purposes above mentioned, or to prevent or hinder the said company or their agents from surveying into sections all the country claimed by them and granted by the republic of Texas, or from settling emigrant families upon any part thereof, be pleased to inform me how far you will exercise that authority, and by what means you would enforce it, and to what extent force would be employed.

By a reference to the accompanying pamphlet, you will discover that the republic of Texas has, by the most solemn acts she was capable of performing, granted, for certain purposes, all the lands, or territory north and east of the lines heretofore mentioned to be run as boundaries, to the parties whom I represent. And you will readily perceive that we have an unquestionable right to survey and occupy the same; as well as that the State of Texas is bound, constructively, to put us in possession of all the lands included in said grant. Under this view of the case, and with our rights and privileges exhibited to you, will you be obliged to stop or hinder us in any way from defining our boundaries, or taking possession of, and settling all the territory thus granted?

And supposing that you should admit our right to survey and settle the said boundaries and territory, and give to us assurances that we shall not be stopped by you, or should you deem it necessary to conciliate the Indians through whose district we shall pass or remain in while engaged in said surveys and settling of families; will you in contemplation of such a state of things, render us any assistance, either of armed men as a protection, or by making, as a preparatory step, some amicable arrangements with the Indian tribes?

Your immediate answer, made positive and not to be mistaken, will greatly influence our conduct in this affair, as well as confer a great obligation on the undersigned.

Be pleased to accept the assurances of great respect, with which I have the honor to be, sir, your very obedient, humble servant,

HENRY O. HEDGCOXE,

Colonial agent of the Texas Emigration and Land Company.

Major NEIGHBORS.

No. 22—C.

Report of R. S. Neighbors, esq., special agent for Texas Indians, from 20th January to 2d March, 1848.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
Trading Post, No. 2, March 2, 1848.

SIR: Having just returned from the Indian country, I hasten to lay before the Department a report of my proceedings, observations, &c., since the 20th of January.

In my report of that date, I notified the Department that the Comanches had sent for me to visit their camp. In accordance with this request, I started for their camp on the 31st January, and arrived, on the 14th February, on the Salt Fork of the Brassos, about 350 miles NW. of this place, where I found camped the friendly band of Penetakees or Hois. I found that they had abandoned their usual hunting grounds, which are some 200 miles nearer the settlement than this point, and thought proper to follow them, in order to be able to report to the Department their intentions, and the cause of their unprecedented movements. The principal chief, Mo-po-cho-ko-pie, met me about fifteen miles from the camp and received me in the most friendly manner, expressing much gratification at my arrival, and giving me many assurances of the friendly dispositions of his band, and their wish to preserve peace with the whites. It being late, we did not arrive at the main camp, but the chief with a small party remained with us all night, for the purpose of conducting me to the camp and to afford protection against the party who had declared themselves hostile. Having arrived at camp, he gave me a full and complete history of the movements and disposition of the several prairie bands, which, for the information of the Department, I deem it proper to communicate at length. He informed me that "the depredations lately committed and charged to the Comanches, were committed by the Ten-a-wish and Na-ko-nies, and a small portion of the lower bands or Penetakees, over whom he could exercise no control. The first party that commenced depredating was a party of the Ten-a-wish and Na-ko-nies, who had been on a foray in Mexico. On their return they met with a party of Lipans, who had received information that the Comanches and whites were at war; on hearing this, the party concluded to steal some horses before returning to camp, and in consequence stole the horses from Captain Sutton's company."

On their arrival at the camp of the friendly band, the chiefs immediately took possession of the stolen property for the purpose of returning them to their owners. When the Ten-a-wish heard of this, they sent their warriors out to steal more, saying, "they would get tired of returning stolen horses." Several parties imagined to see how long before the old chiefs of the Penetakees immediately started down and have stolen a number of horses, principally from the ranging company.

The second party was the one that stole horses from Captain Gillett's company. The rangers followed and overtook them—recovering their horses, killing two Indians, and wounding two. When the news reached camp, a brother of the Indians that were killed went down with a small party of warriors, and finding his brothers dead, killed, near San Antonio, a white man and his wife.

The chiefs of the Penetakees have used every exertion to prevent further difficulty, and to return the stolen property, and have carried their measures so far that they found it would lead to war among themselves if persisted in, when they abandoned their attempts to preserve peace, and fled with great precipitance to the upper prairies, as they expected our troops to follow the parties

that had committed the depredations. He also informed me that the chiefs that had signed the treaty, and all the Comanches, (with the exception of the small parties that it was impossible to control,) were much disposed for peace, and were willing to do all in their power to recover the stolen property, but did not wish to be held responsible for the acts of the depredators.

On the morning of the 14th, I arrived at the main camp, which I found to consist of about 250 lodges of Camanches, 50 of Tonka-huas, and 10 of Wichetas. All the principal chiefs, and councilors of the lower bands were present, being the first time that I have seen them all together during the year. I met with a friendly reception from all the chiefs, and was conducted by them to the lodge of the principal chief, who done every thing in his power to make me comfortable. In the evening the chiefs assembled for a smoke at the lodge of Mo-po-cho-co-pie, where all matters appertaining to their affairs were freely discussed, as well as the subject of the depredations lately committed. All the chiefs present manifested the utmost friendship for the whites, and renewed their promises to "preserve peace themselves," and use all their influence to induce the other bands to do the same. I was informed by the chiefs in council, who fully sustained the statements made by the principal chief, that they had, soon after their arrival on the Brassos, met with and held a council with all the northern bands of Comanches, Kiowas, &c., who expressed themselves strongly in favor of peace, and expressed a wish to enter into treaty stipulations with the United States, and to be on the same footing as the lower bands; also that one of the Ten-a-wish chiefs, whose brother was killed by Captain Gillett's company, was there in the camp, and wished to kill me and the young man with me, (John McLemore,) advising us to keep on guard, and have our arms in good order, and advising us not to go much about the camp for fear that he might carry his threats into execution, if he found opportunity; that they had sent express for Pa-ha-yu-ca, and the chief of the Ten-a-wish and Na-ko-nie bands, as soon as they heard of my arrival, and expected them in the next day. On their arrival they wished to hold a council and try to end the hostility that existed on the part of those bands. I also learned that a large portion of the warriors had gone on an expedition against the Pawnee Mohaws, who had been stealing many horses from them.

On the evening of the 15th, Pa-ha-yu-ca, with five of the principal Ten-a-wish, one Na-ko-nie, and one Koo-chi-ta-ker chief arrived at the village. I was introduced to them separately by Pa-ha-yu-ca, and usual ceremonies gone through with. They appeared to be much gratified at the meeting, and the friendly chiefs used every exertion to make us friends. In a short time everything like reserve had disappeared, and the usual topics were discussed freely between us. At night Mo-po-cho-co-pie invited us to his lodge to a feast. I found, in addition to the chiefs lately arrived, a number of the principal men of the Hois assembled. Mo-po-cho-co-pie then said "that he had invited us to his lodge to eat together, and hoped that we would be friends for a long time; he had

eaten with the white people and smoked the tobacco of our great father, the President of the United States. He was not tired of peace. His heart was glad to see the Ten-a-wish and Na-ko-nies meet his white brother and smoke and eat together. He hoped we would be the same as the Hois chiefs, 'great friends.'

I found them to be a very jovial set, and the evening was spent in eating and smoking, and the discussion of the usual themes among the prairie bands, viz: "war and women," finding myself, in the end, upon a good understanding with them. On the morning of the 16th, the chiefs and principal men assembled in council. I stated to them the cause of my visit to their country, detailing the depredations lately committed by the Comanches on our citizens, and wishing to know the cause of their hostility. I was answered by every chief present that there was no general feeling of hostility existing; that the late occurrences were brought about by the many false rumors that were circulated in the Indian country, by the Creeks, Kickapoos, and other designing persons, and was confined to a small portion of Comanches, *beyond control*, and those bands who did not consider themselves in *treaty* with the United States.

Finding them disposed to be peaceable, I proposed that they should return all the stolen property, and refrain from committing depredations for the future; also, that the Ten-a-wish, Na-ko-nies, and Koo-che-ta-kees should come under the same agreement and treaty as the Hois, or Pen-e-ta-kees, and live in peace with the government and citizens of the United States; inviting them, at the same time, to attend our councils, and offering them all the benefits of the treaty, as made by the friendly bands, in behalf of the Comanche nation. They agreed, very readily, to my proposition, and pledged themselves, in behalf of their bands, to refrain from committing any act of hostility against the whites in future. I deem it proper to enclose, herewith, for your consideration, copies of the "talks" of the Ten-a-wish, Na-ko-nies, and Koo-chee-ta-kee chiefs, on the occasion.

I used every exertion to induce the chiefs to restore the stolen property, and notified them that they would be held by the government to a strict account, and be made to pay for each horse stolen; but found myself unable to effect that object, the chiefs assuring me that they were unable to exercise sufficient control over those who had stolen them, for their recovery, but would still do their utmost to preserve peace, and induce those disposed to depredate to remain quiet, and if they could recover any of the stolen horses, they should be immediately returned. I am decidedly of the opinion that, had I a sufficient force to sustain the chiefs in their good intentions, I should have been able to settle all matters of difference in the manner prescribed by the treaty, without in the least interfering with or compromising the friendly relations that exist between them and the whites; and prompt action in that matter would do much to prevent such occurrences in future. I have heretofore called your attention to the little control exercised by the several chiefs over their bands,

and to the propriety of placing a sufficient force at the disposition of the agent to enforce the stipulations of the treaty. The chiefs proposed that we should say nothing more about the property stolen, and were anxious for a settlement of differences, without holding them responsible; to which I would by no means agree. Each chief appearing to act for himself, I could effect no concert of action by which I hoped to recover the stolen property.

Not having sufficient force or influence to enforce the stipulation of the treaty, I submit the matter to the consideration of the Department, for its action, and respectfully suggest that the whole band be held strictly accountable for the depredations committed, and that any divisions in the tribe, or band, by which a portion wish to preserve peace while the balance depredate, should be discontinued. I am decidedly of the impression that, had there been no blood shed, I should have been able to settle matters satisfactorily. The death of the Comanches killed by Captain Gillett's company has already led to retaliation, by which a peaceable family has been murdered. As the Indians themselves have informed me, I therefore deem it proper that the matter should be settled under definite instructions from the Department.

Finding that I could do nothing in the premises, I agreed with the principal chiefs to submit the matter to the Commissioner for final action; at the same time giving them notice, if any Comanches were found near our settlements, except at the trading-house, until the matter was adjusted, they would be treated as *hostile*.

On the 18th I arrived at the camp of the Wacos and Tah-wac-car-ros. I found them perfectly friendly and peaceable, and could trace no act of hostility to them since my arrangement, as reported on the 22d June last. On the 22d, I arrived at the village of the Keechie, and found a considerable number of Indians assembled in the neighborhood, consisting of Caddoes, Ionies, Keechies, and Wacos. The principal body of these tribes had not returned from their winter hunt; but, from the friendly manifestations of those I saw, I was fully assured of their friendly and peaceful disposition. The only depredation that can be traced to these bands is a theft committed by three Keechies and one Wicheta, who stole twelve horses from our settlements. Immediately on the arrival of the thieves at camp, the horses were taken away by the chiefs, and eight of them were placed in my hands, to be returned to their owners, with a promise to return the balance as soon as the hunters returned; the four not recovered being with a party of the Keechies, who had not come in from their winter's hunt.

I find all the small bands perfectly manageable, and have no difficulty whatever with them. By the judicious arrangements made, and the great influence I am enabled to exercise over the principal chiefs, I can easily detect any party that may be disposed to depredate, or molest the property of our citizens. Since the commencement of my term of service, I have recovered, from the various bands, over seventy head of stolen animals, which have been returned to their owners, wherever they could be found.

At the council in September last, I made an arrangement with most of the smaller bands for them to settle contiguous to each other, for the purpose of planting corn this year, agreeing to assist them all in my power, and furnish them with seed to plant. They, in accordance with this agreement, are now assembling near the Keechie village, on the Brassos, which is about one hundred and fifty miles above Torrey's trading-house. The parties forming said settlement are the Wacos, Tahwaccaros, Keechies, Caddoes, and Ionies, with a few Cherokees and Delawares, who are associated with them. I would respectfully recommend that they be sustained and encouraged by the Department in their laudable undertaking, as they are now under good chiefs, and if properly attended to will give the Department but little trouble.

On the 27th I arrived at the camp of the Anadarkoes (Jose Maria's band.) I found that they had just returned from Torrey's trading-house, where they had spent several days, for the purpose of disposing of their peltries. Jose Maria was furnished, by my order, with corn to plant, while there. Although he appeared perfectly friendly, I found, by conversing with him, that he was in some perplexity, and uncertain what would be his movements. He spoke of the rapid extension of our settlements, and was afraid if he settled and attempted to make corn, that he would be driven off before he could gather the crop. I again assured him of the good intentions of the government of the United States, and advised him to remain in his village, as I felt assured that the government would do him justice, even if the *line* so often spoken of should be run above his village.

I find that great doubt exists in the minds of all principal Indian chiefs in regard to the final settlement of their land matters. They are suspicious of the promises made; and from the late movement of the troops on this frontier, and rapid extension of our settlements previous to any negotiation or agreement on the part of the several tribes, are under the impression that they are to be driven entirely out of the country, and deprived of their usual hunting grounds by force.

On the 1st instant I arrived at this place, having been absent in the Indian country thirty days, during which time I had communications with portions of every tribe in the limits of this agency except the Lipans, who are still on the Rio Grande, near the mouth of the Pinco, and occupy a doubtful position. During my travels with the several bands, I endeavored, as far as possible, to ascertain their disposition and feeling towards the whites, and used extra exertions myself, as well as through my interpreters, separately, to ascertain if any thing like a general feeling of hostility existed in any tribe, but was unable to detect anything of the kind in any band, (except as reported in regard to the Comanches.) On the contrary, I received on all occasions renewed assurances of the disposition on the part of the several bands to place themselves entirely under the control and at the disposition of the government of the United States, and all expressed a wish to cultivate friendly relations with our citizens.

I deem it proper to call the special attention of the Department to the many influences at present brought to bear upon the several wild bands in this special agency, calculated to interrupt our friendly intercourse, and create hostile feeling toward the whites. On my arrival at each camp, the first subject brought to my notice was the reports circulated by the small bands of Kickapoos and Muskogies, (Seminoles,) who for the last two months have been engaged in visiting the several prairie bands, representing themselves as emissaries of the Creeks, and inviting most of the small bands to join the Creeks and emigrate to their country.

The first intimation that I had of their operations was on my arrival at the Comanche camp, when the chief Mopochocopie informed me that a party of Kickapoos and Creeks had just left his village; that the several chiefs of the Comanches, on hearing of my approach, insisted on their remaining to see me, as it was important that their reports should be told me. They left, however, with much precipitance. They had told the Comanches that the whites were decidedly hostile, and were preparing to make a campaign in their country; also, that they had *lied* at every council held with them in regard to their lands, &c. Pa-ha-yu-ca, the Comanche chief, said: "I have heard all that these people (the Creeks) have to say; I do not know whether they have told the truth or not. They told me that the presents you gave my people was to pay us for our land; if I had believed that to be the case, I would not have taken those presents. I have not sold any of my land."

On my arrival at the camp of the Wacos, I found that they had been spreading the same reports, and had used every exertion to induce the Wacos to emigrate to the Creek nation. They told the chiefs that I was dead, and that the wild Indians had no friend in this part of the country; that the whites on this frontier would kill *all* the Indians, at the same time offering them much larger presents than they received at the late council, if they would join the Creeks. The same thing has been offered every band in the limits of this agency, as I am informed by the chiefs; the consequence is, that much confusion exists among the several bands: some had already agreed to remove previous to my arrival in the Indian country.

Those that had mostly given in to the measure were the Ton-kahas and Keechies. I am informed that this measure is undertaken by the Seminole chiefs "Wild Cat" and "Alligator." What their object is in inducing these wild bands to emigrate to their country, or why they wish to assemble so large a force, I was unable to ascertain, but would respectfully call the attention of the Department to the fact. I have on a former occasion called the attention of the Department to the propriety of adopting such measures as would compel these bands to remain in their own country.

Notwithstanding the several bands have been notified of the many false reports of the Kickapoos, and all possible means tried to counteract their influence, they have, on the present occasion, created much confusion, and done *much* to weaken the confidence

of the wild tribes in the good intentions of the government. They have, on this occasion, had a better opportunity, by a combination of circumstances, to create dissension than on any former occasion. For the last few months our settlements have extended to grounds heretofore considered exclusively the privileged lands of the Indians, (I allude to the occupation of the late council ground, near Torrey's trading-house,) which has attracted the attention and special notice of every band that has visited the trading-house. The effect, in a manner, confirms the reports circulated by the Kickapoos and others, (who appear to be decidedly hostile to the citizens of this frontier,) "that the whites intend to deprive them of their lands by force."

I have heretofore called the attention of the Department to the fact that, by the laws of this State, the Indians are not acknowledged to have any right or claim to lands. Our citizens, acting under this privilege granted by these laws, are generally disposed to settle on the lands occupied by the Indians, regardless of the consequences, and, there being no power to control them, must necessarily and inevitably lead to serious difficulty, unless measures are immediately adopted to settle the questions involved. *A crisis has now arrived*; this matter cannot be postponed with safety much longer. I have deemed it my duty, under your instructions, to use all my influence to induce our citizens to remain quiet until the question involved, in regard to the land occupied by the Indians, and claimed by them as their hunting grounds, could be definitely settled by the action of the United States government, but find that the many opposite influences brought to bear on that subject have rendered my efforts ineffective, and I am unable to effect further delay on the part of our citizens. Up to the date of my return from the Indian country, I was decidedly of the opinion that the "temporary line" designated by Governor Henderson, and agreed to by the Indians at the council in September last, in the presence of Lieutenant Colonel Bell and others, and alluded to in the copy of a communication from Governor H., forwarded with my report of the 18th December, *would be sustained*, until some definite action in relation to our Indian matters. But, finding that the agreements then made are disregarded, I deem it proper to notify the Department that the Indian country in Texas is *now* open to all persons who may choose to visit or settle therein. This subject has been fully tested, in the last few months, by the case reported in my communication of the 18th December, when I notified the Department that a Mr. Spencer had located on the council ground of the Indians, and forwarded a copy of Governor Henderson's views in regard to the propriety of maintaining the temporary line, until the United States government could place our Indian matters on a firm and permanent basis. For near a month after his removal, I was absent in the western portion of this agency; on my return, in the early part of January, I found that Spencer, in connexion with a Mr. Moore, had returned to the place from which he was removed, and engaged in selling whiskey to Captain Johnston's ranging company, a portion of which had strongly espoused his cause. This

matter being susceptible of full proof, the subject was called to the notice of the commanding officer, Captain Johnston, with a request to have those persons removed from the Indian country; enclosing him, at the same time, a copy of Governor Henderson's views in regard to the maintenance of the "temporary line." I herewith enclose a copy of Captain Johnston's letter to Spencer on that occasion, which will more fully call the attention of the Commissioner to the *propriety* of permitting such men to settle in the Indian country.

Spencer received permission from Captain Johnston to remain until the matter could be further discussed; laid the subject before Governor Wood, (who had succeeded Gov. H.,) who would take no notice of the matter. He next applied to the legislature, petitioning for permission to become a citizen of this State, and to locate and settle any land he might think proper, in the limits of Texas. His petition was not granted.

On my arrival at this place, I was informed by Captain Ross, who is now in command, that Lieutenant Colonel Bell has given him orders not to interfere with or prevent any settlers from going above the trading-house; to remove the station about fifteen miles further up, and to encourage and protect those who wish to settle. The field that Spencer now cultivates has been cultivated by the Indians for the last four or five years. I have heretofore called the notice of the Commissioner to the necessity of establishing a complete co-operation between the agent and the military on this frontier. Not being conversant with the orders given the commanding officer of the frontier in regard to Indian matters, I deem it proper merely to call the attention of the Commissioner to the *influence* that the present movements are likely to exercise over our several border tribes.

On my late visit I could easily see, by the guarded manner of a number of the chiefs, and their questions relative to the movements and intentions of our military force, that the Indians were very apprehensive and afraid to approach our frontier. Mo-po-cho-co-pie, chief of the friendly Comanches, thus spoke on the subject: "You told me that the troops were placed there for *our* protection, as well as the whites; *that* I know is not so. You told me, also, that if I wished to go below the line, if I would go to the captains of the stations, they would give me permission to go down below to hunt. Soon after the council, I wanted to go below the station, on the Colorado, as I heard that there were some buffalo down in the lower prairies. I applied to Captain McCullough, with a party of eight old men and their women and children; he would not let me go down. I told him that I did not wish to go to the settlements; had no warriors with me; but merely wanted to hunt where there were no houses, and kill some meat for my women and children, as there were no buffalo near, above his station. He said he would not permit me, under *any* circumstances, to go down. This made me angry, and I quarrelled with him. I told him that I was an old man, and had hunted in these prairies before he was born, and before there was any white man for a long way below. I am now

going down, and will try again to go to my old hunting grounds. If I am again refused a *permission*, I have *done* trying. We have been at peace for a long time, and I do not see why you keep so many soldiers on the line, if you still wish to keep peace."

There is now eight companies of rangers on this frontier, which is more than was ever before stationed here, even when we were at war with all the tribes on our borders. They are stationed at intervals from the Rio Grande to Red river. During the last month, the lieutenant colonel commanding visited the several posts, and, while I was still in the Indian country, established several new ones. I am informed by the officers at this station, (Captain Ross and Lieutenant Hill,) that no Indian is to be permitted to pass below said line of posts, unless they have *passports!* I would respectfully ask the Commissioner, who is to grant these passports? The position of the troops, and the line they now propose to defend, is entirely above the settlements, being some thirty miles higher than they existed some three months since, and ten miles above Torrey's trading post, and the council grounds of the Indians; at which point, I have, heretofore, held my office for the transaction of the necessary business with the Indians.

I am also informed by these officers that the lieutenant colonel stated that, "if the Comanches committed any further depredations, he would send a force immediately into the Indian country," which proceeding would at once end our peaceful relations with them.

Believing it to be the intention of the Department to settle all difficulties between our citizens and the several Indian tribes in the manner prescribed by the treaty, I am unable to account for the present movements. If a small body of any band of Indians should steal a few horses, is it deemed of sufficient moment to commence hostilities? or should the matter be settled by negotiation, as provided for in the treaty? That some bands of the prairie tribes will depredate until they are induced to understand our institutions, by the usual mode practiced by the government, must be expected.

Up to the present moment, there has been no definite arrangement made with the wild Indians; no permanent means adopted by the government to protect them from the depredations of other persons, or to allow them the privilege of subsisting unmolested, by hunting on grounds that they occupied before Texas was populated by a more civilized race. I have only been in the settlements three days, after having visited, without any protection or military force whatever, all the bands that could be reached by our present force, and can see no necessity whatever for war with the Indians. This matter is entirely within the control of the government, and I feel fully assured and justified in stating to the Department that they have sufficient influence already to settle our Indian matters upon the terms that the government may think proper to propose, *without war*.

The position assumed by the troops on this frontier of course renders it impossible for me to exercise any influence or control whatever, either over the Indians or persons who may choose to

interfere in Indian matters. Nor do I deem it proper for me to attempt any further measures or negotiations with the Indians, without special instruction from the Commissioner.

Every avenue leading to our settlements is guarded by a body of troops. The Indians are cut off from the possibility of holding intercourse or cultivating friendly relations with our citizens, even if they were so disposed; and I can readily assure the Department that the wild Indians will not, under any circumstances, place themselves in the reach of so large a body of troops, unless they are *fully* assured of their intentions: I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that the Department define their position, at as early a period as possible, and notify the several bands on our frontier what are the intentions of the government in regard to their affairs. At present I would not feel justified to guarantee good treatment to any Indian who wished to visit our settlements, from the feeling of hostility exhibited by a portion of our citizens.

I am instructed by the Department to report the several influences calculated to interrupt friendly relations with our Indians. I do not feel myself authorized to discuss the actions of the military, but deem it my imperative duty, in my present position, to call the attention of the Department to any movement of the military or our citizens that is calculated, in my opinion, to interfere with our present peaceful relations with the Indians.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
United States special Indian Agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

No. 22—D.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
April 28, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, on my arrival in Austin, on the 10th instant, I received a talk from the Lipans, with a request that I would visit their camp, which was situated on the head waters of the Gaudaloupe river. Although my term of service had nearly expired, I deemed it my duty, under the circumstances, to comply with their request, as they had occupied a doubtful position for some months. On the 18th, I fell in with the principal chief, Chi-ki-to, about one hundred miles above Austin, and found that he had determined to visit this post for the purpose of seeing me, and to renew their obligations of peace with the whites.

I had much talk with them in regard to the cause of their long absence from our councils, and the doubtful position they had occupied. The chief informed me that, after the attack on them

by Captain Armstrong in August last, they had joined the Apaches on the Rio Puerco, and were afraid to approach our settlements until he had received the friendly talk sent to him and his people by me, through the friendly Indians visiting them. Finding them much disposed for peace, I deemed it proper to encourage them in their good intentions, and accompanied them to this place. They having shown every disposition to cultivate friendly relations with the government and citizens of the United States, I deemed it proper to give them a small present, as they had at no time been hostile, and had received no presents at the general distribution last fall. I found that, during my absence from this post, large parties of Camanches, Ionies, Caddoes, and Keechies, had visited the agency, some for the purpose of trade, others to give assurances of their friendly disposition. The Camanche chief Mo-po-cho-co-pie, brought in and delivered up a part of the horses stolen from the rangers last winter, and made many professions of friendship to the whites. He left information that large parties of the upper bands of Camanches, Kiowas, &c., had gone north for the purpose of waylaying and plundering on the Santa Fé road, and wished his band to be held blameless by the government for any of the acts of those bands. He states that, if the government was disposed to send troops into the Indian country, he is willing to remain at any place that I should designate, with his people, until the war was over. All the upper bands, without distinction, have gone north with the above intentions.

I can perceive no material change in any of our border bands since the date of my last report, except such as must naturally grow out of the late attacks on the Indians by our troops. As I anticipated, when calling your attention to the massacre of the Indians by Captain Highsmith's company, on the 10th instant, those Indians have already commenced a system of retaliation, by killing three surveyors on the Trinity river, and it is impossible to say how long before we can again stop the effusion of blood on this frontier.

During my absence from this post, at my request, (as I expected many Indians to visit it,) Mr. C. E. Barnard assisted the interpreter, Jim Shaw, in holding talks with the Indians. I herewith transmit, for your information, such intelligence as was left for me by said tribes during my absence.

In closing the affairs of this special term of service, I deem it proper to call the attention of the Commissioner to the many evils and misunderstandings likely to arise from the discontinuance, for any length of time, of the friendly intercourse now existing, and established for the last year, with our several border tribes. Up to the present time I have deemed it my duty to continue the exercise of my former duties, and answer all the calls made on me by the Indians, especially those likely to grow out of unfortunate attacks of our troops, and have given the Indians the best advice I could in regard to the matter, but do not feel authorized to make any definite agreements with them.

I should deem it improper for me at this time to make any fur-

ther suggestions in regard to Indian affairs, as I have heretofore endeavored to keep the Department fully notified of passing events up to the present time.

Under existing circumstances I have deemed it proper to treat the Indians visiting this post in the kindest manner, and give the prominent men some small presents, as well as provisions, of which I hope you will approve.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. S. NEIGHBOURS,
Special Indian Agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

SIR: In compliance with your request to "assist the interpreter in holding talks with whatever Indians visited this post in your absence," I have obtained the following information:

On Sunday, 16th, Jack Harry arrived from the Comanche country, and reported the Indians peaceable and quiet; also, that Mo-poch-co-pie and several chiefs were on their way to this place, with some stolen horses. He also reports that Captain Johnson's company have killed a Caddo boy, without provocation, and that the Caddoes are very much excited about it. The brother of the boy killed came in with him, on his way to find Jose Maria, who had been given a passport, as you promised, to visit Louis Sanchez. The Caddo states, that on the 14th instant an old man and his boy started from the Caddo camp, on the head waters of the Aquilla, to hunt deer, and separated soon after leaving camp. Some time after this the old man's attention was attracted by the firing of some eight or nine shots, and observed some white men at a distance firing at what he supposed to be a buffalo or wolf; not taking further notice of the occurrence, he continued his hunt, and returned to camp at night. The boy did not return that night, and the Caddoes began to suspicion something wrong; the next morning a party started in search, and upon reaching the spot where the old man had seen and heard the firing the day before, found the body of the boy, shot in five places, viz: one shot through the hand, one through the thigh, one in his side, and two shots in his head; either of the last three would kill. I gave a passport to the Caddo to go for Jose Maria, and expect him back in two days.

Sunday eve, (16th.)—This evening, by the arrival of Mr. Rolfe, from Captain Johnston's station, I have received the following information, viz: that on the 9th inst., three surveyors, engaged in running the line of Peters' colony, were killed and scalped by some Indians, supposed to be Wichetas; they were found by the balance of the party who had just returned from the settlements, having been absent two days. It is supposed that the act was committed by the Wichitas out of revenge for the killing of their people by Highsmith's company. I also learned from Mr. Rolfe

the particulars concerning the killing of the boy. He states that the surveyors sent to Captain Johnson for assistance in burying those killed, and accordingly a party was sent up for that purpose. They returned to camp on Thursday eve. One of the company wagons had just arrived, and the driver reported having seen a party of six Indians on the road, and on inquiring what tribe they belonged to, could obtain no satisfactory answer. The next morning a scout commanded by Lieutenant Smith was started in search of these Indians to ascertain their intentions. They did not find the party, but discovered the boy at a short distance from camp; on sight, the party immediately started in pursuit, and on coming up called to him to stop. The boy being frightened, took no notice of the command, and kept on running; they then ran ahead and across his way for some time, but he still kept on, when one of the men thinking to stop him, made an attempt to secure his rifle, and caught hold of it; the boy drew his knife to defend himself, and was immediately shot through the hand, which was followed by a volley from the party. Mr. R. reports great excitement among the whites in the vicinity of the station, on account of the murder of the surveyors, and does not think it safe for any Indian to be about there unless he should go directly to the post.

This morning, on receipt of the news, I communicated the same to Captain S. P. Ross, requesting his attendance at this place to meet Jose Maria on his return.

Tuesday, April 18.—Jose Maria arrived to-day, and after discussing the matter for some time, he has promised to await the action of the commander of the frontier in the case of the boy. Some of his party, among whom are two brothers of the boy, are resolved on revenge, and it is with great difficulty that he can restrain them. He has succeeded in pacifying them, and will postpone further action in the case, until the matter can be investigated by the proper authorities. He states that the rangers must have known the boy to be a Caddo, as he has been furnishing them with game for some time past.

Captain Ross has forwarded a statement of the affair to Colonel Bell, at San Antonio, and Jose Maria has promised to keep his people quiet until he can hear from that quarter; but from the hostile feeling shown both by the rangers and Indians, it will be a difficult matter for him to do so. He promises to ascertain, if possible, what party of Indians killed the surveyors, and will bring in that information when he is called upon to hear the action of the commandant of the frontier in the case of the boy.

On the 20th, Mo-co-po-cho-co-pie, with a party of sixty Comanches, arrived, bringing in some stolen horses. The chiefs all expressed themselves as friendly disposed, and wish to continue their peaceful relations with the government. They state that they will not war with the white people, under any circumstances, and gave as a reason for their visit, that some of the more northern bands were about waylaying the Santa Fe road, and they wished the agent to know that they were not in any way interested in the movement.

After a visit of two days, they returned to their country, appearing well satisfied with the treatment they received while here.

Yours, respectfully,

C. E. BARNARD.

Major R. S. NEIGHBOURS.

No. 22—E.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL AGENCY,
June 15, 1848.

SIR: Having received no information from the Department in regard to the continuance of this special agency, I have deemed it proper, at the request of Governor Wood and Lieutenant Colonel Bell, to continue in the discharge of my usual duties until your wishes are made known on the subject, and have the honor to report that up to the present time there has been no act of hostility committed on our borders since the date of my last report. The Comanches, Caddoes, Ionies, Anadarkoes, Ton-ka-hu-as and Lipans have all been on our immediate borders most of the time, and have conducted themselves with as much propriety as could be expected, and still continue to give many evidences of their wish to preserve the stipulations of the existing treaty and remain at peace.

During the past fifteen days most of the bands have visited this post; also, a portion of the Wacos and Keechies. On the 12th instant all the principal chiefs of the Comanches, with a large body of warriors, visited this special agency for the purpose of holding a friendly talk with me, in which they expressed much uneasiness in regard to the position assumed by the troops on this frontier, and dissatisfaction on account of the indefinite position in which their affairs are placed. They had been informed by the friendly Indians that my term of service had expired, and that there had been no other agent appointed, which increased their fears "that the whites were disposed to break off all friendly intercourse with them and commence hostilities." I endeavored to re-assure them of the friendly disposition of the government, and was partially successful, as they agreed to await for the further action of the Department in their affairs, and expressed a determination to abide by their treaty stipulations until more definite arrangements.

In the latter part of last month, Santa Anna and a small party visited Austin for the purpose of holding a friendly talk with the governor; the consequence was that some few of the citizens, not being acquainted with the Indians, became alarmed, and the Indians were ordered by the governor to go above the posts, and one of the ranging companies (Captain Conner's) was ordered to escort them above the imaginary line. The Indians were frightened and left the settlement with much precipitation.

When they left this place on the 12th instant, they wished to hunt in the prairies below the stations. I referred them to Cap-

tain Ross, commanding the rangers near this post, as I did not deem it proper in me either to grant or refuse permission, having no orders to force the Indians above *any* given point. Captain Ross refused to permit them to hunt below his station, which offended the Comanches, who said they would go down at all hazard, as they wished to know at *once* what the white people would do. They say, "when we made a treaty, we believed the white people wished to be friendly. If they are not friendly, and the Comanches cannot go to their houses, there is no use in making treaties."

The Comanches immediately returned to their camp, and I have not heard as yet what they intend, but it is evident that the present policy of making a line by force will lead to hostility.

As yet there has been no measures taken to arrest the soldiers of Captain Johnson's company who killed the Caddo boy, although I made application to the commandant of this frontier at the time, and requested him to have the matter properly investigated, as I informed you on the 10th ultimo. These Indians are still awaiting the result of their application for redress, and unless the matter is properly noticed, I fully believe it will lead to serious difficulties. At this time the Caddo chief and the father of the boy killed are here. I have had much talk with them on the subject, and at the same time that they agree to abide by the stipulations of the treaty in regard to such occurrences, they say positively that unless we enforce it, they will personally seek to take satisfaction out of the company that killed the boy.

The Wichitas still hold themselves aloof from our councils, and occupy a very doubtful and threatening position, since their people were killed by Captain Highsmith's company. I am informed by the friendly Indians that they are making preparations to attack our frontier as soon as their corn is harvested. I have not been able to see them, and am at a loss what course to pursue to pacify them, unless instructed by the Commissioner what satisfaction to offer them. I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the propriety of giving the proper instructions at as early a day as practicable, as that difficulty might be adjusted without bloodshed, if the proper corrective was applied in time. I learn from the Keechies and Wacoos, who have been for some days at this place, that both the Wichetas and Caddoes intend to commence depredations on our frontier settlers, unless satisfaction is given for the killing of their people by the rangers. In each case, the matter of killing the friendly Indians was promptly reported to the commanding officer, but I believe there will be no investigation unless he is ordered to do so by the Department. Unless some measures are adopted to check the disposition of the rangers to attack parties of friendly Indians whom they meet, it must, ere long, involve us in a war with them. I would seriously call the attention of the Commissioner to that subject, and respectfully suggest that the proper corrective be applied.

I have heretofore called your attention to the position assumed by the military on this frontier, in establishing an imaginary line, below which no Indians are to be permitted to come; thereby de-

prising them by force of what *they* consider to be their *rights*, when there is no treaty defining their boundary. This matter requires the early attention of the Department, as the present state of things cannot last, and every day weakens our friendly intercourse with the Indians. I am convinced that nothing but the fear of the present large force maintained on this frontier, (near one thousand men,) causes them peaceably to submit to this regulation. Their complaints are frequent, and all the tribes are anxious that I should call the attention of the Department to the subject.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the great necessity of making some arrangement for the regulation of trade and intercourse with the Indians of Texas. At present, every one who has a few articles to dispose of, or a few gallons of whiskey, and can come in contact with a party of Indians with a few skins, are anxious to trade; and there is no law to punish persons for introducing whiskey among the Indians. The traders from east of Red river, a short time since, opened a trading post at the Keechie village, on the Brassos river, which is in the very heart of the Indian country, and are supplying as much whiskey as they can sell. They keep it constantly on hand as a regular article of trade. In the present indefinite position of our Indian affairs, and having no authority or force to employ for its destruction, I cannot, in the least, interfere. I am at a loss what course to pursue in such cases, and have, therefore, deemed it my duty, and most proper, to await the action of the Department; and respectfully suggest that the Commissioner give such instructions as may be proper in such cases; as I have heretofore failed in endeavoring to regulate trade and intercourse for the want of proper authority to act. In my intercourse with the several bands, I have deemed it most proper to use all my influence to induce them to remain quiet until further action on the part of the government, without making any pledges for the future, but, at the same time, assuring them of the ultimate justice of the government; of which course I hope you will approve.

Your instructions of the 17th April, relative to the Kickapoos, has been communicated to the Indians who made the complaint, and they express a hope that they will not in future be troubled with them.

During the time that the Comanches were in, I found it absolutely necessary, in order to preserve friendly relations with them and the several other bands, to purchase a small supply of provisions and tobacco; of which purchase I hope you will approve.

Under existing circumstances, I have deemed it proper to await the instructions of the Commissioner, in regard to the continuance of the interpreter and armorer for the Indians, as I have no assurance that the Department would approve of their employment.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,

U. S. special Indian agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,
Com. Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—F.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
June 26, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of May 6th, which only came to hand the 24th instant.

I am pleased to learn that our Indian affairs are being properly considered by Congress, and hope that something will be done to place them on a firm and permanent basis, as it is a matter in which our whole population are deeply interested. I believe the present to be the most favorable time, as any great delay under existing circumstances would much embarrass future negotiation with our wild or prairie Indians.

I hope the Commissioner will rest assured that I shall continue to use every exertion to maintain our influence and control over the several bands until the proposed action is had.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

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No. 22—G.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
August 10, 1848.

SIR: Since the date of my last report there has been no movement worthy of notice among our border tribes of Indians until about the 1st instant, when a small party, supposed to be Wichitas, Wacoes, and some of the upper Comanches, made a descent on our frontier, visiting the stations of Captains Highsmith and Crump, where they succeeded in stealing from the former company thirty, and the latter twenty horses, and made a hasty retreat beyond the mountains. About the same time two of Captain McCulloch's company were attacked a short distance from their camp, but they succeeded in gaining the timber, and after a short engagement the Indians retreated, after having, as is supposed, two of their warriors killed.

Whether this marauding will extend to any other band or not, I am unable to say; so far as is ascertained, the other tribes continue perfectly quiet and are awaiting, according to their agreement with me, the action of the government in regard to the settling of their several causes of complaint.

The Wichetas continually threaten to retaliate on Captain Highsmith's company for killing a portion of their tribe last spring, and I presume that to be the cause of the present hostile movements, as they have not approached our settlements.

On the 29th ultimo, Colonel Bell arrived at Torrey's trading house, where he had a talk with "Haso-dib-bar", one of the chiefs

of the Caddoes, and agreed to meet them on the 10th of September proximo, and have the men present who killed the "Caddo boy," for the purpose of investigating the matter, which it is hoped will lead to a friendly adjustment of their complaints.

I notified you in my last report that the Indian traders from the east of Red river were engaged in introducing a large quantity of whiskey among the wild tribes of Indians. I have just received information that they had arrived at the Caddo village on the Brassos, with eleven barrels of that article, and that the Indians are drinking to great excess.

Situated as I am I cannot control such matters; therefore respectfully urge the Department to take immediate measures to put a stop to such illicit traffic, only calculated to irritate the Indians and disturb our peaceful relations with them. I do not at present feel authorized to adopt any measures, in the absence of instructions from the Department, and therefore confine myself as much as possible only to inducing the Indians to remain quiet and await your action.

At the expiration of the year which terminated my appointment, (say 13th April last) the executive of this State and Lieutenant Colonel Bell, commanding this frontier, believing it to be essential to the preservation of peace with the Indians, requested me to continue in the discharge of my duties as agent, until the "views of the Department became known," and of which you have been duly informed heretofore.

I am much disappointed in not having been possessed of your views on the subject, as I could in such case act with confidence.

I hope you will, at as early a day as practicable, inform me whether or not my services since the end of my official appointment will be acknowledged, and my position defined.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS.

Colonel W. MEDILL,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—H.

U. S. SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
Torrey's Trading Post, September 14, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings, observations, &c., since my report of 19th ult.

In my report of that date, I informed you that the Wacoos had stolen a number of horses from the rangers. I have since learned that the Indians were pursued to their villages by Lieutenant Williams, of Captain Highsmith's company, and all the horses recovered. It appears that as soon as the horse thieves returned, the horses were immediately taken from them by their chiefs, and the

Comanches, being at the village at the time, took the horses into their possession, and were in the act of bringing them in when Lieutenant Williams and his party arrived.

I herewith enclose a copy of the lieutenant's report, and he deserves much credit for the discretion used in the recovery of the horses. I feel convinced that it will lead to no serious difficulty.

Since that occurrence, the Keechie and Tah-wah-caro chiefs have visited this post, and report everything quiet in their villages. On the 10th instant a party of Delawares, in the employ of Mr. George Barnard, arrived direct from the Comanche village, and brought in the talks of the principal Comanche chiefs, which are entirely satisfactory. I deem it proper to state that most of the Comanche warriors are now on a foray in Mexico, and are doing much damage. The Delawares say that they return constantly with large numbers of horses, mules and prisoners.

On the 10th instant, in accordance with previous agreement, Colonel Bell, with a number of the officers of the rangers, arrived at this place, and all the principal chiefs of the Caddoes and their associates, for an adjustment of the misunderstanding occasioned by the killing of the Caddo boy. Those Indians came under the impression that the men who killed the boy would be present, and that they would see the punishment inflicted; and I felt fully convinced if the matter was not settled definitely while the parties were present, that it would lead to serious difficulties. I therefore (although your instructions were "to ascertain what would satisfy them") deemed it most proper, under the circumstances, to enter into a definite arrangement, which was effected, and put the matter at rest forever—a copy of which agreement I forward you this day for your consideration, and would respectfully recommend it to your approval, as the best arrangement that could possibly be made under all the circumstances. Had the men been arrested, and the matter properly and promptly investigated at the time of the occurrence, the adjustment would have been much easier; as it was, it required all the influence that I could possibly bring to bear to induce the Indians to agree to the present arrangement, and give up the idea of taking revenge. Colonel Bell and the company officers have agreed to bring the matter before the grand jury at the next session of the district court, which meets some time this fall.

I have not as yet been able to see any of the Wichetas, but have sent them a *talk*, and shall proceed to the upper Brassos to see them in a few days. There appears to be no other difficulty with our several border tribes, except that reported of the Lipans, to which I shall give my earliest attention. I have found it necessary, during the summer, to purchase a small amount of tobacco, and other articles that were necessary for the maintenance of friendly intercourse with the Indians, which amount, in all, to the sum of (\$180) one hundred and eighty dollars. The articles were purchased of Mr. George Barnard; and I have deemed it proper to call your attention to the fact, and hope you will authorize me to draw for the amount whenever the appropriation is made.

I have not, as yet, been able to employ a proper interpreter, but I hope to procure one in a few days; my former interpreter having entered the employ of a private company, who are now on a tour of observation in Mexico.

On account of the many misunderstandings growing out of the several attacks on the Indians, I have deemed it proper to require an escort for my visit to the Wichetas, and Colonel Bell has furnished me with forty men for the occasion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
United States Special Indian Agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—I.

CAMP LLANO, *August 20, 1848.*

DEAR SIR: We have returned to day in good spirits—20 days absence. Your orders I understood was to report the particulars of the trip immediately. As you are acquainted with the first particulars, I will say nothing other than at the camp the first night, when the balance of the mules &c., returned, we then unanimously agreed, 21 in number, to proceed to their village for the balance, making it the easiest journey possible for our horses. On the ninth day, reaching the village, I sent two Delawares to inform all Indians not to be alarmed at the approach of the white people, that we were in pursuit of stolen horses. We arrived in sight of the farms (I suppose two hundred miles above here) about 3 o'clock, on which we discovered the white flags flying; nearing their village they made a very pretty display to meet us, Keechies, Caddoes, and Comanches; the latter camped about 5 miles above, 500 in number. It appears on the arrival of the stolen horses, the Comanches with the others had demanded the horses, and were in their possession, which were handed over that evening of our arrival, (22 in number.) The next morning we understood three mules and three horses had just arrived. We also demanded them. The mules we had discovered belonged to the Dutch, the horses to some Delawares. Owing to the distressed condition of the stolen horses, we were compelled to return very slow. We were overtaken by two Delawares, who informed us they arrived at the village the day after we left, and had got a portion of the horses stolen from them; and also informed us that 12 head had been brought in the night of the day we left. I had forgot to mention that in all instances where horses &c., was taken, it was done by the Wacoos and Keechies. During the evening and the next day while we remained in their neighborhood we were treated very kindly, and from their conversations with John Conner, that they wish it continued; but they think it impossible to prevent the

Wacoes and a portion of the Keechies from pursuing their course. Last, not least, while promenading through the village, we discovered a fine looking gentleman of color, somewhat inclined to be bow-legged, also very dark, which we mustered into service and brought into camp, until such opportunity that his master may get him. He says his name is Abram, and belongs to John Ec'eson on the Brassos, near Nashville. I shall now conclude, not forgetting to remind you that all the company is well and in fine spirits.

Your obedient servant,

A. WILLIAMS, *Lieutenant.*

To Captain HIGHSMITH,
San Antonio, Texas.

No. 22—K.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL AGENCY,
Texas, October 23, 1848.

SIR: Having this day returned from a visit to the Indian country, I have the honor to report everything quiet and peaceable among the several bands that I visited, viz: Ionies, Caddoes, Wacoes, Keechies, Tahwaccaros and Camanches. I arrived at the main village of the Ionies, Caddoes, and Keechies on the 4th instant, and remained a day or two with them.

I found that most of the principal men and a large portion of their families had already started on their fall hunt; they were, consequently, much scattered, but, so far as I could learn, there was nothing calculated to disturb our peaceful and friendly relations with them.

On the 8th instant I fell in with a hunting party of Comanches, who were perfectly friendly and acted as my guides to their main camp, which I found on the head of the Clear Fork of the Brassos, about 300 miles west of Torrey's trading post. The principal chief of the village was Santa Anna. A large portion of the principal men and warriors of the lower band, (Hois,) with a few of the Ten-a-wish, were present. Our reception was such as inspired us with the utmost confidence in their determination to remain at peace. During the time I remained in the village (three days) I was treated in the kindest manner; and, although all matters appertaining to our relations with them were fully discussed, nothing of importance, or of an unpleasant nature, occurred. During the past summer small war parties of the Comanches have, on several occasions, as heretofore reported, come in contact with our troops west of San Antonio, in which some blood has been spilled on both sides; fearful that these rencontres would finally lead to serious difficulty, I endeavored to ascertain on my visit the cause of such occurrences, and to induce the chiefs to interfere and put a stop to such proceedings. The chief that commanded most of the parties was present, and pointed out to me. On inquiring of him the cause of his hos-

tility, he expressed himself as not disposed to be hostile, and laid the blame on our own troops. He says: "In our treaty we agreed to be at peace with the white people; but we have not made peace with the Mexicans. Your troops are stationed on our war roads leading to the lower Rio Grande; whenever we pass down, your troops follow us and commence fighting without stopping to talk with us. I once went out to talk to your soldiers; but they fired on, and came near killing me. Since then, as soon as we see the soldiers, we prepare to fight. I do not wish to fight with your troops; I wish to be friends with them; I will be friendly, and not molest your people, or steal horses on this side of the Rio Grande, if your soldiers will let me pass without molestation." I then inquired of him respecting the attack on Captain Crump's company, and the stealing of his horses. He very readily stated that it was his party that had stolen them, and not the Lipans; that two of the horses had been given up; and that he had the balance of them, but was not willing to give them up, as they had lost several horses in their skirmishes. The name of this chief is "Kar-wa-be-bo-we-bit," or "can see nothing;" he is one of the signers of the treaty made by Messrs. Butler and Lewis.

I endeavored to persuade the Comanches to avoid the country between the Rio Grande and San Antonio; but was only partially successful; they promised, however, to visit our stations friendly when they wanted to go down, and I gave the chief a paper certifying our agreements. I learned from the Comanches that the Lipans were camped on the head waters of the Colorado, about 100 miles from them, and had declared themselves hostile, and would, under no circumstances, make peace until they had full satisfaction. Santa Anna, acknowledging that the Comanches were to blame in bringing the Lipans into trouble, has undertaken to bring them in, and to assist me in an adjustment with them. We are to meet in San Antonio for that purpose on the 2d November.

I find myself unable to make any suggestions that would put an end to serious difficulties, growing out of the collisions between our troops and the Indians. I feel fully satisfied that they are caused more by the indiscretion or inexperience of the volunteer officers on our frontier than anything else; and if the Department would require them to carry the stipulations of the treaty into full force and effect, and not allow them the privilege of making war at discretion, all Indian difficulties would soon cease. Under the present system the treaty is forgotten, and, if a horse is stolen by an Indian, there is no demand made, through the agent, for his recovery, but the first party of Indians that is fallen in with is attacked and massacred. I would respectfully call the serious attention of the Commissioner to this subject.

I notified you in my last report that a detachment of the troops would accompany me on my trip. Captain Ross, with fifty of his men, made the entire trip with me, and, from the discretion of Captain R., and the discipline of his troops, I am disposed to believe that the impression was decidedly favorable. All the time we were in the Indian country the utmost harmony prevailed

between the troops and Indians, and they expressed themselves highly pleased with the visit. The troops penetrated the Indian country about 150 miles further than any party of whites have heretofore done from this frontier, and I am under the impression that it will be decidedly beneficial to bring the troops into friendly contact with the Indians. I have temporarily employed, as an interpreter, Jack Harry, a Delaware Indian, commencing from the 20th September, and Jesse Sutton as a blacksmith, from the 28th August, to execute the necessary work to the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200) per annum.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian agent, U. S.

Col. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—L.

[Received at Office Indian Affairs, since annual report was prepared.]

SAN ANTONIA, (TEXAS.)
November 7, 1848.

SIR: In my last report I notified you of my agreement to meet the Comanche and Lipan chiefs in San Antonio, for the purpose of adjusting the unfortunate difficulties between Captain Crump's company of rangers and the Lipan Indians, and recovering the company's losses. I accordingly proceeded to this place, accompanied by a small party of Comanches and one Delaware, Jack Harry, as interpreter, and have remained here several days without hearing anything of the Indians expected. I am unable to account for their failure to come, but presume that they, learning that considerable damage had been done by depredators on our citizens, since I left their country, were afraid to venture into our settlements.

Since my arrival I have endeavored, as far as lay in my power, to ascertain the extent of the damages and depredations committed, and who were the depredators; and from the best information I can get, it appears that from eighteen to twenty persons have been killed or are missing, and about forty horses and mules stolen, between the Guadalupe river and this place. This has all transpired since the 26th of last September, and I am satisfied that, so far as Indians are concerned in this matter, it was none other but the Lipans; and that the deaths of those persons and the stealing of the horses, so far as the Indians were concerned, is justly chargeable to the unfortunate attack made on them by Lieutenant Brown. A large number of our most intelligent citizens are under the impression that only a portion of the damages were done by Indians; that there were malicious white men engaged in it; whether this is

true or not I have no means at present to ascertain. One thing is evident; there is, at present, large parties of vagabonds in this vicinity, (followers of the army from Mexico,) who are capable of committing all manner of crimes. I notified you in my report of September, that Col. P. H. Bell had promised to use every exertion to recover the Lipan horses and turn them over to the quartermaster; I now find that none of those animals have been recovered, and that the company has been paid off and discharged from the service. Also, that the horses were divided among the captors—who still retain possession of them—who are so much scattered that the horses cannot by any means be recovered. I presume Col. Bell will report to the Department why the horses were not taken possession of as contemplated.

The late occurrence has caused a feeling of strong resentment to exist in the minds of some of our citizens towards Indians in general, and the Lipans in particular; and I have heard threats made by some to shoot the first Indian they meet with. I have deemed it proper to discourage such threats as much as possible, both with our citizens and the volunteer troops, as a few more attacks similar to the one made on the Lipans, *must* involve us in difficulties with the wild Indians that it would be impossible to adjust without much *blood*.

The Indians having failed to meet me here, I have deemed it proper to send Jack Harry with the party of Comanches to the Lipan camp, with an invitation for them to meet me at Torry's trading-house, as soon as possible, when I hope to ascertain their further intentions, of which you shall be duly informed.

All other Indians on our borders are perfectly friendly and quiet.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
United States Special Indian Agent.

Colonel W. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Third Auditor's Office, October 31, 1848.

SIR: In regard to the usual report required to be made of the number of unsettled accounts received in the last three years, which will not be included in my annual report to the First Comptroller of the Treasury, under the act of the 3d March, 1809, and 3d of March, 1817, of balances appearing to be due to the United States, more than three years, &c., I have the honor to state that there are now on file, remaining unsettled; one thousand and sixty-six accounts; of these, twenty-five were received in the year 1846;

three hundred and eighty-four in 1847, and six hundred and fifty-seven in 1848.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PETER HAGNER, *Auditor.*

Hon. Wm. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Second Auditor's Office, December 2, 1848.

SIR: In compliance with your request of the 1st instant, I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement in duplicate, showing the number of accounts remaining unsettled in this office on the 1st instant, and which have been received within the last three years.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. McCALLA,
Second Auditor.

Hon. Wm. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

Number of accounts remaining in the office of the Second Auditor, unsettled on the 1st of December, 1848, and which were received in the last three years, viz :

602

	Number received in—			
	1846.	1847.	1848.	Total.
CASH ACCOUNTS, VIZ :				
Paymasters United States army.....	....	2	62	64
Recruiting.....	5	43	395	443
Miscellaneous, consisting of ordnance, clothing, medical, &c.....	10	107	271	388
Indian affairs.....	....	20	37	57
Deceased and discharged officers and soldiers.....	105	494	4,559	5,158
Total number of cash accounts.....	120	666	5,324	6,110
PROPERTY ACCOUNTS, VIZ :				
Ordnance—forts, posts, &c.....	11	85	221	317
company arms, &c.....	1	38	450	489
Clothing and camp and garrison equipage.....	1	32	427	460
Indian department.....	3	4	10	17
Total number of property accounts.....	16	159	1,108	1,283

EX. DOC. NO. 11

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Second Auditor's Office, December 2, 1848.*

JOHN M. McCALLA, *Second Auditor.*

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

TRANSMITTED

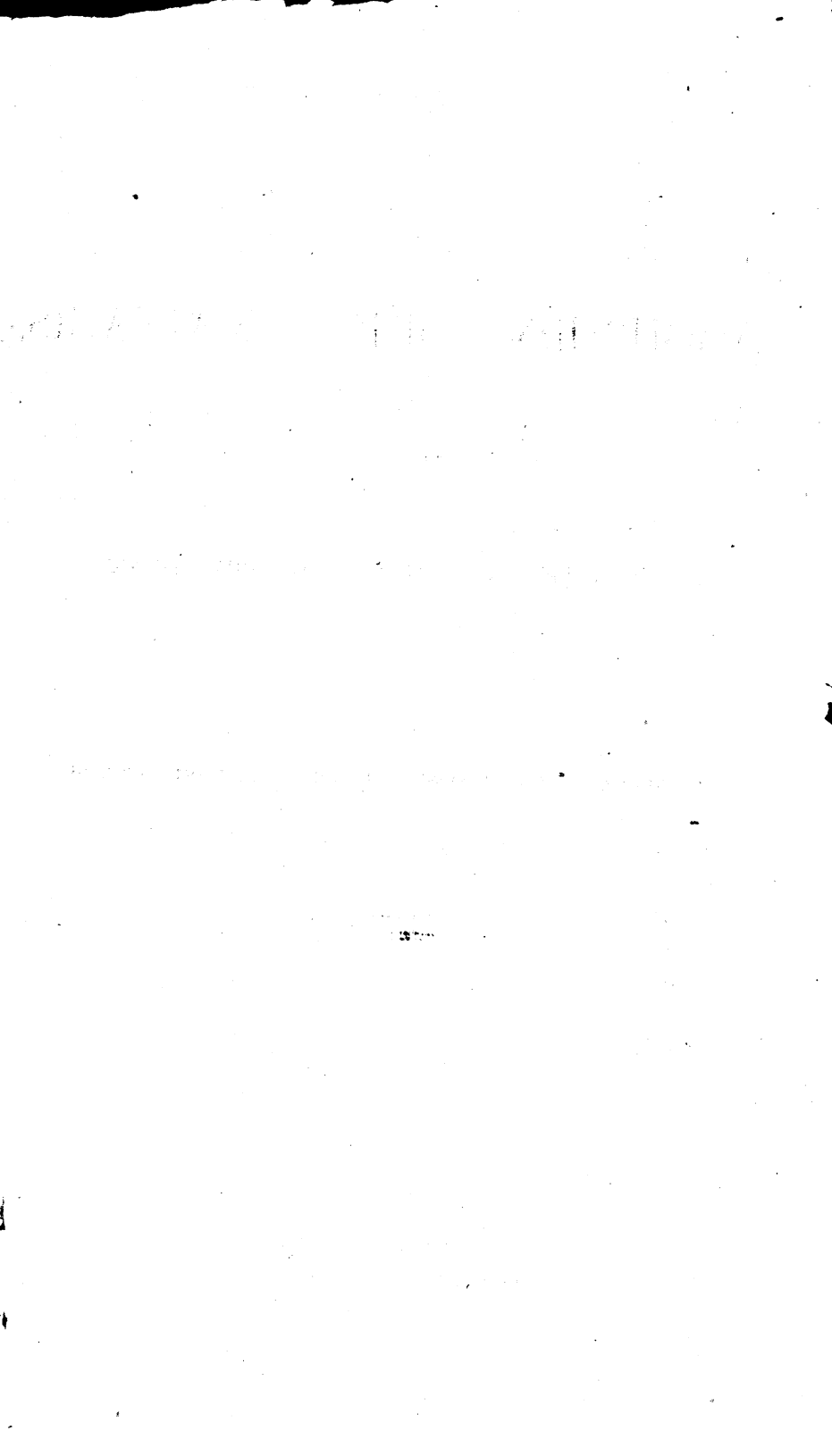
WITH THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

AT THE

OPENING OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

1849—1850.

WASHINGTON:
PRINTED BY GIDEON & CO.,
1850.



REPORT.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
November 30, 1849.

SIR: In submitting a brief view of our Indian affairs and relations during the past year, I would respectfully refer to the accompanying documents for more detailed information, in many particulars, than can be embraced in a general report like this. Emanating from the several classes of local agents of the department, having the immediate charge and supervision of the different tribes and their affairs, and from the devoted and zealous missionaries of various Christian denominations, who are actively and laboriously co-operating with the Government in its efforts to improve the moral and intellectual condition of the 'red man; they embrace information not only of great practical value in the administration of our Indian affairs, but which must be of no ordinary interest to all who feel any concern in regard to the present condition and future destiny of the remaining aboriginal inhabitants of our country.

Among the border tribes and others with whom we have defined and fixed relations, and maintain any immediate and regular intercourse, as great a degree of peace and tranquillity has prevailed as during the same length of time at any former period. They have generally conducted themselves peacefully towards our citizens, and towards each other. This circumstance speaks well for the vigilance and activity of our agents, and of the military stationed in the Indian country; and attests the good effects of the policy pursued by the Government, in promptly repressing any symptoms of outbreak, and compelling tribes committing outrages upon others to make ample and suitable reparation for the injury, so far as under present circumstances these objects can be accomplished. Nor must we overlook the influence of the good example of some of our more civilized and orderly tribes, and the happy effects of the exertions of the many excellent persons, who, animated by a truly philanthropic and christian spirit, have voluntarily banished themselves beyond the confines of civilization, and all its comforts and advantages, and gone to labor zealously and disinterestedly for the temporal and spiritual welfare of an unfortunate and semi-barbarous people. Both doubtless have, in some degree, aided in securing so desirable a result.

It is impossible, however, to prevent the occurrence of occasional difficulties among our more remote border tribes; who, from their position and other circumstances, have not, as yet, sufficiently felt the influence of the policy and measures of the Government for the civilization and improvement of our Indians, to be induced to give up their natural habits of war and the chase. From their disinclination for agricultural and other peaceful and more profitable pursuits of civilized life, they have ample time and opportunity for indulgence in those habits; and as it is in their hunting excursions—when they are beyond any supervision or control, and which bring them more or less into collisions—that difficulties most generally occur; there have been several cases of the kind, attended with bloodshed

and loss of life, between some of the northwestern tribes, as will be seen from the reports of the agents in that quarter. As far as possible, measures have been adopted to compel the aggressors to make reparation for the injuries inflicted by them; those receiving annuities being required to make as satisfactory a compensation in money as the case admitted. And in order still further to teach them and others that the Government will not overlook such acts of outrage, but will interpose to punish and put a stop to them, the more reckless and daring individuals concerned in, and who should in a great measure be held responsible for them, have been arrested, in cases where they could be identified, and will be held in confinement at some of the military posts, until a salutary impression is made upon them and their brethren, of the enormity of their conduct, and the displeasure it has given to the Government.

So far as I am aware, it has not been the practice to interfere in cases of difficulty between different tribes, further than to interpose by military force or otherwise to put a stop to them; and even the practice of compelling satisfaction for outrages to be made out of annuities, is one of recent adoption. The punishment of the guilty parties, by arrest and confinement, may therefore be regarded as an extreme measure, but there is ample authority and justification for it arising out of the nature of the relations between the Government and the Indians as guardian and wards.

It is to tribal and intestine wars and difficulties, as much if not more than to any other causes, that the decline and misery of the Indian race are justly to be attributed. Enmity between them is hereditary and implacable; and no occasion is omitted to indulge it by the destruction of life and other outrages. The retaliatory law of blood, which universally prevails among the uncivilized tribes, causes it to remain unappeased and unappeasable, whether existing between different tribes, or between members of the same tribe. It is therefore no less the dictate of humanity than it is a high moral duty on the part of the Government, to interpose its strong arm in the most effectual manner possible, to put a stop to its lamentable and dreadful consequences, if the feeling itself cannot be eradicated. Compelling compensation to be made out of annuities, and the mere imprisonment of offenders, are not sufficient for the accomplishment of this great object; while, by the former, the innocent are made to pay for the acts of the guilty, whose distributive shares of the annuities alone ought to be taken for such a purpose, unless the tribe generally should fail properly to exert themselves to prevent the commission of such outrages. But the only effectual remedy, and one which is loudly called for by humanity, as well as by sound policy, will be for Congress to make provision for the trial of the offenders in such cases, in some appropriate manner, and for their punishment by death, hard labor at the military posts, or otherwise, according to the nature and aggravated character of the offence. And I would go further, and recommend that authority also be given for taking cognizance of cases of theft or robbery, and of habitual or repeated intemperance among the members of a tribe, and to inflict some suitable kind of punishment as a corrective of these two evils, where they are taken notice of and properly punished by the tribe itself. They are among the greatest drawbacks to the civilization and improvement of our Indians. A well disposed Indian, desirous of improving the condition, and to provide more permanently for the comfort of himself and family by resorting to agricultural pursuits, raising stock, or acquiring other species of property, is, in most instances, among the less civilized

tribes, deterred from doing so, because of the disposition, especially among the idle and dissolute, to consider almost all kinds of property as common, and to which any one having the power to take it, has as good a right as its possessor.

The baleful and lamentable effects of indulgence in ardent spirits by the Indians have been so often and so vividly portrayed in former reports as to render unnecessary any extended remarks upon the subject on this occasion. All the laws passed by Congress, and the most strenuous efforts of the Indian agents, and the military stationed in the Indian country, to put a stop to the inhuman traffic in this article, have in a great measure failed to effect that end. In consequence of the extent of the Indian frontier, and the impossibility of guarding it at every point, the fiend-like and mercenary wretches who engage in it, in defiance of all law, human and divine, find ample opportunities for introducing liquor into the Indian country, and to vend it to the Indians at profits so enormous as to stimulate them to encounter a considerable degree of risk in doing so. If, in addition to some proper and salutary punishment in cases of continued or repeated intoxication, means were provided for suitably rewarding those Indians who might distinguish themselves by their zeal and efforts to prevent the introduction and use of ardent spirits among their brethren, it is confidently believed that in a few years an effectual check would be given to this great curse of the tribes on our borders.

If the foregoing suggestions be carried out, a stop will in a great measure be put to tribal wars and intestine broils and difficulties; the idea of individual property and its security will be promoted, which will lead to industry and thrift; intemperance, which paralyzes the benevolent efforts of the Government, of christian associations, and of individuals, will be banished from the Indian country, and, under the effects of the other beneficial measures of policy now in operation, there would be manifest in the condition and circumstances of another generation of many of our less civilized Indians, evidences of moral and social improvement, and of advancement in all the substantial elements of tribal and individual prosperity and happiness, similar to those which, to the gratification and encouragement of the philanthropist and the christian, are conspicuously evident among some of the semi-civilized tribes, such as the Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and others. These people have regular forms of government, good and wholesome laws, with proper officers for their administration, and their affairs are conducted with a degree of wisdom, vigor, and impartiality, by which the vicious are restrained: crime punished, and justice dispensed, in a manner that would be creditable to many civilized communities. Among this class of our Indians, the exercise of such powers as those suggested would not, therefore, be necessary.

There is a portion of the Seminole tribe of Indians, who did not emigrate with, and have never joined, their brethren west of the Mississippi river, they having been permitted to remain in Florida under an arrangement made in 1842 by General Worth, then commanding the troops employed to subdue and remove the tribe, which had for some time been in a state of hostility. This arrangement was intended to be, and was, of a temporary character only, and could not have been otherwise, as the removal of the Indians was required by positive treaty stipulations, which it was the duty of the Executive to see carried into effect. They could not be induced to remove voluntarily, and, being limited in number, it was

easy for them, from the nature of the country, to elude the troops; so that their forcible removal could probably have been effected only by the continued employment of a large amount of military force at great expense, and after considerable delay, during which they would have continued to keep the frontier citizens in a state of constant alarm and danger. To put an end to this unpleasant state of things, it seems to have been deemed best to enter into an amicable arrangement for their remaining for the time being, on condition of their retiring to, and residing within, a district of country designated for the purpose in the southern portion of the peninsula of Florida, on the Gulf side, and abstaining from hostilities or acts of annoyance against our citizens. The further to provide against collisions between them and the whites, a strip of land, twenty miles wide was laid off and reserved, upon which it was the intention that neither should settle. These arrangements were all made through the military, in whose charge the Indians have been ever since; this Department having had no agent over them, except for a short period during the present year, one having been appointed in consequence of an application from the proper quarter to relieve the military of the duty. Before, however, this agent could reach the country of the Indians and communicate with them, a small number, without any well ascertained cause, again broke out into hostilities and committed several murders and destroyed the property of some of our citizens. At the time of these unfortunate occurrences, this Department was engaged in maturing a plan for the emigration of these Indians, who had no right to remain permanently where they were, and could not much longer be permitted to do so without preventing the settlement of a valuable portion of the State of Florida, and incurring the risk of a collision between them and the whites who were settling in their neighborhood. And, considering their own future welfare and best interests, the sooner they were removed and permanently settled with their brethren in the west the better. With the view of convincing them of this fact, and of using all possible means to induce them to emigrate peaceably—and thus to avoid the expense and possible bloodshed of a resort to coercive measures—it was determined to offer a gratuity to each individual who would do so, and to send to them a delegation of the western Seminoles, who had manifested much and commendable interest on the subject of their removal, and offered the services of a suitable number of their most intelligent men for the purpose, to satisfy them of the superiority of their position west, and the advantages of emigration. This plan was accordingly adopted, to be carried out under the supervision of the Indian agent and the military, as will be seen from the accompanying letter of instructions issued by yourself and the honorable Secretary of War jointly, marked A. On further consideration, however, it being believed that under the changed state of things, the service of the Indian agent could be of very little, if of any use, and that all the measures, of whatever character, necessary to effect the removal of the Indians, could best be conducted by the military alone, the appointment of the agent was revoked on the 28th of September last. The entire control having thus reverted back to the military, that department will, no doubt, report the result of the measures adopted for the removal of the Indians, so far as put in operation, as well as state what has been done towards punishing those concerned in the outrages referred to, and to prevent a repetition of such occurrences so long as the Indians may remain in Florida. I may add, however, that, according to the latest in-

formation, there seems to be a fair prospect of effecting their emigration peaceably at an early day, in which the services of the delegation of their western brethren, sent by this Department, will no doubt prove in no inconsiderable degree instrumental.

In the early part of the season, a serious outbreak took place on the part of some of the Indians in Texas, who, before they could be checked, ravaged an extensive frontier along the Rio Grande, nearly down to the Gulf coast, committing a number murders, making captive several women and children, and destroying and carrying off a considerable amount of property. This occurrence was wholly unexpected, and, so far as known, without any sufficient cause, other than the restless and predatory character of the Indians. Our only agent in that quarter had exerted himself with energy and success in settling slight difficulties, which had previously occurred, and in keeping them quiet and peaceable; and from his reports there was every reason to believe that they would continue so disposed. The proper measures were taken by the military, with their usual promptitude, to extend protection to the settlements, and to prevent a recurrence of the outrage. The Indians were soon driven back into their own country, and, under the salutary effect of chastisement inflicted on some portions of them, have since remained quiet and peaceable. The Camanches, who are the largest, and generally the most troublesome of the tribes, and who are supposed to have been principally concerned in the outbreak, have recently, on the occasion of filling the vacancy occasioned by the death of their principal chief, with the full concurrence of their new chief, manifested their sense of the folly and temerity of being guilty of acts that would bring them into collision with the Government as such a course was always followed by severe punishment, and would eventually terminate in their destruction. The new chief himself, and another individual, came in as delegates to the commanding officer of the troops in Texas, to inform him of their determination to abstain from hostilities, and, as far as possible, to prevent any members of their tribe from committing depredations upon our citizens; but from the character and peculiar situation of the Indians in Texas, the entire want on the part of the General Government of any jurisdiction or control over the country occupied by them, and from a proper supply of local agents to aid in the management of our Indian affairs in that State not having been authorized, this condition of things cannot, with any degree of certainty, be expected to continue for any length of time; and this Department should not be held accountable for any disturbances or difficulties that may occur, unless new and more effective arrangements be soon made. The anomalous position of these Indians, and the necessity of our relations with them being placed upon a different footing, have been referred to, and fully explained in preceding annual reports from this office; and I would earnestly, but respectfully, again invoke attention to the subject.

Texas, on coming into the Union, retained control and jurisdiction over all her public domain, so that none of the laws or regulations of our Indian system are in force in her limits. The Department has, therefore, no power to prevent intrusions into the country occupied by the Indians, or any trade or intercourse with them, of however improper a character they may be, or however likely to excite jealousy on the part of the Indians, and collisions and difficulties between them and our citizens. Nor is it authorized to encourage the Indians to settle down in any particular section or sections of country, with a view to civilizing them and improving their condition.

Until a particular district or districts shall have been set apart for their permanent residence, within which the General Government will have the same power to prevent intrusions, and to regulate trade and intercourse with them, as it has in regard to our other Indians on territory of the United States; and until a suitable number and description of agents, shall have been authorized for them, the Department should not be held at all responsible for the proper and efficient management of our Indian affairs in Texas. Annexed, marked B and C, are copies of a report made, on the 7th of March last, by the special and only agent of this Department in Texas, to the late General Worth, then commanding the troops in that State, and of a communication addressed to this office on the 12th of May last, by Capt. H. B. Catlett, long a resident of Texas, and well acquainted with the Indians, which are respectfully submitted as containing the best information in the power of the Department to furnish on the subject of our Indian relations in that State, and the measures necessary to place them upon a better and more satisfactory footing.

So far as information has reached this office, the Indians of the prairies, who infest the two routes to our possessions west of the Rocky mountains, the one by the Platte, and the other by the Arkansas rivers, have been much less troublesome during the past season than heretofore. With the exception of one or two comparatively unimportant instances, they have abstained from attacks and depredations upon our emigrants; and in some cases, on the Arkansas route, have shown them acts of kindness. They have been influenced in their general good conduct, however, by the expectation of some reward from the Government, and not from fear; as they have not as yet felt our power, and know nothing of our greatness and resources.

These Indians, who have so long roamed free and uncontrolled over the immense prairies, extending westward to the Rocky mountains, and who consider the whole country as their own, have regarded with much jealousy the passing of so many of our people through it, without any recognition of their rights, or any compensation for the privilege. The great destruction of the buffalo by the emigrants has also caused much dissatisfaction among them, as it has more or less interfered with their success in the chase, and, if continued, must, at no late day, so far diminish this chief resource of their subsistence and trade, as not only to entail upon them great suffering, but it will bring different tribes into competition in their hunting expeditions, and lead to bloody collisions and exterminating wars between them, in which some of our border Indians will become more or less involved, and the peace and security of our frontier may thus be seriously disturbed. It is also much to be feared, that the unfavorable feelings engendered by the circumstances named may, at an early period, break out into open hostilities on the part of the Indians, which would be attended with serious consequences to our emigrants, or compel the Government, at an enormous expense, to afford them protection by the employment of a large military force on both routes. Under these circumstances, it has been deemed expedient and advisable to take measures to bring about a proper understanding with the Indians, which will secure their good will, prevent collisions and strife among them, by obligating each tribe to remain as much as possible within their respective districts of country, and providing that, where disputes or difficulties occur, they shall be submitted to the Government, and the Indians abide by its decision. Instructions have accordingly been given to hold a

treaty with the different tribes, making provision for the accomplishment of these objects, and stipulating that, for the unrestricted right of way through their country, for their good conduct towards our emigrants, and for the destruction of game unavoidably committed by them, they shall be allowed a reasonable compensation annually; to consist principally of presents of goods, stock, and agricultural implements, with assistance to instruct and aid them in cultivating the soil, and in other kindred pursuits, so that they may thus be enabled to sustain themselves when the buffalo and other game shall have so far disappeared as no longer to furnish them with an adequate means of subsistence. It is also intended to bring in a delegation from the different tribes, for the purpose of visiting some of the more populous portions of the country, in order that they may acquire some knowledge of our greatness and strength, which will make a salutary impression upon them, and through them upon their brethren; and which will no doubt tend, in no slight degree, to influence them to continue peaceful relations towards the Government and our citizens. It was at first supposed that the negotiations might be held this fall, and the delegation be brought in early next spring; but more recent and better information has led to the conclusion that the Indians cannot be assembled for the purpose until some time next season.

Since the establishment of the new Territory of Minnesota, the attention of a large number of our enterprising citizens has been directed to that quarter, in consequence of the fine climate, and the richness and fertility of the lands on the Mississippi, and within a wide sweep on both sides of it; by the superabundant water-power afforded by that river and some of its tributaries, and by the superior advantages offered by the extensive forests of pine, convenient to water transportation, for a large and lucrative trade in lumber. There has consequently been considerable emigration there during the past year, and it will, no doubt, go on increasing annually, so that in a very few years the population will be sufficient to justify a demand for admission into the Union as a State.

The Indian title has been extinguished to but a comparatively small portion of the country within the limits of the territory, lying principally on the east side of the Mississippi; being bounded on the north by a line extending east, from opposite the mouth of the Crow-wing river, till it intersects the western boundary line of Wisconsin, at about $92^{\circ} 15'$ west longitude; on the east by that boundary, from the above point to the head waters of the St. Croix river, and down it to the Mississippi; and on the west and southwest by the latter river. The country above the northern boundary belongs to the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, though many of those Indians still remain, by sufferance, on the lands south of it, which they ceded to the United States by treaties made with them, in 1837 and 1842. They are under obligations to remove from them whenever required by the President, which should be at an early day, as their longer residence there is incompatible with the tranquillity and interests of our citizens, who suffer annoyance and loss from their depredations. And in view of the rapid spread of our population in that direction, and of the permanent welfare of the Indians, it may be expedient, at an early period, to renew the effort unsuccessfully made in 1847, to purchase all their remaining lands east of the Mississippi, up to our northern boundary, and provide for their removal and concentration west of that river; where, confined within narrow limits, they will be compelled, as the game becomes scarce, to give up the chase, and their wild and unsettled mode of life, and to

resort to agriculture and other civilized pursuits. In such a situation, too, the Government, aided by the zealous missionaries of our various religious denominations, would have a far better opportunity effectively to bring to bear upon them its policy and measures for the civilization of our Indian tribes, by means of manual labor schools, and instruction and aid in agricultural and mechanical arts.

The desirable portions of that part of Minnesota, east of the Mississippi, to which the Indian title has been extinguished, were already so far occupied by a white population as to seem to render it absolutely necessary to obtain, without delay, a cession from the Indians on the west side of that river, for the accommodation of our citizens emigrating to that quarter; a large portion of whom would probably be compelled to precipitate themselves on that side of the Mississippi, and on the Indians' lands, which would inevitably lead to collisions and bloodshed, unless the Indians were purchased out and removed. These lands are owned by the Sioux, who are a wild and untamable people, and whom, after years of unremitted efforts, and the expenditure of large sums of money, the Government has not been able, to any beneficial extent, to induce to resort to agriculture, or to adopt any of the habits of civilized life. They are the most restless, reckless, and mischievous Indians of the northwest; their passion for war and the chase seems unlimited and unassuageable; and so long as they remain where they are, they must be a source of constant annoyance and danger to our citizens, as well as to the Indians of our northern colony; between some of whom (the Chippewas) and themselves, there exists a hereditary feud, frequently leading to collisions and bloodshed, which disturbs the peace and tranquillity of the frontier, and must greatly interfere with the welfare of the Indians of that colony, and with efforts of the Government to effect their civilization. The game having become scarce in that portion of their country desired, many are leaving it and emigrating westward, where the toils of the chase are better rewarded. It is, therefore, comparatively valueless to them, though much of it on the Mississippi and Minnesota or St. Peter's rivers, is rich and fertile, and capable of sustaining a dense civilized population; and, when open to settlement, will soon be occupied.

In view of the facts and circumstances thus briefly detailed, it was deemed advisable, as soon as possible after the Department became fully acquainted with them, to make an effort to obtain a cession of the lands referred to; and two commissioners were accordingly appointed for that purpose in August last—one of them, the excellent and efficient Governor of the territory, who is ex officio superintendent of Indian affairs, and the other a distinguished citizen of ability, peculiarly fitted for the discharge of such a duty, from his having held a similar position as Governor of the Territory of Iowa, and being consequently well acquainted with our Indian affairs in that quarter, and especially our relations with, and the character, habits, and disposition of, the Indians with whom the negotiations were to be held. A copy of the instructions given to the commissioners, which will more fully show the necessity and policy of the measure, is herewith submitted, marked D.

On repairing to the Indian country, the commissioners found that most of the Indians had left for their fall hunt, in consequence of which, and other causes of difficulty, which may hereafter be obviated, they succeeded in effecting only a partial compliance with their instructions. Their efforts resulted in a treaty for the purchase, on reasonable terms, of a tract of country lying immediately on the west side of the Mississippi, and

estimated to contain about three hundred and eighty-four thousand acres, which was set apart for the half-breeds of the tribe by the treaty of July 15, 1830. It is represented to be valuable for agricultural and other purposes, and will, no doubt, at once be occupied by a large influx of our hardy and enterprising emigrants. The necessity and importance of this purchase fully justify the expense that has been incurred, and the treaty will be laid before you at the proper time, to be submitted to the President and the Senate for their consideration.

The situation of some of the smaller border tribes, west of the Mississippi, requires the attention of the Government. Most, if not all of them, possess an extent of country, which, however, desirable originally, with reference to their maintaining themselves by the chase, now that game has become scarce, is not only of no use, but a positive disadvantage to them; as it has a tendency to keep them from concentrating and applying themselves with any regular or systematic effort to agriculture and other industrial pursuits. They are also thus thrown into detached and isolated positions, which renders them more liable to be attacked and plundered, as is too frequently the case, by larger and stronger tribes; and from which they would be safe if brought nearer together, so that they could aid and sustain one another, and protection could be more conveniently and promptly extended to them by the Government. Another good result of their being more concentrated would be, that the good example and more prosperous state of those more advanced in civilization, would exert a powerful influence upon those less so, and stimulate them to exert themselves to produce a like change in their condition and circumstances; while, at the same time, it would enable the Government, without any enlargement in its scale of operations, or any increase of expenditure, to extend to a greater number the benefits of its policy and measures for their civilization and improvement.

Some of the tribes referred to have themselves become impressed with the disadvantages of their present position, and have made known to the Government their desire to dispose of their surplus lands, and to unite themselves together; the amount to be allowed them for their lands to be held or used as a fund to be applied in various ways towards improving their condition; and a like arrangement could, no doubt, be made with most, if not all, the other tribes similarly situated. Some of them are very destitute, having no annuities or other means to encourage or enable them to endeavor to effect a change in their condition as hunters and vagabonds; and as the diminution of game within their reach has rendered the avails of the chase—the only means of sustaining themselves—very uncertain and precarious, they are frequently subjected to great hardship and suffering; while, both in their own country and in their hunting expeditions, they are exposed to much injury from attacks of other and larger tribes. In view of this state of things, I would respectfully recommend the adoption, at the earliest practicable period, of the proper measures for bringing them nearer together, in positions where they will be more safe, and which will afford greater inducements and facilities for effecting a radical and favorable change in their condition and circumstances. The dictates of humanity, and a wise and enlightened policy, alike call for the adoption of such a course; and I would, therefore, suggest that provision be made for the employment and expenses of commissioners to visit all the tribes so situated, with the view of entering into arrangements for the purpose.

A prominent feature in this course of policy should be the carrying out

of an excellent suggestion in the annual report of my predecessor of last year, that the smaller tribes scattered along the frontier, above the Delawares and Kickapoos, embracing the Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri, the Iowas, the Omahas, the Ottoes and Missouriias, the Poncas, and, if possible, the Pawnees, should be moved down among the tribes of our southern colony, where suitable situations may be found for them, in connection with other Indians of kindred stock. Such an arrangement, in connection with the change which must inevitably take place in the position of the Sioux, would, as remarked by my predecessor, open a wide-sweep of country between our northern and southern Indian colonies, for the expansion and egress of our white population westward, and thus save our colonized tribes from being injuriously pressed upon, if not eventually overrun and exterminated, before they are sufficiently advanced in civilization, and in the attainment of its resources and advantages, to be able to maintain themselves in close proximity with, or in the midst of, a white population.

Appended, marked E, is a copy of the ratification, by the Stockbridge and Munsee Indians of Wisconsin, of the amendment made by the Senate to the treaty with them of November 24th, 1848, by which amendment they were allowed the additional sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, in consideration of old claims which they had for some years been urging upon the Government—five thousand of the amount to be paid down on the execution of the ratification, and the remainder in ten annual instalments, to commence when the Indians shall have selected and removed to their new homes. The five thousand has accordingly been paid, together with the sixteen thousand five hundred dollars, stipulated in the 5th article of the treaty, “to enable them to settle their affairs, obtain necessaries, and make provision for establishing themselves in a new home;” the fourteen thousand five hundred, in the sixth article, for the individual improvements on the lands ceded to the United States; and the three thousand, in the eleventh article, on account of the expenses incurred by the sachem and head men in attending to the business of the tribe since the year 1843.

By the amendment to the treaty, the President is required, within two years from the ratification of that instrument, to procure a quantity of land west of the Mississippi for a new home for those Indians—to embrace not less than seventy-two sections—the Indians to be consulted as to its location. A desire having been expressed by them to send an exploring party to examine the country west of the Mississippi, with reference to making a selection, the Department acceded to it, and sought to make them acquainted with its views as to the points which should be visited, and to furnish them with copies of instructions that were sent to the proper agents to aid and assist them in their explorations. Without waiting to learn the result of their application, or the views of the Government, they sent off a party, who went no further than the vicinity of Fort Snelling, and did not visit either of the points contemplated by the Government. The first information the Department had of this improper and unauthorized course was received from two of the party who came to this city to make known, in connection with other business, that the Indians preferred a location at one of the three points, all on the Mississippi river and in the neighborhood of Fort Snelling, or not far from that post. This alleged preference could not be acceded to, as the lands at the points designated belonged to the Sioux Indians, and, if purchased by the Government, they would be required for the white population emigrating to Minnesota; lying, as they do, in what must soon be the

central, and probably the most populous, portion of that territory; and because, if located at either of those points, they would inevitably soon be surrounded and pressed upon by such a population, and thus have to encounter again the same troubles and difficulties to which they have for some years been subjected in their present position, and which finally and necessarily led to the treaty for the cession of their lands in Wisconsin, and their removal elsewhere, as the only practicable remedy for the disadvantages and evils under which they were suffering. In fact, they had nearly as well seek to remain where they are, which would be impracticable and contrary to their welfare and best interests. To locate them at any point between the country of the Winnebagoes and Menomonees, on the Upper Mississippi, or its vicinity, and the Kickapoos and Delawares in the neighborhood of the Kansas river, south of the Missouri, would also be inconsistent with the policy of keeping open a wide space between the northern and southern Indian colonies, as an outlet for our white population. It is believed that a suitable and comfortable home can be procured for them in either of the sections named, and measures will be adopted to have them examined under proper circumstances, and a selection made as early next year as practicable.

The sums stipulated in the second, third, and ninth clauses of the 4th article of the treaty with the Menomonees, of October 18th, 1848, viz., thirty thousand dollars "to enable them (the chiefs) to arrange and settle the affairs of their tribe, preparatory to their removal to the country set apart for them" west of the Mississippi; forty thousand for distribution among the persons of mixed blood connected with the tribe; and five thousand as a compensation for the individual improvements on the lands ceded to the United States, have been remitted and properly paid.

The seventh article of the treaty permits the Menomonees, if they so desire, to remain on the ceded lands for two years from its date; but as an inducement to their early removal, the sixth article provides for the sending of an exploring party, at the expense of the United States, to examine their new country, with reference to determining in advance the best points for their permanent settlement and the making of other preliminary arrangements. Anxious for the removal of these Indians from amidst the unfavorable influences now surrounding and operating upon them, and for their early and comfortable settlement in the country selected for them, where a better opportunity will be afforded for their civilization and improvement, the Department earnestly sought to induce them to send the exploring party during the past season, in the hope that the Indians could be persuaded to emigrate in time for the agricultural portion of them to put in their next year's crops. But the efforts to effect this object failed, mainly, it is believed, in consequence of the improper interference of interested individuals, whose interest and purpose it is to detain the Indians as long as possible where they are; in order to continue to obtain as much as they can of the moneys annually payable to them by the Government.

Similar interference in regard to the disposition to be made by the Indians of the thirty thousand dollars, to enable them to arrange their affairs preparatory to removal, caused much difficulty and perplexity in regard to the payment of that fund. The unfavorable effects thus produced on the minds of the Indians, tended to dispose them to act contrary to their treaty obligations, and caused much excitement, which it was apprehended might lead to difficulties between them and some of our citizens, who had im-

properly gone into their territory, or were disposed to do so, in anticipation of their removal. It was therefore deemed proper to send a military force there to prevent any such results, and to convince all parties of the determination of the Government to cause the stipulations of the treaty, especially in regard to the removal of the Indians, to be properly and promptly carried out. This measure has been attended with excellent effects, and the Indians have promised to act in good faith, and to send off the exploring party early in the spring.

The emigration of the Menomonees and Stockbridges, and the removal of the Chippewas in Wisconsin, to their own country north, will substantially relieve that State of her Indian population; and if the Chippewas be purchased out east of the Mississippi, and concentrated beyond that river, there will remain but few Indians this side of it; and the great policy of transplanting the Indian tribes from the midst of our white population and within State limits, where they were fast declining, to new countries specially set apart for them, where they will have an opportunity to increase in numbers, and to improve in character and resources, will in effect then have been accomplished.

Within the last year, forty-four of the few Creek Indians remaining in Alabama, and five hundred and forty-seven Choctaws from the State of Mississippi, have removed to the country of their brethren west, leaving about two thousand five hundred of the latter people still east of the Mississippi river, notwithstanding the great exertions and the large expenditures that have been made for some years past in endeavoring to effect their emigration. These Indians were made citizens by the laws of the States where they are, and the effort to remove them was an obligation voluntarily assumed by the Government for their benefit and the advantage of those States. New arrangements have been adopted for a final effort to effect that object, which, it is hoped, will be attended with success. All that can be induced to go, will probably be removed within another year, at the end of which all further proceedings and expenses should be terminated, and those that shall then remain; be permitted to do so in the quiet enjoyment of their rights as citizens.

The Department has not yet succeeded in finding a suitable home west of the Mississippi for the Catawba Indians residing in North Carolina. They prefer a residence among the Chickasaws, to whom application was made to receive them, but to which there has been no final answer. Proper efforts will be made to carry out next season, if practicable, the law of July 29th, 1848, providing for their removal.

In consequence of circumstances of an adverse but temporary character, a portion of the Winnebagoes, who removed from Iowa to the upper Mississippi last year, became dissatisfied with their new country, and have endeavored to return to their old residence; which, however, has been prevented by the activity of the troops at Fort Snelling. When they shall have become more accustomed to their new position and circumstances, they will no doubt be satisfied and commence to improve, which is already the case with a considerable portion of them. Only about two-thirds of the tribe removed to their new country; the remainder having broke away about the time of starting, or on the route, and fled—some into Wisconsin, and the others into Iowa. The latter were joined by some renegade Sacs and Foxes and Potawatomes—which tribes formerly resided in Iowa—and have been concerned with them in committing depredations upon our frontier citizens.

As soon as the fact became known, a military force, upon the application of this Department, was sent to disperse and drive them to their proper homes; and efforts will be made to induce or compel the Winnebagoes that fled to Wisconsin also to join their brethren; and it is hoped that within the next year all will be permanently brought together, under comfortable and favorable circumstances, in their new country.

The Cherokees have just cause of complaint at the continued delay in concluding and carrying out the settlement with them required by the treaty of 1846. In consideration of the circumstances under which that treaty was made, and the important objects sought and accomplished by it—in allaying the feuds and difficulties which had for some years so deeply afflicted those Indians, and in providing for the arrangement of various important matters in controversy between them and the Government, and they having generally observed their obligations under it in good faith—a liberal spirit should be evinced towards them, and the settlement made, and the amount due to them paid over, with as little further delay as practicable. The whole subject was presented for the consideration and final action of Congress in a report from this office on the 10th of May, 1848.

A considerable amount will be due to that portion of the Cherokees, known as the old or original settlers west of the Mississippi, who, as a separate and distinct community, have incurred liabilities of various kinds, and, among others, for valuable and efficient services, rendered them in prosecuting their claims against the Government; and which, it is well known, were greatly instrumental in effecting the recognition of those claims, and the large allowances in consideration of them. In the treaty, as negotiated, a provision was inserted, setting apart a portion of the sum to be awarded them, to enable them to meet such liabilities; but, for some cause not known, it was struck out by the Senate; so that the whole amount is now liable, according to the naked terms of the treaty as it stands, to per capita distribution. Unless some change in this particular be in some way authorized, the just and honorable intentions of the Indians themselves will be defeated, and great injustice done to their creditors; which should by all means be avoided.

The usual exhibit of the funds held in trust for various tribes, and the manner in which they are invested or held, together with the annual income thereon, will be found in the accompanying statements F and G.

The expenditures during the last fiscal year, under the various appropriations made by Congress for this branch of the public service, cannot be stated until the accounts of the different superintendents and agents shall have been finally settled by the accounting officers. They will, however, be shown by the usual report of the appropriations and expenditures annually made to Congress by the Second Comptroller of the Treasury.

The interesting inquiries directed by the act of March 3d, 1847, respecting the history, and the numbers, and other statistics of the different tribes, continue to be prosecuted with as much vigor and rapidity as the nature of the subjects, and the limited facilities at the command of the Department, will admit. Results continue to be developed, not only of great interest to the historian, and to all who feel any concern for the condition and destiny of these singular and interesting people, but of much practical value to those whose duty it may hereafter become to take any part in the administration of their affairs and our policy towards them; thus demonstrating the wisdom of Congress in directing a measure which had been too long delayed.

So full an exposition is given of the nature and object of the inquiries, in the annual report of last year, and in the original memorial of the various distinguished gentlemen who called the attention of Congress to the subject, and the report of this office to that thereon, as to render it unnecessary to enter into further particulars on this occasion.

Among the reports herewith submitted will be found an elaborate and able one from Governor Ramsey, ex officio superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Territory of Minnesota, containing an interesting historical account of the Indians in that quarter—comprising some of our most noted and powerful tribes—and referring to a state of affairs, existing on our northern boundary, in the region of the Red river of the north, which has heretofore been presented to the notice of the Department, but not in so full and circumstantial a manner.

The agents of the Hudson's Bay Company, it is represented, carry on an extensive traffic with the Indians on our side of the line, contrary to our laws, and much to the detriment of our own citizens engaged in the Indian trade in that quarter; as the former enjoy superior advantages, from being protected at different points by military force; having no duties to pay on the articles of foreign manufacture which enter largely into that description of trade, and, from their making use, in their dealings, of that malign but effective agent with the Indians, ardent spirits, the introduction of which into the Indian country is prohibited by severe penal enactments. In their operations, the services of a numerous class of persons, known as Bois Brulés, or half-breeds, living principally on the British side of the line, are extensively brought into requisition; and they are in this way, no doubt, enabled to communicate more freely and advantageously with our Indians, of whom these persons are generally, in part, descendants and relatives. These people are also guilty of destroying, annually, immense quantities of buffalo and other game on our side of the line, for their own purposes and those of the company, which gives great dissatisfaction to our Indians, and must eventually prove of serious injury to them, by the extermination, in a few years, of this their chief source of subsistence. If permitted to continue, it must ere long lead to collisions with our Indians and bloodshed. Measures ought to be promptly adopted to put an end to it, and the other evils referred to, connected with the operations of the Hudson's Bay Company, along and within our borders.

Considerable and increasing intercourse and trade are annually carried on, through the Indian country, by residents on the British side of the line, with our settlements on the upper Mississippi, which requires some governmental supervision to prevent any infraction of the laws regulating trade and intercourse with our Indians. No person should be permitted to enter our territory for the purpose, without a written permission from some proper officer, and a reasonable guarantee for good conduct, and a due observance of our laws and regulations, while travelling in the Indian country.

On representations from this Department, a military expedition was sent during the past season to the Red river region, to inquire into all these matters, the result of which is not yet known, as it has but recently returned, and no report has yet been received at this office in relation to it.

No provision having been made by Congress for the appointment of agents to reside among the Indians of Oregon, four sub-agents were last year appointed for that purpose, under the authority of the fifth section of the act of June 30th, 1834, providing "for the organization of the Department

of Indian affairs," to whom, as well as the Governor and ex officio superintendent of Indian affairs for the territory, instructions were given to report fully in relation to the numbers, location, character, and habits of the Indians, and all other particulars necessary to enable the Department to understand what should be the nature of our relations with, and to frame some definite course of policy to be pursued towards them. The only information received is contained in the accompanying extract, from a communication of the 9th of April last, from the Governor to the Secretary of State, marked H.

A similar course had necessarily to be adopted this year, with reference to the Indians in New Mexico and California; no agents for which having been provided by Congress, the Department was entirely without the means of obtaining any information respecting, or of managing our relations with, those Indians. Three sub-agents were therefore appointed under the same authority; and by virtue of a provision in the fourth section of that act, empowering the President, "whenever he may judge it expedient, to discontinue any Indian agency, or transfer the same from the place or tribe designated by law, to such other place or tribe as the public service may require," two agencies were transferred from the upper Missouri river, to positions of greater importance in New Mexico and California. These arrangements were rendered the more necessary in consequence of the obligation imposed by the late treaty with Mexico, to exercise such a supervision over the tribes within our borders, as to prevent them from going into her territory and committing depredations, and inflicting other injuries upon her citizens. They are, however, wholly inadequate to the object, and it is considered very important that provision be made by Congress, at the earliest practicable period, for the appointment of a suitable number of full agents in the three territories mentioned; to meet the expenses of conducting our relations with the Indians within them, and for the extension of the laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, to California and New Mexico, where they are not considered to be in force, having been passed prior to their acquisition.

I would respectfully call attention to the present defective and inefficient organization of this branch of the public service. However well adapted to the condition of things in 1834, when it was prescribed, it is incompatible with the present state of affairs, and altogether inadequate to enable the Department to discharge, in a proper manner, the enlarged and more complicated trusts and duties now devolving upon it. The positions of many of the tribes have been materially changed; the number west of the Mississippi greatly increased by emigration from east of that river; our intercourse and relations with those in that quarter much enlarged by extension to other and more distant tribes; and our transactions with many of them multiplied, and rendered more important, by stipulations in new treaties; while a large number have been added to our jurisdiction in Texas, Oregon, California, and New Mexico.

One of the most serious defects in the present system is the want of a sufficient number of superintendents to have charge of particular districts of country, and to exercise a general supervision over the Indians and the agents within them. The operations of the Department are carried on at so great a distance, that it is essential to have such a class of officers as the depositories of more or less discretionary authority to meet cases of emer-

gency, requiring attention before the Department can be communicated with, and its decision or instructions received; and they can be of great assistance in the local application of the general measures and policy of the Government with respect to our Indian tribes. As inspectors and supervisors of the conduct and acts of the agents, they can aid greatly in preventing abuses, and infusing energy and promptitude in the execution of their duties; while, having no immediate connection with any particular tribe, they can be relied on as the sources of more impartial and correct information in regard to all, than can generally be expected from the agents themselves; influenced as they are more or less likely to be, by feelings of partiality for the Indians with which they are immediately connected, and for whose good conduct and welfare they are to a considerable extent responsible.

There are, nominally, five superintendents of Indian affairs; but two of these are local agents for particular tribes, and are required, without any increase of compensation, to perform the duties of superintendents in addition to those of agents, and are therefore called acting superintendents. Two others, the Governors of Oregon and Minnesota, are ex-officio superintendents; having the duties of an officer of that grade to perform for the Indians of those territories, for which they are allowed—the one fifteen hundred, and the other one thousand dollars per annum—in addition to their salaries as governors. There is but one full and independent superintendent, who is located at St. Louis.

The duties of agent and superintendent are not only entirely incompatible in themselves, but the former, if duly attended to, leave too little time and opportunity for the proper performance of the latter; while it is unequal and unjust to impose upon an agent, having, as such, the same duties and responsibilities as other agents, and no more compensation, the additional, onerous, and responsible functions of superintendent. The impropriety of such an arrangement, and the advantages of having separate and independent superintendencies, are so clearly and forcibly stated in a report made by my predecessor on the 30th of December, 1846, that I am induced to quote his remarks upon the subject, which are as follows: "However great the zeal and ability at the seat of Government, and however strong the desire here, to administer the affairs of this Department in a prompt, efficient, and economical manner, a proper number of intelligent, upright, firm, and able superintendents would, in consequence of the great distance of many of the operations of the Department, greatly contribute to this desirable end. The agents and sub-agents are insensibly partial in their representations respecting the condition and affairs of the tribes in their charge; they naturally wish to show as favorable a state of things as possible, in order that they may appear as well or better than those in other agencies. The superintendents, acting as inspectors for all the tribes within their jurisdiction, are the sources of impartial and well arranged and digested information, upon which the Department could rely and base many of its most important measures. They are also safer and better depositories for the discretionary authority which has sometimes to be conferred, in matters respecting which the Department cannot give precise and specific instructions, because all the circumstances and contingencies cannot be foreseen and provided for at the seat of Government. An immediate and rigid supervision also tends to make the agents and sub-agents careful, prompt, and exact in the performance of their duties. An agent of a tribe acting as superintendent is too much confined by his local duties as agent to do justice to the higher and

more important duties of superintendent. The independent and superior position of superintendent is requisite, in order that he may have that standing, authority, and influence which will cause his directions to be cheerfully, promptly, and properly obeyed. With a sufficient number of superintendents, they could make the greater part of the heavy disbursements themselves, or immediately superintend their being made by the agents, and thus the superintendents and agents would be checks upon each other." See Doc. No. 70, House of Representatives, 2d Sess., 29th Congress.

Concurring in these views, and being fully impressed with the entire inadequacy of the existing arrangement as to superintendencies, to secure that degree of efficiency and promptitude important in all branches of the public service, but essentially requisite in this, I would respectfully recommend in lieu of it, that authority be given for the establishment of seven full and independent superintendencies; four for the Indians east of the rocky mountains, including those of Texas—to be located at such points, and to embrace such districts of country and tribes, as the President may find to be expedient and proper—and one for each of the Territories of Oregon, California, and New Mexico. This would supersede the necessity of governors of territories acting as superintendents, to which there are to some extent objections similar to those against agents acting in that capacity, as well as others that might be mentioned; besides the fact that the location of the executive of a territory is not always the proper one for the superintendent, and that that arrangement is but a temporary one at best—terminating when the territory becomes a State without any equivalent provision being made, and always producing changes inconvenient, embarrassing, and injurious.

The present arrangement, as to agents, is also defective, and an additional number is required for the large bodies of Indians added to our jurisdiction in Texas, New Mexico, California, and Oregon. As already stated, no reports have been received from the sub-agents appointed more than a year ago for Oregon, and time sufficient has not elapsed to enable those sent during the present season to California and New Mexico to inform themselves, and to report fully, in relation to the numbers and distribution of the Indians in those territories. The Department cannot therefore, at present, designate the number of agents required in that quarter, but hopes to be able to do so before the close of the ensuing session of Congress. Four for each territory have heretofore been recommended, and it is believed would not be too many; and as it is of the utmost importance that we have an adequate number of active and efficient men among their Indians, especially in New Mexico and California, I would respectfully repeat that recommendation. If authorized, and they prove too many; those not required would be promptly discharged on that fact being ascertained; and if too few, the number can hereafter be increased on the Department being able to lay before Congress such information as will show it to be necessary. There should be at least two full agents for the Indians in Texas, and authority should be given for the employment there, and in the territories mentioned, of the necessary interpreters, and blacksmiths to do such smith work as the Indians require, for those who, by their good conduct, may entitle themselves to this favor; the conferring of which tends to create a sense of dependence upon the Government, and to show its kind and liberal disposition towards the Indians, and thus to inspire them with respect and good will towards it and our citizens.

For the Indians on the frontier and elsewhere, under our more immediate supervision, and with whom we have numerous and complex treaty stipulations, there are now employed nine agents and twelve sub-agents; the former receiving salaries of fifteen hundred dollars, and the latter of seven hundred and fifty, per annum. The whole number of agents authorized by law is eleven, which includes the two transferred to New Mexico and California; the law providing for the appointment of sub-agents is unrestricted in its provisions, and authorizes as many as the President may deem proper to meet the wants and exigencies of the service. The number of full agents being limited by law, when changes have taken place in the positions of tribes, or otherwise rendering the services of an additional agent necessary, the only alternative was the appointment of a sub-agent, however important and responsible the position, so that there is now a disproportion between the two classes; and in some cases there are sub-agents performing duties equal, if not greater, in extent and responsibility, than those of some of the agents, while they receive only half the amount of compensation. The propriety of employing sub-agents was much greater when the act of 1834 was passed than now; many of the smaller tribes being then much more scattered, and occupying isolated positions; whereas, they are now so situated, that in many cases two or more can be grouped together, and be included in the same agency. Sub-agencies then generally embraced fewer Indians, and less responsible duties, while the locations were pleasanter and more desirable, being in the vicinity of or nearer a civilized population, and affording advantages of schools and social intercourse, and opportunities of deriving benefit from other pursuits when not occupied by official duties. They are now differently situated, and there is far less reason for any discrimination either in title or compensation. On a proper classification of the Indians, and arrangement of the agencies for them, there would, in most instances, be none. Sub-agencies should, therefore, generally be dispensed with; and where the number of Indians is limited, and the duties less in extent, importance, and responsibility, such cases, with but one or two exceptions, should constitute minor agencies, with a less grade of salary, proportioned to the relative difference between them and what should properly be full agencies. In reference to this point, I would respectfully refer to the pertinent and forcible remarks contained in the accompanying annual report of the Superintendent at St. Louis, in regard to the importance of a re-arrangement of the agencies within his district. Nor, in justice to him, can I omit calling attention to his observations respecting the inadequacy of the compensation allowed the superintendent at that place, compared with the extent of his duties, and that allowed to other agents of the Government, having no greater, if as much, labor and responsibility. The situation is, in fact, less desirable on many accounts, than that of an agent who receives the same annual allowance, and has a house furnished him, with the privilege of cultivating as much land as he chooses; by which he can in a great measure sustain himself and family, without any other cost than labor; while the duties of superintendent are far more onerous and responsible, and he has to provide his own house, and to purchase all the necessities of life in an expensive market. An officer of this class, therefore, would under any circumstances be clearly entitled to an allowance of at least five hundred dollars more per annum than an agent; and at St. Louis the sum named in the report of the superintendent would not be greater than a fair

and just compensation for the heavy, important, and responsible duties imposed upon him:

Adopting generally the mode of classifying the different tribes within our more immediate supervision, which the Superintendent at St. Louis recommends for those within his superintendency, and which is believed to be the best and most appropriate that can be resorted to under present circumstances; and having in view the removal of the Menomonees and Stockbridges from Wisconsin, west of the Mississippi; the concentration of the Lake Superior Chippewas on that river; and the buying out of the Sioux upon it and their removal further west; all of which will make new and different arrangements as to agencies necessary; there would be required, exclusive of Texas, New Mexico, California, and Oregon, about twelve full agencies, five minor agencies, and from two to three sub-agencies for small and isolated tribes. If a sufficient number of agents be provided for those territories, so that the two transferred last spring to New Mexico and California, can be transferred back, there would therefore be only one required, in addition to the number now in service, for our frontier Indians; and this would in any event be necessary, either with reference to the contemplated change in the position of the Mississippi Sioux, or in that of the Chippewas of Lake Superior; while instead of the twelve sub-agents now in service, three with five minor agents would suffice. Allowing the agents of this class the rate of compensation recommended by the Superintendent at St. Louis, and which I agree with him would be necessary to secure the services of competent and efficient persons for those situations, the arrangement thus suggested would lead to a reduction in the present expenditure for salaries of agents and sub-agents; while the service would be benefited by a much more suitable and effective organization. I cannot, therefore, too strongly recommend that some such measure be adopted.

Among the more interesting and important duties of this office are those which relate to the civilization of our Indian tribes. During a long period, considerable efforts were made, and large sums of money expended, towards effecting this great purpose, but without any commensurate effect. The causes of failure heretofore, the nature of the obstacles to be encountered, and the best means of overcoming them, having however become better known and understood, and other and more appropriate measures having been adopted for accomplishing this object, a new impulse has been given to it, attended with results of the most gratifying character. The dark clouds of ignorance and superstition, in which these people have so long been enveloped, seem at length, in the case of many of them, to be breaking away, and the light of christianity and general knowledge to be dawning upon their moral and intellectual darkness. The measures to which we are principally indebted for the great and favorable change that has taken place, are the concentration of the Indians within smaller districts of country, where the game soon becomes scarce, and they are compelled to abandon the pursuit of the chase, and to resort to agriculture and other civilized pursuits; and the introduction of manual labor schools among them, for the education of their children in letters, agriculture, the mechanic arts, and domestic economy. These institutions being in charge of missionary societies of various religious denominations, and conducted by intelligent and faithful persons of both sexes, selected with the concurrence of the Department, the Indian youth are also carefully instructed in the best of all knowledge, religious truth, their duty towards God and their fellow beings.

In the annual report of my predecessor last year, he stated that there were, in successful operation among different tribes, sixteen manual labor institutions, with eight hundred and nine scholars, and eighty-seven boarding and other schools, with two thousand eight hundred and seventy-three scholars, including both the sexes; and that provision had been made for the establishment of ten more institutions on the manual labor principle. The returns for the past year are not entirely complete; but it is believed that there has been a considerable increase in the number of youth under instruction.

Nearly the whole of the large amount required for the support and maintenance of the schools now in operation is furnished by the Indians themselves out of their national funds; and so deeply are some of the tribes becoming impressed with the advantages of educating their children, that they are making every effort in their power to provide means for the increase of the manual labor institutions; and where this cannot be done, neighborhood schools are being multiplied at individual expense. So anxious are the Choctaws upon the subject, that they have adopted the arrangement, that those having children at the manual labor institutions will furnish their clothing, instead of the expense being defrayed from the general fund, in order to economize their means for a wider diffusion of the benefits of such establishments.

A great moral and social revolution is thus now in progress among a number of the tribes, which, by the adoption of similar measures in other cases, might be rapidly extended to most, if not all, of those located on our western borders; so that, in a few years, it is believed that in intelligence and resources they would compare favorably with many portions of our white population; and instead of drooping and declining as heretofore, they would be fully able to maintain themselves in prosperity and happiness under any circumstances of contact or connection with our people.

Most of the tribes are, however, poor, and without the ability to provide themselves with schools and other necessary means of improvement; while the amount annually appropriated for the civilization of the Indians—ten thousand dollars—is wholly inadequate to enable the Government to accomplish much for their benefit. As has heretofore been strongly done, I would, therefore, urgently recommend the increase of that sum to at least fifty thousand dollars; as an act of liberality and humanity towards a helpless and destitute people, whom we have displaced, and whose former possessions we enjoy; and who, unless the fostering care of the Government be extended to them, must continue to decline and soon disappear, leaving us as a legacy, a constant source of regret, if not of self reproach, in our having done too little to avert their melancholy fate.

In conclusion, I would beg leave to say, that there is an encouraging ground for the belief that a large share of success will, in the end, crown the philanthropic efforts of the Government and of individuals to civilize and to christianize the Indian tribes. With some, it is true, all efforts have hitherto proved unavailing, and unfortunate tribes have hurried on almost to utter extinction before their downward tendency could be arrested. With others, however, the fostering and parental care of the Government has accomplished the main design of substituting the pursuits of civilized life in the room of those of the savage, and infusing among them juster modes of thought, and a proper appreciation of moral responsibility. Having effected this, the future of the Indian is, in all respects, promising, and it is now no longer a

problem whether they are capable of self-government or not. They have proved their capacity for social happiness, by adopting written constitutions upon the model of our own, by establishing and sustaining schools, by successfully devoting themselves to agricultural pursuits, by respectable attainments in the learned professions and mechanic arts, and by adopting the manners and customs of our people so far as they are applicable to their own condition. To insure such gratifying results with tribes but recently brought within the jurisdiction of the United States, we have but to avail ourselves of the experience of the past. This experience has taught us that there can be no civilization without a rigid exclusion of ardent spirits, and no laws can be too stringent to effect that object. It has further taught us that the payment of large annuities in money is virtually a provision in favor of traders and not of the Indian; for the money almost instantly finds its way into the coffers of the former, having, in many instances, been obtained for the most paltry considerations; while the latter, after a few days of riotous living, awakes from his debauch the miserable victim of a cupidity that has first brutalized, and then sent him forth to starve. It is true that there are many of our traders who are in all respects honorable and high-minded men; but a few of a contrary character can render fruitless the best efforts of the philanthropist. I would therefore recommend, that in all treaties hereafter to be made with the Indians, the policy of giving goods, farming utensils, provisions, &c., in lieu of money, be insisted on as far as the same may be found to be practicable; and that wherever tribes, with whom we have existing treaties, and whose annuities are payable chiefly in money, can be induced to consent to a substitution of such commodities as experience has taught us administer most to their comfort and happiness, proper measures be taken to bring about so desirable a change.

There will necessarily arise, out of the improved condition of the Indian tribes, new relations between them and our Government and people. That some are now, and that others soon will be, qualified to participate in the national legislation, there can be no doubt; and I would therefore respectfully, but earnestly, suggest that the attention of Congress should be invited to the subject, so that the initiatory steps may be taken to bring about an event so complimentary to the wisdom and justice of the American people, and so consoling to the hearts of those who have for years been struggling almost against hope itself. Such a result would be a triumph both of christian benevolence and of political justice.

Respectfully submitted,

ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.

Schedule of papers accompanying Annual Report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the year 1849.

- A. Instructions of Secretaries of War and of the Interior, to Brigadier General Twiggs and S. Spencer, sub-Indian agent, respecting removal of Seminole Indians remaining in Florida, dated September, 17, 1849.
- B. Report of R. S. Neighbors, to Brigadier General Worth, commanding the troops in Texas, in relation to Indians and Indian affairs in that State, dated March 7, 1849.
- C. Captain H. G. Catlett's communication of May 12, 1849, on same subjects, to Commissioner of Indian affairs, and report of that officer thereon to Hon. Secretary of the Interior, of June 4, 1849.
- D. Instructions to commissioners appointed to negotiate with Dacotah or Sioux Indians, for a portion of their lands in Minesota, dated August 25, 1849.
- E. Ratification by Stockbridge Indians of amendment made by the Senate to the treaty with them of November 24, 1848.
- F. & G. Statements of funds held in trust for various Indian tribes, and annual income thereon.
- H. Extract from a report from Governor and ex officio superintendent of Indian affairs in Oregon, to Hon. Secretary of State, dated April 9, 1849, in relation to Indian affairs in that Territory.
- I. Report of J. S. Calhoun, Indian agent at Santa F , in relation to Indian affairs in New Mexico, dated October 1, 1849.
- K. Report of John Wilson, Indian agent at Salt Lake, California.

REPORTS OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, INDIAN AGENTS AND SUB-AGENTS, SUPERINTENDENTS, AND TEACHERS OF SCHOOLS, IN THE INDIAN COUNTRY, &c.

Minnesota Superintendency.

- No. 1. Alexander Ramsey, Governor and ex officio superintendent.
- No. 2. J. E. Fletcher, agent for the Winnebagoes and Chippewas of the Mississippi; and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 3. R. G. Murphy, sub-agent for the Sioux of the Mississippi; and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.

St. Louis Superintendency.

- No. 1. D. D. Mitchell, superintendent.
- No. 2. Wm. Hatton, sub-agent for the Indians on the Upper Missouri, viz: Poncas, Sioux, Arickarees, Minatarees, Mandans, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, and other wandering tribes.
- No. 3. John E. Barrow, sub-agent for the Pawnees, Omahas, and the Otoes and Missourias; and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 4. A. J. Vaughan, sub-agent for the Ioways, and the Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri; and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 5. Thomas Mosely, jr., sub-agent for the Wyandots.
- No. 6. Missionary and school reports for the Fort Leavenworth agency, embracing the Shawnees, Pottawatomies, Delawares, Stockbridges, Munsees, Kickapoos, and the Christian Indians.
- No. 7. Chas. N. Handy, agent for the Kansas, Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, Ottowas, Chippewas, Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, Piankeshaws, and the Miamies; and missionary and school reports for that agency.

Southwestern Superintendency.

- No. 1. John Drennen, acting superintendent and agent for the Choctaws; and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 2. A. J. Dorn, sub-agent for the Quapaws, Senecas, and Senecas and Shawnees; and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 3. P. H. Raiford, agent for the Creeks; and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 4. M. Duval, sub-agent for the Seminoles; and missionary report for that sub-agency.
- No. 5. A. M. M. Upshaw, agent for the Chickasaws; and missionary and school reports for that agency.

Michigan Superintendency.

- No. 1. C. P. Babcock, acting superintendent and agent for the Ottowas and Chippewas, Chippewas of Saginaw, Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river, and the Pottawatomies of Huron; and missionary and school reports for that agency.
- No. 2. James Ord, sub-agent Sault Ste. Marie; and missionary and school reports in that sub-agency.

Independent Agencies.

- No. 1. J. S. Livermore, sub-agent for the Chippewas of Lake Superior; and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 2. W. H. Bruce, sub-agent for the Menomonees, Stockbridges, and Munsees, and Oneidas in Wisconsin; and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
- No. 3. S. P. Mead, sub-agent for the Senecas and other Indians in the State of New York; and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.

Miscellaneous.

- No. 1. James P. Wilson, President of Delaware College, relative to the Choctaw and Chickasaw youths at that institution.
- No. 2. Alvan Bond, relative to the Chickasaw boys at Plainfield Academy, &c.

A.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

WASHINGTON CITY,

September 17, 1849.

GENTLEMEN: In view of the concurrent action of yourselves, as officers of the Departments of the Interior and War, the heads of these Departments deem it proper to address a joint communication to you in relation to Indian affairs in Florida, expecting and directing you to co-operate in carrying out the views of the Administration.

In every aspect of the condition of the Indian, so long as he remains in Florida, his speedy removal to the West appears desirable and necessary. The Administration being thus impressed, have concluded that their removal, voluntary or forcible, is to be effected; and this purpose, apart from other considerations, should be regarded as more binding on the Government, because of an obligation arising under a treaty, the execution of which does not admit of further postponement.

The most obvious policy demands the employment of peaceable measures where there is a reasonable probability that they will effect the desired end. Such a course harmonizes with the general tone of humanity heretofore pursued towards that unfortunate and perishing race, and is congenial with the sense of justice which their pupilage to the Government naturally awakens.

Accordingly, after reminding them on all occasions of friendly conference which may be allowed by them, of the feebleness of their merely nominal strength, as compared with the overwhelming force which will be brought to act against them; of their insecure and unhappy condition in a dense neighborhood of the whites, who every day advance upon them and restrict them to narrower limits; of the interminable strifes which that neighborhood (as all past experience has proven) will certainly and fatally entail upon them, and from which there can be no escape, unless by a removal from such destructive influences as degrade their morals, and would ultimately destroy their race. Strengthening these suggestions by reminding them of the peace, and comfort, and security which a re-union with their brethren of the West, from whom they have been so long separated, would ensure, you will propose, in behalf of the Government, to pay to each Indian in Florida, (without regard to sex or age,) and to every negro or mixed blood attached to the nation, one hundred dollars, and to furnish transportation to the country of their tribe, west of the Mississippi, and subsistence for twelve months after reaching their new homes.

The *essence of this proposition* is in its application to their *voluntarily* emigrating. To any number that may accept it, be they few or many, you can give the assurance that all its terms will be observed with fidelity on the part of the Government.

You have been heretofore informed that, auxiliary to this scheme, the Government has accepted the services of a delegation of their tribe from the West, who are to visit their brethren in Florida, and exert their influence on the latter to procure their peaceable removal. The plan appeared feasible, and was consistent with the long entertained and ultimate purposes of the Administration. It is desired and expected that a fair trial may be made of their agency. Nothing will be lost by any seeming delay arising from this

effort, when it is considered that the country and the climate would not admit of earlier and more decisive action, if compulsory measures must at last be resorted to.

The delegation from the West must be suitably provided for and treated with kindness. To them you are authorized to propose the same inducements as above stated for each Indian, mixed blood, or negro, who may, through their influence, be brought in and emigrated to the West. In each case no greater equivalent will be allowed to the emigrant or the delegation, or to both, than if the former had consented to emigrate peaceably. That is to say, that in whatever manner the *emigrating* may be brought about, the Government is only to pay the one hundred dollars, transportation and subsistence, as hereinbefore proposed.

If, notwithstanding the desire and the exertions of the Government to effect a peaceable removal, it should become necessary to resort to force to effect the object, you are authorized to employ the delegation, or any part of them, in the service of the United States, with the promise of such compensation as you may deem reasonable.

In your first interview with this delegation, you will give them the assurance that compensation will be allowed them for their services—dependent, in some degree, upon the value of those services in conducting to the speedy and voluntary emigration of their Florida brethren to the West.

When convinced that the means suggested or applied will be or are unavailable, you will report the matter immediately to our respective Departments. In the mean time, orders will be issued to the army to meet such contingencies as may arise.

Respectfully, your obedient servants,

T. EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.
G. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

SAM'L SPENCER, ESQ.,
Indian sub-agent, Tampa bay, Florida.
BRIG. GEN'L. D. E. TWIGGS,
U. S. A., Tampa bay, Florida.

B.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
TORREY'S TRADING HOUSE,
March 7, 1849.

SIR: In accordance with your request of the 25th February, I submit the following table, showing the supposed number of Indians residing on our immediate borders. This estimate is made from the best information that could be obtained from the Indians by frequent inquiry on the subject. Viz:

	No. of souls.	No. of warriors.
Comanches	20,000	4,000
Kiowas	1,500	300
Lipans	500	100
Caddoes,	1,400	280
Ionies, } associates		
An a-dah-kas, }	300	60
Keechies		
Wichitas,	1,000	200
Wacos, } associates		
Tah-wac-carros, }	650	130
Tonkahiras		
Delawares, }	650	130
Shawnees, } associates		
Creeks	50	10
Cherokees	25	5
Euquatops, }	2,000	400
Mus-ka-leros, } Apache bands		
	1,500	300
Total supposed number	29,575	5,915

These Indians range promiscuously across our frontier, from Red river to the Rio Grande, during the greater portion of the year; and seek shelter during the winter in the upper cross timbers of Texas, between the head waters of the Colorado river and the Wichita mountains. They have, for the last two years, shown a disposition to establish friendly relations with the Government and citizens of the United States.

With several of the bands our intercourse has been extremely limited for the want of proper means, and a sufficient number of agents, or men, calculated to cultivate friendly intercourse. This has been particularly the case with the Kiowas, the Apaches, and the upper bands of Comanches.

The only serious misunderstanding that exists with any of the tribes is that growing out of the attacks on the Wichitas and Lipans last summer. All intercourse with them has ceased for some months passed; and it will be impossible to adjust those differences satisfactorily without money or presents, to give them as indemnity, they claiming to be the aggrieved party.

Most of the tribes are disposed to cultivate the soil, and by proper encouragement could be induced, in a short period, to settle down and turn their attention to farming. By the laws of this State, the right of soil is denied the Indians; consequently they have made but small progress in farming. The advance of the white settlements, since the annexation of Texas, has been so rapid, that the Indians were led to believe they would ultimately be driven out of the country; and nothing but the assurance given by the United States Indian commissioners, Messrs. Butler & Lewis, in 1846, renewed by the President of the United States to the Indian delegation, July, 1846, at Washington, and since reiterated by myself under the instructions of the Commissioner of Indian affairs, "that all matters appertaining to that subject should be adjusted by the Government of the United States at

a proper time, and to their *entire satisfaction*," has induced them to submit quietly to the advance of settlements, previous to the settlement of this question.

In granting their consent to the location of posts, trading-houses, &c., it is done with the express understanding that they do not relinquish any of their claims to the territory so occupied.

I would therefore respectfully suggest that the General Government, at as early a period as practicable, make suitable provision for carrying out the following measures, which I am fully convinced would in a short time do away with all probability of hostility with the Indians of Texas:

1st. The establishment of a treaty of boundaries, by which the General Government should extinguish the Indian title or claim to as much territory as the State requires for immediate use, which, from the best estimate that I have seen, would be from where the hundredth parallel of longitude ("by De Cordova's map") intersects Red river to some point on the Rio Grande.

2d. That the General Government should acquire from the State a sufficiency of territory for the permanent location and settlement of the Indians; said land to be divided among the several bands and tribes, according to their numbers, and the usual inducements offered them to encourage settlement.

3d. That the General Government extend its intercourse laws over the Indians of Texas, for the better regulation of trade and intercourse with the Indians.

4th. That the Government make suitable provision for the establishment of one general agency, with at least three sub-agents and interpreters to reside with the Indians. They are extended over so large an extent of country that it is impossible for less than three or four agents, or sub-agents, to give them the attention they require.

5th. The establishment of the necessary military posts in the Indian country, and a full co-operation with the Indian agent in carrying into effect all laws or treaty stipulations.

Should a treaty, embracing the above suggestions, be concluded by the General Government, in all probability they will grant a considerable annuity to the Indians; in which case, provision should be made for the employment of suitable mechanics—such as carpenters, blacksmiths, &c.—and a large portion appropriated for the purchase of cattle, farming utensils, and the employment of suitable persons to instruct them in agriculture.

Among the civilized portion of our Indians can already be found some who are in favor of educating their children. It has heretofore been the policy of our Government to encourage education in the Indian tribes, and I presume that subject will engage their early attention.

Under the present treaty, in addition to having no laws or fixed policy, a sufficiency of means has not been provided for the purchase of necessary presents, tobacco, &c., required to carry on and maintain friendly intercourse with the Indians. I would respectfully suggest, if the present system is to continue, that provision be made to assemble the several tribes and bands in general council, at least once a year, as all matters appertaining to their affairs can there be discussed, and all adjustment made, more to the satisfaction of the parties concerned, at a council, than by private negotiation.

The subjects touched upon in this report have been heretofore called to

the notice of the Commissioner of Indian affairs; but I believe the representations made by him to Congress have not led to the settlement of our Indian matters in Texas on a firm and permanent basis. I have therefore deemed it proper not to enter into detail, or argument, in favor of the within suggestions, and have the honor to submit them to your better judgment; with the hope that, so far as you approve, you will use your influence with the General Government to have them carried into effect, as the Indians are more favorable to such measures now than they will be hereafter, from the certainty of coming into contact with the citizens of the State, should the State authorities encourage the location and survey of lands, now occupied by Indians, previous to the establishment of a treaty of boundaries.

A large majority of the principal Indian chiefs have expressed much anxiety to have a general council some time this year. They have not met in council since 1847. I believe if the council could be held the result would be decidedly beneficial, as, in addition to the adjustment of present differences, they could be prepared for any new measures the Government may desire to carry into effect, I would recommend the subject to your consideration.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 (Signed) **ROB'T S. NEIGHBORS,**
U. S. Special Indian Agent.

To Maj. Gen. **WM. J. WORTH,**
San Antonio, Texas.

C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 12, 1849.*

SIR: Herewith enclosed you will find a letter received a few days since by me from Col. M. T. Johnson, of Texas. I beg leave to call your attention to that part of said letter which relates to the state of Indian affairs upon that frontier.

And apprehending that the Department may not have been as fully informed as to the true state of Indian affairs in Texas as was necessary to a proper understanding of the matter, and being firmly convinced that, if measures are not speedily adopted to remedy the evils that now exists, that disastrous consequences will be the result, I beg leave to add such information as I possess, hoping that it may enable the Department to correct those evils, and to save the Government, the people of Texas, and the Indians themselves, from the consequences of a protracted and bloody war, which if once begun will cost millions of money and hundreds of lives.

I shall confine my statements to those Indians living and hunting south of Red river, and will divide them into two classes: the first comprising those who *belong properly to Texas*, and the second those who have migrated from tribes residing beyond the limits of Texas, and have *intruded* themselves upon her soil.

The several bands of Comanches, the Tonkaways, the Lipans, Wacoes, and Tawacanies, and about fifty Karankaways, who live among the Mexican settlements on the Rio Grande, and 75 or 100 Bedies, who live

in the settlements around Houston and on the lower Trinity, are the only aborigines of the country, and compose the *first class*.

The Lipans, numbering about 300 souls, have formerly lived within the settlements on the western frontier, ranging from Austin to Corpus Christi. They have many guns among them, and are, perhaps, the bravest and most daring of the several bands above named. They have been in the habit of visiting the Mexican settlements on and beyond the Rio Grande for the sake of plunder, and have frequently been found entirely beyond the frontier settlements of Texas, among the wild tribes, with whom they kept up a constant traffic; and have always been suspected of doing much mischief, both in stealing and killing upon the credit of the wild Indians; and for which their intimate knowledge of the whereabouts of every settler, and their constant intercourse with the wild bands afford them every facility. Finally, after many acts of outrage both upon Americans and Mexicans passing to and from San Antonio to the Rio Grande, they came in contact with one of the ranging companies, upon which occasion both parties had several killed. The Lipans immediately removed to a point high up on the Brasos river, and declared open hostilities, and have ever since continued to do much mischief in the neighborhood of San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and upon the line of the Rio Grande; and this has all grown out of their being permitted to remain upon the immediate frontier, ranging sometimes low down into the settlements, and then passing into the country of the wild tribes beyond. The temptation to steal has been too great—more than should have been expected of them to resist. They should have been required to remain either on one side of the line or the other. Had this been done, much property and many lives would have been saved, and the chances of a general war with the Indians been lessened.

The Tonkaways number 600 or 700 souls; they are the most worthless and degraded vagabonds living. They are inferior to the Lipans in daring and energy, but are not more honest or less wily. All the other remarks upon the Lipans are equally applicable to them.

They have lived at different points among the frontier settlements until January last, when it was ascertained that they had stolen a number of horses and mules, and killed several citizens during the preceding fall and winter, which had been laid to the wild Indians.

A demand was made upon the chief for the restoration of the property and a surrender of the guilty parties; but, instead of complying with either demand, the whole tribe left, and took up their residence high up on the Brazos, among the wild tribes.

Like the Lipans, they will encourage depredations upon the frontier settlements, and act as guides, availing themselves of the advantages of having so recently ranged upon the very ground which they now visit for plunder.

The Wacoos and Tawacanies, although under separate chiefs, live close together, and act in concert—the two bands numbering perhaps a thousand souls. Their number of warriors in proportion is small, from the fact that they have been at war with the whites for the last fifteen years. They live upon the Brazos river, some 250 miles above the upper settlements on that stream, and about 200 miles from the city of Austin. They alone, of all the Texas bands, have stated homes, and raise corn, peas, beans, and pumpkins. They are better armed, and are much more daring than any of the other bands, except the Lipans, and have ever been most troublesome neighbors to the frontiersmen of Texas.

The Comanches, though acting under the direction of a head chief and general council, are divided into many small bands, each having its separate chief. Their numbers amount in the aggregate, I think, to not exceeding 12,000 souls, though they have generally been estimated at some two or three thousand more. In winter they live upon the Brazos, in the neighborhood of the Wacoos and Tawaconies, upon the the head waters of the Trinity, upon Red river, and in the Wichita mountains, 80 or 100 miles north of that stream. In summer they live in the grand prairies upon the Canadian and Arkansas rivers. Their warriors take a wide range, extending from the Arkansas on the north, to the Gulf in the neighborhood of Corpus Christi and the Rio Grande on the south; and from their winter quarters west to Paso del Norte; and not unfrequently extending their peregrinations to Sonora, Chihuahua, Monterey, Saltillo, and sometimes to Sinaloa and Durango.

The Comanches, when brought into contact with Americans, are cowardly, and are not formidable enemies except to Mexicans; but they have become (and justly so, too.) as noted for their duplicity, treachery, and faithless disregard of all pledges or treaties as the Mexicans themselves, from whom they have taken their lessons of intrigue and perfidy, and for which, at first, they sometimes paid dearly; but being decidedly more brave than the Mexicans, and almost as hard to catch as a wild eagle, they have become more bold and daring in the perpetration of their deeds of massacre, rapine, and theft. They are always willing to make treaties when there is any thing to be gained by them; but never hesitate to break them when it suits their inclinations or convenience. They have always been accustomed to do so with the Mexicans; and have followed it up with almost as much impunity in their intercourse with the Texans; for, on account of the great difficulty of catching them, and the want of the necessary means to keep a force in pursuit for any length of time, they have never received that kind of a lesson (a good *drubbing*) which alone will make them respect their treaties and keep the peace. At present their thieving parties come down and steal. The chiefs, following the example of the Mexican Government, disavow it as the act of the nation, and profess to do all in their power to restrain their people; but when called upon to surrender or punish the perpetrators, they decline doing so, nor will ever compel them to restore the stolen property. True, they have, in one or two instances, returned a few of the most indifferent animals, but evidently as a mere blind to hide their duplicity; for, if they could recover a portion, why not the whole?

These people can only be restrained by holding their chiefs and head men responsible. Although it is almost impossible to catch them in summer, they would easily be reached and severely punished in their winter quarters; for to be drawn out of them would be disastrous in the extreme, and this they could be easily taught.

It will be seen that the number of Indians *properly belonging to Texas* is small, and that portion who have stated homes and cultivate the soil is very small in proportion to the whole number. An extent of country 100 miles wide and 200 miles long will embrace the winter quarters of all the above named tribes and bands; and if the influences which have heretofore been brought to bear upon these people to produce the difficulties which have heretofore existed were corrected and guarded against in future, and they were taught that they must respect the authority of the United States, there would be no further trouble with them.

The *second class* are those who have intruded themselves upon the soil of Texas. They are much more formidable, and have done more damage, and given more trouble and alarm, than those *properly belonging to Texas*. They are the Wichitas, Tow-ash, Keechies, Caddoes, Anna-darcoes, Ionies, Delawares, Shawnees, Baluxies, Cooshates, Creeks, Cherokees, Iowanes, Alabamas, Unataguas, Quapaws, Tohookatokies, Seminoles, Osages, Chickasaws, and Choctaws, and occasionally a few Pottawatomies, Ottowas, Pawnees, Mahas, Arapahoes, Cheyennes, and other tribes living in the far northwest. The aggregate number of these tribes in Texas will probably average about seven or eight thousand souls. They are constantly going to and from their own homes, and at times their numbers in Texas will probably amount to 12,000 souls, and is, I believe, hardly ever less than 7,000.

The fact that they are *intruders* very naturally causes more hostility towards them on the part of the settlers; and should they not speedily be removed, and measures taken to prevent their return, conflicts will take place which must result in disaster and war, the extent of which, and the length of time it may continue, cannot be foretold, but which the Department will be able more fully to apprehend when it is taken into consideration who those people are, the extent of their numbers, and the position which the several nations and tribes to which they belong occupy upon the northwestern frontier.

I will now proceed to show the position, &c., of those people in Texas. The Wichitas, Towash, and Keechies, numbering in all about 600 souls, live near together upon the Brazos, head of the Trinity, and upon the Big Wichita (the main southern branch of Red river.) They are about 180 miles above the upper white settlements on the last named river, and about two hundred miles above the settlements upon the Brazos. They are all of the Wichita tribe, and their proper homes are in the Wichita mountains, north of Red river, and within the United States Indian territory. They live in *wigwams*, and raise corn, pumpkins, &c., &c. The Caddoes, Annadarcoes, and Ionies, although having each their separate chief or head man, and living in separate villages, are associated together under the government of one principal chief. The Caddoes and Ionies live upon the Brazos and its northern tributaries in the upper Cross Timbers, about 140 miles above the settlements on Red river, 120 miles from those on the Trinity, and about 160 miles from those of the Brazos. The Annadarcoes have their village on the Brazos, about 40 miles above the settlements, but spend most of their time some 100 miles within the settlements between the Brazos and Trinity rivers, where they have been permitted to go at their pleasure in violation of the laws of the State, greatly against the will and much to the annoyance of the citizens, and greatly jeopardizing the peace and safety of the frontier, which was several times, during the last year, on account of this very tribe, and the fact that they were permitted to go into the settlements, near being involved in a general war with all the border tribes and bands; and if not stopped, must inevitably, and within the next six months, bring about that much to be deplored and fatal result.

The three last named bands migrated from Louisiana; small parties of them have been in Texas for a number of years, and have been gradually increasing in strength by migrating parties of their own people, who have followed them, until they now number about 1,200 souls. They live in wigwams and tents, and raise some corn, pumpkins, &c. These, with the

W chitas, Towash, and Keechies, are the only bands amongst those intruders who have stated homes and cultivate the soil.

The other bands, numbering in all upon an average about 4,000 souls, have no stated homes. They move about from place to place, following the game, and finding fresh range for their stock.

They occupy the intermediate ground, and are constantly intruding upon both the white settlements and the wild tribes, reaching from Red river to the Colorado.

Thus posted, they are a constant source of annoyance to the settlers, and completely thwart and render unavailing every effort on the part of either citizens or military to pursue and capture the theiving parties who have been stealing in the settlements; and it is a known fact, which can be sustained by positive and unequivocal evidence, that they are constantly in the habit of trading with the wild tribes contrary to the laws of the State, and in this they have been encouraged and assisted by the traders both at Torrey's trading-house as well as that of Warren; nor has this trade been confined to articles authorized by law, but arms and ammunition to a large amount have been furnished through them, as well as directly through the above named traders. It is also a fact equally susceptible of proof, that some of these people have introduced whiskey in considerable quantities at various times into the villages upon the Brazos and Trinity, and amongst the wild Indians, and that they have instigated the wild tribes to hostilities, as well as stolen horses, robbed houses, and murdered citizens upon the credit of the wild Indians.

One of the most unprovoked, cruel, and bloody murders—having scarce a parallel in vengeful savage warfare—was committed last year, within the frontier settlements upon the Trinity river, by the Kickapoos. This act was the partial cause of the killing of a Caddo a few days afterwards by a party of rangers. The Caddoes immediately flew to arms. The whole of these renegade bands were in commotion, and threatened an immediate attack upon the ranging company, and an annihilation of the whole frontier settlements, unless the man who had killed one of their people was delivered up to them for execution. This of course could not be done. The citizens declared that the rangers had only half done their duty because they had not killed more, or driven off a set of bullying intruders who had forced themselves into the country. In a few days after the perpetration of this horrid butchery, between two and three hundred citizens had met and organized to make an attack upon those Indians, and drive them out of the country; but through the influence of Col. Johnson they were prevailed upon to desist, and await the action of the Government; but another such an outrage, and no influence, no consideration, will stop them.

Much ado was made about the killing of the Caddo by the Indians and traders, and those who had killed them were demanded, but nothing was said about giving up the Indians who had butchered the citizens. It is alleged that the Texians were surveying upon the Indian territory. They were within the settlements upon the Trinity river, nearly 200 miles south of Red river. The home of the Kickapoos assigned to them by the United States is on the Missouri river opposite St. Joseph's, nearly 1,000 miles distant. Who, then, were the intruders—the citizens of Texas or the Kickapoos?

Many things were said and done, by both the Indians and the traders, calculated to aggravate and exasperate the citizens and rangers, and for two

months it was expected almost daily that active hostilities would be commenced; and being upon the ground myself, I know that nothing prevented it but the great prudence and indefatigable exertions of Captains Johnson and Ross, of the ranging service. Had another blow been struck upon either side, the slaughter on both sides would have been great, and the United States would now be involved in a general war with all these tribes and bands. And for what is so great a risk to be run? Are a lot of renegade Indians, and a set of traders, who have contributed no little to bring about the present state of things upon that frontier, to be indulged at the risk of such consequences to the frontier settlers of Texas and the Government?

It has been asserted that the difficulty which has occurred has grown out of the imprudence of the rangers and the aggressive spirit of the citizens. An investigation of the facts will show the contrary. A citizen upon that frontier would ask, are those Indians upon their own territory? No. Are they intruders upon the territory of Texas? They are. Having homes assigned them elsewhere, what right have they on a soil upon which they have intruded themselves? Certainly none. What right have they then, by their own acts, or through the agency of the Government, to say that the citizens of Texas shall not settle upon and cultivate lands which were deeded to them fifteen years since?

It will be seen, on inquiry, that instead of the whites having gone into the Indian country and created disturbances by acts of aggression upon the Indians, that all the collisions which have taken place within the last two years, have taken place upon the immediate edge of the white settlements, and have grown out of acts committed on the part of the Indians. But even admitting that the whites have been the aggressors in individual cases, why permit those Indians to force themselves upon the citizens of Texas, and thus endanger, not only the peace of that frontier, but also that of the whole northwest? Even if it is admitted that Texas has not the right to demand of the General Government that those renegade intruders be compelled to quit her soil, or that the Government is not bound in all good faith to do so, I say, admitting these propositions to be true, would it not be better for the Government to cause them to return to their homes and remain there, whilst it can yet be done in peace. All experience has proven that Indian wars, it matters not how insignificant, or of how short duration, are very expensive. And that a war will be the consequence if they are permitted to remain, and the traders continue unrestrained in the course heretofore pursued by them, there is not the slightest doubt.

The question may be, how are those intruding bands to be removed by the Government without heavy expense? Having no title to the lands to be cancelled, that expense, generally incurred in removing Indians, will not in this case be incurred. Those belonging to the largest and most influential tribes may be reached through their annuities, and by simply notifying the balance that they must return to their own homes in the country allotted to them.

And instead of keeping her gallant and enterprising officers of dragoons pent up in barricades, send them out to scour and explore the country. The order from the United States, and the appearance of 200 dragoons in the country, would cause them to leave, unless dishonest and interested men are permitted to go among them, and persuade them to set at defiance the authority of the Government; and I believe that if energetic measures are

adopted by the Government, and the Indian agent gives his hearty co-operation, that this need not be feared.

It may be asked, how those Indians, if once out of the country, are to be kept out. I answer, by the establishment of a military post near Red river, on the south side, at the upper edge of the upper Cross Timbers, and about 100 miles above Fort Washita. This post would be near the great crossing on Red river, used by those bands in passing from the south of Red river to their homes, and to the Wichita and Kiechee villages, situated in the Wichita mountains, some 80 miles north of Red river. Those villages have for years past been the places of rendezvous for all the predatory and thieving bands that have so much disturbed and plundered the Texas frontier, to which they resort for the purpose of exchanging and disposing of a portion of their plunder to the Indians living farther to the north and east. One company of infantry and two companies of dragoons, under active and experienced officers, would break up this trade, and hold in check those troublesome renegades. I have given much attention to this subject for several years, and I look upon the point above suggested as the most important one upon the Texas frontier, and am satisfied that a post established there would do more to hold in check the Indians than any thing else that could be done. It may be thought that it would be difficult and expensive to furnish a post so far out, but such is not the case. The surrounding country not only abounds in every material required for erecting the necessary buildings, but the lands are of a superior quality for agricultural purposes, and there is fine water power near at hand, and it is now only 60 miles in advance of the settlements on Red river. In twelve months after the establishment of the post any article required could be furnished on the spot at less than it has cost the Government to put the same articles at San Antonio. It would be nearly due north from the city of Austin, and distant about 200 miles therefrom.

The distance from Lavacca to Austin is about 130 miles, making in all but 330 miles from Lavacca, and there is nothing in the way of a first rate road. But by the time a post can be built the Colorado river will be cleared out, and made navigable for steamboats to Austin, leaving but 200 miles land carriage. From this post it would be about 400 miles to *Paso del Norte*, over a country where there would be no trouble in making a good road; a caravan of wagons have already passed it. And if another post should be established on the Brazos, about 100 miles further on the line towards the Paso, and another on the Colorado, about 90 miles on, a continued line would be open by this route from Fort Washita to the Paso; the last named point would fall upon the road now travelled from Austin and San Antonio to Paso del Norte, and also on the best route from the Gulf of Mexico to Santa Fé.

The country on and south of this line is not surpassed by any in Texas for purposes of agriculture and for water power, and is destined at no distant day to support a dense population.

The second post proposed would also be about 200 miles from Austin, and easily reached from that place; and the last proposed point would be about 80 miles from the upper settlements on the Colorado, and about 180 from Austin, from which place there is already a good wagon road; and it is about 220 miles from the Paso del Norte, and about 400 from Santa Fé, over the best road by which that place can be reached from any portion of the United States. Here might be made a *depôt* and resting place for cara-

vans bound either to Paso or to Santa Fé; and a post at this point would completely command the country below, and prevent the passage of migrating bands of Indians from the north of Red river to their usual ranging grounds west of San Antonio.

If the renegade Indians were required to return to their homes north of Red river, and this line of posts was established, the country would settle with great rapidity, extending up Red river and the Trinity through the Cross Timbers, and along the line to the most westwardly post; and a like result would be seen upon the western section of the line. Thus hemmed in on the north and west, and pressed on the south and east by a rapidly extending population, the few remaining Indians would not dare to commit an outrage, but soon becoming tired of restraint, within such narrow limits, would voluntarily and willingly remove to the north of Red river, relieving the frontier settlements from apprehension of danger, and opening to settlement one of the finest and most desirable sections of the State; whilst to the Government would be saved the large annual expenditure incurred under the present plan, which does not and cannot give protection to the settler or peace to the Indians. The three points suggested would, I believe, if occupied as posts, hold the Indians more in check, and give better protection to the frontiers, than a dozen posts scattered round the present extended line of frontier; for where troops are stationed immediately in the neighborhoods of the settlements, the Indians will slip in and steal, and be out of reach before the troops can receive notice of the act; but Indians will not steal where troops are in their rear, and who may intercept them in their return.

But supposing my humble opinions may be disregarded, and the removal of the renegade Indians who have intruded themselves upon Texas, and the establishment of the line of posts proposed, may be neglected or deferred, until the Government has bought, at the cost of several millions of dollars and hundreds of valuable lives, the knowledge of the country and its Indians, which I have acquired by a residence of twelve years upon that frontier, during which time I have explored the country from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arkansas, and from the Sabine to the Rio Grande, and have lost no opportunity to acquire correct information relating to the Indians, and the country over which they range. I say, if nothing is to be done towards removing the Indians, the Department should be in possession of facts relating to the trade and intercourse with the Indians, which have contributed in a very great degree to bring about the state of things which now exists upon that frontier, and which, if permitted to be continued, must produce conflict between the settlers and the Indians in spite of every thing that the Government can do to prevent it.

A law of Texas, passed 14th January, 1843, provides for the establishment of a line of trading posts which were intended to mark the temporary line between the whites and the Indians. The points designated were as follows:

No. 1. On or near the south fork of the Trinity, somewhere between the upper and and lower Cross Timbers.

No. 2. At or near the Comanche Peak.

No. 3. At or near the old San Saba fort or mission.

No. 4. At or near the Porto Vanders.

No. 5. At or near the junction of the Moras and Rio Grande.

The same law provides that no trader shall furnish any warlike stores to

the Indians. It is also forbidden for Indians to come into the settlements, or below the line established. There was but one trading-house established under this law, that of the Messrs. Torreys on the Brazos, and this was placed 100 miles below where the law required it to be. It was established in 1843, and has remained to the present time at the place where it was first established. In 1845 the settlements commenced extending beyond it, and have been twenty-five miles in advance of it on the west, and fifty miles on the east side of the Brazos, for the last three years. The law requiring that the trading-house should be kept in advance of the settlements has been violated; the Indians, at their pleasure, have been permitted to pass the settlements and the military posts, and come to the trading-house. In July last it was understood that Colonel Bell, commanding the frontier, had ordered the commanders of the several ranging companies not to permit the Indians to come below the stations, when Major Neighbors, the Indian agent, resident at the trading-house, declared that if it was attempted to stop the Indians from coming down, that he would not be able to control them, and that war would be the consequence in three days.

The order of Colonel Bell was, that the Indians should not pass into the settlements without first presenting themselves at some one of the military posts, and informing the commandant of their wish. But Colonel Bell was absolutely driven from his position, and the Indians persisted not only in passing the line at the posts without calling upon the commander, and visiting their friends at the trading-house, but went scouring through the country at pleasure, to the distance of 100 miles within the settlements. Thus the Indians were constantly coming in contact with the rangers and citizens; and nothing but the prudence of the commanders of the one, and a spirit of forbearance on the part of the others, has thus far prevented hostilities. The citizens forebore, hoping that they would find relief with the coming of the regular troops; but in this they have been sorely disappointed. From bad protection they now have none. How long they may pursue their present course of forbearance under these circumstances is uncertain. I should not be surprised if even now the whole frontier, from the Colorado to Red river, is involved in a bloody conflict.

The law prohibits the introduction of warlike stores, yet these traders have furnished wagon loads to the Indians.

There is also another trading-house, to which I beg leave to call the attention of the Department. It is known as Warren's, and is situated on the north side of Red river, about 60 miles above Fort Washita. It is most admirably situated for carrying on all sorts of nefarious transactions, and I am informed by those who live near, that those having it under management are not at all backward or slow to avail themselves of the results; and I know enough myself to satisfy me that the accusations against them are just.

I have now, in accordance with your request, stated such facts in relation to Indian affairs upon the frontier of Texas, and the feeling which exists among the citizens on the one side, and the Indians and traders on the other, as I hope will enable the Department to come to correct conclusions.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your ob't servt.

H. G. CATLETT,

*Late Ass't Q. M. U. S. A., stationed upon the Northern
Frontier of Texas.*

HON. W. MEDILL,

Com. of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

C—1.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

June 4, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration, and for such action thereon as you may judge proper, a copy of a communication (marked A.) from Capt. H. G. Catlett, on the subject of the present state of Indian affairs in Texas.

Capt. Catlett, who has for some time been employed in the Quartermaster's department in Texas, has long been a resident of that State, and appears to be well acquainted with her frontier country and the settlements thereon, as well as with the Indian tribes within her limits, and their general localities, numbers, character and habits. The object of his communication is a highly commendable one—that of putting this Department in possession of information upon the subject, to enable it to place our Indian relations in Texas upon a safer and more satisfactory footing than they have been heretofore.

An examination of the annual reports from this office for the last three years will show you the perplexing and unsatisfactory position in which those relations have been, since it became the duty of this office to take charge of them; and that, though the attention of Congress has urgently been called to the subject, nothing has been done to give to the Department the power, means, and facilities requisite for their proper and efficient management.

The trade and intercourse and other laws of our Indian system do not extend within the limits of Texas nor can they be made so to do without the consent of that State—she having retained supreme jurisdiction and control over her whole territory, notwithstanding which it appears to be expected that the General Government is to incur all the expense and responsibility of managing the relations with the Indians, and keeping them quiet and peaceable. The Department has therefore none of that power of control, whether as to whites or Indians, which it is able to exercise elsewhere under existing laws, and which is essentially necessary to keep white persons of improper character out of the Indian country; to prevent improper and corrupting traffic being carried on between the Indians and whites; or to guard against any of those influences and evils, which so abundantly prevail on a common white and Indian frontier; and which, if left unchecked, are so fruitful of dissensions, wrongs, pillage, collisions, and bloodshed. Nor have we the means of doing all that might be effected even under this adverse state of things in Texas—only one agent having been temporarily provided for, from year to year, when, no doubt, several are necessary, as well as means and facilities to reclaim the Indians from their migratory and thievish habits, and to induce them, at least to some extent, to adopt the habits and practise the arts of civilization.

As the subject is probably new to you from your not having yet had an opportunity of looking into it in consequence of your other pressing duties, and the limited time you have been at the head of the Department, I have deemed it proper, before proceeding particularly to consider the communication of Capt. Catlett, to make these preliminary observations, in order that you may see the perplexing position in which the Department has been and

continues to be placed, and the difficulties it must have had to contend with in preserving the degree of peace and order that has prevailed. Under this state of things, it is not a matter of wonder that some outrages, such as those referred to by Capt. Catlett, not only by Indians but by whites also, have been committed.

According to Capt. Catlett's views—expressed verbally as well as embodied in his communication—if I rightly understand them, the two main, if not the only, causes of the difficulties that have occurred in Texas, and of our Indian relations, these not being on so good a footing as they might be, are—

First. That considerable numbers from the tribes on the frontiers of Arkansas and Missouri have gone to reside in Texas, and others go periodically to traffic with the Indians there; that some, if not most, of the murders and robberies to which he refers have been committed by those Indians; and that, to carry on this traffic advantageously, the Texas Indians proper are stimulated by those referred to to steal and rob the frontier inhabitants of their horses and other property.

The Department has been advised that a few of the Indians from the tribes on our western frontier have wandered off and gone to Texas; but that any considerable number had, or that there were any such trading expeditions as those mentioned, it has not been apprised; though, as you will have perceived, from the preliminary statement that has been given, the Department has not enjoyed the means for extended and detailed information, much less for efficient action. If the statements of Capt. Catlett on those points be correct—and I am not in the least disposed to question them—then measures ought to be promptly adopted to drive out of Texas and send to their proper homes, with their own tribes, on the western frontier, all the Indians referred to, and put a stop to the traffic in question. And both ought to be done, for reasons affecting the welfare of themselves and the tribes to which they belong, whether their residence in Texas, and trade there, cause or are attended with such serious results as those spoken of or not. But this can be done, and a renewal of the residence and trade be prevented, only by the military branch of the service. Capt. Catlett expresses the opinion that, if the Government were to order them to leave the country, and two hundred dragoons appeared to enforce that order, and the Indian agent gave his hearty co-operation, they would leave without difficulty. He further expresses the opinion, that they could easily be kept out by the establishment, in co-operation with other measures, of a military post garrisoned by one company of infantry, and two of dragoons—“near Red river, on the south side, at the upper edge of the upper Cross Timbers, and about 100 miles above fort Washita,” (see map herewith.) I infer from what he states, that as a post at this point would be near the great crossing place of the Indians on the Red river, it would intercept them in attempts to pass back into Texas, and prevent their doing so. These points, however, the driving of the Indians in question out of Texas, and the establishment of a post at the point named to keep them from returning—are all matters for consideration and execution by the military department of the Government. All that this Department could do, would be to require the hearty co-operation of the only agent it has in Texas. I have already expressed the opinion that all Indians in that State, belonging to tribes on the western frontier, north of Red river, should be driven out and not permitted to return. How this can best be done is for other and higher authority to

determine; though in justice to Capt. Catlett I must say, that his statements and views on these points seem entitled to particular consideration.

Second. It will be seen from that gentleman's communication, that there appears to be a question as to the proper frontier line, or southern boundary, of the Indian country; that recognised by the Indian agent and the military being much more extended and further south than that fixed and recognised by Texas as the proper boundary; in consequence of which, the Indians are permitted to come nearer than they should to the settlements, if not in fact among them; and the line being so extended, it is impossible for the military to guard it, because being widely separated, the Indians pass between at pleasure, and commit depredations and outrages upon the citizens, and get back to their hiding places before they can be intercepted. The green line on the accompanying map is that recognised by the Indian agent and military, and the red line is that alleged to have been fixed by Texas, according to the points given by Capt. Catlett. The law to which he refers as establishing it was passed by Texas on the 14th January, 1843, before her admission into the Union, but he states that it is now in force as a law of the State. A copy of it, and one amendatory of it, approved February 3d, 1845, are herewith enclosed, marked B and C. If Texas came into the Union with this line as the southern boundary of her Indian country, it seems to me that it ought, as far as possible, to be respected as such by the United States, in endeavoring to keep the Indians within some proper limits, and to prevent their committing depredations and hostilities upon our frontier citizens. Capt. C. states that all the Indians properly belonging to Texas actually live above, and the greater part of them far above, this line, and that it is only renegade Indians, who do not belong to the State, and who should be driven out of it, that reside or stay below it. If these Indians were driven out of the country, he is of the opinion that the Indian frontier could be effectually guarded by a line of posts, to be garrisoned by the proper description of troops, commencing with that recommended to be established on Red river, it being one, across the country towards the Rio Grande. See the blue line on the accompanying map, on which is marked the location of the posts he recommends. This line is shorter, by about 950 miles, than that upon which the troops have been and are now stationed, but which is now represented to be only partially occupied. Such is the character of the country, which can be passed only at a few points, he thinks that three posts would be amply sufficient, as these posts, if properly located, would command all the practicable routes, and prevent the Indians from descending by them upon the settlements. The practicability of establishing and maintaining such a line of posts, and the propriety of doing so are questions for the military department of the Government to decide; though, if the statements of Capt. C. be well founded, there would seem to be not much if any doubt upon the subject. The effect of the measure in holding the Indians in check, and preserving peace on the frontier, would no doubt be very great, and this is all that this office can with propriety say upon the subject.

With reference to that part of Capt. Catlett's communication which relates to the improper location of trading-houses, and improper traffic being carried on with the Indians in Texas, our laws, as already stated, provide no remedy, being inoperative in that State. The State laws, of which copies are enclosed, if they are operative, and the military, the Indian agent, and the State authorities combined, were to see to their being properly en-

forced against those violating them, would, however, it seems to me, do much to remedy the evils complained of.

With this general outline of the main points and objects of Capt. Catlett's communication, the whole subject is respectfully submitted for your consideration, with the remark that the recent appalling ravages of the Indians on the lower Rio Grande, of which we have intelligence in the newspapers, would seem to show very clearly the necessity for promptly adopting some different and more effectual measures to hold the Indians in check, and to prevent their descent upon the frontier, than those heretofore pursued. Capt. Catlett confidently expresses the opinion, that those recommended by him would effectually have prevented such occurrences.

Extracts of so much of the communication as refers to Indians of the tribes on the Missouri and Arkansas frontier going into Texas, will be sent to the proper agents and sub-agents, with instructions to exert themselves efficiently to put a stop to it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. MEDILL.

HON. T. EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.

D.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

August 25, 1849.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a copy of a report, of the 5th of June last, from this office to the honorable Secretary of the Interior, recommending negotiations with the Dacotah or Sioux tribe of Indians, for the purpose of purchasing their title to a large tract of country west of the Mississippi river, in order to make room for the emigrants now going in large numbers to the new Territory of Minesota, the Indian title having been extinguished to but a comparatively small extent of the territory within its limits. This report has received the approval of the honorable Secretary, and he has selected you to conduct the negotiations, and directed me to give to you such instructions as seem necessary in relation thereto. These may be in less detail than would otherwise be required, because, from the present position of one of you, and the command it gives to him of all of the best sources of correct information on the spot; and from the other having held a similar position in the same region, and acquired much experience in Indian affairs in that quarter, embracing a knowledge of the character and disposition of the Indians to be negotiated with, the Department is fully justified in relying much on your discretion and good judgment in regard to minor points. I will therefore confine myself to a general view of the objects sought to be accomplished; with a brief statement of some of the reasons therefor, so that you may understand the policy of the Government in the contemplated measure. In order, however, that there may be no misake respecting boundaries, the following particulars are given:

The Sioux ceded all their lands east of the Mississippi, and all the islands in that river owned by them, by the treaty made with them in this city, on

the 29th of September, 1837. The northern end of the eastern line of this cession strikes the Mississippi opposite the mouth of the Watab river. This line was established as one of boundary by the treaty made with the Sioux and other Indians at Prairie du Chien, on the 19th August, 1825. It was extended west of the Mississippi—where it was the boundary between the Sioux and Chippewas—as follows, viz., up the Watab river and to the western end of the lake at the head of Long Prairie river; thence north to the upper end of Ottetail lake; thence northwest to Buffalo river, where it forks, and down it and the Red river of the north, to Goose river. The whole of this line you will find laid down on the accompanying map, which also exhibits the boundaries of the country now desired to be purchased; the northern, being so much of the above described line as extends to the western end of the lake at the head of Long Prairie river; and the eastern, being of course the Mississippi. Its southern boundary—being that of the Sioux country in that direction—is the lower irregular red line on the map, extending from the Mississippi to the Big Sioux or Calumet river; from which you will perceive that their country extends, at two different points, a considerable distance into Iowa. That portion of this line of boundary, between the Mississippi to the Des Moines, was established by the 3d article of the treaty with the Sioux and other Indians, of July 15, 1830—also made at Prairie du Chien—by which they and the Sacs and Foxes each ceded a tract twenty miles wide between the two rivers above mentioned, which cessions have since been known as “the neutral ground.” The lines of these cessions on the map are not exactly correctly laid down, but the northern one of the Sioux cession is believed to be as nearly so as possible. The remainder of this line to the Calumet was established by the first article of the same treaty. There is some doubt whether, after leaving “Spirit lake,” it was not intended to run so as to strike Rock river, or the “river of the Rock,” which empties into the “Big Sioux;” but as the treaty specifies that it is to run so as to strike “the first creek which falls into the Big Sioux or Camulet,” and “thence down said creek and Camulet,” &c.; and as, according to Nicollet’s map (the one which accompanies this)—though not by others—there appears to be a small stream called the “Cherah” answering this description, it has been deemed advisable, to avoid any dispute or difficulty, to make the line strike and run down it. The proposed western line of the desired purchase will be from the mouth of this stream, up the “Big Sioux,” to its intersection by the parallel of forty-three and a half degrees north latitude—which is the northwest corner of Iowa—and thence, in a direct line, till it intersects the northern boundary of the Sioux, at the western end of the lake at the head of Long Prairie river. These particulars may also be useful to you in case of the possible loss or injury of the map. In the treaty—should you succeed in making one—it will be sufficient simply to express that the Indians cede all the lands owned or claimed by them east of the last mentioned line.

The most, if not the whole, of this country was purchased in 1841, but the treaties—three in number—were not ratified by the Senate. Copies of them, and sundry documents connected with and relating to them, are herewith sent for your general information, and to serve as some guide in ascertaining the manner in which the country is owned or claimed by different bands of the Sioux, it not all being owned by them in common. But though this be the case, and different treaties had to be, or were, made for it in 1841, it is very desirable that there should now be but one; and that so

made as hereafter to unite and equalize the interests of all the Indians parties to it, and as well under it as under former treaties. This, it is supposed, may easily be effected through a compromise of any disproportions in existing interests—whether arising from the fact that some of the bands own more of the lands than others, or that some are entitled to benefits under existing treaties that others are not, by graduating the payments to be paid down when the treaty is ratified, according to the relative value of any such different interests. By such an arrangement our relations with them would be much simplified, and better understood, while they could be managed far more easily and with less expense. The Indians themselves would also be much better satisfied; for one cannot be made to understand why he gets less, or even more, than another, as all consider that they stand, or should stand, in the same position with respect to what they receive from the Government. If not fully practicable, it should be attained as nearly as possible.

Though the proposed purchase is estimated to contain some twenty millions of acres, and some of it, no doubt, lands of excellent quality; I think my predecessor gives sound reasons why it is comparatively valueless to the Indians, and a large price should not be paid for it. With respect to its being valuable to the United States, it is more so for the purpose of making room for our emigrating citizens than for any other; and only a small part of it is now actually necessary for that object. From its nature, so far as known here, a great part of it can never be of more than very trifling, if of any, value to the Government.

Ten cents per acre has been found to be a large price for the best lands purchased of Indians, situated so that they could be brought into market and sold at a comparatively early day—because of the heavy expense of doing this, and of the large annual expenditure growing out of the execution of the treaties by which they were procured, and the management of our relations with the Indians with whom those treaties were made. For much of those of the Sioux, that are of any material value, it must be a considerable time before any very large amount can be realized; while for much more the Government will probably never be indemnified for the expense of their purchase and survey. It is evident, therefore, for these and other reasons that might be mentioned, that the extent of the proposed cession should be no criterion of the amount that should be paid for it. On a full consideration of the whole matter, it is the opinion of this office that from 2 to 2½ cents per acre would be an ample equivalent for it. On this point, however, the Department will not undertake to judge conclusively; and should the Indians not be satisfied with the amount—say from four to five hundred thousand dollars; and if on full inquiry and consideration, you should be of opinion that a larger price should be allowed, no objection will be interposed to a reasonable increase. But any enlargement of the amount should be based on such evidence and information as will fully satisfy the President and the Senate of its propriety.

In all purchases of lands from Indians of late years, the Government has been embarrassed, on the one hand, by its desire to give them a fair equivalent for their possessions, and on the other, by the well ascertained fact, that no greater curse can be inflicted on a tribe so little civilized as the Sioux, than for them to have large sums of money at their disposal, especially when coming to them in the shape of annuities; which, indisposed as they naturally are to any thing like labor for a subsistence, gives them

the incentive and the means to live in idleness and debauchery, and more than any thing else tends to debase them, and to hasten their decline and extinction. And while the uncivilized Indians, who are entitled to large amounts, are always the most degraded; they are at the same time always the poorest, for their means are squandered principally for what corrupts and debases them, and gives them credit with traders for articles sold at enormous profits; and they are thus always in debt. But this sad and discouraging feature in our Indian system has been so often and so fully stated, and is so well known, that it need not be enlarged upon. It loudly calls upon us, as a matter of humanity and of duty towards this hapless race, to make every exertion in our power not to place much money at their discretion, but so to dispose of their means for them as will best tend to promote their moral and intellectual elevation and improvement. As large amounts of the consideration to be paid to the Sioux, as can be so arranged, should therefore be set apart for education, and the means for improving them in agriculture and the mechanic arts; and instead of their having the funds to purchase for themselves subsistence and clothing, and but too generally worthless trinkets and gew-gaws, sold to them at unreasonable profits, we should endeavor to furnish them, as far as practicable, with what is requisite and necessary for their comfort and welfare. It is hoped you will be able to carry out the foregoing views, and to make them prominent features in any treaty you may be able to effect.

No reservations of land can be allowed, and no stipulations can be inserted in the treaty, for the payment of the Indians' debts, both being expressly prohibited by a resolution of the Senate, passed on the 3d of March, 1843, and which, it is known, that body has refused to rescind.

In most of the late treaties there has been a stipulation to pay the Indians down larger or smaller sums, according to circumstances, to enable them to arrange their affairs and prepare for emigration, out of which it is believed they have themselves, in all cases, honorably discharged their debts. What amount should be stipulated to be paid down to the Sioux must be left to your judgment and discretion, exercised with a view to their welfare and best interests. Enclosed, for your information, are some of the recent treaties with other tribes, from which you will perceive the amounts stipulated in those cases, and the manner in which the stipulation is worded. You will find, also, that sums are provided to be paid to the Indians to enable them to defray the expenses of their removal, and to aid them in subsisting themselves for a time after that is accomplished, until they can settle down and make arrangements for that purpose themselves; the latter to be paid only after removal, and the Indians to remove themselves. Similar stipulations may be introduced into any treaty with the Sioux. Other provisions in these treaties, to which your attention is respectfully invited, exhibit the present policy of the Government in relation to the mode of compensating Indians for lands purchased of them; by which they are allowed, in various ways, a certain sum for a series of years, instead of permanent annuities—which are objectionable on many accounts; and that sum so arranged, if practicable, that in case of a diminution in the number of a tribe, it shall bear the same proportion to numbers as at first.

It may be that the Sioux cannot be induced to leave the ceded territory entirely for some years, though this would be desirable; for the sooner they settle down in permanent locations, where lands can be broken up, and agricultural means, mechanics, schools, &c., provided for them, the better;

and a strong effort should be made to effect this object. If this be found impracticable, they should be obligated to leave a considerable portion of the ceded territory as soon after the ratification of the treaty as possible—say within one year—and the remainder whenever required to do so by the President of the United States. In the event of the latter arrangement, the part they should leave at once should be designated by some distinct and well defined line; and they should be bound not to return within it upon pain of the severe displeasure of their Great Father, the President. In this case, also, but one-half of the amount for the expense of removal and subsistence should be paid to them, the other half being reserved to be paid when they remove from the ceded territory altogether; which would operate as an inducement to hasten their doing so.

As wide a space should be kept between them and our citizens as possible, as thereby the lives and property of the latter will be rendered more secure, peace and tranquillity more easily preserved, and the Indians themselves be benefited by being kept out of the reach, to some extent at least, of the whiskey seller, and of those influences arising out of a contact with a border population, which has always proved so injurious to our red race. In fact, this is one of the reasons why so large a cession is now desired; though another, and a prominent one, is, that probably, as stated by my predecessor, a larger can be obtained for a consideration but little, if any greater, than a smaller one; while, if a less extent of territory be now purchased, the result will be, that in a few years the Government will again be put to the expense and trouble of another negotiation, and, in the end be compelled to pay an unnecessarily large amount for the same land, and this without any substantial or lasting benefit to the Indians. Indeed, it would be preferable to obtain a still larger cession, by extending the western line up the big Sioux river to its sources, thence across to the head of Wild Rice river, and down it and the Red river of the north, till it intersects the present Sioux line at the mouth of Buffalo river, as indicated by the dotted red line on the map. This extension of the western line of the purchase would be attended with two important advantages; it would cause a separation, to a considerable distance, between the Sioux and Chippewas, who are hereditary enemies, and are engaged in frequent and bloody contests; while it would render much more safe the route for the considerable trade which is carried on periodically every year between the British population on the Red river of the north, and ours in the region of the upper Mississippi. You are therefore authorized to make an effort to purchase this additional extent of territory, if it can be done without increasing the consideration to be paid by the United States to a degree disproportionate to the advantages which would be secured by it.

It may be, however, that you will be unable to induce the Indians to consent to cede so large an extent of country; in which event you are authorized to make a treaty with them for a smaller cession—sufficient for the accommodations of our emigrating citizens for some years to come. Leaving it to you—after a full consideration of the circumstances which should be taken into view—to determine as to quantity and location, I would remark, however, that it is desirable to extinguish the title of the Sioux to all their lands in Iowa, and to all south of the St. Peter's, or Minesota river. With regard to consideration and the disposition which should be provided in the treaty to be made of it, you will please be governed, as far as practicable; by the views already expressed on those points.

Within the tract proposed to be purchased, there is one known as "the Sioux half-breed reservation on Lake Pepin," bounded as follows, viz: Beginning at a place called the Barn, below and near the village of the Red Wing chief, and running back fifteen miles; thence, in a parallel line with Lake Pepin and the Mississippi, about thirty-two miles, to a point opposite Beef or O'Bœuf river; thence fifteen miles to the grand encampment opposite the river aforesaid "

According to the 9th article of the treaty of Prairie du Chien of July 15, 1830, to which reference has already been made, the Sioux bands in council requested permission to bestow this tract upon the half-breeds of the nation. Instead of acceding to this request, however, the United States only consented "to suffer said half-breeds to occupy said tract of country; they holding, by the same title and in the same manner as other Indian titles are held;" but it was agreed that the President of the United States might thereafter "assign to any of said half-breeds, to be held by him or them in fee simple, any portion of said tract; not exceeding a section of six hundred and forty acres to each individual." Several attempts have been made to have such an assignment made to the half-breeds, but this has invariably been refused, for various reasons that still and must continue to exist; and among them two of much strength, viz., that the half-breeds, or the most of them, would be speculated upon by designing persons, and cheated out of their reservations, and that it would be difficult to make any assignment that would place them upon any thing like a fair equality; as some would necessarily have much better reservations than others, on account of the quality of the lands, convenience of location, and other particulars rendering some much more desirable than others, which would engender dissatisfaction and heart-burning among themselves, as well as against the United States. Were such an assignment made, the half-breeds would have no longer any claim, of any description, to the portion of the tract remaining after all had been accommodated, which it is believed would amount to a considerable quantity. The only title they now have to the tract, therefore, is that by which other Indians hold their lands, viz., the occupant or usufruct right; and this they enjoy by permission of the United States. Such being the case, and as the Government would probably never find it expedient and advisable to make the assignment referred to, the tract, whatever may be the character of the land—must be, and would continue, comparatively valueless to them.

You will perceive that one of three treaties, made in 1841, was with the half-breeds for the cession of their title to this tract, and that by that instrument they were to be allowed \$200,000 for it, and to be paid for the value of such improvements as they had made upon it besides. This consideration—which would be about one dollar and forty-two cents per acre (the contents of the tract being estimated at about three hundred and eighty-four thousand acres,) it seems to this office is far more than the title of the half-breeds, under the circumstances stated, is worth. You are, however, authorized to allow them whatever sum you may, after a careful consideration of all the facts, deem it to be fairly worth; but under no circumstances to exceed the amount stipulated in 1841; which sum, in the event of their refusing to come in under the general provisions of the treaty, or of the full-bloods not permitting them to do so, you may arrange to be paid to the half-breeds in such manner as you may judge most expedient and advisable, out of the general consideration to be allowed for the whole tract pro-

posed to be purchased. Or, should you find it the best or most feasible course, you are authorized to make a separate treaty with the half-breeds, as was done in 1841, for their title to this tract. Whatever amount you may in that case conclude to allow them, will of course by so much diminish the consideration to be allowed the Sioux for the remainder of the lands to be negotiated for.

There is another half-breed tract between the mouth of the Great and Little Nemaha rivers, held in precisely the same manner as that on Lake Pepin, the title to which it is also desirable to extinguish. This tract was set apart by the 10th article of the same treaty for the half-breeds of the Omahas, Ioways, Ottoes, and those of the Yancion and Santie bands of Sioux. It is bounded as follows, viz: "Beginning at the mouth of the Little Nemahaw river, and running up the main channel of said river, to a point which will be ten miles from its mouth, in a direct line; from thence, in a direct line, to strike the Grand Nemahaw ten miles above its month, in a direct line, (the distance between the two Nemahaws being about twenty miles;) thence down said river to its mouth; thence up and with the meanders of the Missouri river, to the point of beginning." This tract is estimated to contain about one hundred and forty-three thousand acres; but, from its position and other circumstances, is presumed to be of much less value than that on Lake Pepin. Whether it is occupied by any of the half-breeds of the several tribes mentioned is not known, though it is believed not to be by any of those of the Sioux. The interest of the latter in it, must be of very little value to them; and no doubt can be purchased without difficulty, which, in your negotiations with the Sioux, you will please endeavor to effect. The amount to be allowed for it, and the mode in which it shall be arranged to be paid, are left to your discretion and best judgment. Other arrangements will be made at the proper time for purchasing the interests of the half-breeds of the Omahas, Ioways, and Ottoes.

In connection with that portion of these instructions which relates to compromising differences in existing interests of different portions of the Sioux, I enclose for your information a statement showing those who are in the receipt of benefits under existing treaties with the Government, in what the same consist, their amount annually, and the length of time they are to continue.

An appropriation to defray the expenses of a negotiation with the Sioux was recommended in the last annual report from this office, but Congress failed to make it. To wait till one could be obtained at the next session would defer the negotiations till after this time next year, so that it would be at least two years before a treaty could be acted on, and any of the Indians removed out of the way of our emigrants that are crowding into the new territory; and before the expiration of that time, it is believed there would inevitably be collisions between them and the Indians, which would lead to serious difficulties, and possibly to a sanguinary Indian war in the northwest.

It is under these circumstances, constituting a pressing necessity for the negotiations, that they have been determined upon at this time, and we have consequently to rely on such of our small current appropriations of a general character, that may legally be so used for the expenditures connected with the negotiations. Under these circumstances the strictest economy in all those expenditures will be necessary.

Presents of such articles as will be agreeable to the Indians, including

tobacco, will, as usual in such cases, be required. But of the appropriations under this head, not to exceed six thousand dollars can be spared.

Provision, at the councils, will also be necessary. Those of a salt character, and flour, can be obtained from the commissary's department of the army at Fort Snelling, for furnishing which the proper arrangements have been made. For those of a fresh kind there can be applied of the appropriation for "Provisions for Indians" not more than the same sum as above. These amounts, or so much of them as may be necessary, you are authorized to draw for on this office, as this will probably be the most convenient arrangement.

Should the supplies, which you will thus be enabled to obtain, unfortunately prove inadequate, no doubt arrangements can be made by you to procure additional quantities, to be paid for after an appropriation shall have been made therefor by Congress, which will be asked for at the next session, if required; though it is hoped, that through the judiciousness of the arrangements you will be able to make, and the economy you will practise, no such application to Congress will be necessary.

The point for holding the negotiations must be left to your judgment, as you will be most able to determine, upon consultation, where they can best and most suitably take place. It should of course, however, be on the west side of the Mississippi, where there can be no question as to the operation of the trade and intercourse law; and should you conclude that it would be advisable to proceed any distance into the interior—say to the head of easy navigation on the St. Peter's—it is presumed that, through the facilities you will be able to obtain from the military at Fort Snelling, you will be able to make convenient and comfortable arrangements of all kinds for the purpose.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner.

Hon. JOHN CHAMBERS, and
 His Excy. ALEX. RAMSEY.

P. S.—Since the foregoing was prepared, I have learned from the Subsistence department of the army, that the following supplies were, on the 8th instant, ordered to Fort Snelling for your use, viz., 15,000 rations of flour, 10,000 of pork, 10,000 of salt, 10,000 of beans, and 5,000 of soap. And it was omitted to be said that for the general expenses of the commission—those for any necessary employees, and connected with its comfortable accommodation during the negotiations—you are also authorized to draw on this Department. It is hoped, however, that these will be confined to a small sum, as the means applicable are limited, and application will be made to have you supplied with what is requisite for your convenience, as far as practicable, by the military at Fort Snelling.

O. B.

E.

The treaty made and concluded at Stockbridge, in the State of Wisconsin, November 24, 1848, between the United States of America, by their commissioners, Morgan L. Martin and Albert G. Ellis, of the one part, and

the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, by the sachems, councillors, and head men of said tribe, on the other part, having been submitted to the Senate of the United States for its constitutional action, that body did, by a resolution of March 1st, 1849, advise and consent to said treaty, with the following amendments as "supplemental articles," and, in pursuance thereof, the President, by his proclamation of the ensuing day, did accept, ratify, and confirm the same:

"*Amendment.* Add the following as supplemental articles: Whereas the Stockbridge and Munsee Indians consider that they have a claim against the United States for indemnity for certain lands on White river, in the State of Indiana, and for certain other lands in the State of Wisconsin, which they allege they have been deprived of by treaties entered into with the Miamies and Delawares, or to the lands claimed by them in Indiana, and with the Menomonies and Winnebagoes, or to the lands in Wisconsin, without their consent; and whereas, the said Stockbridge and Munsee Indians, by their chiefs and agents, have continued to prosecute their said claims during the last twenty years at their own expense, except the sum of three thousand dollars paid them in 1821; and whereas it is desirable that all ground of discontent on the part of said Indians shall be removed, the United States do further stipulate, in consideration of the relinquishment by them of said claims and all others, except as provided in this treaty, to pay to the sachems or chiefs of said Indians, on the ratification of this article by them, with the assent of their people, the sum of five thousand dollars, and the further sum of twenty thousand dollars, to be paid in ten annual instalments, to commence when the said Indians shall have selected and removed to their new homes, as contemplated by the 7th article of this treaty.

"The President of the United States, within two years from the ratification of this treaty, shall procure for the use of said Stockbridge Indians a quantity of land west of the Mississippi river, upon which they shall reside, not less than seventy-two sections; said Indians to be consulted as to the location of the said land, and to be holden by the same tenure as other Indian lands."

And the said amendment or supplemental articles having been read and fully explained to the said Stockbridge and Munsee tribes of Indians, and to their sachems, councillors, and head men in council assembled, by William H. Bruce, sub-Indian agent of the United States, for the Green Bay sub-agency, they, on full consideration, do approve, assent to, accept, ratify, and confirm the same and every part thereof. And they, the said Stockbridge and Munsee tribes of Indians, in consideration of the liberal allowance made to them in the said amendment, or supplemental articles, do hereby forever fully and entirely acquit and release the United States of and from the claims referred to and recited in the said amendment or supplemental articles, and all and every other manner of claim or claims, of whatsoever name or nature, on the part of them, the said Stockbridge and Munsee tribes of Indians, or either of them, whether the same has heretofore been presented or not, except as provided in the afore mentioned treaty.

In witness whereof the said sub Indian agent of the United States for the Green Bay sub-agency, and the sachem, councillors, and head men of said tribe, have hereunto set their hands and seals at Stockbridge, in the State of Wisconsin, on the sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

W. H. BRUCE, U. S. sub-Indian agent, [Seal.]
John W. Quinney, sachem, [Seal.]

Ziba T. Peters,	} councillors,	[Seal.]
Jonh P. Quinney,		[Seal.]
Abrah Pye, his x mark		[Seal.]
Peter D. Littleman,		[Seal.]
Simon S. Metoxen,		[Seal.]
Austin E. Quinney,		[Seal.]
John Metoxen,		[Seal.]
Joseph M. Quinney,		[Seal.]
Samuel Stephens,		[Seal.]
Jeremiah Slingerland,		[Seal.]
Moses Charles,	his x mark;	[Seal.]
Benjamin Pye, 2d,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Daniel Metoxen,		[Seal.]
David Palmer,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Ezekiel Robinson,		[Seal.]
James Joshua,		[Seal.]
Garret Thompson,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Jonas Thompson,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Thomas Schanandoah		[Seal.]
Samuel Miller,		[Seal.]
John Yoccum,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Jacob Konkapot,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Doctor Bigdeer,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Thos. S. Branch,	} Munsee chiefs	[Seal.]
Thomas Snake, his x mark,		[Seal.]
Benjamin Pye, 3d,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Benjamin Doxtater,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Aaron Turkey,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Paul Pye,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
Lawrens Yorrow,	his x mark,	[Seal.]
EDWARD OATHWAITE, <i>Secretary.</i>		[Seal.]

In presence of—

DANIEL H. WHITNEY,
LUTHER HOGEDON.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sum of money provided by treaties and laws in stocks.

NAMES OF TRIBES.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate p. cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares - - -	\$46,080	5	\$2,304	Treaty, September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas - -	200,000	6	12,000	Resolution of the Senate, May 27, 1836.
Sioux of Mississippi - -	300,000	5	15,000	Treaty, September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	175,400	5	8,770	Treaty, October 21, 1837.
Winnebagoes - - -	1,185,000	5	59,250	Treaties, November 1, 1837, and October 13, 1846.
Sacs and Foxes, Mississippi	1,000,000	5	50,000	Treaties, October 21, 1837, and October 11, 1842.
Iowas - - -	157,500	5	7,875	Resolution of the Senate, January 19, 1838.
Osages - - -	69,120	5	3,456	Do. do. do.
Creeks - - -	350,000	5	17,500	Treaty, November 23, 1838.
Senecas of New York -	75,000	5	3,750	Treaty, May 20, 1842, and law of Congress, June 27, 1846.
Kanzas - - -	200,000	5	10,000	Treaty, January 14, 1846.
Pottawatomies - - -	643,000	5	32,150	Treaty, June 5, 1846.
Choctaws - - -	872,000	5	43,600	Treaty, September 27, 1830, and laws of 1842 and 1845.
	\$5,273,100		\$265,655	

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, September 30, 1849.

STATEMENT G.

Statement exhibiting the amount of Invest-

Names of the Tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate am't of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.
Cherokees.....	Kentucky.....	5	\$94,000 00		\$4,700 00
	Tennessee.....	5	250,000 00		12,500 00
	Alabama.....	5	300,000 00		15,000 00
	Maryland.....	6	761 39		45 68
	Michigan.....	6	64,000 00		3,840 00
	Maryland.....	5	41,138 00		2,056 90
	Missouri.....	5½	10,000 00		550 00
Chippawas, Ottawas, and Pottawatomies (Mills) {	Maryland.....	6	130,850 43	\$759,899 39	7,851 02
	Pennsylvania.....	5	28,300 00		1,415 00
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	39,921 93		2,395 31
	U. S. Loan, 1843..	5	157 60		7 88
Chippawas, Ottawas, and Pottawat's (Education) {	Indiana.....	5	68,000 00	199,229 96	3,400 00
	Pennsylvania.....	5	8,500 00		425 00
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	5,556 71		333 40
Incompetent Chickasaws and Chickasaw orphans.....	Indiana.....	5		82,056 71	
	Arkansas.....	5	3,000 00	2,000 00	150 00
	Pennsylvania.....	5	1,050 00		52 50
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	433 68		26 02
Shawnees.....	Maryland.....	6	29,841 50	4,483 68	1,760 49
	Kentucky.....	5	1,000 00		50 00
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	1,734 71		104 08
Senecas.....	Kentucky.....	5		32,076 21	
	Kentucky.....	5		5,000 00	
Senecas and Shawnees.....	Kentucky.....	5	6,000 00		300 00
	Missouri.....	5½	7,000 00		385 00
Kansas schools.....	Missouri.....	5½	18,000 00	13,000 00	990 00
	Pennsylvania.....	5	2,000 00		100 00
	U. S. Loan, 1843..	5	2,700 00		135 00
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	4,444 66		266 67
					27,144 66
Menomonees.....	Kentucky.....	5	77,000 00		3,850 00
	Pennsylvania.....	5	12,000 00		600 00
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	26,114 88		1,566 89
	U. S. Loan, 1847..	6	12,900 00		774 00
Chippawas and Ottawas.....				128,014 88	
	Kentucky.....	5	77,000 00		3,850 00
	Michigan.....	6	3,000 00		180 00
	Pennsylvania.....	5	16,200 00		810 00
	U. S. Loan, 1843..	5	5,387 87		269 39
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	16,588 97		995 34
Creek orphans.....	U. S. Loan, 1847..	6	1,900 00		114 00
	Alabama.....	5	82,000 00	120,076 84	4,100 00
	Missouri.....	5½	28,000 00		1,540 00
	Pennsylvania.....	5	16,000 00		800 00
	U. S. Loan, 1843..	5	13,700 00		685 00
Choctaws under convention with Chickasaws.....	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	23,513 40		1,410 80
	Alabama.....	5		163,213 40	
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6		500,000 00	
	U. S. Loan, 1843..	5	7,400 00		370 00
Delawares (Education).....	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	24,679 56		1,480 00
Osages (Education).....	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6		7,806 28	
				32,079 56	

ments for Indian account in State Stocks, &c.

Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Am't of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
	\$94,000 00		Semi-ann...	N. Y.	Treas. U. S.	Treaty, Dec., 1835.
	250,000 00					
	300,000 00					
	761 39		Quarterly	Balt..		
	64,000 00		Semi-ann...	N. Y.		
	41,138 00		Quarterly	Balt..		Treaty, Feb. 27, '19
	10,000 00		Semi-ann...	N. Y.		
\$38,692 58	\$150,000 00	\$766,490 00	Quarterly	Balt..		Treaty, Sept., 1833.
	24,259 50		Semi-ann...	Phila.		
	44,204 40			Wash.		
	156 00					
11,669 21	72,264 09	218,619 90				
	7,352 50			N. Y.		
	6,016 05			Phila.		
				Wash.		
4,158 40		85,632 64				Treaty, May, 1834.
100 00		2,000 00		N. Y.		
	3,000 00			Phila.		
	908 25			Wash.		
	508 01					
228 52		4,416 26	Quarterly	Balt..		Treaty, Aug., 1831.
	33,912 40		Semi-ann...	N. Y.		
	980 00			Wash.		
	2,032 03					
1,914 57		36,924 43				
250 00		4,900 00		N. Y.		Treaty, Feb., 1831.
	5,880 00					
	7,121 87					
685 00		13,001 87				Treaty, June, 1825.
	18,000 00					
	1,730 00			Phila.		
	2,727 27			Wash.		
	5,026 30					
1,491 67		27,483 57				Treaty, Sept., 1836.
	75,460 00			N. Y.		
	10,235 00			Phila.		
	29,604 48			Wash.		
	13,480 50					
6,790 89		128,779 98				Treaty, Mar., 1836.
	75,460 00			N. Y.		
	3,000 00					
	13,912 50			Phila.		
	5,426 46			Wash.		
	18,183 30					
	1,985 50					
6,218 73		117,967 76				Treaty, June, 1832.
	82,000 00			N. Y.		
	28,487 48					
	13,840 00			Phila.		
	13,840 00			Wash.		
	26,656 04					
8,535 80		164,823 52				
25,000 00		500,000 00		N. O.		Treaty, Jan. 17, '37.
468 38		9,144 27		Wash.		Treaty, 1838.
	7,474 74					Treaty, 1825.
	27,656 76					
1,850 77		35,131 50				

Statement—

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate am't of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.
Choctaw orphans.....	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	\$26,387 44	.....	\$1,583 24
	U. S. Loan, 1843..	5	23,109 09	.....	1,155 45
	U. S. Loan, 1847..	6	6,200 00	.....	372 00
				\$55,696 53	
Stockbridge and Munsees. Choctaws (Education)....	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	.....	5,204 16	.....
	U. S. Loan, 1842..	6	60,893 62	.....	3,653 61
	U. S. Loan, 1843..	5	1,545 44	.....	77 27
	U. S. Loan, 1847..	6	9,550 00	.....	573 00
				71,989 06	
				\$2,208,971 32	

Note. The States of Maryland and Pennsylvania retain an annual State tax out of the interest as above set forth, under acts of Assembly.

Continued.

Aggregate amount of the ann'l interest for each tribe.	Am't of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
.....	\$30,461 70	.....	.....	.....	.....	Treaty, Sept., 1830.
.....	23,312 16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	6,479 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	60,252 86	.....	.....	.....	.....
3,110 69	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
312 25	.....	6,096 16	.....	.....	.....	Treaty, May, 1840.
.....	\$68,236 73	.....	.....	.....	.....	Treaty, Sept., 1830.
.....	1,530 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	9,979 75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	79,746 48	.....	.....	.....	.....
4,303 88	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
\$115,781 34	.....	\$2,261,411 20	.....	.....	.....	.....

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs,
September 30, 1849.

H.

[Extract from report of his excellency, Joseph Lane, governor of Oregon, and ex officio superintendent of Indian affairs, dated April 9, 1849, and addressed to the Hon. Secretary of State.]

“So far as I have been able to see and converse with the Indians, I find them friendly and well disposed. But many of them complain. They say the whites have settled their country, killed their game, brought among them sickness which has caused many deaths—that they are rapidly passing off, and will soon all be gone. That the white people have promised them from year to year, and from time to time, that the United States Government would send out a governor with presents for them, and commissioners to purchase their lands and pay for them. They are anxious to sell, and the people are exceedingly sensitive on the subject. The exposure of families and property in the absence of the male population makes it more desirable at this time, than at any other since the settlement of the territory that they should sell.

The necessity for locating them entirely out of the settlements is obviously very great.

The troops engaged in the late Cayuse war, with the exception of one company, were disbanded in June last, the others in September. Since which time the Indians have made no hostile demonstration, and I am in hopes will not, before the troops destined for the Oregon service will have arrived, at which time the murderers of Dr. Whitman, lady and others, can be demanded and punished, and then a peace made with them.”

I.

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO.

October 1, 1849.

SIR: You were advised by note of the 15th of August last, that on the ensuing day we were to leave on an expedition against the Navajoes, with the intention of returning through the Utah country. Governor Washington was so obliging as to extend to me an invitation to accompany him, which was readily accepted. Our rendezvous was Jemez, an Indian pueblo, fifty-seven to 100 miles from Santa Fé, as indicated by Major Kendrick's viameter, and in a direction nearly due west.

We marched from Jemez on the 22nd of August for the *Cañon of Cheille*, the capital spot of the Navajo tribe of Indians, and by them supposed, or rather reported, to be entirely impracticable of approach by an American army. Passing over an exceedingly rugged country, checkered, occasionally, by beautiful fertile and extensive valleys, and encamping sometimes where we could not obtain wood, water, or grass, we pitched our tents in a corn-field in the *Cañon of Cheille* on the morning of the 6th day of September last, apparently to the utter amazement of several hundred Navajoes, who during the evening, and until a treaty was concluded with them, continued to occupy the surrounding heights, dashing with great speed from point to point, evidently in great perturbation.

It is proper here to mention an incident that occurred on the east side of the mountain range from *Cheille*.

On the afternoon of the 30th of August, we encamped near extensive corn-fields belonging to the Navajoes, in the valley of Tunicha, where we were met by several hundreds of their tribe. They asked for permission to confer with the Governor, which was conceded to the chiefs. The Governor frankly stated to them that his purpose was to chastise them for their bad conduct in committing murders and stealing horses, sheep, and everything else they could put their hands upon. The chiefs replied that lawless men were to be found everywhere; that such secreted themselves during the day, and prowled about at night; that their utmost vigilance had not rendered it possible for the chiefs and good men to apprehend the guilty or to restrain the wicked; but that they were ready to make every possible restitution by returning an equal number of animals stolen, returning certain captives, and delivering the murderer or murderers of Micente Garcia, to be dealt with as justice might decree. In short, they were ready to submit themselves and their interests to the authorities of the United States, as the best means of securing the prosperity and happiness of all concerned. A skeleton of a treaty, in substance the same as the treaty concluded at Cheille, was immediately submitted, and thoroughly discussed and agreed to; and certain chiefs named to accompany us to Cheille, the residence, so far as he has one, of the head chief, and the seat of the supreme power of the Navajo tribe of Indians. As an earnest of their intentions, they delivered to us one hundred and thirty sheep, and some four or five mules and horses. This accomplished, orders were given to prepare to resume our march. In the mean time the Indians were all permitted to descend from the heights, and to occupy a level space, commencing within fifty paces of the Governor's quarters. The actings and doings of the parties were duly explained to them by a long and noisy harangue from a Navajo. They were further informed that a certain horse, which was pointed out to them, was the property of a Pueblo Indian then present, and that the horse must be delivered to the proper owner at once. The fact of having stolen the horse was not denied, but a statute of limitation was suggested by the reply, that the horse had been rode back to the country from whence the animal was taken, and that that was the time to have claimed him, and ended by the inquiry why he was not then claimed. This conversation was reported to Governor Washington in the presence of several chiefs, who were distinctly notified by him, that he required the immediate delivery of the horse. The chiefs, among them the senior chief, on the east side of the before mentioned mountain range, left the Governor's tent, as was supposed, to instruct their people what they should do. The Governor having waited a sufficient length of time without the return of a single chief, or any report from them, ordered a small detachment of the guard to proceed to the crowd, with instructions to the officer of the guard, to demand the immediate surrender of the horse, and walked out, in person, to superintend the execution of the order. The demand not producing the desired effect, Lieut. Torez, the officer of the guard, was directed by the Governor to seize the horse and his rider, and to bring them before him. The moment the guard was ordered forward, every Navajo Indian in the crowd, supposed to number from three to four hundred, all mounted and armed, and their arms in their hands, wheeled and put the spur to their horses; upon which, the Governor ordered the guard to fire. The senior chief Narbone, was left lifeless upon the ground, and several others were found dead in the vicinity. The Indians did not attempt to fire until their own and our forces were scattered, when feeble efforts to kill and

cut off small parties were unsuccessfully made. Except the killing of a few horses, and the loss of a few mules, we sustained no injury.

The distance from Santa Fé to Tunicha, is one hundred and ninety-eight 99-100 miles.

In pursuance of orders previously given, we marched during the afternoon of that day about six miles in the direction of Cheille, and encamped adjoining the corn-fields belonging to Narbone, the chief killed at Tunicha. During the same afternoon, and every day thereafter on our march to Cheille, Indians of the tribe would come within hallowing distance and renew expressions of their desire for peace, and of their intentions to comply with the terms which their chiefs had agreed to. On the evening that we entered the Cañon of Cheille, we were again spoken to from the heights, when it was announced they were ready to comply with the Governor's demands; and as the Governor did not order a halt, they said the Governor did not want peace, or why persist in going into the Cañon. The Governor ordered our Indians, who were talking to the Navajoes, to be silent, and we quietly entered the much talked of Cañon, two hundred and eighty-four 08-100 miles from Santa Fé, rich in its valleys, rich in its fields of grain, and rich in its vegetables and peach orchards. Water at this season of the year may be had in any desirable quantity by digging a few feet and wood in abundance, pine, juniper and cedar, a few miles off. The quantity of water that runs through and under the surface of Cañon is immense; and in many places above Cheille, there is a bold and continuous stream of pure water; but as it reaches the debouching point, the earth becomes quite porous, and the water sinks a few feet.

Early on the day after our arrival at Cheille, the head chief of the tribe having ascertained by what process he could approach the Governor, presented himself at head quarters, heard the demands of the Governor, and after a rather long talk, pledged himself to a compliance, and appointed the second day thereafter as the time to consummate the agreement. At the appointed time, the head chief, with the second, appeared and announced their readiness and their full authority to redeem the pledge of the head chief; at the same time, bringing forward one hundred and four sheep, four mules and horses, and delivering four captives.

Mexican Captives Delivered.

1. *Anto Josea*, about ten years old, taken from Jemez, where his parents now live, by the Navajo who delivered him. A flock of goats and sheep were stolen at the same time. He says he was well treated.
2. *Theodosia Gonzalez*, twelve years of age, was taken about six years ago from a corral near the Rio Grande, where he supposes his parents now live. He was stolen while herding goats, but no effort was made to take the goats. He was well treated.
3. *Marceito*, eighteen years of age, was taken from Socorro. He knows nothing of his parents, nor how long he has been a captive. He has evidently been a captive many years, as he has entirely forgotten his native tongue. The novelty of a home, as explained to him, seemed to excite him somewhat.

Josea Ignacio Anañe became prisoner seventeen years ago; taken, when quite a boy, by a roving band of Navajoes, at Tuckalotoe. His parents then lived at Santa Fé, where he supposes they now reside. He is the

fortunate possessor of two wives and three children, living at *Mecina Gorda*, (big oak) north of *Cheille*, two and a half days' travel. He was originally sold to an Indian named *Waro*, to whom he yet belongs. I do not think he is under many restraints, for he prefers most decidedly to remain with the Navajoes, notwithstanding his peonage.

Subsequently, at *Zunia*, the Navajoes brought to us *Manuel Lucira*, taken from *Del Mansiña* two years since, while herding sheep. The Indians took only such sheep as were needed at the moment. He is about fourteen years of age, and has been sold several times, and badly treated by flogging, &c. His parents are said to be living near the place where he was stolen from. At the same time, a brother of *Manuel's* was taken, but he was returned last year. These captives, except the one so fortunately married, have been placed in the hands of the friends and acquaintances of their parents.

The treaty, a copy of which I have already addressed to you, having been duly executed, on the 10th of September, we marched for *Zunia*—distance $106\frac{1}{8}$ miles, in a southeastern direction—instead of returning by way of the *Utah* country. Governor *Washington*, previous to marching from *Santa Fé*, ordered about three hundred mounted troops into the *Utah* country, for the purpose of repressing disturbances, checking depredations, and to recover lost and stolen property. Two of the companies were ordered, if practicable, to effect a junction with the troops under the Governor's immediate command, before they reached *Cheille*. It is matter of regret that this could not be done. The Governor having no reliable information as to what had been done against the *Utahs*, and hearing what was believed to be true, and which proved to be false, that the *Apaches* had entered *Zunia*, killed a number of its inhabitants, and drove off a great many horses, mules, and sheep, changed the route of his return march, as before stated.

The pueblo of *Zunia* contains, in my opinion, more than 500 Indians—a hardy, well fed, and well-clothed race; and their location being more than 200 miles from *Santa Fé*, and 130 miles from *Albuquerque*, on a good road in every respect, now growing in favor as the best route to *California*, are subjected to serious annoyances from *Navajoes*, north and northwest, and the *Apaches*, south and southeast. But what is shockingly discreditable to the American name, emigrants commit the grossest wrongs against these excellent Indians, by taking, in the name of the United States, such horses, mules, and sheep, and grain as they desire, carefully concealing their true names, but assuming official authority and bearing. A wrong of this kind had been perpetrated a few days previous to our arrival there.

About the same time, the *Navajoes* descended from the mountains, and made an unsuccessful attempt to drive off a number of sheep, &c. A battle ensued, and several *Navajoes* are said to have been wounded, and one, whose undried flesh was food for carrion crows as we passed his remains, was left dead on the field, within half a mile of the village. The inhabitants of this pueblo gave us a hearty reception, manifesting their gratification in the most uproarious, wild, and indescribable manner, offering to us large quantities of fruit and bread—all of which was becomingly received.

Passing over a distance of $88\frac{3}{8}$ miles, wild in its mountains and cañons, beautiful and rich in its extensive valleys, highlands, and lowlands, affording superior grazing, the purest and most delightful water, excellent

pine timber, and a superabundant supply of the finest rock, limestone, and plaister of Paris, for building purposes, we encamped in the valley of Laguna on the afternoon of the 19th inst., within view of the pueblo of that name, containing some 400 inhabitants. The outrages committed against these Indians by emigrants to California *and others*, are as frequent and as flagrant as those mentioned of Zunia. Indeed, the last outrage was of an infinitely more aggravated character. Near the hour of 12 m., the day not remembered, the valley was entered, and sheep and other things demanded. To which the Governor of the village replied, no sheep could be furnished at that hour, as their flocks were regularly, every morning, sent off, that they might graze during the day. The emigrants, if such they were, assumed official importance; in their anger, threatened to lynch the alcalde; tied the Governor, and in that condition carried him from his home, Laguna, to Zunia, the next pueblo west.

The distance between Laguna and Albuquerque is $46\frac{3}{8}$ miles. The road between the two places is good; water scarce and bad, with but little timber, and less grass; no settlements, and no cultivation, after passing east from Laguna six miles on the road to Albuquerque.

About ten miles northwest of Laguna there is a small Spanish village called _____.

At one of these points, I venture to say, our Government should establish a military post; and I understand Governor Washington will station, at an early day, two companies in that neighborhood. The Navajoes and Apaches are exceedingly troublesome in that neighborhood. At or near Sandia, an Indian pueblo, some 15 miles on the road from Albuquerque to Santa Fé, five Mexicans were killed by a straggling band of Navajoes, and some property taken off on the 24th of the preceding month, the second day after we passed, on our return to Santa Fé. Numerous bands of thieving Indians, principally Navajoes, Apaches, and Comanches, are straggling in every direction, busily employed in gathering their winter supplies where they have not sown. Not a day passes without hearing of some fresh outrage; and the utmost vigilance of the military force in this country is not sufficient to prevent murders and depredations, and there are but few so bold as to travel alone ten miles from Santa Fé.

How are these wrongs to be remedied? I answer, by a compulsory enlightenment and the imposition of just restraints—both to be enforced at the point of the bayonet.

You are already advised, if not before, by my letter of the 29th of July last, that there were wandering bands of Indians, who did not cultivate the soil, and lived *alone* by depredations. The language I used on the occasion alluded to, should have been so modified as to have excepted the sustenance which they derive from their *sometimes* successful hunting of buffaloes, the bear, deer, and other game. It is now stated, upon a more intimate knowledge of the various tribes of Indians in this region, that a vast majority of the Apaches and Comanches live chiefly by depredations; that they look upon the cultivators of the soil with contempt as inferior beings, the products of whose labor legitimately belongs to power—the strongest arm; and that labor, except in war, and in love, and in the chase, is degradation; and the man who has not stolen a horse or scalped an enemy, is not worthy of association with these lords of the woods.

The wild Indians of this country have been so much more successful in their robberies, since General Kearney took possession of the country,

they do not believe we have the power to chastise them. Is it not time to enlighten them upon this subject, and to put an end to their ceaseless depredations? At this moment, above our *established* Indian country on the Arkansas, these people are committing every depredation within their power, as far up as Bent's fort. These, with the Navajoes and Kioways, are known to be in every section of the territory.

Indeed, we are in a state of war; and their disappointment in Mr. Fitzpatrick's promises is their excuse for their conduct. Concerning Mr. F's actings and doings, and his promises and authority to act, I am, as yet, wholly ignorant.

The Navajoes commit their wrongs from a pure love of rapine and plunder. They have extensive fields of corn and wheat, fine peach orchards, and grow quantities of melons, squashes, beans and peas, and have immense flocks of sheep, a great number of mules and horses of a superior breed; they have nothing of the cow kind. This statement, I know, is antagonistical to official reports made by others, but I report to you from personal knowledge obtained during Governor Washington's expedition against the Navajoes.

Distance and numbers, by red men, are matters of fact not to be comprehended and understood by Indians of this country, as it is elsewhere. Distance is measured by time, at their pace, which is never slow; and so far as their population is concerned, the Governor of the smallest pueblo cannot accurately, rarely approximately, give you the number of its inhabitants.

It is still a much more impracticable matter to ascertain the extent of the population of such a tribe as the Navajoes, the whereabouts of their local habitations depending solely upon the seasons of the year and their apprehensions of danger; not one of them having a permanent abiding place. Their only houses are mere lodges, square or circular, brought to a point about fifteen feet from the ground, and sometimes the outer covering is mud, one room only. The stone walls which are built and inhabited by them are in the shape, or nearly so, of a square, and sometimes have more than one room, from eight to twelve feet in height, and not one that I saw was covered in any way.

The number of Indians of this tribe I do not think can exceed five thousand, and they claim from about 35° to 38° north latitude, and 29° to 33° longitude west from Washington. The conflicting claims of the Utahs east and north, to some extent must indent their supposed borders; and they are barred on the southeast, south and west by special Spanish and Mexican grants to their Christian Indian allies, all of whom live in pueblos, hold lands in common, the boundaries of which they say are distinctly defined by original grants, now in existence. They complain of many encroachments upon their boundaries, and hope the U. S. Government will restore them their ancient rights. Wicked men, some Americans, but chiefly Mexicans, for their own mischievous purposes, have awakened the apprehensions of the Pueblos by declaring the Americans would take from them their lands and remove them to an unknown region. The fears of many on this point I think I have quieted, by the assurance that the President had no designs of that character; instead of which, if their population required it, he would add to their grants rather than narrow their limits.

But to return to the Navajoes. They derive their title to the country over which they roam from mere possession, not knowing from whence they came, or how they were planted upon its soil; and its soil is easy of

cultivation, and capable of sustaining nearly as many millions of inhabitants as they have thousands. I respectfully suggest, these people should have their limits circumscribed and distinctly marked out, and their departure from said limits should be under certain prescribed rules, at least for some time to come. Even this arrangement would be utterly ineffective, unless enforced by the military arm of the country.

These Indians are hardy and intelligent, and it is as natural for them to war against all men, and to take the property of others, as it is for the sun to give light by day.

In reference to a majority of the Apaches and Comanches, they should be learned and made to cultivate the soil, and should have prescribed limits, under the rules and regulations, and to be enforced as suggested above.

The Pueblos by many are regarded as *a tribe*. A more decided error in reference to these Indians could not be suggested. The number of pueblos, each containing inhabitants from 3 to 600, is about twenty, not including the Indians west or south of the Moquies. Of these twenty pueblos, the languages of at least ten of them are altogether different, and it is said by some who claim to be judges, there is not the slightest analogy in language existing between any two of them; and they communicate with each other through the instrumentality of Mexican interpreters, or pantomimic action. The same may be said of the Apaches and Comanches, with the qualification which follows: I have seen but a few of either of these last named tribes, and I cannot say there is as much dissimilarity in their languages as exist with the various pueblos. As to the number of either of these tribes, I cannot even venture a guess; and in reference to the extent of territory claimed by them, no satisfactory information has yet been acquired; nor can it be, until a sufficient number of troops are sent here to afford escorts to those who may be charged with such investigations. It may be remarked, however, that the Comanches range, principally, between 32° and 36° W. latitude, and longitude west from Washington 22° and 27°. From thence west 2 or 300 miles, across the Rio Grande, the Apaches are found on both sides of the dividing line, between the United States and the United Mexican States; and this circumstance will be fruitful of some trouble, because those on either side of the line will charge upon the other the wrongs they themselves commit. I am not prepared to say, the evils alluded to would have no existence if the article (11th) of the late treaty was reciprocal.

The terms by which they hold the country over which they roam is a mere possessory title which the God of nature has permitted to them; and one-tenth of the country would be more than sufficient to satisfy all the wants of a much more consuming people. The disposition of the Utahs is rather equivocal. They have committed no wrongs, recently, against Americans proper. These Indians met Col. Beall, who had charge of the expedition ordered against them at the same time Gov. Washington marched upon the Navajoes, and agreed to all his demands, an impossibility among them, as I have reason to believe, to wit, the restoration of *all* the Frémont property lost during the past winter. That was out of the question, as a portion of it, as I am informed, has long since been consumed. This fact was seized upon by worthless Mexicans to frighten the Indians off; for they made the Indians believe, if *every* article was not restored, Col. Beall would cause every one within his reach to be put to death; therefore it was, as I am informed by Col. Beall, the Utahs did not come up at the ap-

pointed time to consummate the treaty agreed upon. From the facts herein stated, it must be evident to reflecting minds:

1st. That an additional mounted regiment, full and complete, should be in service in New Mexico. I repeat what I have said in a former communication, infantry are useful only in taking care of public stores and isolated places.

2d. Without an additional force, not a single interest of the country can be fully protected.

3d. Military stations ought to be established at Tunicha, and the cañon of Cheille, in the Navajo country, at or near Jemez, Zunia, and Laguna, and perhaps in other places, in the direction of El Paso, and within the pueblo region.

4th. To every pueblo there ought to be sent at once an Indian agent, to protect the Indians, and to preserve the character of the United States. Such agents should be continued at each pueblo for the next year or two.

5th. Unless this is done, emigrants and others, claiming to be officers of the U. S., will disaffect those people by their lawless conduct.

6th. It is but fair to presume, that in a year or two, such improvements in public morals will take place, as to justify the discontinuance of most of the agencies that ought *now* to be in existence in each pueblo. Just at this moment the Pueblo Indians, in number 54, who accompanied Governor Washington in his expedition against the Navajoes, are complaining that they are not paid for their services. In New Mexico a better population than these Pueblo Indians cannot be found, and they must be treated with great delicacy. The slightest disappointment in their expectations, no matter how created, they regard as a deliberate deceit practised upon them. If properly cared for and instructed, in all Indian wars, these Pueblos would be very important auxiliaries. Even now, notwithstanding the discontent mentioned above, at least two hundred of them could be readily raised for mounted service; and if I had the military command of this territory, I should regard them as necessary adjuncts. In compliance with one of the stipulations of the treaty entered into by Governor Washington with the Navajoes, they are to deliver at Jemez, on the ninth of the next month, certain captives and stolen property. Although they have delivered to us sheep, horses, mules, and captives, as an earnest of their intentions, we do not feel confident that they will comply with the terms of the treaty. They may not be there. At the time, and on the occasion alluded to, the governors, captains, and alcaldes of most of the pueblos, east and north of the Mosquies, it is supposed, will be at Jemez. It is my intention to be there too, and, if permitted, what shall then and there occur, shall be immediately thereafter reported to you.

The mail leaves on to-morrow morning, and I have not been able to-day to complete the labor that belongs to my position; nor have I been able to revise with care what I have caused to be recorded in the foregoing pages. It is sincerely hoped I may yet, and in due time, cure my omissions of to-day. No opportunity, for the transmission of intelligence, shall pass me by, without advising you of my actings and doings, and my whereabouts.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JAMES S. CALHOUN,

Indian Agent, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

COMM'R OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington city, D. C.

FORT BRIDGER, ON BLACK'S FORK OF
GREEN, OR COLORADO RIVER,

August 22, 1849.

SIR: We arrived here yesterday. Messrs. Vasques and Bridger are the proprietors, and have resided here and in these mountains for more than twenty-five years. They are engaged as traders, belonging to the American Fur Company. They are gentlemen of integrity and intelligence, and can be fully relied on in relation to any statement they make in regard to the different tribes, claims, boundaries, and other information in relation to the Utah and Sho-sho-nie tribes, and a small band of Pannacks, as they have, during all their residence, been engaged in trade with them.

Among the Sho-sho-nies there are only two bands, properly speaking. The principal or better portion are called Sho-sho-nies, or Snakes, who are rich enough to own horses; the others, the Sho-sho-coes, or Walkers, or those who cannot or do not own horses. The principal chiefs of the Sho-sho-nies are *Momo*, about forty-five years old, so called from a wound in his face or cheek, from a ball, that disfigures him; *Wiskin*, Cut-hair; *Washikick*, Gourd rattle, (with whom I have had an interview;) *Oapichi*, Big Man of the Sho-sho-coes. *Augastasipa* is the most noted.

Both bands number probably over one thousand lodges of four persons each; of the relative portion of each band no definite account can be given; for, so soon as a Sho-sho-nie becomes too poor to, or does not, own a horse, he is at once called a Sho-sho-coe; but as soon as a Sho-sho-coe can, or does, own a horse, he is again a riding Indian, and therefore a Sho-sho-nie. Their language, with the exception of some *Patois* differences, is said to be that of the Comanche tribe. Their claim of boundary is, to the east, from the Red Buttes, on the North Fork of the Platte, to its head in the Park, De-cay-a-que, or Buffalo Bull-pen, in the Rocky mountains; to the south, across the mountains, over to the Yan-pa-pa, till it enters Green or Colorado river, and then across to the back bone or ridge of mountains called the Bear River mountains, running nearly due west towards the Salt Lake, so as to take in most of the Salt Lake, and thence on to the Sinks of Mary's or Humboldt's river; thence north to the fisheries, on the Snake river, in Oregon; and thence south, (their northern boundary,) to the Red Buttes, including the source of Green river—a territory probably three hundred miles square, most of which has too high an elevation ever to be useful for cultivation of any sort. In most of these mountains and valleys it freezes every night in the year, and is, in summer, quite warm, at noon, and to half-past three o'clock, p. m. Nothing whatever will grow, of grain or vegetables, but the most luxuriant and nutritious grasses grow with the greatest luxuriance, and the valleys are the richest of meadows.

The part of the Salt Lake valleys included in this boundary, the Cache valley, fifty by one hundred miles, and part of the valley near and beyond Fort Hall, down Snake river, can be cultivated, and with good results; but this forms a very small part of this country. How these people are to live, or even exist; for any great length of time, I cannot by any means determine. Their support has heretofore been mostly game and certain roots, which in their native state are rank poison, called Tobacco root; but when put in a hole in the ground, and a large fire burned over them, become wholesome

diet. The Mormon settlement in the Salt Lake valley has not only greatly diminished their formerly very great resource of obtaining fish out of the Utah lake and its sources, which to them was an important resource; but *their* settlement, with the great emigration there, and to California, has already nearly driven away all the game, and will unquestionably soon deprive them almost entirely of the only chances they have for food. This will, in a few years, produce a result not only disastrous to them, but must inevitably engage the sympathies of the nation. How this is to be avoided, is a question of much difficulty; but it is, nevertheless, the more imperative on the Government, not only to discuss, but to put in practice, some mode of relief for these unfortunate people—the outside barriers, or inclosing mountains, of whose whole country are not only covered, in constant sight, with perpetual snow, but in whose lodges, *every night in the year*, ice is made over the water left in a basin of near seven-eighths of an inch in thickness, except in three small places already named as exceptions; and two of these, the Salt Lake valley and the Snake river, are already taken from them by the whites, and there is but little doubt the *Cache* valley will soon be so occupied.

The *Utahs* probably amount to from two to three thousand lodges, and are divided into many bands—as the *Taos*, three hundred lodges; *Yan-pa-pa* Utahs, five hundred lodges; *Ewinte*, fifty lodges; *Tenpenny Utahs*, fifty lodges, (this band are about all who reside in the Salt Lake valley;) *Parant Utahs*, not estimated; *Pah* or (*Pey*) metes Utahs, and the *Sempiche* Utahs; of these last bands numbers are not known. Their claim of boundaries are all south of that of the Sho-sho-nies, embracing the waters of the Colorado, going most probably to the Gulf of California. This is a much more fortunate location, and large portions of it are rich and fertile lands, and with a good climate. Their language is essentially Comanche, and although not technically, yet it is supposed to be substantially the same as that of the Sho-sho-nies; for, although on first meeting they do not fully understand each other, yet I am informed four or five days' association enables them to converse freely together. Some of these people are already engaged in the cultivation of the soil, and large tracts of the country afford ample rewards to those who thus expend the sweat of their brow. Portions of these bands have always been at war with the Mexicans, constantly making inroads into New Mexico and California to steal horses. Portions of them are at present at variance with the Sho-sho-nies; and, indeed, the manners and customs of the Yan-pa-pas, under an association on the part of the whites with them, are dangerous; for, should one be found amongst them when a sudden death, from either accident or common sickness, takes place amongst them, the relations of the dead man are at liberty, and are sure to exercise it, of killing any stranger who may happen to be amongst them. Thus, until this custom is abandoned, no safe intercourse can be carried on with them. Their country being more south, and out of the range of white settlements or emigrants, the game is not likely to be as scarce for many years to come as it is in the Sho-sho-nie country even now, for already it has nearly all left their boundaries, except a small corner in the northeast corner of their claim; and, as they are at war with the Utahs, near whose lines it is, they are afraid to go there to hunt.

Supposing the Government will be prepared next summer to take some decisive step towards a regular system of intercourse with them, and with a view of enabling the Government, as effectually as possible, to guard against

the unfortunate results of the causes in operation for their entire starvation, a few only of which I have mentioned, (for want of time,) I have concluded so to arrange matters before I leave, that both these nations will be able to send large delegations, if not most of the principal bands of their tribes, to a great council to be held *here* next summer, being not only by far the most convenient place for such a council, but is also where the principal agency ought to be established; and here, also, ought to be established the leading military post of these mountains, for which, hereafter, I shall give my views more at large.

I have suggested the matter of the great council to Washickick, the only principal chief I have seen, and he highly approves of the plan. I have already made such arrangements, through the assistance of Major Vasques, (Mr. Bridger not being at home,) that all of both tribes will be notified of my design to hold such a council; and as soon as I shall have your pleasure on the subject, which I hope will be at an early day after I get to San Francisco, in November, I will then fix a time which will best suit the views of the Department, (if it shall meet with your approbation, as I hope it will,) and will then cause them to be notified of the day, which must of necessity not be later than August, and not earlier than July, as any other months would not be convenient for them to attend. The Sho-sho-nies are reputed an honest and *sober* people, decidedly friendly to the whites; and, if proper agents are kept amongst them, they will be easily managed, if a fair support can be provided for them. Some of the objects which I have supposed might be gained by such council, you will easily perceive from what I have said above, and many others, of perhaps equal importance, may also be accomplished. It is of great importance that these Utahs should be laid under obligations to cease their accustomed depredations on the whites and their property; and it is of greater importance to adopt some mode or other to save the Snakes from utter destitution, which in a year or two must inevitably take place, if things remain as they now are.

I write this in great haste; and the shortness of my stay here must be my excuse for not writing more, but I have touched on all the subjects most important at the present moment. When I get to Salt Lake, I shall have more time, and will go more into detail. Till when, I remain your obedient servant,

JOHN WILSON.

Hon. T. EWING,
Secretary of Department Interior.

No. 1.

MINNESOTA SUPERINTENDENCY,
ST. PAUL'S, October 13th, 1849.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian department, I submit my first annual report, as *ex officio* superintendent of Indian affairs in this Territory.

The Indians are all included in the following distinct nations: The Dakotas, or Sioux, the Chippeways, and the Winnebagoes; each speaking a different language, and marked by customs and manners peculiar to themselves. The two first named are the most numerous and powerful; they

are the old possessors of the land, noted for their fierce wars with each other, and both equally brave and warlike. The Winnebagoes were removed into the Territory from Iowa, during the summer of 1848, and some of them last spring, and are considered an inferior race to the two first mentioned. The *Menominees*, of Wisconsin, are to remove into this superintendency next spring, and will be located north of the Winnebagoes, between them and the Chippewas. A portion of the *Assiniboines* are also understood to be in the Territory, at the extreme northwest; but they cannot be said to belong to this superintendency, no intercommunication existing, nor, I believe, any treaty ever having been made with them by the United States Government.

Upon the organization of a new superintendency of Indian affairs, like this, it may not be amiss, for the information of the department, to take a comprehensive view of the past history and early geographical position of the various tribes within its bounds, and of their numbers and actual location at the present time. In doing this, I desire as a preliminary to express my indebtedness to the assistance and information afforded me by an elaborate paper prepared by Dr. Thomas Foster, a citizen of Pennsylvania, who was on a visit to this region the past summer. At my suggestion he engaged in a laborious investigation, to throw light upon the early and somewhat obscure history of the aborigines of the territory; and endeavor, also, to reconcile the apparently conflicting accounts of the first explorers and travellers, by philological researches into the nomenclature of the different tribes, as bestowed upon themselves, and on one another. The results of these investigations I have deemed advisable to embody in this report, along with the more immediate business matters of the superintendency. And, first, in regard to

THE DACOTAH (OR SIOUX) NATION.

The Indians composing this powerful tribe, proudly call themselves *Da-ko-ta*, (pronounced Dah-ko-tah;) which term meaning, united, confederated, or almost literally, it is said, "*Many in one*," was probably, originally applied to characterize their power and strength as a nation; and it is worthy to be noted, that they seldom or never willingly acknowledge, even when they know it, the appellation of *Sioux*, first given to them by the French, and now by all white men. This latter name, indeed, would seem to have originated upon the upper Missouri amongst the early French traders, hunters, and trappers, they deriving it in all probability, from the name of a sub-band of the (Ti-t'-wawn,) (Tee-twawn,) Da-ko-tas, called *Sioune*, (See-oo-nay) who hunted over the plains of that river; and with whom consequently they came most frequently in contact.

In Lewis and Clark's travels, in 1803, they are called *Teton Saone*; and their villages are located on their map upon the Missouri, near Cannonball river.

At least we find the term *Sioux*, (Soo,) first used in the early maps, to designate a large tribe, with various subdivisions, upon the upper Missouri only. Another general name, formerly applied to the *Da-ko-ta* nation, or to those inhabiting the upper Mississippi, was that of "*Naudouessi*;" and this is the one used by the early French travellers and writers, Hennepin, Lahontan, Charlevoix, and others, as far back as 1680.

It is argued by at least one writer, Bradford's notes of the Northwest, that

this now obsolete name is probably nothing more than the Indian mode of pronouncing the French word of description, used by the missionaries and Mackinaw traders, to designate a great nation of Indians, living beyond them to the *northwest*, around the head waters of the "Great river," and whom from their supposed location they called "*Nord ouests*." To this theory is opposed the alleged fact, that the general Chippewa designation for *enemies*, is *na-da-wessy*. It is much more likely, that the missionaries of Lake Superior, in their first imperfect knowledge of the language of the Chippewas, made the mistake of applying, as a distinctive appellative to one nation, in hostility to those informing of their existence and location, a word intended to convey the idea merely that they were *antagonists* and *enemies*.

The name thus originating in error, became naturalized among the French traders of the northwest, (and partly among the Indians,) and it was in this way that Hennepin and others came to use it. To this day, the Chippewas occasionally, but not often, apply the word *Na-da-wessy*, as a proper term for Sioux. The usual distinctive Chippewa term for the Da-ko-tas is *Evvan-acs*, (written by the French, *Boin-acs*.) In confirmation of this may be adduced the fact, that the *revolted* Da-ko-tas, who now form a distinct tribe to the extreme northwest, on the borders of the American territory, they call *Assine-boins*, pronounced as-se-nay-bwans, and ordinarily written Assineboines, from the word *assine*, stones or rocks, and *bwans*, the name of all the Da-ko-tas, and meaning Sioux of the rock, or stone Sioux; the name having been given to them after their secession from the parent tribe, when they lived among the rocky ledges around the Lake of the Woods, which is the *Assinepoulacs*, (Lake of the Assinepouins,) of the Jesuit maps of 1681.

The historical traditions of the Da-ko-tas are few, and extend back but a comparatively short period; those in regard to their origin and former residence are especially vague and obscure.

The Medewakantewans have one, that their fathers left the lakes around the head waters of the upper Mississippi, and removed to the region of the St. Peter's, "*because plenty of buffaloes were there;*" that they found the Ioways (called by them the Ho-wahs) occupying the land, and that they drove them from it.

In corroboration of this tradition—at least so much of it as asserts the former residence of all the Dakota bands upon the head waters of the Mississippi—there is considerable evidence, of a circumstantial nature, to be found in the earliest writers upon the Northwest. In the "relation" of the transactions of the Jesuit missions in New France, from the year 1632, quoted by Mr. Bancroft in the third volume of his History of the United States, it is stated that Father Charles Raynubault and Isaac Logues were the *first white men* who visited the Sault Ste. Marie, in October, 1641; that they found there "an assembly of two thousand souls" of "the On-tehibouse," as the Jesuits called the Chippewas; that "they made inquiries respecting many nations who had never known Europeans;" and that, among others, "they heard of one (the Naduwessi) who dwelt eighteen days' journey to the west, beyond the Great lake,"—(Superior), then without a name—"warlike tribes, with fixed abodes, cultivators of maize and tobacco, and of an *unknown race and language*." In 1659, two French fur traders wintered at the Sault, being the first white men who had ever done so; and on their return to Canada in the summer of 1660, they gave glowing accounts of the great lakes to the west, the numerous

tribes that hovered around them, "and of the powerful nation who dwell beyond the Great lake." Father René Menard was now despatched, to establish a mission on the Great lake; but it is related, that, on making the portage between the bay of Keeweena and that of Che-goi-me-gon, August 4, 1661, "he was lost in the forest, and never again seen;" but that long afterwards, his breviary and cassock were ascertained to be preserved as medicine charms, among the Indian nation known as the Na-da-wes-si. It is also noted, that Menard's successor, Father Claude Alloüez, arrived at the great village of the Chippeways, on the bay of Che-goi-me-gon, on the 2d of September, 1665, "at a moment when a grand council was being held to determine upon lifting the hatchet against the warlike nation" of the Nadawessi; a strife, it is said, upon which the young braves appeared to be bent. Alloüez at that time succeeded in influencing them to peace. He then founded the mission of the Holy Spirit (mission du St. Esprit,) and during his long sojourn was visited, it is said, by more than twenty different nations; and among others by the Illuni, "a hospitable race, unaccustomed to canoes, having no weapon but the bow and arrow, who told them how their ancient glory and their numbers had been diminished by the Sious (Bancroft's History of the United States) on the one side, and the Iroquois, armed with muskets, on the other;" that, living upon a great river flowing to the south, "they had no forests, but, instead of them, vast prairies, where herds of deer and buffalo, and other animals, grazed in the tall grasses." Then, too, the Father reports, that, at the very western extremity of the Great lake, "he met the wild, impassioned warriors of the Nadawessi, who dwell to the west, on the banks of the great river 'Messipi,' in a land of prairies, with wild rice for food, and skins of beasts, instead of bark, for roofs to their cabins."

In addition to this evidence of the former residence, warlike propensities, and customs of the Da-ko-tas, or Nadawessi, we have a map attached to the "relations" of the Jesuits, dated 1671, which locates the "Klistinons" (Kisteneaux or Krees) around and to the north of the Grand portage and present Pigeon river, upon the north shore of "LAC TRACY, of Superior," with a note at the Grand portage, that the Assinipoialac—

[Charlevoix speaks of this lake, as well as other writers of that time, who understood from the Indians that it was larger than Lake Superior. "The country of the Assinipois," he says, "is in the neighborhood of a lake which bears their name, with which we are but little acquainted. A Frenchman, whom I saw at Montreal, assured me he had been there, but had seen it only in a transient manner, as one sees the sea in a harbor. It is the common opinion that this lake is six hundred leagues in circumference; that its banks are delightful; that the climate is very temperate, though it lies to the northwest of Lake Superior, and it contains so many islands that it is called in that country the Lake of the Islands—some Indians call it Mitchinipi, (Great Water)—and it seems, in effect, to be the reservoir, or source of the greatest rivers, and all the great lakes of North America. All the following rivers are said to have their rise from it: the Bourbon, which runs into Hudson's Bay, (Red river;) the St. Lawrence, which carries its waters to the ocean; the Mississippi, which falls into the Gulf of Mexico; the Missouri, which mixes with the last; and a fifth, which they say runs westward, and consequently discharges its waters into the South Sea. I do not, however, warrant all these facts, which are supported only by the accounts of travellers; and much less what the Indians have related, that

in the neighborhood of the lake are men resembling the Europeans, who are settled in a country where gold and silver are so common that they are employed in the meanest uses." (Bradford's Notes on the Northwest.)]

(Lake of the Assiniboines, now Lake of the Woods) was 122 leagues towards the northwest; while another note placed, at the extremity of the lake, at the mouth of the present St. Louis river, says that the "*Nadoëssi* were about sixty leagues towards the west," ("vers dès couchant;") and still another informs that the "Illinois were about one hundred and fifty leagues to the south" of *Mission du Esprit*; which directions are near enough to the actual distance to show, (as the whole map does in its highly correct outline of Lake Superior,) that, in 1671, the French Jesuits had attained some definite, though still imperfect, ideas of the geography of the land, and the locations of its inhabitants. Indeed, the distance between the Grand portage and the Lake of the Assiniboines is set down as astonishingly accurate.

It is likewise relevant here to mention, that Father Hennepin, in 1680, having ascended above the Falls of St. Anthony "a few leagues further," to a river which he named, (and which still retains the name of St. Francis,) was there arrested in his progress, and captured by the Indians, whom he calls the "Issati" and Wadoüssiens. He also, I believe, speaks of the "Tintonhas, or Prairie Indians," and the Hancions (Ihanketwans) *as north, upon the upper Mississippi*. Baron La Houton enumerates as among the tribes *north of the Mississippi*, in 1688, the Nandoëssies, Assinpoüls, Sankaskitons, Atrutons, Clintinos, Eskimos. In "*Naudoëssi*" we have already recognised the Chippewa, (French name for Da-ko-tas;) the "Sankaskitons" were, perhaps, the Sinsitwans, or Sisetwans, a principal band of the Da-ko-tas; and the Tintinhos and Atintons are easily identified with Ti-twans, or Teetwans, another chief band, or council fire, of the same nation.

From the concurrent testimony thus presented, several conclusions may reasonably be deduced. That the Da-ko-tas, in their progress eastward, had early possessed themselves of the country about the head waters of the Mississippi, amidst the lakes abounding with fish and wild rice; that they there for a long time resided; and that as late as 1688, at any rate, and probably later, they still remained in that region; though it is evident a portion of them had moved down to about the Falls, and on the St. Peter's (Minnesota) river; being attracted thither by "plenty of buffalo," according to a tradition of the Mede-wakan-t'wans. But the removal of this last named band from their ancient seat at *Mille Lacs*, was accelerated, it is to be presumed, by the migration of the Chippewas from the east, and their occupancy of the southern shore of Lake Superior, which placed the villages of the Mede-wakan-t'wans, "people of the mysterious lakes" in too close proximity to those of the hostile Ra-ra-t'wans, "people of the Falls," (as the Sioux call the Chippewas;) especially after the latter had established a great fishing village as far west as Che-go-me-gon bay.

This irruption of the Chippewas, an Al-gon-quin race, from the east or northeast, across the straits of Mackinaw, to the shore of Lake Superior, was the cause eventually of the removal of the Da-ko-tas from around the head springs of the Mississippi; and the discovery of America may be considered the immediate occasion of the movements, advance and retrograde, of both the hostile tribes. But to comprehend the operation of this great event upon the Indians of this territory, changing their geographical positions and creating their wars, it will be necessary to take a general glance at the re-

spective situations and character of all the Indian tribes at the close of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

At this early period, the numerous tribes included by the French under the term *Al-gon-quins*, and by a modern American writer, (Mr. Schoolcraft,) characterized as the *Algic race*, occupied nearly entirely the whole region between the Atlantic and the Alleghanies, from North Carolina to beyond the Gulf of St. Lawrence; thence in a direct line to the great lakes, and northwest to Hudson's bay; while on the southern line, from Pimlico sound they reached to the Mississippi. The whole of these tribes, interior and Atlantic, were recognised as one race, descended from a common stock; chiefly because they all spoke branches of one radical language; though each had local peculiarities of dialect and history, and were scattered in their geographical positions.

The origin of this race has never been clearly determined; but Mr. Schoolcraft is of opinion that *they came from the southwest*, crossing the Mississippi low down towards its mouth.

The tradition of all these Algic tribes (says Mr. Schoolcraft in his "Researches") *point southwest*, as the place of their origin; and it was there that they located the residence of their God. The Ojibwas and Al-gon-quins proper, and their numerous progeny of tribes in the west and northwest, *date their origin in the east*; and to this day call the north and northwest winds, the *home winds*, [Kee-waydin,] indicating probably that it blows back on the track of their migration; and they were followed at *distinct eras* by the Ostic or Iroquois race, by the Muscogee or Mobillian race, and by the *Isallanic or Cherokee race*, all from the same direction.

By the hordes of the *Ostic race*, (embracing the Hurons and the Wyandots of Canada, the Five Nations of New York, and the Tuscaroras of North Carolina)—a fierce and war-loving people, who spoke a harsh and guttural generic language—the Algics were scattered and harassed, and several of their tribes conquered and exterminated.

The *Ostics* appear to have immigrated, says Mr. Schoolcraft, by the way of the valley of the Ohio, and taking up a most commanding and central position in western New York, on the lower great lakes and the St. Lawrence, thus interposed themselves between the Al-gon-quin tribes of the seaward, and those of the west and northwest, cutting off their communication *with each other*. *This was the state* of things east of the Mississippi.

To the west of the great river, other races held sway. The tribes of Dakota and *Aztec origin*, then possessed the land from the head waters of the Mississippi, almost uninterruptedly to the Arkansas, except that (according to Marquette's map of 1680) a portion of the Illinois nation occupied the Desmoine country, to a considerable distance up that river; and the *Kithigami* are marked as dwelling on the Mississippi, in the region opposite the Wisconsin.

Early in the period following the year 1600, a disruption of these geographical relations of all the tribes took place; consequently upon the settlement of the seaboard by the whites, and the transference of the quarrels of England and France from the soil of Europe to that of the new continent for the arbitrament of war.

The *Al-gon-quin* tribes all appear to have espoused the side of the French, with two exceptions, the Asaukees, (Sacs,) who resided originally near the mouth of the St. Lawrence, relatives, may be, of the Abenakies

of Maine, and the *Musquakies*, called by the Chippewas Outagamies, (Foxes,) who lived at the head of Green Bay, in Wisconsin.

The entire *Ostic* race, on the other hand, allied with the British: but also with two exceptions, the Wyandotts living low down on the St. Lawrence, and the Hurons on the north side of the lake of that name.

Among the first fruits of these disturbing causes, we find the Osankies flying from their old homes on the St. Lawrence, to the west, and raising their wigwams again at Sankinong (Sagnaw) bay, in the Michigan peninsula, where they remained long enough to send off from their body the powerful scion of the Shawnees. Marquette, in 1673, reports having found "thirty-eight villages of Chuoanous" (Shawnees) on the river Wabash, subsequently so dreadfully famed in the early history of the "dark and bloody ground" of Kentucky, and from amongst whom Tecumseh sprung.

Removing again from this location, the Osankies were found by Father Hennepin, in 1680, about the bend of Wisconsin river, where they had united with the Outagamies, or Foxes, of Green bay; the bay *des Puans* of the first French maps.

Besides the Osankies, many other tribes were impelled westward by the pressure of war and the white settlements; and no doubt it was in yielding to this pressure that the *Chippewas* came to retire from the more eastern country of New France, and cross by the Falls of St. Mary, to the southern shore of Lake Superior; first residing at the Falls, (whence the Da-ko-ta name for them of *Ra-ra-t'wan*, people of the Falls;) and then pushing westward as far as Keeweena peninsula, where their village on Chegoimegen bay was first visited by the French missionaries in 1660.

It is easy to conceive that the tide of migration still continued to *flow in from the east*, and that the bloody strife existing between them and their western *nadowessi* (enemies) the *BWAN-ACS*, when Father Claude Alloué visited them in 1665, was afterwards from time to time renewed; until, in the course of years, it is probable the Da-ko-tas became wearied with the constant warfare, which, from the still growing numbers and power of the Chippewas, (who had the advantage besides in the early possession of fire arms,) promised to be unending, as long as both remained in such close neighborhood to each other.

To this pressure against them from the east was added the attractions for them in another direction, in the better regions below and beyond, to the west, where there was "*much buffalo*."

The joint operation of these causes, no doubt, at length influenced the Da-ko-tas to conclude *on abandoning entirely, as a residence, the country of the extreme Upper Mississippi*, and made them determine on proceeding to conquer new homes towards the setting sun.

The migration, or invasion, accordingly took place; but at what period exactly we have no means of knowing. While it is probable *Isan-a-ti*, or *Mede-wakan-t'wans*, (who would seem to have been the first to move southward from their lakes to avoid the troublesome Chippewas,) remained on their then location about the Falls of St. Anthony, on both sides of the river, and for some distance up the St. Peter's, (from which they had driven the tribe of Ho-wah, Ioways;) and that the *WAR-PE-KINTES* and *War-pe-t'wans* continued to occupy the country at the St. Peter's, just beyond them; the present nomadic bands of the plains of the Missouri; the *Si-si-t'wans*, the *Si-t'wans*, and the *Shan-ke-t'wans* moved westward, like so many besoms of destruction, sweeping all before them.

' The Cheyenne (Shian) Indians, living on the Cheyenne river, a beautiful tributary of the Red river of the north, flowing through a fertile land, where these was "plenty of buffalo," were among those who experienced their power. The invading Sioux drove them from the land, compelling them to seek a refuge and a new home across the Missouri; and ultimately still farther westward; for Lewis and Clarke found them, in 1803, located in the Black mountains, at the head springs of the Cheyenne river of the Missouri; from which fastness, it is said, they periodically sallied forth, and in lieu of attempting revenge upon the Sioux, plundered horses from the Spanish settlements.

The Indian agents for the upper Missouri report them as now ranging "between the Arkansas and north fork of the Platte rivers;" and, singularly enough, as the staunch *allies* of the Sioux against the Pawnees. On page 108 of "Lewis and Clark's Expedition," is the following: On the 1st of October they passed a river corruptly rendered Dog river, as if from the French 'Chien;' its true appellation is Cheyenne, from the Indians of that name. The history of this tribe is a short and melancholy relation of the calamities of almost all the Indians: they were a numerous people, and lived on the Cheyenne, a branch of the Red river of Lake Winnipeg. The invasion of the Sioux drove them westward; in their progress they halted on the southern side of the Missouri, below the Warrecone, where their ancient fortifications still exist; but the same impulse again drove them to the head of the Cheyenne, where they now are, and occasionally visit the Ricaras. They are now reduced; but still number three hundred men."

Since this was written they appear to have thriven greatly. In 1847, the agent for the upper Missouri reported them to have 530 lodges, containing five thousand three hundred souls.

Diverging next in their career towards the south, the invading Da-ko-ta, probably once more drove the Ioways from their lands; but this time from around the head waters of the Desmoine and Sioux rivers, down to the south, upon the Missouri; on which latter river, near Council Bluffs, in July, 1803, Lewis and Clark mention that they "passed the spot where the Ayaway (Ioway) Indians, a branch of the Ottoes, once lived, and had emigrated from this place to the river Desmoines.

But it may be presumed this migration of Ioways did not occur until after the tribes of the Illinois (whom Marquette's map of 1681 shows then occupied the lower Desmoine country on the Mississippi, and all the west bank to above the Wisconsin river,) had removed east of the Mississippi, and were nearly exterminated, first, by their wars with the Iroquois; next, by an inroad of the Sacs and Foxs, in 1752; and, finally, by the allied Algonquin tribes subsequent to 1767, in revenge for their murder of Pontiac.

The fine country from which the Ioways were probably thus ejected, was taken possession of by *Sissi-t'wan*, Da-ko-tas; and just beyond them *Shank-t'wans* pitched their tents; while the *Ti-t'wans* carried their arms and lodges across the Missouri: both these latter bands and their sub-divisions, from time to time, extending their conquests towards its head waters, compelling the *Ricaras*, the *Mandans*, the "Ahnahaways," and the *Manetores* (called by the French *Gros Ventres*, Big Bellies,) to recede before them. (See Lewis and Clark's Narrative, pages 147, 148, 149.)

When the Da-ko-ta bands, now in the West, had thus abandoned, or were driven from the upper Mississippi, a larger extent of country was left unoccupied, except by occasional hunting parties, of the Chippeways, or of the lower Da-ko-tas.

It would seem that thereupon the indomitable *Osankees*, with their allies, the *Musquakies*, (Sacs and Foxes,) whom Hennepin, in 1680; La Hontan, in 1688, and Carver, in 1766, found at the head of Green Bay, on the Fox river, and at the head of the Wisconsin, (including the Kickapoos, a sub-band of the Sacs, who afterwards seceded, and lived in the north of Illinois,) took the opportunity to extend themselves into the vacated region; and in this connection Mr. Schoolcrafts says of them: "While resident at Green Bay, they also occupied Lac du Hambeau, and extended themselves to Lake Superior, and southwest of its shores, to the Sauk and little Sauk rivers, above the Falls of St. Anthony."

They appear to have done this with the consent and alliance of the *Dacotahs*; but the *Chippeways* forthwith renewed, with the new comers, the war for possession previously waged so successfully against the *Bwanacs*, (*Sioux*.)

With the aid of the latter, "at first covertly given," the *Saukies* maintained possession of the "Rice lakes and midland hunting grounds;" but they were finally overthrown in a general and bloody action at the *St. Croix Falls*, by the combined bands of the *Chippeways*, led by *Wah-boo-jeog*, the *White Fisher*, who descended the *St. Croix* by the *Nunakagin* branch. The *Saukies* made a resolute stand, but were overpowered, and fled, and did not afterwards re-appear in that region. *Among the slain several Sioux were found.* *Wah-boo-jeog*, or the *White Fisher*, who was the leader on this occasion, "is said to have led out seven other expeditions against the same enemy; and died at *Che-goi-me-gon*, on *Lake Superior*, in 1793."

Comparing this last date with that when Carver found the *Sauk* villages at the head of the *Wisconsin*, in 1766, and this again with the fact that at the commencement of the present century they were living south on the *Rock river* of *Wisconsin*, to which they came *about the period of our revolution*, (according to both *Majors Long* and *Marston*;) and also that the map of *Lewis and Clark's* expedition, in 1803, locates "three thousand *Sacs*" on the *west bank* of the *Mississippi*, between the lower *Ioway* and *Turkey* rivers; and we are enabled to draw the following conclusions: *First*, that the occupation of the "Rice lakes and midland hunting grounds" of the upper *Mississippi*, by the *Osaukies*, was of *but a few years duration* before they were expelled. *Second*, that the *Chippeways* continued the war until they forced them to abandon also their old homes on the *Wisconsin*, and remove to *Rock river*, a portion of them afterwards going west of the *Mississippi*. *Third*, that the duration of their temporary occupancy of the ancient northern residence of the *Da-ko-tas*, was but about *ten or twelve years*; in the interval between the year 1766, when Carver visited them on the *Wisconsin*, and the year 1776, when they were driven down upon *Rock river*.

Pursuing the same train of reasoning, and at length we can approximate to the *time when the Exodus of the Da-ko-tas* from the upper *Mississippi* occurred—which of course was subsequent to 1671—the date of the *Jesuit* map, before referred to, on which they are noted as then due west sixty leagues from *Fon du Lac* of *Lake Superior*; and was apparently prior to 1766 but a *short time*; for it is to be presumed that the *Osaukies* hastened to occupy the country as soon after the *Dacotahs* had left it as was possible.

About the year 1660, therefore, may be assigned as the date of the irruption of the *Sioux* upon the plains of the *West*—just one hundred years after the two first white traders wintered on *Lake Superior*, and commenced the

trade by which the Chippewas obtained the superior arms that gave them so immensely the advantage in the wars of the two tribes.

In this hundred years, also, the Chippeway nation had doubtless greatly increased on Lake Superior; naturally, and from the retrogression of its eastern bands to the West.

Both north and south shores of the lake were occupied by them, or their sub-bands; and the Kisteneaux, (or Krees,) the Algonquin tribe, who in 1671, held the country around the Grand Portage on the north shore, were pressed several hundred miles further north-westward, bearing along with them in their progress, perhaps, the Assinib'wans, revolted Sioux of the Rocks, then inhabiting the rocky ledges around the Lake of the Woods, but who now roam the plains around the head of the White-earth river, the north-western boundary of this territory.

The present *Sioux of the Plains*, and their temporary successors, the *Osaukies*, having been finally expelled from around the head waters of the Mississippi, the Chippeways took permanent possession of the country, and have ever since retained it; pushing their conquests still westward into the Red River of the north, and transmitting from parent to child a hereditary warfare with the Bwanacs of the south-west.

It is a feature in this warfare to be noted, that in nearly all the battles between the two tribes which have happened within the memory of living whites, the Chippeways were almost invariably invincible when fighting in the woods and timbered country of the north; but that they quite as invariably suffered defeat by the Sioux, when they descend into the prairies and open country to fight with them.

But whatever their former appellations, locations, or wars, the Dakotas are now, as in early times, a powerful Indian people. Baron La Houlan speaks of a nation of Indians he found in 1688 inhabiting around the mouth of the St. Peter's, (or Long river,) as having "twelve villages and twenty thousand warriors," "and that they were much greater before their recent wars." This estimate was probably an unwitting exaggeration; but even at this day, persons not uninformed on the subject, speak of them as forty thousand in number. "Mr. Moore, the Agent for the Upper Missouri in Sept., 1846, estimated them at "five thousand lodges; averaging over ten souls to each lodge," while Mr. Matlock, the upper Missouri Agent in 1847, says, "The various bands of Sioux number two thousand five hundred and twenty lodges, containing nineteen thousand six hundred and sixty souls," and thinks that "the Indians, (of his agency,) have been extravagantly estimated by my (his) predecessor in office," though by the best authorities, and counting them band by band, they cannot now exceed twenty thousand souls. Among these are thousands of stout, fierce, and hardy warriors, who are as yet unenervated by their intercourse with the whites; and who roam on horseback, without opposition, over the fertile plains of their vast territory, extending from the Mississippi towards the head waters of the Missouri, and a large moiety of them have likewise erected their lodges beyond that river.

The Dakotas are subdivided among themselves into

THE SEVEN GRAND COUNCIL FIRES.

These are in the nature of principal sub-tribes, each independent within itself.

In confirmation of this view of their organization, "Mr. Moore, the Indian Agent for the upper Missouri, in his report of September 21st, 1846, says,

"In giving the Yanktons (Shank't'wans) a feast in reciprocation of their dog feast, I presented them salt, and they used it freely. As the Salt Lake is not very distant, and calculated to furnish salt for the whole nation of Sioux, I inquired why they did not procure it. They answered that the Yanctons (Shank't'wannons) claimed the exclusive use of it. I told them that it certainly belonged to the nation. They said they held the right of the several bands into which the nation was divided sacred. Each band claims the exclusive use of certain portions of their common territory, as each State with us claims exclusive jurisdiction of the soil of their own State ;" and all of them without any apparent central authority or federal head ; their only band of union, seemingly, a common origin, language, customs, and country ; with a perpetual tacit alliance for offence and defence against all other nations.

These *Sub-Tribes* or *Council Fires*, are again divided into patriarchates, or *Bands*, governed by petty chiefs, whose authority is partly hereditary, yet depending in no inconsiderable degree upon the good will and favor of the young braves, who generally choose a second or war chief, unless the hereditary chief should also be an approved and sagacious warrior.

The Council Fires are—*First* :

THE M'DE-WAKANT'WAN COUNCIL FIRE.

This is pronounced *Med-ay-wah-kawn-t'waron*, and is, I am informed, derived from the Dakota word *M'de* (Meday,) a lake ; *wakan* (wah-kawn) spirit medicine, mysterious ; and *t'waron*, a village, or people, or community ; meaning therefore, literally, "Community of the Mysterious Lakes." This name was probably given when they resided one hundred and fifty miles north of the Falls of St. Anthony, in the vicinity of what the French have called *Mille Lacs* (thousand lakes,) but which is the *M'de-wakan* of the Dakotas. A part of this band at the time had their village at Knife lake in that region, and hence was called by their nation "*Isanati*, people on or of the knife," (pronounced *Es-sah'-ah-ter*,) or *Esson*, meaning a knife. Another portion were known as the *Mat'-an-tomwan*, (pronounced *Mawtaharon t'waron*,) meaning "Village or community on the Matah : " but where the Matah was, and whether lake or river, is at present unknown. Both of these distinctions or sub-divisions are lost since their change of residence, and one equally comprehended in the designation of *M'de-wakan-towwans*, or People of the Mysterious Lake. The more western Dakotas on the Missouri still preserve the first designation in the word "*Santie*," which they apply to their Mississippi brethren.

At what time the *Me-de-wakan-t'wans* left their residence near *Mille Lacs*, (now called by the Chippeways *Minsi-saigon-ing*, the "place where there are all sorts of lakes,") on the country immediately west of the Upper Mississippi, is uncertain. Father Hennepin speaks of the "*Issati*" as residing about the Falls of St. Anthony, (the *Irard*, laughing water of the Sioux, and the *Kikilikah*, severed rock of the Chippeways,) when he was there in 1680, one hundred and sixty-nine years ago. Lahenton mentions, among the Indians living on the St. Peter's (his "Long river") in 1688, the *Es-san-a-pis*, which is nearly the pronunciation of "*Isanati*," except the change of the letter *t* into *p*, an easy mistake for a stranger to the word to make when hearing it spoken quickly ; and Carver in 1766, using the French term for the Sioux, applies the name *Naudowessies* to the people

he found inhabiting the region of the St. Peter's and Falls of St. Anthony.

Thus, as far back as the period of the first explorations of the Upper Mississippi, the Me-de-wakan-t'wan band of Dakotas held the region of country on both sides of the river, and for a short distance above the Falls of St. Anthony, in this territory, until the treaty of September, 1837, when they ceded all their lands on the east side of the Mississippi to the United States, and removed entirely west of the river.

On that side their present territory extends from the Iowa line, including the half-breed reservation north, to some ten or twenty miles above the St. Peter's. And being the only Da-ko-tas that receive annuities, their population has been readily and accurately ascertained to be about two thousand two hundred souls.

The entire annuities of which this band is entitled being but ten thousand dollars in money, was too small, when divided among so many, to justify bringing them twice a year, with their families, often from great distances, in order to comply with the generally excellent regulation of the Department, that annuities shall be paid half yearly.

The Indians themselves first nullified the rule by declining nearly unanimously to come into the agency to be paid oftener than once a year; and on my recommendation the Department promptly made an order rescinding the rule in this case.

This has had a good effect upon the Indians, convincing them that the authorities are mindful of their complaints when well founded, and that attention is paid to all their reasonable requests.

Besides this annuity money, the band receives every year ten thousand dollars in goods; five thousand five hundred expended in the purchase of provisions for them; and eight thousand two hundred and fifty "in the purchase of medicines, agricultural implements, and stock, and for the support of a physician, farmers, and blacksmiths, and for other beneficial objects;" and all these sums are to be expended annually for twenty years from the date of the treaty.

A stipulation in the first article of this treaty, providing that a "portion of the interest" on the whole sum invested, "not exceeding one-third," being five thousand dollars annually, is "to be applied in such manner as the President may direct," has undesignedly been the occasion of much evil.

To this five thousand dollars reservation, more than to any other one cause, the *missionaries* among them ascribe chiefly, and justly, their want of success in their efforts to christianize, civilize, and educate this portion of the Indian race.

Successive Presidents, it is understood, have acted under the treaty, and "directed" the money "to be applied" to *educational* purposes; but thus far no use has been made of it, and it has accumulated from year to year, until, at the present time, it amounts to fifty thousand dollars.

At an early day the Indians were made to understand, by evil disposed or interested white persons, that this money was paid to the *missionaries* (who had schools among them maintained at the expense of the American board of missions,) as compensation for their teaching.

The belief in this tale, and it was believed, was a death-blow to their influence—an almost insurmountable barrier to success in their benevolent and devoted labors.

The Indian mind formerly craved more lands, (but for hunting purposes,)

and he, by wars and invasions, sought to make conquests of regions where there was "much buffalo." This is all changed. Game is everywhere fast disappearing—the settlements are closing around them—and the Indian thinks only now of *annuities* and *goods* instead of war and plunder. An amusing instance of this is contained in the reply of Keokuck, chief of the Sauks and Foxes, when asked if he had ever been at the Red Pike Stone Quarry in the Sioux country. He answered: "No, I have never seen it; it is in our enemies' country—I wish it was in ours—I would sell it to the whites for a good many boxes of money." He gloats over and counts over the amount of each he is to receive like a miser does over his boards; with the difference, that an Indian, when he obtains all that he is entitled to, is often careless and improvident in using it. But he exacts jealously, nevertheless, the letter of the bond; and whoever he should esteem the cause of one dollar being withheld from him, incurs his suspicion and hatred.

The deception practised upon them in regard to the missionaries and the school fund is now understood by the more intelligent; nevertheless the missionaries are anxious that this cloud between them and the Indians should be wholly dissipated, by finally disposing of the fund in such a manner as to give satisfaction to the latter.

This it is not easy to do, unless the Government shall direct a different mode of applying it from that adopted heretofore. The difficulty has increased progressively with the amount. It is now so tempting a bait, that it is vain to expect Indian assent to its disposition in any other way than by a *per capita* distribution.

It is alleged by the Me-de-wakan-t'wans that at the time of the treaty they were assured that the fund was to be used in some other way than for education; and it is not unlikely they were imbued with such hopes by some one to induce them to sign it—of course by no one in authority or having a right to bind the Government by their declarations. But Indians do not always discriminate as to the weight to be attached to what is said to them by different persons on such occasions. Nor are their own representations in such matters entitled to implicit credence; Indian veracity not being beyond question, excepting only when a warrior relates his feats of peril in hunting or battles, and then, though he boasts, he always tells the truth.

This question has become a sore one to dispose of; and as Government has so long declined acting upon its first decision, and thus probably encouraged false hopes in the Indian breast, it might be as well to compromise with them, by distributing a portion of the fund *per capita*, and then at once investing the balance in sustaining a manual labor school in their midst.

Education efforts among the Sioux by missionary societies have thus far been attended with but little success, and a change of system is plainly needed.

I say this with much regret; for the devoted and exemplary men and women, who, with a holy zeal, have been spending the flower of their days amid savage society, certainly deserved to be rewarded by the most eminent success in their benevolent enterprise. I have not, any where among the Christian ministers of our land, met with more intelligent or sincerely pious gentlemen, than I have found here in the missionaries to the Da-kotas. Many of them have been laboring upon this stoney soil for fifteen years, and I do most sincerely sympathize with them in their deep regrets at the un-

propitious results, especially in view of the fact, that the pleasure a contrary effect would have afforded them is all the compensation for their arduous labors that they derive.

Experience thus far confirms the opinion of most practical men in the Indian country, that education and agricultural efforts can only hope for useful results, when Indians are removed in pursuance of treaties, and congregated upon a more confined space; and when manual labor schools, that will withdraw their children nearly entirely from their domestic influence, are exclusively established, under economical management, amongst them, to educate their rising generation in the arts, circumstances, and habits of civilization.

The present farming operations among the Mede-wakan-t'wans, also, seem to be badly arranged. Only two thousand two hundred in number, they yet have maintained among them no less than seven farms and farmers. I have no doubt that one good farm, if in a central situation, would answer a better purpose as a school of agriculture; and as it would require but one head farmer, could be much better and more economically conducted.

The principal sub-bands of the Mede-wakan-t'wans, or those with which the whites are most familiar, are the Ki-yu-ksa, "those who break in two in the centre," a name given them from the custom of intermarrying with near relations. This is Wabashaw's band, living below Lake Pepin. Next Red Wing's band at Lake Pepin—the Ki-mni-can, or those who live about the "tree on the mountain near the water;" and the Ka-po-sias, those who carry "light" burdens, of Little Crow's village, about six miles below St. Paul's. These bands, though for a long period in communication with the whites, have deteriorated in morals in a much less degree than many other tribes.

The country occupied by this council fire is among the best in the north-west. It has a silicious limestone soil, with a clay sub-soil; abounding with beautiful lakes and rivers; well timbered, and capable of producing large crops of the cerealia. It is anticipated that but a short time must elapse before a treaty with its occupants will throw it open to the plough and the scythe of the white man; while the Indian will also be benefited by being removed to the interior, from the influence of the whiskey trader, his greatest curse.

In addition to the treaty of September, 1837, at Washington, by which the Mede-wakan-t'wans obtained their annuities, the same council fire participated, along with the *Warpekute*, *Warpet'wan*, and *Sissit'wan* bands of Sioux, in the treaty of July, 1830, at Prairie du Chien, by which they and other tribes ceded to the United States the "neutral ground;" the four sub-tribes of Dakotas receiving therefor an annuity of two thousand dollars for ten years; besides an additional present of four hundred dollars' worth of goods to Wabashaw's *sub-band* of Mede-wakan-t'wans, made to them in pursuance of a "convention" held with them in September, 1836, by the now President of the United States, Z. Taylor, then "Colonel of the U. S. Army, and acting Indian agent." By a subsequent "convention," in November, 1836, held at St. Peter's, by Lawrence Taliaferro, Indian agent there, other presents of goods, to the amount of five hundred and fifty dollars, were made to the *Warpekute*, *Warpet'wan*, *Sissit'wan*, and upper *Mede-wakan-t'wan* bands, on their also ratifying the said treaty.

It was in this same treaty of 1830 that the Sioux half-breed reservation on Lake Pepin, and the west side of the Mississippi, was set off; "begin-

ning at a place called the Barn, below and near the village of the Red Wing chief, and running back fifteen miles; thence in a parallel line with Lake Pepin and the Mississippi, about thirty-two miles, to a point opposite Beef or O'Bœuf river; thence fifteen miles to the grand encampment, opposite the river aforesaid."

In a treaty made at Mendota early in the present month, by ex-Gov. Chambers and myself, as commissioners on the part of the United States, this reservation was ceded to the Government in consideration of the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, to be paid to the Sioux half-breeds *pro rata*.

If the treaty should receive the sanction of the Senate, the ceded tract of country will settle with great rapidity; possessing, as it does, from its situation, considerable prospective commercial as well as agricultural advantages.

SECOND. THE WAR-PE-KU-TE COUNCIL FIRE.

The people of this band or council fire occupy the country below and west of the Medewakan-t'wans, to the south of the St. Peter's, and around the heads of the Cannon and Blue Earth rivers.

Their name is pronounced *Wark-pay-ku-tay*, and is said to be derived from *wärpe*, leaf, and *kute*, shoot; literally the *Leaf Shooters*. The origin of the appellation is obscure; some supposing it to have been conferred from the fact that they live in a somewhat wooded country, and obtain their game, consequently, by *shooting among the leaves*; others because they hunt buffalo and other game in the summer, the *season of leaves*, (when the skins of the buffalo killed are useless for robes,) as well as in the fall; but this is too common an Indian improvidence to have been made by themselves the peculiar designation of any one band.

Living on the frontiers of the Sioux country on the south, this band has had to bear the brunt of the enemies of their nation in that direction—of the Sauks and Foxes, the Winnebagoes, the Ioways, and the Pottawatomies.

This constant warfare, arising from their exposed situation, has reduced their numbers to six or eight hundred souls.

A small portion of this same band, it is understood, have for some time past made their homes on the Missouri.

Shortly after assuming the duties of this superintendency, I was called upon to go through with the form of recognising the new hereditary chief of the band, and of investing him with the emblems of his authority. He had brothers older than himself; but for some reason they were set aside by the braves, who had chosen the younger son for chief. Having none of the usual badges, or appropriate medals, as yet furnished me by the Department, I substituted a soldier's medal, and a sword kindly furnished me by the Hon. H. H. Sibley, and investing him with these, completed the ceremony of recognising, on behalf of the United States Government, *Wah-mun-du-y, ah-cah-pee*, (*Wa-mun-di-ya-kapi*), or "the War Eagle that may be seen," son of the "Cane," as chief of the *Warpokute* Dakotas.

I allude thus particularly to this my almost first official act on arriving at the Territory, because the after-fate of the chief has thrown around the circumstance a melancholy interest.

He was a young, fine looking, intelligent Indian; and after he departed for his residence with his people, a hundred miles inland, I heard nothing further respecting him, until the latter part of July, when I was startled by the horrible intelligence that he and seventeen others of his band, men, women, and children, had *been massacred* by a party of outlawed savages whom

they encountered when out on a hunting expedition, near the head of the Desmoine, in their own country, and of course not expecting any hostile attack.

The hostile band is supposed to have consisted of Winnebagoes, Sauks and Foxes, and Pottawatomies; numbers of which Indians, renegades from their respective tribes, are still wandering in the northwest of Iowa, and constantly committing depredations upon whites and Indians.

Government should take measures to remove this band of marauders at once, before their numbers are increased through others of a similar stamp, from different tribes, being attracted to unite with them; when, growing bolder with impunity and greater power, they may commit outrages of a more serious and alarming character.

The Warpekutes occupy a fine country—pastoral, agricultural, and mining; and one immensely too large for them since their decrease in numbers.

It forms a portion of the tract expressly ceded by the Sioux of the Mississippi and the St. Peter's, in the treaty that is in contemplation.

THIRD. THE WAR-PE-TON-WAN COUNCIL FIRE.

This band live north and west of the War-pe-kutes, and their villages extend far up the St. Peter's river towards its sources. Their name is said to be derived from *warpe*, leaf, and *tonwan*, community or people; literally *people of the leaf*; and is generally written *War-pet'wans*, and pronounced *Wark* pay-t'wawn. Its origin is involved in doubt and obscurity.

These people are numerous about the head waters of the St. Peter's, in which vicinity the Sisit'wans and Ihank-te'wans also have residences. The Warpe-t'wans have a large village at *Lac que Parle*, (Echo lake,) two hundred miles above Fort Snelling.

Here the missionaries first established themselves in 1835, and here their schools and other efforts to civilize the Sioux apparently met with the most success; the favorable difference being no doubt attributable to the remoteness of the station from the white settlements, and the consequent greater difficulty of procuring whiskey at that point; and because the pecuniary jealousies which destroyed the schools among the Mede-wakan-t'wans, did not operate to any great extent among the Warpet'wans.

At this station in 1838, a small spelling and reading book, and a translation of the Gospel of Mark, with extracts from some other parts of the Bible, all in the Dakota language, were prepared for the press, and early in the following year printed in Cincinnati, at the expense of the American Board of Foreign Missions. The printing of these works was superintended by one of the missionaries, who, during the winter, travelled to Cincinnati for the purpose.

The report of the school at Lac qui Parle, dated July 11th, 1839, and written about the time these books reached that station, shows that fifty-one Indians had already learned to read their own language, most of whom could also write it, and that ninety different individuals had attended the school, more than in the previous winter.

Being now furnished with the books in the Dakota language, the missionaries hoped to see education advancing rapidly among the War-pe-t'wans. At Lac qui Parle these hopes were, to a considerable extent, realized. The report of that station for the next year shows that the number of scholars had increased to one hundred and eleven; of readers to seventy; and that quite a number of the women were learning to *spin, knit*, and

weave, four of whom had spun and wove woollen short gowns for themselves."

The school and mission continued to do good; until the hostility of the lower Sioux mission schools, arising from a mistake about the reserved school fund, so influenced the Warpet'wans, that the school and mission barely escaped being broken up, and have since been greatly impeded in their operations.

The Warpet'wans have perhaps done more farming for themselves than any other band, and have raised fair crops of corn, (maize,) though occupying the height of land north of 45°, between the waters flowing into the Mississippi basin, and those that discharge themselves into Hudson's bay.

A plentiful buffalo year, however, makes them neglect their agriculture; and this irregularity of cultivation is the occasion of starvation and great distress among them, whenever the buffalo fail to come down from the mountain in the salt water region.

The band numbers about fifteen hundred; and besides, some of them are intermixed with the *Sisit'wans*, whose villages are not far distant.

FOURTH. THE SI-SI-T'ON-WAN COUNCIL FIRE.

To the west and southwest of the two last mentioned bands is found the band of the *Si-si-ton-wans*; written *Si-si-t'wans*, and pronounced *Se-see-t'wawns*, from *Sisi*, swamp, and *ton wan*, community or people; the origin of the name is probably referable to the period of their former residence among the swamps of the upper Mississippi, previous to 1760; whence they were called "People of the swamps."

They number thirty-eight hundred men, women, and children; and claim all the beautiful country west of the Mankate, or Blue Earth river, to the river Jacques (James.)

They are the most western band of the Dakotas, that often visit the St. Peter's agency on the Mississippi.

A principal village of theirs is near Lake Traverse, where the waters of the St. Peter's, a tributary of the Mississippi, and those of the Red river of the North, which discharges into Hudson's bay, sometimes intermingle, at periods of high water, and flow either way; so that boats have floated from one river into the other.

The *Si-si-t'wans* do very little at cultivating the soil, but depend mainly for subsistence upon hunting.

This band claims the custody of the famous *wakan*, the red pipe-stone quarry, near the Côte des Prairies, towards the river Jacques.

FIFTH. THE TI-TON-WAN COUNCIL FIRE.

The Indians belonging to this council fire live entirely beyond the Mississippi river, on that and the Tetan rivers; their territory extending above Cannon Ball river, and south to Lacon-qui-court (Ni-alarah) river, which is the boundary between the Ponkaks, a small tribe.

The *Ti-t'wans* are a nomadic people, living altogether by hunting the buffalo; and are divided into several important sub-bands, from one of which the *Sioane*, (*See-oo-nay*), the white name of Sioux, (*See-oos*), now universally contracted into *Soos*, has been derived for the whole Dakota nation.

The name of the sub-tribe, in the Dakota language, is *Ti-ton-wan*; which is said to be from *ti pi*, (*tepe*), lodge or dwelling, and *tonwan*, community or people; and therefore that they are the "People of the Lodges."

Others derive the name from *tinta*, (tental,) signifying a *prairie*, and the ordinary suffix *tonwan*—that is, "People of the Prairie." This latter appears to have some authority to sustain it. Hennepin, when at the falls in 1680, "was informed by the Indians that there was another falls, about twenty or thirty leagues above St. Anthony, near which was a tribe of Indians called *Ten-ton-ha*, or *Prairie' Indians*." This "other falls" was probably Sauk rapids, which is about seventy miles, or over twenty leagues above St. Anthony's; and the Tetans were perhaps named from their villages on the meadow and prairie-like country around the rapids. La Houtan, in 1688, also enumerates the *Atintans* as among the tribes north on the upper Mississippi; thus corroborating Hennepin. Though now several hundred miles west of their old homes, the *Ti-t'wans* (as it is written, though sounded *Tee-twawns*) are still the "People of the Prairies."

On the map of Lewis and Clarke's expedition in 1803, they are put down as being in two great bands, who are designated as "Tetans of the Burnt Woods," living about Tetan river, and the "Tetans Saone," further north, near the Cannon Ball river; each division being noted as then numbering fifteen hundred, and their territory is marked as extending on both sides of the river. This is believed not to be the case at the present time; and of course they are not in this superintendency, nor properly are any of the Missouri bands, though some of them reside within its *ex officio* limits. They are under the care of the Indian agents for the upper Missouri, who make their reports to the Department to the superintendent at St. Louis.

The *Ti-t'wans*, by all accounts, like the other Dakotas of the Plains, are a large, finely-formed, tall, and vigorous race of people; hardy, indomitable and restless warriors, daring horsemen, and skilful hunters, possessing in perfection all the Indian virtues of bravery, cunning, treachery, and hospitality—true to each other, and ready foes to all else besides.

At the mouth of the Tetan river, in their country, is the great central trading post, Fort Pierre, belonging to Pierre Chouteau, jr., and commonly known as the American Fur Company. This is their principal post, and the general point of concentration for all the Dakotas of the Missouri, fur trade, and barter. They visit the post in great numbers; camping around it in large bodies, often for a considerable period of time. The annual receipts of buffalo robes alone, at this and other posts on the upper Missouri, are reported to be about seventy-five thousand; for which the Indians receive in goods at the rate of three dollars per robe.

The first treaty, by the United States with the *Ti-t'wan* council fire was one of amity and friendship, in July 10, 1815, at "Portage des Sioux," on the Missouri. Another treaty, of a similar nature, was negotiated with them, the *Ihank'-t'wans*, and the *Ihank'-t'wan-ahs*, jointly, in June, 1825, at "Fort Lookout," (on the Missouri,) near the "three rivers of the Sioux pass;" and still another, the *Ogallala*, (probably *Oh-da-da*, or "always moving,") and the *Sionne* bands of the *Ti-t'wans* at the mouth of the Tetan river, in July, 1825.

From these successive treaties of peace and friendship, it is evident that the *Ti-t'wans* were in those days, as in this, a troublesome sub-tribe, who having little vocation for peace, no treaties could long keep friendly.

They are the most numerous of all the council fires of the Dakotas; and have been estimated to comprise, in all the several bands, over six thousand souls. In 1803, Lewis and Clarke computed their force at eight hundred

and fifty warriors; and remarked that "the bands of Sioux most known in the Missouri are the Tetans."

SIXTH. THE IHANK-TON-WAN COUNCIL FIRE.

This band is another powerful division of the Dakota nation. Their appellative is correctly written Ihank'-t'wans, instead of Yanctons—pronounced *E-hawn-k'-t'-wawns*; compounded from *ihanke*, further end, and *tomcan*—being the "People of the Further End."

It might be inferred that this name was applied to them from their frontier position on the western extremity of the Dakota territory, was there not evidence of their being known by it when living on the upper Mississippi, before their invasion of the western plains. They now compose part of that wild chivalry who are the boldest hunters, fiercest and most invincible warriors of the far West; and are reported to number about thirty-two hundred souls.

The country of the Ihank'-t'wans is next-beyond that of the Si-si-t'wan sub-tribe; commencing on the western side of Lake Traverse, and extending west of the river Jacques to the Missouri, above old Fort Look-out, and to the borders of the lands of their scions, the Ihank'-t'wan-*ahs*. Lewis and Clarke speak of them as, in 1803, "inhabiting the Sioux, Desmoine, and Jacques rivers, and numbering about two hundred warriors.

The first treaty with any of this sub-tribe appears with the "Hunkappas" sub-band (Hunkpa-te-dans) at the Ricard village, on the Missouri, in July, 1825. The "Santie" and other sub-bands of Ihank'-t'wans participated in the treaty of 1830 at Prairie du Chien, by which different tribes ceded the territory in Iowa, afterwards known as the Neutral ground; and this cession was further confirmed by the Ihank'-t'wans (Yanctons) in a treaty at Washington, in 1837.

They obtained by these two treaties presents to the amount of about five thousand dollars, an annuity for ten years of three thousand dollars, and a blacksmith at the expense of the United States during the same period, together with an annual appropriation for agricultural implements; but these last they subsequently refused to receive; and the accumulations of this fund, some five thousand dollars, it is believed, were paid to them in goods, at old Fort Look-out, in 1846. On that occasion, it is stated that there were four hundred lodges of this tribe assembled.

The Ihank'-t'wans, it is understood, reside at this time chiefly about the Vermillion river, the last stream in this territory that puts into the Missouri, whose sources are in the Coteau des Prairies.

A white settlement has sprung up at the mouth of this river, originally started by the Mormons on their western migration. An agent, despatched from here in June last to take their census, in pursuance of the organic law of this Territory, found there a white population of between eighty and ninety souls. It being in the Indian country, of course these people can only remain there temporarily or on sufferance.

SEVENTH. IHANK'-TOW-WAN-NAN COUNCIL FIRE.

With the exception of the suffix *nan*, the name of this band is the same exactly as the previous one. The addition *nan* is the diminutive *little* or *less*; so that the band may be designated as the "*Lesser People of the Further End*," or the "*Little Ihank'-t'wans*," commonly termed by the whites *Yanctonies*. *E-hawn-k'-t'-wawn-nah*, it is said, being the true Dakota pronunciation of their name.

Their lands are all that range of country west of the Ihank'-t'-wans, nearly to the White Earth river, the boundary of this territory to the northwest, including the salt water region. Lewis and Clarke described them as "Yanktons of the Plains, or Big Devils, who rove on the heads of the Sioux, Jacques, and Red rivers, and number about five hundred men."

There is no evidence of their having ever participated actually in any treaty made with the Sioux by this Government.

Their numbers have been estimated at about four thousand; but estimates on the subject are little to be relied upon, from their jealousy of a census, (a feeling common to all the Sioux,) and their roving and unsettled habits. Lewis and Clarke, in their narrative, give the following account of the condition of the Dakota nation in 1803:

"Almost the whole of that vast tract of country between the Mississippi, the Red river of Lake Winnepeg, the Saskarshawan, and the Missouri, is loosely occupied by a great nation, whose primitive name is Darcota, but who are called Sioux by the French, Sues by the English. Their original seats were on the Mississippi; but they have gradually spread themselves abroad, and become subdivided into numerous tribes. Of these, what may be considered as the Darcotas are the Mindawarcaton or Minowakanton, known to the French by the name of the *Gens du Lac*, or People of the Lake. Their residence is on both sides of the Mississippi, near the Falls of St. Anthony, and the probable number of their warriors about three hundred. Above them, on the river St. Peter's, is the Wahpatone, a smaller band of nearly two hundred men; and still further up the same river, below the Yellow Wood river, are the Wahpatoos or *Gens de Feuilles*, an inferior band of not more than one hundred and fifty men; while the sources of the St. Peter's are occupied by the Sisitoones, a band consisting of about two hundred warriors.

"These bands rarely, if ever, approach the Missouri, which is occupied by their kinsmen, the Yanktons and the Tetons. The Yanktons are of two tribes; those of the plains, or rather of the North, a wandering race of about five hundred men, who roam over the plains at the heads of the Jacques, the Sioux, and the Red rivers; and those of the South, who possess the country between the Jacques and Sioux rivers and the Desmoines. But the bands of Sioux most known on the Missouri are the Tetons. The first who are met on ascending the Missouri are the tribe called, by the French, Tetons of the Bois Brulé, or burned wood, who reside on both sides of the Missouri, about White and Teton rivers, and number two hundred warriors. Above them, on the Missouri, are the Teton Okandandes, a band of one hundred men, living below the Cheyenne river, between which and the Wetashoo river is a third band called Teton, or Winnakenozzo, of nearly two hundred and fifty men; and below the Waweconne is the fourth and last tribe of Tetons, of about three hundred men, called the Teton Saone. Northward of these, between the Assiniboines and the Missouri, are two bands of Assiniboines; one on the Mouse river, of about two hundred men, and called Assiniboine Menatopa; the other, residing on both sides of White river, called, by the French, *Gens de Feuilles*, and amounting to two hundred and fifty men. Beyond these, a band of Assiniboines of four hundred and fifty, and called the Big Devils, wander on the heads of Milk, Porcupine, and Martha's rivers; while still farther to the north are seen two bands of the same nation, one of five hundred and the other of two hundred, roving on the Saskashawan. Those Assiniboines are recog-

nised by a similarity of language, and by tradition, as descendants or seceders from the Sioux; though often at war, are still acknowledged as relations. The Sioux themselves, though scattered, meet annually on the Jacques; those on the Missouri trading with those on the Mississippi."

THE WINNEBAGO, OR O-TCHUN-GU-RAH NATION.

This tribe was removed into the Territory last spring upon lands purchased from the Chippewas, lying on the west side of the upper Mississippi, above the Watab river, and divided from the new country of the *Menomonees*, on the north, by the Long Prairie and Crow-wing rivers.

The agency for them is located about forty miles back from the Mississippi, on Long Prairie river, about one hundred and forty miles north of this place, and is at present under the charge of J. E. Fletcher, esq.

The only buildings erected, or farms yet opened, for these people, are on the Long Prairie in sight of the agency. This prairie is about sixteen miles long, and, on an average, one and a half miles wide, stretching from the northeast to the southwest; and from the high and central location of the agency buildings, the farms, school establishments, traders' houses, and other buildings lying around it, present a highly picturesque and agreeable view to the eye of the beholder.

The tribe numbers about two thousand five hundred souls. Five hundred only of these are located at Long Prairie, convenient to the agency; and about fifteen hundred more, mostly of those termed the Mississippi Indians, in the well known division of this tribe, are residing some forty miles south of the agency on the Osaukies and Mississippi rivers.

They have an almost fanatical attachment to the Great Father of Waters; and the woods and prairies convenient thereto, (the facilities of procuring the whiskey-poison upon it, doubtless being one cause of this attachment;) and thus far, in spite of every inducement that can be held out to them, they pertinaciously refuse leaving its banks, or retiring inland around the agency.

A few hundred more of the nation are still in Wisconsin and Iowa, from whence the Government ought to remove them by force; or at least should denationalize them, and relieve their brethren in the north from the responsibility of their lawless acts.

The history of the Winnebagoes in early times is buried, like most tribes now in this Territory, in no little obscurity and doubt. Their tradition is, and some of their customs and superstitions confirm it, that they come originally from the south or south-west.

The name *Winnebago*, by which they are now known to the whites, is that given to them by the Chippewas, slightly modified. They style themselves *O-tchun-gu-rah*; and are called by the Sioux, *Ho-tan-ke*, (*Hoh-tawn-kay*), which means "a kind of fish;" and is applied equally by the Sioux to the shovel nosed sturgeon of the Mississippi, as to the *O-tchun-gu-rah*s. But by the French, they were known and styled *La Puans*, (*The Stinkers*.) This last singular name, which some at this day would not consider altogether inapplicable still, it is supposed was bestowed upon them in consequence of the first white men who visited them being saluted by the odor of putrid fish, on entering their villages in the vicinity of the present Green Bay, in Wisconsin.

At what time the tribe migrated from the south to the Green Bay peninsula, occupying it, and the country west of Winnebago lake and Fox river, it is impossible to tell.

It was certainly previous to 1670, as the map of the French Jesuit missions, dated 1671, styles Green Bay the "BAYO DES PUANS;" and the map accompanying Marquette's Journal, dated 1681, notes a village of the "PUANS," as near the north end of Winnebago lake, on the west side.

They were probably at that period but a very small band, for they are not mentioned by either of their names as participating in any of the great alliances or important expeditions of the Indian nations of that region in early times.

Mr. Bancroft's supposition, that "like other western and southern tribes, their population has, of late, greatly increased," is, perhaps, not ill-founded.

The first warlike enterprise they engaged in appears to have been *Pontiac's alliance* for the extirpation of the British rule on the Western lakes, and the restoration of the French. It is recorded that the Winnebagoes was one of his allied tribes, and participated in the general and simultaneous attack on all the British posts in the West, including Detroit, in the month of May, 1763. It is a curious fact in connection with this, (showing that French agents accompanied the messengers who carried Pontiac's war belts among the different tribes,) that five or six years since, a white trader among the Winnebagoes in Iowa accidentally discovered, in the family wallet or bag of a minor chief of that nation, a *commission* in due form from the Marquis La Tonniere, French governor general of Louisiana, recognising a certain Winnebago named therein as a chief of "LA PUANS." It was dated in 1761. It was enclosed along with another and similar commission from the British governor general of Canada, of many years later date, in a birch bark portfolio or case, and both were in an excellent state of preservation.

They are mentioned as among the confederated tribes who were defeated by General Wayne, in 1795; but they no doubt joined in *Tecumseh's* league in 1811, for the destruction of the American settlements; a league which, though partially broken up by Harrison's victory at Tippecanoe, was renewed again in the war of 1812, throughout which, until the death of *Tecumseh*, the Winnebagoes fought on the side of the British.

In 1816 is recorded the first treaty by the United States with the Winnebagoes. It was a "treaty of peace and friendship," made at St. Louis with the chiefs of a band, who "are stated to have separated themselves from the rest of the nation, and reside in a village on the Ouisconsin river, and are desirous of returning to a state of friendship with the United States.

In 1825 a general treaty of peace between the respective Indian tribes of the north-west was agreed upon at Prairie du Chien, the United States acting as mediators by its commissioners. In this treaty the boundaries of the respective tribes are defined. The Winnebagoes are recognised as owning the country bounded on the east by Winnebago lake and by Rock river, to one of their villages *within forty miles of its mouth*, thence north to the Black river, and due east to the left fork of Wisconsin river, thence down to the Portage, and thence by Fox river to Winnebago lake.

These boundaries show that the Winnebagoes had grown considerably in territory and consequence, as well as changed their location somewhat, since 1671.

By another, at Prairie du Chien, in 1829, they disposed of to the Government the mining country south of Wisconsin river and the Portage. They were to receive therefor thirty thousand dollars in goods in hand; eighteen

thousand dollars annuity for thirty years; and three thousand pounds of tobacco, and fifty barrels of salt, annually, for a similar period.

In 1832, again they ceded all their lands south and east of the Wisconsin and Fox river of Green Bay; and the United States granted them in return the neutral ground on the Upper Ioway and Turkey rivers in Ioway, with an annuity for twenty-seven years, of ten thousand dollars; stipulated to establish a boarding-school for them at Prairie du Chien, during the same period, at an annual cost of three thousand dollars; and allowed them about three thousand seven hundred dollars more, annually, for farming, blacksmith, physician, &c.

A portion of the tribe then moved west of the Mississippi, and were followed by the remainder in 1838, who had in 1837 made a treaty at Washington, by which they sold finally all their lands east of the Mississippi.

Under this latter treaty, the Government made a further cession of lands to them in the neutral ground; paid two hundred thousand dollars in liquidation of their debts; one hundred thousand dollars to their relations of mixed blood; expended seven thousand dollars for their removal west; gave them fifty thousand dollars in horses and goods, and paid for provisions, erecting a grist mill, breaking and fencing ground, and incidental expenses, the sum of forty-three thousand dollars. It was also agreed to pay to them annually, for twenty-two years, ten thousand dollars in provisions; twenty thousand dollars in goods; twenty thousand dollars in money, and five thousand to be devoted to education, agriculture, &c.

They continued to reside upon the neutral ground west of the Mississippi, in Iowa, until the summer of 1848, when they removed to the upper Mississippi, in pursuance of a treaty negotiated at Washington in 1846.

In this treaty they disposed of all their interest or claim in any lands whatever, on condition that the United States should give to them "a tract of country, north of St. Peter's and west of the Mississippi rivers, of not less than eight hundred thousand acres, and pay them one hundred and ninety thousand dollars for the following purposes, viz: to liquidate their debts; for their removal and subsistence; for breaking up and fencing lands at their new home; and including ten thousand dollars of it for manual labor schools, and five thousand dollars for a grist and saw mill. The balance, being eighty-five thousand dollars, is to remain on trust with the United States, at five per centum, for 30 years; and the interest thereon is to be paid to the tribe yearly.

The liberal manner in which a hostile tribe has thus been treated by a Government that owed it nothing but a retaliation of a ruthless warfare, and the vast sums of money poured upon them in payment for lands to which in part their title was more than questionable, offer an instance of over strict justice and national magnanimity that has but few parallels in the world's history. It is to be regretted that objects of such noble bounty have not been more worthy of it, and have not profited more by it.

At the urgent request of the chiefs and agent, I attended the semi-annual "payment" to this tribe at Long Prairie, in July last, and in the several councils I held with them heard patiently their many complaints. The Indians are fond of holding councils, and making "talks" and for subjects ingeniously contrive to have complaints innumerable against those who have the care of their affairs, or the task of restraining their passions and cupidity. These complaints are most generally trifling or ill-founded, but in this instance some of their representations seemed worthy of attention.

They urged me to inform their Great Father at Washington of the impo-

sition practised upon them in placing them in the land they now occupy ; and from all I saw, and all I can learn, of the country, they have just grounds for dissatisfaction—though not against the Government. They neglected to visit the land for their future residence, as they should have done; and it was selected and explored by an agent of their own appointment, in pursuance of the treaty. They now earnestly beg that they may be sent west of the Missouri.

This dissatisfaction of the Winnebagoes with their location has caused me much trouble during the past summer. Their disposition to go south to the country they left in Iowa and Wisconsin was and is strong ; and not a week passed, hardly, that parties of them did not attempt to go down.

I was several times compelled to call for military assistance, either to keep them in their country, or return wandering parties to it, and incidentally to clear the frontier of the whiskey sellers.

In July last, after the "payment," their dissatisfaction rose to so great a pitch, their passions being stimulated by the whiskey procured from the illicit traders on the borders, that there was imminent danger of a large body moving off *en masse*, and not unlikely perpetrating outrages in their progress south.

I immediately made a requisition on Col. Loomis, Commandant at Fort Snelling, for a force to prevent the movement, and Capt. Monroe was promptly dispatched with an infantry corps to the north, where its presence contributed materially to quiet the Indians.

The same force was also efficient in breaking up the whiskey shops on the borders, and arresting their owners, who, being handed over to the civil authorities, have since had bills of indictment found against them by the grand jury for the county of St. Croix.

Again, on the 9th of September last, it having been reported that a hundred Winnebagoes were at Rice lake, about sixteen miles northeast from St. Paul, with the intention of crossing into Wisconsin, a requisition on Col. Loomis at Fort Snelling caused Capt. Page, with a company of forty infantry, to be sent in pursuit ; but as soon as they came in sight, the Indians broke and dispersed into the swamps, and subsequently returned to their own lands.

Some stragglers from the tribe on their way down the river, I likewise had stopped, and sent back to their homes under a military guard.

In these several affairs the cheerfulness and efficiency with which the officers of the forces at Fort Snelling, chief and subordinate, responded to my requisitions and to my aid, was most gratifying, and has received my warmest acknowledgments.

The events of the past summer have convinced me that there is great necessity for having a detachment of dragoons stationed at Fort Snelling to intercept the Indians on their downward route.

This is, indeed, the most effective force for the service; and, indeed, without it I do not see how we can have the proper kind of police exercised among the Indians, or confine them to their own limits. They know the inability of infantry to follow them, and, therefore, in a great measure disregard them. The mere fact of a company of dragoons being at Fort Snelling, ready to check their wanderings, would of itself deter them from incursions beyond their own territory, knowing that by mounted troops they could be so readily intercepted.

The propriety of my suggestion will be conceded, when it is reinem-

bered that our Indian country is very extensive, and the force the Government can devote to its protection is necessarily but small. It is therefore of the more consequence that the troops stationed here should be the kind best adapted to our exigencies; a force which, if it is small, will yet be able, by its celerity of movement, by its power of easily overcoming space, to multiply itself as it were, so as to act with efficiency at numerous and distant points within a short period of time.

I consider the mouth of the St. Peter's the most eligible place at which to station a dragoon corps, as it commands all the Indian country between the St. Croix and the upper St. Peter's, and any point in their region could readily be reached by horsemen from thence.

The Winnebagoes, when going south, cross the Mississippi at Sauk rapids, sixty miles below Fort Gaines. That post is therefore at present of no service in checking their erratic movements in this direction; and the Indians here very seldom go north with hostile purposes.

Among other complaints made to me by the Winnebagoes during my visit among them at the "payment," was one in regard to the manner in which the twenty thousand dollar removal fund, under the treaty of 1846, and the subsistence fund, had been paid. The treaty provides that the twenty thousand dollars for removal, and the twenty thousand dollars for subsistence, shall be paid the chiefs in full council. This being done, it is immediately passed over by the chiefs to the persons furnishing the means of their removal or subsistence, Government not exacting a view of the accounts of the Indian creditors. And the consequence is, that for all time thereafter the Indians indulge in reflections upon the payment.

In this instance, however, I am informed by agent Fletcher, that he has required vouchers for all that has been disbursed and claimed under the two heads of removal and subsistence. This was done, although he did not consider it a duty strictly exacted of him by the terms of the treaty.

My impression is, that in all bulk payments like these, the claimants should, as in other settlements, be required to submit their accounts or vouchers to the inspection of the agent.

The Winnebagoes are held in the West to be among the most degraded and most besotted of the tribes. Though there is much to sustain this opinion, yet I cannot but think they are judged rather harshly; for I know that the Indians on the Long Prairie, where they are removed from the whiskey trade, are as prosperous and moral as Indians generally are. I have directed the agent to proceed to open farms on Sauk Prairie, for those who, from ancient feuds, will not settle down with the bands at the agency.

This tribe claims that there is due it from Government large unexpended balances under various heads of treaty stipulations. My recent acquaintance with their affairs, and the pressure of business incident to the organization of the Territorial government, have prevented me so far from fully acquainting myself with this matter. Agent Fletcher informs me that, in a letter of his dated "Turkey river Sub-agency, January 26, 1847," and which of course is on file in your Department, a full statement of the ground of the claim is presented.

The small pox made its appearance among these Indians the latter end of July. It carried off not exceeding ten of the tribe. They are now so generally vaccinated, that this foul disease does not prove so mortal as formerly.

In education among the Winnebagoes there is no great advancement, so

far as I can learn; and there are not now in the tribe ten Indians who can read, write, and speak the English language, being that in which they are taught. The schools have been maintained among them for about fifteen years; and the Rev. Mr. Lowry, their present teacher, is one of the most pleasant and energetic of that devoted class, who, in a spirit of Christian liberality, have exiled themselves from the comforts of civilized life, to turn, if it can be done, the Indian from his savage habits to civilization and Christianity. The schools under his care, however, have been suspended since the removal of the Winnebagoes in the summer of 1848; but by instructions from the Department of August 22, 1849, they will go into operation again upon the old plan, until the arrangements have been completed for opening the manual labor schools which have been determined upon by the Indian Bureau in their stead.

These are the only kind of schools from which much can be expected among Indians. They are, I am informed—for I have not access to the correspondence on the subject before I came here—to be placed in charge of religious societies, who will agree to erect buildings, clothe, board, and educate a certain number of children at a given price per head; and that two of such schools are to be opened for the Winnebagoes.

If this is the case, it is important that whoever will enter into contract should do so at once; and in this connection I would suggest, that if the buildings are to be erected by Government they should not be expensive ones. Three thousand dollars would be a sufficient sum to erect all needful buildings at any one of these schools.

My decided opinion is, that the introduction of this species of schools among our Indian tribes will create a new and better era in educational, moral, and religious improvement among them. This is also the general impression of all intelligent men familiar with the Indian character.

THE CHIPPEWAY, OR OJIBEWA NATION.

This tribe, next to the Sioux, is the most numerous and powerful Indian nation in this superintendency. It is the Algonquin tribe, of whose dialect, mythology, traditions, customs, and early history, the public have been made most familiar; and for this reason it would be a work of supererogation to enter largely into those particulars in this paper.

They occupy both shores of Lake Superior; and the Ojibewas, who live beyond the Assiniboines to the far northwest, and the Kesteneaux, or Krees, who dwell beyond them again, are all branches of the same great people.

A recent writer correctly describes them—"the Chippewas are small in person." This remark in regard to their size does not apply exactly to the woods Chippeways, west of the Mississippi, "and of a quiet and meek aspect; they have an indomitable spirit, and a prowess that shrinks from no encounter; they are the Poles of the North, whose wont is to stand, without regard to odds, and fall every man on his track, rather than fly."

Migrating from the east late in the sixteenth or early in the seventeenth century, they first settled at the Falls of St. Mary, from which point they gradually pressed westward; and eventually compelled the Dakota nation to abandon its ancient seat around the head waters of the Mississippi, whose rice lakes and hunting grounds the Chippeways at this day possess, and beyond to the Red river of the north.

They have participated in nearly all the wars of the northwest, first as staunch allies of the French against the English, and then as allies of the latter against the United States.

For nearly three centuries, however, their principal warfare has been with the Dakotas or Sioux; a hereditary warfare on both sides, pursued in latter times with varying success—the Chippewas being most generally victors in the woods; the Sioux as uniformly triumphing on their own plains. But the advantageous results of the contest have been altogether with the former, who have acquired by conquest, and steadily maintained, a beautiful and wide spread territory.

Its extent was exhibited by the Indian peace treaty of Prairie du Chien, in 1825; in which the Chippeways, Sioux, and other Indian nations of the northwest participated, (General William Clark and Lewis Cass being the United States commissioners.) In that treaty the *Chippeway territory* is admitted, by the Sioux and the other tribes, to comprise all the country north of a line beginning at the Plover Portage of the Wisconsin river; thence to a point half a day's march below the Falls of the Chippeway river; and thence running so as to about strike Red Cedar river, just below its falls; the St. Croix river, about thirty miles above its falls; then between the Green and Eagle lakes, to Run river at Choking creek, to the mouth of the Watab river on the Mississippi, up the Watab to its head lake; then to the head lake of Prairie river, on to Otter Tail lake portage, through the lake to its outlet; thence in a straight line to strike the Buffalo river half way from its source to its mouth, down that river to the Red river of the north, and descending said Red river to Outward or Goose creek.

The vast tract of country, comprised within these limits, they acquired in a little over two centuries, wresting it from warlike and generally more numerous foes.

The Chippeways occupy the north as well as the south shore of Lake Superior. Their numbers in the American territory do not exceed eight or nine thousand souls.

The nation in its various branches has, from time to time, been a party to no less than twenty-nine different treaties with this Government, from the first treaty of peace at Fort McIntosh, in 1785, to the last two treaties with them in 1847, by which the country, now occupied by the Winnebagoes, and that intended for the Menomonees, were purchased. By treaties in 1837 and 1842 they ceded to the United States all the territory east and south of a line drawn from a point twenty-two miles up the St. Louis river of Lake Superior, south about eighteen or twenty miles, and thence west to opposite the junction of the Crow-wing with the Mississippi river.

They are permitted to live in the ceded country until required to remove by the President, and are allowed to hunt and fish therein, until notice is given that the privilege must cease; and, as anticipated, this requisition will soon be made, and the notice speedily given, but a short period will elapse ere the whole of the Chippeway nation of Lake Superior, within the American lines, will be removed into this Territory.

In consideration of the cession by the two treaties of 1837 and 1842, the United States stipulated to pay them for twenty and twenty-five years \$22,000 in money; \$29,500 in goods; \$5,000 in blacksmithing; \$1,200 for carpenters; \$6,000 for farmers, and an agricultural fund; \$4,500 for provisions and tobacco; \$2,000 for schools; and agreed to pay \$45,000 to the Chippeway half-breeds, and \$145,000 in liquidation of their just debts.

For those made by the treaties of 1847 they were paid down \$34,000, and the Mississippi portion of them were allowed \$1,000 annually for forty-six years, to be paid in money, or to be applied towards the support of schools, or the employment of blacksmiths and laborers, and the Pillager bands certain stipulated articles of goods of the value of about \$3,600 for five years.

Such briefly is the present financial condition of the Chippeway nation.

Though strongly pressed by the Chippeway chiefs to be present at Crowwing, at their last semi-annual payment in October, (instant,) I was unable to attend.

At present they have no agent properly set apart for themselves; General Fletcher, agent for the Winnebagoes, having this additional charge imposed upon him. The Chippeways are dissatisfied with this arrangement, and allege they were promised an agent of their own to reside amongst them.

There is much reason for their being gratified in their wishes in this respect. From the extensive country over which the Chippeways are dispersed, they are of course controlled with much greater difficulty than they would be if more compactly settled; and an agency generally has the effect of drawing a tribe to settle immediately in its vicinity.

Would it not be well, therefore, to transfer the agency at La Pointe, on Lake Superior, to a situation on the St. Louis river in this Territory. It might have the effect of more speedily attracting the tribe from the ceded lands into the territory properly their own. Around this point, too, they would be removed, for a long time, from deleterious *white* associations and influences; at least until the completion of the ship canal around the Falls of St. Mary shall throw open to the keels of steam and sail ships the vast area of navigation covered by the waters of Lake Superior, and give light and development to the great and teeming copper region of Minnesota Territory, upon its western and northern shore, and to the hardly less important lake fisheries near the same vicinity. A railroad portage of one hundred miles might then connect Fond du Lac with the navigable waters of the Mississippi, and migration and freight find their cheapest and most convenient route between the sea-board and the great valley, by way of the limpid waters of Lake Superior, to the "Falls of St. Anthony of Padua;" while the Falls of St. Louis river will be nearer, by the great lakes, to New York than Chicago, and St. Paul a less distance from the same city than Galena.

If in view of this possible and not very remote state of things, it shall be deemed more advisable to extinguish the title of the Chippeways to nearly the whole of their lands east of the Mississippi, embracing an area of about 10,000,000 of acres, (a treaty for which it is understood could readily be effected,) and so make but one removal of the tribe westward, then it would be better to adopt at once a more western location for the agency.

THE METIS, OR HALF-BREEDS OF THE RED RIVER OF THE NORTH.

The Indian agents in this quarter have, before this, called the attention of Government to the constant trespassing of the half-breeds, from the possessions of the Hudson's Bay Company, upon our territory, where they destroy immense numbers of the buffalo, thus depriving the half-breeds within our lines on the Red river of the north, and our Indians, of the proper and rightful provisions which nature has so bountifully provided, nearly exclusively within the precincts of the American soil.

These half-breeds are of every imaginable cross of Scotch, English, French, Canadians, and Orkneymen, with Indian women—the latter, for the most part, Krees and Chippeways. They number in all quite ten thousand people, distributed in various settlements along the valley of the *Red river of the North*, which, beyond its widening at Lake Winnepeg, is termed Mackenzie's river, until it debouches into Hudson's Bay. The main settlement is around Fort York, below Lake Winnepeg; and another considerable body are gathered around Fort Gary, at the mouth of the Assiniboine river, less than one hundred miles beyond the American boundary; while smaller settlements are to be found still nearer the lines; and at and above *Pembina*, within them, is a growing settlement of the same people, with a population of nearly one thousand souls.

A majority of the half-breeds are said to speak the French and Chippe-way; but the English language is the parent or acquired tongue of a large proportion of them; and is spoken in many cases with all those modifications peculiar to the Scotch or other provincials of the British Isles. Judging from those I have seen, and from what I have heard, respecting them, I consider these people to be a fine race, who for several reasons would make a desirable population for our northern frontier, in both a local and national point of view.

They are large, strong, courageous, and inured to hardships; possessing much native intelligence, and only needing to be emancipated from the monopolizing rule of the Hudson's Bay Company to attain the best degree of social and intellectual refinement. To comprehend their character right, it is necessary to dismiss from the mind the ideas usually conveyed, in some sections of the Union, by the term Indian "half-breeds." Very different are the "Metis of the north"—a superior race, who, partaking largely of the Anglo-Saxon blood, are marked by many of its energetic and better characteristics. Instead of the vices, they appear to have inherited many of the more desirable traits and virtues of both their parent races.

They are industrious, provident, enterprising, honest, and ingenious; and are reported to possess that pre-eminent trait of civilization—a proper care and treatment of their females.

The household manufactures thrive greatly among them. They are clothed with the garments peculiar to the European races, fabricated by their wives and daughters, from the dressed skins of the animals of the chase, or honest homespun, the product of the domestic looms and spinning wheels; while English Manchester, and it may be American Lowell, also, to some extent, contribute their fabrics to clothe and adorn both sexes.

In complexion, they are little if any lighter than the Indian race, with some exceptions; for, having originally sprung from the intermarriage of white men with Indian women, they have had, in their remote and isolated situation, no opportunity, if they had desired, or could have done so, to further lighten their hue by wiving with women of purely white race; and in some cases, no doubt, have rather deepened it in their progeny by further intermarriage with Indians.

Hunting and agriculture form the principal pursuit of the half-breeds; especially the former. They have sheep, horses, and neat cattle; and the excellent quality of the two last is judged from the facts that some of the best horses and cows in this vicinity were brought from the Red River country, and that their oxen, harnessed in carts like horses, patiently journey with heavy loads, day after day, from seven hundred to a thousand

miles over trackless prairies, presenting almost unexampled powers of endurance.

The soil of the Red river region in this territory is described as *diluvial*, covered with black mould three or four feet thick—a country of plains, almost without a hill—and that upon it crops of all the small grains, and nearly every garden vegetable, are easily produced, notwithstanding the high northern latitude.

Formerly, it is stated, the whole of the Red river settlements were inside of the American lines; but, on this fact being ascertained, the half-breeds were forced, by the Hudson's Bay Company, to follow their trading stations into the British possessions; and from thence they use Minnesota territory as their hunting and trapping ground, drawing from it their entire revenues.

Their buffalo hunts are early every spring and in the fall; when the hunting season arrives, they cross the line dividing the territories of the two Governments, every man with his horse and gun, and each family with an ox-cart, (of these there are fifteen hundred,) and travel several hundred miles within our borders, killing about *ten thousand bulls* and a *like number of cows*, in the months of September and October. Each cart returns with about one thousand weight of "Pemmican," dried meat, tallow, dressed skins, and robes. For tallow and dried meat, the Hudson's Bay Company pays two pence sterling per pound, in goods, (or paper currency, *payable sixty days after sight in London*;) and with these they provision their several posts. For robes, they pay four shillings sterling.

A population of this character, making such devastation annually of the resources of our land, it is plainly our policy to exclude from it, while they remain residents of a foreign soil. It would then become so decidedly their interest to remove into this territory, especially if other proper inducements are held out for their immigration, that it is not doubted the Pembina settlement, on our side of the frontier, would be increased to several thousand souls in a short time.

In this connection, I have just received from the half-breeds of Pembina and Red river, residing in our territory, a memorial signed by upwards of one hundred of their number, of whom Geo. Belcourt, missionary priest among them, says: "These are the names of the principal hunters, who have returned in advance of the main body, and they express the general and unanimous desire of all." They pray that Government may stop these incursions of British subjects upon our soil; that a military post, for their protection, may be erected in their country; that the United States laws and institutions may be extended over them; and that, by some understanding with the British Government, the Hudson's Bay Company's agents may be induced to cease the sale of spirituous liquors to the Indians near the boundary line. I trust this memorial may receive the favorable consideration of the General Government.

THE MENOMONEE NATION.

This tribe of Indians not having removed yet into the Territory from Wisconsin, though under treaty to do so next spring, I shall defer an extended notice of them for the present. They number not over 2500, and are in the receipt of considerable annuities. They are probably a set of the Chippeways, whose language they all speak; their "secret language," referred to

by some writers, is understood to be nothing more than a clipping of the Chippewa's words by a peculiar "rolling of them upon the tongue."

They have resided in the vicinity of Green Bay, without much change of location, for over two hundred years, within the knowledge of white men. The early French travellers wrote their names "Malomonies." As a tribe they are said to be much addicted to intemperance, with some fine exceptions. In one or two bands of the tribe, flattering progress has been made towards their civilization. On their removal to the head waters of the Mississippi, signal improvement in their morals and condition may be anticipated, as they will then be in a great measure removed from contact with bad and lawless whites.

THE ASSINIBOINS, OR STONE SIOUX.

These people rove at so distant a point of the Territory, more properly belonging to the British possessions than our own, that I can find but little authentic data for their history.

They are no doubt a branch of the Sioux, from whom they seceded, probably early in the sixteenth century; at which time they resided, along with the parent tribe, around the head waters of the Mississippi.

It was while living there, perhaps, about some of the great fishing lakes, from which the Chippeways now draw so material a portion of their subsistence, that they obtained their Dakota name of *Ho-he*, (Ho-hays), the "Fish netters," or the Fishermen.

Their wars with the parent tribe, (which are continued to this day, whenever they meet,) occasioned their removal further north to the Lake of the Woods; and their residence among the rocky country around this sheet of water obtained for them the Chippeway name of *Assiniboins*, or Sioux of the Rocks. They were there in 1671, according to the Jesuit maps.

Subsequently they removed several hundred miles further westward, around the head of the Assiniboin river, roving beyond as far as the Yellow Stone branch of the Missouri.

They are reported to number about 7000 souls.

In conclusion, I am gratified to be able to report, that the *regular traders* amongst all the tribes in this superintendency, so far as I have been able to learn, have been earnest in their efforts to advance and improve the condition of the Indians; indeed their own interest, if there was no other governing motive, would dictate this course of action; for the poorest customers of the licensed traders, and those least desirable, are the Indians addicted to ardent spirits. These may be pensioners on his bounty, but they have no industry to hunt; and consequently have nothing to sell or trade.

The curse of the Indian is the miserable creature in human form, the whiskey dealer, who is abominated by all good people in the Indian country, and who, loathed and despised, has not in his guilty soul the presumption to stand erect among others of his race. He locates himself in some out of the way place, where he lures the Indian to his den, and under the pretence of trade, robs him of his all—his horse, his gun, his blanket, and his senses; debasing him morally, socially, and physically, and frustrating every effort for his civilization—for his salvation temporarily and eternally. This man is not an Indian trader; by them he is as much despised as he deserves to be by all men of proper feelings and right principles every where.

In this view, it is inexplicable to me, that the British Government, which

parades its morality and stretches its pretensions of benevolence all over the world, should countenance its agents of the Hudson's Bay Company in poisoning the Indian race for the purposes of trade, tempting even our Indians to resort to their factories, and exchange their furs for ardent spirits; and sending also their agents within our territory, to induce the Indian to sell his wild rice and winter's food for their cursed fire water. I have been informed, that a British trader was seen, within the last month or two, in the American territory to the west of Lake Superior, purchasing with *whiskey only*, wild rice from the Indians, wherewith to provision their posts; and on the extreme upper Missouri, the Indians have nearly deserted our trading posts for those of the British, since the prohibition of the sale of liquor to them by this Government. The memorial of the American half-breeds of Red river, is likewise evidence of the participation of the Hudson's Bay Company in this guilty traffic. If the British Government much longer permits this species of demoralizing trade, so destructive to the Indian race, national hypocrisy will cease to be without a synonyme.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

ALEX'R RAMSEY.

ST. PAUL, *Minnesota Ter.*, Oct. 17, 1849.

No. 2.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY,

September 30, 1849.

SIR: Only about two-thirds of the Winnebago Indians have as yet removed to their new home. Of those who left the tribe during their removal, and scattered into Iowa and Wisconsin, a far less number than was expected have as yet returned.

There are probably at the present time not less than three hundred of the tribe residing in the neighborhood of the lower Iowa river, in the State of Iowa. These Indians have joined a strong party of the Pottawatomies and Sacs and Foxes, and are occupying that country in violation of their treaties. Should this party be allowed to remain and plant there another season their number will increase, and there will be great danger of difficulty arising between them and the citizens.

To prevent this a military force will have to be employed to break up their organization, and send them home to the different tribes where they belong. A large proportion of those who left the tribe while emigrating, and went into Wisconsin, still remain there. Efforts have been made to collect and bring them home; messengers and delegations have been repeatedly sent to induce them to join their tribe, but with little success; some two hundred and fifty have been brought in. Messengers have been recently sent to make another effort to persuade these stragglers to return.

It is reported that a party of Winnebagoes have joined the Menomonees; if so, they will no doubt exert an influence unfavorable to the removal of those Indians.

That part of the tribe which removed to their new home, and have remained here, have had many difficulties and discouragements to encounter since their arrival.

The past winter was unusually severe; the Indians hunted but little, and being unaccustomed to hunting in dense forests, they were not successful. Many were sick of scurvy during the past winter and spring; and the small-pox broke out among them in July last; some fifteen died of that disease.

Ten bands, comprising about six hundred and twenty souls, have located on Long Prairie river, near the agency; the balance of the tribe who have removed to this country are living on the Mississippi.

The Indians located here have been tolerably industrious during the spring and summer past. One individual is deserving of special notice. This man (whose name is "Co-no-hut-ta-kair," a full blood Indian, and chief of a band,) assisted in building a comfortable dwelling-house for his family, which he has furnished in good style; he has done more work in his field and garden than any other man in the tribe, and has, with his own team, ploughed twenty-seven acres of prairie on a contract given him for ploughing land for the Indians. In addition to this, he has, since the first of last May, earned one hundred and fifty-nine dollars by work done for the traders with his team, and by work done for the Winnebago school.

Two hundred and forty-acres of land were ploughed in time for a crop the present season; of this one hundred and forty acres have been cultivated by the Indians, eighty acres by the hands employed for them, and twenty acres left by the Indians uncultivated.

The crop of wheat and oats was good, and we shall have a good crop of potatoes and turnips; our corn looked promising, until injured by frost in the early part of this month. During the spring and summer past there have been five hundred and sixty-one acres of prairie ploughed for the Winnebagoes, and twenty-three hundred and thirty-one rods of fence made. Of this thirteen hundred and eighty-three rods is good, permanent fence; the balance was constructed of logs and poles, which were conveniently procured, and will answer a good purpose for one or two years. A considerable quantity of rails have been made, which have not yet been used in fence. The quantity of hay made and now in stack is estimated at about three hundred tons. Some of the Indians have assisted in making hay for themselves, and are at present thus employed.

A portable saw-mill has been in operation a part of the season, and has made about seventy thousand feet of lumber, which is now being seasoned, and is intended chiefly for dwelling-houses for the Indians.

Land was ploughed for that branch of the tribe who reside on the Mississippi, but they refused to plant; of course they are idle and discontented, and express themselves dissatisfied with their country. This dissatisfaction is encouraged by some citizens of this community, but after one year's residence here I am prepared to repeat the same opinion given in my last annual report respecting the country, and its selection for the Winnebagoes. I still consider it the best selection that could have been made for them, with a reasonable prospect of their permanent occupancy. The fertility and resources of the country have fully answered my expectations, with the exception that game is not so plenty as was represented; but I do not consider scarcity of game an objection to the country, if the object be to civilize the Indians. It is idle to expect that they will abandon the chase and depend on agriculture for subsistence, until they are compelled by necessity to do so.

The Winnebagoes have been more temperate the past year than former-

ly. I am disposed to award to them all the credit they deserve for voluntary abstinence. We have had temperance societies among them for years past, and nearly all the chiefs and principal men of the tribe signed the pledge. This undoubtedly has had some influence; but the only sure way to prevent intemperance among the Indians is to keep ardent spirits beyond their reach. The officer in command at Fort Gaines has promptly assumed the responsibility of measures necessary to prevent the introduction of whiskey into the Indian country, and the prompt and efficient service rendered by Capt. Monroe, who was ordered to Sauk rapids by Col. Loomis, in compliance with your excellency's requisition, in destroying whiskey in that vicinity, and breaking up arrangements for furnishing it to Indians, prevented incalculable mischief.

The Winnebagoes have always been much addicted to gambling. So long as they confine themselves to their own games, the practice was comparatively harmless; but lately they have adopted the fashionable games of the white man, and the evil has become serious—to check which an effort is now being made. The licensed traders have agreed not to furnish the Indians with playing cards, and have struck this article from their inventories of goods.

The Winnebago school went into operation here on the 29th of January last, and closed on the 26th of May.

Some opposition to the school was manifested by the Indians about the time of its commencement as aforesaid, and for a short time they refused to let their children attend. This difficulty probably arose from misrepresentations made to the Indians by persons unfriendly to the school. The matter was compromised by the teachers, by increasing the amount of rations. After this the number of scholars increased rapidly; parents in some instances attended the school with their children. The average number of scholars during the time was about seventy. At the time the school closed, the funds in the hands of the agent for its support being exhausted, and the state of the roads being such as to render it almost impossible to procure supplies, it was, on consultation with the superintendent of the school, deemed expedient to suspend operations.

Funds have since been received, and the school will again be put in operation without delay. Three teachers were employed in the school at the time it was suspended; they still remain here. The Rev. D. Lowry, superintendent of the school, has, during the summer past, and until recently, assisted me in superintending work, and during my absence to St. Louis, had the entire charge of the work.

I have deemed it proper to give the foregoing details in relation to the school on account of their omission in the superintendent's report herewith transmitted.

As regards the general progress of education in this tribe, I am of the opinion the efforts which have been made to promote this great object, have, in a literary point of view, been as successful as could reasonably be expected. From the records of the school, five hundred and seventy-three pupils are reported as members of the school since its organization; of this number one hundred and forty-two have advanced so far as to be able to read in the Scriptures. The girls who have attended the school have been faithfully instructed in most of the branches of industry stipulated in the treaty establishing the school; the instruction of boys in gardening and agriculture, as required in said treaty, has been much neglected; this I con-

sider the most important part of the Indian's education; and although I have annually procured land ploughed for the school, furnished the necessary tools and garden seeds, and urged upon the teachers of the school the importance of instructing the boys of a suitable age to work, I expect to be held accountable, and justly censured for permitting this neglect.

With the exception of children of half-breeds, the influence of education on the scholars, as respects their adoption of the dress and habits of civilization, does not appear to extend beyond the time they leave the school. What would be the effect of religious instruction imparted to this people in their own language remains to be tested.

Chippewas of the Mississippi. These bands contain a population of about eleven hundred, and have their villages at Gull lake, Sandy lake, Mille lac, and Rabbit lake. Respecting the former character of these Indians, I know but little, but since they have been under my charge, for the year past, I have found them peaceable, temperate, and industrious.

A farm was commenced last spring at Gull lake by several bands who have decided on that location, and a valuable improvement was made. The plan adopted was to hire the Indians to do their own work; it succeeded well. Seventeen acres of timbered land were cleared by one of their half-breeds on contract; in addition to this, twenty-two acres have been cleared by the Indians themselves; this land they have cultivated in corn, potatoes, turnips, and garden vegetables; their crops look well; and they are well pleased with this their first attempt at farming. They have commenced building themselves dwelling-houses of hewn logs, and are making arrangements to extend their farming operations.

A team was furnished them and two men employed to assist them. They were also furnished with tools, and with seed to plant. The improvements were made under the supervision of Mr. Warren, farmer at Gull lake. I have found time to visit them but twice during the season. The industry and enterprise manifested by these Indians during the past season is highly creditable to them, and affords encouraging hope for their future prospects. The Indian crop at Sandy lake was destroyed by being overflowed the present season. The Indians living at Mille lac are thriving farmers.

Gull lake is situated about twelve miles northwest from the mouth of Crow-wing river. It has been my object to locate as many of the Chippewas there as possible; five bands now reside there. The time has arrived when the interests of the Indians, as well as the interests of the citizens of Minnesota Territory, requires that the privilege granted the Chippewas to occupy, for a limited period, the country purchased of them in the treaty of 1837, should terminate.

The Pillager bands of Chippewas, hail from Leech lake, and occupy a very extensive range of hunting ground. They number about nine hundred; are a hardy, brave, and warlike people; being further removed from the white settlements, they are less enervated and enfeebled by intemperance than are the Chippewas of the Mississippi. In common with these Indians, they cherish an inveterate enmity to the Sioux.

The Winnebagoes being aware of the danger in which they would be involved, in case of hostilities between these tribes, have acted as mediators, and used their influence to preserve peace. In this object they have not entirely succeeded; a few weeks since a party of some seventy warriors from Reel lake were joined by a small party of Pillagers in an attack on the

Sioux; different reports are circulated respecting the result; some were killed on both sides. It is important that the Government should put a stop to hostilities between these tribes, either by negotiation or by compulsion. If by negotiation, a small appropriation will be necessary to defray the expense of a general council of the tribes interested.

The Chippewas, who occupy the country north of Leech Lake, are organized into six bands, and number about two thousand.

The failure of the crop of wild rice the present season is a serious calamity to the Chippewa Indians, and it is feared that much distress will result from it.

Very little if any intoxicating liquor has been taken, north of the mouth of Crow wing river, into the Indian country the present season.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. FLETCHER, *Ind. Agent.*

His Excellency ALEX'R RAMSEY,

Supt. Ind. affairs, St. Paul's, Minesota Territory.

No. 2.—A.

Report of the Winnebago School and Farm.

SIR: Although the Winnebago school is not now in session, it is yet perhaps proper to report its operations up to the time it closed.

It was opened so soon after the emigration of the Indians terminated as buildings could be got in a sufficient state of readiness to justify it, and continued till June last. As the causes leading to its suspension are not understood by me, it will be improper to make any allusion to them.

While the institution remained in session, the children were more constant in attendance than I have ever known them, and both parents and children expressed much regret when it closed. Upwards of one hundred pupils were present on the last day of the school.

The Farm. As I have had something to do with the farming operations of the Winnebagoes during the past and present year, it will perhaps not be out of place to make some reference to that subject.

I took charge of this branch of the business about the first of last October. The season for saving hay had then closed, or nearly so, and it was found that not more than half the quantity needed for the winter had been secured. The stock, including most of the teams, were sent a distance of near one hundred miles to winter on rushes—two men in charge. The teams were too poor to be of much service in the spring, till grass come.

I retained supervision of the farm hands till some time in December, when they were, by your order, turned over to Mr. Perkins. The labor, while under my direction, was principally confined to the erection of buildings, including your own house, blacksmith-shops, school-house, &c.

Mr. Perkins resigned the superintendency of the farm about the first of June, when, at your request, I again took charge of it. Business was found in rather a deranged condition, and crops far from being in such a state of forwardness as the shortness of the season here requires. Land had been broken for a portion of the Indians, which they were in the act of planting, but the fields were not enclosed, and but few rails made. Believ-

ing that the crop could be secured in no other way, I determined to throw a temporary fence of poles around most of the fields.

Owing to the seed not being good, the corn crop of the Indians came up badly, and being planted late, and on the sod, the crop is short, and much injured by the frost. About two thirds of the tribe did not plant at all. The price of corn, ever since the removal of the Indians to this place, has been exorbitantly high, and still continues so. The common price has been from three to four dollars per bushel. From thirty to forty acres have been sowed in turnips, and if protected from the stock, several thousand bushels will be raised. Near three hundred tons of hay have been cut and secured in stacks for the farm. The Indians have cut and secured from fifteen to twenty tons.

Indian Houses. A strong disposition was felt by the Winnebagoes at their former home to live in houses, and the Department was informed of their wishes, but owing to their unsettled state no encouragement was given. They were told, however, that immediate aid would be afforded on this subject when they removed. Thus far, their expectations have not been realized. One family was accommodated last winter. They took possession of their house, though unfinished, in very cold weather, and a prouder and more happy family I have rarely seen. The building consists of two rooms below, and two above, with a passage between. One room is neatly carpeted, furnished with beds, &c., and another supplied with a cooking-stove, and used for a kitchen. The head of this family is a chief, and his example must exert a salutary influence upon his people. He has entirely given up the chase, owns a team, and engages as regularly in manual labor as a white man. He took a contract last spring for breaking prairie, and has employed most of the summer in that business. A wagon and mowing scythe were given to this man some five years ago, when he showed the first signs of a disposition to adopt the habits of a civilized life.

Another Indian family have occupied a room in my own house for some months past. The heads of this family were educated in the school, and married under the laws of Christianity, and I felt much solicitude to sustain them at the point of improvement to which they had attained, till means could be provided for their further advancement.

Little Hill, the chief of what is called the school band, has been aided in building a house for a summer residence, but it will not do for the winter. This man is anxious to adopt civilized habits, and should receive immediate encouragement. Indeed, I think most of the Indians residing in this vicinity would exchange the wigwam for the house, if they could meet with proper encouragement.

SUGGESTIONS. I would respectfully, but strongly, recommend that great care be observed in the selection of persons to labor with, and instruct the Indians; this suggestion is not intended to apply exclusively to the Winnebagoes, but to our Indian tribes generally. If these unfortunate people are ever to be christianized and civilized, religious sympathy and example must have much to do in the operation. When and where has a barbarous tribe become *truly* civilized, without the aid of the Christian religion? That a state of social advancement, in which houses instead of wigwams may be built, and clothing extended from the loins over the whole body, may be produced independently of the gospel, is admitted; but that a true civilization, by which is meant that state of improvement which secures a sound national conscience, leads to the enactment of laws to protect individual

rights, and to the cultivation of those principles so indispensable to political permanency and social happiness, can exist, or ever has existed, without Christianity, is denied.

It should be carefully noted, too, in this connection, that that superficial civilization which may spring up in advance of religion is often so far from aiding her in gaining access to a savage people, that new obstacles are thereby thrown in her way. The partially civilized state of China, and other nations of like condition, furnishes no disposition to receive the gospel. The most violent resistance, perhaps, that Christianity has ever met with from any Indian tribe, was from the Mohawks of Upper Canada, who had enjoyed the educational and civilizing process for forty years.

Their abandonment to vice was often urged by their more heathen neighbors as an objection to the Christian religion. Not that there is any thing in letters or the mechanic arts, abstractly considered, which tends to dissipation. Knowledge is simply power lodged in the intellect, and its action, either for good or evil, depends on the moral state of the heart. Leave this unimproved by the principles of religion, and the knowledge imparted only adds to the length of the lever by which vice overturns the foundations of virtuous society. The great error perhaps has been, and still is, to intrust the more civilizing scheme to irreligious and immoral hands.

Christian instruction and example form a great part of every system intended to benefit the heathen. The civilizing and christianizing scheme should ever act conjointly, the former always in charge of the latter. It may not in *all* instances be practicable to obtain pious mechanics, farmers, and school teachers; but all should be strictly moral, and disposed to treat the institutions of religion at least with outward respect and attention. For obvious reasons, men of families should always have the preference to single men, when salaries allowed will justify it. It may be urged, as an offset to the foregoing remarks, that establishments for Indian improvement in the hands of missionaries have failed, and are now failing, to produce any valuable results. Admitting this to be true, still it will not be pretended, I presume, that the missionaries, either by precept or example, teach vice to the Indians. Local causes often interpose obstacles to the missionary work, which may keep it in check for a time. Missionaries toiled sixteen years on the island of Tahiti apparently without effect; in the mean time, had their printing press burnt, houses destroyed, and were driven from the island; but they returned, and the people of that island are now Christians. Instances of similar opposition on the one hand, and ultimate triumph on the other, might be multiplied, were it necessary. Resistance to the gospel is not peculiar to our red neighbors. Its implantation among our own people was not the work of a day, nor effected without suffering, persecution, and death. The apostles were driven from city to city, and at last sealed the truth with their blood. The gospel, be it remembered, silently acts upon the mind, aiming at a change of sentiment and principles, and, through that medium, to alter outward conduct. Of course, much of its preparatory work must remain unnoticed and unappreciated, at least by a superficial observer.

The present school buildings should be finished with the least possible delay, and others added suitable for teachers, and a boarding house for farm hands and such Indian children as may choose to live at the establishment. This house should be put in charge of an intelligent and pious family.

A second school and farm should be located about two miles below the

present institution. These two schools are all that should be attempted now, and it is believed that most of the tribe, if properly encouraged, would soon settle in their vicinity. Those refusing to do so, and disposed to settle elsewhere, should be aided in cultivating the soil, and encouraged to expect the means of education, when desired. The main body of the tribe, however, as remarked, would soon locate in the vicinity of the schools just recommended. For many reasons, I prefer having the Indians thus congregated; there is something in sympathy, mysterious indeed, but exceedingly powerful, and which in a large school may be used to great advantage. Mind is best educated in contact with other minds; it is thereby stimulated, quickened, cheered, and strengthened. A hundred scholars, brought together and properly taught, will do better than the same number divided into ten classes and taught separately. The teachers, too, by operating in the same immediate vicinity, would exert a happy influence upon each other, and both the establishments could be placed under *one* superintendency.

The life and usefulness of these schools will depend more upon the superintendent than upon any, and perhaps all the other things combined. The number of the pupils will be constantly diminishing, by removal, by deaths, by the indifference or disaffection of parents, &c., and on the superintendent the duty of devising means to fill these vacancies will devolve. And, as corporeal punishment must be in a great measure excluded from the schools, it will be important that he have much knowledge of human nature, in order to be able to invent suitable substitutes. As his influence must act mainly upon the schools through the teachers, he ought to be consulted in their appointment, and none be placed in the schools without his approbation.

The farming operations of these Indians should be under the same supervision with their schools—the establishments commenced and continued in this way for several years. The man in charge of the schools should have the affections and confidence of the Indians; and by placing the farm hands under his direction, you give him the power of conferring a thousand little favors upon them, and establish an influence in his hands which he could not otherwise possess. This plan is best, too, on the score of economy. If *two* superintendents be unnecessary, the expense of *one* should be saved. As recommended in reference to the teachers of the school, the superintendent should be advised with in the selection of hands to labor on the farm; every thing will depend upon their moral qualifications.

In 1842, I recommended that some of the most promising children of the school, with the consent of parents and guardians, be sent occasionally into religious communities, among the whites, to complete their education, and then return to their people. The plan was, to send an equal number of males and females, with a hope that matrimonial connections might be in some instances entered into, and thereby communities formed, before savage relations, that would be better prepared to withstand temptation to return to the rude customs of the tribe.

The Department declined encouraging this plan, but I am still in favor of it, and again recommend it. The expense, over and above what it would cost to educate a child in the nation, would be trifling. I was so thoroughly convinced of the utility of the plan in question, that I raised a subscription in the vicinity of the school, among the friends of the Indians, some years ago, and sent three Indian boys to an institution in Illinois. An Indian

girl was placed under similar advantages for some time, in Tennessee, entirely at my own expense.

I have already indicated the propriety of employing men of families in the Indian service; these families should be encouraged to take Indian children to raise; the advantages of this course have already been realized; children thus raised are more constant in school, and soon catch the English language; besides their morals can be better guarded. They may return to the wigwam, and the labor bestowed seem to be lost to them and their people, but they will take with them subjects of thought and conversation, and be able to impart practical lessons on domestic economy that cannot fail to be useful. It is frequently remarked by the enemies of Indian improvement, that they are rendered more miserable by attempts to break up their savage habits than if let alone. With proper qualifications, this may be true *for a time*; but shall they on that account be given up? Is it not one of Heaven's laws that even medicine must produce new suffering before it cures the patient? The incipient stages of all religious reformations involves sorrows unknown before that reformation commenced. The same law applies to the recovery of degenerated nations. Those who first lead off in the path of improvement, and become semi-civilized, thereby render themselves incapable of enjoying the rude state, nor can they reach at once the elevated pleasures of civilized life; they seem to be unfit for either state. I repeat, the enemies of Indian improvement are not slow to take advantage of this circumstance, and use it to prejudice the savage mind against all attempts to better his condition. For the want of proper sympathy and attention on the part of those entrusted with the instruction of Indians, many fall back to the wild state, after having been partially reclaimed. A most fearful responsibility should be felt in view of this subject.

I have heretofore urged that a small printing press be connected with the Winnebago school, and beg leave again to repeat that recommendation. A newspaper, adapted to the capacities of the educated Indians, would be of great service to the tribe, not only in diffusing information, but in showing at once the practical advantages of literary instruction. The press should, by all means, be placed under a religious influence.

It is impossible fully to appreciate the results of efforts with the Winnebagoes, without being acquainted with them when those efforts commenced. They were proverbially degraded and reckless; so much so, that my friends thought my life unsafe among them. So opposed were they to a change of habits, that they refused to hear propositions on the subject. To use their own language, they informed me that their skins were red, and soap and water could not wash them white; that their children were all asleep, and must not be disturbed. I however (in 1834) took charge of their school and farm, but remained for some time without the sight of an Indian. At length one man with his family was induced to settle near me. I appointed this man chief, and soon collected a small band around him, some of whom showed a disposition to patronize the school. The number of this newly erected band continued to increase, and the establishment grew in popularity with the Indians.

In the spring of 1839, the office of sub-agent having been refused by two persons, owing to the small salary allowed, at the request of the Department I consented to take charge of it. The school and farm continued in the mean time to operate conjointly, as they had commenced, and to increase in favor with the tribe.

In the fall of 1844, when removed from office by Mr. Tyler, I had a large school in operation, and nearly the whole tribe cultivating the soil; some had commenced using wagons for transportation, and expressed a wish to live in houses. Were it not for extending this report, already too long, to an unreasonable length, testimonials from disinterested persons of high standing in the country, would here be given respecting the change produced among the Indians at the time I left them. As insidious efforts, however, have been made, and are still continued, to produce the impression abroad that the whole operations with those Indians had resulted in failure, I beg leave here to submit a few specimens of the hand-writing of the children of the school—most of these specimens are from full blooded Indians.

The Christian religion, as yet, has produced but a slight impression upon the minds of the Winnebagoes; nor is this to be wondered at. I never had an interpreter through whom religious instruction could be imparted; and about the time the children of the school became able to understand preaching in the English language, my connection with the tribe, as already stated, was dissolved.

The importance, however, of approaching these people with the claims of Christianity had been constantly felt, and time and thought employed in preparing the way; pursuant to this object, farmers, mechanics, and teachers, had been drawn from the different churches (the Roman Catholic not excepted,) of the country, and formed into a religious community before the Indians.

This plan was resorted to for the purpose of satisfying all that there was no intention, on my part, to encourage sectarian monopoly: not a member of my own church belonged to the community. In addition to the duties of my office, I subjected myself to the labor of preparing to preach to this community every sabbath.

They cordially united their efforts in every proper way to impress the subject of religion upon the minds of the Indians. Church was regularly attended, and the children understanding the English language accompanied them.

On my return to the tribe, in 1846, to take charge of their school, it was expected to resume the plan for religious operations that had been matured and left at my removal, but a variety of circumstances intervened to prevent.

In conclusion, I beg leave respectfully to suggest a reconsideration of the decision of the Department respecting certain unexpended balances of the school and farm fund, which has been ordered back into the Treasury of the United States. The Indians have repeatedly complained that their rights in this case had been disregarded.

In ordering the money alluded to back into the Treasury, the Department, I presume, took the ground that, under the treaty stipulation of 1832, (arts. 4 and 5,) it is the right of the Government to call back any portion of the sums therein specified, remaining unexpended after a given time. Such, however, was not the understanding when the treaty was made. I have conversed with General Street, who was present as Indian agent, and dictated the articles of the treaty in relation to the school and farm, and influenced the Indians to agree to their insertion. He assured me that the sums named in the treaty belonged to the Indians as a part of the consideration for the country sold, and if not expended one year, they were to pass to the next. This was also the understanding of the Department when

the school and farm went into operation. Special inquiry was made on the subject in 1839.

It will be seen, too, by referring to the treaty, that the sums might have been legitimately expended annually, and they doubtless would have been but for the understanding as already stated. That the money belonged to the Indians, the article of the treaty in reference to the farm, provides, that in addition to agriculturists, &c., "ploughs, and other agricultural implements," shall be purchased. Every surplus dollar, therefore, could have been expended in the purchase of these articles, and they profitably distributed among the Indians: some, perhaps, would have been sold, as they now dispose of other annuities.

Refer to the article providing for the school in the same treaty. It is there stipulated that children shall be "boarded and lodged." They have most generally, however, lodged at the wigwam with their parents, drawn their rations, and boarded at home also—this saved much expense; but under the rule adopted by the Department, the Indians derive no benefit from it. It deserves notice, also, in this connection, that a considerable quantity of coarse goods were annually turned over by the Indians to aid in clothing the children of the school. Will the Department claim the benefit of this economy, too?

Ten thousand dollars are, under the treaty of 1837, annually expended for provisions for the Winnebagoes. Suppose they should not eat the whole of this provision within a given time—it is still on the property return of the agent—could any possible construction of the treaty give that provision back to the Government?

But waiving all other considerations, the fact that it was the fault of the Department that the school and farm money was not annually expended, should settle the question of right to the unexpended balances.

The operations of both school and farm were circumscribed more than once by order of the Department, in view of the unsettled state of the Indians. In 1843, they applied for a second school, but were refused, because unsettled.

My remarks have reference more directly to the treaty of 1832, but will apply with equal force to the treaty of 1837.

D. LOWRY.

Gen. J. E. FLETCHER, *Indian Agent,*
September 18, 1849.

No. 2—B.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY, *Sept. 22d, 1849.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your excellency's letter of the 16th instant, together with a "circular" from the Commissioner of Indian affairs, concerning the forwarding of annual reports, their character, &c. Being in possession of said circular, an explanation would seem to be called for, why a sub-report on the subject of the farm accompanies my annual report, contrary to the directions of the "circular."

Soon after my return from St. Louis, I requested the Rev. D. Lowry, superintendent of the Winnebago school, to make the usual report of the school, and expected that he would have confined himself in said report to

the Winnebago school. On the receipt of said circular, (some three or four days ago,) I informed Mr. L. of its purport; but his report being then written, he did not see fit to abridge it.

The report in question contains some statements which I deem uncalled for and improper, and I would respectfully submit a brief explanation of some parts of said report. I would not accuse Mr. Lowry of designedly making statements calculated to convey erroneous impressions of facts; but, it seems to me, that inferences will unavoidably be drawn from his report, both unfavorable and unjust, to persons in the employ of the Department at this agency.

In the first place, I do not know how Mr. L. means to be understood in saying that he did not understand the causes which led to the suspension of the school; he certainly could not mean that he did not know the cause assigned or given by me for suspending the school, for he has spoken of that cause to your excellency; it may be that he has reference to some ulterior remote cause that may have produced the state of affairs that occasioned the suspension of the school. The inference from his statement will be, that there was some concealment about the matter, or at least that the school was suspended without any reason being assigned for it. In the second place, I consider Mr. L.'s statement respecting the business of the farm, when he took charge of it in October last, as uncalled for and unfair. When this spot was selected for the agency on the 12th day of August, 1848, Mr. Lowry agreed to stay and take charge of the work while I went to St. Louis for the annuities. With other instructions respecting the work, I directed that 200 tons of hay should be made; as I was about to start, I remarked to Mr. L., while speaking of the buildings that he was to commence in my absence, that I did not know whether the Department would allow my account for building him a dwelling-house; if not, he must pay for it; to this he took exception, and would consent to stay in charge of the work only on condition that I would build his house on my own responsibility; he left, went south as far as Prairie du Chien, returned about the first of October with his family, and found the hay as he says. Ten yoke of oxen were kept here for work most of the winter; five yoke were sent with other stock to the rushes, some thirty miles distant at first, but they subsequently went to the Mississippi, at a point some seventy-five miles distant from this; about the first of March more of the stock was sent to the rush bottoms; there were two men in charge of the cattle, but only one under pay by the Department. Again, Mr. Lowry's remarks respecting Indian houses are, I think, uncalled for. A short time before I started for St. Louis last June, the chiefs of the bands located here came to my office on the Sabbath, accompanied by the Rev. D. Lowry, and wished to talk with me about their money. I informed them that the Department had consented to have the interest on \$85,000 expended in assisting them to build dwelling houses, as they had desired. Little Hill, on the part of the chiefs, replied that they did not wish to have that money thus expended; that they would build their own houses. Of this I took no notice of course, and when at St. Louis procured materials for their buildings, and they are satisfied that I did so. When I went to St. Louis last month, I asked Mr. Lowry to take charge of the workmen, and requested him to do something towards building houses for the Indians. I found on my return that nothing had been done on them; of this I do not complain, as other work was more immediately important. Mr. L. knows what preparation I have made for

the building of Indian houses, and I think that he has no just ground, if he has justifiable motives, for giving to the public the statement he has.

I agree with Mr. L. that "great care should be observed in selecting persons to labor with and instruct the Indians," but if it is intended that the public shall infer that proper care and discretion has not been used by myself in the selection of employees for the Indians, and that the consequence has been to destroy the influence of the school, and to counteract the effect of his efforts to christianize the Indians, justice to the persons thus employed requires me to say, at least, that I do not consider them justly chargeable with having exerted an influence so unfavorable. Although I have preferred men of piety as employees for the Indians, I have not made it a condition of employment.

I have required testimonials of good moral character in cases of permanent employment. I have been under the necessity of discharging men for profanity, and should have been more strict, were it not for the difficulty of procuring a sufficient number of laborers.

Mr. Lowry has been consulted in the appointment of teachers in the school; this I considered proper; but he has not been generally consulted in the employment of laborers. There are some things in Mr. L.'s report respecting which I might differ with him, both as to matter of fact and of opinion, but I will not refer to them. I have deemed the above statements due to myself and to others. I do not ask or expect these to go to the public with Mr. L.'s report, but I have taken the liberty to submit this to your excellency. It may be that I have not taken an impartial view of this subject, but I know that your excellency will view the matter without prejudice.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

J. E. FLETCHER,
Indian agent.

His excellency ALEX. RAMSEY,
Governor and superintendent of Indian affairs, St. Paul's.

No. 3.

SAINT PETER'S INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
4th October, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Department, I have the honor to submit, through you, my second annual report of the condition of the Sioux of the upper Mississippi and St. Peter's rivers.

The general health of the Indians has been good. During the winter a few deaths occurred from influenza. In the month of June the small pox was in the neighborhood, but by the timely activity of the medical man, (Dr. Williamson) the Sioux were saved from any attack; all, or nearly all, of the children, and many of the older Indians, having been vaccinated. The cholera morbus caused a second alarm, and five or six deaths occurring in one village, they harvested their corn, or abandoned it, so as to cause great waste.

The new appointment of farmers took place so late in the season as not to give time for repairing fences, and the want of teams, of implements, and other causes, threw much difficulty in their way; but, notwithstanding, a

very sufficient crop would have been harvested if the above alarm of cholera had not taken place, and the Indians were economical. Mr. P. Prescott, superintendent of farmers, computes their crop this season at 12,525 bushels of corn.

Since my arrival here, I have devoted my attention to encouraging industry by urging the men to assist in the labors of the field; to promote temperance by exerting all the influence in my power to suppress the traffic in whiskey, and by prevailing upon the Indians to join in temperance pledges; and to advance their civilization by encouraging them to build permanent log dwellings.

With regard to the first, I cannot say that I have done much, although I have proposed to set them an example by visiting their farms and holding the plough myself; still I hear that some of the men have assisted in planting and hoeing the corn, and many have said to me that if they had small ploughs and horses they would plough their corn themselves. However, I cannot believe them, for their prejudice is so strong, and it is looked upon as so disgraceful for a man to labor like a woman, that I am of opinion that this can only be brought about by a different education.

As to the second, (their temperance,) it is very gratifying to me to be able to report; that during the year I have obtained the signatures of 214 Indians to the temperance pledge—some for eight months, others for one, two, three, or four years, and a few for life, and I believe very few have broken the pledge. Of the value of this step, I have the best proof in the information obtained within a few days, that only two kegs of whiskey had reached Lac qui Parle during the season, up to the month of July. Since that time, however, whiskey has been taken into the upper country, and there traded for a horse and some robes. All the farmers assure me that there has been much less drinking at the villages, and we have no account of the excesses which were formerly so common during their drunken frolics.

As to the third, (their buildings,) I find that many log houses have been built, and are now occupied, and more would have been built but for the want of teams and the inability of the farmers to give more time to assist in erecting them.

During last winter, an Indian in a quarrel killed three horses for another Indian, who was then on his way to his village, 70 miles distant, leaving his family in great difficulty and distress on account of the deep snow. Yesterday, an Indian came to make complaint of another Indian having killed his horse, and no doubt many such cases are continually occurring. This leads me to observe, that if power were given to the superintendent of Indian affairs, to the commanding officer at Fort Snelling, or to myself; to imprison and put to hard labor any Indian guilty of such offences, and if his annuity in goods and money was stopped until he made full restitution, I have no doubt it would have a very beneficial effect. And there can be no question but much of the evil of whiskey drinking might be prevented, were the same power of punishing offenders given in cases where Indians are found drinking, or carrying or selling whiskey. Although I am willing to believe that signing the temperance pledge has done much good, I cannot but attribute the improvement on this head among these Indians, in a great measure, to the severity with which I have visited all that were found carrying whiskey into the Indian country. I have myself destroyed one jug and ten kegs. I am happy to say that, in every thing I have done on this subject, I have been earnestly supported by the superintendent of Indian affairs, the

missionaries, the commanding officers at the fort, the licensed traders, the superintendent of the farmers, and the farmers. Some facts very creditable to the Indians, and strongly indicating a great and important change in their feelings, have come to my knowledge. During this summer a steamboat with whiskey stopped at Red Wing's village; the Indians were much displeased and threatened to cut the boat loose unless it immediately removed. An Indian, soon after signing the temperance pledge, seized and destroyed a keg of whiskey brought home by an Indian to his village. On more than one occasion, the nephew of an Indian at Crow's village has destroyed whiskey taken there by his relation. And this fall, during the cranberry harvest, a trader attempting to deal for cranberries with whiskey, had his liquor destroyed, and was ordered away by the Indians.

To the same cause it may probably be attributed, that the year has past without complaint that any property of the whites has been stolen or destroyed by the Indians.

It is very pleasing to me, that my statements are corroborated by the testimony of so many respectable names as are appended to the letter of H. L. Dousman and others, of the date 30th Sept., 1849, which has just been handed to me, and of which I forward a copy.

There are but two schools established by Government—the other schools being under the direction of the American Board of Foreign Missions. The reports of the Rev. Dr. Williamson and the Rev. Mr. Aiton, give full information as to the progress of the Government schools.

I have had no opportunity of visiting the school at Red Wing's village, conducted by Mr. Aiton. I went to Crow's village, but it was at a time when very few children were in attendance at Mr. Cook's school. Such as were present shewed that they were learning reading, and one writing. I found many girls in attendance at the A. B. Foreign Mission school, conducted by Miss Jane Williamson, and was so much pleased by the ability displayed by the instructress, and interested by the conduct of the children, that I must call particular attention to it. On entering the school with Mr. Prescott, the children became very much embarrassed from bashfulness, but the great kindness and skill of Miss Williamson, soon restored order. Their usual recess shortly followed, during which time we visited the farmer, and had a talk with the chief and principal men. On our return we found the school arranged again, and the Indian children singing, assisted by several, viz: Dr. Williamson and his wife, Miss Williamson, Mrs. Aiton, Miss Pettijohn, (a young lady well versed in music, and who appeared to be the leader on this occasion,) and others. Messrs. Prescott and Cook joined, and I was quite delighted with the singing, and much astonished to see such proficiency displayed by Indian girls so young. On the hymn being given out, they found the proper page, they read and sung correctly, keeping excellent time, and appeared to have correct ears for music, and voices which made the music equal, if not superior, to any singing I had ever heard. They were all able to read in their Indian books, and produced specimens of their work that would do credit to any girls of their age. Miss Williamson certainly deserves great praise for the toil and skill she has bestowed on these children, to whom her kindness and tenderness equal that of the most affectionate mother.

The state of the other schools under the A. B. Foreign Missions will be shown by the accompanying reports.

The old troubles between the Sioux and Chippewas appear to be getting worse. The Sioux make complaint that since the treaty of peace the Chippewas have killed four or more Sioux. They also say that they are compelled to pay the Winnebagoes for injury done to them by the Sioux, whilst the Chippewas pay nothing. I have repeatedly told them, that if they did not attempt to take revenge I would represent the affair to the Government, and no doubt justice would be done between the two nations. Allow me respectfully to urge the propriety, and indeed necessity, of a speedy settlement of this question, as I have every reason to believe that it will be impossible much longer to restrain the Sioux from going to war. Several of the chiefs have complained heavily of the delay, and two or three days ago Little Crow and a number of his braves were here, and said they should no longer consider themselves bound by the treaty of peace, as it had been violated by the Chippewas.

The Department is already in possession of the facts of an outrage on the Wahpacootay Sioux by a party of Sacs and Foxes or Winnebagoes, or a portion of each of those tribes.

Every information I obtain leads me to express my opinion that the roaming Indians in the southwestern part of the Territory, and the dissatisfied Winnebagoes in the north, make it absolutely necessary that the Government should make some strong demonstration of its power, or that depredation after depredation will be committed, until the scattered Indians become sufficiently organized to bring on a war, which may in the end prove both serious and expensive. The injuries already committed on the whites, by the combined bands of lawless men described in the letters of Judge Williams and Mr. Sibley, call for some redress, and would fully justify the march of a sufficient dragoon force to the Iowa frontier to drive them from that country; whilst a similar force will very probably be necessary to restrain the Winnebagoes, *who are mixing too frequently with the Sioux*, in their journeys up and down the Mississippi, from their new reserve, to visit their old haunts.

Some time in the month of June or July last year, whilst the Winnebagoes were in course of removal, a difficulty occurred with a part of them at Wabashaw's prairie, and application was made to Captain Eastman, then in command at this post, for his assistance. It appears that, under the idea that the Sioux of this part of the country might have influence in some way to induce the Winnebagoes to give way, they (the Sioux) were applied to to go down to Wabashaw's prairie with the troops. Whether any, and what, promise was made them on that occasion, is not within my knowledge; but at every council since held with them they have put forward a claim. They allege that for the services rendered by them at that time, it was promised them by General Fletcher and Captain Eastman, that the payment they are now making to the Winnebagoes, of \$4,000, should be remitted. General Fletcher and Captain Eastman, I am told, make a different statement. That they promptly went for the purpose of aiding the Government officers appears to be an undoubted fact, and I cannot learn that any thing has been given to them on that account. I should be glad to receive some instructions as to the answer I ought to give to their application.

From a perusal of the annual reports of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, I find so many plans for the civilization of the Indians proposed by the different agents, and others connected with the Indians, that it appears im-

possible to suggest any thing new. Time, patience, and skill, are required to overcome the indolence, intemperance, and warlike inclination, which are the leading traits of Indian character. It has offended me much to see the Sioux men walking leisurely along, carrying only their guns and pipes, whilst the wife is toiling behind with the lodge and its furniture all packed on her shoulders—in the whole a sufficient load for a good stout horse. This is their established custom, and it will be difficult to eradicate. Something, however, might be done, as an inducement to cultivate land and build houses, by offering premiums of 1st, 2d, and 3d classes, for the men who should plough, plant, fence, and cultivate, the greatest quantity of land in corn, and build themselves the best log houses. I think that in this way their objection to labor might be broken in upon, which would be a great step towards their civilization.

But I would lay the principal stress on education. The younger people are those most likely to give way, and fall into new habits of life. It is true that missionaries, at great personal sacrifice, have been long settled in the Sioux villages, and that they have not accomplished much. We must recollect that their means have been very limited, and that many causes have operated against them. Even now the schools authorized and established by the Government are not successful, and I am of opinion, for three reasons: first, they do not furnish board and lodging to the scholars; secondly, they do not supply occupation for the hands as well as the heads; and, thirdly, the schools are in the Indian village, so that the children have continually under their eyes the evil example of all those who are not attending school. Indians require to see some present good to induce them to listen to the recommendation of schools, and that good, to which they attach most importance, is food and clothing.

The system of manual labor schools, to be established at such a distance from the villages as may not create a feeling of separation between the children and their parents, is the only one which appears to me likely to meet the wishes of the Indians, and to answer the expectations of the Government, and of those philanthropists who feel an anxiety on this subject.

The time has arrived when something must be done for these Indians, as their land is now of limited extent, the game fast disappearing, and the white population crowding upon them in every direction. At present (although there are many among them who know well the value of property, and the necessity of being provident) their wasteful habits of visiting, feasting, dancing, and ball-playing, exhaust all their means; and unless they can be taught to avail themselves of the produce of the land, and by education to compete with their white neighbors, they must soon cease to find support, and starve, or otherwise become a serious burden on the Government.

The treaty of 1837 places a fund of \$5,000 per annum in the hands of Government, "to be applied in such manner as the President may direct." Soon after the treaty, a small portion of this fund was applied to educational purposes, but for several years it has been allowed to accumulate. Applications have been from time to time made, on the part of the Indians, to have this accumulated fund paid over to them, but it has always been refused, as I suppose, on the ground that the fund was intended by Government for the establishment of schools. Last year, in particular, in answer to a similar application, the late President wrote a positive letter to the Indians, that it should not be used for any other purpose. And last year, also,

schoolmasters were appointed at two of the villages, whose salaries are charged upon that fund. It would therefore appear to be determined that this \$5,000 per annum is to be used for education, and here is an ample fund for the manual labor schools, which I respectfully recommend to be established without delay, as the best means of removing opposition on the part of the Indians. The teachers and all others required for such an establishment might be found in this country. I decidedly think that one such school would be immediately well attended, and more particularly if it should be opened to the half-breeds.

During last spring, the Wahpatons and Sissetons were making up a war party. I thought it my duty to write to the chiefs, and also to Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Riggs, the missionaries, as well as Mr. McLeod, Mr. Laframboise and Mr. Graham, the traders, saying that there were some ploughs and other things sent by the Government for those Indians, which I should withhold unless they immediately abandoned their design of war. I am happy to say that this request was entirely successful, although when my letters arrived, the Indians had already moved off a distance of three miles, preparatory to going to war, thus affording evidence of the disposition of these Indians to be attentive to the wishes of Government.

I cannot close my report without again calling attention to the extraordinary change which has been effected in the habits of these Indians. I am in receipt of letters from W. H. Forbes, esq., M. McLeod, esq., and James Wells, esq., in which the former states, that in former years the town of St. Paul had received about \$5,000 to \$10,000 of fur each year, but that last year he does not believe 10 barrels of whiskey had been traded there to Indians, and they all concur in attributing this change principally to the efforts I have made, assisted by the earnest exertions of the Hon. H. H. Sibley and others.

I regret that my indisposition, with the numerous engagements caused by the Indian annuity payment and the treaty, have delayed my report longer than I wished.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your very obedient servant,

R. G. MURPHY,

Ind. sub-agent.

To his Excellency, ALEX'R RAMSEY,

Gov. of Minnesota and Superintendent Ind. Aff's, &c.

No. 3.—A.

SAINT PETER'S, 25th Sept., 1849.

SIR: Since entering upon the duties of superintending the farming operations for the Mendawakanton Sioux, I have to report, that the farming for this year has been conducted on the same system as in former years.

The Indians were dissatisfied with the removal of the farmers in 1848, their wish being to get some of their relations appointed, which was not complied with. The few oxen that remained for ploughing, hauling logs for building, fence rails, &c., were all killed, so that on the re-appointment of farmers they had no teams but such as they were able to furnish themselves. They are without proper ploughs and other implements, and can-

not therefore make much progress. It is not, therefore, surprising that there should be frequent complaints of their not accomplishing more.

Mr. A. Robertson, farmer for Little Crow's band, 7 miles below Fort Snelling, reports about 75 acres of land ploughed; 500 yards of temporary fence made; 2 Indian houses and one storehouse hauled and assisted in erecting; 20 tons of hay made; 17 days hauling corn, in which time he hauled 75 loads of ears, computed at 65 bushels per load, in all 4875 bushels. He states that the land is of good quality, producing this year 40 bushels to the acre of the small kind of corn, and 70 bushels of the large white corn per acre. These Indians had the cholera morbus amongst them, which was supposed to be Asiatic cholera, and it so alarmed the Indians, that they commenced breaking their corn before it was ripe, and wasted a considerable quantity in gathering; so they have not gathered nearly all the corn they raised, but left much for the birds and cattle. He reports, also, that some of the Indians complain of the system of making a field in common, and request to have fields ploughed in separate lots.

Mr. John Bush, farmer for Red Wing's band, reports 55 acres ploughed; that he has hauled and assisted in erecting 11 houses for storing corn. The average number of bushels raised per acre about 30, making 1650 bushels. This band appears more willing to adopt the custom of the whites. Some of them were ready to harness their ponies and assist in furrowing the ground, planted their corn in rows, then ploughed it, and some of the men assisted the women in hoeing the corn.

Mr. M. S. Titus, farmer for Lake Calhoun band, reports 45 acres of land ploughed, and that it will average about 30 bushels per acre, making 1350 bushels. Some families planted potatoes, but the drought has injured them. At this village, the cholera morbus proving fatal in 5 or 6 cases, it alarmed the Indians so much that they did not take time to harvest their corn clean, but wasted a considerable quantity; much was made into sweet corn; the ear is picked before it becomes hard; it is then boiled, and when cooked is scraped from the cob and dried in the sun and put into bags, in which state it will keep 2 or 3 years. By this method they can have a palatable dish of green corn at any time, but it causes a great loss in quantity. Mr. Titus reports to have hauled the timber for 14 log houses, 11 of which he has assisted in building.

Mr. H. Mooers reports 30 acres ploughed for Black Dog's band; at the same average this gives 900 bushels of corn. One or two families raised a few garden vegetables.

Mr. J. Mooers, farmer of Six's band, reports about 80 acres ploughed, at the same average yielding 2,400 bushels, but a very considerable quantity wasted in gathering, from the same cause as the others.

Mr. P. Quinn, farmer for Good Road's band, reports 45 acres ploughed, averaging 30 bushels; making a total of 1,350 bushels. He has hauled and assisted in building 9 log houses.

Mr. J. Brinnel, farmer for Wabashaw's band, did not plough last spring, owing to quarrels amongst the Indians. The chief moved to a new place, to make a village and plant; part of the band would not change, and remained at the old village. Whilst they were quarrelling some of them went to work with their own horses, and others with hoes; and before it was decided where the farmer should locate himself, the season for planting was passed. Still these Indians have raised a considerable quantity of corn. Their farmer is building himself a house at the new location of the chief,

where everything has to be begun anew. He is now making hay for the Indian horses.

Mr. Chatel, blacksmith, stationed at Good Road's village, has hadded over, for the five upper bands, from 8th December, 1848, to 30th July, 1849, (nearly eight months,) 12 rakes, 575 wrought nails, 57 sets door-hinges, 40 sets door-handles, latches, &c., 50 hasps and staples, 73 chains to hang kettles for cooking, 45 half-round adzes, 23 traps, 230 axes of different sizes, 265 fire-steels, 50 rat spears, 208 pair fish spears, 24 pair stirrups, 16 melting ladles, 63 crooked knives, 199 hoes, 30 tapping gouges, besides an innumerable quantity of repairing, particularly to guns, many of the new ones requiring repair before they can be used.

Mr. Raescot, blacksmith, stationed at Red Wing's village, being so remote from the sub-agency, has issued the tools, implements, &c., to the Indians himself, and I have not yet received his report.

It thus appears that these Indians have raised from their farms nearly ten thousand bushels of corn. They have received from Government 625 barrels of flour, 200 barrels of pork, 7,692½ lbs. lard, and 2,857½ bushels of corn. It is computed that they have this year picked 2,000 barrels of cranberries, for which they have received about \$8,000 worth of goods and provisions. They have prepared some small amount of wild rice, and their hunt furnished them with a very considerable amount of fresh meat. They number in all about 2,000.

The fear of making my report too lengthy must not prevent my urging the necessity of having a proper storehouse built at the agency. The present storehouse (which in size is insufficient to hold one quarter of the Indian goods and provisions) is attached to the council and interpreter's house; and as the Indians are constantly sleeping and cooking near, it is very insecure from fire. For three months in the year, 15 to 20 thousand dollars' worth of property is here stored, including gunpowder to the amount of 100 kegs. Twice since I have been here these buildings have accidentally caught fire, at a time when the loss to Government would have been about \$20,000; and notwithstanding the quantity of gunpowder stored is so large, there is no precaution taken against lightning.

Having been nearly all my life amongst these Indians, I may be allowed to conclude my report with a few words on the subject of their improvement.

Much is said about civilizing the Indians, and the necessity of teaching them to cultivate the land. This is no doubt exceedingly good, but we must do something more; for unless we teach them good moral conduct they cannot be a happy people.

The manual labor system of schools, established on Christian principles, and with a daily use of the Bible, presents to my mind the only means of accomplishing what appears to be so ardently desired by all well-wishers of the Indian tribes. It is impossible to do much for the adults, who have grown up in idleness and heathenish superstitions; but the rising generation may be otherwise dealt with. The Sioux cannot be prevailed on to give their children to school, unless they be boarded and clothed. With this they would be satisfied; and the children, once educated in habits of industry and morality, would, when of mature age, certainly prefer to gain their living by farming, rather than endure the hardships of an Indian life. Much might be done to induce the parents to send their children to the school, by distributing from time to time the surplus provision among the

Indians themselves. Patience, great kindness to the children, moral suasion, and perseverance, would all be necessary to insure success. Still, the Indians would very soon feel relieved by their younger children being taken off their hands; and if they saw something coming to them more than the mere learning, in return for their money, they would gladly consent to the arrangement.

Among those people who show great sympathy and kindness for the Indians, there are some who propose to advance their civilization by congregating them together in large villages. This is a sad mistake; the bringing them together in villages is their great bane. It produces too much concert and combination to combat the plans proposed for their welfare, and prevents that feeling of separate property which is wanting to make these Indians provident. I would rather propose to scatter them, by giving to each a house and farm a quarter or half mile apart, with 50 to 100 acres of land, in which the individual Indian should have distinct property, without the power of sale, so that it should descend to his children, and so on, from generation to generation, until the Legislature of the United States should see fit to give them a freehold. Assistance, as now, would be necessary, to enable them to build, fence, plough, &c.; and the laws which are now in contemplation, giving them protection of life and property, would be essential. Let them have, in addition to this, some encouragement to temperance, and their temporal condition would be much improved.

I have taken the liberty of appending a diagram of proposed Indian reserves for farming, which, if accompanied by the proposed system of law, by manual labor schools, in which the English language should be the one taught, and such religious instruction as the numerous missionary societies of our country are said to furnish, we might hope that even the obdurate Sioux would at no distant day become an enlightened nation. I would only add my belief, that such a plan would not derive any advantage by being carried on too remote from white settlements.

Your most ob't and humble servant,

P. PRESCOTT,

Sup't farming for Sioux.

RICHARD G. MURPHY,

U. S. Indian Sub-agent, St. Peter's.

No. 3—B.

Report of the Messrs. Pond.—Missions, and the opposition to education among the Dakotas.

In the month of May, A. D. 1834, Messrs. S. W. and G. H. Pond, without aid or encouragement from any missionary societies, came among the Dakotas for the purpose of learning their language, and instructing them in the way of salvation, as taught in the Bible. For more than a century and a third previous to this time the Dakotas had been known to and acquainted with white men, none of whom, however, so far as we are informed, made any formal attempt to instruct them in letters or Christianity.

The Messrs. Pond, after spending some time in ploughing for the Indians, by the advice of Major Taliaferro, Indian agent, and of Major Bliss,

then commander at Fort Snelling, and with the consent of the Indians residing there, built for themselves a cabin near the Indian village at Lake Calhoun, in which they resided for more than a year. Afterwards they became connected with the missionary stations, under the care of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, two of which were established in the year 1835. One of these was at Lake Harriet, within a mile of the Indian village at Lake Calhoun; the other at Lac qui Parle, on the St. Peter's, 200 miles west of Fort Snelling. During this year, the Messrs. Pond and missionaries of the A. B. C. F. M., made a successful effort to reduce the language to a written form, and in the year following, though as yet nothing has been printed in their language, we had made such progress in teaching, that several of the natives were able, not only to read, but to write it intelligibly.

In the year 1836, a missionary station under the Methodist Episcopal Missionary Society was commenced at Kaposia, often called Little Crow's village; and another under the care of a missionary society in Switzerland, at or near Mont Tremps à L'eau; schools were soon gathered at both these places, and till some time subsequent to the treaty of 1837, the prospects were thought to be altogether favorable.

The teachings in these schools was chiefly if not entirely in the English language, and, as will hereafter appear, most of the scholars were taken from the schools before they had time to learn the language, and such soon forgot what they had learned.

We can now say nothing definite in regard to the number who were taught to read. If any record of the names and progress of the scholars was kept, we have not access to it. The mission of the society in Switzerland was transferred in 1837 or 1838 to Remnice or Red Wing's village, five miles above Lake Pepin, where, for some time, many of the young Indians manifested a strong desire to learn to read. Previous to the winter of 1838 and 1839, schools had been opened at five different places among the Sioux. Up to this time the schools encountered little or no opposition, and the opposition which they did encounter arose, not from hostility to education, but from other causes; chiefly the want of proper books and teachers sufficiently acquainted with their language to converse with them. In the report of Major Taliaferro, agent for the Sioux for the year 1838, he speaks encouragingly of the prospects of education among them, and recommends that of the sum of \$5,000, set apart by the treaty of September 29th, 1837, \$500 be paid to Mr. D. Gavin, and a like sum to Mr. Denton and to Mr. Stevens, on account of what they were doing to civilize the Dakotas, and that \$3,500 per annum be set apart for founding an orphan asylum near the agency.

Previous to the middle of July, 1839, we had no books printed in the language which could be advantageously used in our schools; for though two attempts had been made to get something printed at the last, in consequence of the proof sheets being corrected only by persons ignorant of the language, the small works printed so abounded with errors that they were almost useless.

In 1838 a small spelling and reading book, and a translation of the gospel of Mark, with extracts from other parts of the Bible, were prepared for the press at Lac qui Parle, and early in the following year printed at Cincinnati at the expense of the A. B. C. F. M. The printing of these works was superintended by one of the missionaries, who, during the winter,

travelled to Cincinnati for the purpose. The report of the school at Lac qui Parle, dated July 11, 1839, and written about the time these books reached that station, shows that 51 had already learned to read their own language in the school, the most of whom could also write it, and that 90 different individuals had attended the school there the previous winter. Being now furnished with books in the Dakota language, quite intelligible to such of them as had learned to read, we hoped to see education advancing rapidly among them. At Lac qui Parle these hopes were, to a considerable extent, realized. The report of that station for the next year shows that the number of scholars had increased to 111, of readers to 70, and that quite a number of women were learning to spin, knit, and weave, some of whom had spun and wove woollen short-gowns for themselves.

Among the Medawakantonwans the case might have been the same, but as soon as it was known that Major Taliaferro had recommended that a part of the money (which he said these Indians had by treaty) "set apart for schools, missions, and other beneficial objects, under the direction of the President," should be paid missionaries, the Indians were told by some of their advisers that, unless they would oppose schools, the missionaries would get all of their money; but if they would break up the schools and drive off the missionaries, they might get the money themselves. In consequence of this, an organized opposition to schools and missionaries immediately commenced in this part of the tribe, and continued to increase till the schools were broken up, not a single child residing in any village of the Medawakantonwans being permitted to attend school. This opposition being such that it was impossible to teach or publicly preach to them, most of the missionaries belonging among them, including all who had received any of their money, left them. The Medawakantonwans, while breaking up the schools among themselves, endeavored to stop that among the Warpetonwans at Lac qui Parle, but without much success, till the year 1842, when, in the month of June, severe frosts and drought almost entirely destroyed the crops in that region, in consequence of which many of the Warpetonwans of that village, to escape starvation, came to spend the winter among the Medawakantonwans.

The latter having, previous to this, stopped all the schools among themselves, and repeatedly demanded the money without getting it, were made to believe, and told the Warpetonwans, that the missionaries at Lac qui Parle were getting, on account of the school there, several thousand dollars of the Medawakantonwans' money; and, by presents and promises, the Warpetonwans were instigated to break up the school and drive off the missionaries. Accordingly, in the autumn of 1843, many of the principal men of Lac qui Parle, who had until a short time previous never manifested hostility either to the school or missionaries, came armed to the mission house, and formally ordered the missionaries to leave. The latter did not think proper to comply with this order, doubting whether those who gave it really wished them to do so; and quite a number of the children—some of them near relations of those who had been foremost in ordering the missionaries to leave—continued to attend school. But though the school and mission were not broken up, as the Medawakantonwans wished, all our operations were greatly impeded. The number of scholars was diminished, and those who attended manifested much less disposition to learn than formerly. Straggling Medawakantonwans aiding and assisting, domestic animals belonging to the mission, to the value of several thousand

dollars, were destroyed—being more than three-fourths of our entire stock.

Within the last three years, several villages of the Medawakantonwans have applied for schools, and at four different places schools have been started amongst them; but as soon as a school is fairly started, some new report in regard to the five thousand dollars is put in circulation, which causes most if not all the schools to be withdrawn, so that, though the whole number who here attend these schools is large, showing that many of the Dakotas are desirous of learning to read, each scholar has been suffered to attend school for so short a time that not one in ten has learned to read.

We believe that the neglect of the Government to expend this \$5,000, according to treaty stipulations, has, for the last ten years, done more to impede education among the Dakotas than every thing else; and, as we do not expect to be relieved from this difficulty till the Government shall make such a commencement of spending this money as will make it plain to the Indians how it will be spent, we entreat you, and through you the President of the United States, to attend to this matter speedily, and, in such a manner as your wisdom may direct, remove this obstacle out of our way.

No. 3.—C.

OAK GROVE, *August 27, 1849.*

SIR: During the year, the members of this station have been favored with more uninterrupted health than has been enjoyed here before for several years past. Until about the commencement of the present month, no disease has wasted this little band, as in former years. We have therefore been able to continue our labors throughout the year, with as little interruption as could be expected, when the unsettled and unsteady habits of the Indians are considered.

From the time of the last annual meeting of this mission (the 12th of September last) till the 8th of this month, there had been but three deaths in this band—two adults and one infant. Since then, four adults and one child have died of “cholera morbus;” and most of the adults have suffered more or less from this disease. The sickness has now abated, the corn crop is gathered in, and several families have already moved off. The remainder will move in a day or two; so that, with the exception of one or two families, it is not probable that any of them will reside for any length of time at the village till some time in the winter.

Much opposition has been manifested towards us in our endeavors to teach Christianity during the year, on the part of the leading members of neighboring bands.

Some of this band have appeared cordially to join them. The ground of opposition appears to be twofold, viz., the apprehension that heathenism may be overthrown, and the fear of pecuniary loss. For these reasons, the great majority of the leading spirits seem determined to resist the efforts of missionaries to instruct the people, either in letters or religion. The chief speaker for the tribe (Badhart) has ever said that he will resist unto death,

before the school fund, which is in the hands of the President of the United States, shall be applied to the support of schools.

It might be thought that this would be no obstacle in the way of free schools; but such is not the fact. On the contrary, it excites violent opposition to every branch of missionary labor far and near, and no less against religious teaching than schools. The *common people*, who would otherwise "hear the Word gladly," are threatened with all manner of evil, if they meet with us in our religious assemblies. Almost every measure is tried to bring Christianity and its teachers into disrepute; insomuch that, to a considerable extent, even the name by which missionaries are known is a "hissing and by-word" among them. For these reasons, some of those who formerly came to us for instruction, through fear have forsaken us.

Many, whom we have reason to suppose feel considerable anxiety on the subject of religion, seldom or never meet with us in our public worship on the Sabbath.

Under such circumstances, we feel thankful that the "God of all grace" has so favored us, that during the year, with the exception of six Sabbaths, we have been able to hold religious services in the Dakota language, with an average attendance of a fraction over six, besides children who are too young to be much profited by public preaching. Those who have attended public worship with us have uniformly conducted themselves in a serious and becoming manner, and listened to the Word read and spoken with much apparent interest.

We think there is much reason to believe that one man, who died at this place last winter, was made a subject of the converting energies of the Divine Spirit before his death. In January, one native female was admitted to the church by profession. Fewer have attended our meetings on the Sabbath from abroad, than in former years.

The school which has been taught by Miss Jane Lanwart (a native member of our church) was opened September 12th and closed March 7th. Since that time, so few have attended, and those few so irregularly, that we do not even call it a school.

Leaving out of the account the days of non-attendance during about six months that the school has been in operation, which would reduce the time to five months, and the average attendance daily was a fraction over eight. Largest number in attendance, twenty-six.

Some of the children made but little, if any, progress; while others did better than usual. We have too much reason, however, to fear that, as heretofore, most of them will forget that which has been taught them before they will attend any more. Thus far our school has cost us abundant labor, which has been productive of very little good. The opposition was perhaps never greater than at this moment; yet I think there is much reason to hope for better times in this respect soon.

The efforts which have been put forth by the military officers of Fort Snelling, some of the licensed traders, and other persons, for the last six years, have been in a great measure successful to discourage the trade and use of whiskey among the Indians generally. For years efforts have been made to induce Indians to sign the temperance pledge, with so much success that it had long since become a habit with them—many of them to sign the pledge for a few months, or a year at a time, and renew it at the expiration of the time. For the last eighteen months, in this vicinity, very little whiskey has been drunk; and, last winter and spring, Major Murphy,

the sub-agent, aided by several influential gentlemen who reside among the Indians, succeeded in obtaining more signatures to the temperance pledge, perhaps, than have ever before signed at one time. Some have violated their pledge, but most of them abide by it.

These are encouraging facts, especially when we consider liquor is just as near, plenty, and cheap as it ever was. These Indians have now learned by experience both the *evils of intemperance* and the benefits of temperance; and it is to be hoped they will be permanently profited by their experience.

Many, however, are still ready to recommence the traffic; and no doubt will, whenever they believe it can be done without too much risk. As long as they can purchase a horse from the Indians of the Plains with a keg of whiskey, and there is a reasonable prospect of being able to pass Fort Snelling with it in safety, they will trade in the article regardless of consequences.

The same measures which have so much reduced this abominable trade, if continued, will keep it down; and it cannot be suppressed without, unless the Legislature of Minnesota shall take effectual measures to prevent the sale of the stuff to the Indians.

A concise, *tangible argument*, as the *point of the bayonet* or a *fat ox*, an Indian can duly appreciate; while arguments which are not apparent to the natural senses have but little influence with him.

However, many of the more considerate among them are temperate from principle, and will be influenced by reason on this and other subjects.

Your most obedient servant,

G. H. POND.

Major MURPHY, *Sub-agent, St. Peter's.*

No. 3.—D.

KAPOŠIA, MINNESOTA TERRITORY,

September 1, 1849.

DEAR SIR: Since the report of this station last year, Mr. S. M. Cook, the teacher appointed by Government for this village, and Miss J. S. Williamson, of the mission, have attended to teaching here whenever any have presented themselves willing to be taught. Last autumn, when the Indians were all absent from this village, Mr. Cook crossed the river to the settlement called Pig's Eye, about two miles distant, where some Indian and a number of half-breed children reside, and taught such as he could induce to attend. Owing to the want of a comfortable room in which to teach, and the indifference or opposition of the parents, less was accomplished there than we hoped, but several were taught to spell in a neighborhood of more than a dozen families, containing not one soul who can read intelligibly.

Last year, when the people of this village were about to proceed on their autumn hunt, the chief, having just returned from receiving their annuities, probably in consequence of what you said to him on that occasion, said they would return here from their hunt before New Year's day, and then they would all attend school, though he should be killed for it. Many

others told us that all the young people would attend school as soon as they returned from their fall hunt. I think it was their purpose to do so. But when they returned they were told that the missionaries were trying to get the five thousand dollars a year, which would have been paid to the Indians in money but for a letter sent to their Great Father, the President, purporting to be signed by Wa-ku-te, the chief of this village, and Mer-pi-wi-cox-ita, asking for schools. In consequence of the circulation of this and other falsehoods by Shakerdon and others, who visited the people of this place for the purpose, the chief and principal men of this place have given no countenance to the school, but hindered attendance by encouraging the young people to engage in gambling and other amusements. Thus, few of the young men and boys, who had been in attendance a year ago, have attended since, and those who have attended have been listless, and come so irregularly that they have made much less progress than they might have done. Less opposition has been made to the attendance of females, and though they have much less leisure time, they have attended more and made better progress. * * * Exclusive of my own children, who have attended regularly, the attendance is equal to an average of $11\frac{1}{2}$ scholars for 11 months, or 220 days, and the whole number of scholars 67, namely, 36 females and 31 males. Ten females instructed by Miss W. have knit each one or more pairs of mittens, and she has spent some time teaching them to make, besides, other like matters.

Here I might, and perhaps ought to, close this report; but grieving as I do over results so disproportioned to the time, labor, and money expended, I cannot, in justice to my own feelings, send you this without once more calling your attention to that which I sincerely believe has been the grand impediment to education among the Dakotas—I mean the retention by Government of the greater part of the \$5,000 annuity, said to be intended for educational purposes. When I urged this matter on a late superintendent of Indian affairs, he replied, "I presume nothing but time will satisfy the Sioux in relation to the school fund." To me it seems that so long as the fund is accumulating time augments the difficulty.

Every year strengthens an opinion which I have often expressed, that a part of this fund cannot be better expended than in erecting and supporting a manual labor boarding school. Such an application of it was recommended by Major L. Taliaferro, who was agent for this tribe at the time the treaty was made. See his reports for 1838 and 1839, in the annual reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1838-1839, page 88; 1839-1840, page 196.

The authorities at Washington have often expressed themselves in favor of such schools. I know of no reason why one has not long since been established for these Indians, except the opinion of your predecessor that it would be difficult to get the children from their relatives and retain them in the school. Doubtless, Sioux parents have a strong affection for their children, and will not put or leave their child with any one without the child's consent. To get the consent of the children they must be well clothed, kindly treated, and furnished with abundance of such food as they love, especially fresh meat and fruit, on which the Dakotas of the Mississippi chiefly subsist; consequently it will cost more to board and clothe the children at the commencement of such a school than it would a like number of white children, and fewer could be sustained in school; but as the good effects of the school should become apparent, this

difficulty would diminish. So long as there is no school of this kind, the difficulty is likely to increase. It is certainly greater now than it would have been ten years ago. I suppose no one doubts that twenty or thirty half-breed children might at once be obtained for such a school, if provision was made for their support, and the full-blood Dakota children would come in by degrees. Since the commencement of the present year I have taken several of these into my family for a time, and the experiment has convinced me that, when separated from their people young, they are as docile and as susceptible of improvement as any other children. One girl, Mari Aupetuiyotokewin, about nine years old, when we took her into our family six months ago, could only spell in two or three letters, now reads her own language fluently, begins to speak English and read the English Testament, has made some progress in learning to write, sews well for a girl of her age, and is learning to do other work about the house.

That you may be a blessing to this people is the prayer of

THOS. S. WILLIAMSON,
Missionary at Kaposia.

R. G. MURPHY,
Indian Sub-Agent, St. Peter's.

No. 3—E.

RED WING VILLAGE,
September 3d, 1849.

SIR: With pleasure I lay before you a report of the school here; also of this mission.

Last autumn the school averaged 27 per day for several weeks; then the Indians went off to receive their annuities, then to hunt. During November, December, and March, *none* attended school; during the other months of winter but few were within reach of the school. Since their return in April the school has averaged thirteen per day; probably about fifty pupils attend; some make progress, and others learn but little—perhaps *none* have a *desire* to learn; yet the principal men encourage, as far as appearances go, their children to attend. Some of the pupils are yet in the alphabet, some in ba, be, bi, &c., others in monosyllables, some just entering on dissyllables; some are writing on slates, and will doubtless learn easily.

All have good voices, and learn easily to sing.

I teach Dakota only as yet, as it is much easier learned than English.

The chief, and all others, have uniformly appeared friendly.

The cause of temperance reigns here this summer, you are aware; so that the white man sleeps in peace, and the village is quiet and peaceful.

With the smiles of a kind Providence, we may expect a brighter day for Red Wing village.

I am, your obedient servant,

J. F. AITON.

Major R. G. MURPHY,
Indian sub-agent, St. Peter's.

*Report of the Traverse des Sioux Mission station, for the year ending
July 15, 1849.*

TRAVERSE DES SIOUX,

July 27, 1849.

DEAR SIR: Since our last annual report, there has been no material change in the condition of our Indians. There has been among them neither pestilence nor war; the deaths have been five, the births nine. We are happy to say that the war party, proposed last spring, (of which you were notified,) was entirely prevented by your instructions given to the chiefs at the time.

We congratulate you on the success of your efforts to break up the whiskey trade; certainly not one-tenth, perhaps not a twentieth, of the destructive fluid has been brought into the country the past, as in some former years. The only way to prevent it is to give persons the best reasons for fearing to engage in it. Last winter a few kegs were brought into this vicinity and traded for horses; during the spring there was none about here, but we are informed that a few kegs have been taken past recently. The quiet and security we and our families, together with all in the country, have enjoyed, and the preservation of life and property, all by your diligence, (and that of some other doers of good,) will secure you the grateful remembrance of many.

To teach and encourage husbandry has been a prominent object with this station from the beginning. We are succeeding slowly in introducing among the Indians, the plough as a practical instrument for themselves. Mazaxa exerted himself commendably, not only preparing his own field for the seed, but also assisting in ploughing for others, without remuneration. The Indians who had ponies used them, and some who were without horses used the oxen belonging to the mission. The whole amount of land planted at the four planting places near us, and at Swan lake, twenty miles distant, is probably between twenty and twenty-five acres; about six acres of new land has been planted this season. The prospect now is that they will reap a tolerably good crop; the present drought is shortening it.

We endeavor to do as little of the work as possible; sometimes it is easier to do their work for them than to induce them to do it; but we think it better to have them do as much as is practicable; if all work at it, it becomes the more respectable, and all may be expected to learn; as they were not well able to plough their new fields, we ploughed them for them.

In connexion with teaching Indians to plough, we feel that it is necessary to induce them to build granaries, that the products of the field may be stored in safety; otherwise they will be buried, where they are liable to be stolen, or spoiled by the wetness of the ground. Persons so situated that they cannot take care of what they raise, have little encouragement to effort. Mazaxa has built a store-house, and it is probable a few more will be constructed this season.

We here encounter the same opposition to schools, for the same reasons and to about the same extent, as you witness in those around you. How long will these simple ones love simplicity—these fools hate knowledge? They think they can subsist a little longer, much as their fathers subsisted, and wish to make no unnecessary changes; but they admit that their destiny is to change or perish. At the present time they are unusually bitter against

us as teachers and preachers of the gospel. I am sorry to say the opposition has conquered the better resolutions of our best man.

With sincere wishes for your temporal and eternal well-being, very truly yours,

R. HOPKINS,
A. G. HUGGINS.

Major R. G. MURPHY,
Indian sub-agent, St. Peter's.

No. 3.—G.

The 14th annual report of the Dakota schools, under the patronage of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, at Lac qui Parle station, and at Big Stone lake, for the year ending August 1st, 1849.

Lac qui Parle station: Rev. S. R. Riggs and M. N. Adams, missionaries, and their wives.

Mrs. F. H. Pettijohn and Mrs. N. A. M. Adams, teachers.

Mr. Jonas Pettijohn, farmer and superintendent of secular affairs.

Two missionaries, 3 female assistant missionaries, and 1 farmer—total 6.

Whole number of scholars in attendance during the past year, (not including two adopted native children who are residing in mission families, and who are fast gaining a knowledge of the English language,) 80; females 36, males 44. Average daily attendance during the early part of the winter season, 23.

The progress of the pupils during the period reported was somewhat cheering, although not so satisfactory as we could have desired.

Various causes combined render it, as yet, exceedingly difficult to maintain any thing like a permanent and efficient system of education among the Dakotas. There, however, appears to be no obstacles to this work, so far as the natives themselves are concerned, except such as intelligence and a more general and thorough diffusion of knowledge is calculated ultimately to remove.

The school at Big Stone lake has been in charge of Henok Marpiyahdinasse, a native teacher, whom we employed to teach at that place during a part of the past year. Some of his pupils we have examined as to their progress, and find it as good as could be expected. His report to us is as follows, to wit:

Whole number in attendance 31; 3 readers, 13 who spell in words of two syllables; of the remainder, some spell words of one syllable, others read in A B C lessons.

Cash expenditures for school purposes.

For tuition by native teachers last autumn, at the village at Lac qui Parle, two and a half months, the sum of	\$25 00
Paid Henok Marpiyahdinasse for three and a half months, the sum of	50 00
Paid Anpetu Waxte for two weeks	8 00
Paid Simon Anawagmani for teaching	10 00
Whole amount paid to native teachers since last report	\$93 00

Yours, very respectfully,
M. N. ADAMS.

RICHARD G. MURPHY, ESQ.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, October 13th, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Department, to which my attention has been specially called by your circular of 28th August last, I have the honor to submit the following as the annual report of this superintendency for this present year.

The brief time that has interviened between the date of my appointment to office, and period designated for the rendition of the reports, has necessarily put it out of my power to go into as full a detail as under other circumstances I should desire to do, and which I hope to do in any future reports which I may have the honor to make.

After entering for the second time upon the duties of this superintendency, and examining somewhat into its affairs, I was struck with the several changes that had taken place during the last five years. The most prominent among these changes are the reduction in the number of officers, and the increase made in the number of tribes allotted to some of the agencies. This arrangement, although it may save a few hundred dollars per annum, is, in my opinion, by no means calculated to promote the interests of the Indians; the necessities of many of the tribes require the frequent presence of the agent to supervise their affairs, allay dissensions, press on improvements, and stimulate them to industry; this, as things now exist, cannot be done in the two most important agencies—the Fort Leavenworth and the Osage river. The Fort Leavenworth agency house is about four miles from West Port, near the Missouri State line, and although sufficiently contiguous to the Shawnees and Delawares, is too remote from the Kickapoos and Pottawatomies, being distant from the latter about seventy miles. It seems to me, that the Pottawatomies should, immediately after their several bands were consolidated and settled in their present country on the Kansas river, have had a resident agent among them; this, the improvements now in progress, and hereafter to be carried on, make indispensable, in order that the several employees may be made to perform their respective duties. Besides, it is well known that jealousies and sectional interests have prevailed, and still continue among several of the bands composing this nation; to counteract these, as well as to press on their improvements, it would be expedient that the agent should reside among them. I would therefore, suggest that an agency, to be called the "Pottawatomie Agency," be constituted to embrace the Pottawatomie and the Kansas Indians. The Osage river agency should be limited to the Sacs and Foxes, the Ottowas, and the little band of Swan creek Chippewas. The Weas, Piankeshaws, Kaskaskias, Peorias, and Miamies, from their proximity to each other, and similarity of language, would naturally compose a minor agency. The Shawnees, Delawares, Munsees, Stockbridges, and Wyandots, would compose a second minor agency. And as the Wyandots, by treaty, are entitled to a sub-agent, the residence of the agent could be located in their country. The Kickapoos could be attached to what is at present the Great Nemaha sub-agency, and with the Iowas, and Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, constitute a third minor agency. The Ottoes and Missouriias, Omahas and Pawnees, would make the fourth minor agency. What is at present the upper Missouri sub-agency, should be raised to a full agency, as it was heretofore; the agent of which should be a man of great prudence, decision of character, and possessed of some practical knowledge of Indians and Indian life.

I am satisfied that *no well qualified man* would be found to accept the charge for a less compensation than that of a full agent. Under this modification, I would then have four full agencies, viz., the upper Platte, upper Missouri, Sac and Fox, and Pottawatomie; and four minor agencies, viz., the Osage river, Wyandot, Great Nemaha, and Council Bluffs. The salary of the agents to remain at \$1500 per annum, as at present, and that of the minor agents to be raised to \$1000 per annum, which would ensure the services of competent and efficient men. In this connection, it appears to me that the analogies of other branches of the public service require that a corresponding increase should be made to the salary of the superintendent of Indian Affairs, which should be made equal to those of the assistant treasurer and surveyor general, say \$2500 per annum. His duties are far more arduous than those of either of the others, and his pecuniary liability, at times, not less than that of the first named. It would, besides, do away with that strange anomaly, which makes the compensation of the inferior equal to that of the superior officer. For, as matters now stand, the agent is actually better paid than the superintendent, inasmuch as he has a house provided for his residence, and can raise with little trouble all the necessaries of life, whereas the superintendent has to furnish his own quarters, and reside in a city where prices are proverbially high.

Another of the changes which struck me on my coming into office is the system of semi-annual annuity payments, adopted, as I am informed, in the spring of last year. While this may be, and I have no doubt is, advantageous to those tribes having large annuities—such as the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi river, the Potawatomies and Miamies—I am satisfied that it is injurious to those having but small annuities, as it is known to interfere with their agricultural and hunting pursuits, and is viewed by them as a serious grievance; so much so, that many of them refused to receive their semi-annual dividends, preferring to wait until the fall for their full payment. I therefore think a modification of the regulation would be highly desirable.

I would next call your attention to the necessity for some speedy action in reference to the half-breed lands near the mouth of the Kansas river, and between the two Nemahas. Many of the claimants are desirous to sell, while but a few evince any disposition to settle on the lands. It would, in my opinion, be the best policy of the Government to purchase these tracts as early as possible; for, considering the vast tide of emigration that is now setting westward, the time is not distant when it will require twenty-fold the amount to extinguish the title of the claimants, that it would at present; besides, that such a purchase would tend to break up these dens of whiskey smugglers, that are a curse to the surrounding tribes.

I would likewise suggest the propriety of an immediate revision of the regulations of the Indian Department; those that now exist were adapted to the military disbursing system, which has been long since superseded, and are by no means in harmony with the present state of things. In any event, a new edition of the regulations is absolutely required for the public interest, as very few of the officers of this superintendency possess a copy. A bad practice has for some few years past prevailed, namely, that of agents and sub-agents, when removed, carrying off with them the books and public papers of their offices; this has of late been carried to such an extent, that many of the newly appointed officers have not been able to find a solitary form, regulation, or other public document, to aid them in the dis-

charge of their duties. **This abuse**, it seems to me, might be easily remedied by making it the duty of the agents to take up on his property return all books and other public documents appertaining to his agency, and holding him liable for them until properly accounted for. A monthly rendition to this office by the agents of a statement of official letters received; would prevent the carrying off the official correspondence, which should remain on file in their offices.

I am informed that the Rev. P. J. De Smet, the celebrated missionary of the Rocky mountains, intends to start next spring with a party of co-laborers, for the purpose of establishing missions on the upper Missouri, chiefly among the Yancton, Sioux, Crows, and Blackfeet; their object is to combine, if possible, manual labor with moral instruction. To carry their views into effect will require agricultural implements, tools, &c., to an amount much greater than their very limited means will enable them to procure; I would therefore recommend that as large a portion as possible of the sum annually appropriated for "Indian civilization" be applied to aid them in their laudable efforts to improve the condition of these remote tribes. The great destruction of the buffalo and other game, caused by the hordes of whites crossing the plains, will in a few years compel the prairie tribes to turn their attention to agricultural pursuits, and the sooner a commencement is made the better.

The necessity I have been under of making, in person, the annuity payments within the Fort Leavenworth agency, in consequence of the absence of the recently appointed agent, has necessarily delayed this report beyond the usual time, and put it out of my power to collect such information as I should otherwise wish to embrace in a document of this kind. I must therefore refer you for more minute details to the reports of the agents and sub-agents. As, however, no report can be expected from the Fort Leavenworth agency, I shall endeavor in some degree to supply the deficiency. The various tribes comprised in this agency are gradually advancing in civilization. Most of them have comfortable log cabins, and raise as much corn and vegetables as are necessary for the subsistence of their families. They have not as yet succeeded to any great extent in raising hogs or cattle, as each individual seems to regard *all* such animals as *game*, which they kill and appropriate to their own use with impunity. I think this evil practice might in a great degree be prevented by the adoption of the plan heretofore suggested, and which seemed to have met the approbation of the Department during the preceding administration, namely, to form these small border tribes into a kind of confederacy; to encourage them to hold annual councils, under the supervision of the superintendent of Indian affairs and their agents; to adjust amicably in these councils their claims against each other; and to set apart such portions of their annuities as might be agreed upon to satisfy aggrieved parties. For the more minute details of this project I beg to refer you to the several documents now on file in your office.

The Stockbridges and Munsees, or Christian Indians, are residing at present on lands belonging to the Delawares, which the latter are unwilling longer to permit without compensation. Measures should be taken to provide them with lands of their own. A few sections would suffice, and could be purchased at a very reasonable rate. It would be better to purchase from the Delawares, so as to leave these small industrious bands in

possession of the houses and lands they now occupy, and which they have very considerably improved.

As no report can be expected from the upper Platte agency, it becomes necessary for me to submit such remarks and suggestions in relation thereto as have occurred to me; and in speaking of the tribes of this agency, my remarks may be considered as generally applicable to most of the tribes (particularly the various bands of Sioux) comprised within the upper Missouri sub-agency.

I have already had the honor to urge upon the Department the necessity of holding a general council, to assume the character of a treaty, with the wandering tribes inhabiting the plains, extending from the Missouri to the borders of Texas. I would even go farther, and extend the invitation to meet in general council to the hostile tribes of New Mexico. The Indians could be assembled at any designated point—say Bent's Fort, the crossing of the Arkansas, or Fort Laramie on the river Platte—without any difficulty or expense to the Government, as they are always ready and willing to attend on all such occasions, in the anticipation of some advantage to themselves from all "talks" with the agents of their Great Father.

Having abundance of horses, and being as much at home on one part of the prairie as another, the movement would be attended with no trouble or inconvenience to them. Through means of the Government officers and Indian traders, the necessary notices could be given without difficulty or expense. A sufficient military force could be easily concentrated to ensure peace and good conduct during the council. The presence of a military force, would inspire these lawless tribes with a degree of respect for the Government of the United States, that would go further towards securing their friendship and future good conduct, than all the "talks," and all the presents that could be lavished upon them. It will be recollected, that we have never entered into any thing like formal treaty stipulations with most of these tribes, at least not such as they felt bound to respect and observe. Hence, the many depredations which they have annually committed, they considered legitimate warfare, and perfectly justifiable as a retaliation for the destruction of their buffalo, timber, grass, &c., caused by the vast numbers of whites passing through their country without their consent. I am clearly of opinion that a treaty, such as I have suggested, would do more towards establishing friendly relations with the Prairie tribes than all the efforts that have heretofore been made; at all events it can do no harm, and the expense would be less than that of a six months war on the plains and mountains of New Mexico. It is only by some measure of this kind, that we can ever establish friendly relations with these Indians; and the bones of American citizens that now whiten the plains, from the borders of our western States to the Rocky mountains, all admonish us of the necessity of peace. We can never whip them into friendship; the prowess of our troops and vast resources of our Government would be wasted in long and toilsome marches over the plains in pursuit of an *ignis fatuus*; they never see an enemy. Infantry on the plains would be wholly useless; and after a few months' march, cavalry would be converted into infantry by the breaking down of their horses. I will here briefly notice a few of the beneficial results which I think would probably grow out of this confederated council. By assembling the various tribes under the protection of the United States, a friendly "talk" would ensue; interchange of presents and pledges would take place, solemnized according to ancient Indian custom; those pledges

would be held more or less sacred, and in course of time might produce a universal peace amongst these ill fated people. War is one of the greatest calamities with which they are afflicted, as helpless women and children are generally the greatest sufferers, they being frequently left in an unprotected state while the warriors are absent, either on their war or hunting excursions. Cold blooded policy would say let them all perish, but Christianity and humanity would use a different language. Again, the boundaries dividing the different tribes have never been settled or defined; this is the fruitful source of many of their bloody strifes, and can only be removed by mutual concessions, sanctioned by the Government of the United States. The boundaries being once established and clearly understood, each tribe could be held responsible for any depredations that might be committed within their respective territories.

Justice as well as policy requires that we should make some remuneration for the damages these Indians sustain in consequence of the destruction of their game, timber, &c., by the whites passing through their country. A small annual present of Indian goods, distributed among the different tribes, with reference to their numbers, localities, &c., would be deemed satisfactory by them, and at the same time serve as a guaranty for their good behavior. Should the projected treaty be carried into effect, it would then be advisable to permit each tribe to select one or more of their chiefs to visit the city of Washington, and the eastern cities, in order to impress them with the greatness and power of the United States, and the ability of their great father to punish them for any violations of their treaty stipulations. The propriety of including the Sioux south of the Missouri river, will be obvious when it is taken into consideration that they are frequently formed in large bodies along the Santa Fé road; and to my knowledge many of the depredations that have been charged upon the Comanches and other southern tribes, have been committed by the Sioux residing south of the Missouri river.

If the robber tribes, infesting the mountains of New Mexico, could be induced to join in a treaty so imposing in its character, it might be the means of saving the expense and annoyance of a long protracted Indian war, in a sterile mountainous region, almost inaccessible to our troops. For further details on this important subject, I respectfully refer you to my former communications.

The ultimate destiny of these Prairie tribes looks gloomy in the extreme. It is admitted by every one who has any knowledge of the Buffalo regions, that these useful animals are rapidly decreasing. From time immemorial, the buffalo has furnished the Indians with food, clothing, and shelter from the inclemency of the weather. Should they continue to decrease, the time is not far distant when the Indians will be compelled to change their mode of living, or perish for want of subsistence. Looking forward to this period, which is rapidly approaching, it becomes the duty of the Government, acting as the self constituted guardian of the Indians, to provide in time for the change. There are two ways of doing this; the first, which has been the established policy of the Government, is to turn their attention to agricultural pursuits. Most of the country which they inhabit is not very well suited for farming purposes; still, along the principal rivers and their tributaries, there are many rich alluvial bottoms, well timbered, and amply sufficient to supply all the wants of so sparse a population. Should an agricultural experiment fail, there is another that can be tried; one much more

congenial to the peculiar tastes and habits of the wandering hordes, namely, at the proper time to supply them with domestic cattle, sheep, &c., to take the place of the buffalo. For the last twenty-five years, cattle have been raised in great abundance, and of a fine quality, on the prairies of the upper Missouri, as far up as the Yellow Stone river. Much farther north, at the settlement known as Selkirk's Colony, they thrive and multiply remarkably well. By the adoption of the latter plan, if we could not make them farmers and mechanics, we could make them the Tartars of America, and a pastoral life of this kind would, perhaps, be most conducive to their happiness and prosperity. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your ob'dt servant,

D. D. MITCHELL,

Sup't Indian Affairs.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com'r Indian Affairs.

No. 2.

UPPER MISSOURI SUB-AGENCY,

October 5th, 1849.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the Department of Indian Affairs, and your recent instructions, I have the honor herewith to submit the following report of the affairs of this sub-agency.

On the 9th of June last, I left St. Louis on board of the steamboat "Amelia," carrying with me the goods furnished by the Department, for the Yancton and Santie Sioux Indians, in lieu of the allowances due them for smiths, iron and steel, and agricultural implements, under the treaty of 1830. We landed at Fort Vermillion on the _____ of _____, where I expected to have found the Santie band of the Sioux Indians, and have distributed among them their proportion of the allowances due them and the Yanctons. But finding only 20 lodges there, and no safe place of deposit for the goods, I was compelled to carry them with me on up the river.

We next landed at Fort "Lookout," situated at the Yancton village, where I deposited the goods intended for the Yancton Sioux—not being able to make a general distribution of them, as many of the Indians were absent on their hunting grounds.

Those that were there I found extremely impudent and clamorous for an immediate distribution of all the goods intended for the whole band; which, as there were only about 40 out of 200 lodges present, I could not of course make. When I told them they could not have the goods, they manifested considerable hostility; but on my distributing among them a few barrels of bread, some powder and ball, a small quantity of tobacco, and assuring them that upon the return of the rest of the band a general distribution should be made, they expressed themselves satisfied; and before my departure tendered me the pipe of friendship, and invited me to a public feast. From this place, having procured a guide, I started for Fort Pierre, accompanied by the very gentlemanly and accomplished United States Geologist,

Dr. John Evans, to whom I am indebted for his many acts of kindness to me, and for much valuable information respecting the Indian character.

Here I found a part of another band of Sioux, with whom I held a conference. They seemed entirely friendly towards the Government. Here we also met again with the steamboat "Amelia," on board of which we proceeded up the river to the Arickaree village. In the council which I had with the Indians here, many complaints were made to me against the Yancton Sioux, who, they said, had stolen many of their horses. After advising them to be peaceable, and assuring them that I would use my best endeavors to secure a return of their horses, with which they were much pleased, I left for the village of the Gros Ventres. Six or eight days previous to my arrival here, I learned that a party of the Sioux, numbering about eight hundred, had attacked the village and trading house, and were only repulsed by being fired on with the cannons by the whites from the block house. Only two or three of the Gros Ventres were killed, and a few severely wounded, though the loss of the Sioux, in killed and wounded, was much greater.

The Gros Ventres, from whom I met with a very kind reception, I found to be very friendly towards the whites. They are most excellent Indians, and disposed to be at peace with the surrounding tribes.

Above this place I saw a number of the Crow Indians, and held a council with their chiefs. Although in the wildest and most savage state, they conducted themselves in a very friendly manner. By kind and conciliating treatment on the part of the Government, their friendship might be gained; then they might be improved; until then, however, all efforts to bring about any such a result must be made in vain.

Having gone within forty miles of the mouth of the Yellow Stone, I returned on board the steamboat Tamerlane to Fort "Lookout," visiting, as I came down, the Indians along the river. I found, on my return here, most of the Yanctons assembled, as I had directed when I left, ready to receive the part of the annuities due them, which I now distributed amongst them. I again remonstrated with them in regard to their treatment of the Arickarees and Gros Ventres, and warned them of what might be the consequences of their continuing hostilities. They promised me before I left that they would be peaceable, if not disturbed by the other tribes, and gave me many assurances of their general good conduct in future.

From Fort Lookout I came down to Fort Vermillion, situated at the Santie village, and distributed the goods intended for this band of the Sioux.

I have thus, in a simple narrative style, which, for more than one reason, I have chosen to adopt, spoken of the extent and character of the intercourse which, up to this time, I have had with the Indians in my district. Its extent, as well as the number of the Indians, being so great, and the time I have been here having been so short, it has been impossible for me to visit as yet all the different tribes upon their own territory.

From reliable sources I am, however, able to make the following statement with regard to the trade within my agency during the last year, to wit:

Number of buffalo robes shipped, 110,000 at \$3 per robe	-	\$330,000
Furs, peltries, and miscellaneous trade, valued at	-	60,000
		<hr/>
		\$390,000

This trade is carried on by two large licensed companies, besides a few small traders, commanding, in all, a capital of half a million of dollars, though a great part of this amount is not actively employed in the trade. What they thus receive for their robes, furs, &c., would be amply sufficient for their support were it not that they have to give such exorbitant prices for what they purchase from the whites. As, however, there is at present a considerable competition springing up in the country among the traders, it is hoped they soon may be able to get their goods at a reasonable valuation. If, however, this competition should not prove effectual in reducing the prices of goods, some measures should be adopted by the Department to bring about this result. Justice to the Indians demands it. Should it prove necessary for the Department to take measures thus to protect them from imposition, I would respectfully suggest the adoption of some such rules as are contained in the report of my predecessor for the year 1847.

The tribes that I have visited express themselves as being very anxious to be instructed in agriculture and the mechanic arts; and, from the knowledge which I have already been able to acquire of their disposition and capacity, there is but little doubt in my mind but that, if properly assisted and encouraged by our Government, they would make rapid progress in the adoption of the pursuits and habits of civilized life. The attainment of such an end cannot be too ardently wished for by the Christian and philanthropist, nor can its importance be over estimated by the Department. Their resources, though at present sufficient for their support, are daily diminishing, and must, before a great while, be almost entirely exhausted. The buffalo, whose flesh furnishes their principal food, and the robes of which constitute by far the most important article of traffic, are now not near as numerous as a few years since, and the number is every year rapidly diminishing. The reason of so great a number of robes being sold during the last few years has not been on account of the greater abundance of the buffalo, but the unusual diligence and industry of the Indians in hunting them; and if, when their hunting grounds no longer yield them a support, they shall still be ignorant of the agricultural and mechanic arts, their situation will be indeed most destitute.

They have never had as yet any schools or missionaries among them. The introduction of both I would earnestly recommend to the Department, as the most speedy and effectual means of civilizing them; putting an end to their domestic wars, and securing, on their part, amicable feelings towards our people. The very happy results that have almost invariably succeeded the establishment of schools and missions among the Indians are familiar to the Department, and any comment upon them here is unnecessary.

The Crows, Blackfeet, and Assiniboines, which tribes I have not as yet been able to visit on their own territory, are represented as having made no improvement whatever; but as adhering, most tenaciously, to all the barbarous and ferocious customs and practices of savage life. These tribes are thievish and treacherous, and still continue, particularly the latter two tribes, to cherish a deadly hostility to the white man.

I find that it is impossible to procure the services of interpreters with the amount allowed by the Department for the purpose. A good interpreter, though speaking the language of only one tribe, can command a salary here from the trading companies of from \$500 to \$800 per annum. With *three hundred dollars*, then, it should not be expected that an agent, without using his own means, can secure the services of interpreters for nine tribes,

all, with two exceptions, speaking different languages. With at least six of these tribes, if the Department would accomplish the objects sought to be attained by the establishment of an agency here, the agent should communicate almost constantly during his stay amongst them respectively. The consequences resulting from his being unable to procure interpreters, thereby being in a measure cut off from communication with the tribes, cannot fail to be foreseen by the Department; and it is hoped that it will act promptly in remedying the deficiency complained of. It would not be necessary to have interpreters employed by the year; but it would answer all useful purposes if the agent was furnished with means sufficient to employ them as he wanted them. *Three hundred dollars falls far short of being adequate for this purpose.*

The law of Congress prohibiting the introduction of ardent spirits into the Indian country has, so far as I have yet been able to observe, been strictly observed. That such may continue to be the case cannot be too ardently desired, the Indian's fondness for whiskey being his greatest curse.

I would call the attention of the Department to a circumstance which, though it occurred nearly a year before my arrival in this country, I am unwilling should be silently passed over. Upon the arrival of the former agent, Major G. C. Matlock, last year, at the Yancton Sioux village, on board of the American Fur Company's boat, he was met by a large number of this tribe, who had assembled there, expecting to receive from him the annuities due them. But upon his informing them that he had nothing for them, they became much enraged and fired upon the boat, killing a man, in the employment of the American Fur Company, by the name of Smith; and they were only induced to desist from their attack by being presented with large presents of goods by those in charge of the boat.

The family of Smith, who still reside in St. Louis, and who were wholly dependent upon him for support, were by his death left in a very helpless and destitute situation.

The recurrence of such an outrage would be something much to be regretted; but in the absence of an available military force, there can be no conjecturing how soon it may again happen. In view of this and many similar outrages, which have occurred of late years, and the very frequent aggressions of these Indians upon neighboring tribes, I would, in this connection, respectfully recommend the establishment of a military post somewhere in the vicinity of Fort Lookout, the nearest military station to which is distant between four hundred and fifty and five hundred miles, which renders the force there entirely unavailable. The establishment of a small force at this point would secure not only the safety of our numerous citizens engaged here in trade, and keep down all disturbances among the Indians, but serve also as a defence to that portion of our frontier bordering upon the Yancton and Santie Sioux country.

Among the communications which I have received from the Department, there was one containing copies of a printed list of words, prepared under the direction of the Secretary of the Department, requesting me to obtain and return to the office of Indian affairs, equivalent or corresponding words in each of the Indian languages spoken by the tribes under my supervision. In a communication which I have had the honor to make to the Department, I have informed them that I would take pleasure in complying, as far as I might be able, with their request, and at the earliest practicable time; but that the want of means to employ competent interpreters would

greatly embarrass me in procuring the required words, in the language of any of the tribes, and in that of some render it almost entirely impossible.

In another communication from the Department, which I have had the honor likewise to answer, I was requested to furnish them with such specimens of hieroglyphics or historical devices as I might be able to collect among the Indians in my district. As yet I have paid but little attention to such things; but when I shall have more leisure, and a better opportunity for observing them, I shall consider a compliance with this request no less an important than most pleasing duty.

I have the honor to be your friend and obedient servant,

WM. S. HATTON,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

Col. D. D. MITCHELL,
Super'int of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 3.

COUNCIL BLUFFS SUB-AGENCY, *October 1st, 1849.*

SIR: According to the regulations and requirements of the Department, I have the honor to submit this my first annual report; and although I have been in this agency but a short time, still I am in hopes I can present something for your consideration, and the consideration of the Department, that will redound with good, not only to our Government but to the Indians themselves.

Upon my arrival here in June last, I found that the Indians allotted to this agency, with the exception of some two hundred "Pawnees," a few "Ottoe" and "Omaha" families, had, as usual, gone on their summer hunts. These "Pawnees" were scattered around the agency in every direction, and as they were in a dying condition, caused by absolute starvation, the cholera was making fearful ravages amongst them. Such was their dread of this terrible scourge, that no persuasion could induce them to bury their dead. It was no usual thing to find within a few hundred yards of this place their unburied dead bodies partially devoured by wolves and other animals. Such a condition of things was truly alarming, and having an eye to the welfare of the whites, (several having died,) as well as the Indians themselves, I had the remaining portion of them collected together, and having distributed a sufficiency of food to subsist them for a few weeks, by perseverance, coupled with many difficulties, succeeded in removing them some eight miles above this place to a high and healthy location. This change seemed to work like a charm—their condition immediately improved, and in a few days I had the pleasure of finding that the disease had entirely subsided.

The Omahas arrived about the 10th ultimo from their summer hunts, having secured a sufficiency of meat and skins to do them until the approaching winter. On their return home they encountered a war party of Indians, supposed to be composed of Sioux and Poncas, with which they had an engagement of about four hours. The Omahas having a large quantity of meat, besides being apprised of their enemies' intentions the day before, succeeded in throwing up such breastworks with it as made them amply secure before attacked by their enemies. After the loss of four or

five men, together with some forty horses, they drove the enemy back, and became the victors of the field.

The Sioux and Poncas, it is supposed, had eight or nine men killed and some ten or twelve wounded. Had the Omahas been met on the open prairie without any notice of the approach of the enemy, and without the means of fortifying themselves, they would, from the superior number of their opponents, have been almost entirely annihilated.

The Omahas have raised an unusual good crop of corn, besides a large quantity of pumpkins, squashes, &c., which, with the assistance of their meat, will do them until spring.

The Ottoes got in about the 14th ultimo, having also made a very successful hunt. On their return they were met by a party of traders, who told them that a small band of "Pawnees" had robbed them of a large quantity of goods which they were unable to recover. In order the more effectually to obtain the assistance of the Ottoes, they represented the goods as belonging to the Government.

Having furnished them with a supply of ammunition, they attacked the Pawnees, and killed eleven, and drove the balance off. They seem to regret the necessity which compelled them to spill their brothers' blood, but console themselves by saying that their Great Father told them to always protect and assist the whites, and that they were doing nothing more than carrying out his laws. I told them if their tale was true, their Great Father would forgive them, but they ought always to assist the whites, if possible, without making war upon the Indians. They are very anxious to live on friendly terms with the Pawnees, and I have no doubt when they receive their annuities, will fill up this little breach by donations of blankets, tobacco, &c.

This tribe have but a scanty crop of corn, owing to the unusual wet weather, and their fields not being worked during the summer after they had gone on their hunt. They will, unless they make an excellent winter hunt, feel the effects of it very sensibly in the spring.

The Pawnees arrived at their villages about 12th ultimo, but on account of their difficulties with the Ottoes, it was not known here until a few days since. Upwards of one hundred, including their chiefs and head men, paid me a visit on yesterday for the purpose of having their difficulties with their brothers, the Ottoes, amicably settled. I have appointed a day for them to hold a "talk," when I am in hopes the matter will be satisfactorily arranged.

This truly poor and persecuted people have suffered severely during the past spring and summer; besides the many attacks that have been made upon them by their enemies, the cholera has haunted them in their hunts, and swept them off "like chaff before the wind." From the best information I can gather from the chiefs and head men, it is supposed that out of the four bands, the "Grand Pawnees," "Loups," "Republicans," and "Tippahs," two hundred and fifty-nine men and nine hundred women and children have fallen victims to the cholera. With the addition of eighty-four that died near this agency during the spring and summer, it will make the unparalleled number of twelve hundred and thirty-four, (1234,) or nearly one fourth of their whole tribe—and this great mortality, too, in the space of five or six months. Unless the lands of this people are soon purchased by our Government, and they removed to a country where game is more abundant, and which does not lay in the midst of their enemies, this once powerful tribe, in a very few

years must become an extinct race. With the exception of the "Ottoes," "Omaha," and "Comanche Indians," this tribe is at variance with the red men of the whole western territory.

The Pawnees have made a very good hunt, but owing to the fearful ravages of the cholera among them before they left their villages, will make no corn. Should the Government do nothing for these poor and destitute Indians, in the spring a great portion of them must perish from starvation.

I am happy to inform you that on Sunday, 23d ultimo, I succeeded with the kind assistance of Mr. Peter A. Sarpey, an old and reputable Indian trader, in establishing a treaty of peace between a delegation of the "Yancton" and "Santie" tribes of Indians, and the Ottoes and Omahas of this agency, which I am in hopes will prove a permanent and lasting one. You are well aware that these tribes of the Sioux Indians have always been their most potent enemy, and as this peace will secure to both parties more desirable hunting grounds, it is hoped that the Government will take some steps to *keep these neighboring tribes on friendly terms*. Although the attempt to conciliate these most bitter enemies appeared at first like mixing "oil with water," still, before they parted, I had the pleasure of seeing the "pipe of peace" smoked freely, and congratulations exchanged with one another, which only these "red men of the forest" can well comprehend. They parted as a band of brothers, each party reminding the other of their solemn contract. Had I the time and the pen, events which have transpired within the bounds of this agency would fill a volume; but, nevertheless, I hope this short communication will give you and the Department some idea of what has occurred.

It indeed would prove a blessing and an act of charity to these Indians were the Government to purchase their lands, (of which more desirable cannot be found,) move them to a situation where the means of subsistence will be within their reach, which, by the aid of their annuities, will ameliorate their condition two fold.

I must respectfully refer you to the accompanying reports of the Rev. E. McKinney and Mr. Samuel Allis. You will see, from the report of Mr. Allis, that the school under his charge is not in a very flourishing condition.—Should it be the intention of the Government to continue the school, new buildings should be erected and other improvements be made that will prove of advantage to the Indians. The present school I consider almost entirely useless, and unless some change is made, it would be better to abolish it altogether.

I would recommend that the school and the smith-shop be removed to their village, which has been located some fifty or sixty miles nearer this place, with the addition of a farmer, which I would suggest be furnished them, such an arrangement would prove of far greater advantage.

The number of Indians of this agency are about 6,700. The Ottoes number about 900; the Omahas about 1300; and the Pawnees, since their great loss by cholera, about 4,500.

The Ottoes seem to gradually decrease, while the Omahas increase.

Hoping that due attention will be paid to the affairs of this agency, I have the honor to be, very truly, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. BARROW,
Indian sub-agent.

Col. D. D. MITCHELL,
Superintendent Indian affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

N. B. I have just had an interview with "Chief Malacque," the principal chief of the four bands of Pawnees, and several other head men, who insist that their Great Father shall send their farmer, school, and blacksmith again into their country; they say they will be much happier, and desire that their Great Father shall listen to them

No. 3—A.

August 23d, 1849.

DEAR SIR: Allow me to report the condition and operations of Otoe and Omaha missions, during the past year, under the following heads:

1st. Our labors have not been materially interrupted by sickness; but, on the contrary, we have abundant reason for gratitude to the Almighty Giver of all good, for the preservation of the lives and health of all but one connected with the mission during the whole year.

The only exception was in the case of a little Omaha girl, brought to us in a delicate state of health last fall, whose life was spared but a few weeks after her entrance into the school. During the months of May and June our neighborhood was visited by the cholera; the ravages of this disease among the straggling Pawnees, who loitered about Bellevue, were very great. The mission family, however, has been most remarkably spared—not a single case has occurred. The tribes who are the special objects of our attention have not suffered much; but four of the Omahas died of the epidemic, and the Otoes escaped entirely. Very wisely both tribes, as soon as they found the epidemic was approaching, left this vicinity and started on the buffalo hunt; during their absence they enjoyed excellent health.

2d. Our school has been in successful operation without any intermission during the whole year; the number of scholars has varied greatly at different times; the highest number at any one time has been thirty-five, which is the number now in school. As many as seventy (70) scholars have been received during the year, apportioned among the tribes as follows: Otoes 24; Omahas 24; Pawnees 13; half-breeds 9. The scholars all have been clothed and fed as well as taught. Two or three of the half-breed children were able to spell in words of one and two syllables when they were received, but all the rest were in a state of nature; those of them who have been in school eight or nine months are beginning to read in English, and are able to write a legible hand. We observe among our scholars the same diversity of talent and disposition which exists among other races of people, without having any evidence of a general incapacity to learn. The greatest difficulty experienced in our enterprise is to obtain the consent of the parents to have their children brought into school, and after they are admitted, to allow them to stay long enough to be productive of any good.

3d. The moral condition of tribes living in the bounds of this agency is worthy of special notice. The Otoes some years ago were favored with the residence of a pious Baptist teacher among them, whose labors, if productive of no other good effect, served to raise the missionary character in their estimation. A teacher of the same society also located himself among the

Omahas, but in a few months, for causes not well understood, abandoned the enterprise. With the exception of these efforts, these miserable tribes appear to have been abandoned to all the horrors of heathenism, until the establishment of this mission.

The moral state of such a people cannot be well appreciated by those educated in Christian lands. It is enough here to say that they have sunk to as low a depth of depravity and hopelessness, as the absence of all the elevating and refining effects of the Gospel, and the positive agency and dominion of the evil one, combined with the unprincipled villany of piratical whiskey smugglers, could possibly sink them. Taking into view the fine natural traits of the Indian, their national views resemble the condition of some dilapidated building, once the abode of happiness, cultivated intellect, and high moral worth, but now in the occupancy of a band of ruffians, whose hands are against every man, and whose companionship is shunned by all who regard either their lives or their morals. The case, however desperate, is only so relatively; He who commanded the light to shine out of darkness can yet shine into their hearts, to give them the light of the knowledge of God, as it shines in the face of his dear son. Confiding in His power we engage in our work, as those "who sow in tears," assured that "in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

4th. The conditions necessary to success in the effort to improve the conditions of these Indians independently of the Divine blessing, are:

1st. The banishment of whiskey from the Indian country. However difficult this may be to effect, it must be done, alike to secure the good of the Indian, and to vindicate the honor of the Government.

2d. The suppression of all war parties among these northwestern tribes. Peace is necessary to the cultivation of the arts of civilized life; and that peace is a debt which the United States owe to these Indians, to pay for their privilege, and to carry out the implications of existing treaties.

3d. The encouragement of industry in every form which will be beneficial to Indian society; and if this could be done in such a manner as to bring something else than robes and skins into demand; it would be a blessing to the Indians. Those in power ought to be made acquainted with the affecting remark of an Omaha: "We desire to become rich and great, but we are here alone on the prairie, without any one to help us."

Desiring to compress my statements into as small a space as possible, and hoping that what I have said will be sufficient for your purposes, with much respect, and best wishes, I remain, dear sir, sincerely yours,

E. McKINNEY.

Major J. E. BARROW.

No. 3.—B.

COUNCIL BLUFFS AGENCY,

September 21, 1849.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I give you the following report. Since my last there has been no material change in numbers in the school under my charge.

We have had from twelve to fifteen Pawnee and half-breed children, which we board and clothe, that attend school, besides three of our own, and twelve in the neighborhood, of different grades; making in all twenty-eight or thirty scholars. Until the last of June we were visited with the cholera; most of the family were subjects, myself with the rest; some *very severe* cases.

Our teacher, her mother and a brother, who came to attend on her during her sickness, all died; also four of our Indian children. Three were girls, one a boy. Two of the girls were very interesting, about twelve years old, and among the best scholars.

The school, during sickness, was vacated about one month. Since the commencement, (July 24,) our Pawnee scholars have numbered twelve; total number twenty-two.

Eight of the scholars, since December last, have learned to write, study geography, and have made good progress.

We could get plenty of children if we had the means, but you well know, sir, the buildings we occupy are unfit for a school, from being decayed; also so nearly connected with the smithshop, and other causes of disturbance.

A school to prosper should be separate from other business. Unless a mission should be re-established at the Pawnees, or Government move them to some other place, I would suggest the propriety of an establishment here, suitable for thirty or more children, on the manual labor system. I am satisfied a school away from the parents would be more successful than near their village. With such an establishment, I presume I could get help from friends by way of clothing, &c.

I trust, sir, there will be some different arrangements as regards our situation. I am fearful the old buildings will fall down on our heads. I am unwilling to remain in them longer than the coming spring. I attribute our sickness greatly to the old buildings we occupy.

Very respectfully, yours,

SAMUEL ALLIS.

Major JOHN E. BARROW,
Indian Agent, Council Bluffs Agency.

No. 4.

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY,

September 30, 1849.

SIR: In conformity to the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit herewith the annual report of the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency, under my charge. According to the census of last spring payment of annuities, the Iowas numbered 802, and the Sacs and Foxes, 128. The Iowas, notwithstanding their previous drunken and reckless condition, have behaved themselves well, and continued generally sober during the past twelve months, save a short time. I was absent from them lately, attending the United States court as a witness against some three whiskey sellers, who, the Department has been apprised of my molesting some twelve months since. They had several drunken sprees during my absence, and killed three head of cattle, besides committing some minor depredations.

They have remained at home, during the past season, peaceably and quietly, showing every disposition to turn their attention to agricultural pursuits. Early in the spring I had 200 acres of ground broke for them, and I am pleased to say they have cultivated it well, and from the favorableness of the season, they will raise an abundance of corn, beaus, pumpkins, &c., to carry them through the winter.

The Sacs and Foxes are a restless, roving tribe, fond of the chase, and confining themselves but a short time at any one place, consequently they pay but little attention to it; besides, they appear to think there is no necessity for it, as the Government farm, established among them, raises more grain than they can consume, and they also have a mill of their own to grind it whenever needed, so that they are entirely an independent people. The last year's crop of wheat raised on their farm will not fall short of 1200 bushels. The corn crop—the farm is about thirty acres—promises a most abundant yield, not less than two thousand bushels.

The principal chief of the Sacs and Foxes is a sober and intelligent man, has great influence in his tribe, which, if properly exerted, would be of great advantage to the tribe.

The principal chief of the Iowas is also a sober, peaceable, and good man, but of very limited intellect, and consequently of little influence with his tribe.

During the last spring a small war party from the Sacs and Foxes on the Osage river, paid a visit to the Sacs and Foxes of this sub-agency, and decoyed off some fifteen young men on an expedition against the Pawnees. As usual amongst them, the affair was conducted with such secrecy that no one here was aware of their object, till their return. The particulars, as far as I have been able to learn them, are, that they fell upon a party of Pawnees, near the villages of the latter, when they were planting corn, and murdered some five or six, mostly women. Of the party that went from this sub-agency, one was killed. I called the chief and braves together so soon as being apprised of it, and represented to them the enormity of the offence. He regretted it very much, and said if he had known that his people were going on such an expedition, he would have instantly informed me of it, if he could not have stopped them himself.

I hope I may be pardoned for suggesting to the Department, that I conceive the most effectual way of putting a stop to these war parties is to imprison all who are engaged in them for a short time, or at least the *leaders* of them. In withholding their annuity, I am satisfied that it has no effect whatever towards preventing it; and moreover, in taking the annuity of the whole nation, as has sometimes been done, the innocent as well as the guilty suffer.

The interest the Government has taken in prosecuting the three notorious whiskey sellers, who were molested by me some twelve months since, has had a most happy influence over these people, as well as putting a stop to white men introducing it into the country. I am pleased to state that great improvement has taken place in the Indians of this sub-agency during the past year. The most of them show a disposition to receive counsel and to heed it, though intemperance yet prevails to a limited extent. But one murder has been committed by them during the past year.

I inclose the reports of the missionaries within this sub-agency, to which I respectfully refer you.

It affords me much pleasure to state the great gratification I feel in giving

my unqualified testimony to the fidelity and untiring zeal with which these people discharge the important and arduous duties intrusted to their charge.

The "manual labor boarding school" numbers at present thirty-two scholars of both sexes. It is truly a gratifying spectacle to witness the deportment of these pupils both in and out of school. Their deportment is mild, civil, respectful, and courteous, and when I state their manners and morals would compare well with the same number of children in the most civilized communities, I am sure I do not exaggerate.

The present flourishing condition of this most meritorious institution warrants and calls forth every exertion on the part of the Government and its agents, to increase, if possible, its advantages and usefulness. The children are permitted to visit their parents on Saturdays, and are especially required to attend worship on Sundays. The government of the school is kind and parental, depending more on the mutual confidence existing between parents and teachers than upon coercion, yet the government is uniform and decided. I have been acting in the capacity of Indian sub-agent for many years, for a number of different tribes of Indians, where various different denominations of missionaries have been located, and I can say with truth that I have never seen the same untiring zeal, anxiety, and solicitude manifested by any other missionaries in training up and teaching the "young idea how to shoot," as the missionaries of this sub-agency.

Nothing more that would be interesting occurs to me at present. The Indians of the sub-agency are in the enjoyment of excellent health.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most ob't serv't,

ALFRED J. VAUGHAN,

Indian Sub-Agen.

Hon. D. D. MITCHELL,

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 4 - A.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,

October 10th, 1849.

SIR: The following statement will, I presume, be all that is necessary to enable you to understand the condition of the school for the year ending Sept. 30, 1849.

No. of scholars on 30th Sept. 1848,	-	-	-	29
" " " " 1849,	-	-	-	32
" " received during the year,	-	-	-	13
" " left " "	-	-	-	10
Highest number	"	"	-	37
Lowest	"	"	-	26
Average attendance	"	"	-	34½
No. that left the school who could read Iowa	-	-	-	4
" now in school who read Iowa	-	-	-	13
" beginning to read English,	-	-	-	2
" beginning to read,	-	-	-	3
" in school now who were here on 30th Sept., 1848	-	-	-	24
" who remained in school only a few days	-	-	-	9
" spelling	-	-	-	9
10				

No. in the alphabet	-	-	-	-	-	2
“ learning to write	-	-	-	-	-	21
Average number for the year ending Sept. 30th, 1848	-	-	-	-	-	23½
Do. “ “ “ “ 1849	-	-	-	-	-	34½
Increase over last year	-	-	-	-	-	11
No. of boys now in school	-	-	-	-	-	19
“ girls “ “	-	-	-	-	-	13
“ boys who read Iowa well	-	-	-	-	-	7
“ girls “ “ “ (2 good readers,)	-	-	-	-	-	6

Of those who left, *three* were taken to the settlements, *two* stolen by their relations, (orphans;) *four* were quite large, and could read Iowa.

There are *six* other Iowas who read *English*, five of whom are adults. The children all sing; many of them know several *hymns* and a number of questions in the “children’s catechism” in the Iowa language.

The girls are also taught sewing and house work; the boys cut wood, and labor on the farm as occasion requires. We have two hands on the farm, and three female assistants in domestic affairs. We have Sabbath school twice a day, preaching once, and prayer meeting with a lecture on Sabbath and Wednesday evenings. Those exercises, together with teaching, are conducted alternately by myself and Mr. Irvin.

When not engaged in teaching, I visit the Indians at their homes for the purpose of giving them religious instruction, also on Tuesdays and Fridays. On these occasions the attention given to the truth is sometimes good, but a large majority of the nation are quite indifferent, or even averse to hearing the truth.

Intemperance prevails among them to an alarming extent; oftentimes they take their blankets and other goods to the whiskey shops without ever having worn them.

I have good reasons for believing that they often purchase goods on credit for the express purpose of buying whiskey with them, and I have very often met with drunken Indians when visiting them for the purpose of giving them religious instruction, and sometimes return home sooner than I would do because of the numbers that are drunk. Such repeated and long continued scenes of drunkenness indispose them for receiving instruction of any kind, especially those truths which inculcate the practice of self denial.

The only exception to this state of things is, about two months following your arrest of those two whiskey traders, (one of whom is guilty of two or three murders,) who were in a few days turned loose from prison at St. Joseph’s, though apparently according to law, *yet against all justice*; yet I suppose in consideration of a *stipulated sum*.

I have received an account of thirty seven deaths among the Iowas during the past year—mostly adults. Of these, twenty-five are reported to have died of cholera. There may have been some deaths of which I have not heard, making the number about forty.

There are now 473 souls at the different villages, which is about 300 less than they numbered twelve years ago, when they were removed to this side of the river. There are among them some very old and feeble persons, and five of them blind and almost helpless.

I do not think of any thing further that it is *necessary* to add in this report.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

WM. HAMILTON.

COL. A. J. VAUGHAN, *Indian Sub-Agent*

WYANDOTT SUB-AGENCY,

October 4th, 1849.

SIR: In making my first annual report of the general condition of the Indians under this sub-agency, I must necessarily be brief, as my residence with the Wyandotts has not, as yet, been long enough to have become familiar with the true state of affairs here.

Immediately after my appointment and qualification, I repaired with all convenient despatch to this place, and received from my predecessor such public property, records, &c., as he had to turn over. After remaining till the latter part of July, I returned home for the purpose of removing my family and effects to this place. But, owing to the great alarm caused by the frightful ravages of the dread epidemic, the cholera, in this portion of the country, I was unable to reach here till 10th September.

As soon as I reached here, I received a letter from you, dated 1st September, requiring me to repair to St. Louis, for the semi-annual annuity due to the Wyandotts. As soon as I could dispose of my family, afflicted as they were, I hastened to comply with your order, and am now engaged paying out this money to the nation according to instructions.

I learn that the Wyandotts suffered but little from cholera the past season, having had but six deaths from that disease, and they are now enjoying as good health as generally at this season of the year.

Last spring a company of Wyandotts, fifteen in number, chiefly young men, organized themselves into a joint stock company, with all the necessary equipage, and set out for the gold regions of California; when last heard from, they were beyond Fort Laramie a short distance.

Notwithstanding the unusual length of the rainy season (which lasted from first May till late in August,) seemed to threaten the destruction of the corn and other crops, yet those raised by the Wyandotts, as far as my observation has extended, seem to promise an ordinary harvest. Those of them who farm it will raise sufficient provisions to do them, and some few of them some to sell.

The Wyandott people have three schools among them, and the number of children sent to them vary from 75 to 100. Their territory is divided into three school districts. These schools are under the control and supervision of three directors; two chosen from amongst the people, and the third chosen out of the council, managed under the direction of the chiefs. For the support of these schools the fund stipulated in the fourth article of the treaty of 17th March, 1842, is applied. This fund, however, not being sufficient to keep the three schools in operation the year through, the council appropriate annually, out of their annuity, the sum of two hundred dollars to make up the deficit. The Wyandotts are progressing steadily, as a high example to their Indian neighbors. A majority of them would do honor to any of the States as correct and intelligent citizens; unfortunately, though, the less civilized of these people live too contiguous to the State of Missouri, where every facility is at hand to obtain spirituous liquor. This will, I fear, continue whilst the Indians are thus located, and whilst the State of Missouri withholds the passage of some severe law upon this subject.

There has been one murder committed near the agency; two drunken

Indians commenced a quarrel, which ended in the death of one of the parties.

The Wyandott territory is situated in the forks of the Missouri and Kansas rivers, and contains 39 sections, which they purchased of the Delaware Indians. This territory of the Wyandotts, in point of soil and local position, is excelled by none west or south of the Missouri river. And I can say with truth, that every acre of these 39 sections is fit for cultivation, for all the staple articles raised in Missouri; it is a high undulating country, and extremely well timbered, and situated in latitude 39° 10".

I regret to have to say that there exists at this time a considerable excitement amongst the Wyandott people, in regard to the two branches of the Methodist E. P. Church, *north* and *south*. The nation is nearly divided upon the subject, leaving those in favor of the church *south* in a small majority, judging from a recent election for a chief, where the candidates run upon the question of the church difficulty. This nation, as I learn, have since their location here been supplied with missionaries by the "Indian Conference" of the "Methodist Church south," until, perhaps, twelve months since, a portion of these people desired a preacher or missionary from the M. E. P. *north*, with *northern principles* about slavery; they obtained one, and his debut into this nation caused great excitement, and resulted in partly demolishing the chapel held by the church *south*; and in the expulsion of the *northern* preacher, (as already known to the Department.)

This excitement has again made its appearance by a report, which I have no doubt is correct, that a preacher from the M. E. P. church is preparing to move into this nation. Four out of the five chiefs are opposed to this northern churchman coming into the nation. I have not been consulted upon the subject of the location of this divine. I am at a loss how to act in this matter, so as to give satisfaction to both parties; but so far as my judgment dictates to me what to do in this exciting difficulty, in the absence of any instructions from the Department, I shall content myself to let the two church parties proceed on the even tenor of their way; at the same time urging upon them every consideration to put down the difficulty, and to harmonize the matter in controversy with a Christian spirit.

The most to be regretted in this religious difficulty, here amongst this people, is the manifest feeling and warmth it excites amongst the people of the State of Missouri upon the subject. The people of Missouri, located in the immediate vicinity of the Wyandotts, entertain, and express daily, the opinion that the Methodist E. P. Church *north* are abolitionists, and that their great anxiety, at this time, to locate a *northern preacher* near the State, is to carry on their religious fanaticism with regard to slavery.

I shall not here say whether their fears are correctly aroused or not. If the M. E. P. Church *north* come here to evangelize the Indians, and make them better people, and make good their professions, I say let them come; but difficulties and troubles will surely beset them *thick*, if any thing be taught interfering with the rights of property with our neighbor.

I will observe that there are a few slaves held in this nation by the Wyandott people, and this seems to be the first moving cause for agitating church preferences, as now so unhappily exists. But for this, I hope transitory, difference and contention, these people would, in my opinion, be the most contented, happy, and satisfied Indians who have ever emigrated west of the Mississippi river.

I do hope the difficulties and dissensions alluded to may soon be friendly

and religiously settled, and that the *northern* preacher may so conduct his religious devotions, if permitted by the Government to remain, as to convince the whole nation of Wyandott people that his advent amongst them is to teach them morals and religion, and that only. Upon the foregoing subject, I ask the early attention and instruction of the Department.

Whatever may be my personal predilections upon this question of church difference, my feelings being southern, I consider myself acting as the agent of the whole nation, and not for a part. In conclusion, I say, let the proper Department settle this matter as it shall deem fit, and so far as I have action in the matter it shall be promptly carried out for the peace of the nation.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS MOSELY, JR.,

Indian sub-agent for Wyandotts.

To Col. D. D. MITCHELL,

Sup't Ind. Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 6.

FORT LEAVENWORTH,

Indian M. L. School, October 12, 1849.

DEAR SIR: As the agent recently appointed for this agency has not yet arrived, I have taken the liberty of forwarding to you directly a copy of our annual report, in which you will perceive, as well as from our quarterly reports, that our school is still moving on with reasonable success, notwithstanding the embarrassments from having the cholera in the community, and from many other causes that we have had to contend with. I think there has been an increasing desire for education, especially among the Shawnees, manifested during the past year.

The Shawnees, and portions of other tribes, are becoming a working people, and are making considerable progress in the arts of civilized life. But two things operate very much against them: first, the want of suitable laws among themselves, for the protection of their persons and property; secondly, their disposition to move about from place to place. Not unfrequently, after having worked hard, and built a comfortable house, and made a convenient little farm, they immediately take a notion that some new place will suit them better, and move off right away to commence anew; and thus, in some instances, their large tracts of land prove a disadvantage to them.

For many years my mind has been directed to the probable destiny of these remnants of tribes west of Missouri; and I am fully satisfied that they never can be extensively improved as separate nations, and that the time will come when it will be best for our Government to throw around this country some form of government, and buy up the surplus lands belonging to these little tribes, leaving a reservation in each tribe for those who are not willing to live among civilized people, and let the enterprising part of each nation hold property in their names, and live among the whites, and take their chance with them; and at a suitable time, when they were found

qualified for it, let them have citizenship with the whites. I believe that more of the Indians, in this part of the country, would be brought to enjoy the benefits of civilization on this than any other plan ever presented to my mind. I have conversed with a number of the more intelligent in the different tribes; and I have no doubt but some such arrangements could be made soon, if the Government should think proper to commence it.

Our crops this year of hay and oats were tolerably good, and also of the different kinds of vegetables; but our corn crop is far short of an average one, in consequence of the almost constant rains through the entire season. But I think, with proper economy, we shall be able to winter our stock, as we have considerably reduced our number of cattle and hogs.

I have not time to add more at present, as I am much pressed with business.

I have the honor to be, yours, with due respect,

THOS. JOHNSON,

Supt. F. L. Ind. M. L. School.

Hon. O. BROWN,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Number of scholars of different sexes and tribes.

Males.	No.	Females.	No.	Total.
Delawares - - -	15	Delawares - - -	17	32
Shawnees - - -	25	Shawnees - - -	14	39
Pottawatomies - - -	12	Pottawatomies - - -	1	13
Ottowas - - -	7	Ottowas - - -	4	11
Wyandotts - - -	9	Wyandotts - - -	3	12
Omahas - - -	1	Omahas - - -	1	2
Peorias - - -	3	Peorias - - -	1	4
Cherokees - - -	2	Cherokees - - -	0	2
Kansas - - -	1	Kansas - - -	0	1
	75		41	116
Five apprentices not included in the above				5
				121

No. 6.—A.

POTTAWATOMIE MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,

September 30, 1849.

SIR: Allow me to report the following as the condition of the Pottawatomie Bap. M. L. School.

1. *Site.*—Half a mile south of the Kansas, nine miles below Uniontown, the trading post of the nation, and one and a half mile west of the great California road from Kansas, Westport, and Independence. The station has an excellent supply of good spring water, first-rate soil, and is within reach of the necessary amount of timber. The mechanic shops consist of blacksmith and wagon-maker's shops—are located one-fourth

mile west of the M. L. school edifice, and near the bank of the Kansas river.

The establishment was located under the joint supervision of Major R. W. Cummins, late Indian agent, and the undersigned, and is thought to be the most judicious that could have been made.

2. *Buildings*.—One stone edifice, now in process of completion, for manual labor school, eighty-five feet long and thirty-five feet wide, with two cross-walls of stone, three stories high, divided into twelve rooms, having sixty doors and windows; walls of first story two feet thick, balance one and a half foot thick; and, when finished, will cost, say \$4,800. One hewed log dwelling, thirty-six feet by eighteen, one story high, two good stone chimneys, comfortably finished, cost \$35. One hewed log house, for mechanic, eighteen feet by sixteen, one story high, good stone chimney, well finished, cost \$130. One hewed log kitchen and meat-house, each sixteen feet square, and one root-house, cost \$65. One hewed log lodging-room for hired men, sixteen feet by eighteen feet, cost \$35. One other kitchen, sixteen feet square, cost \$25.

3. *Farm*.—In process of completion; consists of sixty acres ploughed prairie, twenty-five acres of which is now in corn, one in potatoes, and two in beans and other garden vegetables. Thirteen thousand rails and stakes have been made and put up. The whole farm, when completed, will consist of sixty-five acres of ploughed and forty acres pasture land, and will cost \$650. Twenty-five acres are sowed in wheat.

Stock, &c., consists of—

One good wagon and three yoke of oxen, cost	-	-	-	\$200 00
Seven head brood swine, cost	-	-	-	15 00
Five milch cows, \$15 per head	-	-	-	75 00

Tools:

One harrow, cost	-	-	-	5 00
Two good ploughs, cost	-	-	-	10 00
Three chains, at \$3	-	-	-	9 00
One box carpenter's tools, cost	-	-	-	15 00

4. *School*.—Rev. J. Ashburn, A. M., late of Georgetown College, Kentucky, principal teacher; Miss E. McCoy, principal of female department. Since Sept. 30, 1848, the school has been conducted under the provisions of the contract entered into with the Government; we having been informed that all the pupils kept by us previous to the completion of our buildings, and subsequent to the signing of the contract, would receive the allowance specified.

Of the pupils, seventeen were entered previous to September 30, 1848; twelve previous to June 30, 1849; nine previous to August 15, 1849, and one since. The male pupils have been taught and exercised in the various departments of manual labor, and the females in labors appropriate to their sex. All have made encouraging progress in their studies.

It is a leading motive with us to Americanize the Indians, and attach them to our country and institutions; as, in our estimation, upon success in this depends much in regard to their future well-being. A foreign influence must ever engender prejudice, and produce a want of confidence in our Government and people.

Respectfully,

J. LYKINS,

Supt. Pot. Bap. M. L. School.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

P. S.—There are two manual labor schools among the Pottawatomies; one in charge of the Baptist Board of the American Indian Mission Association of Louisville, Kentucky, the other in charge of the society of Jesuits. It subjects us to the use of a cumbersome name, in making our accounts and vouchers, to use the proper name of an institution, as it now stands; and I respectfully suggest the propriety of naming our establishment the McCoy Academy, in honor of the late Isaac McCoy, than whom no one has made greater efforts to save the North American Indians, and by whose personal exertions the most of the Pottawatomie education funds were provided.

No. 6.—B.

POTTAWATOMIE STATION, KANZAS RIVER,
September 5th, 1849.

DEAR SIR: In transmitting for your information this my first annual report, together with a list containing the names, ages, &c., of the scholars under my charge, I enjoy unfeigned pleasure in having this opportunity to express my grateful acknowledgments for the impartial course you have pursued in our regard; and it gives me the greatest satisfaction to inform you that these Pottawatomies highly appreciate this their new country. Thus they confirm the truth of your assertion made at the last Pottawatomie treaty, notwithstanding the apprehension under which they labored—of its being a country destitute of every means of support; therefore, they are in duty bound to be grateful, for they may be a most happy people, in a country offering every facility for the rearing of stock and for the following of agricultural pursuits. The soil of this country is most fertile; it produces four and five ears of corn to the stalk. I might give you more detailed information on this subject, but since you are not ignorant of its great fertility, it is useless, and not required of me; still it is cheering to rehearse these matters, being confident that these Pottawatomies will have all the necessaries of life, if they turn their attention to agricultural pursuits. Nothing can frustrate these happy prospects but liquor. It is true, that as to the southern Pottawatomies there is not much danger; but I dread that the Pottawatomies of the Bluffs may sink, with other nations, into utter degradation, as they acknowledge the evil but cannot remedy it. Their hopes of a future prosperous destiny seem to rest on you; but as you ever have been a true father to the needy, a lover of order, and faithfully attentive to the enforcement of the salutary provisions of the law, I hope that misfortune will never befall a people that truly deserve a fatherly protection.

A beautiful site for a settlement and a location for our mission has been selected one mile north of the Kansas river, $39^{\circ} 15'$; the two dwelling houses for the boys and girls stand at a suitable distance from one another, so as to separate the male from the female scholars, which is so requisite and proper. Said buildings are substantial log houses, two stories high, 22 by 58 feet in front. The rooms are well arranged for ventilation, having windows so situated as to admit the air on all sides. Ere long I hope we will be ready to accommodate comfortably the number of scholars specified in the contract, and many more. It appears that nearly all our Pottawatomies are determined to send their children to our manual labor school, and to no

other school whatsoever. If we receive them, will the Government defray our expenses, which we will necessarily incur to educate and board them?

The number of boarders, both male and female, already registered, is 57; in addition to which there are ten day scholars, as you will find in the tabular statement. They are all well supplied with wholesome food, and are suitably clothed; order and cheerfulness are apparent throughout the establishments.

The male portion of the school is under the immediate charge of the Rev. Mr. Gaillant and myself.

I do not wish to make it appear as if we had given all that strict attention which we intend to give to our scholars when our manual labor school will be in full operation. You know the embarrassing circumstances in which we were placed during the time of the cholera, by almost a constant avocation to attend the sick. It is, however, highly gratifying to me to be able to state, that our pupils of both schools have made more progress than I really anticipated, notwithstanding all the difficulties that were thrown in our way. Indeed, almost all our scholars promise much for the future. They have five hours attendance each day, viz: three in the morning, and two in the afternoon; so as to conciliate, as much as possible, the obligation of attending the school with agriculture or manual labor, which the Department requires.

To carry into effect the views of the Government, we endeavor to give to these Pottawatomie youths an education calculated for their situation in life: that is, a practical knowledge of agriculture, the formation of industrious habits, and the acquirements of literary knowledge. The moral part, which should be the main object of their studies, is not neglected; every day they receive religious instructions, including the history of the Bible and the Gospel. They are never left a moment beyond the reach of inspection; personal cleanliness is insisted on; in all the requisite duties, mild and persuasive measures are only used—corporeal punishment never.

The female department is conducted by five ladies of the Sacred Heart, who devote all their attention to the moral and mental improvement of the girls, who are instructed in the various branches of housewifery, including sewing, spinning, knitting, &c.

The ladies have generously sacrificed all the comforts of life in the States in behalf of the Pottawatomie nation, and have already accomplished much by their religious devotedness. Great encomiums may be lavished upon their mode of instructing and forming the youthful mind to virtue, while nothing is neglected by their tender solicitude to render their pupils fit ornaments for society. Heaven, I may say, has bestowed on these ladies those virtues more necessary than manly courage; particularly womanly patience and unwearied perseverance. Having been engaged, for many years past, in the instruction of the Pottawatomie youth, they will justify; undoubtedly, the wishes of the Government.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. F. L. VERREYDT.

Major R. W. CUMMINS,
Pottawatomie Agent.

No. 6.—C.

SHAWNEE BAPTIST MISSION,

Indian Territory, August 25, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with our annual instructions, it becomes my duty again to report the condition of this mission station. We continue as heretofore under the patronage of the executive committee A. B. M. U. of Boston, Massachusetts.

Our boarding school remains the same as last year, with some slight exceptions. Up to the last quarter the attendance of the scholars was generally regular. During the last quarter we experienced much interruption from the prevailing epidemic, (cholera.) The scholars manifest a commendable desire for improvement, and are in a moderate degree of advancement from easy lessons of the primer to the simple rules of arithmetic, geography, history, &c. For the most part, they seem affectionate and submissive to restraint. In their moral training we enjoy a good degree of help from their parents, who have become so far enlightened as to see the desirableness of our work. In this we find a striking contrast between the present and the past.

We have circulated translations to some extent for the adult population, who do not understand English, in their own tongue.

Our Sabbath services have been regularly sustained; prayer meetings also, in different neighborhoods, among the Indians during the week. The Christians seem very happy in this work. We have still to lament greatly the circulation of intoxicating drinks. Our Government agents, with watchfulness and energy, could be the efficient means of breaking up very extensively this evil among us.

Very respectfully submitted,

FRANCIS BARKER,
Superintendent of the school.

To Maj. MITCHELL,

Sup't of Indian affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

Note.—The number of scholars at present in course of instruction is fourteen.

No. 6.—D.

Friends' Shawnee School.

The following is the report of the school the past year, to wit: There have been in attendance the past year, including regular and irregular scholars, 28 boys and 29 girls. The irregular scholars came and went, and did not stay all the time. The average number was about 40 in the school at a time.

We have received 15 children the past year, who had never been at school before. Several of whom have not been here long, and some stayed but a short time.

In the evenings, through the greater part of the winter, the children were taught geography on the concert system. They advance much faster in this way than any other.

All the boys who were large enough to work, have been taken out, time after time, to work on the farm. Some of the girls have been learning to weave carpeting, and many have been spinning wool.

Our first-day school has been regularly kept up as heretofore. Many of the children seem to be very much interested in reading religious books.

ELIZABETH HARVEY,
Surviving Superintendent.
 WH. H. HARVEY, }
 SARAH T. HARVEY, } *Teachers.*

No. 7.

OSAGE RIVER AGENCY,

October 15, 1849.

SIR: In accordance with the regulation of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit the following brief report of the affairs connected with the Osage River Agency, for the year 1849.

This report should have been made early in September; it has been delayed in consequence of the fall payments being on hand at the time, which are now but just concluded; and in addition to this fact I deemed it important to finish the payments before making this report, in order that I might be facilitated in getting information important to the Department.

My administration as agent for the Osage River Agency commenced early in April of the present year, at which time I repaired to the Agency house, which is located in the Sac and Fox nation, on the south side of the Marais des Cygnes, (the north fork of the Osage river,) about 65 miles southwest of Westport, Jackson county, Missouri.

The tribes of Indians under my charge are as follows: The confederated tribes of Sacs and Foxes, (now recognised as one and the same,) the Kansas, Chippewas, Ottowas, Piankeshaws, Peorias, Weas and Miamies, all of which are receiving annuity payments, except the Peorias.

The Sac and Fox tribe I found in a very unsettled condition, and requiring, of necessity, a rigid course of government by their agent; they did not appear to be naturally disobedient or malicious, and I attributed their condition to the want of proper government heretofore, and the influence of bad white men. Of this class I found it necessary to drive many from the Indian country, and among them were those who stood prominent in their profession. The Sac and Fox Indians are a noble race of men, naturally honest and honorable; their improvement of late has been rapid; they have this year tilled every acre of land they had broken and fenced for them, and are asking for more: in a word, I believe they have determined to go to work, finding that they can no longer support themselves by hunting; they will number, all told, about 3,000; they are now in a more peaceable condition than they ever were before, and, indeed, it is a pleasure to do business with them. A majority of this tribe drink no spirituous liquors, and in one of the largest bands it is strictly prohibited. Difficulties, however, do sometimes occur from the use of it, and there have been three murders in this tribe within the last six months, all of which were occasioned by whiskey.

The Kansas tribe of Indians are located on the head waters of the Neosho, a tributary of the Arkansas; they have a lovely country; their number is in all about thirteen hundred; they are a poor, miserable race of beings, who make their living entirely by hunting and stealing; indeed, stealing seems to be a part of their tuition; they drink but little, (I presume only for the reason that they are too remote from the States to obtain it,) and are respectful and obedient to their agent. I however deem it to be my duty to state, that this tribe of Indians are becoming very troublesome; they not only steal and plunder, but have recently been guilty of murder; and it is believed, and to me conclusively proven, that these Indians have of late been passing themselves off for Pawnees, and committing depredations of various character upon the whites. The murder alluded to is that of a Pawnee girl, who was taken from the carriage of some white persons, on the Oregon road, by Kansas Indians, and butchered in their presence—the whites barely escaping with their lives. The Indians concerned in this murder are all known, and now wear a badge of honor for the deed. It was my intention to have arrested them during the last payment, but, owing to the small number of troops furnished me from Fort Leavenworth, (only thirteen in number,) and the manifest disposition of the Indians to resist, it was concluded, after consulting with the Lieutenant in command, as well as the whole white population at the council grove, that the attempt would prove abortive; consequently, it was not made. All the whites at this post seem to be in a state of much uneasiness, as the Indians are insolent and often threaten them. They sent word to Lieutenant White there, that if he wished to take them “to come on, they were ready for him.” I conceive it now to be improper for me to go there in my official capacity, unless I am backed by a force sufficient to make them know their places; not that they have not at all times acted towards me in a friendly and respectful manner, but there are matters to be attended to which cannot be, unless I am backed by a force sufficient to teach them that through me they will be compelled to do right. This tribe is so remote from the agency that it is impossible to give them the attention they require to keep them in proper subjection.

The Ottowas, Piankeshaws, and Weas are tribes far advanced in civilization; they no longer depend upon their annuity for a living, but have gone to work, made themselves farms, and are doing well. 'Tis, indeed, a pleasure to be with them and attend to their business. The Ottowas have probably advanced more rapidly than any other; they are strictly temperate, and have their own laws and officers. For the highly improved condition of these Indians, much credit is due to the Rev. Jotham Meeker, a Baptist missionary, who has for many years been among them ministering, both morally and spiritually, to their wants. For particulars I refer you to his report, which accompanies this. Among the Weas there is a very flourishing school under the charge of the American Board of Baptist Missions. At the head of this institution is the Rev. David Lykins, a gentleman of the highest order of intellect and piety, as well as great zeal and energy of character, and whose report is enclosed. Mr. Lykins has succeeded in building up one of the most flourishing schools in the Indian country, which is conducted upon the manual labor plan. The average number of children taught at this school is about forty; all of whom are improving rapidly. Indeed, many of them are farther advanced than most white children of their ages. They are not only well schooled in books, but in agricultural pur-

suits. This institution received last year \$300 from the civilization fund; this year it has not as yet received any thing.

The Miami tribe of Indians are located on the Marais des Cygnes and its tributaries; having the best country in my agency, both in point of soil and timber; neither of which is doing them much good. There is but a single field, out of the large number broken up for them, that has been tilled this year, although they are almost starving for bread. A majority are living within fifteen miles of the State line; all along which are placed, at convenient points, numbers of groceries, which so contrive to evade the law as to furnish the Indians with any quantity of whiskey, and receive from them, when their money is gone, blankets, horses, and clothing of all descriptions. The Miamies are a miserable race of beings; and, in consequence of their dissipated habits, are fast passing off their stage of being. Within the last year thirty have died. They now number about two hundred and fifty, though I do not believe there are over two hundred Miamies proper. They are not only destroying themselves by liquor, but are continually murdering one another. There is less intelligence among these Indians than any in my agency; indeed, there is scarcely a sensible man among them. Their present wretched condition I conceive to be the result of excessive indulgence in drink. So far as obedience to their agent, and a strict compliance with the wishes of the Government is concerned, there is no fault to be found with them. These Indians have a missionary institution among them, but so far it has been of little utility, the number of pupils never exceeding nine, although one half of the tribe are under eighteen years of age. The mission is well situated, and would flourish under the charge of suitable persons. I have received no report from the persons last in charge. According to the instructions, I have received the property from them, and the mission is vacated. A saw and grist mill is in progress of construction, and I hope it may stimulate them in making their own breadstuffs, &c. All the smiths' shops within my agency are being successfully carried on, with the exception of one at the Kansas, which has been recently vacated.

In conclusion, I would again refer to the frequent murders occurring among the different tribes in my agency. It seems to me that some power should be given to the agent to bring these offenders to justice, and some further means to execute that power. I have never visited the Kansas, Miamies, or Sac and Fox tribes, without hearing of offences of this kind, and for the want of sufficient force many of the offenders go unpunished for crimes of a capital character. During the spring payment to the Sacs and Foxes, I arrested one of the murderers of Mr. Colborn, a Santa Fé trader, and shortly after his accomplice was arrested in the Pottawatomie nation. There is no doubt of the guilt of these two Indians, who are now in the hands of the United States marshal, and it is expected their trial will take place some time in April, in the city of St. Louis. Strange to say, these Indians have been suffered to go at large for nearly two years, while many whites and the whole tribe of Indians were well acquainted with the fact, and a good citizen and a brother-in-law of Colborn was resting under the suspicion of being his murderer. If consistent with the views of the Department, I should be glad, in case the above Indians are condemned to be hung, that their execution could take place among their own people, as such an example would, perhaps, have some effect upon them.

Of the Chippewa tribe, there are less than 30 of them remaining who emigrated to this country. They are an industrious and deserving people,

located on Appanoose creek, a tributary of the Marais des Cygnes. Their country is good, and well watered and timbered. They are very poor, and need assistance. Of the condition of their finances I have spoken at length in a former communication. They beg of their Great Father a present next spring, in the way of farming utensils. Owing to their contiguity to the Sacs and Foxes, they are prevented from raising hogs, cattle, &c.

In concluding this report I would respectfully state, that it is the earnest request of every tribe in my agency, that they hereafter receive annual, instead of semi-annual payments, and that, if possible, the payment be made in the spring; furthermore, they desire me to say, that they are in favor of a confederated government of the Indian tribes near the border of the State line. All of which is respectfully submitted by:

Your most obedient servant,

CHARLES N. HANDY, *Indian agent.*

D. D. MITCHELL, ESQ.,
Sup't, &c., St. Louis, Mo.

No. 7—A.

September 1st, 1849.

SIR: It is with no small degree of pleasure that I find myself permitted to report to you the condition of this school. Knowing the deep interest which you take in the advancement of the Indian youth of your agency, I shall feel at liberty to report fully.

This school was established on the manual labor plan by the board of the American Indian Missionary Association, located in Louisville, Ky. This is a Baptist society, and was organized expressly for Indian missions. The first years of the existence of this school were years of trial and anxiety to those in charge. The number of pupils was necessarily small for want of means to support them, and there was considerable opposition to schools on the part of some of the wilder Indians; but I am happy to say that the number of scholars has steadily increased from five, the number at the commencement, to 38, the present number on the roll. The average number of the past year has been 27. The following extract from the report of Miss S. A. Osgood, principal teacher in the school, will show the manner in which it is conducted:

* * * "The scholars are occupied with their lessons from six to seven hours per day; after which, the girls are quietly seated at their sewing, or engaged in domestic labor, and the boys are employed, as they are needed, in appropriate works.

"All are happy and affectionate, and the Indians are becoming more interested in their own improvement, while they are universally pleased with the progress of the children.

"The school now consists of thirty-eight—22 boys, and 16 girls. The average number is 27 for the year, which will end the 30th of September, 1849. The girls are taught in the various departments of house-work and sewing, which they learn very readily. Some very small girls sew very neatly, aiding in making their own dresses, and other clothing for the school; they also learn to knit. Two little girls, from five to seven years of age, who have not been here over three months, have just finished a quilt, all their own sewing. They and their mothers are delighted with such an achievement."

This school, until the past year, was wholly supported by benevolent funds, the contributions of churches. The last year, (ending the 30th September, 1848,) we received from the Government of the United States \$300 towards the support of the school.

There is not only a very visible improvement on the part of the children in school, but the Indians generally around us are in an improving condition. There is, perhaps, no tribe in your agency more disposed to avail itself of the arts of the white man than this. And here, permit me to say, that much credit is due Baptiste Peoria, United States' interpreter, for the good influence which he has exercised in these respects. He has ever been an efficient supporter of schools, not only patronizing them himself, but inducing many others to do the same.

In conclusion, sir, permit me to assure you of our sincere respect, and to express the confident hope that, through your efficient labors in behalf of these people, they will continue to improve more rapidly than heretofore.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. LYKINS,
Superintendent Wea school.

Col. HANDY, agent, &c.

No. 7.—B.

OTTOWA MISSION STATION, *October 2, 1849.*

SIR: The Ottowas have, through the mercies of kind Providence, enjoyed better health during the past year than for several previous years. While the cholera has raged to a considerable extent in all the tribes in this region, no case has proved fatal among the Ottowas.

Various causes have rendered it inexpedient to establish a boarding-school in this tribe the present year, as was expected; but, instead thereof, we have sent twenty children to schools among the Shawnees and Pottawatomies.

The missionaries at this station are the undersigned and his wife, who are patronized by the American Baptist Missionary Union, whose seat of operations is at Boston, Mass.; Rev. S. Peck, corresponding secretary. Their business during the year past has been to encourage and instruct the Indians to continue to improve in industry, economy, temperance, and morality, and to preach to them the Gospel.

During the past year, the Ottowas have purchased a grist-mill, built a good hewed log house, and a large frame shed for it, and are now entering into engagements to have it put in running order this fall. They have formed among themselves an Anti-running-in-debt society, and have contributed about \$150 for various benevolent objects. They have continued to improve their farms, increase their stock, and depend more and more upon personal effort for a livelihood. Their law to prohibit the introduction of ardent spirits into their country continues in force, and with but few exceptions the Ottowas are strictly temperate. Were it not that the Kansas, Sacs and Foxes, commit frequent depredations upon their property, every appearance indicates that they would soon arise entirely above poverty.

Most respectfully, I am, dear sir, yours, &c.

JOTHAM MEEKER.

COL. C. N. HANDY, *U. S. Indian agent.*

CHOCTAW AGENCY,

October 31, 1849.

SIR: Having but recently entered on the discharge of the duties assigned me as Choctaw agent and acting superintendent of the Western territory, and being, much of this short time, necessarily absent from the Indian country, attending to the business of my office, it cannot be expected that I could have made myself so thoroughly familiar with the condition of the several tribes embraced in this superintendency as to be able to give much information in addition to the very full reports which have heretofore been furnished by my predecessors. In addition to all this, I have as yet received no report from any of the agents or sub-agents, with the exception of Col. A. M. M. Upshaw, Andrew J. Dorn, and M. Duvall, esqs. In consequence of which I have delayed making out my report, hoping to obtain something official from the other agents, which might enable me to lay before you a general outline of the present condition of the several tribes embraced in this territory. I cannot, however, delay longer, and will therefore briefly state a few of the most prominent facts.

Within the last twelve months five hundred and forty-seven Choctaws have been emigrated from the old Choctaw country, east of the Mississippi river, to the Choctaw nation west of Arkansas.

These immigrants have settled principally on the waters of the Arkansas river in Mushalutubba district; the rest have gone to Red river, with the exception of a few who returned to their old homes east, shortly after their arrival here last spring. It is, however, understood that they have not been kindly received by their white friends in Mississippi, and that they will return here this fall or the coming winter.

The Department was informed, in July last, that Col. John J. McRae was about starting from Mississippi with a party of some eighty or one hundred Choctaws for this country. I have since learned that in consequence of the heat of the weather, &c., it was thought best to wait until fall. The impression is that a very considerable number will emigrate within the next twelve months. The different clans of Indians are now pretty much broken up in Mississippi by previous emigrations, and their friends who have removed here are generally pleased with this country, and will have much influence in inducing, at least, many of them to remove west.

I have no doubt that one general cause of their preference is, that here they are placed on terms of equality with the rest of their fellow-citizens, and have the right of choosing their own rulers, and being chosen in turn. Their having been excluded from this privilege in Mississippi, I have no doubt, has seriously operated against their improvement there, and though surrounded by and associating with the whites, they seem to have been little profited by this intimacy, although much might have been expected.

Nearly all those who arrived during the last twelve months have made themselves cabins, and those who landed here in the winter and early spring planted corn, &c., which, with their rations which they are receiving from the Government, will enable them to subsist until another crop is raised.

The "old settlers," I think, are generally improving, and they seem to be waking up to the importance of industry, in order that they may improve their condition.

In the early part of September last the Choctaws in this district had a meeting, the object of which was to call the attention of all to what is being done in regard to the education of their children in the public schools; and inasmuch as the provisions already made were not sufficient to enable all the children in the nation to go to school, to urge upon parents the propriety of establishing neighborhood schools, holding up for their encouragement several efforts of this kind which were succeeding well; urging, at the same time, the importance and absolute necessity of industry, that they might have the means of paying their teachers, &c.

Many speeches were made by the chiefs, captains, and principal men; and much interest seemed to be manifested on the subject of agriculture.

In several neighborhoods they have established schools, which are supported by the parents' paying for the tuition of their children, as amongst the white people; and in order that these should be kept up, they were urged to work more, and raise more corn, &c., that they might be able to pay their teachers. Other reasons were adduced to show the importance of industry; it was said that indolence was one of the principal causes of intemperance and other vices. Habits of industry are much required amongst the Indians generally, and this is one of the distinguishing features of difference between Indians and white men. Many who are naturally well qualified to succeed well in life, fail of making themselves even comfortable through indolence and a want of proper energy of character.

The Choctaws have a fine country; the northern part is well adapted to raising corn, wheat, and other kinds of grain, and will produce a pretty fair crop of cotton, ordinarily. And the southern part has a soil and climate as suitable to the growth of cotton as any in the United States.

No very accurate estimate can, however, be made of the number of bushels of the different kinds of grain raised. It is exceedingly difficult to obtain any thing like correct statistics. Some two years since, my predecessor was furnished with blank forms of certain statistical information, desired by the Indian Department, embracing one hundred and sixty-six different heads, and though he used all due diligence with the means at his command to obtain the information required, yet he entirely failed.

Many objections were made to furnishing the facts, but I suppose the principal one was the amount of labor required in making out the lists. I am thoroughly convinced, that it is impossible that the Department can obtain any thing like the amount of information required by the blank forms furnished this office, without incurring very considerable expenditure; and though I consider it very desirable, and would willingly exert all the influence I may be possessed of to accomplish the desired end, my time is so completely occupied with other business that none is left for this purpose.

I have carefully considered the matter, and see no way that the desired end can be attained except by employing some man who would go round and visit each family, and by actual inspection ascertain the truth. Ask a common Indian how many acres of land he has in cultivation; and his answer would likely be far from the fact, not from any desire to deceive, but simply because he has not been accustomed to measure land; and the same may be said in reference to the measure of grain. To ask all the questions necessary to obtain the information required in the printed forms, and note the result with any thing like tolerable accuracy, would require one man more than a year in the Choctaw nation alone. The Choctaws, though

not numerous, being somewhere near sixteen thousand, west of the State of Arkansas, yet they are scattered over a country extending at least a hundred miles from north to south, and more than one hundred and fifty from east to west. You perceive from this, that the duty required is a herculean labor.

The Choctaw general council, in 1848, passed an act, making it the duty of captains, in making out the rolls of their companies preparatory to the payment of the annuity, to furnish a report of the statistics required. This, also, has proved a failure. I am therefore decidedly of the opinion, that the only practicable method of obtaining the desired facts is, by appointing a man for that specific purpose in each of the tribes, where the duties of the agent are such as not to afford him time to attend to it in person.

The Cherokee, Creek, and Choctaw agents have certainly enough to do without attending to this business. The crops in the Choctaw country, generally, are by no means so good as usual; indeed, the same may be said in respect to the whole territory embraced in this superintendency. However, from the best information I can obtain, enough of grain, &c., will be raised to meet the actual wants of the people by using proper care.

The Chickasaws seem discontented with their present position, forming, as they do, a constituent part of the Choctaw nation, they seem to think that they are in the minority, and that their rights are not properly respected. I, however, think their objections are not well founded, inasmuch as the laws of the Choctaw nation are wholesome, and they have the exclusive right, by the treaty or convention with the Choctaws, of making such laws and regulations for the disposition of their national funds as they may deem best.

It is very much to be regretted that they are so widely scattered; for, as they are situated, they derive comparatively little benefit from their public shops, &c.

In addition to all this, such is the difficulty of having the wants and interests of the people of every section of the country properly represented, that general satisfaction is seldom or never secured. Thus, they continue from year to year doing and undoing their business, and are never satisfied.

The report of their agent, Col. A. M. M. Upshaw, is forwarded herewith, to which I would beg leave to refer you for particulars in relation to the Chickasaws.

The several small tribes embraced in the Neosho sub-agency are represented by their sub-agent as being in a tolerably prosperous condition; being generally industrious and sober, and tolerably well provided with comfortable buildings and pretty good crops. Mr. Dorn's report is herewith forwarded.

M. Duval, Seminole sub-agent, represents the Seminoles as being in nearly the same condition in every respect as they were last year.

Should any of the other agents report, I will forward their statements immediately.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your ob't servant,

JOHN DRENNEN,
Acting Sup't W. T.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,
Comm'r Ind. Affairs, Washington City.

No. 1.—A.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October 30, 1849.*

SIR: I have the honor to lay before you a general outline of the condition of the Choctaw schools, now in successful operation.

The Choctaw general council, in 1842 and 1843, appropriated \$18,000 out of the interest arising from \$500,000, received from the Chickasaws for the privilege of settling in the Choctaw country, and held in trust by the United States; this, with \$8,500 received annually from Government under treaty stipulations, making in the aggregate \$26,500, is annually expended in educating the Choctaw youth at schools in their own country, under the direction of several religious societies.

The American Board of Foreign Missions has five schools under its charge; and receives from the Choctaw funds the following sums for their support, viz:

Koonsha Female Seminary	-	-	-	\$3,000
Chu-ah-la " "	-	-	-	1,600
I-ya-nubi " "	-	-	-	1,600
Wheelock " "	-	-	-	1,600
Norwalk Male " "	-	-	-	833 $\frac{1}{2}$
				\$8,633 $\frac{3}{10}$
			Amount	\$8,633 $\frac{3}{10}$

The American Indian Mission Board (Baptist) has one school, Armstrong Academy, and an appropriation of \$3,733 $\frac{3}{10}$ from the Choctaws for its support annually.

The Presbyterian Board of Missions has also one school, Spencer Academy, and an annual appropriation now from the nation of \$6,833 $\frac{3}{10}$; and the Missionary Board of the Methodist Episcopal Church south, has two schools—Fort Coffee Academy for males, and New Hope Female Seminary—with an appropriation from the Choctaws of \$6,000 annually; and other small schools under the direction of the trustees of the nation receive \$1,300, making the amount, as above stated, \$26,500, annually expended for the purpose of education.

In addition to the above amount, the council at its last session has appropriated the \$4,500 (being the amount awarded by the President on a claim of the Choctaws against the Chickasaws,) reserved this year, to aid in the establishment of neighborhood schools, to be expended under the direction of certain persons appointed in each district for that purpose.

It was feared when the schools were first founded, if every thing did not succeed according to the expectation of the people, that they would grow weary with the system, &c. This, however, has not been the case, and even an increased interest seems to be manifested. Such is the desire for schools, that in several settlements the people are building school-houses, and employing teachers at their own expense.

The trustees of the schools, in their last report to the general council—a copy of which is herewith forwarded—proposed to that body the passage of an act requiring parents to furnish their children, at school, with clothing, and that none should be clothed at the expense of the nation except destitute orphans. This recommendation met the approbation of the council, and a resolution was passed to that effect—making it the duty of all parents who have children at school to provide them with clothing. This act will,

however, not go into operation until the 1st of October, 1850. The object of this change is, that their institutions may be enabled to establish mechanics' shops, that they may be what they profess to be—manual labor schools.

The entire number of scholars in the several schools, as shown by the report of Mr. Thompson McKenny, one of the trustees, which is forwarded herewith, is five hundred and twenty-eight. These are all taught in the English language. In addition to which a great many are taught in Saturday and Sunday schools, principally in the Choctaw language.

The branches taught in the several schools are about the same as those studied in similar institutions amongst white people, as will be seen by reference to the reports of several of the superintendents of the schools, which I have received and are herewith submitted for your inspection.

The only report which I have received from any of the schools amongst the other tribes in this superintendency, is that of Rev. Samuel G. Patterson, superintendent of Crawford Seminary.

This school is well spoken of by Mr. Dorn in his report, as well as by others who have visited it.

The common school system, I learn, succeeds well amongst the Cherokees. I, however, have as yet no report from any of them. I presume their reports will accompany that of the Cherokee agent.

Should any additional reports be received, they will be immediately forwarded to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN DRENNEN,

Acting Superintendent, &c.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,

Comm'r of Indian Affairs, Washington city.

No. 1.—B.

August 17, 1849.

Sir: The following is a list of the number of scholars now at different institutions in this nation:

Spencer Academy, superintendent, Rev. Mr. Reid,	-	-	-	100
Armstrong " " " Potts,	-	-	-	57
Fort Coffee " " " McCallister,	-	-	-	50
New Hope Fem. Academy " " " "	-	-	-	35
Koonsha " " " Hotchkin,	-	-	-	57
Chu-ah-la " " " Kingsbury,	-	-	-	37
E-yah-nubbe " " " Byington,	-	-	-	38
Wheelock " " " Wright,	-	-	-	47
Norwalk Male school " " " "	-	-	-	24
Robertson's school, Rev. Mr. Noble, teacher,	-	-	-	35
Holitohasha, John Wilkin, (native) teacher,	-	-	-	20
Agency, Mr. Gordon, teacher,	-	-	-	28
Total	-	-	-	<u>528</u>

Several of the young men and girls have graduated with sufficient knowledge of education to qualify them for the common business transactions of life, this year.

Yours, very truly,

T. McKENNY.

Col. JOHN DRENNEN, *Agent*.

●
No. 1.—C.

To the chiefs and members of the Choctaw nation assembled:

The period has arrived for making the annual report of the condition of the several schools established by this council, and supported by the funds of the nation, together with the benevolent aid of different denominations of Christians. We, the undersigned trustees, would, therefore, beg leave to submit the following brief and very general statement in relation to each institution of learning in our country.

The examination of "Armstrong Academy" and "I-yah-nubba Female Seminary" took place on the 24th of July last. Owing to high waters it was impracticable for any of the trustees to attend, on the day specified, at the latter institution; and, in their absence, Mr. Harris, Mr. Howell, and Mr. James Hudson were called upon to act as trustees, and hear the exercises of the school, of which their report is highly favorable, respecting the progress made by the scholars, who merited much praise for themselves and reflected great credit on their teachers by the promptitude and correctness with which they performed the various duties assigned them. One of the girls of this school has completed her course of studies and will leave. At Armstrong Academy, one of the trustees was present, and examined the scholars in their respective studies, and in his opinion they acquitted themselves well. Two of the young men at this school, it is thought, have acquired sufficient knowledge of books, &c., to enable them to transact ordinary business; their places will be filled by others.

"Koonsha Female Seminary" was examined on the 17th of July. The full number of trustees was present, and we paid particular attention during the time occupied in the various exercises of the scholars on the different studies to which they had attended; and though the school had suffered very severely from sickness during the past season, yet the scholars were prompt in answering the various questions propounded to them on their respective studies, and acquitted themselves remarkably well—affording much gratification to us on account of the progress they had made in the acquisition of knowledge. Some eight of the scholars are, we think, sufficiently advanced to qualify them for the business of life; and their places will be filled with others at the commencement of the next session.

The examination of "Chuahla Female Seminary" was on the 28th of July. This school, as you are aware, was visited by an awful tornado in the spring of 1848, which destroyed nearly all the buildings that were then on the place; in consequence of which the school was suspended until new buildings were erected, when the scholars returned to their studies—there being no school for nearly the half of one session. Yet, notwithstanding all the difficulties which they have encountered, in our opinion, the scholars have made much improvement in their various studies. Garments made by the girls were exhibited, and an impression favorable to the school seem-

ed to be made on the minds of the parents and friends of the scholars who were present. One of the students of this school has completed her studies, and will leave.

On the 30th of July, the school at Norwalk was examined. We are sorry to say that this school did not meet the expectation of the trustees; the scholars did not appear to have much knowledge of books. In our opinion it is improbable that the fault is entirely with the scholars, but principally in the one in whose charge they are. The trustees, therefore, have written to the Rev. A. Wright, superintendent, and requested him to remove Mr. Pitkin; and it is hoped another teacher will be selected to fill his place at the commencement of the next session.

On the following day, July 31st, "Wheelock Female Seminary" was examined. The scholars were prompt in answering the various questions proposed by their teachers and others, and evinced a perfect familiarity with all their studies rarely witnessed in the examination of a school. In our opinion they acquitted themselves remarkably well. Some fancy articles and garments made by the girls were exhibited, which manifested the taste and skill of those that made them. The parents and friends of the pupils who were present expressed themselves highly gratified with their improvement; one of the girls has completed her studies at school and will leave.

Spencer Academy was examined on the 2d of August. We hoped when this institution was transferred into the hands of the Presbyterian Board of Missions, that it would have been improved and established on a firm basis, thereby securing its prosperity and consequent usefulness. We, however, regret to say that our expectations have not been fully realized in the attainments made by the students in the knowledge of books.

It may probably be owing to the frequent changes that have occurred at that institution. A few of the scholars have made some progress in their studies; those who were under the immediate charge of Miss Dutchy did well.

Mr. Ramsey, the superintendent, together with the teachers heretofore employed, have left the institution, and it is now under the care and supervision of Mr. Reid and new teachers.

From past experience we feel convinced that there are too many Choctaw youths thrown together at this institution, to learn to speak the English language as speedily as if there were fewer. Although a larger amount of funds is annually expended at this than at any other institution in our nation, yet we have derived comparatively little good from it.

We, therefore, after mature reflection, deemed it to be our duty to suggest a division of the school into two parts, and for this purpose the new superintendent, Mr. Reid, has been written to on the subject, and he has agreed to lay it fairly before this board, and abide its decision.

Sufficient time has not yet elapsed for an answer to be received; we trust, however, the matter will be attended to in due time.

Two of the scholars have advanced sufficiently to enable them to enter college, and it is agreed that arrangements shall be made for them to go. Some of the young men, who have been at this school for four or five years, and have acquired an education sufficient to enable them to transact ordinary business, will leave and make room for others.

Mr. Noble's school in Capt. Robinson's neighborhood was examined on the 4th August. At this school, parents who cannot send their children from home, pay for their board. The number of scholars in attendance is thirty-

five, principally new beginners. Their improvement was, however, entirely satisfactory, considering the time they have been at school.

“Fort Coffee Academy” and “New Hope Female Seminary” were closed on the 19th of April in consequence of some cases of cholera which occurred in the neighborhood amongst the Choctaw emigrants who were then arriving in this country. The scholars were doing remarkably well at both these institutions, and we regret that the schools were dismissed. But we think that prudence and a due regard to the health and lives of the students required it. Several of the young men and women of these institutions, who have acquired a competent education, will for the future remain at home, and others will be selected to fill their places.

For the minutiae of the different schools above referred to, we would call your attention respectfully to the reports of their superintendents, which are herewith submitted for your consideration.

When our schools were established it was designed that mechanics' shops should be in connection with each of the male schools. But owing to the heavy expenditure of money for other purposes, nothing has been done in this way. In this particular all our schools have as yet failed of effecting one of the grand objects for which they were established.

If parents would clothe their own children at the different schools, it would, in our opinion, enable the institutions respectively to establish shops in order to teach the boys some of the more common and useful mechanic arts.

We would, therefore, respectfully recommend to the favorable consideration of this honorable body, the general council of the Choctaw nation, that an act be passed requiring parents to provide clothing for their children who may be scholars at the present time, or who may hereafter be selected to enter the different schools supported at the public expense, and that none but destitute orphans be clothed, as heretofore, at the expense of the institution.

In fine, we would beg leave to state, that although the progress of the scholars in the different schools is by no means uniform, and in some instances not as we could wish, yet we are happy to state that a very striking improvement has been made, and we would tender to all the superintendents and teachers our hearty thanks for the zeal and industry which they have manifested in the improvement of our children and youth.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

(Signed)

THOMPSON McKENNY,
R. M. JONES,
GEORGE W. HARKINS,
FORBES LEFLORE,

Trustees.

No. 1.—D.

PINE RIDGE, CHOCTAW NATION,

September, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor of presenting herewith the annual report of the Chuahla Female Seminary for the year ending July, 1849.

On account of the destruction of the buildings at this station, by a tornado on the 19th of March, 1848, the school was necessarily suspended for about eight months. It was resumed on the last day of November.

The whole number of scholars the past term has been thirty-five; the usual attendance thirty-one. Twenty-four were supported by the appropriation; three had their board and tuition for the assistance they rendered in the labors of the family when out of school; four were boarded at home. The first class, consisting of nine, studied Greenleaf's Grammar, and recited through Morse's Geography; in Olney's Arithmetic they advanced as far as Interest, with the exception of one; all went through with and reviewed the first and second parts of Miss Swift's Natural Philosophy, and the three first periods of Goodrich's History of the United States. The second class, of eleven, were advanced through Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic, in Morse's Geography as far as South America, and through the first and second parts of Miss Swift's Philosophy.

These two classes have also attended daily to reading, spelling, and writing.

The third class, of six, in addition to reading, spelling, and writing, have made some progress in Mental Arithmetic and Philosophy.

The fourth class consisted of seven, who attended principally to reading and spelling; two of these entered school only six months previous to the close of the term, at which time they could speak no English; at the close of the term they could speak it freely. They read in the Testament, and from it committed to memory and recited a verse daily.

The fifth class, of two, entered in May last, and were advanced so as to spell in words of two letters.

Miss Goulding, who has so long and so faithfully taught this school, was obliged, on account of ill health, to relinquish it for five or six weeks; during which time it was taught by Mr. Stark, who continued to instruct in writing to the close of the term.

Miss Bennett has had the care of the larger portion of the girls when out of school, and has faithfully instructed them in the making of garments, for both males and females, in knitting, and other domestic labors.

We consider *habits of industry* and a *correct moral deportment* two of the most important branches of a good education; without these, mere intellectual culture will be of little value.

Three of the girls, for whose board and tuition no pay was received, and the others in classes of four or five, alternately, a week at a time, have assisted Mrs. Kingsbury in the kitchen and dining room. The larger of these girls have risen at about half past four o'clock, and with the assistance of Mrs. K. have prepared breakfast for about forty persons, and generally have been cheerful and diligent in performing the labors required of them. No other help has been employed in the family than that of the girls who attended the school.

All who board in the family attend a Sabbath school. It has been the object of teachers to instruct their pupils in the great facts and doctrines of the Bible.

With the exception of three, all recited daily, from memory, a verse of their own selection from the sacred Scriptures.

We think the school has never appeared more pleasant or made better progress than during the past term.

As a missionary, I have had two fields of labor, one in the neighborhood

where I reside; the other, between the Boggy and the Washita. In the latter field, one new church has been organized the past year. There are five churches west of the Boggy in connection with our society. These, during the past year, have all been under my care; I have made twelve different visits to them, six of which occupied two weeks each. The number added to those churches, the past year, on an examination, is fifty-four. Meetings have been kept up by the elders and the people, on the Sabbath, when no preacher was present. At most of the preaching places there is a Saturday and Sunday school, taught by a native, both in Choctaw and in English; these schools are principally supported by the people.

The removal of Mr. Copeland to the Mount Pleasant station, to occupy the place left by Mr. Potter, will give to the churches west of the Boggy an opportunity of hearing the Gospel preached more frequently than of late they have had it.

The expenditures for the Chuahla Seminary for the last fifteen months, including the new house built for the teachers and pupils, and the repairs on other buildings, have amounted to about \$4,300 00.

To meet this there has been received, of the appropriation by the nation, for the last three quarters of 1848	\$1,200 00
Extra grant of the general council	900 00
Received from Good Water station	500 00
Received from the missionary boards	604 00
And there is due the station the first half of the appropriation for 1849	500 00
	\$4,004 00

All of which is respectfully submitted,

C. KINGSBURY,

Superintendent of the Chuahla Female Seminary.

To Col. JOHN DRENNEN,

Acting Superintendent Indian territory west.

No. 1.—E.

FORT COFFEE ACADEMY,

August 30, 1849.

DEAR SIR: With pleasure I lay this the usual annual report of the Fort Coffee and New Hope academies before you.

In the changes to which human affairs are liable, our term of ten months was interrupted, and was closed the 19th April.

This year, out of a dread of the cholera, which was in the neighborhood, our trustee ordered the close. The schools had done well; and had the exercises continued until the stated time of closing, it is confidently believed that the past would have been an improvement on previous experiments.

Some of the children are respectable in the primary branches, a few rather more advanced, and others are reading clumsily in the Latin and Greek languages; in many instances, however, showing as great activity in their studies as children ordinarily do. Whether it is the better policy to give the children more than a good business education, and thereby afford a like

favor to a greater number of children, I leave others to judge. What has been, is being, or may be done, in advancing the people in civilization and religion, I am too great a novice to ask the indulgence of an opinion or prophecy; others, doubtless, will richly inform you as to those matters. We have had a greater amount of sickness to contend with the past than any former season. We have been fortunate in a physician. Dr. R. S. Williams, one of our teachers, has been very successful, and to him and the other teachers I am indebted for the prosperity of the schools. We shall have a comfortable frame building ready for the boys soon after the opening of our next session. This was greatly needed here.

With the respect due you, and the highly responsible office you fill, I subscribe myself,

Your humble and most obedient servant,
W. L. McALISTER,
Superintendent, &c.

Col. JOHN DRENNEN,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, &c.

No. 1.—F.

STOCKBRIDGE, NEAR EAGLETOWN P. O.,
Choctaw Nation, September 26, 1849.

SER: I have the pleasure of presenting an annual report of the Iyanube Female Seminary, which is located at this place. The persons employed at the seminary are Mr. David H. Winship, steward; Mrs. A. H. Winship, Misses L. S. Hall, H. N. Keys, and E. Hough, teachers.

Miss Hall, at her own request, was relieved on the last day of May; Miss Hough commenced her labor in Miss Hall's place the next day. Miss Keyes has requested a release from her labors. Mrs. Lathrop, formerly a member of the mission, is expected soon to be a member of the seminary.

The last term commenced on Thursday, the 21st day of September, 1848, and closed on Tuesday, the 24th day of July last, embracing a period of nearly forty-four weeks. In April there was a vacation of about one week, and yet most of the pupils remained with us.

Provision is made for thirty beneficiaries.

At the last examination the needlework of the pupils, as well as their writing books, were exhibited; there were nine pieces of original composition read on the occasion.

Permit me to refer you to Mr. Luce, formerly a clerk at the agency, now a member of the bar, residing at Van Buren; who, a short time since, was with us, and was pleased carefully to read these efforts at composition by our Choctaw pupils.

The trustees of the school were unable to be present at our last examination on account of high water. An examining committee was selected for the occasion, who prepared a written report, and presented the same to the trustees.

We had under our care and instruction, during the four years the boarding school has been in operation, about 50 beneficiaries, and about 40 neighborhood scholars have received instruction. The pupils have enjoyed

a good degree of health; but one had died while with us. She died last winter.

We feel that we have a great and good work to perform in the education of so many daughters of this people, who, if they live, may do great good to their nation in coming years.

We feel it to be of the highest importance to train them to industry, and give them a knowledge of domestic duties, family labors, and privileges, as well as to teach them how to read and write. And we are deeply impressed with the importance of teaching them the way of salvation through our blessed Saviour, and the duties we owe our Father in Heaven, and each other as his children. And we hope we have not labored in vain.

With much respect, I am, yours,

CYRUS BYINGTON,
Superintendent Iyanube Fem. Sem.

To Col. JOHN DRENNEN,
Acting Sup't. of the S. W. ter., Choctaw agency.

No. 1—G.

ARMSTRONG ACADEMY, Sept. 5, 1849.

DEAR SIR: IN COMPLIANCE with the requisition of the Indian Department, I herewith transmit to you the annual report of this institution.

The number of students during the session has been fifty-nine; forty-five of whom have been boarded and clothed from the funds appropriated by the nation and the American Indian Association, whose board of managers is located at Louisville, Kentucky; two have been boarded and clothed by their parents; and six are supported here by societies and individuals in different parts of the United States and the Choctaw nation; and six are day scholars. The studies pursued here have been as follows: algebra, 5; Emerson's third part arithmetic, 11; do. second part, 25; do. first part, 18; geography, 22; reading, McGuffie's fourth reader, 5; McGuffie's third reader, 30; do. second reader, 7; do. first reader, 17; Webster's spelling book, 4; writing, 54.

The whole school attended spelling. The improvement made by the students has been equal to our most sanguine expectations. At the examination held July 24, in presence of Mr. Thompson McKenny, trustee, and a large company, general satisfaction was given.

In addition to the studies pursued in school, the students have labored on the farm part of the time; the result of which is 60 acres of corn, 20 of wheat and oats, and 4 of vegetables. Our wheat crop has been almost an entire failure, and our corn is not as good as usual, in consequence of the excessive rains; still I think we shall have sufficient to do us.

Our efforts have been directed to moral and religious, as well as scientific and manual training. Their deportment has been good both in and out of school.

There has been one death from whooping cough; with the exception of this disease, the health of the school has been good.

In addition to our labors at the institution, we have endeavored to impart religious instructions to some of the Indians living in our vicinity, and, with gratitude to God, I would acknowledge the blessings which have attended

our labors in this Department. There have been 25 additions to the church, upon the professions of faith in the Saviour of the world. The cause of temperance has many strong advocates in the field of our labors.

From what I can see, I have reason to believe that morality, religion, and industry are on the increase among the people.

Hoping that your efforts and influence will be exerted in the cause of Indian reform,

I remain, your obedient servant,
RAMSAY D. POTTS, *Sup't A. A.*

Col. JOHN DRENNEN,
Agent for Choctaws.

No. 1.—H.

GOOD WATER, *August 8, 1849.*

SIR: I take this opportunity to forward the annual report of this station and school for the year ending July 27, 1849.

This station and school have suffered more this year than at any other time since it commenced operations.

Our beloved teachers were both cut down by death's relentless hand; Miss Downer died 15th October, Miss Belden on the 3d of November following. Both died in the triumphs of the Christian faith, leaving the most comforting evidence that they were fully prepared for death, and we believe that our loss was their eternal gain.

During the winter our scholars were afflicted with scarlet fever, which raged with all its violence and malignity till 14 were its victims, and some of them were brought near the brink of the grave. The whooping cough followed the fever, and 17 took it, from which some did not recover for four months.

In the midst of these diseases, the mumps made their appearance, and 27 took them; yet in all there has been no death among the pupils this year. And we wish to ascribe all this to God; for it was all of God. If he had not almost miraculously interposed, some must have died. To him be the praise for the gracious aid afforded us. Since the warm weather commenced we have had good health.

As but one teacher could be provided, Mrs. Hotchkin took one of the schools and taught it until the 18th May, when Miss Angelina Hosmer, of Mount Holyoke Seminary, Massachusetts, arrived and took her place. The other department was taught by Miss Judith Slate, who commenced teaching on the 16th of November, Mrs. H. having filled the vacancies till that time. This school, from the 18th of October until the 27th of July, did not lose a single day of school hours. Fidelity like this, on the part of the teachers, in sickness and health, deserves the gratitude of all. I am happy to state that our present teachers are well qualified to instruct in all the branches usually taught in the best seminaries of New England. There were some changes made in the scholars; some of the best left last year, and their places were filled with those who generally knew nothing of books. Eleven were of this number. These did not all come in at the specified time; fear of sickness preventing some; other causes prevented others; but we had our specified number, 44, most of the time during the session, and

12 day scholars, making 56 in all. The advance made in the knowledge of books has been greater than at any former session. The capacities of the children were prepared for this by former training, and they gained it. Their studies were generally the same in kind as of last year, but of higher order, except 22 attended to English grammar, and the same number to writing compositions.

The trustees, together with the parents of the children, present at the examination, appeared gratified, and I think their expectations were realized. As Mr. McKenny lives near you, and is one of the trustees present, I refer you to him, if the above should not be satisfactory.

In consequence of the reduction of our teachers by death, carding, spinning, and weaving have been necessarily omitted, though we think this as important, and even more so, than any branch to be taught in the school. We hope to prosecute it the coming year with that zeal which its importance demands.

Here I would beg leave to make one suggestion. After being in some measure connected with this boarding school system among the Choctaws for the last twenty years, and having had the care of this from its commencement, I have come to the settled conclusion, that under the present arrangement this school cannot be carried on successfully for any length of time. The requisitions are too severe; they are so for scholars; they are so for the teachers. The fact is, we are *over-worked*—we are *over-driven*. Nine out of twelve months is as much as scholars can study profitably in this climate. And that is all that can profitably be devoted to instruction by the teachers. All beyond is lost labor, and worse than lost, for the good acquired does not balance the evil incurred. I applied to every superintendent, teacher, and pupil, who is able to judge, if the above is not correct. July, August, and September, are needed as months of relaxation from the labor of these larger boarding schools, that the constitution be restored, in some measure, from the constant wear of nine months' toil. I do hope, as far as this school is concerned, that this subject will be borne in mind by the council and agent.

During the present year much interest has been manifested in promoting native schools. These schools have been sustained, more or less of the time, in four neighborhoods, and the attendance has been good. Children and youth can learn good as well as evil, if it is only taught them; experience proves this to be true. The Sabbath school is adapted to the promotion of good things. What must the state of that community be where evil, and only evil, is taught to the children. Money is well laid out, it is a good investment, to buy stock in the Sabbath school system. It is most surprising to me, that merchants and traders do not see it, and act upon it. The moral, temperate, and Christian man has more money to take to the store than the intemperate and immoral.

On the subject of temperance, I would say the people are gaining ground. At a temperance meeting on the third and fourth instant, held at Goodland, there was a good degree of interest manifested. Three beeves were voluntarily contributed by the people. Quite a number came up promptly and signed the total abstinence pledge.

Temperance and intemperance, virtue and vice, indolence and industry, were subjects ably discussed. The effect was good. The progress of the people, in moral and religious subjects, is quite in advance of what it was last year. The Goodwater church, to which my time and attention is de-

voted, (when released from the cares of the seminary,) has received an accession of sixty-six members since my last report. Men who, a year since, were the most debasedly intemperate, are now sober praying men, and are trying to redeem lost character and property, and to restore the lost faculties of the soul. Of all the temperance documents I have seen, the Bible pledge is the best pledge, and Bible men are the best men.

The attendance on preaching is on the increase. The Sabbath is better regarded by the full Choctaws. Christian benevolence and charity are gaining ground, and that among those the least able—showing that the fruit of the spirit is love. \$72 have been contributed to aid in foreign missions. A liberal mind has been shown in supporting native schools. The farmer has had to struggle for his life. In the months of May, June, and July, there have been but twenty-one days without rain at this place. Crops that have been well attended look well, but some will scarcely make their bread. The years of 1834 and 1839 were remarkably wet, but they did not equal this. I think there will be a sufficient supply raised to meet the wants of the people, if prudently managed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

EBENEZER HOTCHKIN,
Supt. of Koonsha F. Seminary.

Col. DRENNEN,
Act'g Supt. Indian territory, Agency C. N.

No. 1.—I.

WHEELOCK, October 25, 1849.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor of submitting to you the following report of the two schools under my superintendency, viz., the Wheelock Female Seminary and the Norwalk School for Boys. The Choctaw national council passed the school act, establishing public schools, at their session, November, 1842. The Wheelock Female Seminary went into operation under the provisions of that act the May following, 1843. From that time the school has been in successful operation. The results so far have been gratifying; and, when it is considered what influence well educated females may have in elevating the condition of their people, too great importance can scarcely be attached to the female schools. Most of the pupils who entered the school at its commencement, having acquired a competent education, have left it, and returned to their respective homes; and now, in the domestic circle, their varied attainments in useful learning, the habits of industry, neatness, order, and decorum, which they have acquired at school, will fit them to exert a healthful and elevating influence. These have been succeeded by others who are enjoying similar privileges, and who will, it is trusted, by the discipline of their minds, by study, and by the practical knowledge of household duties which they will acquire; and the regular habits they will form at school, fit themselves for equal usefulness.

The whole number of pupils the last year was forty-nine. Twenty-four of this number, selected by the trustees of the public schools, have received their board from the appropriation made for the school; three of whom are orphans, and have also been clothed. Most of the other children boarded at the station, pay a moderate price for board. In the instructions of the

pupils, they are considered not merely as intellectual, but as moral and accountable beings; and hence the inculcation of divine truth is made prominent in the exercises of the school. The Bible is daily read and studied, and its truths explained and enforced. In regard to other studies, thirteen have studied thoroughly Miss Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy; twelve have studied geograpy; twelve, English grammar; thirteen, Smith's arithmetic; sixteen, mental arithmetic; eight have attended to drawing; ten, writing composition; twenty-seven, writing; twenty-seven read and spell well; twenty-two, easy reading and spelling. The pupils spend five and a half hours daily at their books. In the afternoon, they are taught the use of the needle—plain and ornamental sewing, knitting, cutting and making garments, &c. The object of this exercise is to fit them for usefulness and to fill respectably that station in life for which a kind Providence has designed them.

NORWALK SCHOOL.

This is also one of the schools for which a national appropriation is made. The nation appropriated \$300 for the salary of the teacher, and provides for the board of sixteen boys. During the past year, ten others were attached to the school—making twenty-six in all. The daily average attendance has been twenty-one. The studies have been arithmetic, geography, English grammar, Miss Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, a small work on physiology, vocal music, reading, spelling, together with writing, composition, and declamation. Six have studied geography; eleven, English grammar; thirteen, First Lessons in Natural Philosophy. One class has nearly finished the arithmetical course, consisting of the first, second, and third parts of Emerson's Arithmetic. The pupils spend five and a half hours at their books in the day-time; and one hour and a half in the evening, when the evenings are sufficiently long for that purpose. Mr. Pitkin has been the teacher of the school from its commencement in February, 1846; and it affords the superintendent much pleasure to be able to bear testimony to the fidelity and diligence of the teacher, and to the proficiency and mental culture of his pupils; and especially does he think the teacher and his pupils worthy of commendation for the proficiency made in singing—an exercise which he thinks should be introduced into every school. Besides the two schools above mentioned, the Choctaws have, within the sphere of my ministerial labors, seven Saturday and Sabbath schools. In these are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, mostly in the Choctaw language. Many full Choctaws, who have no knowledge of English, acquire much useful knowledge in these schools.

The increasing desire for such schools affords no unequivocal evidence of the gradual improvement of this people; nor are such schools the only evidence of such improvement. Their increasing industry from year to year, the enlargement of their fields, their being better clothed and their families better provided for, are all cheering evidences that the Choctaws are rising, and that not slowly, to an equal elevation with their neighbors in the adjoining States. I have under my pastoral care two churches—one at Wheelock, consisting of two hundred and nineteen members; and one thirty-five miles north of me, consisting of sixty-one members. The entire New Testament was, during the last year, printed in Choctaw by the American Bible Society; and portions of the Old Testament, it is hoped, will be

printed in the same language in the course of the coming year. The demand for Choctaw books is constantly increasing, as well as the number of those who can read them intelligently. A new edition of the Choctaw Spelling Book and Choctaw Hymn Book have been called for, and are now in a course of being printed at Boston. It is pleasant and encouraging to those who have long labored among this people to witness their evidences of improvement.

Respectfully,

ALFRED WRIGHT.

Col. JOHN DRENNEN, *Acting Supt. W. T.*

No. 2.

NEOSHO INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,

October 8, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to comply with the regulation of the Indian Department requiring an annual report of the condition of the Indians within the limits of my sub-agency. On entering upon the duties of my office in May last, I was happy to find, without an exception, all the Indians belonging to the three nations of Senecas, Senecas and Shawnees, and Quapaws, within my agency, in the possession of good health and busily engaged in the laudable occupation of preparing their little farms for an annual crop. My predecessor, before leaving the agency, held a council with the different tribes, made me acquainted with their chiefs and head men, and I have since held councils with them at several different times. I will here speak first of the Senecas, who I am satisfied are making some little advancement in improvement and civilization. They have been convinced, in a measure, that as our country grows older, and our population is increasing, it is important for them, in order to live and become happy, that they should make great exertions to keep pace with their white brethren, who are settling on all sides of them. From what I have noticed when travelling among them, I would think that they will have raised a sufficiency of grain, vegetables, swine, and cattle, to support them through the winter. They are also making some improvements in their buildings, so much so, that they will be quite comfortable during the ensuing winter, though I presume that the lesson they learned from the experience of an uncommon severe winter last season is the main cause of their being so willing to take my advice in thus improving their dwellings. The great misfortune of this tribe, up to within a year or so, has been their great fondness of intoxicating liquors. During the past summer they have formed among themselves a temperance society, since which I have not seen one of them intoxicated. They depend mostly upon agriculture and not the chase for their support.

Next in order I will speak of the Senecas and Shawnees, who reside upon lands adjoining their friends the Senecas. This tribe I think by far more industrious than the first mentioned, as many of them have large farms under cultivation, and their crops this year are much better than those of the whites on the frontier; the consequence is that they will have a surplus, and some of them have sold considerable wheat this fall, which is worth at this place seventy-five cents per bushel. Since I entered upon the duties of my office here, I do not recollect of having seen any of them under the influence of intoxicating liquor; they but seldom go from home, with the

exception of the time they take their annual hunt, which is during the latter part of the fall and the winter season. You will observe that they consequently lose no time of the year when they should be cultivating their land, but improve all seasons of the year for their advantage, as they return many of them with large amounts of peltry, which they sell to the traders, and purchase goods from them in return. During the past season they have opened several large fields, and they have erected some very comfortable houses for dwellings. I think that they are very comfortably situated to pass the approaching winter quite pleasantly.

The Quapaws are situated on lands adjoining the Senecas and Shawnees, and although they have been represented as an indolent people, still it has not come under my observation to give them that character. It is well known to the Department that it is not in the power of man to make an Indian have all the habits of the whites; and although they have not that same enterprise, still they appear to have plenty for a common support, and from my observation when among them I should say they were a very honest and happy people.

Enclosed I send the report of the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson, superintendent of the Crawford Seminary, (marked A,) situated in the Quapaw country. This institution is doing much for the advancement of the condition of these Indians, both in a moral and religious point of view. At the last council I held with the Quapaws, the chiefs told me that they would use all their influence with the Indians to have their children kept constantly at the school, and I have noticed at the several times that I have visited the seminary that the children were in attendance.

On Tuesday last I examined the scholars in their different studies, and I was surprised to see how well they read, spell, enumerate, and write; they have much to embarrass them in their studies; not knowing how to speak the English language correctly, they naturally feel very timid. All of that class who wrote showed much interest in it, and their writing would compare well with two-thirds of the scholars who attend schools in the most civilized part of our country, who had been attending the same length of time. The location of the mission is a healthy one, and there are no pains spared by the superintendent to make it a good and profitable institution to the Indians. The buildings for the school are good and commodious, though I think could be have a suitable building erected for a house of worship, where they could have divine service on the Sabbath, it would have a beneficial result. It affords me pleasure to speak of Mr. Patterson as a most moral and good man, and his family are fit persons to set proper examples to the Indian children under their charge. There seems to be no pains spared to make them comfortable both in their food and clothing. I would not be doing them justice were I not to recommend them to the fostering care and protection of our wise and great Government.

From what I have been able to learn in council with the Senecas, and the mixed band of Senecas and Shawnees, they will be willing to have schools established among them after a short time; many of them have told me that they would send their children to school was there one established among them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ANDREW J. DORN, *Neosho sub-agent.*

Col. JOHN DRENNEN,

Acting Sup't. Indian Affairs, W. T., Choctaw Agency!

No. 2.—A.

CRAWFORD SEMINARY, QUAPAW NATION,

October 5, 1849.

SIR: Permit me to present through you to the Indian Department at Washington, my seventh annual report of the state and prospects of the Crawford Seminary.

The number of pupils who have attended the school during the past year has been limited to twenty-five, mostly boys. The boys have been regular in their attendance, and are making encouraging advances in learning. The girls have been very irregular, and have consequently not made much proficiency in their studies.

The branches taught in the school the past session are spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography. The elements of vocal music have also been taught. We have also a flourishing Sabbath school. A portion of each day is devoted to manual labor, in which all take a part. We have raised a good crop of corn, oats, potatoes, &c.,

The health of those connected with the institution has been excellent, not a case of severe illness having occurred during the year.

We have not the pleasure of reporting that the Quapaws have become a Christian people, yet the improvement of the youth connected with the seminary, in a moral point of view, has been considerable, and we have good reason to hope that a foundation has been laid for future usefulness.

Could sufficient means be procured to support a larger number of children at the school, and to erect a suitable house of worship for the natives generally, it is believed that the facilities for benefiting this people would be greatly increased, and a permanent character given to the institution.

The liberal disposition of the Government towards the school evinces the interest taken in the cause of educating the children of this tribe, and presents a strong reason for prosecuting this enterprise with energy and perseverance. The influence exerted by this institution upon the rising generation, if properly conducted, cannot be otherwise than highly beneficial, both temporally and spiritually.

Throwing ourselves confidently upon the arm of that Almighty Being from whom all our help cometh, and upon the united prayers of God's people, and the benevolence of the church and the Government for pecuniary aid, we pledge our best endeavors to carry forward the work assigned us, with the vigor, patience, and perseverance this glorious cause demands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SAM'L G. PATTERSON, *Sup't.*

Maj. A. J. DORN,
U. S. Sub-Indian Agent.

No. 3.

CREEK AGENCY, 30th September, 1849.

SIR: Owing to the shortness of the time during which I have had charge of this agency, I have been unable to collect such statistical information to accompany this report as would be necessary to convey a correct idea of the

condition of the Indians of this tribe. So far, however, as I have been able to observe, they are contented and happy, having an abundance of the necessaries of life around them.

Notwithstanding the unusual quantity of rain during the spring and summer months, there will be a sufficiency of grain to supply the wants of the nation; while an inexhaustible prairie pasturage continues to supply the abundance of animal food.

The Creeks have entirely abandoned the chase as a means of subsistence, as the men have become accustomed to the labor of the field, and convinced of its sure profits. The women, who, but a few years since, were the sole tillers of the soil, are becoming skilled in the art of housewifery; indeed their "home-spuns" are fully equal in point both of texture and color to those manufactured by the ladies of the States. The neatness and comfort displayed in many of their houses is an indisputable evidence of their improving condition.

I find the people of this tribe much less addicted to drunkenness than I had expected, from a limited knowledge of their habits, some years ago. As a community they are as sober as that of any people of the Union. Whiskey continues, however, to be smuggled to some extent into the country, notwithstanding the stringent regulations of the Indian Department to prevent it. This obvious improvement in the habits of the Creeks has been effected more by the influence of the chiefs and head-men of the nation, who seem to have caught that spirit of reform now so happily checking the progress of intemperance throughout our land, than by the operation of the laws executed by Congress to prevent the introduction of ardent spirits among them. The Creeks are at peace with all the surrounding nations; among themselves there are no factionists to disturb the settled and peaceful habits of the tribe. Their law-makers are abolishing by degrees many of their old and barbarous customs, and enacting in their stead sound and salutary laws.

Forty-four Creek emigrants arrived from Alabama about the first of June last; unfortunately they had travelled through an infected cholera region, and brought the disease with them to their new homes. The infection, happily, was confined to a single town, the Che-ha haws, thirteen of whom died.

For a detailed account of the moral and educational improvement of the Creeks, I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying reports furnished by the gentlemen who have charge of the different school and missionary establishments within the limits of this nation, and to call your attention particularly to the suggestions of the Rev. Mr. Eakins, in relation to the introduction of the mechanic arts as a branch of education calculated to improve the condition of the Indians.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your ob't servant,

PHILIP H. RAIFORD,

U. S. Agent for the Creeks.

To Col. JNO. DRENNEN,

Acting Sup't Western Territory; Choctaw Agency.

CREEK AGENCY,

October 25th, 1849.

SIR: It may not be amiss to inquire whether the policy of the Government, in regard to the system of *education* among the Indians, is susceptible of any improvement. The policy which the Government is at present pursuing, is, to introduce into the Indian territory what is termed the manual labor school system. This plan, could it be carried out according to the intent, would be very well. But there are several difficulties which stand in the way of its successful operation, some of which we will mention.

First. *The prominency that is given to the literary department, to the exclusion of the mechanical department.*

Second. *The large numbers that are brought together in these large establishments tend in a great measure to keep up the use of their own (the Indian) language, and thus greatly retarding, if not preventing, the acquisition of the English language.*

Third. *The great amount of domestic help necessary is objectionable, in a country where it is so difficult to obtain efficient help.*

Fourth. *The extensive manner upon which things are conducted, prevents the pupils acquiring a correct idea of domestic (civilized) life.*

Fifth. *The liability to become discouraged after leaving school, from their inability to keep up at home what they became familiar with and witnessed while receiving their education, and thus relapsing into idleness and perhaps drunkenness.*

First. *The prominency that is given to the literary department to the neglect of the mechanical department.*

If the attention were given to the mechanical department that is now bestowed upon the literary department, different results would follow. Instead of seeing the young men too proud to work, and squandering away their time in idleness and drunkenness, we would behold a sober, honest, and industrious band of young men, annually going in and growing up among their people, who would become blessings to them, and who would substitute for the uncomfortable "log hut" the luxury of a comfortable "log cabin."

Industry is what is needed throughout the Indian population. The Indians are naturally averse to labor, and any system that will tend to remove this aversion, will, undoubtedly, be best suited to them. Education by the book alone only fosters the indolence now so common among them. We wish it distinctly understood, however, that we are by no means opposed to the education of the Indians to the degree that they are able to bear. That they may be literary educated beyond what they are able to bear, we are firmly convinced. In order that there may be no misunderstanding in regard to this point, let us deal with *facts*, and these facts will be drawn from the three southwestern tribes farthest advanced in civilization, viz., *the Cherokees, the Choctaws, and Creeks.*

The Cherokees have enjoyed the advantages of good schools for a long time, while mechanic arts have been almost entirely overlooked; and the result is, that many of the young men grow up in vice and idleness, and thus, instead of becoming useful, turn out useless citizens to the nation.

The Choctaws, for a number of years, have enjoyed the advantages of

schools of the most excellent kind, and the number of pupils, male and female, at present educated in these schools, is upwards of *five hundred*. Three hundred boys are received into *Spencer, Fort Coffee, Armstrong, and Norwalk*. At neither of which is provision made for the boys prosecuting successfully any of the *mechanic arts*. (At "Spencer," there is a carpenter's shop, but little if any good has resulted to the nation from it,) and the result is, the boys are thrown upon the nation without having been trained up to the luxury of laboring at the mechanic arts. *Three* of the schools among the Choctaws are, nominally, "manual labor schools," and we believe we speak the truth when we say, there is not a single native mechanic in the nation, who received his knowledge of the art at the manual labor schools. In the United States, the manual labor schools do not succeed, and how can it be expected that they should succeed in the Indian territory, where so many more difficulties exist, that stand in the way of its successful operation.

Second. *The large number that are brought together in these large establishments, tend in a great measure, to keep up the constant use of their own language, and thus greatly retarding, if not preventing the acquisition of the English language.*

A good deal of stress is and ought to be laid on the introduction of the English language throughout the Indian territory. The large places are not best calculated to promote this object. A great number of the Indian children are brought together, and the temptation that is presented to use their native language is so great, that in many cases it becomes a great barrier to the acquisition of the English. And, indeed, we have known of cases in which the children of half-breeds, who were unacquainted with the Indian language, acquiring a respectable knowledge of it by being thrown in these large places where it was in constant use. We do not say that the English will be used exclusively in small schools, but the temptation will not be so great to use their own.

Small neighborhood schools are best adapted to the Indian people. By means of these a *local* influence is exerted, that is entirely lost by the introduction of large manual labor establishments. Take the *twelve thousand dollars* that are annually expended on some of the large manual labor schools, and divide the amount into six equal fractions to be expended on as many different small establishments annually, and the result will be almost inconceivably in favor of the small schools.

Third. *The great amount of domestic help necessary is objectionable in a country where it is so difficult to obtain efficient help.*

In large establishments of this kind, the great amount of domestic help that is incident to them is a very great objection. The number of domestics that are brought together at these places demand a great deal of the care that ought to be bestowed upon the children. This objectionable feature to large establishments can only be fully understood by those who have been, or may be, connected with them.

Fourth. *The extensive manner upon which things are conducted, prevents the pupils acquiring a correct idea of domestic (civilized) life.*

It is very well known that the Indians are very close observers of the actions of the white people who go among them. Those things which strike them favorably, and which they are able to comprehend, they can easily be persuaded to imitate. But what are there in the household arrangements of a family composed of one hundred and thirty *individuals*, that they can

comprehend and incorporate with the every day business of the log cabin? Go in among them with things on a small scale. Locate the mission family and the small school; and in another place locate the *mechanic*, who is to receive apprentices into his family. The Indians visit these places, they see how things are carried on, they comprehend them, and they desire to practise them. This is the way things are managed at *home*, and this same arrangement will accomplish more in the Indian territory than the manual labor school system, which is being so extensively introduced. Let the two branches of education be separate and distinct, and they will then accomplish for the Creeks that which they accomplish for the citizens of the United States.

Fifth. *The liabilities to become discouraged after leaving school, from their inability to keep up at home what they became familiar with and witnessed while receiving their education, and thus relapsing into idleness and perhaps drunkenness.*

That there is danger of discouragement and a relapsing into idleness, and frequently drunkenness, there is no doubt. This can be prevented by an *education* that they can depend upon after leaving school, and this education should be in some of the more useful mechanic arts. Let these be taught, not in large establishments, but in towns and neighborhoods. The children will then see and learn upon the principles of common sense, and be enabled to reduce to practice what they have learned. In the manual labor schools, things are carried on upon so large a scale that the young men have but a very imperfect idea of the manner in which business in every day life should be conducted. In order to this, establish the neighborhood school and the mechanic arts; let them be taught separately and not together.

It is the good of the Indian we desire, and we believe that the greatest amount of good can be accomplished by giving to manual labor the prominence that is now given to the literary instruction of the children. Let this instruction be given, not conjointly, as now, but separately. These views are not thrown out at random, but after observation and consultation with those who have been upwards of thirty years in the missionary work among the Indians, and whose success has only been excelled by the missionaries of the Sandwich Islands.

Yours, respectfully,

DAVID W. EAKINS,
Assembly's board of foreign missions.

Col. P. H. RAIFORD,
Agent of the Creeks.

No. 3.—B.

NORTH FORK, CREEK NATION,

October 1st, 1849.

SIR: I esteem it a privilege to make known to you the religious condition of the people of this nation, so far as connected with the Board of Missions with which I am connected. The year has, like the last few years, been one of great religious interest; the feeble churches have been gaining

strength, and are now in a very prosperous condition; the congregations are so large, that during most of the winter the houses would not contain the people, and the meetings have been held under arbors. Since the opening of spring most of the meetings have been so held. At most of the meetings persons have attended for the first time, and have since become regular in their attendance.

The society have now 8 churches, besides 10 places of preaching. On the Sabbath preaching is heard at these places mostly by the native preachers. The labors of the native preachers have been attended with great good. Belonging to the churches are 740 members; during the year 180 have been added to the churches. Among the number are several of the leading men of the tribe, whose influence is greatly felt throughout the nation in advancing the Christian religion. One of the rulers has become a minister, and is actively engaged in preaching. The missionaries and native preachers are Rev'd H. F. Buckner, at Creek agency; Rev'd Americus L. Hay, at North Fork; Rev'd James Perryman, native, at Big Spring; Rev'd Chilly McIntosh, native, at North Fork; Rev'd Wm. McIntosh, native, at North Fork; Rev'd Yar-too-chee, native, at Broken-arrow; Rev'd Andrew Frazier, native, at Elk creek. The school at North Fork closed its 3d session of 22 weeks, July 20th, with a public examination, which gave interest to the parents and friends attending in the cause of education. Teaching the youth of this nation has proven wonderfully successful; during the session 14 learned to read who began in their letters; this included mostly all that were not reading—all that had attended the school regularly. The average attendance was 35; during the last half of the session, 20 boarded in the mission family; the progress of the boarders has been much greater than of the day scholars. The boys have been taught farming; the girls housekeeping and sewing. The teachers have found no difficulty in getting the work done assigned to the scholars. The manual labor schools will be of the greatest service to the nation. In them the Indian youth will obtain industrious habits, and become industrious and useful citizens. The people will soon fill the manual labor schools, as now the entire nation desire them. I see nothing to prevent this tribe from becoming as industrious and intelligent as the most advanced.

The classes and studies of the scholars at this school are: 1st class, of 6 scholars, spelling, 4th Eclectic Reader; writing, Ray's Arithmetic, 2d part; Mitchell's large Geography. 2d class, of 8 scholars, spelling, 3d Eclectic Reader; writing, Ray's Arithmetic, 2d part; Mitchell's small Geography. 3d class, numbering 6, spelling, 2d Eclectic Reader; writing, Ray's Arithmetic, 1st part; Mitchell's small Geography. 4th class, spelling, 1st Eclectic Reader. 5th class, spelling.

The school is conducted by Rev'd Americus L. Hay and Mrs. Hay. It is managed without any difficulty; the scholars performing cheerfully whatever is allotted to them. The fundamental rules of the school have never been broken. Bright is the prospect before those engaged in the improvement of the people of this nation.

Most respectfully, yours,

AMERICUS L. HAY.

Col. P. H. RAIFORD, *agent*.

No. 3.—C.

CREEK AGENCY, Oct. 10th, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with your request I submit the following report of the Muskokee mission school in my charge. The second term of this school commenced Nov. 10th, 1848, and closed June 29th, 1849. The attendance during the winter term was less than the preceding summer, from the fact that some of the pupils were destitute of clothing to protect them from the inclemency of the season, which was one of unusual severity. The latter part of the session was well attended, averaging twenty-five scholars. Those of the students who were able to attend regularly made very good proficiency. The following branches of study were attended to: Reading, spelling and defining, writing, geography, and arithmetic. Several specimens of good writing were presented at the examination; also samples of plain sewing and embroidery, which reflected much credit to the skill and improvement of those by whom they were executed. One afternoon in each week is devoted to teaching the girls the use of the needle, which they acquire with great facility. The Sabbath school connected with the school has been, and continues, one of much interest. Some who were formerly engaged upon the Sabbath in attending ball, plays, hunting and fishing, are now regular attendants upon the Sabbath school and the house of divine worship, at which places they conduct themselves with much propriety. Those who 1½ years ago did not know a letter of the alphabet, recite upon each Sabbath from 7 to 12 verses from the Bible, and a prayer or more from Caper's catechism.

The third session commenced Sept. 2d, 1849, after a vacation of two months, including July and August. Arrangements have been made to board a portion of the scholars in the mission family, where they are under the constant supervision of the teacher. The girls alternately assist in domestic matters, and the boys, as far as circumstances admit, are instructed upon the manual labor system. These youths are making rapid advancement in their studies, and are fast improving in their general deportment. Clothing is also provided for those boarding at home, whose parents or guardians are not able to provide for them. We consider the plan of boarding a part of the children in the day school as a good one, as we secure a more regular attendance, and give those boarded greater advantages than they would otherwise have. In view of the above new arrangement, we anticipate a regular attendance the present session, and hope to see much good result from our labors.

With much respect,

L. M. COLLINS.

Col. PHILIP RAIFORD,
U. S. agent for the Creeks.

No. 3.—D.

CREEK NATION, Oct. 8, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I beg leave to submit the following brief report of the state of the work under my care.

The large building on North Fork is nearly completed, and will be

ready to occupy in the course of a few weeks. The school will be opened so soon as the outfit can be got on from Louisville. But in this we may be under the necessity of some delay in the opening of the school, owing to the uncertainty of the navigation on the Arkansas river. Every necessary effort shall be made for the opening of the school at the earliest possible period. The cost of the building, when the carpenter's work shall have been completed, will be not far from nine thousand one hundred and sixty-nine dollars. This includes the work on the building, bills of transportation, and the materials. Of the above amount, the United States Government, on the part of the Creek Nation, has furnished five thousand dollars, leaving over four thousand to be paid by the Missionary Board of the M. E. Church south, besides the outfit, and meeting various other contingent expenses. We have had many and serious difficulties to contend with in getting up so large a building so far from navigation. But no labor has been spared in order to accomplish the object, and fulfil the contract entered into with the Department.

There will be twenty-one rooms besides the halls in the building. It will be sufficiently large to accommodate one hundred children, with the superintendent and teachers. We have already a farm enclosed of seventy or eighty acres, a part of which has been in cultivation the present year. With the one thousand dollars appropriated for the benefit of the farm and shops, two wagons, two horses, two yoke oxen, nine head of stock cattle, one set blacksmith's tools, one chest carpenter's tools, two boxes axes, one set harness, &c., &c., have been purchased, besides the original improvements, which cost three hundred dollars. We have had three white and four native men employed the past year in the regular work. Three small schools have been kept up a part of the time, in which some seventy-five children have received more or less instruction in the primary branches of an English education. The school near the agency has been under the care of Miss Collins, who has manifested a deep interest in the school, and given general satisfaction as a teacher. I must refer you to her report for particulars.

Rev. James Essex has been engaged a part of the year in teaching a small school near John Smith's, some distance up the Arkansas. He will report to you in detail.

We have also had a school a few months in the neighborhood of the large building on North Fork. This was taught by Miss Horton. Miss H. gave general satisfaction. During the three months the school was in session the progress of the children was all that could be well desired. The children were principally exercised in spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and vocal music. The greater part of them were boarded in the mission family, and, when not in school, required to perform manual labor of some kind.

As the regular returns of the missionaries for the past year have not yet been made, I suppose the whole number under religious instructions will not exceed the preceding year.

Your most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. B. RUBLE,

Sup't Am. S. School.

Col. P. H. RAIFORD, *Creek Agent.*

No. 3.—E.

KOWITAH MISSION,
Creek Nation, Oct. 3, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with the requirements of the Department, I proceed to make a brief statement of the condition of the Kowitah mission school.

Our last term began on the 1st of November, 1848, and closed on the 15th of June, 1849. At the opening of the session we had thirty-five pupils—twenty girls and fifteen boys. All of these children are part Muskokee, except one, who is a Saxon girl adopted into the nation. Of the remainder all are mixed, some partaking more and some less of Saxon blood. The ages of the children vary from eight to twenty years. At the end of three months one of this number left, and another at the end of four months, leaving but thirty-three scholars at the end of the term. In the teaching of these children we have constantly had in view a threefold object, viz: First, the development of their moral and religious powers; secondly, the expansion and cultivation of their intellectual capacities; and, thirdly, the application of their physical powers to purposes of utility. In order to accomplish the first of these ends, we have endeavored to teach them the nature of their domestic and social relations, their relations to society at large and to mankind in general, and especially their relations and obligations to the one only living and true God—the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The authority by which these truths have been enforced has invariably been the positive declarations of revelation and the dictates of man's own moral nature.

As to how far we have succeeded in effecting this object, the subsequent history of these children only can answer. Suffice it to say at present, that hitherto the indications for good have decidedly preponderated in comparison with all discouraging circumstances. With the same advantages, I have no hesitation in asserting, that the Muskokee mind is as susceptible of moral and religious culture as that of any other race with whose history I am acquainted.

In our endeavors to promote the intellectual culture of our pupils we have of course used the ordinary means usually employed for the accomplishment of this end. Our board have liberally supplied us with such school books as we have called for; and we have endeavored to select and apply them to the several capacities of the children under our instruction; at the same time having recourse to such collateral means of stimulating and encouraging the mind as in our judgment have seemed requisite.

In regard to the intellectual improvement of our scholars, we can speak of nothing bordering upon the extraordinary. Their progress in learning has been, considering their circumstances, fully equal to that of any school with which I have been acquainted in the States. In order to present a definite view of what we have been doing in this department, I will briefly mention the books used, and the manner in which the pupils are classed. 1st. Reading: We use McGuffey's Eclectic Series. In the 4th part three are reading; in the 3d part nine are reading; in the 2d part eleven are reading; in the 1st part eight are reading, (one of these entered school last term;) and in the primers, four. These have been here but one session. 2d. Arithmetic, (Ray's Series:) Three are studying Part 3d; twelve are studying Part 2d; eight are studying Part 1st. 3d. Penman-

ship: Twenty-two are engaged in writing as a regular part of their school exercises, in connection with which they have practised regularly in the art of composing; in these two particulars their improvement has been quite as manifest as in other departments. 4th. Three are studying English grammar, geography, and drawing maps, &c.

As a third part of our duties to the children under our care, we have paid particular attention to the formation of habits of industry. This we have found to be, as a general thing, no easy matter; but the importance of the object in view has led us to persevere, and our efforts have been in the main successful. The children all labor about two hours and a half each day, dividing the time between the morning and the evening. The boys work under my own immediate inspection, i. e., I work with them; and the girls are taught the various duties connected with house-keeping, including plain sewing and fancy needle-work. These duties they perform under the supervision of one of the ladies of the mission family, whose efforts to secure neatness in these matters are generally in a measure successful.

In regard to the general improvement of our neighborhood we cannot but speak favorably, though changes are slowly effected.

Preaching on the Sabbath is always attended by some of the Muskokee people, and often by a considerable number. There are at present in connection with our church twenty-three members, besides the mission family. I am happy to say, that though our people are no longer able to obtain any considerable share of their support by hunting, the stern hand of necessity has led them to adopt a more comfortable mode of living. They now raise corn sufficient for their own use, and many of them more than they can consume. We are furnished with corn by our immediate neighbors to any amount we wish, for which we cheerfully pay them its full value, hoping thereby to contribute our mite to the encouragement of this people, upon whom, at length, prosperity begins to dawn, after a long and a dreary night.

Yours, very respectfully,

A. BALENTINE,
Superintendent of Kowitah School.

Col. RAIFORD, *Creek Agent.*

No. 4.

SEMINOLE SUB-AGENCY, *September 30, 1849.*

SIR: This being the period when, by the regulations, annual reports of the condition of the various tribes of Indians are required, I have the honor to make the following of the state of affairs in the Seminole nation:

Recent instructions received in relation to Florida difficulties renders it impossible for me to give much time to the writing of a report, or embracing in it such facts as I might have done, and proposed doing, had more important duties not have intervened. My first object now being the appointment of a delegation to go to Florida to assist in restoring peace there, and removing those Indians to the West, most of my time is either taken up in conferences which have for their object the removal of the difficulties which

embarrass me in carrying out the orders of the Government in reference to Florida, or in producing that feeling at home which will counteract the influences at work in keeping up the misunderstanding between the Creeks and Seminoles.

The Seminoles have for the most part spent the last year as in all former years since my intercourse with them; and were I to state their general condition at this time, relatively to last year, I should only have to say, "in statu quo"—whether as regards their bodily or mental improvement.

Their crops, in consequence of the excessive rains in the spring, were late, and less than the quantity of ground cultivated should have produced, yet with proper care sufficient for their actual subsistence.

They pay but little attention to any kind of stock; if it prospers, all very well; but if not, they either say they have had bad luck, or that if they were in Florida their stock would not have required attention.

A considerable number go out to hunt each season, but not so much for the profit, as that they "are Indians, and wish to hunt;" it is more from habit than interest.

They are on good terms with all tribes, excepting the jealousy and suspicion which they harbor towards the Creeks. Whiskey is still used in large quantities, and it is impossible for an agent, unassisted, to effect much in preventing its introduction.

There is no school in operation in the nation, although preparations are being made to open one by Mr. Lilly, under the direction, I believe, of the Presbyterian Board. His report to me is herewith forwarded.

* * * * *

For the reasons given, I cannot go much into detail. I have given the condition of the tribe, nor could I do more were I to lengthen this report, so far as their present condition is concerned; yet I had intended to recommend certain measures which I have deemed necessary to the better organization of the Department, as indicated some time since in a letter to your office.

Respectfully submitted by your obedient servant,
M. DUVAL, *Seminole Sub-agent.*

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington city.

No. 4.—A.

SEMINOLE MISSION, *September 19, 1849.*

DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your request, I give you an account of our mission. We came to this place the 20th October last. Our station being new, every thing was to be done. Last winter was so very severe, that no preparations were made for commencing operations; however, so soon as we could, we began to cut and hew logs for building, and cleared some ground for cultivation. We have about an acre and a half under fence, principally used as a garden; a good, substantial two-story log building, twenty by sixteen feet, and most of the logs hauled for another of the same size, which we want to put up as soon as possible, and commence school. Besides the above, we have built a good meat house, twelve by fourteen feet, and a small kitchen. A number of the people have expressed a willingness to

send their children to school. On the Sabbath we hold religious meetings; more or less of the people attend; sometimes our congregations are quite large. Our prospect of doing good is as encouraging as could be expected, all things considered. We are treated kindly by the people. Could the people be persuaded to forsake drinking, the temporal and moral condition of them would at once be much improved.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN LILLEY.

M. DUVAL, Esq.,
Seminole Sub-agent.

No. 5.

CHICKASAW AGENCY, August 29, 1849.

SIR: The Chickasaws are situated much as they were last year; few changes of residence having taken place among them. Some few have moved upon the Washita river, west of Fort Washita, and some from near Fort Towson have moved upon Blue river, and some few have moved upon Red river, some distance above the mouth of the False Washita. But it is to be regretted that so large a number of the Chickasaws are yet scattered all through the different Choctaw districts. There never will be that unity of feeling among them which is desirable, until they get together. I have but little doubt but what some few influential ones among them is the cause of a great many more not moving into their own district.

The district is large enough, is healthy, and good land enough, not only for the Chickasaws, but for the whole of the Choctaws also, and then the country would not be half so densely populated as any of our western States are. It would surprise some of our eastern citizens to see so large and so fine a country all but entirely uninhabited. And should the northern counties of Texas continue to increase in population as fast as they have done for the last few years, particularly those counties lying on Red river, we shall soon hear of steamboats running up as high as the Cross Timbers. Red river is as navigable for one hundred miles above the mouth of False Washita as it is the same distance below—I mean by water. In 1843, Captain J. B. Earheart, a man of great energy, had the contract to furnish the United States quartermaster at Fort Washita with corn; that summer he ran a steamboat twice within one mile, or less, of the fort. All that is necessary to induce steamboats to run up Red river as high as the Cross Timbers, is to insure them freight.

The crops in the nation have been cut very short this year by the very heavy rains. There was so much rain about the time of planting corn, it was difficult for the farmers to plant; and, shortly after the corn was up, a very heavy sleet with snow fell, destroying not only the corn, but, with slight exceptions, all the fruit in the country.

The wheat and oats were also destroyed by the heavy rains just at the time of harvest. Instead of thousands of bushels of wheat and oats being for sale, there will not be enough for seed. The corn is not so bad, but there will only be a small surplus, if any. I think it very likely that there will not be more than will supply the natives.

The high and continual freshets this spring and summer have done great

damage in the nation. The fine grist and saw mill of Col. Wm. R. Guy, on Boggy river, has nearly been entirely destroyed. The saw mill just completed by the Rev. W. Browning, superintendent of the Chickasaw Academy, has been seriously injured. The saw and grist mill of Mr. G. L. Love was entirely destroyed the very night after he had received it from the builders; not one particle of it was left; even the mill stones were washed some distance, and are thought to be buried deep in the sand below.

Since my residence in the West, I have not seen such a winter and spring as the last, and so far we have had but little summer. On the 29th of August we had fires in our houses, and winter clothing on.

The Rev. Mr. Browning is progressing slowly with the buildings of the Chickasaw Academy, but I am in hopes they will be of a good and substantial character when completed; which will be, perhaps, some time in the year 1850. With the female academy, that the Hon. Wm. Medill, late Commissioner of Indian Affairs, made a contract with the Board of Presbyterians to build, &c., &c., nothing has yet been done. No superintendent has yet come to the country; the delay is, of course, a great disadvantage to the nation. The Commissioner was also authorized to make an arrangement with the Episcopal church to build and carry on a large male academy, but I have not yet heard of any contract being made. Should the Episcopal church decline the offer, the Chickasaws would be very willing for the honorable Commissioner to offer it to the Baptist church. It is very desirable to have these academies in operation as soon as possible; there really is no time to lose; any delay is, of course, doing the Indians injustice.

There are at this time at school in the Eastern States, 17 or 18 Chickasaw boys, and two more have been authorized to be sent. These boys should not be permitted to return to the nation until their education is finished.

I cannot say that the general condition of the Chickasaws has improved any in the last year. There has been more drinking among them than there was a few years since. The principal cause of it is, that the facilities of getting whiskey and other liquors are greater than they used to be. There has been an increase of grocery establishments near the lines of the nation, and they keep better liquors, and sell at lower prices than heretofore; besides, there have been two trading-boats (steamboats,) in Red river for several months with all kinds of liquors, besides various other articles of merchandise; and, I have been informed, sold much lower than the local establishments. I have heard that an Indian could get a *quart bottle* full of *whiskey* for one *bushel* of *corn*. Such things cannot be put down by the agent or the military in the country; nothing but the laws of the States adjoining the Indian country can put a stop to it, and then it would be smuggled in and sold.

But the most effectual way to put a final close to the whiskey trade, and at the same time to improve the condition of the Indians in every respect—a point that the Government, and all well disposed persons toward the Indian race are anxious to see accomplished—is to *pay them all the money* they have in the hands of the Government, except a sum that the *interest* of would keep their schools, and furnish them with ploughs, and some few other agricultural implements. I am perfectly satisfied in my own mind that no greater injury can be done to a tribe of Indians than by paying them an annuity; give it to them at once; it will then be of very great advantage to them, particularly to the prudent; it would do them some good;

now it does scarcely any thing; those who would be prodigal would soon have nothing, and then they would go to work, and by working one-third of their time in this country they can make a good support; they would be compelled to work, for there is no game, and they must subsist. When they get to work, they then will commence improving in every way. In my opinion, the greatest curse that can be put upon a tribe of Indians is, to give them an annuity in money. I will appeal to every man of any judgment, who has lived among or had the control of any tribe of Indians, and who feels any interest in their well being, if my views on this subject are not correct. So long as they have an annuity coming to them, there will be jealousy, contentions, brawls, and frequently bloodshed. If they had none, all would be quiet, all peace, all friendship.

This year several of the Kechies, Witchetaws, Ton-qua-was, and Pah-ah-hu-ka, the principal chief of the Comanches, have visited me. The Kechies, or a number of their tribe, are very anxious to settle on the False Washita river, in the Chickasaw district, but the Chickasaws are opposed to it. The Witchetaws have been for some time living in the western part of the district, and the Chickasaws would be very much pleased for them to move off. Their visit to me is, I think, only a begging trip. They never bring any robes or skins to sell.

The Witchetaws and Caddoes have had some difficulties this spring. The Witchetaws stole several horses from the Caddoes, and the Caddoes went to the camp of the Witchetaws and requested them to give them up; the Witchetaws positively refused, and the Caddoes, with Jim Ned, part Delaware, and some few Boluxi Indians, drove off a number of the Witchetaws' horses. The Witchetaws saw and followed them, and after going a mile or two, the Caddoes were overtaken and fired on by the Witchetaws. The Caddoes returned the fire, and during the fight the Caddoes lost two men killed and one wounded; the Witchetaws lost 10 or 12 killed and wounded. So soon as I heard of the difficulty, I sent for both parties; several of the Caddoes with their chief came in, and three or four Witchetaws, with a second chief, came in. Col. D. S. Miles, U. S. A., commanding Fort Washita, and myself, talked to them, and they agreed to be friendly for thirty days. At the end of that time, both tribes were to meet at the Chickasaw Agency to have a council, which was to have been on the 27th of July last, but on account of the high water neither tribe came, and I have not seen them since. The greater part, or a number of each of these tribes, are living in the western part of the Chickasaw district. The Kechies are also opposed to the Witchetaws. They say that the Witchetaws are continually committing depredations upon the citizens of Texas, and it gives them (the Kechies,) great uneasiness, thinking that the Texans might suppose that they were also engaged in stealing horses from them. These people I have no control over, but I thought it my duty to put a stop to their stealing, and killing each other, if I could, by council. If they were to fight for a month, I would have no means to put a stop to it. At Fort Washita there are but two companies of infantry; they are fully able to protect the fort, and all that might put themselves under its protection, but a few infantry cannot go out in the prairies and put a stop to mounted Indians fighting. If there is a fort in this whole department that requires a company of dragoons, Fort Washita is the post. There are more of the various tribes of Indians passing to and fro in the vicinity of this post, than any other post perhaps in the United States. I regret very much that I was absent in the

eastern part of the nation when Pah-ah-hu-ka, the Comanche chief, came in; he had none of the Comanches with him; but that gallant and accomplished officer, Col. D. S. Miles, of the 5th infantry, U. S. A., commanding Fort Washita, received him, and gave him such advice as was necessary for the benefit of himself and nation. He promised Col. Miles to use all his exertions to get those citizens of the United States who were captured this year on the Rio Grande, and bring them into the nearest military post of the United States.

This year there have been six blacksmiths' shops for six months each, but the Chickasaws have determined to keep two of them for the whole year. I have heard of no complaints against them of much importance—none sufficient to remove them; in fact they were such complaints as a word or two would put all right. While on the subject of blacksmiths, I think it proper to give my views about furnishing the Chickasaws with farming utensils. It will appear from the calculations below, that to carry on two yearly shops and five six months shops, will cost five thousand six hundred and fifteen dollars, (\$5,615.) This amount of money would furnish by contract 800 ploughs, with three or four extra points, and well stocked, one thousand axes, and about two thousand hoes, which is more than all the smiths would make in five years; the next year \$2,000 would furnish the whole tribe with all the implements that are necessary; and from that time out, \$1,500 would keep them supplied. Therefore you must see the great advantage of getting the farming utensils for the Chickasaws by contract; particularly when we know the articles would be much better and more durable than those made in this country. I will venture to say that there has not been one hundred axes, nor a hundred hoes, made by the blacksmiths since the Chickasaws have been in this country. I am perfectly satisfied that the shops do not pay half what they cost.

Calculation of what two yearly and five half yearly shops cost.

2 blacksmiths for one year at \$600 each	-	-	-	\$1,200
2 assistants for one year at \$240 each	-	-	-	480
5½ year blacksmiths at \$300 each	-	-	-	1,500
5½ year assistant smiths at \$120 each	-	-	-	600
4000 lbs. of iron for the two yearly shops, at 9½ cents per pound	-	-	-	380
5000 lbs. of iron for the half year shops, at 9½ cents per pound	-	-	-	475
400 lbs of steel for the yearly shops, 200 each, at 20 cents per pound	-	-	-	80
500 lbs. of steel for the half year shops, 100 each, at 20 cents per pound	-	-	-	100
3000 bushels coal for the two yearly shops, 1500 each, at 10 cts. per bushel	-	-	-	300
5000 bushels coal for the half yearly shops, 1000 each, at 10 cts. per bushel	-	-	-	500
Total	-	-	-	<u>\$5,615</u>

The Rev. Mr. Conch, of the Methodist Episcopal Church south, is yet laboring among the Chickasaws, and so far as I can learn, he is thought very highly of by the natives and whites. I do not know how many members he has in his church, nor do I know whether they are increasing or not.

There are no schools as yet in the Chickasaw country, which is very much to be regretted. I am confident that schools on the manual labor plan are the only schools that will do much good in any nation of Indians. To give them an education without learning them to work, either as farmers or mechanics, is of but little use to them.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. M. M. UPSHAW,

U. S. Indian Agent for the Chickasaws.

Col. JOHN DRENNEN,

Acting Superintendent, Western Territory, &c.

No. 5.—A.

CHICKASAW ACADEMY, *October 6, 1849.*

SIR: The advancement made in our works at this place during the past year has not been equal to our hopes; nevertheless, we have done what we could. About a year ago we began building a saw mill; the millwright arrived early in November, and we had assurances that the work would be done by the latter part of spring or beginning of summer; and I have no doubt but such would have been the case, but for the very unfavorable state of the weather for such business through the long and dreary winter; and besides a succession of high freshets during the spring and summer, both retarded and damaged our operations, and rendered additional work necessary. The damage sustained by the last high water, which occurred the first day of August, required the labor of about five weeks to repair it. We now have the mill in operation, though not entirely finished; it is built at a good site, on an unfailling stream, with sufficient water for sawing and grinding at all times.

We are now nearly ready to begin cutting the lumber for our large buildings; the first that we shall build will be the boarding-house; this will be large enough to afford room for a small school, until we can erect the store buildings proper.

Our farming operations, too, have been much obstructed by the wetness of the season. We have over fifty acres enclosed, but only cleared and cultivated about one-third of it last year. The residue being to clear off this season, we were much hindered, both in clearing and planting, from the same cause. We succeeded in getting in about thirty acres, and, excepting the injury and loss by vermin, the crop is good, and will be nearly sufficient for our purposes for the year. It is, indeed, well for us that we have so good a crop, as the price of corn this season is about double what it was last. We have raised a sufficient amount of vegetables for family purposes, and have secured about fifteen tons of hay, made on the prairie.

Provided we can obtain the necessary mechanics and laborers, which, however, is difficult in this remote region, we hope to have the first of the large buildings so far advanced as to enable us to begin a school next spring or summer; the bedding, clothing, &c., for which is already procured and on the way.

During the last five or six weeks several of our laboring hands have been

entirely disabled by sickness; they are now convalescent. Others have been more slightly attacked with the prevailing complaint, chills and fevers, and we hope that the advance of the season and a change of weather will bring an improved state of health.

With due respect, your obedient servant,

W. BROWNING,
Superintendent.

To Col. A. M. M. UPSHAW,
U. S. agent for Chickasaws.

No. 1.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Detroit, November 2, 1849.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit, for your consideration, the following report of the condition and affairs of the Indians within the district of Michigan.

Permit me, in the outset, to express the conviction that the efforts of the Department to improve the condition of the Indians, within this agency, have been eminently successful, and that the vast difference in the moral and social condition, existing between these Indians, attributable evidently to the labor bestowed upon them, shows, beyond a question, the duty of Government to provide for their wants, even did there exist no assumed obligation of this kind. Their acquirements, in many instances, in various branches of civilization, and especially in education and agricultural pursuits, demonstrate most fully the feasibility of an extended improvement in their condition. Many of them have already, in a measure, abandoned their roving habits and manner of life, and settled permanently on homes, depending no longer on the chase merely for a subsistence, but relying upon their skill in the culture of the soil.

Since entering on the duties of my office I have visited, in person, the Indians at Mackinac, Sault Ste. Marie, Saginaw, and Flint, in the north and east of the State, Grand river in the west, and the various points in the interior, and find that a general spirit of contentment and satisfaction prevails among them. They seem thankful towards the Department for what it has already done in their behalf, and earnestly implore that it will not only continue but increase its favors. They are generally very solicitous for the establishment of schools among them to educate their children, and the appointment of missionaries to teach them the Christian religion. Many of them have already renounced heathenism and embraced Christianity. At a few points whole bands, as it were, have been converted to God, and, as a necessary consequence, have speedily risen from degradation to respectability and happiness.

The remnant of the Pottawatomie tribe, situated in Calhoun county, where they have purchased lands, are fast rising in the scale of being. Many of them live in comfortable and even neat dwellings. They have already made considerable progress in agriculture, and seem to be enlarging their plans for future operations. They have also a flourishing school in operation most of the time. They are already so far advanced in civiliza-

tion as to assume, for the most part, the dress of the whites, refrain from intoxicating drinks, and attend faithfully upon the services of religious worship. They are in charge of missionaries, who are laboring assiduously to improve their condition.

Of the Ottowas, situated in the region of the Grand river, a few are in possession of permanent homes, and consequently enjoy some of the comforts of civilized life. Those at the Ottawa and Griswold colonies are much in the advance of their fellows in this respect. They have secured to themselves fine tracts of land, upon which they have made considerable improvement, and are fast bringing to their aid many of the implements of husbandry. Like all others in their unimproved condition, they have heretofore been addicted to intemperance, but in this respect also there is a decided improvement. The teachers and missionaries among them are laboring with commendable zeal to advance them in the various departments of morals, education, and agricultural pursuits. They seem to be no less ardent and active than heretofore, and their efforts are being crowned with encouraging success.

Those of this tribe not connected with either of these colonies are in a much less happy condition. From their want of permanent homes upon which to rely for a subsistence, they are necessarily given to wandering in different directions, and consequently the same influence cannot be brought to bear upon them for good that otherwise could. This leaves them much more as they are, when wholly free from these restraints. They, however, very unanimously manifest desires to become settled like the rest of their brethren, whom they discover to be so much superior to themselves in point of happiness and comfort.

The Chippewas situated in the regions of Saginaw bay are in many respects of more than ordinary interest. It is but a few years since, in addition to the degradation of heathenism, they were sunken in the degradation of the vilest intemperance; so general had this vice become among them by means of a class of reckless and unprincipled whites, that they seemed to be fast verging towards an entire extinction. While in this condition they excited the sympathies of various denominations of Christians, who have sent them, at much sacrifice, teachers and missionaries to instruct them in the principles of the Christian religion. It is gratifying to know that their efforts have not been without success. These Indians now very generally abstain from the use of whiskey, and have become industrious and frugal. As would be expected, therefore, peace and comfort are beginning to prevail among them. In addition to the interest they manifest in the education of their children, many of them are tillers of the soil, from which they already derive much of their support.

The Ottowas and Chippewas of Lake Michigan are becoming of no ordinary interest to the heart of the philanthropist. Their dissatisfaction with their unsettled condition, and anxiety for permanent homes, together with their desires for education and religious instruction, entitle them to generous sympathy. Many of them evince very strong desires to become settled, and but for their scattered position they would doubtless ere this, have been brought under influences that would have placed them on a level with those located elsewhere. Like their fellows, in nearly every other place, they have been made the subjects of vile intemperance, which has not failed to do its work of ruin among them. In view of their desires to settle, and the possibility of congregating them somewhere in the northern portion of the lower pen-

insula, where the healthiness of the climate, the productiveness of the fisheries, and the quality of the soil would all be favorable, there can be no doubt that means thus applied would be well repaid by the good they would accomplish. Thus situated, they could soon be brought under influences that would speedily deliver them from their present vices and degradation. Agricultural, educational, and religious teachers could readily be enlisted in their behalf were they thus collected.

Of those in the upper peninsula it affords me pleasure to state that, for the most part, they are doing well. With the exception of those who are grossly addicted to intoxication, for which they have abundant facilities, they are happy and prosperous. In consequence of their abundant fisheries and prolific hunting grounds, they manifest less anxiety to settle and cultivate the soil than those already mentioned. They, however, are fast beginning to appreciate the advantages of civilization, and ask that missionaries, and persons to teach them the ways of civilized life, may be sent among them. To some extent this call has been responded to. Various missionaries are laboring among them, at different points, with encouraging success. Many of the children have made creditable attainments in learning, and bid fair to be of use to their fellows. Intemperance in many places, if not wholly removed, has been greatly checked, although there needs to be much done yet. Taking them, however, as a whole, and considering them in all respects, there can be no doubt of a very general and decided improvement. The appropriations made for them are evidently well made, and could not righteously be dispensed with.

From what has been said it will be seen that the Indians, within the bounds of this agency, are not only improving, but improving rapidly. It is my decided conviction, that they were never in a more healthy and prosperous condition than at the present time. They not only use the facilities now enjoyed by them for improvement with much success, but call loudly for still other and enlarged advantages. The disposition to settle down on permanent homes is fast gaining ground among them, and the results invariably show the wisdom of encouraging this disposition.

I cannot refrain from expressing my conviction of the importance of moral and religious instruction among them. Without these, it seems to me, no careful observer can expect any great results for good from any other means employed. Until brought somewhat under the influence of the Christian religion, it will be found a difficult, if not impossible task to civilize them to any considerable extent. It requires something more than a consideration of mere physical comfort to correct the vices into which they have so deeply fallen, and inspire in them a relish for the higher attainments of civilized life. The encouragement of missionaries and teachers among them is evidently, therefore, a part of the policy to be observed. They must be Christianized, or it will be long before they can be civilized. In the entire absence of moral and religious instruction, all efforts to improve their condition will be comparatively misdirected and fruitless.

No reports from the sub-agencies have as yet been received at this office, and it is presumed that communications have been made directly to the Department.

I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the examination of the Department, the following reports, viz:

No. 1. Report of Bishop P. P. Lefevre, Roman Catholic missions and schools under his charge.

No. 2. Report of Rev. Peter Dougherty, Presbyterian mission and schools, Grand Traverse.

No. 3. Report of Rev. Leonard Slater, Baptist mission and school, Ottawa colony.

With great respect, I am, dear sir, your obedient servant,
 CHAS. P. BABCOCK,
Acting Sup't Indian Affairs.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com'r Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

 No. 1—A.

GRAND TRAVERSE, *September 12, 1849.*

DEAR SIR: In reviewing the operations of the mission at this place for the past year, we have cause to acknowledge with gratitude the providential care of our Heavenly Father, who has preserved us in health, and permitted us to continue our labors among this people. While the pestilence which walketh in darkness and wasteth at noonday has been spreading alarm, and death, and mourning, throughout the land, it has not been permitted to come nigh our dwelling, and few seasons have passed with so little sickness among the Indians of this region. It has been a year of health and plenty with this people.

In many points of view, these people appear greatly improved when compared with their former condition, or even with the present condition of neighboring bands more remote from instruction and more exposed to the debasing influences of intemperance. By presenting such a view as a stranger might get in passing through their village, or seeing them in the house of God on the Sabbath, quite a pleasant picture of their condition might be drawn. It is not, however, that view of them which is obtained from one point, or at one particular time, either in a drunken revel, or when clothed and, in their right mind they sit in the house of God, that is desirable in these reports. It will be my object, therefore to present such facts as will exhibit their present condition in a proper light.

With regard to habits of industry and the means of comfort, a large portion of them appear on the advance. Last fall they reaped the reward of industry in a large crop of corn, and potatoes, and other products, much larger than in any former year. They sold several thousand bushels of corn and potatoes, besides having a full supply for their families.

A portion of them still, after their crops are gathered in the fall, leave for different points, some going to the vicinity of the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to spend the winter in the woods hunting. Another portion turn their attention to labor during the winter, chopping wood and getting out hoop, stave, and shingle stuff. They found this employment more profitable to them than the chase. This spring they enlarged their fields, increased their plantings, and notwithstanding the drought in the early part of summer seriously threatened their crops, the latter rains have brought every thing forward; so the prospect is that they will have a good harvest.

A large number of the men found employment this summer in getting out tan-bark, until they became alarmed about the cholera, when dropping

work they scattered away for a short time. From these sources, together with their sugar crop, they have had the means of supplying their families better than in any former year.

Some continue indolent, drinking whenever opportunity offers; but the larger portion, especially the young men, have sensibly improved in habits of industry. In habits of economy they are making some improvement. They expend less for articles of mere show, and are more provident than they were. But few of them yet, however, provide much for the future. The principle of individual interest needs to be strengthened. Those who have houses are gathering about them articles of household furniture, but their habits of domestic neatness need to be improved. With regard to the use of intoxicating liquors, I regret that it is necessary to report it rather on the increase. There has been more drinking the past year, and many have been more bold and reckless about it than in former years. Several reasons for this may be referred to. With many of them abstinence was the result of the fear of consequences, rather than a due sense of the evil of the habit of drinking. Where abstinence is the result of restraint rather than principle, the natural consequence is, greater indulgence when the restraint is withdrawn or slackened. By good counsel from former agents, and through good examples and influences here, many had abstained from drinking, and opposed the bringing of it to their village. Some, more reckless, would bring it in and dispose of it to the great annoyance of the village. The matter was reported to the late superintendent, who instructed persons here to destroy any liquor that might be brought, and report the individuals to the office, warning them that their annuity would be withheld, or in some other way they would be punished. The Indians were notified of this, and subsequently a quantity of liquor was destroyed, and the names of the offenders reported as directed. Several stayed from the payment for fear of meeting the agent. But so far as I could learn, nothing was said on the subject to them. As nothing was done to them, they were disposed to say we had misrepresented the matter, and they got liquor more frequently in defiance of opposition. Again, the natural effect of seeing the men employed by Government, and sent to teach them the arts of civilized life, using it freely, and sometimes furnishing it to the Indians, of seeing Government agents drinking freely and sometimes to intoxication, is to lead them to imitate the example. They look to the white people for example, and when they see those who are to them the representatives of the Government freely using intoxicating drinks, they regard it as rather manly and respectable to go and do likewise. Another reason is, the Indians have had more ready access to liquor. Some men who have come on the bay to cut pine and peel tan-bark, have brought liquor and sold it to the Indians. Such men, lawless and reckless, are doing much harm. Take, as an example of this traffic—a man on the Manistee sold out of one barrel to the Indians \$27 worth, besides retaining his own winter's supply. It was sold as high as ten shillings a pint. This I have from a man acquainted with the fact. The result of the sales in this region I have not learned, as they are more private about the business. The young men, particularly, have drank more and behaved worse than for several years past. The better class of the men are opposed to the introduction of liquor into their village, but their influence is not sufficiently strong to prevent it. With respect to the school, some change was made last fall. A separate school for females was commenced and kept in operation for eight months.

Two advantages result from this division. Each scholar could receive more attention, and the females could be instructed in some of the arts of domestic economy. In the female school the average attendance on ordinary days was about twelve. On sewing days the attendance was considerably greater. The whole number on the roll is twenty-eight, including four white girls, but not including women, who attended only on sewing days. Their ages were about from five to twenty years. They were taught reading, writing, spelling, sewing, knitting, and marking. Five read and write, seven spell in words of four syllables, three are in their letters, and the others are spelling in easy lessons. Twenty-one have attended to knitting, nine have finished, or nearly finished, a pair of stockings each, and three have finished two pairs each. Eleven have pieced quilts, some of which were quilted, and others would have been but for the want of some materials at the time. Three were taught marking, one of whom finished a small sampler.

On the roll of the male school are the names of forty-three Indian boys, varying from four to twenty-five years of age. The attendance has been irregular, averaging about 18, besides five white boys. The Indian children are all full bloods. Some of the most regular attendants have died, and some have grown up and left the school. Two promising boys died last year from diseases of the brain. There seems to have been an impression on the part of parents and others, that their attendance on school had some influence in inducing the disease. This feeling, I apprehend, has influenced parents to be less urgent on their children to attend school regularly. The studies to which the boys have attended were reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography. Ten read and write, seven study arithmetic, and one geography. Four are beginning to read in easy lessons; the others are in their letters and easy lessons in spelling. The progress of those who have attended regularly has been about equal to that of white boys of the same age and in like circumstances. They require more attention from the teacher, which makes the labor of instruction more severe. The children are all taught in their own language until they can read, and then they are taught in English. Those who are advanced enough are exercised daily in spelling the English out of the book.

Meetings for religious instruction on the Sabbath have been very regular and pretty well attended. The Sabbath school has been attended by from 50 to 60 of all ages, chiefly adults, who are making progress in spelling and reading.

Under the influence of the means referred to, a portion of those people are yearly advancing in intelligence, in virtue, and the arts of civilized life. The great majority are improved in habits of industry, and in some other respects. But the heathen party, still attached to their superstitions, advance slowly, taking little interest in the education of their children, indulging in intemperance, and disposed to retire to the woods. The Indian mind is very superstitious. He believes the Great Spirit has made him distinct from all others. His country, his language, his customs, his religion, his medicine, his appetites and passions, are all the special bestowment of the Being who made him, and therefore they are the best for the Indian. When want or affliction comes on him, he blindly looks to his medicine bag, and the ceremonies of his religion for relief. It is to the power of the Gospel, through Divine influence, we look for any permanent good among this people. The heart in which are concealed the springs of voluntary, moral, action, must be purified, as well as the mind enlightened, in order to their

permanent improvement. Education arms the vicious with increased power to do evil; and the minds of many of the Indians have been prejudiced against the education of their children, by seeing those who had enjoyed the advantage of education becoming wiser only to do worse. The Gospel brought to bear upon the heart will correct this evil. We may therefore labor with all diligence to educate them, and notwithstanding some may reward the labor by a more injurious life, the divine energy of the Gospel will purify the fountain, and advance them to the condition of intelligent, virtuous and Christian men. We find a ground of encouragement in the history of our own people. Our ancestors were once as ignorant, and perhaps more debased, than most of the Indian tribes. By the influences of the Gospel and education they were improved, and their children advanced to their present condition. It is due to the Indians (I refer particularly to the bands in this region) with which I have become acquainted, to say, that when free from these foreign influences, which madden and debase them, they are more honest, more quiet and inoffensive, less dangerous to society, and more virtuous among themselves, than very many of the white people with whom they more frequently come in contact.

In conclusion, I would repeat what I have said in a former report, viz: it is my conviction that the chief advantages to be hoped for from their being settled on a reservation as they now are, have been secured; and they cannot be urged on to much further improvement under their present circumstances. Some have been purchasing small lots of land, hoping to make them places of refuge in case the Government should wish to remove them, as they prefer to remain here as long as they can. This I have always regarded as bad policy on their part. They need to be settled; and whatever may be said in favor of the community principle, I am persuaded these people would be ultimately benefited by being transplanted on the individual principle. Their habits of clustering together in small villages need to be changed. While herded together, two or three families in a house, and their houses in close proximity, there must be confusion, disorder, dirt, and increased tendency to disease. They need to be spread out, each on a piece of land belonging to the family, to which their improvements become permanently attached. Thus there would be more room for domestic animals; each family could have their children more under control, and habits of neatness and cleanliness would be promoted. The quiet enjoyment of increased domestic comfort would stimulate to labor for higher degrees of it.

They need also to have established some good rules regulating business matters among themselves and others. The lawless need restraint and the virtuous protection. The authority of the chiefs is so little, that every man does nearly as he pleases. It seems to me that it is for their good that the Government should superintend their settlement, rather than leave them to make it themselves. It can thus establish some healthful regulations which they may not have wisdom to make themselves. This change, it seems to me, would be effected more to their advantage now, while they have these aids supplied by the treaty. Their annuity would aid them in getting well settled, so that when left to their own resources they will be in a condition to sustain themselves. Excuse the length of this report.

Yours, most respectfully,

P. DOUGHERTY.

CHAS. P. BABCOCK, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 1.—B.

OTROWA COLONY, Oct. 1st, 1849.

SIR: In accordance with the instructions of the Indian Department, I would submit the following report, embracing the state and condition of the colony and the school connected with it. On the return of the natives from sugar-making, they commenced with renewed zeal and activity in their farming operations, were punctual in their attendance on the Sabbath, and voluntarily formed themselves into a temperance society, and adhered to their pledges with the utmost fidelity. Alternate speeches were made by each male member, rehearsing his own experience while under the influence of fire-liquid, and showing the nature, tendency, and consequence of intemperance. By this manifest reformation, our expectations were highly raised concerning them. Since which, with many our most sanguine hopes are blasted; they have returned to their former vicious habit of intemperance. The power of God alone can turn them. In the diversity of joys and sorrows we have some things to comfort us, viz., an honest discharge of our duty towards them, and that the grace of God can change and subdue their hearts.

Agriculture.—By their industry in the spring and summer they have secured 317 bushels of wheat, 220 bushels corn, 660 bushels of oats, 20 of beans, and 300 of potatoes, and cut and stacked 17 tons of hay. By the help of their farmer, they have broken up 12 acres new land and have now 17 acres growing wheat.

School.—The winter term, on account of the absence of the Indians, was short. It continued 5 weeks. The summer term was in progress 4 months without much interruption. The constancy and decorum of the children rendered the school profitable to the children and encouraging to the teacher. Their progress has not been surpassed at any previous term; 24 names on the school list. The average number attending was 15. A number of books are to be printed in their vernacular tongue, which the natives are impatient to receive.

With much respect, &c., sincerely yours,

L. SLATER, *Supt.*

CHARLES P. BABCOCK, Esq.,
U. S. Agent, *Detroit.*

DETROIT, *Sept. 25th*; 1849.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor herewith to enclose to you a tabular report for this year—1848-'49—of the Indian schools connected with the Catholic missions under my charge, together with some lists containing the names, ages, and sexes of the scholars who have attended school any portion of the year.

In submitting my report, I take pleasure in stating that our schools have this year been as interesting as at any former period, and that the improvement of the scholars is in general more satisfactory than last year. Among our Indians the cause of education seems to be receiving a more invigorating impulse in proportion to their advance in religion and virtue. For, as this year a great number of pagan Indians have embraced the Catholic religion,

and others already converted become more faithful to their religious duties, so their indifference for education has changed into an anxious desire to see their children educated; and for this purpose they would often rather incommode themselves than keep them from school. Last summer I had the pleasure of being present at examinations of the schools at L'Arbre Croche, La Croix, Sheboygan, Mackinac, and Pointe St. Ignace, and Point of Grand Traverse, and I may say in truth that but few white children could have improved more than these Indian scholars in the course of last year. The improvement also of the girls in plain sewing, knitting, and trimming, has been, according to the testimony of their teachers, far beyond expectation.

Our Indians are beholding, with great satisfaction, the difference between the misery of their former savage life, and the happiness and comfort of their present condition, not only with respect to their spiritual happiness, for which they often express their thanks to God and their pastors who show them the path of the Lord, but also with regard to their temporal welfare. They would often mention what a miserable people they were before—starving and naked, and exposed to all the inclemencies of a severe climate; and now they live in comfortable houses, are sober and industrious, and always provided, by their labor, with all the necessaries of life. It is truly consoling to hear them express, in their simple manner, their gratitude for the happy change which the religion of Jesus Christ has effected among them. Especially are they delighted to see how their number is increasing since they settled in villages, and began to lead a social and Christian life, after the manner of civilized nations. It is a well-known fact that the Indians, as long as they remain in their savage state, are continually decreasing. This happened with many bands of our Indians. They had melted down to a rather small number from what they were some sixty or seventy years ago. But now they are wonderfully increasing every year; their families are becoming more numerous; their children are healthy, and they enjoy generally good health themselves. This makes them see the advantage of industry and sobriety, to which religion only can bring them.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, your very obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFFVRE, *Bp. A. Dt.*

CHARLES P. BABCOCK, *Esq.*,

Acting Supt. Indian affairs, Michigan.

Report of the Indian Schools in the Catholic Missions under the Superintendence of Bishop P. P. Lefevre, A. D. 1849.

Tribe Instructed.	Location.	Teachers.	Scholars.			Blood.	Course of Instruction.
			Boys.	Girls.	Total.		
Ottawa.....	Little Traverse Bay...	{ Francis Pierz P. Itawigijig..... Marg. Wabigigokewe }	28	16	44	Pure Indians.....	{ Spelling, reading, writing Indian & English, cyphering, sewing, knitting, trimming with porcupine, &c.
Ottawa.....	La Croix.....	{ Ign. Mrak..... Mich'l Winis..... D. Eniwickki..... }	13	10	23	...do.....	Spelling, reading, writing, and arithmetic.
Ottawa.....	Middletown.....	Mich'l Kewekande.....	11	8	19	...do.....	do. do. do.
Ottawa.....	Pt. of Grand Traverse Bay.....	Joseph Aninin.....	12	9	21	...do.....	do. do. do.
Ottawa.....	Sheboygan.....	Peter Pipigieiren.....	9	8	17	...do.....	do. do. do.
Ottawa.....	Mackinac.....	{ Andrew Piret..... M. A. Fisher..... }	13	15	28	Half Ind. and mixed	{ Spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography.
Ottawa.....	Point St. Ignace.....	S. Graverat.....	18	17	35	Pure Ind. and mixed	do. do. do.
Chippewa.....	Ance Kewenon.....	Fred. Baraga.....	13	17	30	Pure Indians.....	do. do. do.
Pottawatomes.	Pokagan.....	S. M. Resurel.....	7	9	16	...do.....	do. do. do.
			124	109	233		

N. B. In the schools at Point Saint Ignace and Mackinac, besides spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography, the girls are also taught plain and fancy needle-work, embroidery, knitting, and bark-work.

PETER P. LEFEVRE,
Bishop and Admr.

No. 1.—D.

GRAND RAPIDS, *October 1, 1849.*

Report of F. H. Cumming, superintendent of the colony of Ottawa Indians, at the Griswold mission, county of Allegan, State of Michigan.

I am happy in being able to state, that the Indians subject to my supervision continue to furnish proof that they are susceptible to the influence of civilization and Christianity. A good portion of their land is cultivated, and they have raised the present year quite a considerable crop of corn, potatoes, and beans. They have not, it is true, lost their roaming disposition; much of their time they spend abroad in hunting and visiting. We hope, however, inasmuch as they now perceive they can get a living by the cultivation of the soil, they will eventually abandon their wandering habits, and give themselves more fully to agricultural pursuits.

It is gratifying to be able to state, that those belonging to this colony seem generally, and almost entirely, to have given up the use of intoxicating liquors. The few cases of drunkenness that have occurred within the last year were confined to strangers, who surreptitiously had brought in the whiskey.

There has recently been an accession to the colony of nearly one hundred of the Pottawatemies, making the whole number now connected with the mission to be about one hundred and ninety.

The school has been continued the greater part of the year, the number of scholars varying from one to twenty, seldom, however, exceeding fifteen at any one time. Some of them have made good proficiency, especially the son of the chief, Pen-a-see.

The assistant teacher, Myron Briggs, has proved himself very competent and well adapted to his station.

The resident teacher and missionary, the Rev. James Selkrig, who has been so long with them, continues to enjoy, I am well persuaded, their full confidence, and has been quite successful in his efforts to promote their moral and religious improvement. The attendance upon public worship, he states, has been uniformly good; and they appear to take, he adds, much interest in the Sunday services. He reports that he has baptized four within the past year, and that six have died.

F. H. CUMMING,
Superintendent, &c., &c.

To the COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, *Washington.*

No. 1.—E.

DETROIT, *Nov. 2, 1849.*

I beg leave to present to you the report of "the Rev. Mr. Cumming, superintendent of the colony of Ottawa Indians, at the Griswold mission, county of Allegan, and State of Michigan."

It gives me pleasure to add my testimony to the improved condition of the Indians at Griswold mission. I visit them as often as possible, and I can say with safety, that in many respects they will compare with many who have had earlier and more continued instruction. Our design has

been not only to make them good Christians, but also to instruct them in every thing that will make them useful as citizens. Thus far, God has blessed our efforts; we rely upon his aid for the future.

Respectfully, &c.,

SAM'L A. McCOSKRY,

Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Michigan.

Mr. BABCOCK, *Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Michigan.*

No. 2.

SAULT STE. MARIE, Nov. 15, 1849.

SIR: The following report of the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency is respectfully submitted.

Some of the Ance Indians have purchased land, on which they have crops of potatoes and turnips that promise well; their fisheries have been productive, and the quantity of maple sugar has been abundant.

Those on the western side have made considerable improvement, a large field has been cleared, and they have erected several comfortable houses.

The progress of the school under the charge of their missionary gives proof of considerable advancement.

Those attached to the mission on the eastern side have also advanced in the acquisition of means of support, and are exerting themselves, as they say, "to become like the white people." Of potatoes they will have a large quantity for sale.

The school has been conducted with usual attention, and the improvement of the pupils promising.

The Indians of both missions have used means to prevent the inordinate use of spirituous liquors amongst them, so that few instances of drunkenness have occurred.

The Sault Indians have not made the customary means to provide for themselves and families.

The cholera visited this place in the early part of August; three Indians were among the victims at the Sault. In September, after the payment of annuities, upon reaching Drummond island, the chief, and four of his people, sickened and died. During the prevalence of the sickness, much alarm and cases of distress occurred.

At the Methodist mission, the school was kept open during the winter and summer months.

At the Sault, the school has not been productive of great improvement of the few Indian children who have attended.

I have not been able to take the census of the Indians for the present year, in consequence of the prevailing sickness and an increased reluctance on the part of some of the chiefs to answer to the interrogatories.

With great respect, I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES ORD.

CHAS. P. BABCOCK, Esq.,

Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit, Michigan.

BAPTIST MISSION, *Sault St. Marie, July 2, 1849.*

SIR: Our financial year having just closed, in compliance with the requirements of the Department, I forward to you a brief report of our mission.

The laborers who have been connected with the mission the past year are myself and wife, Rev. James D. Cameron, Deacon Shegud, native assistant, Angelina Bingham, assistant school teacher, and Rev. Adonis J. Bingham and wife, a part of the year.

Seven beneficiaries were supported the first half of the year, and six the last half; all of whom have been instructed in business suitable to their age and capacity.

A regular day school has been taught through the year, with a vacation at the close of each quarter of from one to two weeks. The number of scholars enrolled on our catalogue for the several quarters are from 46 to 64, mostly Indian and mixed blood, who, on account of their Indian blood, have been taught free. Reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, first lessons in natural philosophy and composition, have been taught in the school, and also some attention has been paid to vocal music. The pupils have made commendable progress in the various branches to which they have given their attention.

A Sabbath school has been taught at the mission through the year, and when I have visited the Indians abroad, I have generally had a Sabbath school among them where I held my meetings.

We have also had a Bible class at the station a considerable portion of the year, but not with as many members, nor as full an attendance, as for two of three of the former years. Yet we trust it has not been without profit.

Religious worship has been regularly maintained both with the Indians and the white population, and although it cannot be said to be an interesting time on the subject of religion, yet we trust we have some tokens of good.

We have a church of about thirty members, and were we to include some who live far up the Lake on the other side, we might say of nearly fifty members, who give us good evidence of genuine piety, and walk as orderly as the members of churches generally in more enlightened parts of the world. We have buried two excellent members the past year. But the voice of inspiration says, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

The Sabbath is as strictly observed by our native members, and the Indians under our influence, as by members of churches and congregations among the white people.

Although the progress of improvement in business habits, and in all their temporal concerns, has been moderate among these Indians, yet when we look back to the time of the commencement of my labors among them, we can see that an important change has taken place.

The liquor traffic has always been one of the most formidable obstacles to reform and improvement that missionaries have had to contend with. And at this period of improvement, this day of solemn warning and admonition, we see but little prospect of any improvement in relation to that. The criminal thirst for accumulating wealth, prompts to that competition among the venders of liquor that is most ruinous and destructive to the Indians. Could

that be stopped, there would be far brighter hopes of elevating them as a people, both in character *and condition*.

With respect and esteem, your obedient servant,
A. BINGHAM;
Supt. Baptist Mission.

To JAMES ORD, Esq., *Sub-Agent, Indian Department.*

P. S. I ought to have added that our Indians were very successful in sugar making during the last sugar season. The families made from two to ten hundred pounds each. Probably an average amount among the Tokua-mina bands would be from 500 to 600 or 700.

They also had a fine lot of potatoes for market in the spring, and their potatoes are generally of an excellent quality. They are also prosecuting their fishing business as usual the present season, but how successful they will prove in that, remains yet to be seen. Yours,

A. B.

MISSION HOUSE, *October 1st, 1849.*

SIR: In compliance with the requirements of a recent circular, I add to the foregoing report a brief account of the establishment and progress of this mission from its commencement. It is located at the rapids of the St. Mary's river, forty or fifty rods south-west of Fort Brady, in latitude 46° 31'.

I commenced missionary labor here in October, 1828, by teaching a school and preaching the Gospel. Most of the time for seventeen or eighteen years I preached to two congregations—the white people and the Indians. But the instruction of the Indians has always been the prominent object with us.

In August, 1829, we opened a boarding school, and commenced taking in children of Indian blood as beneficiaries, and twelve were received for that winter. And we have had a greater or less number the whole of the time since, who have been wholly supported at the expense of the mission.

Our missionary buildings, which cost us about \$3000, were not completed fit for occupancy until the autumn of 1830, at which time we moved in to them, having previously rented for our use. From that time to the present we have had a well conducted school regularly taught, with the exception of but one serious interruption.

Near the closing of navigation in 1839, our school teacher was violently attacked with the brain fever, and we were obliged to suspend the school for seven months. With this exception we have had no cessation in its operations save our regular vacations.

Reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, philosophy, history and composition have been taught in the school, as the advancement of the pupils required; and some attention has been given to vocal music.

The beneficiaries have also been taught to labor, and have received instruction in the various branches of business common in this country, and have been trained to habits of industry.

Between sixty and seventy children have shared in the privileges of the mission as beneficiaries, but the stay of some has been short, while others have continued longer. Numbers have been from four to twelve years in

the mission. Our number of boarding scholars is now the smallest that it ever has been for twenty years. At present we have but four, having dismissed two since the first date of my report.

My annual reports will show the number of scholars taught in the school, including those who are not boarded in the mission.

We have had a Sabbath school uniformly conducted at the station for about twenty years, in which numbers of American, French, mixed blood, and Indian children have received general religious instruction, and when I visit the Indians at their locations, I usually collect a group of children, and spend such a portion of my time, as other duties will permit, in imparting similar instruction to them.

We have also for several years had a Bible class in successful operation a portion of the time when I have been at home, but the scattered state of the Indians has made it necessary for me to travel abroad considerably, both summer and winter, for several years past, in order to the faithful and successful prosecution of the missionary work.

A Christian church has been planted, and rising of one hundred persons have been baptized on a credible profession of their faith in Christ, and one of its members has been licensed to preach the Gospel, and also ordained to the work of the Christian ministry. This man has been educated, and addresses the Indians in his own and their native tongue.

The rite of marriage was at an early period of our labors introduced among them, and most of those who are under missionary influence, who have companions, are legally married; and they appear to regard the marriage contract as a very solemn and binding rite.

Among the Indians I have known but very few who have separated. But notwithstanding all our efforts to improve and preserve them, they have greatly diminished in these parts since my acquaintance with them. And how far their diminution and destruction will be attributed to a class of our white population who cease not to pour torrents of liquid fire (or fire water) among them, the day of judgment will undoubtedly reveal.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Sup. Bap. Mission.

To JAMES ORD, Esq., *Sub-Agent, Indian Department.*

No. 2.—B.

SAULT STE. MARIE, August 22, 1849.

SIR: I embrace the present opportunity to acquaint you with the condition of the mission in this district, coming under your supervision.

Sault Ste. Marie.—During the winter, until sugar making, and after the return of the Indians, until the 6th June, school was kept up at Little Rapids. The number of scholars in attendance was twenty-four—seventeen boys and seven girls. Seven boys out of this number have been boarded, clothed, &c., at the mission. At New Year, the time of two boys was out, and they left; another one has since gone to his home, in Canada; we have four left; they have their regular lessons each day, and are improving fast every day. Rev. P. C. Johnson has taught here, assisted by Rev. P. Marksman.

You are doubtless aware that the Indians living in this vicinity are all spending the summer at White Fish Point. On this account we have been obliged to discontinue the public school at Little Rapids. Some families will probably return to spend the winter; others are intending to settle at Naomakong. To make up, as far as possible, for our want of scholars at Little Rapids, Rev. P. Marksman went to White Fish Point early in June, and has been teaching the children during the week, and preaches to the Indians on the Sabbath. He has fifty-two scholars—thirty-five boys and seventeen girls; average attendance for one month was sixteen. Our Indian church membership is forty-six. Any one who has ever been among Pagan Indians can at once see that these Indians have made great improvement in civilization and religion. The crops at the mission are very promising. We shall in all probability establish a school at Naomakong, as our Indians are mostly resident there.

Kewawenon.—At the request of Dr. Livermore, I reported the state of this mission to him, but at your suggestion I will report to you also. I should not do justice if I did not report this station as prosperous. The school has numbered thirty-three scholars—twenty boys and thirteen girls; five of this number are whites, four boys and one girl, which leaves sixteen boys and twelve girls natives. Rev. Mr. Barnum has taught the school, and the children have made good progress in spelling, reading, writing, &c. Fifty-two are connected with the church, and compare well with white church members in many respects. Their crops are larger this year than ever before. I spent two days with them in July, and I was never more forcibly struck with the contrast between those Indians and the wild ones in the wilderness. The Sabbath, we spent together was a very refreshing season to the missionaries and the Indians. We have every thing to encourage us to prosecute our labor among these children of the forest.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. PITEZEL.

JAMES ORD, Esq.,

Indian sub-agent, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

(INDEPENDENT.)

No. 1.

LA POINTE SUB-AGENCY, *September 15, 1849.*

SIR: The annual report of the condition of affairs in this sub-agency, required by the regulations of the Department, I have the honor herewith to submit.

The annual payment of annuities to the Lake Superior bands of Chipewas was concluded at this place on the 3d September instant, which was as early a day as the preliminary arrangements, necessary to be made after arriving here with the funds, would admit of. The Indians expressed themselves much gratified that the payment was so much earlier than that of the previous year, but manifest a desire that hereafter it may be still earlier. If they are kept here late they lose the wild rice crop, which in many places is an important item in their articles of subsistence.

It has been a season of general health among the Indians within the limits of this sub-agency, and during their assemblage here for payment very little sickness occurred. They were, however, wild with apprehension. They had heard of the ravages of the "*white man's great sickness*," as they call the prevailing epidemic, in many places. They had learned that some Indians had died with it at Sault Ste. Marie, and were fearful that it might reach this place before they could get away from it. Fear of *disease*, but not of *death*, is characteristic of the Indian race. Hence, they expressed the greatest anxiety that the payment should be hastened, that they might betake themselves to the woods. Consequently, I found it impracticable to carry out a plan which I had calculated upon, of detaining some of the chiefs and head men a few days after payment, in order to obtain statistical information for making out census returns. The business of obtaining such information I find to be one of the most difficult duties entrusted to me. It seems to be difficult to disabuse their minds of the idea which they have imbibed, that these inquiries are some way connected with the designs of Government of dispossessing them of their present homes and removing them west. I have, however, obtained some statistics which will enable me to progress, slowly it may be, with those returns.

I regret being unable to report as favorably in this as in my last annual report relative to intoxicating liquors. This seems, however, to not have been owing to a want of vigilance on the part of the employees of the sub-agency, or an active co-operation of the citizens, missionaries, and respectable traders. Much that was brought here in barrels was seized and destroyed. But a set of desperadoes from the mines, the lumber region, and other places, managed to smuggle in here during the summer a quantity of whiskey in bottles concealed in boxes of dry goods, &c. These they secreted until payment time. They then would be prowling about the Indian camp at night with it in their pockets, and being disguised like Indians, generally managed to escape detection; consequently there was considerable drunkenness at nights. But little, however, was to be seen in the day-time. I am told that many of the Indians, at different points on their routes home, were waylaid by these worse than highwaymen, and in some instances stripped of their blankets and every other article of value.

I am of opinion that a garrison of troops located in the vicinity of the agency would be the only safeguard against these evils.

During the past season disturbances and outrages have occurred among the Indians, or between the whites and Indians, at different places, particularly on the St. Croix river, on the Chippewa river, and at Fond du Lac. Some of these places I have deemed it necessary to visit. A detailed account of some of these transactions was made the subject of a special communication to the Department on the 11th inst. I have also received a communication from St. Croix Falls, numerously signed by its citizens, stating that the Indians are troublesome at that place, and intimating that more lynching will be resorted to unless they conduct themselves better, or are removed from their vicinity. I am of opinion that their selling the Indians whiskey is the principal cause of the difficulty they have with them. But the propriety of removing those bands from the lumber region in Wisconsin to lands of their own, is becoming every year more and more manifest. The Indians complain, and perhaps not without cause, that injustice, in reference to the above named and similar outrages, is done them. That when Indians are guilty of outrages upon whites they are *punished*, while

like acts are committed by whites upon Indians, and they *go free*. I have endeavored to explain to them that such is not the intention of the Government, and that the laws, if enforced, will protect them. I have also told them that their staying about places where liquor is to be got is the cause of their wretchedness.

The mechanics employed at the different stations of this sub-agency have, during the past year, exhibited a faithfulness in the discharge of their duties worthy of commendation. And the reports of the farmers present a highly gratifying aspect. Those Indians who have by their precept, example, and assistance, been induced to cultivate the soil, are now reaping a rich reward. More acres of land are cultivated than at any previous year, and in a more thorough manner, and abundant crops is the legitimate result. The farms have been more thoroughly fenced, and other improvements made, although considerable damage was done by floods.

The chiefs, at some of their councils, renewed an old subject, which they urged with so much earnestness that I gave them a promise that I would submit their views to the Department. This was the *Isle Royal question*. I told them it was considered by the Government as a settled question, that Isle Royal was ceded with the other islands of Lake Superior, by the treaty of October, 1842, which treaty I had read and interpreted to them. They insist that they did not so understand it, and were not at the time aware that the limits of the territory ceded would take in that island, and having an extravagant opinion of its mineral wealth, demand a large sum in compensation for it. I told them I thought they had nothing to expect. That the Government did not make bargains like children, but that their views should be made known.

For the condition of the schools I would refer to the subjoined reports of Rev. S. Hall, supt. of schools of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and Rev. J. H. Pitezel of the Methodist Missions, marked A and B.

I would remark that the annuity provisions and goods were of a good quality, and the selection such as to give general satisfaction, although some complaint was made at there being so much variation from last year's invoices.

Respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. LIVERMORE,
Indian sub-agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Comm'r Indian Affairs.

No. 1.—A.

LA POINTE, October 9, 1849.

SIR: The following statement is submitted as the annual report of the mission and schools, under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, among the Chippewa Indians.

We occupy two mission stations—one at this place, and the other at Bad river. The laborers, in connection with the station at this place, are Rev. S. Hall and Mrs. Hall, and Henry Blatchford, native assistant and catechist. Mr. E. F. Ely, who has been teacher in the school for several years past

ceased his labors in connection with the station at the end of last February, and has recently removed his family from the place.

A school was kept by Mr. Ely till the end of last February, consisting of 34 scholars. The average daily attendance was sixteen. Since Mr. Ely left the school we have been unable to procure a teacher, and consequently the school has been suspended. It is expected that the school will be commenced again in a short time. There is but one mission family connected with the station at Bad river. The laborers are Rev. L. H. Wheeler and Mrs. Wheeler.

The Indians returned so late to that station last fall, from their annual payment, that there was time for only one month of school before the body of them again left for their fall fishing on the lake. Enough, however, remained for a small school, which was prevented from being kept by protracted sickness in the mission family. A school was opened again in the spring, after the return of the Indians from their sugar making, and continued seven weeks, while the Indians remained at the station. During the whole year this school has been in operation about eleven weeks. The average daily attendance of the children of both sexes has been about sixteen.

We have still to regret that there is so little interest manifested by the Indians generally on the subject of education. There is scarcely an Indian in the bands here and at Bad river, who might not, if he desired it, keep his children in school a considerable portion of the time, particularly while they are young. If they were disposed to avail themselves of the advantages of schools, I doubt not that benevolent societies, together with their own education fund, would procure readily the requisite number of teachers to instruct all their children. But such is their indifference, or their prejudice against education, that they will not encourage their children to attend school when one is kept within a few rods of their habitations.

In some respects the Indians of these bands are improving. In general they are much more industrious than they were ten or fifteen years ago. In general they dress now much better than they did then, and are much better supplied with the necessaries of life. They are gradually advancing from year to year in the amount of land which they cultivate, and the amount they raise from it. A considerable number now own horses and other cattle, who, a few years ago, possessed no domestic animal of more value than a diminutive species of the dog. A considerable number now own comfortable houses, and are fast learning the value of such dwellings over the frail and uncomfortable bark wigwam.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

S. HALL.

To J. S. LIVERMORE, esq.,
Sub agent, La Pointe.

No. 1.—B.

SAULT STE. MARIE, July 21, 1849.

DEAR SIR: I take this opportunity to report to you the condition of our missions within the bounds of your agency. I will begin with Sandy Lake, M. T. It has not been long since the Indians have

emerged from the dense darkness of heathenism. We could not, therefore, look for very great changes immediately. I must confess, however, that I was happily disappointed in visiting this station. The missionary, Rev. S. Spates, informed me that he has succeeded better with the school this year than at any previous time. It has been kept up, excepting when the Indians have been away for sugar-making. The attendance has not always been regular; but this is a difficulty we find almost everywhere among the Indians. The school numbers 42 scholars—23 male and 19 female; average attendance 25. The Sabbath school numbers 40 scholars. Our church is small, numbering only 7 members; but we see in this small number a striking contrast between their life and that of their heathen neighbors. As it was my first visit to these upper stations, I am not prepared to judge from comparison with the past, but have reason to believe that our mission is slowly accomplishing a good work. The Indians will be sufferers from the recent freshet, which has overflowed a large portion of their crops, and destroyed the rice.

Fond-du-Lac. I cannot report very favorably for this station. The prospect last year was encouraging. You are aware of the unhappy affair that occurred during the spring, which led to the cruel assault on one of the traders by Johnson's wife, aided by her husband, and J. Tanner. This has exerted an unhappy influence; but we hope, with the blessing of God, to outlive this drawback on our efforts, and yet see the sun of prosperity shine on our mission here. The school has been taught by the Rev. J. W. Holt, assisted by his wife. It was necessarily stopped during sugar-making for want of scholars; and during the late freshet the river overflowed the whole of the low land, driving many of the Indians back. This occasioned an intermission of a few days. The school numbers 28 scholars—20 male and 8 female; average attendance 15. The Sabbath school numbers 30 scholars. There are here connected with our church, at present, only 8 members.

Ke-wa-we-non. The school at this station has been taught by Rev. N. Barnum. There, as at the other places, for the cause already mentioned, several weeks' vacation occurred. Number of scholars 33—20 males, 13 females—average attendance 14. The children have made a decided improvement in their studies—the branches commonly taught in our common schools among white children. We have here a Sabbath school numbering 33 scholars. There are connected with our church 52 members, including 9 probationers. Having spent three years at this place myself, I was prepared to observe any changes which have since taken place. The Indians are constantly improving in almost every respect. I never saw things in a more flourishing state than during my last visit. I could say many things about this station, but deem it needless to be more particular.

Yours, most respectfully,

J. K. PITEZEL,

Sup't of Meth. Missions, Ind. Miss. District.

Mr. J. S. LIVERMORE,
La Pointe, Wis.

GREEN BAY SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
Wisconsin, October 27th, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition and affairs of the Indians within this sub-agency. My necessary absence on official duties has deferred this communication; and it is in consequence less full and interesting than I could desire. The sudden and onerous duties which have devolved upon me since my appointment of a sub-Indian agent, in carrying out the treaty stipulations with the Stockbridge and Menomonee Indians, under the recent treaties with these tribes, will, I trust, clear me from any imputation of a neglect of duty.

The "Oneidas" living at Duck creek, are progressing in civilization. Every year shows improvements in their stock of horses, cattle, and farming utensils. Previous reports from this sub-agency have informed the Department of the beautiful and productive tract of country occupied by these Indians, and of their comfortable farm houses and well cultivated farms. With the exception of corn, their crops this year are very abundant.

There are two schools among the Oneidas. That of the first Christian party is now under the care and direction of the Rev. Franklin R. Huff, of the Protestant Episcopal church; that of the Orchard party, under the superintendence of the Rev. S. M. Ford, of the Methodist Episcopal church. Both schools are progressing with favorable results. Documents marked A and B contain the general annual report of the superintendents of these schools, and will inform you of their condition, prospects, &c.

In making the annuity payments to this nation, I took the occasion while they were assembled in council, to enlist the head men of the nation to assist me in preventing the introduction of whiskey into their peaceful settlement. In this they very readily acceded, and I am most happy to add, that the plan I suggested to them is working most admirably. It is true that a degraded few resort to this town for purposes of intemperance, yet, with the precept and advice of the reverend missionaries above mentioned, aided by the unmitigated support of the chiefs, we can enforce means with these Indians that have been circumvented and corrupted by the whites.

According to the census roll made by me, in September ult., and which forms one of my vouchers for the third quarter of 1849, this nation numbers eight hundred and thirty-six souls. They are immediately under my supervision, and there appears to be a steady advancement in religion, morals, education, and industry.

I will next mention the Stockbridge Indians, or that portion of them comprising the present nation. They remain much as heretofore. They have long since abandoned the chase, and procure the means of living by labor. They are industrious, and generally sober. They possess horses, cattle, wagons, &c., in abundance. Having, under the late treaty, parted with their lands, they are now looking with great anxiety to know where their future homes will be; and as they have no inducement to make further improvements where they are, they do not show the same activity and industry as the Oneidas. They seem uneasy under their present state, and will, I think, be ready to send off an exploring delegation when the Department shall next deem it expedient and proper for them so to do. They have been fully advised of the instructions sent to me by the Department on this

subject, and I trust, for the future, they will profit by them, and not again take upon themselves to carry out provisions of a treaty, and in the end find themselves compelled to harrass the Department with petitions for their relief, all accruing out of their own imprudence, and a tendency to be led astray by designing persons, instead of obeying the instructions sent to them through their agent, and profiting by the fostering care of the Government. I have made frequent visits to this tribe during the past summer, as the Department is aware; and I shall rejoice in their removal, for the laws of this State have hitherto proved ineffectual in suppressing the liquor traffic. I have, however, resorted to the readiest means at hand for effecting the improvement, and, as in the case of the "Oneidas," my plan works equally well. According to the census taken by me, August 23d, 1849, the nation numbers one hundred and seventy-nine souls.

The Brothertowns, their neighbors, are made, by act of Congress, citizens of the United States, in which capacity they appear advantageously, many of them filling, very respectably, town and county offices under our State organization. They have two schools, and are anxious that their children should become educated as the whites. The Sachem, and principal men of the Stockbridges, use all means to urge their people to send their children to school. I have in my possession specimens of the handwriting of the pupils at the several schools within this sub-agency, which I will take pleasure in forwarding to the Department. In the midst of my labors I have gathered these specimens, and will embrace them in a future communication to the Department.

The third and last tribe of Indians within the care and direction of this sub-agency, is the Menomonees, by far the most numerous. I have just returned from making to them their annuity payment, and also the moneys stipulated to be paid to them by the treaty of October 18th, 1848. The census taken by me numbers them at two thousand one hundred and seventeen souls. That portion of them living at Lake Pow-aw-hay-kon-nay, called the Catholic band, are gradually undergoing a change from the savage to the civilized state. These number some five hundred souls. They have here two English schools, one under the superintendence of the Rev. F. J. Bonduel; the other, the female school, under the care of Mrs. Rosalie Douseman; both teachers are well adapted to the task assigned them. They have furnished me with beautiful specimens of handwriting by their pupils.

In fulfilling the treaty stipulations of this tribe, I have had frequent intercourse with them during the past season; and although the prospect before me was dark, yet, under the salutary instructions from the Department, which were so promptly and clearly furnished to me, I have the satisfaction to announce to the Department that I have, to the gratification of all reasonable persons, finally disposed of the vexatious matters in controversy.

The distribution of the sum of \$30,000, under clause 2d, art. 4, of the late treaty, owing to the large number of claimants, was a constant thorn in the sides of the chiefs, and kept them in a state of unusual agitation. The disposal of this sum has, in fact, caused most of the difficulties I have had to encounter in my official capacity with this tribe. I found designing men holding constant intercourse with the Indians, using all their power to counteract every movement adverse to their individual schemes, and to prolong their stay in the country as long as possible. The report of Colonel Childs, conductor of the exploring expedition, (art. 6 of the late treaty,)

which I have the honor to forward herewith, is a further statement of the troubles and obstacles we have hitherto encountered with this tribe of Indians. A last effort was made during my recent visit to them to defer the departure of this expedition, by raising (much to my surprise) objections to Col. Childs as conductor; but this I traced as the work of a few designing persons, who were secretly planning to grasp at the \$30,000; and when I first announced to them that their old friend, Col. Childs, was to be their conductor, they were perfectly delighted.

In the discharge of these arduous duties I found great relief in the advice and protection of Capt. Maurice Maloney, U. S. A., and the presence of the military force under his immediate command was of essential service. The articles purchased by Col. Childs for the exploring expedition are on hand, well stored, and ready for use when the time shall come for the delegation to start. As soon as the buds put forth in the spring they have pledged themselves to be ready with their exploring delegation; they also requested that the number composing it might be increased, and that Capt. Maloney and myself would accompany them, as they feared they might meet with trouble; and at the same time they conveyed to me the idea that they wished to make as imposing an appearance as possible among their red brethren. Oshkosh, their chief, also requested me to ask their Great Father for a United States flag, that they might travel under it, and carry it with them to their new country.

The two blacksmiths among the Menomonees, one at Winne-con-nee, on the Wolf river, the other on the upper Wisconsin river, have been constantly employed, and I have every reason to be satisfied with them.

I regret to add, that the cholera has appeared among this tribe since the payment. Since they left the pay-ground, out of the bands that reside about the streams of Green Bay, called the "Lake Indians," twenty-two have died, and there are many sick. I have done everything in my power to relieve them, furnishing to them a physician and the usual medicines; my interpreter and self have also attended to them, and I trust the worst is over. As the white population is not similarly affected, we attribute this sudden sickness among the Indians since the payment to the change in their diet—poik, flour, &c., to which they are not accustomed.

The contingent expenses of this sub-agency have been proportionably increased with the last year. I have been compelled to keep a secretary constantly employed since entering upon my official duties in May last. I have been constantly travelling from one tribe to the other, besides making a journey to Detroit in search of the funds to carry out the several treaty stipulations. At no time since the establishment of the Indian agency at this place has there been so much official business, or of so much importance, to be transacted in so brief a period. The duties of superintendent have also necessarily devolved upon me. And I should do injustice to my own feelings and sense of justice, were I to close this hasty report without expressing my opinion of the many salutary measures adopted by you in the late trying crises of Indian affairs at this place. With the means you so promptly furnished they have been carried out with firmness and decision, and they have produced the most favorable results.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most ob't servant,

WM. H. BRUCE, *Sub-Indian Agent.*

Hon. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 2.—A.

GREEN BAY, *October 26th, 1849.*

SIR: In my report to you, dated August 1st, 1849, I informed you that the Menomonee Indians had refused to select a delegation from their tribe to accompany me at that time to the new country set apart for them west of the Mississippi, in order to explore the same preparatory to their removal as provided in the treaty of October 18th, 1848.

I also informed you that I held myself in readiness to discharge any duty which might be required of me by the Government in relation thereto. Having failed to induce the Indians to start on the expedition as contemplated, I immediately started for Washington under your advice, to report the facts to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in person, and to carry the despatches which you entrusted me with. I arrived in Washington on the 19th of August, and there laid before the hon. Commissioner a full statement of the obstacles which had been placed in the way of the intended expedition. I remained at Washington some days, when, having been advised by the hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs to return to Green Bay, and make one other effort to induce the Indians to start this fall, I accordingly returned and arrived at this place on the 17th of September, and reported myself to you in readiness for the expedition. I also placed in your hands the return despatches from the Department.

I received information from you that you had notified the chiefs of the Menomonee tribe to meet you in council at Lake Pow-aw-hay-kon-nay on the 28th of September, and instructed me to obtain such articles as would be necessary for the journey; which having accomplished, I at once proceeded to meet the Indians at the appointed place, where I arrived on the 27th of September. The chiefs not having all assembled, you instructed me to remain until they should all arrive, in order to ascertain their wishes relative to their leaving this fall.

I remained accordingly until the 5th of October before all the chiefs arrived, at which time they informed you in council, that in consequence of the lateness of the season they would prefer not to go this fall, but would hold themselves in readiness to leave early in the spring. It is as well they did not leave this fall, as the cholera made its appearance among them at their own wigwams; what might have been their sufferings on a voyage in a wilderness, at an inclement season, notwithstanding the comforts and medicines I had furnished for them.

You then instructed me to transport the articles and equipments which had been furnished for the expedition to Green Bay, where I arrived on the 15th instant. I at once secured a safe room, where I stored the property belonging to the expedition, an inventory of which is herewith enclosed.

I would beg leave respectfully to add, that I still hold myself in readiness to discharge any duty which may be required of me under my appointment as conductor of said exploring expedition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EBENEZER CHILDS,

Conductor of Exploring Expedition.

WM. H. BRUCE, Esq.,

U. S. sub-Ind. agent, Green Bay.

LAKE POWAHEGAN, *September 12th, 1849.*

SIR: You may judge of the good disposition of our Christian Indians for sending their children to school, from this fact alone—the pupils in both schools have increased two fold in number since I commenced teaching at Lake Powahegan. My first monthly register sent to the sub-agency of Green bay, in 1846, numbers 14 pupils. The first monthly register of the female school exhibits nearly the same number. Thus the Department and yourself, sir, have a fair chance to know if we have faithfully complied with the tenor of our contract, and how far the parents of our pupils have responded to our incessant calls to encourage their children to attend school, who are taught to consider education as the most efficient means to advance them in civilization, and to make them enlightened and moral men, aided by the salutary influences of the Gospel.

The collection of monthly registers for this year, which we have sent to the sub-agency, contains twenty copies, ten of the male and ten of the female school. The collection of last year contains only eighteen copies, nine for each school. I feel happy, therefore, to be able to point out to you, sir, that our pupils, notwithstanding the state of constant distraction in which this mission has been placed since a treaty has been effected with the Menomenees by the Government, have received one month of schooling more this year than they did last year, in consequence of an earlier re-opening of the schools in the spring, caused by the clemency of the weather.

The pupils have made good use of their time, as may be seen by public or by private examination of their proficiency in learning. After another year, ten scholars of each school will be able to transact their domestic affairs, or the affairs of their parents, in their intercourse with the whites, in the English language, either in this part of the country or in a region farther west; and twenty others will be ready to follow the footsteps of their senior schoolmates every succeeding year.

May I not then be permitted, sir, to make this assertion, when I morally know that next year that number of pupils shall understand and will have committed to memory the most interesting parts of Parley's New Geography, and acquired some practical knowledge of Arithmetic? With this knowledge, and the acquirements specified in the statistics of the schools for this year, they will be able to go pretty far forward in civilized life, although not so conspicuously as a certain number of our half-copper faces of this northern latitude. Should these new *litterati* of the forest intermarry, in 1860 we shall see one hundred Christian families, civilized, well educated, and industrious, raising around them hundreds of young children, who, with their parents, in the course of time, shall exercise a moral influence over their own nation, and elicit the praises even of their most cruel enemies. Their parents, in encouraging them to attend school, seem to penetrate into the many advantages that must inevitably result to themselves. It is evident to all observers that these Indians generally are making great progress towards civilization by the culture of the soil, by their attention to domestic comforts for their families, by their mode of dressing, their attendance on Divine Worship on Sundays, and by their manly disposition forever to abandon the use of ardent spirits. It is true that fifteen members of the temperance society broke their pledges, in the latter part of the month of June and in the first part of July, at Big Butte des Morts and at Green

Bay, but they have been constantly harrassed at those places by a set of unprincipled men, and this circumstance alone accounts for those accidental acts of human weakness; which, however, have been fully redeemed by the good conduct of the other members of the society.

When shall those men, the plagues of the country, the cruel murderers of the Indians, be personally designated to Government? When shall the laws of the State be put in force to remove the evil that has so long tyrannized over these sons of the forest? Is the voice of humanity entirely choked by the tumultuous cries of political conflict, or silenced by the daring vociferations of avarice? The most generous efforts on our part to arrest the progress of this evil will always prove to be without much effect, until we shall be more efficaciously protected by the friends of humanity and order. Acquainted as you are with the extent and character of that evil, I feel confident, sir, that you will suggest to Government the necessity of using immediate means to punish the purchaser as well as the seller of ardent spirits, in order to remove from our shores those bloody scenes which you have lately witnessed, and over which religion and humanity will never cease to weep. With much regard, I have the honor to remain, sir, your obedient servant in Christ,

F. J. BONDUEL,
Superintendent, &c.

W. H. BRUCE, Esq.,
Sub-Indian Agent, Green Bay.

Statistics of the Powahegan school and mission, from the 1st October, A. D. 1848, to the 1st October, 1849, (the time of vacation included.)

Number of pupils attending the male school, 30; number attending the female school, 27. The male school is at present divided into four classes. Most of the pupils attending the first class, ten in number, read well the lessons they have studied, and especially those that they have committed to memory. Those of the second class, six in number, spell correctly, and begin to read. Those of the third class, also six in number, are spelling tolerably well. All the pupils in the fourth class, eight in number, with the exception of two, know all their letters well. The pupils of the first and second classes, sixteen in all, write beautifully on paper and on their slates, with the exception of one.

Geography is now taught in both schools with great success. I have also introduced the first elements of vocal music into the male school only; they have made some progress in it, and sing already with more taste than formerly. The pupils of the first class begin also to study arithmetic.

Moral conduct of the pupils of both schools very satisfactory.

The female school, which is taught by Mrs. R. Dousman of Green Bay, is divided into three classes. Twenty-three pupils that form the first and second classes read well and write beautifully; the four other scholars of the third classes are yet in their letters.

Five pupils of the first class have already acquired some knowledge of geography.

The health of the scholars has been remarkably good this year. Temperance in eating and drinking, cleanliness, and domestic industry, are vir-

tues which we teach our pupils to cherish and practise, as the best antidotes against all kinds of disease.

All the books, paper, and other articles that were bought last spring have been used by the pupils of both schools, with the exception of eleven copies of Colburn's First Lessons on Intellectual Arithmetic, which shall be studied by them at the next re-opening of the schools.

The pupils of both schools are taught the Catechism in our small chapel every Sunday. Ten scholars, four boys and six girls, as a reward for the purity of their faith and their moral deportment, have been admitted to participate in the most Holy Sacrament of our altars.

Religious and domestic department.

Number of baptisms since my last annual report, 38; number since I took the charge of this mission, nearly three years ago, 115.

Number of converts since my last annual report, 16; whole number since I was stationed at Lake Powahagan as superintendent and pastor, 60.

Number of new communicants since my last annual report, 20; twenty others are now preparing to take the Sacrament after the next annuity payment. There were none during the two other preceding years.

Number of marriages since my last annual report, 8; since I took charge of this mission, 28.

Number of Christian families at Lake Powahagan and vicinity, mostly living in good substantial log houses, 110.

New houses put up in this settlement by the farming band since last fall, 5.

Members of the temperance society at Lake Powahagan, 137.

Obituary.—Number of deaths since last October, 15; eight above the age of 15, and seven under that age.

From the month of November, 1846, up to the 12th September, 1849, 82; forty above the age of 15, and forty-two under that age.

Agricultural and domestic produce.

Crops inferior in quality and less in quantity this year than they were in 1848. Corn, 4,000 bushels; maple sugar, 35,000 pounds; wild rice, 200 bushels; cranberries, 1,000 bushels; potatoes, 1,000 bushels; fall wheat, (raised by a chief of the farming band,) 20 bushels; barley, (raised by the same chief,) 6 bushels.

F. J. BONDUEL,
Superintendent, &c.

No. 2—C.

ONEIDA MISSION, DUCK CREEK,
Wisconsin, Sept. 20th, 1849.

SIR: I hereby send you my annual report of the school connected with my mission among the first Christian party of Oneida Indians.

Since my last report the school has been taught entirely in English. As yet, the children have not done much towards acquiring the language, though perhaps as much as could be expected of them. Many of them read and spell with tolerable accuracy, and a few of them from previous know-

ledge of the language, do so understandingly. The attendance during part of the year has been somewhat irregular. Upon the list there are about seventy names, though more than one-third of that number have never attended at any one time. They are, however, improving in this respect; with two or three exceptions the attendance is now every day the same; at present many who will attend regularly through the winter are engaged gathering in the corn crop.

This tribe is steadily advancing in civilization. Their farms improve in appearance year by year, and their manner of living assimilates more and more to that of the whites. All can have things comfortable and convenient about them, and would do so, were it not for their use of whiskey. But since your last visit to them the chiefs seem determined that a stop shall be put to its introduction within the reservation, and that if any will use it they must do so abroad.

Very respectfully, your ob't servant,

F. R. HAFF,

Sup. of P. E. Mission among Oneidas.

WM. H. BRUCE, *Esq.*, *U. S. Sub-Indian Agent.*

No. 2—D.

Report of the school for the Orchard party of Oneida Indians at Duck Creek, October 22nd, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with your request I hasten to make my annual report.

This school being under the superintendence of the Methodist mission, it has been kept in one of the rooms of the mission house during several months of the present year. In consequence of the prevalence of measles during the last winter the school was poorly attended, and the children have made less improvement in their studies than usual. At the commencement of the winter the school numbered about thirty scholars, but since then the number has been smaller. The Indians appear anxious to have their children educated in English, and will send them to school the coming fall and winter. We have had a Sabbath school through the summer, with an attendance of about thirty persons. The church here consists of about one hundred members, who are punctual in their attendance at church on the Sabbath, and orderly in their deportment.

The Indians are still progressing in their improvements, and making steady advancement towards permanent civilization. Intemperance is one of their leading vices, but since you, sir, have suppressed the whiskey traffic amongst them, our prospects are much more encouraging.

Very respectfully, your ob't servant,

S. W. FORD,

Missionary Wisconsin Conference.

WM. H. BRUCE, *Esq.*, *U. S. Sub-Ind. agent, Green Bay.*

No. 3.

NEW-YORK SUB-AGENCY,
Versailles, October 25th, 1849.

SIR: Under instructions from the office of Indian Affairs, it becomes my duty to make known the condition of the several Indian tribes in this sub-agency.

Since the first of July I have visited all the Indian tribes in this sub-agency except the St. Regis.

I find them principally engaged in agriculture, in which they are making considerable improvement. The season has been remarkably favorable for the growth and maturity of all kinds of spring crops, and their productions exceed by far their demands for subsistence.

They are improving their farms, erecting new buildings, repairing fences, and planting orchards, as well as clearing up new lands. In some sections their buildings, farms, and stock, compare well with their white neighbors'.

There is a growing interest manifested in the schools established by the State. Good school houses have been erected and supplied with teachers, who take a deep interest in the welfare and prosperity of the Indians.

Much difficulty is experienced in getting the children enlisted in the day schools, and I believe it is generally conceded that boarding schools properly conducted would be much more successful; but nothing short of the utmost kindness and perseverance on the part of teachers can induce the children to abandon their Indian habits and acquire a knowledge of books.

The American Board of Foreign Missions are doing much for these people on the different reservations. Several schools with efficient teachers are supported wholly by the board, and much of the improvement in the condition of these Indians may be traced to the untiring perseverance of the several missionaries located among them, who are also under the direction of the said board of missions.

The female boarding school at Cattaraugus, under the care of the society of Friends, has been productive of much good.

The average number who attended this school the past year is about twenty-five, from six to sixteen years of age, who were instructed in common English branches, as well as in household or domestic duties; and it is to be regretted that the society has surrendered the lease of the farm held by them, and withdrawn from the reservation.

There is but one school at Tuscarora, which has been attended by about forty children the past year, under the care of the American board.

The school at Onondaga has been well attended the past year by an average of thirty-five scholars.

The reports of missionaries I herewith transmit as far as received.

The distribution of the annuities to the heads of families has given general satisfaction to the people. I have heard no complaint, except by a few of the Senecas.

The Senecas on the Cattaraugus and Alleghany reservations are prospering under their republican government.

This government is most strenuously opposed by a portion of the ex-chiefs, but favorably received by a large majority of the people.

The government is carried on, the poor maintained, and indeed all public business, without taking from the people any portion of the United States

annuities, and this is claimed by the friends of the present government to be a great change for the better.

The farm recently occupied by the society of Friends has been set apart by the council for the support of an orphan asylum for the benefit of the Senecas and other Indians residing with them.

The difficulties between the Tonewandas and Ogden Company in relation to the sale of the Tonewanda lands are yet unsettled, and they still refuse to receive their portion of the annuities arising from the sale thereof.

The legislature of this State, at its last session, made an appropriation for the purpose of ascertaining the numbers and condition of the *Cayugas*, who have emigrated to the United States Indian territories west of the Mississippi, and for their re-transportation to this State, and it is expected that an agent will leave for that country about the middle of November.

The Indians have entirely escaped the ravages of the cholera, which has been very fatal in the vicinity of several of the tribes.

There are white men near the several reservations, who still persist in furnishing the Indians secretly with liquor; and it is to be deeply regretted that there are white men, partly civilized, who, for pecuniary gain, will violate the laws and aid in brutalizing these poor Indians.

The population of the tribes within this sub agency, as nearly as I can ascertain, is as follows:

Senecas,	-	-	-	-	2712
St. Regis,	-	-	-	-	452
Onondagas,	-	-	-	-	126
Tuscaroras,	-	-	-	-	312
Oneidas,	-	-	-	-	235
Onondagas residing with the Senecas,	-	-	-	-	140
Cayugas residing with the Senecas,	-	-	-	-	125
Oneidas, do. do. do.	-	-	-	-	30
					<hr/> 4132

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your ob't servant,

STEP. P. MEAD, *Sub-Agent.*

HON. ORLANDO BROWN, *Com. of Indian Affairs.*

No. 3.—A.

ONONDAGA CASTLE, *Sept. 29, 1849.*

Report of Onondaga Indian School District, No. 23.

This school district was organized April 5th, 1845. In compliance with an act of the Legislature of New York, passed in the winter of 1844, making special provision for the Onondaga tribe of Indians in respect to education, the following gentlemen, Enoch Everington, esq., school superintendent of Lafayette, and Simeon S. French, esq., superintendent of the town of Onondaga, met on the above mentioned day, and formed a school district, including the whole of the Onondaga reservation, except a small portion west of the creek, included in No. 32 of the town of Onondaga. In

a short time from this date a young man was engaged to teach said school for \$12 per month. His name is Henry Conklin; he commenced his school in May, and concluded in September, after having taught four months. The whole number in attendance was 42, and the daily average 14 scholars.

He was supported by the State. It was money appropriated to this very purpose, in consideration of not employing and paying an Indian agent at the time. In the fall of 1845, many of the friends of learning in this quarter manifested considerable interest in the educational welfare of this tribe; and a few were very active in devising some plan that would likely prove successful in bringing into operation an efficient school. Accordingly, a Miss Mary Hitchcock (an accomplished teacher) was obtained to teach for \$16 per month. The expenses of said school were defrayed by voluntary contributions. Not many days from New Year, 1846, she commenced her school in a house then occupied as a meeting-house, and situated some twenty feet from the new school-house since erected. The opening of her school was very promising. For three or four months she was patronized by nearly all the Indian families, both pagan and Christian, with enthusiasm; but finally she became unpopular with both parties, and left in June of the same year.

Some time in the winter of 1846, a memorial was addressed to the Legislature at Albany, by the friends of this enterprise, praying for appropriations in behalf of said school, and their petition was favorably answered. There was granted by the Legislature, to erect a school-house, \$300; and to pay for teachers, \$250 yearly for five years. Said house was built in a few months, and dedicated in October for the specific purpose of school instruction. Soon after this, a Mr. Lewis B. Whitcomb was employed to serve as teacher. His school was opened in the new school-house, November, 1846, and closed, finally, in April, 1848. His daily average for the first year was 24 scholars, and the last five months' term 13 per day. At this time the pagans were greatly opposed to the school, and they evinced the same spirit during the first five months of my own school; but you will perceive a great change in their feelings by examining the following statistics:

On the 8th day of May, 1848, we commenced our services in said school. We have on our record fifty names who attended school more or less the first five months of our teaching. During this time, our weekly attendance was thirty scholars, but the daily number was a little less than 20 scholars.

We will now comply with your special request in presenting a report of the last year, commencing October 1, 1848, and extending up to the present date.

Ninety-one Indian children have attended school the past year. Our daily average has been 35 scholars; but during the last fall months, and the winter months, with one in the spring, it was a fraction less than 50 per day. It is probable that our house will be filled again next winter.

The number who can read tolerably fair in Saunders' 3d book is 14; in his 2d book, 12; and in his 1st book, 8 or 10. The remainder of the school read in words of one syllable; twenty commenced in their alphabet this year. The whole school seems interested in learning geography on the outline maps, and many scholars are making great proficiency.

Some 24 are writing after copies on paper, and some 20 on the slate. All delight in drawing, with but two or three exceptions. Singing is a

favorite exercise, to which we pay some attention. We devote more time and labor to arithmetic than to all other studies, and with the least success. A few of the 40, however, who have devoted their attention to this branch, have, indeed, acquitted themselves very tolerably, and evince considerable mathematical genius. The text books used in school are, Town's spelling book, John's first book, Benthley's pictorial primer, Saunders' 1st, 2d, and 3d books, the New Testament, Emerson's arithmetic, both 1st and 2d part, Mitchell's primary geography, and Fowler's outline maps, eight in number; Indian melody and hymns for Sunday schools, and a map of Onondaga county; for drawing, we have Abbott's (Cottage Series) drawing cards, &c., &c.

There have been expended during the year \$32.21. Mr. Whitcomb's support and ours have been furnished by the Government, as above specified.

A sense of honor and gratitude will not let me forget the liberality and faithful services of Rev. Samuel J. May, of Syracuse. He procured every cent of the money to defray the incidental expenses of last year for books, &c.; and it was by his eminent services, with those of Edward Cooper, esq., now of New York city, and with some others of less prominence in this work, that this school had its origin; and has continued to prosper more or less to the present day, in spite of opposition. The greatest discouragement to final success is the apathy and extreme sluggishness of the people.

ROSMAN INGALLS.

No. 3.—B.

TUSCARORA MISSION, NEAR PEKIN,

NIAGARA CO., NEW YORK, Oct. 11th, 1849.

DEAR SIR: Your note left at my house on Saturday last was received by me, and would have been attended to sooner had not other duties prevented.

Your inquiries respecting this mission can be answered in brief.

The mission was established in 1801 by the New York Missionary Society. It afterwards came under the care of the United Foreign Missionary Society; was merged into the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions; it became a mission of that society. All the expenses of the mission, including schools, are defrayed by it. The expenses of the past year have been \$625. This is about the usual amount yearly expended.

The whole number of church members, from the beginning, is 153; present number, 56. The number of pupils in the school from the beginning cannot be given, as no list has been preserved. We have but one school; the number of scholars in attendance the past year has been about 40. But little good results from the present system of schools. A boarding school on the right plan would do vastly more towards elevating the people than any common day school, however well conducted.

In morals the Indians are exceedingly loose and corrupt. Many are intemperate, notwithstanding the law of the State prohibiting the furnishing of intoxicating liquors to the Indians. Licentiousness prevails to an alarming extent. It is said, and I think truly, that the females are often allured

to this vice by lecherous white men in the towns and villages around them, particularly at the Falls. There is but little conscience among the Indians. They are emphatically "morally obtuse." They are sullen, intractable, and stubborn. Their system of government is powerless for good. It is at most only advisory; hence it has "a name to live while it is dead." Destruction and annihilation would seem to be the inevitable destiny of this people.

But the question may be asked, has no good been accomplished by all that has been done for them? The answer is—yes, much. They are not so intemperate as they were. Some have been reformed, reclaimed from their evil habits, and are respectable and useful. Some have enlightened consciences, and sigh over the sad condition and dark prospects of the people. The Gospel has exerted, to some extent, its purifying and saving effects upon the heart. Some are industrious and thriving in their worldly affairs. On the whole, comparing their present condition, mentally, morally, and religiously, with what it was previous to the introduction of the Gospel and the establishment of schools, much good has been done. The money and the labor expended have not been in vain. Perhaps it is unnecessary to say more.

I have endeavored to give as faithful a view of the bright and the dark side of the picture as could be given in so brief a space.

With much respect, I remain, yours, truly,

GILBERT ROCKWOOD.

STEPHEN P. MEAD, Esq.,

U. S. Indian Sub-Agent, Versailles, N. Y.

No. 3.—C.

CARDIFF, *Sept. 26, 1849.*

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your wishes I send you the following brief account of Christianity among the Onondaga Indians. About 20 years since the M. E. church embraced them with the Oneidas in one mission, and thus they remain to the present time. For some 12 years impediments were so great that comparatively little was accomplished at Onondaga. The missionary could not be there very often, but had to employ converted natives to preach there; these, however, did not labor in vain. My predecessor, Rev. R. Ingalls, who was appointed to the mission in 1841, found but 9 church members at Onondaga, and these were prohibited having a regular place of worship, or a preacher to reside among them. During the 5 years that he visited them, and labored what he could among them, quite a number embraced the Gospel and its Divine author. The Christians were likewise permitted to fit up a place of worship which answered tolerably well for a few years. At the expiration of his time, the missionary was allowed to reside there, but could stay only a few months for want of a house. He now lives 11 miles from the place of worship, and preaches there three-fourths of the time; the other fourth at Oneida. Last year by the aid of the friends of the mission a good church was built, in taking care of and frequenting which the natives exhibit commendable zeal. We are now building a mission house for the convenience and comfort of the missionary and teachers; to complete which certainly \$150 more than is pledged will be necessary. Something has been done likewise in Sabbath schools, and in the temperance cause. There are now 60 mem-

bers in the church, and probably as many more have embraced the theory of Christianity. As far as I am capable of judging I would say that Christianity is on the advance; but much is yet to be done.

At Oneida there are 30 members in society, and considerable has been done in the Sabbath school and temperance cause.

I have great pleasure in saying that the school teachers in both tribes have been faithful and successful.

Should you need any thing further from me, please write.

Very respectfully,

D. FANCHER.

STEPHEN P. MEAD, Esq., *Sub-Agent*.

No. 3.—D.

Cattaraugus Mission School.

SIR: In compliance with the requirements of the Indian Department, permit me to present through you the following brief report of the schools connected with the Upper Mission station at Cattaraugus.

During the year ending Sept. 30, 1849, there has been in two schools the aggregate amount of thirty-eight weeks instruction. One near the station was taught during a portion of the fall, winter, and spring quarters, and was attended by 40 boys and 25 girls. The other in the neighborhood called New Town, because recently settled by emigrants from the Buffalo Creek reservation, was taught during a portion of the spring, and the whole of the summer quarters, and was attended by 20 boys and 22 girls. In all 60 boys and 47 girls; total of both schools, 107 pupils. But it should be stated that the average attendance has been unusually small. A list kept by the teacher, in which every half-day's absence was carefully noted, shows the whole attendance at New Town to have been 1075 days, and the school was taught 91 days, making the average a little less than 12. This in a pagan neighborhood, until recently decidedly hostile to education, is not strange; but a comparison of 59 days in the spring term of the other school, shows also an average of a fraction less than 12. Such a state of things in a neighborhood where there have been schools long enough to give opportunity for appreciating their value, is truly deplorable. You will be able, however, so to explain the matter to the Department, that it will be understood to result from other causes than an under-valuing of the benefits of education.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ASHER WRIGHT,

Sup't at the Upper Mission School.

STEPHEN P. MEAD, Esq.,

U. S. Sub-Agent for N. Y. Indians.

No. 3.—E.

Report of the Female Boarding School on the Cattaraugus reservation, established by and under the care of the Society of Friends, 9th month, 10th, 1849.

Attended by from twenty to thirty females, from six to sixteen years of age, who are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography; and, during intermission of school, are instructed in the different branches of household business.

JOSEPH S. WATSON,
ABIGAIL WATSON,
Superintendents.

MISCELLANEOUS.—No. 1.

Report of the Four Choctaw youths, and Two Chickasaws, at Delaware College.

The four young men from the Choctaw nation, Messrs. Pitchlynn, Hall, Wright, and Garland, are now members of the Sophomore class, in Delaware College, in full and regular standing. It gives me much pleasure to state that they still continue to pursue their studies with interest and order, giving great satisfaction to all the officers of the college in every particular. Their standing in the class is equal to that of their associates in all respects, mental ability, power of application, industry, and capacity of reflection. We know no difference of any kind between them and their classmates in any of the branches of study pursued here.

Holmes Colbert, the young man from the Chickasaw nation, entered the freshman class this fall. He studied very hard, during the vacation of six weeks, to qualify himself for admission into the class, being found on his arrival very deficient. In fact, he has been applying himself to study ever since he has been here, without any intermission. He has consequently made good progress, and stands fair in his class. His habits, disposition, and morals are unexceptionable.

Frederic McCalla, the Chickasaw boy, is still in our preparatory department, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Meigs, and acquits himself much to the satisfaction of his teachers, and improves greatly. The health of all the young men is good.

It is truly pleasant to look forward and contemplate the probable influence of these young men for good, when they shall have completed their education and returned to their people, bearing with them light and truth, and diffusing all around them the blessings of science and religion.

JAMES P. WILSON,
President Delaware College.

No. 2.

NORWICH, November 26th, 1849.

SIR: I have had the honor of receiving your letter of the 22d instant, requesting a report on the progress and present condition of the Chickasaw

boys under my charge. In compliance therewith, the following report is respectfully submitted.

Col. P. P. Pitchlynn arrived in this city in the early part of August, 1848, with eleven Chickasaw boys, with instructions from the Office of Indian Affairs to place them in some suitable school. Having a letter of introduction to myself, he requested me to aid him in accomplishing the object of his mission. The boys were wholly unacquainted with the elements of English education, and, with two or three exceptions, could not speak English at all. At the earnest solicitation of Col. Pitchlynn, I consented to take charge of said boys, and procured for them a temporary teacher till some permanent arrangement could be effected.

On the 8th of September, 1848, they were placed at Plainfield Academy, about sixteen miles from this city, under the instruction of the Rev. W. S. Benedict, principal. They were distributed in three good families, in which they have received kind treatment, and where they still remain. They have enjoyed uniformly good health, with the exception of one instance of slight fever, during the past summer. They appear to have enjoyed themselves the whole time, and always seem contented and happy when I visit them.

Their progress has more than equalled my expectations. Ignorant at first of the English alphabet, they have made such proficiency that they can now read very well in our common school readers, and have gone through with Webster's spelling book. At the same time they have received instruction in arithmetic, in writing, in grammar, and geography. They write a good hand, and are now able to compose letters to send to their friends. They addressed a joint letter to the late Commissioner, Col. Medill, about the time he retired from the office, which was highly creditable to them. At the last quarterly examination they rehearsed, in public, pieces committed to memory, and acquitted themselves, in most cases, very well. They are occupied in the school room six hours daily, with the exception of Wednesday and Saturday afternoons; and they have also studied more or less in their own rooms.

Their improvement in manners, general behavior, and self-respect, is worthy of special notice. Their fine appearance and manly bearing would do credit to young men in any of our literary seminaries. They have been easily governed, and now pride themselves on their uniform good conduct. They are respected in the school, and by the people in the village, from whom they have received kind attention. They attend church regularly, and are formed into a Bible class; and, under the care of their academical teacher, are receiving lessons of instruction in Christian knowledge and morals.

Situated in the midst of an agricultural and manufacturing population, and being carefully observant of what passes before them, they are learning about the genius, the industrious habits, and enterprise, of an intelligent New England community. They are taken into manufacturing establishments, and shown the operation of these complicated workshops. They have been allowed an occasional excursion by railroad and steamboat, with which they have been delighted. They are gradually acquiring facility in speaking English, though somewhat embarrassed by the consciousness of their imperfection when in presence of others. Special efforts are made to induce them to abandon their native dialect and converse in English.

In May last, Mr. Robert Love arrived, with five other Chickasaw youths,

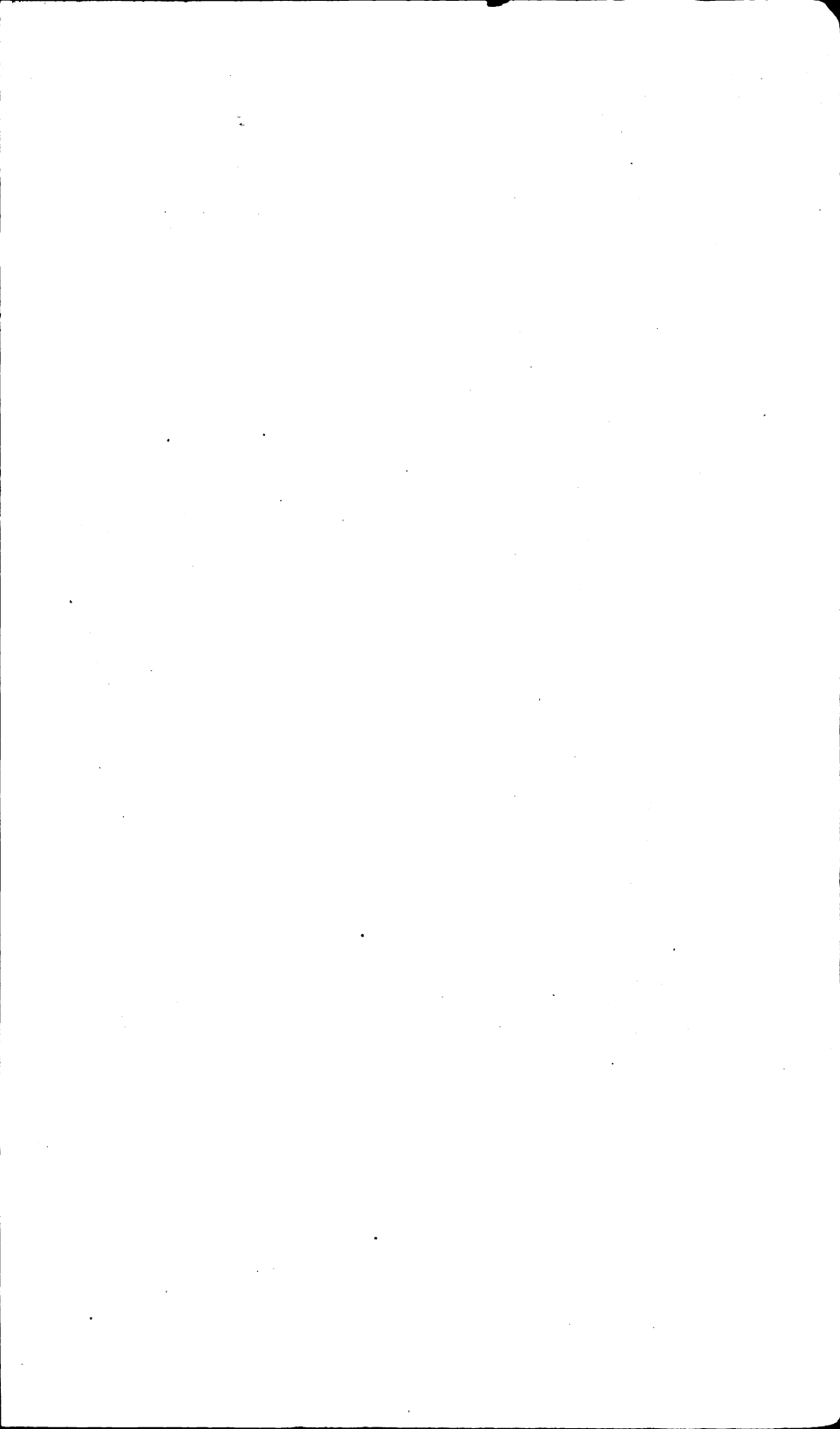
of whom I was requested to take charge. Four of this number, soon after their arrival, were placed at school in this town, and one at Plainfield. Four of them having been at school in Kentucky several terms, were farther advanced in some things than were the others. They have applied themselves, with commendable diligence, in the same departments of elementary studies that are pursued by those in Plainfield Academy. Two of these boys, Tecumseh Gaines and Thomas Albertson, have been subject to attacks of fever and ague, which has somewhat interrupted their progress. I propose removing them, at the close of the current quarter, to the more elevated and healthy location in Plainfield, placing them in some good family by themselves, and under the instruction of the teacher who has the care of the others. I have strong hope that the change will, in their case, be conducive to an improved state of health, and in other respects be equally advantageous to them. I have contracted with a physician there to watch over the health of all the boys, and attend to them promptly whenever they may need his counsel or professional services.

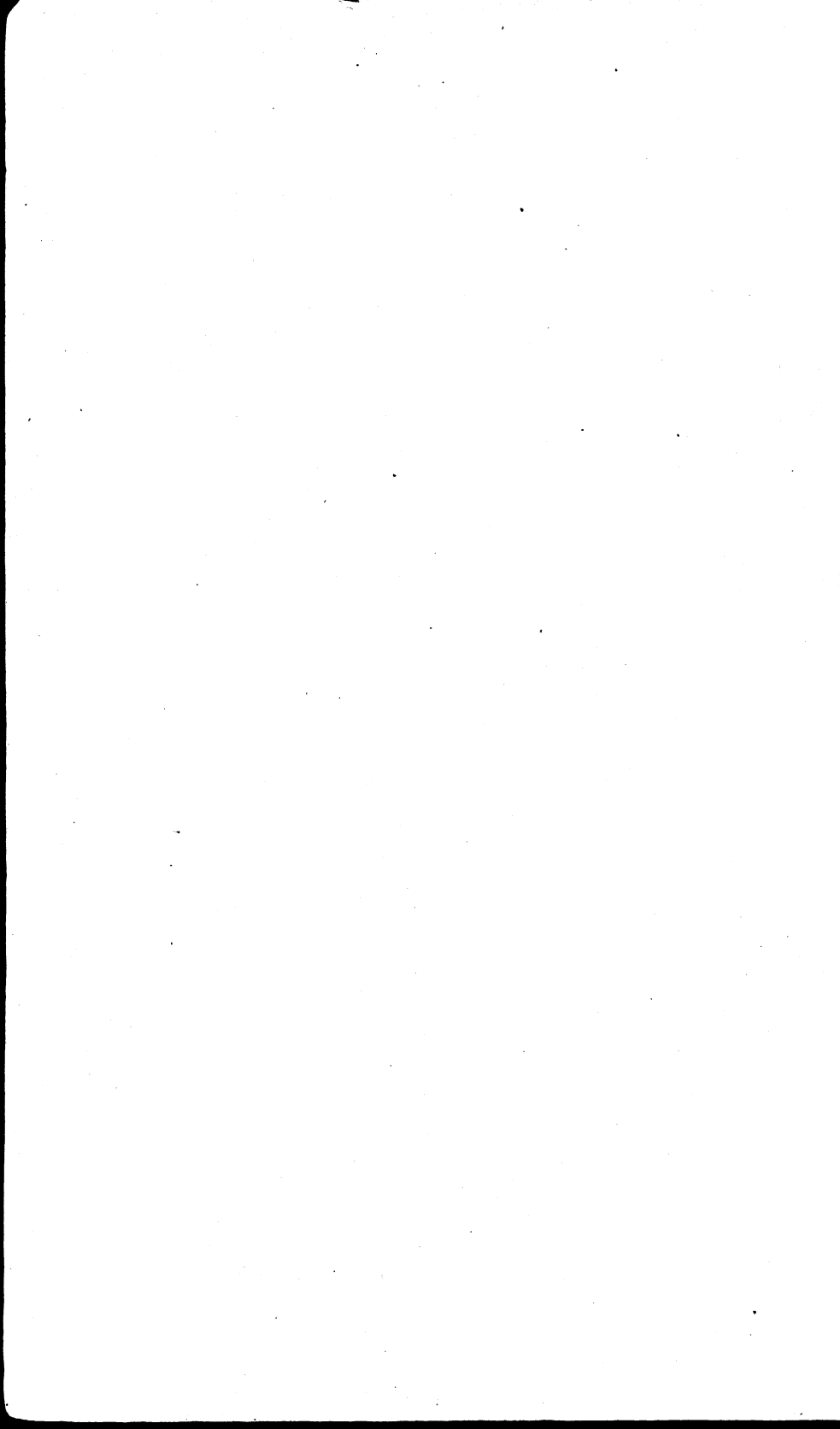
I have been deeply interested in the progress and welfare of these Indian youths, and have found it necessary to devote much time and attention to their improvement.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALVAN BOND.

Hon. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.





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Now Charles Burke
with respects of
L. Lea

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

TRANSMITTED

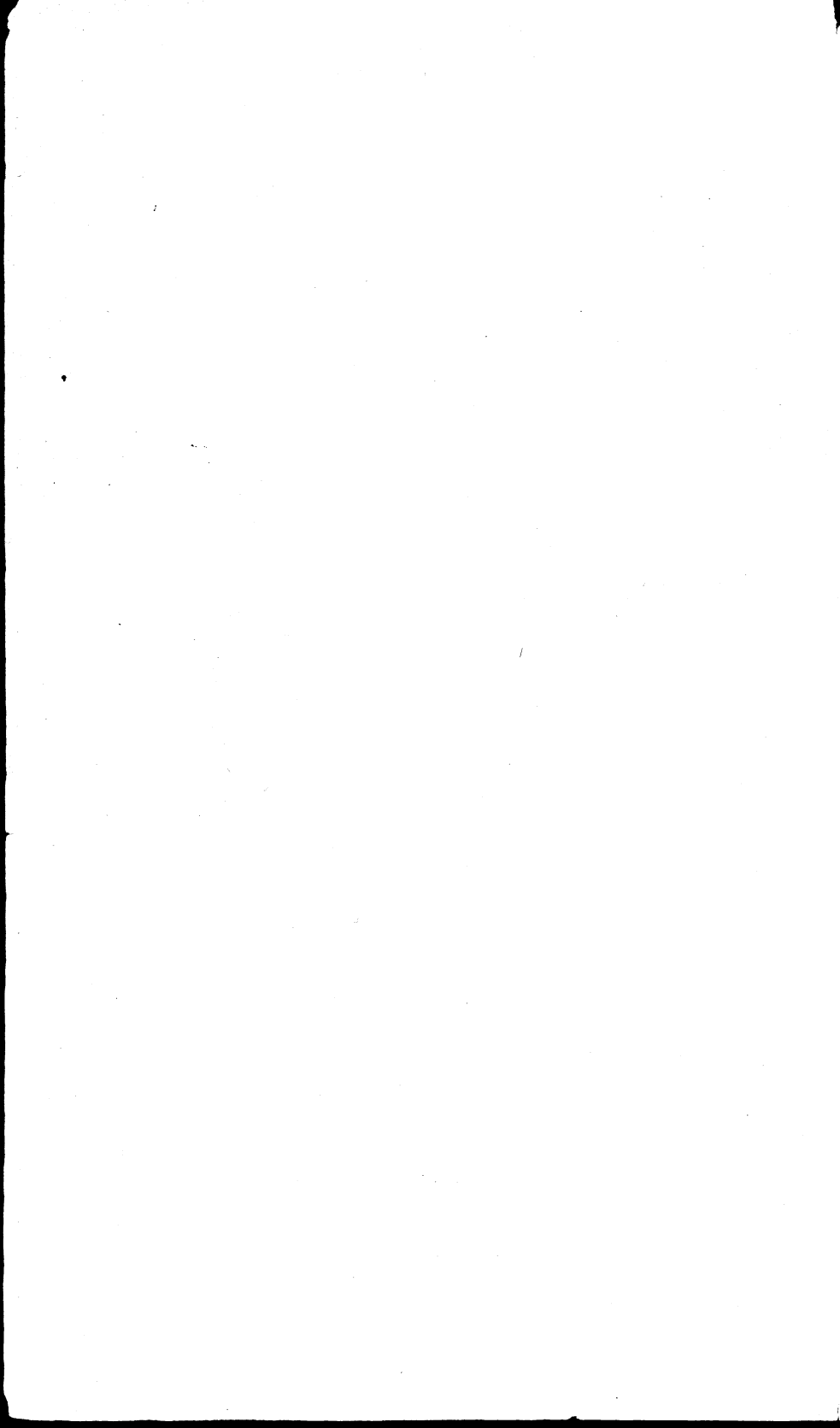
WITH THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

AT THE

OPENING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE THIRTY-SECOND CONGRESS,

1850.

WITH AN APPENDIX.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

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TRANSMITTED

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1850.

WASHINGTON:

PRINTED FOR THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

1850.

REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, November 27, 1850.

SIR: Before proceeding to submit for your consideration a general view of our Indian affairs and relations during the last twelve months, I would respectfully refer to the accompanying reports of the superintendents, agents, and missionaries, in the Indian country, for more particular information in relation to local operations, and the condition of the various tribes, than can be fitly embodied in a report of this description.

Among the less remote tribes, with which we have fixed and defined relations, and which, to a greater or less extent, have felt the controlling and meliorating effects of the policy and measures of the government, for preserving peace among them and improving their condition, an unusual degree of order and quietude has prevailed. It is gratifying to know, that amongst this class, comprising a large portion of the red race within our widely-extended borders, there probably has never, during the same period of time, been so few occurrences of a painful nature. All have been peaceful towards our citizens, while, with the exception of the Sioux and Chippewas, they have preserved a state of peace and harmony among themselves. These two tribes are hereditary enemies, and scarcely a year passes without scenes of bloody strife between them. From their remoteness and scattered condition, it is difficult to exercise any effective restraint over them, while their proximity to each other affords them frequent opportunities for indulging their vengeful and vindictive feelings. Each tribe seems to be constantly on the watch for occasions to attack weaker parties of the other, when an indiscriminate massacre of men, women, and children, is the lamentable result. During the last spring, mutual aggressions of an aggravated character threatened to involve these tribes in a general war; but the acting superintendent, Governor Ramsey, aided and assisted by the commanding officer at Fort Snelling, promptly interposed, and by timely and judicious efforts prevented such a catastrophe.

Such occurrences are not only revolting to humanity, but they foster that insatiable passion for war, which, in combination with love of the chase, is the prominent characteristic feature of our wilder tribes, and presents a formidable obstacle in the way of their civilization and improvement. We know not yet to what extent these important objects may be accomplished; but the present and improving condition of some of our semi-civilized tribes affords ample encouragement for further and more extended effort. Experience, however, has conclusively shown that there is but one course of policy, by which the great work of regenerating the Indian race may be effected.

In the application of this policy to our wilder tribes, it is indispensably necessary that they be placed in positions where they can be controlled, and finally compelled, by stern necessity, to resort to agricultural labor

or starve. Considering, as the untutored Indian does, that labor is a degradation, and that there is nothing worthy of his ambition but prowess in war, success in the chase, and eloquence in council, it is only under such circumstances that his haughty pride can be subdued, and his wild energies trained to the more ennobling pursuits of civilized life. There should be assigned to each tribe, for a permanent home, a country adapted to agriculture, of limited extent and well-defined boundaries, within which all, with occasional exceptions, should be compelled constantly to remain until such time as their general improvement and good conduct may supersede the necessity of such restrictions. In the mean time, the government should cause them to be supplied with stock, agricultural implements, and useful materials for clothing; encourage and assist them in the erection of comfortable dwellings, and secure to them the means and facilities of education, intellectual, moral, and religious. The application of their own funds to such purposes would be far better for them than the present system of paying their annuities in money, which does substantial good to but few, while to the great majority it only furnishes the means and incentive to vicious and depraving indulgence, terminating in destitution and misery, and too frequently in premature death.

The time is at hand for the practical application of the foregoing views to the Sioux and Chippewas, as well as to some of the more northern tribes on the borders of Missouri and Iowa. Congress has made an appropriation for negotiations with the Sioux for a portion of their lands, which should, as far as practicable, be conducted on the principles laid down in the instructions given to the commissioners appointed for that purpose last year, and which were communicated with the annual report of my predecessor. Those instructions contemplated the purchase of a large extent of their territory, and their concentration within narrower limits upon lands remote from the white settlements and the Chippewas—objects of primary importance in view of the general policy already stated.

Since the treaties of 1837 and 1842, with the Chippewas, a considerable portion of those Indians have continued, by sufferance, to reside on the ceded lands east of the Mississippi river, in Wisconsin and Minnesota, where they have for some years been brought into injurious contact with our rapidly advancing and increasing population in that quarter. Having ample facilities for procuring ardent spirits, they have become much injured and corrupted by unrestrained indulgence in the use of that accursed element of evil. To remedy this unfortunate state of things, it was determined at an early period of the present year, to have these Indians removed northward to the country belonging to their tribe. Measures for this purpose were accordingly adopted; but, in consequence of the very late period at which the appropriation requisite to meet the necessary expenses was made, only a small number have, as yet, been removed. Their entire removal, however, will not sufficiently relieve our citizens from annoyance by them, as they will for some time have the disposition, and be near enough, to return with facility to their old haunts and hunting-grounds. Nor will the situation of the Chippewas, generally, then be such as their well-being requires. They own a vast extent of territory on each side of the Mississippi, over which they will be scattered, following the chase and indulging in their vagrant habits, until the wild products of the country, on which they depend for a subsistence, are

exhausted, and they are brought to a state of destitution and want. Efforts should therefore be made, at as early a period as practicable, to concentrate them within proper limits, where, with some additional means beyond those already provided, effective arrangements could be made to introduce among them a system of education, and the practice of agriculture and the simpler mechanic arts. The best portion of their country for this purpose is west of the Mississippi river; but it is not owned by the whole tribe in common—a considerable part of it being the exclusive property of particular bands, who are not parties to any of our treaties, and receive no annuities or other material aid from the United States. This circumstance not only excites dissatisfaction with the Government, but produces much jealousy and bad feeling towards the rest of the tribe, which may hereafter lead to serious difficulty; and as the game on which they mainly depend for the means of living must soon fail them, the government will be under the necessity of interposing to save them from starvation. A wise forecast and the dictates of a benevolent policy alike suggest that timely measures be taken to avert so disastrous a result. This may easily be done, and at a moderate expense compared with the importance of the objects to be accomplished.

In order to enable the Department to carry out these views in reference to the whole Chippewa tribe, I respectfully recommend that Congress be asked for an appropriation at the ensuing session, to defray the expense of negotiating a joint treaty with the different bands, for the purpose of acquiring so much of their country on the east side of the Mississippi as we may require for a long time to come; to provide that the whole of their remaining lands, together with their present and future means, shall be the common property of the whole tribe, so that all will be placed upon an equal footing; and that as large a proportion of their funds as practicable shall be set apart and applied in such a manner as will secure their comfort, and most rapidly advance them in civilization and prosperity. With such arrangements for this tribe, and the adoption of a like policy towards the Winnebagoes, now located in their vicinity on the west side of the Mississippi, and the Menomonees, soon to be removed there, the whole face of our Indian relations in that quarter, would, in a few years, present an entire and gratifying change. We should soon witness in this, our northern colony of Indians, those evidences of general improvement, now becoming clearly manifest among a number of our colonized tribes in the south-west; and which present to the mind of the philanthropist and the Christian, encouraging assurance of the practicability of regenerating the red race of our country, and elevating them to a position, moral and social, similar if not equal to our own. There are two evils in the section of country referred to, operating injuriously upon the welfare and interests of the Indians in that quarter, and our citizens engaged in trade among them, which require prompt attention, and which must be suppressed before our Indian relations there can be placed upon a safe and satisfactory footing. These are, first, the immense annual destruction of the buffalo, and other game by the half breeds from the British side of the line, generally in the employment of the Hudson's Bay Company; and, secondly, the introduction of ardent spirits among our Indians by the traders of that company. The embarrassment and injury to our Indians resulting from the devastation of game by these foreign depredators, have justly occasioned much dissatisfaction among them, and, if not soon checked, serious difficulties may well

be apprehended. The introduction of ardent spirits among the Indians by the persons referred to, is not only an aggravated evil, but is derogatory to the authority and dignity of this government.

Our laws and regulations prohibit the introduction of spirituous liquor among the Indians, as well as the ingress of foreigners into their country for purposes of trade, or indeed for any purpose without permission from the proper authorities. A strict compliance with these laws and regulations is required of our traders, while the traders of the Hudson's Bay Company, in contemptuous disregard of them, frequently come over on our side of the line, and, through the nefarious means of ardent spirits, carry on a corrupting traffic with the Indians, injurious alike to them and to our licensed and bonded traders. Suitable measures should be promptly adopted to put a stop to these abuses; for which purpose, the establishment of a military post and an Indian agency in that quarter will be indispensable; and, in the present state of affairs, this cannot be done at too early a period.

It was expected that the Menomonees, for whom a location has been provided between the Winnebagoes and Chippewas, would be removed this year; but before the exploration of their new country by a party of these Indians had been completed, the season was too far advanced for the tribe to emigrate before the approach of winter. The President, therefore, in a just spirit of humanity, gave them permission to remain in Wisconsin until the first day of June next.

The Stockbridge and Munsee Indians, residing in Wisconsin, having, in 1848, ceded all their lands to the government, are expected to settle somewhere in the same region of country. The treaty which provides for their removal stipulates that, in the selection of a country for their future residence, they shall be consulted; and they have expressed a preference for a site in the vicinity of the St. Peter's river. As soon as a suitable location can be found for them, and their removal effected, Wisconsin, like most of the other States, will be relieved substantially of the evils of an Indian population.

As usual with the Winnebagoes, in whatever situation placed, a considerable number of them have been restless and discontented in their new location on the Upper Mississippi, to which they were removed in the year 1848. This has arisen less from any well-grounded objection to the country, than from their own reckless disposition and vagrant habits, together, possibly, with an omission on the part of the government to do all that might have been done for their comfortable settlement in their new home. There was considerable difficulty in effecting their removal; and a portion of them, eluding the agent of the government charged with the superintendence of their emigration, remained behind. These, with others who returned to their old haunts in Iowa and Wisconsin, gave serious annoyance to our citizens by their threatening conduct and actual depredations. The white population became more or less alarmed, and strong representations were made to the government of the necessity for their immediate removal. The urgency appearing to be great, there was but little time to make the necessary arrangements for the purpose. A resort to military force was considered inexpedient, as it might have tended to exasperate their feelings and lead to actual hostilities. And it was greatly to be desired, that they should be taken to their country under cir-

cumstances calculated to allay their discontent, and dispose them to remain.

My predecessor, therefore, with the concurrence and approbation of the head of the Department, entered into a contract with a gentleman recommended for his high character and great influence over these Indians, to remove them in a kind and judicious manner, and to make suitable and satisfactory arrangements for their comfortable and permanent settlement. It appears that the measure has thus far been attended with corresponding results, and that the contractor is entitled to credit for his energy and success in the prosecution of his undertaking.

In examining the reports of my predecessors for several years, I find a measure of policy strongly urged with reference to the tribes located on the borders of our Western States, in which I fully concur. It is, by a partial change in their relative positions, to throw open a wide extent of country for the spread of our population westward, so as to save them from being swept away by the mighty and advancing current of civilization, which has already engulfed a large portion of this hapless race. To a large majority of those that have been removed there from the States, we are under obligations of the highest character, enjoined alike by contract and conscience, to secure to them their present homes and possessions forever; and, ere it be too late, we should make all the arrangements necessary and proper to a faithful discharge of this solemn duty.

Below the most southern of our colonized tribes, we have an ample outlet to the south-west; but another of higher latitude is required, leading more directly towards our remote western possessions. A beginning will be made in carrying this measure of policy and humanity into effect, by the purchase, as contemplated, from the Sioux of a large portion of their country; and it may be fully consummated by the removal of a few tribes between the Sioux territory and the Kansas river, with whom we have no treaty stipulations, guarantying in perpetuity their present possessions. Suitable locations may be found for them south of that river, where, secure in comfortable and permanent homes, they would be stimulated by the salutary influence and example of neighboring and more enlightened tribes.

That the border tribes in question are in danger of ultimate extinction from the causes indicated, must be evident to every well informed and reflecting mind; and it is equally clear that the adoption of the policy recommended is the only practicable means of averting the melancholy fate with which they are threatened. If they remain as they are, many years will not elapse before they will be over-run and exterminated; or, uprooted and broken-spirited, be driven forth towards the setting sun to perish amidst savage enemies on the plains, or the sterile and inhospitable regions of the Rocky Mountains. Such a catastrophe would be an abiding reproach to our government and people, especially when it is considered that these Indians, if properly established, protected, and cherished, may at no distant day become intelligent, moral, and Christian communities—fully understanding, and appreciating the principles and blessings of our free institutions, and entitled to equal participation in the rights, privileges, and immunities of American citizens.

It is among the tribes of our Southern colony that we find the most satisfactory and encouraging evidences of material advancement in civilization; and we need no better indication of the wisdom and humanity

of our Indian policy, thus far, than the gratifying results among a number of these tribes. Surrounded in the States where they formerly resided by a white population continually pressing upon them, and without the natural enterprise and energy, or the intellectual culture, requisite to enable them to contend with a superior race in any of those employments and pursuits upon which the dignity and happiness of man depend—discouraged and depressed by their inferior and helpless condition, they, with a fatal and ruinous facility, adopted only the vices of the white man, and were fast wasting away. In a few years, they would have become extinct, and, like other once numerous and powerful tribes, their names would have been preserved only in the records of history. Removed from this unfortunate and to them unnatural position; placed where they have the assurance and guaranty of permanent homes; where they are, in a great measure, free from those influences arising out of a close contact with a white population, so injurious and fatal to them in their untutored state; and where the elements of civilization could be steadily and systematically introduced among them—they are gradually increasing in numbers and rapidly advancing in prosperity.

Several of these tribes have already abandoned their original and crude forms of government and adopted others, fashioned more or less after the model of our own—having regularly established constitutions of republican character, and written laws adapted to their peculiar state of affairs, with proper and responsible officers to carry them into execution. They are adopting agricultural and mechanical pursuits, and, through the efforts of the government and of various Christian societies, having become impressed with the necessity and advantages of education, they are making highly commendable exertions to disseminate more generally its blessings among them.

In addition to the means furnished by government and liberally provided by missionary associations, they make large appropriations from their own funds towards the establishment and support of manual labor schools, which have been found efficient auxiliaries in imparting to them a knowledge of letters, agriculture, and mechanic arts, and of advancing them in civilization and Christianity. During the few years that institutions of this description have been in operation, they have done much towards the accomplishment of these great objects; and, had they effected nothing more than to excite the desire for instruction now existing among a number of the tribes, the expenditures they have occasioned would not have been in vain. Introduced, however, as an experiment, we were liable to errors in regard to them, which experience alone could develop; and after much reflection, I am satisfied that there are defects in the system as at present organized, which must be remedied in order to ensure its full degree of efficiency and usefulness. In my judgment, confirmed by the experience of others, the great error committed has been in establishing most of the institutions upon too large a scale. In consequence of the heavy expenditures required to establish and maintain them, they are necessarily limited in number, and so wide apart as to be at an inconvenient distance from the great majority of those for whose benefit they are intended. Hence, the advantages and benefits of the schools are confined almost entirely to the neighborhoods within which they are respectively located; for the Indians at a distance being naturally averse to having their children taken so far from their homes, it often happens

that the full complement of scholars cannot be obtained. Besides, the congregation of large numbers of Indian children, by affording them more unrestricted opportunities of indulging in the use of their own language, seriously interferes with their acquisition of the English tongue, a knowledge of which is generally a pre-requisite to their civilization. By diminishing the size and expense of these institutions, they could be multiplied and extended; there would be less difficulty in obtaining the desired number of resident pupils; while others in the vicinity could be taught as day scholars, and the benefits of a practical education be thus more widely diffused.

The only considerable number of Indians who have retained any portion of their original possessions, and survived the perils of immediate contact with a white population, fast thickening around them, are those remaining in the State of New York, comprising a mere remnant of the once numerous and powerful Iroquois, or "Six Nations." After rapidly diminishing for many years, they seem at length to have reached the lowest point in their declining fortunes. Having been placed by the humane legislation of the State in a situation similar to that of our colonized tribes, they present the interesting spectacle of a once barbarous people in a state of rapid transition to civilization and prosperity. A striking indication of their progress is the important change they have made in their civil polity. Impressed with the disadvantages of their ancient and irresponsible oligarchical form of government, and its tendency to retard their advancement, a majority succeeded, in 1848, in effecting an entire revolution. Having formally assembled in convention, they adopted a republican constitution, and their government and affairs are now well conducted on principles similar to those on which ours are administered. There are still, however, individuals among them, who, from their connection with the old system, are opposed to the new order of things; but, as the object of these malcontents is to regain their lost power, rather than to promote the public good, no encouragement has been given to them either by the State of New York or the general government.

It is much to be regretted that no appropriation was made at the last session of Congress for negotiating treaties with the wild tribes of the great western prairies. These Indians have long held undisputed possession of this extensive region, and regarding it as their own, they consider themselves entitled to compensation, not only for the right of way through their territory, but for the great and injurious destruction of game, grass, and timber, committed by our troops and emigrants. They have hitherto been kept quiet and peaceable by reiterated promises that the government would act generously towards them, and considerations of economy, justice, and humanity, require that these promises should be promptly fulfilled. They would doubtless be contented with a very moderate remuneration, which should be made in goods, stock animals, agricultural implements, and other useful articles.

As a further measure for securing the friendship and good conduct of these Indians, it is earnestly recommended that a delegation of their principal and most influential men be brought in for the purpose of visiting some of our larger cities and more densely populated portions of country. These delegates would thus be impressed with an idea of the great superiority of our strength, which, being imparted to their people, would have a powerful and most salutary influence upon them.

Our information in regard to the Indians in Oregon and California is extremely limited; but the deficiency, it is hoped, will shortly be supplied by the agents and commissioners provided for at the last session of Congress. Copies of the instructions given to these officers are herewith submitted, together with a report from General Lane, late governor and acting superintendent of Indian affairs in Oregon, containing the latest official information, in possession of the office, respecting the Indians in that far distant region, and received too late to accompany the annual report of last year.

After the three agents authorized by Congress for the Indians in California were appointed, it was found that no appropriation had been made for their salaries and the necessary expenses of their agencies. Their functions as agents were therefore suspended; but, as there was an appropriation for negotiating treaties with the Indians in that State, they were constituted commissioners for that purpose. They will thus have an opportunity of acquiring information useful to them as agents, and be on the spot to enter upon their duties in that capacity when the requisite appropriations shall have been made.

Commissioners have also been appointed for the highly important purpose of negotiating treaties with the various Indian tribes adjacent to the line between the United States and Mexico. They are expected to accompany the boundary commission, and are charged with the duty of collecting all such statistical and other information concerning those Indians, as may aid the Department in adopting the proper policy and measures for their government, and to carry out in good faith the stipulations of our recent treaty with the Mexican Republic.

The ruinous condition of our Indian affairs in New Mexico demands the immediate attention of Congress. In no section of the country are prompt and efficient measures for restraining the Indians more imperiously required than in this territory, where an extraordinary state of things exists, which, so long as it continues, will be a reproach to the government.

There are over thirty thousand Indians within its limits, the greater portion of which, having never been subjected to any salutary restraint, are extremely wild and intractable. For many years they have been in the constant habit of making extensive forays, not only within the territory itself, but in the adjoining provinces of Mexico—plundering and murdering the inhabitants, and carrying off large quantities of stock, besides numerous captives whom they have subjected to slavery and treated with great barbarity and cruelty. Humanity shudders in view of the horrible fate of such of their female captives as possess qualities to excite their fiendish and brutal passions. Our citizens have suffered severely from their outrages within the last two years, of which their attack last fall upon Mr. White's party, while travelling to Santa Fé, is one of many instances. They murdered the whole party, nine or ten in number, except his wife, child and servant, whom they carried off. Our only Indian agent in the territory, who is stationed at Santa Fé, on hearing of the lamentable occurrence, promptly made every effort in his power to rescue the captives and bring the Indians to punishment. The military officers in the territory also made commendable exertions for the same purpose; but, unfortunately, with no other result than the discovery of the dead body of Mrs. White, which was found by a military party in pursuit of some Indians supposed to have her in their possession. It was evident

that she had just been murdered, as the body was still warm. The sad duty of interring the corpse was performed by the military with becoming decency and respect. Proper efforts have been continued to rescue the child and servant, but as yet without success. Renewed instructions have recently been given, directing a large reward to be offered, which it is hoped will lead to a favorable result. But their atrocities and aggressions are committed, not only upon our citizens, but upon the Pueblo Indians, an interesting semi-civilized people, living in towns or villages called *Pueblos*; whence they derive their name. Before the country came into our possession, they were in the habit of repairing the injuries they sustained, by retaliation and reprisals upon their enemies, but from this they are now required to desist; and thus, the duty is more strongly imposed upon us of affording them adequate protection. The interference of the government is required, also, to secure them against violations of their rights of person and property by unprincipled white men, from whose cupidity and lawlessness, they are continually subject to grievous annoyance and oppression.

To prevent serious disputes between these Indians and the white inhabitants, it is essentially necessary that commissioners be appointed to ascertain and define the boundaries of their lands, which they claim to hold under grants from Spain and Mexico; and to negotiate treaties with them for the purpose of establishing proper relations between them and the government and citizens of the United States. It is believed that by pursuing a wise and liberal policy towards them—which their peculiar situation indicates and invites—they will in a few years be fitted to become citizens, and being industrious, moral, and exemplary in their habits, will constitute a valuable portion of the population of the territory. For a brief period, however, they will require agents to regulate their intercourse and manage their relations with the other Indians, and the whites. The same commissioners could be charged with the farther duty of entering into the necessary conventional arrangements with the wild tribes of the territory. To manage these Indians properly, they also must have agents; and, in order to break up their practice of committing depredations, and taking captives, they should be placed in situations where a proper vigilance and control can be exercised over them. Their forays into the Mexican territory can only be prevented by locating them at a considerable distance from the boundary line, and the establishing of military posts to prevent them from crossing it. The boundaries of the country allotted to the several tribes respectively, should be clearly defined, and they should not be allowed to go beyond them without special permission. Thus situated and restrained, a portion of them would need the assistance of the government, until brought to apply themselves to husbandry for the means of subsistence, instead of depending on plunder and the chase. The adoption of this or some other efficient system of measures would involve an expense far less than the amount for which the government will otherwise become liable on account of the just claims of our citizens, and those of Mexico, for spoiliations committed by these Indians; while it would obviate the serious evils that must result from the settlement and improvement of the country being greatly retarded. An obligation of the highest character rests upon us to redeem the captives among the Indians in New Mexico, represented to be numerous; and liberal appropriations will have to be made for that purpose.

For interesting and more particular information respecting our Indian affairs in this territory, and especially in relation to the agency and organization required for their proper management, I respectfully refer to the accompanying letter (No. 33), from the Hon. H. N. Smith, and the reports from agent Calhoun.

We know but little of the Indians in Utah, beyond the fact that they are generally peaceable in their disposition and easily controlled; but further and full information as to their peculiar condition and wants may soon be expected from the agent recently sent among them. I therefore refrain for the present from making any recommendation in regard to them, except that our trade and intercourse laws be extended over them.

Our Indian relations in Texas remain in the awkward and embarrassing state set forth in the annual report from this office for the last five years, and particularly in that of my immediate predecessor. The laws providing for the regulation of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, are not in force in Texas; nor can they, I apprehend, be extended there without the consent of that State. Thus, while an unfortunate state of things exists in Texas, similar to that in New Mexico, and requiring in general the same remedial measures, we have not the power to put them in full and complete operation. The constitution, it is true, gives to Congress the power to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes; but that it can be rightfully exercised in such manner as to punish the citizens of that State for trespassing on lands occupied by the Indians, or trading with them, unless licensed by the government, is a proposition that may well be controverted. What is required in regard to the Indians in Texas is full and absolute authority to assign to them a suitable country, remote from the white population, for their exclusive occupancy and use, where we can make our own arrangements for regulating trade and intercourse with them, and adopt other measures for their gradual civilization and improvement. With this view, I respectfully suggest that a commissioner or commissioners be appointed to confer with the proper authorities of Texas on this important subject, for the purpose of effecting the conventional arrangements indispensable to a satisfactory adjustment of our Indian affairs in that State.

This measure, I submit, would be fully justified, if recommended alone by the consideration that it would probably result in curtailing the immense and comparatively useless expense to which the government is now subjected in maintaining the large military force deemed necessary for the protection and defence of the citizens of Texas.

The arrangements adopted last year for the removal of the Seminole Indians in Florida, to the country occupied by their brethren west of the Mississippi, failed of entire success; only a portion were removed, and a number still remain within the district temporarily assigned to them, on the gulf side of the peninsula. These continue, as heretofore, in charge of the military, and this Department has no control or jurisdiction over them.

Notwithstanding the efforts that have been made, and the heavy expense incurred, during the last six years, to effect the removal of the Choctaws remaining in Mississippi, a considerable number still continue indisposed to migrate to the country provided for the tribe west of the State of Arkansas. Anxiety is felt that the State of Mississippi shall be speedily relieved of this incumbrance, and the Indians transferred to more com-

fortable homes among their brethren, where they would be comparatively prosperous and happy. In view of past results, it is evident that more efficient measures are necessary to accomplish their removal. These, it is hoped, may be devised and put into successful operation at an early day.

Conceding the general wisdom and justice of the policy, adopted in 1847, of paying the annuities to the Indians, on the *per capita* principle, in my judgment there are material objections to the manner in which it has been practically applied. The regulation on this subject provides that a portion of the annuities may be set apart by the Indians for national and charitable purposes. These purposes, however, have never been particularly defined; rules are not prescribed for determining the amounts to be provided for them, nor have measures been taken to encourage the Indians to make so wise and beneficial a disposition of their funds. They naturally desire to receive individually the full amount of their respective shares, and consequently, their entire annuities have been distributed equally among them. However fair and equitable this mode of payment may appear, it is not altogether just to the chiefs, nor consistent with sound policy. It is through the medium of the chiefs that the government holds intercourse and dealings with the tribes, in the transaction of their more important business—and it is not unreasonable that they should expect more from the government than the common Indians receive, in consideration of their station and the services they perform. But, according to the present mode of paying their annuities, the Indians are all and alike placed on a common level; and, as no discrimination is made in favor of the chiefs, their influence is not only diminished, but a feeling of contempt for governmental authority in general is extensively inspired. Evils of no ordinary magnitude are thus produced, which, it is believed, may be remedied by a proper exercise of the discretionary power over this subject vested in the President and the Secretary of the Interior.

The greatest difficulty which the government and individuals have to contend with, in their efforts to ameliorate the condition of our Indians, is their strong and uncontrollable appetite for ardent spirits, and the facility with which they can still be procured, notwithstanding the stringency of our laws and the strenuous efforts of the agents and military to prevent its introduction among them. It is a deplorable fact that there are many persons engaged in the villainous business of smuggling liquor into the Indian country, while others, less daring, but equally depraved, are stationed near their borders for the purpose of carrying on an unholy traffic with them. The States within which these miscreants take refuge should be invoked to put an effectual stop to their abominations.

The work of collecting and digesting statistical and other information illustrative of the history, condition, and future prospects, of the Indian tribes, has been unremittingly prosecuted, and the results, it is believed, will not only be of much general interest, but highly useful to the Department in the administration of our Indian affairs. The first part of these investigations is in press, and will be laid before Congress at an early period of the ensuing session.

A striking disparity exists between the financial estimates of this office, submitted to Congress at the commencement of the last session, and those prepared for submission at the commencement of the next. The

latter exceed the former by a very large amount, and, to prevent misconception, a brief explanation may be necessary.

Estimates are divided into two classes, technically called *regular* and *special*. The first class relates exclusively to objects of fixed and permanent character, and to appropriations therefor, to be expended within the ensuing fiscal year; the latter to temporary and miscellaneous objects, and to appropriations therefor, to be expended within the current as well as the fiscal year. Heretofore the practice has been to submit the regular estimates alone at the opening of Congress, and the special estimates from time to time during the progress of the session. But in preparing the estimates for the present year, care has been taken, pursuant to your instructions, to make them so full and comprehensive as to embrace both classes in one general estimate, thereby, as far as practicable, placing before Congress at a single view, and at the commencement of the session, every object, of whatever character, for which an appropriation may be required. Hence the estimates of the present year, thus aggregated and combined, exceed the regular estimates of the last \$1,423,033 49, and yet they fall short of the actual appropriations at the recent session on Indian account, some \$18,000—while the regular estimates of last year exceed the corresponding class in the present general estimate \$4,390, the difference being occasioned by the omission of sundry items and the reduction of others.

Great care has also been taken to make the explanatory remarks accompanying the estimates conformable to law. They succinctly, but clearly, exhibit the grounds on which the several items are respectively founded; and although the aggregate is large, it cannot, in my judgment, be materially diminished without detriment to the public service.

The present force of this office is less than in former years, and inadequate to the prompt discharge of its greatly augmented and increasing duties. An additional number of clerks and a thorough reorganization of the Department are indispensably necessary. But as a full and satisfactory exposition of the measures required in this connection would involve elaborate detail, they will form the subject of a special communication.

Respectfully submitted,

L. LEA,
Commissioner.

Hon. A. H. H. STUART,
Secretary of the Interior.

SCHEDULE OF PAPERS

ACCOMPANYING ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
FOR THE YEAR 1850.

- No. 1. Report of Super't D. D. Mitchell—St. Louis Superintendency.—
 2. “ Agt. Thos. Fitzpatrick—Upper Platte and Arkansas. ●
 3. “ Agent C. N. Handy—Osage River Agency.
 4. “ Teacher David Lykins “ “
 5. “ “ Jotham Meeker “ “
 6. “ Sub-agt. W. P. Richardson—Gt. Nemaha sub-agency.
 7. “ Teacher W. Hamilton “ “
 8. “ Sub-agent T. Mosely, Jr.—Wyandott sub-agency.
 9. “ “ H. Harvey—Osage sub-agency.
 10. “ Teacher Rev. J. Schoenmakers—Osage sub-agency.
 11. “ Sub-agent J. E. Barrow—Council Bluffs sub-agency.
 12. “ “ W. S. Hatton—Upper Mo. sub-agency. ✓
 13. “ Supt. Gov. A. Ramsey—Minnesota superintendency.
 14. “ Agent J. E. Fletcher—Winnebago agency.
 15. “ Sub-agent N. M'Lean—St. Peter's sub-agency.
 16. “ Teacher T. S. Williamson “ “
 17. “ S. R. Riggs “ “
 18. “ S. M. Cook “ “
 19. “ J. W. Hancock “ “
 20. “ G. H. Pond “ “
 21. “ R. H. Hopkins “ “
 22. “ Physician T. S. Williamson “ “
 23. “ Super't of Farms, P. Prescott “ “
 24. “ Sub-agent J. L. Watrous—Sandy Lake sub-agency.
 25. “ Teacher F. H. Cuming—Mackinac agency.
 26. “ Sub-agent A. Johnson—California.
 27. “ Agent J. S. Calhoun, November 17, 1849—Santa Fé.
 28. “ “ “ March 29, 1850 “
 29. “ “ “ “ 30, “ “
 30. “ “ “ “ 31, “ “
 31. “ “ “ “ July 15, “ “
 32. “ “ “ “ Oct. 12, “ “
 33. Letter of Hon. H. N. Smith, March 9, 1850—Santa Fé.
 34. Extract from Report of J. H. Rollins—Special agent, Texas.
- A. Letter of Instructions to Commissioners Gaines, Skinner, and Allen—Oregon.
 B. Letter of Instructions to Superintendent A. G. Dart—Oregon.
 C. Letter of Instructions to Commissioners M'Kee, Barbour, and Wozencraft—California.
 D. Letter of Instructions to Commissioners Todd, Campbell, and Temple—New Mexico.
 E. Report of Joseph Lane, late Superintendent Indian Affairs—Oregon Territory.
 F. and G. Statements of funds held in trust for the various Indian tribes, and annual income thereon.

No. 1.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, September 14th, 1850.

SIR: In submitting my annual report for the present year, I must, as usual, refer you to the reports of the agents and sub-agents for details in regard to Indian Affairs, comprised within the limits of this superintendency.

It, however, affords me much pleasure to be able to state that (so far as I am informed), the condition of the border tribes is gradually, though slowly improving. Every year seems to impress them with the necessity of improving their *minds*, as well as their fields and gardens. In my annual report of last year, I directed the attention of the Department to many changes which I considered important, so far as the agencies, sub-agencies, and existing regulations were concerned. Experience during the last year has only tended to confirm me in the belief that these changes would have a very beneficial effect (so far as the Indians are concerned), and prevent many annoyances and inconveniences to which the officers of the Indian Department are now subjected. For information concerning the border tribes, I, therefore, respectfully refer you to my annual report of 1849.

No changes of importance have occurred during the present year which would seem to require any special action on the part of the Department, so far as the border tribes are concerned. With the prairie or wandering tribes inhabiting the vast region of country lying between the Missouri and the State of Texas, the case is somewhat different.

In the beginning of the present year, they were induced to believe that the Government of the United States would make them some compensation for the depredations committed upon their soil (during the last four years) by troops, emigrants, and travellers passing through their country, *en route* for Santa Fé, Oregon, and California. With these *implied* assurances they have remained comparatively quiet up to the present time; but they confidently expect that the conditional promises of the agents of the Government will be carried out, during the ensuing season. If any one is to be blamed for producing this impression on the minds of the prairie tribes, I trust the whole responsibility will rest on me; as I authorized the agents, and sub-agents, as well as the Indian traders, to say to the mount and prairie tribes (who considered themselves aggrieved), that their Great Father would see that they were fairly dealt with; and that any injuries they might have sustained in consequence of the destruction of their game, timber, and grass, by the passage of the whites through their country, would be fairly paid for by the Government of the United States. In making this promise, I felt myself fully justified by the action of the United States Senate, and the wishes of the *late* President of the United States, Gen. Taylor.

I had the honor, during the last winter, of having a bill introduced into the Senate, "authorizing the President of the United States to hold a treaty with the various prairie and mountain tribes"—the objects of which were to compensate them for the destruction of their game, timber, grass, &c., by the citizens and soldiers of the United States passing through their country without their knowledge or consent. This bill

passed the Senate by unanimous consent, and it is much to be regretted that the unhappy difficulties existing on the subject of slavery delayed the Senate bill in the House of Representatives until it was too late to be carried into effect during the present year. Measures have, however, been taken to explain this to the various tribes interested; and up to this time they have continued to deport themselves in a manner that gives no just cause of complaint.

For a full understanding of this contemplated and promised treaty, I refer you to the Senate bill, appropriating "two hundred thousand dollars" for this specific purpose. The bill passed the Senate *unanimously*, but was delayed in the lower House, until the time for action (during the present year), had passed. I still hope it will pass during the present Session of Congress, and the *just and humane* objects contemplated carried out during the summer of 1851.

I presume the reports of the agents, sub-agents, and superintendents of the manual labor schools established among the border tribes will inform the Department of the almost total failure of their crops during the last summer, owing to the extraordinary drought of the last season. This dispensation of Providence falls heavily, not only upon the Indians, but the various missionary societies who have undertaken to educate the Indian children at a very inadequate compensation. I would, therefore, recommend that any aid that can be afforded them out of the education fund, should be promptly furnished; otherwise, their limited means will not enable them to carry out their contracts in a manner satisfactory to the Department, or useful to the Indians.

I regret to say that great dissatisfaction exists among the tribes who are the recipients of annuities from the general government; and, in my humble opinion, their complaints are well founded. It has been the practice of the Department for many years past to adjudicate and allow claims against the various border tribes, and retain portions of their annuities to satisfy the claimants. These claims are generally allowed upon *ex parte* statements of the whites. It too frequently happens, that the first information the Indians receive of the existence of certain claims against them, is from the agents, and sub-agents, when their annuities are about to be paid. They are then told that so many thousand dollars of their money have been retained and paid over to individuals who presented claims of a national character against them at Washington City. It is useless for the Indians to protest against it, or deny the justice of the claim; the only satisfaction they can get is the poor one of abusing the government and its officers. They claim, and in my opinion, with great justice and propriety, that the *whole* amount of their annuities should be fairly and honestly paid over to them, and let *them* in their national or individual capacities settle with their creditors.

By adopting this course, the character of the Indian would be elevated, and all complaints of the kind would necessarily cease; and when it was once understood, that such would be the *invariable* practice, no Indian trader, or any one else, would have a right to complain. If they credited the Indians, it would be at their own risk, and with a full knowledge of the fact that they must look *only* to the Indians for payment. All claims against the Indians, either of a national or individual character, should be presented, in the Indian country, at the time their annuities are being paid; this would at least give the Indians an opportunity of producing testi-

mony, on their part, against any claim they might denounce as fraudulent or unjust. Should the officer making the payment be convinced that the claim was just, and the Indians notwithstanding refuse to pay it, let it be his duty to report *all* the facts of the case to the Department for its future action. Whilst on this subject, I will venture the opinion that no Department of the government, nay, not even the President of the United States nor Congress itself—has the *legal* power to take one dollar out of the Indian annuities, for any purpose whatever, without their knowledge or consent. I have always considered treaty stipulations as paramount to all other laws or regulations. If this be admitted, whence does any executive department of the Government, or even Congress, derive the power to withhold money which the faith and honor of our *nation* are pledged to pay to another. If the Department *has* the authority which has been so long exercised over the ~~Indian~~ Indian annuities, then our treaties with these unfortunate and feeble nations are nothing more than solemn mockeries.

We entered into treaty stipulations with Mexico, by which we pledged our national faith and honor to pay her, in the shape of *annuities*—fifteen millions of dollars, the price of lands ceded by her to the United States. Have we the legal right to take any portion of this money and pay it over to merchants, or other American citizens who may have claims against the Republic of Mexico, or the citizens thereof? If we have not the authority in the one case, I cannot understand *how*, or why, we have it in the other. These suggestions are made merely for the consideration of the Department—as I feel it to be a part of my duty to protect the rights and interests of the Indians (within this superintendency) as far as practicable. In expressing these views, I am fully sustained by several gentlemen—(eminent for legal attainments) with whom I have conversed; some of them go so far as to contend that the Indians have a clear right to require the Government of the United States to refund every dollar that has not been paid in accordance with their treaty stipulations. This subject I trust will receive such consideration as its importance seems to *me* to demand.

I am informed by Indian traders, recently from the Platte and upper Missouri, that several bands of the Sioux Indians have suffered severely by the cholera. This epidemic, they contend, was introduced by the whites for the purpose of causing their more speedy annihilation; superadded to this fresh cause of complaint, they, together with the prairie tribes, continue to remonstrate in threatening language against the destruction of their game, timber, &c., by the whites passing through their country, and the establishment of military posts by the government. However we may despise their threats, policy and humanity require that they should, to some extent, be compensated and pacified.

Respectfully, your most obedient servant,

D. D. MITCHELL,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. L. LEA,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 2.

St. Louis, September 24, 1850.

SIR: It is probable that I may soon return to my Agency on the Upper Platte and Arkansas, and as it is far advanced in the season, and means of corresponding with your office from that remote region is seldom and far between, I take the liberty while here of making a few remarks before my departure. In the discharge of my duties, my isolated position, the uncertainty of transmitting and receiving documents, are such as to promote and justify strong suspicions of negligence, and a want of proper regard and attention to the rules and requirements of the Department. Such, however, is not the case, as nothing could give me more pleasure or agreeable occupation than to be able, and have means to comply with, and perform to the very letter, every order and requisition of the Department. I have on a former occasion alluded to this, as well as to other inconveniences to which I am subjected in endeavoring to carry out the instructions of the Department. The want of a good interpreter, or interpreters, as well as the want of some station or place of refuge, whereat to transact business other than the wide prairies, are amongst the inconveniences alluded to. No person who speaks the Indian languages well can be engaged for the sum of three hundred dollars per annum, which the Department allows for that purpose, unless it is for short intervals during the summer season when trade with the Indians is in a manner suspended. The traders at all times paying good interpreters nearly and often double the amount allowed by the Department, as well as furnishing subsistence, which is costly in that country. Indeed, no person who is under the necessity of purchasing his food, clothing, &c., could maintain himself on three hundred dollars per annum in that country; therefore, it is only where such men are out of the service of traders that they can be engaged at all, and then only for a short time.

It may easily be perceived, too, that having property for distribution amongst the various tribes of that remote and wild region, requires a greater protection and a more judicious care than it is possible, or in the power of one man, to give it—exposed as he necessarily must be when without protection or habitation of any kind, to all the vicissitudes of prairie life, to say nothing about the thieving and rapacious disposition of the Indians, as well as of some white men sometimes to be met with in that country.

It may be asked why the agent does not make his head-quarters at Fort Larimie, where he could have every facility, and all the assistance and protection necessary, instead of rambling about and over the prairies; to which may be replied: that Fort Larimie is at the extreme northern limits of the Agency, and besides the Indians of that part of the district have never been so hostile and troublesome as those farther south, and moreover, at the time of entering on my official duties, the whole Upper Arkansas, and a great portion of the Santa Fé road, was beset and continually ravaged by roaming and hostile bands of Indians, and I was at the time instructed by the Department to establish and make my head-quarters at Bent's Fort on the Upper Arkansas—where any benefit arising from the presence of an agent was most wanted, on account of the refractory disposition of the Indians of that section of country. Those instruc-

tions were judicious, as the difference between the present state of that district and of the time of which I write will show. Last year the Department furnished \$5,000 to be laid out in the purchase of such merchandize as would suit the Indians of that country, with instructions to distribute them as presents to the different tribes. This was performed to the best of my abilities, and although the amount was small in comparison to the great number of Indians to be dealt with, yet I can with confidence assert the measure to have been productive of much good. And although I have thought proper to make the foregoing remarks in regard to being alone and unprotected, &c., yet I have had no reason to complain of the Indians or their conduct for the past two years—nor neither am I aware of any act of aggression committed by the Indians alluded to, on whites during that time. The \$5,000 alluded to above, was laid out by me in St. Louis, in the purchase of such articles of merchandize as I thought the Indians most desired, and were shipped to Fort Leavenworth, at which place I was informed I could obtain transportation and a safe escort to my destination on the Upper Arkansas; but being refused any assistance at that post, I again shipped the goods on board a steamboat, and descended the Missouri river to Kansas landing, and at Westport made an agreement for the transportation to Bent's Fort or any part of the Upper Arkansas, at six cts. per lb.—thence to the north fork of Platte river or Fort Larimie at three cts. per lb., for any quantity that might be remaining on hand at leaving the Arkansas country. But finding it somewhat inconvenient, after arriving amongst the Indians and ascertaining them to be much scattered, and knowing it to be essential to see them all, and not having the party with whom I travelled subject to my control, I saw proper, instead of confining myself to such movements as the said party saw fit to make, to become more independent, and shape my course and management as circumstances and the promotion of the most good required. I therefore hired a wagon, team, and driver at three dollars per diem as long as I saw proper to retain them. With this aid I departed from the Arkansas river on the 15th November, and after diverging on many occasions from the usual route, in order to meet the scattered bands of Indians, I arrived at Fort Larimie on the 24th December, at and in the vicinity of which I remained about seven weeks, during which time I visited many bands of Indians in their winter encampments, all of whom I found exceedingly friendly and well disposed. On the 16th February, 1850, I left the neighborhood of Fort Larimie, and the north fork of Platte river, at which time and from which place I wrote you a brief account of my proceedings. I returned again to the Arkansas river, where I arrived on the 15th of March, and descended the river to a place called the "Big Timber." At this point I found a party of traders, and also a part of nearly all the Indian tribes of that country, assembled for the purpose of meeting me again in order to ascertain at what time, and at what place, the representatives of their "Great Father" wished to meet them in council, and for what purpose.

This assemblage of the different tribes took rise from conversations held with them while passing up the Arkansas in the fall, telling them that their "Great Father" had it in contemplation to call a council of all the prairie tribes, for the purpose of making and entering into a treaty of peace and amity with all—thereby to have a clear and definite understanding, and a foundation on which to base future proceedings. At the

"Big Timber," I remained nearly a month, having in the mean time held frequent meetings and conversations with the Indians, and became convinced that they felt great interest and anxiety in regard to the contemplated treaty. I then continued down the Arkansas river, by slow and easy marches, in company with the traders and all the Indians, until we arrived at the crossing of the great Santa Fé thoroughfare. Here we made another halt until the 10th of June, on which day, after disbanding the Indians, and recommending each band to proceed to their own proper hunting grounds, I took my departure for this place. My object for remaining so long on the Arkansas and in the vicinity of the Santa Fé road, was that I had still hopes of receiving further and more definite instructions in regard to the manner of preparation and proceeding in bringing the contemplated treaty before mentioned, about. And I regret exceedingly that the whole arrangement has not been completed the past summer; as I am confident the Indians of that country will never be found in better training, or their disposition more pliable, or better suited to enter into amicable arrangements with the government than they are at the present time. And I can with confidence and perfect knowledge, further state, that delays and putting off matters of this kind with Indians, is a thing they can hardly brook; as they will invariably attribute such delays to a course of tampering and temporizing in order to gain time for the purpose of making some plan or occasion for their disadvantage or injury. Indians are exceedingly jealous and selfish, as well as full of deception; yet, strange to say, there is nothing that they abhor more than to find such characteristics in a white man.

During my stay at the crossing of the Arkansas, and ascertaining that the Camanches were south of us in the adjacent country, and being the only Indians, in the whole district confided to me, not represented in the assembled multitude, I for the second time in the past year sent them a friendly invitation to come over and join me with the others at the "crossing"—that we might hold a friendly talk, and also to receive some presents which their "Great Father" had sent them. They received the messages with kindness and hospitality, and returned me for answer that they entertained no hostile or bad feelings whatever towards the Americans, and were determined in future to remain on friendly terms with all the whites, and not disturb or molest parties passing along the Santa Fé road; but that a meeting with the Americans this season could not be granted, on account of cholera, which their "medicine men," or prophets, prophesied would come again from the whites, and prevail amongst them, unless they kept at a proper distance. This was the only reason they gave for not coming to see me in a peaceable and friendly manner like all the others. They also stated that, after the present crop of grass died away, the cholera, that dreadful disease by which so many of their nation died, would also have no existence; after which they would have no hesitation or dread of meeting and mingling with the whites at any time.

The following are the names of the different tribes which assembled with me at the crossing of the Arkansas, all of whom seemingly entertain the best and most friendly feelings towards us. The Sioux, Cheyennes, Arripaboes, Kiawas, and Apaches. The Apaches here mentioned are not those of New Mexico, which have been ravaging that country for years. They are a band of fifty lodges, that have for many years lived with the Kiawas and Camanches, and have aided them in all their wars against both

Mexicans and Americans. Those tribes herein mentioned are all very formidable, and the most warlike on this continent, and occupy indiscriminately the country for several hundred miles, through which all the great thoroughfares to New Mexico, Oregon, and California pass. The importance of putting forth adequate means to keep this formidable horde of savages in check, is so evident under the circumstances, that I need not dwell on the subject, further than to state that it is much more easily done than is generally imagined; but must be accomplished by men having a good knowledge of Indian character, manners, customs, &c., and above all, of their deception, cunning, rascality, and mode of warfare. It is much to be regretted that the instructions of the Department, to me last year, in regard to taking a delegation from each tribe to Washington city, has not been carried out, as nothing in my opinion would have had a more beneficial effect (save an effective and severe chastisement of any one of the depredating tribes), than a visit of the principal men of each tribe to the United States. And until such takes place, or until we show our strength and ability to protect ourselves, by giving some one of the most unruly tribes a good flogging, I much fear that any treaties which may be made or entered into with them, will not be very lasting—at least not longer than they may consider it advantageous; because they have not the slightest idea whatever of the strength and power of the United States, and all overtures made, or favors extended them, even in the most liberal sense, will be construed as a sign of our weakness and inability (otherwise than by bribery), to protect our citizens travelling through the country. Indeed, these impressions are beginning to prevail amongst the Indian tribes of that country already, and have arisen from the fact of so many blundering, useless, and shamefully managed campaigns against a few miserable, wretched Indians of New Mexico, by our troops since the conquest and occupation of that country; all of which campaigns have been not only useless, but injurious to our cause throughout the whole Indian country, and a total failure of the end and object aimed at.

Many complaints have reached us from New Mexico within the last two years, in regard to the negligence of the United States government, in not extending to the inhabitants of that territory a greater and more reliable protection than they have yet received. Those complaints, in my opinion, are groundless, so far as the United States government is concerned; because enough of troops, if properly managed, have been stationed in that country to secure and protect the people against all the Indians able to reach it. Those men who complain so loudly, are men who traffic and trade in that country, and live and thrive on the expenditure of the troops. They care less about the protection of the inhabitants than they do about augmenting and increasing the expenses of the general government in that country. I will further assert, that five thousand troops stationed in Santa Fé, and a proportionate number in all the villages, hamlets, and *ranches* throughout New Mexico, would not produce a better state of things than at present, nor lessen the ravages of the Indians. This assertion may, and no doubt will, be considered erroneous, yet it is nevertheless true—and New Mexico, as well as all our distant Western territory, and which we are in duty bound to protect, will always be in an unsafe and insecure condition, until our troops intended for such service, instead of remaining in garrison in a stupid and wretched state of indolence and dissipation, will take to campaigning and travelling over

the country at all times when practicable, and that is invariably for six, or even seven months in the year if necessary. This course of action would not add to the expenses of maintaining the troops; on the contrary, I believe it would be a great saving in many respects, and particularly in the article of forage, which is scarce, and at all times very dear in New Mexico.

I have heretofore frequently alluded to the subject, and still maintain that until some such course is adopted, no reliable state of safety or security from Indian depredations can or may be expected, from the precarious and uncertain state of feeling and disposition of the uncivilized and untamed savage, whose chief and sole ambition is to plunder and destroy his fellow-man. Would it not be better, more healthy, and more pleasant, for men to travel leisurely about the mountains and over the plains, watching and observing the movements and conduct of the Indians, where game, grass, good pasturage, &c., are to be found in abundance, and of the very best quality, than to remain in garrison the whole time, and be subject and liable to the arrests and punishments which idleness and dissipation invariably bring upon the soldier? The answer is obvious—the soldier would be much better satisfied—more healthy and vigorous, and be found at all times in good condition and proper training, when active and important duties became necessary. Horses, and other animals used in campaigning in that country, would also become inured to the service, and thereby perform much better.

The very reverse, however, of all this is now and has been all along practiced by our troops in New Mexico, which is the great secret of their inefficiency and inability to keep in check a few wretched savages. They (the troops) are quartered in Santa Fé and other villages of New Mexico, the society, associations, and morals of which are not at all calculated to improve the soldier either physically or morally. They are, I repeat, stationed in these villages, where all the most ruinous vices of the savage and civilized man are daily and hourly openly practiced, and that too, without even the check of public opinion to disapprove or condemn such conduct. What service then, in a military point of view, can possibly be expected from men habituated for years or even months to such a life? It is this—when those men are suddenly called out by such an emergency, not to prevent disaster nor to protect the inhabitants (for the damage is already done), but to chastise some marauding band of Indians for the murder and robbery of some of our citizens, they with reluctance leave their haunts of pleasure and enjoyment, and seldom or never overtake the enemy.

I have no disposition whatever to meddle or interfere, or disparage the portion of the army in that country, as many, if not all of them, rendered good and gallant service in the Mexican war. But I must say that the information frequently coming from that country, and diffused with exaggerations throughout the whole district, will eventually have a ruinous effect on the feelings and disposition of the Indians of my agency; because there is nothing to keep them in check but a dread of the power of the United States, which they are now beginning to think is more imaginary than real. This, then, is the only reason I have for alluding to the career of the troops in New Mexico, and I hope it will be found a sufficient apology for doing so.

I have on many occasions received circulars from the Department, in-

structing me to collect statistics—take the census of the different tribes—form a vocabulary of the different Indian languages, &c., all of which I conceive to be proper and important for the Department to be in possession of, and would willingly and with great pleasure comply, had I the means and opportunity to do so. It is well known that the Indians of the Upper Platte and Upper Arkansas are all roaming tribes, speaking different languages, and live altogether by the chase, and are continually roaming about from place to place in search of game and subsistence. Under these circumstances, is it not evidently difficult, if not impracticable, for me to comply with all these requisitions; situated as I have heretofore been in that inhospitable region, without the necessary means of transportation, or protection; nor not even interpreters at all times to explain what I would wish to say to the Indians? And besides, to make and pursue such investigations as would be necessary in the above cases, would, from the very nature of the very superstitious notions of those tribes, create great distrust and false notions in regard to the object, which would certainly have a very dangerous tendency.

What I now respectfully recommend to the Department, and what I believe to be essentially necessary at this time, while the Indians of whom I speak are friendly disposed, is at once and without further delay, to have some understanding with them in regard to the right of way through their country, and whatever our and their rights may be, let us and them know it, that we may have some data on which to base future proceedings. This is what the Indians want, and what they are exceedingly anxious about, having been told long since, and so often repeated by travellers passing (and who care little about the consequences of false promises, so they slip through safely and unmolested themselves), that their "Great Father" would soon reward them liberally for the right of way, the destruction of game, timber, &c., as well as for any kindness shown Americans passing through their country.

I have learned, since my arrival here, from the Indian country, that troops had left Fort Leavenworth for the Arkansas River, for the purpose of establishing a post at the "Big Timber" on that stream. The measure is a good one, and the position eligible enough; but I fear the Indians will strongly object to a post being established at that particular place, as it is a great and favorite wintering ground for many of the tribes. There is in its neighborhood at all times during the winter, an abundance of buffalo, antelope, deer, and elk. Good pasture and fuel are also abundant.

The Indians occupying the Upper Platte and Upper Arkansas districts are very numerous and very formidable. They subsist entirely by the chase, and have no permanent abode whatever. They follow the game from place to place, and as it becomes scarce they are compelled to increase their movements. Through these districts all the great leading thoroughfares pass; and the immense emigration travelling through that country for the past two years, has desolated and impoverished that country to an enormous extent. Under these circumstances, would it not be just as well, as economical policy, for the government at this time to show some little liberality, if not justice to their passive submission? For my own part I am satisfied it would be economical and good policy for the government at this time to extend even a little show of justice to the Indians of that country, and to avoid a hostile collision, if possible. Be-

cause, if we may judge from the difficulties, disasters, and expenditures occurring in New Mexico, in endeavoring to guard against a few miserable unarmed wretches, what then will be the consequences, should twenty thousand well armed, well mounted, and the most warlike and expert in war of any Indians on the continent, turn out in hostile array against all American travellers through their country?

This must suffice for my annual report, and I regret not having been able to have submitted it from the Indian country, as in that case it might have been more full and complete in details.

Very respectfully, your obed't serv't,

THOMAS FITZPATRICK,

Indian Agent, Upper Platte and Arkansas.

D. D. MITCHELL, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 3.

OSAGE RIVER AGENCY,
September 6, 1850.

SIR: I would respectfully make the following brief report of the affairs of the Osage River Agency for the year 1850. A residence among the Indian tribes belonging to this agency for seventeen months has better fitted me to judge correctly of their condition and wants than at the time I last reported to the Department. The residence of the agent for this agency is among the Sac and Fox tribe of Indians; this tribe of Indians number more than double that of any other in my agency—in all about 3000; they are divided into nine separate bands, each of which is headed by one recognized as a chief; in many instances their leaders are selected from among their braves, and declared their leaders more on account of their heroic deeds than from the fact of inheriting their blood from the royal chieftaincy. It is owing to this mode of selecting their chiefs that we attribute the want of good and competent men. There are two principal chiefs (acting, authorized chiefs) in this tribe, with whom we transact most of the business of the nation, Keokuk and No-q-ah-cos-see. They are honest and better fitted for this station than most other Indians occupying similar posts. The Sac and Fox Indians are now in a state of peace and quietude, no disturbances occurring amongst them; they are entirely under the control of their agent so far as any matter of business is concerned. There are some things, however, that I cannot control them in, one of the most important of which is the use of intoxicating drinks. This they have used to a greater extent in the last eight months than ever before. I have exerted myself to the extent of my capacity to prevent the introduction and use of them, but all to no effect; in many instances we want the authority (or law); in others, we want the means to execute the authority we have.

Since making my last report, six murders have been committed in this tribe, all of which have resulted from the use of intoxicating drinks. I have yet but little encouragement from them as regards the introduction of

missionaries and the establishment of schools among them; indeed, such a proposition has in many instances excited them almost to hostilities. I yet hope that, ere long, through the exertion of their two principal chiefs, to succeed in establishing one of the largest schools in the Indian country. Of all the affairs connected with this tribe of Indians, there is none that affords me more pleasure to speak of than the advanced state of their farming pursuits; they have tilled this season five or six hundred acres of land in corn; but, unfortunately for them, there has been an entire failure of the crop, owing to the dryness of the season, having had but one good rain since planting-time up to this date, and the thermometer for six weeks ranging from 95 to 110.

The Sac and Fox Indians complain much about the government paying their money for old claims (they say), without their consent; at the payment last spring there was much excitement upon the subject. They have now erecting a spacious council-house, office and ware-room; the room is intended to be used for two purposes—for storing away their salt, tobacco, &c., and, when not required for this, as a hospital for the sick. We have now under consideration the propriety of building a hospital, which is much needed.

The Kansas Indians, for the last eight months, have been in continued bustle and excitement. Their number will not vary much from my last report. There have been some few murders; among the number murdered is one of their chiefs, Ke-buck-co-mo, a very bad and dangerous man; his death is regretted neither by white nor red man. They have committed many depredations on the Santa Fé road, and are constantly stealing horses from the neighboring tribes. It was indeed with much difficulty that I could prevent the Sac and Fox Indians from invading their country and punishing them for their frequent outrages upon their property. The Kansas Indians have become great whiskey dealers as well as drinkers. They often travel a distance of two or three hundred miles for whiskey, making it convenient to steal a pony or two as they pass along, and exchange the same with the miserable whites along the line for whiskey. They have had broken for them, this season, three hundred acres of land, which was planted in corn; I fear, however, they will not till this land in future. They have no inclination to work. The Methodist Church have in progress of erection, under the superintendence of the Rev. Thomas Johnson, buildings to be used in conducting the Manual Labor School, chartered by the Department. There will be an effort to complete them this fall.

The Miami Indians have conducted themselves during the present year much better than formerly; the amount of intoxicating drinks used in this tribe is much less than heretofore; consequently, the number of deaths are less; about 30 of the tribe have signed a pledge which prohibits the use of all intoxicating drinks for one year. The farming operations of this tribe have been carried on during the present season with unusual success; indeed, I have been agreeably disappointed in being able to persuade these people to go to work. A majority of the tribe have this season aided in cultivating the public farms; many of them were to be seen following the plough and wielding the maul. They will make a good crop, considering the season has been bad—they are now preparing to sow wheat; they have now fully completed a very superior mill, which has recently been put into operation. I think they will now build themselves

good houses, and open more farms; these people are now in a better condition than ever before; they have raised an abundance of corn, and have a mill to grind it—and, what is still better, all of those little hordes which have heretofore been hanging about the State-line, and the groceries along the line have mostly broken up and moved near to the mission buildings. For their improved condition, much credit is due to Amos H. Goodin, their farmer. The Miamies are now much concerned about the fate of their mission—they have made a unanimous call upon the government to place the mission in the hands of the Baptist denomination, and they promise to aid in building up a flourishing school. Upon this subject, however, I have called the attention of the department before. These Indians, like the Sacs and Foxes, complain heavily against the Government for allowing the payment of large claims out of their annuity—many of which they say are not just, and some are entitled to large credits upon them.

The Ottawas have as usual pursued their avocation (of farming)—having entirely abandoned the hunt; most of them have erected houses and opened farms; they have among them a small grist mill, which is sufficient for their purposes. This tribe is somewhat on the increase—they have their own laws, officers, &c.—about 70 of them are members of the Baptist church; they suffer no liquor to be introduced into their country. I consider these Indians much farther advanced in civilization than any other tribe on the frontier; there is no school in operation at this time among them—they have, however, a missionary residing there, who administers to their spiritual wants, and indeed to him may be attributed their advanced state of civilization.

The Weas, Piankeshaws, Kaskaskias and Perrias, whose lands are adjoining, are living in a state of peace and happiness. Indeed, such is the harmony of feeling existing among them, that they may be looked upon (almost) as one and the same tribe. They have, at this time, propositions before the government for disposing of their surplus lands, and confederating into one body—making their annuities joint means, each sharing alike. I am much in hopes this confederation may be brought about. Of the particulars concerning this movement, the Department is already in possession. These tribes generally are in an advanced state of civilization; they ape the white man more than any other Indians, and seek every opportunity to improve themselves; most of them live in log houses, and have small fields about them which they cultivate in corn, potatoes, &c. Had they the means of other Indians around them, they could soon be at the head of their red brothers in point of condition.

Upon the lands of the Wea tribe is located the Baptist mission, superintended by the Rev. David Lykens. This school is indeed in a flourishing condition; the yearly number of scholars is about 35; the children are generally healthy, and have improved much in their tuition during this year. This mission has received but little aid from the government, and I think there has been more real good growing out of it than any other mission in the Indian territory. The influence of this mission, under the management of that most worthy man, the Rev. David Lykens, has not only tended to advance the condition of the children immediately under his charge, but may be found in every wigwam or house in the territory. Much credit is also due to Miss J. A. Osgood, who is at the head of the female department of this school; she is a most estimable young

lady, and is peculiarly well fitted for the position which she occupies. I am in hopes that this school will receive some aid from the civilization fund this year.

The Chippewas, during the present year, have made renewed efforts towards improving their farms, and increasing their stock. The frequent depredations committed by their neighbors, the Sac and Fox Indians, tend to discourage them in their efforts; they are very industrious, and make use of all the means in their power to improve their condition. Their annuity is small; in fact, I might say nothing; they are therefore unable to fit themselves out for farming, or any other vocation. It would, indeed, be a piece of charity well bestowed to make these Indians a few presents in the way of horses, farming utensils, &c.

The smith-shops among the different tribes are all being carried on, and well supplied with material. It is with much difficulty that I can obtain a suitable person to remain at the council grove among the Ranger Indians, owing to their remoteness from the State, and the want of protection from the insults and threats of those Indians. I have appointed no interpreter for the Kansas Indians, for the reason that I could find no suitable person. I have therefore selected persons temporarily, at such times as I found need, and paid them for the time actually in service. While speaking of interpreters, I will take occasion to say, that the salaries, as a general thing, are not sufficient to procure suitable men; for instance, the Sac and Fox interpreter is needed most all of his time with the agent, yet the agent has frequently to get along without him, his services being required by the surgeon, and with him he must frequently make a visit of 10 or 15 miles. The residence of the agent and interpreter is the home of the Indian; their rooms are always open, and their table is always spread. The interpreter must be a reliable man, a man of intelligence; he must be one who will live clear of all other influences, especially those of the traders, and other whites. In conclusion, then, I say, the salary is not sufficient to procure such a man, who will live clear of other interests and influences.

The different reports from missionaries, surgeon, and farmer, have not yet been received; they will be forwarded as soon as they come to hand.

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

CHARLES N. HANDY,
Indian Agent.

Col. D. D. MITCHELL,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 4.

WEA AND PIANKASHAW SCHOOL,
Osage River Agency, September 3d, 1850.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I take great pleasure in laying before you the condition of this school during the past year, and its present condition. I trust, sir, you will pardon me, if I also refer in this report to the Indians generally in this part of your extensive field of agency. And, let me assure you, sir, that it affords me the highest gratification to note the rapid improvement of

the Indians in this vicinity under your *prompt* and *efficient* administration of their affairs; and it affords me peculiar pleasure to believe (notwithstanding what disappointed ambition or cupidity might say) that those employed by you in the Indian country are such men as will exercise a *good, moral influence*. I am aware, sir, that it requires great *moral nerve* to discharge duties, which, though often painful, are as often absolutely incumbent upon an officer of government among the Indians. The improvement the past year among the three bands in whose country our school is situated, has been greater than that of any preceding year since we have been among them. New land has been ploughed, rails made, fields fenced, and a considerable number of houses built of hewed logs. There has been much less whiskey introduced into the country, and not more than one case of intoxication where there were formerly three. In a good degree, the above remarks will apply to the Miamies, now quite a respectable people.

The school under our charge is conducted on the manual labor plan, and has averaged the past year thirty-five children. I cannot speak too highly in commendation of the untiring efforts of Miss S. A. Osgood, principal teacher in behalf of the school, from whose annual report I take the following extract:—

“With pleasure, I write, that the present condition of Harvey Institute is prosperous and encouraging. The number enrolled last year is forty-two, twenty-six boys and sixteen girls. The attendance has been more regular than in any preceding year; consequently, more good has resulted from our efforts. One of our girls (daughter of Baptiste Peoria), is happily married to one of her tribe, whose attainments are equal with hers. One of our most interesting little girls has been taken from us by death.

“The entire number of readers of various grades is thirty-two, more than half of which read with facility, and several are good readers.

“The writing pupils number twenty-four, many of whom write neatly. In most cases, the scholars of this school surpass in penmanship those of white schools I have taught.

“The little girls excel in sewing and fancy needle-work. We hope, as our girls grow up, to send them out well-fitted to perform the duties of housekeeper, wife, &c.

“Other branches taught—geography, arithmetic, grammar, and composition—in all of which the pupils have made gratifying progress.

“All the children in school are rapidly acquiring the English language.”

The above, in short, comprises the past and present condition of the school, and when it is borne in mind that this school, with the exception of \$300, has been wholly supported from its commencement, a period of five years, by benevolent funds—the contributions of churches—I think it will be admitted “we have done what we could.”

In conclusion, sir, permit me to express our thanks for your kind attention, and our gratification that your efforts in the cause of Indian improvement have met with so much success.

Very respectfully your obed't serv't,

DAVID LYKINS,

Sup't Harvey Institute.

Col. C. N. HANDY,
Agent, &c.

No. 5.

OTTAWA MISSION STATION,
September 3, 1850.

SIR: During the year now past the Ottawas have enjoyed better health than during any previous year since they emigrated to this country. They have almost entirely laid aside their former Indian habits, and have become in a great degree civilized; consequently they are improving in health and increasing in numbers. Since January 1st, 1849, there have been among them six deaths and twenty-six births. Their habits of industry, temperance, and conformity to the customs of the whites, are every year becoming more and more firmly fixed. Since the opening of the last spring many of them have added to their farms from five to fifteen acres. The prospect in the fore part of the season was that they should have some two or three thousand bushels of corn and potatoes to sell, but the drought has been so great that their fields will not average, probably, more than five bushels to the acre.

Many of the adults who cannot speak English, learn to read, write, and cipher in their own language, but send their children to English schools among the neighboring tribes. Twenty-three of their children are now at such schools.

The undersigned has, during the present year, been occupied principally in translating portions of Scripture, hymns, &c., into the Ottawa language, and in printing two small works of 255 pages. Regular Sabbath preaching and week-day prayer-meetings have been continued as formerly. Good attention has generally been given to our religious meetings. Sixty-two are at this time members in good standing of the "Ottawa Baptist Mission Church."

About ten years ago the Ottawas found it necessary to make a law to prevent stealing; since which time they have occasionally been forming new ones. In January last they, in general council, formed four new laws, revised and corrected all they had previously adopted, and ordered that the whole should be printed both in Indian and English. They enforce these laws most strictly whenever violated. I herewith send you a copy of them.

Most respectfully I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

JOTHAM MEEKER,

Missionary.

Col. C. N. HANDY,
U. S. Ind. Agent.

 No. 6.

October 21st, 1850.

SIR: In conformity to existing regulations, I have to report the conditions of the Indians within this sub-agency.

The Iowas have raised this year, not quite an average crop of corn, pumpkins, squashes, &c. The cause of the deficiency is no doubt attributable to the interruption produced by the California emigrants passing

through their country, affording them new and increased facilities to obtain ardent spirits.

There is no perceivable change in their habits for the better, as regards industry or virtue; indeed, I fear they are more lewd and dissipated than they were years since. In my judgment, the hope of improving their condition, while they remain at their present home, is extremely small. I speak of the adults of course; the children, who are at the manual labor boarding-school, are very correct in their deportment, and learning rapidly. Under this impression, I would respectfully recommend that the proper authorities make a purchase of their country, and locate them at some place where it would be more difficult for them to procure ardent spirits. Should this recommendation be received with favor, and if action should be taken by the proper authorities to effect it, I may with propriety suggest, that it would be useless to give these Indians a very large quantity of land, as in their most extended labors they have never cultivated more than one section of land in any one season. I would beg leave to state, that in the event the government should purchase the lands of these Indians, no one thing will more contribute to their future welfare and preservation, than the reservation of a distinct and separate fund, set apart for agricultural and mechanical purposes, and placed entirely beyond the control of the Indians.

The Missouri River Sacs and Foxes are not much given to dissipation, and are much more provident than is usual with our border tribes; and consequently, are never in want of either food or necessary clothing. The pattern farm affords an abundant supply of bread stuffs for the entire band, though they make use of as much industry as is common with wild Indians, to raise pumpkins, squashes, &c. &c., for themselves. The Sac and Fox farmer has cultivated eighty acres in corn, sowed forty acres of wheat, and planted about five acres in Irish potatoes this year. The corn will average forty bushels to the acre, the potatoe crop will be light, the wheat was well put in, and bids fair to be a good crop.

I had their mill repaired, and it is believed, it will do well. We ground for the Sacs and Foxes upwards of two hundred bushels of wheat before I left home. I have had only five thousand rails made to repair the farm fence, at least ten thousand more will be required to make it a good fence. During this winter I shall be able to put the farm in good condition.

Notwithstanding all the efforts I could make this summer, I have been unable to break any new lands for the Indians as yet, but feel confident that I can open the fields near their village, in the spring, which they are so anxious to have. I had expected, before making this report, to receive the report of the Rev. Messrs. Hamilton and Irvin, the superintendents of the manual labor boarding-school, giving a detailed account of its condition.

This will be forwarded to you in a short time. It is owing to no neglect of duty on their part, that the report is not here, for I should do injustice both to these gentlemen and my own feelings, if I closed this report without giving my humble testimony to the fidelity, diligence, and prudence, with which they have discharged their responsible and laborious duties to these poor Indians, laboring faithfully and industriously for their present and future welfare.

I would respectfully call your attention to the subject of the fund,

which was formerly given to the sub-agent at this place to feed the Indians at the payments of the annuity. Although a small sum, yet it assisted the agent in maintaining an influence, which, if used with discretion, was, and would be beneficial to the Indians and to the government.

I am, sir, yours respectfully,

WM. P. RICHARDSON,
*Indian Sub-agent,
Great Nemaha Sub-agency.*

To Col. D. D. MITCHELL,
Supt. Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 7.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,
November 4, 1850.

DEAR SIR: As you took an active part in the establishment of this school when formerly sub-agent for the two tribes of Indians (Iowa and Sac and Fox), it may be interesting to you, and to the Department, to have a brief statement of the condition of the school since its commencement, upwards of four years since.

The school was opened in the spring or summer of 1846, but sickness in the mission family, and want of proper help, operated against it, so that, during the fall of that year, there were only eight children in the school, six Iowas, and two of half-blooded Pottawatomies. On the 1st of November, the children began to come in, and in a few weeks, we had between thirty and forty scholars.

The following table will give in round numbers, the average attendance of each year, with the number received, left, &c. &c.

The past year shows a less average number of scholars than the preceding one; but this is owing to the fact that the number of scholars decreased towards the close of that year, while during the past year they have gradually increased, having at the present date thirty-nine scholars.

YEARS,	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.
No. rec'd, including those in the school,	70	45	40	40
No. left,	50	16	8	2
No. at the close of the year,	20	29	32	38
Average attendance,	24	24	34	32

Of those in the school, there are:

Reading and writing in English and Iowa,	15
Geography,	1
Spelling (and some of them writing),	20
Alphabet,	3

There are half bloods:

Boys,	12	Girls,	5—17
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The scholars are from the following tribes, viz.:

Iowas,	30
Sac,	1 half-blood.

Fox,	1 half-blood.
Snake,	:	.	.	.	.	.	1 " "
Blackfeet,	.	.	.	.	.	.	2 " "
Sioux,	.	.	.	.	.	.	2 " "
Ottoo,	.	.	.	.	.	.	1 " "

Some of those who have left the school can read in their own language.

For some time, the children were taught in their own language, as it was thought useless to instruct them in the English, while so many of them remained for so short a time. During the past summer, they have been taught the English, and I think are making quite as good improvement as we could expect.

In addition to the instruction given to the children at the station, the adult Indians are visited at their homes, for the purpose of imparting to them religious instruction. These visits are made three times a week, unless something providential occur to prevent them. The attention they give to preaching on these occasions, is often good, and at other times quite indifferent. No special improvement is manifest amongst them, yet we hope our labors in their behalf are not altogether in vain. Besides Mr. Irvin's family, and my own, we have at present a female teacher, Miss S. A. Waterman, three hired girls, also, one hired hand on the farm. The boys of the school did much towards raising and gathering our crop of corn, etc. Trusting you may be seconded by the Department in your efforts to benefit these tribes, I remain,

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. HAMILTON.

To Maj. W. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 8.

WYANDOTT INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
September 4, 1850.

SIR: The time has arrived when it becomes necessary to make to you my annual report of the condition of the Wyandott Indians, within this sub-agency; and in performing this duty, I beg leave to make only a few remarks, as nothing of any great moment has occurred within this sub-agency, since my last report, as to require any lengthy essay or report.

I can discover no very prominent improvement in the condition or advancement of the Wyandotts; they seem to be gliding on calmly and leisurely, manifesting but little ambition for any extra public spirit. The new treaty, now in progress, forms, perhaps, some little exception to their contentment, as a portion of the nation, and not unlikely the largest, are averse to it; and from all I can learn, the largest portion. The election last month for a new board of chiefs, resulted in the choice of three, out of five, opposed to the contemplated treaty. What may be the movement of those opposed to the treaty in future, I am not now prepared to say.

The schools of this nation are three; and are under the special care and direction of three school directors, chosen by the nation. For want of a

more ample school fund, their schools are of the common order of country schools, as in the States. This year there have been taught in the three schools, eighty-four children—each of the schools are under the superintendence of three young ladies from the States. There are two local preachers within the nation, and each has a Sunday School, very well attended by the Indian children. The last year's excitement in the nation, about the church, *South* and *North*, has gradually subsided, and to some extent transferred upon the subject of the new treaty.

During the present year, there has been an accession to the nation of some twenty persons, of Wyandott origin, from the State of Ohio, who, I presume, have come hither to participate in the benefits of the new treaty, in anticipation of its supposed ratification.

A company of some eight or nine persons of the nation, left this spring for California, which, with the number already there, amounts to twenty-three or twenty-four, all seeking for gold.

There have been but two deaths by cholera in the nation the past summer. We feel to have been most fortunate, for it has been near and all around us. There have been two murders committed upon Wyandott men, within the last three months, in the State near here, the result of drunkenness. I made every exertion to find out the perpetrators of those killed. In one of the cases, a white man was arrested in Jackson county, Mo., charged by the Wyandotts with having killed one of their people; but after legal investigation, myself and the chiefs being present, the man was acquitted.

The nearness of the nation to the State of Missouri, and the facility of the Indians to obtain liquor, make it next to impossible for the agent to restrain them from going to the State in search of it, without the co-operation of the State authorities.

I beg leave to remark that, by the treaty with this nation in the year 1842, there was granted to thirty-four individuals of the nation, a section of land each, to be located upon the public domain in the Indian country. Some of those persons entitled to this claim of land are becoming rather restless and dissatisfied, and say to me that injustice has been done them, by their lands never having been surveyed and allotted them, according to the said treaty of 1842. My reply to them was, to have some little more patience, that the government would certainly make good every stipulation in that treaty. I would, therefore, suggest that the land referred to be surveyed and allotted at as early a day as may be convenient, in fulfilment of said treaty of 1842.

A large portion of the Wyandotts have made good crops of corn and vegetables, sufficient for their support and some to spare. The health of the nation is now very good.

I certainly have no cause to murmur against the Wyandotts. In all matters wherein I have to act with and for them, I find them kind, courteous, and polite. I get along much to the mutual satisfaction of myself, the chiefs, and the nation at large, yet there are a few (and they are few) restless, mischief-making whites, that occasionally annoy me and also the nation.

Most respectfully your obedient servant,
 THOMAS MOSELY, Jr.,
Ind. Sub-agent for Wyandotts.

Col. D. D. MITCHELL,
Supt. Ind. Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 9.

OSAGE SUB-AGENCY,
10th Month the 23, 1850.

ESTEEMED FRIEND: I now proceed to perform that part of my duty which requires me to report the state of affairs of the Indians under my care.

The great and little Osages number, according to the "pay roll" I have made out with much care, and which is believed to be correct, 4561 souls. They have no farms, except those belonging to the half breeds, the head chief George Whitehair, and a few others. The half breeds manage their farms well; but, owing to the drought the past summer, the corn was all ruined. Most of the Indians who had no ground enclosed, planted lots of corn along the water-courses, where they could dig the ground with hoes and thus cultivate the corn, and that, at so great a distance from their villages, as to be out of danger from being destroyed by their horses, and what little other stock they have. These lots of corn their women cultivated, until all went on their "summer hunt," but on their return, recently, they found no corn, but all entirely ruined. I think I may safely say, that there were not (including the missionaries and half breeds, who tended their crops well), 100 bushels of corn raised within the limits of the Osage nation this season. This is a sad affair for these Indians, and leaves them in a very destitute condition; as much so as they were in a few years since, when the flood swept their corn off. That subject then claimed the favorable attention of government, which I hope will now be the case, in this equally calamitous dispensation of Divine Providence.

The Osages have been remarkably healthy the present year, which will appear from the number of deaths which have been ascertained, and will be seen in this report.

They have drunk very little liquor in the nation, as may readily be inferred from the fact that but one murder has been committed the past year within the nation, and that was done when the parties were stupefied with whiskey, which I had destroyed as soon as I discovered it, but after a poor, drunken Indian was beaten to death. What they may have drunk at the haunts of those wretches amongst our own race in the State, who keep this poison for these poor Indians, I cannot say, but from what I learn from *honest* white men, the amount drunk is not so great as heretofore. I have endeavored to do my duty in this matter, and hope my labors have not been lost.

The Manual Labor School for the instruction of the Osage youth, is within a few rods of the agency. I have noticed the progress of this interesting school, since my arrival in this country, as well as the conduct of the children when out of school, and I think it not out of place for me to remark here, that when I consider the adults composing the tribe from which these children were taken, bold, selfish, unconquered, entirely uncultivated, and most of them determined to carry with them, to the end of their days, their wild, romantic, and savage habits, and then observe the friendly, courteous, respectful and genteel deportment of these children, I have no hesitation in giving it as my opinion, that the managers of this school have done their duty faithfully.

I have just examined both branches of the school. The pupils appear to be attentive, and obedient to their teachers—have advanced considerably (many of them) in their studies; some in arithmetic, grammar, and geography, in both departments of the school, and this class write well; of the others, many of them read and write, and the girls, or at least most of them, make up their own clothing as well as perform very fine needle work and drawing; and are very helpful in cooking, and other work appertaining to housewifery. For further particulars, I refer to the report of the superintendent, which is appended.

I may state, however, that there are 80 children, 53 boys and 27 girls, in attendance at this time, which is about their regular number.

The first article of the treaty of 11th of January, 1849, provides that the government will pay to the great and little Osages, for the term of 20 years, an annuity of \$20,000, to be paid in the Osage nation—\$12,000 in money and \$8,000 in goods, stock, provisions, or money, as the President may direct.

The chiefs and head men, in general council, proposed to me to ask the President to send them the whole twenty thousand dollars in money each year in future.

The reasons they give for a change in this matter are, “that they never receive such goods as they want—that every time the goods reach here some articles are damaged—that this year the cloths and calicoes, or much of them, were nearly ruined; and that, as the government had to pay money for the goods, they hoped that their Great Father would hear them, and send in future the whole amount of their annuity in money.”

They begged of me to insist on a compliance with the above request, which I do with pleasure, and hope the President will comply, as I can assure him, that were the goods of the right kind, and could they reach here entirely clear of damage, it would be impossible to divide them so as that all would get a part. It has, I learn, been the practice heretofore, for the agent to divide the goods between the different bands according to their respective numbers, then deliver them to their chiefs, take their receipts, and let them distribute them among their people. This having been the practice heretofore, I pursued the same course at the payment just made, as the chiefs would not be satisfied with any other. Were the chiefs entirely divested of partiality and covetousness (which they are not), they could not divide these goods at all equally among their people, nor could any person. I suppose half the goods are composed of articles ranging in value from four to ten dollars, and such articles, too, as will not admit of being divided; the result then is, that a few get all these, while many others, and they generally the most needy, are turned off, very much disappointed, without the worth of one cent; when, were this eight thousand dollars sent in money, each one would receive about one dollar and seventy cents, which would enable the agent to see that each Osage got his or her just due.

I hope the President will turn his attention to this subject, and comply with the request of these Indians.

The goods sent the present year were all of a good quality, but badly injured, as will appear not only from my own statement and that of the chiefs, but from the statement of two respectable merchants, whose certificates, as well as one from the U. S. Interpreter, I enclose for the information of the Indian Department. These goods must have been damaged

before being shipped at the east, from reasons which are given in these certificates—for, had they got injured on their way west, all the dry goods, being shipped together, would have been injured alike. I send this for the information of those concerned, and as a very strong and justifiable reason the Indians have for not wishing any more goods to be sent them here.

The Osages conducted themselves well at the payment just made; were much rejoiced to get the provisions which were furnished them at the payment, as they were actually suffering from want. There was no liquor on the ground, or in the nation, at the time of paying them, that I could hear of. Within three days from the time they commenced receiving their money, they paid out for flour, coffee, sugar, rifles (for their buffalo hunt), clothing, &c. &c., over \$11,000; and proceeded at once to their fall hunt, without visiting the white settlements as often as heretofore, where liquor is provided and ready for them. They bought about 45,000 pounds of flour.

One other subject I beg leave to bring to the notice of the Department, which is in regard to the small amount of iron and steel furnished them each year. This amount, I know, is just the allowance under the treaty of 1839; but when we consider that it costs \$2,000 per annum to keep up the smith-shop; that for this \$2,000 there are only 1,000 lbs. of iron, and 160 lbs. of steel; and that, when the Osages shall receive such farming utensils as are provided for by the treaty, which consist of ploughs, gears, axes, and hoes, they will still need, as the farmer (or any one acquainted with farming) knows, many other articles which the smith could make, and have ample time to make; and which they never can have made out of the small amount of iron now sent them (as that will allow them but one and a half pounds to the family), I hope the amount of iron may be increased to 5,000 lbs., and of steel to 600 lbs. If the President will send money in lieu of goods, the amount paid for carrying the goods from New York or Philadelphia to this place being saved, would more than pay for the amount of iron and steel I want for these Indians.

Agreeably to instructions from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, I have, with the aid of the U. S. Interpreter, ascertained that the number of births the past year among the Osages amounts to about

No. of births amounts to	150
No. of deaths amounts to	73
No. of births over the number of deaths,	77
Of those who died 17 were men, 25 women, and 31 children.	
There are blind among this tribe,	9
Deaf,	5
Dumb,	3
Aged persons entirely helpless, male	18
“ “ “ “ female	15
Cripples, entirely helpless,	25
Making in all, who have to be taken care of,	75

All of which, together with the report throughout, is respectfully submitted.

I remain with high regard, thy friend,

HENRY HARVEY,

Osage Sub-agent.

P. S.—The Osages have about 10,000 head of horses.

Col. D. D. MITCHELL,

Supt. Ind. Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 10.

CATHOLIC MISSION,
Osage Nation, October 1, 1850.

SIR: As you have a deep interest in the promotion of the state and condition of the Indians, I feel happy to inform you, by this annual report, of the prosperous condition of both the male and female school, established for the benefit of the Osage youth.

The school for boys was opened on the 1st of May, 1849. The female school was commenced on the 10th of October of the same year.

I am confident, respected sir, that you, who have lived and conversed for many years among different Indian tribes, must candidly avow that our schools have already greatly benefited these Indians; and that there is good reason to hope that the character and manners of the little and great Osage nation will more visibly advance to civilization when our pupils shall be sufficiently educated to set good examples before their relations, drawing them to industry and regularity of life, both by example and advice. Your predecessor in office, Mr. John M. Richardson, says, in the Annual Report of 1848, page 163, "Without depreciating the children of other tribes, none equal those of the Osages in their capacity to receive an education. The buildings for their school are, and were not at the first, such as the missionaries had reason to expect. They were intended to accommodate only twenty boys and the same number of girls, and for an experiment at educating the Osage children."

This experiment proved to be successful, and consequently it became necessary to erect more ample buildings; and during the past and present years, a suitable school-house has been finished at a cost of eight hundred dollars. This main building is fifty feet long by twenty-five feet wide on the inside, and two full stories high. It is divided into two large school-rooms and one common sleeping-room. Sixty-three boys might be accommodated, if the dining-room and kitchen of the first-erected building were proportionally large.

For the better accommodation of the female school, a meat-house, wash-house, and bake-house have been put up, costing one hundred and eighteen dollars; also, a well, at a cost of forty-five dollars. The plastering of these rooms in the female department having fallen from the ceiling, and both chimneys having tumbled in, an expense for repairs has been incurred of sixty-eight dollars. A pailing fence of eighty panels around both establishments has been made, at a cost of fifty dollars; and other necessary and permanent improvements have been made, so as to make the total amount of expenses about fourteen hundred dollars.

I had commenced, in the middle of last year, to weather-board the two houses erected before our arrival in the nation, but having finished only one-third of one house we dismissed the mechanics; the Osage saw-mill being out of repair, no plank could be had except from the State of Missouri, at an extraordinary price; and not having the necessary funds, I was obliged to abandon this necessary improvement, intending, however, to finish the weather-boarding of both houses before winter. I have engaged six thousand clap-boards, four feet long by six inches wide, at ninety-five dollars per hundred. The establishment is divided into a male and female department, and numbers fifty-three boys and twenty-

nine girls. The male department is conducted by three Catholic clergymen and seven lay-brothers; one of these, being a good scholar, is employed as assistant teacher; the others accompany the children during the hours of agricultural instruction, or such other employments as are calculated to instil into their minds industry and perseverance. As to the progress in learning made by these pupils, a considerable number can read well; they acquire a knowledge of penmanship more readily than the generality of white children; in the study of arithmetic, they exhibit a great deal of emulation. Sometimes the half-breeds, at other times the unmixed Osages, surpass one another. The other branches of common learning, such as geography and grammar, are also regularly taught.

With regard to the female department, nothing has been left undone to insure permanent success, being well aware that the progress of civilization, and the welfare of a rising nation greatly depend upon the female members of society, for they are to instil the first principles of virtue and morals, the fountains of a future happy generation. The pupils are educated under the careful guidance of six religious ladies, who devote all their attention to the mental and moral improvement of their pupils. They are taught spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography, and besides, certain hours are set apart for knitting, sewing, marking, embroidery, &c. Between school-hours they are engaged in the occupations of domestic economy. As the building for this female school was intended to accommodate only twenty children, it follows that it is much too small.

A cultivated intellect and external accomplishment are not alone sufficient to insure that wide and elevated influence, which we hope our children will one day exercise upon their relations; knowledge does not necessarily subdue or refine the passions and elevate the aims of its possessors. The fear of God, the anticipations of a future life have a powerful tendency to arouse the young to exertion. Indeed, civilization without true Christianity, is unattainable. The history of the world proves that Christianity is the grand civilizer of the human affections. The Osage youth have added new proofs to the thousands that have preceded. Never could we have succeeded to subdue their passionate and stubborn dispositions, without giving them first the knowledge of a common Master and Father, who witnesses all our deeds, rewards virtue, and punishes vice; who claims the service of all, and demands a strict observance of his holy commandments. Experience has taught that, when Osage children are well instructed in the knowledge of God, and the knowledge of the interior corruption of their own hearts, they are easily put forward on the way to trust in the grace of God, and to fight against the passions of the human heart. We have been successful in making them understand that these passions are the foul springs and sources of great evils; that, therefore, they must be curbed in a youthful heart. It is by these motives that we have introduced many into the school of virtue, where, having learned Christian fortitude, they receive paternal corrections with filial affection; or, when the first motions of passion overcome their resolutions, the excitement is soon calmed by the helmet of faith and the remembrance of duty; this will account for the good feelings that exist between the pupils and conductors.

To bring the school to the present flourishing condition, we have been obliged to make liberal sacrifices, the terms (fifty-five dollars per annum),

for educating these children not being sufficient to meet our expenses. Ever since the beginning of this year, I meditated to make considerable other improvements; to this end great industry was used during the whole of last spring to raise a large supply of corn, oats, and potatoes, but the dry season has frustrated all our hopes. The same field from which we gathered last year fourteen hundred bushels of corn, has only produced cornstalks without one single bushel of corn; the potato crop has also totally failed. Being obliged to incur unforeseen expenses to the amount of one thousand dollars, and our own resources being all exhausted, we are forced to abandon the projects of improvement.

Respectfully, yours,

JOHN SHOENMAKERS.

Mr. HENRY HARVEY,
Osage Sub-agent.

No. 11.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, SUB-AGENCY,
October 20, 1850.

SIR: Owing to my detention in St. Louis, waiting for the funds allotted to my agency, I will be only able to submit a very brief report, and was it not for the customary regulation of the Department requiring annual reports to reach it by the last of the present month, I would decline doing so until I could enter more into detail, and give a lengthier one than that which is now contemplated.

During the past year, the Indians generally under my charge have enjoyed good health, and have had unusual good fortune in hunting; which, as none but the Ottoes receive an annuity, has been the means of preventing many of them from starving. Game is fast receding from their hunting-grounds, and unless some new treaties are entered into, or some of their lands purchased by the government, they must in a year or two subsist only by wild roots and the wild products of the prairie. Such a state of things is to be greatly pitied by our sympathizing government, and I trust before that time arrives, that some provision will be made to foster and protect them from absolute starvation.

The vast quantity of emigration, which for the last two or three years has been pouring into and through the very midst of their corn-fields, their villages, and their hunting-grounds, must either be stopped or some remuneration extended them, or else I am inclined to believe that the great misery and want which they will come to, consequent upon such essential injuries to themselves and their country, will cause many of their *bad men* to commit acts of atrocity upon the persons of our emigrants, which can only be checked by constantly keeping an armed force along their trail. I truly hope that this matter, which presents itself in such a forcible light upon the consideration, and I may add the kind sympathies of our government, will not be passed over longer than the meeting of the next Congress. These three tribes, viz: Ottoes, Omahas, and Pawnees, from their present deplorable situation, suffer and feel the effects of this vast emigration more than all the other tribes together; and should the provisions be made which have already been recommended by the late Secretary of

the Interior, the Commissioner of Indian affairs and others, for compensating these Indians, I hope the above facts will be maturely considered.

Our smiths for the past year have done their usual variety of work; the only objections alleged by the Indians is that the material used is not quite adequate to their wants, an objection which, were their own views consulted, would be very difficult to obviate.

Our Pawnee school, under the charge of Mr. Samuel Allis, owing to the dilapidated state of the buildings and the want of room for many children, has been but of little advantage the past year; as I have stated before, it should be either discontinued or some new arrangements made. I am satisfied that, in its present situation, but little good can result from it.

Rev. E. McKinney, who is in charge of the Ottoo and Omaha mission, is effecting much good among these tribes. His school numbers constantly from thirty to forty children, and many seem to be making rapid strides in civilization and education. I have frequently recommended that the Pawnee children be turned over to Mr. McKinney, until some provision is made that will prove of more advantage to their tribe. The number of children under the age of 12 years belonging to this tribe (Pawnees), would, I am confident, reach twelve hundred (1200), a most astonishing number, when it is recollected that their whole population will not amount to over four or five thousand. What a vast field is here opened for the philanthropic and benevolent!

We are still greatly annoyed by the liquor traders on the line, and as long as the Indian is suffered to remain so contiguous to the white, there is no remedy which the law can apply that will effectually break up the traffic carried on by these lawless desperadoes. It is not an uncommon occurrence to find one-half of the articles manufactured by our smiths in the possession of these men, who have dealt out to the Indians instead, a few pints or quarts of whiskey. There is no way of putting an end to this cursed trade, unless when a liquor-trader is caught in the Indian country, he can be punished upon the spot. When Indians are known violators of the intercourse law, the civil law but very seldom answers the end for which it was intended, and often has the effect of heightening instead of diminishing the evil; an example and a warning are to them of far greater advantage than all the threats that can be made. For all offences, of whatever nature, they should be punished upon their own ground, and where the eyes of their whole nation are upon them.

All experienced Indian men will concur with me, both as regards the white as well as Indian violators of law.

The reports of the Rev. E. McKinney and Rev. Sam'l Allis, owing to my absence and unusual detention in St. Louis, have not yet been made out; should I have an opportunity of sending them so as to reach your office by the 1st November, I will avail myself of it.

I have the honor to remain,

Very truly, your ob't serv't,

JOHN E. BARROW,

N. S. Ind. S. Agent.

Col. D. D. MITCHELL,
Sup't Ind. Affairs.

No. 12.

SIR: In pursuance of your instructions, I most respectfully submit to the Department the following brief report of affairs in connection with the Upper Missouri sub-agency during the past year.

The tribes included in this agency are, the Sioux, Arickarees, Gros-Ventres, Crows, Blackfeet, Assiniboines, and Crees; and at the outset, it gives me much pleasure to state, that by the overruling of a benignant Providence, these tribes have enjoyed an uninterrupted measure of health scarcely known, and in a temporal point of view, have been exceedingly prosperous. Buffalo and game of all sorts having been abundant, they have at once had an ample supply of meats for their own sustenance, and in consequence of the increased competition arising from the establishment of a second trading company among them within the last few years, goods and provisions have been reduced to such a value as to render the sale of the products of the chase and the camp far more profitable than it ever has been heretofore.

The number of buffalo robes sold by these various tribes cannot be less than from 100,000 to 110,000, valued at \$3 a robe; also, peltries and furs to the value of at least \$50,000.

Notwithstanding an occasional feud, on account of which several whites have been killed (at least five among the tribes under my supervision), still, from my own careful observation, I have no hesitancy in saying that the intercourse between these Indians and the whites is remarkably friendly, and indeed I have never known the state of feeling between the traders and Indians to be so universally amicable as it has been during the past season; this, of course, must in a great measure be attributed to their unwonted prosperity in the hunt—the unusual degree of justice towards them on the part of the traders, since the competition spoken of above, and not a little to the degree of unanimity displayed among the traders themselves. It would be very unreasonable to expect that the wild nature of the Indian would not, at times, get the ascendancy over a better disposition to peace, so novel as yet is their intercourse with civilized beings, and thus result in occasional loss of life; this must always be the case among these tribes, until government shall see fit to establish among them the same means of regeneration that have already been put into requisition among various others with such marked success. I mean *missions and schools*. The natural traits of the Indian, it is well known to every one who has had any opportunity of observing them, are such as to render them peculiarly fitted to be wrought upon by those influences which are calculated to benefit them as a race; kind-hearted, benevolent, and always grateful for counsel, whenever proffered them by the whites, they show a disposition tractable beyond most nations shut out from the light of the Gospel and the blessings incident to civilization; and I am firmly of opinion, that the tribes among which I am familiar, are by no means in so hopeless a condition that He who createth the light may not yet shine into their hearts, and give them the light of the knowledge of God.

This subject of missions and schools, I cannot too strenuously urge upon the attention of Congress, in seeking the welfare of the tribes under my charge: against this, however, nothing operates so powerfully as the introduction of intoxicating liquors among them, for although the laws of Congress prohibiting their sale, are as rigidly enforced as under the exist-

ing circumstances they can possibly be, nevertheless the liquor traffic still continues to be the most formidable obstacle to any reform or improvement; the ungovernable passion for wealth prompts to a competition among liquor-venders, that is most destructive and ruinous to the poor Indian. Could this be stopped by the introduction of a small military force at Medicine Creek, or at the old Rickaree Village, there would be far brighter hopes of the elevation of these tribes, both in character and condition.

From the method in which your agent is compelled at present to live, viz.: by travelling from one trading post to another, thus causing a great degree of jealousy among the different traders, he is confident that it would be of great advantage to the agency to supply a house and council-room, say at Fort Pierre, for his accommodation, and would respectfully suggest an appropriation for that purpose. He would also remind Congress of the entire inadequacy of the amount of funds allowed for interpreters, to accomplish the numerous requisitions which government impose upon him, and, in conclusion, he feels that for the good of the tribes among which he labors, he cannot too zealously urge upon the consideration of government the great advantage that would be derived from creating a full agency, in place of the present sub-agency, with its insufficiency of means to promote the best welfare of the tribes under its supervision.

In submitting the above for your acceptance,

I have the honor to be,

Your most obed't servant,

WM. S. HATTON,

Indian Sub-agent.

To Col. D. D. MITCHELL,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 13.

MINNESOTA SUPERINTENDENCY, SAINT PAUL,
October 21, 1850.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Department, I have the honor to submit the following as the second annual report of this superintendency:

A remarkable unity of character is impressed upon the three communities of aborigines in charge of this office, visible in their institutions, their ideas, and manners, and characteristic ever of barbarians, among whom exist only simple personal relations, and not the mixed relations of person and property; yet, notwithstanding the general resemblance they bear to one another, as well as to the other cognate branches of the great aboriginal stock, each tribe presents distinctive features for consideration, marked diversities in their social developments, and essential differences in their relations with government.

The Dacotahs, from their numbers, the comparative simplicity of their character, and the propinquity of their lands to the white settlements of the Territory, received from me frequent adjustment of questions which, in case of a remote tribe, would rest peculiarly and exclusively with the agent. The bands bordering upon the Mississippi come often in contact with the white race, are to a certain degree within the sphere of their

influence, and at this day their picturesque dances, fantastically moving in cadence to savage melodies, and accompanied with a rhythmic repetition of simple and not unmusical sounds, constitute a common spectacle in our villages.

The Winnebagoes, subjected to repeated banishment by government from lands which they had been accustomed to esteem their own, improvident in the receipt of princely annuities, moody and turbulent under the debasing appliances of an inquisitive trade and persevering cupidity, to which in years past they have been exposed, have been the occasion of infinite mischief, and the source of much vexation; and are sad witnesses of the truth of an abstract proposition importing deep reproach, that the neighborhood of a white population degrades the Indian and depresses his condition; and that the intercourse of the white man imparts to the aborigines not the virtues of the former, but vices, which with the latter, seem fated to acquire deadlier and more destructive energies. In consequence of the large annuities in money and goods paid this tribe, their business affairs assume a complex character; and as their national treasury is ample, and their depredations upon the property of whites frequent, each year witnesses no inconsiderable drain upon their revenues for the satisfaction of claimants, who have suffered less at their hands.

The Chippewas, or, as some write, the Ojibwas, are generally reputed to be the most chivalric of their race, and are a nation of whose dialects, mythology, legends, and customs, we have the fullest accounts.

The Menomonee (Wild Rice) Indians have not yet removed to their lands in this Territory, although the term of their stay in Wisconsin, under the treaty of 1846, expired during the present month. Under charge of Colonel Bruce, their agent, and Mr. Childs, a party of the chiefs of this people, in the months of June and July last, made an exploration of the country provided for them by treaty, situated north of Crow Wing river; and after a most minute examination, the gentlemen who accompanied the delegation upon their return expressed to me in glowing terms their favorable opinion of the country, and firm conviction that in the lakes, the rivers, the prairies and the forests of that region, means of subsistence sufficient for the wants of the tribe could easily be found.

The Stockbridge Indians during the present autumn have deputed a delegation to select a location within this Territory for the feeble remnant of that once powerful tribe; but as the two latter bodies of Indians do not at present fall within the jurisdiction of this superintendency, this report will merely aim at a succinct recapitulation of events during the past year affecting the other three named tribes; and first in order will be submitted a brief retrospective view of the affairs of the Sioux or Dacotah Indians.

The seven bands of the Medewakantan Sioux, the only branch of the Dacotah family with whom we have formed treaty stipulations, are scattered over a broad tract of country extending from the village of Shockapee, twenty-five miles up the Saint Peter's river, to the village of Wabashaw, one hundred miles below its mouth on the Mississippi.

From the large area of country thus occupied arises an inherent obstacle to that personal attention on the part of the sub-agent, the superintendent of agriculture, and the physician, which this people ought to

receive. For the same reason, to derive reasonable and legitimate results from educational efforts among these bands, it is necessary that they should be confined to a more contracted area, so that a manual labor school—and their funds will admit of the establishment of but one—may be free and accessible to all. Since the treaty of 1837, the Sioux have ever been averse to the disposition of five thousand dollars for schools, as provided by that treaty. In my last annual report, I dwelt at length upon this subject, and to the suggestions therein urged I again invite the consideration of the Department. From the notorious incapacity of Indians to act advisedly for themselves in such matters, it is to be regretted that government has not seen fit, without consultation with them, to direct such a disposition of this fund as would best improve their condition. Without wishing to advocate any proposition which would divest them unjustly of the smallest interest to which they are entitled, the fact is unquestionable that a large proportion of every northern tribe of Indians would gladly divest every dollar from educational to other purposes.

Of the eminent superiority of manual labor, over other schools to stimulate habits of industry, and meliorate their modes of life, it is unnecessary to speak. The total failure, the utter fruitlessness of other systems has been repeatedly demonstrated, under their operation; year after year, sanguine anticipations have been formed, to be succeeded by disappointment and despondency; manual labor instruction, by dispelling the stigma of disgrace, which the Indian attaches to labor, and by exhibiting to him the practical triumphs of industry and culture, in agriculture and the mechanic arts, alone promises adequate return. The Indian is a moral phenomenon, an anomaly among the races of man—he may win the diploma of a university, he may be subjected to the severe training and stern ordeal of schools, he may become a free and accepted member of the republic of letters, but not then are his pristine habits essentially modified, or his material condition radically changed. It is due to truth that this admission should be made, for upon this subject the world has had enough of idle romancing. "Harvard College," says Mr. Bancroft, "enrols the name of an Algonquin youth among her pupils; but the college parchment could not close the gulf between the Indian character and the Anglo-American. The copper-colored men are characterized by a moral inflexibility, a rigidity of attachment to their hereditary customs and manners. The birds and the brooks, as they chime forth their unwearied canticles, chime them ever to the same ancient melodies; and the Indian child, as it grows up, displays a propensity to the habits of its ancestors."

Of the state of moral and religious culture among the Dacotahs, I think I can notice a slight improvement from their condition a year since. The example of their pious and devoted missionaries has greatly promoted the *temporal* welfare of these Indians; though it would be folly to affirm that adequate success has accompanied their labors, or merited fruition crowned their hopes. Apparent conversions to Christianity may not be uncommon, yet are they generally illusory and transitory. Shadowy and poetical creeds, such as where, "in the flashes of the northern lights, men believed they saw the dance of the dead," still hold sway with savage breasts, though not prone to the dark rites of superstition, and perhaps rather skeptical than otherwise of the rhapsodies and incantations of the soothsayer and juggler; still to the auguries of his medicine man, prophet of marvels and mys-

teries, the untutored Dacotah inclines rather than to the pure precepts and elevating instructions of the "Prince of Peace."

The facility and frequency with which the Sioux pass in their canoes to the east side of the Mississippi, where places for vending liquor have so much increased within twelve months, furnish occasion for deep solicitude, and present a practical evil for the remedy of the Department. Ardent spirits have been the bane of the race, and though the healthy public sentiment of this community indignantly reprobates that abominable traffic, which more perhaps than any other agency has contributed to the declension and deterioration of the Indian, still in all communities will be found sordid wretches, sufficiently depraved to attempt, for filthy lucre, to elude the laws which prohibit their sale. I am happy to state, that in aid of the judicious and wholesome statutes of the United States, upon this subject, the legislature of the Territory of Minnesota have passed stringent penal enactments for the suppression of this corrupting traffic.

Owing to the high waters in all our northern rivers, the corn crop of the Sioux, for the present year, has been to a great extent cut off; but the consent of the Department to the diversion from their accumulated farm fund of five thousand dollars, to be expended for provisions will relieve them from the distress which otherwise the inundation of their fields would have occasioned.

The high stage of water during the past season in the St. Peter's, or Minnesota river, has led to frequent explorations of its valley, truly the garden of the north-west, and satisfactory test has been had of safe and convenient navigation for a comfortable class of steamboats, for two hundred miles from its confluence with the Mississippi. In view of the contemplated treaty with the Sioux, the question of acquisition, by the government of the United States, of a portion of this country must soon pass *sub judice*; opening, by the extinction of the Indian title, a new theatre for the great drama of western civilization. Urgent reasons for a purchase may be found in the advance of our cultivated border, in the civilization which is pressing upon and impending over this valley, in maxims of natural law from which civilized man deduces the duty of reclaiming and cultivating the earth; as well as in a jealous regard for the best interest of the Indian, and a tender caution for his welfare. Should the Sioux acquiesce in some proper conventional arrangement for a cession of their possessory interest, as no pillars of Hercules stay the flowing tide of Anglo-American inundation, it may fairly be presumed, that the luxuriant solitudes, reposing in the valley of the St. Peter's, which have slumbered unproductive since the creation, will soon be gained to the dominion of the plough and the sickle, and smiling villages rise, like an exhalation by its shores.

In July last, I had an interesting interview with a numerous party of Yankton (of the North or plains) from the other side of the great *Coteau*, the first of that distant and warlike band who have ever visited St. Paul. The ostensible object of their journey was to lay claim to the *Wahpacoota* country, which they had understood was to be sold to the United States. The country that their people inhabit is almost one entire plain, uncovered with timber; it is extremely level, the soil fertile, and generally well watered. Lewis and Clarke, in the report of their expedition, describe this band as "roving from the heads of the river St. Peter's and Red

river of the Missouri, about the *Great Bend*." They estimate the number of their lodges at eighty, warriors five hundred, and population sixteen hundred.

In June, 1849, a party of sixteen *Wahpacoota* Sioux, led by their young chief, were murdered, while occupied in hunting upon their own lands. Since the occurrence, I have made every effort to obtain correct information as to the perpetrators of the outrage. From Brevet Major Woods, recently detailed to remove the Sacs and Foxes from Iowa, who at my request gave the subject some attention, I have received information which leads me to think that the offenders belonged to that tribe, who have long been known as an ancient enemy of the Sioux. In a letter dated the 23d of September last, I communicated to the Department the intelligence in my possession, and for reasons at that time stated I here take occasion to renew the request then preferred, that the sum of sixteen thousand dollars be retained from the Sac and Fox annuities, to be distributed among the *Wahpacootas*, to whom, as they are miserably poor, and receive no annuities from the government, the tribute would be very opportune.

With other tribes, the intercourse of the Sioux during the past year has been marked by several open demonstrations of hostility. There seems to have existed a hereditary warfare between them and the Chippewas. French traders, as early as 1687, make mention of it; and it was a subject of comment and observation two centuries ago, by the earlier historians and travellers. Since that period, notwithstanding the efforts of Jesuit and Protestant missionaries to soothe and reform the ferocious feelings and habits of the savage by the mild charities of religion, the relations between these tribes have remained unchanged. The mission-houses established among them, monuments of the zeal and devotion of pious and self-sacrificing men, are unfortunately monuments also of unrequited and unproductive efforts. Even the wholesome restraint exercised by government over their conduct has failed to appease their ancient hate or perceptibly modify their stationary and unbending habits. Accordingly, on the second day of April last, the Sioux embellished their history by the slaughter of fourteen Chippewas upon Apple river, a stream which empties its waters not far from the head of Lake St. Croix, on the Wisconsin side. Although the attack was conformable to that system of ethics, which teaches the Indian that injuries are redressed by revenge, and that might is the security of right, so unprovoked an aggression could not pass unnoticed, and I demanded of the chiefs of the bands, implicated in the barbarity, the tradition of the leaders into charge of the commanding officer at Fort Snelling. After much delay and equivocation, this was done, and the prominent participators in the affair were confined in the guard house of the fort. Meantime, word was sent to advise the Chippewas that I had taken the matter into hand, and to direct them to desist from revenge; but, ere the messengers charged with the office had threaded the wilderness of plain and forest to the distant Ojibway lodges, the Sioux were struck upon by a scalping party, almost within reach of the guns of Fort Snelling. Under the circumstances which surrounded this unseasonable attack, I thought it but just to enlarge the Indians who were imprisoned, in order that they might be able, if occasion should rise, to protect their families. Shortly, information reached me, from reliable sources, that the pillagers, a warlike branch of the great Chippewa family,

were mustering for a general descent upon the St. Peter's, to reap a harvest of death in the valleys of their enemies. To add to the perplexing considerations involved in the relations between these tribes, the neglect of the United States to enforce the terms of a treaty, concluded at Fort Snelling in 1843, by which their old hatred had been partially smothered, had greatly exasperated both sides, and seriously impaired the influence of government officers. By acts of its agents government had become a *quasi* party to this treaty, and the failure on its side to discharge the obligations it had voluntarily assumed, furnished to the Indians plausible pretext for the renewal of hostile collisions. Under these unpropitious auspices, the only alternative presented was a convocation of the two tribes, with a view, either to open negotiations *de novo*, or by settlement of past differences to effect a recognition in full of the treaty of 1843.

Accordingly, the hostile parties were assembled in conference at Fort Snelling in June last, some seventy envoys representing the Chippewas, and yet a larger number, the Sioux. The deliberations of these "wild republicans of the wilderness" were characterized by a decorum and propriety worthy of imitation by more august assemblages—the discourse of their orators was distinguished by freedom from acerbity, fluent eloquence, and sententious perspicuity, and their diction, never parsimonious of ornament, glowed with imagery. By side of the civil and military officers of government who were present upon the occasion, and the groups of spectators, who had been attracted by the novelty of the scene, the painted war chiefs, gaily decorated with feathers and medals, exhibited all the glare of a "pictured and dramatic contrast."

The details of the council have already been submitted to the Department, and further recital is unnecessary. I desire, however, in this connection, to express my grateful appreciation of the valuable services and graceful hospitality of Capt. J. Monroe, at the time in command of Fort Snelling, and also of the efficient assistance rendered by Capt. J. B. S. Todd, commanding officer at Fort Gaines; Mr. Warren, interpreter; and other gentlemen, in inducing the Chippewas to attend the conference.

Exasperated as were these hostile tribes, and apprehensive as were their traders and half-breed relatives that a sanguinary war menaced the frontier, it affords me lively gratification to be able to say that, since the arrangement at that time made, not a solitary instance has arisen of a breach of the terms of the treaty of 1843, by any of the bands, either Sioux or Chippewas, parties to the council in June, 1850. The approval by the Indian Bureau of the action of that council has been communicated to each tribe, and its final decision, upon careful examination of the statements of both parties, that reparation was due to the Chippewas. The sum of money remitted for this purpose has been expended in the purchase of provisions, clothing, presents, &c., which, in shape of atoning presents, have been distributed with cautious care, so that the relatives of the Chippewas, who have been murdered in these affrays, have received a larger than average share.

As the general right of control, on the part of the United States in these matters, should be subject to no artificial rules of construction which would defeat the wholesome guardianship exercised by government over the Indian, I have announced to the Pillagers, to the *Wahpeton* and *Sisseton* Sioux, that they would be held amenable to the terms of the treaty, though not parties to it, nor present at the council. In case these

bands should exhibit indisposition to accede to the stipulations therein contained, it would be indisputably the duty of government to impose such terms as should seem proper, and by duress or otherwise compel their observance. Nor can fanciful pretensions or judicial theories concerning the *sovereignty* of Indian tribes be objected to the practical application of this doctrine. Provisions exist disabling Indians from selling clothing, farming or cooking utensils, arms, horses, &c. In the trade and intercourse laws, disabilities are imposed and securities are provided, evincing the judgment of Congress, that over such matters they possessed jurisdiction, and that it was expedient to exercise it; and in order to suppress the barbarous atrocities of savage warfare, should the imposition of even rigorous terms appear to conflict with the supposititious independence of the Indian, but another of the anomalies is presented, of which the general subject of the relative rights and duties of a civilized and barbarous people is so fruitful.

As a political community, the Dacotahs live almost without law. Slight, indeed, among all the tribes of the north-west, is the influence of their chiefs. The braves, who constitute a sort of aristocratic estate, keep them in awe, and through the depression of fear the chiefs hesitate in council to express an independent opinion. For this reason, upon the occasion of transacting important business, they always insist upon the presence of a large number of their people. Should they sign a treaty or do any other act binding upon their tribe, contrary to popular approbation, it is very probable that their lives would be the forfeit—at least apprehension of such issue holds them in check.

As property is held in common, its rights are but slightly respected; and upon the lightest provocation an Indian will shoot the horse or other domestic animal of an enemy, and among them exists neither law nor usage to compel restitution. They have no courts, nor offices, no statutes, no debts to collect, no damages to pay. The few vegetable productions, raised by the industry of their women, are appropriated by the less thrifty whenever want or caprice dictates. As a consequence of this communism, motive to industry, incitement to accumulation, desire for private property, is weak; and in this utter nakedness of rights and remedies lies the grand defect in the institutions and the principal impediment to the civilization of the red man.

Congress should extend over the aboriginal population a code of laws, mild and simple in character, to be enforced by the respective agents of the different tribes. The experiment has already been made of extending over them, to a certain extent, the action of criminal laws; but to elevate their social and political condition, government, in the exercise of paternal authority, should fashion a civil code accommodated to their actual situation, elementary in its nature, securing plain rights and providing positive remedies.

The *Winnebagoes*, during the past year, have showed a restless and mischievous disposition, which has added much to the embarrassments attending upon the business of this office. Questions of expediency and authority, as well as of finance and morals, have been implicated in their relations.

A segment of the tribe, after their nominal removal in 1848, remained in Wisconsin and Iowa, constituting a nucleus of attraction to those who were actually colonized upon the lands appropriated for them within this

superintendency. Many of the latter, in spite of the vigilance of the officers of the Department, and of the military stationed at the different posts in the Territory, returned to the vicinity of their old hunting-grounds, from whence, from representations made by the Executive and people of Wisconsin, government, in the spring of 1850, felt constrained to enter into contract for their removal. Impressed at the time with the conviction that the representations of the people of Wisconsin, as to the inconvenience resulting from the presence of these Indians, were highly exaggerated; nothing that has since transpired has tended to destroy or affect this conviction. The Winnebagoes, unless inflamed by liquor, are rarely rude to the whites, and unless goaded by want, seldom trespass upon the property of others. Be this, however, as it may, it is notorious among those who come most often in contact with them, that this people have remained in Wisconsin mainly through solicitations of citizens of that State, and that others whom such solicitations would not be apt to influence, have returned, because barriers equally strong do not there oppose the gratification of their inordinate attachment to ardent spirits. Let Wisconsin legislation inhibit vending or giving Indians ardent spirits within State limits, and let rigorous police enforce such legislation, and but trivial apprehensions need be entertained of annoyance from the Winnebagoes.

The recent arrival at Fort Snelling of a company of dragoons, so long wanted, will greatly assist in intercepting the migration southward of this discontented people. Though it must be admitted that, in a sparsely settled country, with paths and byways, known only to the Indian, leading through treacherous morass and tangled wilderness, which no soldiery can penetrate, difficulties will be found, inherent and almost insurmountable, to confining them to their country, if disposed to wander.

The Mississippi bands would unquestionably expatriate themselves, if forced to retire from the river to the vicinity of the agency; and the only alternative left, is to open farms, license trading houses, &c., in their present locality, though in fearful proximity to the haunts of the whiskey trader. To the healthy moral tone, which shall ensue from an augmenting population on the east side of the river, we must look for the expulsion of this detestable class of traders, and the suppression of a ruinous traffic, which in case of the Indian infallibly destroys the effect of individual character.

In a communication addressed to the Department, of date April 16, 1850, I suggested the propriety of Congress extending the operation of the trade and intercourse laws, over public lands, contiguous to Indian territory, which have not become subject to private entry. As individuals residing upon these lands are technically trespassers, and as the fee is in government, this kind of jurisdiction could with great propriety and utility be exercised. It is while in the transition state, after the extinction of the aboriginal title, and prior to the settlement of a white population sufficiently restrained by moral principle, that territory thus situated, without law, is made the theatre of Indian whiskey trade. A jurisdiction of this nature is essential to the safety of the Indian, and its extent must be determined by those who are called to exercise it. Of the authority of Congress so to legislate no doubts can exist. The right reposes upon no metaphysical figment; and the only doubt is, how far expediency and discretion require that such jurisdiction should be exercised.

The Winnebago school, which has long been under the superintendence of Rev. D. Lowry, has been suspended since June last, at which time that gentleman resigned his post. As soon as information of his withdrawal reached me, I notified your office, and urged the opportunity as propitious for introducing manual labor schools, agreeably to the design long entertained by the Department. In daily expectation of receiving instructions upon this subject, I have up to this time deferred directing the re-opening of the school. I do not deem it essential that the children should be boarded at these schools, but rather concur with the views advanced by agent Fletcher in this connection.

The Chippewas number within the limits of the United States about eight thousand souls. Of this number four hundred, at the present time, reside in the State of Michigan, three thousand in Wisconsin, and the remaining four thousand five hundred in the Territory of Minnesota. As those living in Michigan and Wisconsin, on lands ceded to government, will soon fall under the jurisdiction of this superintendency, having been ordered to remove to the country appropriated for them within this territory,—I have thought proper to embrace them in a brief sketch of the history, numbers, villages and modes of livelihood of the different divisions of the tribe. For much of my information upon this subject I am indebted to the researches of Mr. W. W. Warren, an educated Ojibway half breed.

Five thousand Chippewas are equal parties to, and receive annuities under the treaties of St. Peter's in 1837, and of La Pointe in 1842. Of all treaties from time to time entered into by the several bands of this tribe, these two are in every respect the most important. In these treaties they ceded to the United States all their possessions in Wisconsin and Michigan, comprising the rich mineral district which extends along the south coast of Lake Superior, and the valuable pineries which skirt Black Chippewa, St. Croix, Rum and Wisconsin rivers, and tributaries. For this large cession they receive annually for the respective periods of twenty and twenty-five years, the sum of sixty-four thousand dollars in goods, money, &c. The parties to these treaties, with the exception of the Mississippi division, numbering some eleven hundred, still reside upon the lands they have ceded. By treaty provisions the term of their stay was left optional with the President, and not till last spring was a mandate for their removal given by the Chief Magistrate of the country. Besides the body of five thousand who receive annuities under treaties at St. Peter's, La Pointe, and Fond du Lac, a division of one thousand, known as the Pillager Chippewas, residing in Minnesota, receive a stated amount of goods under the treaty of Leech Lake, in 1847, wherein they sold the lands which have been set apart for the Menomonees. The remaining body of two thousand, residing in this territory, receive neither annuities nor presents.

The Chippewas are a well-marked type, and leading tribe of the Algonquin stock. They call themselves *Ojibwaig*, the plural of *Ojibway*, from *Ojibwah*, "puckered," or "drawn up." According to an eminent writer. this name "denotes a peculiarity in their voice or manner of utterance." But as there is no discernible "pucker" in their voice, or mode of speaking their really musical language, a more natural genesis of the word could probably be derived from a circumstance in their past history. Upwards of two centuries ago, they were driven by the Iroquois, or Six Nations of New York, into the straits of Mackinaw, where Lakes Huron, Michigan, and Superior, are "puckered" into a small channel, or narrow compass.

Prior to this event, there is nothing in their traditions, or in the writings of early travellers, to indicate that they were known by the name of *Ojibwaig*. When interrogated upon the subject, some of their old men affirm, that they are named after the *Ojibway* moccasin, a peculiarly made article "puckered" into a seam the whole length of the foot.

The history of this tribe, prior to eight generations ago, is collected entirely from oral traditions, which savor of the marvellous or supernatural, and from which but vague and unsatisfactory deductions can be drawn. From these traditions, however, we learn, that they once were familiar with the salt-ocean, that they lived on a large river, again on a great lake, where they exterminated a tribe they call the *Meendua*, and at last in a large centre town, on an island in the Bay of *Shag-uh-waum-ik-ong*, on Lake Superior, or *Keche Gumme*. The old men of the tribe agree in saying, that to this spot their ancestors first came about eight generations, or two hundred and forty years ago, estimating an Indian generation at thirty years. They were driven from the east by powerful tribes, whom they denominate *Nodowaig*, meaning "Adders." These were the Iroquois, or Six Nations of New York and Canada, who coming first in contact with whites, became first armed with their deadly weapons, giving them great advantage over our more western and remote tribes, who still wielded the primitive weapon of bow and arrow. Driven westwardly upon Lake Superior, the Ojibwas came in collision with the *Ab-boinnng* Sioux, or "Roasters," and the *Odugaumecg*, "opposite side people," or Foxes. These two tribes became their inveterate enemies, and for a long time hemmed them in upon the Island of La Pointe, where they subsisted mainly by fishing and agriculture. From this period they relate their own history with considerable accuracy. Their village and cultivated grounds occupied a space upon the island, about three miles long and two broad. Here they cherished a perpetual fire as symbol of their nationality; and in their civil polity maintained a certain system, very much confused and tinged, however, with their religious and medicinal beliefs. The *A-cah-wauh*, or Loon totem family constituted the royal line, and the *Mukwah*, or Bear family, led them to war, and protected them from the inroads of their enemies. The rites of *Meda-we-win*, or their mode of worshipping the Great Spirit, and the lesser spirits which fill earth, sky, and waters, were in those days practiced in their purest and most original form. Upon the island was erected a large wigwam, called the *Meda-we-gaun*, in which the holier rites of their religion were practiced. The building, though probably rude in structure, and perishable in materials, was yet the temple of a powerful tribe, and in their religious phraseology the island is still known by the name of *Meda-we-gaun*.

The Ojibwas were for a time so harassed by the Sioux and Foxes, that they were not even safe from attack upon the island of La Pointe, though situate some miles from the main shore of the lake. Twice their enemies found opportunity to land among them in the night, and carry off prisoners and scalps. It was not till the earlier French traders had supplied them in a measure with firearms, that they became formidable to their enemies. From this era, now about two centuries ago, can be dated the dispersal of the Chippewas from their island home, and the expansion of their bands along the shore of the lake, and over the country in the interior. In a severe engagement on Point *Shag-ah-waum-ik-ong*, they killed

over one hundred Sioux warriors, and in a lake fight, near the mouth of Montreal river, they killed and drowned upwards of three hundred Foxes, who had intruded upon their island in the night, and taken prisoners. In a concentrated effort they destroyed with one war party six villages of Foxes, scattered along the Chippewa river. About eighty years ago the Foxes made their last stand against them, at the falls of St. Croix. The Chippewas, led by their war chief *Waub-o-jeeg*, were victorious, and from that time the Foxes finally retired from the country. Gaining possession of the head waters of the Mississippi, it became an easy matter for the Chippewas to descend in their enemies' country. Within two centuries they have occupied by conquest a tract of country extending west from Lake Superior to the Mississippi, and south from Red river of the north, and Selkirk's settlement, to Lake Michigan. Diverted by the tempting resources, and lured by the varied seductions of so extended a region, they have become separated into several divisions, of which a brief sketch will here be given.

Lake Superior Chippewas. This body number about thirteen hundred, and are known as the *Ke-che-gum-me-win-in-e-wug*, or Great Lake men. The principal villages at Ance, Kewenaw, Ontonagon, La Pointe, Fond du Lac and Grand Portage, on the lake shore. They subsist mainly on the excellent fish with which the lake abounds. Since 1842, they have received the services of four blacksmiths, three farmers and two carpenters, embracing, with the exception of one blacksmith and one farmer, all the laborers allowed the entire quota of bands who were parties to the treaties of 1837 and 1842. In consequence of this help among this division flattering progress has been made.

The Ance band, numbering three hundred, have become comparatively civilized. They dwell in houses, assume the costume of the whites, and are essentially agriculturists. Their chief, and some of the principal men have been admitted to the rights of citizenship in the State of Michigan.

The La Pointe band number about four hundred. Among them are many who are partially civilized, and besides dwelling in houses, and owning cattle, are devout members either of Catholic or Protestant churches. Among the elder chiefs and headmen, however, are others still attached to primitive customs. The religion of their fathers is engraved upon the hearts of these, and guides their daily habits of life. The improvement of this band for the past ten years has been gradual and sure. They own a large farm upon Bad river, from which they raise corn and potatoes sufficient for their own consumption, and not unfrequently a surplus for sale. They also manufacture large quantities of maple sugar, which they sell to their traders: and catch and salt fish, for which they find a ready market.

The Fond du Lac band, who reside upon unceded lands in Minnesota, number about four hundred. They are much less advanced in the arts of civilization than the two bands last mentioned, and depend for subsistence upon the scanty and precarious supplies furnished by the chase. One cause of this is the absence of good soil in the vicinity of their present location.

The Ontonagon and Grand Portage bands number a little over one hundred each.

The Lake Shore Chippewas have an inexhaustible resource in the fish, which plentifully abounds in the waters of the lake. They are naturally

well disposed towards the whites, docile and harmless. Owing to their distance from the Sioux, they have not, for the past half century, joined the war parties of their more western brethren.

Wisconsin and Chippewa river division. This fragment of the tribe number about eighteen hundred, and are known as the *Be-tow-ank-au-ub-zig*, or "those that live along the woods." Their principal villages are at Lac du Flambeau, Vieux Desert, Pelican Lake, Lac Contenillo, Pukawawun, Lac Shatae, and *Mon-o-minik-an* Lake, all in the State of Wisconsin, except Vieux Desert, which lies in Michigan. Most of these villages are located upon lakes, which form the heads of the Wisconsin and Chippewa rivers. These lakes are remote from the white settlements on Lake Superior, and the Mississippi, and are surrounded by dense and trackless forests and swamps. At these villages a few families plant potatoes and corn, but not enough for consumption during the winter. The wild rice which abounds in the vicinity forms the main staple of subsistence. Though numerically composing almost a moiety of the bands, parties to the treaties at St. Peter's, and La Pointe, they have received little, if any aid from the different funds provided by government. This neglect has probably arisen from their remoteness from the agency at La Pointe. Seldom do over one-third of this people appear to draw the annuities to which they are entitled for the sale of every inch of their extensive territory. After their rice is gathered in the fall, they descend the Wisconsin, *Manedowish*, and Chippewa rivers, to hunt the deer and large game which there abound. During the entire winter they sojourn in this region, coming in contact with the white population attracted thither by the pineries. Enticed among the lumbermen by attachment to ardent spirits, many families, especially on the Wisconsin, remain the year round. These have become demoralized and miserable, forming a perfect nuisance to the whites, who are fast occupying the country.

The bands residing upon the Chippewa, and its tributaries, are less degenerate and more manly. As far back as their oldest men can remember, they have warred with the Sioux. Forming with the St. Croix, Mississippi, and Pillager divisions, the vanguard of their nation in its westward advance, they have stood the brunt of war, and been fearfully mischievous in these wretched border frays. With this people no serious difficulty has yet occurred. They are peaceably disposed to the whites, but much attached to the country they have sold.

The Wisconsin Chippewas are physically larger and stronger than their more northern brethren.

The Saint Croix division. This portion of the tribe reside upon the St. Croix river, on lands lying partly in Wisconsin, and partly in Minnesota, ceded in 1837, by the treaty of St. Peter's. They number about eight hundred, and have their villages at upper St. Croix Lake, *Num-a-guag-um*, *Poka-go-mon*, Yellow and Rice lakes, and on Snake river. They are known among the tribe as the *Mun-o-min-ik-a-she-ug*, or "rice makers." The country they occupy abounds in wild rice, and formerly these bands were noted for gathering large quantities of it. Since the sale of their country, they have become the most miserable and degenerate of their tribe. Living altogether among the prairies, which of late years have been so much resorted to by the whites, their deterioration, through the agency of intoxicating drinks, has been rapid, and almost without parallel. Murders amongst themselves have become of frequent occurrence; and

quarrels arising in drunken brawls, have caused feuds between families, which have grown so serious, that small war parties have been fitted out against one another. During the past few years a number of whites have also been murdered, and a most aggravating case of homicide occurred the past summer.

This state of things calls for prompt action from government. Living but a short distance from their own lands, about Mille Sac, they should without delay be removed thither, though after removal it would probably require a force to keep them within bounds. The residue of the tribe labor under the belief that the bad conduct of the "rice makers" has accelerated the mandate of the President for their removal from the ceded lands. Hence the St. Croix bands are obnoxious to their brethren, and no measures, even of forcible removal, would excite for them sympathy. For their own good, as well as for the safety of the white population who are exposed to their depredations, their immediate removal should be enforced. To carry this object into effect, it will be necessary to settle their bloody family feuds. At present they fear one another, much more than they fear any common enemy; and they will not coalesce until their implacable resentments are appeased. It is proper to mention the St. Croix lake bands, numbering over one hundred, have kept aloof from the white settlements, fearing to be implicated in the act of their brethren, and have even gradually removed towards Lake Superior. The chief of the Snake river band *Nodin*, and a principal man *Mun-o-min-ik-ash-an*, have migrated this summer to Mille Sac, and located within their own lines, and are inducing as many as possible of their bands to follow their example.

Mississippi Chippewas. These bands are known as the *Re-che-se-be-win-e-wug*, or "Great River men." They dwell in Minnesota, on lands of which they still hold the possessory interest. Their numbers amount to eleven hundred, and their principal villages are at Sandy Lake, Mille Sac, Rabbit river, and Gull Lake. According to accounts of their old men, little over a century has elapsed since a large party of Chippewa warriors, led by their war chief, *Bi-ans-wah*, sallied from the shores of Lake Superior, and conquered a Sioux village, at that period located at Sandy Lake. Here they made a stand, and at this lake for many years flourished their metropolitan village. From this spot marched the war parties which drove the Sioux from Leech, Winnepeg, Red, and the Mille lakes. Their hostile incursions even extended to the Minnesota river, and their hunts to Red river on the west, and Rum river on the south. Throughout this entire region death has held its carnival, and the bones of Sioux and Chippewas alike whiten its soil. Twice within a century have the Mississippi Chippewas been nearly exterminated by their enemies, but receiving accessions from Lake Superior, they have held their footing tenacious to the last. Their own country becoming devoid of game, necessity has been the goad which has impelled them still westward, and they now roam over the whole country north and east of the St. Peter's. The feud between them and the Sioux has continued with brief intervals to the present time, and has infused into them a warlike spirit. The eagle plume, denoting the death of an enemy in battle, is with them the highest badge of distinction.

After the treaty at St. Peter's in 1837, the Mississippi Chippewas received their first payment of annuities at Lake St. Croix. But on their return, through the folly of the Pillagers, they incurred the displeasure of the Sioux, who fell upon them in force at night, and massacred over a

hundred, mostly women and children. The Mille Sac band were almost cut off to a man. This occurrence changed the locality of their payment to La Pointe, and to receive their annuities, the members of this division were yearly obliged to traverse hundreds of miles. The sub-agency, also, which had been located at Crow-wing, was from this time discontinued, and as a natural sequence, the vigilant supervision of government over them much deranged.

In this state they continued up to the convention at Fond du Lac in 1847, wherein they sold to the United States the country at present occupied by the Winnebagoes. They also in this treaty stipulated for an agent to reside among them, and for the payment of their share of annuities upon the Mississippi. A farmer and blacksmith have been allowed them, and for two years back they have of their own accord reserved from their annuities one thousand dollars *per annum*, for an agricultural fund. A farm last year was located at Gull Lake, in a tract covered with a heavy growth of maple timber; and the lower bands of this division, who had been accustomed to rove over ceded territory, and Sioux, lands have been induced to move to Gull Lake and commence farming. They have become convinced of the necessity of agriculture; and many families, who heretofore had never planted a potato or a grain of corn, have now little patches of cultivated ground, from which they raise almost enough for their winter support. During planting time last spring, they procured liquor from ceded lands, below Fort Gaines, and on account of a sudden inroad of the Sioux which resulted in the death of a favorite son of one of their chiefs, the war fever raged fiercely, causing them to neglect farming operations. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, over one thousand bushels of potatoes have been raised this season at Gull Lake, and a respectable quantity of corn, turnips, and pumpkins. There are five chiefs residing here with their bands. The advantages attached to the location are not sufficient to accommodate them all, and another farm should be opened in the spring, either on Long or White Fish Lake.

The Mille Sac band number about three hundred. Being removed forty or fifty miles from any white settlement, and possessing a lake abounding in fish and wild rice, and bordered by extensive maple groves, they live amid greater plenty than any of their surrounding brethren.

The Rabbit River band, numbering over one hundred, are anxious to become farmers. Last spring they eagerly availed themselves of tools and seed furnished from the agricultural fund.

The Sandy Lake band number about three hundred. For the last five years they have been allowed a farmer and blacksmith; and among them is a mission house. Notwithstanding these favors, they have not improved. Their location is blessed with few natural advantages; the lake affords no rice, and but few fish. The occasional flooding of their fields by the Mississippi has discouraged them, and their farm for two years past has been discontinued. For two years their rice crops have failed, and the majority of this band have passed their winters in the vicinity of Crow Wing and Fort Gaines, on ceded lands, hunting and begging for a living.

The Pillagers.—This branch of the Chippewa tribe reside on unceded lands in Minnesota, west of the Mississippi. They number one thousand and fifty, and have their villages at Leech and Ottertail Lakes. They are called *Muk-un-dua-win-in-e-wing*, or the "men who take by force." Only in their distinctive name do they differ from the Chippewas of the

Mississippi and Lake Superior; they spring from the same stock, and speak in every respect the same language. They were invited to the treaty at St. Peter's in 1837, and made parties thereto, their chief, *Flat Mouth*, being the first to affix his signature; but, through the caprice and injustice of the other bands, the Pillagers have been refused their share in the annuities accruing under the treaty. This bad faith has created a breach between them and their brethren of Lake Superior and the Mississippi; and it will be extremely difficult to persuade them to coalesce with the latter, and hold with them, as mutual advantage dictates, lands in common.

The Pillagers own in their own right a tract of country four hundred miles in area, interspersed with innumerable fresh water lakes, which abound in fish. The region has been well suited to their roving modes of life; but as the animals which are valuable for food or furs have receded, the hunters seek their game upon the lands of the Sioux.

In 1847, they ceded by treaty about six hundred thousand acres of their best hunting-ground, as a home for the Menomonees. For this they annually receive, for five years, a stated amount of goods, averaging about three dollars per head. The insignificance of this annuity causes ill will among themselves, and dissatisfaction with government. They evidently misunderstand the terms of the treaty; and a feeling of distrust, even of hostility, is generating in their breasts towards the United States.

Of the Chippewas residing within the limits of the United States, the Pillagers have been the least infected by intercourse with a depraved white population. But since the payment of their small annuity, and the introduction of the Winnebagoes into their vicinity, a gradual change has taken place in their character; they have never received encouragement to become agriculturists, and are therefore entirely destitute of the necessary implements for farming. Last summer their rice crop entirely failed, and on this article they depend mostly for their winter's support. Hunger and starvation menace them; and in order to procure means of subsistence their hunters this winter will be forced to press westward, till they find the buffalo.

Their country lies in an excellent climate, possesses many natural advantages; their lakes are surrounded by extensive and beautiful maple bottoms; and could their attention be directed to agriculture, and some slight help afforded them, they would soon become independent of charity.

Within a few years past a fragment of the band have removed gradually to the western outskirts of their country, and established themselves at Ottertail Lake; these now number some three hundred; they hunt altogether upon Sioux land, as recognized by the lines established by the treaty at Prairie du Chien in 1825.

The Northern or Red Lake Division. In this division are embraced all the remaining bands dwelling in the United States, which have descended from the main trunk of that tribe, who, making their way through the Sault St. Marie, spread along the south shore of Lake Superior, and from La Pointe scattered over the country of their present occupancy by way of the St. Louis river and Sandy Lake.

The fact of their receiving no annuities draws a distinct line of demarcation between this and the other divisions of the Ojibwas. Their principal villages are at Pembina and at Red, Cass, and Winnepeg Lakes. From a

partial census taken in 1846, by J. P. Hays, Esq., sub-agent at La Pointe, their number was estimated at twelve hundred.

The Red Lake and Pembina bands derive their subsistence chiefly from agriculture. To this mode of life they have been led by the persuasions of their excellent missionaries, and by the example of the northern half breeds, with whom they have frequent communication. According to estimates of their traders, they will this year produce not less than two thousand bushels of corn. In the winter season they move their camps west of the Red river to hunt the buffalo, which still abound in that region. In summer, some join the hunting caravans of the Red river half-breeds. They have lived in a state of constant warfare with the upper or Sisseton bands of Sioux, and only in obedience to the wishes of government have they refrained during the past summer from fitting out war parties.

Notwithstanding the boundaries of the different Northern tribes were plainly marked and defined by the treaty at Prairie du Chien, in 1826, the Red Lake bands, and also the Pillagers, claim by title of conquest and actual possession, a large tract of country lying west of Red river. This matter at the present time is much agitated among these bands, and as their head chiefs were not present to represent their interests at the convention of Prairie du Chien, the claim perhaps deserves consideration.

The chieftainship among the Red Lake and Pembina bands is a fruitful subject of contest. *Wa-won-je-guon* has for some years been the chief recognized by government; but he is represented as a savage of limited influence with his bands, and not belonging to the hereditary family of chiefs. *Wa-wast-kin-ik-a*, or "crooked arm," is the hereditary chief, and is said to be much respected by his fellows.

Some years ago, *Wa-wan-je-guon*, with a party of his young men, being on a war path, came across a village of the "Gros Ventres," towards the sources of the Missouri river; with the inhabitants of this village they smoked the pipe of peace, and in course of their council learned from their old men that once the smoke of the "Gros Ventres" lodges arose at Sandy Lake, that they had had a large village of earthen houses at the mouth of the Savannah river, which empties into the St. Louis, and that the Sioux had driven them from that country and pursued them to the Rocky Mountains, thinning their ranks till but a broken remnant remained of their once numerous tribe. The spot described by the "Gros Ventres" as the site of their ancient village was afterwards examined by an intelligent trader, to whom *Wa-wan-je-guon* had narrated the tale, and traces of mounds and remains of earthen huts were discovered to corroborate the statement. Though not immediately connected with the history of the Chippewas, I have introduced this fact as one of some importance in tracing the early history and movements of the various tribes who at different times have inhabited this territory.

The Cass and Winnepeg Lake bands number about five hundred; they live mostly by fishing and hunting, and their country having become nearly destitute of game they are miserably poor, and in order to subsist must direct their attention to agriculture. This people have never received help from government, and the only encouragement given them by whites has proceeded from the missionaries, who have lately settled among them. The fire on the hearthstone of these Christian pioneers is the only sunshine which illumines the darkened pathway of these distressed and destitute bands. Their endeavors to enlighten their ignorance and improve their

temporal condition cannot be too highly lauded; but their means are small, and to effect permanent good it is imperative that assistance be extended them.

As the northern Chippewas receive no annuities, they would gladly sell a portion of their lands to relieve themselves from the utter poverty which presses upon them, and become recipients of government bounty.

The influence of Flat Mouth, Pillager head chief, extends over all these bands, and their chiefs in council have solemnly agreed to abide by his experience and advice.

Sug-wun-dug-ah-win-in-e-wug. This section of the Chippewa tribe inhabits the north coast of Lake Superior, within the lines of Minnesota. They are denominated *Sug-wun-dug-ah-win-in-e-wug*, or "men who live amongst the thick fir woods." By old French traders they were called the "Bois Forts" or "Hard woods." They number within our limits about eight hundred, and have villages at Rainy and Vermillion Lakes. They hunt over the country which stretches from the Lake of the Woods to the mouth of Pigeon river.

This extensive tract is unadapted to agriculture, lies in an almost arctic climate, and abounds in swamps and thick interminable forests of fir. The copper and other minerals which are found upon the north coast of Lake Superior, and among the *Mis-aub-ay* heights of the interior, are the only loadstone which can ever attract an American population to this portion of Minnesota; though the inexhaustible fisheries of Lake Superior may in progress of time augment its growth and importance.

The bands living upon these lands spring from a branch of the Chippewa tribe, who separated from the main body in Canada when first commenced the retrograde movement before the advance of their powerful eastern enemies, the *Nod-o-waig*, or Six Nations. This section moved westward along the north shore of Lake Superior, and never effected a junction with their brethren at the central town of La Pointe.

To this body belong the *Musk-e-goes*, or "Swamp people;" the *O-dish-quag-um-ees*, or "last-water people," and other bands scattered through the British Possessions. The *O-dish-quag-um-ees* are the division of Chippewas mentioned by Mr. Schoolcraft as pure Algonquins.

These bands all speak the same language as the more southern divisions; but there is a variance in their pronunciation of certain words, extracted from the same root, and their accentuation is entirely different.

This people have little intercourse with Americans, and trade mostly with the Hudson's Bay Company. A few enterprising American traders have sent among them outfits, but the animals which are valuable for fur are rapidly disappearing, and the trade is comparatively worthless.

The *Sug-wun-dug-ah-win-in-e-wug* are miserably poor, depending for subsistence upon the precarious supplies of the chase; they rely for their winter's support upon the rabbit and reindeer. Last year the rabbit almost entirely disappeared, having been swept off by a distemper. Great distress ensued, and during the winter thirteen of their number literally starved to death. This season the rice crop has failed, and this people anticipate with aching hearts the sufferings and privations of the approaching winter. Our government has shown them but little attention, and their predilections are in favor of the British, who have treated them with much kindness.

The entire Chippewa tribe are divided into fifteen families, upon the

totemic principle, to each of which are four subdivisions. Each family has a crest or symbol of some bird, fish or animal, called, in their nomenclature, the *totem*, to the origin of each of which some legend attaches. The system is ancient, and dates as far back as their most unnatural and absurd traditions extend. Though divided by thousands of miles, and unconnected for generations, members of the same *totem* cannot intermarry, or cohabit with one another. The *totem* descends in the male line.

The *Ah-auh-wauh*, or *Loon-totem*, compose the royal line. "Great Buffalo," the present head of this family, was born at La Pointe, in Lake Superior, during the revolutionary war. From tender years he has borne a conspicuous part in the history of his tribe, and has signed every treaty to which they have become parties for the last thirty years. One circumstance in his past life has caused him great mortification; the creed of the Shawnee Prophet, brother of Tecumseh, spread like wildfire among the northern and western tribes. Legates were sent from tribe to tribe, and village to village, and "Buffalo" became a firm believer, and with him believed his tribe.

At Pt. *Shag-a-waum-ik-ong* he collected his people, and instructed them in the mysteries of the new faith. He even started with over two hundred canoes to go in search of the prophet, and took along with him the corpse of a child which he fully believed the prophet could restore to life. At the Pictured Rocks on Lake Superior, he met the trader Michel Cadotte, who with great difficulty succeeded in turning him back. At the time "Great Buffalo" was not apprised that the object of the Prophet and Tecumseh was the expulsion of the whites from the territory of the North-west.

The *Aud-je-jauk*, or "Crane," and the *A-waus-isse*, or "Catfish," are noted *totems*. The *Muk-wah*, or Bear family, comprise the war chiefs.

At the time of the treaty at Prairie du Chien, in 1826, the Chippewas had but seven principal chiefs. Each of these had his war chief, and *Osh-ka-ba-was*, or "serving man." The latter office was hereditary, but the former position was secured by brave conduct in war. In later years a bad practice has obtained among government agents of breaking and creating chiefs at pleasure. To such extent has this been carried, that among the tribe there are now nearly sixty chiefs, while twelve years ago there were but seven principal, and less than twelve sub-chiefs. The evil consequences are visible in the envy and dissensions engendered among themselves. Frequently chiefs have been created through the influence of traders; and as these feel bound to support the interests of the trader to whose good offices they are indebted for their dignity, when the latter disagree, the quarrel is transferred with increased acrimony to the Indians.

The *Me-da-we*, or Priesthood, interfere but little in the civil polity of the tribe, and are admitted to the national councils, not as a class, but solely on personal considerations.

It is to be regretted that the appropriation of Congress to defray the expenses of removal and subsistence of the Chippewas, from the lands ceded by them in Michigan and Wisconsin, was not made at a day sufficiently early to warrant a removal this fall. In these high latitudes, the removal of a whole people after the first of November would be attended with much hardship, both to them and to the officers and employees

attached to the service; and the probability is that active measures will have to be suspended until next spring.

Early in this year, however, a plan of removal was fully matured in this office, and agents, ready for service at a moment's notice, were designated to superintend each band, and counsel and assist them upon the march. Provisions for subsistence were placed at convenient points of *depot* upon the line; and to insure the greatest dispatch, a gentleman of great influence with the tribe was appointed to superintend the removal, and aid the sub-agent in the additional duties thereby imposed. Should the Department defer farther action until spring, it is to be hoped that we may still profit by what has already been done.

Preparatory also to the removal, early in the summer, I visited the Ojibwa country, for the purpose of selecting a suitable site for an agency.

Composing the party of exploration were Judge Cooper, of the Supreme Court of the Territory; J. S. Watrous, Chippewa Sub-agent, Mr. Warren, and other gentlemen. Our departure from St. Paul occurred about the middle of June; and from the Falls of St. Anthony to Sauk Rapids, we enjoyed the accommodation of a steamer.

The appearance of the Mississippi below and above the falls, is entirely dissimilar. Below, the banks are bold and precipitous. Above, the inclination is gradual, with a gentle ascent as far back as the eye can reach. The country is principally prairie, though well wooded and pretty well watered, either by bright, beautiful, and gushing springs issuing from the banks of the river, crystal brooks coursing from the highlands, or transparent and limpid lakes dotting the plain. The prairie is fertile, undulating, and broken here and there by green groves of handsome oaks.

From Sauk Rapids we journeyed by land to Crow-Wing, at which point we met the *voyageurs*, who were to be our pilots above. Crossing the Mississippi above Crow-Wing, we directed our course to Gull Lake. In the centre of this lake is a high conical pile of boulders, looking as if rolled up by the studied efforts of art into a kind of cone, upon which the gulls, a bird which abounds here, lay and hatch. The lake abounds in the choicest species of fish, and in the vicinity are found sugar bushes and rice fields.

Traversing in our canoes this lake, which is about five miles in width and twelve to fourteen in length, we entered, after a portage of a mile and a half, Lake Sibley. From thence, with a portage of two miles, we came to Spirit Lake, and followed an outlet from that into Cooper, a large and beautiful lake. Thence we passed through White Fish Lake, and up Pine River to a rapid stream which was named Stanley River. The wood upon this river is pine, oak, maple, birch, &c. The shores are fertile, the water pure, but of slight amber color, occasioned by the immense pine forests through which it runs. From this river, after making several short portages, and crossing a number of small lakes, we came to *Sa-na-be* Lake, this is the summit of the ganglionic chain of lakes which stretches over this country; and abounds in the Indian edibles of fish and rice. The margin is thickly timbered with small trees of every variety, and in the rear is a fine natural meadow. Passing over Little Boy Lake, which is some six or seven miles long, and two wide, and down Little Boy river, we entered the great *reservoir*, Leech Lake.

This is a very extensive sheet of water, being about twenty-five miles in length, and from fifteen to eighteen in width. Its shores have a very

crooked outline, which, with its nine bays, give it an oblong circumference of about one hundred and sixty miles. Ice forms upon it about the middle of November, and leaves about the middle of May. The coast is hedged in with boulders, piled up along the margin sometimes five and six feet above the water. The lands around are fertile, sugar trees are abundant, and rice is obtained in large quantities. The lake has capacity for supplying at least three thousand souls. Every article of food which the Indian needs for subsistence can be found either in its bosom or upon its shores. The fish are abundant and of great variety; comprising the white fish, the tullbe, musketon, bass, sunfish, and bull-head; turtles of magnificent size and flavor are also found. After a boisterous passage over this lake through a heavy sea, which ran so high that the boat astern of us, not more than twenty yards distant, with sail extending fifteen feet above deck, could not be seen, we made the trading-post of Geo Bungo, a metis, or cross of the African and Indian.

After spending a day or two at Leech Lake, we commenced our return voyage, intending to describe a water circle, and descend by the course of the Mississippi, making several portages, we once more, after a considerable absence, found ourselves floating on its waters, in *Cass Lake*, so named from General Cass, whose exploring expedition on the Upper Mississippi, in 1820, terminated here. This sheet is an expansion of the Mississippi river, about one hundred and forty-nine miles from its source in Lake Itasca. It is worthy of note, that so far north as $47^{\circ} 30'$ the missionaries had fields of *winter* wheat growing, and all kinds of planted vegetation looked fine. Cass Lake is in several respects a beautiful body of water; it is full of islands, and about sixteen miles long, and nearly as broad. The oars of our *voyageurs*, keeping time to their cheerful boat song, sent us rapidly over its swelling waves into another pretty watery ganglion called Lake Winnebigoishish; and thence with all possible speed we descended the river to Sandy Lake, at the outlet of which the Mississippi is three hundred and thirty-one feet wide. Sandy Lake is about twelve miles long, and six or seven wide. It derives its name from its sandy beaches, which are variegated with quartz pebbles, colored in all the shades of red, from a bright vermilion to a brown, including often many fine specimens of cornelions and agates. The lake shores are hilly, and the country around arid and unproductive. The lake is famous among *voyageurs* and fur traders, as the terminus of the old trading route from Lake Superior to the Mississippi. It is distant seventy-five miles in a nearly straight line due west from the *Fond du Lac* of that "Very Great Water."

At this place we determined temporarily to locate the agency, though our election was controlled by other circumstances than the natural advantages of the site. Leech Lake is *the* place: but, for prudential reasons already adverted to, its selection was placed out of question.

In this connection, I would respectfully invite the attention of the Department to a communication from this office of date of July 16, 1850, urging the policy of entering into conventional arrangement with the Pillagers, with a view of opening their country to the use and occupancy of the other bands of Chippewas. These lands should be held by tenancy in common, subject to the unrestricted use of all the members of the tribe.

Let this be done, and a much more desirable site for an agency can be

had, one that will be permanent, accessible to the Indians, and convenient for government. Should the Department coincide with the views advanced in that letter, and direct the initial for locating the permanent agency of the entire tribe at Leech Lake, the slight improvements, which with great economy have been made during the past summer at Sandy Lake, could be turned to account as the residence of an Indian farmer.

Although a formal order to remove has at no time been communicated to the Chippewas, occupying the ceded lands in Michigan and Wisconsin, yet, under instructions from your bureau, they were early informed, that during the year they would be called upon so to do. Many of them, during the past season, have voluntarily migrated to the seat of the agency, and these will require supplies from government for their subsistence during the winter, for to expose them to privation would exert a baleful influence upon the residue of the tribe, who will be expected to remove the coming spring.

Officers of the Indian Department at different times have pressed the purchase of the Chippewa country, east of the Mississippi. This region lies altogether within the limits of Minnesota, north of a line running nearly due east from the mouth of Crow Wing river. A narrow strip of the country, to which allusion has already been made, on the north-west shore of Lake Superior, is represented to hold large deposits of copper ore. *This*, it might be politic to treat for. On other portions is some valuable pine, though but a limited amount. The privilege of cutting this might be extended to our white population—but not an *acre* of the residue can I conceive government will ever need for its citizens. It is a country no American population would ever occupy; most of it is interminable swamps, with occasional sand ridges and rice lakes. In short, it is just suited to the habits of the people who at present inhabit it, and to no others.

With this estimate of the country, in order to quiet the apprehension of farther removals entertained by the Chippewas, I think it would be wise and humane for government to guaranty them, by solemn act of legislation, the undisturbed possession for ever of these regions.

The Metis, or Half-Breeds of the Red River of the North, number eleven hundred souls, and are mostly of a mixed descent of Chippewa and Canadian French. Owing to their apparent seclusion from the world, the accounts given of them have been meagre and jejune, yet already have they laid a solid foundation for the fabric of social improvement; and, as a political community, present many interesting features for consideration. By the laws of Minnesota, they are admitted to the rights of citizenship; and, by means of annual caravans, carry on an extensive and profitable commerce with our citizens. Many of their traders during the past season have been robbed by the Pillagers, through whose territory they are compelled to pass in pursuing the trail to Saint Paul.

Since my last annual report, this people have, upon several occasions, unfortunately urged the necessity of decisive and peremptory action by government to protect them in their rights, as American citizens, and preserve the buffalo which range the northern plains, from the trespass of British subjects, who, destroying them in their annual hunts, diminish thereby their means of subsistence. In a letter received from Rev. G. A. Belcourt, of Pembina, with whom I have had much correspondence, dated the 15th of September last, grave complaints are preferred of manifold

injuries and insults received by the half-breeds during a series of years from subjects of the British Crown, and of the overbearing spirit exhibited in the department of the agents of the Hudson's Bay Company. The communication speaks in strong terms of the cupidity of their factories; and, referring to the trespasses which continually occur upon American soil in pursuit of buffalo, says, "The yield of the hunt of our half-breeds has been a great deal less than ordinary, as the half-breeds on the British side came over first and frightened away all the animals. This has caused us much damage. The British half-breeds returned heavily laden, taking away the game of our prairies to their homes, while the proprietors returned only with half loads, after being gone one month longer than usual. In consequence of this injustice, a great number of our half-breeds, having nothing to live on this winter, will be obliged to go far to hunt after the Indian fashion, and be exposed to a great deal of misery, and then return home too late to sow in the spring. In the mean time, a great number will have to pass the winter here, and suffer great privations in keeping themselves in readiness for planting-season next spring."

Congress, at the close of its late session, I perceive, made an appropriation to defray the expenses of a treaty with the proprietors of the soil on Red river. When this is effected, and the operation of our laws extended over these half-breeds, adequate remedies will accrue, and all that they can reasonably desire will undoubtedly be accomplished.

As these *Metis*, though considerably advanced in civilization, were practically without law, at the request of a deputation of their people who visited me in July last, I recognized Jean Baptiste Wilkie, Jean Baptiste Dumon, Baptiste Valle, Edward Harmon, Joseph Lavardure, Joseph Nolin, Antoine Augure, Robert Montour, and Baptiste Lafournais, persons freely elected by the half-breeds of Pembina, as councillors or chiefs, to whom the general administration of the affairs of the half-breeds residing upon the Red river of the North should be entrusted.

Accompanying this report, I have the honor to transmit you the annual reports of the Winnebago agents, and of the Sioux and Chippewa sub-agents, which enter more fully into the affairs of the tribes under their respective charge than the general nature of this report would admit.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER RAMSEY.

Hon. LUKE LEA,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 14.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY

September 30, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to submit, in compliance with the regulations of the Department, a report of affairs at this agency, and the condition of the Indians in my charge during the past year.

Eight bands of the Winnebagoes are now located in the interior of their country at this agency; these Indians have been industrious, and the suc-

cess which they have had in farming, the present season, has had the effect to silence their complaints respecting their country. The chiefs of these bands, a few weeks since, asked me to inform their Great Father that they were satisfied with the country which he had given them, and to present their request that they may be permitted to remain here, and their children after them. Eleven bands (or parts of bands) have lived, during the past year, on the Mississippi river; their aversion to living in the interior of their country, and their attachment to the Mississippi, are accounted for by the fact that at the agency they would have to encounter difficulty in procuring whiskey, while in the white settlements on the east side of said river they can procure it without difficulty. These Indians planted no corn last spring, and but half cultivated a field of about thirty acres planted for them. The migrating party of the tribe spent the winter in Wisconsin, Iowa, and the country belonging to the Sioux; most of them returned as usual in the spring and summer before payment, to get their annuities. Owing to inducements offered, and the facilities provided by the Department, for their removal, some 127 Indians, half-breeds, and others more distantly connected with the tribe, have removed to this country the present season, who had not previously removed. Some of this migrating party will still remain here; others will again return south, if they are not prevented. It is believed that a majority of the citizens, with whom the Indians have intercourse in these portions of Wisconsin and Iowa, where they resort, encourage said Indians to come among them—make them welcome while they have money or furs, and invite them to return after they have received their annuities, while the facility with which the Indians procure intoxicating drink in these neighborhoods is a still stronger inducement to them to return. To contend successfully against all these influences, and keep the Indians within their proper limits, will subject the government annually to great expense. The opinion is respectfully submitted, that the best way to keep the Winnebagoes within their own country is to make their remaining at home a condition of their receiving their annuities, and if they trespass on the whites, hold them amenable to the law; a few prosecutions for offences will prevent their repetition, by causing the Indians to leave the neighborhood. Indians will seldom visit, or long remain, in a community where they are not made welcome, and encouraged to stay.

Nearly all the depredations committed by the Winnebagoes in the white settlements, that have come to my knowledge, have been caused by intoxicating liquors, furnished the Indians, directly or indirectly, by the whites.

There is great reluctance manifested by citizens living on the frontier, to prosecute individual Indians for offences committed by them against the laws, while little reluctance is shown in presenting claims against the tribe for depredations. The provision of the 17th sec. of the "Act to regulate trade and intercourse with Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontier," which guarantees to citizens indemnification for depredations committed by Indians, within States and territories, is no doubt just, so far as it affects the citizens; still, if its application was restricted to depredations committed within the Indian country, there would be less depredations committed by Indians, on the rights and property of citizens on the frontier, for the laws of the State or territory would then be enforced, and would prove as effectual in restraining Indians, as whites.

While this provision of the intercourse law is the only corrective applied by citizens, to prevent depredations on their property by Indians, the Indian knows that if he steal a horse or other property, he incurs no personal risk of punishment, and the fact that, if detected, he will be liable to, perhaps, one fifteen-hundredth part of the cost of reparation, is a feeble restraint against committing the theft.

A few weeks since I instituted a prosecution against seven Winnebago Indians, for robbery and theft committed in Benton county, M. T. I desired the citizens who had suffered wrong from the Indians, to prosecute them for said offence, but they positively refused to do so, and I entered complaint before the civil authority against the Indians, believing the effect would be salutary to the tribe. The robbery and theft aforesaid were committed by the Indians under excitement, produced by an affray which occurred on the 23d June, between them and some white men, at a grocery, near Osake's Rapids, in which affray one Indian was shot dead, and two wounded, one severely, and two white men were severely bruised, and one of them stabbed in the arm by the Indians. Each party charged the other with being the aggressor in the fight.

But little whiskey has been introduced into the country occupied by the Winnebagoes, during the past year; some two or three individuals have violated the trade and intercourse law in this respect, for which they will be prosecuted at the first term of the District Court. The legislature of Minnesota, at their session last winter, enacted salutary laws for the suppression of the traffic in ardent spirits to Indians, but the practicability of their execution in this neighborhood has not yet been tested, owing to the fact that a session of the District Court has not been held north of the Falls of St. Anthony since the organization of this territory. The military have been far more efficient than the civil authority in suppressing the traffic in intoxicating liquors with Indians, on the borders of this agency. Until the visit of your Excellency and Judge Cooper to Fort Gaines, last summer, those engaged in said traffic had reason to suppose that the civil authority considered it a venial offence.

A considerable number of the tribe have, since the annuity payment last month, returned into Benton county, on the east side of the Mississippi, and south of their country, to live in the neighborhood of traders, who have established trading-posts on the border of the Indian country. The consequence has been, hitherto, that the Indians have procured whiskey, got into difficulty with the inhabitants, and committed depredations, for which heavy claims have been brought against the tribe, and representations made in newspapers, that these outrages result from the bad management of the agent, his lack of influence with the Indians, and consequent inability to keep them at home. And such will probably continue to be the consequences resulting from these trading establishments, so long as they remain there. License to trade within the Indian country was offered these traders before they established their posts on the east side of the Mississippi, and has since been offered them on condition that they would remove their posts to some point within the Indian country. This offer has been declined; they prefer to have their establishments where they are not subject to the law regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians. For this evil I see no remedy, unless the legislature of this territory shall enact laws prohibiting trade with Indians without the limits of the Indian country.

The Winnebagoes continue on friendly terms with their neighbors, the Sioux and Chippewas, and have done much, the present season, to prevent bloodshed between these tribes. The Chippewas allege that they were encouraged by "Sho-go-nik," and "Paw-sul-ech-kan," two Winnebago chiefs, to make war on the Sioux last summer, and that they were promised assistance. I do not know how much truth there may be in this statement, but when the Chippewas came in force to go against the Sioux, these two chiefs, who were accused of instigating and encouraging the war party, were the most active and efficient in persuading said party to return peaceably to their own country.

Ambition to acquire the fame and laurels which are by all nations awarded to deeds of martial prowess, is a ruling passion in the breast of the Indian, nor is it strange that it should be so. The young man, before he can claim a right to speak in council, must appear there plumed with the feather of the war eagle, and the same emblem of success on the war path entitles him to seek a wife among the daughters of the high in rank. It is the opinion of those best acquainted with the Indian character, that of the uncivilized tribes, those engaged in war are the most enterprising and virtuous. The Indian must have excitement; he seeks it on the war path; deprive him of this and he will seek excitement in gambling and intoxication. Create among his tribe a public sentiment which attaches distinction and influence to the possession of wealth, and his energies may be directed to the acquisition of property, and an important step is gained towards his civilization. If the Department intends to carry into effect the benevolent design of suppressing the bloody warfare now existing between the Sioux and Chippewas, it will be necessary to adopt efficient measures to suppress hostilities at once, and arbitrate finally in the settlement of their quarrels. Government officers and agents get but poor thanks for their well-meant interference in settling difficulties between these belligerent tribes; both parties are sure to charge to them any wrong or loss of life they may subsequently sustain from their enemy, and allege that but for their interference they should have avenged their wrongs themselves, and thereby prevented a repetition. So long as these tribes are engaged in war with each other, there is little danger of their combining in an attack on the white settlements.

The opinion entertained by many that the Indian cannot thrive and prosper in a condition of civilization is erroneous. Ignorance, exposure, and starvation, no more conduce to the prosperity and comfort of the Indian than the white man; although habit enables the former to endure these evils with less inconvenience than the latter.

How far the opinion generally entertained, that the race of the red man is fast diminishing and dwindling towards extinction, may be true in its general application, I will not undertake to determine; but with reference to this tribe, it is believed that the great difference between their present actual number and their number as reported in 1837, is to be accounted for, in part at least, by the erroneous manner then adopted of taking the census. The custom then was for the head of a family to present the agent with a bundle of sticks representing the number of individuals in his or her family, including children, grand-children, sons and daughters-in-law, &c.; then the different branches of the same family would present their sticks, again representing themselves and their children. For practicing this double dealing the Indians had a motive, as each head of a family

drew as many shares of the annuity as he had individuals in his family entered on the roll. This method of taking the census was, I believe, formerly adopted by the Chippewas.

For three years previous to the removal of the Winnebagoes, there was an increase of their population. In 1847, the number of births exceeded the number of deaths by seventy-six. The number of births the past year, in the bands located at this agency, exceed the number of deaths some twenty-five or thirty. At the ensuing payment, statistics will be taken to ascertain the increase or decrease of the portion of the tribe that live on the Mississippi, and are less civilized.

The school for the Indians at this agency continued in operation until the 30th of June last, when it was discontinued on account of the resignation of the teachers. From the time the school commenced in November, until it was discontinued, four teachers were employed; the average number of scholars during the term was about forty-eight. Several Chippewa children were permitted to attend the school. The children were taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, as provided in the treaty of 1832. The girls attending the school have been instructed in sewing and knitting; a part of the clothing for the children attending the school was made in the school. The theory, that "it is cheaper to buy than to manufacture," has to some extent prevailed in the female department of the school, and the instruction in "carding, spinning, and weaving," required by said treaty, has been dispensed with. Practical instruction to the boys attending the school, in gardening and agriculture, was also dispensed with as heretofore. Land was ploughed last spring for the use of the school, and offered to the superintendent for that purpose, but he did not deem it expedient to work the boys in the field. I am satisfied that the teachers endeavored faithfully to instruct the children in such branches as they deemed most important.

The usual annual report of the school has not been received from the superintendent, and presuming that he will not deem it necessary to make a report, I submit the foregoing statement, which, so far as it relates to the statistics of the school, is made from his quarterly reports, and will no doubt be considered sufficiently specific.

At the time the school closed for the cause stated, other teachers would have been employed, and the school continued in operation, but for the understanding that the Department intended the immediate re-organization of the school, and the placing of the funds appropriated for education in the hands of missionary societies.

I am not personally acquainted with the operation of manual labor schools, as conducted by missionary societies among the different tribes of Indians, where such schools have been established, nor with the success which may have attended them; but I would respectfully submit, that from my knowledge of this tribe, and the result of an experiment in the school here, in all respects so far as the Indians are concerned, similar to the system specified in the contract prepared for the intended manual labor school at this agency, I am satisfied that an attempt to sustain a school among the Winnebagoes on said system will prove abortive. A boarding-house has for several years past, and I believe from the first commencement of the school, been connected with it; such children as chose to live at said boarding-house and attend the school, had the privilege of doing so: some few of the children that attended the school lived

for a time in the families of the teachers and other employees at the agency, but all these children left said families and returned to the wigwams several months previous to the closing of the school. Very few, if any, of the influential families in the tribe have at any time allowed their children to board at the school. If the funds appropriated for the establishment of manual labor schools in this tribe are expended in the buildings, furniture, &c., for two school establishments, and the children are required to live with their teachers at these establishments, the Indians will derive but little benefit from the expenditure, for very few children in the tribe can be induced to attend the schools.

The funds provided for education for the Winnebagoes are ample to afford a common school education to every child in the tribe, and with judicious management may be so applied. In order to effect this desirable object, a system similar in most respects to the system of "common" or district schools in the States, should be adopted. Comfortable school-houses, with two rooms sufficiently large to accommodate forty scholars each, should be built, and also dwelling-houses for teachers. A garden, field, and shop, should be attached to each school, in which the boys of suitable age should be required to work a part of their time daily. This system of manual labor schools will be of general application, and consequently will be popular with the Indians, and will remove the prejudice which has hitherto existed against the school, on account of its benefits being confined to the few that were settled in its immediate vicinity.

A judicious discrimination in the selection of teachers can be observed by the agents of the government, as well as by agents of missionary societies.

If the churches wish to christianize these people, let them send their missionaries to proclaim the Gospel to them without money and without price; the Indian might appreciate such benevolence, and listen to the missionary without that prejudice which a knowledge that his services were rendered by contract would unavoidably create.

There has been considerable sickness in this tribe for several months past; dysentery has been the prevalent disease, and confined mostly to children. Many of the Indians, when sick, apply at once to the physician employed for them: some still employ the medicine men of the tribe, who, in case they find their patient likely to die, will at the last moment send for the regular physician, in order to shift the responsibility of the case on him. These medicine men, or Indian doctors, charge high fees for their services, and not unfrequently demand their fee in advance.

Three blacksmiths and two assistants are at the present time employed for the tribe; during the summer, but two blacksmiths were employed, one having resigned on account of the moderate salary allowed. The manner in which the blacksmiths have discharged their duty the past year has been entirely satisfactory.

The past season has been very unfavorable for business on account of heavy rains, which have subjected us to great expense in repairing roads, and in making and repairing bridges which were carried away by the unusual rise in the rivers. The saw-mill has been kept in operation a part of the season; something has been done at building houses for the Indians. We were for nearly three months prevented by high water from hauling lumber from the mill, which has prevented our accomplishing as much in building as was intended. Twenty houses for the Indians are finished; sixteen of them have been finished during the year; seven

houses have been erected which are yet unfinished, and five more commenced. The half-breeds have, since this agency has been established, built seven houses for themselves; some assistance by furnishing lumber has been rendered them. The Indians who occupy houses have most of them provided themselves furniture; cook stoves have been furnished them, and these families appear to contrast their present comforts with their former mode of living with much satisfaction. The balance of the season will be devoted chiefly to building houses for the Indians; all that are able to work are required to assist in building their houses.

During the past year, the agency house has been finished, and an office for the agency, a house for the physician, a house for the interpreter, and a large warehouse for the Indians, containing a council room built by contract.

The crops on the farm at this agency have been good; 455½ acres of land were ploughed in the spring for cultivation; of this, 200 acres were turned over to H. M. Rice, Esq. (contractor for the removal of the Winnebagoes), which land he planted, and partially cultivated 140 acres of the same; he also ploughed and planted a field of about 30 acres for the Indians on the Mississippi river. The Indians planted and cultivated 143 acres in corn, potatoes, and other vegetables; the balance, 112½ acres, was cultivated by the laborers employed for the Indians, of which 34¼ acres were cultivated in wheat, 49¼ do. in oats, 13 do. in potatoes, 10 do. in peas, 2 do. in corn, and 4 do. in a garden. Such part of the 60 acres left uncultivated by Mr. Rice, as was worth cultivating, was worked by the laborers employed for the Indians, and the balance sowed in turnips. During the summer, 35 acres of prairie have been broken, and 27 do. of the same sowed in turnips; 364 rods of fence have been made by contract on the Indian farm the present season, and 1976 rods do. by laborers employed. A part of said fence has been made to enclose a pasture of 162 acres.

A map of the Winnebago agency and farm is herewith transmitted. A map of the country included in this agency, showing the location of each band, &c., will be made and forwarded as soon as I can find time to make the requisite survey of the country; these statistical returns ought to have been furnished by the teachers employed in the school.

It is important that the boundary between the Winnebagoes and Sioux should be re-surveyed and distinctly marked.

If the government would purchase for this tribe, or permit them to purchase of the Sioux, that portion of their country lying north of Osake's river, it would give them a natural boundary, and probably have the effect to render the disaffected portion satisfied with their country.

Over the Chippewas of the Mississippi and the Pillagers, I have, for several months past, had concurrent jurisdiction with J. S. Watrous, Esq., Indian sub-agent. The main body of the Pillagers I see but annually, at their annuity payment; occasionally, a party of them, on a war or hunting excursion, visit this agency. This band are becoming limited in their means of subsistence, and stand in need of assistance to start them in agricultural pursuits.

The Chippewas at Gull Lake have fallen far short of my hopes and expectations in their farming operations the present season. Teams, tools, and seed were issued to them by the agent for them in the spring, and industry on their part would have made them comfortable during the year. The

unfortunate difficulty which occurred between them and the Sioux was most untimely, and was no doubt one cause of their failure in farming.

Notwithstanding the cordial friendship which exists between the Chipewas and Winnebagoes, I have had frequent occasion to arbitrate between them on trials of the right of property. I am aware that this is an assumption of authority, but it sometimes becomes necessary for agents to have appellate jurisdiction in the settlement of difficulties of this kind.

If laws were enacted to punish crimes among Indians, and to regulate intercourse between the different tribes, it would probably have a salutary effect: the experiment might be made, and is worth the trial.

In submitting this report, I am aware that the Department consider that "agents and sub-agents are insensibly partial in their representations respecting the condition and affairs of the tribes in their charge," and that "they naturally wish to show as favorable a state of things as possible, in order that they may appear as well, or better than those in other agencies." In the discharge of my duty, it has been my ambition to meet the approval of the Department, and I shall be highly gratified if I have in any measure succeeded; but I claim no meritorious comparison with others. A part of the Indians in my charge have always been difficult to manage; for two years past, influences beyond my control have been brought to bear upon them, which have rendered them more so. The success of my efforts to restrain them and promote the prosperity of all has fallen far short of my aim and my hopes; all that I claim is, that those efforts have been well meant and unremitted, if not well directed.

Letters to this office should be directed, "Winnebago Agency, Long Prairie, Minnesota Territory."

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

J. E. FLETCHER,

Indian Agent.

His Excellency ALEX. RAMSEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Paul, M. T.

No. 15.

INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
St. Peter's, September 25, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor, in accordance with instructions, to forward to you, to be transmitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, my first annual report.

My appointment was dated the 8th of November, and I entered upon the duties of the office the 4th of December last.

I have endeavored to make myself acquainted with the duties connected with the appointment, and perform them in the best manner I was capable. The Sioux, as a tribe of Indians, for a number of years have not been as prosperous, so far as it regards their advancement in civilization and education, as many other tribes of red men in the West.

The general health, up to this period, has been good. Nothing like an epidemic has prevailed among them. We have had but little trouble comparatively in regard to intemperance: a licensed trader has been detected in vending spirituous liquors, and the instances are few in which

the destructive article has been found among them. When it is remembered that they occupy a country more than two hundred miles in extent on the west side of the Mississippi, and several of their villages being upon the banks of the stream, while the white population occupy the land on the opposite side for nearly the whole distance, the facilities for traffic being so great, it is a matter of surprise, that there has not been more intemperance among them. A few instances have occurred where the Indian has crossed over and obtained whiskey from his white neighbor, and taken it to his wigwam. Many of them have their names attached to the temperance pledge, embracing most of the chiefs and principal men, who discountenance the use of ardent spirits in such a manner as to hold in check the more dissolute. Taking the seven bands of Sioux, numbering some 2200, who receive annuities at this agency, they will compare favorably as it regards temperance with the same number of white population.

The deadly hostility for many years existing between the Sioux and Chippewas, still exists, and their proximity is the cause of frequent outbreaks. Several instances have occurred during the past year, and in one instance attended with atrocities painful to contemplate by a civilized community. In February last, a party of Sioux attacked some Chippewas on the waters of Crow Wing river upon Sioux land—killed and scalped the son of *White Fisher*, a Chippewa chief. Not long afterwards (in March last) a large war party of Sioux attacked a small band of Chippewas on Apple river, in the State of Wisconsin, while engaged at a sugar camp—killed and scalped fourteen, including men, women, and children. Few instances have occurred, even in savage warfare, more revolting than this cold-blooded, wholesale murder. Men, women, and children were murdered while unprepared for defence, and by numbers four times greater than their own. The leading men in this bloody affair were arrested and confined at Fort Snelling. Information was sent to the Chippewas that, if they would not seek revenge, the Sioux in prison would be punished for the offence. In a few days, however, after their imprisonment, a small party of Chippewas attacked some Sioux, and killed and scalped one within one mile of the fort. The prisoners were then released.

In June last, at the instance of our Superintendent of Indian Affairs (Gov. Ramsey), a treaty was held by these two tribes at Fort Snelling, for the purpose of settling up their old difficulties and effecting a permanent peace. A treaty held by the same tribes for the same purpose at the same place in 1844, was reaffirmed, and the hostile parties appeared to separate on friendly terms—since which time there have been no murders committed by either party to this treaty. As the government is in possession of all the facts in relation to this treaty from higher authority, I need not enlarge.

The Indian farms have produced the usual quantity of corn the present season, and all not destroyed by the flood has been safely harvested. The extraordinary floods that have occurred the past spring and summer in the Mississippi and St. Peter's rivers, have entirely destroyed the corn of two bands planted in the bottoms—more than one-half of a third and largest band, and more or less injured some others. The flood has also seriously affected the wild rice and cranberry crop, generally affording much aid in the Indian supplies of provision, for use and exchange. Had

it not been for the liberality of the government in allowing the sum of \$5000 for the supply of additional provisions to the annual allowance, much suffering would have been the result the coming winter. By the aid of this extra supply, we think they will be able to pass the season without want for provisions.

For details in regard to the farmers, blacksmiths, &c., I beg leave to refer to the report of Mr. Prescott, Superintendent of farmers, attached to this agency. I will remark, however, in this connection, that the Indian farmers being so remote from each other, more than one hundred miles from what is called the lower farm to the upper, prevents that proper oversight necessary to secure an efficient discharge of the duties of the appointment.

Should there not be a treaty effected with the Sioux the present season, and they should remain at their present homes, several new farms will have to be prepared, as there is too much risk from floods in planting on some of the bottoms of the river hitherto occupied. It appears to me also that it would be much better to have those seven bands of Mendawakauten Sioux interested in the treaty of 1837, located nearer to each other.

There are two schools in progress attached to this agency. Reports from the teachers of these schools, accompanying this communication, will exhibit their condition and prospects. Those schools have been in a languishing condition for a long time, arising from various causes. The principal one has repeatedly been explained to the government. The Indians are induced to believe, by those opposed to schools altogether, that their money is used too freely for this purpose, and if they will not send to school, the government will divide per capita the large amount of interest that has accumulated in the treasury, arising from the \$100,000 set apart in the treaty of 1837, the interest of which was to be expended for their benefit, in such manner as the President might direct. The general opinion is that this was intended as an education fund; some contend, however, that there was no such understanding when the treaty was made. So long as this question remains undecided, and the Indians occupy their present homes under the apprehension that they will shortly be removed to some other place, the schools cannot benefit them much. It would be unwise, however, to abandon them, and yield up the principle to the opposition. The whole system, in my opinion, should be changed, and the manual labor plan adopted.

I had the honor, a few weeks since, to submit my views on this subject to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in a special report I was required to make, and will not again repeat the views therein expressed.

A report from the different missionary stations among the Sioux will be found among the papers. The same reasons which operate against the schools have their influence unfavorably with regard to the missionary operations. Being somewhat connected with the schools, the minds of the Indians have been prejudiced, and many of them believe that this school fund is their great object.

The missionaries, so far as my knowledge extends, are pious and faithful men, and from their efforts to civilize and Christianize the Indians, deserve better success than they have received for the last few years. I should consider it a great misfortune, should they yield to discouragement and abandon their fields of labor. Although we cannot see much visible

fruit from their labors, yet their influence among them is most salutary in restraining them from intemperance, discouraging war parties, and exhibiting before their eyes the practical benefits of civilization and Christianity. They assist them in various ways in their farming operations, advising for the best, in their temporal as well as spiritual matters.

A considerable amount has been expended during the past year, surplus from the agricultural fund, in the purchase of ploughs for the farmers, carts, harness, plank, nails, &c., for the Indians, and a number of comfortable cabins have been erected. A few cheap cooking-stoves have been given to the chiefs, with which they are much pleased. One hundred horses were divided among the different bands this summer, costing \$6,000. This was a very bad expenditure, although done at the earnest solicitations of the Indians themselves. Perhaps not more than one-half the number are in possession of those who first received them, the other half dead—many of them killed, and others traded off; those on hand are in a miserable condition, and very few of them will survive the present winter. Almost any other application of the money would have been more beneficial to them. Every week complaints are made to the agent that horses are killed by Indians of a different band, and claiming payment. Where the proof is positive, we have considered it our duty to interfere, and compel the guilty to compensate the injured party, but the cases are rare where the necessary proof can be obtained.

Some time since, a small amount was asked from the Department to build a new store-house, which was not granted from the supposition that the Indians would be removed from their present location in a short time. The present small log building used for that purpose, attached to the interpreter's house, is entirely too small, in a state of dilapidation, insecure, and not worth repairing. When we received our annuity, goods and provisions, including agricultural implements on hand, the amount is at least \$20,000, and requires a good secure store-house. We are compelled for want of room to divide off all the goods and provisions at once to the Indians, which I consider bad policy. Having so much in their hands at one time, they traffic them off, and in a short time are destitute. If the provisions were given out in small quantities, as their necessities require, it would be much more beneficial to them.

I would respectfully suggest the propriety of placing a small fund in the hands of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Minnesota, to be drawn upon by the agents, when that officer may think it necessary to give to the Indians in the shape of food and presents. It will be recollected that not one-fifth of them belonging to this agency receive any annuities. They frequently come down to the agency on a visit, and are always destitute and expect something; if they do not get it, they are disappointed and disaffected, and the agent loses his influence over them. The salary of the sub-agent is quite too small to allow him to be liberal from his private means. It should also be the duty of the agent to visit annually those distant bands, and distribute a few presents among them to obtain, and retain their favor. A small trader who can give them a few pounds of tobacco, and make it up in profits on something else, has more influence over them than an agent clothed with all the authority of the government, who has nothing to give. Such is Indian character, and we must take them as they are, and not as they should be.

The amount appropriated last year, \$500, to improve and repair the

agency buildings and grounds, has been nearly expended, and when completed will make the house of the sub-agent and interpreter tolerably comfortable. As those buildings are upon the Military Reserve at Fort Snelling, and the commanding officer of that post claims to exercise exclusive control over the whole reserve, including the right, when deemed necessary or expedient, to occupy those buildings for the use of the fort, and remove the agent and interpreter, with or without cause; that what privileges we have are not of right, but by courtesy, and may be changed by each successive commander at the fort—I beg leave to suggest the propriety of obtaining some order from the War Department, recognizing the right of the agent and interpreter to occupy those buildings, with the privilege of a small parcel of land for cultivation, cutting prairie hay and getting wood from the reserve, sufficient for the wants of two families. The Indian lands are too remote to afford these facilities, without which, families cannot subsist on the small salaries allowed.

Having briefly passed over the occurrences of the past year in this agency, leaving the details of each department to those in charge of the same, and whose reports will be found below, I beg leave to submit a few general remarks, containing such views as have occurred to me since I have made myself somewhat acquainted with Indian affairs, so far as regards the limited sphere in which I have been called to act.

Should the Indians belonging to this agency be removed, which is probable in a short time, I would respectfully recommend the following plan for their future government and management at their new homes. Should they be placed upon a small reserve (which I believe is their wish), I would for convenience of superintendence locate them near together. Upon this reserve might be their villages and fields. If they have hunting-grounds, they could easily, a part of the year, withdraw themselves as they now do from their homes. The present system of farming may well be abandoned. Instead of having a farmer for each band, as at present, I would concentrate the farming interest at one place on a large scale near the centre of the reserve, and have what might be called a *model* farm carried on by white men. The reserve might be laid off into small lots of 40 or 80 acres each, and inducements held out to the Indians to occupy those lots as farmers, by giving each individual or family a possessory right who would commence farming on his own account. Assistance and instructions might be given, but not do the work for them. I am satisfied that a number are prepared to embark in an enterprise of this kind if they had the proper encouragement; the great object to be attained is to stimulate them to habits of industry; give them the idea of individual property, and throw around them the protection of law to maintain these rights. The great hindrance to their civilization is that communism in which they live. There is no motive for industry; the lazy and profligate share equally with the industrious and well disposed. This should not be so. The time is drawing near when the Indian must disappear before the overwhelming tide of emigration of the Anglo-Saxon race, unless he abandon in some good degree the chase, and adopt the agricultural system of the white man for subsistence. The American Continent, although large, will not always afford him the necessary hunting-ground. All who adopt the habit and manner of life of the white man might very probably be made citizens so soon as their progress in civilization would justify it. Near the centre of the reserve spoken of,

the agency might be located; also, one or more manual labor schools, where the youth could be educated without expense to the parent; not only in letters, but agriculture and mechanism; and the females in all that relates to housekeeping. Under a system of this kind, in my opinion, it would not be long before the Sioux would improve in their moral and physical condition. All agree there is no want of natural capacity for improvement. The agency manual labor school, missionaries, a large farm surrounded by an Indian population, upon whom the influence might operate, would, we believe, produce a salutary effect upon the habits of those sons of the forest; and, it is believed, would bring them under the influence of civilization, education, morals, and religion.

An amendment might also be made in the manner of paying the Indians, so far as goods and provisions form a part of their annuities. In this connection, I would say I heartily concur in the sentiment expressed by the late Commissioner of Indian Affairs, "that, instead of paying the Indians money for their lands, the payment should be in goods, provisions, and expended in other ways for their benefit, rather than giving them money, which too often they expend very foolishly." In their present condition they should be treated as children or wards, and it is the duty of the government to dictate to them what is best for their interest, and carry out their determinations; all promises made to them should be fulfilled to the letter, otherwise they lose confidence, which is not easily regained.

The most eligible method of payment, as it regards goods and provisions, would be, that the interpreter, or some other person connected with the service, should act as Indian store-keeper, into whose custody the goods, provisions, farming implements, tools, &c., intended for them, should be placed, and paid out as necessity might require, per capita, upon a pay roll, and receipted when the payment was completed. This would prevent that inequality and waste now experienced. The present method is to pay out the provisions and goods at once in bulk to the different bands, according to their relative strength, and they divide among themselves. Great injustice is frequently done in this way. The prominent and more influential get the largest share, and hence there are almost daily complaints to the agent by those who have received little or nothing. All this difficulty and injustice would be obviated under the plan proposed.

As before suggested, the seven bands of Mandawat'anton Sioux, who are paid annuities at this sub-agency, embrace but a small portion of the Sioux nation. The other bands live remote, high up the St. Peter's river, and reaching over to and west of the Missouri. With those Indians we have but little intercourse, and of course my knowledge of their condition and prospects is limited. For the purpose of obtaining information in reference to them, I addressed a letter to an intelligent trader at Lacque Parlé on the St. Peter's, 300 miles above its mouth, to furnish the desired information. He has most obligingly done so. He is a member of the legislative council of Minnesota, has been for several years at this trading-post, and from youth acquainted with Indian character. His statements are reliable, and I cannot do better than give an extract from his letter in making up this report. He says, "The few remarks that I shall make in this communication, hastily prepared, will have reference to the bands who live on the upper St. Peter's, with whom I am the best acquainted. You are doubtless aware, from reliable sources of information, and from

written communications made to the superintendency, that during the greater part of last winter the sufferings and privations of nearly all the upper bands were extreme, in consequence of the almost entire failure of the buffalo; and although it cannot be said, so far as I know, that any of them perished for want of food, still there is no doubt whatever that quite a number of them have since died in consequence of these privations, and by diseases induced by long suffering for want of proper food. The scarcity of the buffalo arose from various causes, but the principal one was the burning of the prairie over an extent of hundreds of miles of country, thereby causing those animals to diverge from their usual range during a greater part of the winter season.

"It was not until late in February and March, that the upper Warpateous and Sissetons were enabled to make a few scant hunts; they are very poor indeed, in an unusually miserable condition from the scantiness of grass and the severity of the season affording but little food, and that by no means of a nutritious quality. This, however, prolonged their existence, and enabled the bands who had got off to a great distance to return, after the melting of the snow, to their corn crops, which they always hide in the ground near the villages where they plant.

"The efforts made during last winter at Washington to obtain an appropriation for the relief of the upper Indians having failed, his Excellency Governor Ramsey, assumed the responsibility of ordering a considerable supply of ammunition, &c., to be distributed among them early last spring. This, together with the little aid which the traders could give at the time, was of the utmost benefit to those poor, destitute people, and they were very grateful for the relief. Nothing could have been more wise or opportune on the part of the governor. While obeying the dictates of humanity in aiding these people in their extreme need, it was wise policy to awaken whatever feelings of gratitude they may have, and predispose them to entertain friendly feelings towards the government, which I have no hesitation in saying I believe they now generally do.

"The sufferings last winter aroused them to the necessity of cultivating the earth to a greater extent than usual, and many of them have enlarged their fields somewhat, and a few have made unusual exertions in planting corn. The prospects were not long since that they would gather quite a large crop, much more than last year. But I am sorry now to say that these expectations will only be realized by the Warpateous of Lacque Parlé. The Sissetons having been visited some time ago by a large horde of the Yanktons, Pah Baxa (cut Beards), and Indians of the great plains, who subsist entirely by the chase of the buffalo, have had a very large portion of their corn eaten up by these erratic bands, who are, and always have been, a great burthen and cause of discouragement to those who for many years have planted corn, more or less, and who latterly have been induced by the councils of traders and missionaries to gradually enlarge their fields. These Indians have already received a few ploughs from the government, through the representations and by the urgent solicitations of the missionaries and the traders. The bands of Lacque Parlé have made good use of those they received, but the Sissetons still continue to have prejudice against the plough, although they are becoming feeble, and I have no apprehension but they will soon be induced to use them with success. Some of them will do so next year—so they have promised. They are greatly in need of hoes, and urge upon every occasion that their wants

be mentioned to their 'Father,' with a request that he will supply them, if possible. If anything can be done in this respect, I beg leave to ask you to press its necessity upon the Department. Three or four hundred hoes or more would be required to make the present of essential service in its distribution, and to prevent ill feelings among them, and they should be procured early enough next spring, so as to be used in planting.

"The few general remarks that I shall endeavor to add may be equally applicable to the present condition of all of our Indians. There is no difficulty in discovering that an entire radical change is required. The present system in every respect will not do. This, almost any unprejudiced person will admit who understands the subject, but it is much more difficult to suggest a remedy.

"The views of most of those who have lived the longest among the Indians agree in one respect. That is, that no great or beneficial change can take place in their condition, until the general government has made them amenable to local laws. Laws which will punish the evil-disposed, and secure the industrious in their property and individual rights, and thereby give them the greater inducements to acquire property, and with it those many and increasing wants which are not only the consequence, but the safe grounds of civilization. Laws of this nature would also strike at the very root of one of the greatest evils which exist among them—their system of communism. It retards everything like progress in the desire of bettering their condition. The most energetic and well-disposed cannot rise above the vagabond and worthless. Indeed, they are generally the best off who do the least, if they have a tact for begging, or keeping their neighbors in apprehension. If the Indians could ever be made industrious, the greatest difficulty would be surmounted. How then can this be accomplished, unless each man is secured the fruits of his labor?—and that can only be effected by the legislative enactment of the general government.

"The present system of farming, it is now admitted by most persons, is entirely wrong. It surely never was the intention to labor for the Indians, instead of teaching and showing them how labor was to be done. Perhaps in this respect no great change can be effected with the old men and grown-up persons of the present generation, but a wide field will doubtless be opened up for the advancement of the young and rising generation, by means of manual labor schools. With the Indian race, perhaps more than any other, industry should go hand in hand with mental culture. It is useless to talk of regeneration or change of heart, so long as they are permitted to prowl about, a set of lazy, listless vagabonds. In that state, occasional bursts of excitement are absolute necessities of existence. The hunter's life supplies this, and it is antagonistic to anything like quiet industry or even the first approach to civilization.

"It has been urged by those who have no faith in the civilization of the Indian that he is incapable of a high order of cultivation. Admitting this, will any person deny that he is able to attain to that degree of improvement which enables a man to cultivate the earth, keep cattle, and thereby procure food and clothing, and be a far better and quieter, and more useful neighbor on a frontier than a wild hunter, who, although he may feast to day, may be compelled to-morrow to beg or to steal from his white neighbor?"

、 In conclusion, permit me to remark that I feel a deep interest in the

welfare of those poor, degraded, unenlightened Indians, and believe some plan may be devised to elevate them in the scale of human intelligence. My feeble aid will not be wanting in promoting any system which may be adopted, tending to that result.

Respectfully submitted,

NATHANIEL McLEAN,

Ind. Sub-agent.

His Excell. ALEX. RAMSEY,

Supt. Ind. Affairs, St. Paul, Min. Terr.

No. 16.

Fourth Annual Report of the Female Mission School at Kaposia.

Miss Jane J. Williamson has given diligent attention to teaching the Dakota females of this village, whenever any could be found willing to be taught. Within the year she has had school about eleven months. Not including my own children, who have been taught with the others, the whole number of scholars is twenty-nine. Counting sixty days as a quarter, the average attendance for the first quarter is $4\frac{1}{3}$; for the second, 7; for the third, $8\frac{2}{3}$; and for the fourth, 8, making an average attendance of seven for 240 days.

Four can read with ease in the New Testament, both in Dakota and English, write legibly, and have made some progress in mental arithmetic. Three others read both languages, but not fluently. Four read the Wowassiwak'en who have not learned English, and write on slates. Nine others spell and read in Woonspell. Most of the remaining nine can spell readily in three letters.

Besides teaching them to spell, read, &c., ten have been taught to knit, and all who attend with any regularity are instructed in sewing.

All evince good capacity for learning, and when they attend regularly make good progress. But the same cause which has been mentioned in years past as impeding education among the Modawakanton Sioux, has, during the past year, been acting with increased power, and until the money for which they are contending shall be in some way disposed of, there is little encouragement here to attempt teaching any except such as are boarded for that purpose. Two have been boarded by Mr. Robertson, the farmer for this village, and five in my own family during the whole time they have been instructed. Of these, one has been under instruction but a short time; the other five read both Dakota and English. Those who live with their Indian relatives have, during the year, attended school on an average less than 30 days each. Three of the scholars are of mixed blood; the others are full-blooded Dakotas. Nine of them have been baptized. The church here contains nine native communicants in good standing. The average attendance of natives on public worship on Sabbath days is 16.

THOS. S. WILLIAMSON,

Missionary of A. B. C. F. M.

To Col. N. McLEAN,

Ind. Sub-agent.

Names and Progress of the Scholars.

First class consists of four—Mary Anpetuiyotenkewin, Marian Robertson, Sarah Wawiyohize, Rosalie Anghee; read the Scriptures both in Dakota and English; write legibly, and study mental arithmetic. Two of them have read through “McGuffey’s Second Reader.”

Second class, three—Nanny Winegiwin, Fanny Hepistuid, Meggi Sueiyenkewin; read in Dakota, Wowapiweken, and spell and read in “Town’s First Reader,” in English, and are learning to write.

Third class, four—Sopiya Wagininepewin, Phebe Tenyenhiyegewin, Margaret Culbertson, Haper Tenke; read Wowapiweken understandingly, and are learning to write.

Fourth class, nine—Cinkpe Meya, Honzetuwin, Eda Wuxtemma, Wakenhsewin, Merpiyagiwin, Mazaxinawin, Cajeyeta, Waxteyeta, Temke Wakanholi; spell well, and read Dakota Woonspé.

Fifth class, nine—Ocicis, Iyotemkehnekewin, Mespiaoto, Dentre, Mespriyoicicyewin, Konza, Jinni, Susan Waxteyenkewin, Zitkeheziwin, are learning to spell; most of them spell readily in words of three or four letters.

 No. 17.

*The Fifteenth Annual Report of the Mission Station at Lacquiparle,
Sept. 1850.*

LABORING at the station the past year, S. R. Riggs, A. M., and M. N. Adams, Missionaries; Jonas Pettijohn, farmer; with Mrs. Riggs, Mrs. Adams, and Mrs. Pettijohn.

For four and a half months during the winter, a day-school at the mission was taught, chiefly by Mrs. Adams. The whole number of scholars enrolled was upwards of sixty; but the average attendance was only twelve. Last autumn we employed a native teacher at one of the villages here, for nearly two months, with some success. Various circumstances have combined to prevent our sustaining a school this summer. Two Indian children, a boy and a girl, supported in the families of Mr. Pettijohn and Mr. Adams, have learned to talk English, and made considerable progress in learning to read also.

During the winter, we kept up a Sabbath School, with an average attendance of eighteen. Our religious services in the Dakota language have been attended about as well as in former years. The same causes which we mentioned last year, have been in operation to prevent any sensible increase of interest in religion or education. We have long hoped that a treaty for the purchase of land made with these Indians, might be the means of removing some of the present difficulties, and of opening the way for this people to make more rapid upward progress.

The Indians at this place have raised excellent corn crops this season. In ploughing their fields last spring, we gave them what assistance we could, by working one of the mission horses with theirs. Some of them, too, had the use of a yoke of Mr. M’Leod’s oxen.—The whole crop raised here, this year, will exceed two thousand bushels.

Last fall, we encouraged and assisted the men at one of the villages to put up a log store-house, which answers them a very good purpose in keeping their corn and other things. But before they can make much progress here in building, they must of necessity have some other means of making plank than the whip-saw. It is too hard a way of making boards for an Indian. There is what is thought to be a very good mill-seat in the neighborhood of the villages, to occupy which on their behalf, in the event of a treaty, arrangements ought to be made.

We have, in several former reports, urged the necessity of bringing these Dakotas under the restraints of law. But on the part of some persons, there seems to be manifested a great repugnance to interfering with the "natural liberty" of an Indian, and a practical unbelief in the idea that he can ever become any thing better. True liberty cannot give me the right to destroy my neighbor's property, or take away his life, with impunity. And yet this is the liberty of the savage state. It is a state of fear—a state of bondage, of slavery. But this is the state of freedom with which some men hesitate to interfere. So long as this non-interference policy is pursued, the motives for his becoming a different man are withheld from the Indian. They need to be restrained; they must be restrained before the idea of property can produce its full effect upon them. Their war-parties—their lying in wait for their enemies, and their murdering, scalping, and barbarously treating women and children, ought to be stopped at once. It can be done. The *scalp-dance* should not be permitted. To dance it should be made a punishable offence. This would interfere with no *natural right*, but only with the *wrongs* of the human family. God never gave to any man the right, day after day and night after night, for months, to dance around the scalp of his fellow-man. Last spring this was done at Kaposia, almost within sight and hearing of the capital of Minnesota. And it is being done now at Big Stone Lake. It ought not to be borne with. If dancing this scalp-dance were made a penal offence, it would tend powerfully to stop the war-parties. It is known that, in most cases, the taking of scalps is the great motive for killing their enemies. The cause of humanity demands this interference of our government. If we fail to put a stop to such savage customs, we fail of fulfilling the great objects which God, and the best interests of the human family, require of us.

Very truly, yours,
S. R. RIGGS,
Lacquiparle, Sept. 7th, 1850.

To Maj. N. McLEAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 18.

KAPOSIA, 1st Sept. 1850.

DEAR SIR: Since the last annual report of this station, little has been done in the way of education.

The school under my care has averaged 6—whole number enrolled, 20. The determination on the part of the Indians seems settled, not to avail

themselves of the means of education until certain difficulties between them and the government are settled.

I must say that I am of the opinion that the present effort to educate the Sioux is little better than a waste of time and money.

No system of education is of much importance to an Indian, that does not embrace a knowledge of some useful occupation, and continued training to habits of industry.

I see no want of capacity on the part of Indian youths to acquire knowledge, but on the contrary they manifest an exceeding quickness of apprehension.

I am satisfied that, under the influence of judicious manual labor schools, they may become an industrious, respectable community.

Yours, truly,
S. M. COOK.

N. McLEAN, Esq.,
Sub-agent, St. Peter's.

No. 19.

RED WING, *Aug. 29, 1850.*

SIR: The following report of the Indian school at this station is respectfully submitted.

Since the 18th of July, when I commenced my labors here, above 40 children of suitable age have attended school more or less of the time. Of this number, 17—viz., 12 boys, and 5 girls—have been very regular in their attendance. The girls have been employed in the field during their late corn-gathering, which has been the cause of many of them being absent from school a part of the time.

Very great advancement could not be expected of them so soon, but I am happy to report that those who attend regularly are making commendable progress. At present, all are instructed in reading and spelling. The more advanced are also taught writing and vocal music.

I have made considerable effort to introduce regular school hours, and to secure punctual attendance, and have succeeded to some extent; perhaps as well as I ought to expect for the time employed. With habits of order and punctuality well established, which I shall endeavor by all means to secure, I see nothing to prevent the dear youth in my care from making rapid progress in acquiring knowledge. In intellectual capacity, I do not consider the North American Indian inferior to the Anglo-Saxon race.

J. W. HANCOCK,
Teacher.

N. McLEAN, Esq.,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

No. 20.

OAK GROVE, *Sept.* 6, 1850.

DEAR SIR: It is with depression of spirit that we review our labors at this station during the past year.

During one-third of the year, the Indians have been absent from this village.

On account of the opposition of the Indians to education (which increases just in proportion to the increase of the unexpended sum of money which is due them from our government), and on account of the absence of apparent good resulting from our long-continued efforts in this department of our labor, we have discontinued our Dakota school. We have, however, a small English school at the station, taught by Miss S. A. Wilson. The number of children in regular attendance is ten, four of which are our own: the other six are the children of our neighbors of mixed blood.

We have continued our efforts to teach the saving doctrines of Christianity, as we have had opportunity, but with very limited success. Except when the Indians have been absent from the station, we have held public religious services in the Dakota language every Sabbath forenoon, with a native attendance varying from two to twelve. The average attendance has been a small fraction less than seven.

Our afternoon services in English have also been continued through the year, and since Dec'r (with a few exceptions), we have held our meetings alternately at the station, and at or near Fort Snelling. Two white males who are in the employ of our government as Indian farmers, have been received into the communion of the church in the profession of their faith in Christ.

Early in the spring, a few native women manifested a considerable concern for the salvation of their souls, and two or three who had never before attended came to our meetings. This fact, I suppose it was, excited anew the opposition of those who hate reform, and several of the chief men of the band in assembly resolved, "That, whereas the missionaries are possessing themselves of the money which is due us from the U. S. (the \$5000), if any of the natives attend the religious meetings of the missionaries, they shall be stripped of their clothes, whipped, and have their names struck off from the list of the band."* Soon after this occurrence, two of those who had previously been in the habit of coming to us for religious instruction, as well as those who had but lately commenced, forsook us. The native members of our church, however, are still constant in their attendance on the public means of grace, and appear to run with patience the Christian cause, in the midst of many temptations, and not a little physical as well as mental suffering for Christ's sake. He who carries the lambs in His bosom, we trust has held them up.

On the whole we have felt more disheartened in our labors for those miserable Indians, during the past year, than ever before; yet, although "hope has long been deferred," we do not entirely yield to despair. Our motto to-day is, "Faint yet pursuing." It is an encouraging fact that they still abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors.

* That is, they shall not share in our annuities.

May a merciful Lord yet cause the light of religion and civilization to shine upon them, and quicken them to civil and religious life!

Respectfully yours,
GIDEON H. POND.

Maj. N. McLEAN.

No. 21.

DEAR SIR: The last annual report of this station says, "No war has been among our Indians the past year." But about the time that was written, a party composed of Indians from this place, and the Warpekute village on Caunar river, when hunting near the head of the Desmoines, were attacked, and 19 of them killed. By whom this was done, the Dakotas do not certainly know: but they think their father, the President, might ascertain if he wished, and punish the murderers; and they feel that he is under obligation to do this, since he does not allow them to take the tomahawk in their own hands. These Indians have not gone to war for the purpose of plunder as some of their brethren sometimes do, and if protected, they would easily be induced to live in peace.

The health of this neighborhood, during the past year, has been much as common.

Since our last annual report, there has been no spirituous liquor of consequence among the Indians here. Hence, they have had no murders or serious feuds among themselves. Some of these red men feel much obliged to the government for preventing the traffic in intoxicating fluid, yet they think they see some inconsistency in their Father in this—that his white children may make traffic in, and drink an article which his red children may not touch.

During the year under review, we have accomplished nothing in teaching letters. We cannot yet persuade the people to send their children to us for instruction. We frequently receive mails, and occasionally are able to give the Indians interesting information. We teach our own children, and thereby testify to our high sense of the value of knowledge. Some of the people feel that ours is the wise cause, and long for the removal of the obstacles to the general dissemination of knowledge among themselves. But hitherto, although many have taken practically a stand in favor of education, no one has practically maintained it.

The main obstacles to education among these Indians are, perhaps, two. Fear of the supernatural power of the medicine men, and the apprehension that their educators will manage to get the Dakota's money for their services. The former of these obstacles, though declining and destined to perish, is still of considerable strength, and will exert an influence for a long time to come; the training and circumstances of the Dakotas both tending to this result. The pecuniary difficulty is, I suppose, well understood. The speedy employment of the \$5000 annually, of the Medawah'anten Dakotas, in the necessary accommodations for, and support of a boarding school, I suppose, would remove it to the other side of the scale.

The same arguments which influence the Indian against learning to read, are of avail in keeping him from learning anything else that pertains to civilization. But, notwithstanding, in teaching agriculture we

have some encouragement. A number of the men are learning to plough. Indeed, some of them think themselves adepts in the work, though none of them are so. Some ploughed new land for themselves last spring, from which they are now gathering a good crop. The corn crop here this year is universally good. One family will put away more than fifty and several as much as thirty bushels. This, though a small business, is at least five times as much as these same families made seven years ago.

Mazaxa (the chief), with a few of his men, is preparing to enlarge his field this fall.

This station has a mill, furnished by the kindness of friends, which we hope to put into operation this fall. If the experiment succeeds, we will be able to exchange with the Indians, meal for corn, on terms advantageous for them and fair for us. May we not hope that this will increase their interest in agriculture, and stimulate them to improve in it?

Allow me to state a principle or two, to which we adhere in our dealings with the Indians. We strive by all fair means to teach them self-reliance and self-respect. We hold that beggary is always a disgrace and commonly a crime, and uniformly discourage it so far as we can, whether addressed to ourselves or others. When a number of families have employed themselves in dancing, feasting, ball-playing, and card-playing, for days and weeks together, with the full knowledge that the consequence will be suffering from hunger, and, at the end of that time, come in a body, arrayed in arms, trinkets, vermilion, and feathers, and ask us for food, we uniformly excuse ourselves from giving. When the needy from necessity come for assistance and for relief, we give it if we can. To give, in the former case, seems to us like conferring a favor on vice; to refuse it in the latter would be inhumanity. There arise, however, a great many cases in which it is hard to know what is expedient.

Indians are very fond of attending at the houses of their neighbors when meals are expected. We endeavor to discourage their excessive attendance at these seasons. If we should indulge them in this, all our time and strength would be occupied with our tables, and every species of wholesome instruction be prevented. Firmness in the above respect often gives offence, but we esteem it necessary.

It has been our hope, by the introduction of the plough, and learning the Indians to use it for themselves—by inducing them to build secure granaries where the fruits of the field may be stored—by persuading and assisting them to erect better habitations, and multiply somewhat their wants and comforts—by making them acquainted with books, especially with the Bible, and the plan of salvation through the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ—by offering these to the Indians “without money, and without price,” we hope to work a revolution in their character and condition—to make them wiser, and better, and of course happier.

Many criticisms have been passed on our work; and of this we by no means complain. We only wish those who criticize can assist us by any suggestions their superior knowledge may enable them to make.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Yours truly,

R. HOPKINS,

Missionary of the A. B. C. F. M.

To the HON. N. McLEAN,

Indian Sub-agent, St. Peter's.

Traverse des Sioux, Aug. 27, 1850.

No. 22.

KAPOSIA, MINNESOTA TERRITORY,
Sept. 25th, 1850.

SIR: As I have been under appointment as physician for a part of the Medawakantonwan Sioux during most of the year past, though I am not so at present, perhaps it is my duty to make a report as such, and I beg leave to submit the following:

I have endeavored to attend to all applications for medicine for Sioux who were needing medicine or medical assistance. When requested to do so, I have not only furnished medicine, but visited and prescribed for the sick, unless they were attended by the conjurors. When the sick have lacked suitable diet, as is often the case, and have informed us of the fact, my family has furnished that also; I have also furnished medicine by the quantity for those residing at a distance, and given directions for using it.

No severe epidemic has prevailed among these Indians for a year past, but the children during the summer have suffered much from diarrhoea and dysentery, and teething, and a number of adults from the former disease, and except when the Indians are out of the neighborhood on their hunts, the applications for medicine average two or three a day.

One old man died from the intemperate use of ardent spirits, and one, as you know, was killed by the Chippewas. All the other deaths which I can remember to have heard of, among the people of this village within a year, are some three or four small children, most of whom died last winter when they were away hunting, so that I had no opportunity of attending them, or knowing the nature of their disease.

THOS. S. WILLIAMSON, M. D.

Major N. McLEAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

 No. 23.

SAINT PETER'S,
September 23, 1850.

SIR: As superintendent of farming for the Medawakanton Sioux, it becomes my duty to report to you all the facts in relation to our operations for the past year, which is respectfully submitted.

Mr. A. Robertson, farmer for Little Crows, reports 65 acres of land ploughed, the yield estimated at about 30 bushels per acre, although not more than one-third of the crop has been put in sack. The Indians were short of provisions, and lived on green corn for nearly two months, in which time they consumed about two-thirds of the entire crop. Last winter Mr. Robertson cut rail timber to fence the cornfield, but before he could get the rails hauled, a flood came and swept away all the timber and his own garden and fence. He has made from 35 to 40 tons of hay for the Indian horses and his own cattle used on the farm. He assisted the chief to build a log-house 22 by 17, for which you furnished a cooking-stove, and has assisted the Indians in making temporary fence round the cornfield, a pasture for the horses, and several small store-houses.

Mr. John Bush, for Redwing's band, reports 55 acres ploughed, yield-

ing full 30 bushels per acre. He has assisted to build five log-cabins, made 300 rails to repair fence, and 400 for scaffolding, has cut 15 tons of hay for the Indian horses. Much of his time has been employed in hauling wood, rails, poles, and hay.

Mr. H. Mooers, for Black Dogs, reports 40 acres ploughed, and thinks it has yielded 30 bushels per acre. He has cut and hauled 1200 rails and 600 stakes, and thoroughly repaired the fence. He assisted in building 5 log-cabins, and repaired 4 more; hauled 25 loads of poles and forks for scaffolds, for drying corn, and has stacked 40 tons of hay.

The other farmers have not made any report for the past year. Lake Calhoun band, for whom Mr. M. S. Titus is farmer, and Goodroad's band, for whom Mr. P. Quinn is farmer, have lost their entire crop of corn, owing to the obstinacy of the Indians in persisting to plant in the valley of the St. Peter's, on land subject to inundation.

Little Sixes, the largest band, lost about one-half of their crop by the flood.

Wabashaw's band have raised some corn, but not enough for their winter supply. The farmer, Mr. Brunel, was dismissed for intemperance, and Mr. Francis Lapoint appointed in his place. It is to be hoped that this band will be able to raise as much corn as they want next year, as a new field, some distance from the river bottom, has been broken up.

The blacksmiths have reported a list of implements for the use of the Indians interested in the treaty of 29th Sept. 1837.

Mr. Victor Chalet reports having made new articles of rat and fish spears, axes, door-latches, and fixtures, &c. &c., to the number in the whole of 2896, and guns, &c., repaired to the number of 2360.

Mr. Oliver Rapicot reports, for six months work, new articles to the number of 902, and repairs to the number of 578. Supposing the following 6 months to be equal, something over 8000 pieces have been made and mended by the two smiths in one year.

The farming has been carried on much the same as last year. I cannot perceive any more industry among them than formerly. In fact, the men appear more inclined to play the gentleman. I have seen several walking about with an umbrella or a lady's parasol over his head, while his wife was hoeing corn under the burning rays of the sun without any protection. Ask the man why he does not assist to work, the answer generally is, "Will you pay me for it?" One of the farmers furrowed some ground, but some of the Indians forbade him, called him a fool, and told him it was a waste of land and time in making furrows. It is very difficult to get them to thin out their corn when it stands too thick, and they abuse us when we attempt to do so. Scattered as they are, it is almost impossible to make their farming very profitable, with only one farmer for a band. The Indians expect him to do most of their work, and are always complaining because he cannot satisfy them all. Nothing permanent or profitable can be done for them until each family has a field, and is protected from the abuses of bad and indolent fellows who steal half the produce of the farms.

The farmers were all furnished with good new ploughs last spring, and the land was well ploughed. The Indians would have raised much more corn this year than formerly, had it not been for the high water, which destroyed probably one-third of the crop. The Indians are straining to imitate the customs of the white people around them. They will not

eat corn unless they are starving, and often sell all their corn for flour and pork, or fresh beef.

I have known dishes of boiled corn handed to Indian children, when they knocked the dish into the fire and cried for bread. The men, as soon as the annuity provisions are eaten, go about from house to house begging and borrowing flour and pork, and eat but little corn. Six out of the seven bands have been furnished with lumber to make roofs for their houses, as an experiment. Some of them, at first, said they would not have any lumber, but now they are all clamorous, and want ten times more than can be purchased. The two cooking stoves you purchased for two of the chiefs will be used, I think, to advantage.

I cannot suggest any change in the farming. It is expected and hoped that the government will make a treaty to purchase these lands and settle the Indians permanently, when the farming and mechanical operations for all the tribe can be carried on together.

The one hundred horses purchased the last spring have more than one-half of them died since they got into the Indians' hands, and I fear there will not be ten of them alive next spring. It was a useless expenditure of \$6000. They could not all get a horse a piece, and those that did not get any are dissatisfied, and every few days a complaint is entered against some one for killing a horse. I suppose they will keep on killing as long as they have a horse left. The rice crop is a total failure this year. There are but few cranberries. These added considerably to their support, but as the government has ordered provisions to be purchased, all the losses and failures will be remedied, and they cannot suffer this winter. The greater part of the corn, I fear, will be sold, as heretofore, as soon as received.

To close my report, I must say the Indians have behaved remarkably well in the temperance cause. Instances of drunkenness are rare. Much praise is due to His Excellency, Governor Ramsey, and yourself, for the earnest temperance advice which has been given them, and all the friends of humanity rejoice at the change in the habits of these Indians.

Your most obedient servant,

P. PRESCOTT,

Superintendent of Farming for Sioux.

To Major N. McLEAN,
Indian Sub-agent, St. Peter's.

No. 24.

SANDY LAKE, SUB-AGENCY,
Minnesota Territory, October 14, 1850.

SIR: According to the regulations and requirements of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit to you this my first annual report. Although I have been connected with this sub-agency but a short time, yet I trust my statements and suggestions will not be without use to your excellency, the Department, and of benefit to the Chippewa Indians. The short time since I entered upon the duties of my office, together with the failure of my predecessor to turn over any papers or documents (with

the exception of a copy of the Revised Regulations), belonging to the office, has placed it out of my power to be as well informed as I could wish and hope to become in future.

In compliance with orders of July last, from your excellency, I have removed this sub-agency from La Pointe, in the State of Wisconsin, and temporarily located it at Sandy Lake, Minnesota Territory, and have succeeded in the erection and completion of all necessary buildings pertaining thereto. The expenses incurred about these buildings have been much more than they would have been, could I have procured teams to aid in the work; but, owing to the extraordinary high water, and its long continuance, upon the Mississippi and its tributaries in this region, it was impossible to procure any. The expense that will be necessarily incurred in erecting the permanent buildings for this agency would seem to require great care in its location and selection, not alone in a pecuniary point, but for the benefit and satisfaction of the Indians, who are so apt to become dissatisfied and troublesome at frequent removals. The mineral wealth on the north-western shore of Lake Superior has already attracted considerable attention from the enterprising pioneers of our country, and the time is not far distant when government will be called upon to treat for these, and other portions in the vicinity, of lands well adapted to agricultural purposes, not yet ceded to the government by the Chippewa Indians, which, with other causes (a statement of which would render this report too lengthy for the time I have allotted for its completion), would seem to render it advisable to purchase all their lands east of the Mississippi river, and locate the agency west of the river, and as near the Sioux lands as practicable—which would have a great influence in preventing the frequent, fatal, and disagreeable, hostile attacks made by these respective tribes upon each other (of some of which, of recent occurrence, I have already informed you)—as the influence of the agent might effectually prevent their occurrence at a time most needed, and when distance might render his efforts unavailing.

I understand that an order, issued by the President, and transmitted through the usual channels to my predecessor, directing him to inform them that they would be called upon at an early day to remove, was duly imparted to them in March last, which created much excitement and dissatisfaction. They claim that, at the time the treaty was concluded, the understanding was, that they would not be required to remove until the present generation should pass away. This dissatisfaction has gradually subsided, and I doubt not that if this information had been imparted to them at a much earlier time, the removal could have been effected without difficulty—while, at the same time, I am of opinion that those in Michigan, and upon the Wisconsin, Chippewa, and St. Croix rivers, would have obstinately remained behind. Those Indians are infested with persons who make the sale of intoxicating drink their business. As the Indians suffer greatly from this baneful traffic, their removal is greatly retarded thereby.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Department, through your excellency, to the present arrangement for the employment of blacksmiths for the Indians at my sub-agency. During a portion of the year, these blacksmiths are without employment. I would therefore respectfully suggest that the services of the assistant blacksmith be dispensed with, and the amount of their salaries be appropriated to the purchase of iron and

other necessary materials. I believe the remaining employees would be able to perform all the labor required.

Owing to the removal of the sub-agency, our farmers have not been able to raise as large crops as could be desired. This is more particularly to be regretted, as the extraordinary high water of the season has spoiled the crop of wild rice, upon which the Indians depend, to a great extent, for subsistence. The subject of agriculture will require great attention in future, as the Indians must depend on that resource the more as their hunting-grounds decrease in extent.

I do not transmit copies of reports from the various missions under my sub-agency, as reports have not been received from the missionary stations, with one exception. They will be transmitted when received.

I am, very respectfully, your obed't servant,

I. S. WATROUS,

U. S. Ind. Sub-agent.

His Excellency, ALEXANDER RAMSEY,

Supert. of Indian Affairs, and Governor of Minnesota Territory.

No. 25.

GRAND RAPIDS, *Nov. 1850.*

THE undersigned, in presenting another annual statement of the condition of the colony of Ottawa Indians, at the Griswold Mission, in the State of Michigan, is much gratified in being able to say the establishment continues to furnish evidence it is promotive of good.

The number of families and individuals connected with it has increased to about two hundred and sixteen, several of the Potawottomies having recently joined themselves to our band.

It is still difficult to keep the children confined much, or with any regularity, to school. As many as twenty, however, have attended during the last year, and have made very perceptible improvement in the rudiments of learning; and not only many of these, but the adults also, now unite in the responsive parts of the services of the church. Two children and two adults have been baptized within the year by the resident teacher and missionary, the Rev. James Selkrig. The services of this gentleman have been, in various ways, very beneficial to the colony. Four have died, two adults and two children.

The old colonists are evidently becoming more and more favorably disposed to the habits, pursuits, and customs of civilized life; have permanent dwellings instead of temporary tents; use chairs, tables, and beds, and conduct themselves, in most particulars, like their white neighbors. The most notorious drunkards among them have been reformed. The good example of the Ottawas has not been without its influence on those who more recently have come among them—the latter having discontinued in part their pagan practices, and frequently attending Christian worship. Good crops of corn, potatoes, beans, oats, and vegetables have been raised by the members of the Mission during the past year, and the expectation is reasonably indulged that every year will find them more and more

usefully identified with the community with which they are at present associated.

Respectfully submitted,
FRANCIS H. CUMING,
Superintendent, &c. &c.

*Superintendent of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.*

No. 26.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA,
September 16, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith so much of the language of the Indians of California as I have been able to procure. My greatest difficulty has been in obtaining proficient interpreters. None of the many who profess to know the language of the Indians understand more of it than enough to trade with them, or to transact the most ordinary business. Even those who have spent years among them are greatly at fault when they attempt to interpret the language beyond common business transactions.

Since the third day of June last, I have traversed more than eight hundred miles, through the Great Valley of the Sacramento and along the tributaries of that river, which take their rise in the mountains of the Sierra Nevada. In my route, I visited ten distinct tribes of Indians, besides meeting many wandering families or communities, gathering acorns, pine-seeds, &c., for subsistence.

The men and children are, in general, naked. Some of them have obtained a few articles of clothing from the whites, such as shirts, handkerchiefs, &c., of which they seem quite proud. The females are also without any covering, except what they call the "*Du-eh*," or breech-clout. This is nothing more than a bunch of grass, or rushes, about one foot in length, suspended from a belt or girdle around the waist, in front and in rear.

I could discover no distinction in their customs, habits of life, or their general language, which could induce me to think they were not originally the same people. Indeed, their customs and manner of living are in many respects almost identical. Their huts, or lodges, are constructed in the same manner. They do not *scalp* those whom they kill, but universally throw the dead body into water. They all burn the dead of their own people, and their manner of mourning for lost friends is the same; that is, the nearest of kin cover themselves, hair, head, face, arms, and body, down to the waist, with black tar or pitch, which is permitted to remain upon them until worn off by time.

They all subsist on roots and grass-seed from the earth, acorns and pine-seeds from the trees, and fish from the streams. Acorns, nuts, and small fish are gathered in great quantities, and stored in magazines prepared for the purpose. They universally lay up enough of these things for two years' subsistence, and thereby guard against a failure in the future crop of the coming season.

The acorns and nuts are ground into a kind of flour, which is done by

means of mortars or deep basins drilled into rocks. Into these, the acorns and nuts are placed and pounded as fine as flour. Before baking, the Indians not unfrequently mix with the flour berries of various kinds. All this is the work of the squaws, or as they call them, "Mohales." Indeed, the same general characteristics mark the whole of the tribes in the Great Valley of the Sacramento and its adjacent territory.

They have an indefinite idea of their right to the soil, and they complain that the *pale faces* are overrunning their country and destroying their means of subsistence. The immigration are trampling down and feeding their grass, and the miners are destroying their fish dams; for this they claim some remuneration—not in money, for they know nothing of its value, but in the shape of clothing and food.

In my last communication I recommended the establishment of about three depots in the Great Valley of the Sacramento, for the purpose of furnishing the various tribes in that region with subsistence and clothing. Their wants are few, and little of clothing and something to sustain life upon will readily satisfy them. This policy, I believe, would not only be the most economical for the government, and vastly more beneficial to the Indians than annuities in money, but must be by far the best means of reaching the wild mountain Indians, and bringing them into a state of civilization. I have been informed by Americans who have lived for years on the borders of the mountains, that where the mountain Indians have been well treated by the whites, they return to their tribes with sentiments of the highest regard for the Americans. There is, however, a class of men here who, as I have been informed, shoot down Indians wherever they meet them. This is not only cruel to the Indians, but works great injury to the whites. The known custom of the Indians is revenge, and their vengeance frequently falls upon the innocent. They must be avenged, and their best friends often pay the penalty of the rash or reckless acts of others. It seems to be a kind of religious sentiment with them to have "blood for blood."

The Indians of the Valley of the Sacramento are not a warlike people. They possess no *war clubs*, scalping knife, or tomahawks, so universally used by the Indians east of the Sierra Nevada. They are mostly indolent, docile, and tractable, but many of them are thievish; they are fond of dress of almost any kind, and readily learn the more simple arts of agriculture.

The construction of their huts and villages is much the same. They are constructed by excavating the earth, the size of the room or lodge they desire, some five feet deep. This is covered over with a dome-like top several feet above the surface of the earth. In the centre of the roof or dome, there is generally an aperture or opening, which serves the double purpose of admitting light, and letting the smoke escape. This is the only opening in the lodge, except the entrance, which is in the side and barely large enough to admit a human body. Through this they enter feet foremost on their hands and knees. When once inside these lodges are not uncomfortable. The thickness of the earth over them prevents the sun from penetrating them in the hot season, while in the colder season, they protect them from the winds.

The names of the tribes which I have visited in the Great Valley of the Sacramento and adjacent mountains are as follows:—

The "*Hocks*."—This tribe reside upon the celebrated Hock farm, and

near the residence of Capt. Sutter. They number from eighty to one hundred.

The "Yubas."—Located at the mouth of, or rather the junction of the Yuba, with the Feather river, and number about one hundred and eighty.

The "O-lip-pas."—Located on Feather river, about thirty-two miles above its mouth. This tribe numbers about ninety or one hundred.

The "Bogas."—Located a short distance above the O-lip-pas, on the opposite side of the river, and number about seventy.

The "Ho-lil-le-pah."—Reside at the base of the mountains near to Feather river, and number about one hundred and fifty.

The "Erskines."—On Butte Creek, near to Neal's Rancho, and number about eighty.

The "Wa-chuck-nas."—Reside in the valley, near to Potter's Rancho, number about ninety.

The "Cush-nas."—This tribe is located in the mountains, on the waters of the South Yuba. They number about six hundred.

The "Ta-gus."—Are also in the mountains, above the head waters of Butte Creek, number unknown.

The "Nim-sus."—Also in the mountains, not far distant from the Ta-gus tribe. The number of this tribe I could not obtain.

Within the short period since the occupancy of this country by the whites, the red man has been fast fading away.—Many have died with disease, and others fled to the mountains, to enjoy, for a brief period, their primeval sports of hunting and fishing. Almost the entire tribes of the *Costanoes*, or Coast Indians, have passed away. Of the numerous tribes which but a few years ago inhabited the country bordering on the Bay of San Francisco, scarcely an individual is left. The pale faces have taken possession of their country, and trample upon the graves of their forefathers. In an interview with a very aged Indian, near the Mission of Dolores, he said, "I am very old—my people were once around me like the sands of the shore—many—many. They have all passed away—they have died like the grass—they have gone to the mountains. I do not complain—the antelope falls with the arrow.—I had a son—I loved him—when the pale faces came, he went away—I know not where he is. I am a Christian Indian—I am all that is left of my people—I am alone." His age, his earnestness, and decrepit condition gave full force to his language, and I left him under the deepest sense of sympathy.

Your most obedient servant,

ADAM JOHNSTON.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Washington City, D. C.

No. 27.

INDIAN AGENCY,
Santa Fé, New Mexico, November 17, 1849.

SIR: Before adequate and just compensation can be provided by law, for Indian agents in and near this territory, the following facts must be considered. For two weeks, or more, after my arrival here, we were compelled to encamp near the city, before we could procure a house in

which to shelter; and then could obtain one only by agreeing to pay the extravagant rent of one hundred dollars per month—which I have since reduced to seventy dollars per month, by submitting to the inconvenience of otherwise disposing of a portion of the premises. I offered to purchase the property at *three thousand dollars*; but the owner refused to take a cent less than *four thousand dollars*.

You are apprised that all the houses in this city are built up of adobes—with floors of dirt, and covered by spreading dirt three to six inches thick upon rough boards. You will readily conclude, and correctly too, we have dirty and leaky houses.

I have managed to procure rough plank for floors, and have laid them down without being able to get them planed—the value of the lumber, and work in repairing, exceed two hundred dollars. Plank and scantling, to any considerable extent, cannot as yet be obtained here, and except for the quarter-master's and commissary's department, there is but little demand for it; the sales that have been effected have been at prices varying from fifty to eighty dollars per thousand feet. No lumber can be procured here, except the pine, and that of the most inferior quality, being short, knotty, and principally sap, and this must be brought over rough roads a considerable distance. Hence, the price of this kind of lumber will always be extravagantly high. Rock, for building, may be obtained within two or three miles of this place; and, I am informed, lime rock in abundance may be found not more than five miles from Santa Fé. But, in consequence of the materials, which must be transported from the States, and the extravagant charges of laborers and mechanics, it cannot be inferred that houses can be built here as cheaply as in the United States.

Upon the presumption there must be a superintendency, or agency of Indian Affairs, permanently established in this city, I should do injustice to whoever may be the incumbent, if I failed to recommend such an appropriation as would enable him to live in quarters somewhat comfortable—and this would require an appropriation of not less than *ten thousand dollars*, provided government transportation was used in bringing to this city the materials that must be brought from the States.

Examine the following prices and rates—

Lumber from \$50 to \$80 per 1000 feet.

Nails, 25 cts. per lb.

Brick—none—but good clay.

Mechanics, a ration a day, \$40 to \$ per month.

House rent from \$600 to \$1800 per year.

Wood, pine and cedar, there is no other kind, \$3 50 per cord; and two cords of this wood is not equal to one of oak and hickory.

Blacksmith, daily a ration, and \$40 per month. Shoeing of a horse all round, \$4 00 to \$6 00.

Iron 20 cts. per lb. Increased demand would increase the price. Good, sound, dry corn \$2 per bushel, and not abundant at that.

Wheat usually the same as corn per bushel. Hay and fodder, but little of either, \$60 per ton. Flour, bacon, and pork, none except at the commissaries. Beef and mutton 8 to 10 cts. per lb. Sugar 25 cts. per lb. Coffee 25 cts. per lb. Tea \$1 25.

A poor article of gunpowder, crockery-ware, and everything else, in proportion.

Freight from Fort Independence to Santa Fé, 10 to 12 cts. per lb. Common servants from \$10 to \$15 per month, and rations. Wood-cutters 75 cents per cord, and a ration a day. They can cut a cord to a cord and a half a day—and then it must be brought from three to five miles from where it is cut. Board \$25 to \$40 per month, and find your own lodging; and a small room may be obtained, such as it is, at from \$8 to \$10 per month. A common pine bedstead, such as you can buy in the States for \$, you can't purchase here for less than \$. For seats, if you aspire to anything more than a bench, pine lumber is thrown into the shape of a chair, for which you must pay from \$2 to \$2 50. This will give the best specimen of furniture to be had here.

We are so far from water, we are obliged to have it hauled to us in a wagon. Washing, if well done, \$1 50 per dozen. Common interpreter \$50 per month. One that can read and write receives from \$75 to \$100 per month.

The impression here is, that the quarter-master's bureau will show that the corn bought during the past year cost *more* than \$2 50 per bushel; and *I know*, until recently, since July, public animals have not received *full* forage, and animals lost in consequence thereof; their value should be added to the price paid for corn.

In my former communications, I have shown you how the prices of corn, wheat, and fodder, and hay may be legitimately reduced—and also beef; and how the lives and usefulness of your horses and mules may be prolonged, and that, too, without calling off from service to recruit them; and I hesitate not to say, such a result cannot be brought about for years to come, unless such suggestions as I have made to you are adopted.

To save you the trouble of referring back to my letters, I will state I have allusion here to the recommended protection of the Pueblo Indians, and properly stimulating and shaping their industry. With the hope that our government will extend this protection to them, I have already advised them to throw an additional number of laborers into their fields, and increase the products of their soil, by increasing the quantity of ground in cultivation.

The statement of facts given above will enable intelligent legislators to determine the proper measure of appropriations for this territory, and the compensation that should be given to Indian agents, and with them I leave the subject.

Before committing this subject to Congress, however, I ought to have reminded you that *escorts* are positively necessary in passing from one Indian Pueblo to another, and that we must go unsheltered and unfed unless transportation is afforded in which to convey tent, subsistence, and cooking-utensils. Even in travelling between Mexican villages, it would be imprudent to dispense with these precautionary measures.

This being the state of things, it will be impossible for a superintendent or agent to discharge his full duty unless he can control a wagon, mules, forage, and a teamster, and subsistence for him.

If arms should be deposited in the Pueblos, as I have recommended, Indian escorts and *guides* can always be procured at the cost of a few presents and subsistence.

Trade and Intercourse with Indians.—Under this head it is my intention to present such views as have occurred to me, after a careful exami-

nation of the act of Congress to regulate trade and intercourse with Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers. I shall refer only to such *sections* as should be, in my opinion, amended. The act of June 30th, 1834, *section 2*, to prevent all irregularity and confusion, and that a full and perfect knowledge of the *trade* with Indians may be accurately known and properly controlled, the *superintendent* only should have authority to grant a *license*. If there should be no superintendent, the agent should have the authority. A copy of every license granted should be recorded, and *fees* charged for the service, to be paid by the *licensed*. Sub-agents should have the power to *suspend* trade under a license; but the revoking power should be in the hands of the granting power.

Sec. 4. No one but *traders and their assistants and families* should be permitted to "*reside*" in the Indian country, excepting such as may be in the service of the United States, and their assistants and families. Hence the necessity of clearly defining the boundaries of each Pueblo.

Sec. 6. There are mischievous persons from whom it would be impossible to extract a dollar. *Such should not go unpunished.*

Sec. 7. The word "*clothing*" in this section may possibly include blankets, and some of the finest in the world are manufactured by the *wild* and other Indians. They make but few, and they are generally for sale at from five to one hundred dollars each. A kind of carpeting and other articles are manufactured by them; these people should be properly encouraged.

Sec. 8. Where fines cannot be collected, other penalties should be substituted.

Sec. 9. I would strike out the words "without the consent of such tribe."

Sec. 12. There are instances of encroachments by Spaniards and Mexicans on lands granted to Indian Pueblos; haciendas have been established, and villages built up. These questions may be settled by compromise, in which it may be necessary to vest the legal title in the Spaniards and Mexicans.

Secs. 13, 14, 15, 16. When fines and penalties cannot be collected, let offenders be punished otherwise.

Sec. 17. The limit of twelve months is too long; three months is quite sufficient. In the second proviso, I would strike out "*three years*," and insert *three months*.

Sec. 20. The exceptions in favor of "the officers of the United States and troops of the service" should be extended to all alike in the service of the United States.

Sec. 23. The derangements in this territory, at the present time, are such as might justify a longer detention "than five days after the arrest and before removal."

Sec. 25. After the last word in this sentence or section, I would add, *of the same Pueblo or tribe.*

These amendments are required by the localities of the Indians, and the varied character of a large number of persons in this territory. Stringent laws, promptly enforced, are demanded by the temper of the times.

Let every process and every act be stamped with a promptitude that will arrest the consideration of offenders. *The present organization of*

the judiciary is not swift enough in its judgments to secure proper order and quiet in the Indian country of this territory.

Without a special court for this service, I am not prepared to say, the end suggested in the last paragraph can be accomplished.

I am, with great respect,
Your obedient servant,


J. S. CALHOUN,
Indian Agent.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 28.

INDIAN AGENCY, SANTA FÉ, NEW MEXICO,
March 29, 1850.

SIR: Herewith, I return the section of a map of New Mexico which you enclosed to me on the 28th day of last December. You will find marked in this way [o], the various Indian Pueblos located in this territory upon the section of country which the map represents. It may be well to remember that there are two Indian Pueblos below El Paso, Isletta and Socorro, and Zuñi, an Indian Pueblo, 88³⁰ miles N. W. of Layuna. Of course, neither of these three Pueblos could be marked upon the map. Beyond Zuñi, west, perhaps one hundred and fifty miles, the Moqui country is reached. These Indians live in Pueblos, cultivate the soil to a limited extent, and raise horses, mules, sheep, and goats, and, I am informed, manufacture various articles.

 I am extremely anxious to visit these Indians; but it would be unsafe to do so without a sufficient escort, as the Apaches are upon the left and the Navajoes on the right in travelling from Zuñi to the Moquies. The Pueblo Indians, all, are alike entitled to the favorable and early consideration of the government of the United States. My information concerning the Moqui Indians is not of a character to justify me in making suggestions in reference to an agent, or agents, further than to say, without an absolute examination by some one deputed for that purpose, information, precise and reliable, may not be looked for. I shall, therefore, confine my remarks to the Pueblos of Zuñi, Socorro, and Isletta, and those marked upon the accompanying map.

In relation to the extent of territory belonging to each Pueblo, nothing is definitely known, and can only be settled by instituting such a commission as was recommended by the President in his annual message. The lands are held under Spanish and Mexican grants, and the boundaries of the original grants have been, from time to time, enlarged to meet the wants of these Catholic Indians. They claim that this whole territory originally belonged to them, and that their supreme government was in Santa Fé; but after the conquest, this place was taken from them, and their limits fixed by authority of the conquering government. The general opinion is, not one of the Pueblos have a square of less than eight miles and a half on each side. In addition to this, it is said, many of them have bought other lands near their Pueblos, and perhaps others are planting on unappropriated lands. There are a few Mexican villages

built, without doubt, upon lands granted to Pueblos, and there are various law-suits pending between Pueblos and Mexicans, and Pueblos, as to the right of parties to certain lands. These law-suits ought to be quieted without delay, or serious and bloody consequences will result. I must further add, that additional grants of land may be necessary for these Indians, and it should be given to them liberally near where they are now located, if vacant public lands should be found there; ~~for~~ for it will not do to agitate the subject of their removal at this time; and it would be as dangerous to the public tranquillity to compel them to a repugnant association with the people of New Mexico, as citizens of the State or territory. Either would produce a bloody contest *at this time*.

You will notice on the returned map that I have marked, with some approach to accuracy, the seven counties of this territory, as organized. The four great tribes, the Apaches, Comanches, Navajoes, and Utahs, make frequent incursions into these counties. All east, west, north, and south of the outer lead and red ink lines is regarded as Indian country. On the eastern side of the Arkansas, the Arrapahoes, Cheyennes, Kiowas, and other roving Indians, are to be found. These Indians are frequently on the west side of said river, hunting, trading, and uniting with the Indians of this territory in their wars and robberies against the people of the United States and Mexico.

The apparent dividing line between the Apaches and Utahs commences on the Rio del Norte about latitude 37° . The land N. E. and E. from this point, between the pencil and red ink lines, to the Arkansas, is accorded to the Jicarillas, a band of Apaches well mixed with Utah blood. Occasionally, every tribe of Indians is to be found in this region. East and south of the said lead and red ink lines, the Apaches first, and then the Comanches, are found. I have had no means of ascertaining the supposed dividing line between these two tribes. The Comanches are chiefly south of the Apache district, east of the Rio del Norte, and between it and the State of Texas. The strip of country running south from the county of San Miguel del Bado, known as the Apache country, is not less than three hundred miles wide. Not an inch of the Comanche country is to be found upon the returned map, although I have written upon an outer edge the word "Comanches," for the purpose of showing the direction of their localities. West of the Rio del Norte, on both sides of the supposed line between the United States and Mexico, is the Apache country proper, in my opinion; and they claim the country west to the Pimo Village, and north-west to the Moqui country; and west of the Pueblo of Zuñi, and between that place and the Moqui country, the Apaches think they are bounded north by the Navajoes. Thus, it will be seen, they claim to possess, and certainly roam over, three-fourths of a circle in and around the Territory of New Mexico.

The Navajo country is west, beyond the lines of the counties of Bernalillo, Santa Anna and Rio Arriva, to, and perhaps passing, the Rio Colorado, and running north as far as latitude 37° or 38° . All west of the Rio del Norte, not included in either of the counties of this territory, as organized, nor included in the Navajo country, to the very foot of the Sierra Nevada, and between the Navajo country and the Great Salt Lake, north, is called the Utah country.

You will perceive upon the map as marked, there is but very little of the

Navajo country, less of the Utahs, and none whatever of the Comanches, but an immense strip claimed by the Apaches.

Let me remark, that the Pah Utahs, who inhabit the country east of the Sierra Nevada, are Utahs proper; benumbed by cold, and enfeebled, intellectually and physically, by the food upon which they subsist; it consisting only of roots, vermin, insects of all kinds, and everything that creeps, crawls, swims, flies, or bounds, they may chance to overtake; and when these resources fail them, and they can find no stranger, they feed upon their own children. Such a people should not be permitted to live within the limits of the United States, and must be elevated in the scale of human existence, or exterminated. These people never approach the confines of civilization, unless they are called upon by their more adventurous and warlike brethren.

I have seized several occasions to convey to you my opinions in reference to the Apaches, Comanches, Navajoes, and Utahs, four great tribes, who occupy, or claim immense regions of country belonging to the United States. I may be pardoned for repeating, that each of *these* tribes should be compelled to *remain* within certain fixed limits.

A square, each side of which shall measure fifty miles in length, if properly selected, would be ample; infinitely more than can be necessary to subsist these, or any other equal number of people. For a time, a generous liberality should be meted out to them, and they should be instructed in agricultural pursuits.

For a time, also, you would have to feed all but the Navajoes. They can take care of themselves. Implements of husbandry, however, should be given to them.

No Indian tribe should be located nearer than one hundred miles of the line of Mexico. I have no reference to Pueblo Indians.

These suggestions, if adopted, would require corresponding and appropriate military dispositions, of which it is not my privilege to speak, when it may be avoided with propriety.

In reference to agents—their proper location, numbers, and necessary expenditures, &c. &c.—I intend to record my views in a letter which I propose writing on to-morrow.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

J. S. CALHOUN,
Indian Agent.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,
Com. Ind. Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 29.

INDIAN AGENCY,
Santa Fé, New Mexico, March 30, 1850.

SIR: Having as accurately as possible, with the limited knowledge which I have been able to command, marked upon the section of a map which you enclosed to me on the 28th December last, the various locations of the Pueblo, and other Indians who were entitled to a place on said map, and made explanatory remarks, in my letter of yesterday's date, concerning all other Indians of this territory, I proceed to place before

you my views in relation to agents, sub-agents, their proper locations, their salaries, and expenditures generally.

In the first place, let me state, what is considered liberal pay and expenditures on account of Indian agents and agencies already established by law in the United States, would be utterly insufficient in this territory. This fact will be established by reference to the quarter-master's and commissary's returns from this place.

In travelling through this territory, you cannot safely travel alone; and when in the Indian country, an escort is absolutely necessary; and at all times, in visiting the Pueblos and most of the Mexican places, you will suffer if you do not take with you a cook, cooking utensils, subsistence, forage, tents, and all necessary transportation.—Cooking utensils must be brought from the United States.

There is no place in this territory where it is not absolutely necessary to "corral," watch, and guard everything you may have in your possession. Even in this city, where sentinels are posted to guard corrals, horses are frequently stolen from them.

I adhere to my original opinion, that there should be a sub-agent, for the present, at each Indian Pueblo, twenty in number, not including Nambé or Tesuque near Santa Fé, which might be left to the care of the agency that may be established in this city.

To support such sub-agencies would require:—

Salary,	\$1,000
House rent and wood,	300
Interpreter,	300
Rations for interpreters,	125
	<hr/>
	\$1,725
	20 Pueblos.
	<hr/>
	\$34,500
Implements of husbandry for 22	
Pueblos, each \$200,	4,400
	<hr/>
	\$38,900
	<hr/> <hr/>

The implements should be distributed under the direction of a general agent, or superintendent, as some of the Pueblos would require *more* than the \$200, and others *less*. If the government of the United States should deem it advisable to divide the Pueblos into districts, I would then submit, an examination of the marked map will show there should be eight divisions, as follows:—

First District.

Taos,
Picuris.

Second District.

San Juan,
Pojuaque,
Santa Clara,
San Ildefonso.

Third District.

Jemez,
Silla (or Cia),
Santa Ana.

Fourth District.

Cochite,
S. Domingo,
S. Felipe,
Saudia.

*Fifth District.*Isletta,
Leutis.*Seventh District.*Laguna,
Acoma.

BELOW EL PASO.

*Sixth District.*Socorro,
Isletta.*Eighth District.*

Zuñi.

You will perceive I make no arrangements for the Moqui Indians.

To support each division I would recommend:—

Salary for an agent,	\$1,500
Interpreter,	600
House rent and stabling,	300
Forage for three horses or mules,	525
Horse-shoeing,	50
Hostler,	180
Rations,	120
	<hr/>
	\$3,275
	8
	<hr/>
	\$26,200
Implements for 22 Pueblos, including Nambé and Tesuque, \$200 each,	\$4,400
	<hr/>
	<u>\$30,600</u>

NOTE.—(Horses \$350 each—aggregate \$33,400.)

This arrangement exhibits an apparent saving of \$8,300. But to secure the tranquillity of the territory, which is certainly menaced, and to stimulate and properly direct the labors of the Pueblo Indians, the first plan is recommended as the most preferable. Adopt either plan, and in a year or two, you might with propriety consolidate these agencies so as to diminish the expenses nearly one-half. But this cannot be done with propriety until order and perfect quiet are firmly established in this territory. The Indians are far from being contented, as I have advised you in my former letters, and unless they are properly protected and watched over, you may prepare for an outbreak at no distant day.

In reference to my second plan, you will observe, I have estimated for forage for three animals, and they are necessary to enable the agent to visit the Pueblos of his district. Remember, he must pack his provisions, bedding, &c. &c. I have not estimated for the value of these animals, which cannot be less than \$350 for each district. So far as the head quarters of the agent is concerned within his district, I would at this time leave him to select the place, or commit it to the discretion of a superintendent.

Having disposed of the Pueblo Indians upon the best and most economical terms that I can conscientiously suggest, I shall proceed to submit my views in relation to the Wild Indians; the Apaches, Comanches, Na-

vajoes, and Utahs. These Indians, including their various independent bands, I take it for granted, must be located and confined within certain fixed limits, and there compelled to remain, and to build up Pueblos and cultivate the soil. I do not recommend that these four tribes should be located near each other. It is possible that the Apaches and Comanches might be located in adjoining districts; and, in like manner, the Navajoes and Utahs. If so, two agents to be located at a central military post would be sufficient; otherwise, you must have four—each to be located at a military post—for which I submit the following estimate:

Salary for agent,	.	.	.	.	\$1,500
Do. do. interpreter,	.	.	.	.	600
Forage for two horses,	.	.	.	.	375
Horse-shoeing,	.	.	.	.	35
Hostler,	.	.	.	.	180
Rations,	.	.	.	.	120
					<hr/>
					\$2,810

Incidental expenses for the first year, to secure shelter for agent, interpreter, hostler, and two animals,

600

\$3,410

4 Tribes.

\$13,640

I have not estimated the value of the 2 horses, which would increase the aggregate of each agency \$250,

\$3,660

4

First year,

\$14,640

For the first twelve months, if these Indians are confined to fixed limits and required to build Pueblos and cultivate the soil, you would be obliged to contribute largely to the support of the Apaches, Comanches, and Utahs. You would have to send men among them to teach them the use of agricultural implements, which should be furnished to them, and also to direct their labor in building of Pueblos. To accomplish these things successfully, will require an appropriation of \$100,000, to be expended under the direction of the President of the United States or the Secretary of the Interior.

To establish order in the territory, you must either submit to these heavy expenditures, or exterminate the mass of these Indians. After the present year, I would recommend the employment of blacksmiths for these Indians and for the Pueblos.

I do not think presents should be given to Indians of this territory, except in the shape of food and implements of husbandry. They should be taught at once to rely upon their own industry, not only for the luxuries of life, which they should be taught to appreciate, but for all that is necessary for their personal wants and comforts. To that end, they should be made to know that the food which it is proposed to furnish to

them was intended to subsist them only until they could make one crop, and no longer.

If a Superintendency of Indian Affairs is established, I submit the following estimates for its support:—

	1st year.	2d year.
Salary of superintendent,	\$2,000	\$2,000
Secretary,	1,200	1,200
Interpreter,	600	600
Board of do. while in Santa Fé,	200	200
Rents for house and stables,	600	600
Two horses and six mules,	850	000
Forage,	1,600	1,600
Horse-shoeing,	100	100
Hostler,	300	300
Board,	120	120
One wagon and harness,	150	000
	1st year, 7,720	2d year, \$6,720

To which should be added \$1000, for contingencies, in paying guides, runners, and subsisting Indians and their horses during their visits to the superintendency.

It must be known to you, that our expenses are heavier in Santa Fé than in any other place in the territory. At present, my rent account is \$70 per month. Corn is worth at this time \$2 per bushel; shoeing of a horse, \$1; sugar, 50 cts. per lb.; coffee, 37½ cts.; lumber, \$65 per M. Bacon and lard, none except at the commissary's. Beef, exceedingly poor and coarse, 8 cts. per lb. A shoat not weighing more than 60 to 75 lbs. \$8 to \$10; chickens from 25 cts. to 50 cts. each; turkeys from \$1 to \$2. The necessaries of life, such as we have been accustomed to in the States, and the delicacies and luxuries which we require, must all be brought from the U. States. For expenditures on account of rents, pay of interpreters, teamsters, forage, &c. &c., I again refer you to the returns of the Quarter-Master and Commissary of the Department. Had not the commissary sold me subsistence on the same terms he is authorized to sell to the officers of the army, and had the quarter-master refused to furnish me with transportation and forage, I should utterly have failed to discharge my duties in this territory. In addition to my salary, \$1500, before the end of my first year, I shall have expended, necessarily, of my own private funds, about \$1500 more. The expenditures of the second year will not be so great, and as the country becomes quiet and settled, will continue to diminish; but can never fall to the reasonable limits assigned to them in the States. Hence the suggestion, that what would be considered quite liberal in the U. States, would be wholly inadequate in this territory.

I have to remark, the Superintendent should be required to visit every agency twice a year, *if possible*, and ascertain from personal observations, the true state and condition of each agency, and the necessary wants of the Indians, attached to such agencies.

The following recapitulation is made in order that the heavy expenditures, which I recommend, may be examined as a whole:—

1st plan for Pueblos	\$38,900	2d plan, including:	
“ “ “ the four		Horses	\$33,400
wild tribes	14,640	2d plan	7,320
Food for one year	100,000	“ “	100,000
Superintendency	7,720	“ “	7,720
			<hr/>
For the 1st year	\$161,260	-	\$148,440
Less 2d year:			
Food appropriation	\$100,000		
Horses for Pueblo Dis't	2,800		
“ for wild Ind. agencies	1,000		
Horses and wagon for Super-			
intendent	1,000		
	<hr/>		
	\$104,800		
		\$104,800	\$104,800
		<hr/>	
Expenditures for 2d year	\$56,460		\$43,640

When we take into view our obligations to Mexico, as they are recorded in the treaty of 1848, our obligations to establish good governments, and to protect the lives and property of every citizen, we cannot—we must not, be influenced by dollars and cents. Who would not most willingly have preferred to have heard that the government of the United States had ordered an expenditure of \$50,000, or \$100,000, rather than to have heard of the butchery of poor White, his wife, daughter, and friends?

Again, remember the vast demands that will be made upon the government of the United States by Mexico, and citizens of this territory, in consequence of Indian depredations. These evils can be quieted only by the minor and humane expenditures which I have recommended. I do not stop by the way to enquire as to what return may be expected from the sale of public lands; that is not a question that should weigh an atom in the consideration of this subject. Our duties should be discharged honestly and faithfully, and a proper economy and a becoming liberality should be observed.

I trust to be pardoned for the frank manner in which I communicate my views. It is my custom, and I should feel very awkward if I did not record them just in the shape in which they occur to me; and they are based upon the supposition that the government of the U. States will select agents competent, and perfectly willing, to discharge their duties honestly and faithfully. The converse of this supposition will readily occur to reflecting minds; and to the proper Departments I commit the subject.

I have the honor to be, your very obed't serv't,
 J. S. CALHOUN,
Indian Agent.

P. S.—I beg to refer you to my No. 24, dated November 17th, 1849, on the subject of expenditures in Santa Fé.

J. S. C.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,
Comm'r of Ind'n Affairs,
Washington City, D. C.

No. 30.

INDIAN AGENCY,
Santa Fé, New Mexico, March 31, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to advise you that *four Mexican captives* were delivered to me, on Friday the 22d inst., and from them I gather the following facts.

1. Refugio Picaros, about twelve years of age, was taken from a Rancho, called Papascal, near St. Jago, State of Durango, Mexico, two years ago, by the Comanches, who immediately sold him to the Apaches, and with them he lived and roamed, on both sides of the Rio del Norte, until January last, when he was *bought* by Jose Francisco Lucero, a Mexican, residing at the Moro, in this territory. He says, the purchase was made at the Coro Carmel, about two days travel east from the Rio del Norte, and four knives, one plug of tobacco, two fanegas of corn, four blankets, and six yards of red Indian cloth, were paid for him. He has no father or mother alive, but has brothers and sisters.

2. Teodora Martel, ten or twelve years of age, was taken from the service of Jose Alvarado, at La Popes, near Saltillo, Mexico, by Apaches, two years ago, and has remained the greater portion of the time on the west side of the Rio del Norte. He was bought by Fowler Sandoval, who also resides at the Moro; from the Apaches at Ague Asule, near the Pecos river, in this territory, in February last. The payment for him was one mare, one rifle, one shirt, one pair of drawers, thirty small packages of powder, some bullets, and one buffalo robe. The *boy* was claimed by Diego Sandoval, from whom I received him. He knows of no relations.

3. Caudalans Galope, about twelve years of age, was seized by the Apaches, he thinks, four years ago, at the Rancho Fernandez, near Santa Cruz, Mexico. He is unable to name the State in which Santa Cruz is situated. Two brothers and sisters of his were taken at the same time, and he supposes they are yet with the Apaches. His father and mother were alive at the time he was captured. He was bought from the Apaches, in January or February last, by Vincente Romero, of the Moro, at a place called Lo Cerro Queso, perhaps "El Cerro del Queso," east of the Rio del Norte, in this territory. Price paid was some corn and tobacco, one knife, one shirt, one mule, one small package of powder, and a few balls.

4. Rosalie Taveris, about twenty-five years of age, resided in Monclova, and was captured in November last, by a band of Apaches and Comanches, within two days travel of Monclova. Her husband, Santiago Costellan, and her daughter, four years old, were killed at that time. Her mother, Etuedas Guerris, lives in Monclova. She is known to Don Miguel Corteues, and Don Ramon Moseus, and was bought from the Apaches by Fowler Sandoval, of the Moro, at Cerro Queso, in January last, who paid for her two striped blankets, ten yards blue cotton drilling, ten yards calico, ten yards cotton shirting, two handkerchiefs, four plugs of tobacco, one bag of corn, and one knife. She is quite an intelligent woman; says that the band by whom she was captured consisted of about fifty Indians, who seized at the same time eight other captives, strangers to her, and all but two, who sickened and died (perhaps killed), were brought from Mexico into this territory with her. She states there are a great number of captives, at and

near La Cerro Queso, that all the men who are captured are killed; that parties of Apaches and Comanches are constantly going out and coming in with horses, mules, sheep, goats, cows, goods, money, and captives, and while at La Queso, she saw the clothing of an American man and boy, whom the Apaches said they had killed.

These captives complain of very cruel treatment, the woman especially, who says she was spared but one humiliation.

Encarnacion Garcia, and the individuals from whom I received the captives, confirm in general terms the foregoing statements, but protest no munitions of war were paid for them. I give full credit to the statements of the captives. The Mexicans from whom I received the captives will claim to have paid more than is stated above, and without doubt, *can prove any statement they may make*. The trading in captives has been so long tolerated in this territory, that it has ceased to be regarded as a wrong; and purchasers are not prepared willingly to release captives without an adequate ransom. In legislating upon this subject, it should be distinctly set forth under what circumstances captives shall be released, and limiting the expenditures that may be incurred thereby. Unless the Mexicans are paid for such captives as they have purchased, and have now in possession, but very few of them will be released; nor will it answer well to allow captives to make their election as to a release, for their submission to their masters is most perfect, and they are well instructed as to proper replies to interrogatories.

That a proper economy may be observed in releasing captives, some arrangement should be made for their early return to Mexico, or to some authorized agent of Mexico, who might reside at El Paso, or in Santa Fé.

It is presumed, should treaties be made with the Apaches and Comanches, they will be required to deliver up all captives, free of charge, and all stolen property that they may at the time have in their possession. Many of the captives belong to this territory, and such of course will be turned over to their relatives. But until this can be accomplished, they must be clothed and fed, and stolen property must be taken care of, and disposed of. Expenditures in both cases must be incurred, and should be provided for. The law to be passed by Congress for the release of captives, under the late treaty with Mexico, will, without doubt, contain suitable provisions for their subsistence and clothing. Those that I have on hand, I am clothing and feeding, and respectfully ask for instructions in the premises.

I may, in conclusion, mention that there are a number of Indian captives held as slaves in this territory, and some congressional action may be necessary in relation to them; and I respectfully submit the question for appropriate consideration.

I am, with great respect, your obed't serv't,

J. S. CALHOUN,

Indian Agt.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,

Com'r Ind. Aff's, Washington City, D. C.

No. 31.

INDIAN AGENCY,
Santa Fé, New Mexico, July 15, 1850.

SIR: By or before the first day of June last, I have reason to believe you received my letters, Nos. 50 and 51. These two letters have conveyed to you my opinions of a suitable organization for the Indian service in New Mexico, and the amount of expenditures that I deem absolutely necessary in order to carry it out in a proper and efficient manner.

My opinions in relation to "one general superintendent," &c., are in perfect accord with those of the Department, as I have heretofore written. I regret exceedingly that I have not seen your "annual report."

In your remark, "better too many than too few" agents, I fully concur: but I am really astonished at the authoritative manner in which the Hon. H. N. Smith states, that the Siccarillas "are entirely separate and distinct from any other tribe." This statement is antagonistical to every particle of information that has reached me in reference to these Indians. These people, to some extent, are the issue of the Apaches and Comanches, but to a much greater extent, Apaches and Utahs. At least, this is my understanding of the subject.

In relation to the number of Pueblo Indians, for reasons which I have heretofore given you, I cannot agree with Mr. Smith in his estimate—7,000. In my number 51, my views are given in reference to agents and sub-agents, and expenditures generally. I am aware that, if we look at the number of the Indians only, the number of agents which I recommend would seem to be unreasonable. On the section of a map, which I enclosed to you in my No. 50, the spots upon which pueblos are built are somewhat accurately marked. By an examination of it, and remembering the topography of the country, you will not fail to perceive, why it is the number of agents must be greatly disproportioned to the number of Indians. And here I may remark, these Indians may be easily managed, if properly protected and cared for; but if driven to desperation, and they combine their forces, it will be no easy matter to subdue them.

I am inclined to think, my Nos. 50 and 51 contain all the information you desire, except as to mechanics. I would recommend that a blacksmith, and a man who could make wagons and plough stocks, should be attached to the agency of each district. Such mechanics would have to be sent from the States, and all the tools necessary for their trade.

In my Number 24, my views are defined in reference to the present laws regulating trade and intercourse with Indians, &c. The amendments therein suggested would adapt them to the peculiar condition of affairs in this territory, and, perhaps, improve their efficiency elsewhere.

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

J. S. CALHOUN,
Indian Agent.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 32.

*Extract of a letter from J. S. Calhoun, Esq., Indian Agent, dated,
SANTA FÉ, NEW MEXICO, October 12, 1850.*

“Two Apaches, a man and his wife, are now at this agency. They were brought to the head-quarters of this military department by order of the commanding officer at Abiquin, and, at the request of Col. Munro, they are in charge of this agency.

It appears a party of some fifteen or twenty Apaches, men, women, and children, were on their way from the north-east, to Abiquin, as they represented, to ask permission to reside near that post, and under its protection. Before reaching Abiquin, near the Ojo Caliente, they stopped at a Mexican's house and asked for something to eat, which was promptly given to them. After they had eaten, the Mexican managed to induce them to wander about his premises, having previously prepared to have executed his bloody purpose, and while thus separated, four of them, one man and three small boys, were murdered upon the spot. One man, a girl, and two boys are missing. The Mexican ordered his men to fire on the survivors, consisting, principally, of women and children, but they refused to obey the order. The man who is at this agency was not present, having gone a short distance to report, as chief of the party, to the prefect of the country, the objects and destination of the Apache party under his command. The prefect gave them an escort to Abiquin. A son of the Apache here was slain. These Indians will be permitted to reside, for the present, near Abiquin, and at Col. Munro's suggestion, I will cause them to be supplied with provisions to a limited extent. By this course, we may induce others to come in, from whom we may glean some useful information. The one present claims to have been in retirement, and therefore ignorant as to the murders and depredations committed by the Apaches. He says there is a number of Mexican captives among them.

The Mexican who caused the murders to be committed at the Ojo Caliente has been in prison here for the last three days, and will be set at liberty upon a mere nominal recognizance. The demoralization of society here is such, it would be impolitic, if not altogether impracticable, to administer justice in this case. A considerable sum of money has been subscribed to procure a gold medal, to be presented to this cold-blooded murderer; and this is done chiefly by Americans.

By reference to my No. 76, dated August the 12th of the present year, you will perceive I notified you of the assaults made by the Navajos, upon the Pueblo of Zuñi. I again alluded to this subject on the 30th of September last (No. 81). We now learn, the Navajos, a few days since, made another attack on Zuñi, with a force, it is apprehended, that will have proved disastrous to the Pueblo, by the destruction of their crops, if nothing more serious has occurred. This attack was delayed, for a few days, in consequence of the presence of the escort at Zuñi, who accompanied the Bishop of Durango to that place. After leaving Zuñi, it was discovered that one of our dragoons was missing, and the commanding officer ordered a few others back to bring him up. While these dragoons were yet in view of this Pueblo, the Navajos had commenced the attack. In reference to this attack, nothing further is known. Col. Monroe has ordered a company of dragoons stationed at Cibollatta, to proceed to

Zuñi, and has sent fifty old muskets for the use of the Indians of that Pueblo. If the Pueblo Indians have been able to save their crops, it will be fortunate for our troops, as they relied upon them for a portion of their supplies, which would have been greatly augmented, if their warriors could have been engaged in tilling the earth, instead of guarding the Pueblo, and the laborers who were compelled to work. An agent at Zuñi, in my opinion, as I have frequently suggested, might have secured them such protection as greatly to have increased their crops, and prevented the present war, especially if he had been permitted the use of the ordnance, and ordnance stores, which I have heretofore recommended. Until protection is afforded to the Pueblo Indians, you may in vain expect your government animals to be kept fit for service. Independent of this consideration, there are other and higher obligations, which require the government of the United States to protect these Indians, and establish and preserve the tranquillity of this territory. Unless Congress has acted discreetly upon this subject, almost the entire American population, unconnected with the army, must leave the country. Immigration has entirely ceased, and many who came into the country to reside, not daring to venture into the interior of the country, so as to ascertain its resources, have been compelled to go to California or return to the States. I venture the opinion, that at least one-half of American immigrants to this territory have left it during the last six months. They are daily departing. The mineral resources of New Mexico are believed to be equal to those of any country; and yet the most daring and enterprising dare not venture so far abroad as to ascertain, with any degree of certainty, the mineral wealth of the territory. It would be a blindness to well-established historical facts to suppose the native population of this territory, in its present demoralized and subdued condition, could develop its resources; and unless American energy and enterprise are properly protected here, as elsewhere, it must ever remain a heavy charge upon the treasury of the United States. It is unnecessary to repeat my views in relation to a proper disposition of affairs in this territory—they are well known to the Department.

The Seven Moqui Pueblos sent to me a deputation, who presented themselves on the 6th day of this month. Their object, as announced, was to ascertain the purposes and views of the government of the United States towards them. They complained bitterly of the depredations of the Navajos. The deputation consisted of the cacique of *all* the Pueblos, accompanied by two who were not officials. From what I could learn from the cacique, I came to the conclusion, that each of the seven Pueblos was an independent republic, having confederated for mutual protection. One of the popular errors of the day is, there are but five of these Pueblos remaining; another is, that one of the Pueblos speak a different language from the other six. I understood the cacique to say the *seven* spoke the same language, but the Pueblo in which he resided, Tanoquibi, spoke also the language of the Santa Domingo—hence, the error first mentioned. These Pueblos may be all visited in one day. They are supposed to be located about due west from Santa Fé, and from three to four days travel northwest from Zuñi. The following was given to me as the names of these Pueblos.

1. Oriva.
2. Samoupavi.
3. Inparavi.
4. Mausana.
5. Opquive.
6. Chemovi.
7. Tanoquibi.

I understand further, they regarded as a small Pueblo, Zuñi, as compared with Oriva. The other Pueblos were very much like Zuñi and Santa Domingo. They supposed Oriva could turn out one thousand warriors. I desired, and believed it to be important, to visit these Indians, and would have done so, if Col. Munroe had not, in reply to my application for an escort, replied, that he could not furnish me with one at this time. They left us, apparently highly gratified at the reception and presents given to them.

These Indians ought to be visited at an early day.

THE UTAHS

Seem to be quiet, and no one has recently complained of their conduct.

THE COMANCHES.

I have heard nothing concerning these Indians since my letter to you of the day of

THE APACHES

Are reposing, or preparing for an outbreak of some kind. Without an adequate fund, we shall never be able to pry successfully into the purposes of the wild Indians of this territory.'

No. 33.

WASHINGTON CITY, *March 9, 1850.*

SIR: Your letter of February 27th, upon the subject of our Indian relations in New Mexico, has been received, and in reply, I would remark that, while I entirely concur with you in opinion that our main reliance to keep the Indian in a proper subjection, and prevent the recurrence of those depredations and acts of outrage which have so long afflicted New Mexico, must be upon an efficient and active military force; still your department can effect a great deal for us.

The appointment and proper distribution of a suitable number of Indian agents in that country would enable the government to act correctly, and advisedly, both with a view to the interest of the Indian, and also of the emigrants and settlers in that country, when the government undertakes (which it must do) to mark out and set apart the country which it intends shall be the permanent and future home of each separate and distinct tribe. The agents would also be able to give the government officers immediate and correct information of all acts of hostility committed by the different tribes, of their different localities and haunts, so that they might be pursued and punished immediately; a prompt retribution has a better effect than even a severer punishment after a long delay. The agents would be of great service in carrying out that stipulation of our recent treaty with Mexico, whereby we agree to restore to liberty all those Mexican captives now in possession of the Indians, who have become incorporated within our limits. The agents would be neces-

sary in regulating the proper intercourse of traders with those Indians, as much of our difficulty with them arises, in my opinion, from the misconduct of lawless and improper persons, who are allowed to go among them under pretence of trading.

I do not think the Indians in and surrounding New Mexico are so lazy and indolent as tribes nearer here, and bordering upon our own civilization. After they are once reduced to a proper subjection, and made to feel the strength and power of our government, and afterwards experience its clemency and kindness, I am of opinion that they can easily be induced to adopt an agricultural life, that they will prove to be very tractable; and under the guidance of discreet and worthy agents, we may yet see some of their rich mountain valleys teeming with the produce of a laborious cultivation. The Spaniards reclaimed from savage life all our Pueblos, and made them industrious and honest cultivators of the soil; in a short time, we might succeed as well with several of the wild tribes surrounding New Mexico.

I think there should be appointed, at least, five agents for the five following tribes, viz. : Comanches, Southern Apaches, Navajoes, Utahs, and Northern Apaches, or, as the latter is sometimes called, the Icarillas; though the last are omitted by Col. Calhoun, they are entirely separate and distinct from any other tribe, and are pre-eminently distinguished for their ferocity and cruelty; they infest our northern settlements, and have been a greater annoyance to New Mexico than any other tribe either within or surrounding our territory.

The Pueblos or civilized Indians, residing within the settlements of New Mexico, a very peaceable, honest, and industrious people, possess many of the rights of citizenship; they do not exceed in numbers about 7000, and might be divided into three districts, and an agent appointed for each. They own the best lands now under cultivation in that country, and their claims are undoubtedly good grants from the Spanish and Mexican governments; but for some years past, trespasses and gradual encroachments have been committed upon their lands by the Mexicans. I see no way in which our government can aid them in adjusting these conflicting claims, except by assisting them with the advice of counsel and agents, whenever their causes or complaints are brought before the proper judicial tribunals. These different Pueblos are now, according to law, *quasi corporations*, and to a great extent have the management of their own affairs, and the internal police of their towns; and can appear in any court, and sue and be sued by the names of their separate towns and villages.

In reference to salaries and compensation to be paid such officers in that country, I would suppose that the Superintendent of Indian Affairs residing at Santa Fé, should receive at least twenty-five hundred dollars per annum, and that he could not live there for less, and other agents and employees should be paid in proportion, as the expense of living there is greatly more than here.

A very desirable effect might be produced upon some of the wild tribes of Indians by sending a delegation from each tribe to Washington city. By allowing the tribes themselves to select some of their principal chief men for this visit, you would secure to those distant savages some idea of the strength and power of the government, a correct knowledge of which would induce a greater disposition to enter into formal stipulations, and secure a better faith in the execution and observance of their treaties.

But in connection with all this, allow me to remark that neither superintendents, agents, nor formal contractors, nor commissioners, can be effective without the presence and co-operation, for some time, of a strong and active military force; it should be well mounted, and composed of those hardy and adventurous pioneers and mountain men who are to be found upon our frontier, and should always be commanded by an officer well acquainted with Indian character and warfare. The officer commanding against those Indians should be vigilant, prompt, and energetic; undaunted by any difficulties or obstacles; he should pursue them through their mountain haunts and wild retreats, and never desist until he has visited their first infractions of their treaty with severe and speedy punishment. Every day we hear of fresh acts of outrage being committed by those Indians, and our government has so long delayed its punishment that they now believe they can commit any depredations with impunity, and will hardly go through with the formality of making a treaty. A timely interference and check, imposed now by our government, might prevent, at comparatively a small cost, those massacres and terrible scenes of bloodshed which will undoubtedly ensue if these Indians are permitted to go on and add to their strength by combinations of the different tribes, and which would entail upon our government a succession of military operations more protracted and more expensive than the famous Florida war.

Most respectfully, your ob't serv't,

HUGH N. SMITH,

To ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington City, D. C.

No. 34.

Extract of a Letter from John H. Rollins, Esq., acting as Special Agent for U. S. for Texas Indians, dated

AUSTIN, Nov. 2, 1850.

I had the honor to report from this place, under date of Sept. 30th, that, in consequence of the failure of the Comanche Indians to meet me in council on the 21st of Sept. I was then on my way to the "Clear Fork" of the Braizos, to seek them, and, if possible, learn their intentions and true position.

At Forts Graham and Gates (posts in my route), I obtained an escort of twenty men under the command of Lieut. Alvoird, of the army, which, together with eleven Delaware Indians employed by me, gave me a force sufficiently large and efficient for my purposes. On the fifth day from Fort Graham and about one hundred and twenty-five miles from that post, I found the Comanche chiefs, Catumpsey and Little Wolf, and portions of their people. They were at first greatly frightened; but the assurance that no violence was intended, soon removed their fears, and they collected around me for a "talk." As soon as I informed [them] of the object of my visit, and their supposed unfriendly disposition and conduct, they expressed the strongest desire to be considered friends, and readily agreed to meet me again as soon as I succeeded in finding Buffalo Hump, and Shanaco, the other chiefs of the *Southern* Comanches.

In order to show their sincerity, they sent a young Comanche Capt. along to assist me in my search for the other chiefs, a thing unprecedented among the Comanches, and illustrative of their confidence in my statements. Within the three following days, I found Buffalo Hump and Shanaco, Comanches, and Akaquash, a chief among the Waccos, and on the fifth I met the four Comanches and the Wacco chief, their head men and captains, in council.

I stated to them that on account of their absence from my councils, their many thefts and occasional murders, it had been inferred that they had abandoned the treaty of 1846, and determined to be hostile. I recounted the many reasons that existed for supposing them unfriendly, and told them that the government had determined not to submit to this state of things any longer, but intended, unless satisfactory explanations and atonements were made, to make war upon them immediately. I informed them that I did not come among them at that time to make accusations or to adjust difficulties, but to advise them of their true position, and interest and invite them *once more*, and for the *last time*, to meet me in council; that unless they did this—brought in the stolen horses—the men who committed the murder at Craig's trading-house, and came fully prepared to treat in relation to the many Mexican prisoners among them—troops would be immediately sent into every part of the Indian country.

Buffalo Hump, for himself and the rest, replied, that the talk was *very good*, and that, although it was very plain and not such as they had been accustomed to hear, yet it was not offensive, as he believed it to be true and warranted by the circumstances; that there had been many violations of the treaty on both sides, and it was better either to renew and abide by the treaty, or to disregard it altogether; that his people had been on the Rio Grande occasionally in small numbers, in company with other Indians, against his wishes and in violation of his express orders; but as some of them had very properly been killed, he hoped it would be a lesson to the rest; that he and his people *generally* were friends—*truly so*; but that they had bad men among them, whom they could not control, and he hoped the innocent would not be made to suffer in common with the guilty; that, on account of the difficulties on the Rio Grande and west, generally, and information received, through the agents of Geo. Barnard, that all Indians found west of the Colorado would be attacked indiscriminately, they had fled to the Brazos, where they were informed there was no war, and they would be safe; that they had been anxiously waiting for some time to learn the disposition of the government towards them, and the course intended to [be] adopted; that Catumsey had visited the trading-house of Barnard, and requested him to write and send me a letter, that he was afraid to meet me at the treaty appointed; and that all the Southern Comanches were ready and anxious to counsel with me at any time and place appointed by me.

It was agreed, therefore, and they most solemnly pledged themselves to meet me on the 19th of the present month, on the Rio San Saba, together with all their people, in a *general* council, when we would honestly and faithfully try to adjust all differences. He promised to notify *all* Indians that he could possibly see, and to meet me with at least eight hundred persons.

As my escort was provisioned for 30 days from Fort Graham, eight

days more than was necessary, I gave the Indians eight days' rations for thirty men, and they went away seemingly in improved spirits, and with every manifestation of an intention to comply literally with their promises.

I do not, of course, know positively that they will meet me, or if they do, that existing difficulties can be reconciled; yet from all I can see and learn, I believe they will attend, and that I shall succeed in renewing fully the treaty of Messrs. Butler and Lewis. There are many counter-currents, adverse interests, bad men and influences, to contend against, but *I shall succeed in preventing a war.*

I also saw the Caddoes and their associate bands, who expressed much anxiety about their situation, and a determination to attend the treaty. The Lepans had been before notified.

The Wichitas, Jonkaways, and Reichees, I did not see. They are, as I am informed, somewhere on Red river, and have formed a general combination for the purposes of plunder. It is this combination that does most of the horse stealing along the frontier. I do not expect them at the council, and consider them beyond my control.

Since the 1st day of September, I have travelled over eleven hundred miles, most of the time without roads, or other provender than the dry grass for my horses; slept in houses only once or twice, and counseled eight times with the different bands of Indians; yet I have not seen, nor do I know, the feelings of one-half the Indians belonging properly to this agency. I can only say, therefore, in relation to the Indians I have seen, that they are *all certainly* friendly, except a small portion of the Comanches, and that they may be controlled by judicious management.

It is known to the Department, that it will be necessary to feed these Indians during the treaty, and to make them some presents. In order to do this, I have engaged sixty beeves and three hundred bushels of corn to be delivered on the ground, and I am now on my way to San Antonio, to procure such presents as I may be able to purchase there. I go to San Antonio also, for the purpose of inducing Gen. Brooke, if possible, to attend this treaty, as the Indians express an ardent wish to see the "Big Captain," and the appearance of himself and staff among them would no doubt exert a most powerful and salutary influence.

A.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, October 25, 1850.

His Excellency,
J. P. GAINES, and
Messrs. ALONZO H. SKINNER,
and BEVERLY S. ALLEN.

} Commissioners.

GENTLEMEN: I have been officially notified of your appointment as "Commissioners to negotiate treaties with the several Indian tribes in the Territory of Oregon, for the extinguishment of their claims to lands lying west of the Cascade Mountains, under the act of 5th June last;" and am directed by the Hon. Secretary of the Interior to prepare appropriate

instructions for your observance in the discharge of the duties of your office.

Such instructions must necessarily be of a general character. That territory having been but recently organized, the files of this office do not as yet afford sufficient material for detailed information to guide you.

Your commissions were forwarded to you on the 12th August last, and I have now to inform you, that your compensation will be at the rate of *eight dollars* per day, for every day you may be necessarily engaged in the performance of the duty assigned you; and you will also be allowed ten cents per mile for every mile you may be required to travel while occupied in making treaties, and in travelling to and from the place, or places where you may be called.

It is impossible for this office to tell how many interpreters, or other assistants you may require—this must be left to yourselves, both as to numbers and amount of compensation to be paid, but with the suggestion that as much economy as is consistent with a proper and efficient discharge of your duties be used. The necessary travelling expenses of your employees will be paid.

As before remarked, the information in the possession of this office is so limited, that nearly everything must be left to your discretion, beyond what is here communicated, and even that may be found by you to be somewhat defective.

The tract of country lying west of the Cascade Mountains, extending to the Pacific Ocean, reaches from 42° to 49°, and has considerable width. It is inhabited by numerous tribes of Indians, many of them small in numbers, and others comprising two, three, and four hundred warriors—some at the extreme south, and others at the extreme north. There are some ten or twelve of them. Our knowledge on that subject is not very accurate; it rests mainly upon the observation of those who have resided there temporarily, some of them for two or three years. The locality of these is not well known; some of them live by fishing, others by hunting, in part—others in part from the supplies heretofore received from the Hudson's Bay Company in the course of their trade. Most of them are doubtless of a peaceable disposition, acquired by long habit of intercourse with American and British traders. Others of them are more wild and fierce in their temper and disposition, and will require great discretion and prudence in their management. It is understood that one or other of these tribes, great or small, east of the Cascade Mountains, set up claims to every portion of the territory. The rights of the several tribes you will of course inquire into.

The inhabitants complain that they have been there for several years, and have been obliged to make settlements, improvements, &c. &c., and yet not one of them can claim a perfect title to any portion of the soil they occupy. It is indispensable that this question be settled in some form or other. The object of the government is to extinguish the title of the Indians to all the lands lying west of the Cascade Mountains; and, if possible, to provide for the removal of the whole from the west to the east of the mountains; but should you fail in inducing the whole to remove, you will then induce as many as you can procure acquisitions of territory from; but no effort should be untried to procure the removal of the whole, thereby leaving the country free for settlement by the whites. It will probably be best for you to treat first with the Indians in the white settlements, particularly in the Willamette Valley—and to treat

separately with each tribe; but of this you will be best able to judge. As to the quantity of land to be acquired and the price per acre to be paid for it, it is impossible for this office to form even a conjecture. The quantity must of course depend on the number of treaties made, upon estimates of the rights of the Indians to the soil ceded by them. As to the price to be paid, that will depend on the locality of the land, with reference to its value to the United States, if it be possible to make such distinctions; but if not, you will be governed by your own discretion. It is presumed the lands to be ceded will not be found to be of any very great value, and in many cases it is presumed the consideration will be merely nominal, but in others, where the land is of more value, of course a greater sum will be allowed. The maximum price given for Indian lands has been ten cents per acre, but this has been for smaller quantities of great value, from their contiguity to the States, and it is merely mentioned to show that some important consideration has always been involved when so large a price has been given. It is not for a moment supposed that any such consideration can be involved in any purchases to be made by you; and it is supposed a very small portion of that price will be required.

In estimating the value of the land ceded, you will fix on a gross amount in money to be paid for it, on which an annuity of a sum not exceeding five per cent. will be paid. And it is extremely desirable that the whole annuity be absorbed, by treaty stipulation, in objects beneficial to the Indians, and that no part of it shall be paid to them in money. The objects provided for should be, agricultural assistance, employment of blacksmiths, and mechanics; and farmers to teach them how to cultivate the land; physicians; and above all, ample provision for purposes of education. After providing for these objects, if any portion of the money remains, it should be stipulated that it be paid in goods, to be delivered to them annually, in their own country.

In effecting the removal of the Indians from the West, it will be necessary to provide a new home for them among their brethren on the east of the mountains. This of course must be done, and it is to be hoped, it may be effected peaceably, and at little cost to the United States. Whether it will be necessary for you to enter into treaty negotiations with these Eastern Indians for this object, you will be best able to judge, when the whole subject is brought before you.

To carry out the objects of the commission, the sum of twenty thousand (20,000) dollars can be applied, of this amount five thousand (5,000) dollars will be invested in goods, suitable for presents to the Indians, which will be sent round Cape Horn, and the balance, fifteen thousand (15,000) dollars, will be placed in the hands of the first named of your board, Governor Gaines, with which he will be charged, and for which he will account, by regular accounts and vouchers; and as the treasury has funds at San Francisco, drafts on that place will be enclosed to him. Governor Gaines will also be charged with the sum expended in goods, for which he will account upon the certificates of the board, that they have been used in carrying out the objects intended.

It was omitted to be mentioned in the proper place, that you are authorized to employ a secretary, whose compensation will be at the rate of five (5) dollars a day, and ten cents per mile for his necessary travelling expenses. It is not, however, supposed that the whole time of a secretary

will be required: and you will, therefore, restrict his employment only to such times, and upon such occasions, as you may find necessary.

Very respectfully,

Your obd't serv't,

A. S. LOUGHERY,
Acting Commissioner.

B.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, July 20, 1850.

SIR: I have been officially notified of your appointment as Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Territory of Oregon, under the act of the 5th ultimo, creating that office, and am directed by the Hon. Secretary of the Interior to prepare appropriate instructions for your observance in the discharge of the duties of your office.

Such instructions must necessarily be of a general character. That territory having been but recently organized, the files of this office do not, as yet, afford sufficient material for more specific details than those formerly given to Gov. Lane (a copy of which you will find among the accompanying papers), and circumstances may require an occasional departure from, or modification of, any general code of instructions, emanating from a point so remote from the scene of action as this. On this point, much is left to your own discretion and better judgment, when your superior local knowledge will have enabled you to act more advisedly in the premises; but such departures, if any, you will report at once to this office, in order that it may be constantly advised of the state and progress of Indian affairs in your superintendency.

The instructions, then, to the late ex-officio Superintendent will serve for your general guidance, until the Department is in possession of further information upon which to base others more in detail, and in view of this desirable object, it is both hoped and believed that you can do much towards furnishing such information in a short time after your arrival in the territory, and that the Department will not rest for any great length of time under its present embarrassing want of reliable statistical knowledge of Indian affairs in Oregon.

The above-mentioned paper, taken in connection with the report of Gov. Lane (a copy of which is also herewith enclosed), will serve at least as an outline for your initiatory action, and until further instructed by that practical experience and observation, from which, as before mentioned, much is anticipated.

Among the papers enclosed, you will find the regulations for the prevention and suppression of the whiskey trade among all Indian tribes. Gov. Lane speaks of this traffic as being carried on "by vessels coming into the Columbia, and particularly at Baker's Bay and Astoria." It is doubtless introduced at other points; and as the country becomes more densely settled, the evil, it is apprehended, will be greatly increased. The suppression of this traffic has always been considered by the government as one of the most important measures for the civilization of the Indians, and every effort has been made throughout the whole Indian country to keep

it beyond their reach. I beg leave, therefore, to call your particular attention to this branch of your duties, and to urge upon you to enforce a strict compliance with the laws and regulations, and, by every effort in your power, endeavor to put a stop to this deplorable evil. You will find in the intercourse law, a copy of which I enclose, full power to enable you to discharge this duty.

It has been represented that most of the goods that have been given to the Indians of Oregon, have been purchased of the Hudson's Bay Company, thereby conveying to the Indians the false impression that they were conferred by persons belonging to a foreign government. It is to be hoped that this has not been done to an extent to produce as yet much bad effect; but as it is adverse to the policy of our Indian relations, as well as injurious and insulting to our government, to cause these people to believe themselves the recipients of foreign gratuities, I would suggest that you make all your purchases from American citizens when practicable, and embrace every opportunity to impress on the Indians that it is the American Government and not the British that confers upon them these benefits. The Indians should also be prevented from crossing the line into the British possessions. The Hudson's Bay Company has so long wielded an undue influence over all Indians within their reach, that you may perhaps find it a difficult matter to carry out these views; but perseverance will no doubt finally effect it, or, at least, go far towards correcting the present condition of affairs. Under no circumstances should the company be permitted to have trading establishments within the limits of our territory; and if any such establishments now exist, they should be promptly proceeded with in accordance with the requirements of the intercourse law. In this connection, it is proper to mention, that it is the policy of the government, as far as possible, to avoid the payment of money, by way of presents or otherwise, to Indians: they are wasteful and improvident, and but rarely expend money for any useful object; they should receive nothing but what will tend to their happiness and comfort.

The President has appointed two agents, as authorized by the recent law, viz.: Anson G. Henry and Henry H. Spalding. They are required by the act to perform such duties as you may assign to them, and will be directed to report to you for this purpose. The first thing to be considered is their proper location, so as to give the greatest efficiency to their labors. It is presumed you will find it best to place one of them east, and the other west of the Cascade Mountains.

It is desirable that this office should be advised as to their locations; the limits of each agency, and the name, strength, condition, &c., of each tribe, as early as possible. A copy of your instructions, to each agent, should also be forwarded as soon as practicable.

A great and important object to be attained, and which must be done mainly by the agents, is the reconciling of all differences among the Indians themselves. The agents should represent to the Indians that their Great Father, the President of the U. States, enjoins it upon them to live in peace and harmony, and that they must shake hands and live like brethren together. The best way to accomplish this, is by inducing bands, hostile to each other, to enter into written treaties of peace and amity, stipulating to preserve friendship among themselves and towards the whites, and to refer all their misunderstandings and differences to the umpirage of the proper representatives of the U. States government.

Great efforts should also be made among the Indians to induce them to engage in agricultural pursuits, to raise grain, vegetables, and stock of all kinds. It would not be amiss to encourage them, by the promise of small premiums, to be awarded to those who raised the greatest quantity of produce, horses, oxen, cows, hogs, &c.; the presents which may be given to them from time to time might be applied to this object.

The agents under your supervision will find among the Indians Christian missionaries of various sects and denominations, differing in some articles of form and faith, but all engaged in the great and good work of extending the blessings of Christianity to an ignorant and idolatrous people, and of civilizing and humanizing the wild and ferocious savage.

The orthodoxy of any of these missionaries is not to be tested by the opinion of the Indian agent, or any other officer of the government. None of these can rightfully be the propagandists of any sect, or the official judge of any article of Christian faith. All, therefore, who are entrusted with the care of our Indian relations in Oregon, are instructed to give the benevolent and self-sacrificing teachers of the Christian religion whom they may find there, equal aid, countenance, and encouragement; and that they merit their good will by uniform kindness and concession to all—leaving them free alike to use such means as are in their power to carry out the good work in which they are respectively engaged. The rapid increase of our population, its onward march from the Missouri frontier, westward, and from the Pacific, east, steadily lessening and closing up the intervening space, renders it certain that there remains to the red man but one alternative—early civilization or gradual extinction. The efforts of the government will be earnestly directed to his civilization and preservation, and we confidently rely upon their Christian teachers, that, in connection with their spiritual mission, they will aid in carrying out this policy. That stationed, as they are, among the various Indian tribes, they will use all their influence in restraining their wild, roving, and predatory disposition, and in teaching them the arts and bringing them to the habits of civilized life.

If this can be attained—if they can be taught to subsist, not by the chase merely, a resource which must soon be exhausted, but by the rearing of flocks and herds, and by field cultivation, we may hope that the little remnant of this ill-fated race will not utterly perish from the earth, but have a permanent resting-place and home on some part of our broad domain, once the land of their fathers.

It is represented that the missionaries exercise great influence over the Indians of Oregon, and no doubt could be made powerful auxiliaries in carrying out the policy of the U. States. To this end, it might not be amiss to let them know, in such manner as the delicate nature of the communication may suggest to you, that the government, whilst affording them every possible facility and protection, expects, in return, their aid and co-operation in executing its laws. The happiness of the Indian is the common aim of both, and the extension of our laws and regulations over them, being for their own welfare, this class of philanthropists could not more effectually advance their own humane intentions than by inculcating obedience on the part of their wards, at the same time instructing them that they are solely dependent on this, and not on the British government, and must adhere to it alone; and that with a sincere desire

to protect and favor those who abide by its laws, it has also the strength and disposition to punish those who infringe them.

The governor of the territory, who has, until the passage of this law, been ex-officio superintendent of Indian affairs, is in possession of all documents, books, papers, public money, and property, belonging to the superintendency. He will be notified of your appointment, and requested to turn over to you everything pertaining to your office. From him you will probably receive most, if not all, the important papers accompanying this communication; yet, as a matter of precaution, duplicates are herewith furnished.

The sum of twenty thousand dollars will be advanced to you from the treasury, to be applied as follows:—

Buildings for superintendent and three agents	\$5,000
Salary of superintendent, one year	2,500
“ “ three agents “ “ \$1,500 each	4,500
Pay of interpreters, presents, provisions to Indians visiting the agencies, contingent expenses, embracing necessary travel in the Indian country on business, house-rent, fuel, stationery, collecting statistical information, &c. &c.	8,000
	\$20,000

The item for building is intended to embrace your own and the houses of the agents; but as yours will probably be permanent, the largest portion of the sum may be thus applied, not, however, to exceed four thousand dollars. As it will probably be some time before the agents are permanently located, and their agencies arranged, but a small sum will suffice to put up temporary residences for them; in this, however, as in other matters, much must be left to your judgment and discretion, keeping in view that the sum appropriated for the whole object must not be exceeded.

Your own salary and those of the agents will be paid quarterly.

The amount set apart for provisions, presents, contingencies, &c., is not divided into specific items, for the reason that it would be impossible to designate how much should be expended for any one of them. The sum is a much larger one than is usual in such cases, or supposed to be necessary for the objects specified; but the distance to your superintendency being very great, it is advanced to you as a measure of precaution: and it is perhaps needless here to enjoin on you the greatest economy in its disbursement.

Your official bond has been received, and is approved. Your salary commenced on the 1st instant, the day of its execution.

You will please communicate with the Department as frequently as occasion and opportunity may offer; and in return you will from time to time receive such additional instructions as the public service may seem to require.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

L. LEA,
Commissioner.

ANSON DART, Esq.,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Oregon Territory.

C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, October 15, 1850.

REDICK MCKEE,
 GEO. W. BARBOUR,
 O. M. WOZENCRAFT, } *Commissioners.*

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Interior, by which you will find that your functions and salaries as Indian agents are suspended; and that you are appointed, with the sanction of the President, commissioners "to hold treaties with various Indian tribes in the State of California," as provided in the Act of Congress, approved Sept. 30, 1850. Your commissions are also enclosed.

Your compensation, as provided by law, will be eight dollars per day, for every day you are actually employed, and ten cents per mile, for your travel, by the usually travelled route to your place of destination. After your arrival in the country, in which your duties lie, you will be allowed your actual travelling expenses from place to place, where duty may call you.

You will be allowed a secretary, to be appointed by you after your arrival in California, whose compensation must not exceed \$5 per day, for his services; and his actual travelling expenses will be allowed. It is not probable that his services will be required for the whole time, continuously, and you will therefore employ him only for such time as may be actually necessary.

The services of interpreters will be indispensable in your negotiations. You are therefore authorized to employ such number, and for such periods as you may find requisite, confining yourselves to the smallest number, for the shortest periods, and for the lowest compensation that competent persons can be obtained for. These precautions of economy are made solely with reference to the small amount of the appropriation, when compared with the great object to be attained.

The first named gentleman of your board, being present, has been entrusted with the duties of disbursing agent of the commission, and the sum of \$25,000, the whole amount of the appropriation, has been placed in his hands for disbursement; the other two commissioners, together with all other expenses of the commission, will be paid by him.

You will find on your arrival in California, Adam Johnson, Esq., sub-agent at San Joachim, from whom you will doubtless receive much valuable information, as his residence in the country for considerably more than a year has enabled him to collect a great deal relating to the Indian tribes, their location, their manners, habits, customs, disposition towards the whites, and each other, and the extent of civilization to which they have arrived.

Mr. Johnson will be directed to afford you all the aid in his power, and give you all the information in his possession, that may be of use to you in the discharge of your duties.

The Department is in possession of little or no information respecting the Indians of California, except what is contained in the enclosed copies

of papers—a list of which is appended to these instructions—but whether even these contain sufficient data to entitle them to full confidence, will be for you to judge, and they are given to you merely as points of reference.

As set forth in the law creating the commission, and the letter of the Secretary of the Interior, the object of the government is to obtain all the information it can with reference to tribes of Indians within the boundaries of California, their manners, habits, customs, and extent of civilization, and to make such treaties and compacts with them as may seem just and proper. On the arrival of Mr. McKee and Mr. Barbour in California, they will notify Mr. Wozencraft of their readiness to enter upon the duties of the mission; the board will convene, and, after obtaining whatever light may be within its reach, will determine on some rule of action which will be most efficient in attaining the desired object, which is by all possible means to conciliate the good feelings of the Indians; and to get them to ratify those feelings by entering into written treaties binding on them towards the government and each other. You will be able to judge whether it will be best for you to act in a body or separately, in different parts of the Indian country.

It is expected that you will keep a journal of your daily proceedings, and report fully, to this office, everything that occurs in your operations; copies of these reports you will forward from time to time—the whole to be reserved by you for a general report, accompanied by such treaties as you may make, when your mission shall have been brought to a close.

Another commission has been authorized, consisting of Messrs. C. S. Todd, Robert B. Campbell, and Oliver P. Temple, to procure information and make treaties with the Indians on the borders of Mexico. Should you meet at any time, which is scarcely to be expected, you will co-operate and act in concert, so far as may be agreed on between you; and it is requested, that whenever this may be the case, there will be no misunderstanding as to your relative powers, or collision in your understanding of your relative duties, it being regarded that each board is independent of the other, and it is expected that all intercourse between them will be harmonious.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. LOUGHERY,

Act'g Com'r.

P. S.—Since writing the above, a telegraphic communication has been received from Mr. Wozencraft, at New Orleans, and he has been notified through the same channel that his commission and a triplicate of these instructions will be sent to him at that place.

D.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, October 15, 1850.

C. S. TODD,
ROBERT B. CAMPBELL, } Commissioners.
OLIVER P. TEMPLE, }

GENTLEMEN: You have been appointed by the President of the United States commissioners to procure information, collect statistics, and make treaties with the Indians upon the borders of Mexico, as provided for in the act of 30th of September, 1850.

Your compensation will be at the rate of eight dollars per day for every day you are actually engaged, and ten cents a mile for your travel from your places of residence until you land in Texas, after which you will be allowed your actual travelling expenses, whilst in the discharge of your duties, of which you will keep an account, to be paid upon your own certificates.

You will be allowed a secretary, to be appointed by yourselves, whose compensation will be five (5) dollars a day, with the same allowance for travelling expenses as in your own case.

You will probably find it necessary to employ many interpreters, the number of whom and rate of compensation are left entirely to yourselves.

The amount appropriated by Congress for this object is \$30,000, which sum will be placed in your hands to meet the objects of your mission, and can in no event be exceeded. Among the expenditures which the law contemplates and requires is the bestowing of presents upon the Indians, the amount and character of which are left entirely to your own judgment and discretion.

As you will perceive by the law, the object of the government is to collect statistics and make treaties with the Indians residing within the limits of the United States upon the borders of Mexico.

The enquiries intended to be embraced in statistics must necessarily take a very wide range, including every variety of information that can be obtained; a few of the points of enquiry I will endeavor to enumerate.

1. The probable number of tribes, their divisions, subdivisions, and friendly or warlike relations with each other, and towards the United States and the whites generally.

2. Their several localities, natural boundaries between them, &c.

3. The number in any one locality, embracing one or more tribes, which would seem to require a full agent, and at what points agencies should be established.

4. At what points sub-agencies would answer in the place of full agencies, and what tribes should be included in the same.

5. What rate of compensation should be allowed for agents and what for sub-agents.

6. Will it be necessary for government to construct agency houses at the different points, and, if so, the probable cost of each.

7. What number of interpreters, and other employees will be required at the several points, and what should be the rate of compensation paid them.

8. What amount of presents should be distributed, and of what description.

These, however, are collateral branches of your enquiries, which should embrace everything relating to the characters of the several tribes, their manners, habits, customs, mode of living, whether by agriculture, the chase or otherwise; the extent of their civilization, their religion or religious ceremonies, whether Christian or pagan, what their religious rites; whether marriages are held sacred among them, and whether a plurality of wives is tolerated—to these enquiries you will add everything relating to the character and history of the Indians that it may be in your power to collect.

It is also desired that you will inform yourselves fully of, and embrace in your report, everything relating to the country itself—its topography—its general resources, whether as containing minerals, or adapted to cultivation; by whom the several portions of the country are claimed; if by Indians, the tenure by which they hold the land or claim to hold it; if held otherwise, by whom, under what grant or title, and your opinions as to the validity of such grant or title.

It is impossible, in the absence of more definite information than the Department is in possession of, to prescribe to you anything particular in regard to your duties; and, as the law creating your commission would itself imply, the object is to look to you for all the material to guide it in its future action in conducting its Indian and other relations in that country. The whole subject is left to you; and the foregoing remarks are merely thrown out as guides and landmarks to aid in conducting you to correct conclusions.

You will find somewhere on the borders of Mexico the government party engaged in the survey of the line between the United States and Mexico. It was contemplated, as you will see by the enclosed copies of letters from this office to the Secretary of the Interior, which contain the basis of your action, that at the time of asking an appropriation by Congress, you should act in concert with that party, as affording facilities of information and of personal safety that is all important to you. It is by no means intended that there shall be any official obligation on you to form this connection, but you will doubtless find it much to your advantage to do so; of this, however, you will be better able to judge when you reach the country and join the party. You will be provided with such letters to Bartlett, Esq., the head of the party, as will ensure to you a hearty co-operation on their part to whatever extent you may desire it.

You will find it necessary to procure an outfit of tents, camp-utensils, horses for yourselves and party, &c. &c., and to employ such persons as you may require as guards, hunters, &c. These you will provide, in your own discretion, to be charged to the appropriation in your hands. Should any public property remain in your hands at the close of your mission, you will dispose of it and credit the proceeds in your accounts.

I enclose copies of such letters and papers as may probably be useful to you, a list of which is annexed.

Another commission has been authorized, consisting of R. McKee, Geo. W. Barbour, and O. M. Wozencraft, to make treaties with the Indians in California. Should you meet at any time, which is scarcely to be expected, you will co-operate and act in concert so far as may be agreed on between you; and it is requested that, whenever this may be the case, there will be no misunderstanding as to your relative powers, or collision in

your understanding of your relative duties; it being understood that each board is independent of the other, and all intercourse between them will be harmonious.

It is desirable that you should, from time to time, report your progress to this office, accompanied by such views as you may deem of importance or interest. It is not expected, however, that you will make any formal report until the close of your mission, when you will make a general one of all your proceedings, embracing your journal.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

A. S. LOUGHERY,

Acting Commissioner.

E.

*To the Hon. Secretary of War,
or the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that, soon after my arrival here, and as soon as it was known among the numerous tribes of Indians bordering the settlements that the Governor had arrived, they flocked in. Chiefs, head men, warriors, and, in many instances, entire bands, expecting presents; making known that the whites had promised, from time to time, that when the laws of the United States were extended over Oregon, the Governor would bring them blankets, shirts, and such other articles as would be useful to them. At this time, I had received neither money nor instructions from the Indian Department, and consequently was unprepared to give them anything; although they felt disappointed at not receiving presents, they evinced a feeling of friendship towards us, and generally expressed a desire to sell their possessory rights to any portion of their country that our government should wish to purchase.

Early in April, I received ten thousand dollars (one hundred and sixty dollars less cost of transportation), a portion of which I have used for Indian purposes.

Having no assistance, neither agents nor sub-agents, I found it necessary to visit in person many of the tribes in their own country. In the month of April, I proceeded to the dales of the Columbia, called together the tribes and bands in that vicinity, including the De Chutes River and Yacamaw Indians, held a talk with them, made them some presents to the amount of near two hundred dollars, and had the gratification, at the request of the chief of the Yacamaws, to bring about a peace between that tribe and the Walla-wal-las, who were at that time engaged in war.

These tribes, I was pleased to find, were friendly and well disposed toward us, and, like the tribes bordering the settlements, anxious to sell their lands.

Early in the month of May, I received information of the murder of Wallace at Fort Nesqually, on Pugent's Sound, by the Sno-qualimick and Skywhamish Indians, and that the few American settlers in that country were much alarmed for the safety of their families, hourly expecting to be attacked by these Indians, who had threatened to destroy the settle-

ments. At that time there were no troops in the country, excepting some eight men under Lieut. G. W. Hawkins, of the rifles.

I at once concluded to visit the Sound, and assist in putting the settlers in the best possible condition to resist an attack—there being only ten families in that section of the country.

I accordingly proceeded, in company with Lieut. Hawkins and five men, taking with me muskets and ammunition, to place in the hands of the settlers. Fortunately, the day after my arrival at the Sound, I received an express from Major Hathaway, notifying me of his arrival at Fort Vancouver, with two companies of the 1st artillery, and of his readiness to move, if his services were required.

I hastened to inform the Indians, through Dr. Solmie, who has charge of the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort at Nesqually, of the arrival of our forces, for the purpose of preventing further outrage, until the troops could move in that direction.

A copy of my letter to Solmie is here given.

NEW MARKET, *May 17, 1849.*

WILLIAM F. SOLMIE, ESQ., *Nesqually.*

SIR: I have just learned by express that two companies of artillery have arrived at Vancouver, by the United States Steamer Massachusetts.

It was my intention to visit you at the fort; but owing to this fact, I have deemed it necessary to return without delay. I have, therefore, to make the particular request of you, not to furnish the Indians with ammunition, and to ask of you the favor to cause the hostile tribes, who have committed the outrage, to be informed that any repetition of the like conduct will be visited promptly with their complete destruction: that our force, which will be immediately increased, is at this time amply sufficient for an immediate expedition against them, and that the moment I am informed that any injury has been committed by them upon our people, they will be visited by sudden and severe chastisement.

By making this communication to them, you will greatly oblige

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

JOSEPH LANE.

When I wrote to Dr. Solmie, it was my intention, in the event that Major Hathaway should establish a post near Nesqually, to visit the Sound, have an understanding with the major, get his co-operation, and make a demand upon the chief of the above-mentioned tribes for the guilty persons, to be tried and punished for the murder of an American citizen, according to law. But soon after my return, about the middle of June, I received instructions, bearing date "War Department, Office of Indian Affairs, August 31st, 1848;" also information of the appointment of J. Quinn Thornton, George C. Preston, and Robert Newell, of Oregon, sub-agents, to be employed and reside in that territory, and requiring the performance of certain duties therein specified.

It was intended that these instructions should reach me at Saint Louis, on my way out, but failed so to do, and were afterwards sent to California by Lieut. Beale, which accounts for their delay in reaching me.

Before these instructions came to hand, I had seen most of the tribes and bands bordering the settlements, collected such information as I sup-

posed would be useful, and made such small presents (per accounts and vouchers) as in my judgment were necessary to conciliate their good will.

I promptly handed to Thornton and Newell their appointments; they executed their bonds, and took the oath required, as will be seen by their bonds, which have been forwarded. Mr. Preston was then, and is now absent from the territory, and it is supposed will not return. I therefore, of necessity, divided the territory into two sub-agency districts, and assigned J. Quinn Thornton to that part of the Territory of Oregon lying north of the Columbia river, and Newell to the south of the Columbia: and on the 28th day of June, the above-named sub-agents were furnished with their instructions touching the points embodied in said communication.

As I am anxious in this report to give a true and reliable statement of facts, just as they are, that the government may be placed in possession of a true history of our Indian affairs in Oregon, and as both the sub-agents have submitted lengthy reports, it will not, I hope, be considered improper for me to mention, first, that Mr. Newell is an old mountaineer, having spent ten years in the mountains (from 1829 to 1839), where he followed trapping, by which means he acquired a good knowledge of the tribes and their country. From 1839 to the present time he has resided within the district to which he is assigned to duty, and has become well acquainted with the Indians in the valley of the Willamette; speaks tolerably well the tongue of several of the tribes, and from his knowledge of the Indians and their country, without visiting them or travelling over the country, has made out and submitted his report, from which I make such abstracts as, in my opinion, are of sufficient importance to entitle them to your consideration.

The *Shoshonee* or *Snake Indians* inhabit a section of country west of the Rocky Mountains; from the summit of these mountains north, along Wind River Mountains to Henry's Fork, down Henry's Fork to the mouth of Lewis or Snake river, down the same to about forty miles below Fort Hall, thence southerly to the Great Salt Lake, thence easterly to the summit, by way of the head waters of Bear river. These Indians are divided into small bands, and are to be found scattered in the mountains, and are called *Diggers*. They are not hostile, and are poor and miserable. Small bands of this tribe are scattered from the head waters of Snake river to the Grand Round—a distance of four or five hundred miles. It is almost impossible to ascertain their exact number. The main band numbers about seven hundred; the total number of the entire tribe is about *two thousand*. They subsist principally upon fish, roots, grass seed, &c. They have a few horses; are indifferently armed; are well-disposed toward the whites, and kill but little game. But little of their land is susceptible of cultivation, with the exception of that portion now occupied by the Mormons.

The *Ponashta* Indians occupy a large district of country south of Snake river, from forty miles below Fort Hall to the Grand Round, south in the direction of Salt Lake, and west toward the California Mountains. This tribe is divided into small bands, and are so intermarried with the Shoshonees that it is almost impossible to discriminate between them. The Powashtas predominate, however. They are a

warlike people; are poor; have a few arms, and live principally by hunting and fishing. They number about 80 warriors; total, 550.

The *Coutenay* Indians live partly in the British possessions and partly in Oregon Territory. That portion of the tribe living in this territory comprises about four hundred souls, of whom one hundred are capable of bearing arms, which they procure from the Hudson's Bay Company. They have but little land fit for cultivation; live by hunting, and have many horses. Although they have no mission, they frequent the Calespelins, by which means they derive some instructions from the Catholic missionaries there. Total number 400.

The *Salish*, or *Flat Head* Indians, occupy from Bitter Root river, a fork of the Columbia, all the country drained by that stream down to what is called the Hell Gate, a distance of probably 150 miles. Their country is narrow and broken; but little of it suitable for cultivation. Total number about 320, of whom 100 are warriors. They till the soil in small quantities on Bitter Root river, under the direction of the Jesuit Mission; have horses and cattle; are not inclined to rove, and are a brave and noble race, friendly to the whites. They are well armed, and hunt buffalo annually; 320.

The Calespelin Indians are in two bands, and occupy a large portion of country, commencing below the Salish tribe, and extending to near Fort Colville, and north-east among the lakes. They number over 1200. One of these bands have small spots of good land, where they raise peas, potatoes, &c.; they also have some horses, cattle, and fine hogs. Are friendly and brave, indifferently armed, and live on fish, roots, game, &c. They hunt buffalo. There is a Catholic mission in their country. They number about 450 warriors; total number 1200.

The *Pouderas*, or *Squeailps*, occupy the country east of Colville; are poor, friendly, tolerably well armed, and annually hunt buffalo. They number about 1200, of whom 450 are warriors; total 1200.

The *Kettle Falls*, or *Colville* Indians, live between the Calespelin tribe and Fort Colville, above the small lakes; are divided into two bands, their total number amounting to 800, 100 of whom are warriors. They have a few horses, no cattle, badly armed, well disposed, and live on fish and roots. There is a Catholic mission in their country. They have some good lands, which are mostly occupied by the Hudson's Bay Company. Total 800.

The *Cœur d'Helene*, or *Printed Hearts*, live between the Spokans and Calespelin. Their country is very fertile, and under the direction of the Catholic Mission; they cultivate the same. They live on fish, roots, and small game; they have some few arms, and are friendly; number 500, of which 40 are warriors.

The *Spokan* tribe occupy the country between Fort Colville and Saaptin; they are divided into many bands, who are all friendly. They number about 1000. Previous to the Waillatpue massacres, they had a mission among them, from which they received much information; but it is now vacated. They have been accustomed to receive small presents from the Hudson's Bay Company. They are well armed, and live on buffalo, fish, and roots. Total number 1000.

The *Oukinegans* inhabit the country north of Fort Colville; are well armed, and number about 700; they are well disposed toward the whites.

The *Sempoils* live on the Columbia, near Kettle Falls; are well disposed,

but very poor. They number about 500; have some horses, and a few guns; they subsist on fish, roots, &c. &c.

The *Neepercie* Indians inhabit a large portion of country on the Snake, Clearwater, and Salmon rivers. They are an intelligent and good people, and have very numerous herds of horses and cattle. A portion of their country is very good, on which they raise a variety of vegetables, &c. They are kind to our people, and are well armed. There has been a Presbyterian mission among them. The total number of this tribe is estimated at about 1500, some 400 of whom are warriors, more or less under the influence of the Hudson's Bay Company.

The *Paloas* Indians inhabit a section of country north of the Cayuse tribe, and number about 300. They have some horses and cattle; are much scattered, indifferently armed; hunt buffalo, but live principally upon fish, roots and small game. They are a quiet people, but are not fond of Americans; to some extent under the influence of the Hudson's Bay Company.

The *Cayuse* Indians inhabit the country from the foot of the Blue Mountains to within 25 miles of Walla-Walla. They are a haughty, proud, and overbearing people, as also very superstitious. They have large herds of horses and cattle, and live on fish, roots, berries, and game; they are well armed, and are through fear on amicable terms with the whites. Their band consists of about 800, 200 of whom are warriors.

The *Walla-Walla* Indians possess the country on the Columbia, near Fort Walla-Walla; have large herds of horses and cattle, and are well armed and friendly to the whites. They number 1000. They cultivate their soil in small quantities, but live principally on fish, roots, and berries. They are considerably under the influence of the Hudson's Bay Company.

The *De Chutes* Indians are a part of the Wascopan tribe, and live upon a river of that name. Their country is poor, high, broken, sandy, and barren, yet it affords good grazing, their stocks being in good order the year round. They are very poor, have but few arms, are well disposed, and number about 300. They live on fish and berries.

The *Wascopan* Indians number about 200, and live on the east side of the Cascade Mountains; their soil is not good, and they have no disposition to cultivate what they have. They are poor and thievish, and live on fish, roots and berries. There is a Catholic Mission among them. They are indifferently armed, and friendly to the whites.

The *Mole Alley* Indians range in the Cascade Mountains, and claim no land in the valley. Their whole number is about 100—20 warriors. They are a brave and warlike people, and not fond of Americans. They are well armed, and live principally by the chase.

The *Clackamas* Indians live upon a river of that name, which empties into the Willamette, one mile below Oregon city. They number about 60, and are considered industrious. They have but few arms, and are friendly. They live on fish and roots.

The *Willamette* Indians live upon the east side of the river of that name near the falls. They are an inoffensive people—have but very few arms, and number in all about 20. The Willamette falls affords them a fine fishery.

The *Clickitals* claim a small tract of land at the head of the Willamette valley, on the west side of that river. They own quite a number of horses; are well armed; brave and warlike; but on good terms with the

whites. They live principally by the chase; number about 180, of whom 85 are warriors.

The *Calipoa* Indians are found on either side of the Willamette river. They are a degraded, worthless and indolent people; they are poorly armed, and entirely inoffensive; they live on roots, fish, and berries. They number about 60.

The *Snaltine* Indians occupy that portion of the country west of the Willamette river from its mouth to the mouth of the Yam Hill, a distance of sixty miles—thence west to the coast range of mountains. They number about sixty souls—thirty of whom are warriors; they are a degraded, mischievous and thievish set; they have but few arms.

The *Yam Hill* Indians are a small tribe who claim the country drained by a river of that name, which is mostly taken up by the whites. They are poor; have a few horses; are poorly armed; and are well disposed; they number about 90, of whom 19 are warriors.

The *Suck-a-nior* Indians claim all the country drained by a stream of that name west of the Willamette and south of the Yam Hill rivers. They are a part of the *Calipoa* tribe, and number 15 in all, of whom 5 are warriors; they are friendly to the whites, very poor, and have greatly diminished in the last few years. Their soil is good, and is mostly taken up by the whites. They live on fish, roots, &c.

The *Umpqua* Indians occupy a valley of that name, and are much scattered. They live in small bands, are poor, well disposed, well armed, and live by the chase, as also on fish, roots, &c.; they number about 200.

The *Killamuck* Indians inhabit the coast range of mountains, a long stretch of country interspersed with small prairies. They are not friendly to the whites; they number about 200.

The *Clat-sa-canin* Indians inhabit a part of the range along the coast to the Columbia river, north of the *Killamucks* and to the coast. They number about 300.

The *Clatsop* Indians claim a section of country on the south side of the Columbia at its mouth, from Cape "Look Out" on the coast of Astoria—subsist principally on fish; they are intelligent and friendly, and much inclined to dissipation. There are but few of this tribe left—about fifty is the extent of their number. The whites occupy all their prairie lands.

The *Catelamet* Indians claim the country on the Columbia river from Astoria, about thirty miles up the river. Fifty-eight are all that are left of a once large band. They are a good people—have no land susceptible of cultivation—subsist upon fish, and are quite poor.

The *Calooit* tribe claim the country above the *Catelamet* tribe to Oak Point on the Columbia river. They possess no land suitable for agricultural purposes; they are poor, number about 200, and subsist on fish, roots and fowls; they have a few arms.

The *Wakamucks*, *Namanamin*, and *Namoit* are bands and parts of bands that claim the country from Oak Point to the mouth of the Willamette, including Wyath's Island. They have become so reduced that they have united, and now live together or near each other. Number not known.

Second. Mr. Thornton resides in this city, where he received his instructions on the day above mentioned, and was urged to proceed to the discharge of his duty. On the 30th of July he left this city for Pudget's

Sound, where he remained a short time. He saw some of the Indians and made them a few presents. From Dr. Solmie, chief trader of the Hudson's Bay Company, at Fort Nesqually, he received such information relative to the Indians and their country as he has embodied in his report. He returned to this city in August, and submitted a statistical report, giving the name and number of each tribe; their habits, disposition, &c. From this report, aided with a knowledge of the Indians and their country, obtained on my visit to the Sound, and from such information as I have gathered from the Indians in that section, many of whom have visited me, I have made this portion of my report, which is as correct as it could be made within the time given. Mr. Thornton in his report omits the mention of horses, property, and arms of any of the tribes, but as I have been among several of them, and knowing them to be well armed, have made a statement accordingly.

The *Makaw*, or Cape Flattery Indians, occupy the country about Cape Flattery and the coast for some distance southward and eastward to the boundary of the Haalum or Nootlulum lands; number not ascertained, but supposed to be 1000—warlike—disposition towards the whites not known—live by fishing and hunting.

The *Nooselalum* Indians occupy the country about Hood's Canal, Duginess, Port Discovery, and coast to the westward. Total number about 1400, of whom 200 are warriors; disposition not known; they raise a few vegetables, but subsist principally by hunting and fishing.

The *Snoquamish* Indians occupy the country about Port Orchard, west side of Whidly's Island. Total number about 500; well disposed; live by fishing and labor. They have a few horses.

The *Homamish*, *Hottimamish*, *Squahemaumish*, *Sayhaynamish*, and *Sulchafsamish* Indians occupy the country from the narrows along the western shore of Puget's Sound; friendly and well disposed. Total number about 500; subsist by labor and fishing.

The *Twanoh* and *Skokomish* Indians live along the shore of Hood's Canal; number about 200; friendly and well disposed, subsist by labor and fishing.

The *Squally-a-mish*, *Puallep-a-mish*, and *Sinuamish* Indians live about Nesqually, Puallep and Sinuamish rivers. Number about 550; friendly and well disposed; live by labor and fishing.

The *Sinahamish* Indians live on a river of that name, and southern extremity of Whidly's Island. Total number about 350; friendly and well disposed; live by labor and fishing.

The *Snoqualamick* Indians live on the *Snoqualamick* river, a south branch of the *Sinahomish*. Total number about 350; warlike, inclined to be hostile, live by fishing and hunting; well armed, and have a few horses.

The *Skeywhamish* Indians live on the *Skeywhamish* river, a north branch of *Sinahomish*. Total number about 450; have some arms; disposition doubtful; live by fishing and hunting.

The *Skagats* live on the *Skagat* river, down to the ocean towards the north end of Whidly's Island. Total number about 500; friendly and well-disposed; live by farming and fishing.

The *Nooklulumie* Indians live about *Ballingham's Bay*; total number about 220; warlike; disposition to the whites not known; live by hunting and fishing.

The Cowlitez Indians live on the Cowlitez river, from its mouth to the settlements. They number about 120; they have few arms; are well-disposed; have a few horses, and live by hunting and fishing.

The Chenooks live at Baker's Bay. Total number about 100; but few guns; friendly to the whites, live by hunting and fishing.

The Quenoil and Chehaylis tribes live on the Chehaylis river. Total number about 300; well-disposed; live by hunting and fishing.

The Kathlamit, Konick, and Wakanasceces Indians live about Kathlamit, Oak Point, and the fisheries upon the Columbia river, opposite the upper mouth of the Willamette. Total number about 150; they are friendly and well-disposed; live by hunting, fishing, and on roots.

The Telhulmit Indians live about the Dales, on the north side of the Columbia river. Total number about 200; live by hunting and fishing, and are friendly.

The *Wyampam* Indians live about the falls of the Columbia river, north side. Total number about 130; warlike; well-disposed toward the whites; live by hunting, fishing, and on roots.

The *Yacamaws* live on Yacamaw river, between the Dales of the Columbia and the coast. This tribe are related to the Clickitals, who occupy the country north of the Columbia, in the vicinity of Mount St. Helens. Total number of all, about 1500; warlike; well-disposed towards the whites; have many horses; live by hunting and fishing. There is a Catholic mission among them.

The *Piscahoose* Indians live on a river of the same name. Total number about 350; warlike; well-disposed toward the whites; live by hunting and fishing.

I here take occasion to introduce extracts from Mr. Thornton's report in relation to his course in the affair of the murder of Wallace by the Snoqualimick Indians.

"On the 7th ult., I arrived at Fort Nesqually. I immediately proceeded to investigate the facts connected with the killing of Mr. Wallace." "I sent messengers to Haughtickymun, head chief of the Snoqualimick tribe; I advised him to arrest the offenders and deliver them over to Capt. B. H. Hill, and as an inducement offered to him eighty blankets as a reward, if this were done in three weeks. I authorized Capt. Hill, of the 1st Artillery, to double the reward, and to offer it in my name as sub-agent, if the murderers were not delivered up in three weeks."

In my instructions to Mr. Thornton, I said nothing about the murder of Wallace, nor did I intend that he should interfere in the premises, as it was my intention, on the arrival of the troops at Nesqually, to visit the sound and demand the murderers, and make the Indians know that they *should* give them up for punishment, and that hereafter all outrages should be promptly punished, being well satisfied that there is no mode of treatment so appropriate as prompt and severe punishment for wrong doing. It is bad policy, under any consideration, to hire them to make reparation, for the reasons, to wit: first, it holds out inducements to the Indians for the commission of murder by way of speculation; for instance, they would murder some American, await the offering of a large reward for the apprehension of the murderers; this done, they would deliver up some of their slaves as the guilty, for whom they would receive ten times the amount that they would otherwise get for them. Second, it has a tendency to make them underrate our ability and inclination to

chastise by force, or make war upon them for such conduct, which, in my opinion, is the only proper method of treating them for such offences.

A short time after Mr. Thornton's return to this city, I received a letter from Major Hathaway, informing me that six Indians, charged with being the principal actors in the murder of Wallace, had been brought in by the Indians of the Snoqualimick tribe, and delivered to Capt. Hill, 1st artillery, commanding the forces at Steilacoom, near Fort Nesqually.

Chief Justice Bryant has gone to Steilacoom for the purpose of holding a court for their trial. Although I cannot approve the policy of offering to Indians so large a reward under any circumstances, yet in this case it had been done, and I wrote by Judge Bryant to Dr. Solmie as follows :

OREGON CITY, *Sept. 24, 1849.*

DR. SOLMIE:—

DEAR SIR: Chief Justice Bryant goes to the sound to try the six Indians charged with the murder of Wallace. If the Indians are found to be the guilty ones, the reward offered by the sub-agent, Mr. Thornton, must be paid. In that event, you will please hand the Indians who arrested and brought them in the blankets promised them by the sub-agent, and forward the account for payment.

With great respect, I am, sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

JOSEPH LANE.

A few days after the judge left for Steilacoom, Solmie forwarded his account for payment, stating that on the delivery of the six Indians the reward of eighty blankets had been paid to the Indians who arrested and brought them in, which account I have declined paying until I can know whether they are the guilty ones.

It will be seen that there is within the Territory of Oregon, so far as reported, sixty-five tribes and bands of Indians; some of them are mere bands, and will soon become extinct. Two tribes not mentioned in the report will be noticed hereafter. Thirty tribes or bands live north of the Columbia, and the remainder South of the Columbia.

There have been no conventional arrangements entered into between the whites and Indians which requires the action of Congress.

The Indians are scattered over the entire Territory, and for the purpose of maintaining friendly relations with and proper control of them, I would respectfully recommend the following division of the Territory for agency purposes, to wit:—

An agent to be located at or near the Grand Round, for the tribes and bands living south of the Columbia and east of the Cascade range to Fort Boise; and a sub-agent to be located at or near Fort Hall, for the tribes between Fort Boise and the summit of the Rocky Mountains.

The Rogue river Indians, not above mentioned, occupy the country on both sides of Rogue river, from where the road to California crosses to the mouth of the same, and on the coast they number some seven or eight hundred; they are a warlike and roguish people, and have lately given much trouble to small parties of our people returning from the gold mines; have succeeded in killing some, wounding some, and robbing others, by which means they have got several thousand dollars of gold,

many horses, and some guns. Owing to their recent success, it is to be feared that we will have some trouble with these Indians.

A sub-agency should be established, as near this point as practicable, say on the Umpqua, for all the tribes south of the Columbia, and west of the Cascade range, and a garrison of one or two companies established in their country for the protection of our people travelling in that direction.

In a recent trip which I made across the coast range of mountains, I found on the Yacona Bay, which is about one hundred and sixty miles south of the mouth of the Columbia, the Yaconee Indians, from which tribe the bay takes its name. They live along the coast on both sides of the bay; are poor, well disposed, live principally by fishing. Number about two hundred.

There is no point in the territory where an agent is more required than at or near Puget's Sound. An agency should be established there, and the agent should be promptly at his post. The Indians are numerous, and some of them inclined to be troublesome, but with the services of a good agent they could be managed and made friendly. I am inclined to think that at this time it is *not indispensably* necessary to establish any other agency north of the Columbia—the one at the sound would have charge of all the tribes on that side of the Columbia.

One interpreter to each agency will be required, whose services cannot be procured for the sum fixed by law.

The following amounts will be necessary for the erection of agency buildings and fixtures to each agency:—

For fuel, stationery, and travelling expenses to each agency,	\$2,500 00
For presents to the Indians, necessary to conciliate their good will,	800 00
For the Indians of the Columbia, \$1000; to those south of said river, \$1,500,	2,500 00
For provisions for Indians, and visiting agency, to each agency,	100 00
It will be necessary to alter the law, so as to raise the salary of the agents and interpreters.	

You will perceive that the figures above made are above the prices heretofore fixed by the law of Congress; but from the high price of labor, provisions, &c., I feel confident that the sums set down are not too large.

I would call the attention of the Department to the fact that Mr. Thornton has resigned his office of sub-agent for the 2d district, and Mr. Newell is absent from the territory—having gone to California—consequently I am without an assistant.

The Cayuse nation remains unpunished for the murder of the unfortunate Dr. Whitman and his family; the eyes of the surrounding nations are upon us, watching our movements in relation to this cold-blooded massacre, and if the guilty be not punished they will construe it as a license for the most atrocious outrages; and scenes of a similar character will be enacted by other tribes, who, by our example toward the guilty Cayuse, will be incited to gratify any malicious spirit with the blood of Americans, and our suffering the guilty in this instance to escape a just punishment will be to them an assurance of their own safety. Indeed, the chiefs of some of the neighboring tribes have informed me that they have already had difficulty in restraining their tribe from joining the Cayuses, and they are anxious the murderers should be brought to punishment, as it would deter their own bands from crime.

In concluding this report, I take the liberty to call your special attention to the following extract from my message to the Legislative Assembly.

“Surrounded, as many of the tribes and bands now are by the whites whose arts of civilization, by destroying the resources of the Indians, doom them to poverty, want and crime; the extinguishment of their title by purchase, and the locating them in a district removed from the settlements, is a measure of the most vital importance to them. Indeed, the cause of humanity calls loudly for their removal, from causes and influences so fatal to their existence. This measure is one of equal interest to our own people.”

JOSEPH LANE.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Territory of Oregon, Oregon City, Oct. 13th, 1849.

Since writing the above, Chief Justice Bryant has returned from the trial of the Indians, charged with the murder of Wallace; and at my request, the following report has been by him submitted:—

OREGON CITY, *October the 10th, 1849.*

His Excellency, JOSEPH LANE.

SIR: In compliance with your request to know the result of the trial of the six Snoqualimick Indians for the murder of Wallace, in April last, I have the honor to inform you that in pursuance of the provisions of an act of the Legislative Assembly for the Territory of Oregon, attaching the county of Lewis to the first judicial district in said Territory, and appointing the 1st Monday in October at Steilacoom as the time and place of holding the District Court of the United States for said county, I opened and held said court at the time and place appointed. Capt. B. F. Hill of the first artillery, U. S. A., delivered to the Marshal of the Territory six Indians of the Snoqualimick tribe, given up by said tribe as the murderers of Wallace, namely, Kassass, Quallahwort, Steilharrier, Tattam, Whyerk and Quatthlinkyne, all of whom were indicted for murder, and the two first named, Kassas and Quallahwort, were convicted and executed—the other four were found not guilty by the jury. Those who were found guilty were clearly so; as to three of the others that were acquitted, I was satisfied with the finding of the jury. It was evident they were guilty in a less degree, if guilty at all, than those convicted; as to the fourth, I had no idea that he was guilty at all; there was no evidence against him, and all the witnesses swore they did not [see him] during the affray or attack on Fort Nesqually.

It is not improbable that he was a slave—whom the guilty chiefs that were convicted expected to place in their stead, as a satisfaction for the American murdered. Two other Americans were wounded badly by shots, and an Indian child, that afterwards died. The effect produced by this trial was salutary, and I have no doubt will long be remembered by the tribe. The whole tribe, I would judge, were present at the execution, and a vast gathering of the Indians from other tribes on the Sound—and they were made to understand that our laws would punish them promptly for every murder they committed, and that we would have no satisfaction short of all who acted in the murder of our citizens.

I learned that this tribe is the most fierce and warlike of any on the Sound, and often go through other tribes in armed bands, and commit murders, take slaves and plunder. I could not find that any blame was attached to the officers at Fort Nesqually, or the American citizens who were present.

To the end that the trial might be conducted fairly, I appointed Judge A. P. Skinner, whom you had engaged to go out to attend to their prosecution, District Attorney, for the time, and ordered that he be allowed for his services \$250; and I also appointed to defend them David Stone, Esq., an attorney also sent out by you to defend them, and I made an allowance of record to him for \$250. This compensation I deemed reasonable; they have had to travel 200 miles from their respective homes, camp in the woods, as well as all the rest of us, and endured a great deal of fatigue in the manner of travelling, in batteaux and canoes by water. Many of the grand and petit jurors were summoned at a distance of 200 miles from their homes, and although the transportation may have cost some more to the Department than bringing the Indians into the more settled districts, and with them the witnesses, with a sufficient escort for protection (which I very much doubt), yet I have no hesitation in believing that the policy pursued here more than repaid any additional expense that may have been incurred. I directed the Marshal to keep a careful account of expenses and report the same to you, which he has doubtless done. There are not nearer than this place in the Judicial District the requisite number of lawful jurors to the place appointed to hold the court (which is the only American fort at the Sound), so sparsely is the country around the Sound settled.

I will be glad to furnish you any further particulars if it be found necessary. And have the honor to be, very truly, your obed't serv't,
WM. P. BRYANT.

I am clearly of opinion that the trial and punishment of the Indians, in the presence of their tribe and the other tribes and bands bordering the Sound was the true policy; and has no doubt made an impression upon their minds sufficient to deter them from similar offences. With this view of the case, on the receipt of Maj. Hathaway's letter informing me of the arrest of these Indians, I immediately submitted a communication to the Legislative Assembly, from which I take the following extract:

"I have just received a communication from Maj. Hathaway, 1st Artillery, commanding 11th Military Department, advising me that Capt. Hill, commanding at Steilacoom, has now in confinement six Indians of the Snoquallimick tribe, principal actors in the murder of Wallace; I am well satisfied that the trial and punishment of these guilty persons in the presence of their people will have a good effect upon the tribes in that quarter.

"I therefore request that you will, without delay, pass an act attaching Lewis County to the 1st Judicial District, for judicial purposes, and authorize the holding a term of said District Court therein on the 1st Monday in October next."

For the purpose of affording a fair, impartial, and properly conducted trial, I employed Mr. Skinner to go with the court to prosecute the criminals, and Mr. Stone to defend them. The court ordered an allowance of \$250 to each of them, which I have paid out of the Indian fund in my

hands. I have also paid to the Indians who worked the boats for the conveyance of the court and jury, \$180. This expense was necessary, for the reason that there is no other mode of travel, there being no roads in the direction of Puget's Sound, and consequently they had to go down the Columbia to the mouth of Cowlitz, and up that rapid stream to the settlements, and then across the country to the Sound.

The total expense of holding the court at Steilacoom for the trial of these Indians amounts to \$1,899 54 cts. Reward of eighty blankets, \$480; making the sum total of \$2,379 54 cts.

Deduct from this sum the \$680, and the reward of \$480, will leave a balance of \$1,219 54 cts. to be paid by the Marshal as soon as he can get funds.

I have just paid the amount above specified out of the Indian fund—there being no other government funds in the Territory. The law of Congress appropriated a certain amount to defray the expenses of the Legislative Assembly, &c. &c., but the Secretary of the Territory has not received a single cent.

The Legislative Assembly have been convened, held their session, and adjourned, without funds to pay their per diem allowance, or to print the laws.

I have observed the strictest economy in the management of our Indian affairs. I have made but few presents, and in travelling through their country on several visits which I found it necessary to make, I have incurred but little expense.

No funds have been forwarded to the Marshal, which subjects the court to great inconvenience and operates oppressively upon the people, who have had to travel, as in the case above mentioned, a distance of 200 miles to serve as jurymen; and this seriously obstructs the affording of that justice which the people are entitled to.

I hope you will readily allow the accounts above mentioned, to wit: to Messrs. Skinner and Stone, \$500; \$180 for transportation, and \$480 for the blankets. Mr. Thornton, the sub-agent, tendered his resignation previous to the trial, and there was no person in the service of government to prosecute or defend the Indians.

Everything has been done that could be to prevent the introduction of spirituous liquors among the Indians: notwithstanding, I have recently heard of many violations of the law, by vessels coming into the Columbia, and particularly at Baker's Bay and Astoria. One of these offenders has recently been fined by Judge Pratt \$500 for selling liquor to Indians. It will, however, be difficult to stop the traffic, without the services of a good sub-agent to reside in that immediate vicinity.

I would, therefore, respectfully advise the appointment of some suitable person residing at or near Astoria to that office.

With great respect, I am, sir, your obed't serv't,

JOSEPH LANE,

Ex-Officio Superintendent Indian Affairs, Territory of Oregon.
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Territory of Oregon, Oregon City, October 22, 1849.

P. S.—I have received no instructions from Washington, nor communications of any kind, of later date than October 1848.

J. L.

F.

Statement exhibiting the amount of Invest-

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per c.t.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.
Cherokees - -	Kentucky	5	\$94,000 00	\$759,899 39	\$4,700 00
	Tennessee	5	250,000 00		12,500 00
	Alabama	5	300,000 00		15,000 00
	Maryland	6	761 39		45 68
	Michigan	6	64,000 00		3,840 00
	Maryland	5	41,138 00		2,056 90
	Missouri	5½	10,000 00		550 00
Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottawotomies (Wills)	Maryland	6	130,850 43	192,721 79	7,851 02
	U. S. loan, 1847	6	21,791 83		1,307 51
	U. S. loan, 1842	6	39,921 93		2,395 31
	U. S. loan, 1843	5	157 60		7 88
Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottawotomies (Education)	Indiana	5	68,000 00	80,082 25	3,400 00
	U. S. loan, 1847	6	6,525 54		391 53
	U. S. loan, 1842	6	5,556 71		333 40
Incompetent Chickasaws, Chickasaw orphans -	Indiana	5		2,000 00	
	Arkansas	5	3,000 00		150 00
	U. S. loan	6	770 03		46 20
	U. S. loan, 1842	6	433 68		26 02
Shawnees - - -	Maryland	6	29,341 50	4,203 71	1,760 49
	Kentucky	5	1,000 80		50 00
	U. S. loan, 1842	6	1,734 71		104 08
Senecas - - - Senecas and Shawnees	Kentucky	5		5,000 00	
	Kentucky	5	6,000 00		300 00
	Missouri	5½	7,000 00		385 00
	U. S. loan, 1843	5	3,641 04		182 05
Kansas schools - -	Missouri	5½	16,000 00	16,641 04	990 00
	U. S. loan, 1847	6	1,540 06		92 40
	U. S. loan, 1843	5	2,700 00		135 00
	U. S. loan, 1842	6	4,444 66		266 67
Menomonees - - -	Missouri	5½		26,684 72	
	U. S. loan, 1847	6	77,000 00		3,850 00
	U. S. loan, 1843	5	3,117 38		155 87
	U. S. loan, 1842	6	26,114 88		1,566 89
	U. S. loan, 1847	6	21,321 10	1,279 26	
				127,553 36	

F.

ments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is applied.	
\$38,692 58	\$94,000 00	\$766,490 00	Semi-ann.	N. Y.	Tr. U. S.	Treaty, Dec. 1835.	
	250,000 00		do	do	do	do	
	300,000 00		do	do	do	do	do
	880 00		Quarterly	Balt.	do	do	do
	69,120 00		Semi-ann.	N. Y.	do	do	do
	42,490 00		Quarterly	Balt.	do	do	Treaty, Feb. 27, 1819.
	10,000 00		Semi-ann.	N. Y.	do	do	do
11,561 72	150,000 00	220,067 50	Quarterly	Balt.	do	Treaty, Sep. 1833.	
	25,707 10		Semi-ann.	Wash.	do	do	
	44,204 40		do	do	do	do	
	156 00		do	do	do	do	
4,124 93	72,264 09	85,978 11	Semi-ann.	N. Y.	do	do	
	7,697 97		do	Wash.	do	do	
	6,016 05		do	do	do	do	
	100 00		do	N. Y.	do	do	Treaty, May, 1834.
222 22	3,000 00	4,416 39	do	do	do	do	
	908 38		do	Wash.	do	do	
	508 01		do	do	do	do	
	33,912 40		Quarterly	Balt.	do	do	Treaty, Aug. 1831.
1,914 57	950 00	36,924 43	Semi-ann.	N. Y.	do	do	
	2,032 03		do	Wash.	do	do	
	2,032 03		do	N. Y.	do	do	Treaty, Feb. 1831.
	5,880 00		do	do	do	do	
867 05	7,121 87	16,715 74	do	do	do	do	
	3,713 87		do	do	do	do	
	18,000 00		do	do	do	Treaty, June, 1825.	
	1,816 75		do	Wash.	do	do	
1,484 07	2,727 27	27,570 32	do	do	do	do	
	5,026 30		do	do	do	do	
	75,460 00		do	N. Y.	do	Treaty, Sep. 1836.	
	3,179 72		do	Wash.	do	do	
6,852 02	29,604 48	130,925 36	do	do	do	do	
	22,601 16		do	do	do	do	
			do	do	do	do	

F.—Statement exhibiting the amount of investments

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.
Chippewas and Ottawas	Kentucky	5	77,000 00	117,331 71	3,850 00
	Michigan	6	3,000 00		180 00
	U. S. loan, 1843	5	6,368 27		318 41
	U. S. loan, 1842	6	16,588 97		995 34
Creek orphans - -	U. S. loan, 1847	6	14,374 47	173,600 84	862 46
	Alabama	5	82,000 00		4,100 00
	Missouri	5½	28,000 00		1,540 00
	U. S. loan, 1843	5	13,700 00		685 00
Choctaws, under convention with Chickasaws Delawares (education)	U. S. loan, 1842	6	49,900 84	500,000 00	2,994 05
	U. S. loan, 1842	6			7,806 28
Osages (education)	U. S. loan, 1843	5	7,400 00	32,079 56	370 00
	U. S. loan, 1842	6	24,679 56		1,480 00
Stockbridge & Munsees	U. S. loan, 1842	6		5,204 16	
Choctaws (education)	U. S. loan, 1842	6	60,893 62	80,466 03	3,653 61
	U. S. loan, 1843	5	1,545 44		77 27
	U. S. loan, 1847	6	18,026 97		1,081 61
	U. S. loan, 1843	5			5,869 43
Ottawas of Blanchards' Forks - - -	U. S. loan, 1843	5		7,850 41	
Ottawas of Rochedo Boeng - - -	U. S. loan, 1843	5		1,650 43	
				2,178,721 32	

for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is applied.
	75,460 00		Semi-ann.	N. Y.	Tr. U. S.	Treaty, March, 1836.
	3,000 00		do	do	do	do
	6,426 46		do	Wash.	do	do
	18,183 30		do	do	do	do
	16,700 62		do	do	do	do
6,206 21		119,770 38				
	82,000 00		do	N. Y.	do	Treaty, June, 1832.
	28,487 48		do	do	do	do
	13,840 00		do	Wash.	do	do
	56,078 03		do	do	do	do
9,319 05		180,405 51				
25,000 00		500,000 00	do	N. O.	do	Treaty, Jan. 17, 1837.
468 38		9,144 27	do	Wash.	do	Treaty, 1838.
	7,474 74		do	do	do	Treaty, 1825.
	27,656 76		do	do	do	do
1,850 77		35,131 50				
312 25		6,096 16	do	Wash.	do	Treaty, May, 1840.
	68,236 73		do	do	do	Treaty, Sep. 1830.
	1,530 00		do	do	do	do
	19,979 75		do	do	do	do
4,812 49		89,746 48				
293 47		5,986 82	do	do	do	Treaty, May, 1834.
392 52		8,007 42	do	do	do	Treaty, Aug. 1831.
82 52		1,683 44	do	do	do	do
114,806 82		2,251,959 83				

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, November 27th, 1850.

G.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sum of money provided by treaties and laws in stocks.

Names of tribes.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares	\$46,080	5	\$2,304	Treaty, September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottawas	200,000	6	12,000	Resolution of the Senate, May 27, 1836.
Sioux of Mississippi	300,000	5	15,000	Treaty, September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	175,400	5	8,770	Treaty, October 21, 1837.
Winnebagoes	1,185,000	5	59,250	Treaties, November 1, 1837, and October 13, 1846.
Sacs and Foxes, Mississippi	1,000,000	5	50,000	Treaties, October 21, 1837, and October 11, 1842.
Iowas	157,500	5	7,875	Resolution of the Senate, January 19, 1838.
Osages	69,120	5	3,456	Do. do. do. do.
Creeks	350,000	5	17,500	Treaty, November 23, 1838.
Senecas of New York	75,000	5	3,750	Treaty, May 20, 1842, and law of Congress, June 27, 1846.
Kansas	200,000	5	10,000	Treaty, January 14, 1846.
Pottawatomies	643,000	5	32,150	Treaty, June 5, 1846.
Choctaws	872,000	5	43,600	Treaty, September 27, 1830, and laws of 1842 and 1845.
	\$5,273,100		\$265,655	

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, November 27th, 1850.

APPENDIX.

Estimate of funds required for the fiscal year, commencing the 1st day of July, 1851, and terminating the 30th day of June, 1852. To wit: Office expenses, compensation to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and to the Clerks and Messengers in the Office of the Commissioner, and for Contingencies of the Office.

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sect.	Capacity.	Acts making provision.	Rate of salary.	Total.
Statutes at large.	4	564	1	Commissioner	1832, July 9th	3000	3000
"	3	446	3 & }	Chief clerk	1818, April 20th, & }	1700	1700
"	6	204	4 }		1847, March 3d }		
"	5	27	1	One clerk	1836, May 9th	1600	1600
"	3	446	3	One clerk	1818, April 20th	1400	1400
"	5	27	1 }	Three clerks	1836, May 9th, and }	1400	4200
"	6	288	1 }		1848, Aug. 12th }		
"	5	27	1 }	Two clerks	1836, May 9th, and }	1200	2400
"	6	258	1 }		1848, Aug. 12th }		
"	3	446	3 & }	One clerk	1818, April 20th, & }	1200	1200
"	6	204	4 }		1847, March 3d }		
"	5	27	1	Two clerks	1836, May 9th	1000	2000
"		26 &				700 &	1200
"	5	27	1	Two messengers	1836, May 9th	500	
				Contingent expenses of the office, to wit:			
				Blank books, binding, and stationery		1000	2000
				Labor		200	
				Miscellaneous items		800	
						Dollars	20,700

L. LEA, Comm'r.

Office Indian Affairs, Nov. 7th, 1850.

Estimate of funds required for the fiscal year, commencing 1st July, 1851, Department, and the payment of annuities and other objects

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sect.	Objects.
CURRENT EXPENSES OF INDIAN DEPARTMENT.				
Pay of Superintendents of Indian Affairs:				
Statutes at large	4	735	2	viz., one in Missouri - - - - -
Pamp. copy last sess.		27	2	one in Oregon - - - - -
Pay of Indian Agents:				
Statutes at large	4	736	4	viz., seven under act of - - - - -
" "	3	163	3	three " " - - - - -
" "	6	20	1	one " " - - - - -
Pamp. copy last sess.		27	4	three " " - - - - -
" "		141	1	three " " - - - - -
Pay of Indian Sub-agents:				
Statutes at large	4	736	5	viz., eighteen under act of - - - - -
Pay of Interpreters:				
Statutes at large	4	737	9	viz., fifty-five under act of - - - - -
Pamp. copy 1845	6	21	1	Pay of clerk to superintendent at St. Louis - - - - -
" "	6	21	1	" " acting supt. of Western Territory - - - - -
Buildings at agency and repairs thereof				
Statutes	4	738	15	Presents to Indians - - - - -
"	4	738	16	Provisions for Indians - - - - -
Contingencies Indian Department - - - - -				
				Amount carried forward

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sect.	Annuities, &c.
Amount brought forward				
CHRISTIAN INDIANS.				
Statutes at large	4	58 & 183	7 & last	Permanent annuity - - - - -
CHIPPEWAS OF SAGANAW.				
Statutes at large	7	51	4	Permanent annuity - - - - -
	7	106	2	" " - - - - -
	7	204	4	" " - - - - -
	7	205	8	Permanent provision for the support of blacksmiths, and for farming utensils and cattle, and the employment of persons to aid them in agriculture } Education during pleasure of Congress - - - - -
	7	530	7	
	3	608	1	
	7	291	6	
CHIPPEWAS, MENOMONEES, WINNEBAGOES, AND NEW YORK INDIANS.				
Statutes at large	7	304	5	Education during pleasure of Congress - - - - -
CHIPPEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR AND THE MISSISSIPPI.				
Statutes at large	7	536	2	Fifteenth of twenty instalments in money - - - - -
	7	536	2	" " goods - - - - -
	7	536	2	" " for the establishment of three smith's shops, supporting three smiths, and furnishing iron and steel - - - - -
	7	536	2	Fifteenth of twenty instalments for the support of farmers, purchase of implements, grain or seed, and to carry on their agricultural pursuits } Fifteenth of twenty instalments for the purchase of tobacco - - - - -
	7	536	2	Fifteenth of twenty instalments for the purchase of provisions - - - - -
	7	592	4	Tenth of twenty-five instalments in money - - - - -
	7	592	4	" " goods - - - - -
	7	592	4	" " for the support of two smith's shops, including pay of smiths and assistants, and furnishing iron and steel - - - - -
				Amount carried forward

and ending 30th June, 1852, to meet the current expenses of the Indian provided for by treaties with various Indian Tribes.

Acts making provision.	Rate of salary.	Amount.	Total.	
1834, June 30 - - -	1500 00	1500 00	4000 00	A.
1850, June 5 - - -	2500 00	2500 00		
1834, June 30 - - -	1500 00	10,500 00	30,000 00	A.
1837, March 3 - - -	1500 00	4500 00		
1846, June 27 - - -	1500 00	1500 00		
1850, June 5 - - -	1500 00	4500 00		
1850, Sept. 28 - - -	3000 00	9000 00		
1834, June 30 - - -	750 00	13,500 00	13,500 00	B.
1834, June 30 - - -	300 00	16,500 00	16,500 00	C.
1846, June 27 - - -	1200 00	1200 00		
" " - - -	1000 00	1000 00	1000 00	D.
1834, June 30 - - -		2000 00	5000 00	
" " - - -		11,800 00	36,500 00	
			\$121,500 00	

Acts making provision.	Amount.	Total.	
		\$121,500 00	
Per act 26 May, 1824, and 20 May, 1826 - - - - -	400 00	400 00	
4th art. treaty 3d Aug. 1795	1000 00	5800 00	
2d art. treaty 17th Nov. 1807	800 00		
4th art. treaty 24th Sept. 1819	1000 00		
8th " " " " } 7th art. treaty 14th Jan. 1837 }	2000 00		
6th art. treaty 5th Aug. 1826	1000 00		
Per 5th art. treaty 11th Aug. 1827 - - - - -	1500 00	1500 00	
2d art. treaty 29th July, 1837	9500 00	Fixed by treaty.	
" " "	19,000 00		
" " "	3000 00		
" " "	1000 00		
" " "	500 00		
" " "	2000 00		
4th art. treaty 4th Oct. 1842	12,500 00	Fixed by treaty.	
" " "	10,500 00		
" " "	2000 00		
		\$129,200 00	

Estimate

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sect.	Annuities, &c.
				Amount brought forward
Statutes at large	7	592	4	Tenth of twenty-five instalments for the pay of } two farmers - - - - - }
	7	592	4	" " for the pay of two carpenters - - - - - }
	7	592	4	" " for the support of schools - - - - - }
	7	592	4	Tenth of twenty-five instalments for the purchase } of provisions and tobacco - - - - - }
Pamp. copy '47-48		106	4	Fifth of five instalments in goods - - - - - }
" "		102	3	Fifth of forty-six instalments to be paid to the } Chippewas of Mississippi - - - - - }
				CHICKASAWS.
Statutes at large	1			Permanent annuity - - - - -
				CHOCTAWS.
Statutes at large	7	99	2	Permanent annuity - - - - -
" "	7	213	13	" " - - - - -
" "	7	236	10	Life annuity to chief Bob Cole - - - - -
" "	7	235	2	Permanent annuity for education - - - - -
" "	7	335	15	Life annuity to three district chiefs - - - - -
" "	7	338	21	" " to one Wayne warrior - - - - -
" "	7	212	6	Permanent provision for blacksmith - - - - -
" "	7	212	6	Iron, steel, &c., for shop - - - - -
				CREEKS.
Statutes at large	7	36	4	Permanent annuity - - - - -
	7	69	2	" " - - - - -
	7	287	4	" " - - - - -
	7	367	8	Twentieth of twenty instalments in money - - - - -
	7	287	8	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant - - - - -
	7	287	8	Iron and steel for shop - - - - -
	7	368	13	Fifteenth of twenty instalments for the pay of two } blacksmiths and assistants - - - - - }
	7	368	13	Iron, steel, &c., for shops - - - - -
	7	368	13	Permanent provision for the pay of a wheelwright - - - - -
	7	368	13	Twenty-first of thirty-three instalments for education - - - - -
Pamp. copy '45-46		5	4	Interest, at 5 per cent., on \$350,000 - - - - -
Statutes	7	575	3	Eighth of twenty instalments for education - - - - -
Pamp. copy '45-46		5	4	Blacksmith and assistant (during the pleasure of } the President) - - - - - }
Statutes	7	419	5	Iron, steel, and coal " " - - - - -
"	7	419	5	Wagon maker " " - - - - -
"	7	287	8	Agricultural implements " " - - - - -
"	7	419	5	Education " " - - - - -
				DELAWARES.
Statutes at large	7	51	4	Permanent annuity - - - - -
	7	114	3	" " - - - - -
	7	188	5	" " - - - - -
	7	327	3	" " - - - - -
				Life annuity to chiefs - - - - -
	7	309	1	" " - - - - -
	7	75	3	Permanent provision for the purchase of salt - - - - -
	7	188	6	" " for blacksmith and assistant - - - - -
	7	188	6	Iron, steel, &c., for shop - - - - -
				Interest on \$46,080, at 5 per cent., being the value } of thirty-six sections of land set apart by treaty } of 1829, for education - - - - - }
				Amount carried forward

continued.

Act making provision.	Amount.	Total.	
	\$60,000 00	\$129,200 00	
4th art. treaty 4th Oct. 1842	1000 00		Fixed by treaty.
" " "	1200 00		" "
" " "	2000 00		
" " "	2000 00		
4th art. treaty 21st Aug. 1847	3600 00		
3d art. treaty 2d Aug. 1847	1000 00		
		70,800 00	
Per act 25th Feb. 1799	3000 00		
		3000 00	
2d art. treaty 16th Nov. 1805	3000 00		E.
13th art. treaty 18th Oct. 1820	600 00		Support of light horsemen.
10th art. treaty 20th Jan. 1825	150 00		
2d art. treaty 20th Jan. 1825	6000 00		
15th art. treaty 27th Sept. 1830	750 00		
21st art. treaty 27th Sept. 1830	25 00		
6th art. treaty 18th Oct. 1820	600 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
9th art. treaty 20th Jan. 1825	320 00		Estimated by the agent.
		11,445 00	
4th art. treaty 7th Aug. 1790	1500 00		
2d art. treaty 16th June 1802	3000 00		
4th art. treaty 24th Jan. 1826	20,000 00		
8th art. treaty 24th March 1832	10,000 00		
8th art. treaty 24th Jan. 1826	840 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
	270 00		Estimated by the agent.
13th art. treaty 24th March, } 1832 - - - - - }	1650 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
8th art. treaty 24th Jan. 1826	600 00		Estimated by the agent.
13th art. treaty 24th M'ch 1832 } & 4th art. treaty 4th Jan. 1845 }	3000 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
3d art. treaty 23d Nov. 1838	17,500 00		
4th art. treaty 4th Jan. 1845	3000 00		
5th art. treaty 14th Feb. 1833	840 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	270 00		Estimated by the agent.
" " "	600 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
8th art. treaty 24th Jan. 1826	2000 00		
5th art. treaty 14th Feb. 1833	1000 00		
		66,640 00	
4th art. treaty 3d Aug. 1795	1000 00		
3d art. treaty 30th Sept. 1809	500 00		
5th art. treaty 3d Oct. 1818	4000 00		
Suppl'y treaty, 24th Sept. 1829	1000 00		
Private art. to suppl'y treaty 24th } Sept. '29 to treaty 3d Oct. '18 }	200 00		
Sup. 2d art. to treaty 26th Oct. '32	200 00		
3d art. to treaty 7th June 1803	100 00		Estimated by the Department.
6th art. treaty 3d Oct. 1818	720 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
	220 00		Estimated by the agent.
Resol. Senate 19th Jan. 1838	2304 00	10,244 00	
		\$291,329 00	

Estimate

continued.

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sect.	Annuities, &c.
				Amount brought forward
				FLORIDA INDIANS OR SEMINOLES.
Statutes at large	7	225	6	Twenty-ninth of thirty instalments for blacksmiths' establishment
Pamp. copy, 45-46		369	& 4	" " " " in money
		5	6	" " " " in money
		5	6	" " " " in money
				IOWAYS.
Statutes at large	7	568	2	Interest on \$157,500 at 5 per cent.
				KICKAPOOS.
	7	392	4	Eighteenth of nineteen instalments as annuity
				KANZAS.
				Interest on \$200,000 at 5 per cent.
				MIAMIENS.
Statutes at large	7	301	4	Permanent annuity
	7	191	5	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant
	7	191	5	Iron, steel, &c., for shop
	7	301	4	Permanent provision for the purchase of 1000 lbs. tobacco, 2000 lbs. iron, 1000 lbs. steel
	7	191	5	Permanent provision for pay of miller in lieu of gunsmith
	7	459	& 5	Permanent provision for the purchase of 160 bushels of salt
	7	191	5	Education and support of the poor, during pleasure of Congress
	7	301	6	Eleventh of twenty instalments in money
	7	583	2	Permanent provision for payment in lieu of laborers
	7	583	6	" " for agricultural assistance
	7	191	5	" " for agricultural assistance
				EEL RIVER (MIAMIENS).
	7	51	4	Permanent annuity
	7	91	3	" " " " " " " " " "
	7	114	3	" " " " " " " " " "
	7	116	3	" " " " " " " " " "
				MENOMONEES.
	7	507	2	Sixteenth of twenty instalments as annuity
	7	507	2	" " " for two blacksmiths and assistants
	7	507	2	Sixteenth of twenty instalments for iron, steel, &c., for shops
	7	507	2	Sixteenth of twenty instalments for the purchase of provisions
	7	507	2	Sixteenth of twenty instalments for the purchase of 2000 lbs. tobacco
	7	507	2	Sixteenth of twenty instalments for farming utensils, cattle, &c.
	7	507	2	Sixteenth of twenty instalments for thirty barrels of salt
				OMAHAS.
Statutes at large	7	329	4	Blacksmith and assistant (during the pleasure of President)
	7	329	4	Iron, steel, &c., for shops
	7	329	4	Agricultural implements
				OTOES AND MISSOURIAS.
Statutes at large	7	430	4	Education (during the pleasure of President)
	7	430	5	Pay of farmer " " " "
				Amount carried forward

Acts making provision.	Amount.	Total.	
		\$291,329 00	
			F.
6th art. treaty 18th Sept. 1823 & 4th art. treaty 9th May 1832	1000 00		Fixed by treaty.
6th art. treaty 4th Jan. 1845	2000 00		
4th art. treaty 4th Jan. 1845	3000 00		
		6000 00	
2d art. treaty 19th Oct. 1838	7875 00		
		7875 00	
4th art. treaty 24th Oct. 1832	5000 00		
		5000 00	
2d art. treaty 14th Jan. 1846	10,000 00		
		10,000 00	
4th art. treaty 23d Oct. 1826	25,000 00		
5th art. treaty 6th Oct. 1818	720 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
	220 00		Estimated by the Department.
4th art. treaty 23d Oct. 1826	770 00		" " "
5th art. treaty 6th Oct. 1818 & 5th art. treaty 24th Oct. 1834	600 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
5th art. treaty 6th Oct. 1818	320 00		Estimated by the agent.
6th art. treaty 23d Oct. 1826	2000 00		
2d art. treaty 28th Nov. 1840	12,500 00		
6th art. treaty 28th Nov. 1840	250 00		
5th art. treaty 6th Oct. 1818	200 00		
		42,580 00	
4th art. treaty 3d Aug. 1795	500 00		
3d art. treaty 21st Aug. 1805	250 00		
3d separate arts. treaty 30th Sep. 1809	350 00		
		1100 00	
			G.
2d art. treaty 3d Sep. 1836.	20,000 00		
" " "	1440 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	440 00		Estimated by the Department.
" " "	3000 00		
" " "	300 00		
" " "	500 00		
" " "	150 00		
		25,830 00	
4th art. treaty 15th July 1834	720 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	220 00		Estimated by the Department.
" " "	500 00		
		1440 00	
4th art. treaty 21st Sept. 1833	500 00		
5th art. treaty 21st Sept. 1833	600 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
	\$1100 00	\$391,154 00	

Estimate

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sect.	Annuities, &c.	
Statutes at large	7	329	4	Amount brought forward	
	7	329	4	Blacksmith and assistant, during the pleasure of Pres't	
				Iron, steel, &c., for shop " " "	
	7	51	4	OTTAWAS.	
	7	106	2	Permanent annuity - - - - -	
	7	179	4	" " - - - - -	
	7	220	4	" " - - - - -	
	Statutes at large	7	492	4	OTTAWAS AND CHIPPEWAS.
		7	492	4	Seventeenth of twenty instalments - - -
		7	497	4	Interest to be paid as annuity on \$200,000 - - -
7		492	4	Education for twenty years and during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -	
7		492	4	Missions for twenty years and during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -	
7		492	4	Vaccine medicine and pay of physicians so long as the Indians remain on their reservations - - - - -	
7		492	4	Seventeenth of twenty instalments for the purchase of provisions - - - - -	
7		492	4	Seventeenth of twenty instalments for purchase of 6500 lbs. tobacco - - - - -	
7		492	4	" " " for 100 barrels of salt - - - - -	
7		492	4	" " " for 500 fish barrels - - - - -	
7		493	7	Three blacksmiths and assistants for twenty years and during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -	
7		493	7	Iron, steel, &c., for shops for twenty years and during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -	
7		493	7	Gunsmith at Mackinach for twenty years and during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -	
7		493	7	Iron, steel, &c., for shop for twenty years and during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -	
7		493	7	Two farmers and assistants (during pleasure of President) - - - - -	
7		493	7	Two mechanics " " - - - - -	
Statutes at large					OSAGES.
		7	576	2	Interest at 5 per cent. \$69,120, being the valuation of fifty-four sections of land set apart by treaty of 2d June 1825, for education purposes - - - - -
	7	576	2	Fourteenth of twenty instalments as annuity - - - - -	
	7	576	2	" " for two smiths' establishments - - - - - fifteenth instalment for pay of two millers	
Statutes at large	7	51	4	PIANKESHAW.	
	7	101	3	Permanent annuity - - - - -	
Statutes at large	7	448	4	PAWNEES.	
Statutes at large	7	106	2	POTAWOTOMIES OF HURON.	
Statutes at large	7	51	4	POTAWOTOMIES.	
	7	114	3	Permanent annuity - - - - -	
	7	185	3	" " - - - - -	

continued.

Acts making provision.	Amount.	Total.	
	\$1100 00	\$391,154 00	
4th art. treaty 15th July 1830	720 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	220 00		Estimated by the Department.
		2040 00	
4th art. treaty 3d Aug. 1795	1000 00		
2d art. treaty 17th Nov. 1807	800 00		
4th art. treaty 17th Sept. 1818	1500 00		
4th art. treaty 29th Aug. 1821	1000 00		
		4300 00	
4th art. treaty 28th March 1836	30,000 00		
Per resolution Senate 27th } May 1836 - - - - }	12,000 00		
4th art. treaty 28th March 1836	5000 00		
" " "	3000 00		
" " "	300 00		
" " "	2000 00		
" " "	500 00		Estimated by the agent.
" " "	200 00		" " "
" " "	400 00		" " "
7th art. treaty 28th March 1836	2160 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	660 00		Estimated by the agent.
" " "	600 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	220 00		Estimated by the agent.
" " "	1600 00		Pay fixed by the Department.
" " "	1200 00		" " "
		59,840 00	
Per resolution Senate 19th } Jany. 1838 - - - - }	3456 00		
2d art. treaty 11th Jan. 1839	20,000 00		
" " "	2000 00		Pay fixed by law and treaty.
" " "	1200 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
		26,656 00	
4th art. treaty 3d Aug. 1795	500 00		
3d art. treaty 30th Dec. 1805	300 00		
		800 00	
4th art. treaty 9th Oct. 1833	1000 00		
		1000 00	
2d art. treaty 17th Nov. 1807	400 00		
		400 00	
4th art. treaty 3d Aug. 1795	1,000 00		
3d art. treaty 30th Sept. 1809	500 00		
3d art. treaty 2d Oct. 1818	2,500 00		
		\$486,190 00	

Estimate

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sect.	Annuities, &c.	
Statutes at large	7	317	2	Permanent annuity - - - - -	
	7	318	2	Life annuity to chief - - - - -	
	7	320	2	Permanent annuity - - - - -	
	7	379	3	Nineteenth of twenty instalments, as annuity - - - - -	
	7	379	3	Life annuities to chiefs - - - - -	
	7	395	3	Nineteenth of twenty instalments, as annuity - - - - -	
	7	432	3	Seventeenth of twenty instalments, as annuity - - - - -	
	7	433	3	Life annuity to chiefs - - - - -	
	7	442	2	Seventeenth of twenty instalments as annuity - - - - -	
	7	75	3	Permanent provision for the purchase of salt - - - - -	
	7	296	3	Permanent provision for the purchase of 160 bushels of salt - - - - -	
	7	296	3	Education during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -	
	7	296	3	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant - - - - -	
	7	296	3	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c., for shop - - - - -	
	Statutes at large	7	318	2	Education, during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -
7		318	2	Permanent provision for the payment of money in lieu of tobacco - - - - -	
7		318	2	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant - - - - -	
7		321	2	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant - - - - -	
7		321	2	" " for iron, steel, &c., for shop - - - - -	
7		320	2	" " " purchase of 50 bbls. salt - - - - -	
7		401	4	Education, during the pleasure of Congress - - - - -	
7		27	7	Interest on \$643,000 at 5 per cent. - - - - -	
Pamph. copy, 45-46					QUAPAWS.
		7	426	4	Nineteenth of twenty instalments as annuity - - - - -
	7	425	3	Education, during the pleasure of the President - - - - -	
	7	425	3	Blacksmith and assistant " " - - - - -	
	7	425	3	Iron, steel, &c., for shop " " - - - - -	
Statutes at large	7	425	3	Pay of farmer " " - - - - -	
				SIX NATIONS OF NEW YORK.	
	7	46	6	Permanent annuity - - - - -	
Statutes at large	4	442	1	Permanent annuity in lieu of interest on stock - - - - -	
	Pamph. copy, 45-46	35	2	Interest in lieu of investment on \$75,000 at 5 per cent. - - - - -	
Pamph. copy, 48-9				STOCKBRIDGES.	
	138	9		Interest on \$16,500 at 5 per cent. - - - - -	
Statutes at large	7	539	2	Interest on \$300,000 at 5 per cent. - - - - -	
	7	539	2	Fifteenth of twenty instalments as annuity in goods - - - - -	
	7	539	2	" " " for the purchase of medicines, agricultural implements, support of farmers, physicians, blacksmiths, &c. - - - - -	
	7	539	2	Fifteenth of twenty instalments for the purchase of provisions - - - - -	
				SACS AND FOXES OF MISSOURI.	
" "	7	544	2	Interest on \$157,400 at 5 per cent. - - - - -	
" "				SACS AND FOXES OF MISSISSIPPI.	
	7	85	3	Permanent annuity - - - - -	
	7	375	3	Twentieth of thirty instalments as annuity - - - - -	
	7	375	4	" " " for gunsmith - - - - -	
	7	375	4	" " " for iron, steel, &c., for shop - - - - -	

continued.

Acts making provision.	Amount.	Total.	
Amount brought forward		\$186,190 00	
2d art. treaty, 20th Sept. 1828	2,000 00		
" " " "	100 00		
2d art. treaty 29th July 1829	16,000 00		
3d art. treaty 20th Oct. 1832	15,000 00		
" " " "	400 00		
3d art. treaty 26th Oct. 1832	20,000 00		
3d art. treaty 26th Sept. 1833	14,000 00		
" " " "	700 00		
2d sup. art. to treaty 26th Sept. 1833	2,000 00		
3d art. treaty 7th June 1803	140 00		Estimated by the Department.
2d art. treaty 16th Oct. 1826	320 00		
" " " "	2,000 00		
" " " "	720 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " " "	220 00		
2d art. treaty 20th Sept. 1828	1,000 00		
2d art. treaty 20th Sept. 1828 & 10th art. treaty 5th June, 1846	300 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
2d art. treaty 20th Sept. 1828	720 00		Estimated by the Department.
" " " "	220 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
2d art. treaty 29th July 1829	720 00		Estimated by the Department.
" " " "	220 00		
2d art. treaty 29th July 1829	250 00		
4th art. treaty 27th Oct. 1832	2,000 00		
7th art. treaty 5th June 1846	32,150 00	115,180 00	H.
4th art. treaty 18th May 1833	2,000 00		
3d art. treaty 18th May 1833	1,000 00		
" " " "	840 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " " "	220 00		Estimated by the Department.
3d art. treaty 18th May 1833	600 00	4,660 00	Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
6th art. treaty 11th Nov. 1794	4,500 00	4,500 00	
Per act 19th Feb. 1831	6,000 00	9,750 00	
Per act 27th June 1846	3,750 00		
9th art. treaty 24th Nov. 1848	825 00	825 00	I.
2d art. treaty 29th Sept. 1837	15,000 00		
" " " "	10,000 00		
" " " "	8,250 00		
" " " "	5,500 00	38,750 00	
2d art. treaty 21st Oct. 1837	7,870 00	7,870 00	
3d art. treaty 3d Nov. 1804	1,000 00		
3d art. treaty 21st Sept. 1832	20,000 00		
4th art. treaty 21st Sept. 1832	600 00		
" " " "	220 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
		\$667,725 00	Estimated by the agent.

Estimate

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sect.	Annuities.
				Amount brought forward
Statutes at large	7	375	4	Twentieth of thirty instalments for blacksmith and assistant
	7	375	4	Twentieth of thirty instalments for iron, steel, &c., for shop
Statutes at large	7	375	4	Twentieth of thirty instalments for forty bbls. of salt
	7	375	4	Twentieth of thirty instalments for forty kegs of tobacco
	7	541	2	Interest on \$200,000 at 5 per cent.
	7	596	2	" \$800,000 at 5 per cent.
				SHAWNEES.
Statutes at large	7	51	4	Permanent annuity
	7	161	4	" "
	7	75	3	Permanent provision for the purchase of salt
	7	356	4	Blacksmith and assistant, during the pleasure of President
	7	356	4	Iron, steel, &c., for shop, during the pleasure of President
				SENECAS AND SHAWNEES.
Statutes at large	7	179	4	Permanent annuity
	7	352	4	Blacksmith and assistant, during the pleasure of President
	7	352	4	Iron, steel, &c., for shops, during the pleasure of President
				SENECAS.
Statutes at large	7	161	4	Permanent annuity
	7	179	4	" "
	7	349	4	Blacksmith and assistant, during the pleasure of the President
Statutes at large	7	349	4	Iron and steel for shop during the pleasure of the President
	7	394	4	Pay of Miller, during pleasure President
				WYANDOTS.
Laws U. S. Old edition	10	951	3	Permanent annuity
	10	952	8	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant
	10	952	8	" " for iron, steel, &c., for shops
	10	951	4	" " for education
				WINNEBAGOES.
Statutes at large	7	323	2	Twenty-third of 30 instalments as annuity
	7	371	3	Twentieth of 27 " "
	7	323	2	Twenty-third of 30 do., for 50 bbls. of salt
	7	323	2	" " " for 3000 lbs. tobacco
	7	372	5	Twentieth of 27 do., for 1500 "
	7	324	3	Twenty-third of 30 do., for 3 blacksmiths and assist.
	7	324	3	" " for iron, steel, &c., for shops
	7	324	3	" " for laborers and oxen
	7	371	4	Twentieth of 27 do., for education
	7	372	5	" " do., for six agriculturists, purchase of oxen, ploughs, and other implements
Statutes at large	7	372	5	Twentieth of 27 instalments for pay of two physicians
	7	546	2	Interest on \$1,100,000 at 5 per cent.
Pamph. copy	46-7	52	4	" 85,000 "
				WEAS.
Statutes at large	7	187	5	Permanent annuity

continued.

Act making provision.	Amounts.	Total.	
	\$1,840 00	\$667,725 00	
4th art. treaty 21st Sept. 1832.	840 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	220 00		Estimated by the agent.
4th art. treaty 21st Sep. 1832	200 00		Estimated by the Department.
" " "	600 00		" " "
2d art. treaty 21st Oct. 1837	10,000 00		
2d art. treaty 11th Oct. 1842	40,000 00	73,680 00	
4th art. treaty 3d Aug. 1795	1000 00		
4th art. treaty 29th Sept. 1817	2000 00		
3d art. treaty 7th June 1803	60 00		Estimated by the Department.
4th art. treaty 8th Aug. 1831	840 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	220 00	4,120 00	Estimated by the agent
4th art. treaty 17th Sept. 1818	1000 00		
4th art. treaty 20th July 1831	840 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
" " "	220 00	2,060 00	Estimated by the Department.
4th art. treaty 29th Sept. 1817	500 00		K.
4th art. treaty 17th Sept. 1818	500 00		
4th art. treaty 28th Feb. 1831	840 00		Pay fixed by law 30th June 1834.
	220 00		Estimated by the agent.
4th art. treaty 28th Sep. 1831	600 00	2,660 00	Pay fixed by law June 30, 1834.
3d art. treaty, 17 March, 1842	17,500 00		
8th " " "	720 00		" " " "
4th art. treaty, 17 March, 1842	370 00		Estimated by the agent.
	500 00	19,090 00	
2d art. treaty, 1st August, 1829	18,000 00		
3d art. treaty, 15th Sep. 1832	10,000 00		
2d art. treaty, 1st August, 1829	250 00		Estimated by the Department.
" " "	350 00		" " " "
5th art. treaty, 15 Sept. 1832	175 00		" " " "
3d art. treaty, 1st Aug. 1829	2,160 00		Pay fixed by law, June 30, 1834.
" " "	660 00		Estimated by the agent.
" " "	365 00		
4th art treaty, 15th Sep. 1832	3,000 00		
5th " " "	2,500 00		
5th art. treaty, 15th Sep. 1832	400 00		
4th art. treaty, 1st Nov. 1837	55,000 00		
4th art. treaty, 13th Oct. 1846	4,250 00	97,110 00	
5th art. treaty, 2d Oct. 1818	3,000 00	3,000 00	
		\$869,445 00	

Special Estimate of Funds required for the service of the Indian Department within the present fiscal year, ending 30th June, 1851.

Objects.	Amount.	Total.
1. For fulfilling treaty with the Wyandots, viz., investment in United States stock—per first article treaty 1st April, 1850	\$100,000	187,000
Payment of debts, &c.—per 1st article treaty 1st April, 1850	85,000	
Expense of negotiations, &c.—per 2d article treaty 1st April, 1850	2,000	
2. For fulfilling treaty with the Utahs, viz., purchase of presents, agricultural implements, &c.—per 8th article treaty 30th December, 1849	10,000	18,000
Expenses of designating boundaries—per 7th article treaty 30th December, 1849	8,000	
3. For fulfilling treaty with the Navajoes, viz., purchase of presents, agricultural implements, &c.—per 10th article treaty 9th September, 1849	10,000	18,000
Expense of designating boundaries—per 9th article treaty 9th September, 1849	8,000	
4. For arrearages of compensation (from 1st October, 1850, to 30th June, 1851) of three Indian agents for the Indian tribes of California—per act 28th September, 1850	6,750	6,750
5. For expenses of holding treaties with the various Indian tribes of California, in addition to the appropriation for the same object made 30th September, 1850	75,000	75,000
6. For expenses of removal and subsistence of the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, from the lands ceded under the treaties of 29th July, 1837, and 4th October, 1842, in addition to the appropriation for the same object made 30th September, 1850	25,000	25,000
7. For expenses of the removal of the sub-agency for the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi from the old site at Lapointe to the new one at Lake, including the erection of the necessary buildings at the latter place	3,000	3,000
8. For compensation and expenses of the committee of Old Settler party of Cherokees, their clerks, &c., for services rendered in pursuance of the provision contained in the 5th article of the treaty of 17th August, 1846, in addition to the appropriation made 30th September, 1850	1,500	1,500
9. For this sum to enable the Department to satisfy the claims of the Creek Indians for mills stipulated to be furnished under the 3d section of the treaty of 15th November, 1827, and 5th article of the treaty of 14th February, 1833	5,400	5,400
10. For compensation to the three special agents and the necessary interpreters, for the Indian tribes of Texas, including the purchase of presents, authorized by the act of 30th September, 1850	15,000	15,000
11. For expenses of holding treaties with the wild tribes of the Prairie, and for bringing on delegations to the seat of government	200,000	200,000

Objects.	Amount.	Total.
12. For collecting and compiling the necessary information, constructing, engraving and printing maps, showing the Indian country and the position of the lands of the different Indian tribes within the limits of the United States	\$10,000	10,000
13. For interest on the amounts awarded Choctaw claimants under the 14th article of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, of 27th September, 1830, for lands on which they resided, but which it is impossible to give them, and in lieu of the scrip that has been awarded under the act of 23d August, 1842, not deliverable East, by the 3d section of the said law, per act of 3d March, 1845, for the half year ending 30th June, 1852	21,800	21,800
14. For expenses of the removal and subsistence of Choctaws from the State of Mississippi to the Choctaw country west of that river, in addition to former appropriations for the same object	20,000	20,000
15. For payment to the Winnebago Indians of this sum erroneously charged against the fund of \$10,000, set apart (out of the consideration to be paid for the lands ceded) by the 8th clause of the 4th article of the treaty of 1st of November, 1837	6,228 28	6,228 28
16. For payment to the Cherokee nation of the amount due under the 9th article of the treaty of 6th August, 1846, as ascertained by the proper accounting officers, pursuant to the resolution of Congress of 7th August, 1848	627,603 95	
17. For the amount paid to agents and others employed by the government, in carrying out the provisions of the treaty with the Cherokees of 1835-6, and improperly charged to and paid out of the treaty fund as decided by the Senate	96,999 42	724,603 37
18. For interest on the aggregate amount of said sums, viz., \$724,603 37, at the rate of five per cent. per annum, according to the award of the Senate of September 5th, 1850, under the provisions of the 11th article of the above-mentioned treaty		
19. For the re-appropriation of the following sums (carried to the surplus fund, per warrants numbered 13 and 19, and dated respectively 30th June, 1846, and 30th June, 1847) under the following heads, viz:— " Fulfilling treaties with Kansas" " Fulfilling treaties with Wyandots" " Support of blacksmiths, &c., for Osages" " Payment of claims for Osage depredations" " Purchase of cows and calves for Osages"	8,707 21 355 28 6,506 59 14,375 50 312 16	30,256 74
20. For continuing the collection, and for publishing the statistics and other information, authorized by the act of 3d March, 1847, and subsequent acts	15,300	
For supplying deficiency in the amount appropriated at the last session for the same object	4,061	19,361
21. For the expenses of an agent to collect information to enable the Department to execute the law of Congress providing for the per capita payment to Cherokees under the treaty of 1835-6, so far as relates to those Indians east of the Mississippi	1,500	1,500
22. For the removal and subsistence of Indians		52,510 37
23. For liquidated balance found due the Creek Indians for losses sustained during the last war with Great Britain by that portion of the tribe that was friendly to and co-ope-		

Objects.	Amount.	Total.
rated with the United States, in accordance with the promise of the government, and pursuant to the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate of May, 1850		110,417 90
		<u>\$1,551,327 66</u>

L. LEA, *Comm'r.*OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, *Nov. 7th, 1850.*

RECAPITULATION.

Amount required for current expenses	\$121,500
Do. annuities, &c.	747,945
Do. additional items	1,551,327 66
	<u>\$2,420,772 66</u>

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, *November 7th, 1850.*L. LEA, *Commissioner.**Explanations to General Estimate.*

(A.) The items for pay of superintendents and agents are greater by \$16,000 than for the same objects the past year, owing to the employment of one additional superintendent and six agents, authorized by the acts of 5th of June and 28th September, 1850.

(B.) Item increased \$750 over estimate of last year, one additional sub-agent being employed within the State of California, under the discretionary power vested in the President in the 5th section of the act of 30th June, 1834, organizing the Indian Department.

(C.) Item increased \$3,500 over estimate of last year, additional interpreters being necessary for the new agencies established.

(D.) Item additional to the estimate of last year, because of there being then a sufficient balance on hand from previous appropriations. The extension of our Indian relations in California, Oregon, New Mexico, and Texas, makes the appropriation asked for necessary.

(E.) Items for the Choctaws less by \$32,500 than the estimate of last year, that amount, being for annuity and education, having expired by limitation with the appropriation for the fiscal year 1850-51.

(F.) Items for the Seminoles less by \$1000 than for the last year, that amount, being for agricultural implements, having expired by limitation.

(G.) Item for the Menomonees less by \$600 than for the last year, that amount being for pay of Miller, not required, the Indians not removing to their new homes as was expected.

(H.) Item for the Quapaws less by \$240 than for last year, that amount being for an arrearage due to the assistant smith for the previous year, viz., 1849-50.

(I.) Item for the Stockbridges less by \$2,000 than for last year, it not being required, the payment of this annuity being conditioned on the removal of the tribe, which has not yet taken place.

(K.) Items for the Senecas less by \$100 than for last year, that sum being for the purchase of supplies for smith-shop, being reduced in consequence of the re-establishment of the shop for the Senecas and Shawnees, authorized by the act of 30th September, 1850.

Explanations to Special Estimate.

Items 1, 2 and 3 are new items under treaties ratified at the close of the last session of Congress.

4.—No appropriation having been made at the last session for the payment of the salaries

for the California agents authorized by the act of 28th September last, the amount asked for is to cover a deficiency for that object arising within the fiscal year 1850-51.

5.—It was originally estimated by the Department that the amount required for holding treaties with the Indian tribes of California would be \$100,000, and that sum was solicited at the last session. Congress, however, appropriated but \$25,000, a sum wholly insufficient, in the judgment of this office, to effect the objects contemplated. As the views previously entertained on this subject have undergone no change, but, on the contrary, have been much strengthened by information subsequently derived from reliable sources, the application is renewed and an appropriation of the difference, it is hoped, will be made.

6.—In the explanation given to a similar item for the same object at the late session, it was stated that the amount then asked for (and which was appropriated), \$25,000, was based on the best data then in the possession of the Department, and on partial information received from the Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Minnesota Territory, and that that office had been written to for further information as to the sum requisite, and if, when received, it should be such as to render a change in the amount asked for necessary, it would be communicated. The communications received from Governor Ramsey on the subject exhibit an amount far beyond that entertained by the Department for the accomplishment of the object, and it is even greater than it is now thought can be requisite. The Department has therefore fixed the amount at \$25,000, which, added to that appropriated by the act of 30th September last, makes the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose.

7.—This is an expense rendered necessary by the removal of the sub-agency, in view of the removal of the Indians, and is one-half less than the amount reported as necessary by the sub-agent.

8.—It was found on an examination of the report of the committee, that errors had crept into it, and, on representations made to the Department by those interested, it was deemed proper to direct that the Board should be again convened and a revision be made of their previous acts. It is to cover the expense of this second sitting of the board that the amount is solicited.

9.—The treaty of 1827 with the Creeks sets apart the sum of \$2000 for the erection of four horse mills—that of 1833 stipulates for the erection of four rail-way mills, for grinding corn. Neither of these provisions has, it appears on examination, been carried out, except to the extent of building one mill, at a cost of \$600. For the erection of the four mills under the treaty of 1833, it is estimated \$4000 will be required. In order, therefore, to satisfy these claims, an appropriation of the amount embraced in the estimate will be necessary.

10.—As a temporary arrangement, until Congress could legislate upon the subject, appropriations have from time to time been made, for keeping up an agency among the Texas Indians, and at the last session two others were added. It is proposed to continue the arrangement, as no legislation has yet been had, placing our Indian relations in that State on a more permanent basis.

11.—This item formed the subject of a special estimate to Congress at its late session, was passed by the Senate, and its consideration by the proper committees in the House was postponed until the next session—the season having so far advanced, that nothing could be effected. Believing the attainment of the objects contemplated to be of great if not vital importance to the peace of the frontier, the subject is again respectfully submitted, reference being had to the communications that accompanied the previous application.

12.—Like the foregoing, this item was embraced in the estimates of last year, and its consideration by the proper committees postponed. It is, therefore, re-submitted with the same explanation that accompanied it last year, which is in the following words: "The constant embarrassments to which the Department and the Indian committees in Congress are subjected, for the want of proper maps, showing the country inhabited by the different Indian tribes, and the position of their lands, has induced the submission to Congress for its favorable consideration of an item which, though conjectural in amount, will, it is believed, be required to accomplish the work in a satisfactory manner. It is designed to place the work under the direction of the Topographical Bureau; and the maps to embrace an extent of country running from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean!"

13.—The appropriation made at the late session covers the interest due to the 1st January, 1852. In order to make the appropriation conform to the fiscal year, the amount required for the last half of the year is embraced in the present estimate.

14.—The favorable reports from the emigrating agents induce the belief that the remnant of the tribe yet in Mississippi will soon remove west, and that there may be no impediment in the way for the want of funds to meet the expense, this further sum, it is deemed essential, should be placed at the disposal of the Department.

15.—As explanatory of this item, a copy of the communication, from the then Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the Secretary of the Interior, dated 2d March, 1850, is herewith submitted, marked A.

The secretary, it will be perceived by his endorsement on that paper, opened the case and referred it back for the reconsideration of Commissioner Brown, who decided that the charges against the fund of the Indians were erroneous, and that they were entitled to be reimbursed the

amount. Under this decision, an appropriation of the sum asked for is necessary to satisfy the demand.

16, 17, and 18.—A reference to the accompanying printed copy, marked B—of the report of the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate, made August 8th last, to which is appended that of the accounting officers, dated 3d December previous—will explain, with sufficient distinctness, the fairness of these items, and the propriety of the requisite appropriations being made.

19.—These amounts were carried to the surplus fund, but having since ascertained that they are needed to meet objects for which they were originally made, re-appropriations are solicited.

The objects to which these sums are to be applied are as follows, viz :

That for the Kansas to agricultural assistance, being balances of appropriations made under the 4th article of the treaty of 30th June, 1825.

That for the Wyandots, for unpaid claims for improvements arising under the 5th article of the treaty of 17th March, 1842; and those for the Osages for the objects expressed, arising under the 2d article of the treaty of 11th January, 1839.

20.—These sums, as stated in the estimate, are required for continuing the collection, and for publishing the statistics and other information authorized by the Act of March 3d, 1847, and subsequent acts. The second item being a deficiency in the amount appropriated 30th September last, for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1851; the first being the amount required for the year 1851, '52, as follows:—

Salary of person charged with the work,	\$1600
Copyist,	720
Drawing materials for draughtsmen, and for travelling expenses in visiting objects connected with the Statistics &c.,	480
Engraving and printing drawings, lithographs, and maps for the second part of the work,	8,000
Printing, stereotyping, paper, press-work, and binding for the same (1200) copies,	4,500
	<u>\$15,300</u>

21.—The object to be accomplished is fully expressed in the item. It is to ascertain what Cherokees are east of the Mississippi river, who are entitled to participate in the per capita payments to be made under the treaty of 1835-'6.

22.—This sum is required in order to settle the claim adjudicated by the accounting officers of the Treasury in favor of the Chickasaw nation of Indians, for losses, &c., on provisions purchased in 1837—Thus:

Whole amount allowed,	\$112,042 99
Amount paid out of appropriation for removal and subsistence of Indians,	58,124 14
Amount in the Treasury applicable,	1,408 48
	<u>59,532 62</u>

Balance required, \$52,510 37

23.—As explanatory of this item, see copy of report herewith, and accompanying documents marked C, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate, dated May 10th, 1850.

A.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, *Office of Indian Affairs, March 2, 1850.*

SIR: The 4th article of the treaty with the Winnebagoes, of 1st March, 1837, stipulates that the United States shall set apart, among other things, (out of the consideration to be paid to the Indians for the cession and relinquishment contained in the preceding articles,) the sum of \$10,000, to defray contingent and incidental expenses in the execution of this treaty and the expenses of an exploring party, when the said Indians shall express a willingness to send one, to the country south-west of the Missouri river.

Under this clause (which is the 8th), there has been expended, as will be seen by reference to the accompanying communication from the 2d

auditor, of the 22d ult., the sum of \$6,228 28, viz: \$4,743 56 on account of contingent and incidental expenses in the execution of the treaty, and \$1,484 72 on account of the expenses of the exploring party, leaving due the nation a balance of \$3,771 72, which, it is claimed by the attorney of the Indians (per his letter, also herewith), should now be paid over to the tribe. This balance, it is proper to observe, was carried to the surplus fund on 30th June, 1846.

It is also contended by Col. Mitchell, the attorney alluded to, that the above mentioned charges should not of right have been made against this fund, for the reason, in relation to the first, that the U. States bound themselves to deliver the provisions, money, and horses, stipulated to be furnished under other clauses of the treaty, to the tribe, and that the delivery could not be considered as having been made until they reached the residence of the Indians; that the transportation, &c., therefore, charged in getting the articles into the Indian country for delivery, was erroneous, and should be reimbursed to the tribe.

Respecting the charges on account of the exploring party, it is urged that the Indians not having ever *expressed a willingness to send a delegation to the south-west*, as the treaty provides, the act of the Department, in sending out an agent of its own appointment to make the exploration, was not justified by the language of the treaty; or that, if the Department thought proper to send an agent out, his compensation and expenses should have been borne by the Government, not the Indians.

These transactions having occurred during the years 1838, '39, '40, and '46, under the direction of my predecessor, after his administrative examination and sanction, I have not felt at liberty to pronounce upon their correctness, and therefore respectfully submit the question involved for your consideration and decision.

As to the exploring party, the records and files of this office show that Nicholas Boilvin was, in 1838, appointed conductor; that having failed, during that year, in raising a party, he was instructed on the 6th June, 1839, that, "if on calling the tribe into council, and giving them such light and information as they ought to possess to enable them to decide upon the proposed expedition, they shall decline to appoint or authorize a delegation for exploration, that in that case you and Mr. Lowry shall both proceed to examine the country indicated. If he shall refuse to join you in the journey, I then desire that you will undertake it by yourself," &c. It further appears that the Indians and Mr. Lowry both declined to go, and that Mr. Boilvin went by himself. His report, under the above instruction, is likewise enclosed, with copies of the speeches delivered by the Indians before him.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

(Signed)

ORLANDO BROWN, *Commissioner.*

Hon. THOMAS EWING,

Secretary of the Interior.

Endorsement on the foregoing report.

"DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

March 13th, 1850.

"This case is opened for re-consideration, and referred to the commissioner of Indian affairs.

(Signed)

T. EWING, *Secretary.*"

B.

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
August 8, 1850.

Submitted and ordered to be printed, and made the special order of the day for Monday, August 12.

MR. SEBASTIAN made the following report :

The committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the memorial of the delegates of the Cherokee nation and of the "Western Cherokees," and the report of the accounting officers upon the treaty of August 6, 1846, respectfully report :

That in consequence of difficulties arising out of the proper construction of the treaty of 1835 between the United States and different parties and factions of the Cherokees, the new treaty of 1846 was made, sanctioned by each party of the Cherokees. Its object was to fix the true construction of the first-named treaty in reference to certain controverted questions, and ascertain and adjust the rights of each party under it. This was done by the 4th article, so far as the Western Cherokees or "old settlers" were concerned, while the basis of a settlement with the eastern Cherokees was the subject of the 3d and 9th articles of that treaty. The statement of the accounts according to the principles of the treaty of 1846, between the United States and the western and eastern Cherokees respectively, was a labor of time and research, involving an examination of every item of expenditure under the treaty of 1835, through a period extending from the year 1835 to 1846. This duty was, therefore, committed by joint resolution of Congress of the 7th of August, 1848, to the Second Auditor and Second Comptroller of the Treasury; not only because they were the "proper accounting officers," but because one of those officers had acted as one of the commissioners of the United States in making the treaty of 1846, and was justly supposed to be well informed as to its true object and intent. The result of their labors is presented in their report of December 3, 1849, which the committee adopt and refer to as a part of their report.

By the report referred to there is a balance due the Cherokee nation of \$627,603 95. There is a further sum of \$96,999 31 charged to the general treaty fund, paid to the various agents of the Government connected with the removal of the Indians, which they contend is an improper charge upon the sum allowed by the treaty of 1835, the supplemental article of 1836, and the additional appropriation of 12th June, 1838. By the 9th article of the treaty of 1846, it was provided that "the United States agree to make a fair and just settlement of all moneys due the Cherokees, and subject to the *per capita* division under the treaty of 29th December, 1835; which said settlement shall exhibit all money properly expended under said treaty, and shall embrace all sums paid for improvements, ferries, spoliations, removal and subsistence, and commutation therefor, debts and claims upon the Cherokee nation of Indians for the additional quantity of land ceded to said nation, and the several sums provided in the several articles of the treaty to be invested as the general funds of the nation; and also all sums which may be hereafter properly allowed and paid under the provisions of the treaty of 1835. The agree-

gate of which said several sums shall be deducted from the sum of six millions six hundred and forty-seven thousand and sixty-seven dollars; and the balance thus found to be due shall be paid over *per capita* in equal amounts to all those individuals, heads of families, or their legal representatives, entitled to receive the same under the treaty of 1835, and the supplement of 1836, being all those Cherokees residing east at the date of said treaty and the supplement thereto. This article defines the basis of settlement with the Cherokees (except the "old settlers"), and is the authority under which the balance above stated is found to be due. It is contended by the Cherokees that the amount expended by the United States for agents, as specified in the report of the accounting officers, is not, in the meaning of the 9th article of the treaty of 1846, "properly expended under said treaty," and is an "improper and extravagant" charge upon the general treaty fund. In this belief the committee concur. In the 3d article of the treaty of 1846, which professes to enumerate certain charges, from which both the eastern and western Cherokees were to be relieved, the "sums paid to *any* agent of the government" are specially named. They are placed on the footing of "rents" and "reservations" under the treaty of 1835, and expenses of making that treaty, and admitted to be expenditures which should be borne by the United States. They were properly so considered. Though incidental, they were not necessary expenses incurred in the removal, &c., of the Indians. They were a part of a very complicated and expensive machinery employed in the emigration of the Indians, more with a view to the hastening of removal and preventing depredations of the Indians on the way than to any absolute necessity. They were *necessary* only in one respect, and that was to enable the United States to perform its obligations under the treaty, and to discharge the high trust which it had for its own policy assumed. The amount should be, therefore, reimbursed, and added to the general balance of

\$627,603 95
96,999 42

and making in the whole \$724,603 37
the true balance due to the Cherokee nation under the principles stated in the 9th article of the treaty of 1846.

By that article, it is further stipulated that the general aggregate fund shall be charged with all sums "which may be hereafter paid under the treaty of 1835." The committee are not in possession of certain information as to what amount, or whether any claims under that treaty have been paid, since the date of the report made by the accounting officers. To cover any such amount which may have been or may hereafter be made, it will be necessary in the bill to subject the appropriation to that contingency.

By the 4th and 5th articles of the treaty of 1846, provision is made and a basis fixed for the settlement with that part of the Cherokee nation known as the "Old Settlers," or "Western Cherokees," being those who had emigrated under the treaties of 1817, 1819, and 1828, and were, at the date of the treaty of 1835, an organized and separate nation of Indians, whom the United States had recognized as such by the treaties of 1828 and 1833 made with them. In making the treaty of 1835 with the Cherokees east, which provided for their final and complete transfer to the country west, then occupied by the "Western Cherokees," guar-

anted in perpetuity by two treaties, upon considerations connected alone with them, their exclusive right to their country seems to have been forgotten. The consequences of this unlooked-for precipitation of the entire nation upon them may be easily imagined. The Western Cherokees, in all national matters, sunk into a hopeless minority; their ancient government was subverted, and a new one, imported with the emigrants coerced under the treaty of 1835, substituted in its place. It was the first instance on record of an entire nation transplanted, with its people, laws, institutions, and political constitution, to a new home, and preserving its nationality. Great discontent among the "Old Settlers" was produced by this emigration and its consequences. To allay this, and provide compensation to them for the undivided interest which the United States regarded them as owning in the country east of the Mississippi, under the equitable operation of the treaty of 1828, was the object of the treaty of 1846. To ascertain their interest, it was assumed that they constituted one third of the entire nation, and should be entitled to an amount equal to one-third of the treaty fund after all just charges were deducted. This fund, provided by the treaty of 1835, consisted of

	\$5,600,000 00
From which are to be deducted, under the treaty of 1846, (4th article,) the sums chargeable under the 15th article of the treaty of 1835, which, according to the report of the accounting officers, will stand thus :	
For improvements	\$1,540,572 27
For ferries	159,572 12
For spoliations	264,894 09
For removal and subsistence of 18,026 Indians, at \$53 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ per head.	961,386 66
Debts and claims upon the Cherokee nation, viz :	
National debts, (10th article)	\$18,062 06
Claims of United States citizens, (10th article)	61,073 49
Cherokee committee, (12th article)	22,212 76
	101,348 31
Amount allowed United States for addi- tional quantity of land ceded	500,000 00
Amount invested as general fund of the nation	500,880 00
	4,028,653 45
Making in the aggregate the sum of	
Which, being deducted from the treaty fund of \$5,600,000, leaves the residuum, contemplated by the 4th article of the treaty of 1846, of - - - - -	1,571,346 55

Of which amount one-third is to be allowed to the Western Cherokees for their interest in the Cherokee country east, being the sum of \$523,782 18, for which the committee recommend an appropriation.

There remain yet to be considered two questions under the treaty of 1846, about which the parties could not agree. They were referred to the

Senate as umpire, and its decision will be final, and become a part of the treaty. The first of these is, whether the amount expended for the one year's subsistence of the Eastern Cherokees, after their arrival in the west, should be borne by the United States or by the Cherokee funds; and if by the latter, then, whether subsistence shall be charged at a greater rate than \$33 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ per head. In the consideration of this question the committee have found great difficulty in coming to a just conclusion. The inartificial manner in which the treaty of 1835 was drawn, its ambiguity of terms, the variety of construction placed upon it, have led to great embarrassment in arriving at the real intention of the parties. Nor can much additional light be found in the interpretations which it has since received. Upon the whole, the committee are of opinion that the charge should be borne by the United States.

The committee entertain no doubt but that, by the strict construction of the treaty of 1835, the expense of a year's subsistence of the Indians after their removal west was a proper charge upon the treaty fund. It was so understood by the Government at the time, and as such was enumerated among the expenditures to be charged to that fund in the 15th article of the treaty. In the original *projet* of a treaty which was furnished to the commissioner empowered to treat with the Indians, this item was enumerated among the expenditures, investments, and payments to be provided for in its several articles, and which made up the aggregate sum of \$5,000,000 to be paid for the Cherokee country. The Secretary of War, in a letter addressed to John Ross and others, dated _____, 1836, says that the United States having allowed the full consideration for their country, nothing further would be allowed for expenses of removal and subsistence. This was done before the ratification of the treaty, while a memorial was submitted by John Ross and the other delegates against the ratification of the treaty, accompanied by a copy of the original *projet* of the treaty expressly including this charge among those to be borne by the fund. In general, the treaty expressly designates those subjects which constitute or were made independent charges upon the United States. The whole history of the negotiation of this treaty shows that the \$5,000,000 was the maximum sum which the United States were willing to pay, and that this was not so much a consideration for the lands and possessions of the Indians as an indemnity to cover the necessary sacrifices and losses in the surrender of one country and their removal to another. It is understood that this construction formed one of the objections urged by its opponents against the adoption of the treaty by the Cherokee people. On the other hand, among the circumstances establishing the propriety of a contrary construction, may be mentioned the language in the 8th article of the treaty: "The United States *also* agree and stipulate to remove the Cherokees to their new homes, and to *subsist* them *one* year after their arrival there." This imports pecuniary responsibility, rather than a simple disbursement of a trust fund. In the talk which was sent by President Jackson to the Indians to explain the advantages of the proposed treaty, he mentions that the stipulations offered "provide for the removal *at the expense of the United States* of your whole people, and for their subsistence a year after their arrival in their new country." It may be mentioned also that such has been the almost invariable policy of this Government. The expenses of removal and subsistence are the ordinary sacrifices which a simple remuneration for the price of homes does not compensate.

The neighboring tribes of the Chickasaws, Choctaws, Creeks and Seminoles, were removed and subsisted at the expense of the Government. It is not, therefore, a source of wonder that a conflicting interpretation of this treaty, pursued through a series of years, should have produced embarrassments, partially relieved by the treaty of 1846, while this, the most obstinate of all, has been left to the final arbitrament of the Senate.

The committee, however, base their opinion upon grounds independent of the treaty of 1835. This treaty, with its supplementary article, was finally ratified on the 23d of May, 1836, and by its provisions the Cherokees were required to remove within two years. The time elapsed 23d May, 1838. It had been concluded, in defiance of the protest of a large majority, with a small minority of the nation, who saw no other escape from threatened ruin. Within that period those who had favored the treaty had mostly emigrated to the west under its provisions. The large majority of the nation, adopting the counsels of John Ross—a man represented as of unlimited influence among them—had obstinately withstood all the efforts of the Government of the United States to induce them to adopt the treaty or emigrate under its provisions. Ross and his party had constantly repudiated its obligation, and denounced it as a fraud upon the nation. In the mean time, the United States had appointed its agents under the treaty, and collected a large military force to enforce the execution of the treaty. The State of Georgia had adopted a system of hostile legislation, intended to drive them from the country. She had surveyed the country, and disposed of the homes and firesides of the Cherokees by lottery, dispossessed them of their lands, subjected them to her laws, while she disqualified them to hold any political or civil rights. In this posture of affairs the Cherokees, who had never abandoned the vain hope of remaining in the country, or obtaining better terms from the United States, through John Ross and others made new proposals to the United States for the sale of their country and emigration to the west. Still pursuing the idea that they were aliens to the treaty of 1835, and unfettered by its provisions, they proposed to release all claim to their country, and emigrate for a named sum of money, in connection with other conditions, among which was the stipulation that they should be allowed to take charge of their own emigration, and that the United States should pay the expense of their emigration. To avoid the necessity of enforcing the treaty at the point of the bayonet, and to relieve itself of its counter obligations to Georgia by the compact of 1802, and to the Cherokees by the treaties of 1817 and 1819, the proposal was readily acceded to. On the 18th of May, 1838, Mr. Poinsett, then Secretary of War, addressed a reply to the proposals of the Cherokee delegation, in which he says: "If it be desired by the Cherokee nation that their own agents should have the charge of their emigration, their wishes will be complied with, and instructions be given to the commanding general in the Cherokee country to enter into arrangements with them to that effect. With regard to the *expense of this operation*, which you ask may be defrayed by the United States, in the opinion of the undersigned *the request ought to be granted*; and an application for such further sum as may be required for this purpose shall be made to Congress." The Secretary, under date of June 1, 1838, in explaining to General Scott, then in command in the Cherokee country, why this negotiation had not been transferred to him, says: "No new treaty has been made, nor propositions for a treaty entertained; but

it is proposed to make such allowances to the Cherokees *as it is believed* were intended originally by the Senate. If it had been referred to you, where you now are, there would have been no influential chiefs on the spot, with whom you could have treated. You would not probably have considered yourself authorized to propose the payment of the expenses of their removal and *subsistence*, involving, as it does, so large an amount; and the delay which must have attended the transmission of any arrangement entered into by you, at so great a distance, would have hazarded its successful passage through both branches of Congress." An application was made, and a resolution of the House of Representatives adopted, inquiring how much would be required for that purpose. Mr. Poinsett replies to this resolution, on the 25th of May, 1838, in a letter, from which the following is an extract:

"The payment of the expenses of removing the remaining	
Cherokees, estimated at 15,840, at \$30 a-head	\$475,200
Amount applicable to that purpose	39,300

Balance to be provided for	335,900
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"If it should be deemed proper to make any further provision for the payment of the *subsistence* of the emigrants for one year after their arrival in the west, it requires—estimating the whole number at 18,335, thereby including those who have already emigrated, and allowing the amount stipulated to be paid by treaty, viz., \$33 33 a-head—\$611,105 55."

These estimates, with a message containing the provisional arrangement with John Ross, were communicated to Congress and received its sanction by the act of June 12, 1838, in the following language:

"That the sum of \$1,047 67 be appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, in full for all objects specified in the 3d article of the treaty of 1835 between the United States and the Cherokees; and for the further object of aiding in the *subsistence* of the Indians for one year after their removal west: *Provided*, That no part of the said sum of money shall be deducted from the \$5,000,000 stipulated to be paid to said tribe of Indians by said treaty: *And provided, further*, That the said Indians shall receive no benefits from said appropriation, unless they shall complete their emigration within such time as the President shall deem reasonable, and without coercion on the part of the Government."

Here was a clear legislative affirmation of the terms offered by the Indians, and acceded to by the Secretary of War. It was a new contract with the Ross party, outside of the treaty, or rather a new consideration offered, to abide by its terms. The Secretary of War agrees to consider the expenses of removal and *subsistence*, as *intended* by the treaty of 1835, to be borne by the United States, and Congress affirm his act by providing that no part of the \$1,647,067 should be taken from the treaty fund. It was made auxiliary to the \$600,000 provided for in the third supplemental article—a fund provided for removal and other expenditures independent of the treaty, and in full for these objects. But as respects *subsistence*, it was in *aid* of the *expense* for that purpose, a discharge *pro tanto* of the obligation of the Government to subsist them, and not final satisfaction as in the case of removal. The fund proved wholly inadequate for these purposes. The entire expense of removal and

subsistence amounted to \$2,952,196 26, of which the sum of \$972,844 78 was expended for subsistence, and of this last amount \$172,316 47 was furnished to the Indians when in great destitution, upon their own urgent application, after the expiration of the one year, upon the understanding that it was to be deducted from the moneys due them under the treaty. This leaves the nett sum of \$800,528 31 paid for subsistence, and charged to the aggregate fund. Of this sum the United States provided by the act of 12th June, 1838, for \$611,105 55. The committee regard this sum as paid for subsistence, leaving yet unpaid, or rather overcharged, the sum of \$189,422 76, to be added to the balance found due, \$724,603 37, making in the aggregate the sum of \$914,626 13.

By the treaty of August, 1846, it was referred to the Senate to decide, and that decision to be final, whether the Cherokees shall receive interest on the sums found due them from a misapplication of their funds to purposes with which they were not chargeable, and on account of which improper charges their money has been withheld from them. It has been the uniform practice of this Government to pay and demand interest in all transactions with foreign governments, which the Indian tribes have always been said to be, both by the Supreme Court and all other branches of our Government, in all matters of treaty or contract. The Indians relying on the prompt payment of their dues, under the treaty, in many cases contracted debts upon the faith of it; upon which they have paid or are liable to pay interest. If, therefore, they do not now receive interest on their money so long withheld from them, they will, in effect, have received nothing. Your committee, therefore, think that interest should be allowed at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, from the date of removal until ———.

The committee therefore offer the following resolutions, viz :

Resolved by the Senate of the United States, (as umpire under the treaty of 1846.) That under the circumstances, the Cherokee nation are entitled to the sum of \$189,422 76 for subsistence, being the difference between the amount allowed by the act of June 12, 1838, and the amount actually paid and expended by the United States, and which excess was improperly charged to the treaty fund, in the report of the accounting officers of the Treasury.

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that interest, at the rate of five per cent. per annum, should be allowed upon the sums found due the "eastern" and "western" Cherokees respectively, from the 12th day of June, 1838, until paid.

Report of the Second Comptroller and Second Auditor of the Treasury, with a statement of the claims of the Cherokee nation of Indians, according to the principles established by the treaty of August, 1846.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, December 3, 1849.

SIR: The proper accounting officers of the Treasury having been required, by the joint resolution of the 7th of August, 1848, to make a just and fair statement of the claims of the Cherokee nation of Indians, according to the principles established by the treaty of August, 1846, between the United States and said Indians, do now, as required by said resolu-

tion, report that they have caused a full and thorough examination to be made of all the accounts and vouchers of the several officers and agents of the Government of the United States, who have disbursed money appropriated to carry into effect the treaty with the Cherokee nation of 1835, and also of the claims that have been admitted at the Treasury. As the result of said examination, it appears that there has been paid—

For improvements, the sum of	\$1,540,572 27
For ferries, the sum of	159,572 12
For spoliations, the sum of	264,894 09
For removal and subsistence, and commutation therefor, including \$2,765 84 expended for goods for the poorer classes of Cherokees, as mentioned in the 15th article of the treaty of 1835-'6; and including, also, necessary incidental expenses of enrolling agents, conductors, commissaries, medical attendance and supplies, &c., the sum of	2,952,196 26
For debt and claims upon the Cherokee nation, the sum of	101,348 31
For the additional quantity of land ceded to said nation, the sum of	500,000 00
For amount invested as the general fund of the nation, the sum of	500,880 00
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The "aggregate of which general sums" is	6,019,463 05
And which, being deducted from the sum of	6,647,067 00
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agreeably to the directions of the ninth article of the treaty of 1846, leaves a balance of \$627,603 95 due to the Cherokee nation.

As it is contended by the agents of the Cherokee nation that sundry items of expenditure embraced in the foregoing statement are not properly chargeable upon the nation under the treaty of 1846, particularly a portion of the incidental expenses connected with the removal, amounting to \$96-999 42, the undersigned report herewith a particular statement of those expenses, showing the amount thereof in detail, in order that the question, thus raised on the part of the Cherokees, may be decided by Congress.

Which is respectfully submitted.

ALBION K. PARRIS,
Second Comptroller.

P. CLAYTON,
Second Auditor.

To the PRESIDENT of the Senate of the United States.

Statement of the claims of the Cherokee nation of Indians, according to the principles established by the treaty of August, 1846, between the United States and said Indians; prepared by the accounting officers in obedience to a resolution of Congress, approved August 7, 1848.

Amount granted to the Cherokees by the first article of the treaty of 1835, for their lands east of the Mississippi		\$5,000,000 00
Amount granted by the third article of the supplement		600,000 00
Amount appropriated by Congress for objects specified in the third article of the supplement, per act of June 12, 1838		1,047,067 00
		6,647,067 00
From which deduct amount paid for—		
Improvements	\$1,540,572 27	
Ferries	159,572 12	
Spoiliations	264,894 09	
Removal and subsistence, and commutation therefor, including \$2,765 84 expended for goods for the poorer classes of Cherokees, as mentioned in the fifteenth article of the treaty of 1835-6; and including, also, necessary incidental expenses of enrolling agents, conductors, commissaries, medical attendance and supplies, &c., viz:—		
Removal and subsistence and commutation therefor	\$2,823,192, 93	
Physicians, matrons, medicines, hospital stores, &c.	32,003 91	
Superintendent of removal	\$7,188 70	
Clerk to superintendent of removal	3,985 50	
Interpreter to superintendent of removal	2,706 54	
Disbursing agents	2,725 00	
Conductors	12,097 40	
Interpreters to various agents	16,102 00	
Issuing agents	9,792 40	
Enrolling agents	16,418 50	
Contingent expenses of superintendent and disbursing agent	25,983 38	
	96,999 42	
		2,952,196 26
Debts and claims upon the Cherokee nation, viz:—		
National debts (10th article)	18,062 06	
Claims of United States citizens, &c. (10th article)	61,073 49	
Cherokee committee (12th article)	22,212 76	
	101,348 31	
Carried forward	5,018,583 05	6,647,067 00

Statement—continued.

Brought forward	\$5,018,583 05	\$ 6,647,067 00
Amount allowed the United States for the additional quantity of land ceded to said nation	500,000 00	
Amount invested as the general fund of the nation	500,880 00	
		6,019,463 05
Balance due Cherokee Indians		\$627,603 95

C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, May 10, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to communicate the information desired by you in your letter of the 30th ult., respecting the origin and history of the claim of the Creek nation, for losses sustained by that part of the tribe who were friendly to the United States during the last war with Great Britain.

The claim originated during the said war, and is for losses sustained in consequence of the claimants taking part with, and remaining friendly to, the United States. It is based on the promise embodied in a communication from General Thomas Pinckney to Col. Benjamin Hawkins, United States agent for the Creek tribe, of the 23d April, 1814, in which was stated the terms upon which peace would be granted to the hostile portion of the tribe, viz., that "the United States will retain so much of the conquered territory as may appear to the Government thereof to be a just indemnity for the expenses of the war, and as a restitution for the injuries sustained by its citizens, *and the friendly Creek Indians.*" * * *

"You will please, sir, to communicate these terms to the friendly Indians, and to enjoin them, in the prosecution of the war against such as may continue hostile, to abstain carefully from injuring those who may be returning, with the intention of making their submission. You may likewise inform them that the United States will not forget their fidelity; but, in the arrangements which may be made of the lands to be retained as indemnity, their claims will be respected; and such of their chiefs as have distinguished themselves by their exertion and valor in the common cause will also receive a remuneration in the ceded lands, and in such manner as the Government may direct."

Those propositions resulted in the treaty concluded by Gen. Jackson, on 9th August, 1814, by which the Indian title was extinguished to between 14 and 15 millions of acres of land. Prior to signing the treaty, the friendly Indians called the attention of Gen. Jackson to the promise of Gen. Pinckney, with a view that a provision should be inserted for the remuneration for their losses; but the General declined, because his power to negotiate did not "extend to embrace by treaty, or capitulation, the promises contained therein." The Indians, however, agreed to sign the treaty on the condition, among others, that the said promise should be sent on with the treaty—saying, we rely on the justice of the United States to cause justice to be done us. (See American State papers, vol. 1, pp. 837, 857, and 858.)

By reference to vol. Indian treaties, p. 159, it will be seen that, by the treaty of 1814, the cession to the United States was intended to compensate the Government for the expenses of the war with the hostile Creek Indians, that it was strictly of a military character—more of the character of a capitulation, with a pledge for indemnity, than an ordinary civil compact.

On the 29th August, 1815, the War Department informed Col. Benjamin Hawkins, the Creek agent, "that it is the wish of the President that

you should proceed to the liquidation of the claim of the friendly Indians to indemnity, upon the principles of General Pinckney's and your letter to them." The result to be transmitted to the Department, to be laid before the President for his ultimate decision and approbation.

On 1st April, 1816, Col. Hawkins made his report "on the claims of the friendly Indians for losses sustained by them in their civil war, agreeably to the terms of peace offered by Maj. Gen. Pinckney, 23d April, 1814, and the preliminaries to the treaty of Fort Jackson, of August following." "He states that it is imperfect, from the peculiar situation of affairs there, and cannot be otherwise till all the hunters are in, which is not expected till the last of next month."

According to the data before him, the aggregate of the claims which had been presented amounted to \$108,415 12½, and the amount of the same reported on favorably to \$78,360 75; and he states that, from the best information he has obtained, the whole amount of just claims will not exceed \$100,000.

The subject received the attention of Congress, and resulted in the passage of an "act for the relief of certain Creek Indians," approved 3d March, 1817, which authorized the Secretary of War "to cause the sum of eighty-five thousand dollars to be paid to the friendly Creek Indians, whose property was destroyed by the hostile Creek Indians in the late war, in fair and just proportion to the losses which they have severally sustained from such Indians."

It appears that a Creek delegation was in this city, attending to the business of their people, in the winter of 1816-'17, and that they then had a talk with the Secretary of War on the subject; who said to them, among other things, "You have been a long time detained here, but our great council does business slowly, and you wanted to know, before you returned, how much money they would give to your people as a compensation for their property that was destroyed by the hostiles during the late war. The law, which has passed on that subject, authorizes the President to apply eighty-five thousand dollars to that object. The money will be sent to your agent, to be divided among the sufferers in proportion to their losses."

On the 20th March, 1817, David B. Mitchell, who had been appointed the agent for the Creeks, in place of Hawkins, deceased, was furnished with a copy of the law, above referred to, together with a copy of the estimate of Col. Hawkins, as to the losses sustained by the friendly Creek Indians, and told, that it, with other papers, "were laid before the committee on claims, and the law was predicated upon them; but, as it is general in its terms, it will be proper to pay the claimants mentioned in the estimate only a portion of their claims at present, as it is probable that there may be other claimants entitled to the benefits of the law who are not mentioned in the list furnished by Col. Hawkins; therefore a final distribution of the money should not take place until the whole amount of claims are ascertained."

On 18th March, 1818, Agent Mitchell, says: "I have now the honor to enclose a concise statement of the accounts presented by the friendly Indians for losses during the late war, and of the application of the sum appropriated by Congress for their payment, by which it appears that a little upwards of \$100,000 is still due. The gross amounts of the claims

presented, including the abstract made by Col. Hawkins, is very little over or under \$300,000, but they were reduced by the chiefs to \$195,417 90." A copy of the statement enclosed by Agent Mitchell is herewith, marked A, showing that, after applying the \$85,000 appropriated as aforesaid, there remained due to the claimants the sum of \$110,417 90.

The Creek nation, through their deputations sent to this city, repeatedly invoked the action of the Government with a view to the payment of the balance due their people for the said losses. On the 28th March, 1819, the Secretary of War, in a talk to the delegation then here, said: "Brothers, you state that the sum which has been paid is not equal to the damages which you sustained in the late war, and that in justice you ought to receive the remainder. The power to remunerate you belongs solely to Congress, and when they appropriated the sum of \$85,000, it was estimated that it was sufficient. Whether an additional sum will be voted to remunerate you for your losses rests solely with the justice and wisdom of Congress." And, again, on 6th January, 1820, the Secretary said: "The claim of the Creek nation for further remuneration for losses sustained in the late war will be submitted to the consideration of the Committee on Indian Affairs, and should the claim be sanctioned by Congress, the amount will be immediately thereupon remitted to the agent to be paid to the nation."

The next action had upon the matter, as far as has been ascertained, was in April, 1824, when the Committee of Ways and Means, in obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives, instructing them "to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation to compensate the friendly Creek Indians for property lost and destroyed during the late Creek war," reported that it was inexpedient to make any further appropriation to compensate the friendly Creek Indians for property lost and destroyed during the Creek war." The report was based on the opinion of the Committee that the sum of \$85,000 appropriated by the law of 1817 was intended to be a full indemnity for all the losses of the friendly Indians, and was equal to any reasonable expectation. This, the report states, "appears to be manifest from the estimate by Col. Hawkins, that the chiefs would have been satisfied, at the date of the treaty, with the sum of \$60,000; and, in the letter of the acting Secretary of War to D. B. Mitchell, predicated on Col. Hawkins's estimate, it will be proper to pay the claimants mentioned in the estimate only a portion of their claim at present, as it is probable that there may be other claimants entitled to the benefits of the law who are not mentioned in the list of claims furnished by Col. Hawkins," &c. (See American State Papers, Indian Affairs, vol. 2, p. 492.)

And here I beg leave to express the opinion—from a careful and attentive examination of the whole matter, that the opinion of the Committee was based upon a misapprehension of the facts as they actually exist, by not having before them *all* the papers in the Department bearing upon the subject, and not discriminating as to the character of the claim actually submitted to them.

The facts as they really exist are as follows: the communication of Gen. Pinckney embraces two propositions affecting the friendly Creek Indians, viz: 1st. *Restitution from the conquered territory for the injuries and losses sustained by them*; and, 2d. That their claim to a portion

of the land, embraced within the lines of the tract retained by the United States as indemnity, should be respected.

The claim submitted to the Committee was that embraced in the first proposition of General Pinckney; but it is manifest that they arrived at their conclusion by regarding the statement of Col. Hawkins, that he believed at the time of the drawing of the lines of the land for the treaty, \$60,000 would have been received as an equivalent, as having had reference to the claim of the friendly Indians for losses of property, and injuries committed upon them by the hostile party; whereas, it had reference to the amount the Indians would have been willing to receive for their portion of the land, retained as indemnity to the United States, &c. See document last referred to, p. 493, and to vol. 1, same series, p. 837, statement of Col. Hawkins, and the condition on which the friendly Indians signed the treaty of 1814.

The misapprehension of the Committee is further shown by their reference to the instructions from the Acting Secretary of War, of 20th March, 1817, and by regarding the estimate of Col. Hawkins, therein specified, as the paper in which he stated his belief that the Indians would have been satisfied with \$60,000; whereas, the estimate adverted to was that embodied in Col. Hawkins's letter to the War Department, of April 1, 1816, and hereinbefore quoted from, in which he states that, from the best information he had obtained, the whole amount of just claims for losses would not exceed \$100,000. That paper does not appear to have been sent to the Committee from the Department. It is herewith marked B, and furnishes a key, I think, to the instructions to Col. Mitchell, when he was directed to make partial payments only, until he had ascertained whether the \$85,000 would be sufficient to pay all the claims. Col. Mitchell then proceeded, under his instructions and with the aid of the chiefs, to examine all the claims. The result, showing an amount of \$110,417 90 to be due, is, as before stated, herewith.

In the preceding remarks, the request of the Chairman of the Committee to be furnished with a history of the Creek claim, and the views of this office as to its justice, has been complied with. The facts that constitute the history of the claim have been carefully compiled from the public records. The inferences from these facts are respectfully and cheerfully submitted, because, if they are erroneous, the Committee will at once perceive the error, and come to a correct conclusion. The points of most importance in forming a conclusion satisfactory to myself were: 1st. The authority of Agent Mitchell to complete an estimate of losses, which was reported as imperfect by his predecessor, Col. Hawkins. Col. Hawkins's estimate, as far as he had progressed in making it, estimated the claim at over \$100,000, which was reduced to \$78,360 75. Agent Mitchell subsequently reported the gross amount as at about \$300,000, which the chiefs reduced to \$195,417 90. I think that the authority delegated to Agent Hawkins was continued by virtue of the succession to Agent Mitchell. 2d. Whether the Committee, whose report is referred to, did or did not confound a land claim with a claim for indemnity for losses. I have furnished the chairman with the reasons that have led me to the conclusion that the Committee were inadvertently led into such a misapprehension; and, 3d. Was the appropriation of \$85,000 by the act of 1817 ever acquiesced in by the Indians themselves as a full equivalent for

the indemnity claimed by them? Their repeated applications to Congress show that they did not so understand it or receive it.

All the foregoing is most respectfully submitted.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner.

Hon. D. R. ATCHISON,
Chairman Com. Indian Affairs, Senate.

CAVETAW, 1st April, 1816.

I herewith transmit, in obedience to the orders of your department, a report on the claims of the friendly Indians for losses sustained by them in their civil war, agreeably to the terms of peace offered by Major General Pinckney, 23d April, 1814, and the preliminary to the treaty of Fort Jackson of August following. It is imperfect from the peculiar situation of affairs here, and cannot be otherwise till all the hunters are in, which is not expected till the last of next month.

As soon as the terms of peace were offered, I directed Mr. Limbaugh, assistant agent, to commence taking their claims, and, after the treaty of Fort Jackson, ordered, in conformity with the direction of General Jackson, that he should continue until he had taken in the whole of their claims. The rule adopted was, for the claimants to appear before him, in presence of some chiefs of the town, give in a detailed account of losses, with the value affixed to each article, the account signed by the owner, and countersigned by the interpreter and assistant agent.

Upon receipt of the order to report on the claims, I proceeded to execute the same, but other public duties, a severe indisposition, and the defect in the vouchers as noted in the report, retarded them until the Indians commenced their winter's hunt, which was earlier than usual from necessity, and has not yet terminated. Added to this, the chiefs who convened at Tukawbatchee, having suspended the ratification of the treaty, and conducted themselves in relation to it in the manner detailed in the account of that transaction, I have not been able to prevail on them to come forward and afford any aid to enable me to execute the duties enjoined on me satisfactorily.

The speaker for the upper Creeks, who is more interested than any other, if his account is correct, has repeatedly declined signing his claim, or giving any explanation; and does believe, or affects to believe, by doing so it would render the treaty complete on the part of the nation, and be in violation of the advice he has received on that subject.

I believe, from the best information I have obtained, the whole amount of just claims will not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, and it is probable, upon a revision in the presence of the claimants, there may be a deduction in some of those reported on. If it should be deemed advisable to take order on this report, and appropriate money for the purpose, a sum not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars will be sufficient.

The claimants should receive by themselves, and not by attorney or order, to prevent speculation on them, which has already commenced by persons obtruding themselves on them, and trying to obtrude them on the Government, to secure the payment of their claims on shares for one-

half or one-fourth. I shall continue, as opportunity offers, to complete the report from time to time, and will have a meeting in every town interested, as soon as I am apprised the claimants are coming in from hunting.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BENJAMIN HAWKINS.

WM. H. CRAWFORD, *Secretary of War.*

Statement of claims for losses by the friendly Creek Indians, during the late war, as liquidated and settled by the chiefs in council, at Fort Hawkins, in July, 1817, and at the agency, in January, 1818; also showing the sums paid and balance due.

1. Amounts liquidated for Upper Towns at Fort Hawkins, in July, 1817	\$77,572 50	
Deduct this amount, paid at the same time	31,029 00	
		\$46,543 50
2. Amounts liquidated for Lower Towns, at Fort Hawkins, in July, 1817	29,775 00	
Deduct this amount, paid at same time	119,10 00	
		17,865 00
3. Miscellaneous claims liquidated at Fort Hawkins, in July, 1817	27,157 00	
Deduct this sum, paid to these claims	10,862 00	
		16,295 00
4. Amount liquidated at the agency, in 1818	49,524 00	
Deduct this amount, paid to these claims	19,809 60	
		29,714 40
Whole balance due		\$110,417 90

Recapitulation, showing application of the sum appropriated.

Paid to Upper Creeks, in July, 1817	31,029 00
Paid to Lower Creeks, in July, 1817	11,910 00
Paid to miscellaneous claims	10,862 00
Paid at the agency, in January, 1818	19,809 60
	73,610 60
Paid Major Hughes, by special order of the chiefs	3,400
Paid 2½ per cent. discount on sale of bills for \$83,000	2,075 (a).
Received by McIntosh, at Washington	2,000
	7,475 00
(b). This balance placed in the hands of the two principal chiefs, by general consent, to be applied to some cases of peculiar hardship otherwise unprovided for	3,914 40
	85,000 00

(a.) \$83,000 of the money having been remitted in drafts upon the United States Bank, in Philadelphia, and the branch of that bank in Savannah, refusing to pay them, this charge arose from the difference of exchange between Savannah and Augusta and Philadelphia, at that time, and has been allowed by the chiefs, rather than be delayed, or run the risk of conveyance by an agent.

(b.) When the first payments were made, it was necessary, as the claims were not all received at that time, and the amount was much greater than the sum appropriated, to adopt some rule of proportion in making the payment. Two-fifths was finally determined upon; and this sum is the balance, after paying two-fifths of the whole claims liquidated. And as some cases have occurred which merit attention, but were excluded in consequence of the limitation, this amount has been set apart to relieve them by general consent.

D. B. MITCHELL,
Agent for Indian Affairs.

CREEK AGENCY, March 18, 1818.