

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, November 26, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the annual report of this office, accompanied by the usual reports of the superintendents, agents, teachers, and other employes attached to the Indian service, with copies of various documents emanating from, and addressed to, this bureau; to all which your attention is respectfully called.

The Senecas of the State of New York, with the remnants of other of the "Six Nations" residing in that State, have made some improvement in their educational and other temporal pursuits. The internal dissensions of the Senecas, referred to in former reports, have, in a great degree, ceased. The legislature, with commendable liberality, has made an appropriation for the establishment of an asylum for the benefit of the indigent on the Cattaraugus and Alleghany reserves, and it is understood that measures are in progress to consummate the benevolent intentions of the State.

New conventional arrangements, deemed requisite with the Indians in the State of Michigan, have been entered into with the confederate tribe of Ottowas and Chippewas, the Chippewas of Saginaw, and the small band of Chippewas of Swan creek. By them the Indians are to have assigned permanent homes, to be hereafter confirmed to them, in small tracts, in severalty. Such guards and restrictions are thrown around their lands and limited annuities as cannot fail, if faithfully regarded and respected, to place them in comfortable and independent circumstances.

It is expected that similar arrangements will be made with the Pottowatomies of Huron, and remnants of other Indian tribes in Michigan, in time, if approved, to be acted on and ratified during the approaching session of Congress.

It is gratifying to know that the Indians of Michigan are advancing in the arts of civilized life, increasing in numbers, and many of them now exercising the privileges and discharging the duties of citizens of the State, to which, by her humane and liberal policy, they may all in time attain.

The provision made for the Menomonee Indians, by the convention of May, 1854, supplementary to the treaty of 1848, appears to be properly appreciated by the entire tribe. It is provided that the money to be from time to time hereafter appropriated to carry into effect its stipulations, shall be applied under the direction of the President, in such manner as will, it is believed, promote the improvement of these people in all the essentials requisite to educate and make them an agricultural community. Since their present reservation in Wisconsin has been confirmed to them as a permanent home, they have made very gratifying advancement in improvement, and have shown a ready willingness to apply themselves to labor, and otherwise to conform to the habits and customs of the white race.

The Oneidas, in Wisconsin, are generally in the same prospering condition as indicated heretofore. Some of their young men have, however, been induced to abandon agricultural pursuits and their reservation, and have thus been thrown in the way of bad influences. It is to be hoped that they will listen to the admonitions they have recently received on this subject, and cease pursuits and practices so likely to injure and destroy them.

Congress inserted a clause in the last general appropriation bill to enable the President to treat with and arrange the difficulties among the Stockbridges and Munsee Indians in the State of Wisconsin, and also to arrange their business with the United States, in such way as to do justice to the Indians, the settlers on the reserve and the government; and thus relieve the questions involved from the complication and embarrassment surrounding them. The late Commissioner of the General Land Office, by your direction, was instructed to join the Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Lake Winnebago, in order that his knowledge of our land system might be made available in the negotiations to take place, and the settlement, if possible, of the various and delicate questions involved. A supplemental treaty was made with the Indians on the first day of June, which was transmitted here on the fifth day of that month, by the superintendent, with a notification that in his opinion it ought not to be submitted to the Senate. In the report of Mr. Wilson, afterwards received, the same opinion was expressed, and by your direction the subject has been referred back to the superintendent and the Indians.

The Brothertons reside on Lake Winnebago, adjacent to the Stockbridges, and have to some extent been affected by the strife and bitter feelings existing among their neighbors. Beyond this they seem to be living comfortably, and are in the enjoyment of all the privileges accorded to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

By the treaty concluded September 30, 1854, between the United States and the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, an arrangement was effected with those Indians, as to their distinctive rights to lands claimed by each, on Lake Superior and the Mississippi river, and the country intervening. A cession was also obtained of a large and, from its supposed mineral resources, valuable district of country from the Indians of Lake Superior, and the relative interests of each in the stipulations of former treaties were fully set forth and satisfactorily adjusted. An important feature in this treaty is the setting apart of certain designated tracts of land for the occupancy of various bands of these people, with a view to the cultivation of the soil and, prospectively, to a transfer of the same to them in severalty. These Indians can, with proper efforts, it is believed, be made an industrious and civilized people. They reside in what is called the northern peninsula of Michigan, and the north-western portion of the State of Wisconsin, and between Saint Louis river and the British line in Minnesota, and I regard it as creditable to the people of the States alluded to, that they have not interposed any objection, but, on the contrary, have seemed willing that the Indians might be permitted to remain within the limits of the respective States. The necessary steps are in progress to define the

boundaries of their reservations, to provide them with the means of education, and in all other respects to fulfil the beneficial stipulations of their treaty.

From their remote position, either to the Michigan or to the agency on the Mississippi, they are almost entirely destitute of the advice, counsel or assistance of an agent, which is indispensable to their peace and interests; and provision should be made to supply them with the services of a faithful officer.

A change for the better seems to be taking place in the condition and prospects of the Indians of Minnesota. The Chippewas of the Mississippi appear to understand and appreciate the policy and objects of the treaty made with them in February last, by which the different bands are to be concentrated on small reservations in suitable localities—the lands to be divided among them in severalty—and where they are required to devote themselves to industrial pursuits. Their hereditary chief, Hole-in-the-Day, who headed the delegation to this city with which the treaty was made, has set them a most excellent and commendable example, having, on his return home, gone earnestly to work, and practically demonstrated to his people the advantages of personal exertion and industry. He raised not only an abundant supply of grain and vegetables for his own family, but had a considerable surplus to dispose of, at the annuity payment, to those who had been less provident. The assembled tribe there saw and understood, in the case of one of their own people—a leading and influential man among them—some of the advantages and benefits of a settled and industrious course of life. One of the most marked evidences of the commencement of a spirit of improvement among these people is seen in a growing disposition to dispense with the peculiar dress of the Indian and adopt that of civilized life.

A new treaty with the Winnebagoes, embracing the same policy, was also made in February last, by which they were assigned a new and more suitable home on the Blue Earth river, south of the Minnesota, with which they were well pleased, and where nearly the whole of them have quietly and contentedly settled down. They have been more temperate and orderly than heretofore, and have manifested an encouraging disposition to give up their unsettled habits and devote themselves to the cultivation of the soil.

The Sioux of Minnesota consist of four bands of the great Dacotah family—the Med-a-wan-kan-toan, Wah-pay-koo-tah, Se-see-toan, and Wah-pay-toan, the great body of whom are now concentrated on their reservation on the Upper Minnesota river. A small portion of the first yet linger about their former homes below; but it is expected they will soon be induced to join and quietly settle down with their brethren. A more orderly and peaceful spirit is beginning to prevail among those people. There has been but one case reported of depredations committed by any of them, and but one difficulty with the Chippewas, which was occasioned by the misconduct of a party of the latter. It is gratifying to believe that the arrangements with both these tribes, respecting their location and concentration, and for their future management and control, will effectually tend to put an end to

the hostile and bloody collisions between them, heretofore of so frequent occurrence.

The agent appointed for the Blackfeet and other wild tribes in their region of country accompanied the expedition sent up the Missouri river to hold a council with those Indians, and, at the last accounts, had reached his destination at Fort Benton.

The Indians of the Upper Missouri agency consist of eight different bands of the Sioux or Dacotah tribe; the Gros Ventres of the Missouri; the Mandans; the Arickarees; the Assinaboines, and the Crows. They claim, and partially occupy, an immense region of country between the Platte and Missouri rivers, which is said to be generally of a desert and sterile character. Some of them cultivate small patches of arable land, where they can find it; but their subsistence is derived chiefly from the chase and from roots, and a few species of wild fruits and berries found in that region. The supplies thus obtained are so scanty that they are frequently reduced to extreme destitution, and even starvation; and it is difficult to perceive how they are to exist, unless some arrangement can be made by which resources of sustenance can be developed for them, or it is supplied to them directly by the government.

In regard to the Indians within the Upper Platte agency, and the judicious plans proposed to be adopted by the agent, to separate and sever the friendly from the hostile bands, as well as the disposition of the Indians in that region toward the United States—almost all of whom it is represented desire the good will of the government—I refer for details to the accompanying reports of Agent Twiss.

The country above the Ayoway not being satisfactory to the Omaha Indians, and in the judgment of the department, under the circumstances, not suitable for them, they were assigned a reservation for a permanent home at the "Blackbird Hills," in Nebraska Territory, to which they removed in the month of May last. While on their way to the plains on the summer hunt, a party of Sioux attacked them, and, among others, killed Fontenelle, the principal chief. The Omahas fled towards the Missouri, and have since been unwilling to return to their reservation. In view of all the circumstances, their agent has been instructed to permit them to remain in a suitable location, west of Bellvue, until next spring; but to impress upon them the absolute necessity of a return at that time to their reservation. Arrangements have been made for the erection of school buildings, the breaking of land, and other improvements, on their reserve; and a saw-mill will be erected thereon next season, and all needful steps taken to place within the reach of these Indians the advantages of all the liberal provisions made by treaty for their improvement and comfort.

The Ottoes and Missouriias, although satisfied with the tribal home provided for them on the Big Blue, have manifested, nevertheless, an unwillingness to abandon their old haunts on the Missouri river. They have, however, partially emigrated to their reserve, and the necessary steps have been taken to erect school buildings thereon, and to make all the improvements provided to be made by the recent treaty with those Indians. The educational interests of these bands,

as well as the Omahas, have been assigned to the Presbyterian Board of Missions.

The Pawnees and Poncas, who, with the Omahas, and Ottoes, and Missourias, constitute the Council Bluffs agency, are in an unsettled state. The former claim a large tract of country in Nebraska, and in their roving habits have not even confined themselves to it. They have infested the emigrant roads and been very annoying. The Poncas have also been guilty of depredations, and have the character of lawless Indians.

The Pawnees recently informed their agent that they desired to treat with the government and to sell their country; and it is also understood that the Poncas are anxious to make some treaty arrangements. It is very desirable that the Pawnees and Poncas should be brought under some restraint, and advantageous treaty arrangements can, it is believed, be now made with them.

The Ioways and Missouri Sacs and Foxes, of the Great Nemahaw agency, have, during the past year, manifested some interest in agricultural pursuits, and otherwise improved in their habits and disposition. It is to be regretted that so many of them are still unwilling to avail themselves of the ample facilities afforded for the education of their children. Their excellent missionary teachers continue, however, with unabated zeal and diligence, which must, in time, result in overcoming the apathy of the Indians on this important subject.

The Kickapoos have raised and secured sufficient supplies for their subsistence during the winter; and a portion of them have provided better accommodations for themselves by the erection of comfortable log cabins on the reservation set apart for them. It is gratifying to know that there has been less intemperance amongst them than usual, and that they are beginning to realize the importance of taking efficient measures to rid themselves of this vice.

The circumstances by which the Delaware Indians have been surrounded since the organization of the territory of Kansas, and the trespasses upon their rights and other irregularities of their new neighbors, have not been such as to impress them very favorably with our civilization. Reposing, however, with confidence in the government, the Delawares, generally, have applied themselves to agricultural pursuits and have realized a supply of food for the year. Their agent has been unremitting in his exertions to protect their rights and advance their interests.

The agent for the Shawnees and Wyandotts reports that they "have enjoyed during the last twelve months almost uninterrupted prosperity and they are now rejoicing in an abundant return from the toils and labors of the husbandman." These are the most civilized tribes of the central superintendency; many of them being educated and sufficiently advanced to appreciate, and desire to be invested with, the privileges and duties of citizens of the United States. A treaty placing the Wyandotts in that position, and providing for the termination of their annuities and the division of the principal thereof amongst them, as well as of their lands in severalty, was negotiated with them last winter, and ratified by the President and Senate. Their tribal organization has therefore ceased, except so far as its

partial and temporary continuance is necessary in the execution of some of the provisions of the treaty; and they will soon no longer be known as an Indian tribe.

The mass of the Shawnees are not as far advanced in improvement as the Wyandotts; and some of the principal men have held, in former years, such relations of intimacy and confidence with unprincipled white men, as to render it very difficult now to exercise a salutary control over them. They have very large money annuities, and their lands soon to be assigned them will be valuable. Their position is exposed and their condition critical; and it is of the first importance that their leading men be of high integrity. It is to be feared from recent indications that some of them are still under the influences referred to, and if so they are very unsafe guardians of the rights and interests of the Indians.

The Pottowatomies and Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, though greatly diminished in numbers, are the two most populous of the emigrated tribes, on the frontier, within the central superintendency. They have for many years been in the receipt of large annuities, and liberal provision has been made for their welfare and advancement; but I regret to say (with the exception of some of the Pottowatomies, and a recent commendable act of the Sac and Fox council to suppress intemperance) they present no evidences of material improvement. The pernicious and corrupting effects of their money annuities, which have afforded them the means of indulging in profligacy and vice, and enabled them to live the greater portion of their time without exertion, and the frequent removals from one locality to another, have crippled and counteracted the efforts made to domesticate and civilize them. They demonstrate in a striking manner the three great evils which have attended our Indian policy—large money annuities; excessive quantities of land held in common; and continued changes of location in advance of our frontier population. We can hope for no material alteration for the better in their condition and prospects, until they shall have been concentrated upon reservations of limited extent, and provision made for the division of the land among them in severalty, as fast as this can be safely and prudently effected. New treaties with them are necessary for the accomplishment of these objects.

A number of the chiefs and other leading men among the Pottowatomies are, from their long contact and association with corrupt influences, very reckless and dishonest men. They have been wielded and controlled by such influences for many years, to the manifest destruction of their own morals and integrity, and the great injury of the Indians. To save the Pottowatomies from the injurious and evil effects of these influences, it may be necessary for the government to resort to an extreme measure, and to cause such chiefs as will not sever their association with unprincipled white men to be deposed. Such steps may also be necessary with the head men of some other tribes in Kansas territory and elsewhere.

The moral as well as physical condition of confederated bands of Kaskaskias and Peorias, Weas and Piankeshaws, and the Miamies, constituting the Osage river agency, has improved within the last

year. A vigorous temperance reformation has been set on foot, in which several of the principal men of the Miamies are active and zealous instruments. An unusual quantity of seed was planted in the spring, which yielded an abundant harvest. Large quantities of hay have been mowed and secured, and potatoes have yielded abundantly. The health of all the Indians within this agency has been good. Arrangements have been made with the domestic mission board of the southern Baptist convention for the education of the children within this agency; and as many of the Indians have manifested a laudable desire for the instruction of their youth, it is anticipated that favorable results will flow from this measure.

The Kaw or Kansas tribe of Indians residing within the Council Grove agency, in consequence of their proximity to the trading posts on the Santa F road, where they can procure intoxicating beverages from traders and emigrants passing through their country, have become addicted to habits of intemperance and indolence, and the commission of such misdemeanors and crimes as usually follow in the wake of the liquor traffic. The annuities provided for them by the government have proved rather an injury than a blessing, from the fact of their having been squandered for ardent spirits soon after their reception from the government agents. Thus exposed to influences of the most deleterious character, they have been guilty, in some instances, of the commission of depredations upon the property of emigrants on the great thoroughfare leading to Santa Fé. It cannot be reasonably expected that their condition can be improved to any considerable extent, unless the requisite steps be taken to circumscribe the area of their present reservation, with a view to their being concentrated within a smaller sphere where they may be more easily controlled and influenced to engage in the cultivation of the soil, and whatever else may be regarded as indispensable to their civilization.

The peculiar condition of the emigrated tribes in Kansas Territory was stated at some length in the last annual report. They were removed thither under the most solemn assurances and guarantees that the country assigned them should be to them and their descendants a permanent home forever. In retroceding large bodies of land to the United States, by which portions of the Territory were lawfully opened to the occupation and settlement of its citizens, neither the government or the Indians sought to change the guarantees and stipulations of former treaties; but they were recognized as obligatory and binding within the tracts of land reserved for the permanent home of the Indians. The organic act of the Territory also regarded them, and it was expressly declared that nothing in the act should "be construed to impair the rights of persons or property now pertaining to the Indians in said Territory, so long as such rights shall remain unextinguished by treaty between the United States and such Indians." The peaceful possession and quiet enjoyment of the tracts reserved by the Indians for their homes are guaranteed and secured to them by the faith of treaties and the laws of the land, and it is to be regretted that, in different sections of the Territory, persons have trespassed upon their rights by committing waste and even locating within and making improvements upon the Indian lands. As cases have been

reported, the agents have been instructed to notify the wrong doers that their acts were in violation of law and the faith of treaties, and that they must cease their trespasses and retire outside of the Indian reservations. Many of the intruders have wholly disregarded the admonitions and warnings of the officers of the Indian service, and to compel obedience and to vindicate the good faith and authority of the government in this behalf the military arm has been invoked and called into requisition; and under instructions recently issued by direction of the President, it is expected that all persons remaining unlawfully upon any of the Indian reservations in Kansas Territory after a period to be fixed, and of which they will have notice, will be forcibly ejected therefrom. However disagreeable it may be to resort to this extreme measure, the condition of those Indians is such as to require it, and the obligations of the United States towards them cannot be discharged without its application. If persons within that Territory will persist in trespassing upon the rights of the Indians, after the admonitions so often repeated to them, all fair minds must sanction the proceedings of the government in its forcible expulsion of them from the Indian reservations. Causes of complaint and dissatisfaction have also existed among the tribes who ceded their lands in trust to the United States, because of the encroachments of the whites upon these lands in advance of their being surveyed and offered for sale at public auction. The act of March 3, 1855, authorizing the President to cause these trust lands to be classified and appraised before they are offered for sale, will, it is believed, enable the government to execute the trust in good faith; and the agents have been instructed to assure the Indians that they may rely upon the faithful execution of the stipulations for the sale of these trust lands.

The recent executive of the Territory in fixing the election districts and appointing voting places, and in establishing the executive office, did not regard the organic law, which excluded Indian reserves from its operation, but embraced several reservations within the districts, and authorized polls to be opened in them. He also established his executive office within the Shawnee country. The territorial legislature, following his example, held its session at the Shawnee mission, and by its enactments has embraced some of the Indian reserves within the organized counties—all which is clearly a violation of treaty stipulations and the act creating the Territory.

Many of the emigrants to, and settlers in the Territory of Kansas, are engaged in bitter controversy and strife in relation to the institutions to be formed there, as applicable to the condition of the African race; yet the hostile factions seem to have no sympathy for the red man; but, on the contrary, many of both sides appear to disregard his interests and trespass upon his rights with impunity.

The condition and circumstances of the four leading tribes of the southern superintendency—the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws and Chickasaws—continue to afford gratifying evidences of increasing prosperity and improvement in the elements of civilized life. The peace and good order prevailing amongst them and their earnest efforts to improve their physical and moral condition, entitle them to the warm and active sympathies of our people, and the liberal and

generous regard of the government. They are more and more devoting themselves to agricultural pursuits, and using every effort and means in their power for the general diffusion of the blessings of education and the Christian religion amongst them. The great drought of last year almost entirely destroyed their crops, and subjected them to much trial and suffering, which, however, they bore submissively and with commendable fortitude. But this calamity has not been without a blessing. It impressed them with the importance of a closer and more general attention to the cultivation of the soil for a subsistence, resulting in more enlarged agricultural operations the present year, the immediate benefits of which they have already experienced.

The difficulties between the Choctaws and Chickasaws, explained in former reports, will, it is hoped, be effectually adjusted and settled by the convention which was entered into with the representatives of the two tribes in this city the past summer; subject, however, to the ratification of their councils, as well as the President and Senate of the United States. This instrument, if so ratified, will, it is believed, put an end to the galling relations of the Choctaws, in which the Chickasaws have been held, under and since the convention of 1837. It will give to the latter independent jurisdiction and the right of self government, which they have so earnestly sought to obtain for years past, while it will simplify the relations of the two tribes with each other and with the government; and secure other important objects and advantages not only to them but to the United States. By the convention referred to it is provided that the western end of the Choctaw country shall be opened to the permanent settlement of the southern Comanches, Witchitaws and such other Indians, within prescribed limits, as the United States may determine to locate therein; and it is gratifying to know that some of these Indians have expressed an anxious desire to place themselves under the protection of the government, and to accept of permanent homes in the country alluded to.

The Seminoles, under the treaty of 1845, hold the same undesirable and injurious relations to the Creeks, which the Chickasaws have to the Choctaws under the convention of 1837. They form a small district of the Creek nation, and are entitled to a voice in its general council; but are in so hopeless a minority, and so discontented with the arrangement, they will take no part in the proceedings of that body. They do not consider themselves subject to the laws passed by it, and are thus practically without government or law. The necessary result of such a condition is seen in their idle, dissipated and reckless habits. They not only thus suffer themselves, but present a vicious and injurious example to the less well disposed among their brethren of the other tribe. Without the speedy application of some remedy, this state of things is likely to lead to serious consequences.

I would again suggest that, in justice to the Seminoles, they should have a separate country and jurisdiction, with the right of self-government. They are entitled to these privileges on the same grounds as the Chickasaws, and placed in an independent position, with the right and responsibility of governing themselves, they would gradu-

ally lose their present sense of degradation and their disposition to lawlessness, and soon become a better people. If so situated, it is believed that their brethren in Florida would be induced peaceably to emigrate and join them, as it is understood that one of their principal objections to doing so now is the inferior and subordinate position to the Creeks in which they would be placed.

The southern superintendency embraces within the Neosho agency, also the small bands of Quapaws, the Senecas, the Senecas and Shawnees, and the tribe of Osage Indians, all of whom, except the latter, are agriculturists, and are gradually improving in their condition and circumstances. The drought of the last and during a portion of the present year, though materially diminishing their resources and comforts, has fortunately resulted in no actual suffering among them.

The Osages still continue their erratic and unsettled mode of life, trafficking, stealing from and warring with the tribes of the plains and other Indians. They are suffering from the evil of having too large an extent of country, which naturally disinclines them to concentrate and settle down to industrial pursuits. Their title should be extinguished to all except a small portion of their country; which they should be placed under stringent treaty obligations to remain upon and cultivate. During the latter part of the last winter, the small pox suddenly broke out amongst them and proved fatal to some four hundred of their number. A physician was immediately employed, who energetically commenced the work of vaccination, and thus checked the disease.

The supervising agent reports an encouraging degree of success as attending the commencement of the colonization of the Indians of Texas, on the reservations granted by that State for the purpose. A majority of five different bands have located on one of the reservations, and have conducted themselves in an exemplary manner. Voluntarily abstaining from the use of ardent spirits, there has not been a gallon sold on the reservation, nor a case of drunkenness amongst them; nor have they, so far as known, been guilty of a single depredation upon any of our citizens. They are pleased with their new mode of life, and have displayed so much interest and industry in the agricultural operations commenced for their benefit, as to justify the conclusion that in a year or two more they will be disposed and able to maintain themselves, with but little assistance from the government. There is every prospect that in a short time the remainder of these bands will all join their brethren on the reservation.

From a communication recently received from Agent R. S. Neighbors, to which your attention was heretofore called, it appears that the depredations and murders which have been committed within the State of Texas by Indians, and which induced that State to muster into service a military force, under Captain Callahan, for its protection, were committed by Lipans and Seminoles, who are organized on the west side of the Rio Grande. Upon a visit of the agent to the Rio Grande, he states that he was informed by the Mexican authorities that their government had appointed agents for those Indians

who were under its protection, and that he "would not be permitted to hold intercourse with them."

The great diminution of the buffalo, and other game, from which the Indians of the plains have heretofore derived their subsistence, has so far reduced them to a state of destitution as to compel them to plunder or steal from our citizens or starve. Hence a main cause, it is believed, of the depredations and outrages committed by the roving bands of Indians of the upper Arkansas agency, within the borders of Texas, and upon trains and travellers upon the plains to and from New Mexico. Under the existing state of things they must rapidly be exterminated by the whites or become extinct. As a remedy for these dread alternatives the application to these people of the advantages of the system of colonization, with the means to aid and instruct them in the cultivation of the soil, is again respectfully suggested.

The usual purchases of goods and provisions for presents to the Cheyennes, Arapahoes, and Sioux, parties to the treaty of Fort Laramie, of 1851, and for presents to the Comanches, Kioways, and Apaches of the Arkansas river, parties to the treaty of Fort Atkinson, of 1853, were made early in the spring. No arms or ammunition were sent out, although some of the tribes urgently asked for them. Owing to the disturbed state of our relations with some of these Indians there was a doubt as to the propriety of distributing the presents, and yet the importance of exhibiting friendly feelings and confidence towards such as cherished no hostility, was fully appreciated. In this state of affairs it was deemed best to entrust the distribution almost entirely to the judgment of the superintendent of Indian affairs for the central superintendency, after he should fully consult with the agents and the officers of the army, located or sent out into the country; and then exercising a sound discretion, according to surrounding circumstances. He was instructed, in the month of April last, to cause all persons engaged in trade with the Indians involved in the murder of Lieutenant Grattan's command, and in the subsequent murder of the mail party, or with any other bands that he might believe to be confederated with them, to cease the trade and leave the country; and that it was not expected that he would deliver presents to any of the bands referred to, or to other bands that he might have reason to believe were hostile to the United States. He was also directed to act, on all proper occasions, in conjunction with the officers who had been, or might be, entrusted by the War Department with the military expedition against the Sioux, by imparting such information as might tend to facilitate their operations, and to co-operate with them in any way that might be agreeable to both parties. Additional instructions were forwarded to the superintendent for observance by Agents Whitfield, Twiss, Vaughan, and Hatch, in whose charge are all the wild tribes of the mountain and prairie, from the western boundaries of the emigrated tribes in Kansas, and the Pawnees in Nebraska Territory, to the Rocky mountains, and from New Mexico and Texas to the British possessions. These agents were supplied more liberally than usual with funds for presents and contingent expenses, and instructed to visit and communicate, during the season, with all the tribes that were at peace with the United States,

and encourage them to maintain a friendly disposition towards our citizens, and to treat kindly and assist, if necessary, emigrants and other peaceful citizens passing through their country. The agents were enjoined to reside among the tribes, to make the personal acquaintance of the chiefs, and to inform them fully respecting the power of the United States, the readiness of the President to treat them with kindness and magnanimity when they do right, and his ability and purpose to punish them when they do wrong. They were directed to exert their personal influence to persuade the Indians to abandon their marauding excursions and hostile expeditions against neighboring tribes, to forsake their wandering habits and savage customs and settle in permanent homes and obtain their subsistence by agricultural and other pursuits of civilized life. They were instructed also to procure the delivery, for trial, of all individuals charged with high crimes, and to take all needful measures to obtain the release of citizens of the United States or of friendly powers that might be held in captivity by any of the tribes of their charge; and they were admonished of the necessity of co-operation and concert of action with the officers in command of the military expedition which was organizing for operations on the plains during the season. They were also directed to forward, from time to time, as they had opportunity, such information as would exhibit to the government here the actual condition of affairs within their agencies. Copies of such papers as have been received from them will be found among the accompanying documents.

From the appropriations, made at the session of Congress of 1853-'54, to defray the expenses of negotiating treaties with Indian tribes in Oregon and Washington Territories, remittances were made early after the close of the session, and goods were procured and shipped immediately, from New York, for presents to the tribes.

Instructions, in the month of August, 1854, were given to Joel Palmer, superintendent in Oregon, and Isaac I. Stevens, governor of Washington, to enter at once upon the negotiations, commencing with those tribes in the vicinity of the settlements of the whites, and having for a principal aim the extinguishment of the Indian claims to the lands, and the concentration of all the tribes and fragments of tribes on a few reserves of limited extent, naturally suited to the requirements of the Indians, and located, as far as practicable, so as not to interfere with the settlement of the Territories respectively. They were admonished of the importance, also, of adopting but few stipulations to be fulfilled on each behalf, which should be simple and well understood by the Indians, and of providing that the moneys to be paid might, at the discretion of the President, be applied for the establishment of farms, the purchase of implements of agriculture, or any other objects of benefit to the Indians, and which their peculiar condition and circumstances may from time to time render proper and advantageous.

Under these instructions the officers charged with the negotiations concluded four treaties, which were transmitted in time to receive the sanction of the Senate at the last session of Congress; and several others have subsequently been signed and transmitted here.

During the past spring and summer, additional purchases and remittances have been made, with the expectation that the negotiations with all the tribes in the two Territories named will be fully completed and closed in time to lay the results before the Senate during the coming session of Congress, should such be the decision of the President in regard to them.

Immediately after the close of the session of 1853-'54, the governors of New Mexico and Utah were called on to report in relation to the characteristics and condition of the several Indian tribes within their respective jurisdictions, to designate the locations of their homes or haunts, and furnish a description of the regions inhabited or claimed by each tribe, and lists of articles which would be desirable or necessary for presents to them.

A reply was not received from the governor of Utah until almost a year had elapsed, (July 27, 1855,) when he stated that the report then sent had been twice forwarded before. It bore date October 30, 1854.

Owing to these facts, and to the unsettled condition of the governmental affairs of that Territory, nothing further has yet been done in regard to negotiations with the Indian tribes there.

On consideration of the response received from the governor of New Mexico, authority was delegated to him early last spring to treat with the tribes of his superintendency. The general instructions transmitted to him were somewhat similar to those given to the officers charged with the like duty in Oregon and Washington Territories. The reports of his progress and prospects, in the execution of this trust, which have reached this office, are flattering, and give rise to the hope that the time is near at hand when difficulties with the tribes in New Mexico, and the outrages and depredations committed by them, will cease.

Articles have been received at the department for its consideration and the action of the President and Senate, if approved, which have been entered into by Governor Meriwether, on behalf of the United States, with four several tribes or bands of Indians; and notice has been received of the conclusion of conventions with other bands, and the documents, it is understood, are on their way here.

Of the appropriation for presents to the Pueblo Indians, the sum of \$5,000 was placed at the disposal of the governor last spring for the purchase of implements at his discretion.

The legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico has constituted the several pueblos of what is termed the Pueblo Indians into bodies corporate and politic, with power to sue and be sued. The governor represents these Indians as too ignorant to be invested with this power, and states that interested persons stir up litigation between the different pueblos, and between them and the Mexican population. More than twenty lawsuits are now pending between the Pueblos of Acoma and Laguna, in which it is apprehended that the claims of lawyers and officers, for fees, will, by the time the cases are disposed of, be sufficient to cover all that these two pueblos are worth. It is recommended by the governor, for reasons that appear

to me to be ample and conclusive, that Congress repeal this act of the territorial legislature.

The objects contemplated to be attained by holding a council with the Blackfeet and other wild tribes on the head waters of the Missouri river, for which provision was made in the act of July 31, 1854, were confided to Superintendent Alfred Cumming of the central, Joel Palmer, superintendent of the Oregon, and Governor Isaac I. Stevens, ex officio superintendent of the Washington Territory superintendency, they having been designated by the direction of the President, as the officers of the Indian Department, for that service. The general objects desirable to be accomplished by the negotiations with which those officers are charged, is the establishment of well defined and permanent relations of amity between the Indian tribes of that region and the United States, and a general pacification of the Indians among themselves. The commissioners were instructed to have these objects in view in any stipulations which may be agreed on, and to have proper regard in the negotiations, not only to the peculiar habits and situation of those Indians, but to the general policy of the government and the future growth of the population of the United States in that direction. They were also directed to avail themselves of the occasion of their visit to that region, to procure a census of each tribe, and to note all that they might learn respecting the habits, characteristics and history of each, and make such observations of the soil, climate and natural features of the country, as might be specially useful to the government or contribute to the general fund of knowledge. Owing to the urgency of his other official engagements, Superintendent Palmer did not enter upon the duties of the commission. Governor Stevens arrived at Fort Benton July 26, having travelled direct across from Washington Territory, and Superintendent Cumming also reached there a few days subsequently, after a prosperous voyage from Saint Louis. A communication from the commissioners, dated Fort Benton, August 29, 1855, was received here on the first of November, from which it would appear that they had every prospect of succeeding fully in their plans, and the grave duties with which the commission is charged. It is expected that these duties will have been completed, and that the result, and the proceedings and journal of the commissioners may be looked for here by the first of January next.

The annual report from the superintendent of Indian affairs in California has not been received here. It however appears from the current correspondence from that superintendency that the Indians of the State are generally quiet except in the northern part. Occasional difficulties have occurred between the whites and Indians in the mining regions, but pacific relations have resulted in most instances by the intervention of the agents of the department where there were such, and in the neighborhood of forts by the commands stationed thereat. It appears from the most reliable information received here, that the whites in the mining regions are quite as much in fault for the state of things that exist there as the Indians; the appearance of an Indian being the signal for an assault upon him, and every petty Indian theft

seems to be magnified into undue importance, and the most barbarous outlawry follows on both sides.

Recent reports show that sudden general ill feeling has been aroused among some of the Indians in the Territories of Washington and Oregon, and apprehensions are expressed by the agents employed in northern California that a general war in those Territories will render it difficult to preserve the peace with the Indians upon the borders, who are represented to be extremely warlike in disposition. The superintendent, in submitting a report from L. G. Whipple, who has charge of the Indians on the Klamath river, where a reservation has been proposed, and referring to this subject states that, owing to the unusual deficiency of fish this season, on which they have relied for subsistence, and the contagious influence of war news, "the dangers of war in that region" will be materially increased.

The system of military reservations for Indian self support appears to promise well for the interests of the Indians of California. There have been great difficulties to encounter, and it is believed unnecessarily large expenditures incurred in inaugurating the system. But where it has been tried, or partially so, the results have been such as to promise permanent benefits to the aboriginal people of that section of the confederacy.

Recent intelligence has been received from John Cain, esq., agent for the Indians in Washington Territory, giving an account of the murder of Sub-agent Bolen by the Yakima Indians, and the assembling of a large body of Indians on the east side of the Columbia river. By reference to an article published in the Oregon Weekly Times of the 6th ultimo, together with a letter in connexion therewith from Superintendent Palmer of the Oregon superintendency, it will be perceived that the only tribes manifesting hostility to the whites are the Yakimas and Clickitats, and in the opinion of Superintendent Palmer those warlike demonstrations can be checked by prompt and energetic action on the part of the troops under command of Major Haller, in the event of their achieving a victory over these Indians in the first engagement. He remarks that the Indians of Oregon have not co-operated with those two hostile tribes in the Territory of Washington, and he apprehends no danger of a general outbreak, presuming that Major Haller's command will meet with satisfactory success in quieting the Yakimas and Clickitats, and thereby staying the further progress of hostile movements in the Yakima country.

The circumstances surrounding the Indian tribes are so different from what they were when the laws now in force for the regulation of trade and intercourse with them were enacted, that they may be regarded as almost entirely inapplicable. Legislation adapted to the present condition of things is demanded. And authority should be obtained from Congress for compiling the laws now extant, referring directly, indirectly or remotely to our Indian affairs. The necessity for such compilation must, it seems to me, be apparent.

There are bands of strolling Indians in several of the western States and Territories, who are severed from the tribes to which they belong. They are in indigent circumstances, and depend for subsist-

ence on the charity of the whites, or on degradations committed on their property. Humanity and policy require that provision should be made for them, and I therefore renew the suggestion heretofore made, that funds be placed at the disposal of the department to abate the nuisance complained of.

Regulations, with accompanying forms for application, by Indians, for bounty land, under the act of March 3, 1855, were issued from this office in April last, copies of which are among the documents herewith. About eleven hundred and fifty applications have been presented here, under these regulations, and referred for the definite action of the commissioner of pensions, with the request that warrants, when issued, be sent to this office for transmission through its local agents to the owners, without the intervention of agents or attorneys.

Measures have been recently instituted, with your approval, for carrying into effect the 6th clause of the 19th article of the Choctaw treaty of 1830, for the benefit of the Choctaw orphans; and the lands set apart for that purpose now remaining unsold, with those reverted and acquired, from previous sales, have been advertised to be sold in the month of December ensuing. Notice has also been given for the sale of the unsold Creek Indian reserves in Alabama, as provided by the act of March 3, 1837. These sales are to take place in the Coosa land district, on the 26th December, and in the Tallapoosa district on the 9th January next.

The policy of paying the annuities of Indian tribes in semi-annual instalments, which prevailed to a considerable extent at a former period, has, in certain cases, within two years past, been revived. Within the central superintendency, where funds can, without much expense, be placed in the hands of the agents as required, and where the Indians participating in the several payments are concentrated within a narrow range, this policy is believed to be eminently beneficial; especially in cases where the amount of the annuity of the tribe is large, and the *per capita* of each individual is a considerable sum of money.

Under treaties negotiated in 1854, large payments are required to be made to many of the tribes on the frontiers—within the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska; and, as respects some of them, this policy seems to be peculiarly fitting and appropriate. The Indians having acquired the right to locate separate tracts of land for individual homes, it seemed proper to afford to those who might desire, and to stimulate to the desire those who otherwise would not have it, facilities for making improvements on lands, and collecting about their family residences the comforts and conveniences of civilized life. By adopting semi-annual payment of the annuities, as the knowledge of a judicious manner of expending money for these objects has been acquired, funds would thus be placed in the hands of the Indians for use.

In case of a few of the treaties referred to, it was stipulated that the tribal annuity should be paid in a particular month of the year; but generally the whole subject of the payment, as to time and manner, is left with the President. After due consideration and with a wise and humane purpose of so arranging the affairs of the tribes as to promote the well-being of their people, the President has

directed that this policy be carried out, in those cases to which it is so peculiarly appropriate for the Indians and not inconvenient or expensive for the government. As was anticipated, some complaints against the policy have been made, and some few tribes have been induced, through sinister influences, to hesitate, and even to refuse to accept money tendered to them, because the full annuity of the year was not offered. These complaints could probably be traced to unprincipled individuals who hang around Indian payments in order to take advantage of the characteristic improvidence of the Indians, and fleece them of their money by means of gaming and drinking; or in order to corrupt the leading men, and obtain money on fraudulent claims against the tribe. Some persons also, more honest, but still pecuniarily interested, have probably joined in these complaints and helped to sow distrust in the minds of the Indians. The successful establishment of the policy is intimately connected with the prosperity of the Indians, and indeed, in my judgment, quarter yearly payments would be even better than semi-annual ones. Opposition may be expected from the influences referred to, and even from other quarters, but where the local agents act with energy and fidelity these must soon give way, and the practical effect of the policy will quickly commend it to the Indians, and it will be approved by them.

From the organization of the government, it has been liberal in the expenditure of money to civilize the Indian and better his condition; and the benevolent and philanthropic have appropriated of their means freely for his instruction in the principles of Christianity. Efforts have been constant and unremitting to reclaim him from a savage state, and to induce him to cultivate the soil and to embrace the arts of peace. But how could the Indian become a cultivator of the soil without a permanent and fixed home and habitation? While the government embraced every opportunity to purchase his home and remove him from his land, was it not in vain to enjoin on him to abandon his wandering life? How could he be expected to abandon his savage customs and habits and take up with the pursuits of a race whose approach was only a notice to him that he must leave the graves of his family and friends, and surrender his home to the pale faces? His contact with the white race was, under circumstances like these, calculated, it seems to me, to cause him to distrust the efforts of the government and the benevolent to reclaim him, and to confirm him in his savage habits and pursuits; and the policy of throwing him back into the wilderness beyond the outer circle of civilization, as the settlements approached him, while it excluded him from the benefits of the example and influence of the industrious pioneer and frontiersman, did not protect him from another class, whose contact has been demoralizing and whose influence has always been exerted to confirm the Indian in his wild and savage habits.

Without a fixed, permanent and settled home, in my opinion, all efforts to domesticate and civilize the aboriginal race will, hereafter, as they have heretofore, prove of but little benefit or advantage. Many think that, with all the efforts and means that may be put into requisition, the extinction of the race cannot be prevented, that it must decay and waste away; and this view is strengthened by the

experience of the past. But if this be so, it does not discharge the government of the United States and its citizens from the performance of their duty; and every effort is demanded by humanity to avert a calamity of this kind. Many of the Indians are impressed with the idea that they belong to a race that shall become extinct, and this opinion produces such gloom, despondency and even despair, as to wither their energies and destroy their aspirations.

With all these drawbacks, I believe that the Indian may be domesticated, improved, and elevated; that he may be completely and thoroughly civilized, and made a useful element of our population. But he must have a home; a fixed, settled, and permanent home. And I regard it as fortunate for him that circumstances intimately connected with our present plan of emigration to and settlement within the territories of the United States, although marked by great irregularities and cruelty and death to both races, are rapidly hastening a condition of things which will accord with the policy of permanent homes and fixed habitations for the Indians. This wonderful emigration and the expansion of our population into every portion of our territories, where land is found suitable for cultivation, carries the white settlers on either side of and far beyond the homes of the Indians; and as the settlements thus made expand and grow, they will so have adjusted themselves as to forbid the removal of the red man. There will therefore soon be no pretext for a change, as there will be no place to remove the Indian population. The policy of fixed habitations I regard as settled by the government, and it will soon be confirmed by an inevitable necessity; and it should be understood at once that those Indians who have had reservations set apart and assigned them, as well as those who may hereafter by treaty have, are not to be interfered with in the peaceable possession and undisturbed enjoyment of their land; that no trespasses will be permitted upon their territory or their rights; that the assurances and guarantees of their treaty grants are as sacred and binding as the covenants in the settler's patent; and that the government will not only discountenance all attempts to trespass on their lands and oust them from their homes, but in all cases where necessary will exert its strong arm to vindicate its faith with, and sustain them in, their rights. Let combinations, whether formed to obtain the Indian's land or to make profit by jobs and contracts in his removal, or other causes, be resisted; and let it be understood that the Indian's home is settled, fixed, and permanent, and the settler and the Indian will, it is believed, soon experience the good effects that will result to both. The former will then regard the latter as his neighbor and friend, and will treat him with the consideration due to this relation. And the Indian will look upon his habitation as permanent and his reservation as his home, and will cease to regard the white man with that restless doubt and distrust which has been so disastrous to his comfort and peace and so fatal to his civilization and improvement.

All persons who emigrate to the territories of the United States, to occupy under the liberal land policy of the government the public domain, should understand distinctly that they are to occupy and cultivate the land to which the Indian title is extinguished, and that

alone; that the tribes are to be protected and remain undisturbed within the limits of their reservations, and that this policy will be inflexibly adhered to by the government. The condition and interests of the white border population would thus be improved and promoted, and the main cause for strife, disorder, outbreak, and murder, so common between the frontier settler and the Indian, being thus removed, these atrocities would occur but seldom.

Many of the Indian tribes are now in the annual receipt of large sums of money, in consideration of their cessions of territory. With the exception of a few of the tribes in the southwest who have regular organized governments, and who, by their legislative enactments, appropriate a good portion of their funds for educational and national purposes, the payment of money annuities to the Indians entails upon them evils which, in most cases, far outweigh the good resulting therefrom. A large proportion of the individuals of the tribes to whom these annuities are payable seem to rely upon their per capita for support, and drag out a miserable existence from payment to payment, depending solely on it. And the notice for the Indians to assemble to receive their annuities seems to be the watchword to summon to the pay-ground a miserable class of men who deal in spirituous liquors, games, and other vices, and who, in despite of the vigilance of the officers, are enabled to carry off large amounts of the funds of the Indians, obtained by the most shameful, dishonorable, and unlawful means.

Combinations of men, too, as powerful as they are unscrupulous, keep constantly on foot systematic and organized plans to deceive and corrupt the chiefs and principal men, and thus they often obtain the signatures of these ignorant, deluded, and corrupted people to powers of attorney and other instruments, appropriating and assigning to them and their confederates in such nefarious practices large amounts of the funds of the Indians without any valid consideration therefor. These last named parties have frequently been enabled, with instruments and powers of attorney, obtained by means as degrading to them as injurious, demoralizing, and corrupting to the Indians, to obtain the sanction and approval of Congress and the executive departments, and thus the government, instead of protecting, has, in some instances, been the oppressor of its wards. On this subject the developments which have transpired since the last report induce me to repeat the suggestion "that all executory contracts of every kind and description, made by Indian tribes or bands with claim agents, attorneys, traders, or other persons, should be declared, by law, null and void; and an agent, interpreter, or other person employed in, or in any way connected with, the Indian service, guilty of participation in transactions of the kind referred to, should be instantly dismissed and expelled from the Indian country; and all such attempts to injure and defraud the Indians, by whomsoever made and participated in, should be penal offences, punishable by fine and imprisonment." I do not see how the obligations of the government to its Indian wards can be fully met and faithfully discharged without the aid of penal statutes to protect them from the evils referred to; and under a full

conviction of the necessity that exists, and a deep sense of duty, I recommend that the subject be brought to the attention of Congress.

I refer you to the correspondence with the Menomonees and Pottowatomies, which will be found among the documents herewith, as indicating the boldness of parties engaged in these disreputable attempts to obtain the funds of the Indians, and some of whose proceedings have been heretofore alluded to and resisted by this office. Such correspondence is, in my judgment, in direct violation of the "Inter-course act."

The appetite of the Indian for the use of ardent spirits seems to be entirely uncontrollable, and at all periods of our intercourse with him the evil effects and injurious consequences arising from the indulgence of the habit are unmistakably seen. It has been the greatest barrier to his improvement in the past, and will continue to be in the future, if some means cannot be adopted to inhibit its use. Humanity demands, and our obligations to this unfortunate race requires, that every legal provision be adopted by the national, State, and territorial legislatures to protect the red man from this consuming fire. This is necessary; it is the foundation of all permanent and substantial improvement.

All the means and efforts heretofore adopted to ameliorate the condition of the red man have not, it must be admitted, produced results commensurate with the labor and money expended and the sacrifices that have been made. We cannot recall what has been done, and it would be as idle as useless to discuss the past. We have to deal with the present and provide for the future. And we will have only discharged a simple but imperative duty when we shall have settled the Indian on a permanent home and guaranteed to him its peaceable possession and undisturbed enjoyment; adopted the most vigorous and efficient means to guard and protect his annuities, and made them available for his moral and physical development, and brought into requisition all legal and other appropriate means to exclude from him the curse and scourge of his race—ardent spirits. He will then be placed in a position where the efforts of the government and the benevolent, unembarrassed by opposing forces and influences, would be left to adopt and prosecute the means most efficient for the elevation of his intellectual and physical powers, the culture of the better feelings and sympathies of his nature, and the development of his capacity to improve in the arts and sciences. He has noble impulses, and possesses in a high degree the finer feelings and affections, and there is no lack of evidence that he can be elevated and highly civilized. Erroneous opinions and prejudices in relation to the disposition, characteristics, capacity, and intellectual powers of the race, have almost excluded the Indian from the public sympathy. Statesmen and philanthropists but slightly regard him. The public enactments but feebly protect him, and in the discussions which abound in the political and religious world in relation to the condition of races within our confederation, but few regard it as among their duties to make any effort designed for the benefit of the red race. Such cold indifference can only exist because error and prejudice have beclouded the minds of men to such a degree as to cause them to overlook the obligations

and duties which rest upon them in relation to this interesting but unfortunate people.

It is to be hoped that the condition and fate of the aboriginal race will receive more attention than they have done, and the public judgment may be enlightened and so brought to bear as to be available in the aid of the public authorities in their administration of our Indian affairs; for after the legislative power shall have been exhausted in the adoption of the most salutary measures, much will depend upon a sound public opinion to aid the authorities in their enforcement.

By the extension of the jurisdiction of this office over the tribes in California, Oregon, Washington, Utah, New Mexico, and Texas, the negotiation of numerous treaties of acquisition with the Indians of the new territories, and also with the tribes on the western and north-western frontiers, and the increased care bestowed by the department upon the Indians in its charge, the business of this bureau within a few years past has been greatly enlarged. In the discharge of such a mass of business, much of it of a very important as well as complex character, I have been aided and sustained by the cheerful co-operation and assiduous labors of the clerical force under my direction; and much credit is due the gentlemen employed in this office, when it is considered that nearly double the office work has been done in the ten months last past that was necessary in the corresponding months of 1853.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

Hon. R. McCLELLAND,
Secretary of the Interior.

Abstract or Compendium of the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the year 1855, prepared in obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the United States of February 28, 1855.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, FOR THE YEAR 1855.

- No. 1.—Report of Marcus H. Johnson, agent for Indians in New York.
- No. 2.—Report of Henry C. Gilbert, agent for Indians in Michigan.
- No. 3.—Mission report of Rev. Peter Dougherty.
- No. 4.—Mission report of Right Rev. Frederic Baraga to Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
- No. 5.—Mission report of Right Rev. Frederic Baraga to Agent Gilbert.
- No. 6.—Mission report of Rev. A. Bingham.
- No. 7.—Mission report of Rev. George N. Smith.

NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 8.—Report of Superintendent Francis Huebschmann.
- No. 9.—Report of Benjamin Hunkins, agent for the Indians in the vicinity of Green Bay.

- No. 10.—School report of John Wiley.
 No. 11.—School report of Rosalie Dousman.
 No. 12.—School report of Jane Dousman.
 No. 13.—Mission report of Rev. C. J. Lathrop.

MINNESOTA SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 14.—Report of Governor Willis A. Gorman, superintendent *ex officio*.
 No. 15.—Report of David B. Herriman, agent for the Chippewas of the Mississippi.
 No. 16.—Report of Jonathan E. Fletcher, agent for the Winnebagoes.
 No. 17.—Report of R. G. Murphy, agent for the Sioux in Minnesota.
 No. 18.—Mission report of Rev. S. R. Riggs.
 No. 19.—Mission report of Rev. Thomas S. Williamson.
 No. 20.—Farm report of P. Prescott.
 No. 21.—Farm report of A. Robertson.
 No. 22.—Report of A. W. Daniels, physician.

CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 23.—Report of Superintendent Alfred Cumming, by his clerk, John Haverty, esq.
 No. 24.—Report of Alfred J. Vaughan, agent for the Indians within the upper Missouri agency.
 Nos. 25, 26, 27, 28.—Reports of Thomas S. Twiss, agent for the Indians of the upper Platte.
 No. 29.—Report of George Hepner, agent for the Omahas, Ottoes and Missouriias, and Pawnees.
 No. 30.—Report of Daniel Vanderslice, agent for the Iowas and Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri.
 No. 31.—School report of S. M. Irwin.
 No. 32.—Farm report of Thomas J. Vanderslice.
 No. 33.—Report of Royal Baldwin, agent for the Kickapoos.
 No. 34.—Report of Benjamin F. Robinson, agent for the Delawares.
 No. 35.—Report of Robert C. Miller, agent for the Shawnees and Wyandots.
 No. 36.—Letter of Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Superintendent Cumming.
 No. 37.—School report of Thomas Johnson.
 No. 38.—Report of George W. Clark, agent for the Pottqwatomes.
 No. 39.—Mission report of Rev. J. B. Duerinck.
 No. 40.—Report of Burton A. James, agent for the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi.
 No. 41.—Memorial of Agent James to the legislature of Kansas Territory.
 No. 42.—Report of Maxwell McCaslin, agent for the Weas and Piankeshaws, Kaskaskias and Peorias, and Miamis.
 No. 43.—School report of David Lykins.

- No. 44.—Report of John Montgomery, agent for the Kaws, otherwise called Kansas Indians.
No. 45.—Letter of Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Agent Montgomery.
No. 46.—Report of J. W. Whitfield, agent for the Indians of the Upper Arkansas.

SOUTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

- No. 47.—Report of Superintendent Charles W. Dean.
No. 48.—Report of George Butler, agent for the Cherokees.
No. 49.—Mission report of Rev. S. A. Worcester.
No. 50.—Mission report of Rev. D. B. Cumming.
No. 51.—Mission report of Rev. E. J. Mack.
No. 52.—School report of Edwin Archer.
No. 53.—School report of Pauline Avery.
No. 54.—School report of H. D. Reese.
No. 55.—School report of O. S. Woodford.
No. 56.—Report of William H. Garnet, agent for the Creeks.
No. 57.—Mission report of Rev. Thomas W. Mitchell.
No. 58.—Report of Professor Robert Graham.
No. 59.—School report of Daniel B. Aspberry.
No. 60.—School report of James A. Patterson.
No. 61.—School report of Morris R. Mitchell.
No. 62.—School report of J. W. Trippe.
No. 63.—School report of Elizabeth Stidham.
No. 64.—School report of Samuel S. Hamilton.
No. 65.—School report of Thomas B. Ruble.
No. 66.—School report of E. H. Carruth.
No. 67.—School report of R. M. Loughridge.
No. 68.—School report of Mary J. Lewis.
No. 69.—School report of A. L. Hay.
No. 70.—School report of William H. Allen.
No. 71.—School report of Mary Brown.
No. 72.—School report of Thomas C. Carr.
No. 73.—Report of Douglas H. Cooper, agent for the Choctaws.
No. 74.—Mission report of Rev. Cyrus Byington.
No. 75.—Mission report of Rev. O. P. Stark.
No. 76.—Mission report of Rev. C. C. Copeland.
No. 77.—School report of Jason D. Chamberlain.
No. 78.—School report of C. Kingsbury.
No. 79.—School report of H. B. Wright.
No. 80.—School report of Edward Ellis.
No. 81.—School report of Alexander Reid.
No. 82.—School report of A. G. Moffat.
No. 83.—School report of W. L. McAlister.
No. 84.—School report of J. H. Carr.
No. 85.—School report of E. Couch.
No. 86.—School report of J. C. Robinson.
No. 87.—Report of James W. Washburne, agent for the Seminoles.

- No. 88.—School report of John Lilley.
 No. 89.—Report of Andrew J. Dorn, agent for the Osages, Senecas, Quapaws, and Senecas and Shawnees.
 No. 90.—School report of J. Schoenmakers.

TEXAS INDIANS.

- No. 91.—Report of Supervisory Agent Robert S. Neighbors.
 No. 92.—Report of Agent G. W. Hill.
 No. 93.—Report of Agent S. P. Ross.

NEW MEXICO INDIANS.

- No. 94.—Report of Governor David Meriwether, superintendent *ex officio*.
 No. 95.—Report of Agent Lorenzo Labadi.
 No. 96.—Report of Agent Christopher Carson.

INDIANS OF WASHINGTON AND OREGON TERRITORIES.

- No. 97.—Report of Agent John Cain.
 No. 98.—Letter of Superintendent Palmer of Oregon to Agent Cain.

INDIANS OF THE TERRITORY OF UTAH.

- No. 99.—Report of Governor Brigham Young, superintendent *ex officio*.
 No. 100.—Report of Agent Garland Hurt.
 Nos. 101, 102.—Reports of Agent George W. Armstrong.

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS.

- No. 103.—Instructions from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Governor Meriwether, in regard to negotiations to be made with Indians in New Mexico.
 No. 104.—Instructions from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Superintendent Cumming, relative to preliminaries to be made for a council with the Blackfeet and neighboring tribes, and the delivery of annuity goods to Indians on the Missouri, parties to the treaty of Fort Laramie of 1851.
 No. 105.—Instructions from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Commissioners Cumming, Stevens and Palmer, appointed to treat with the Blackfeet and neighboring tribes.
 No. 106.—Letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Superintendent Cumming, requiring him to instruct certain agents, therein named, to co-operate and act in concert with the officers in command of the military expedition against certain Indians of the plains.

- No. 107.—Report of Commissioners Cumming and Stevens as to arrangements made for the council with the Blackfeet, &c.
- No. 108.—Report of Commissioner Stevens upon same subject.
- No. 109.—Letter of Superintendent Huebschmann, transmitting copy of letter of R. W. Thompson to the Menomonee Indians, and memorial of the Menomonee chiefs revoking any paper signed in favor of said Thompson.
- No. 110.—Letter of Charles A. Grignon, making charges against Superintendent Huebschmann, and tendering his resignation as interpreter for the Menomonees.
- No. 111.—Letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs accepting the resignation of Grignon.
- No. 112.—Letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Superintendent Huebschmann, informing him of the charges made by Grignon, and calling for a reply.
- No. 113.—Reply of Superintendent Huebschmann to the charges made by Grignon.
- No. 114.—Letter from Superintendent Cumming's clerk, transmitting communication from Agent Clarke, and its enclosures, viz: Copy of two letters from George W. Ewing to Andrew Jackson, a Pottowatomie, and a communication from the Pottowatomie chiefs, headmen and braves, in relation to the manner in which powers of attorney have been obtained from them by white men, and stating that by act of council a power granted some years since to the Messrs. Ewing was thereby annulled and revoked.
- No. 115.—Regulations and forms prescribed for obtaining bounty lands by Indians.
- No. 116.—Regulation requiring of agents a schedule of articles to be delivered to Indian tribes under treaty stipulations.
- No. 117.—Regulation requiring of agents, quarterly, estimates of money needed, and statements of unexpended balances in their hands.
- No. 118.—Communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the Secretary of the Interior, detailing the sums expended by the government, certain missionary associations, and various Indian tribes, during the ten years ending January 1, 1855, for missionary, educational and agricultural purposes.
- No. 119.—Tabular statement of United States and State stocks, held in trust by the Secretary of the Interior for Indian tribes.
- No. 120.—Statement exhibiting present liabilities of the United States to Indian tribes under the stipulations of treaties, &c.
- No. 121.—Statement designating the Indian tribes to whom per capita payments in money were made during the year 1854.
- No. 122.—Statement of the tribes of Indians within the limits of the United States.

No. 1.

OFFICE NEW YORK INDIAN AGENCY,
Randolph, October 1, 1855.

DEAR SIR: I respectfully submit my annual report of the condition of the New York Indians. The Senecas, who constitute the largest portion, are located on three reservations, viz: Cattaraugus, in the county of Erie; Alleghany, in the county of Cattaraugus; and Tonawanda, in the county of Genesee.

The Senecas were formerly governed by chiefs, who had the entire control of all national matters and managed their business interests, mainly without consulting the people, until the year 1848, at which time the Senecas of the Cattaraugus and Alleghany reservations united in forming a constitutional government, under which they annually, in the month of May, elected their officers, consisting of president, clerk, treasurer, councillors, &c.

This change in their form of government created political differences and parties which were previously unknown to them. It has also brought their national business wholly before their people, so all have an opportunity of learning and understanding their different interests. The fruits of this change, in my opinion, are very perceptible in the manners, customs, and habits of the whole people. It has created a strong anxiety in nearly all to have their children receive an education; also habits of industry and a desire to excel in all of the various branches of agricultural and mechanical pursuits. At Cattaraugus, during the present year, they have sustained seven schools, six common schools and one high school, with an attendance at the six common schools of 214 Indian pupils, and an average attendance during the whole time the several schools were taught of 117 pupils.

The high school has had an attendance of about 50 Indian youths, with an average of 25 pupils during the whole year. These schools are sustained by appropriations from the State, and from the American Board of Missions, and from the Seneca council.

At Alleghany, during the past year, five schools have been sustained, with an attendance of 158 Indian youths, and an average attendance during the whole time the schools were taught of 109 pupils. This number includes a female boarding school at the Alleghany mission. The schools on this reservation, I am informed, are at present sustained wholly by the American Board of Missions and appropriations from the Seneca council. The above does not include one school which is wholly supported by the Society of Friends.

At Tonawanda they have sustained two schools, with an average attendance of 120 pupils. These schools have an appropriation of \$200, the present year, from the State.

The Tonawanda Senecas are still governed by chiefs. At Cattaraugus the Senecas have three churches, at Alleghany two, and at Tonawanda one.

The legislature of this State, at its last session, incorporated the

Thomas asylum for orphan and destitute Indian children, to be located on the Cattaraugus reservation, and granting the requisite privileges for that purpose. Also making an appropriation of two thousand dollars towards the erection of suitable buildings, with an additional five hundred dollars a year, for two years, for the purpose of helping to sustain said asylum.

The buildings for the Thomas asylum are already commenced and in rapid progress of erection, and it is confidently believed will be completed by the month of January next.

The Oneidas, at Oneida Castle, are in all respects prospering. They sustain good schools, and the present year received an appropriation from the State of five hundred dollars for school purposes.

The Onondagas, at Onondaga Castle, sustain but one school, which is sustained by the Methodist mission; also, one church.

The Tuscaroras are thrifty and comfortable farmers; sustain good schools and one church, and are industrious and enterprising.

With much respect, I remain your obedient servant,

MARCUS H. JOHNSON,

Indian Agent.

Hon. GEO. W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington.

No. 2.

OFFICE MICHIGAN INDIAN AGENCY,
Detroit, October 10, 1855.

SIR: The official transactions of this agency during the present year possess more than usual interest and importance. I have just completed the first annuity payment to the Chippewas of Lake Superior, under the treaty of September 30, 1854, and have taken the initiatory steps to carry out several of the more important stipulations of that treaty intended for their benefit. This is the first time for several years that all of these Indians have participated in the distribution of the annuities provided by former existing treaties; and I am now, for the first time, able to communicate to you any reliable information relative to their numbers, location, condition, and prospects for improvement.

My Lake Superior pay-roll for the present year embraces 1,552 families and 4,940 individuals. They may properly be divided into

1. The Interior Indians.
2. The Lake Indians.
3. The Mixed Bloods.

The first class reside in the interior, several days' travel from the lake shore, and are those for whom the reservations about Lac Court Oreille and Lac de Flambeau are set apart by the treaty of 1854.

They number at Lac Court Oreille 1,012 persons; at Lac de Flambeau, 747—total, 1,759. There are no white settlements in their immediate vicinity. No missionaries or teachers have ever been employed among them, and they are seldom visited, except by traders, who, from the very nature of their business and the manner in which it has been conducted, have been directly interested in preventing any advance in civilization among them. They cultivate no land, and subsist entirely upon wild rice and game. They have some furs to dispose of, but the enormous prices at which they are compelled to receive the goods they require in exchange renders their hunts of but little value. They are indolent, and even for Indians more than ordinarily improvident and dissipated. From their present appearance and condition, as well as from the most reliable information, I am led to believe that for many years they have been furnished with whiskey in large quantities, with but very few actual necessaries, and that their whole existence has been a continual contest with want and dissipation. They complain bitterly of their poverty and of the bad faith of the government in withholding their annuities, but are always ready to squander their goods for whiskey, the very first opportunity that presents.

The Lake Indians, as the term indicates, reside on or near the shores of Lake Superior. In almost every respect they are greatly in advance of their brethren of the interior. They have schools and churches among them, and generally manifest a great desire to improve in civilization. For a particular account of those located at each reservation I beg leave to refer to my last annual report. They certainly afford most substantial and gratifying evidence that the race is not incapable of civilization. The improvements at L'Anse, Bad River, and Grand Portage, shew what has been done with my limited means, and under most discouraging circumstances, and certainly afford good ground to hope for extraordinary results from the provisions of the treaty of 1854, if faithfully and judiciously carried out by the government. The Lake Indians number at L'Anse 468, at Ontonagon 88, at La Pointe and Bad River 540, at Fon du Lac 388, at Grand Portage 175. Total 1,659.

The third class, or Mixed Bloods, are scattered throughout the whole territory occupied by these Indians. They number 1,040 individuals, and are all entitled to participate in the distribution of annuities. Under the treaty of 1854 each head of a family and every single person over 21 years of age of the Mixed Bloods is entitled to eighty acres of land, of his own selection, for which he is to receive a patent in the usual form. I have prepared a list of the persons who will be entitled to the benefits of this provision, which will be transmitted in a separate communication. The whole number is about 260. They are very urgent that arrangements should be perfected without delay under which they may select their lands and receive their patents.

The Bois Forte Indians, who are also parties to the treaty of 1854, occupy the country about Vermillion Lake, in the northern part of Minnesota. They have never before received any annuities from government, and I should judge have had but very little intercourse with the whites. They compare very favorably with those described as Interior Indians, are more intelligent, industrious and provident, and

are not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors. They are all Chippewas and number 482 persons.

The treaty of 1854 provides that the Indians who are parties to it may reside in the country they now occupy, and also sets apart certain large tracts of land which the United States are bound to survey, and within which it is provided every Indian head of a family or single person over 21 years of age may select eighty acres of land, which is to be secured to him as his own individual property. He is, in fact, to be the owner in fee, restricted only in the power to alienate or dispose of it. In this provision I think lies the main ground of hope for the speedy civilization of these Indians.

When settled on their lands they will become more and more individualized and will gradually acquire definite and correct notions of the value of property, and the importance of labor and economy. The assurance that the improvements he makes cannot be taken from him, that the land and the buildings he erects on it, his garden and his fields, are his own and his children's, will have a powerful effect even upon an Indian. And when he finds and realizes, as he soon will do, that any surplus articles that his labor may produce, beyond the amount required for the immediate consumption of himself and family, will bring him in exchange other necessities that he cannot otherwise procure, thus blending in his own experience the leading principles of commerce and agriculture, he will for himself have solved the problem of Indian civilization.

The survey of these lands should, therefore, be proceeded with at once. No time should be lost. The Lake Indians are exceedingly anxious to select their homes, and very many will occupy them without delay. All the necessary details for carrying out this provision of the treaty should be attended to. The form of a certificate should be determined upon, and every Indian who selects land should receive his evidence of title. They attach great importance to this, and I hope, before visiting them again, that such measures will be taken as will enable me to close up this branch of the treaty with all who are ready to avail themselves of its benefits. I have myself employed a surveyor to run out and mark eight sections in the Bad River reservations, so that the Indians at that village can proceed with the erection of their houses. The L'Anse reservation is already surveyed, and the Indians only wait for the certificates to make their selections.

The educational fund for the Chippewas of Lake Superior amounts to \$4,333 per annum. For my views in regard to the most judicious manner of expending it, I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 27th of April last. With a single modification, I am still of the opinion then expressed. There should be an allowance for a school at La Pointe. It is attended principally by children of the Mixed Bloods, and is under the charge of Bishop Baraga of the Roman Catholic church. In the letter to which I refer, I inadvertently omitted to mention the mission with which this school is connected. It has been established many years. The meeting house and school house are substantial comfortable buildings, and the school is generally well attended.

I have applied the fund for the present financial year as follows:

To the schools at L'Anse, \$800; at Bad River, \$800; at La Pointe, \$700; at Grand Portage, \$400; leaving, unexpended, \$1,633, which I hope will be applied next near towards building a suitable house at Bad River for a manual labor school, as suggested in my letter.

The treaty of 1854 provides also for the employment of blacksmiths at seven different points. I have, as yet, only been able to establish shops at L'Anse and Bad River. The supplies for Grand Portage and Fon du Lac have been purchased, but I have been unable to procure the services of a suitable smith at either of these places. I have, however, employed temporarily a carpenter at Bad River, in lieu of one blacksmith, and a person at Grand Portage to take charge of the cattle and assist the Indians in building and in agricultural improvements.

The reservation provided by the treaty for the Fon du Lac Indians is not suitable for them. They are anxious to change it, and have made another selection on the lake. It is much smaller in extent, but I deem it much better for the United States, as well as for the Indians, than the one provided. I will state more in detail, in a separate communication, why a change is desirable, and hope there will be no difficulty in securing it.

At the recent annuity payment I promised the chiefs that I would visit them at their several reservations next spring. A personal examination will enable me to locate their shops and schools more judiciously, and a visit to them may be effective in inducing them to locate on the lands reserved.

The Bois Forte Indians still own a tract of land in Minnesota, to which their title should be extinguished. I think they are willing to dispose of it, and my visit to them in the spring will be a favorable occasion for effecting an arrangement for its purchase.

By the treaty of 1854 the sum of \$90,000 was set apart for the payment of the "just engagements" of the Chippewas of Lake Superior, and an additional sum of \$10,000 for those of the Bois Forte band. In accordance with your instructions, I have received and filed all the claims presented, and have taken the testimony offered on both sides. The investigation is not yet fully completed, and I shall continue it as long as may be necessary, and hope to make my final report in relation to the subject early in January next.

The Interior Indians have received no annuities, until this year, under the treaties of 1837 and 1842, since the payment of 1851. This is owing to no fault of theirs, but solely to lack of information on the part of the government in relation to their location and their rights under those treaties. I think justice requires that the United States should in some manner compensate them for the loss. The government has been in fault, and the Indians have suffered by it. They cannot be provided for under the provision for the payment of arrearages contained in the treaty of 1854, because in this case there are no arrearages claimed. The money and other annuities provided for have been paid, but, as they allege, the government has misapplied the payment.

Their claim is one which, at no very remote day, would have afforded a splendid field for the operations of a "claim agent" at the rate of some

25 or 30 per cent. on the amount due. In this connexion I would respectfully suggest that if such claims, when made known, were always met by a prompt and thorough investigation on the part of the United States, and followed by a decision to be communicated to the Indians, there would be very little opportunity for the intervention of the class of gentlemen to whom I have alluded.

The bands located at L'Anse and Bad River have each more than 100 acres of land under cultivation. They raise large quantities of potatoes, and at L'Anse, this year, will have a large surplus to dispose of. Their sales last year amounted to several thousand bushels.

In selecting the goods for the annuity payment of the present year I procured many articles that the Indians had never been accustomed to receive. Among them were cooking stoves, tinware, crockery, tables, bedsteads, mattresses, and all such articles as are generally deemed useful and necessary in civilized communities. I had, besides, a large quantity of ready made clothing, hats and caps, as well as agricultural implements and carpenters' tools. A considerable sum was also expended for lumber, nails, glass, and other building materials. Much care was taken, in distributing such articles, to place them in the hands of persons who would use them advantageously. I found that more than 100 families of full blood Lake Indians reside in houses, and have adopted, to a greater or less extent, civilized habits in their style and manner of living. Such persons stand more in need of the articles I have enumerated than they do of the goods usually furnished by the government, and I recommend that, to a reasonable extent, the policy I have adopted be continued in making selections for future annuity payments.

I cannot close my report relative to these Indians without alluding to another subject of the utmost importance. The annuity payments are always attended by a set of miscreants who rob and plunder the Indians of their goods and money, in exchange for intoxicating drinks. At the late payment at La Pointe, large quantities of whiskey were brought to the place, and within a day or two after the distribution of goods had taken place I learned that some of the Interior Indians had been stripped, in this way, of all they had received. I had not yet made the money payment, but was ready to do so, and was well satisfied that if it was made under the then existing circumstances a large proportion of the \$20,000 to be paid in coin would find its way into the pockets of the whiskey venders. There was but one course to take. With the aid of my assistants and some other gentlemen present, every suspected place on the island was searched, and all the liquor found was destroyed. About 1,000 bottles, put up ready for sale, were broken, and twelve barrels emptied into the lake. Several hundred dollars worth of goods, that had been taken from the Indians in exchange for whiskey, were reclaimed, and the traffic was effectually broken up. In doing this I may have acted without authority, but the occasion was one which called for extreme measures and, as I believe, justified me in taking the responsibility. There should be a law of Congress authorizing such a proceeding on the part of every agent, and extending his jurisdiction for a reasonable time after payment, and to all places necessarily travelled by the Indians on their

return home. This, with an additional provision, making it a misdemeanor to sell whiskey or intoxicating liquor to any Indian entitled to annuities at any place, would be very likely to abate the nuisance.

The Indians of the lower peninsula of Michigan, according to the pay-roll for 1854, numbered 6,911 persons, and are gradually increasing from year to year. Their annuities for the present year will be paid during the next four weeks. The payment for this year to the Ottowas and Chippewas is the last they will receive under the treaty of 1836. New arrangements relative to their unsettled claims upon the United States were settled by articles of agreement and convention, concluded at Detroit, on the 30th of June last, in the negotiation of which I had the honor to be associated with yourself as commissioner on the part of the United States.

As the articles agreed upon have not yet been ratified it may not be proper for me to allude particularly to their details. I will only say of them that the main feature is a provision securing to each family, and to such single persons as are provided for, a home in Michigan; and I cannot doubt that if the treaty is ratified it will effectually check their roving habits and lead them to become permanently located, and to depend more entirely upon the cultivation of the soil for a subsistence. They already do so to a very great extent. During the late negotiations it was ascertained that the Indians about Little Traverse already owned more than sixteen thousand acres of land, and those at Grand Traverse, and other places, nearly as much more; all which they have, from time to time, bought and paid for at the usual rates.

The Little Traverse bands last year sold over 5,000 bushels of potatoes, and will have a much larger surplus. They cut this year thirty-five acres of winter wheat, which yielded a larger crop, and of a much better quality, than the average in Michigan. At Grand Traverse, at the time of payment last year, the Indians had already disposed of over 4,000 bushels of potatoes and several hundred bushels of corn, and had still remaining on hand more than enough for their own consumption. The degree of civilization already attained by these Indians who live along the shore of Lake Michigan is exceedingly gratifying. Many of them have become useful, industrious citizens, and are entitled to and exercise the right of suffrage, and all the privileges pertaining to citizenship. They frequently manifest a peculiar talent, as well as taste, for mechanical pursuits; and, although laboring under great disadvantages from the want of suitable tools and necessary instruction, they often become expert workmen and good mechanics. In the summer of 1853, I appointed a young Indian assistant smith at Sault Ste. Marie. He had never been accustomed to work with tools, but has mastered the trade and is now able to do all the ordinary work required by the Indians.

The assistant smith at Grand Traverse is a full Indian; he has been in the shop thirteen years, and is a good workman. There are many who use carpenters' tools with much skill. At Grand Traverse the Indians have built and launched three schooners, one of which was completed during the last summer. The work was all done by themselves, and I am told the vessel would do credit to any ship yard

on the lakes. The captain and crew are all Indians, and navigate the vessel and transport freight on Lake Michigan and transact all ordinary business resulting from such an enterprise.

The Indians who receive their pay at Sault Ste. Marie are, perhaps, at the present time, making more rapid improvement than any of their people. They are, generally, peculiarly fortunate in the influences by which they are surrounded. These Indians will locate principally at Point Iroquois, where a Methodist mission is established, and on the land set apart for them on Sugar Island.

The Chippewas of Saginaw also exhibit evidences of great improvement. I visited them in June at their several villages. Many of them live comfortably in good houses, and have adopted our style of dress and customs generally. An arrangement to take the place of former existing treaties has also been made with these Indians, which also awaits the ratification of the Senate.

The educational fund provided by the new treaties, if faithfully expended, will be of immense benefit, and is sufficiently large to secure to the Indians all necessary instruction during the time limited for its payment. I must, however, recommend an entire change of policy in the expenditure of this fund on the part of the United States. The treaty of 1836 gave the Ottawas and Chippewas \$8,000 per annum for educational purposes. Additional sums have also been appropriated by Congress, from year to year, for the education of Indians, some portion of which has been expended in this agency.

None of these funds have ever been disbursed through the medium of the agency and the agents, and consequently the government has never taken much interest in, or bestowed much attention on educational matters. The Indians are never informed how their money is expended, and they will now be very slow to believe that all the money due them from the United States under this head has ever been appropriated. I have myself but very recently been informed as to the disposition of this fund, and regret to say that, in my judgment, much of it has been very injudiciously expended. One school has received, for twenty years, from \$1,600 to \$1,800 per annum, at a point and under circumstances where \$600 would have been a liberal allowance. Another school has been sustained by an appropriation of \$1,200 per annum, when \$400, judiciously expended, would have secured more beneficial results.

The Indians have now been so far civilized that they will no longer acquiesce in any such policy, and I earnestly recommend that it may not be continued. If there is one fund more sacred than another, it is that provided for the education of the children, and good faith towards the Indians requires that the government should know, from the personal examination and official transactions of its agents, that every dollar is legitimately and judiciously expended.

I have no further suggestions to make relative to these Indians, except to express the hope that the treaties being ratified no time will be lost in carrying them into effect.

I add, for convenience, a recapitulation of the numbers, and a classification of the Indians under my charge.

I.—CHIPPEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR.

Interior Indians	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,759
Lake Indians	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,659
Bois Forte bands,	-	-	-	-	-	-	482
Mixed Bloods	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,040
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>4,940</u>

II.—MICHIGAN INDIANS.

Ottawas and Chippewas,	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,152
Chippewas of Saginaw	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,340
Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river	-	-	-	-	-	-	138
Pottowatomies	-	-	-	-	-	-	236
Pottowatomies of Huron	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>6,911</u>
Residing in Michigan	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,583
Residing in Wisconsin	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,210
Residing in Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,058
Total in the agency	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>11,851</u>

I append the school reports of Bishop Baraga, Rev. A. Bingham, and Rev. G. N. Smith. No other reports have been received by me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY C. GILBERT,
Indian Agent.

Hon. GEO. W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington.

No. 3.

GROVE HILL, *September 13, 1855.*

SIR: The Grand Traverse manual labor boarding school has been continued in regular operation during the past year, except a recess of two weeks in the spring.

The following persons are connected with the institution as missionaries and assistants, viz:

Peter Dougherty and wife, superintendent.

John Porter and wife, teacher of male department.

Joseph Glenn, farmer.

George Cracker, assistant.

Miss W. A. Isbel, teacher of female department.

Mrs. Mary McConnel, care of washing, baking, &c.

Miss Catharine Gibson, care of kitchen and dining-room.

Miss Jane McCalvin, assistant.

There have been connected with the school as pupils, the past year, thirty-one boys and twenty-seven girls; all full blood Indian children, except two. The accompanying list will show the name and age of each child and the studies they have been pursuing.

While we have abundant cause for gratitude for health and abounding mercies from our Heavenly Father, we have been called to mourn over the early death of three of our pupils, two boys and one girl. Two of them died in the institution; the other had been removed by his parents to their own home. One was a little boy, who had been taken, when a helpless orphan, into the family of John Campbell, the government blacksmith, and was by him placed in the school.

Although deformed in body, he was a very pleasant and promising child. Two other boys have been withdrawn from the school on account of ill health; one is temporarily absent, unwell; four have been dismissed for violation of rules and improper conduct, and three left without permission; leaving nineteen boys now in regular attendance.

Of the girls one was withdrawn by parents, one was dismissed for disobedience to her teacher and violation of rules, and one returned to her friends after remaining nearly two years in the school; leaving twenty-two girls in regular attendance. The children are boarded, clothed, and furnished with necessary books, &c., by the kind provision of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian church, under the direction of which the school is conducted. The secretary of the board, Walter Lowrie, esq., visited the school in July.

The studies have been, during the year, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and grammar, with some attempts at declamation and composition in English.

Of the boys three have been reading Parley's Common School History and Fourth Eclectic Reader; nineteen have been reading the Testament; three the Second Reader; nineteen have been studying geography and drawing maps; twenty-eight have been writing and studying arithmetic, and are in various stages of advancement, from the simple rules to vulgar and decimal fractions. Three, who have just entered, are in the alphabet.

Of the girls fifteen read in the Testament and study geography; nineteen have been writing and studying arithmetic; eight are reading easy lessons and spelling; four have commenced the study of grammar.

In reviewing the labors of the past year we perceive a decided improvement in the children who have remained steadily in school, both in studies and habits of industry and order. While we aim, by means of study and labor, to develop and strengthen their intellectual and physical powers, we feel the right improvement of the moral powers

is all important to their becoming good members of society and useful citizens of the State. We, therefore, carefully teach them the truths of the benign religion of the Saviour, and it is to be hoped the youth who go forth from the institution will be qualified to advance in the path of civilization and improvement.

The Indians of this region have large crops of corn and potatoes. They will have a large surplus for sale.

They are, with a few exceptions, making steady improvement; enlarging their fields and improving their buildings, becoming more industrious and more virtuous.

The chief exceptions are a few who linger on the reservation, where they find access to liquor, furnished by white men located along the shore. The sooner every family is required to remove and reside on their own lands the better for them; and this could easily be effected by withholding annuities from those who wander about idle and intemperate. The sooner, I think, the reservation is thrown in market, the sooner the community will see to having the law enforced against those who disturb the peace and good order of society by their illicit traffic in intoxicating drink. The Indians in this region are well pleased with the provisions made for them in the treaty recently concluded at Detroit. They are busy selecting their lands, and if they wisely improve their present advantages they have ample means of permanent prosperity.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

PETER DOUGHERTY.

HENRY C. GILBERT, Esq.

No. 4.

SAULT STE. MARIE, *September 26, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: I herewith respectfully submit to you the following short report of the missionary Indian schools under my charge.

At Sault Ste. Marie we have two schools, of which that of the boys is very numerous, amounting to 103 boys and young men who are benefited by this school. They are not, indeed, all Indians; but some are, and many of them are half-breeds, participating in the treaty payment. They are taught all the branches of a common English education by Adrian Lacoste. Our girl school is not quite so numerous; it amounts only to 41 girls, mostly half-breeds. They are regularly taught by Miss Mary R. Le Bihan, who is assisted by Miss Ann Gordon.

Our school at Mackinac is not taught separately, but boys and girls are taught in the same room and by the same person. Many of the pupils of this school, who amount to about 50, are half-breeds and included in the treaty payment. They are taught the usual branches of a common English education by Miss Martha A. Tanner.

The pupils of our school at Point St. Ignace are all Indians or half-

breeds. Their number is between 40 and 50, and they are taught to read and write, both in their own language and in English, by Mrs. Sophia Graveraet.

The other schools under my charge and superintendency are all pure Indian. The school at Cross Village, Emmet county, numbers about 80 children, boys and girls.

Besides the day-school, Timothy McNamara, the schoolmaster, teaches also in the evening some young men of the village, who are anxious to learn English.

The school at Little Traverse Bay, Emmet county, contains about 70 pupils, besides some young men who come every other evening to Emilius Dusaulx, the school teacher, to learn English.

At Sheboygan, Sheboygan county, there is a school of about 30 children, conducted by Michael Mathews, who also teaches the English language almost every evening.

The school at Eagletown, Grand Traverse, consists of 36 boys and girls, who are taught to spell, read, and write in English by Michael Butler.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 FREDERIC BARAGA,
*Roman Catholic Bishop and Superintendent
 Catholic Indian Schools.*

HON. GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington.

No. 5.

SAULT STE. MARIE, *September 27, 1855.*

SIR: I herewith respectfully submit to you the following short report of the missionary Indian schools under my charge, on Lake Superior.

Our school at L'Anse numbers about twenty-eight boys and twenty girls, all Indian children, who are taught the elements of the English language by Michael Branen.

The school at La Pointe is a very numerous one, amounting to over one hundred pupils, Indians and half-breeds, who more or less attend this school the whole year, except the time of sugar making. This school is kept by Michael Hickey and Alexis Carpentier. The scholars are taught all the branches of a common English education.

The school at Grand Portage is a new one, established only of late; I cannot yet tell the number of the pupils of this school, conducted by Eugene Benoit.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 FREDERIC BARAGA,
R. C. Bishop and Sup. Cath. Indian school.

HENRY C. GILBERT, Esq.,
Indian Agent, Detroit.

No. 6.

MISSION HOUSE, SAULT STE. MARIE,
September 30, 1855.

SIR: Soon after presenting this report I expect to take leave of a work to which more than thirty-three years of my life have been devoted, and about twenty-seven of which have been spent upon this frontier; but not because I am tired of the work, nor for want of an interest in the welfare and prosperity of the aboriginal tribes of our country. From circumstances connected with the place of our location, and the present state of the Indians and Indian affairs, (with which you are personally acquainted,) it has been thought advisable to bring our boarding-school at this place to a close with the closing of the present quarter of the year.

The school has been continued, as usual, through the year. At the commencement of it we had seven beneficiaries; since which one has been received, two have been dismissed, one has died, and two have left from choice before the time for which they were taken had expired, leaving us but three at present connected with the mission, and these have all arrived at adult years and, according to contract, are at liberty to leave this fall.

We have had a good school, taught by a well qualified and interesting teacher, through the year, with our usual brief vacations, and the pupils in general have made good progress. The elementary branches, with arithmetic, geography, English grammar, history, and composition, have been taught, and some attention has been given to music, both vocal and instrumental, especially sacred music.

We have had regular Christian worship through the year, both for the Indians and the population of the frontier; also an interesting Sabbath school has been faithfully sustained, averaging about forty scholars, including Indians, mixed bloods, and whites.

And in addition to our labors at this station we have another up the lake, conducted by the Rev. James D. Cameron, who has preached regularly to the Indians in their own native tongue.

He has divided his labors between those at Pendill's Mill and those at Na-ah-me-kang, visiting the latter place as circumstances would permit. We have also borne the main share of the support of a school among those Indians for four months of the year, taught by a young Indian, in which merely the elementary branches were taught.

We have a small church, embodying twenty-four members, which the Rev. Mr. Cameron will preside over as pastor on my leaving.

In taking my leave of these Indians, and the people of this frontier, I do it with mingled feelings of regret and joy.

I deeply regret that I have not been able to do more for both their temporal and spiritual good, for I am conscious that their welfare and prosperity have ever laid near my heart.

But I rejoice that I have the evidence that the Lord has accomplished some important good for them through my feeble instrument-

ality, both of a temporal and spiritual character ; and to Him be all the glory forever.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Superintendent Baptist Mission.

HENRY C. GILBERT, Esq.,
Indian Agent.

No. 7.

GRAND TRAVERSE, *October 3, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: I send you the following as my annual report. Immediately after the Indians returned from payment I commenced school and continued it till the Indians commenced sugaring, about three months. I commenced again in June and continued until a few days since. My scholars have numbered above thirty, in all ; but I have lost my list and cannot particularize. The scholars have made encouraging progress.

Our meetings have been well and steadily attended, and are doing much to mould and transform the character and fit them to become good citizens and useful inhabitants ; and such, really, they are becoming.

The sudden coming in of white settlers produced some little confusion for a time, and some cases of intoxication occurred ; but things are taking a better form.

I have made great efforts to promote the cause of temperance the past year, and I hope with decidedly good results. I have not known a case of drunkenness for a long time.

I am growing confident that the Indians will become steady, industrious, and good inhabitants ; if this be not the result of the efforts for their amelioration, it will be prevented by the conduct of bad white men ; but I feel assured that the continuance of the right influence will counteract all such tendencies.

On the whole I am much encouraged in my work and believe it will be useful, in a good degree, to this people.

We are now organizing school districts, which I shall endeavor to lead the Indians to improve, as far as I am acquainted with them ; and, considering the manner in which they are settled and are settling, I see not why the common school system may not become as useful to them as to the American people ; and this has been, and is, one of my principal objects to get them into a condition to progress by the same means by which the civilized inhabitants of our land progress, then the great work will, in a good degree, be accomplished.

I am, dear sir, your obedient and humble servant,

GEORGE N. SMITH.

H. C. GILBERT, Esq.

No. 8.

NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY,
Milwaukie, October 1, 1855.

SIR: In obedience to the regulations of the Indian Department I submit my annual report.

Of the Indian tribes under the superintendency of this office the Oneidas, Stockbridges, and Brothertons are commonly classed among the civilized Indians, while the Menomonees have, so far, been classed and considered as uncivilized or wild Indians. However, this tribe of Indians have lately, and particularly within the last year, improved much and made considerable progress towards civilization.

In accordance with the stipulations of the treaty of May 12, 1855, the means were furnished to begin a systematic effort to improve and civilize them, and though I had hoped that more progress would be made this season, the results obtained are such that perhaps the history of the civilization of Indian tribes will not show an instance where more has been accomplished in so short a time. The leading idea expressed in my report of October 27, 1854, that, "as much as practicable, all the work to be done for the Menomonees is to be done *by* them, and whites are to be employed only to superintend the work and to teach them how to work," has been adhered to; and when funds for improvements to be made were placed in my hands, (February 1, 1855,) many of the Indians were persuaded to go to work at getting out fence rails, fence posts, timber, clearing, grubbing, and some at making shingles, &c. A part of this work was done by different individuals, while other parts were performed by the young men of one or more bands, forming themselves, under their own foremen, into gangs of hands. A carpenter shop was at once put into operation, and the public buildings being erected at the pay-ground are offering a fine opportunity for a number of the young men to be instructed in the carpenter trade. A dwelling house for one of the teachers, and the agency and interpreter's house, have already been built by Indian hands; and a number of young men have made such progress that, in building houses for themselves, they need no instruction from the carpenter who is superintending the work at the public buildings. Many young men show, comparatively, far more inclination for, and dexterity and perseverance in, mechanical labor than farm labor; and, to some extent, the old prejudice of looking upon farm labor as properly to be left to the women is clinging to them. However, since the new agent, authorized by Congress to be appointed in lieu of the Green Bay sub-agent, has taken charge of their improvements (in May last) they have made considerable progress in farming.

In addition to the remaining working cattle—of the few yoke furnished them annually under stipulations of the treaty of 1836—ten yoke were delivered to them in May last, and these cattle are now well provided for; and under the instruction of a competent farmer, a number of the Indians are learning well to attend to and drive cattle. It is to be expected that enough land will be ploughed to enable the

tribe to plant next spring sufficient for their sustenance, in case the season should prove favorable to their crops.

A majority of the tribe have adopted our mode of dressing, and are wearing coats and pantaloons, made up by the women, (under the instruction of the teacher of the sewing school,) of stuff furnished; and with shoes and hats, lately provided for them, a perfect change in their appearance is completed.

At the purchase of the saw-mill, which had been erected before the Menomonees were removed to their present reservation, a large quantity of pine lumber and logs came into our possession. It is much to be deprecated that a settlement for this lumber has not yet been completed with the individual who manufactured it; and I was reluctant to authorize the use of any of this lumber for the erection, by the Indians, of houses for their own use. But their applications have been so pressing, and it has been so apparent that they needed houses, and were capable of constructing them, that I felt constrained to authorize the furnishing of a limited quantity of lumber to such Indians as are erecting houses, and gave instructions that an account be kept of their names and of the quantities furnished.

These evidences of civilization among these Indians furnish a great contrast to their behavior when, under the treaty of 1831, houses were built for them, and they preferred to live in their lodges and to put their horses into the houses, or let their traders occupy them.

In our efforts to civilize these Indians very little assistance can be obtained from those who have been residing in the vicinity of these Indians, and making their living out of them, and who had succeeded at every treaty made with them by the government, except at the one of 12th of May last year, to get large claims allowed. On the contrary, many of them have been doing everything in their power to sow distrust among the Indians towards their officers and the policy of the government, and to keep them from working as advised by the agent and the farmer and carpenter. Since the Indians are becoming more capable of doing business, and disinclined to be used as tools to the iniquitous schemes of these traders and half-breeds, they look upon them with disgust and hatred, and injure them where they can; and I have often wished that provisions were made by law clearly applicable to this locality and to these cases, which would enable me and the agent to effectually stop these machinations.

The Menomonees have been advised by me not to leave their reservation to rove through the country for the purpose of fishing, hunting, and gathering rice, because it brings them in contact with whiskey and other deteriorating influences, and most of them bring very little rice or game home; and because they, while lying around the shops of those trading with them, are a great nuisance to the inhabitants of the neighborhood. Some few, who have not yet learned to understand the importance of availing themselves of the facilities offered them to improve, are in the habit of returning, from time to time, to the lower Wolf river, where complaints are often made by the inhabitants, to whom their presence is highly objectionable. I presume it would be proper for the State of Wisconsin to adopt laws more strictly prohibiting the sale of spiritous liquors to the Indians, and restrain-

ing these strolling Menomonees, as well as the Pottowatomies and Chippewas, who returned from their new home west of the Mississippi, and are now roving about through the State.

In relation to the condition of the *Oneida Indians*, I had the honor to report to you on the 14th of August last, giving a description of the pernicious influences of their lumbering operations on many of this tribe, and of the neglected condition of many of their extensive farms. I trust that the disposition of that report made by your office will cause proper measures to be instituted to put a stop to the trade carried on by the people of Green Bay for the pine logs, lumber, and shingles, cut and manufactured by these Indians. I have taken every proper opportunity to impress upon the minds of their chiefs the importance of dissuading their people from continuing occupations so illy calculated for their welfare and improvement, and they being men of good judgment, admitted the correctness of my views; but it seems that their tribal government is too weak, and their discipline too loose, to give the chiefs sufficient influence to prevent their young men from continuing to cut pine and to manufacture shingles. The price of pine is so high, and the market is so near, that the temptation is too strong; and though I will repeat these efforts to dissuade the Indians from continuing occupations ruinous to them, and from neglecting farming, I cannot expect to succeed fully, unless at the same time the purchase from the Indians of pine and shingles is discouraged. Unless such measures will soon be taken, ruin will be brought by this trade upon a tribe which had advanced far in civilization.

I have very little to add to the condensed statement of the affairs at Stockbridge contained in my last annual report, and the opinion expressed there in relation to measures to be taken for the benefit of the Stockbridges and Munsees has not been changed. I had the honor to state at length my objections to the treaty with the Stockbridges, concluded on the first of June last, but I am not aware if they had any weight in causing that treaty to be laid aside. I presume that an arrangement on a different basis will soon be authorized, and that after so many unsuccessful attempts to "cure the impracticabilities" of legislation intended for the benefit of the Stockbridge Indians, these difficulties will be settled without violating any legal and equitable rights of the white settlers at Stockbridge; and that a home will be provided for the Stockbridges and Munsees where they will resume with good earnest their agricultural pursuits.

I was sorry to notice that the bitter feeling existing at Stockbridge between the whites and Indians, and caused by those unsettled affairs, extends to the neighboring town of Manchester, the home of the Brothertons. In every other respect the Brothertons seem to live comfortably and to enjoy all the rights and advantages of citizenship.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

FRANCIS HUEBSCHMANN,

Superintendent.

Hon. GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 9.

MENOMONEE AGENCY, *Keshena, September 15, 1855.*

SIR: In submitting this my first annual report, permit me to say that, having discharged the duties of this agency for few months only, I am not able to furnish as full a statement of the present condition and wants of the Indians as might have been expected from longer experience. My entire time, since I entered upon the duties of this agency, has been devoted to the discharge of my official duties among the Menomonees, who are at present making good progress in agriculture, considering their past habits and the circumstances surrounding them until the present season. I believe no well directed effort has been made to instruct them in farming, and this year we were seriously embarrassed by the want of proper feed for the teams, while preparing land for spring crops; the hay stacked by the Indians was deficient both in quality and quantity; added to this, the corn and oats bought for the use of the teams could not be brought up the river (owing to obstructions by logs and rafts) until too late to be of much service for spring ploughing, so that at least half of the efficiency of our teams was lost. Notwithstanding this, about 300 acres were put in cultivation with corn, potatoes and oats, of which 200 acres were planted in corn. The potatoes are fair in quantity and of superior quality; the corn promised fair until the 17th of August, when nearly all of it was more or less injured by frost, some entirely destroyed. I think the crop injured in value at least one-fourth, so that it will be necessary, in order to protect them from suffering, to purchase some provisions for distribution, or to deal out for labor, or, perhaps, in part for each purpose. Much has been done this season in the way of clearing and grubbing, towards preparing land for crops next year, and it is confidently hoped that another year will show a very gratifying improvement in the agricultural condition of the Indians. Their land is not the best, yet improves by cultivation, and is no doubt capable of sustaining a population much larger than the present Menomonee nation. The disposition of the Indians to labor, as well as capability as farm hands, has improved very much this season. There is no doubt but the number of men among them capable of doing satisfactory service in the field is at present twice as large as it was last May. Oshkosh, the head chief, (a pagan, and one of the most reluctant to adopt the habits of civilization and industry,) said to me, since the annual payment, that he perceived those young men who labored through the summer had made their living, and now had their annuity money for their winter support, while those who had not done so had run in debt to the amount of their annuity, and were now destitute; and that he intended to call a council of his band, and advise his young men to come into the policy of the government and be industrious.

There has not been as much improvement in their buildings as there otherwise would have been owing to the difficulty of getting lumber, but that being now obviated by having the mill in our possession, which is doing good business and turning out lumber enough for all their pressing wants, they are turning their attention to building

houses, and many who wintered in bark lodges last winter will be able to get into comfortable houses this fall.

The schools are exerting a salutary influence on the young, but are deprived of half their usefulness by want of suitable school houses, (one of which is in process of erection,) the buildings at present occupied as such are both board shanties, uncomfortable and inconvenient.

The blacksmiths are worthy and industrious men and rendering satisfactory service; the assistants are both Menomonees and show a fair talent for the trade.

The farmer, Mr. Heaton, is a young man of good character and industrious habits, whose influence I think will be good, but has unfortunately been unable to perform the duties of his place for some weeks past, by reason of a severe attack of sickness, but is now so far recovered that it is thought he will resume his duties in a few days.

Mr. Werdehoff, the carpenter, has discharged his duty to my entire satisfaction; the teacher's house, now occupied by Mrs. Dousman, the agent's house and office, and the interpreter's house, nearly completed by Indian labor, speak well for his energy and skill as a master builder and for the aptness of the Indians for mechanism.

I enclose the annual report of the teachers of the male and female department of the Menomonee school, and also the report of the teacher of the sewing school.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
BENJAMIN HUNKINS,
Indian Agent.

FRANCIS HUEBSCHMANN, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

No. 10.

KESHENA, *September 1, 1855.*

SIR: I herein submit to you my annual report of the male department of the Menomonee school. You are aware much has been done for the Menomonees the past year, in supplying them with farming utensils and other inducements to labor as farmers and mechanics, which they seemed to have appreciated, by their promptness to the call of their agent and industrious application to labor. This new field of action has so much attracted the attention of the tribe, that they have in a degree neglected the schools; and our school houses, at present, being but temporary shanties, very inconvenient and cold in winter, therefore it cannot be expected that our schools have made as much progress as they could have done under more favorable circumstances. Notwithstanding, I am happy in stating that the scholars have made much proficiency in learning the English language and elementary branches commonly taught in our district schools; and hope, when our school houses are completed, that the schools will be established on a more favorable basis, and more can be done for the improvement and welfare of these Indians. Some of the scholars are

now capable of reading plain print with facility, write legibly, and compute figures sufficient for common business transactions. I would add, that for the past two years these people have progressed towards civilized life beyond my most sanguine anticipation; intemperance and other vices are much less than formerly, and a disposition to be industrious greater. The number of children that have attended school, some of the time, during the past year, is seventy-five.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN WILEY, *Teacher.*

Hon. BENJAMIN HUNKINS, *Agent.*

No. 11.

KESHENA, *September 1, 1855.*

SIR: I present the following as my report of the female school under my charge. The whole number of scholars, regular and irregular, in attendance, is fifty-two; for the number in regular attendance I respectfully refer you to the monthly registers.

The branches taught have been spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography. They are progressing as fast as can be expected, considering that we labored under some disadvantages; for it is much to be regretted that parents too often take their children from school to make them work in the field, and again, to make them weave mats, which is an article of comfort to them and trade. These, of course, have not made such advances as might be expected.

Two days of the week are devoted to sewing and knitting. They take a peculiar delight in all kinds of needle work, always manifesting a willingness to do any kind of work required of them.

I have in the school quite a number of small girls that promise well and who are both industrious and studious.

Since my last report, five of the girls have left school, and have married and are doing very well, I am happy to state—are good housekeepers, having been taught the more substantial branches of domestic work. The recollection of having conduced to their happiness, by so doing, will be to me a lasting reward.

Very respectfully,

ROSALIE DOUSMAN,
Teacher.

Hon. B. HUNKINS,
Indian Agent.

No. 12.

KESHENA, *September 1, 1855.*

SIR: I herewith present you the report of the industrial school under my charge, and I am highly pleased at my success. The school house sometimes seems to us a perfect bee-hive of industry;

some are sewing, some knitting, all enjoying themselves, both Christians and pagans, old and young, but principally the adults; the idea was truly amusing to them. I find no obstacle to success arising from any inability on their part. They are very ingenious with the needle, and readily learn to make garments for the men, &c.

The tabular statement will show the number and different pieces of work made in school since last November.

Respectfully,

JANE DOUSMAN.

BENJAMIN HUNKINS, Esq.,
Indian Agent, Keshena, Wisconsin.

Statement showing the number and different pieces of work made in the industrial school since last November.

Names of bands.	Number of coats for men.	Number of pants for men.	Number of shirts for men.	Number of coats for boys.	Number of pants for boys.	Number of shirts for boys.	Number of gowns for women.	Number of shirts for women.	Number of gowns for girls.	Number of shirts for girls.	Number of pairs of socks.	Number of pairs of mittens.	Number of pairs of stockings.
Oshkosh	6	9	6	6	6	5	10	10	11	11	2	1	.....
Keshena	3	19	.....	3	6	.....	6	5	5	4	.....	.....	.....
Canon	18	42	14	14	15	.....	8	10	12	16	15	4	6
Shon-no-nino	4	6	3	.....	.....	2	11	2	8	1	1	1	.....
Shaw-wa-na-pe-nan	9	21	1	4	5	.....	4	2	3	2	.....	.....	.....
La-motte	10	20	6	9	10	3	7	8	9	9	6	1	4
Pe-quah-ka-nah	12	21	8	11	11	.....	6	11	8	9	2	.....	.....
Wan-ketchem	4	5	1	4	5	.....	13	7	5	5	2	1	.....
A-kan-mott	3	8	2	3	3	.....	6	6	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Wis-ke-no	2	3	1	3	3	2	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	71	154	42	57	64	12	74	64	63	59	31	8	10

No. 13.

ONEIDA WEST MISSION, August 30, 1855.

SIR: I herewith submit to you my annual report for the year ending with this date.

I have used all the government funds (\$150) and \$50 appropriated by the missionary society in sustaining two schools in this part of the nation; one has been taught nine months and a half, and the other

seven months, each six hours in a day and five days in a week. A good degree of interest has been manifested. Ninety different native children have attended, but the average attendance in the two schools has been but thirty-five, about an equal number of both sexes. Their progress has been as rapid as could be expected, considering that they are taught in the English language, while but a few of them understand it. The principal labor of the teachers has been bestowed in teaching them to read. Eight study arithmetic, twelve write. The interest on the subject of education is decidedly advancing; and with many a considerable anxiety is manifested to prepare for citizenship.

The most of this part of the nation are devoting themselves to agricultural pursuits. The following will show the interest this year compared with the preceding:

1854.	No. of acres.	1855.	No. of acres.
Corn or maize.....	161	Corn.....	226
Oats.....	190	Oats.....	121
Fall and spring wheat.....	37	Fall and spring wheat.....	121
Potatoes.....	23	Potatoes.....	25
Rye.....	37	Rye.....	7
Peas.....	10	Peas.....	22
Beans.....	15	Beans.....	14
Buckwheat.....	25	Buckwheat.....	7½
Meadow.....	239	Meadow.....	228
Barley.....	1	Barley.....	.....

Last year only nine acres of land were cleared for crops. This year (1855) there have been ninety acres cleared within the same extent of territory—from the nation's council-house southwest.

Many of the nation are engaged in lumbering, greatly to the injury of the nation, as the traffic is attended with much idleness and intemperance; and by it the pine timber is fast wasting away, while agricultural pursuits are neglected.

Ten of the youth of the nation have been receiving education in the Lawrence University, supported partly by the government and partly by benevolent friends. Their progress has been respectable in all improvements. They promise usefulness to the nation.

If some means could be devised to divide this nation into convenient districts, and supply them generally with the common schools, it would greatly facilitate their improvement in every respect; as it is now, less than half of the children are within convenient distance of the established schools.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Yours, truly,

C. G. LATHROP,

M. E. Missionary to Oneida Indians.

Hon. Dr. HUEBSCHMANN,

Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 14.

MINNESOTA SUPERINTENDENCY,
Executive Office, St. Paul, October 31, 1855.

SIR: The past year has not been marked by any event connected with Indians affairs in this Territory of such importance as to attract more than the ordinary attention of the public or the officers in charge of this branch of the public service.

The late treaties, made at Washington with the Chippewa and Winnebago tribes, during the last winter, have been put in operation, and the Winnebagos removed to their new home on the Blue Earth with a very trifling expense, and in a quiet and orderly manner, by their agent, General Fletcher. And, in obedience to your orders, they have selected their location, designated their boundary lines, and commenced ploughing, planting, and building, and in all respects show signs of contentment and ordinary prosperity.

The people in the neighborhood of the Winnebago tribe are much dissatisfied with their new neighbors; but, as I have heretofore stated to your office all the material facts touching the subject, it is deemed useless again to refer to them.

There has nothing occurred touching the interest of the Chippewa tribe that you are not familiar with, as most matters of interest have been connected with the making and carrying out their late treaties made at Washington.

The Rev. J. Lloyd Breck has been, and is now, effecting more for the civilization of that tribe than has ever been done before, to my knowledge or information, and it is hoped that he may be encouraged and aided by the government. It is very desirable, in my judgment, that your office should take steps to place a heavy proportion of the school fund in his charge, and thus enable him to push forward the good work he has begun, and in which he has been so eminently successful.

The condition of the Sioux has been greatly improved within the past year. They are not yet, however, quite content to stay upon their reserve; but this restless feeling is fast subsiding, owing to the increased agricultural facilities on their reservation. A very large quantity of ploughing and planting has been done the past season, and the crops have yielded abundantly. Their mills have been commenced and are rapidly progressing towards completion.

The Sioux of Minnesota have been, and are now, peaceably disposed towards the government, notwithstanding the hostile attitude of some of their tribe and kinsmen of the Missouri, the Platte, and the plains. They seem to deprecate the conduct of their friends and earnestly express the hope that their Great Father will soon make peace with them. I have no reason to apprehend any difficulty with any of the Minnesota bands while they receive their regular annuity of money, goods, and provisions. At first it was thought prudent, after hearing of General Harney's battle with the Sioux on the Platte, to order that the guns and ammunition due them for this year be withheld until further orders from your office, and also to restrain the traders from

selling them these articles; but finding that Major Day and Colonel Abercrombie, late and present commanders of Fort Ridgely, and others, concurred in the opinion that no difficulty need be apprehended from their receiving them, the order was, within a few days, changed, and they will receive them accordingly, and this after a full knowledge of all the facts connected with their condition and disposition. I trust that it may prove satisfactory, as it is the result of that discretion left to the commanding officer at Fort Ridgely, and myself, by the government.

In regard to the savage warfare that has been going on so long between the Sioux and Chippewas, it is believed that the presence of the troops lately ordered to Pembina will have a salutary effect and tend to break up the war parties that have kept the people on that frontier in dread, and retarded the civilization of the tribes themselves.

The agent of the Sioux suggests the propriety of contracting for the annual supply of the treaty provisions to be delivered at their agency instead of at St. Paul. That this course would secure the certain and speedy delivery of the said supplies at the agency. He also suggests that \$1 50 per capita, about the pro rata share of each of the upper bands, is sufficient to keep them but a short time, twice in the year, &c.

It is proper to say that the contracts were made early in the spring for the delivery of the Sioux supplies at St. Paul at the *earliest possible* day after the opening of navigation. The contract for the transportation was made at the same time, so that the transportation contractor entered into bonds to receive from the boats, store, and forward to the agency, the provisions immediately upon their arrival at St. Paul, and to complete their delivery by September 15. But this is not all. If contracts are made for \$5,000 worth of provisions to be delivered at the *agency* instead of at *St. Paul*, the government would save three or four thousand dollars now paid for transportation from St. Paul to the agency, but the Indians would only receive about one half as much provisions, and instead of getting \$1 50 worth per capita, they would only receive from 80 cents to \$1 worth per capita. This would evidently be bad policy for the Indians. It would be a saving for the government, but a positive loss to the Indians. Therefore, as the government agrees by treaty to pay the upper Sioux \$5,000 worth of provisions annually, it is incumbent on the government, as I conceive, to have a given point for the purchase and payment thereof; and forward from thence to the agency at its own expense and not at the cost of the Indians. It would be greatly to the advantage of the Indians to have the government buy their provisions at St. Louis, Chicago, or Galena, and then forward them to the agency. As it now is the provisions are produced in the States below, and purchased in Illinois and Iowa; thus the Indians have really to pay the transportation from Galena to St. Paul. The transportation from St. Paul to the agency of the Sioux and Winnebago goods and provisions is governed in price and time of delivery by the navigation of the Minnesota. The present season has been one of unusually low water in every part of this country. And every contractor with the government has used every effort to faithfully fulfill his engagement, so far

as I have been able to learn. While upon this subject I beg leave to recommend that your office, in view of the heavy expense incurred annually in forwarding Indian supplies to the Winnebago and Sioux agencies from St. Paul, ask Congress to appropriate about \$30,000 for constructing a road from some point on the Big Sioux and Mendota (government) road, *via* Fort Ridgely to Red Wood and Yellow Medicine, the Sioux agencies. This would greatly facilitate the transportation of soldiers, munitions of war, and supplies to Fort Ridgely, and a like advantage would accrue to the Indian Department in forwarding Indian supplies to said posts, and I sincerely trust that you will lay this matter before Congress at an early day. I need not discuss it, as a glance at the map and your knowledge of the annual expense and difficulty in forwarding the Indian supplies will point out the great necessity for such a road.

I beg leave, also, to urge that a small appropriation of \$10,000 be requested to make a road from Mankato, or the nearest point from the Winnebago agency, to the Big Sioux and Mendota (government) road, say a distance of twelve or fifteen miles. At present, this last named distance is mostly through heavy timber and marshes or wet lands, and, consequently, at times utterly impassable; and none so much interested in making the agency easily accessible as the government. The distance from the government road now being constructed from Mendota, on the Mississippi river, to the Big Sioux, on the Missouri, at its nearest point from Fort Ridgely, is, perhaps, about forty-five miles in the direction of St. Paul, entirely over prairie land, with frequently wet and marshy places, which, during a rainy season, render transportation by wagons utterly impossible. The distance from Fort Ridgely to the Lower Sioux agency is twelve miles, and from thence to the Upper Sioux agency twenty-eight miles.

These appropriations are so essentially necessary that I sincerely trust that you will feel called upon to urge them upon Congress at an early day.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

W. A. GORMAN,

Governor and ex officio Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. GEO. W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 15.

CHIPPEWA AGENCY, *October 17, 1855.*

SIR: Each year's experience strengthens the opinion formed during the first year of my residence among the Chippewas of the Mississippi, "that these Indians can be civilized." All that is required is steadily adhering to that line of policy which experience has proved to be the most beneficial.

One, and perhaps the greatest, hindrance to the advancement of the Indians in civilization is the frequent changes in general policy pur-

sued towards them by the government; the frequent removals that have heretofore been required of them have retarded very much their advancement; allowing large sums of money yearly, to employ a number of mechanics at one agency, has tended to confirm the Indian in his naturally indolent habits. The system of education generally practiced among the Indian tribes, educating them from books, rather than in the workshops, has been a source of evil rather than good.

The policy of the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs, which; if steadily pursued, is one which will do more towards civilizing the Indian tribes than any that has been previously adopted by the government. Already it has been attended with the most beneficial results, at least so far as the Chippewas of Mississippi are concerned. Permitting the tribes to select small tracts of land, sufficient when adequately cultivated to support them independent of their annuities, if husbanded; confirming to them the title in these reservations; breaking for them on these reservations sufficient land to give them a practical illustration of the advantage of the white man's method of cultivating the soil; compelling them, if they would save the crops, to do their own fencing; furnishing them with just sufficient help to teach them when, how, and what use to make of seed. Such is, in part, the policy of the present Commissioner, as portrayed in the late treaty with the Chippewa Indians, and to it the chiefs subscribe with hearty good will; feeling that now, for the first time since their intercourse with the government commenced, that they have land which they can call their own, without the constant fear of soon being called upon to remove from it.

Hole-in-the-Day, the leading chief, has set them a laudable example in farming; near the agency a piece of land, containing about sixty acres, had been broken and partially fenced; upon this piece of land, after his return from Washington, he resolved to work, and with such industry and perseverance did he labor, that during the payment he was enabled to sell to the Indians between two and three hundred dollars worth of vegetables, besides having sufficient for winter's use for his own family, and oats and hay for his stock. Each day, from early dawn till dark, could his wagon be seen standing in the centre of the Indian encampment, surrounded by men, women and children buying his potatoes, squashes, beets, turnips, corn, pumpkins, &c. "This, my brethren," said he, "is the result of my farming; while you have been wandering, pursuing the uncertain chase, I have been laboring; you are poor, I am rich; I have no fears for the winter, as I have sufficient to carry me through; profit by my example." I cannot but congratulate the Commissioner of Indian Affairs upon this practical evidence of the soundness of his views in giving or securing to the Indians reservations from which they feel assured they will not be required to remove; I know of several Indians who will, if they live till spring, follow the example set them by their head chief, and another year the agent will have the pleasure of reporting a rapid advance made by Indians who have received less aid from the government than most tribes within the boundaries of this Union.

A marked improvement is going on among these bands (the Mississippi) as to their dress; quite a large number of them have adopted

the dress of the whites as a whole, while a still larger number have in part. This, to me, is one of the most interesting features in their advancement towards civilization that has been made since my residence among them, and it appears to me to be one which should be fostered and encouraged by the officers of the government to the extent of their ability; my theory is, that no Indian (or a white man either) can ever labor to advantage, so long as one arm is required to hold on to his blanket; discarding the blanket, the arms and body are free, then only is the will required; with such examples as their head chief has given them, the "will" will not long be wanting.

As an encouragement to discard their own dress, care should be had in selecting their goods for annuity payments; to purchase such articles only as will be useful and attractive; select their calico of pleasing patterns and *fast colors*, to encourage the wearing of frocks and washing; give them linseys, flannel and stockings, rather than leggins and strouding. Give me a sufficiency of linsey, calico and stockings, and I will guarantee that in two years every woman in the tribe will discard the stroud and leggins; shawls will then take the place of blankets, and the habits of civilized life will rapidly follow the change of dress. The men do not so readily adopt the custom of the whites, but all to whom coats were given wear them, and appear to be proud of them. Many of the Indians are in the habit of making coats of their blankets. Were they furnished with the right kind of coats they would be of daily use, and would soon take the place of the blanket; pants would follow, of course, and the revolution in dress be complete. To insure the purchase of such kind of goods, particularly in calico and linseys, as would be most pleasing to the Indian, they should be purchased in open market. The traders pay less for goods and generally get a better article than is furnished the Indians by the contract system.

About a year since, as an inducement to the Indians to refrain from their wandering life, I promised to all who would build themselves houses and live in them, that I would give them cooking-stoves; several families have embraced my offer, and have very comfortable houses. I believe it my duty, as an agent of the government, to embrace every opportunity and offer all reasonable inducements to these untutored creatures to advance them in civilization, to give up their wandering habits, settle permanently somewhere, adopt the custom and habits of some of their white neighbors, and to cultivate the soil.

Very many of the goods paid to the Indians at the late payment were in a damaged condition. Upon investigation, I became satisfied that the goods were damaged before they reached St. Paul. As the business is conducted, I am expected to receive or receipt for the goods at St. Paul, 150 miles distant from my residence, the agency. An agent cannot always be present (I never have been) when the goods are landed at St. Paul. Again: when landed the outside of the boxes, bales, &c., may look in good order, when the fact is, as in this case, they had been soaked; the outside dry, but in the inside the goods mildewed, rusty, spoiled, as was the case with some of the calico—we presumed it was calico, as the packing list called for calico, but the figures were all soaked out. I had no resource but to give it to the

Indians, who made no use of it. I was much pleased that the chief clerk of the Interior Department was present and saw the goods opened, that some plan may be adopted to prevent such damage in the future. Various contracts are made for the transportation of goods from the place of purchase to the place of delivery. I only know the contractor from St. Paul to the place of destination. Permit me to suggest to the department the propriety of having but one contractor for transportation to the place of distribution. If goods are damaged on the way the government will know whom to call on to make good all damages that may occur.

Difficulties have arisen between the Mille Lac Indians and the lumbermen engaged in that country.

Several years since, a company engaged in lumbering erected a dam across Rum river, the outlet of Mille Lac lake; the land upon which this dam was built belonged to the government. By the late treaty the government, in part payment for the large tract of land sold by the Indians, gave them four fractional townships around the outlet of Mille Lacs, (or thousand lakes.) These townships include the dam and the country two miles beyond. At the mouth of the outlet are several small lakes, known as rice fields; from these fields the Indians gather from three to five thousand bushels of rice annually, worth from four to five dollars per bushel. The maintainance of this dam, by flooding these fields, or raising the waters in these small lakes, destroys from two-thirds to the whole of the crop. The Indians have frequently raised the gates and let the water off. I cannot blame them; the dam is on their own land—land, their right to which the government is just as firmly bound to protect as it is to pay them their annuities—and the Indians mainly depend upon this crop for a subsistence. Some arrangement should be made by which the rights of the Indians to their own land should be respected. In connexion with this subject I will remark, that the various reservations guaranteed to the Indians by their late treaty should be surveyed, and the boundaries marked. Emigration to this whole territory is very great; the whites are constantly trespassing upon these reservations, which is a fruitful source of difficulty.

Early in the summer I called your excellency's attention to the subject of breaking lands on the Mille Lac reservation. From a personal inspection, I judged that the work could not be done for less than \$30 to \$35 per acre, it being heavily timbered, but excellent land. I noticed an advertisement inviting proposals, since which time I have heard nothing. Those Indians are very anxious that the stipulations in their treaty should be carried out.

I regret very much that the Indians at their last council, after payment, requested the school to be discontinued, and the money kept for next year's annuities. I regret this action on the part of the Indians, as I believe the Rev. J. Loyd Breck was doing more good to them in the expenditure of the school money than can be done by the expenditure of the money in any other way. Mr. Breck is certainly doing the Indians more good than any man I ever knew or heard of that has been among them. The Pillagers desire that if a school is established among them that the Rev. J. Loyd Breck may have charge of it.

REPORT OF THE

The Pillager and Lake Winnibigoshish bands were much pleased at the quantity and variety of goods given them at their annuity payment. I think it a fortunate circumstance that the instructions to divide the payment was received too late for action, and all the goods and money paid to them at the same time. Previous to the return of the chiefs from Washington, last spring, some fiendish parties poisoned the minds of the Indians against the treaty, telling them that their lands had been sold for a song and perhaps three bits in money; so much confidence did this suspicious people place in the authors of this report that they broke into the store of George Bungo, a half-breed trader, and stripped it of its contents and threatened his life, killed the horse of another half-breed, giving as a reason that those parties were friendly to the treaty, and had assisted the chiefs from Leech Lake to Crow Wing on their way to Washington. After the return of the chiefs, and the provisions of the treaty had been explained to them, so suspicious are they, and prone to receive the counsels of the evil disposed, that they sought the lives of the chiefs; and, even after the goods had been received at the agency, not aware of the quantity which each would receive, they were loud in their demonstrations—so much so that I was obliged to send to Fort Ripley for a guard, fearing an outbreak. In the last instance they were instigated and encouraged by the counsels of one James Tanner, a half-breed, who manages to gull the good people of New York and Boston out of a livelihood, under pretence of being a Christian teacher; as soon as he was arrested and removed to the fort, (he had previously been removed from the Indian country, Sault Ste. Marie,) they became more quiet. When the goods were divided among them, the quantity was so much greater than they had any idea of, that they, to a man, gave up their opposition, expressed great regret at the course pursued, and promised good behavior for the future, and offered as an excuse that they had been influenced by bad men, not the least of whom was the man before named.

The Pillager and Lake Winnebigoish bands have made, by treaty with the government, provision for the breaking of lands and the employment of laborers to assist them in its cultivation, consequently the presence of the agent is required among them. The Mississippi Indians have dispensed with all their employés, hence there is no necessity of the agent remaining at Crow Wing. I suggest, therefore, to the department that the agency dwelling be built at Leech Lake, 'tis there where the payments will be made to the Pillager and Lake Winnebigoish bands; 'tis there, too, where the store-house, council-house, and office must be erected, hence the most suitable place for an agency dwelling; 'tis, too, the most central reservation.

The buildings above mentioned should be built early in the coming spring, to be ready for the next payment. These buildings will, of necessity, in this far off country, be built of logs, which should be got out during the winter and hauled where required, as it can be done much cheaper then than in the summer; in the spring it will be almost impossible to procure them.

A mistake was made in the wording of the late treaty with regard to the reservation at Cass Lake. The Indians were promised the land

of their present gardens. The treaty reads east instead of west, which throws them on the opposite side of the lake. I suggest that the mistake be corrected. The Indians are much concerned at this mistake, as the reservation, as per treaty as it now stands, is a large swamp, not capable of cultivation or drainage.

At Otter Tail lake there is a band of about three hundred Indians. No reservation was made for these Indians, or provision made for breaking land or employment of laborers. The chief of this band was not at Washington, perhaps that was the reason why his band was forgotten. A reservation is due them; and as the policy, as I have before remarked, of confining them to small reservations is promising so much good, I suggest that a reservation equal to three miles square be given them and provision made for breaking a small quantity of land, and the employment of one laborer for a short period.

I am happy to inform the department that less whiskey was brought into the country during the payment just made than at any previous one since I have been in the country, notwithstanding that there was double the number of Indians present. To this result the troops sent up, on my request, by Major Patten, commanding Fort Ripley, in a great measure contributed. On this, as on former occasions, Major Patten promptly responded to my request for aid, and has rendered me material assistance in the discharge of my duties as agent.

The only effectual means of preventing war parties between the various Indian tribes is to bring them under control of the government by means of annuities. Hitherto the war parties among the Chippewas against the Sioux have been headed by the Pillagers; but since their treaty they have sent none out. There has been but one started, and it was composed of Red Lake Indians, and they returned without accomplishing anything. The recent treaties at La Point and Washington extinguished the Indian title to all the country between Lake Superior, Red river, and the British line, except the country claimed by the Red Lake and Bois Forte Indians. The Bois Fortes claim that a portion of their lands were ceded in both treaties; but neither the Chippewas of Mississippi or Pillager bands recognize their right to participate in the annuities. Jealousies, bickerings, and war are likely to be the result. The lumberman has already found his way into their country.

Permit me to suggest that it would be an advantage to the government to extinguish the Indian title to these lands. A treaty can nowhere be made as well or advantageous to both parties as at Washington, uncontrolled as the Indians would be by evil disposed men.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. HERRIMAN,

Indian Agent.

His Excellency W. A. GORMAN,
*Superintendent Indian Affairs,
St. Paul, Minnesota Territory.*

No. 16.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY, *September 13, 1855.*

SIR: In reporting the condition of the Indians under my charge, I regret to say that they have become an element in the political excitements of the day, or rather are brought into the excitement of elections in this Territory, and if legitimately so, it might be proper that their agent should define their position, and speak of their present and prospective influence in territorial and national affairs; but as their connexion with the movements of politicians is without their own consent, I will only express the hope that the good sense and fairness of their white brethren will protect them from the consequences of an excitement as prejudicial to their interest as it is foreign to their wishes.

The Winnebagoes are good judges of land; they have owned and occupied some of the best tracts of country now included in the State of Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa, some of which they left with reluctance, and were obtained from them with great difficulty, and after repeated attempts at negotiation. The selection of their late home, north of the Watab, they allege was not made in accordance with the wishes of a majority of their tribe, and they repeatedly solicited to exchange it for a home with which they could all be satisfied. In 1853 permission was granted, and a treaty was negotiated giving them a tract of country which they desired on Crow river, on which tract, at the time said treaty was made, not a single white family resided. Against this treaty a clamor, originating from motives and movements foreign to the interest of the Indians, the territory and the government was raised, which resulted in its rejection. By the treaty of the 27th of February last these Indians exchanged their said country north of the Watab for a home of their own selection on the Blue Earth, with which they are all well pleased, and where, if permitted quietly to remain, they will, with proper management, under the provisions of the said treaty, soon become an industrious, thriving, and happy people. By the operation of this treaty some twelve or fifteen resident citizens, a part of whom are single men, will be dispossessed (not necessarily without remuneration) of their claims; on only three or four of which improvements of considerable value had been made at the time said treaty was concluded, and the reservation selected.

For these improvements a fair compensation has been offered on behalf of the Indians. Still an indignation meeting was held, a petition to the President has been signed, and movements are being made, the object of all which is to oust these Indians from their dearly-purchased home, and move them, of course, to some section of country undesirable and unfit for the residence of white men. The tendency of all these movements is to discourage industry among the Indians, by causing them to apprehend that they will not be permitted long to remain here, and that consequently they will not be individually benefitted by labor and enterprize in making improvements.

From the consideration of a prospect so gloomy for the Indians in

my charge, and in whose welfare I feel a solicitude, I turn to consider their present condition and doings.

The Winnebagos have suffered considerably from sickness since they removed here—this is not attributed to the climate—the whooping cough was prevalent among them before they left their former home; the exposure consequent on their removal, and the want of comfortable dwellings on their arrival at their new home, aggravated the disease, which has proved fatal to many of their children; the health of the tribe is now improving. Most of the families are now gathering wild rice, of which there is an abundant crop. Their crop on ploughed land this season consists of potatoes, rutabagas, and turnips. Six hundred acres of prairie have been ploughed for them during the summer past, and probably over one hundred acres have been ploughed on the reservation by resident claimants. Sufficient hay has been made to subsist the stock during the ensuing winter, also several thousand rails and some fence have been made. The balance of the season will be devoted principally to the erection of buildings and in preparing for winter.

A map of the reservation, showing the location of improvements now made, is herewith transmitted.

The agency is at present, for convenience, temporarily located on the Le Soèur river, ten miles from Mankate. A road is now being made from this place to intersect the government road from the Mississippi to the mouth of the Bix Sioux. A liberal appropriation is respectfully solicited from Congress at the next session, for the purpose of making a road from the Winnebago agency to the Minnesota river.

This reservation has a rich soil and is well watered, but is not, as some represented, the best and most desirable portion of Minnesota. The prairie, in some parts of it, is too wet for cultivation, and the timber generally is of an inferior quality. As respects suggestions in regard to laws and regulations proper to be established for the benefit of Indians, I believe that little weight is attached to the opinions of agents, still I beg leave again respectfully to suggest, as the result of my observation during eight years' residence among Indians, that their interests would be consulted by some material alteration in the law and regulations governing trade among them; if the present law, in its main features, is continued in force, it should at least be so amended as to give agents authority to direct what kind and quality of goods shall be furnished by traders for the tribe or tribes in their charge, and to have supervision over the trade so far as necessary to protect the Indians from extortion. The action of the agents would, in this as in all other matters, be subject to the supervision of his superior officers. The Indian trade is a monopoly for which no equivalent is paid to the government or the Indians, to say nothing of the embarrassment unfairly encountered by the department when its policy towards the Indians comes in contact with the interest of the traders, it is believed that protection to morals is seldom afforded, or pecuniary advantage secured to the Indians by the operation of the license law.

By way of illustration, I will state that the Indians here pay their traders at the rate of forty dollars per barrel for pork, seventeen

dollars per barrel for flour, and twenty-five cents per pound for brown sugar; while at Mankate, two miles from here, and but three miles north of the reservation, pork could be had for twenty-five dollars per barrel, flour for seventeen dollars per barrel, and sugar for twelve and a half cents per pound. For dry goods and fancy articles the Indians usually pay large profits, much larger than country merchants charge their customers; and when it is taken into consideration that this tribe now use many articles of dry goods, as well as groceries, in common use in civilized life, it will be seen that the tax they annually pay for the support of a licensed monopoly is far from inconsiderable.

Indians should be kept, as much as possible, within their treaty limits; proper regulations concerning trade with them would have a tendency to effect this, and at the same time secure to them all the advantages they could desire by going out of their country to trade. Goods can be furnished them on as reasonable terms in their own country as elsewhere.

It would be a great saving to this tribe if a part of their money annuity was expended by the department in the purchase of suitable and necessary articles of merchandise for them; but to this they have uniformly objected, the traders having it in their power, by presents to the chiefs and braves, for which the tribe eventually pay dear, to control this matter.

At the annuity payment in July last, 1,715 of the tribe were present, including some 208 who removed here from Root river, in the south part of this Territory. A delegation is now on a visit to them of the tribe who are living southwest of the Missouri river, the object being to persuade them to join the main body of the tribe here.

Since their removal to this reservation, these Indians have conducted themselves well; they have been temperate, and consequently have lived quietly among themselves and peaceably with their neighbors.

Letters intended for persons residing here should be addressed to the Winnebago Agency, via Mankate, Blue Earth county, Minnesota Territory.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. FLETCHER,
Indian Agent.

His Excellency W. A. GORMAN,
Gov. and Sup't of Indian Affairs, St. Paul.

No. 17.

SIoux AGENCY, *September 22, 1855.*

SIR: I have still to regret that part of the Medawakantoin and the whole of the Wahpekuti bands have failed to perform their promise to come on to the reserve, although an ample amount of land was ready for them, as must be obvious from the fact that 100 acres of

the land ploughed in 1852, and 130 acres of the land ploughed in 1854, remained unplanted this season.

The same complaint must be made of those Sisetons and Wahpetons who have been accustomed to plant below the reserve. The same of these Sisetons and Wahpetons, however, I cannot make much complaint, as we had not sufficient farms opened to accommodate them all, and the contractor having failed to perform his contract, (having broken only 63 acres instead of 500 above Yellow Medicine,) I shall be in the same position next year, unless you allow me to place in the hands of the farmer during this winter the ploughs, oxen, wagons, and other supplies necessary to commence in the spring in sufficient force, and in time to enable the Indians to plant on the breaking the same season.

The reports of Mr. Prescott, farmer for the Medawakantoans, and A. Robertson, farmer for the Sisetons and Wahpetons, show the present situation of the affairs of the Indians on both reserves, and I am left to some general observations.

The land now broken for the Medawakantoans and Wahpekutis will be amply sufficient for the support of all the eight bands, particularly when additions are made to it in the form of separate farms. This plan has been begun this season. Farms have been opened for six or seven Medawakantoans, and I confidently expect that their example will be followed by many more in the spring.

A similar plan was begun last year by Mr. Robertson on the Siseton and Wahpaton reserve, the Indian in each case agreeing to fence his own farm and build a log house adjoining. Eight such farms have already been opened, and six more are demanded, but the lateness of the season makes it imprudent to break the land before spring.

The Sisetons and Wahpetons have about 165 acres in all ploughed, near the Yellow Medicine river, besides the 30 acres for the establishment. A plough was sent up to Big Stone lake, when it was found that no contractor could be got to go there, and about 20 acres have been opened there, but this, I hope, is only an earnest of what may be done for those Indians in the spring. No stranger can be expected to go there except at a very exorbitant price, and I am at a loss to discover any reason for deviating from the plan before agreed upon, as our present establishment, with the addition of ploughs, oxen, &c., for this express service, is sufficient to accomplish the work. Last winter, and again this spring, Mr. Robertson presented a requisition for the necessary material to do the work, and I had, before that time, laid before you an estimate and calculation by which it was shown that this plan must be the most economical.

It is absolutely necessary that another blacksmith should be allowed the Sisetons and Wahpetons. The number of these Indians is so large that their work cannot be done by one smith. Besides, when farms are opening, and after they are opened, during the time of spring ploughing, the necessary repairs require the work of a blacksmith. For this purpose a shop must be erected near the intended farms at Big Stone lake, where the smith would find full employment during the summer. In the fall he might remove to the Yellow

Medicine, and work in the shop there, manufacturing rat and fish spears, traps, axes, hoes, &c., always required by the Indians in the spring, and of which they never have a sufficient supply.

In my last year's report I took the liberty of making some suggestions as to putting an end to the wars between these people and their enemies. The work of destruction still goes on. The Sioux had remained peaceable during the summer, most of them attending to their fields. One band, in particular, had planted largely above Lac qui Parle. Whilst absent from their village, the chief and some of the principal men, at St. Paul, to visit the superintendent, the women and children out on the prairies gathering turnips for food, a large war party of Chippewas came to the village, and, finding no victim for the scalping knife, destroyed much of the crop of corn, most of the bark houses, and all the kettles, axes, and other implements, they could find. This led (contrary to my urgent request) to a war party of retaliation, when two Chippewas were killed.

A new field has been found on the Missouri, and the lower Sioux have commenced the business of horse-stealing from the Omahas and Pawnees and the settlers on the frontier near the mouth of the Big Sioux. Their last expedition has been an unsuccessful one, and has resulted in the death of several of the Sioux. I trust this may stay them from further excursions of a like kind. Affairs of this nature show more strongly the necessity of some action of Congress. It is imperiously called for by the terms of the last treaty, and as war has an obvious tendency to retard the civilization of the Indians, I sincerely trust something will be done in the next session.

I have not met with one case of drunkenness among these Indians, and feel very happy that, with their many faults, they appear to have in a great measure shaken off their propensity to the use of liquor. It is certainly not that they cannot obtain it, for there are still many white men disposed to incur every risk to supply them, if there were not an unwillingness to buy. Last winter I suspected two half-breeds, who were passing Shakapee, and followed them, found two kegs of whiskey and immediately destroyed it. I should have proceeded to seize the sleigh and oxen and take legal proceedings against them, but the men are poor with families dependent on them, and they assured me they had been hired to carry the whiskey to a tavern keeper in Traverse des Sioux, and that it was not intended for sale to Indians.

I enclose the school reports of the missionaries on this reserve as also the report of the physician.

I have again to remark that I am still without any house to reside in at the agency. I am at present indebted to the hospitality of Dr. Daniels for the accommodation of a room in his house.

It is unfortunate that the supplies for this place, as well as the Indian annuity goods and provisions, are contracted for to be delivered at St. Paul. This year's annuity goods and provision are still undelivered, and the time fixed by your contract is expired. It is impossible they can now be got up in time for the payment, late as it is. If the contract were made early in spring for delivery and

inspection at the agency and Yellow Medicine, as I suggested last year, we should have the whole here in good time.

A part of the Medawakantoans having lately requested to be paid their annuity half-yearly, has led to the same being fixed by the department for the Sisetons and Wahpatons. These people are so numerous that their money annuity amounts to about \$10 each, and when \$5,000 worth of provision and \$5,000 worth of goods are divided among near 4,000 persons, it is clear that they cannot advantageously be called in twice from a distance of 100 to 150 miles. There is no season of the year when they can be required to come to the agency without neglecting their crops, unless it be in the month of July, when they have just done hoeing their corn, or the end of September, after they have harvested it. To delay the payment later makes it difficult for the Sisetons to return to their homes, as the cold weather is set in, and the women and children cannot travel without much suffering. Add to this that the annual allowance for provision (only about \$1 50 per head) will not furnish rations for them twice in the year.

I beg to corroborate and call particular attention to A. Robertson's statement about schools. Nothing can be more injurious to the Indians than allowing an accumulation of either school or farming fund. They used the expenditure of the whole of these funds. I have every reason to believe the Indians have already been tampered with, and you will remember old Itewakingan, at the council last payment, said he did not want schools, and wished the money to be paid in the Indians' own hands.

From my own experience of Indians and of those best acquainted with them, I am convinced that, if allowed to accumulate, education and civilizing funds are a positive hindrance to the welfare of the Indians; and so it has been proved under the treaty of 1837.

I therefore most earnestly but respectfully entreat that steps be immediately taken for commencing manual labor schools for both reserves.

I have the honor to be, sir, yours, very respectfully,

R. G. MURPHY,

Indian Agent.

His Excellency Governor W. A. GORMAN,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 18.

HAZELWOOD, MINNESOTA, *September 30, 1855.*

SIR: A year ago from the present date I removed my family from Lac qui Parle to Hazelwood, and two weeks after we took possession of our house, which was still unfinished. For want of room we were not in a situation to start a school immediately; but in November I employed Mr. I. F. Aiton to teach during the winter. For a short time after the return of the Indians from Redwood, he taught Dakotah

school in the morning and English in the afternoon. But the attendance in the morning did not justify the keeping up of the school; accordingly it was dropped. The English school he continued to teach until May last, with an average attendance of ten scholars, a part of them our own children. Since that time we have kept up the school for three and a half months.

Arrangements were made last summer, by the Prudential Committee of the A. B. C. F. M, to establish a boarding school for girls at this place. The building for that purpose is now erected, and I hope will be so far completed as to be occupied this fall. During the year we have had four boarding scholars, two girls and two boys. In a month or so I trust we shall be able to take six or eight more girls, a part of this number are already engaged.

To enable us to put up our own buildings, and also to help the Dakotah young men, who had arranged to settle arround us, to build better houses, the committee furnished us with a circular saw-mill, which went into operation the first of December last. As is usually the case with everything that breaks in upon our preconceived ideas of things, the saw-mill met with considerable opposition on the part of the Dakotahs. It would soon use up all their timber, they said, but it is nevertheless proving itself to be a civilizer. We have furnished gratuitously floors for nine log cabins, besides enabling the young men to purchase several thousand feet more at the bare cost of sawing. A desire too has been excited for frame houses. Simon Anawangmani has now a neat frame 24 by 16 feet, and ten feet high, giving him storage and sleeping room up stairs. The sills and sleepers he hewed, shaved the shingles, and dug the cellar himself. The window sash, glass and nails, (for the most part,) were furnished him by government, through the kindness of Mr. Robertson. The house is yet unfinished, but he expects to put it in a state to occupy this winter. Some four others are making their calculations to build frame houses next season. The fields of three acres each, broke up by Mr. Robertson, for seven young men, in the immediate neighborhood of this station, will I am persuaded, together with their now comfortable residences, have an influence for good on this people. They are signs of progress. It is the development of individuals; subtracting them from the mass and making them feel that they are *men*. This is an important step. It indicates too the direction in which there is still hope for the Dakotahs.

We have in the process of erection a small church building, which we hope to complete this winter. To this object our Dakotah young men have subscribed \$175, which they purpose to pay in work or money. Other subscriptions have increased this amount to \$300, which, with \$200 granted by the board, will probably finish the building.

I remain yours, very truly,

S. R. RIGGS.

Major R. G. MURPHY,
Dakotah Indian Agent.

No. 19.

PAJUTAZEE, *September*, 1855.

Shortly after the last annual report was written, the Dakotahs moved off to attend the payment at Redwood, from which few of them returned before the first of December.

The attendance on the school for the quarter ending with that month is equal to seven and a half scholars for sixty days, or rather more than twenty a day, from the time the Indians returned to this neighborhood. For the next quarter, also, the attendance exceeded an average of twenty for sixty days.

During the quarter ending in June, owing to the scarcity of food in this neighborhood, they were so much absent that the average attendance was only equal to twelve and one-third for forty days; and it has been still less during the present quarter, as the children, when about home, have been chiefly occupied in guarding their corn from the birds, or in assisting to gather it.

It is, however, painfully manifest to us that the Dakotahs here are less disposed to send their children to school than they were a year or two ago. This, we believe, is owing to the government keeping back their educational annuities; and if these annuities remain unexpended for a few years longer, it is doubtful whether we shall be able to have any school.

The females of the mission family spent much of their time in instructing the Dakotah women in knitting, needle-work, washing, ironing, &c., and with a good measure of success. In this department, Miss Williamson, who has charge of the school, has been aided much by Miss Briggs, and, since she left, by Miss Daws.

The whole number who have attended the school here within the year (exclusive of four children who have no Indian blood and are not included in the above average attendance) is fifty-five.

Of these, seven have studied the arithmetic, twenty-four writing, of whom eight write a good hand, four read the English Bible, two Webster's spelling book; the others have studied only the Dakotah language; fifteen read Wowapi Wakan, the Holy Scriptures, nine read Wowapi Inonpa, Second Reading Book, five read and spell in Woonspi, Dakotah Primer; thirteen are learning to spell, five learning the alphabet.

Two Dakotah children are boarded in our family, and two others are, through our influence, properly cared for and instructed in white families in the settled parts of the Territory. Towards the support of one of these the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, which sustains us here, pays forty dollars a year.

We are grieved that so little success attends our labors for the spiritual welfare of the Dakotahs, but we have evidence that these labors are not in vain.

It is the province of the superintendent of farming to speak of their advances in that and in building. These advances are made, so far as I have had an opportunity of seeing them, by those only who have attended our schools and religious meetings. The Dakotah, so long

as he adheres to the religion of his fathers, cannot be civilized, because he supposes that if he should abandon the customs of his fathers the gods they worship would destroy him.

Very respectfully, yours,

THOMAS S. WILLIAMSON.

R. G. MURPHY,
Agent for the Sioux.

No. 20

SIoux AGENCY, MINNESOTA TERRITORY.

September 10, 1855.

SIR: In obedience to the regulations of the Interior Department I have the honor to report to you the condition of the Indian farming for the Medawakantoan and Wahpekuti Sioux, under the treaty of 1851. Four years have elapsed since the above named Sioux signed a treaty agreeing to move to a reserve on the Minnesota river, about 120 miles west of Fort Snelling. The country assigned to the Indians is mostly prairie, except along the banks of the Minnesota river there is some timber; the prairie soil is rich and fertile and produces good crops of corn.

There has been ploughed for the lower Sioux, as follows:

At Redwood, for Little Six and others	-	-	-	220	acres.
For Little Crow's band, 80; Black Dog and Calhoun, 80	160				"
For Good Road's band, 80; Wahkuti, 80	160				"
For Wabashaw, 80; Wahpekuti, 100	180				"
For families in separate lots	20				"
At the agency, for gardens and oats for horses	40				"
				780	"

Seven bands of the lower Sioux have planted on their reserve this season, that is, the chiefs, but some of these seven bands are still roving about among the white settlers, more or less. The Wahpekutis left the agency last fall and have not returned, except the chief with four or five lodges; they did not plant, and only stopped about three weeks, then moved off again.

The Indians have cultivated about 300 acres, the rest lies uncultivated, but the Indians, we hope, will all move to their reserve in the spring and cultivate the most of the land that is ploughed for them; the Indians that have planted, the most of them, have raised nearly enough for their winter supply; some corn was planted on the new ploughed land, but the drought injured the corn so that there has not been so large a yield as was anticipated. The corn that was planted (the most of it) is the small early kind, and does not yield so much per acre as the larger kinds.

Several of the Indians have been industrious in cultivating their corn, and appear desirous to enlarge their fields; some of them have

asked to have fields ploughed separate from their common field. His Excellency Governor Gorman, superintendent of Indian affairs, ordered that the Indians should be encouraged in making separate farms, a good and the first step towards civilization, and which will secure to the industrious the fruits of his labor.

The farm for the agency is 40 acres, ploughed last spring; the potatoes are good and large and will yield about 500 bushels; 8 acres of oats will yield about 30 bushels to the acre; the corn and beans are not worth gathering, owing to the drought and hail storms that cut the beans to pieces; 20 acres were sowed in turnips but the seed was old and did not come up well, so there will be a small crop.

There have been 12 log houses put up for the employees and chiefs, but we have no lumber as yet to finish them; the farmers and laborers have been employed in building, making hay, hauling supplies, ploughing, fencing, and various other duties connected with farming.

The saw-mill for the lower Sioux is raised and waiting for the Indians which have not arrived, also the frame for the flouring-mill is now ready to raise; these mills will be of great benefit to the Indians, and advance the business to a speedy completion.

The blacksmiths have been employed in making and repairing such articles as are wanted for farming and hunting; one smith is without a striker; provisions and clothing are so high in this country that the strikers cannot support themselves on a salary of \$240 per annum.

The poor Indian is on many a tongue, from north to south and from east to west. I would ask what makes their poverty? Is it debility of body or mind? I should say the latter, for the Indian is robust and strong and healthy, and he can chop and plough and plant and hoe corn, if he is so inclined. The women are hardy and strong; they chop wood and carry it half a mile on their backs to warm their children and lazy husbands; the women hoe corn and do all the work about the house or lodge, and yet they are poor, yet not so poor as many white people in the United States. The great trouble with the Indian is in the intellect, which is but a little above that of the dumb brute, and until the mind is improved the Indian will be poor throughout all time, and at whose door will the fault lie? The mind of the Indian must be cultivated as well as the body, or else morality, the great forerunner of civilization, is lost sight of, and all kinds of debauchery remain with the Indians, and often civilization to an Indian is an injury instead of blessing.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

P. PRESCOTT.

Superintendent of farming for Sioux.

R. G. MURPHY,
United States agent, Sioux agency.

No. 21.

SISETON AND WAHPETON ESTABLISHMENT,
Yellow Medicine river, September 15, 1855.

SIR: Since my last report, the winter has been spent in getting out rails and posts for fences, and logs for houses, stables, and cattle sheds. In the spring I cross-ploughed the Indian field of 50 acres and broke about 5 acres within the piece left unbroken last year. I also broke new land, on the bottoms, to the extent of about 12 acres, and have since broke pieces of about 4 acres each for eight Indians, who are desirous of making separate farms, the land being ploughed for them conditionally that they build each a log house near to it, and make their own fence. I have also broke about 10 acres for this establishment, which has been fenced and planted with potatoes, corn, and oats. As I was not able to do this until after the Indian planting was complete, my crop is late, but will probably yield us enough potatoes for use during the winter and for seed in the spring, and a large amount of corn fodder and oats for cattle feed. I have also broke an additional field of 20 acres for the establishment, which will be ready for planting with potatoes, &c., in the spring, when I hope to make use of the ten acres near the house for raising a crop of wheat. I had the fence of the Indian field removed, and a new and more perfect one built. The old posts and rails have all been removed and used, partly here and partly by the Indians.

All the materials, including sawed and squared lumber, for the two mills and the dam, have been prepared here and hauled to the point where the mills are to be built. We are now waiting for a millwright and his hands.

A house, now occupied by the blacksmith, a large blacksmith's shop, and a boarding house for the hands, 60 by 22 feet, have been completed as far as we had lumber, and are now occupied. I have assisted the Indians to build themselves log houses, by hauling the logs for them, supplying them with sash frames, glass, and nails, and giving them such instructions as they required. The Indians of the two villages near here have erected ten log houses and one very excellent frame house. The materials for the latter, with the exception of sashes, glass, and nails, supplied from this establishment, was all purchased by the labor of the Indian; he has dug himself a good cellar, made his own shingles, &c., and will really have a very comfortable dwelling. In the erection of the house he was instructed and aided by Mr. Riggs, the missionary, to whom, together with Dr. Williamson, these Indians are deeply indebted for the marked improvement they have made. I see the men here laboring at all times with their crops, and had occasion to hire them to put up part of the field fence. They could be got to do very much of the work here if some arrangement could be made by which they would have prompt payment.

With regard to crops, the Indians of Yellow Medicine will have abundance for food, and, I hope, quite a quantity of potatoes for sale.

They are now supplying the traders, and propose to furnish what seed may be wanted next spring for the upper bands of Siseton.

The little band near Wood lake have also good crops, which they are very desirous to get in and housed here to save them from the depredations of the Indians coming to the payment. I could easily put up buildings for this and other purposes, but abstain from doing so with logs as I have no lumber to finish with, and am loth to use so much timber when it is so scarce. The upper bands have very good corn, and are not likely to feel want in the winter, as the buffalo are abundant, and within three hours walk of their village. With regard to Maza'sa I'stabiba, Maza-e-mani, Ta-haupe-lida, and Itewakyan, I cannot speak, as they have not come on to the reserve. I have supplied scythes, &c., to several of the Indians here, who have cut hay for their horses.

The men you directed to be sent up to Big Stone lake still remain, and had broke at the last account about nine acres. The Indians were dissatisfied seeing so small a force, but appear contented to have a beginning made, hoping that more will be done for them next spring. Another year has passed, and we have no schools. You will remember that under the treaty of 1837 a sum of \$5,000 was set aside for education. The application of that sum was, unfortunately, delayed until the accumulation*fund became large. It was not difficult to persuade the Indians that if they abstained from sending their children to school this accumulated fund would be given to them in money by their Great Father. It was thus made the means of retarding instead of advancing the progress of the Indians, for, although they received through the agent repeated assertions of the President that it should be applied to purposes of education and no other, there were not wanting interested persons to persuade them to persevere in their refusal to be thus benefitted by it, assuring them that still their Great Father would give way to them.

Unfortunately it was thought necessary to make use of this accumulated fund as an inducement for making the treaty of 1851, and the Indians witnessed the success of that scheme of which they and their children are the victims.

The same accumulation has begun under the new treaties, and the same influence is now operating to induce these Indians to withdraw their children from school. I am directly interested, on behalf of my children, that the schools agreed for in the treaty should be immediately begun. The Indians here were last year all anxious to have the schools, and so expressed themselves in council to you and Governor Gorman. I earnestly entreat that you will once more urge this subject. Let us have efficient teachers under the control of government, and have the hands of all missionaries unfettered, to pursue with diligence the religious instruction of the Indians, with such social improvements as they have so ably commenced.

I am, sir, yours respectfully,

A. ROBERTSON,

Farmer to Siseton and Wahpeton Indians.

R. G. MURPHY, *Indian Agent.*

No. 22.

SIOUX AGENCY, *September 21, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward my accustomed annual report.

Notwithstanding the appearance of the smallpox among the Indians here about the time of the last payment, the speedy and general application of vaccination prevented the spread of the disease, and the usual remedies were successful in preventing much mortality. Probably twenty deaths occurred among the Medawakantoan and Wahpekuti.

With this exception the general health of the Indians has been as good as their habits of life would warrant us to anticipate.

Diseases introduced by the whites are producing distressing results. Transmitted as they are to their progeny, weak and sickly children, unable to withstand disease and the hardships of Indian life, are propagated, either to meet an early death or perpetuate a feeble race of men.

I would recommend, for obvious reasons, that a small appropriation be made to furnish necessary hospital stores for the sick, and for the erection of a small building for the accommodation of those suffering from infectious diseases, and those whose age and maladies preclude the possibility of their being judiciously and successfully treated in cold, damp, and ill ventilated lodges.

I have the honor to be, sir, yours, very respectfully,

A. W. DANIELS.

Major R. G. MURPHY,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 23.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Central Superintendency, St. Louis, October 19, 1855.

SIR: In compliance with your special instructions of the 12th instant, enjoining upon me, in the absence of Superintendent Cumming, to furnish the annual report of the affairs of this superintendency, required by the regulations of the department, I have the honor to submit the following as such:

From the reports of the agents lately transmitted, it would appear that the condition of the Indians—especially our border tribes—if no better, is not worse than it was a year ago; and I incline to the opinion expressed by many, that a slow, but very perceptible, improvement is gradually manifesting itself among them. Many of the tribes, notwithstanding an adverse season, have raised fair average crops, sufficient, it is believed, to save them from want during the coming winter and spring. They have generally, too, enjoyed good health during the past year, with the exception of the Kansas Indians,

who suffered severely from smallpox, and the Kickapoos, who had some few deaths by cholera.

The present year does not afford a safe criterion whereby to judge of the future of our frontier tribes; it has been with many of them a year of transition. Under the treaties made last year, nearly all the tribes parties thereto have been removed to their respective reservations, and, as a matter of course, had to encounter the inconveniences incident to new settlers; these inconveniences are fast disappearing, and it is believed that the next year's reports will exhibit them in a greatly improved condition, both morally and physically. To effect this, however, it is necessary that the agents should have suitable buildings erected for their residences on the reserves, and as near the tribes as practicable. A few practical farmers might be employed with great advantage to teach the Indians the proper method of putting in, tending and harvesting their crops. The presence of the agent, his occasional advice, and the example of the farmers could hardly fail in time to exercise a favorable influence over these poor people. If to these means be added good missionary and manual labor schools, where the youth may be early trained to habits of morality, industry and self-reliance for their support, we shall have all the elements necessary to render them comfortable. A few such schools are at present in successful operation among the Shawnees, Pottawatomies, Weas, Piankeshaws, &c., Ioways and Sacs of Missouri. The residence of the agent near the tribes, and the influence he could acquire by a kind, conciliatory course with the chiefs and principal men, would enable him in a great degree to repress intoxication, by concerting measures with the chiefs to prevent the introduction of spirituous liquors.

The provision inserted in the treaties of last year, which empowers the President to apply the annuities of the tribes in such manner as will best promote their interests, will, no doubt, be found hereafter to work beneficially. The large money annuities that several of the tribes receive under former treaties, instead of advancing them in civilization actually retard their progress; whereas those with small annuities, having to rely more upon their own exertions, greatly surpass the former in all the comforts of life. The plan adopted this year, of dividing the large annuities, so as to have a fall and spring payment, is but a return to the former practice of the department in this superintendency; and however repugnant it may be to a few of the tribes—operated upon, it is feared, by interested individuals—must, in the opinion of every disinterested, right thinking man, in the least acquainted with Indian improvidence, be viewed as a measure necessary and important for those tribes; and I am gratified to find, by a recent report forwarded to your office, that it meets the approval of one of the oldest and most experienced of the agents.

You are aware, from the reports forwarded by the agent through this office, that the Omahas, after having removed to the reserve selected for them, near the "Blackbird Hills," (a place having for them many traditional recollections, in consequence of being the burial place of their great chief "Waw-zin-ga-subi," or "Blackbird,") fled from thence in a panic, occasioned by a band of marauding Sioux,

and the murder of their principal chief, "Fontenelle." By the latest accounts they were encamped on the Platte river, about fifteen miles from Bellevue. It is hoped that the exertions of their agent, and the knowledge that a large military force is now traversing the plains, will reassure, and induce them to return. The Ottoes and Missouriias, when last heard from, remained undisturbed on their reserve, and it is believed will so continue. The Pawnees, alarmed by the frequent attacks of their numerous enemies, anxiously desire to exchange the lands assigned to them, on the north side of the Platte, for a location south of that river, so as to place it as a barrier between them and their assailants. The condition of these three last named tribes, harassed as they have been by the incursions of hostile bands of Sioux, Cheyennes, &c., will, it is feared, be one of great destitution this coming winter and spring. Your instructions, in anticipation of such a result, have been communicated to their agent, and will, doubtless, receive his prompt attention.

As heretofore reported, the annuity goods for the Comanches, Kioways, and Apaches, and for the tribes parties to the treaty of Fort Laramie, within the Upper Arkansas and Upper Platte agencies, were forwarded from this place to Kansas city, Missouri, on the 24th and 28th of May last; they were taken in charge of the land transportation trains in the month of June, and safely conveyed to their respective destinations. The report of the Arkansas agent will show how those of his agency were disposed of. No report having yet been received from the Upper Platte agent, it is not known here how far he has succeeded in making the distribution to the Indians of his agency.

The annuity goods for the Upper Missouri agency, together with the goods and provisions intended for the Blackfeet council, were forwarded on the 6th of June last, per steamboat "St. Mary." Superintendent Cumming and his party left here on the same boat on his way to Fort Benton, the rendezvous designated for himself, Governor Stevens, and Superintendent Palmer, the commissioners appointed to hold the council and, if expedient, make treaties with the Blackfeet and other mountain tribes. The boat arrived at Fort Union, near the mouth of the Yellow Stone river, on the 11th of July following.

The report of the Upper Missouri agent, forwarded yesterday, will inform you of his success in distributing the annuities. With the exception of a few bands of disaffected Sioux, he reports the tribes of his agency to be generally friendly and well disposed towards the government, and that several of them have scrupulously observed the stipulations of the treaty made with them at Fort Laramie; his expectations of being able to induce the refractory bands to resume their friendly relations with the whites will, it is apprehended, be frustrated by the recent military demonstration against the Brulé Sioux on the plains.

Superintendent Cumming, as I have had the honor to inform you in another communication of this date, started with a small party from Fort Union for Fort Benton overland, and arrived there in safety, where he met Governor Stevens and upwards of two thousand moun-

tain Indians who accompanied him to partake in the council. The Blackfeet it appears, were absent, being scattered in various directions in quest of buffalo. Mr. Alexander Culbertson, a trader, long resident in the country, and well acquainted with the Blackfeet language and manners, being one of Superintendent Cumming's party, will, it is supposed, be able, from his great influence with the Blackfeet, to induce them to meet the commissioners and the mountain tribes in an amicable manner. The results of the expedition will in due time be reported by Superintendent Cumming on his return.

It will be seen by the cash accounts of the superintendent, forwarded to your office on the 3d inst., that the instructions from your office in regard to the time when the annuities should be in the hands of the respective agents have been rigidly complied with, all having been turned over between the 8th and 20th ultimo.

With great respect, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HAVERTY,

Clerk to Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 24.

FORT CLARK, *September 12, 1855.*

SIR: In compliance with my duty, as well as common usage, I have the honor to present the following as my annual report, showing the affairs and condition of the Indian tribes in the Upper Missouri agency.

I left St. Louis June 6th, on board P. Chouteau, jr., and Co.'s steamer "St. Mary's," and arrived at the principal village of the Yancton band of Sioux Indians June 22d, at a place called and known as "Handy's Point," thirty miles above "L'eau qui Court," on the northeast side of the Missouri river. These Indians have made this point their permanent summer residence, and are raising corn, beans, pumpkins, &c., and, when I passed, had the prospect of an abundant crop.

This band evince a strong desire for improvement, and are on the most friendly terms with the whites, and have lately conformed strictly to their treaty stipulations. Last fall they surrendered to me eight horses and mules, which some of their young men had stolen from emigrants on the Platte. They were in very poor condition when delivered to me, having received very hard usage. Three of them died in a few days after; the rest I had well fed and guarded, and afterwards I sold them to the best advantage. After paying for their feeding I expended the balance in breaking the soil for their use. This band expressed to me their mortification and distress at the reckless course pursued by several bands of their tribe, and seem much gratified that their "Great Father" has sent his soldiers here, and hope that their presence will have the effect of bringing those

bands to their senses and restoring peace and safety to all whites travelling in their country, and better conduct towards the traders.

On the 26th June we arrived at Fort Pierre, where I expected to have found the larger portion of the different bands of Sioux; but, to my disappointment and regret, found but one band, the "Two Kettles," and a small portion of one band of the Upper Yanctonais, say twenty-seven lodges.

I first gave the Two Kettles band their portion of the annuities, on the prairie west of the fort, but they did not receive them with any demonstration of gratitude; on the contrary, they seemed dissatisfied and evinced a disposition to complain; they, however, said nothing. As this band has always been considered one of the most friendly disposed towards the whites, I cannot account for their conduct in any other way than as the troops were to take possession of Fort Pierre they would be deprived of a place at which they loafed and begged the greater part of the year, only going out to hunt when actual necessity drove them. They have made several attempts to raise corn, to accomplish which I have rendered them every assistance in my power, and their failure to do so can only be attributed to their indolence and want of energy; and never, in my opinion, until their band is greatly reduced by starvation, can they be made to look to the soil for subsistence.

I afterwards distributed to the small band of Yanctonais a portion of the presents for the band; but, like the others, they received them coldly and with evident signs of dissatisfaction.

About 100 miles above Fort Pierre I found erected twelve lodges of the Yanctonais, built with dirt, after the manner of the Arickarees and Mandans, and they are tilling the soil in the same manner of those bands. I am sorry to say that the great drought in that region of their country was such that all kinds of vegetation presented but a very languishing appearance. This is the first attempt of this band to form a permanent village and cultivate the soil; and if success attend their efforts it will, no doubt, induce many of their band to follow their example. I distributed to them a portion of their presents, which they received with evident indication of satisfaction.

On the 5th of July we arrived at Fort Clark, where the village of the Arickarees is built. They were all assembled on the bank of the river and greeted the arrival of the steamer with firing of guns and shouts. As soon as the boat landed I met the chiefs and principal men, and after the usual salutations, shaking hands, &c., I invited them all on the boat to a feast, which had been prepared in anticipation. Then a long talk ensued, principally relating to the depredations and murders on their people by the Sioux bands, their inability to cope with them in numbers, as well as their destitute condition of the munitions of war to defend themselves. They rejoiced when they heard that their Great Father had sent soldiers in the country to chastise those who had violated their treaty stipulations, and protect those who have and are disposed to observe them. The manner in which I was received by this tribe, and their general talk and deportment, gave me great satisfaction. They are in a prosperous condition, generally raising a superabundance of corn and vegetables, the

large surplus of which they dispose of to the neighboring tribes and traders. This year, however, the continued drought, and the very severe frost early in August, will curtail their crop about two-thirds; still they have an abundance for their own consumption. I turned them over their portion of the presents, which they received with satisfaction and thankfulness.

The Arickarees live in dirt lodges; they have 60 lodges, number 14 to a lodge—making the aggregate of about 840. The country in the vicinity of their village is entirely valueless, there being no timber or soil, but on coming to their village fine spots of corn met our view, waving in the breeze in the bottoms, and at the foot of the bluffs wherever there was a fertile spot.

On the evening of the same day I distributed to the Mandans their portion of the presents; though their portion was small, and their wants many, not a word of complaint was heard from them; on the contrary, every indication of gratitude was evinced. This small remnant of this tribe is increasing in numbers, raising a sufficiency of corn and vegetables for their consumption, and in favorable seasons considerable to spare, which they also trade to neighboring tribes and traders for other necessaries of life. They now number 21 lodges, built after the manner of the Arickarees; number 12 to a lodge—making an aggregate of 252 souls. There are various opinions relative to the origin and peculiarities of these people, owing, I presume, in a measure to the diversity of their complexion of skin, eyes, and the great length of their hair. But it is my opinion, derived from a somewhat careful comparison, that there is no ground for considering their origin different from other tribes around them. They are truly a domestic people, remain at their home, and till the ground with success.

July 7.—We arrived at Fort Berthold, the village of the Gros Ventres of the Missouri. This tribe of Indians were formerly a part of the Crow nation, which separated from them many years ago, speaking a dialect of that language; they met us promptly on the bank of the river with their usual friendly demonstrations. They were all well pleased on receiving their presents, and expressed their satisfaction and a willingness to listen and obey the instructions of their Great Father. The friendship of this tribe to the whites is well known, and they have strictly regarded their treaty stipulations. The large fields of corn and vegetables which covered the bottom lands of these people showed their industry and great desire to obtain the means of improving their condition. Their complaints against the Sioux for stealing their horses and murdering their people were any thing but pleasant. It pleased them much to hear that soldiers had arrived in the country, and consoled themselves that soon a better state of things would be made to exist. They number 40 lodges, averaging 19 to a lodge—making in the aggregate 760 souls.

We arrived at Fort Union on the 11th July, thirty-five days out from St. Louis, notwithstanding the river was lower than ever has been known before by the oldest settler in the country. I found but few of the Assinaboins at the fort, but two days after 350 lodges arrived, and pitched their tents on the level prairie west of the fort.

Having heard that the remaining part of this tribe was four days' travel distant, I immediately dispatched a messenger to them, and in the meantime had several talks with the principal men in company with our energetic and efficient superintendent, Colonel A. Cumming, whose presence among the various tribes we met with made a favorable impression, and whose counselling will result in future good. These lodges had plenty of provisions, and having a heavy trade to make, remained quietly until the remainder of their tribe arrived. The day after their arrival I had them all assembled together, gave them a long talk, which they received with great satisfaction; after which I distributed their presents, for which they expressed their grateful thanks, and acknowledged many obligations they were under to their Great Father for the deep interest he manifested for their welfare and happiness. I feel no hesitation in saying that since the Laramie treaty these Assinaboins are the best Indians on the continent. It was truly gratifying for me to learn from the lips of the principal of this tribe that not a single instance of murder, robbery, or other depredation has been committed by them, either on the neighboring tribes or on the whites. This is the more remarkable, as before the treaty, as I have before stated, they were foremost in the van of thieves and robbers, always at war, pillaging from whomsoever they met, and were very annoying to all trading posts.

There has been but little sickness in this tribe during the past season, some few cases of whooping cough and measles, which, owing to their constant exposed condition, proved fatal to some of their children. I am happy to say they are prosperous and happy, always cheerful, for they have plenty to subsist on, as game of all kinds is still abundant in their country. They number 420 lodges, averaging eight to a lodge, making in the aggregate 3,360 souls.

I was disappointed in not being able to visit the Crow Indians and deliver them their annuities, in consequence of the great risk and danger from the numerous war parties of the Sioux on the Yellow Stone river; it being currently reported that they had assembled there with a view of stopping and robbing the boat as it passed up with the annuities and goods of Messrs. P. Chouteau, jr., & Co., intended for trade with the Crow bands. I was unable to effect a contract for the transportation of the annuities, as you will see by the accompanying letter of Messrs. P. Chouteau, jr., & Co.

On the 3d of May last, seven men, in the employ of the above company, started from Fort Union for the Crow post. On their way thither they were attacked by a war party of Sioux, (Onk-pa-pas and Blackfeet,) two men were seriously wounded, and the whole party stripped of their arms, ammunition, and clothing, and left to wend their way to their destination, 150 miles. They reached the Crow pass on the 19th of May, suffering greatly from starvation and the effects of the weather in their naked and destitute situation.

On the 23d of August, a Mackinaw boat was started from Fort Union with the usual outfit of trade for the ensuing season at the Crow post. It had only proceeded a short distance up the Yellow Stone river when the hunters for the boat, who were out in quest of game, (in company with seven Crow Indians, who had come to accom-

pany me with their annuities,) were driven back to the fort by a war party of Sioux Indians, having had a miraculous escape with their lives. The boat immediately returned to the fort, and the trip to the Crows abandoned for the present season.

A few days previous to this, some Indians (no doubt of the same party) stole from Fort Union eight horses, and from Fort William five; at the same time, near the latter fort, they fell in with two men who were butchering some buffalo they had killed; they took from them their meat, horses, guns, and clothing, and they told me personally that they considered themselves fortunate in getting off alive. Shortly after the boat returned, fifteen Indians appeared on the hills in sight of the fort; ascertaining them to be Sioux I sent my interpreter to them, he returned bringing them with him to the fort, where I held a talk with them; they were of the Sans Arc and Minneconza bands; stated that there were in the party two hundred and twenty warriors, and that they were hunting for the Assinneboins; they also stated that just before they left their villages a war party of Minneconzas had returned from an excursion to the Platte, with 100 head of mules and horses, the property of the government, which they had stolen from the vicinity of Fort Laramie. After giving them a good lecture about their conduct in violating their treaty stipulations in being at war, they left me promising to return to their people without committing any more depredations.

Thus you see that these war parties of Sioux have not only prevented the government from being able to deliver the Crow Indians their annuities, but have also prevented them from the usual facilities derived from their licensed traders.

It is my intention to write to the commanding officer at Fort Pierre, and give him a statement of the conduct of the Sioux Indians, their location, &c., for I firmly believe that if 600 of the troops would only show themselves at the villages of these refractory bands, it would so intimidate them they would forthwith come on such terms as would be dictated to them, and their war excursions would be brought to a close.

Of the Brulé bands of Missouri Indians nothing certain has been ascertained, either as regards their movements or location, it is, however, the general supposition that they are hovering somewhere in the vicinity of the Platte, and in case of any engagement of the troops and the Indians there, they will join issue with those bands; the same may be said of the Sans Arc and Minneconza bands.

The express you started from Fort Pierre to the Onk-pa-pas and Blackfeet bands, with the expectation that they would bring those Indians to this place by the time of your arrival in the steamer, arrived here eight days after our departure with 54 of the principal chiefs and braves. The express would promptly have met you here had not these Indians held them prisoners for 12 days, at the expiration of that time the party as above concluded to come here with them. Of this party some were for receiving the annuities and some were not; the principal chief stated that it was his wish to take the goods and do as his Great Father wished him, but those who were on his side were but few, consequently he was completely overpowered by

those of the other party; and were his party to receive any portion of the government presents, on their return to the village, in all probability, themselves and horses would all be killed. After remaining here five days they started back to their villages, saying that they would do all in their power to induce at least one half of their people to accept the annuities, and as soon as they heard of my return would come and see me. From all I can learn their efforts to effect a change in their people have been successful. These two bands are now encamped about 100 miles, or two days' travel, from this fort; I have sent an express to them to come in immediately, and have no doubt they will arrive in four or five days. I feel confident that after holding council with them I shall be able to make a radical change in their department for the future.

One hundred lodges of the Upper Yanctonais band are encamped within four days' march of this; I have sent an express to them to come in. Some of the principal men had been here previous to my arrival, and I learn that they are extremely anxious to get their portion of the annuities, and say that they will strictly adhere to the advice and counsel I will give them.

In the foregoing I have embraced everything that has come under my observation and knowledge of the different tribes in my agency, many of the circumstances you are already aware of, having witnessed the same. I have, however, learned that the appearance of the troops at Fort Pierre has wrought a very great change in the conduct of the Onk-pa-pas and Blackfeet bands, also the Yanctonais; and I must again repeat that as the troops are now in the country, if a formidable number would show themselves at the villages of these Indians, murders, robberies, and horse stealing would no longer be heard of. I give this with all due deference as my opinion, and shall be glad to hear that you and the department take the same view of it. An excursion of this kind in the prairies would give the officers a knowledge of the country, which would be advantageous to the government.

Respecting the resources and future settlement of this country, I have expressed an opinion in a former report, and after still further investigation I have no cause to change it.

If the value of a portion of the country depends in any respect on the value of the whole, then this country for a white man is worthless. It is true a few fertile spots are seen in the bottoms, but they are so subject to be overflowed by the rise in the river as renders their occupation very precarious. The fertile spots in this country are like the oases in the desert, around is desolation and gloom. I am well aware that most new countries have been evilly reported upon from the time of Moses, when he sent the twelve messengers to spy out the promised land. They returned, ten of the twelve gave an evil report of the country; for which, we are told, they were punished by detention in the wilderness for forty years, they having reported there was no soil, no timber, no water. This country fully answers their report. And, in fact, it will apply to the greater part of the Upper Missouri, or that portion of it inhabited by the eight bands of Sioux embraced in this report, numbering (16,000) sixteen thousand souls, which number I am satisfied is correct; for my information is

derived from the principal chiefs in the different councils I have held with them. In that part of their country in which these Indians generally roam but little game is to be found, and their sufferings from starvation during the last two years have come under my immediate observation. In the spring of the year they subsist solely on the carcasses of drowned buffalo, which they find on the banks and sand-bars of the river; in the summer and fall upon roots and fruits; of the latter they have several kinds, the bullberry or mountain-thorn, wild cherries, several varieties of plums, gooseberries, and currants.

Generally speaking, the traders, like the game, have abandoned the Sioux country and moved to this point, having for the past two years sustained heavy losses in keeping trading establishments lower down. Starvation must be the ultimate fate of most of the Sioux bands, and they plainly see it. Every inducement has been offered them to cultivate the soil, but to no effect. When I have spoken to many of them on the subject, their reply was, "we have been created for the chase, and will not degrade ourselves by work;" and I am convinced that many of their murders and depredations are acts of desperation, caused by their extreme destitute situation.

I have selected the mouth of the Yellow Stone river as a place to establish an agency and warehouse, considering it the most central point for an agent, who would have the control of the Gros Ventres of the Missouri, Assinaboin, Crow, and Cree tribes of Indians. I have sent the specifications of the buildings to be erected to the two trading companies to receive their proposals for building the same. I would again most respectfully state that this agency, as it now exists, is entirely too large for one agent, and propose that another agency be established at this place, which would embrace the Poncas, Sioux, Arickarees, and Mandans.

I found it impossible to do without hiring an interpreter by the year, as there is no person who understands and speaks the Sioux language sufficiently well in this part of the country to act as interpreter for the government. I have, therefore, engaged Mr. Z. Rencontre, whose contract will be found herewith. Getting an enterpreter at every point where I meet the Indians I know, from experience, creates much difficulty and dissatisfaction.

Last winter a half-breed boy of the Sioux tribe was brought to me, whose father had been killed, and shortly afterwards his mother died. He had been left in the prairie naked to starve. I took charge of, clothed, and fed him. In the spring, when I went down, I took him with me, intending to place him at some missionary establishment. On my arrival at St. Mary's Mr. P. A. Larpy saw him with me, and after relating to him the manner I came by him, requested that I would leave him in his charge, stating he would raise him with care, and give him a good education; when he had completed which, he would furnish him means for a start in the world. This is a praiseworthy act on the part of Mr. Larpy, who I am convinced will fulfill his promise.

Since my arrival here a party of the Gros Ventres of the Missouri have visited me. They brought me five horses which some of their

young men, when out on a buffalo hunt, had taken from the Sioux. The chief requested I would return them to those Indians, which I immediately did; at the same time stating that the band of Onk-pa-pas, who would visit me shortly, had five horses belonging to his Indians, which he wished me to obtain for him. This I shall certainly do. This act fully shows you the disposition of those Indians to fulfill treaty stipulations.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Agent.

Colonel ALFRED CUMMING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 25.

FORT LARAMIE, *August 20, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to report to the department, that since my communication of the 13th instant I have met, in council, the Cheyenne band of Indians of the South Platte, and also the band of Sioux called Brulé, of the North Platte. These bands, from all the information I can collect from every source, have continued firm friends of the whites during the Sioux troubles. These bands desire that they may have established among them a farmer and a blacksmith. I shall meet the chiefs of the Arapahoes of the South Platte, and the Ogallala band of Sioux of the North Platte, as early as the 22d instant. These bands have also been friendly and peaceable during all of the Sioux troubles. The band which murdered the mail party is called the Wasagahas, and was the Bear's band before his death. His brother and relatives were engaged in that affair. I cannot ascertain where this band is at present hunting; I expect, however, that my runners will soon bring me news of them. These five bands are all that belong to the agency of the Upper Platte. All of them are at peace among themselves, and with the whites, except the Wasagahas, and beg earnestly that the trade in the Indian country may be restored, for they are suffering—starving.

I cannot ascertain from any reliable source that there are any hostile Indians within this agency. There are certainly none at the Bridge, west, nor are there any assembled among the Black Hills, nor on L'Eau qui Court. If that were the case, or if it were true that at any point within this agency fifteen hostile Indians were assembled for war, my runners would have informed me.

I would respectfully recommend to the department that a blacksmith and a farmer be engaged for the Arapahoes and Cheyennes on the South Platte, and also the same for the bands of Sioux on the North Platte; and that the usual estimates for objects of this nature be asked of Congress.

I forward directly to the department, in consequence of the absence from St. Louis of Colonel Cumming, on the Upper Missouri, and I feel that it is important that the department should have all the inform-

mation that I am in possession of. In conclusion, I beg to say that the Sioux difficulties have been magnified by false and malicious reports. There is not, as I can find, within this agency, a single hostile Indian; on the contrary, all are friendly. As to the Wasagahas band, if I should demand the murderers of the mail party, I have no doubt they would be delivered up to me. In consequence of news from the frontier, stating that the "Sioux expedition," under General Harney, was approaching the Upper Platte, I have assembled all of the Indians known to be friendly, and about which there was no doubt, on the South Platte and its tributaries, and on the Laramie river. The hostile Sioux of the Missouri will not approach the locality of these friendly bands, and by having them near me I can prevent the young men going out on the war path.

Respectfully submitted.

THOMAS S. TWISS,
Indian Agent.

HON. THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

No. 26.

FORT LARAMIE, *September 3, 1855.*

SIR: Since my communication to the department, on the 20th ultimo, in which I stated that I was gathering the friendly bands of Sioux on the South Platte and Laramie rivers, I have held a council with the chiefs and principal men of the Ogalallah band of Sioux, who came in from the head waters of L'Eau qui Court. I explained to them the reason why I could not deliver to them their annuity goods at present, and advised them to keep from the war path. They replied that they had always been friends of the whites, and had not broken the treaty of 1851, nor stolen horses from the white man on the emigrant trail.

I had received previously, from the commanding officer of this post, favorable reports of the friendly disposition of this band, and of the efforts that the chiefs were constantly making to preserve peace with the whites, by returning stolen horses, recaptured from the marauding parties of the Minne Coujoux Sioux from the Missouri river, and by restraining and preventing their young men from joining hostile bands in that direction.

I shall forward to the department by the next mail, of the 15th instant, all of the information which I can obtain during the councils, to be held within the next ten days with the various bands of Sioux of this agency.

I have just received regulations for schedules of Indian goods, dated June 14, too late to forward to the department and arrive before the 15th September.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS S. TWISS,
Indian Agent.

HON. COL. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 27.

INDIAN AGENCY, FORT LARAMIE,
October 1, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit a report, in full, of the measures I adopted in reference to the Sioux bands of this agency, and of which I gave but an outline in my dispatches of 20th August and 3d September last.

Immediately after my arrival at this post, on the 10th August last, I began to collect information from all reliable sources, and to question the whites, Indians, traders, and others, who had been in the Indian country the last year, and during all of the late difficulties with the Sioux.

It was soon made clear to my mind that some portions of the Sioux bands, the Brulés and Ogalallahs, had no share or part in the murders and robberies which had been committed during the last twelve months, and were really desirous and anxious to preserve and continue their friendly and peaceful relations with the United States, and were resolved not to be forced into war measures by the hostile party of their own bands.

Under these circumstances, and with the conviction that I must act promptly or not at all, I declared the North Platte the boundary between the hostile and friendly Sioux, and dispatched runners to the chief "Big Partizan," of the Brulés, and to the chief "The-Man-Who-Is-Afraid-Of-His-Horses," of the Ogalallahs, the former to meet me at Bordeaux trading house, eight miles below the fort, and the latter at Ward and Guerrier's, eight miles above, on the North Platte, and bring to the council the principal men of these bands.

I met the chief Big Partizan, and the principal men of the Brulés, on the 19th August, and stated that they must prove to me by their acts and peaceful conduct that they were true friends; that my Sioux interpreter, who had traded with them for several winters, knew all of those who were engaged in the murder of the mail party in November last, and those also of the Brulé band who had committed depredations on the whites. I forbid these murderers and robbers from crossing to the south side of the Platte, and required the friendly Brulés to drive away from amongst them all hostile Indians, on pain of being declared enemies if I should find one of these outlaws in their village.

I placed this Brulé village of 70 lodges on Cherry creek, 10 miles south of this post. The Sioux band of Ogalallahs crossed the North Platte, between the 20th and 28th August, in small parties, at the trading house of Ward & Guerrier. I held a council with the chiefs and principal men on the 29th, and gave them the same advice and admonition as I had previously given to the Brulé band, and formed their camp on the Laramie river, 25 miles above the fort.

On the 30th August a small band (40 lodges) of Brulés, called Wasagahas, came in. I ascertained from my Sioux interpreter that the old chief (Stalber) and the headmen of this part of the band were always opposed to the Big Bear chief during his lifetime; that since his death they had driven away from their village the relations and friends of

the old chief; and after the murder of the mail party had separated themselves entirely from the Wasagahas. Under these circumstances, I took these old men with their 40 lodges under my protection. Between the 1st and 5th September I collected all of these portions of the Sioux bands in one village on the Laramie river, 35 miles above this post, and found I had 400 lodges, or about 4,000 souls.

On the 7th September I received news by express of the battle between General Harney's command and Little Thunder, chief of a part of the Brulé band of Sioux, which took place on the Little Blue Water on the 3d September. I assembled immediately the chiefs and principal men of the friendly Sioux village and gave them all the particulars of the battle, and the loss sustained by Little Thunder's band in killed, wounded and prisoners. They replied that "General Harney had done right; Little Thunder had been told by me, through friendly runners sent by them, to keep off from the emigrant trail, and to come over to the south side and take me by the hand, if he was friendly to the United States. By remaining on the north side of the Platte he showed himself an enemy to the whites."

I transmitted to General Harney on the 20th August official notice of the measures I had adopted and proposed to follow strictly, both in respect to the friendly and hostile Sioux, and also the boundary which I had designated as separating the neutral from the hostile country. I had not, however, received any intimation or assurance that he would sanction those measures or respect that line previous to his arrival at this post on the 15th September.

In an official interview with the general on the 17th, I gave him a brief history of my operations, and requested him to take these friendly Sioux which I had collected together under his safeguard and protection; that I would pledge my head as security for their good conduct and fidelity.

I am happy to report that the general approved of my conduct in regard to the Sioux; and I am also pleased to state that the best understanding existed between us in all matters relating to Indian affairs and the Sioux difficulties during the short time the general remained at this post.

In conclusion, I trust my conduct and the manner in which I have discharged my duties will be approved by the honorable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

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

THOMAS S. TWISS,
Indian Agent, Upper Platte.

Hon. THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

No. 28.

INDIAN AGENCY, FORT LARAMIE, *October 10, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to state that my annual report of Indian affairs of the Upper Platte agency has been delayed beyond the time

designated by the Hon. the Commissioner of Indian affairs, in consequence of the Sioux difficulties.

On my arrival at this post, on the 10th August last, I found the whole Indian country in a state of feverish excitement and alarm, caused by the near approach of the Sioux expedition under the command of General Harney, and the uncertainty existing as to his instructions, or the measures that would be adopted in order to obtain a solution of the Sioux difficulties.

To all inquiries addressed to me I gave but this one answer, "There is a Sioux war."

It was difficult and almost impossible for me to obtain any information or facts that gave the true state of affairs, or the disposition and feelings of the Sioux Indians on the question of war or peace, either from the few whites, residents and traders, or from the Indians themselves. I was fortunate in securing for my Sioux interpreter the services of Antoine Jannis, who had been a trader with the Ogalallah and Brulé bands of Sioux for twelve years, had resided in their villages, and was personally acquainted with the principal men of both bands.

From him I obtained important information as to *what had been* the true state of the Indian feeling and conduct, in relation to the unfortunate affairs of last year, resulting in the massacre of Lieutenant Grattan and his detachment of United States troops, and the murder of the mail party. From the evidence before me, it was plain that a great proportion of the two bands of Sioux, the Ogalallahs and Brulés, disavowed these acts, and were not parties that had any share in them, and had separated themselves from the guilty parties of those two bands, and were anxious to remain at peace with the United States. I immediately adopted measures as to war and peace parties, and carried them into effect, as stated in my dispatch of the 1st instant.

The Indian annuity goods have not been distributed either to the Sioux bands or to the Arapahoes. The greater part of the Cheyenne band were near this post on my arrival, and as there were no complaints made against them as being concerned in acts of hostility, or of depredations on property of whites, I gave them their goods.

There are heavy charges against the Arapahoes for killing cattle and sheep during the present year. The owners of this stock have not yet proved their claims before me, except one, for 48 head of cattle. The whole amount claimed will be nearly \$15,000, and will stop the annuity of this band for some years. The Arapahoes, in council with me, admitted that they were greatly in fault, but excused themselves by saying they were starving; that the smallpox was raging in their lodges, and prevented them from going out to hunt the buffalo. They said they were willing to have their annuity stopped until the owners of this stock were fully paid.

The Arapahoes and Cheyennes have applied to me to be supplied with a farmer and blacksmith. I would recommend to the department that this request be granted, and that Saint Vrain's fort, on the South Platte, be selected as the most suitable point for a farm and an agency for the Arapahoes and Cheyennes of the South Platte and

Arkansas. There is not, in the whole Indian country, a more favorable location for a farm for grazing stock and for game than the South Platte. In a very short period of time the Arapahoes and Cheyennes would become fixed and settled, and a part of each tribe, the old men and women, would become agriculturists, rude it is true, yet sufficiently skillful to raise corn, potatoes, and beans, and dwell in cabins or fixed habitations.

The Sioux bands have also made a similar application; but as only a part of these was represented, I deem it proper to postpone recommending any action until after a peace with the whole Sioux nation.

It is evident to me, from my short experience, that the bands of Indians on the plains suffer greatly, at particular seasons, by cold and hunger. The buffalo is becoming scarce, and it is more difficult from year to year for the Indians to kill a sufficient number to supply them with food and clothing. The old and the very young Indians are the greatest sufferers, for they are less able to bear the intense cold of winter and privation of food. Thousands die annually from these causes alone; and the certain gradual disappearance of the buffalo is followed by the rapid, quick disappearance of the Indians. I would recommend to the department an increase, if possible, of the annuity to the tribes of this agency for the next year. There will be a greater degree of suffering than at any former period.

The Indian trade is entirely stopped, and has been for some time past, consequently the Indian is deprived of all supplies from Indian traders. He will not make robes, waiting for a market; as a matter of course, it will be some time after peace is restored, and the trade re-opened, before the Indians will have any article for trade or barter. It is, therefore, a matter of great moment that there should be some source of supply to the Indians. I am not prepared to propose any better plan than the one above named; that is, to increase the annuity, and apply this additional amount to the purchase of corn and provisions.

In recommending an agency for the Arapahoes and Cheyennes on the South Platte, and one for the Sioux of the North Platte on the L'Eau qui Court, or at some point at a distance from this post, it should not be inferred that I propose to divide the agency. I simply propose to consolidate the tribes of the Arapahoes and Cheyennes into one family, and the Sioux by themselves separately. At the present time these bands are scattered over a great extent of country. They are found all along the trail from the head of Sweet Water, in the Crow country, in the Utah country, among the Comanches and Kioways, and even as far east as the Pawnees, against whom they send war parties, and also against the Utahs. Their habits are roving, and, consequently, predatory; and the sooner the government shall take steps to break these habits the better will it be for the Indians.

It will be observed that I recommended the farms and the agency be established far distant from any military post. I would protest, in the strongest terms, against the practice, but too common in the conduct of our Indian affairs, of permitting large bands of Indians, or even small parties, to come into our military posts or encamping near them, to transact business with the Indian agents, or for any other

purpose whatsoever. The whole plan is wrong and fraught with evil. It is the remote cause of all the present Sioux difficulties, and to guard against a recurrence of these troubles, these bitter and angry feelings between the Indians and the whites, I will not permit, during my term of office, an Indian to visit a military post nor approach near one, unless I am present.

To overawe the tribes, to make them know and dread our power, to make them fear and respect us, it is as clear and apparent, to my mind, as the noonday sun, that the best and only proper method of conducting our Indian relations is to establish military posts in the heart of the Indian country. There should be many more than at present established. There are strategical points that should be occupied forthwith; points where a handful of men would do more efficient service than large armies in the field during a campaign, or several campaigns.

It does not fall appropriately within the sphere of my duties further than to name those points, and bring them to the notice of the department, viz:

1st. The Big Timber, on the Arkansas river.

2d. The bridge across the North Platte, 120 miles westnorthwest of this post.

3d. On White river, near Cache Butte, Fort Pierre trail.

4th. On the north fork of the Cheyenne river, near Bear Butte.

5th. Fort Benton, on the Upper Missouri river, near the Rocky mountains, and on the northern trail to the Territory of Washington.

These nomadic tribes of the prairies would then know the strength of the government; now they cannot be made to understand nor comprehend it by description. When it is told to them by the whites that such is the truth, they will ask, where is this power or strength of the whites? We do not see it—we do not feel it—we see only a few whites—they are very weak and feeble—why do not your whites come and fight us, if you are as strong as you say you are? Such is the language and belief of the Indians of the prairies. It seems hardly necessary to say that the points above named being occupied with a strong force, would tend to break the Indians' power, from New Mexico to the 49th parallel of latitude, and from the frontier of the States to the Rocky mountains. It is obviously the duty of the government to occupy the Indian country in such force as to overawe the tribes; to observe in our intercourse with them a character of firmness and decision; and in our treaty stipulations to be most liberal and generous—to give, in presents, much more than they ask for, or have any reason to expect. They are only the wards of a great and powerful nation—poor, helpless, ignorant children—and will always remain such. It therefore becomes the duty and true policy of a generous people to destroy at once the power of these tribes to do mischief, and then to feed and clothe them for the short remnant of their days, and to adopt such other measures to ameliorate their condition as may be deemed proper. Let us civilize first, or make the attempt to lead them into habits of agriculture, and of having fixed habitations. Missions and schools will then soon follow as a matter of course.

I beg leave, also, to recommend to the immediate attention and prompt action of the department the appointment of commissioners to make treaties with the Sioux and neighboring tribes. It is, in my opinion, desirable that these commissioners should be sent out with as little delay as possible. There will be no difficulty in convening all of the bands of this agency in a great council, for the purpose of forming a general treaty, the advantages of which may be made apparent and clear to all of them.

The Sioux war is near its termination. If I am not totally mistaken in my judgment, all of the Sioux bands to the north will submit to General Harney, and sue for peace; they have no desire nor wish to fight or prolong the war. The affair on the Little Blue Water, on the 3d of September, was a thunder clap to them, and has opened their ears, and given them to understand truths which they did not believe before that chastisement.

I propose to remain for the present near this post, and not leave the Indian country without orders from the department. I shall communicate promptly any intelligence or facts that come to my knowledge that may be important, or require the action of the government in settling the Sioux difficulties.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 THOMAS S. TWISS,
Indian Agent.

Colonel CUMMING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 29.

COUNCIL BLUFFS AGENCY,
 November 1, 1855.

SIR: In conformity with the requirements of the Indian Department, I have the honor of submitting this my first annual report, and which, owing to the unsettled condition of the different tribes within this agency, I hoped to have been permitted to omit.

The three tribes under my care, to wit, the Pawnees, Omahas, and Ottoes and Missouriias, have been blessed with good health during the time I have been with them. They all have plenty to eat and wear, the two latter tribes being furnished by government with flour, beef, bacon, sugar, and coffee. The Pawnees have to depend on their own resources; they raise corn, pumpkins, squashes, melons, &c., but to no great extent. Should they be successful on their winter's hunt in killing buffalo, they will have plenty; but should the Sioux come in contact with them, prove an overmatch and drive them from the plains, they will return without meat to eat, or robes to exchange for blankets and ammunition, in which event they will be compelled to live on corn; furthermore, it must be understood by the department, that when these Indians leave for their winter's hunt everything is taken with them, big, little, old and young, squaws and all go.

Their corn, &c., they cache by digging a hole in the ground in the shape of a tunnel, little end up, in which they store hundreds of bushels; but during their absence straggling bands of other tribes sometimes find the caches and rob them, taking the whole contents; this, however, seldom occurs, for these holes of deposit are extremely difficult to discover. Should the Pawnees be driven from the plains, killing no buffalo, and on returning find their corn stolen, much suffering will ensue by way of hunger. They number about four thousand and have three villages on the Platte river, on government land. Sometimes they meet with loss on the plains during battle, by way of the enemy taking their ponies; this, however, can easily be repaired, for it is no trick for fifteen or twenty Pawnees to go and steal more of the Camanches or any other tribe, say five hundred or more miles distant. In fact, I am inclined to the opinion that they get all their horses in this way. They do not steal much from the whites because of fear; they are lewd and dirty, yet disposed to be industrious and obedient to the will of the government—could be induced, perhaps, to give some attention to education and learn to work, with less trouble than the other tribes of this agency. Government should purchase their lands, at least see that they have a good reserve or home some place, and give them a fair trial.

The Sioux have only twice this season undertaken to exterminate the Pawnees, at both times it was a drawn battle, perhaps not more than ten or twelve killed on each side. On the last occasion the Sioux killed twenty or thirty Pawnee horses.

This tribe has no means of sending their children to school and which I hope shortly to see provided for, government doing nothing more than furnishing them with a smith shop and blacksmith.

The Otoe and Missouri tribe of Indians are living on their reserve on the Big Blue river, near the line dividing Kansas and Nebraska Territories; they raised but a small portion of corn during the last summer, are now on their winter's hunt, and will, in all probability, not kill much game, soon return, and depend on government to furnish them with provisions. They, the men, seem to have great aversion to labor, will drink liquor when it can be had, and make fair promises of what they are going to do on their farm next season. As yet we have been able to do but little in the way of farming for this tribe, owing to the time they were removed, which was in July last; but one hundred acres of prairie are yet broken, one dwelling-house and smith shop erected, and one hundred tons of hay well put up. They number about six hundred, in my opinion, though the pay-roll shows more. It is extremely difficult to get the true number—council and turn out one at a time is the only chance. This tribe by nature seems to be more intelligent than the others of this agency, and in practice most insolent, but less disposed to labor and to favor education.

The Omaha tribe of Indians, since the death of their principal chief, Logan Fontenelle, in July last, who was killed and scalped on the Loup Fork, seem to be frantic with fear; they are afraid to do anything. They are now on a little tour hunting; will remain near the mouth of the Horn during the winter; number about eight hundred;

raised no corn last season; notwithstanding one hundred and thirty odd acres were ploughed, and potatoes, turnips, corn, and buckwheat, put in the ground for them, they abandoned all, went hunting; met with their troubles on the plains, and so far it seems impossible to have them return. They are doing nothing for themselves in the way of improvement, either for mind or body, and before they will all fear must be banished. This tribe merits something for abandoning the use of ardent spirits. As a tribe they have used but little for the last twelve months, and, considering their proximity to it, I conclude the chiefs and many of the headmen are disposed to forsake the practice, so fatal to them, of drinking.

But little is doing within this agency in the way of education, and until the Indian throws off his blanket and goes to work, as well as to school, he will be an Indian still.

Respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE HEPNER, *Indian Agent.*

Col. A. CUMMING, Esq.,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 30.

GREAT NEMEHA AGENCY, *September 30, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Sac and Fox and Iowa tribes of Indians belonging to this agency have enjoyed an unusual degree of good health throughout the past year; and, notwithstanding the scarcity and high price of subsistence, there has been no material suffering on this account. There has been less drunkenness than heretofore among them, and some have exerted themselves in trying to suppress the traffic in ardent spirits. On one occasion they destroyed two barrels of whiskey on the line of the reserve of the Sacs and Foxes, and at another time one on the half-breed lands, by knocking out their heads and emptying their contents on the ground. I regret that a few of the individuals thus engaged could not withstand the temptation, and partook of it before it was all thrown away; and when I talked to them about it, their only reply was, "Father, we could not help it; we did not like to see so much good firewater wasted without saving a little of it."

The Sacs and Foxes of Missouri have a fine fertile country, well watered and timbered, and the "white man" is already making inquiries as to the probable time when they can occupy it, notwithstanding the large quantity of unoccupied land, much of which was recently ceded by Indians in these territories. I, however, hope, as some of these Indians are disposed to improve their condition by tilling the soil, that they will not be disturbed, at least until the experiment has been fairly tried.

The Iowas have been quite successful this year in raising corn and vegetables. Some of them took especial pains to cultivate the seeds sent them by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs from Washington

city. This tribe has prepared a large quantity of "sweet corn" for future use.

The Ioway blacksmith finds full employment; he not only works at his forge, but repairs the wood work of their ploughs and wagons.

For the operations of the Sac and Fox farm, I refer you to the report of the farmer and miller herewith.

The school, under the charge of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, has been conducted, as usual, under the official superintendency of the Rev. Samuel Irwin. The whole number of pupils is 51; of these 29 are males and 22 females, who belong to the following tribes, viz: Ioways, 8; Sacs and Foxes, 4; Pawnees, 9; Sioux, 7; Blackfeet, 7; Ottoes, 5, and Cheyenne, 1. It is a source of extreme regret that the Indians are so obstinately averse to entrusting their children to this or any other beneficial institution. They well know that they are comfortably clothed, fed and cared for, and yet they prefer having them with themselves, to be reared in idleness, half naked, and frequently suffering for mere subsistence. They seem to believe that if they become educated and industrious, possessing the ability and means to procure a decent and comfortable livelihood, that they are lost to them and their tribe. This can only be accounted for by their own ignorance and degraded condition. I shall not cease to urge upon them the importance and actual necessity of teaching their children so as to fit them to compete in the great struggle of life with the white man.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your obedient servant,

D. VANDERSLICE,
Indian Agent.

COL. A. CUMMING,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 31.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,
September 29, 1855.

DEAR SIR: The statement furnished you this morning will show the number of scholars in school, the tribes from which they are gathered, as well as an outline of their progress in study. At present we are in want of a male teacher. On the first of the month Mr. McCain, who has been teaching for some time, closed his services in that capacity, and we have only Mrs. Fullerton, who is a good teacher, to carry on the school for the present. It is, however, far from the intention of the board to be without a male teacher, and one will be secured as soon as possible.

We have not been sparing in our efforts to cultivate habits of industry and labor among the children, both on the farm and in the house, and we think it has not been altogether a failure. The boys work well and regular on the farm, while the girls are equally industrious in the house. With some the question may arise whether they

do not work too much ; but when we see that their habits of industry and economy are all to be formed here, and that until these habits are formed letters can be of but little use to them, there seems little danger of carrying this essential part of their education too far. We have always observed that the more uniform and strict they are kept at business the more amiable and contented they seem to be.

There still seems to be a lingering disposition among the relatives and professed friends of some of the children to persuade and entice them off to their new settlements. They come with friendly pretensions, eat and lodge at the mission, and e'er we are aware some of the scholars are missing. And when once away it is exceedingly hard for us to recover them ; no one seems to know where they are. Sympathy seems to run in favor of the relative, and sport and ridicule is sometimes the reward for a toilsome trip to find the little runaway. Still we can well sympathise with the kind hearted relative, who thinks he seeks the good of the child. Their attachments are not tempered with knowledge ; they cannot value an education, because they know not what it is ; and when they hear of their children being at work, a thing not most congenial to themselves, or of their being chastised in school, it is not strange that they should feel desirous of having them with themselves.

But we are happy to say that these cases of stealthful departure from school, through the influence of relatives, are growing less frequent ; and we trust that with the aid which, under the new regulations, you will be able to give they will soon be unknown.

The only hope now for the remaining fragments of these dying tribes is a thorough training, both in letters and manual labor ; and we look with interest to the new contracts between the government and the mission board for the more full and decided fulfilment of these desirable objects. We are well prepared with clothing, rooms, provisions, &c., for the fulfilment of the board's contract ; and we are ready and anxious to render all the aid in our power to collect the full number of scholars from all those tribes when contracts have been made.

I should like to say something with regard to the religious and moral condition of the children and school, but these lines having been put off now to the latest hour, on account of sickness, and having nothing that would be striking or decidedly interesting on this point, I must close.

With best wishes, I am, dear sir, your friend and obedient servant,
S. M. IRWIN.

Col. D. VANDERSLICE.

No. 32.

FARM OF SACS AND FOXES OF MISSOURI,
September 30, 1855.

SIR: In obedience to your notice of the 27th instant, I report that the operations of the farm of the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri have been but partially successful. I had twenty-five acres of wheat well

put in, the ground twice ploughed, twice harrowed, and rolled with a heavy roller; it looked well, but the prospect for a good crop was blasted by much of it being frozen out, there being no snow retained upon it; the fields being the highest ground on the farm, the winds swept off all the snow that fell. Notwithstanding, a part of it did tolerably well. But the long and continued rains destroyed most of it after it was harvested. The oat crop, about fifteen acres, produced well, and the most of it was saved uninjured, being housed in the barn; three stacks were much injured by the rain, which was driven into them by the strong winds; also some seven or eight tons of hay were totally destroyed. Indeed, the crops of wheat, oats, and early cut hay, throughout this region and in Missouri, were much damaged, and in some instances whole crops were lost.

The same cause which injured the crops referred to has assisted materially in bringing out the later crops of corn, potatoes, and pumpkins.

From an estimate just made, there will be about 3,000 bushels of corn, 700 bushels of potatoes, and an abundance of pumpkins, to distribute among the Indians, after retaining a sufficiency for the stock belonging to the farm. In addition, we have put up, and in good order, about sixteen tons of hay.

Having understood from you that the Indians desired one more crop off this farm, I presume it is intended, as soon as possible, to wind up the farming operations immediately thereafter, with as little expense as possible.

It is much to be regretted that the Indians themselves cannot be induced to labor, and particularly as the price of labor in this country is so very high.

I will, as requested by you, make out an estimate of the necessary expenses as early a day as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. J. VANDERSLICE,
Sac and Fox Farmer and Miller.

Major D. VANDERSLICE,
Indian Agent.

No. 33.

KICKAPOO AGENCY,
Grasshopper Ford, October 5, 1855.

SIR: Agreeably to the requirements of the regulations of the Indian Department, the following report is most respectfully submitted:

The Indians upon this reserve have enjoyed a good degree of health the past season, until within a short time past. Those living upon the south part of the reserve, near the emigrant and military road, have had some sickness from the emigrant trains passing near them, and there have been two or three cases of cholera which have proved

fatal. I am sorry to say that quite a number are at this time sick with fever and ague; all settled on or near the streams and among the timber have suffered more or less with the above disease, while those living upon the high and open prairie have not suffered in the least from sickness or disease of any kind.

The valley of the Grasshopper is one of extreme fertility; the bottoms are wide and peculiarly adapted to the culture of all the usual grains, &c., of a western country; with a good degree of fine timber along the main stream and its branches.

There has not been as much liquor drank as usual among this tribe of Indians; but still as long as the whites will bring the article into the country as an article of traffic the poor Indian will have it, as he knows no bounds to his voracious and savage appetite.

The honorable members of the council and legislature of the Territory of Kansas enacted laws at their sitting which will, I think, go very far towards suppressing the evil and nefarious traffic among the Indians along the borders of their reserve.

There is a portion of the tribe that are exceedingly anxious to put some law in force among themselves whereby some restraint and punishment can be inflicted upon those of their tribe who may be, from time to time, found intoxicated, but as yet the chiefs and headmen have not agreed upon any plan that they feel justified in putting in force.

There has been but little advancement made towards the goal of civilization the past season among the Kickapoos; neither can there be until they have permanent missionaries among them and schools for their children.

The Indians have put up a quantity of dried corn and pumpkins, sufficient, with their annuity, for their subsistence; so that but little fears need be entertained of their suffering the coming winter. A portion of the Kickapoos have built quite comfortable log cabins the past summer, while others still prefer the more rude and savage way of living in the old fashioned bark wigwams, and prefer hunting to cultivating the soil.

All of which I most respectfully submit.

Yours, most respectfully,

R. BALDWIN,
Indian Agent.

Colonel A. CUMMING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

No. 34.

DELAWARE AGENCY, *September 21, 1855.*

SIR: The annual report of an agent as to the condition of the Indians under his charge and limited powers of protection is generally, and perhaps correctly, summed up in a few words: "But little improvement since my last report."

The crisis consequent upon the opening of this Territory to white population has not as yet proved as adverse to the welfare of the Delawares as was justly anticipated by the philanthropist. These Indians, nevertheless, have witnessed and experienced enough to shake their confidence in the laws which govern the white, or perhaps I should say civilized race. The irruption of intruders upon their trust land; their bloody dissensions; outbreaks of party, &c.; must necessarily to these unsophisticated people have presented our system of government in an unfavorable light; and should there spring up in the bosoms of the Indians generally an increased distrust of the government, and a greater disinclination to become (as they express it) white men, neither the Indian agent nor the Indian Department ought rightfully to be subjected to censure.

I have experienced a good deal of difficulty in protecting the people of this agency. Numerous wrongs have been perpetrated; in many parts of the reserve the white man has wasted their most valuable timber with an unsparing hand; the trust lands, also, have been greatly injured in consequence of the settlements made thereon. The Indians have complained, but to no purpose; I have found it useless to forewarn and threaten legal proceedings. The destruction of timber is still persisted in; and, unless remedies of a preventive character are entrusted in the hands of the agent, whereby he may be enabled to expel trespassers who may be found on reserved lands committing waste, large annual appropriations of money will be required in instituting and prosecuting lawsuits; for, in good faith, the government is bound to protect these people. To this end a revision of the laws in relation to Indian tribes would doubtless be advisable.

The late treaty with the Delawares empowers Congress, in a limited extent, to embrace them under its jurisdiction. I am of the opinion that a few simple laws adapted to their condition and capacity, such, for instance, as a system of common schools disconnected with missionary establishments, a mild criminal code, and laws rigidly enforcing contracts between the members of the tribe, would possibly meet with their consent, and do much towards elevating and improving their condition. The administration of these laws could be effected without a resort to taxation, by appropriating the moneys which will arise from the sale of the valuable lands transferred by them in trust to the United States by the late treaty. The sooner the annuity system or policy is dispensed with the better for this ill-fated race.

The agricultural or laboring portion of this tribe have done well this season; abundant crops of corn promise them a supply of food for the ensuing year; and but a small part of their annuity, compared with that of the last season, will have to be expended for bread.

B. F. ROBINSON,

Indian Agent.

Colonel A. CUMMING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 35.

SHAWNEE AND WYANDOT AGENCY,
October 3, 1855.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian Department, under which I have the honor to act, I submit the following brief report of the condition of this agency during the past year. It gives me much pleasure to state that the Shawnee and Wyandot tribes of Indians, embraced within my agency, have enjoyed, during the last twelve months, an almost uninterrupted prosperity, and they are now rejoicing in an abundant return from the toils and labors of the husbandman. While disease and death in their most malignant form have visited some of the neighboring tribes, and many of the white settlements, they have been peculiarly exempted from both, except in one locality, the "Friends' Shawnee Mission," which was, in the month of July, entirely broken up in consequence of severe sickness among the scholars. In consequence of this sickness, and an unexpected change in the superintendent and teachers, no report has been received. I learn, however, from Mr. Hadley, who has but recently taken charge, that the prospect for a full school during the coming term is very flattering. From the Baptist mission no report has been received. The school formerly kept there has been entirely abandoned. I learn that instructions have been received by Mr. Barker, the gentleman in charge, from the society to rent the buildings and improvements. The Shawnee manual labor school, under the able superintendency of the Rev. Thomas Johnson, is in a very prosperous condition. His efforts, united with those of the teachers, to educate mentally and morally the youth entrusted to his care have been eminently successful. It was my pleasure to be present at the last annual examination, and the proficiency exhibited in all the studies upon which they were examined was alike creditable to teachers and scholars. For a more detailed and statistical account of the condition and prospects of the school, I refer you to the accompanying report of the superintendent, Rev. Thomas Johnson.

The Shawnees, as well as the Wyandots, are making rapid progress towards civilization, and are gathering around them the comforts, and, in many instances, some of the elegancies of a more refined and cultivated life. Prostitution, drunkenness, and vice of every character, which but a short time since were, if not actually countenanced by the headmen of the nation, winked at, are, under the influence of good and wholesome laws enacted and enforced by their councils, rapidly disappearing. For drunkenness the annuity of the man convicted is withheld and a fine imposed. In the case of the female, her head is shaved in addition to the withholding her share. Yet this degrading vice cannot be wholly eradicated until the legislatures of the States bordering on the homes of the Indians are induced to enact more stringent laws against the sale of intoxicating drink to the Indian. The law of Missouri upon the subject is, in fact, of no avail, the proof required being such as to render it almost impossible to convict under it. Several arrests have been made within the Territory,

and indictments found against persons for introducing and selling whiskey within the Shawnee country. Heavy bail has been required for their appearance before the district court of the Territory, and every effort will be made to convict them.

Agreeably to instructions received from the department, through your office, I caused notices to be printed, and had them posted throughout the whole Shawnee reserve, warning trespassers and intruders that they were doing so in direct violation of law, and I also caused the orders of the department to be published in several of the papers on the border, and within the Territory, and I am sorry to say thus far with but little or no effect. The most valuable portions of the timbered lands are being entirely stripped. Having no forced at my disposal, I have been unable to prevent this.

I informed you, by telegraph, that certain suits had been brought in the circuit court of Jackson county by R. W. Thompson and others against Captain Joseph Parks and other Shawnees. Not having time to receive instructions from Washington in regard as to what action to take in the matter before it would come up in court, by my advice they employed Colonel A. J. Isaacs, United States district attorney for the district of Kansas, who, together with his partner, William H. Miller, esq., and Mr. Hicks, of Independence, appeared, and successfully defended them. For a better understanding of the subject and points at issue, I refer you to the accompanying certified copies of the papers and pleadings filed in the clerk's office at Independence, which I have only to-day been able to procure.

Great dissatisfaction was created both among the Shawnees and Wyandotts by the retention on the part of the department of a portion of their annuity due the present month. The Shawnees utterly refused to receive any part less than the whole amount. The Wyandotts at first also refused, but upon a better understanding of the reasons for the retention, they signified their consent to receive the amount remitted. Their payment will, therefore, take place so soon as the commissioners appointed under the late treaty shall have discharged the duties entrusted to them, which will be about the 25th of the present month.

While the policy of retaining of the Indian annuities for payment in the spring is, as a general thing, a good one, and beneficial to the Indian, so far as regards the more improvident tribes, it is perhaps of a doubtful nature in the case of the more civilized and advanced tribes. The Indians over whom I have the honor to be placed have always, since I have entered upon the duties of my office, evinced an earnest desire to comply faithfully with the very letter of their treaty stipulations. A deviation from the strict requirements of the treaties on the part of government cannot fail to weaken their faith in its integrity. To say the least, it gives those who are disposed to fail in their engagements an excuse for doing so.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT C. MILLER,
Indian Agent.

Colonel A. CUMMING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 36.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, October 19, 1855.

SIR: The paragraphs in the annual report of Agent Miller, in relation to the dissatisfaction expressed by the Wyandots and Shawnees, because the whole amount of their annuities was not sent forward, are calculated to produce the impression that that officer entertains views and opinions upon the subject not fully in accordance with the true interests of the Indians, but rather in harmony with those of that class of men who are very ready to throw obstacles in the way of the government, in its administration of Indian affairs, and to adopt the means necessary, whatever they may be, to obtain the Indians' money.

The "policy" of retaining a portion of the annuities of 1855-'6 in the treasury until next spring was not submitted to the agent for his views. That question was determined here, and, with the approbation of the Secretary of the Interior, action was taken, of which you were informed by letter of 14th August, and the sums deemed proper sent forward, and which the agent has received. The propriety, or policy, of the measure did not come before Agent Miller, and his reference to the subject, in that point of view, is as inappropriate as his views are, in my opinion, inconsistent with the true interests of the Indians themselves.

You will apprise Agent Miller of the contents of this note.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

A. CUMMING, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 37.

SHAWNEE MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
September 30, 1855.

SIR: The time has arrived when, in compliance with the obligations of the Indian Department, it becomes my duty to make an annual report of the condition of this school.

You will see, by referring to the accompanying list of names, that during the past year, commencing October 1, 1854, and ending September 30, 1855, there have been received into and taught in this school—

(87) eighty-seven Shawnee children.

(22) twenty-two Ottawa children.

(10) ten Wyandot children.

(2) two Spanish boys, rescued from the Cheyenne tribe of Indians by General Whitfield: and

(1) one small Sioux boy; making, in all, (122) one hundred and twenty-two.

The scholars were remarkably regular in their attendance at school until February, when we had an unusual amount of sickness, which caused some of the scholars to leave, and we lost four by death—two Shawnees and two Ottawas. But we still had a very respectable school up to the close of the session.

The scholars have been classed according to the progress they have made in their studies, from the alphabet to spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, geography, composition, declamation, &c. The boys have also, while out of school, been employed at work on the farm and managing the stock; and the girls, while not in school, have been taught to knit, sew, wash, cook, manage the dairy, &c. And we think they have improved as fast as could be reasonably expected.

The Shawnees have manifested a stronger disposition to improve since their late treaty than at any former period. They say that as they have arranged to live among the white people they must qualify themselves to act their part accordingly; and I have no doubt the wise provisions made by the government, in their late treaty, for their improvement, will have a salutary influence.

Respectfully submitted.

THOS. JOHNSON, *Superintendent.*

Major R. C. MILLER,
Indian Agent.

No. 38.

POTTAWATOMIE AGENCY, KANSAS TERRITORY,
October 17, 1855.

SIR: Pursuant to regulations, I have the honor to submit my annual report of the operations of the Indian Department within this agency during the past year, this being the first opportunity after the pressing engagements which have recently occupied my attention in general council with the Pottawatomies.

Early last May I turned over to John Montgomery, esq., agent for the Kansas, the funds and public property, with the papers belonging to that section of the department; and since the separation of that tribe from my agency I have had more time to devote to the interests and affairs of the Pottawatomies—a tribe once so powerful, now weak and imbecile from diminished numbers, divisions into clans, and divided councils, and from the ascendancy and rule of the ignorant and intolerant portion of this unfortunate people. A portion of these people have, for a long time, had intercourse with the whites, and in a measure adopted the civilized mode of life, and they manifest a desire for the improvement of themselves and their people. This

class composes portions of the "Wabash" and "St. Joseph's" bands, and having a prominence in their several bands, would be successful in reclaiming, to some extent, under the management of the government, their kinsmen, had they not in their midst the formidable obstacle of the "Prairie" band, or *Bluff Indians*, to oppose, thwart, and defeat every measure of improvement among this unhappy people.

The "Prairie band" adheres to the hunter life, nearly all of whom despise the arts and principles of civilization; who regard it as disgraceful for men to work, and they spare no language in denouncing those of the tribe who cultivate the soil or follow the peaceful arts. This band arrogantly claims ownership of all the land, and declares that the other bands have no rights here, nor to the annuities, they being *permitted* to participate in them *only* on the *courtesy* of their condescending brothers. And on this tenure these unfortunate people are thus subjected to the intrusions and depredations of the "Prairie" band, who frequently kill their stock, burn their fences, turn their hunting ponies into the fields, devour their crops, and even threaten the lives of the orderly portion of the tribe. The "Prairie" band is a bold and reckless race, and although they form a minority of the tribe, they domineer over it, rule and misgovern the people in a most lawless manner.

Thus two conflicting elements prevail to distract and stifle the usual efforts of government to improve these people; and I am of the unchangeable opinion that government should not only *assume* the patriarchal, but *exercise* a dictatorial rule over this tribe. The weak, who are subjected to the tyranny of brute force, should enjoy the protection of a strong power. That portion who desire to lead a civilized life, to cultivate the soil, raise stock, cherish education, should have the protection of good government and efficient laws.

A portion of this tribe who have adopted civilized life, and those who manifest a preference for such a life, undisguisedly declare that their only salvation is in a treaty, by which their lands will be run out, sectionized, and each individual assigned his own tract, with the protecting power of a State or territorial government and laws. They not only desire to know their own lands, but they require to be sustained in the possession of the fruits of their labor. This policy will save a portion of the Pottawatomies. The others will meet their inevitable destiny which hangs over them, let the policy of the government be what it may. The policy now attempted to be carried out, of endeavoring to amalgamate the civilized and uncivilized portions, is only "crushing out" civilization, abandoning the hopeful portion to the ruin of semi-barbarism, and will inevitably destroy the whole tribe. Under the policy suggested by the intelligent portion, opportunity and protection will be afforded, not only to the civilized but the uncivilized. The former will avail themselves of the policy; some stragglers of the latter may adhere to the civilized mode of life, and all these be reclaimed. If the "Prairie" band obstinately adheres to its present mode of life (which I am sure a majority will do) they will wander off to remote and more congenial tribes and lands, and disappear before the tide of civilization. This is their destiny; in all events, then, is it not wiser to hasten this result before

the better portion of the tribe is destroyed? Save these if we can; save at least the remnant of a once powerful race, who now throw themselves upon the power, magnanimity and wisdom of a great government; who appeal to you for protection. It is melancholy to contemplate such miserable prospects as at present are presented to these people. It is painful to behold intelligent, orderly, industrious families struggling against the despotism of ignorant barbarism.

The Pottawatomies have no regularly established government. The dicta of self-constituted councils is the law of the time. Influence and interest of individuals frequently protect individuals from punishment for the worst of crimes. Murders, thefts, rapes are but seldom punished, and never, except in cases of retaliation, which disturb the peace of the country still more. These people cannot even boast of following ancient customs or adhering to traditions. The hereditary chiefs have been set aside, not by the formal disposition of the people, but by bold, artful and ambitious men, who have usurped their places, and who, by threats, awe the peaceable portion of the people into submission. Among these usurpers changes are constantly going on. A man more bold and artful rises and supercedes some individual who possesses less of these qualifications, and who in turn is "set back." It is the influence and determination of the "Prairie" band that keep up this state of things, they being the master spirits in the councils.

Last week, whilst I had the Indians assembled to receive their annuity, and after several days' counselling, I was informed by these bold usurpers that *they* had decided not to receive the money, whilst I was assured at the same time by individuals of various bands and neighborhoods of their willingness and great desire to receive their portion, who also assured me that they knew of many destitute families who needed, and would gladly receive their annuity. I responded to this council that they were usurping the authority of the tribe; that I would not regard their decision; and that if any respectable number would come forward and be registered, I would pay them their proportion. Upon which another council was held next day, (on Sunday,) and "braves" were appointed to keep the people at home, and to punish those who dared to receive their annuity. Such was the terror inspired among the people by this bold measure, that on Monday a number of leading men, who had hitherto held back from the council, met, united with the others, and flatly refused to receive the annuity, and no one then had the firmness to come forward and offer to receive their proportion. Had a military command been present, so that the timid could have been assured of protection, the result would have been different.

Accompanying I send a list of the employees of the United States within this agency, and the report of Rev. J. D. Duerinck, superintendent of the manual labor school of St. Mary's in this agency. By the former it will be seen that six of the employees are *natives*, and seven are *Anglo-Americans*, being nearly equally divided. I have adhered to the policy of the department of giving preference to natives where the public service is not likely to suffer. This piece of information will be highly gratifying to the great "*American*" portion of

the American people who are so tenacious in their principles that *natives* should enjoy the patronage of the government. Since I have taken charge of this agency, I have removed two blacksmiths for gambling and idleness. I require the mechanics to devote all working hours to the service of the Indians, and gambling is prohibited among them under the penalty of immediate removal. I am gratified to be able to state that, after the removals which have been made, this branch of the agency works well. All the employees are sober, industrious, and moral men. At the request of the Indians, and with the concurrence of the department, I discontinued the services of the physician at the Baptist mission.

By the school report of Mr. Duerinck, it will be seen that the missionary labors at St. Mary's are divided into two establishments. The boys are under the charge of the "fathers" of the institution, whilst the girls are under the kind care of the "Ladies of the Sacred Heart." I cannot speak in terms too highly of the condition of these establishments. Besides the ordinary literary course, the girls are taught sewing, knitting, embroidery, and the various other branches of housekeeping. In connexion with the institution is a manual labor school, where the boys are taught the practical and useful departments of farming, gardening, &c. Mr. Duerinck is a man of great energy and business habits, united with a devotion to the welfare of the Pottawatomie Indians, to whom he has proved a father and friend, and by whom he is highly esteemed. I have no hesitancy in expressing my conviction that this institution is of great service to these Indians. This influence is seen in the neat cottages and little fields of the "Mission Indians," and the air of comfort and good order apparent throughout the neighborhood.

The institution under the charge of the Baptist board has had to struggle against numerous adversities, and has not been in operation during the present year. Mr. Joseph Walker, the corresponding secretary, writes me, under date of August 2, 1855, that the funds, property, &c., of the mission, have been turned over to the "Southern Baptist Convention," and that he entertains full expectation of being able to reorganize and profitably conduct this school; but I am forced to believe that, notwithstanding the great efforts of these worthy and benevolent individuals, such are the many difficulties which surround their enterprise, they will fail to accomplish the end desired.

Former communications and others cotemporaneous with this, on the subject of agricultural implements, exhibit the fact, that during the present year a better spirit is dawning over a portion of the Pottawatomies, who have hitherto opposed all improvement. This may appear to be a small matter, but like the oasis in the desert, it must be grateful to the eye of the philanthropist. The Indians have declined to receive the small number of implements which I was instructed, by the letter of the department of the 10th July last, to give them, and they have reiterated their request for a larger number, and as I concur with them that the number allowed them in the letter referred to is too small, I hope the department will order a number approximating to that which they now ask for. The "Prairie" band are beginning to demand the money of this fund, which I hope will be the last

policy adopted by the government. Better by far for the Indians were they to receive all their improvement fund in *telescopes* and all the variety of geometrical and astronomical instruments, never to be used or understood, than that this fund be paid them in money at annual payments. So long as the people depend on the annuities and their "hunts" for their scanty support, just so long will they remain poor and degraded. I am satisfied that there are not agricultural implements among those people to meet their real wants, and before they will expend their money for ploughs they will submit to many sacrifices; but large sums are expended at the trading posts, at extravagant prices, for hoes, axes, and other small implements. These articles should be furnished them out of the "improvement fund," and the money, in some cases at least, would go for sugar, coffee, and other comforts of civilized life.

Situated as the Pottawatomie reserve is, isolated in the central portion of Kansas Territory, this tract made the common thoroughfare of travel and trade, from the eastern to the western port, the agent has many difficulties to encounter in the performance of his duties. The intercourse law and the regulations have seldom ever been enforced, and at the present time, when the country is overrun with squatters, it is still more difficult to enforce these salutary measures. Citizens of the United States claim, and I do not question their right, to pass through the country with their property. In doing so, many carry ardent spirits which they vend to the Indians. When the facts are brought to my notice, the offenders have passed through the country and they cannot be found. They have frequent disputes with the Indians about the right of property; the whites generally take the law into their own hands and decide the matter agreeably to their own interests and feelings. There seems to be entertained an utter contempt for all law by a portion of the citizens of the territory, who do not recognise the boundary lines of reserves. Election precincts have been established in the Pottawatomie reserve, and Indians are invited to vote, regardless of their relationship to the territory. Appointments have been made for the discussion of political questions that concern alone the people of the territory. When they are told that the organic act, in distinct terms, excepts the Indian reservations from its operation, they persist in annihilating that distinction, and many of them reply that the act is unconstitutional and adverse to public sentiment, and insist that the whole territory is open to freedom's course.

It is due, however, to the legislative assembly to state that the precincts were not established by that body, nor is the course thus deprecated pursued by that portion of the people who are upholding that body. They were first established by ex-Governor Reeder, and this unlawful proceeding was attempted by the people under his lead—the "higher law" party, who have repudiated the territorial government. I deemed it to be my duty to maintain the inviolability of the Pottawatomie reserve, and I prevented the delivery of the incendiary speeches, and I forbid the holding of elections at the two precincts on the reserve.

Last spring the steamer "Hartford" passed up the Kansas river to the mouth of *Blue*, and on her return trip she grounded within the

limits of the Pottawatomie reserve, where she is still lying. It having been established to my satisfaction that the crew on board have been selling liquor to the Indians, and several difficulties having grown out of these transactions, I sent an express to Fort Riley, requesting a command to arrest the offenders and to suppress other violations of the law. No command was sent me; but I must, however, state that my messenger very stupidly returned without waiting for an answer to my letter.

Before I started to St. Louis for funds I addressed a letter to Colonel Sumner, then commanding at Fort Leavenworth, and requested a small detachment of troops to attend the payments. Upon reaching home, but when it was too late, I found an answer from Lieutenant Colonel Johnson, at the same post, advising me that Colonel Sumner had departed for the seat of war, taking with him all the effective troops. He cheerfully offered to arm, with rifles, a body of recruits and send them to me. I should have availed myself of this offer had Col. J.'s letter reached me in time.

I sent to the United States deputy marshal of Tecumseh to arrest some violators of the law, but that official declined acting, alleging as a reason, that it was beyond his authority to act in the Indian country. Having seen the United States marshal and his deputies of the Arkansas district go into the Choctaw and Cherokee reserves, apprehend and bring to trial offenders against the intercourse law, I unhesitatingly made the call. Whether I was right in so doing it is for higher authority to say. But I feel assured that if the United States court in this Territory have the right and will send its officers into the Indian reserves for offenders, there can be no more speedy and effectual way of arresting the various disorders that prevail in the Indian country.

According to the annuity roll of 1854, the Pottawatomes on the reserve number 3,440. There are about 250 others living among the Kickapoos, some of whom have intermarried in that tribe, and all of whom obstinately refuse to move to the Pottawatomie reserve. There are a few scattering families in Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, and among the Sacs and Foxes. From all I can learn, this once numerous tribe cannot number, in all quarters, over 4,000 souls.

The Pottawatomes complain greatly at the neglect of the government to reimburse those who furnished their own transportation and subsistence when they emigrated to this country. There are several hundred who set up claims of this character. They state that they were promised these reimbursements as soon as they arrived west, but that nothing has been done for them. Many also complain that their reservations have been taken without any consideration having been paid them. I would be glad, indeed, if the department would furnish me with a list of the reserves, to whom sold, when, and for what sums; also of those who yet hold their lands. It would cause a great saving of correspondence.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,
GEO. W. CLARKE, *Indian Agent.*

A. CUMMING, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 39.

ST. MARY'S POTTAWATOMIE MISSION,
Kansas Territory, October 1, 1855.

We beg leave to lay before you the condition of the Pottawatomie manual labor school. Our schools have been in successful operation throughout the year, without sickness or interruption. We have been crowded with scholars, who have all evinced a laudable application. The number of boys admitted during the year ending September, 1855, is 79, and that of the girls 93. The average number of boys during the session has been 57, and that of the girls 67. The institution is on the footing of a manual labor school; the boys are too young and unable to work; the girls act, on all occasions, the part of farmer's daughters, assisting their mistresses in all kinds of housework after the regular school hours. We teach all the elementary branches of a plain English education, as you will readily perceive on perusing the tabular reports A and B, which are herewith transmitted to your office. We have an extensive establishment to support; we are every day in the year about 140 persons in family, which we have to provide with butter and bread. Our means are limited, and bear no proportion to our expenses. Our school is a real paradox; the more scholars we have the harder times we see, for the simple reason that we are engaged in a losing business, a sinking concern. If we only had four scholars we could make money, whereas 120 keep us constantly in hot water. We illustrate our position, and assume the fact, that we lose \$25 on every scholar; then the loss on 4 would be \$100, and on 120 \$3,000. Now, if a man can make up losses at all, it is an easy matter to make up \$100, but when he has to make up \$3,000, then his energy and financiering may be taxed beyond endurance. It is at all times a hard thing to manage a numerous boarding school, but when the pressure of the times, failure of crops, high prices of provisions came upon us last winter, we found ourselves so much straightened in our circumstances that we had at one time resolved to dismiss the school. A ray of hope made us continue the work. We have made great sacrifices to make our pupils comfortable, and we now see several signs to encourage us. May Heaven bless the Pottawatomie boys and girls; their gentle manners, their cheerful countenances and contented looks have won them our approbation; we no longer observe in them that uncouth behaviour, that haughty temper, that fondness for their Indian ways which used to mortify us and cut us to the quick; they are now content to stay at school, and withal willing to please us. The girls, especially, are remarkable for their industry and personal cleanliness. Distinguished visitors, who have on several occasions been shown through the establishment, never fail to admire that part of the house, and pay the ladies in charge a compliment to that effect. There is also a marked improvement on the score of going and coming, leaving and returning to the school. At present the parents bring their children to the school, and leave them to their studies, without paying them those incessant visits that used to cause us a great deal of annoyance and expense.

Three clergymen, attached to St. Mary's mission, continue to devote themselves to the sacred ministry amongst the Pottawatomies. Our church is well attended on Sundays, and our Indians are told to keep the commandments of God and those of the church, and to lead a Christian life. Our farm, as usual, is the support of the mission. We have sowed this season 60 acres in oats, but they have failed for want of rain in the spring; 50 acres in corn—good crop; 4 in turnips and potatoes, which are not as good as we had expected. We have 350 head of cattle; they all do well. We have sold within the year to the amount of \$4,000, after supplying ourselves with milk, butter and beef. We use the beef fresh in summer and corned and smoked in winter.

We beg leave to say a word on the Indian policy. The system of possessing lands in common, one hundred and twenty individuals claiming an acre as their own property, is replete with evil and bad consequences that will frustrate the best hopes that the friends of the Indians have conceived. I am bold to maintain that no Indian, no half-breed, no white man living amongst them, will ever feel encouraged to make his premises a comfortable home as long as he labors under the fear that his improvements are liable to be sold for the benefit of the nation at large. Give them a title to the land, and you will soon see them vie with each other in their improvements. Interest, emulation, and a laudable degree of pride, which are innate in every one of us, will do more to carry them honorably through the world than all the penalties and coercions now in force amongst them. At the present time the industrious, frugal, good-natured Indian is to be pitted; he is the scape-goat in every tribe. When Bonnehomie has, during the summer, summoned his wife and family to share with him the toils and labors of the field; when he has secured his crops, and might expect to enjoy the fruits of his industry, then, day after day, week after week, you will see a gang of lazy neighbors, relatives and acquaintances, all indiscreet intruders, visit that family, eat and drink with them to their heart's content, and eat the poor man out of house and home. We tell the Indians that the first step towards civilization is to give up their wandering life, to settle down, and to till the soil. When they go to work and raise good crops they say it does them no good, because their hungry, half-starved neighbors hang round them and eat them up. This miserable custom, this aversion to work, this eternal begging, disheartens the willing Indian, and he becomes at last so reckless that he feels disposed to abandon our advice, and he concludes that it is far better for him to live and to die as an Indian after having vainly endeavored to live like a white man.

Now, if we pretend to teach the Indians agriculture and its kindred arts, we ought to be in earnest and honest in our purpose; we ought to put them in possession of the means of reaping the benefits, and enforce laws to that effect. We say everybody must support his own family. Nobody shall support a worthless Indian that actually lives in vice, idleness, or drunkenness. If there should be any big, stout, fat, lazy fellows in the nation unwilling to work, and who seek to throw themselves upon the charity of others, let them be ordered away; yes, away with them. If they be too lazy to work, let them die; they must die once, at all events, and they might as well die

just now as at any other time. Our plan makes exceptions for the orphan and the widow, and for all sick helpless creatures. Besides this, the great measure which the emergency of the times seems to require is the division of the land. I will support my proposition with a string of reasons, to which we invite your attention:

1. Because it will give a fair inheritance, a permanent homestead to every head of a family.

2. Because it will make them all equally rich from the beginning, and all can have a competency.

3. Because it will prevent his wandering disposition, his heart will rest upon his home.

4. Because they are sure to make more improvements; such as building stables, sinking wells, fencing in pastures, planting orchards, building barns, &c.

5. Because civilization imperiously demands that this measure should go into operation forthwith.

6. Because experience has proved that it is good policy to fire off now and then a big gun; to have a barbecue and a glorification over it; whilst it would afford the friends of the red man a golden opportunity to inculcate salutary measures.

7. Because the position of the Indian would be similar to that of the white settler in Kansas Territory; every one settled on his land, as is the case in civilized countries.

8. Because there is little evil and much good expected to arise from this movement.

9. Because all the sincere friends to the race recommend it.

10. Because by this act every head of a family would have it in his power to secure his own homestead, which will give satisfaction to everybody.

11. Because the greater and best part of the nation desire the change in order to promote their own happiness.

12. Because they seem to regard this movement as a decree of heaven.

13. Because when the easy old way of living upon their annuities has failed, when hunting has become unprofitable, they ought to lay hold of the plough.

14. Because the Pottawatomies have a fine agricultural country, and can readily sell for cash, at fair prices, all the produce and stock they can raise.

The subject under consideration is one of weighty importance; if my zeal for the welfare of the red man has carried me beyond the boundaries of discretion, you are at liberty to disregard my views, and to hold them for the spontaneous effusions of a heart that feels their misfortunes. We have lived seven years amongst them, and have observed their manners and customs, their strong and their weak points, and we feel as if our advice could benefit them. The best part of our Indians, and especially our mission Indians, have learned to make their living by cultivating the soil, and they are impatient to see the day of emancipation dawn upon them. Help them out of Egypt, and guide them to the land of promise, where every one can build on his own land, and enjoy, without envy or molestation, the

fruits of his labor. It would be impolitic to discourage them in their aspirations, for it is seldom you find a body of Indians so well disposed as they are, and they ought to be met with the cheer of, God speed the work.

Yours respectfully,

J. B. DUERINCK,

Superintendent Manual Labor School.

Major GEORGE W. CLARKE,
Pottawatomie Agent, Kansas Territory.

No. 40.

SAC AND FOX AGENCY, *September 1, 1855.*

SIR: Since my last annual report, so far as I have been able to discover, no important changes have taken place to better the condition of the Indians in this agency. We have an abundant reason to be thankful for the fine prospect of a plentiful harvest of every kind; this has been an exceeding good season so far, for farming, and I think the Indians will raise a bountiful supply of the various articles planted by them. With the exception of a few cases of cholera in the spring, which generally proved fatal, there has scarcely been any sickness. The tribes under my care are the Sac and Foxes of Mississippi, the Ottawas and Chippewas of Swan Creek and Black River. The Sac and Fox Indians have just returned from their spring hunt; they report having seen but few buffalo, and a great many Indians on the prairie in search of game. These Indians (a majority of them) are in the habit of getting drunk whenever liquor can be procured, and I am sorry to say, since the settlement of the territory, the facility of obtaining it has been greater than before it was open to settlement. I entertain some hope that they can be induced to quit the use of whiskey, to a partial extent at least; a large council was held a few days ago at the agency; by an act of their own, they resolved, "that any one of their tribe bringing liquor into the nation should forfeit his right to draw in the annuity funds for the ensuing payment." I enclose you a copy of a memorial presented to the legislature of Kansas Territory, in regard to white men selling liquor to Indians. An efficient law passed by the present legislature, to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors to the Indians, would do much towards the civilization of our Indian population, and no doubt be the means of preventing disturbances among the citizens of the territory. I ask that it be published as a part of this report.

The Rev. J. Meeker, of the Baptist Missionary Board, located among the Ottawa Indians, died in January last, his death will be a great loss to them; he came among them some twenty years ago. They owe what advancement they have made in civilization to him and his family.

I am clearly of opinion it would be a forward movement towards

the improvement of the Indians within this agency, that treaties should be made with them by the department, at as early a day as circumstances will permit. All of the tribes have certainly more land than will ever be used by them, or would be needed under any circumstances. The history of the past will sustain the remark, that large annuities paid to Indians in money, and property held in common by them, are drawbacks upon their advancement in civilization.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. A. JAMES.

Col. A. CUMMING,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 41.

To the Honorable Legislature of Kansas Territory:

Your memorialist, the undersigned, Indian agent for the Sac and Fox agency, situated on the Osage river, would respectfully ask your honorable body to pass some stringent law to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquor to Indians within the Territory. It would be an insult to your understanding to attempt to prove to you that drunkenness has been the great drawback upon the improvement of our red brethren. All persons who are acquainted with the Indians will not controvert this remark. When in a state of intoxication they will, and do, commit acts of violence and theft towards the whites which, if sober, would have been left undone. They go to these *doggeries*, get drunk, and are fleeced out of what little they have. The law of retaliation is then practised by them upon some innocent man and his unoffending family to recover the property which has been obtained from him when under the influence of liquor.

I think I can safely say that more than half of the troubles which arise with Indians are and can be traced to liquor. The Sac and Fox Indians are much addicted to the use of ardent spirits. They are located near the centre of your Territory, and hopes have been entertained by me that some improvement can be made to better their moral state and induce them to finally become good citizens; but unless some law is passed by your honorable body to prevent the selling of liquor to them, I fear all my efforts will be of no avail, aided, as I am, in such a laudable undertaking by the united influence of the Indian Department. If I may be pardoned a suggestion to you in framing a law for that purpose, I would say that Indian testimony should be received, and that Indians being found drunk about a grocery should be evidence to convict the owner of the grocery that he sold the liquor to them.

Holding a federal office, as I do, under the government, not being a citizen or resident of your Territory, and, with my present intentions, never expecting to become one, I have felt a delicacy in asking

you to enact laws for the government of others. The interest I feel upon the subject is my apology for this communication.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

B. A. JAMES.

I heartily concur in the above memorial.

ROBT. C. MILLER,
Agent Shawnee and Wyandots.

I fully agree, in every particular, with the above.

D. VANDERSLICE,
Indian Agent, Great Nemaha Agency.

No. 42.

OSAGE RIVER AGENCY, KANSAS TERRITORY,
September 1, 1855.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian office, I have the honor to submit the following report in relation to the affairs of this agency.

I arrived at St. Louis on the morning of the 1st of April last on my way hence, and after reporting myself to the superintendent, and remaining a day or two for some instructions from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, which were preparing, I proceeded, with as little delay as possible, to my station.

The absence of agency buildings here seemed to require some examination, on my part, before making a permanent location. I concluded, however, to station myself at the residence of Batties Peoria, the interpreter. The character of this man for honesty, truth, and the great influence he wields over the Indians, together with his expanded knowledge of their affairs, seemed to make it necessary that I should have him near me.

The first business to which my attention was called officially, after arriving here, was to attend to a complaint of the Miami Indians on account of the suspension of the trading houses, which was the result of an order from the department forbidding any further issue of license to traders.

The Indians had been taught to present a pitiful picture of their condition, caused by the absence of trading establishments amongst them.

They plead that their people were bound to go to the State for the necessaries of life, and by so doing were always exposed to temptations which inevitably resulted in drunkenness and the consequent losses of money, property, health, &c.

The moral condition of those Indians was shown to be so low, and still sinking in degradation and disgrace, that I made it the subject of a special communication to the Indian office, by letter of the 23d April last. A remedy for the evils complained of has been adopted, however, which has taken the *wind* from the *sails* of those who were

the *main-springs* to the complaint for the re-establishment of the trading houses by white men.

There are now two stores kept in this agency, one at the Miami village for the accommodation of the Miami Indians, and the other at Battiesville, in the bounds and for the use of the confederated tribe, composed of Weas, Peorias, &c.

One of those stores is kept by Andrew Chicks, a Wea chief, and the other is kept by Little Doctor, a Miami chief. Both men of sober and industrious habits, each feeling a deep interest in the happiness and prosperity of their respective tribes. Both these stores are managed by Edward Black, an educated Miami Indian, and a young man of great worth and promise; he received the first rudiments of his scholarship at the Wea Mission in this agency, and finished his education in Louisville, Kentucky. He is possessed of firm business habits, and manifests a lively interest in the moral culture and general welfare of the Indians. The main-spring in those operations, however, is Batties Peoria. For the purpose of quieting those clamors, and restoring harmony amongst the Indians, he was induced to use his influence and lend his credit and his capital, to give life and vigor to the undertaking. He did so and the effect has been very favorable to the Indians. They are now furnished with everything needful without going from home, and at prices as low as goods can possibly be afforded in this market. There are no silly baubles exhibited with a view of taking their money without an equivalent. Nothing is kept but provisions and clothing of the most necessary kind, and farming utensils, a species of goods which had never been kept here by traders before.

The next matter of importance which required my official attention, was the intrusions by citizens on the Indian lands within this agency, which I cannot better report than to repeat a portion of my letter on that subject to the Indian office, of the 28th of June last.

Immediately on my arrival here I found that citizens from Missouri and other States, in considerable numbers, had made settlements upon the Indian reservations, and upon inquiry I found that quite a number had made their locations previous to the election for congressional delegate last fall, and that considerable accessions had been made to these settlements during the past winter and spring. Finding this to be the state of affairs, I made it the subject of a special communication to the office of Indian affairs, by letter, dated May 5, 1855. I embraced every opportunity afterwards, as well as before, which would enable me to forewarn these people, and inform them of the penalties which they were incurring by violating the intercourse laws enacted by Congress, and the treaty stipulations existing between the government and the Indians, upon whose lands they were encroaching. Many who had come with a view of settling were governed by my admonitions and retired, while others, already located, continued with a view to a permanent settlement, which is encouraging to others to come and do likewise; and while they augment in numbers, they increase in boldness and contumacy, until they begin to fix boundaries to the Indians, and whisper plans to suppress competition when the lands come into market. And when warned of the danger to

which they are exposing themselves, by wilfully setting at naught the laws and treaties of the United States, they would at once call attention to the condition of the Delaware lands, and exultingly repeat a *stale story*, which has by some means got into circulation here, that Mr. Manypenny had already made a call for the military to remove the Delaware settlers, but had been refused by the head of the War Department. This, together with many *hear says*, all tend to their encouragement.

The main cause of a large portion of the emigration here, and that which determines them to maintain their ground, I believe arises from a question, the agitation of which is not confined within the limits of this Territory, because its vibrations are felt in the most remote corners of this Union. Circumstances and the general aspect of affairs here justify the inference that there are leading spirits on both sides of this most perplexing and dangerous question, urging the emigration of persons hither whom they think will best suit their peculiar political views, while no doubt there are guaranties offered to cover any loss which may be sustained by the enforcement of the laws of the United States against such intruders.

The lands thus occupied are amongst the best in this part of the Territory. They are generally selected along the streams and water courses, and consequently embrace the finest timber, which is regarded as a valuable item in this country.

The inevitable result, therefore, arising from these premature settlements, must be to injure the sales of these lands, even if there should be no organization to suppress competition at the sales. No person likes to bid for land which is occupied by one who claims the ownership, and more especially when it is located, or he is seated upon it with his family, and the prairie land will not likely be soon sought after when it is known that the timber lands are already occupied.

The Indians are alarmed at the present and approaching aspect of affairs, and would like to have such action of the government as would secure to them, with some degree of certainty, a reasonable compensation for their surplus lands, so that they may have something tangible to rely upon in regard to them.

If there is nothing done to remedy the complaint, I feel satisfied that the sales of the Wea lands will amount to but little more than to pay expenses.

Another matter out of which a feeling of discontent seemed to arise amongst the Indians of this agency, (though not of so serious a character,) which required some time to explain, grew out of the provisions in the two late treaties which set apart certain funds to pay old debts. It seems that the practice heretofore had been, to some extent at least, to have all such moneys forwarded and placed in the hands of the agent, and to be disposed of under the direction of the chiefs. The Indians, from some cause, both Miamies and Weas, were very urgent in having these moneys forwarded, in accordance with what they say was their understanding of the treaties.

Whether they had any particular views of their own to subserve, or whether they were urged by traders to insist on having the money brought out, I am not prepared to say, but I am inclined to believe

the latter, because when it became a settled question that all accounts and claims against the Indians had to be itemized and scheduled, and forwarded to Washington for examination before paid, it created a fluttering amongst others besides the Indians, which resulted in the common charge that the government was acting in bad faith towards the Indians by withholding money which should properly come into their hands.

When it was explained to the Indians, however, (and they disengaged from the influences which seemed to be controlling them,) that it made no difference whether the money was deposited here, at St. Louis, or Washington city, no claims would be allowed except those that were shown to be meritorious beyond doubt, after the most minute examination; and that if there were one hundred thousand dollars set apart to cover claims, and only one hundred found to be due to claimants, no more could be had, let the money be deposited where it might; that this precaution was a measure of protection on the part of the government to guard the Indians against the machinations and robberies of the herds of *ravenous vultures* and blood-hounds who have been pursuing them ever since time immemorial. This agitation subsided, however, when it was found that the determination to examine claims in Washington before they were allowed was irrevocable, and would not be changed.

The moral condition of the Indians in this agency will, perhaps, compare favorably with any similar number of people anywhere in the States, although the greater number seems to be naturally inclined to intemperance, and would be constantly intoxicated if extraordinary means were not employed to prevent it, surrounded as they are now by every species of temptation.

Intoxicating liquors are kept in the State along the border of this agency, and sold to the Indians in such a way as to render it next to impossible to reach the evil by means of the laws; and liquors are also kept for sale southwest of this agency, in the Territory, which renders it a matter almost of surprise that any degree of temperance is preserved and maintained amongst the Indians. The want of employment amongst any people leads directly to the walks of vice and folly, and more especially amongst those who are habitually and constitutionally indolent and idle.

The missionary schools for the education and moral culture of the Indian youth have been highly beneficial; but I am satisfied that the object of government will never be properly attained until manual labor schools are established, by which the young can be trained and brought up to habits of industry and economy. Labor and domestic economy should be one of the principal branches taught in our missionary schools, without which Indian education, in my opinion, is of but little value.

Much of the credit for sobriety and industry, and the consequent advancement in the paths of civilization, which the Indians seem to be entitled to, is due to Batties Peoria, the interpreter. I do think, that if he was taken from amongst the Indians here by death, or otherwise, they would be like bees without their legitimate head; they would scatter and decline and die, so that there would soon be no more of them.

They look to him as children to an affectionate father. He is now warning them daily of the great changes which are soon to take place with them, and the nature of the elements with which they are soon to be surrounded, and the consequent necessity of industry and sobriety to counteract the dangerous influences to which they will be exposed.

He is prevailing on the Indians, both Weas and Miamies, to sign a pledge of total abstinence, but admonishes them not to do so unless they are determined to keep their promise. In short, he exhorts the inebriate to temperance, the indolent to industry, and extends the hand of charity to the needy.

The Miamies are located at some distance from him, and have, therefore, not so much the benefit of his counsel and example, and are more exposed to the dangers and designs, of the pale faces. Intemperance, therefore, prevails to a greater extent amongst those Indians than it does amongst their neighbors, the Weas, Kaskaskias, &c.

It was quite common a short time since, on going to the Miami village, to find drunken Indians lying about the fences in almost any direction; but at this time the matter is somewhat changed; the great majority, including the leading men of the tribe, are members of the temperance society, and are exerting their influence for the promotion of the cause. Even Big Legs, the principal chief, who is an habitual drinker, is now lecturing on temperance to some purpose; he holds forth to the young men the many evils growing out of the practice, and admonishes them against the use of intoxicating drinks. He tells them he is old now and cannot easily abstain, but how much better it would have been for him if he had never contracted the habit.

There are a few French Miamies, or half-breeds, who are now engaged in the cause of temperance amongst these Indians, which promises a good result.

The mill built for the Miamies some four or five years ago, at an expense of near \$2,000, is now entirely useless, in truth it never has been any advantage to the Indians. In the first place, its location is most extraordinary; it is about two miles from the village, and if inconvenience and inaccessibility had been the ruling consideration, the spot which was selected could not have been excelled. It is located amongst rocks and deep impassable ravines, so that it would cost about as much to make a wagon road to it as the mill cost at first. Why this property was located where it is I am not advised, any place in or near the village, amidst the inhabitants, affords a good seat for a horse-mill. It is very evident that those who built the mill never intended that it should be of service to any person. It is not only inaccessibly located, but its construction is of the most temporary and fragile kind.

The saw-mill, which was erected at a very considerable expense, never could be put in motion. It was a most consummate piece of imposition. The grist-mill is but little better, though it has been run some. The mill-house of the grist-mill is a fine building, it measures about 36 by 40 feet, and is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories high, and is well weather-boarded. The roof, however, is put on in such a way that it will throw the building down if a remedy is not applied immediately.

The rafters are poles about twenty-five feet long, and are put on their whole length, without any collar-beams or purlins, or any other stays of any kind to keep them from spreading out. They are set on a plate which is only supported in the centre by a piece of timber running across the middle of the building, each end of which is fastened by a pin to the middle of the plate which supports the rafters. These pieces are giving away, and those plates are springing out with the weight of the roof; if something, therefore, is not done before winter, a common snow will crush the whole fabric to the ground.

By the best estimate I can get, it will cost about \$800 to repair the mill substantially and put it in good running order where it is, and it will cost about \$300 more to move it to the village and put it in good order. The Indians very wisely objected to having it repaired where it is, and insist upon having it removed, so that they can get to it; I will therefore procure an estimate of the precise cost of removal and its substantial re-establishment at an early day.

The legislature of Kansas, which closed its session on the 30th day of August, has divided the eastern portion of the Territory into thirty-three counties, and in many of them county seats have been established by law. The lands of the Weas, Peorias, Piankeshaws, and Kaskaskias, and the northern part of the Miamies, including a portion of the government lands on the Pottawatomie and Meridezene creeks, have been formed into a county; and the legislature, I believe, has designated a point on the lands of Batties Peoria for the county seat, it being near the centre and a desirable location. I am of opinion that the establishment of a county seat here would have a good tendency in regard to the value of lands within six or seven miles, at least, around the site; and if citizens were permitted to settle in the town, and be confined within the bounds of the town plat, and not allowed to occupy any other lands within the above circle until after they have been sold in accordance with the terms of the treaty, I think it would greatly enhance the value of those lands.

No persons have settled within the bounds of the confederated Wea lands, to my knowledge, since about the 1st of May last, and certainly none within the circle which I have described around the contemplated county seat.

I am happy to have it in my power to say that the Indians of this agency are enjoying general good health, although it is thought that sickness will prevail to some considerable extent this fall, on account of the extraordinary growth of vegetable matter to be decomposed.

The Indians have planted more corn this season than usual, and it promises to yield in great abundance. The prairies this summer afford hay in incalculable quantities, and the Indians are now busy saving their winter supply.

The dry weather in the spring destroyed all the early sown oats, and the wet weather in harvest destroyed those that were sown late after they were cradled. Potatoes have yielded abundantly in every instance where seed could be procured for planting, but seed was so scarce and dear this spring that many could not be supplied.

Wheat, no doubt, would grow well here on this limestone land if the

experiment was tried; but I believe there has been no attempt made to raise it yet here.

The employees of this agency are all sober and industrious men, and are quite attentive to their business.

Many of the confederated Indians applied to the legislature to have conferred on them the rights, privileges, and immunities of citizenship.

The schools within this agency are not at present in a very prosperous condition; for particulars I respectfully direct attention to the accompanying report of the superintendent of the Wea missionary school.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.,
M. McCASLIN, *Indian Agent.*

Col. A. CUMMING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

No. 43.

WEA MISSION, *September 8, 1855.*

SIR: In accordance with your request, and the regulations of the Indian Department, I respectfully beg leave to submit the following brief report. Up to the close of the second quarter of the present year, the school under my charge, composed of Wea and Piankeshaw, Peoria and Kaskaskia children, was regular and averaged about twenty-five. These were in various degrees of advancement, from the alphabet to English grammar. From the 30th of March until the 16th of July our school was suspended. At first on account of sickness and death in my own family, and afterwards for the want of the necessary funds to carry it on. On the 16th of July it was reopened, and we are prepared to take all the children that may be sent in, and we shall use every exertion to advance the children in the arts of civilized life. Surrounded as the Indians now are by the white race, the adoption of the customs and habits of the white man alone can save them from utter ruin, and this desirable object only can be attained by educating the rising generation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID LYKINS.

Maj. M. McCASLIN, *Indian Agent, &c.*

No. 44.

COUNCIL GROVE AGENCY, *August 31, 1855.*

SIR: As I have been with the Kansas Indians but a short time, it is impossible for me to make a full or lengthy report of their condition, progress, &c.

Ex. Doc. 1—28'

They have an annuity of ten thousand dollars, which, after being paid to them, is mostly laid out for provisions and "whiskey;" for the latter a considerable amount of this annuity is spent, and of which there is a full supply in the Territory; they drink it where and whenever they can get it.

They are situated on one of the great thoroughfares of the west, (the Santa Fé road,) where they can carry to its full extent the practice in which they have engaged for several years past, *id est*, the practice of stealing; they avail themselves of every opportunity to steal, not only from other people, but from each other; this custom, and many others equally as mean, have so long been tolerated amongst them, that, I believe, they have lost all confidence in each other; they subsist by hunting, stealing, begging, and sometimes taking.

Immediately after they received one thousand dollars worth of provisions, which was paid to them about the middle of June last, the smallpox broke out amongst them and has continued fatally with the greater number of them, it seems to the great satisfaction and admiration of all those who have any acquaintance with the Kaws.

They plant their corn without the plough, not even fencing their fields, but leave the corn exposed and uncultivated to make itself; in consequence of the drought killing all their corn this season, they will have to pass a severe winter; during the dry weather they came to the conclusion that this was not the country designated for them by the Great Spirit, and that the Great Spirit has become dissatisfied with them, and was then frowning upon them; they would refer to the mission farm, and say, look at our white brother's corn, how splendid, beautiful, and green, it is; look here at ours, almost joining his, how parched and brown; it will make nothing.

At present they have no school, and it seems that what they have had has been only a dead expense to the government; those who have enjoyed the privilege of the school heretofore are now no more than common Kaws in dress, manners, and everything else.

I am constrained to say that the Kansas are a poor, degraded, superstitious, thievish, indigent, tribe of Indians; their tendency is downward, and, in my opinion, they must soon become extinct, and the sooner they arrive at this period, the better it will be for the rest of mankind. I would state, however, before sending my report, that there are nearly four thousand dollars of depredation claims already brought against the Kansas tribe of Indians, depredations committed on the Santa Fé road by running off and killing stock; I would also state that these Indians should be removed from this road.

I am, respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN MONTGOMERY,
Indian Agent.

Colonel A. CUMMING,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 45.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, October 5, 1855.

SIR: Referring to your letter of the 17th ultimo, enclosing what purports to be the annual report of Agent Montgomery, I have to remark that, upon a careful perusal of said report, I find that the agent speaks in very improper terms of the Indians under his charge, as will appear from the following quotations from his communication, viz: "About the middle of June last the smallpox broke out among them and has continued fatally with the greater number of them, it seems, to the great satisfaction and admiration of all those who have any acquaintance with the Kaws." Again:

"I am constrained to say that the Kansas are a *poor, degraded, superstitious, thievish, indigent* tribe of *Indians*; their tendency is *downward*, and, in my *opinion*, they must soon become *extinct*, and the *sooner* they arrive at this *period the better it will be for the rest of mankind*."

In view of the expressions used, in connexion with the Indians committed to his fostering care, and presuming that they were made without due consideration as respects their true import, I have to direct that you will apprise Agent Montgomery of the nature and extent of his duties to those untutored wards of the government; that instead of designing their extermination, he should employ the best means within his reach calculated to promote their welfare and improvement, and that language such as that above quoted is as improper and inconsistent with his relation and obligations to the Indians as it is unacceptable to this office.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

A. CUMMING, Esq.,
Superintendent, &c., St Louis, Missouri.

No. 46.

SHAWANEE, KANSAS TERRITORY,
September 4, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you that I reached this place on the 28th inst., after having visited the Comanches, Kioways, Apaches, Arapahoes and Cheyennes. I found them very much scattered, and, consequently, considerable time was required to have them collected. They are in a state of great confusion, by no means agreed among themselves, and uncertain of their position in reference to the government. I used every means in my power to pacify them and to reconcile them to the United States. How far I succeeded I am un-

able to say with certainty; but I presume that the first train that passes will have to do as all others did previously to my arrival; that is, to pay toll in the way of sugar and coffee, and such other articles as suit their fancy.

The history of our Indian affairs clearly proves that the friendship of Indians cannot be bought; and I still entertain the opinion I did a year ago, that nothing but a sound chastisement will have the effect of bringing the Indians of the plains to their senses. Make them fear you and you can manage them at discretion; but every present made them they regard as an acknowledgement of their superior power, and given to deprecate their wrath. At this time they have no respect for the government.

No road in the United States needs protection more than that to Santa Fé. More than two millions of dollars' worth of merchandise are annually carried over it to New Mexico, besides government stores for military posts. I had the pleasure of meeting Colonel Morrison, commanding a detachment on the Arkansas river, and of conferring with him; and I am happy to inform you that we agree as to what should be the policy of the government in relation to our prairie Indians. Two military posts should be built on the Arkansas; one where the road crosses the Walnut or Pawnee Fork, the other at Bent's Fort. This done, and respectable commands of mounted men kept at each place, threshing every Indian who stopped or in any way molested a train, and, my word for it, in a very short time we should have peace and safety on the Santa Fé route. As it is now, every train that passes has to pay toll at several places, and each has to submit to whatever exaction may be levied; whilst the stealing of horses, mules, and oxen is an every-day occurrence.

I have spoken of the necessity of chastising these Indians, because the safety of travel and trade on the plains, especially between the frontier and the remote Territory of New Mexico, imperatively demands that, by some means, they be reduced to peace and order. But I would further remark, in relation to these five tribes, that their condition is altogether anomalous in the history of our Indian relations.

Our intercourse with Indians has hitherto extended only to those tribes which were within our borders, or to those on our frontiers, whether in their original seats and into whose neighborhood we had advanced our settlements, or those which we had removed from the interior to our borders. As a general rule, we had first to subdue them, and then to buy their lands, allot them new homes, and grant them annual allowances to cover differences in value. With the remote tribes, those in no condition to annoy our frontier settlements, and which our settled policy has protected from the intrusion of white men, we have had little to do. Occasionally an adventurous trapper or hunter has found his way amongst them, and brought back accounts of their habits of life, their numbers, resources, &c., but these furnished matter of speculation to the philosopher and the philanthropist, rather than of sober reflection to the statesman and the politician. The immense acquisition of territory, however, resulting from the war with Mexico, and the overland intercourse which at once sprang up between the Atlantic States and the Pacific coast, embrac-

ing the intermediate territories of New Mexico and Utah, have brought to light a state of things not previously known, except to a few. The cessation of a supply of arms and ammunition by the general government, to the particular tribes under consideration, has also contributed its share towards bringing important facts to light.

These tribes are now confined to a district of country from which the buffalo has almost entirely disappeared, and the smaller game remaining in it is too shy and too fleet to be killed with bows and arrows. Even with fire-arms it would be a scant, a precarious, and a constantly diminishing means of subsistence which those sterile wilds could afford. If the hunters of these tribes venture into the region of the buffalo, they are liable at any moment to come into contact with the border Indians, the Osages, Delawares, and others, who claim as their own hunting grounds all the lands over which the buffalo now roams. When such meetings occur sanguinary fights are sure to follow, in which the border Indian, owing to the superiority of his arms, and his skill in the use of them, is sure to be the victor. Occupying, as they do, a country in which only the most skillful and laborious culture could render the immediate products of the earth available for human food, it is easily perceived that even had some advances been made in civilization, these people would still be reduced to a state of great destitution. But they have not made one step in the direction of civilized life; they know nothing of agriculture, have no domestic animals except horses and dogs, no agricultural implements, nor knowledge of the use of them if they had. Under these circumstances it is at once perceived that their situation is desperate. In the absence of other food, they have fed upon their horses and mules until the numbers of those animals have fallen below their needful supply; and hence their frequent forays into Old and New Mexico for the purpose of replenishing their stock. Starvation is constantly staring them in the face; and it is a fate to which the most tutored citizen or subject of civilized society does not submit without a struggle. No wonder then that the wild and untaught savage should resist it with all the strength and all the art of which he is master.

The conclusion to which I am tending, and which I would gladly impress upon the government, is, that one of three alternatives must be embraced. The first is, to wage a war of extermination against these unfortunate beings, and so be done with them at once and forever. However shocking to humanity such a course may appear, it is less so than the second, which is to let matters proceed as they are now going until, by the combined and gradual operation of famine, disease, domestic broil, and outside pressure, the same fate, that of utter extinction, shall have overtaken them; the travel and commerce of the plains having, in the meantime, been subject to constant interruption and annoyance. The third, and it is in strict conformity to the humane and philanthropic spirit of the age, is to feed these people until such time as, by the introduction amongst them of knowledge and habits suitable to their condition, they shall be able to provide for their own subsistence.

It is now an ascertained fact, that wherever the buffalo can live,

the domestic ox will live in like ease and good condition. The region of country occupied by these nomad tribes is precisely that in which the former animal has heretofore most abounded, being that of the short grass, which still constitutes his principal if not his sole food in winter. It is capable of sustaining, upon animal food alone, as dense a population as exists anywhere in the world. It is emphatically the pastoral region of America, destined, when it shall have become the abode of civilized man, to be the seat of wealth, health, ease, art, and refinement. But, not to indulge in speculations not demanded by the occasion, I come at once to the main purpose which I have in view: it is to urge the propriety of the government's supplying those Indians with the means of entering at once upon a course of pastoral life. With a liberal supply of grown up animals for present consumption, and of cows and bulls for breeding, their plains could, in a few years, be stocked far beyond their own wants, and all motives for depredating on the property of others would thus be withdrawn. It would be necessary that the government still have a parental care of them, to prevent the destruction of property not needed nor fit to be killed; to impress them, if possible, with the dignity of individual ownership; to train them in the proper care of stock, such as castrating, marking, and branding, the processes of milking, butter and cheese making, that of taking off and preserving hides, &c. Whilst so restrained and so taught, they should also be protected against the powerful wild tribes which inhabit the countries adjacent to them.

Expensive as a compliance with these recommendations would undoubtedly be, it would yet prove less so than either a war of extermination or the maintenance of a sufficient force to hold these tribes constantly in check. Simply as a means of saving them from starvation, it is probably the most economical that could be devised, whilst on the score of humanity, it bears no comparison with a war, whether of extermination or of mere coercion. The fact must not be lost sight of, however, that, in order to do anything calculated to result in benefit to these deluded creatures, they must first be whipped into submission; at present they hold the American government and people in the utmost contempt, and until they shall be set right in this particular, it is folly, and worse than folly, to attempt to maintain friendly relations with them.

I have thus given a hasty outline of what I deem to be the true policy of the government in relation to these people, but the history of the past admonishes me of the inutility of all such suggestions.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. WHITFIELD,

Indian Agent.

Hon. G. W. MARYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 47.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Fort Smith, Arkansas, September 13, 1855.

SIR: Since my appointment to the discharge of the duties of this superintendency, in March last, there has been, in the condition of the several tribes of Indians under its charge, no change of particular importance.

As no exigency has arisen in their affairs, either as among themselves or as affecting the general government, requiring my presence in their midst, I have not been brought into that close contact with them that would give me *personally* an accurate knowledge of their position and condition in all important respects. But inasmuch as by far the greater portion of the tribes subject to my care, the Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Creeks, have made very encouraging and respectable advances in Christianity, civilization and education, it was to have been expected, and I am happy to say that the expectation was not disappointed, that peace and good order would prevail among them.

The serious personal and family feuds that have, at times, fearfully disturbed and agitated the quiet and repose of the Cherokees, have been permitted to slumber since the outbreak in 1853, and it is hoped are now finally suppressed. Several questions of importance are presented in the report of George Butler, esq., Cherokee agent, and to which I would most respectfully invite the attention of the department, as they call for the opinion of an authority superior to that vested in the superintendent. It seems not to admit of doubt that, so far as is consistent with good order and the high regard due the general government, it would be the better policy to allow the Cherokees the right of repressing and punishing the crimes and offences committed by their own citizens within their own limits; it would be an incentive that would lead them to appreciate their responsibilities as citizens, and to prepare themselves for their intelligent discharge. The exercise of this great right we claim to be the basis of all progress, veneration for law, and improvement among ourselves; and its effect on the Indian could not be other than salutary and beneficent.

It is generally understood along this border that the Department of War has in contemplation the speedy abandonment of Fort Gibson, and the removal of the troops now stationed there to a point further west; and as this belief has elicited a very general expression of public opinion, it is not inappropriate to remark that, while a small number of Cherokees warmly desire it, another portion of them, the Creeks, and the white population along the border of the States, as warmly desire it may not be.

The Choctaws, and in connexion with them the Chickasaws, rank with the most favored tribes. There has been some slight dissension between them, growing out of a misunderstanding as to the true boundary dividing the Chickasaw district from the country occupied by the Choctaws, an unavailing effort to adjust which was made by a convention last fall, and subsequently by defining the line agreed

upon in convention, but no settlement was had. Since then, and while at Washington city last spring and summer, the delegations of the two tribes, the Choctaws, aided by their agent, Douglass H. Cooper, esq., entered into a joint treaty or convention, to which the general government was a party, that it is hoped will satisfactorily dispose of all questions existing between them inimical to their harmonious relations; the treaty to be ratified by their respective councils before being submitted to the United States Senate. The sanguine among them regard its ratification by their councils as certain, others look for its rejection or essential modification; but as the time for determinate action is so near at hand, it is useless to resort to conjecture. I understand that one of the provisions of the treaty assigns the Wicthitas a permanent home in the Choctaw country. Last year this tribe made representations that their country, inhabited by them from time immemorial, had been given to the Choctaws without their consent and without remuneration, and earnestly protested against it. Whether this tribe, having had no voice or representation in the constitution of this treaty, will be satisfied with its provisions concerning themselves, or will present themselves before the general government as petitioners for redress and remuneration, cannot, as yet, be known with any degree of certainty.

The Creeks are making progress in agriculture. At the present time no tribe appears to be more sensibly impressed with the necessity of providing the means of education for their sons and daughters; and in the past year, encouraged and directed by the cordial interest manifested by their agent, William H. Garrett, esq., and under the fostering care and protection of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, their educational facilities have been very considerably augmented. The various school houses, undergoing repair and in course of building, will soon be ready for occupation, and will comfortably accommodate a considerable increase in the number of pupils. One of the most serious drawbacks on the prosperity of this people has been in the multitude of their chiefs and headmen; they have recently reduced the number of their chiefs from seven hundred to five hundred—a step in the right direction. The chiefs drawing a larger per centum of the various annuities than the private citizen proportionally reduced the sums paid the latter; the reduction in the number of the chiefs will, in an equal ratio, increase the amount to be distributed among the mass of the tribe, and they, perceiving its good effects, will still further improve their condition by again reducing the number of chiefs, and thus more and more simplify their form of government.

With the Seminoles, who had been assigned a home in the Creek country, and by the treaty of 1845 made participants in the enactment and administration of laws, in fact, in all respects save their pecuniary relations with the general government, made an integral portion of the Creek people, much dissatisfaction exists, arising from an utter disregard of the treaty on the part of a portion of the Seminoles. When the treaty of 1845 was made, the larger number of the Seminoles quietly settled down among their Creek brothers, (the tribes having originally been one,) with the intention of incorporating themselves into the Creek nation; but a few restless and turbulent ones,

dissatisfied with the treaty, whose provisions they had taken part in framing, withdrew to a distance, refused the participation guaranteed them in the Creek councils, or to obey the laws there enacted. From that time to this, they have been sedulously sowing the seeds of discord between the tribes and among those Seminoles remaining under the joint jurisdiction. Unfortunately, the leaders in this movement became possessed of the idea that, by withdrawing themselves entirely from the Creeks, they could force the general government into giving them lands of their own, to aid them in establishing a distinct nationality, to increase their annuities, and establish funds for the support of various objects among them; by the dissemination of these expectations they have prevailed on a number of those heretofore quietly disposed and contented, to abandon their Creek homes and join them. For the two years past, they had deprived all those preferring to live among the Creeks of all participation in the division of their annuities; representations having been made of this wrong and submitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, it was ordered to be discontinued and the sufferers restored to the enjoyment of their rights. At a period as late as last spring, it would have been an easy matter for a special commissioner, having the proper authority, to have persuaded nineteen twentieths of this people to an observance of the treaty of 1845, and to live harmoniously with the Creeks; more than half their number were then living contentedly with the Creeks, and although many of them have since been induced to remove, I do not know that it is even yet too late to produce this result, provided the department does not regard a compliance with their desires as the best and most feasible means of inducing the emigration of the Seminoles now in Florida. For more detailed particulars I refer to the reports of William H. Garrett and J. W. Washbourne, esqrs., the former the agent of the Creeks, the latter of the Seminoles. In the report of the former gentleman will also be found an elaborate and able statement of a claim for indemnity preferred by the Creeks for lands taken from them for the benefit of the general government, by the treaty of Fort Jackson in 1814. They earnestly seek an examination of the merits of their claim, and, if convinced of its justice, that the department will exert its influence in procuring its recognition.

A portion of the Comanches having expressed a desire to their Creek friends to be permitted to enter into a treaty with the general government, and the overture having received the favorable consideration of the department, instructions were recently issued to the Creek agent to request the chiefs of the Upper Creeks to inform the Comanches that government responded favorably to their request, and as soon as practicable would again communicate with them more definitely. This these chiefs have undertaken to do, and at a convenient day after their interview with the Comanches will inform the agent of the result of it. Should any considerable number of that erratic and mischievous tribe be induced to settle permanently, abandon the chase for the pursuit of agriculture, and cease their depredations on property, its effect on the other nomadic prairie tribes would be extensively felt in the safety of life and property.

The Osages are the only tribes, within the limits of this superin-

tendency, at war; with the Comanches they have been in almost continual warfare for twenty years or more, but as their little battles occur only at certain seasons of the year, and always far out on the prairies, their homes have been exempt from the incursions of their enemies; but notwithstanding this, their hostile attitude is a source of great evil to the entire tribe by retarding the success of the efforts made for their improvement. They were recently prevented from embroiling themselves with the Sacs and Foxes, mainly by the active exertions and admonitions of their agent, Andrew J. Dorn, esq., to whose report I refer the department for further particulars in regard to this tribe, as also concerning the condition of the Quapaws, Senecas, Senecas and Shawnees, all likewise under his charge. The tribes of this agency were the only ones that suffered much from sickness the past year; some four hundred died with the smallpox; but as soon as practicable, a special physician was sent to their assistance, who attended the sick and vaccinated the residue of the tribes. His report was transmitted to the department some weeks ago.

Intemperance, the most baneful foe of habits of industry, and of the moral and mental illumination and regeneration of the Indian, I believe, from the reports before me, and from information procured from other authentic sources, to be gradually diminishing in all tribes under my charge, except the Seminoles and the tribes of the Neosho agency. It must be confessed that a great amount still prevails among them all, more than enough to grieve the philanthropist, but, withal, an improvement is visible. But the Seminoles, incredible as it may seem, viewing their scanty numbers and poverty, in the past eight or nine months, have expended not less than \$30,000 in liquors, mostly inferior whiskey, and, with the aid of unprincipled white men, smuggled it into their country, and this despite the exertions of the Indians hostile to the traffic and the vigilance of the authorities. In connexion with this subject I refer to the suggestions contained in the reports of the Choctaw agent, and the agent of the Chickasaws, Andrew J. Smith, esq., as to being provided with more efficient aid in the apprehension of offenders against the intercourse laws, and their delivery into the custody of the proper authorities, than is now afforded by the military forces stationed along this frontier. Perhaps, since the transfer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs from the Department of War to that of the Interior, there is a less degree of zeal or a greater degree of punctiliousness observable in the point indicated than formerly; my own brief experience convinces me that an amendment is required in this behalf, but I do not feel myself competent to designate the character of the remedy.

I take the occasion to cordially approve the suggestions of the Choctaw agent, Douglass H. Cooper, esq., that further legislation by Congress is imperatively demanded "in regard to the various interests within the Indian territory." Many points there are no laws to reach, and so imperfect, in many respects, are those in existence, that the officers and agents of the department are frequently perplexed and shackled in the discharge of their duties, and quite as frequently unable to decide with precision and certainty what their duties really

are. The intercourse laws of 1834 seem also to require a thorough revision, and to be adapted to existing circumstances. Since their enactment, the changes have been so many and so great—so unexpected—that it daily grows more difficult to accommodate them to the existing order of things, or the existing order of things to them. When these laws were framed, the Indians formed our western border, and it was the expectation and intention that they should continue to do so. Since then, by the acquisition of territory and the influx of population, sovereign States and organized Territories—wealthy, populous and commercial—have sprung into being, west of the Indians; thus, between the States and Territories of the Mississippi valley and those of the Pacific slope, there exists a broad area of Indian country, over which are extended laws dissimilar to those existing between State and State, and forming a barrier to the free interchange of the commodities of commerce. I would beg leave to commend the consideration of these subjects—as I view them of great importance and pressing necessity—to the wider experience and more comprehensive knowledge of the chief of the Indian Bureau.

I have heretofore acquainted the department of the damage, while in course of transportation, done the goods purchased for and on account of the Creek and Seminole Indians in 1854. Although these goods, (original cost \$14,000,) being of considerable value, would, if they had escaped injury, been gladly received by the tribes, they prefer not to accept them in their damaged condition. No suffering has as yet been experienced arising from the delay of their delivery; but it is highly desirable either that the goods should be replaced by new invoices, or their value in money be paid to the Indians, before the severity of winter is upon them.

For additional particulars as to the wants and conditions of the tribes, I refer to the reports of agents Butler, Garrett, Cooper, Smith, Dorn, and Washbourne; and for detailed accounts of the success and progress of the labors of the missionaries and teachers among the various tribes, to the reports of these intelligent, pious, and laborious ladies and gentlemen, respectively, accompanying the reports of the several agents.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. DEAN,

Sup't of Indian Affairs, Southern Superintendency.

Hon. GEO. W. MANYPENNY,

Comm'r of Indian Affairs, Washington city, D. C.

No. 48.

CHEROKEE AGENCY, *August 11, 1855.*

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the department, I have the honor to submit the following report as to the condition of affairs in the Cherokee nation. There has been so little change among the

Cherokees since my last annual report, that my present report must necessarily be brief.

The health of the Cherokee people has been remarkably good during the past year, notwithstanding the many hardships they have had to endure and the many difficulties they have had to contend with. What diseases were among them were those common throughout the western country, and attended by very little mortality. The agricultural interest of the people, I am happy to say, is in a very flourishing condition this season; greater industry has been used by the Cherokees during the past year than ever before. The almost total failure of the crops last fall appears to have had a highly salutary and beneficial effect in arousing the energies of the people, and causing them to put forth more strenuous exertions in agriculture. The neat condition of their farms gives the best evidence of their industry, and they have been abundantly rewarded by the heavy yield of the corn, wheat, and oat crops, this year. The educational interest of the nation is in a highly prosperous condition. The cause of religion, going hand in hand as it does with the cause of education, is doing much to elevate the character of the Indians by the dissemination among them of principles of morality and virtue, which will be beneficial in removing a great many causes of temptation that lead to crime, and keep them blind to their best interest. The temperance cause is also doing much good by enlisting under its banners men who, from their standing in society, are capable of exerting a beneficial influence upon those around them. One of the most serious drawbacks upon the Cherokees at this time is their heavy public debt. The failure of the delegation at the last session of Congress to sell the *neutral land*, has caused a great deal of dissatisfaction among all classes. They are anxious to sell their land and free themselves, by that means, from their present embarrassments, and they are determined to make a strong effort to that effect. For so long as their financial affairs are in such a bad and crippled condition, it is impossible to make much advancement in their domestic affairs. There exists among them a strong and abiding prejudice against selling land, but this feeling is overcome by the universal desire to discharge honorably their present heavy indebtedness. I called the attention of your predecessor to the slavery question, I again refer to it, as it is producing much excitement in the nation. There have been causes operating silently for some time, having a tendency to create an agitation of that already too much agitated question, and I am sorry to say, the cause can be traced to the anti-slavery missionaries in the nation, who, instead of attending to the real object of their mission, have, by the course they have been, and are now pursuing, rendered the slave population discontented with their lot, and fostered thoughts and feelings in their minds from which no good can be expected, but on the other hand, much evil. It is becoming a matter of thrilling interest, involving, as it does, some of the most important and cherished interests of the nation. It is a subject of daily conversation among the intelligent portion of the community, who denounce in strong terms the movements of the abolitionists in the country, and if the excitement is not put down, it will lead to

disastrous consequences. It is a matter that should be left entirely with the Cherokees to settle, and I regret to see men who were sent here to teach religion endeavoring to stir up strife among these people. There is a subject of vital importance to the Cherokees that I would call your attention to. It is the construction placed upon the intercourse law by the district court for the western district of Arkansas. It will be seen by referring to the treaty of 1835, article 5th, that the Cherokees have the power to pass laws, binding upon, not only the Cherokees themselves, but all who have connected themselves with them; this includes, as I suppose, white men who have identified themselves with the Cherokees by intermarrying with them. There are about five hundred white men and women in the nation of this class, who would, instead of what they now are, become useful citizens, if they were made amenable to the laws of the nation. But having no interest in the affairs of the nation, living here only by sufferance, claiming to be wholly within the jurisdiction of the United States, they cannot have the privileges and advantages that they would have were they subject to the laws of the nation, and recognized as citizens in full, and entitled to all the immunities as such; were this the case, they would be of great advantage to this nation. The court claims jurisdiction over all negroes, free and slave; the right to try all negroes who may be guilty of any criminal offence, and all persons offending against negroes within the Indian country, and in all such cases hold negroes to be competent witnesses, so that a master may be carried to Van Buren and tried for an offence against his own negro, and his own slaves may become witnesses against him. This I conceive to be an encroachment on the rights of the Cherokees, and is so regarded by them. There is a hostility existing in the mind of almost every Indian in the nation to the court at Van Buren, and they look upon some of the proceedings of the court as violating the rights secured to them by treaty. The treaty of 1835, article 5th, referred to above, evidently gives them the right to pass laws for their protection and that of their property; but of what avail are the laws of the nation in this respect, if the district court claim the right, and use it too, of coming here, taking up negroes, and holding them as competent to testify even against their masters. The Cherokee people, in regard to their internal affairs, occupy a position similar to the States of the United States. They have the power to make whatever regulations they may in council deem proper for the administration of their government, so they be not contrary to the Constitution and laws of the United States. This is what belongs to every State in the American Union, and it also belongs to the Cherokee nation according to treaty stipulations. What, I would ask, is the ground upon which that court holds negroes to be competent witnesses in a United States court? Have they any precedent that will bear them out in the assumption of that power? If they have, I must confess that I am totally ignorant of their origin. The only case that the least shadow of authority could be obtained from, is that of Lieut. Hooe, U. S. N., tried before a court martial, in which negro testimony was admitted, and, if I mistake not, there was a petition gotten up to set aside the decision of the court, in con-

sequence of the admission of negro testimony. The Executive would not, however, set aside the decision, from the fact that there was sufficient testimony to support the decision without that of the negro. I refer you to the opinion of H. D. Gilpin, Attorney General of the United States at the time, in the case. See also the opinion of Attorney General Wirt on the capacities of free negroes. Again, the district court claim an exclusive jurisdiction for any infraction of that part of the intercourse law relating to traffic, &c., in spirituous liquors. They claim the right to come into the nation and arrest an Indian, take him to Van Buren, and try him for introducing liquor into the nation. I do not believe they have the right to do so, for after an Indian has brought the liquor into the nation, he is then subject to the laws of the nation, and they have penalties for every such infraction. Now, if the court claim the right to try the Indian, and the Cherokees claim the right also, after he shall have brought liquor into the nation, you see it necessarily subjects the offender to two separate trials, and by two separate and distinct tribunals, for the same offence, which is contrary to the spirit of the Constitution. It was only as late as 1847 that Indians were made competent witnesses in such cases. If, then, the Cherokees have laws to govern their own people by, and penalties attached for violation of laws, it is my opinion that the offender should be tried by the laws of his country and not, as it were, by a foreign tribunal. It has been the case, too frequently, of an Indian having been arrested for some trivial offence, taken to Van Buren, put into jail, and left to linger there until trial day; perhaps then they could find nothing against him, and the poor fellow would return home, injured in health and purse. I deem it my duty, sir, to call your attention to this subject, and respectfully urge you to call the attention of the department to it, in order that it may be remedied, as the course pursued by the district court places the Cherokees in a degraded position, that no free people can bear patiently. It was but a short time since that the sheriff of Illinois district was arrested by the marshal, taken to Van Buren, and tried for an offence committed while attending to the legitimate business of his office. Whites and Indians go across the line into Arkansas, before the commissioner; warrants are issued by the commissioner, the individual is taken to Van Buren and tried, without the knowledge of the chief or agent. It appears, from the existing political relations between the United States and the Cherokee nation, as defined in their treaties, and from the whole spirit, as well as the wording, of the act of June 30, 1834, that the proper course would be, in all cases of alleged violation of the intercourse law, to call upon the superintendent or agent, and he on the chief, for all such offenders, and in case the chief should neglect or refuse to deliver over such offenders, then, that the superintendent or agent should employ the military for their arrest and removal to the civil authority of the proper judicial district, (see act of June 30, 1834,) and this, we learn, was the course pursued formerly, and the construction placed upon the act referred to by the district court of the western district of Arkansas. But were the intention and spirit of the law thus carried out, as it formerly was, I apprehend there

would be but little call for the military, for I doubt not that, in all cases deemed of sufficient importance for such a demand by the superintendent or agent, the chief would be prompt in complying; and under such a course the laws would be executed and good feeling cultivated, instead of the law being made a source of speculation and aggravated oppression, as it now is. It is certainly the object of the United States to do justice to the Cherokees, and to encourage them in their efforts for self-improvement, and not, as seems to be the opinion of some, to oppress and discourage them. There is no one thing that produces as much disturbance and dissatisfaction among the Cherokee people, or does as much to discourage and retard their advancement, as the present oppressive construction placed upon the intercourse law by the district court at Van Buren.

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

GEORGE BUTLER,
Cherokee Agent.

Doctor CHARLES W. DEAN,
*Superintendent of Indian Affairs,
Fort Smith, Arkansas.*

No. 49.

PARK HILL, *July 27, 1855.*

SIR: The mission stations in the Cherokee nation, under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, are Dwight, Fairfield, Park Hill, and Lee's Creek, besides Honey Creek, where a native preacher is employed. The persons now in employment at these stations are as follows:

Dwight.

Rev. Worcester Willey, missionary.
Mrs. Willey.
Miss Jerusha Swain, teacher.

Fairfield.

Rev. Horace A. Wentz, missionary.
Mr. James Orr, assistant.
Mrs. Orr.
Miss M. E. Denny, teacher.

Park Hill.

S. A. Worcester, missionary.
Mrs. Worcester.

Rev. Stephen Foreman, native, is still employed, a portion of the time as translator, and Mr. Edwin Archer as printer.

Lee's Creek.

Rev. Timothy E. Ranney, missionary.
Mrs. Ranney, teacher.

Honey Creek.

Rev. John Huss, native preacher.

Very recent statistics from all the stations I have not, but report according to my best information. The number of members in the several churches, according to my latest information, is as follows:

Dwight.....	35
Fairfield.....	72
Park Hill.....	48
Honey Creek.....	50
Lee's Creek.....	12
Total.....	<u>217</u>

The efforts made to engage the attention of the people to the things which concern their everlasting welfare, I am sorry to say, have met, the past year, with but limited success.

The school at Dwight, I am informed, has been smaller than during the preceding year; but my information respecting it is small.

The school at Fairfield, I believe, has continued to prosper in a good degree.

At this place (Park Hill) the school prospered well until the health of the teacher failed, in the fall, and she has not been able to resume her labors but is gone to Massachusetts, with the intention of returning, if able, which is very doubtful. Since her departure a school of about twenty (20) scholars has been taught by Miss Erminia N. Foreman, a native, daughter of Rev. S. Foreman; for tuition, the mission only giving the use of the house and of books and stationery. So far as I know she has given good satisfaction.

At Lee's Creek, the teacher having removed, Mrs. Ranney has assumed, for the present, the charge of the school. Whether it has increased or diminished I have not heard.

The printing at Park Hill, since my last report, has amounted to 1,025,000 pages, consisting of a further portion of Exodus, and a fourth edition of the Gospel of John, in Cherokee; an almanac for 1855, in Cherokee and English; and a portion of the Gospel of Matthew, in the Muscokee or Creek language. The remainder of Exodus is ready for the press, and the Book of Genesis is in a course of preparation.

I believe the missionaries of the board are all attending to their appropriate duties; promoting religion, sound morals, and Christian education, without turning aside to anything which is not within their proper sphere.

There is no head among us, whose business is to attend to the con-

cerns of all the stations, and who, consequently, would be in possession of adequate information respecting the whole.

If you write to the missionaries at the several stations you, doubtless, will obtain more thorough information than I can give.

Respectfully, yours,

S. A. WORCESTER.

GEORGE BUTLER, Esq.,
Cherokee Agent.

No. 50.

ENTERPRISE, MISSOURI, *August 1, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: I will submit to you a report of the missionary work within the bounds of the Cherokee district, under the supervision and support of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

We have six missions, with a membership of fourteen hundred and fifty, whites and Indians; blacks, one hundred and forty. In these missions we have fourteen missionaries, six whites and eight natives. The amount appropriated by our board for their support, during the present year, is three thousand seven hundred dollars.

Considering the difficulties the Indians have had to contend with the present year, our missions are doing well. Our congregations have been large and attentive. The educational interest of this country is still improving. We have several Sabbath schools, at which the youths of the nation are taught the word of God. The excessive drought of last season, through which we have struggled, we hope will yet prove a blessing, as it has prompted the people to action and economy. They now have larger and better cultivated crops than in any former year of my acquaintance.

The interest manifested in the cause of temperance, too, is somewhat increasing. There are several divisions of the sons throughout the nation. May their banners wave proudly, their course be still onward, until the conqueror of nations is conquered, and love, purity, and fidelity reign in his stead.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. CUMMING.

GEORGE BUTLER, Esq.,
United States Agent for the Cherokees.

No. 51.

MAYSVILLE, ARKANSAS, *August 2, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of July 21 has been duly received, and in answer I will say that I have nothing of vital interest to report to you; the church has been under trying circumstances for the last year, owing to sickness and deaths in the church; notwithstanding

all this, there has been some additions to the church this year. Preaching and Sabbath school have been regularly attended at Mount Zion for this year, and also preaching at different places in the nation. As yet we have not been able to get a mission school, owing to the public school being placed almost at our door. I think that the morals of the Indians here are visibly improving in this section, as there seems to be less drinking this year than any previous year, since I have been called to reside with them. I hope that the Lord will yet visit this people, and that his name may be greatly glorified in the conversion of souls.

E. J. MACK,
Moravian Missionary.

GEORGE BUTLER, Esq.,
Cherokee Agent.

No. 52.

PARK HILL, *July 26, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to your request of the 25th instant, I say that, as *secretary of the Cherokee Educational Association*, I cannot furnish you with the information you desire in relation to "the condition of the educational interest in the Cherokee nation," for the reason that so little is elicited from the common school teachers, a few valuable instances excepted, the more valuable because *so few*. To correct this serious deficiency, it seems to me necessary for those who have the care and supervision of the common schools to take especial pains in the selection of teachers, even if the consequence of so doing should be the suspension of the schools for a season. Let efficient teachers from the old States be procured, even if the salary has to be increased; and that could be done by limiting the number of schools in each district, say to two, there are now three, I believe. If this is done it will greatly facilitate the education of the youth, and, of course, improve to an invaluable degree the condition of the educational interest of this nation.

If the expression of the foregoing thoughts and suggestions are considered gratuitous by anybody, I make them *doubly so* by furnishing them for no remuneration.

As to the interest felt by the people in the cause of education, my personal observation permits me to say that no community exists that I am acquainted with in which there is a deeper, stronger feeling in favor of the cause. All classes want schools, *good schools*; and they are as capable of appreciating the quality of the means of education as any people of the west or southwest, because they take a very plain rule to guide their judgment and decision, that of *good tree, good fruit*.

Submitted in "due form."

EDWIN ARCHER.

GEORGE BUTLER, *Cherokee Agent.*

No. 53.

AUGUST 2, 1855.

SIR: In reply to your letter received a few days since, we send you the report of the Cherokee female seminary for the past year.

The highest number of pupils has been sixty; average attendance fifty-five. They have pursued a course of study similar to that of previous years, embracing the studies usually taught at the higher seminaries in the United States.

At the close of the winter session a *class of twelve graduated*, being the first that have finished our course of study since the opening of the school.

There has been a marked improvement, both in deportment and application to study, during the past year.

Respectfully,

PAULINE AVERY,
Principal of Cherokee Female Seminary.

GEORGE BUTLER, Esq.,
Cherokee Agent.

 No. 54.

TAHLEQUAH, August 10, 1855.

DEAR SIR: Your note, requesting information in regard to the educational interests of this nation, was received a few days since.

There is no material difference between the general condition of the common or district schools of this year and the last. About the same number of children has been in attendance, and studying the same branches. Although we have felt, to some extent, the consequences of last year's drought, yet still the scarcity of provisions has not affected seriously the operations of our school.

On the 15th of last March we had the gratification of seeing a large number of those we had often visited in the common schools take their places in our seminaries for a four years' course. Others are still on the way, who will knock for admission next spring.

We have now in our employ twelve teachers of our own nation, most of whom are graduates of our institutions. They are far better qualified for the task than those obtained in former years from the "borders." By next year I believe that we can supply our schools with teachers of our own.

The only difficulty that we have had to contend with is the scarcity of books, as our yearly supply has been on the Arkansas river since last October. To remedy the evil as far as possible, books have been purchased in the country at high prices. We hope to get ours some time this coming winter.

Not only is the cause of education commanding an unusual degree of interest, but I find—after visiting every portion of the country

twice since my last report—that the people are becoming more industrious, enterprising, and moral.

The day is past, and I hope forever, when an Indian of this tribe will stand with folded arms and expect to be *fed* from some imaginary public fund.

With my best wishes for your welfare and prosperity, I remain, very respectfully,

H. D. REESE,

Superintendent Common School, Cherokee Nation.

Colonel GEO. BUTLER,

Agent for Cherokees.

No. 55.

MALE SEMINARY,

Cherokee Nation, August 11, 1855.

SIR: In reply to your note of July 21, asking a "report as to the condition of the Male Seminary," I have to state, that the number of pupils with which the last session closed is 46, including three resident graduates, a larger number, I think, than was reported the preceding year. In February last, a class of five was regularly graduated at the institution, being the remains of the class with which the seminary opened in 1851, and the first that has completed the four years' course. In March last, the beginning of our academical year, a new class of 23 was admitted. There are now of under graduates in the first class 5, in the second class 6, in the third class 11, and in the fourth class 21. The classes have been thinned out more or less every term, by expulsion and voluntary withdrawals from the institution. It is hoped that these cases will become more and more rare. The following is a list of the studies pursued by the various classes during the past session:

Resident Graduates.—Latin, Virgil; Greek, Xenophon's Anabasis.

First Class.—Geometry; Latin, Cæsar; Intellectual Philosophy; Rhetoric, Newman's.

Second Class.—Latin, Arnold; Geometry; Natural Philosophy.

Third Class.—Elements of History, Worcester; Algebra; Cutter's Physiology; Book-keeping; Latin commenced.

Fourth Class.—Green's Analysis of the English Language; Greenleaf's Arithmetic; Mitchell's Geography; Reading; Russel's Elocution; Penmanship.

Daily exercises have been had in declamation, and frequent exercises in English composition.

During the past year, the institution has been in charge of three teachers, all graduates of eastern colleges.

Yours, respectfully,

O. S. WOODFORD, *Principal.*

GEORGE BUTLER, Esq., *Cherokee Agent.*

No. 56.

CREEK AGENCY, *August 24, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following as a report of the condition and affairs of the people committed to my charge, as the agent of the general government.

The Creeks still adhere to their primitive form of government, of doing all their business through their chiefs; this form, with some changes, is well adapted to their wants and capacity for self-government; they are not yet sufficiently advanced as a nation in civilization to comprehend a more intricate form of government. The principal chiefs are honest and intelligent men, and are exerting their influence to have a code of laws enacted suitable to the wants of the people; they have recently made a partial change in their laws; a treasurer has been appointed for the nation, and the number of the chiefs reduced two hundred. This yet leaves five hundred, a very large surplus, and the effect of it tends to prevent harmony and dispatch of business in their councils, and greatly reduces the amount of the common fund to be paid to the great mass of the Indians. This is doing great injustice to them, and they begin to perceive it and complain, which has already produced a reaction in their favor in public sentiment; and as the Creeks are rapidly advancing in moral culture and the science of government, I think in a few years a simple and economical government can be established, which will do justice to all parties, and in every way be requisite to their wants.

The last year was not only remarkable in the Creek nation but throughout the whole southwestern frontier for an excessive drought, which, in many sections of the country, entirely destroyed the crops; the drought this year has been very extensive in this nation, but the Creeks, by their industry and the fertility of their soil, will, I think, make a sufficiency of breadstuffs for their own consumption.

I have stimulated the Creeks in their laudable ambition to excel other tribes in the cultivation of the soil and the raising of stock, by setting forth the independent position of the farmer over all other professions; for while all other professions are dependent upon the farmers, they are dependent upon nothing but their own honest labor and the blessings of God, for if it rains and they work they will reap an abundant harvest. They have a fine country; it is not only well adapted to the cultivation of corn, oats, potatoes, wheat, tobacco, &c., but their extensive prairies afford them inexhaustible range for stock; this gives them an advantage which they did not possess to the same extent before their removal to the west, and all that is necessary to make them a prosperous and a happy people, with the benign influence that the government of the United States is exerting in regard to their education, is to avail themselves of the advantage that nature has placed in their hands, in the cultivation of the soil and the raising of stock.

The Creeks were much gratified that the government of the United States responded favorably to their request in regard to the payment of the \$350,000 for lost and abandoned property incidental to their

removal to this country; they received the money at a very propitious time, owing to the almost entire failure of the last year's crops in consequence of the excessive drought; many were in a very destitute condition, and but for the timely relief afforded them by the payment of the money, many would have starved; the payment of this fund not only saved a large number from absolute starvation, but will prevent the future discord and contention that would have arisen in making the payment to the whole nation, as was required by the treaty of 1838, instead of paying it to those who had actually sustained the loss. The claimants of the fund contended, with every show of justice, that, as the property lost by them was the basis upon which the government acted in allowing the \$350,000, and as the interest had always been paid to them, they were alone entitled to the principal.

The delegation lately at Washington, as well as the people of the nation, were much disappointed with the little success those representatives of the nation met with in their endeavors to obtain compensation for near nine millions of acres of land, taken from them by the treaty of Fort Jackson, for which they say, and I doubt not truly, that they have never received one dollar of compensation. In support of their position, they have the endorsement of Colonel Lea, late Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in a letter addressed to the Hon. R. W. Johnson, dated January 17, 1853, he says, "for these lands, taken from the friendly Creeks, the friends and allies of the United States, by a compulsory treaty, not a dollar of compensation has ever been made, nearly nine millions of acres of land were thus obtained without payment then or afterwards." In the same letter he says, "the case is simply this, that a great government at the close of a war waged against her and her allies, who had fought bravely in every battle by the side of her own troops, forces those allies to make a treaty, by which, in order to cut them off from a foreign country, she takes from them nearly nine millions of acres of land, they claiming compensation for it, and signing the treaty with protestations against its injustice, and yet for this land they have never received a dollar." The Creeks find it difficult to understand upon what pretext their claims can now be resisted, the treaty was invalid, as to them, from the beginning. It was a question of force, not of consent; their protest accompanied it, and now forms part of the public records of the country, and from these records they have drawn almost the whole of the proofs upon which they rely to sustain their demand; they show that General Jackson was only instructed to retain so much of the conquered country as would pay the expenses of the war, and the depredations of the hostile Indians. The expenses of the war did not exceed, at the utmost, \$3,500,000, while the depredations were less than \$500,000; this would make the whole indemnity, which he was instructed to obtain, about \$4,000,000 from the lands taken by him; the treasury has already realized \$11,359,947 98, while there still remains unsold more than six millions of acres of the territory ceded by the Creeks. This statement is not made to prove that the government were not authorized to take the amount of land they did from the hostile Creeks to indemnify her for the expenses of the war, but

to show that the amount taken from the hostile Creeks alone was thrice the amount necessary to indemnify the United States, and that it was unjust to take, in addition to this, near nine millions of acres from their friends and allies, who had, in every battle, fought side by side with her own troops, without the pretence of right, and solely for political considerations. No reflections are intended to be cast upon the memory of General Jackson, who made the treaty. It is true that he forced thirty-five friendly and one hostile chief to sign the treaty against their solemn protest. He did so from the fact that he honestly thought it best for the friendly Creeks to place between them and the hostile Indians in Florida and Alabama a strip of country, so as to prevent any communication or concert of action on the part of the hostiles to enable them to disturb the citizens of the United States, or the friendly Creeks; and the fact of his leaving the treaty open, by his suffering their protest to accompany it, is conclusive that, though he considered it the policy of the United States to take the land above mentioned, yet he believed it right that they should have compensation for it, and, as he was not authorized to compensate them for the land taken, he was unwilling to deprive them of the right of bringing their claims before the government for settlement.

The merit of it depends upon whether a payment has ever been made; the records of the country show that the land was undeniably theirs, and it is the duty of the government to establish the fact that the land was paid for, or pay the Indians what it is worth. If there is no recorded evidence of the payment, it is a fair presumption that no payment has ever been made. The Creeks trust that there is no impropriety in expressing the hope that the department, as the guardian of the rights and interests of the Indians, will find it in its power at an early period to examine this claim, and, if found to be just, to see it paid.

By the communication of the department of the 25th May last, I was informed that the proposition of the southern Comanches to make a treaty with the government of the United States had been considered, and meets with the approbation of the department; and, in accordance with my instructions, I have made known this fact to the Creek authorities, with a request that they would communicate with the Comanches upon the subject, which they promised to do. In a conversation with Tuckabatche Micco, one of the principal chiefs of the nation, he informed me that the Comanches, at a council held on the western borders of the Creek nation last spring, said to him that game was becoming scarce in their country, which is their only dependence for a support, and that they were anxious to quit their roving and unsettled way of living, and imitate the example of the Creeks, who are becoming prosperous and happy since they abandoned the chase and attended to the cultivation of their farms and the raising of stock; and as they regarded the Creeks as their friends, they wish a country on the western borders of the Creek nation. The policy indicated is a wise one, because it is certainly both humane and good policy to embrace the opportunity offered of civilizing this wild and troublesome tribe. If a treaty can be consummated it will tend to exert a happy influence upon other wild tribes in their

vicinity ; and in this connexion I will state that a chief of one of the bands of the Keechies, an erratic tribe of Indians of the prairies, lately visited me, and requested me to inform the government that his people were in a very destitute condition, and were anxious to come to some understanding with the government by which they might obtain some agricultural implements, as they were anxious to turn their attention to farming ; the condition of these people excited my sympathy, and I earnestly hope that the government may be enabled to afford them some relief.

I was instructed by the letter of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, of August 15, 1854, to inquire into and investigate certain charges brought by the Creek delegation in their letter of May 25, 1854, to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in relation to the unfortunate character of the relations existing between them and the Seminole Indians. By the treaty of 1845, the Creeks consented that the Seminoles should have a home in their country, provided they became a component part thereof, subject to the control of the Creek council, and with no distinction between the two tribes, except in the management of their pecuniary affairs. The Seminoles consented to these conditions, and a home was assigned them in the Creek nation, where they have resided ever since. After investigating the charges made by the Creek delegation, I have come to the conclusion that they were fully authorized in making the charges contained in their letter of May 25, 1854, and that it was proper that the subject should have been brought to the notice of the department. The Seminoles have utterly failed to comply with the conditions of the treaty, and claim to be independent of the Creeks, and refuse to be governed by their council ; they have entirely disregarded the Creek law against the introduction of liquors into the country ; they are almost exclusively the ones who bring liquor in the country, a portion of which they dispose of to the Creeks ; this has exerted a very bad influence over many of the Creeks, not only in making them dissipated, but in causing them to disregard their own laws upon the subject of introducing liquor into the nation, because they conclude if the Seminoles bring it into the country with impunity they have the same right.

The Creeks have submitted to the violation of their laws because they are naturally a peaceful people, and dislike to have a difficulty with a people who were originally Creeks, and because they are anxious to unite them again as one people ; but the great lapse of time since the separation of the Seminoles from the Creeks has so estranged them that now there is no probability of their ever uniting with the Creeks and living harmoniously together. The latter are aware of this, and are anxious to rid themselves of them, unless the United States would use its authority in the enforcement of the treaty ; the Creeks say that if this is not done at a proper time they will take the remedy in their own hands. In a conversation with John Jumper, the principal chief of the Seminoles, on this subject, he informed me that the Seminoles had been deceived by the government of the United States in regard to the selection of a country west of the Mississippi. He says that they were promised, before they left Florida, that if they would remove to the west a country would be given them of their

own, where they could make and enforce their own laws, but instead, that now they have no country of their own, and were compelled to give up their nationality for the privilege of living in the country of the Creeks; that he is altogether opposed to the treaty of 1845, and desires that the government will give his people a country of their own. I would respectfully suggest, that in view of the unfriendly relations between the Creeks and Seminoles, something should be done to pacify them. The present state of affairs cannot remain; difficulties will undoubtedly occur; the Seminoles ought either to be made independent of the Creeks, by being removed to a separate country, or be compelled to observe all the requirements of the treaty of 1845. It is certainly wrong for them to be allowed to receive the benefits of the treaty, and disregard such portions as do not suit them. The peace and harmony of this whole frontier require that this question should receive prompt attention.

Information has reached the Creek nation that there is a probability of the military post at Fort Gibson being abandoned; if this be true, it will be much regretted by the Creeks, and I would respectfully remark, that the removal of the troops from Fort Gibson would be unfortunate, as their presence is calculated to prevent further disturbances among the adjacent tribes; the post is situated immediately on the dividing line between the Creeks and Cherokees, between whom treaties of amity exist, but the presence of the troops tends to make the obligations entered into more binding. A military force in this vicinity is absolutely necessary to facilitate the execution of the laws of the United States, by affording proper and necessary assistance to the agents of the government in the discharge of their official duties; without their presence and assistance it would be impossible for the agents to enforce the intercourse laws. Besides viewing it in a military point of view, it may be considered the key to the whole of the Indian country west of Arkansas, which is very great, as from that point troops may be sent immediately to any part of the Indian country; and should it be necessary to protect the Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws, and Chickasaws, (who are civilized,) from the encroachments of the prairie Indians, in conformity with treaty stipulations, their presence would be very important.

Education is becoming a subject of deep interest to the Creeks; they properly appreciate the necessity of educating the rising generation, with the view of rescuing them from the superstition of their fathers, and preparing them for the more useful occupations of life. There are two manual labor schools in the nation, one connected with the Methodist, and the other with the Presbyterian board of missions; the gentlemen at the head of each are moral and intelligent men, and in every way qualified to discharge the duties of their respective positions—a trust of great responsibility. They each have under their charge eighty pupils, who are selected from different portions of the nation, who are taught most of the English branches, the science of agriculture; and the principles of morality and religion, instilled into them when they are young, are not forgotten when they return to their homes, and exert a happy influence upon those who have not been so fortunate. There are twelve neighborhood schools, which

were located by the chiefs in the towns most populous and able to sustain them. The cause has been somewhat retarded by the want of comfortable school houses, but this difficulty will soon be remedied, as I have recently had two new school houses erected and several repaired, and have contracted to have built three more, which will be completed in a short time; and in connexion with this subject I will remark, that finding the temporary agency building erected by my predecessor, Colonel Raeford, insufficient, I have entered into contract for the building of a good and substantial house, which is now in course of erection and will be shortly completed. The teachers of the neighborhood schools are of such a character as to exert a good influence over the pupils under their charge and the people of the neighborhood in which the schools are located. Near five hundred children are receiving instruction at the several schools in the nation, many of whom are making rapid progress, which will place the rising generation greatly in advance of the present in all that constitutes a moral and intelligent people.

When at Washington city last year, with the Creek delegation, I, at their instance, made an application to the department for a sum sufficient to defray the expense of the education and maintenance of four Creek youths, to be educated at some of the higher institutions of learning within the States, which was acceded to, and the sum of sixteen hundred dollars per annum allowed for the purpose, from the school fund. The youths were selected by the council; one, at the desire of his parents, was sent to Centre college, at Danville, Kentucky, and the remainder were sent to the Arkansas college, at Fayetteville, Arkansas. I have received notice from the principal of the last named institution that the youths are making suitable proficiency in their studies, though I have not received, as yet, any detailed report proper to be transmitted with these papers. For further information in regard to the schools, I respectfully refer you to the reports of the teachers, herewith accompanying.

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

W. H. GARRETT,
United States Agent for Creeks.

C. W. DEAN, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 57.

CREEK DISTRICT, *September 1, 1855.*

SIR: With pleasure I report to you the state of the work under my charge in the Creek nation. The Methodist Episcopal Church South has one school and three missions, served by three white men and three native men. The school, in my opinion, is doing well. I hope, however, you will call at the school before long and see for yourself.

The missions are in a prosperous condition. Our congregations are large and attentive. No people to whom I have tried to preach for

the last twenty years behave better than the Creeks. We have between seven and eight hundred church members. I am now trying to have a small hymn-book printed in the Creek language that we have translated.

There were some steps taken by the different denominations last fall to have some portions of the scriptures translated into the Creek language. Mr. Laughridge has commenced and has translated the twelve chapters of Matthew, but I am sorry to say that they do not first appear to give satisfaction to the different denominations. In fact, I think it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to make a correct translation of the scriptures into the Creek tongue.

The Creeks are evidently making great improvement in civilization and religion.

Yours, truly,

THOMAS W. MITCHELL, *P. E.*

Colonel W. H. GARRETT,

United States Agent for the Creeks.

No. 58.

ARKANSAS COLLEGE, *September 8, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of May 18th last, requesting me to furnish you a report of the progress of the Creek youths kept at this institution by funds appropriated to that purpose by the government of the United States, was duly received, and I proceed to comply with your request.

On the 22d February, 1854, Richard Carr, Eli Danley, and Lyman Moore, all of the Creek nation, were matriculated as regular students of Arkansas College, in the English department thereof, and on the 19th March following David Yargee was in like manner received. We were very fortunate in securing a comfortable place for them to board. Columbus Jackson, esq., of this place, residing within a few hundred yards of the college, has afforded them comfortable quarters. He, with his Christian lady, has done all in his power to render these youths contented and happy, and we have every reason to believe that their efforts have not been unavailing. We are of opinion that in being thus situated in a private family their address, ease, and gracefulness in company, together with a knowledge of our habits and manners, would be improved, and thus one great end of their education be gained. For their board we pay \$2 per week, including washing, fuel, and all necessary accommodations, except lights.

They are provided, on my order, with everything needed, such as clothing, books, stationery, &c., by Messrs. Stirman and Dickson, of this place. Nothing is procured by these young men but by my special directions, and thus habits of expense and dissoluteness are guarded against. I am happy to say that, up to this time, not the least disposition has been manifested, on their part, to indulge in habits of extravagance. All that can contribute to their comfort and

respectability, in their appropriate sphere of life, shall be afforded them, but no more.

The estimate I made and sent you in a former communication, of \$225 per session of ten months for each of them, is sufficient to defray their expenses while in this college.

Since they have entered, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, with exercises in declamation and composition, have engaged their attention. Finding that before they could proceed with profit to the acquisition of a classical education they should be well instructed in the elements of our vernacular, and those rudiments too often neglected in our schools and colleges, we devoted very special attention to these preparatory studies. It is pleasing to state that in these their progress has merited all praise. At the annual examination, in July last, they received honors in some of these classes for their proficiency. I may only observe, as an instance of their progress, that while on their arrival here they could barely perform operations in the four ground rules of arithmetic, they are now competent to work questions in denominate numbers, and have mastered the rules and principles of vulgar fractions. During the summer vacation they have, except Mr. Yargee, remained here, and have recited one lesson daily to a professor in the college. This has subjected them to the small additional expense of \$5 a piece for the instruction of two months. In concluding this topic I must be permitted to say that I have never seen young men manifest more industry, attention to the wishes of their instructors, and a determined resolution to excel.

Their conduct is unexceptionable in all their intercourse with their fellow students; they are agreeable, and have gained the universal good will of all their companions. To the professors they are respectful and obedient. Indeed, in the monthly reports made by the teachers to me, in a scale of seven for conduct, proficiency, and attention, these boys have ranged from five to seven; they have thus won the confidence and esteem of every one connected with this school.

While this college is under the control of no denomination of Christians, and altogether free from any sectarian influence, we are careful to instil into the minds and hearts of our pupils the great principles of the Bible, and to enforce the practice of Christian virtue by the motives and arguments addressed to us by heavenly inspired apostles and prophets. In the village are several churches, at any of which it is their privilege to attend. In June last, Mr. Danley was baptized and united himself to the Christian congregation in this place.

On Monday last the college opened for another session of ten months, all are here and have entered upon their respective duties. I would respectfully suggest that the sum of sixteen hundred dollars, appropriated for the education of these boys, is more than enough. For this sum we can maintain six or seven youths here, say six, and then have means to spare for any unforeseen emergency, such as sickness, &c. If, therefore, it should meet the views of those who control this matter, we would be pleased to receive the two additional scholars, and to do all in our power for their advancement. There is not, probably, any place where more advantages and facilities for their comfort are combined and offered at a cost less than here.

I am pleased to say, in conclusion, that all these young men are in excellent health and lose no time from any indisposition.

I have the honor to be, respected sir, your obedient servant,
ROBERT GRAHAM,
President Arkansas College.

HON. W. H. GARRETT,
United States Agent for Creeks.

No. 59.

CONCHARTY, CREEK NATION, *July 30, 1855.*

SIR: In compliance with your request, I submit the following as my annual report of the government day school located at this place. The session commenced on the first Monday in September last, and closed on the 25th instant. The session has been one of much improvement in all the branches which the scholars have studied. The studies were spelling, reading, writing, defining, arithmetic, and geography, text books, Bible, McGuffy's First, Second, Third and Fourth Readers, "Smith's Common School Geography," and "Ticknor's Columbian Calculator;" besides the books of the day school, we have Bible histories, catechisms, and other religious books, used on the Sunday school occasions. It affords us great pleasure to be able to state, that much interest is taken by all in support of the cause, and every endeavor is used by the parents and friends of children to instil into them a laudable spirit of emulation, which is of great importance; and I am also pleased to say, that in every instance I have found the capacities of the children fully equal to those of the white children, similarly situated.

The missionaries of different denominations, as you are aware, have been laboring among the Creeks for several years, and most of them have reared up respectable churches, and are doing great good to the nation.

The cause of temperance.—There has been something done towards the organization of the National Temperance Society, but for the lack of an increased interest taken by the people, and unanimity of mind to promote the great cause, the society is not as prosperous as might have been expected. We have reason to hope that by your aid and influence the Creeks will, in a few years, be educated, civilized, and become as prosperous as any people in the known world.

With great respect, your humble servant,

DANIEL B. ASPBERRY.

Colonel W. H. GARRETT,
U. S. Agent for the Creeks.

No. 60.

HITCHETY SCHOOL, *August 1, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the Hitchety school under my charge; the first session opened January 1, and closed July 13, 1855.

I have had a full school, most of the time from 25 to 30 in attendance. They were nearly all new beginners.

The interest the parents have taken in education, and the progress of the children in their studies during the session, their progress, and prompt obedience, and attention, have been a source of much gratification and encouragement.

Their studies during the session, were the alphabet, spelling, reading, and writing.

The progress of many of the scholars during the term was creditable.

Yours, respectfully,

JAMES A. PATTERSON.

Colonel Wm. H. GARRETT, *U. S. Indian Agent.*

No. 61.

CHEHAW, CREEK NATION, *August 3, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: Your office as agent for the Creeks requires that I should furnish you with the report of the government day school located at this place, and in my charge. The second session of this school commenced September 1, 1854, and closed August 3, 1855, having been in session over ten months, during which time it is gratifying to say that the scholars and myself have had good health, for which we are thankful to the giver of all good. The whole number of scholars, regular and irregular, in attendance was thirty-eight; the number in regular attendance was thirteen; the branches taught were reading, writing, arithmetic, and history. The scholars who attended regularly have advanced as well as could be expected. On the day of our examination the scholars gave entire satisfaction. The cause of religion and civilization is making some advancement among the natives.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MORRIS R. MITCHELL.

Col. GARRETT, *United States Agent for the Creeks.*

No. 62.

CREEK AGENCY, *August 6, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the government neighborhood school, located in Tallassa town, Little River.

The first session of the school commenced February 10, and closed on the last of June, 1855.

The studies during the session were the alphabet, spelling, reading, and writing. The progress of many of the scholars during the term was creditable. The number of scholars under my charge is 22 to 25.

The people of this neighborhood manifest a great desire to have their children educated.

This is the first school ever located in this portion of the nation, consequently the children were compelled to commence in their letters.

I have no doubt but that the school at this place will exert a happy influence in moralizing and preparing many of the pupils for the more useful occupations of life.

J. W. TRIPPE.

Col. W. H. GARRETT,
United States Agent for Creeks.

No. 63.

CREEK AGENCY, *August 9, 1855.*

SIR: The third session of this school commenced in September and closed on the 6th of July last. The number of the students that attended school during this period was thirty-two; from twenty to twenty-four attended school regularly, and made a commendable progress in their studies.

The following is the list of the classes: 6 reading McGuffey's Third Reader; 4 reading McGuffey's Second Reader; 6 reading McGuffey's First Reader; 5 reading Primer; 5 spelling; 6 learning the alphabet, and 10 studying arithmetic, geography, and writing.

Besides the studies mentioned, the pupils in the first, second, and third classes, have memorized several chapters in the New Testament.

Very respectfully,

ELIZABETH STIDHAM.

Col. W. H. GARRETT,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 64.

HLOB-HLOCCO TOWN, CREEK NATION,
August 13, 1855.

SIR: Agreeable to your request, and in compliance with my duty as one of the teachers of public schools for the Creek nation, I avail myself of this opportunity to render a report of the condition of the school under my charge.

The school for the town of Hlob-hlocco, at the commencement for the present year, opened with fifteen pupils; and the number con-

tinued to increase up to the close of the first session, which took place on the sixteenth day of July last. A comfortable school house has been erected at this place by your direction. The location is appropriate and healthy. The number of pupils under my charge, at the close of the first session, was thirty-five—thirty-two boys and three girls, and, with one exception, all natives of the whole blood. No one of them having been to school before for any length of time, all of them are, of course, engaged in the study of the first principles of an English education.

The great irregularity, however, in their attendance at school must, until remedied, always be a difficulty in the way of the children of a people who live the life that this people do in making any very rapid advancement with their studies. Many of those, however, under my charge, whose attendance at school has been comparatively regular, have made fair progress with their studies, and some few have advanced rapidly. The school at this place, situated, as it is, in a benighted region, on the extreme frontier, in the neighborhood of the range of the trail of the Comanche, promises much usefulness, and may be said to be in a flourishing condition. Already evident manifestations of improvement are discoverable in the gradual change of the rude wild boy of the prairie to the more reflective child of civilization.

Respectfully submitted.

Yours, truly,

SAMUEL S. HAMILTON, *Teacher.*

Col. W. H. GARRETT.

No. 65.

ASBURY MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
August 14, 1855.

SIR: Duty requires that I forward you the regular annual report of the school under my care.

The past has been one of the most trying years we have passed through since my connexion with this institution, this owing mostly to the great scarcity in the country caused by the long continued drought, and the great difficulty in securing many of the necessary supplies for the school. Still the session was one of usual success, and also one during which we were favored with more than ordinary good health, for which we would acknowledge the kindness and continued care of a superintending Providence.

The session closed on the 8th ultimo, a week earlier than we had intended. It is usually the case for the parents of the children on the commencement of the hot weather to want them at home, some for fear they will get sick, others to have them attend the regular annual husks, which occur about this season of the year, so we judged it best, under the circumstances, and to avoid confusion, to let them all go home, as we did not like the idea of a regular examination with

our numbers greatly reduced. The session opened and progressed to within a few weeks of the close with over the full complement of pupils a part of the time. In the management of the school we have two principal difficulties to contend with, irregularity in attendance, and that of not being able to retain the children put into the school the length of time necessary to really benefit them. To suppose an Indian boy or girl entering school not understanding scarcely a word of English, all other things being equal, capable of receiving an education in the same time with one who both understands and speaks the English already tolerably well is unreasonable, and a thing not to be expected. Nor is it, in our opinion, to be supposed that the mind of a people just emerging from amidst the rubbish of ages is as susceptible of that rapid improvement and of the same close and continued application to study as that of those surrounded by other and very different circumstances. In a few cases that could be selected this might not be so apparent, but even these only in so far as they approach our standard, and have had like advantages, while the principle in its general application will be found true. But we may presume that these, as well as other innumerable difficulties we almost constantly meet with, and that so much hinder the more rapid improvement of these people, are all well understood.

The classes embracing the number of pupils in the school are as follows: In alphabet, one class; in primer, two classes; in readers, nine classes; in spellers and definers, three classes; in arithmetic, five classes; in physiology, one class; in geography, two classes; in English grammar, two classes.

Of the children embraced in the above named classes there are only nine that cannot read. Thirty-eight study arithmetic, eleven study geography, and the same number English grammar. Some thirty are learning to write; of these a few write and compose tolerably well.

We have regular preaching, Sunday school, and Bible class instruction on the Sabbath. The children are mostly small, but few being over fourteen years of age. We can speak favorably of the larger boys and girls now in school.

Our farm is in good repair, but in consequence of the drought our crop will fall short this year of what it was last.

The shops have been continued during the year with tolerable success. A new frame building has been added to the main building, thirty-five feet long by twenty wide, two stories high, with five rooms, to be used as a kitchen and for other purposes. Our religious prospects are favorable, both in the neighborhood and at the school.

We have a small society at the mission.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

THOMAS B. RUBLE,
Superintendent.

Colonel W. H. GARRETT,
United States Agent for the Creek Indians.

No. 66.

CHOASKA, *August 20, 1855.*

SIR: In compliance with your instructions I have the honor to transmit the following report of the school given to me in January last. There have been twenty-three scholars in attendance, whose proficiency has been such as to prove that a judicious course of instruction is as well repaid by corresponding improvement on the part of the pupils as would be the case in the States.

There is want of regularity, however, in the attendance of children; some of those who commenced with letters are in Kay's third reader, others in the second, while five small children of five years are in spelling of two syllables. School closed for vacation July 7.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. H. CARRUTH.

W. H. GARRETT, *U. S. Creek Agent.*

No. 67.

TALLAHASSEE MISSION, *August 27, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: In accordance with the regulation of the department, I beg leave to submit the following report of the Presbyterian manual labor school among the Creek Indians.

The session of nine and a half months was closed with a public examination, July 26. The examination was attended by a respectable assemblage of the people, including the first and second chiefs of the nation and the trustees of the school.

The exercises of the occasion evinced a steady improvement in most of the children, and clearly demonstrated the capability of the Indian mind to receive a good education.

The arrangement of the classes and the studies pursued, during the past year, were very similar to the year previous.

The number of pupils received into the school during the year, was one hundred and three. Some of these were in school but a short period; so that our number seldom exceeded eighty, and generally fell below it.

This constant changing and irregular attendance we greatly deplore, and earnestly recommend that some immediate steps be taken to remedy the evil.

It is not so great as formerly, but is still a great drawback to our usefulness. We think it can and ought to be corrected.

As usual, the children have been exercised in some useful employment two or three hours daily. Our crop, although much affected by the drought, is much better than last year. If the season continues as favorable as at present, we shall most probably raise some two hundred bushels of sweet potatoes. We have erected, during the year, an excellent grist and saw mill, propelled by horse power, which has done

good service for the school and has been a great convenience to the vicinity.

The number of missionaries in connexion with the school at present is twelve—four gentlemen and eight ladies—so that when all are in health we find the great work of feeding, clothing, educating, and directing these Indian youth, at all times, in and out of school, comparatively an easy and pleasant task.

The health of the children has been very good. The cases of sickness which did occur generally yielded readily to remedies. It was, however, our painful task to part with one of our dearest pupils, a girl of about fifteen years. She died of congestion of the brain, after an illness of only six days. But her end was peace.

For some two years she had been a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, and was a very exemplary Christian.

In addition to my duties here as superintendent, I have preached monthly at two other places, making it a point, however, to preach part of every Sabbath at the mission, during the session.

A portion of my time has also been spent with my interpreter in the translation of the gospel of Matthew into the Muskokee language; and it is with pleasure I inform you that thirteen chapters have been published and are being circulated among the people. It has received the approbation of the leading men of the several denominations. The people receive it with avidity, and many of them read it with considerable ease. I am happy also to report that intemperance among the people has greatly diminished. The low state of the river, preventing navigation altogether, has doubtless had something to do in effecting this happy change, but evidently most of the credit is due to the very efficient manner in which the present company of Indian "light horse" have executed the excellent anti-liquor laws of the nation.

That this good work of reform may continue, that the people may advance more and more by all the means in operation, and that they may speedily become an enlightened Christian nation, shall be the constant aim and fervent prayer of

Yours, most respectfully,

R. M. LOUGHRIDGE,
Superintendent.

Col. WILLIAM H. GARRETT,
United States Agent.

No. 68.

OLD AGENCY, *August 28, 1855.*

SIR: In compliance with your request, I submit the following report of the school under my charge:

I commenced this school at the Old Agency the 21st of September, with seven scholars, and continued until the 23d of December, with an attendance of from five to ten pupils. Of these, six were reading

in the New Testament, Kay's Third Reader, and arithmetic, as far as multiplication, and the remaining four were spelling in words of two syllables. Owing to the small number of pupils in attendance at the Old Agency, the school was transferred at the close of the year to Uchee town.

Through delays in finishing the school house at Uchee town, I was unable to commence until the 26th of March, when I began with twenty-seven children, only one of whom knew a letter, or could speak a word of English.

The attendance through the session was from twelve to seventeen. The school would have been larger had it not been for the great suffering among the people from the scarcity of food.

The people seem to be highly interested in the school, and the chiefs did all in their power to assist me.

Very respectfully,

M. J. LEWIS.

Col. WM. H. GARRETT,
Creek Agent.

No. 69.

TUCKABATCHE, *September 1, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: The government school at this place closed July 13 with twenty-four scholars. During the year I have made special effort to secure a regular attendance, as our success in teaching very much depends on this. The parents do not urge their children to attend regularly; but a few years since the people were without schools, consequently getting a good attendance must be the work of the teacher for some time to come. During the year there were classes in arithmetic, geography, grammar, and history. As I informed you last year, we are much hindered in teaching because the scholars do not understand English, and I am assured it should be required of the pupils to speak English. The session has been a very quiet and orderly one, and in their studies commendable progress has been made.

The leading men around the school have, from the establishment of it, shown their interest by visiting the school and urging the parents to send and keep their children in school, and with their aid a good attendance will be secured. The scholars give assurance that the school will be of lasting benefit to them, fitting them for useful situations among the people, with cultivated manners. Though we do not have them in school as long as we desire, we see that those who have spent some time with us are more useful in the nation than they otherwise would be. There is sufficient interest in the school to cause the scholars and teacher to desire its re-opening before the vacation closes.

I rejoice that knowledge, by means of the schools, is spreading, and the means that can be used are demanded for schools. While con-

nected with the schools, if possible, manual labor and trades should be attended to. There is abundant cause for encouragement. That education has not been successful among Indians is very true in some cases. The Bible, the highest source of knowledge, the beacon-light of intelligence, has been disregarded, or taught without interest in its great truths. It is this book which opens the fountains of knowledge, where the soul can satisfy the ardent desires, the burning thirst, and know the only sure path of life.

The schools now established are doing much to elevate this people. If the blessing of God, the giver of all good, is sought, they will meet the expectations of all those who are the true friends of the people, and elevate this nation to a standing equal to any in the most favored lands.

Yours, respectfully,

A. L. HAY.

Colonel W. H. GARRETT.

No. 70.

CREEK AGENCY, C. N., *September 5, 1855.*

SIR: In accordance with your instructions, I have the honor to submit a report of the condition and progress, during the first session of the present year, in the government neighborhood school, located near Deep Fork Tuleva Thlocco town.

The school opened on the 15th of February, and closed on the 29th of June. There had been no school previously, in this portion of the nation, the present being one of the new schools located in January last, consequently the scholars all commenced in the alphabet. The studies of the session were the alphabet, spelling, and reading. During the term, twenty-seven scholars attended, though some of them very irregularly; seven of the number were arranged into a separate class in the First Reader; all the others made more or less progress in spelling.

We labored under some disadvantages, being under the necessity of occupying a meeting house, which was very unsuitable and very uncomfortable. I hope, however, that the school house, which is under contract, will be completed in a short time. Some of the people of this neighborhood manifest a lively interest in support of the school and in educating their children; while others, I am sorry to say, appear indifferent.

Yours, respectfully,

W. H. ALLEN.

Colonel Wm. H. GARRETT,
U. S. Agent.

No. 71.

HILLUBEE, *September 13, 1855.*

SIR: The school under my charge, from the 1st of September until January, was attended by twenty-five scholars. This was the average, the number on my books being thirty. From January until July the number has decreased; not from less interest on the part of the Indian community, but from changing of location and minor causes.

That which encouraged me to view favorably the state of the school is, although receiving no new scholars during the year, most of them are permanent; and it is visible that their appreciation of the value of time, knowledge, order, and industry is increased, and their deportment and attainments would convince a skeptic of the utility of giving the uncultivated tuition.

We deem it important to make our work thorough, sending them forth with fixed principles to guide them through their way in life and conduce to their happiness. Their cultivation must be of high tone to cause them to diffuse influences desirable. We see these tribes just awaking from the slumber of barbarism and on the decline, it is true; but did they once start in the race onward and upward, like other nations who have emerged from darkness, elements are here as marked, distinguished, and dignified.

MARY BROWN.

Col. W. H. GARRETT.

No. 72.

CUSETA, CREEK NATION,
September 15, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the school under my charge at this place.

The first session commenced early in March, and continued in operation till the 26th of July. The second session will commence on the 17th instant. The usual attendance of scholars, during the first session, was twenty-five; but only eighteen of this number attended regularly to their studies during the session, and made considerable improvement in their studies. Owing to parents residing some distance from this settlement, and the removal of some to new homes, the tendency was to render my school small, and mostly of small children, from ten to fourteen years of age.

The irregular attendance of some of my pupils is solely attributable to parents, who do not send them regularly. Believing it would be advantageous to my school, I am about taking charge of two, or more, children that speak the English language, as exemplars to the rest. The youths do not like to speak the English language unless compelled by the teacher.

Teachers who do not understand the Creek have many difficulties

to encounter in their efforts to educate Creek children; but by their daily intercourse with them they learn to speak the English language out of books in which they are daily taught. I believe the education of the Creek youths can be effected by perseverance.

The health of my settlement continues good up to date.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your friend,

THOS. C. CARR.

Col. W. H. GARRETT,
Creek Agent.

No. 73.

CHOCTAW AGENCY,
Fort Towson, August 28, 1855.

SIR: The past has been a year of great trial and hardship to the Choctaws. Two successive years of drought left them almost destitute of corn or other breadstuffs, and the continuous low stage of water in the Arkansas and Red rivers precluded the possibility of relieving their wants by the importation of grain. Indeed, such has been the scarcity of groceries and provisions of every kind, that even those whose means were ample, and who usually supply their families plentifully, have been unable to procure the most necessary articles. Many of the poorer classes of Indians, I learn, were compelled to resort to the woods and fields for sustenance, living upon the wild potato.

The hardships they have undergone are not, however, without some compensating results. The people have thereby been fully impressed with the absolute necessity for an increased production among them of the necessaries of life, and accordingly, I am informed, planted, the past spring, an unusual quantity of corn. And though in some neighborhoods the present corn crop is a failure, yet undoubtedly enough has been grown in the nation to supply the home demand.

We have reason to be thankful that, though pinched by hunger, the people generally have enjoyed good health, and have been freer than usual from the baneful effects of intoxication. The border grogshops, in consequence of low water, have not had their customary supply of whisky. Drunkenness and murder have, therefore, been less frequent along the "line."

The unprecedented low stage of water has turned the attention of the Indians to the advantages of railroad connexions between the Arkansas, Red and Mississippi rivers; and while the people of Texas and Arkansas States are earnestly engaged in projecting lines of communication with the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico, there are not wanting, among the Choctaws, men of wealth and public spirit who eagerly unite with them in furtherance of the schemes for the development of the great natural resources of their country, the success of which is alone wanting to render the region above the great Red river "raft" among the most desirable portions of the United States.

In my last annual report I expressed strong hopes that the Choctaws who emigrated from Mississippi and Alabama, during the past year, would permanently settle west. In this I have been greatly disappointed, much the larger portion having returned to Mississippi. This was made the subject of a special report to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs while at Washington.

I am satisfied it will be an useless expenditure of money to remove the eastern Choctaws, with the hope of their remaining west, unless Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana will aid the United States in their humane efforts for the good of the Indians.

I would respectfully suggest the propriety of calling upon the legislatures of those States to pass stringent laws for the repression of vagrancy among Indians, and authorizing the overseers of the poor, or some other officers, to apprentice the children of such Indians as have no fixed abode and certain means of support within their borders to some trade. This plan I feel confident, if carried into effect, would result beneficially, either in causing the Indians to remove to their own country, where these children can be educated at the public expense, or in the acquisition, by them, of useful trades and arts if they remain east. The plan, to be effectual, however, should be adopted by the three States named.

My protracted absence from this agency, (under orders from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs,) with the delegation from the Choctaw nation, at Washington city, prevented my attendance at the annual examinations of the pupils in the various Choctaw academies; I cannot therefore speak from personal observation as to the condition of the schools, or the proficiency of the scholars, but refer to reports of superintendents of schools herewith enclosed. It is also gratifying to be enabled to present, for the information of the government, the reports of able and zealous missionaries, who are constantly employed among the Choctaw people, imparting religious teachings, ministering to their spiritual wants, in sickness and in health, and strengthening and encouraging them in all things tending towards their temporal good as well as eternal salvation.

For years past, as you are aware, serious dissensions have existed between the Choctaws and Chickasaws, arising from a difference of opinion as to the meaning and true construction of the convention of 1837. I am happy to state that a plan for the adjustment of those differences, and for the permanent settlement within the Choctaw country of the Wichita and other bands of Indians, fair and just between the two tribes, liberal on the part of the United States, and eminently advantageous for the wild bands, as well as the Choctaws and Chickasaws, was agreed upon at Washington between the Executive Department of the United States, the Choctaw delegation, and the Chickasaw commissioners.

This convention will be submitted to the councils of the two tribes, respectively, whenever they convene, and I cannot doubt will, when understood by them, be ratified, and I hope, finally, receive the sanction of the United States Senate, and thus put an end, forever, to a controversy which has seriously threatened the peace and welfare of the Choctaws and Chickasaws.

Should this be the case, the way will be opened for the domestication of the wild savages who rove and plunder on the Grand Prairie, west of the "Cross Timbers," as far north as the Arkansas river, and west to New Mexico. Sometimes extending their marauding expeditions into Texas, and even across the "Llano Estacado" to the Rio Grande, and into Mexico.

The philanthropist and Christian will rejoice at the prospect, under the strong arm but fostering care of the government of the United States, which will be opened for the civilization and christianization of those "Arabs of America."

The location designed for their settlement is peculiarly fitted for the experiment. Surrounded by immense plains, and hundreds of miles removed from the "white settlements," of great fertility, well watered, abundantly supplied with wood, and of uncommon salubrity, the valleys near the Wichita mountains seem expressly fitted for the abode of the untutored savage, while undergoing a preparation for contact with the tide of white emigration, which, ere long, will roll over every part and reach every inhabitable spot within the territory of the United States.

The location affords great facilities for the subjection and control of the wild Indians of Texas and the plains south of the Arkansas.

A strong military post near the Wichita mountains could, in the opinion of experienced officers of the army, effectually repress depredations upon the frontier of Texas, upon the Chickasaws and Choctaws, and upon emigrant trains travelling on either of the trails to Santa Fé, *via* St. Louis, Fort Smith, or Texas. In the remote and secluded valleys of the Wichita mountains, too, the officers and agents of the Indian Department, aided by the military, can afford effectual protection to the Indians against the vices and encroachments of the whites.

In this connexion, I respectfully urge the importance, the absolute necessity, of some provision by Congress to enable the officers and agents of the Indian Department to execute the laws within the Indian country, along the border of Arkansas and Texas. The military posts are being gradually removed far west, thus leaving a belt of country along the line within which there is no force, subject to the control of the officers of the United States, adequate to the suppression of the liquor trade and the enforcement of other laws of the United States, applicable to the Indian country.

I see no reason why the Secretary of the Interior should not be furnished with an adequate force, for the preventive service, along the Indian border, in aid of the army—just as the Secretary of the Treasury is furnished with a force in aid of the navy to execute the revenue laws.

It is believed an Indian force, fully adequate to the service, might be readily organized and maintained cheaper than any other.

I hope the Commissioner of Indian Affairs will continue to urge the importance of some such arrangement upon the notice of Congress.

Legislation is much needed in regard to various interests within the Indian territory, and it is to be hoped Congress will turn its attention to the necessity for a revision of the "intercourse laws."

There is no law providing for the management of the estates of citizens of the United States who may die in the Indian country; none defining the extent of the authority of Indian agents, in regulation of trade and intercourse between whites and Indians; and none providing civil process in cases arising between citizens of the United States residing within the Indian territory, or between them and citizens of the States and Territories of the United States.

It was the opinion of a former Attorney General that civil process from the United States court does not run into the Indian territory in the absence of express statute on the subject. This state of things renders it a safe retreat for absconding debtors and their property, unless, indeed, the Indian agents are subjected to the disagreeable duty of removing them with their property, as *intruders*, from the Indian country to the jurisdiction of some State, where civil process will reach them. But even this remedy is unavailing in case an Indian goes into a State and contracts debts, which frequently occurs, for merchandize. There is no way to reach the property if he fails to pay.

I advert to these as mere examples, showing the necessity for additional legislation.

The Choctaws are steadily advancing in the arts of civilized life. It is a matter of pride and pleasure to concur in the following opinion expressed by one of their oldest missionaries, that "the Choctaws deserve credit for what they have been doing during a whole generation in the cause of temperance. Their laws on this subject date long before those of the State of Maine. Indeed, I think Neal Dow must have been a boy when the first 'council fire' against whiskey was kindled in this nation. Their laws have been quite well executed. This people deserve credit for not ever having had a *distillery* or a national debt, as well as for doing so much in the cause of education, by large appropriations of money, and then by seeking men to expend it who, as they thought, feared God; and who have been adding to the amount of their school fund every year."

I hope they will receive the aid and paternal care of the United States government in their efforts to elevate themselves.

Referring to accompanying papers for information in detail,

I am, very respectfully,

DOUGLAS H. COOPER,
United States Agent for Choctaws.

Hon. CHARLES W. DEAN,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

No. 74.

EAGLETOWN POST OFFICE, CHOCTAW NATION,
August 14, 1855.

SIR: I thank you for your favor of the 10th instant, by Mr. W. K. McKeon. You request me to forward my annual report as soon as possible. I cheerfully comply with your request by the first mail.

The persons connected with our schools and our missionary operations, at and near this place, have been much favored with health. We regard this as a healthy location. The year has been a favored one, in this respect, to the Choctaws.

The school has prospered and is useful. The superintendent of the Iyanubbi female seminary, I presume, will send you his report, as I sent him, agreeably to your request, the letter you addressed to me. There are some few neighborhood schools which are taught by natives; but these are not so numerous as in some former years. In three places they have failed to receive grants of money from the nation for Saturday and Sabbath schools. In one neighborhood an English school was taught. There is as high a value attached to a good education as ever among this people. We all have reason to be encouraged in our labors for their good.

In my labors as an evangelist I have regular appointments in three counties, and have some success in my work. Many of the people are attentive to divine truth. They often express regret that they can have no more religious meetings, and that there are so few who come and preach the gospel to them. I think there is very little, among us, of what is called *sectarianism*, but there is a love of the truth, and there are "lovers of good men."

The ruling elders render important service in conducting meetings on the Sabbath, and at funerals in different neighborhoods. All this is pleasant, and it might seem from reading it that there were no trials, no *drawbacks*. It is not so. These exist everywhere.

The Choctaws generally have been quite industrious this year; they planted more ground than common, and worked their crops better than usual, although from the last year's scarcity they had less substantial food than in former years. The drought, this year, has greatly injured the upland crops. Two successive years without sufficient fertilizing rains from heaven are trying to any people. In this way they can effectually learn their dependence on the Creator, who alone "maketh the sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

There is a *gradual* improvement in things pertaining to civilized life. This is seen in their dwellings, their garments, their farming tools and fences, their cattle, horses, sheep, and swine. They are learning how to plant corn early in the season, and to raise wheat, oats, and Irish potatoes. Within fifteen miles of me there are five horse mills and one water mill, and a saw mill. At some of these mills they have made, or are making, preparations to grind and bolt wheat. There are five cotton gins. The number of bales ginned I have not heard; on account of low water it has not reached the market; this is a loss to the owners and the merchants. I can count ten wells, and as many chimneys, built of rock. In some of the wells there is the old fashioned pump, and in others the chain pump. You are aware of the law which requires all fences to be built ten rails high.

There has been but little drunkenness in this region for a long time. This may be one of the good effects of the long drought which has kept the rivers low. While there was plenty of whiskey along "the line," its evil influence was felt in suffering, idleness, and murder.

I mention a few things that may give you, as well as others, encouragement in laboring to elevate this people. But if a man has the taste for it, and were so disposed, he could select many facts that would be very discouraging to us all, who are pledged to help the red man while he lives on earth.

The Choctaw people deserve credit for what they have been doing during a whole generation in the cause of temperance. Their laws on this subject date long before those of the State of Maine. Indeed I think "Neal Dow" must have been a boy when the first council fire against whiskey was kindled in this nation. Their laws have been quite well executed.

This people deserve credit for not ever having had a *distillery* or a *national debt*, as well as for doing so much in the cause of education by large appropriations of money, and then by seeking men to expend it who, as they thought, feared God, and who have been adding to the amount of their school fund every year.

You have come to a worthy people at an important time to help them to stand upright. Call to mind their situation in the days of the late Colonel Silas Dinsmore, and look at them as they are while you sustain the same relation to them.

In Colonel Dinsmore's time they were without schools and the gospel; in your time they have both, giving proof that "the Bible is not of man."

And now may the Lord bless them and you as their agent, and all others who seek their good.

We shall be glad to have you make us a visit when you can make it convenient.

With much respect, I am, sir, yours, &c.,

CYRUS BYINGTON.

Gen. D. H. COOPER, *Choctaw Agent*.

No. 75.

GOOD LAND, CHOCTAW NATION,

August 24, 1855.

DEAR SIR: The past year, we think, has been one of encouragement and prosperity in our work, though we have nothing particularly interesting to notice in this report.

As formerly, my field includes five neighborhoods. My labors as a missionary are devoted between these. At all of them meetings are regularly held. The attendance is generally good. A decided majority of the people are professedly pious, and those who make no such profession are disposed to honor the institutions of the gospel, and seem desirous to avail themselves of the limited opportunities that are thus afforded them for gaining religious instruction. Since my last report eight have made a public profession of religion, and united themselves with the Good Land church.

At this place and Bok Chito day schools have been maintained during the year. Rev. J. E. Dwight still has charge of the one at the latter place. The one at this place has been taught by Mr. Harvey Schermerhorn. The whole number of children in attendance at both places is not far from eighty. The average attendance has been forty. Improvement upon the part of those attending those schools is slow but marked. It is not, however, the children merely that are being benefitted; the influence of the school reaches every family that has any connexion with it in such a way that parents as well as children are receiving a positive good from it.

In the three remaining neighborhoods interesting Saturday and Sabbath schools have been in existence. Two of these are temporarily suspended for the want of convenient houses to meet in. These are being built. One is nearly completed; the other is under way, and will also be completed before the commencement of the ensuing winter.

In matters of agriculture, house and field improvements, I am happy to say that there has been the past year a decided advance. More labor has been performed than during any previous year since I have been among this people. It is, no doubt, true that the great scarcity that has prevailed here as elsewhere, and the cessation of the annuity which they have heretofore drawn, have had the effect to stimulate many to greater exertion. But independent of all this, we believe that the spirit of enterprise, and a desire to be more above want as to the necessaries and comforts of life, are on the increase among the Choctaw people.

The temperance cause is still gaining ground. One of the largest, and perhaps one of the most enthusiastic, temperance meetings ever witnessed among us was recently held at this place. We cannot but believe that the influence of this meeting is to tell greatly for the cause of temperance throughout the nation. It is by such means that public opinion, without the aid of which wholesome laws will be of little avail, is being more and more arrayed against the evil which has proved so destructive to the best interests of the *red man*.

In view of everything, we feel that the prospects of this people are steadily brightening, and just so fast as Christianity and general intelligence find their way among them just so fast will they continue to brighten.

O. P. STARK.

C. D. H. COOPER,
U. S. Agent for Choctaws.

No. 76.

MOUNT PLEASANT, C. N., *August 27, 1855.*

SIR: I now sit down to write you a brief report of my labors during the year that is now past. In November last I was taken sick, and was able to do very little for two months, nor have I been as strong

during this summer as usual; still I have been able to meet my appointments most of the time. My family have enjoyed better health this season than for four years past.

My time has been occupied in preaching from place to place in a regular circuit. Mr. A. G. Lansing has been connected with me in the same labors. Our efforts have extended over a field some 50 miles east and west, and about 60 miles north and south. Other denominations have occupied portions of the same scope of country, but we have found plenty to do. During the year one new preaching place has been established, and preparations are made for the establishment of another. There has been a good attendance at all the places I have visited during the year. Our congregations vary from 30 or 40 to several hundred. Accessions to the church have not been large at any one place, but so large in the aggregate as to indicate respectable progress in our work.

The cause of education has also made progress in the year. Three new Saturday and Sunday schools have been established. Sunday schools are taught at a majority of our preaching places, and at several of them the schools are also taught on Saturdays. The expenses of one of these Saturday and Sunday schools amounts to about \$50 or \$60 per year, besides books and stationery. They are all taught in the Choctaw language by natives, and have accomplished great good, giving to the masses of the people much knowledge of the Bible, besides much general information. Most of the teachers have been diligent and efficient.

Quite a number of natives have been employed to give public instruction under our direction. These have manifested a good degree of perseverance in the duties assigned them, and their efforts have generally been acceptable. The cause of temperance has also been advanced during the year; still there is too great a disposition to indulge in the use of strong drink manifested by a portion of our people. Could the traffic in intoxicating drinks be banished from our borders, it would be a great blessing to the Choctaws.

In regard to industry, I hardly know what to say. We have little or no market for the products of the soil, and consequently but little encouragement to industry beyond supplying the necessities of the individual or family. Still I think there has been some improvement during the year. More wheat has probably been grown than formerly, and, so far as I learn, the people are preparing to sow much more extensively this fall than last.

During the past year the minds of the people have been in a state of excitement and agitation. First, the "Territorial bill," and next the new treaty with the United States government, have drawn the mind away from the present or immediate improvement of their condition. But we do not know that this excitement will be prejudicial to their final improvement.

The Choctaws are greatly improving in general intelligence, and we earnestly hope that improvements in industry and domestic comforts will follow on apace.

We feel more and more that the hope of the red man is in the gos-

pel of the Son of God. And we earnestly pray that, whatever measures the general government may see fit to adopt concerning them, nothing will be done which shall in any manner impede its progress among them.

Respectfully submitted.

Yours, truly,

C. C. COPELAND.

Hon. D. H. COOPER,
United States Agent, Choctaws.

No. 77.

STOCKBRIDGE, CHOCTAW NATION,
July 12, 1855.

DEAR SIR: The history of this school, the past year, has been similar to that of the year previous. There has been no change of those laboring in connexion with it.

The course pursued by Miss Child, in labors in the school, has been, mainly, as heretofore. The amount of care and anxiety bestowed on those under her charge has been fully equal to her strength and ability. Thirty-seven have been received. Twenty-eight of these have found a home with us. These have never left us, except in case of sickness. The other nine have lived with their parents, and their attendance has not been so uniform.

The satisfaction and the disappointment of watching over these children, in health and in sickness, by day and by night, during the hours they are not engaged in school, are better known to one who has had this responsibility than to others. Miss Sawyers—although disconnected from those with whom, by faith and profession, she is united—to meet our necessity, has cheerfully performed this all-important part of our work. The trustee having the school under his care expressed himself as more than satisfied with the amount of sewing done by the girls, aided by Miss Sawyers. Nearly every girl carried home with her, as her own, a bed-quilt, that others might see what skill and industry can do for the comfort of every family. Garments were made by the children for their parents, the usefulness of which would show that the Choctaws cannot make a better investment of their money than in the education of their children.

All labor, not performed by us, has been done by the Choctaws. It has never been my lot to employ men who have been more faithful to meet their engagements, or who have given me better satisfaction. Some have labored by the day, and others have done work by contract, so as to reflect honor on themselves.

As we have dispensed with the cultivation of our fields, we have purchased liberally of those around us such things as were necessary for the support of our family. Such has been our demand that, while hundreds have found at our door a ready market, but few have been

unable to exchange the products of their labor for the money. These sales have varied, in amount, from one bit to fifty dollars each.

Wishing you success in your labors, I remain yours, respectfully,
 JASON D. CHAMBERLAIN,
Superintendent Iyanubbi Female Seminary.

D. H. COOPER, Esq.

No. 78.

PINE RIDGE, CHOCTAW NATION,
August 14, 1855.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I herewith send my report of the Chuahla female boarding school for the year ending July, 1855.

First of all, we would give thanks to our kind Preserver and Benefactor for the health granted the past year to all the members of the institution, and for the ability given us to enable us to perform the various duties to which we have been called.

The persons connected with the seminary, as superintendent, teachers, matron, &c., are the same as reported last year, except that the place of Mr. Libby, farmer, has been supplied, since April last, by Mr. J. J. Hotchkin.

The largest number of pupils the past year was 32; average number, 30.

The studies pursued have been so similar to those last year that it seems unnecessary particularly to enumerate them in the present report.

The progress and deportment of the pupils have, we think, been unusually good. The solicitude and labor of teaching and governing have been greatly lessened by the cheerfulness with which those under our care have generally performed their duties.

It is a circumstance which calls for our grateful acknowledgment, that the persons employed at this institution have been able to continue so long in the service. Mrs. Kingsbury has been a laborer in a boarding school, most of the time, for thirty-one years; this is the tenth year that Miss Goulding has been the teacher of this school; and Miss Bennett has had the instruction of the girls, when out of school, in cutting and making garments, and other similar labors, more than seven and a half years.

The training of our scholars to habits of industry we consider one of the most important objects of this institution.

In addition to cutting, making, and mending, their own clothes, the pupils, with the assistance of Miss Bennett, have made a large amount of clothing for the scholars at Spencer academy, and for families in the neighborhood. They have the credit of doing work unusually well.

Some of the girls have labored with Miss Aiken and Mrs. Kingsbury in the kitchen and dining room department.

The examination was on the 11th of July, after a session of more than nine months; it was attended by the chief, Colonel Haskins, a number of the parents of the children, and other friends; they appeared satisfied with the evidences of improvement that were exhibited.

I have two churches under my care, one at Doaksville and one on the Boggy, thirty-five miles west of Doaksville; to both of these there have been added, the past year, eighteen on examination and four by letter.

The cause of temperance has generally been well sustained.

In consequence of the excessive drought of last season, many families were on short allowance during the past winter and spring. A more than usual amount of planting has been done the present season, and, generally, crops have been well attended; but the drought has again disappointed the hopes of many who cultivated upland fields. It is, however, believed there will be sufficient corn in the country to supply the inhabitants, and that the scarcity will not be as great as last year. Many of the natives are turning their attention to the raising of wheat, which, thus far, has succeeded well, and promises relief in seasons when the corn crops are shortened.

All which is respectfully submitted.

C. KINGSBURY,

Superintendent Chuahla Female Seminary.

Colonel DOUGLAS H. COOPER,
Agent for Choctaws.

No. 79.

WHEELOCK, CHOCTAW NATION, *August 15, 1855.*

SIR: In the absence of the Rev. John Edwards, superintendent of the Wheelock female boarding school, I comply with your request to furnish a report of this school for the year.

The term commenced October 4, 1854, and closed July 9, 1855.

The attendance has been—

Boarding scholars	-	-	-	-	33
Day scholars	-	-	-	-	2
					—
Total	-	-	-	-	35

The studies pursued have been about the same as heretofore reported, and the progress made by most of the children has been satisfactory. The older and more advanced pupils, having completed the term of years, according to the arrangement made at the opening of this school, gave way to others. Eleven new scholars entered at the commencement of the term, but two of whom could speak English.

It is toilsome work to change habits of thought and action—to break up old associations and form new ones—to impart a knowledge of our very difficult English language—to teach the use of the needle and

scissors, and domestic work, to girls who leave school at 14 or 16 years of age. Yet the knowledge they gain is of vast importance to them. Many of the pupils of the school give us much satisfaction. Others disappoint our hopes, but this is not oftener the case here than among those in a more advanced state of society. We have had abundant evidence that education, without the influences and restraints of the Christian religion, will not elevate a people. It is righteousness that exalteth a nation.

Saturday and Sabbath schools, as formerly reported, are still kept up in several settlements in this vicinity, taught by natives and supported by themselves. There is an increasing desire for preaching and for schools.

Twenty-six have been added to the membership of Wheelock church since the last report.

Respectfully yours,

H. B. WRIGHT.

Colonel D. H. COOPER, *U. S. Agent,*
Fort Towson, Choctaw Nation.

No. 80.

GOOD WATER, C. N., *August 15, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: In answer to yours of the 10th instant, I have to report that I arrived here on the 28th of June last, with my family and three teachers, to take charge of the Koonsha female seminary, under the care of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

You are aware that the sessions of this institution have been discontinued for some time past, and that its connexion with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions has ceased.

It is our expectation to reopen the school on the first Wednesday of October next.

Besides the school, there is a church at this place, which has evidently been a great means of usefulness in time past, and we trust may continue to do good hereafter.

We shall be pleased to see you, sir, at Good Water, at any time.

Yours, &c.,

EDWARD ELLS,

Superintendent of Koonsha Female Academy.

General DOUGLAS H. COOPER,
Choctaw Agent.

No. 81.

SPENCER ACADEMY, *August 17, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: The following is the report of Spencer academy for the year ending July 11, 1855.

The whole number of boys connected with the school during the session was *one hundred and twenty*. The number present at the time of the final examination was *one hundred and five*. The plan of carrying on the instruction of the boys in separate divisions or schools is still continued.

The studies of the *first division*, under the care of Mr. Geo. Ainslie, were as follows:

1. A portion of every day was devoted to the careful study of the Holy Scriptures, by the whole division.

2. The whole division attended daily to exercises in reading and spelling. Text books—American First Class Book, Eclectic Fourth Reader, Old Sea Captain, and Willard's Universal History. A taste for general reading was carefully cultivated by furnishing the scholars, in their leisure hours, with suitable books from the Spencer library.

3. Arithmetic was studied by all the boys in this division. Text books—Davies' and Chase's Arithmetics. Ten boys went through Davies'; four went *almost* through, and five went as far as interest. A class of twelve studied Chase's Arithmetic through decimal and vulgar fractions.

4. A large class recited through Bullion's English Grammar several times during the session.

5. The whole division attended regularly to penmanship, English composition, and vocal music.

6. There were also small classes in algebra, geometry, physiology, and history. Text-books—Davies' First Lessons in Algebra, and Hackley's Algebra, Davies' Legendre, Cutter's Physiology, and Willard's History.

The second division, under the care of Mr. R. J. Burtt, pursued the following course: The whole division, numbering thirty-six boys, gave regular attention to reading, spelling, penmanship, mental arithmetic, English composition, and vocal music. Text-books—Old and New Testaments, McGuffey's First, Second, and Third Readers, and Colburn's Mental Arithmetic. Thirty-three studied Smith's First Book of Geography, and four, Smith's quarto edition. Thirteen studied Chase's Arithmetic, and twenty-seven the Assembly's Shorter Catechism.

The third division, under the care of Miss M. Davidson, was composed of the younger and less advanced boys. Their studies were of necessity of the most primary character. Learning to read and spell occupied most of their time in the school-room. Many of them committed hymns and verses of scripture to memory, and a few commenced the study of arithmetic and geography. Most of the boys in this division received instruction in penmanship.

In the early part of the session the dysentery made its appearance among us, and prevailed generally for two or three weeks. Two of the younger boys died of this disease. With this exception the health of the institution was unusually good.

No difficulty whatever was experienced in sustaining good order and discipline. Our pupils yielded prompt and cheerful obedience to the rules of the institution. We think they deserve much praise for their generally good behavior and diligent attention to their studies.

It is with peculiar pleasure I mention that, during the greater part of the session, much serious concern for the salvation of the soul was felt by many of our boys. Seventeen gave such evidence of sincere and intelligent faith in the gospel that they were received into the communion of the church.

A number of the older boys made themselves very useful by teaching Saturday and Sunday schools in the vicinity of Spencer. The whole number of scholars attending these neighborhood schools was over *one hundred and fifty*. The majority of these were adults. Quite a number of them have, within the past year, learned to read and write their own language. Many of the youths in these schools are taught both Choctaw and English.

During the year, the gospel has been preached regularly to all the people in this vicinity. The word of God is listened to with devout attention. A large number of the people have been awakened to serious concern for the salvation of their souls. About one hundred persons have been received into the communion of the church within the past year.

Whiskey drinking, ball playing, dancing and frolicking, are almost entirely abandoned by our neighbors. There is a temperance society, of which nearly the whole population, men, women and children, are members.

This people are evidently making progress in civilization. The marks of improvement are many and very manifest to those who have been for any length of time familiar with the people. Altogether, the condition of the Choctaws around Spencer is full of promise for the future.

I might easily prolong this report, but I presume the above is sufficient.

Yours, very respectfully,

ALEXANDER REID.

Colonel D. H. COOPER, *Agent for the Choctaws.*

No. 82.

ARMSTRONG ACADEMY, CHOCTAW NATION,
August 20, 1855.

DEAR SIR: It affords me great pleasure to lay before you and the general government the condition of our academy and station for the past year. Pleasure, for a gradual improvement among our pupils and the people under our charge is perceptible from year to year, but more especially the past. Indeed it remains no longer an unsolved question but that the aborigines of our country, with proper management, can be elevated high in the scale of civilization and moral intelligence.

Since my last report, no material change has taken place in our mission affairs. The mission family consists of myself, wife, and Miss Tabitha Chenowitt. Our school and mission affairs have been

carried on by us three, assisted a short time by a young man. I acted the part of superintendent, principal, teacher and farmer.

During part of the winter our school was vacated for the purpose of repairing our buildings. One large building was re-covered. We are now having new chimneys built for two of our buildings. We contemplate building a new house for the use of teachers and other laborers.

The average number of pupils in attendance was forty-three, who were fed and clothed, and four day scholars. All the pupils, with one or two exceptions, made commendable progress in literature. The books studied were as follows: McGuffey's First, Second, Third and Fourth Readers; Webster's and Fowle's spelling books; philosophy; Smith's arithmetic; English grammar; elementary algebra and geography, writing and composition.

During a part of each day all the pupils labored on the farm. We raised about three hundred bushels of wheat, all of which was cut and threshed by the pupils. We planted about sixty-five acres of corn, which we think will yield, at the lowest calculation, fourteen hundred bushels. The oat crop was almost an entire failure.

Besides my labors at the academy, I have tried to impart religious instruction to the people around. As the fruit of my labor in this sphere, I have baptised thirty-six, on a profession of their faith in Christ, and have constituted one church. Our meetings are unusually well attended, and perfect order prevails.

Our mission affairs in the nation have been transferred from the American Indian Mission Association (which has become extinct) to the Domestic Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, located at Marion, Alabama. As soon as the domestic board can arrange the transfer, it will pay off all past debts, and send a sufficient number of laborers to conduct the affairs of the institution.

I cannot say that I believe that the present school system adopted in the nation is the best, but as considerable money has been expended in the erection of buildings, &c., it may not be better to advise any change in what has been done. But should the national government establish other schools, I would certainly advise the nation to make a change for the better, especially as this is an age of improvement.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. G. MOFFAT, *Superintendent.*

General D. H. COOPER,

Agent for the Choctaw Indian Nation.

No. 83.

NEW HOPE FEMALE SEMINARY, C. N.,
August 22, 1855.

DEAR SIR: The Fort Coffee academy closed its session June 27th The acting trustee (Capt. Walker) and a few others were present.

The students were examined after the following order:

- 1st class, in the Speller and First Reader.
- 2d class, Speller and Second Reader.
- 3d class, orthography, mental arithmetic, and geography.
- 4th class, reading, writing, mental and written arithmetic.
- 5th class, reading, writing, mental arithmetic, and English grammar, through etymology and syntax combined.
- 6th class, reading, writing, Davies' arithmetic, through vulgar fractions, and English grammar, critical analysis under the "rules" of syntax.

Rev. F. M. Paine, the teacher—an industrious and faithful teacher—had made an improvement upon the boys, over the previous session, easily seen, and should the boys be kept under him some of them cannot fail to make passable scholars.

The New Hope female seminary closed the following day—the trustee and others present. The classes of this school were as the above, excepting arithmetic was not taught the present session—the girls being young.

The teachers, Misses Steele, Crocket, and Sorrels, and as little as can be said of them in truth is, they did a faithful year's work, which the examination showed very satisfactorily. Four of the young ladies of this school were sent off last year to Tennessee and Mississippi, and placed in schools of a high order, under the Methodist Episcopal Church South, gratuitously.

The labor of the boys on the farm is promised a handsome reward, and the girls did something in the way of making garments for the boys as well as make their own clothing.

Some handsome shirts, on the day of examination, were exhibited, with numerous articles of fancy work, much to their credit.

It is an easy matter to make the report of a braggadocio. I decline such, and simply add that we had our examination in this private way that the trustee might be thoroughly satisfied, and from his own words of approbation we believe him as well pleased as we are ourselves. He is a thorough friend to institutions of learning.

Respectfully, your friend,

W. L. McALISTER.

Col. D. H. COOPER, *U. S. Agent Choctaws.*

No. 84.

BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY, C. N., *July 5, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: This school closed its second regular session on the 6th ultimo. Mrs. A. H. Carr, matron; Miss S. J. Johnson, teacher.

The girls, as their examination proved, had made fair advancement in the following branches, viz: spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, (both written and mental,) natural philosophy, Watts on the Mind, and botany.

The girls here are taught to cut, make, mend, and wash their own clothes, and to do all the ordinary domestic work required about the

institution, regular cooking excepted, and in this they are regularly taught in the pastry department. And in addition to the regular work of the institution, the school is resolved into a working or industrial society, for the purpose of cultivating uniform habits of industry, and of promoting, with the students, the arts of needle, wax, worsted, and coral work, in all of their varieties. Painting, drawing, and the exercise of vocal music—for these many of the girls have quite a fine taste, and in them have made very fair proficiency.

These exercises have been attended to by Mrs. C. with the girls during their leisure hours, which has afforded them a very pleasant and interesting recreation, while they have received useful and important information, without interfering in the least with their more important studies.

For the want of buildings of a sufficient extent, this school has not yet reached its full size of forty-five scholars, as has been anticipated. For this purpose the Chickasaw council of 1853 made an appropriation of one thousand dollars, to be paid out of the annuity of 1854. This payment was not made until January, 1855. The work was commenced as soon as the money was available, and is now progressing very well, bidding fair to be done in due time.

Respectfully yours,

J. H. CARR.

Colonel A. J. SMITH,

*Acting Agent for the Chickasaw people,
Fort Washita, C. N.*

No. 85.

CALBERT INSTITUTE, C. N.,
July 7, 1855.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor of submitting to you the following report of the Calbert Institute, of which I have had charge the present year. This is a male and female school, on the industrial plan, under the patronage of the Missionary Board of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. We took charge of this school last September, under the most unfavorable circumstances. Found the place totally destitute of everything in the way of an outfit; but by untiring industry I succeeded in opening the school the 8th of November last, with sixteen boys and fourteen girls boarding in the establishment, and some four or five day scholars. We received for boarding, clothing, and tuition, from the nation, sixty-six and two-thirds dollars, and from the mission board an amount equal to one-sixth of that amount. The parents find the material for clothing. We have had Mr. Frederick Pilkington in charge of the literary department of the school, who has been indefatigable in labors for the advancement of the pupils. The girls have been under the care and instruction of Mrs. Julianna Couch, who carefully instructed them in domestic affairs, mornings and evenings. We have a small farm upon which

the boys worked mornings and evenings. We have a fine crop of corn and vegetables growing; will have plenty to supply the place if we have rain. There have been a few changes during the session; but the attendance, in the main, has been regular. Our school closed the fourth of July with a public examination, at which there was a large attendance of the patrons and public. I believe all that were qualified to judge were satisfied that the children and youth in the school had made creditable progress in their several studies. The course of study pursued was spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and English grammar. Our religious exercises consist in reading the Scriptures and prayer, morning and evening, and preaching and Sabbath school on the Sabbath. We are trying to impart a sound education of the head, the hands, and the heart. So far as we are able to judge we think our school has done well the past session. But we cannot close without acknowledging the goodness and kind providence of God in preserving our lives and health during the session. We have had no deaths and but little sickness.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. COUCH.

Col. A. J. SMITH, *United States Agent*
for the Chickasaw tribe of Indians.

No. 86.

CHICKASAW MANUAL LABOR ACADEMY,
August 20, 1855.

DEAR SIR: The period of another school year having gone it becomes my duty again to report to you the general condition of the Chickasaw manual labor academy, the institution in our charge. And, first of all, I would thankfully acknowledge that the blessing of Him from whom cometh every good and perfect gift has so rested upon us that we have had peace and prosperity in all our borders. We have enjoyed a greater measure of good health than any year heretofore; and, so far as we can see, no evil has befallen us of any kind. Our number of scholars has been full nearly all the time, and often we have had *more than* one hundred. Our boys, with a few exceptions, have had no disposition to leave school, or run away, (a fault to which they are often much addicted,) and they dread expulsion for bad conduct more than any other punishment we can inflict. This we are sometimes compelled to resort to (though seldom) with stubborn young men, who become unwilling to submit to the needful requirements of the institution; and, though painful, yet we think it better to amputate than suffer the whole body to perish. But generally our boys are easily controlled, requiring very little punishment of any kind. We govern by other means. When at school they feel it is their home; are happy and contented. Most of them attend to their duties cheerfully, both in and out of school. They assist in the

general work on the farm and improvement of the place; but, as yet, few of them have become prepared for any mechanical branches.

Their proficiency in study is respectable, especially when we consider the great disadvantage they labor under by their very imperfect knowledge of the English language. This, however, they are steadily overcoming, and have made much greater conquests, this last year, than before—and now have a good foundation for improvement in that respect, which, with us, is the great desideratum. Though still confined to common branches of an English education, the knowledge which some of them evince—as witnessed by yourself and others—was very thorough.

We had no scholars, at the close of the session, who could not read with tolerable ease, though many of them commenced at a late period of the session in their letters. Our advanced classes will compare favorably with any who have been at school the same length of time anywhere.

Some who commenced four years ago in their letters, and did not know a word of the English language, besides being able to read and write well, and having a respectable knowledge of English grammar and geography, have thoroughly mastered Davies' School Arithmetic, besides paying considerable attention to the study of history, ancient and modern. All have not made the same progress, of course. While we have some sprightly scholars we have also some dull ones, but, as a whole, we hesitate not to say they have done well. I cannot speak too favorably, not only of the qualifications of our teachers, Mr. S. W. Dunn, Rev. William Jones, and Mrs. Perkins, but also of their unremitting diligence and punctuality in the discharge of their arduous duties; nor can I pass over without awarding the same credit to all other assistants employed about the institution; all have met their obligations with fidelity and labored in peace and harmony.

The school was examined by the trustees, accompanied by the chief, Col. Frazier, some two weeks before the close of the session; and then, at the close, we had a public examination, (at which we had the pleasure of your attendance,) of which, of course, I need not speak, as you then saw and heard for yourself.

The following are the classes, and the number in each, viz: Goodrich's First Reader, and spelling, 20; Second do., 9; Third do., 21; Fourth do., 28; History of North America, (Goodrich's) 21; Ancient do., 7; Mitchell's Primary Geography, 22; Large, 29; Writing, 49; English Grammar, 12; Arithmetic, 52. Besides which, all who are capable read a lesson in the scriptures every day and practice in vocal music. On the Sabbath, besides attending regular preaching, they are especially instructed in the Sabbath school, in which, besides suitable reading, they receive catechetical instruction in the sacred scriptures, and many of them have committed large portions to memory—in all, nearly six thousand verses, besides reading the books of the Sunday school library and Sunday school papers of various kinds.

In our farming department, in consequence of the long extreme drought, we have failed in everything but corn; of that we have a prospect of a fair crop of about fifty acres, but no oats, no hay, no vegetables of any kind. As you know, we have had but very little

rain in this section of country since last June one year ago, now fourteen months. I cannot tell how our corn has grown. It has certainly been made with only a few light showers, sufficient only to wet the ground some two or three inches deep. Our streams are dried up, stock water gone, and our springs failing, so that the prospect before us, in this respect, is gloomy indeed; and, unless a change, we know not how we can begin next session of the school. But still we will trust in the Lord and hope in his mercy. He only can send the early and the latter rains, and bless the earth with fruitful showers. And though darkness and gloom may continue for a time, yet we doubt not the cheering and brightening rays of an interposing Divine Providence will overtop those clouds, dispel the darkness, and banish all our fears. Therefore, "though he slay us, will we trust in him still."

Thankful to you, sir, for your ever ready assistance and kind attention to the interests of our school, I am yours, most respectfully,

J. C. ROBINSON,

Superintendent Chickasaw M. L. Academy.

Col. A. J. SMITH,

United States Agent for the Chickasaws.

No. 87.

SEMINOLE AGENCY, *August 15, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor, herein, to submit my annual report.

As I remarked in my last report, the crops of the year 1854 suffered greatly from drought. Privations were naturally expected. But the winter was safely passed; and though food was scarce, yet I do not know of a case of much more than ordinary suffering. The present season will hardly yield abundance of corn, having been injured by the dry weather of July. Still I hope an average crop will be harvested.

The health of the Seminoles has been good, and but little sickness now prevails amongst them. There has been, and still is, a very great scarcity of water. The springs and creeks are all dry, or nearly so, and travelling through the country is extremely unpleasant.

I have not made any division of goods among the Seminoles this year, for the reason that none have reached me. The Seminoles, however, are contented to await them, not affixing much value to them, as they would to the amount if paid in money. I am of opinion, (borne out also by the desires of the Indians themselves,) that it would be better for them could these goods be commuted into money. Certainly it would be much cheaper to the government of the United States should it be done, so long as so much loss and risk attend their transportation hither.

I have made out and forwarded applications for bounty land for all the Seminoles who are entitled to draw it. The distribution of these warrants, though confined to a small number, will aid the people,

and afford a motive for their loyalty to the United States government.

I have to report that no schools are now in active operation among the Seminoles, Mr. Lilley, Presbyterian missionary among them, having been absent for the benefit of his and family's health. Mr. Lilley's labors among this people have been arduous, and will, I hope, be productive of much good. His school and other instruction will shortly be resumed. He and his board seem to be the only persons who take any interest in these unfortunate and stigmatized Indians.

I regret to say that I cannot report any perceptible improvement the past year among the Seminoles; but it is not otherwise to be expected. Possessing no means of schools whatever, totally destitute of any and all kinds of instruction save the little afforded by benevolence, believing themselves neglected, how can it be supposed that they should improve? Were these means and instruction provided, I am confident, from my own judgment and from the desire evinced by the people to possess means of improvement, that the Seminoles would advance equally fast with their more favored brethren, the Creeks and Choctaws. It seems palpably prominent to my mind that the Seminoles, no matter how provocative their wars in Florida were, have been treated with neglect and injustice. Compelled to merge their tribal organization into that of the Creeks—an act which the larger portion of the tribe regard as arbitrary, unjust, and detrimental—it is strange that no facilities were furnished them for education and improvement. Possessing their own annuities, scant though they are, they should also have had their own school, farming, and blacksmith fund. They will not share with the Creeks in these, even were they invited so to do; and if any improvement is expected from them it will only be attained after a separation from the Creeks is effected, and the means of culture furnished them by the government.

During the summer I convened a council of the tribe, for the purpose of preparing a statement of their complaints, demands, and desires, to be by them communicated to the general Creek council in an amicable letter. In that letter they presented the grounds why they deemed themselves a separate and independent people, so far as any other tribe was concerned; and though they pledged themselves to abide the treaty of Fort Gibson, 1845, and to conform to all its provisions, yet they unanimously protested against that treaty as operating unjustly and injuriously to their people. There is no prospect of their ever becoming an amicable, integral part of the Creek tribe, and consequently, with that spirit in their present relation, no improvement among them can be hoped for. They earnestly desire a separation from the Creeks, and wish that they may be personally heard by the government of the United States, sometime during the ensuing session of Congress, through a delegation of their tribe, with their agent, sent for to Washington, when they will be able to make known all their grievances, claims, and desires. I think that such would be the speediest and least expensive manner of settling these people, of bringing them to improvement, and the *only* humane and practicable

way of inducing the Seminoles yet remaining in Florida to immigrate. That they never will consent to do so, in the present condition of the Seminoles west, is manifest to all who are at all conversant with these people and their character.

The discontent and complaint among the Seminoles at their connection with the Creeks have, during the time I have been in office, been confined to mere utterance. No violence has ever taken place.

I am of the opinion, from what I have heard said among them, that the Creeks themselves are also wearied of this union to their "troublesome neighbors," and that they are anxious for its end. They cannot live harmoniously. Complaints of Creeks against the Seminoles, of Seminoles against the Creeks, are continually arising. There is no such thing as unity between them, nor the prospect of it, and a disunion would result to the benefit of both tribes.

Justice to the Creeks causes me to say here, that the tribe, as a nation, in the midst of their own advancement, are desirous that the Seminoles should become a happy and improved people. But they must be satisfied that such a state cannot arrive under the present organization of the Seminoles. The latter, high spirited, and not always mindful of Creek laws and the treaty of 1845, are prone to disobey those laws, especially in the introduction of whiskey, not so much from a law-breaking spirit as from the thought that it is *Creek and not Seminole law*. This course arouses the ire of the Creeks, more, I apprehend, from the defiance of their law than from the loss of the good to be brought about by the law. Still, differences arise and ill feelings are engendered and fostered. On the other hand, the Seminoles complain that, in many transactions, the Creek laws are oppressive; that they are acts passed by councils to which they send no voice, (the Creeks have repeatedly invited them to take seats in their councils, but the Seminoles have refused to do so on the ground that they would thus recognize the right of Creek legislation over them,) and that therefore those laws are domineering, unequal, and unjust. Being enforced, or threatened to be so, by a numerical strength, the Seminoles are too disposed to defy or evade Creek laws as often as possible. Hence mutual recriminations.

I am firmly convinced that the Seminoles will continue thus to disregard Creek laws as often as they can, will continue to grow more and more discontented, will continue to become more unsettled, unless some steps are taken, until indeed they are separated from the Creeks upon fair and equitable terms and conditions as respect both tribes. In that event, and in no other, I verily believe that the Seminoles will improve in the same ratio as the Creeks have done; that the Creeks themselves will be benefitted, and that the two tribes will then live harmonious neighbors, which I know to be the sincere desire of the best spirits of each nation.

To the hope of this political separation from the Creeks the Seminoles are now anxiously turning, and the consequences of its finally proving but a false one will be deplorable. The feeling is become so strong that a great many of the Seminoles who have heretofore become Creeks, as it were, to all intents, are proposing to rejoin their tribe. The prospect upon the separation is favorable for the complete

reunion of the whole tribe in one settled body, should it please the government of the United States to allot the Seminoles a separate country.

I would here take occasion to say that the agency buildings are, save one cabin, in a completely ruinous condition, utterly untenable, and without accommodations for myself, visitors upon public business, and the Indians.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. WASHBOURNE,
United States Agent for Seminoles.

DR. C. W. DEAN,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Fort Smith, Ark.

No. 88.

OAK RIDGE, *August 20, 1855.*

DEAR SIR: I send you a short account of our station, labors and results among the Seminoles.

Since last writing no new buildings have been put up. However, we are in need of better houses, could we obtain the funds to build with. It is more to be regretted now than ever that this people were not granted a school fund by the United States government as well as the other tribes of Indians. When we first came among them they were very much prejudiced against the whites, and had no desire to have their children taught; but now they are anxious to obtain a place in school, and evidently begin to appreciate learning. Not long since the head chief, with evident satisfaction, used one of our school girls as an interpreter. To use his own words, he said, "She can talk it all." When this little girl first came to the mission she could not speak any English, and now she reads well and speaks quite plainly.

Our school began in October, and was continued until April, without any vacation. All the children were reading, more or less. Considerable progress has been made in writing and figures. One class has begun to study geography.

On the 30th of April Mrs. Lilley and I left our station to endeavor to obtain some medical relief for our eyes; Mrs. L.'s, in particular, were so much impaired as to hinder her very much in attending to her duties. We went as far as New York. Mrs. L.'s sight is improved. We reached this place again on the 28th of July.

It has been remarked that a great change has taken place among the Seminoles since we first came here. Their dress is much improved. For the most part, they are clean whenever they visit us. Their moral character is improving. There is less drinking. Religious meetings are better attended; twenty-four joined our church within the last year. The people are more disposed to be industrious. Last spring there was more corn planted than any former year. Had it been a

favorable season more would have been raised than the people needed, but I am sorry to say we have had but very little rain.

Allow me, in conclusion, to request you to urge upon the general government the claims of this people on its sympathy, to aid them in the work of education and civilization.

Do not think I have said too much on this subject.

I remain, as ever, yours, truly,

JOHN LILLEY.

J. W. WASHBOURNE, Esq.,

U. S. Agent for Seminoles, Seminole Agency.

No. 89.

UNITED STATES NEOSHO AGENCY,

August 23, 1855.

SIR: In accordance with a regulation of the Department of Indian Affairs, I submit this, my annual report. On the 12th of August, 1854, I concluded a treaty with the Quapaw tribe of Indians, agreeably to the letter of instructions received from the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with but one slight exception, which was explained in my letter transmitting the same on the 24th of that month. I also concluded a treaty, on the 23d of that month, with the "United Nation of Seneca and Shawnee Indians," agreeably to instructions, with but slight exceptions, which were also explained in my letter transmitting the same on the next day. I then made arrangements to meet the Osage tribe of Indians in their country, and did so, to negotiate a treaty with them, on the 25th of September, but, owing to many circumstances surrounding me, which were explained in my report of October 12, did not effect a treaty with them at that time; I am, however, of the opinion that a favorable treaty can be negotiated with them now, or hereafter, and have so advised the Office of Indian Affairs. For some reason, not known to the Indians, the treaties concluded with the Quapaws, Senecas, and Senecas and Shawnees, were not ratified by the United States Senate at its last session, and they are consequently somewhat disappointed, having expected to receive, the present year, the moneys stipulated in said treaties to be due them upon its ratification. A large portion of the lands purchased from these smaller tribes are of excellent quality, well watered and timbered, and, since the negotiations were concluded here in August last, there has visited this country a large number of people, from all parts of the Union, a great majority of whom have called upon me for information as to its being open for settlement, and, after learning the situation of the country, would leave, expressing great regret that they could not be permitted to make improvements, &c. The drought has been to an extent unknown by the oldest inhabitants, for the past fifteen months, throughout this whole section of country, so much so that it has been very alarming, foreshadowing a famine. The crops among the

smaller tribes looked well until quite lately, but, from present appearances, I would judge that they will not average more than one-half the usual yield. The Osages have nothing but buffalo meat, (the little corn they had planted, previous to their leaving on the spring hunt, having been cut off by the drought,) and in consequence of their being at war with the Comanches they have not a full supply of that. Their great propensity for stealing horses from other and neighboring tribes has made them many enemies, and I have urged upon them the great necessity of desisting from that custom, or they are bound to be great sufferers at the hands of their Great Father and the surrounding tribes—that their Great Father deprecated such a course to be pursued by his red children. The war declared last fall between the Osages and the Sac and Fox Indians has been amicably arranged by a reference of the whole affair to Judge B. A. James and myself, but how long they will continue friends I cannot vouch for; I am of the opinion that both tribes are inclined to commit depredations upon each other. The health of the smaller tribes, for the past year, has been good, but among the Little Osages the smallpox has prevailed to a great extent, some four hundred having died with the disease. Doctor Griffith was dispatched to their assistance, and, so soon as he could procure fresh virus, he vaccinated all he could find, a portion of them having gone out on the spring hunt; he also vaccinated the smaller bands within this agency. Dr. Griffith's report to me, setting forth his proceedings among the Osages, was transmitted by me to the Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs on the 18th of last month. Enclosed you will please find the report of Rev. Father Schoenmaker, superintendent Osage manual labor school; this institution has been so well conducted that it has gained good commendation from all persons who have visited it and been eye witnesses of the manner in which it is conducted by the superintendent and his associates, both in the male and female departments.

I would not be doing myself justice in permitting this report to close did I not commend this school to the most kind and fostering care of our government. I have never witnessed more devotion to the accomplishment of an object than is manifested by the conductors of this school. The small sum they have been receiving for the education of each child I am satisfied is not sufficient to defray their necessary expenses, after the observance of the most rigid economy. It is also, perhaps, proper for me to remark that their entire crop of corn, oats and garden vegetables has been destroyed by the grasshoppers, they having had some hundred acres under cultivation, and previous to their approach their crops bid fair for an abundant yield. These insects came in such numbers as fairly to obscure the light of the sun.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ANDREW J. DORN,
United States Neosho Agent.

Dr. C. W. DEAN,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

No. 90.

OSAGE MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
August 30, 1855.

SIR: To respond to your letter of August the 17th, I send you my annual report of the Osage manual labor school of the year 1855.

Our Osages advance but very little towards civilization; idle habits and reluctance to labor will soon doom many to a grave of dishonor; it is said that upwards of 400 Osages have died since last winter of smallpox and other contagious diseases. My connexion with them, during eight years, calls upon me to bear them testimony that they are a nation of superior natural talents, which, in the hearts of many a superficial observer, may leave hope of amelioration; but as long as idle habits and a lack of Christian morality prevail all hopes must fail with them. It is indeed visible that our Indians have become more affable, social and friendly to the white man; they frequently speak of making fields for their families, of raising stock of horses, cattle, hogs, &c; some have commenced, and abandoned making rails for fields, others have purchased hogs, and a few head of cattle. But soon all their hopes and resolutions disappear, being checked by unfavorable seasons. Others place their hopes upon the education of their children, but these, on leaving school, are without means to commence in the world. I can barely witness an increase of a few farms and somewhat slight propensity of imitating the white man. At our arrival in this nation we counted five farms, there are now twenty-five farms. Many of our Indians, if we may believe their words rather than their deeds, begin to value the benefit of education. Some, disregarding a national custom, abstain from boring and disfiguring the ears of their children; through the medium of education they may grow up accustomed to a civilized life. These parents impress on the minds of young children the idea that they are to learn, and to follow the life of the white man; and we have experienced that similar early impression upon the heart of a child produced good effect. Never did we witness, except of late, that children were sent to our school at their own request; nor had we, in any of the preceding years, the gratification of seeing the children at school unanimously satisfied, whence spring other blessings of filial obedience and docility, with the consoling fruits of morality and fast improvements in learning.

Some few of our first and oldest pupils are now settled in life; seem indeed happy and satisfied in their calling. But having never heard from the lips of parents that they were destined for a life of industry and comfort, they rather hope in the future education of their children, with whom they trust to find a comfortable home in old age. As these young parents seem to love their former teachers, and retain an attachment to the place where they have received an humble education, they visit us regularly on Sundays and solemnities; these visits and customs lead them perceptibly to better habits, and cannot but make salutary impressions upon the minds of the growing generations. It is a known fact that the female education was undervalued, at our

arrival in this nation; but ere long the female establishment will carry in number the victory over the male department. We have always desired it, for a good mother will raise good children. The kind and affectionate treatment which those mothers and children receive from their former female teachers cannot but have salutary and lasting effects.

Whilst we begin to taste some half-ripe fruits from the tree of education, our hearts are grieved because we can afford no assistance to those youths who leave our school with the view of helping their parents. We have used much solicitude and energy to attain this end; the small allowance of \$55, for board, tuition, clothing, &c., of each child is not sufficient to meet our expenses. We have been successful until now to collect donations, exclusive from government allowance, to the amount of \$800 per annum, but the hope of receiving these donations no longer exists, nor do I see how to support this mission during the current year, having sustained the loss of our entire crop by a plague of grasshoppers.

J. SCHOENMAKERS.

Major ANDREW J. DORN

No. 91.

BRAZOS AGENCY, TEXAS, *September 10, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor, in compliance with the standing regulations of the department, to submit the following as my annual report:

You have been advised from time to time, during the past year, of the changes that have taken place in our Indian relations, and I deem it unnecessary again to allude to any of the occurrences brought to your notice on my arrival at Washington on the 23d January last; and on my return, the effects of the military movements last winter were duly reported by Special Agent Hill and myself.

Under your instructions of February 2, (as soon as I could possibly make the necessary arrangements,) I commenced the new policy of colonizing the Texas Indians on the lands set apart for them, but it was the 1st of March before it was possible to commence, which was so late in the season that it was impossible to expect any considerable success in farming this year.

As soon as the reservations were opened for settlement all the Indians immediately in the neighborhood assembled and selected their lands for farming purposes; and, although late, I instructed the special agent in charge to have some land prepared, and to assist such of the Indians as were willing to work in planting corn; the result was that there were about 400 acres of land planted, but owing to the extremely dry season experienced in this section, the yield has not been commensurate with the exertions made by the Indians to make their own bread. The Caddoes, Anadahkoes, Wacoos and Tahwacorroes are the tribes who have been most forward in farming, and there is no doubt but they will, after the next crop, be able to

make their own bread. Accompanying, I beg leave to submit Special Agent Hill's report of 31st August, which will inform you more in detail in regard to his operations.

There are now settled on this reservation, as you will perceive by reference to the census rolls herewith enclosed, 794 Indians of the following tribes, to wit: 205 Anadahkos, 188 Caddoes, 136 Tahwallores, 94 Wacoos, and 171 Tonkahwas. They embrace a majority of the above tribes, and it is confidently expected that before the end of the present fiscal year, the whole of them will be settled down permanently. As regards the Indians already settled down on this reservation, I must say that, for good behavior, morality, and industry they have far exceeded my most sanguine expectations; there has not been, within my knowledge, a single case of drunkenness, and not a gallon of spirits sold on the reservation; this is simply the result of the wishes of the Indians themselves, as there has been no police, and there has been but one depredation committed, as far as known, upon any of the white settlers in the neighborhood; when application was made to the chief, the offender was immediately given up and reparation made. I must say, that a more peaceful and quiet settlement does not exist in any portion of Texas than is now found on this reservation, and all that visit it are astonished at the progress made by the Indians in the arts of civilized life. So far as the tribes above named are concerned, the policy now pursued can no longer be called an experiment.

There are now settled on the reservation on Clear Fork, Brazos, 277 Comanches. The season was so far advanced before they could be located that it was impossible to commence farming operations this season, but from the disposition evinced by them, and the willingness with which they have submitted to all the requisitions of the agents, and from their anxiety to remain as permanent settlers, I have no doubt of success in their settlement, and that in a short time the whole southern band will settle down. You will perceive, by the census roll, that their numbers are gradually increasing. It has been very difficult to do away with the mistrust engendered by the military movements last winter, and it will require time and great care to make them understand the advantages of the present policy. I do not consider our exertions, so far, a test of what may be done to settle them down, as they were only removed to their lands about the 1st of June, and the changes in the Indian agents have rendered it impossible to give them a resident agent on the reservation; consequently, their settlement has not, as yet, assumed that degree of permanency which is apparent on the lower reservation. Having to devote my whole time to the duties that should be properly discharged by the resident agents, I have had no opportunity of negotiating with any of the bands who are now absent. I confidently expect, during the present fall, a large increase to the Comanche settlements; I have been for about two months in correspondence with the chief, Sanaco, who went off last winter; he has promised to come in this fall. In accordance with your instructions, (to establish temporary rules for the government of the reservations,) I, in concert with Special Agent Hill, have done so; the Indians acknowledging the treaty of 1846 as still

binding, I deemed it most proper to base our action on that treaty, and to place the additional articles, deemed necessary for the government of the Indians settled down, as a supplement to that treaty; consequently, on the 27th day of August, all the chiefs and principal men of the several bands at Brazos agency were assembled in council, and the accompanying document and letter, which I beg leave to submit as a portion of this report, marked A, was agreed upon with great unanimity. I have full confidence that the Indians, parties to this agreement, will adhere strictly to their agreements, and I would respectfully recommend our action to your approval.

The depredations committed on our frontier during the past spring have been confined entirely to the Comanches, with the exception of some forays made by Indians on the Rio Grande, who are supposed to be parties of Lipans, Seminoles, &c., who have located in Mexico. During the months of May and June last, there was a large number of horses stolen, and one or two men murdered; in two instances the trail was followed to a considerable distance into the country occupied by the northern Comanches, but there being no efficient military force on this portion of the frontier, the depredators could not be overtaken. The evidence is full that they were northern Comanches, and my investigations show that they are the parties who have stolen most of the horses taken from our frontier citizens during the past year. This has been the case for the last two years. The bands, parties to the Fort Laramie treaty, come far south during the winter, and remain quiet until the time arrives for them to go north to meet the agents and receive their annual presents; so soon as their families are placed out of reach, the warriors are sent down to foray on our settlers, and when pursued they go so far north that they cannot be overtaken. Those Indians receive \$10,000 annuity annually; they have stolen more property this summer from our settlement than that amount would pay for. I cannot possibly see any good arising from an annual distribution of presents to those prairie bands when they are turned loose to depredate again as soon as they receive the goods; it only enables them the better to subsist in their roving life, and, in fact, proves highly detrimental to the course of policy now being pursued with the Indians on this frontier, but affords no additional security to either travellers or the actual settlers. I think the policy at this day a bad one, and would respectfully suggest that the annuity be given only to those who settle down and cultivate the soil. Those prairie bands of Comanches and Kiowas, as they are now situated, commit very serious depredations on the settlements of Texas, and continue their forays into Mexico. They have now a large number of horses and prisoners that have been stolen, both from our frontier and from Mexico, and it is certainly time that the general government should take efficient action, not only to make them restore the stolen property and prisoners, but to abandon their roving life and come fully under the control of the government. A mere chastisement by military force will not accomplish the object; they must be provided for similar to the mode now being pursued towards the Indians of Texas, and forced, if force is necessary, to abandon forever their pre-

datory habits. It is all a mistake to suppose that the Comanches cannot be controlled and settled down; they are as intelligent, and more crafty, than any other of our prairie bands, and, at the same time, will maintain their roving and depredating habits as long as they can. They will yield to the whites and avoid a war with us whenever they find that the government has resolved to use force, if necessary, to comply with its policy. I have watched closely the disposition of the Comanches now settled; and their head chief, being a great personal friend and a man of much intelligence, I have conversed freely with him; he fully sustains me in the above views, and says, "if the United States will act energetically and in good faith," all the Comanches will settle down; but it is absolutely necessary to have a police sufficient to punish those who are refractory.

Although six months have only passed since the initiation of the present policy, it has attracted the attention of all the Indians within reach, and I have had application from the Wichitas, and a number of other Indians who do not belong to Texas, for permission to settle on the reservations, but in conducting the settlements I conceived it to be my duty to prohibit the introduction of any Indians not properly belonging to Texas.

There can be no doubt of the success of the policy, so far as the Texas Indians proper are concerned, and I would earnestly commend it to the fostering care of the general government as the most humane and economical that could possibly be followed, and one that, in a very short time, will relieve our frontier forever from the scenes of murder and theft that have retarded the extension of civilization for so many years.

As I have from time to time, in my monthly reports, made such suggestions as were deemed necessary at the time, to render the service efficient, I deem it unnecessary to recapitulate.

Herewith you will find annual estimates of funds required for the support of Indians settled, pay of agents, interpreters, &c., &c., which will explain themselves; you will perceive that the whole amount required is \$89,658 50, embracing \$5,000 for the establishment of a mission and school, against \$101,430, appropriated last year for Texas Indian service; this estimate is made to embrace the employment of three farmers and five laborers to assist and instruct the Indians in the preparation of their farms. Although I have deemed it proper to estimate for bread stuff, it is confidently anticipated that, with the assistance afforded them in the preparation of their farms, there will be a surplus of corn raised on both reservations next year; as the tribes, parties to the supplemental treaty, evinced every disposition to sustain themselves,

Provision has already been made to furnish the Indians now settled with stock cattle, wagons, and teams, ploughs and all necessary farming utensils this fall, and you will perceive by reference to the 8th article of the supplemental treaty that they have given full guarantees for their proper use; besides, by the employment of reliable men as farmers, who will be placed in charge of the articles given them for farming purposes, it will insure their proper application.

Enclosed, marked "B," you will find a communication from the Rev. John W. Phillips of the Methodist Episcopal church, in regard to the establishment of a mission, and my answer thereto. You will perceive, by reference to the census rolls, that there are on the two reservations 344 children under 12 years of age, and all of the tribes now settled here are anxious to have a school for their children; the Comanches are equally as anxious as the other tribes. Mr. Phillips, in all probability, will submit, in the course of the present fall, propositions for establishing a mission and school at Brazos agency. I would commend the matter to your favorable consideration, as nothing would tend more to give permanency to our efforts in behalf of the Indians of Texas than the introduction of schools and the introduction of the English language among the children.

My efforts, and those of the agent who has co-operated with me, have been directed particularly to give individuality to the Indians, and to teach them the value of property, and as soon as possible, to encourage each head of a family to settle and cultivate his own farm, raise his own stock, &c., as I am fully convinced that all progress in civilization must be slow while tribal rights are maintained; and my convictions are strong that the policy of the general government should be, at as early a period as possible, to dissolve all tribal rights, and to bring the Indians under the influences and protection of civil laws as individuals.

I have always held the opinion that it was preposterous to acknowledge or treat with tribes of Indians as a nation, nor could I ever bring myself to acknowledge that they should exercise any vested rights that could not be adjudicated by the civil laws of the State or Territory in which they reside; although that is my firm conviction, yet, until that policy can be carried into effect, and proper legislation had in States and Territories where Indians are located, it would be proper that the intercourse laws should be proclaimed and enforced; and I much regret that action was not taken to extend them over the reservations in Texas, as provided for by the State in the grant of land and jurisdiction. It is absolutely necessary for the Indians now settled on the reservations to have the protection of law; the trade and intercourse with them must be regulated, and their property and lives protected; and in the absence of any State laws that would insure them protection, I would earnestly recommend the extension of the intercourse laws over the Texas reservations at the next session of Congress. The reservations are now being surrounded by a white population, and unless there is some mode of giving protection to the Indians, it must eventually create serious difficulties.

In all my actions as the supervising agent, I have been governed strictly by your instructions of the 2d of February, and have adopted a strict system of accountability, and have made no expenditure for any other purpose than those contemplated by the appropriation.

That the Indians who have settled on the reservations have made progress commensurate with the expenditure is beyond doubt; in fact they have far exceeded the hopes of the most sanguine, and it is only necessary to visit the reservations and see the improved condition of

the Indians, and compare it to what it was, to convince the most skeptical that the one now pursued is the true policy for our wild Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
Supervising Agent Texas Indians.

CHARLES E. MIX, Esq.,
*Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.*

No. 92.

BRAZOS AGENCY, TEXAS, *August 31, 1855.*

SIR: In obedience to the regulations of the Indian Bureau, I deem it proper for me to submit a condensed statement of the operations of this agency since my last annual report, previous to being relieved from duty, in obedience to your instructions of this date.

A detailed account of my movements on this portion of the frontier, subsequent to my last annual report, is given in my communication of the 15th December last, up to which time it will be seen that nothing intervened to check the constantly increasing friendly dispositions and desire for permanent location on the part of each tribe, specially in charge of this agency, as well as of the Peneticoks or southern band of Comanches, which had located on this portion of the frontier preparatory to final settlement, visited and conferred with freely in an assembled condition, in the latter part of November, and again early in December last. In January, Sanaco, one of the chiefs of this band, with probably about eight hundred souls, fled precipitately from his encampment on the waters of the Clear Fork, sending runners to advise Katemse (in charge of the remaining portion of their band) to follow him. This alarm was caused by a communication from a German, who had taken upon himself the responsibility of a trade with these people, (a Mr. Leyendecker,) made through a party of Sanaco's people, who had visited Chadbourne for trade, as follows, as near as close investigation has enabled me to procure it: taking a "paper," and looking at it for some time, he (Leyendecker) said, "if you want anything more, trade quickly, mount your horse, go to Sanaco's camp, and tell him the white people are collecting together to kill him and all his people, I see it on this paper; tell him, if he wishes to live, to go to the north as quick as possible—do not eat, sleep, or rest, until you give him this talk from his friend." Katemse chose to remain, submitting his claims for protection under the treaty of 1846 and the more recent guaranties of the government through the agents. The assembling of white people, alluded to by Mr. L., was doubtless that of the expedition against Indians, alluded to by you in your instructions of the 7th January, received by me on the 22d same month, requiring my coöperation in the objects of the expedition, so far as necessary, and the use of all proper means for

the protection and security of the friendly tribes, enclosing a copy of instructions to agent Howard. Having received no proper notice of the expedition, and that communicated by you being founded on common report, and believing it due the Indian service that the agents residing among the Indians were entitled to more definite information in reference to the real objects and intended movements, I at once addressed Captain Calhoun of 2d dragoons, who, report said, would command the expedition, and agent Howard at Fort Chadbourne, to neither of which did I receive a reply.

Early in the month of February I learned that the expedition had moved from Chadbourne, and not being able to procure anything *written*, I sought a personal interview with the commanding officer, by visiting in person his camp at "Camp Wait," near "Phantom Hill," who informed me that his orders were such that he should feel it his duty to chastise in a summary manner such Indians as he might meet, particularly the southern Comanches, and that he had issued similar orders to his command. After protesting against the molestation of any of the friendly tribes, enumerating them, and communicating such information as I possessed relative to the position and condition of hostile tribes, I returned to the main Brazos, where it required all my efforts, with such aids as I could procure, to allay the numerous doubts and fears arising from the many, and to them, unfavorable reports, in circulation, relating to the objects of the expedition; some of which are made known in the accompanying copy of instructions from the assistant adjutant general to the officer commanding the expedition, dated at Corpus Christi, January 30, 1855, marked A; and how far this corresponds, in its spirit, with the treaty of 1846, and subsequent guaranties, may be readily noted by the Department of the Interior. I also enclose copies of my reports of the 25th of January, marked B, and of February 11, 1855, marked C, as statements made at the time of facts as they transpired.

I have been induced to say this much in detail, in this report, (which should be general,) by some remarks made by Gen. P. F. Smith, commanding this military department, in his reports to the government, in which he charges the Indian agents of Texas with neglect of duty and interference with military operations, "lounging about cities," &c., and have felt myself justified in doing so, having been the resident agent on this portion of the frontier, where nearly all the friendly tribes of Indians in Texas were at that time communicated with, and having been constantly on active duty during the year, up to 1st June, when I obtained a short leave, keeping myself, the supervising agent and the commanding officer at Fort Belknap, (the nearest military post,) fully advised of every change and movement in this part of the Indian service; and had Gen. Smith possessed himself, by his personal observation, of the same knowledge of our Indian relations, the fact of his being in command of this department justifies me in saying, that the views of justice and policy, which seem to have predominated in the plans of the expedition originated in Corpus Christi, would not have been entertained by him; or had the facts been freely and properly communicated to the Indian agents in charge of the friendly tribes, (to which they were certainly entitled, before making war on those

tribes with which they moved and slept,) many of the evil effects which have followed in its train would have been avoided.

In obedience to your instructions of March, 1855, covering a copy of those from the Indian Bureau to you of February 2, 1855, I have located and settled on this reservation seven hundred and ninety-two Indians; there are yet north of Red river near two hundred Wacoos, Tawaccoroos, Caddoes, and Anadahcoes, entitled to settlement here. Recent runners returned here from that section report that the Wichita chief informed them that he has been told, through Black Beaver's guide and interpreter, at Fort Arbuckle, that arrangements are making to settle them there with the Wichitas, and that much is to be given them there, &c., if they remain. How this is I cannot say, but would suggest the propriety of ascertaining the facts, being, if true, in conflict with the recommendations from this agency, and if false, needs a remedy. The people that are settled evince a willing disposition to aid the efforts in their behalf by every means in their power, so far as their limited knowledge extends, in the acquisition of which they are making rapid progress. They are busily engaged in building houses, enclosing lands, &c. I ploughed and planted in corn, at an expenditure of \$1,750, two hundred and ninety-five acres of land. The late period of planting, and dry weather, caused the yield to be probably but little over one thousand bushels, and much of this, with their own patches, was consumed in roasting ears, on account of the difficulty of procuring for issue a regular supply of bread stuffs. One hundred acres in addition have been ploughed without planting, at an expense of three hundred and eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents. The lands were cultivated by the Indians, and upon which they raised a good supply of melons, pumpkins, &c.

Public buildings have been put up for use at this agency, viz: house for agents, kitchen, storeroom, two houses for employés, and blacksmith's shop, at a cost of eighteen hundred and sixty dollars. The Comanches were removed from this to the reservation on Clear Fork in May last, previous to which time they had been temporarily located here.

I have in employment at this agency two farmers, instructing the Indians in farm labor, use of tools, plans for their villages, houses, farms, &c., and two laborers to aid the farmers, and one blacksmith repairing guns, farming utensils, wagons, and other smith's work found necessary for government use. Their appointments are made temporarily, as I have received no instructions to make them permanent. I would recommend that this be done; that one or two additional laborers be employed; that the farmers and blacksmiths may give bonds and receipt for property, and be required to report regularly. This will be the more necessary on the procurement of the proper supply of farming utensils, iron, steel, &c., this fall, necessary for the service.

As I am about to retire from duty as an Indian agent, and go to my farm and family near the frontier of Texas, in the vicinity of which I have lived for nearly twenty years, and expect to remain during life, I hope I will be indulged here in expressing my ardent desire that nothing may intervene to cause the United States to change the pre-

sent pacific policy towards our Indian population. I have been upon the borders of Texas in war, and felt the evils. I was a party to much of the negotiation with these people in 1842, and have been present at many councils since. The last twenty-six months I have spent almost constantly among them, and think I know them and the country, the difficulties to be encountered in bringing military force to bear upon them, and the facilities with which their movements can be controlled and their dispositions changed, their minds enlightened, and condition improved by kindness. We have a country, once occupied by them, worth millions. Let us improve *their* condition by its acquisition, and save blood and treasure that would be expended by *forcing* a war upon them, for if had with those settled on this reserve it must be forced. I have been long convinced of the importance of the adoption of the present policy; to be in a condition to recommend it was the great object of accepting the agency; yet the progress made by the Indians at this agency has far exceeded my own expectations. They are very poor, but not indolent. They are not a thoughtless people; they will deal justly by those who grant them justice. With proper aid for a short period, they will produce of themselves a surplus, and I have no doubt that pacific efforts, properly directed by the Departments of War and Interior in concerted action, through agents who understand their execution, would, in a few years, bring every Indian in Texas or upon its borders to the position now occupied by those at this agency.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. HILL,
Special Agent for Texas Indians.

R. S. NEIGHBORS, Esq.,
Special and Supervising Agent.

No. 93.

BRAZOS AGENCY, TEXAS, *September 30, 1855.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the following as my report. On the 1st day of September, 1855, I entered upon the duties of my office as special Indian agent at this agency. Everything went on smoothly until the 14th instant, when an express arrived here from Fort Belknap, and informed me of the murder, by two Indians, of an old settler, Mr. Skidmore, ten miles above the post.

On the receipt of the news, which was late in the night, I dispatched runners to the different tribes or bands of Indians, actual settlers on this reservation, informing them that there had been a murder committed by the upper Comanches, and wished their assistance early next morning to pursue the murderers. A little before sunrise the next morning I had sixty-six well armed and mounted men ready for the pursuit. After issuing them provisions and ammunition, we started for the residence of Mr. Skidmore, (where he was murdered,) took the trail, and followed them for two days, and found that they

had taken a course south to the settlements. The Indians were very eager to overtake the murderers; we rode at a brisk rate, but finding that their course led to the settlements, they thought it would be impossible to overtake them, from the fact that they would steal fresh horses and remount, and our horses had by this time, many of them, broken down.

Again, on or about the 20th instant, a party of Comanches stole from the Indians at this reservation some forty head of horses; I immediately sent a party of thirteen Indians in pursuit, who have not returned up to this date.

These depredations, so frequently occurring, I can attribute to nothing else than the insufficiency of the troops now stationed on this frontier to protect the settlers, and also that protection promised the Indians now settled on this reservation. I have, therefore, thought proper to let small parties go out scouting, as I have been requested, both by the friendly Indians as well as citizens. These depredations, so frequently occurring, have a tendency to keep the Indians excited; otherwise, they are perfectly contented with their new homes.

I have the honor also to enclose you my account current and returns, which I hope, on examination, will be found correct.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. ROSS, *Special Indian Agent.*

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,

Supervising Agent Texas Indians, Brazos Agency, Texas.

P. S. During this month there has been no additional arrivals to any of the tribes or bands of Indians now settled on this reservation.

S. P. ROSS.

No. 94.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Santa Fé, September, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following brief annual report of the condition of Indian affairs in this superintendency during the past year.

At the date of my last year's report, both the Jicarilla and Mescalero bands of the Apache tribe of Indians were in open hostilities, robbing and murdering our citizens whenever a favorable opportunity presented itself, and the Mohuache band of Utahs were occupying a very equivocal attitude, which soon resulted in hostilities on their part also. These bands continued their depredations with great success until the month of January, 1855, when Lieutenant Sturgis, with a party of dragoons and citizens, followed a party of about ten Mescaleros, who had been committing depredations near this place, whom he overtook, and killed nearly the whole party; and during the month of February, Captain Ewell made an expedition into the Mescalero country, with a party of dragoons, when he was attacked

in the night by the whole band, but defeated the Indians with great loss. Shortly after this last expedition, a delegation of Mescaleros presented themselves to Agent Steck, at Fort Thorn, and sued for peace; but not feeling himself authorized to treat with them, he entered into an armistice until I could be consulted upon the subject; and on the 10th of June I arrived at Fort Thorn, and concluded a treaty of peace with this band, which has heretofore been enclosed to you.

During the last spring and summer several very successful expeditions were made against the Mohuache Utahs and Jicarilla Apaches, under the command of Colonels Fountleroy of the United States army, and St. Vaian of the New Mexican volunteers, which caused these Indians great loss and suffering. Hence, early in August, a delegation on the part of these two bands presented themselves to me and sued for peace also, and I appointed to meet both bands on the Chama river above Abiquiu, on the 10th instant; this meeting was held at the time and place designated, and resulted in treaties of peace with both bands, which treaties will be forwarded to you by the mail which carries this report; and I can now have the pleasure of informing you that peace has once more been restored to this territory.

During the past summer I have also negotiated treaties with the Mimbres Apaches, the Navajoes, and the Capote Utahs; all of which have been enclosed to you, and each treaty contains a stipulation requiring the Indians to *cultivate* the land assigned to them.

When I met the Mescaleros, at Fort Thorn, for the purpose of negotiating a treaty of peace with them, I found these Indians in the most destitute condition imaginable. I relieved their immediate wants, and directed Agent Steck to issue to them a limited amount of provisions, from time to time, as they might apply for relief and their necessities seem to require it. I found the Jicarillas to be in the same destitute condition, and also relieved their most pressing wants, giving to Agent Labadi similar instructions to those given to Agent Steck relative to the Mescaleros.

The Mimbres Apaches are improving their condition. They have commenced planting corn, this season, on a limited scale; and Agent Steck informs me that they seem pleased with their new avocation, and express a great desire to increase their fields next spring. He also informs me that they have fair prospects for good crops. I have confident hope that, with judicious management, these Indians will be in a flourishing condition before the expiration of many years.

The Navajoes may be said to be in a highly flourishing condition. They have remained at home for several years, committing but few depredations, and such as have been committed by the bad men of the tribe are not justified by any considerable number of their people. As an evidence of this, I would refer to the fact of a Navajoe having killed a soldier during the last winter at Fort Defiance, and these Indians having arrested the murderer when Agent Dodge demanded him, and their having hanged him in the presence of their agent and all the officers stationed at that post. These Indians have been cultivating the soil, to a limited extent, for several years, and this season have about five thousand acres of corn under cultivation, together

with a small quantity of wheat, some potatoes, and other vegetables. They have a large number of sheep and horses, some mules and cattle, and are manufacturing blankets, and other articles of clothing, in increased quantities. I feel confident that there has been a decided improvement in the condition of these Indians within the last two years, and I feel equally confident that judicious management and the fostering care of the government will soon make them a prosperous, happy, and contented people.

The Capote Utahs have remained at peace during the continuance of our other Indian difficulties; and have, at length, consented to begin to cultivate the soil for a subsistence, and I have strong hopes of their doing so successfully.

There are several bands of the Apache tribe of Indians inhabiting the country watered by the Gila river and its tributaries, of whom I have but little reliable information, which are generally known by the general name of Gila Apaches, but are divided into four distinct bands, viz: the Mogoyones, Coyoteros, Garroteros, and Tontos. No direct official intercourse has ever been opened with any of these bands that I am apprised of; and the little information in my possession, relative to their condition, habits, &c., is derived from a few travellers and hunters who have passed through their countries, all of whom represent them as roving bands who live by the chase, and commit depredations upon travellers and their more civilized Indian neighbors, whenever a favorable opportunity occurs.

A more intimate knowledge of the Indians of this Territory induces me to correct the estimate of their numbers, contained in my last annual report; and I now submit the following estimate, with the suggestion that the data upon which the number of the several bands called Gila Apaches is based is of an uncertain character.

I estimate the number of Mescaleros at one hundred and fifty warriors, and from seven hundred to seven hundred and fifty souls; the Mimbres Apaches at one hundred and seventy-five warriors, and from eight hundred to eight hundred and fifty souls; the Jicarellas at sixty warriors, and from two hundred and fifty to three hundred souls; the Mogoyones at one hundred and twenty-five warriors, and from five to six hundred souls; the Coyoteros at seven hundred and fifty warriors, and from three to four thousand souls; the Garroteros at one hundred and fifty warriors, and from seven to eight hundred souls; and the Tontos at two hundred warriors, and from eight to nine hundred souls. This estimate would give to the entire Apache tribe a total of about sixteen hundred warriors and seven thousand souls.

The Navajoes I would estimate at fifteen hundred warriors and seven thousand five hundred souls.

The Capote Utahs I would estimate at two hundred and fifty warriors, and one thousand souls; the Mohuaches at two hundred and fifty warriors, and one thousand souls, and the Pahutas at one hundred warriors, and from four to five hundred souls. This would give to the Utah tribe six hundred warriors, and about two thousand five hundred souls.

These estimates embrace all the Indians regularly living within this territory, except the Pueblo Indians, though the Utahs from Utah

Territory, the Kiowas, Cheyennes, and Arapahoes, from the Arkansas river, and the Comanches from Texas, often roam over portions thereof, and would give a total of 3,700 warriors, and 17,000 souls. Add to this estimate from eight to ten thousand Pueblo Indians, and the total Indian population of New Mexico will approximate 26,000, though I am inclined to the opinion that the estimates of travellers, as to the number of the Coyoteros, is too high.

Many depredations have been committed and many lives lost during the past year, of which you have been informed by the monthly reports of the several agents and myself, most of which are attributable to the Jicarilla and Mescalero Apaches, and the Mohuache Utahs, but as peace has been made with these bands strong hopes are entertained that similar occurrences will be rare in future.

During the past summer a party of Comanches, from Texas, visited me at this place, who informed me that they had been driven from their own country by the Osages, and expressed a desire to remain in this Territory permanently, but I declined giving them permission to do so, and directed them to return to their country, which they promised to do. These Indians surrendered to me a Mexican boy whom they had captured in Chihuahua, and otherwise behaved themselves very well whilst in this part of the Territory; but after leaving this place they committed several depredations upon our citizens, as I am informed, and they continue to remain in the southeastern portion of the Territory. I would, therefore, ask for instructions as to their disposition. Are they to be permitted to remain, or be forcibly removed?

I find great difficulty in preventing the sale of ardent spirits to the Indians, and so long as this practice is continued it will be impracticable to keep them in peace and quietude; and I am informed that many of our citizens gamble with them and win the presents given to them, leaving them as destitute as they were before the presents were delivered. As the treaties recently negotiated only extend the intercourse laws relative to the traffic in ardent spirits, over the Indian reservations and the country ceded, I would respectfully recommend that these laws be extended, by act of Congress, over the whole Territory, and that gambling with the Indians be made a penal offence.

The Pueblo Indians continue well disposed, and I can but reiterate the recommendations contained in my last annual report for their benefit, and as there is an act of the legislative assembly of the Territory constituting the several pueblos bodies politic and corporate, with powers to sue and be sued, &c., I would respectfully recommend that Congress should exercise the power reserved to it by the 7th section of the act establishing a territorial government for this Territory, by repealing this act of the legislative assembly. If this is not done, I feel confident that many of these pueblos will be reduced to want and broken up. These Indians are ignorant, and but little removed from a savage state, and interested persons stir up litigation between the different pueblos and between the Mexican population and the pueblos. As an evidence of the extent to which this practice has obtained, I would mention the fact of the pueblos of Acoma and Laguna having over twenty suits now pending between them, and when all

these are decided I fear the lawyers engaged and the officers of the courts will have claims for fees sufficient to cover all that the two pueblos are worth.

After concluding the treaties of peace with the Mohuache Utahs and Jicarilla Apaches, these Indians surrendered to me four Mexican boys who had been made prisoners during hostilities, who have been restored by me to their friends. I also delivered to the Jicarillas three of their people made captive by our troops, and will in a few days restore to the Mohuaches several children of this tribe captured by us.

Within the last year I have enclosed to you a large amount of claims of the citizens of this Territory for depredations charged to have been committed by the Indians. Many of these claims are doubtless good and valid against the government, and as the claimants are in many instances poor, and can ill afford to wait longer for their money, I would recommend their speedy adjustment. And as it is utterly impossible for the Indians to make restitution or satisfaction for these depredations, and to make a demand as the law requires would prove a source of great irritation, and would be attended with some cost, without any corresponding benefit arising therefrom, I would respectfully recommend that the intercourse act be so amended as to dispense with demands for satisfaction of claims arising previous to the conclusion of the late treaties.

I herewith enclose you the annual reports of Agents Dodge and Myers, the only two thus far received, and also my annual estimates.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. MERRIWETHER,
Governor and Sup't of Indians Affairs in New Mexico.
 Hon. G. W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 95.

[Translation.]

ABIQUIU AGENCY, NEW MEXICO,
Cañon de Reaño, August 31, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, about the first of this month, I collected the Capote Utahs and the principal men of the Navajoes that live in the Capote Utah country.

I brought these Indians into my agency at Abiquiu on the 8th instant, where they were to meet his excellency Governor Merriwether, and after they had expressed their desire to remain at peace with the United States, all the principal men of the tribe signed a treaty of peace with pleasure, as presented to them by his excellency, obligating themselves to commence cultivating the soil in the spring of the coming year.

They understood me, and were satisfied with each article of the treaty.

During the time that I was in the Capote country two Jicarilla Apaches stole from me three animals—mine, my interpreter's, and servant's; of these I have recovered two, which were delivered to me by the chiefs of the Capotes, who went in pursuit of them, for which service, in recovering a government horse, I have paid them ten dollars, with which they remain perfectly satisfied.

Further, during the time I remained with the Capotes, some of the principal Mohuache and Jicarilla Apache Indians came to see me daily, asking for peace, and represented to me their impoverished condition, and that they wished to relieve themselves of the suffering produced by the war, as their people were dying from famine. Accordingly I laid before his excellency the governor the requests and desires of these Indians. Through persuasion I induced some ten of the principal Mohuache and Jicarilla Indians to proceed in my company to Santa Fé, to hold a talk with his excellency, which was held on the 21st instant. His excellency then directed that the Mohuache and Jicarilla Apaches should assemble at the Vega of Reaño, near Abiquiu, on the 10th of September next; also, ordering that I should supply them on their return with fifty head of sheep and thirty fanegas of corn, so that they and their families might be supplied with food while awaiting the time fixed to conclude the treaty of peace.

LORENZO LABADI, *Indian Agent.*

Hon. GEO. W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 96.

UTAH AGENCY, TAOS, NEW MEXICO,
September 26, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following in regard to Indian affairs in my agency during the present month.

On the 2d instant, near Mora, two pastors were captured and one man killed. One of the pastors has made his escape from the Indians; he was in captivity four days. On the same day two pastors in the employ of Señor Juan Maus, on Rio Acate, were captured, and twelve head of cattle, average value twenty-five dollars per head, the property of Lucien B. Maxwell, was driven off from the Rayado. The two pastors captured on the Acate remained in captivity some fifteen days. They say that the Indians brought them and other property to the cañon of Red river, and there concealed the animals they had, and proceeded to the neighborhood of San Miguel for the purpose of stealing. The larger boy at the cañon of Red river made his escape, and, arrived at San Miguel, informed the Mexicans of the animals concealed in cañon of Red river. A party returned with him, and found animals as he had stated, and on their return to San Miguel they met the party of Indians, which the boy had informed them had gone to the neighborhood of San Miguel for the purpose of stealing. They had with them several animals. The Mexicans attacked them

and rescued the boy that was still in their possession, who had been captured at Acate.

On the 8th instant I left my agency for the purpose of attending the treaty to be held at Abiquiu on the 10th. I made it my duty to pass by Embudo and Rio Aniba, for the purpose of ascertaining the whereabouts of the Utah captive reported to have been sold, but without success.

On the 10th and 11th I attended the treaty. I think the Mohuaches and Jicarillas that were present were serious in that which they said, and in all probability will remain friendly for a long period. The Indians that are now committing depredations are those who have lost their families during the war. They consider they have nothing further to live for than revenge for the death of those of their families that were killed by the whites; they have become desperate; when they will ask for peace I cannot say.

Respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 C. CARSON,
Indian Agent.

Hon. D. MERRIWETHER,
Sup't Indian Affairs, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

Mr. Carson does not inform me what Indians committed these depredations, though the last part of his report would leave the impression that they were committed by the Jicarilla Apaches. I am of the opinion that the Comanches are the guilty party, because it is scarcely probable that the Apaches would be guilty of such acts after they had sued for peace, and before peace was made, and then meet me in council but a few days thereafter. In addition to this it is positively known that the Comanches had been about the cañon of Red river both before and after the date of these depredations, and the Comanches and Jicarilla Apaches are hostile to each other. It is to be regretted that Agent Carson did not ascertain from the prisoners what Indians they were.

D. MERRIWETHER,
Gov. and Sup't Indian Affairs, New Mexico

No. 97.

VANCOUVER, W. T., October 6, 1855.

SIR: We are on the eve of an Indian war; how far it may extend, or how long it may last, are at present but questions of vague conjecture.

I send you herewith by this mail copies of the Oregonian and Weekly Times, containing all the reports and rumors that are in cir-

ulation, deeming that from them you will obtain the most full and complete account of the existing state of Indian affairs in this quarter.

I regret to inform the department of the death of Sub-agent Bolen; the particulars of his death are contained in a letter from General Palmer to myself, a copy of which is herewith enclosed. Mr. Bolen was a most excellent and efficient agent. The Indian service has lost an officer not easily to be replaced. He has fallen fearlessly in the discharge of his duty, and it is to be hoped will be amply avenged. While in camp in the Spokane country, awaiting the return of Governor Stevens from the Blackfeet council, he was informed by Spokane Garry, the chief of the Spokanes, that the Yakimas had killed eight white men on their way to the Pend' Oreille mines, and that they intended to wage war against the whites; he determined immediately to proceed to the Yakima country and ascertain the truth of the reports. He accordingly proceeded to the Dalles, and on Tuesday, September 18, left for the Catholic mission in the Yakima, since which nothing was heard from him till the news of his death was brought in by an Indian dispatched by Agent Olney of Oregon to ascertain his fate.

As soon as information arrived of the hostility of the Indians, acting Governor Mason made a requisition on the military posts at Steilacoom and Vancouver for troops at once to be put in the field to quell the disturbance. Captain Malony, the commanding officer at Steilacoom, at once dispatched Lieutenant Slaughter with a force of 50 men. Major Rains, commanding at Fort Vancouver, sent orders to Major Haller, at the Dalles, who promptly left with a command of 190 men and a mountain howitzer for the scene of hostilities. Lieutenant Slaughter will cross the Cascade mountains by the Nah Chess pass, and unite with Major Haller. It is to be hoped that the force will prove sufficiently strong to inflict a severe punishment upon the Indians, and thus check the war at the outstart. Should such not be the case, it is much to be apprehended that they will be joined by a large portion of the Walla-Wallas, Pelouses, and Conguses, all of whom are turbulent.

The Yakimas and Clickatats, from all the information that can be obtained, have at present in the field about six hundred warriors.

It is only by the most active and energetic measures that a protracted Indian war will be prevented. The settlers in every direction are alarmed; the whole country is in a state of extreme excitement.

I shall dispatch an express tomorrow to Governor Stevens, to inform him of the state of affairs. I regret his absence, as his thorough knowledge of the Indians, his great influence over them, and his untiring energy, would be of much service in the present crisis.

I attribute the cause of the outbreaks amongst the Yakimas and Clickatats to the rumors that have been afloat, and obtained credence amongst the Indians, that Governor Stevens and his party had been massacred by the Blackfeet, and Major Haller and his command had been defeated by the Snakes, in his recent expedition against them. Believing that the whites were about to be overthrown in every direction, and having for some time been disaffected towards them, they deemed that the proper moment had arrived to gratify their enmity.

I have appointed B. T. Shaw, who has been for some time connected with the Indian Department in this territory, special Indian agent, in place of Mr. Bolen, who at the time of his death had been assigned to the Yakima agency, and submit the same to the approval of the department. Mr. Shaw left two days since to join Major Haller.

Mr. Crosbie, of Governor Stevens' party, under instructions of the governor, of which the department, I believe, is advised, has just arrived from Fort Benton, and will return on Monday, to take charge of the camp and the Indian goods and supplies in the Spokane country.

Very respectfully,

J. CAIN,

Acting Sup't Indian Affairs, Washington Territory.

Hon. Mr. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington.

No. 98.

DALLES, October 3, 1855.

DEAR SIR: There can no longer be any doubt as to the hostile intention of the Yakimas and Clickatats, nor can there be of Agent Bolen's death, and that he was killed by direction of Camaekin. He was shot by the son of Showahway, and then, by the aid of three others, seized and his throat cut. They then shot his horse and made a fire over both and burned them up. Word was then conveyed to all the surrounding bands, informing them of what had been done and requesting them to unite with them in hostilities against the whites, and if they declined such invitation they would be treated as enemies, and their children made slaves of. This invitation has been generally declined, but individual members of the several bands have joined them. This information I received this morning from the chief of the Wacoos, and I feel quite satisfied of its correctness. The Clickatats, he tells me, are divided—the greater portion of those recently returned from the Umpqua and Willamette valley having joined the Yakimas, whilst a majority of those heretofore residing in the country have declined to do so.

Reports are in circulation going to show an unfriendly feeling on the part of the Deshoot bands of Indians, as also those of the Walla Wallas and Cayuses, but as yet it lacks confirmation. I think we will be able to keep them quiet.

An Indian by the name of Tum E Tas, who was recently arrested and placed in the guard-house at Fort Vancouver, is represented as being acting in concert with Camaekin and Skloom, a band over which he acts as chief, and only awaiting his return to unite with the disaffected or war party. It would be well to keep him in custody.

Major Haller with his command of 100 is on the eve of marching, having crossed the river last evening. He will, I think, remain till

morning, as it is doubtful whether he can reach camp, starting so late in the day. Do not fail to retain in custody Tum E Tas.

It might be well, if practicable, for you to come up, that we might jointly adopt measures to prevent a combination of the various tribes. A defeat in our first engagement with these bands would undoubtedly swell their numbers one hundred per cent., and I feel a good deal of solicitation on that account.

Major Haller's command are mostly recruits, but in a fair fight they will be able for three times their number. I am of opinion they may, at the start, bring into the field five hundred warriors, and if our troops should be repulsed we may expect a protracted war.

In haste, I am, sir, respectfully yours,

JOEL PALMER,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Captain CAIN, *Indian Agent,*
Vancouver, Washington Territory.

No. 99.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Utah Territory, Great Salt Lake City, September 29, 1855.

SIR: It gives me great pleasure to inform you of the steadily increasing success of the pacific policy, which you so properly and ably direct and advocate should be invariably pursued towards the red men, most wisely considering their degraded and ignorant condition, and advocating a course not only the least expensive to the general government, but the only one that promises any success in ameliorating the circumstances of a race who have long been a prey and enigma to their brethren, the whites.

As an incontestible proof of the last assertion, and an argument which you can use without fear of successful contradiction, the natives within Utah's borders are universally at peace among themselves, also with their white neighbors and the passing travellers; have begun to bend their unwilling backs to the useful toil of the laborer and husbandman, and realize the benefits thereof; and all this has been accomplished at far less expense than has ever been incurred under anything like similar circumstances. The force of this comparison, and the small amount disbursed for the attainment of such rapid beneficial and flattering results, will be readily appreciated by yourself and by all who are in the least familiar with the great number of numerous, wild, and unusually degraded tribes claiming this Territory for their home, few of whom, until quite recently, had ever seen the abodes of civilization.

True, the cheap rates at which these results have been attained have to be debited with the large amount of expense to our population accruing through the begging and thefts of the original settlers; yet, with this sum added, I am sanguine in the belief that Utah would compare much to her credit, in expenditures and results, by the side

of any other portion of our extensive territories; and I can but trust that your honor, and all candid men, will at once subscribe to the correctness of my briefly expressed though firm belief.

The hitherto small amount of expenditures; the expectation (rightfully, perhaps,) raised in the minds of the Mary's River Indians by Major Hurt's predecessor; the general understanding of the various tribes, through some source, that a large appropriation had long ago been made for the purpose of making treaties with them, and the actual extensive occupancy of their lands, will easily account for what might otherwise be deemed the large disbursements for the quarter now ending, more especially those made by Agent Garland Hurt; still, after a careful examination of all the accounts and reports now forwarded, I am not able to state in what particular the total could be lessened in justice, and presume the department will come to the same conclusion, and duly honor the corresponding drafts.

I have at different times divided the Territory, and allotted the agents and sub-agents, the last division being by the territorial road running north and south nearly through the centre, which was made on account of its definiteness and to accommodate the officers so far as consistent, all of whom hitherto have preferred to live in this city, with the late exception of Agent G. W. Armstrong, whos eresidence is at Provo. Death, changes, &c., have caused the last named line to remain until now, but as the present agents bid fair for a greater permanency, another division may ere long be deemed necessary.

On the 7th instant I had the gratification of meeting large bands of Shoshonees (Snakes) and Utahs in council in this city, where they made a "good peace," which I hope will prove lasting.

They came into this city during the latter part of August, had a friendly meeting on the 2d instant, and of course had to be fed and required presents; this I caused to be complied with as economically as my judgment could dictate, as will be seen by a portion of my own and Agent Hurt's vouchers. That you may become cognizant of the minute particulars of this visit, I take the liberty of forwarding to you Nos. 27 and 28, volume 5, of the Deseret News.

You will at once perceive that not only myself, but the subordinate officers of this superintendency, find it impossible, as proven by our united best endeavors and judgments, to carry out your admirable policy—which we all most heartily coincide with—except at considerable expense; hence may I not rely upon your powerful mediation with the next Congress for appropriations commensurate with the justice of the case and the magnanimity of our nation?

I take pleasure in forwarding the reports and accompanying papers of Agents Major Garland Hurt and Major G. W. Armstrong, for the quarter ending September 30, 1855, trusting that their suggestions will meet with due consideration, their papers prove every way acceptable, and their accounts be satisfactorily adjusted.

So far as careful supervision gives me information, I am happy in being able to commend the diligence, economy, and success of the few employes under our control.

To prevent future misunderstanding, permit me to enquire whether I have a right to request agents and sub-agents to lodge in my office

a copy of their quarterly reports and other documents of theirs, which the law requires me to examine and forward in addition to the one forwarded, and that remaining in their offices.

Owing to Mr. James Case (farmer for the Sandpitch Indians) having left for the States, I appointed Mr. Warren Snow in his place on the 2d of July last.

I transmit by the mail of October 1st, proximo, this my report, the account current, abstract return property, and vouchers, from 1 to 15, inclusive, for the quarter ending September 29, 1855; also abstract of employes, and have drawn upon you in favor of the Hon. John M. Bernhisel, Utah delegate, for \$2,949 50, that being the amount shown in the accompanying account current.

Trusting that this report may be found sufficiently explicit, and not tedious through minute detail, and that the accompanying above named papers may prove to be correct in accordance with prescribed requirement,

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

BRIGHAM YOUNG,
*Governor and ex-officio Superintendent
of Indian Affairs.*

Hon. GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington City, D. C.*

No. 100.

OFFICE INDIAN AGENT, UTAH TERRITORY,
Great Salt Lake City, September 30, 1855.

SIR: The duties of this agency during the quarter ending September 30, 1855, have been very arduous and expensive, but we have every reason to hope that they have not been performed in vain, and that much good will be the future result. Soon after my last report, the news of a hostile state of feeling among the Indians on the Humboldt river reached this place, and as much had been said about Indian murders and robberies in that region of country, it was deemed advisable for some person to make them a visit, and agreeably to your instructions of the 10th July I arranged an outfit, and set out on the 16th day of the same month for that valley.

Being informed that the Indians had been induced to expect a large amount of presents from the government from promises made them by some of my predecessors in office, I thought best to prepare to meet those expectations, so I took with me as many presents as my wagons would conveniently carry. The first Indians we saw after leaving this place were a band of the Treaber Utes, at Bingham's Fort, numbering about 60 or 70 men, under a chief by the name of Little Soldier, or Showets. We gave them some presents, at which they were much pleased, and soon left for their camps near by. On the evening of the next day we camped at Willow creek, and scarcely had time to unharness,

when we discovered, in the distance, a perfect cloud of dust, which we perceived was produced by a large band of Indians coming towards us in a sweeping gallop. In a few minutes they were in camp, when we discovered them to be a band of Shoshonees, or Snakes proper, from the Green river country, numbering something over one hundred, who had come over to the mouth of Bear river to fish; and hearing that we were in the neighborhood, said they supposed we had come to give them presents, and I soon saw they were not disposed to leave disappointed. So I gave them all some shirts and tobacco and some bits of calico for their squaws.

These are a good looking band of Indians, and left a favorable impression of their friendly disposition towards the whites. After passing this band, to my great disappointment, I saw no Indians till we reached the valley of the Humboldt, and I began to fear that we should have difficulty in accomplishing our objects with them. But it was not long after reaching that valley till we met a large band, and as we had camped for the night we had a talk with them, told them the object of our visit, gave them some tobacco, and inquired where the balance of their nation were; they said that a great many of them had gone south to hunt, but that Nim-ah-tu-cah and the most of his band were about one hundred and fifty miles west, fishing. They staid till near dark, and left in small parties for their camp; but the next morning, a little after sunrise, they all returned with their squaws and children, and after seating themselves in a circle, said they had come to get all I had. But I told them it would not be good for me to give them all my presents when their principal men were off hunting; but that they must point out to me twelve young braves who would go to the bands and let them know that I had come to see them. They soon complied with my request, and after fitting them out with some provisions and tobacco, they put off in different directions. I then moved on about fifty miles further, which brought me to the neighborhood of Peter Hanes, an old gentleman, who settled in this valley near two years ago, and I must say that I think he has made a wholesome impression upon the Indians in his neighborhood. I stopped here to recruit my animals, and to give the Indians time to collect. We saw no Indians for near a week, when they began to drop in in small parties, and in less than three days we had a company of about 400 in all. They all complained of being hungry, many having travelled the distance of one hundred miles without eating, and I soon saw that I should be obliged to feed them. I gave them to understand that all difficulties between us had now to be settled, and requested the chiefs to assemble their people for the purpose of having a talk. We talked freely and at great length, many of the chiefs displaying more shrewdness and sagacity in council than I had expected. We endeavored to adjust all matters of dispute, both old and new, and I flatter myself that our efforts were not without success. For though we did not see the whole population of that vast region of country, yet we had a respectable delegation from each tribe and petty tribe, consisting of principal men and warriors, representing between 1,200 and 1,500 people or more; and from their great

desire to establish peaceful relations with us, I thought best to negotiate with them a written treaty, which, after being read and expounded to them, they agreed to and signed, a copy of which has already been laid before you. They then received their presents with great joy, making Poi-gan, (medicine,) as they term it, which consists in a variety of curious ceremonies, in which the body and limbs go through a routine of motions altogether indescribable. At night we were serenaded by a party of 50 or 60 young warriors with songs and dances. Early the next morning the old chief, Nim-ah-tio-cah, came to bid us good-bye. He stood for some time as if in a deep study, and then said he was sorry that his people had ever been mad with the whites, but now their hearts were good towards the white people, and he hoped they would always feel so. The old man wiped a tear from his eyes, shook hands with us, and then put out; and since this interview it is difficult for me to believe that these Indians are so unmanageable as they have been represented to be if properly treated. On our return trip we were exceedingly anxious to meet with some Indians whom we had reason to believe were haunting the road between the Humboldt and Bear river. In Thousand Spring valley we saw but one, and had to chase him on horseback before we came up with him. I asked him why he and his people were so wild when I had come so far just to see them and give them presents. He said they were afraid we were Californians and would kill them. I gave him his dinner, a shirt, and some tobacco, and told him to go and bring his people to see me by the time the sun was up next morning. He promised to do so and started off, but we saw nothing more of him nor his people, though we staid till 10 o'clock next day.

As we were descending the mountain from the junction of the Sublett's cut-off and Salt Lake roads, one of the party accidentally discovered a horse standing, about three miles off, in the cañon of the mountain, and on examining through the telescope I discovered one or two more, and presently an Indian came darting from behind the cedars and drove them back out of sight. I sent my interpreter, Mr. A. P. Hanes, with three other men to reconnoitre them, and bring them down if possible. But when the Indians saw them approaching their camp, they seized their bows and began to prepare for an attack, but my interpreter hailed them in their own tongue and told them we were friends, whereupon they laid down their arms and invited them to camp, and in a short time they all came galloping down to wher we had camped for the night. They were rather a rough looking set of fellows, and I was soon convinced that they had been stealing, for they had four or five head of American horses with them, some with their ears freshly cut. I gave them some presents and told them to come the next morning and bring the squaws and children, and I would give them more. They went away highly pleased and the next morning before sunrise they were all back, about fifty or sixty in number. After dealing out presents quite liberally, I ventured to tell them that I knew they were bad Indians, and had been stealing horses from the white people. They denied it, but I soon saw guilt in their countenances. I told them that I was Medicine and knew very well what they had been doing. At length an old fellow ac-

knowledged the young ones had been stealing, but he would make them quit it. I then proposed that they give up the horses they had stolen, but I could not prevail on them to do that. I then proposed buying their horses, but only succeeded in getting two, for which I had to pay pretty high. I lectured them severely on the course they had been pursuing, and they appeared to feel it smartly, and promised to quit stealing and go south to hunt. We met another band of thirty or forty at the sink of Deep Creek, who said they had been to the settlements, and appeared very peaceable and quiet. We gave them some presents and passed on. We returned to this city on the 22d day of August, and, as you are aware, were visited on the 24th by a band of the Shoshonees, or Snakes proper, under a chief by the name of Ti-ba-bo-en-dwart-sa, (white man's friend,) numbering in all about three hundred, who had come to this place, according to previous arrangements with the Utahs, for the purpose of holding a treaty with them. And in compliance with your instructions I selected camping ground, and supplied them with provisions, fuel, and some hay for their horses. In a few days they were joined by the Utahs and Cuniumhahs, making in all about five hundred souls; and as my expenditures in presents and provisions to them were larger than may be anticipated, it may be necessary to state the reasons which induced me to make them. It was well understood among the Indians of this Territory, as early as last spring, that large appropriations had been made by Congress for the purpose of making presents to and treaties with them. I am not prepared to say how they came in possession of these facts, but they had been looking for something to be done in this way all summer. I perceived that their expectations were up, and that there was no way to avoid making these presents without serious disappointment. The season was passing away and the Indians were anxious to know why these presents did not come. The Snakes complained that they had permitted the white people to make roads through all their lands and travel upon em in safety, use the grass and drink the water, and had never received anything for it, all though the tribes around them had been getting presents. Under these circumstances, I saw no way to retain their confidence but to meet these expectations. And as they have succeeded in making peace among themselves, and renewed their pledges of friendship to the whites, we have reason to hope that harmony will prevail for a season.

Early last spring I was induced to think that some of the Utahs and Poh-bantes could be taught to farm and to appreciate the advantages of agriculture. I, therefore, had land marked off for them, and designated suitable persons to instruct them how to work. Mr. Jeremiah Hatch, of Nephi, in his report of June last, sent in the names of about thirty who had set in to work; but many of them were destitute of anything to subsist upon, and hunger had forced them to leave the farm and go to the mountains to hunt, or to the creeks to fish. Owing to the great blight, in consequence of the grasshoppers, our farms have produced but little to show for the amount of labor bestowed upon them.

The accounts of Messrs. Hatch, McEwen, and Boyce have been

faithfully rendered, and I thought it but just that they should be paid; for, though the crops are small, the improvements on the lands are not lost, and will be of great advantage in preparing for a crop next season, and I shall be careful to hold those improvements as agency property. I would take occasion to suggest here that treaties ought to be negotiated with these tribes, as early as possible, for the title to their lands, which are now held and occupied by the whites. It is a thing almost unprecedented in the history of our Indian policy to go into any State or Territory and make extensive and permanent improvements upon soil claimed by Indians without extinguishing those claims by treaty.

This delay is not only unjust to the Indians, by depriving them of their wonted hunting grounds, without paying that respect to their claims which is due them, according to our usage with other tribes, but it is equally so to the pioneer settler, who is forced to pay a constant tribute to these worthless creatures, because they claim that the land, the wood, the water, and the grass are theirs, and we have not paid them for these things. The funds which would fall due these tribes by the negotiation of such treaties, if properly managed, would go far to remove from the people the burden which is consequent upon their support.

In conclusion, I would remark that we have reason to congratulate ourselves upon the success of the efforts which have been made to cultivate and sustain peaceful relations with the nations throughout the Territory; and when we look around and see to what a vast expense the government has been in the Indian service in the adjoining Territories, we are forced to conclude that the policy which has been pursued in this is the best that could have been adopted under the circumstances. Believing that where peace can be sustained at a less expense than war it is certainly most desirable, especially in a Territory so remote from the parent country and so inaccessible to troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GARLAND HURT,
Indian Agent for Utah.

His Excellency BRIGHAM YOUNG,
*Governor and Ex-Officio Superintendent
Indian Affairs, Utah Territory.*

No. 101.

CITY OF PROVO, *June 30, 1855.*

SIR: In conformity with the usages of the Indian Department, I have the honor to transmit to you my report for the quarter ending June 30, and through you to the Department of Indian Affairs.

Since entering upon the duties of Indian sub-agent for the Territory of Utah, on the 27th of April last, my operations have been limited to the vicinity of Provo city. On the 21st of May last, during my absence at Salt Lake city, on business for the Indian Department, (See vouchers, Nos. 1 & 2,) a report was circulated that a mare and colt had been killed, belonging to a chief of the Utah tribe of Indians,

named Tintick. Immediately after my return, I commenced an investigation of the matter. I proceeded with my interpreter to the Indian camp, consisting of forty lodges, which they had located in a well enclosed field, containing some four hundred acres of grain and grass. I held a talk with Tintick, and also with Tabby and Sanpitch, who are chiefs of the same tribe. I learned from them that the report was correct, and also that they charged the commission of the deed upon a white man named Chester Snyder. Tintick was very "mad," and complained much at the loss of his animals, and demanded pay of me as remuneration for the same, and I soon learned that the same bad feeling reigned throughout the entire camp. As soon as circumstances would admit, I had an interview with Snyder, and informed him of the charge preferred against him by the chief. Snyder protested his innocence, and satisfied me by the most convincing proof that he was innocent, as he was at the time absent from the city when the animals were killed; and, furthermore, none of the Indians could identify Snyder as the man who committed the act. That the animals were dead admits of no doubt, as Tintick took me to the place where the animals were, and I saw for myself. I told the chiefs that I would endeavor to discover who killed the animals, and have the individual punished, and him paid. I then requested the civil officers of the city of Provo to assist me in bringing the perpetrator to justice, who promptly rendered all the assistance in their power; but our efforts proved of no avail. Before I succeeded in settling the difficulty, there were killed five head of cattle and one horse, belonging to the citizens of this city, which I have reason to believe was done by the Indians. They had also turned their horses into fields, destroying a large amount of grain which had hitherto escaped the ravages of grasshoppers. I remonstrated with them on the course they were pursuing, and informed the chiefs that unless their men would cease their depredations, I would not pay for the animals which they had lost, and would most assuredly punish the offenders. They then agreed, if I would pay for the animals, that they would immediately move their camp out of the enclosed fields, and would not encroach upon the property of the settlers for the future. I accordingly paid them, which will be seen by reference to voucher No. 6, and they left the field forthwith, and peace was restored. After this, many of the Indians came to my office daily, begging for flour. I distributed a few presents to the chiefs of flour, shirts, and tobacco, (see voucher No. 6,) with which they were well pleased. The chiefs complained to me that they could not catch their usual supply of fish, in consequence of some of the citizens using seines and nets to their disadvantage. I immediately issued notices to the companies then fishing in Utah lake and Provo river to cease their operations during the stay of the Indians, which was immediately complied with. The Indians then attempted to take the fish in their usual way, that of trapping, shooting with bow and arrows, &c., but in consequence of the high stage of the water in the river, which always occurs at this season of the year, they were enabled to catch but very few. At the instance of some of the chiefs I requested one of the fishing companies to fish for them, which request the company immediately complied with,

and, after some days successful fishing, they loaded the pack horses of the Indians with a large quantity of fish. The Utah lake and Provo river at this season of the year abound in fish, known as mountain trout, and it is for the purpose of fishing that so large a number of the Utah tribe of Indians resort hither every spring. At the commencement the Indians manifested a very bad feeling towards the settlers, and I have no doubt, had not some measures of a pacific nature been taken, that we would have had a renewal of the difficulties which characterized the year 1853. Those first disposed for peace were Tabba, Sanpitch, and Grosepine; the principal leaders of the disaffected were Tintick, Squash, and Autan-quer (Blackhawk.) The chiefs frequently complained that they had now no place of safety where their animals could feed, as in former years, in consequence of so much of the land having been improved and fenced in by the settlers, and requested that a pasture should be made for them bordering on the Provo river near their fishing grounds, where they could fish, at the same time protect themselves and animals from the Shoshonee, or Snake Indians, with whom they are almost constantly at war and in continual dread of; and urging still further, that there would be no necessity for encroaching upon the improved land of the settlers, I agreed to their proposals, and communicated their wishes to your excellency, who instructed me to carry the same into execution. As it is customary for the Indians to stop and camp for some time on their annual fishing excursions at the cities of Springville and Palmyra, and as the citizens of those places have suffered much from the same cause as those of Provo, and as your excellency has instructed me to make separate enclosures at the above named places, I shall proceed at as early a day as possible to give it that attention which the exigency of the case demands, and report through you to the Department of Indian Affairs. As I am not yet informed where the Indians will make their selections for the pastures at the different settlements, and as I shall give them that privilege, according to your instructions, I cannot at this time determine whether it will encroach upon the improvements of the citizens or not, but will endeavor to give that information in my next report, also an estimate of the expenses attending the same. The principal chiefs of the Utahs are now on a visit to the Navajoes. They informed me that they would return about the first of September, when the matter will be finally determined upon. I would also call the attention of the department to the present, as well as the future, condition of the Indians for the coming year, in regard to provisions. It has been customary heretofore with the Indians in this section of the Territory to depend in a great measure upon the settlements for a large share of their living, and which has heretofore been liberally granted to them; but from the almost total destruction of the crops in the more southern sections of the Territory by grasshoppers, as well as the long continued and unprecedented drought, necessity forbids an extension of their former liberality, I would therefore recommend to the department to empower their agent in this section of the Territory to provide the Indians with wheat, flour and some cattle, which will in a great measure prevent them from committing depredations upon this and adjoining sections of the Territory. Measures should be immediately

taken in some way to appease their hunger, as they are already in a very destitute condition, and are constantly making loud and clamorous appeals to the settlers for provisions, and that, too, I am credibly informed, in some of the settlements where they have not enough for themselves to subsist upon; and the coming harvest admonishes them that their own supply, in very many instances, will be cut off, and that scarcity and high prices will unavoidably deprive many of the common necessities of life during the coming year, who heretofore had plenty for themselves, and some to spare for the Indians. I cannot drop this part of the subject without endeavoring to impress upon the department the great necessity for immediate action on this one very important matter. The game, which in former years was considerable, and upon which the Indians in part depended, is rapidly diminishing, which will increase their difficulties in obtaining subsistence, and if left to their own resources, will, I fear, impel them to the frequent commission of petty thefts; a source of great annoyance, loss and irritation to the settlers. I would here state that I have employed an interpreter at a salary of \$500 per annum, which, I am informed, is the price allowed in all such cases. I would further mention that I have made out my reports, both the account current and abstract, with the vouchers for the last or fourth quarter of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1854, which makes it the fourth quarter of returns to the government, but only my first report, and have endorsed my vouchers for the fourth or last quarter so as to commence my reports with the beginning of the fiscal or government year; hoping that all the accompanying papers are in due form, and will meet the approbation of the Indian Department,

I remain, very respectfully, yours,

GEORGE W. ARMSTRONG,

Indian Sub-Agent, Utah Territory.

His Excellency Governor BRIGHAM YOUNG,

Ex-officio Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 102.

UTAH AGENCY, CITY OF PROVO, TERRITORY OF UTAH,

September 30, 1855.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the department, I submit to you my report for the remainder of the first quarter of the fiscal year ending September 30, 1855.

Since my last report, dated August 14, which closed my official duties as sub-agent, I was informed that Sawriet (or Sawrette) had returned on a visit to this place after an absence of two years. On the 22d of August last, I received a visit from seventeen of his chiefs and braves, who informed me that the citizens of the city of Palmyra told them that I was an agent of the government of the United States, and that they had a great desire to see me and have a talk. Anthers-be-a-ho-a, "big chief," and one of the deputation, acted as spokesman on the occasion. He informed me of the object of their visit by stating that in the vicinity of Santa Fé they were told by a Delaware

Indian and an emigrant that the "big chief at Washington" (meaning the President) had sent the Utah Indians a large amount of presents, and that they had come to receive their portion. He expressed considerable surprise and regret when I told him that he had been misinformed, and that no presents had arrived, and that he must not believe any more reports of a similar kind, until he received the intelligence from some of the authorized agents of the government of the United States; then he might depend that the information was correct. He replied, that the old chief Sawriet had been told much by the emigrants to California, which he afterwards found to be incorrect, and he hardly knew who to place dependence in. He informed me that in so many sleeps (about three weeks) the old chief himself would visit me and have a talk; that he was so very old (about seventy-five) and tired riding, that he would have to rest himself before he could see me. After our council had ended, the deputation took a view of the city of Provo, which they said had "grown so very big" since they left, two years ago, that they hardly knew that it was the same place. After viewing the city they returned to the city of Palmyra, (formerly Spanish Fork,) where the old chief was encamped. This band, numbering seventy lodges, are the most harmless and friendly of any of the Utah Indians. About the beginning of the Indian war of 1853, this band would not take part against the whites, and quietly left the scene of action, and have not since returned until the present. About the eighth of this month I was visited by the old chief in person, who was very friendly, together with Roo-ea-gwosh, (or Horse Tail,) Tshare-puegin, (or White-eye,) who made about the same statements as the others. The old chief expressed the same disappointment and regret, saying that he had rode a great distance to receive his presents, but said he had been misinformed and that he would not complain. He asked me if I would not give him some presents, and his band something to eat. I replied that I had none at present, but would visit him at his camp on the following Tuesday, which was then removed to Springville city, and would comply with his request. I arrived at Springville on Monday, but, much to my surprise, he and his band had left for Winta Valley. I followed and overtook him and band at Spanish Forks, and when interrogated as to why he did not remain and receive his presents, he told me that some of his young men and squaws had taken some corn from the citizens of Springville, because they were very hungry, and sooner than cause any difficulty he preferred to go without the presents. According to promise I presented him with a rifle, (he had none,) some ammunition, flour, beef, &c., (see vouchers Nos. 4 and 6,) with which he was highly pleased, saying that he did not expect to return again for one or two years, unless the "big chief at Washington should send the presents." I then left him well satisfied and in the best of spirits.

In regard to the different bands of Indians located at Palmyra, Springville, and Provo, many of them express a desire to engage in agricultural pursuits, were any facilities afforded them by government for so doing; and I would strongly recommend that the agent in this section of the Territory be instructed to select suitable places for the location of farms, and that practical farmers be employed to conduct the same. Pe-teet-weet, the chief of the band at Palmyra, has made

selection of a very large tract of land for a pasture, (about one thousand acres,) a very large portion of which is very excellent farming land, and which can be fenced and irrigated at comparatively trifling cost. At the cities of Springville and Provo no selection for a pasture has as yet been made, in consequence of the disinclination of the chief, High-forehead, or Tanta-buggar, at Springville, to make any at present, and on the part of Tintick, at Provo, in consequence of sickness. During my visit to Palmyra I learned from some of the Indians that three horses had been stolen by the Sanpitch Indians at the San Pete settlement in San Pete county, and through the agency of Sanpitch and Tabba, two Utah chiefs which I employed for the purpose, I succeeded in recovering two of the three horses and restored them to their owners, and I think that I will be able to recover the other one. Six horses have also been stolen from the citizens of Springville. I have taken measures for their recovery which I hope will prove successful. The condition of the various bands of Indians in the southern section of the Territory is not so good as in former years, in consequence of the great scarcity of grain, which has prevented the settlements from being as liberal as formerly, and I would renew my recommendation made in a former report, for the privilege of purchasing wheat, corn, flour, and some cattle for the sustenance of the Indians. As the winter approaches I am more and more deeply impressed with the belief that immediate action in this case is greatly needed. On the first of the present month a treaty of peace was held at Great Salt Lake city between the Shoshonee or Snake Indians and the Utahs. I was not present at the treaty, my presence being required at the time in the more southern section, and as I presume a full report will be made to the Department of Indian Affairs by your excellency, as well as by the agent, Dr. Garland Hurt, I deem it unnecessary to say any more on this subject.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,
 GEORGE W. ARMSTRONG,
Indian Agent.

His Excellency BRIGHAM YOUNG,
Ex Officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 103.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office of Indian Affairs, March 16, 1855.

SIR: Referring to my letter to you of the 8th August last, and acknowledging your response of September 29, I have now to inform you that you have been designated by the President, as the officer of the Indian Department, to negotiate articles of convention under the appropriation of \$30,000 by the act of July 31, 1854, with the Apache, Navajoe and Utah Indians, in New Mexico, by which permanent and well defined relations of amity shall be established between them and the United States.

As the purchase and transportation of goods and implements from the Atlantic cities might involve too great a delay, you are authorized from time to time to procure goods, agricultural implements, or other

articles in your judgment deemed proper for presents to the Indians at Santa Fé, and make your arrangements for entering immediately on the discharge of the duties of your mission.

Your first attention will be directed to those bands with whom difficulties exist, or are apprehended, but with which a state of actual war does not now exist; and it might be well, before starting upon your mission, to have such understanding with the officer commanding the United States troops in New Mexico, that in the event of your success in concluding articles of peace and friendship with any tribes or bands, the same might not be subjected to danger of attack or to any incidental injury arising out of a state of actual hostilities with other bands or tribes.

On the faith of the appropriation of \$10,000, made also by the act of July 31, 1854, you are authorized to procure, or cause to be procured, some agricultural implements and farming utensils, to an amount not exceeding \$5,000, to be presented immediately to the Pueblo Indians, so as to be of service to them during the coming season.

Your drafts for the amounts of any purchases, or for funds to make them, will be accepted as heretofore.

You will observe that the appropriation for treaties with the Apaches, Navajoes and Utahs, is designed to cover all expenditures for transportation, for provisions for necessary attendants, travelling expenses, &c., &c., in any way arising out of, or connected with the negotiations, and you will make your arrangements accordingly; aiming, on the one hand, to conclude treaties with all the Indians named, (including both the northern and southern Apaches,) and on the other not to exceed by disbursements or liabilities the amount appropriated.

Of course, the question of time is left to your discretion, and you will not incur any considerable outlays without reasonable prospects of success. You will not exhaust the appropriation on negotiations with a part of the tribes named therein, but only expend a proportion thereof, reasonable in view of numbers, relations, and positions of the tribes with whom you may treat; reserving, in case it may be wise at present to enter upon negotiations with some of the tribes, such a portion of the appropriation as in your judgment may hereafter, at a more seasonable time, be sufficient to enable you to conclude treaties also with them.

In regard to the appropriation for presents to the Pueblos, it is deemed advisable to expend at present only a part thereof, and the \$5,000 above mentioned is designed to cover transportation and incidental charges on the implements that may be procured at this time.

You will make such arrangements as will provide for the Indians, within the country in which they may respectively reside and the possession of which they claim, a suitable tract or tracts, limited in extent, for their future permanent home; and will guarantee to them the possession and enjoyment of the reserves assigned them, with provision that hereafter the President may cause the land reserved to be surveyed, and to assign to each single person over twenty-one years of age, or head of a family, a farm containing from, say, twenty to

sixty acres, according to the number of persons in such family; and where the Indian or Indians to whom land may be thus assigned shall give evidence of a desire to become civilized, remain upon and cultivate and improve the tract so assigned, patents may issue to each, with a condition prohibiting alienation or forfeiture.

The amount stipulated to be paid to the Indians in consideration of the cession of their right to the lands now claimed by them should be limited, and should be paid in annual instalments, running through not less than twenty nor more than thirty years, without interest; and the sum to be paid should be under the direction and control of the President, and to be expended annually and every year for such objects and purposes as in his judgment will promote their comfort and civilization, supply their necessary wants, and educate their children.

I transmit herewith several treaties recently made with Indian tribes, from which you will observe various provisions for the protection of the Indians, and which will be as applicable in New Mexico as elsewhere, and to which your attention is called, with the expectation that, so far as in your opinion may be proper, the same may be inserted in the treaties you may conclude.

I desire that you will, in addition, provide that the laws now in force, or which may hereafter be enacted by Congress, for the regulation of trade and intercourse with the Indians tribes, shall continue and be in force within the country set apart for the respective tribe or tribes to whom you may assign reserves; and that such portions of said laws as prohibit the introduction, manufacture, use of, and traffic in ardent spirits in the Indian country, shall continue and be in force within the country ceded to the United States, until otherwise provided by Congress.

It should be specifically provided that no part of the annual amounts stipulated to be paid the Indians should ever be appropriated by the chiefs or headmen to the payment of tribal obligations to traders or other persons; the object being to introduce the same principle of dealing which prevails among the whites, and leaving every Indian to pay the debts which he may contract to his trader or other person from his own means or labor alone.

In view of the unsettled condition of our Indian affairs in your territory, I have to say, that in your discretion such modifications of the views here submitted, in relation to the stipulations to be inserted in the treaties, and the locations of the reserves for the permanent homes of the Indians, may be made as you may adjudge necessary; keeping in mind, in all that may be done by you in the premises, the permanent welfare of the Indians, and the least draft, in the present or the future, on the treasury, consistent with a proper and just conduct towards them. In my opinion, the amount to be paid should have some reference to the number in the tribe or bands, as well as the extent of their claim to territory, and the quality of the same, and should be confined to a sum sufficient only to aid the Indians, with the help of their own labor, to better their condition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. MANYPENNY, *Commissioner.*

His Excellency DAVID MERRIWETHER,
Governor of New Mexico.

No. 104.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, April 23, 1855.

SIR: The subject of postponing the contemplated council with the Blackfeet and other neighboring tribes of Indians, at Fort Benton, to a more auspicious period, as suggested by your communication of the 17th instant, together with the view submitted by you on the 18th in relation to the disposition of certain goods already purchased for the Indians parties to the treaty of Fort Laramie, and suggesting that the purchase of other goods of perishable nature for those Indians be also deferred, have had full consideration, and I am instructed by the Secretary of the Interior to inform you that it is his "opinion that the contemplated council should be held, if practicable, otherwise the other commissioners may be involved in great difficulty and embarrassment," it being deemed impossible now to revoke orders heretofore issued to them.

You will therefore proceed with the arrangements in progress and necessary to the expedition, and prepare to set out from St Louis for Fort Benton, at such time in the month of May as to you may seem appropriate.

It is the opinion of the President and Secretary of the Interior, that the licenses of all persons who may be engaged in trade with the Indians involved in the massacre of Lieutenant Grattan and his command, and in the subsequent murder of the mail party, or any other bands that you may believe to be confederated with them, should be revoked, and the traders be required to leave the country. Should there, however, be cases in which, in the exercise of a sound discretion, you may be of opinion that it would be inexpedient to remove the traders, but instead thereof that they be prohibited from any commerce with the Indians above indicated, you are authorized to adopt that course, taking care to note the facts and to make a full report of your action in the premises.

In relation to the propriety of distributing goods and presents, under the treaty of Fort Laramie, to the bands who reside on the Upper Missouri, and who are parties to that treaty, you will exercise a sound discretion, according to the circumstances that surround you, and which cannot now be foreseen or anticipated.

All the goods for these bands are now at St. Louis; and I may remark that the goods, &c., for that portion of the bands parties to that treaty, who have been accustomed to receive the same at Fort Laramie and Bent's Fort are, or soon will be, shipped from the east to St. Louis.

It has been thought expedient to have these goods sent forward, to the end that they may, if proper storage can be secured for them at Fort Laramie, or some other suitable place in the Indian country, be carried to their proper destination, to be disposed of and distributed as may hereafter be determined upon, according to the circumstances and relations which may be found to exist on the part of those bands toward the government of the United States.

You will determine whether it is proper for these last mentioned

goods, &c., to go forward from St. Louis immediately, or whether they should remain there until the necessary provision can be made for their storage in the Indian country or elsewhere. And your determination of this question should be communicated to the contractors for transportation of them at once.

It will be observed that in confiding the discretion hereby vested in you it is not expected that any goods or presents will be delivered to the Indians known to have been engaged in the massacre near Laramie or the murder of the mail party, or any other bands who may be believed by you to be hostile to the United States.

The instructions for the guidance of yourself and colleagues in your negotiations with the Indians who may meet you at Fort Benton will be made out and forwarded to you at St. Louis at an early day.

I would also state that it is the desire of the department you should, on all proper occasions, act in conjunction with the officers who have been, or may be, entrusted by the Secretary of War with the direction of a military expedition against the hostile Sioux, by imparting to them such information and advice as may tend to facilitate their operations, and co-operating with them in such way as may be agreeable to both parties.

As I have declined to accept the bid of Mr. John Campbell for the transportation to Fort Benton, on account of deeming it too high, it will become necessary for you at once to make arrangements for the transportation, and, if practicable, at a cost within the limits of the appropriation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

A. CUMMING, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 105.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, May 3, 1855.

GENTLEMEN: Referring to previous communications in regard to your appointment as commissioners to hold a council with the Blackfeet and other Indian tribes residing on the headwaters of the Missouri river, and in that vicinity, I have now to advise you more particularly in regard to the character of the treaty or treaties it will be the duty of the commissioners to negotiate. The principal objects to be attained by the proposed negotiations are, the establishment of well defined and permanent relations of amity with all the most numerous and warlike tribes in that remote region of country, both between the Indians and the United States, and between the tribes as among themselves. Whatever stipulations are best adapted to effectuate these objects should be incorporated in the articles you may conclude, and these stipulations should be of such a description as the peculiar

habits and situation of the Indians, and the ultimate policy and future growth of the population of the United States in that direction must palpably indicate.

A cordial, firm, and perpetual peace should be established; a well understood recognition by the Indians of their allegiance to the United States, and their obligation to obey its laws, should be obtained, and a high regard on their part for its justice, magnanimity and power, should be fostered or inculcated.

The Indians should assent to remain within the regions of country respectively occupied by each tribe, and not to commit depredations or make hostile excursions against other tribes. They should heartily agree to receive and treat all citizens of the United States, who pass through the country claimed by them, as friends and brothers, and not to molest them, or levy contributions on them; and in order to promote the safety of emigrants, and to check warlike expeditions, the assent of the Indians should be had to the establishment of military posts among them. They must also assent to the construction of roads through the country claimed by them, and the peaceful navigation of all the streams therein by citizens of the United States. The Indians should be induced, if it is practicable, to assent to remain within the United States, and not to pass into the British possessions, either to hunt, trade, or fish; and their communication with agents of the British government should be terminated. They should particularly agree not to commence hostilities against tribes or persons within those possessions, or to commit any other act of wrong or depredation against them. If it be found necessary, and can be done, disputes between tribes as to their respective boundaries, and the range of country over which each is entitled to the exclusive right of hunting, should be settled; and such arrangements agreed on between the tribes, and entered into with the government of the United States, as shall gradually reclaim the Indians from a nomadic life, and tend to encourage them to settle in permanent homes and obtain their sustenance by agriculture and other pursuits of civilized life. The traffic in ardent spirits, and the use of the same within their country, should be understood as prohibited by law, and such prohibitions might, in this case also, be properly provided for by the treaty.

You will endeavor to obtain the assent of the Indians to an article which shall bind them to deliver up for trial and punishment all such individuals as, in violation of the treaty, shall be guilty of the robbery or murder of American citizens; and you will also bind the government to protect the Indians against injury from similar offences against them committed by whites.

All captive whites, if any, among the Indians, must be delivered up and restored to their friends or homes, and so far as attainable, without jeopardizing the success of your negotiations otherwise, a similar provision should be inserted in favor of Indians that may be captives from other tribes. In consideration of their entering into and abiding by such engagements, the United States will agree to make to them annual presents, in useful goods and provisions, for a period of, not exceeding, ten years, and equal to, say \$35,000 in value annually, and to expend otherwise for their benefit, in establishing and instruct-

ing them in agricultural and mechanical pursuits, and in educating their children, a further sum of \$15,000 annually, for a like series of years. But in case any band or tribe shall violate the treaty, the President may withhold for such number of years as he thinks fit, or altogether, the proportion of any and all annuities due such tribe or band.

You will instruct the Indians that they will be bound by law to make reparation, in their tribal capacity, for depredations committed by any of their number on the property of citizens who may be legally within, or passing through the Indian country, and that their annuities can be taken for that purpose, if the United States government so decides in a proper case. A general provision should be inserted authorizing the President to determine the proportion in which the annuities shall be divided among the tribes, parties to the treaty or treaties, and to apply any or all the annuities payable to any, or all of the tribes, if in his judgment it would be best for them, to aid them in agriculture, mechanic arts, or in any other respect promotive of their civilization and christianization. As a cession of the Indian title to lands is not sought, except so far as it may be necessary in the establishment of military posts, agency, school, mission, or travelling stations, smith shops, &c., and as the objects to be attained by the proposed council are for the benefit of the Indians as well as of the United States, the amount to be paid to, or expended for, the Indians annually must be small, in proportion to their numbers, and the term of years during which it is to be paid must be brief. The knowledge possessed by each of you of the particular circumstances and character of the Indians, may suggest some other general items of importance. It is not deemed necessary to go further into details. Several treaties, recently ratified, are sent you by this mail for perusal, and which may be suggestive to the minds of the commissioners. The instructions given to Commissioner Cumming, heretofore, in regard to the financial arrangements and management of the expedition, (which have been chiefly confided to him, for reasons of convenience as the only commissioner on this side of the mountains,) are deemed ample, and they, with those that have been given to Governor Stevens, will, so far as applicable, be observed by each you, and with the knowledge you have otherwise derived, will afford you full information respecting the appropriation made by Congress to defray the expenses of the council, and the plan adopted and entered upon for applying it to the object; and I would here repeat the admonition, that the entire expenses preliminary to, and arising out of the council should be confined within the amount of that appropriation. It will be advisable for you to learn from the Indians the description of articles most acceptable and useful to them, as presents, and the proportions of each which should be sent them, if the treaty or treaties you may conclude shall be ratified by the President and Senate of the United States.

You will avail yourselves of the occasion of your meeting the Indians and visiting their country to procure a census, as accurate as practicable, of the men, women and children in each tribe or band; and will report all facts connected with the habits, characteristics, and

history of each; and relative to the climate, soil, and natural advantages of the country occupied by them, the knowledge of which, in your judgment, will probably be useful to any of the departments of the United States government.

You will, after concluding your duties as commissioners, of course, report your proceedings in full, which must be accompanied with a brief but succinct journal of the various councils held by you with the Indians. Reminding you of the great responsibility and importance of the duties with which you are charged, and expressing the hope that your consultations and proceedings will in all respects be characterized by wise deliberation and entire harmony,

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

Messrs. ALFRED CUMMING,
ISAAC J. STEVENS, and
JOEL PALMER,

*Commissioners to hold a council with the Blackfeet
and other tribes on the head waters of the Missouri river.*

No. 106.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, May 7, 1855.

SIR: In addition to the semi-annual remittance made you in March last, I have thought it very probable that additional amounts from "Contingencies of the Indian Department," and "Presents to Indians," will be required to place you in a position to advance to Agent Twiss, or to Agents Vaughan and Hatch, such sums as the peculiar circumstances of their agencies at present indicate will be needed, to enable them to perform their duties this year in the most efficient manner.

Accordingly, on the 5th instant, the usual measures were taken to have the sum of \$1,000 remitted you from each of the appropriations indicated above, which, with any balance in your hands from the appropriation for "Provisions for Indians," will, it is presumed, enable you to make such advances, in addition to the semi-annual remittances, as any of the above mentioned agents think necessary, and your judgment may approve.

Agent Twiss may need an outfit, and owing to the disturbed condition of the Indian tribes in charge of Agents Hatch, Vaughan, and Twiss, it is thought likely that they will wish to be prepared more liberally than usual with funds, so that conciliation and good feeling may be promoted by making small presents to chiefs or bands whom they may visit; and as it is anticipated that a wider range of travel will be necessary, and more active exertions than are usual will be put forth by them, a larger expense of an incidental nature will be incurred.

The former Upper Platte and Arkansas agency (on account of the

want of full advice, and the impossibility of having the views of yourself and Agents Whitfield and Twiss before the department in due time,) has not been divided between the agents just named by definite bounds and an enumeration of particular bands; and such division is necessarily left, at present, in your discretion. The Indian parties to the treaty of Fort Atkinson will, of course, be under charge of Agent Whitfield, and the goods for them, when they arrive at St. Louis, will be placed in his hands, together with the provisions that may have been purchased. The Sioux bands about Fort Laramie will be within Mr. Twiss' agency.

I am not prepared at present to transmit any additional instructions respecting the goods now on their way to St. Louis, and which have been purchased to fulfil stipulations of the Fort Laramie treaty. Those given you under date of the 23d April will be your guide.

Should you find it proper to send out a part or all the goods originally destined to Bent's Fort and Fort Laramie, you will give the agents the necessary instructions and facilities for insuring the safety and the storage of them.

In assigning the duties of the four agents, Whitfield, Twiss, Vaughan, and Hatch, you will have care that all the tribes that are at peace with the United States, and well inclined toward its citizens, be communicated with by the agents this season, and encouraged to maintain amicable relations with, and friendly dispositions for, our citizens and neighboring tribes.

In regard to any tribes or bands within their agencies that may be found to be in a hostile attitude, and against which the Department of War may have directed a military expedition, you will give the same instructions to the agents that you have yourself received in regard to hostile bands of Sioux.

The nature of the duties of the agents named being somewhat similar, because of the similarity of the habits, character, and condition of the Indians of the respective agencies, I proceed to indicate some of the general views and aims of the department in respect to those Indians peaceably inclined, which your instructions will be adapted to carry out.

In giving instructions to new agents, it appears proper that their attention, in addition to the general regulations long established, be called to the recent circulars of the Interior Department and the Indian Office, and among the latter I include that of October 11, 1854, in regard to agents residing with the tribes in their charge.

When Indian tribes are not really in a hostile attitude, experience has shown that by patient and persevering endeavor in the performance of kind offices, and in a constant friendly intercourse, with firm and frank conduct, the accredited officers of the department can acquire an extensive and abiding influence with them.

The place of residence of the agent should be fixed at some point within the country of the Indians, at which the latter can at all seasons of the year visit and consult with him. His presence there, and his consequent knowledge of all their movements, has a powerful tendency to restrain them from the commission of depredations and out-

rages, and the institution and prosecution of hostile expeditions against other tribes.

By a personal acquaintance with the chiefs, and the facility of communication thus afforded, he is better able to inform them respecting our government and people, and to impress their minds with an idea of the power of the United States, to convince them of our readiness to treat them with kindness and magnanimity when they do right, and our ability and purpose to punish them when they do wrong.

When the Indians have a just appreciation of the great military and other resources of our country, and of the relations and disposition of the government towards them, they will remain at peace with us; and when a permanent peace with the United States is established, it is comparatively easy to restrain them from going on "war paths" and expeditions for pillage against other tribes.

Often when the agent is with the Indians he finds opportunities where, by persuasion and the distribution of a few presents of inconsiderable value, he can induce them to abandon marauding excursions, or otherwise prevent much evil.

His counsel and example may be rendered effective in leading them, by degrees, to forsake their wandering life and habits of plunder and violence, and settle in permanent homes, obtaining their subsistence by agricultural or other pursuits of civilized life.

The circumstances in which the agents for the wild tribes will be placed, will make it their duty to discountenance all kinds of crime and prevent it as far as possible, and to enforce among the Indians the necessity and propriety of delivering up such individuals among them as are guilty of high offences, that they may be dealt with according to law.

Should it be found that any citizens of the United States, or of other nations, are held as captives by the Indians, the agents will take all needful measures within their authority to procure the release of such, and their return to their friends and homes. The Indians should be admonished and encouraged to treat kindly, and to assist, if necessary, all emigrants or other citizens of the United States passing through their country.

They should be persuaded to remain quietly within the region of country which they claim as their own, and should understand that they are under obligation to respect the laws and treaties applicable to them, and that in case of their violation of either they will experience the evil consequences; and that when any of them commit depredations on the property of whites lawfully within their country, their annuities can be taken, in a proper case, to make good the loss to the individual who suffers the wrong.

You are aware of the anxiety of the department that the utmost efficiency shall be given to the limited means within its control of restoring peace, where peace has been broken, and of preserving it unshaken where it exists. Sensible, as you are, of the unsettled and delicate state of our relations with the Indians beyond the frontiers, it is expected that you will not fail to enforce upon the agents referred to the importance of a ready and efficient co-operation with you in carrying out well concerted plans for the speedy and complete restor-

ation of mutual confidence and good feeling, and that, with such co-operation, abundant success will reward your endeavors. You will also impress upon them the necessity of co-operation and concert with the officers in command of the military expedition which will operate on the plains during the present season.

It is desirable that these agents report the most suitable point, or points, in their respective agencies, at which it would be proper to erect buildings for the future residences of the agents, with an estimate of the cost of the same.

Should it be decided by you not to forward the goods, &c., for the bands in Agent Twiss' agency, because of the want of safe and suitable places to store the same, until such time as it may be judged proper, hereafter, to distribute them, it may be deemed expedient to direct Agent Twiss to cause a suitable building to be erected at, or near, Fort Laramie for their storage, of which you will judge and instruct him accordingly.

In the bounds of such of the agencies above named as there may be military posts, it is presumed the agents may obtain at these, on application, suitable accommodations for their temporary residences.

You will instruct these agents to report, on every convenient opportunity, the actual condition of our Indian relations within their agencies, with their movements and action of the different tribes and bands, to the end that the department may be fully advised.

They will also prepare and forward their annual reports in time to reach this office by the 1st of October next, and will embrace in them a succinct account of each tribe or band in their care, a correct census of the men, women, and children, a designation of the region of country inhabited or frequented, and the names and disposition of the principal chiefs of each, with any suggestions to which the experience of the agents may give rise in relation to the course of policy best adapted to the civilization and christianization of the Indians of the respective agencies.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner.

ALFRED CUMMING, Esq.,

Superintendent, &c., St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 107.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION,
Fort Benton, August 29, 1855.

SIR: The undersigned, commissioners to hold the Blackfeet council, met and organized on the 14th instant at Milk river, by the appointment of James Doty, esq., secretary, and Henry Kinnerly, esq., assistant. Information was given by Governor Stevens to the commission that Superintendent Palmer, of Oregon, would not be present at the council.

On Colonel Cumming reaching Fort Union, the necessary arrangements were made to dispatch the goods in keel boats, the water having fallen in a few days three feet, and, as reported by the captain of the steamer, giving a depth of less than two feet in the channel at Fort Union, impracticable for the steamer, which had a greater draft, as declared by Mr. Charles Choteau, of the firm of P. Choteau, jr., & Co., contractors, in charge. The boats left Fort Union on the 18th July.

Governor Stevens reached Fort Benton on the 26th July, having previously made with the hunting tribes, west of the mountains, the necessary arrangements to move them to good buffalo grounds, whence they will be sent for to the council; and on his arrival he communicated with the Gros Ventres, and the several tribes of the Blackfoot nation, to the same end.

Since the organization of the commission, a messenger has been dispatched to the Crows, to invite them to be present and participate in the council, and communications have been had with the Gros Ventres, a portion of the Piegans, and the hunting tribes west of the mountains.

On the arrival of an interpreter from the northern tribes, James Bird, esq., who is daily expected, regular communications will be opened with the remaining tribes and bands of the Blackfoot nation.

A messenger was despatched yesterday to get accurate information of the progress and probable arrival of the boats, and on his return the place and time of holding the council will be determined upon, and the necessary measures taken to bring the Indians to the council ground at the appointed time.

The commissioners feel confident that success will crown their efforts in the arduous duty entrusted to them, and they beg to assure the department that no exertion will be spared on their part to accomplish the beneficent designs of the government. Especially will they be mindful of the injunction of the department, that our consultations and proceedings be characterized by wise deliberation and entire harmony.

We are, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

A. CUMMING,
ISAAC I. STEVENS,

Commissioners.

HON. GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 108.

FORT BENTON, *August 30, 1855.*

SIR: Referring to my communication from the Bitter Root valley of July 16, I have to report that the express dispatched to Fort Benton returned the following day, as I anticipated, bringing no information whatever as to the progress of the party up the Missouri,

and informing me that an express was started immediately from Fort Benton to gain the desired information.

After making arrangements for sending the Flatheads, Pend d' Oreilles, Kootenays, and Nez-Perces, in charge of Special Agent Adams and Sub-agent Tappan, slowly by several routes to a common point of assemblage in the vicinity of the "Deer Lodge," and thence up the valley of the Little Blackfoot river, and over a well known trail to Buffalo on the Muscle-shell and towards the Yellow-stone, and for communicating with them as they issued from the mountains, I started for this place on the 18th July and arrived here on the 25th of the same month. Here I was engaged for nearly a week in intercepting and sending back war parties against the Crows, and sending word to the Gros Ventres and the tribes of the Blackfeet nation to keep in Buffalo, make all the meat they could, and be in readiness to attend the council. On the 4th instant, I received, through the express of Harvey, Primeau & Co., a letter from Col. Cumming, dated July 27, informing me of his arrival at Fort Union, and of his intended departure the next day for Fort Benton. My own express reached Fort Union the day of the departure of the express giving information of Col. Cumming, and it reached this place on the 8th instant, with a copy of your instructions. I met Col. Cumming on Milk river, and there we organized the commission. Our official report of this date will, with this report, connect our joint operations with the special field in relation to which I have reported from time to time.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient,

ISAAC I. STEVENS,

Gov. Washington Territory and Com.

Hon. GEO. W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 109.

NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY, MILWAUKIE,

April 24, 1855.

SIR: I enclose a copy of a letter of R. W. Thompson to the Menomonee Indians, and a memorial of the chiefs revoking any document of Thompson's, which some of them have signed. This is a voluntary expression of their views, and all of the head chiefs, and most all others, have signed it.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

FRANCIS HUEBSCHMAN.

Hon. G. W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 109—A.

WASHINGTON CITY, *March 7, 1855.*

*To Osh-kosh the Head Chief, and the other
Chiefs of the Menomonee Nation.*

MY FRIENDS: As I told you I would do, I laid the paper you gave me, when I was in your country last October, before the great council. They have considered of it, and have agreed to do as you asked them to do, except that they have agreed to pay me only *one-half* of what you asked them to pay me. You promised me that I should have *one-third* of what is in your last treaty, and you asked the great council to give me that much, but the law they have passed only gives me *one-half* of that, and I have agreed to take it; and I send you a copy of the law, that you may keep it, so as to see what has been done. You can get some of your friends to explain it to you, so that all your people can know what it is.

The great council gives me its own money now, and agrees not to take it out of any of your money for *twelve years*. When they begin to pay you what will come to you under your last treaty, then they will take it out of that. But it does not take a dollar of any money coming to you under your other treaties. That will be paid to you as it is due, and you will get it all. I always told you that I did not want any of the money coming under your old treaties, and I have not asked the great council for it. If anybody tells you that I am to get any of it, you must not believe them, for it is not true.

All that the great council has agreed to pay me is what I tell you. They pay it out of their own money, and do not take any of yours to pay it back again for twelve years.

I have heard what the superintendent said to you when he paid you your provisions last month, and when he tried to get you to say that some government officers had been concerned with me in attending to your business. I am glad you told him the truth, for it is always best to tell the truth. You know very well that I had a quarrel with Major Bruce on your account, and that he got mad with me because I agreed to be your friend. He had used your money, and he was afraid that I would find him out, which you know I did do, and the great council paid you the money back again.

The commissioners and the superintendent hate me because I have been your friend, and they do not want me to be paid anything for what I have done for you for more than four years. I expect they will try to get you sign a paper, telling your Great Father that you do not want me paid; but if they ask you to do so, I hope you will not sign it, nor anything of the sort. If you have to sign any more papers about it I want you to wait till I come. If it is necessary for you to sign any more papers about it, I will come and see you, and then I can hear what the superintendent has to say.

The commissioners told the great council that *Oshkosh* and *many others* of the tribe of the Menomonees were "*intemperate and of demoralized habits and condition,*" and charged me with trying to cheat

you. You know that I have not told you that I would do anything that I did not do, and that if it had not been for me you would have been sent to Crow-wing, and would not have got any more money. And you know that I have never cheated or deceived you, but that I have always been your friend ever since you first came to see me and asked me to be your friend.

I intend to be your friend still, and do not intend to stop until I get you all that I think you are entitled to. You told me all about how that last treaty was made, and it is as easy to fight against that as it was to set aside Colonel Medill's treaty. The committee of the great council thought you ought to have more than \$600,000, but that treaty only gives you \$242,686, \$92,686 of which was put on by the Senate after the treaty was signed, all of which you know. I think you will get the difference yet, and I intend to try and get it for you. But you must not sign any more papers stating you do not want me paid; for, if you do, I must stop, and then you cannot find anybody else that will work for you. People cannot work and spend their money for nothing.

The commissioners and superintendent want to keep me from getting my money that you promised me, so that you may not have anybody but them to see to your interests. But the great council, by agreeing to pay me, have said that I may be your friend, if I choose; and I will be, unless you sign some paper saying I shall not be.

If you want me not to be your friend any longer, and will say so, I will stop. But I shall not believe that you do till I hear from you.

I shall come up and see you this summer any how, and shall tell you all I know about your business, and what I am going to do for you hereafter. And I shall tell the superintendent when I am going, so that he may be there and hear what I have so say, for I am not afraid to talk to you before him, and tell you all I want to say. I hope you will not sign any more papers about the business I have done, or about paying me, till I come, or till you hear from me again, unless it is a paper that you want me paid what the great council has agreed to pay me.

The great council are friendly to the Menomonees, and will see that justice is done them; and your great father, the President, is also your friend, and will do so too. He does not know how you have been treated, for he has so much to do that he has not time to examine it. When he does know, he will not let you be imposed on, for he is an honest man. A great many things are told you that he does not know of. If he did, he would not let it be told you.

You will recollect what you asked me two or three years ago about getting you some land for all of your people that had been in the war for the United States. I told you then that I would try and get it for you, but the present Secretary of the Interior decided that Indians could not have it, so I had to stop. You remember, also, when Carron asked me about it in the council last fall, I told him that I would do all I could to get the great council to let the Indian soldiers have land just as white soldiers. The great council have done so now, and have passed a law saying that Indian soldiers shall have land too. Now I can get your land for all of you that have been sol-

diers for the United States. You can get one hundred and sixty acres each, and it will be worth a good deal of money to you.

What I want you to do is not to have anybody try to get this land for you till I come to see you; for, if you employ anybody else to do it, they will charge you for it, and I will get the land for you and not charge you anything, because I promised you several years ago that I would. When I make a promise I always stand to it, and I hope you do too.

I send this to Oshkosh, at Shawano, as he lives near there and will get it. He can have it read to all the chiefs, and they can then know what is in it, and then Oshkosh can keep it.

Your friend,

R. W. THOMPSON.

Correct :

J. B. HUTT.

This is a true copy of the original.

JOHN WILEY.

No. 109—B.

MENOMONEE PAY GROUND, *April 17, 1855.*

We, the undersigned, chiefs and headmen of the Menomonee tribe of Indians, do hereby express our sincere views to the Great Father with regard to the papers we signed the 8th day of April at the house of Mr. Elias Murray. Said papers were said to be sent by Mr. Thompson for us to sign. We hereby confess that we did not understand what we signed; we were pushed to it by evil counsel. Therefore, we hereby counteract what we did at said council, and wish said papers to be considered no more than blanks. We wish to do justice to all; but we wish to understand what we do, so as to avoid advantage being taken of us. Said council was held in the absence of the superintendent and agent.

Carron,	his x mark.	Osh-kosh,	his x mark.
Pequakenangh,	his x mark.	Lamote,	his x mark.
Keshena,	his x mark.	Waketehan,	his x mark.
Shewapenath,	his x mark.	Shonanee,	his x mark.
Komanegan,	his x mark.	Oshkenini,	his x mark.
Shapwatake,	his x mark.	Makatabenash,	his x mark.
Ahkeneboa,	his x mark.	Makatabenash,	his x mark.
Washasha,	his x mark.	Shoneon,	his x mark.
Taka,	his x mark.	Ahoshshen,	his x mark.
Whiskeno,	his x mark.	Wabenasheam,	his x mark.
Mamakenet,	his x mark.	Metawapetashien,	his x mark.
Wabamesha,	his x mark.		

The chiefs on the left side did not sign Thompson's papers to the President of the United States.

Signed in full council in my presence on this the 17th day of April, 1855, at the Menomonee pay ground.

J. B. HUTT,
*Special Agent for the Indian Department
to the Menomonee Indians.*

In presence of—

JOHN WILEY.

JOSEPH GOTIER, *Interpreter.*

No. 110.

KAU KAUNA, ONTAGAMIE, WIS., *September 27, 1855.*

SIR: Having resolved to resign my place as government interpreter to the Menomonee Indians, I have concluded to state the reasons that lead me to do so. I attended the payment of the annuities to said Indians this fall, and was compelled to become the instrument of so much oppression and injustice that I am not willing to occupy so humiliating a position any longer. The conduct of Dr. Francis Huebschmann, the superintendent, on that occasion, in relation to the claim of Mr. R. W. Thompson against the Indians, was such as to create in my mind a disgust for any official position that should require me to take part in it in any way. I had always supposed before that it was the duty of government officers merely to see that justice was done to all persons, and did not think that they could be required to become prosecutors and persecutors of those who had business with the Indians or the government. I was with the Indians when they first employed Mr. Thompson in Washington in A. D. 1850, and know that he was not willing to be employed by them until they persuaded him to it; and I know that ever since they have looked to nobody but him to do their business, and have refused to do business even with the government without his advice. And while I have nothing to do at all with Mr. Thompson's getting his pay for his services, I think it is wrong that the government officers should interfere with the Indians so as to force them even against their will to refuse to pay him. Having the management of the business of the Indians, they have great power over them, and if they exercise this power for bad purposes it has the effect to corrupt and debase them. I am not willing to take any part in such things, and therefore resign my place.

On Friday, when the council of the Indians was held by Mr. Clarke, I told the Indians that Mr. Clarke had directed that nobody should speak to them about Mr. Thompson's claim till they had concluded and reported their conclusion. This was done at the request of the superintendent. Yet this order was violated almost as soon as made by the superintendent. He professed that he would be very indignant if he could hear or find out that anybody spoke a word to them on behalf of Mr. Thompson, and had several persons to watch if he could find any such. Yet he himself was violating this order constantly. He had chiefs and young men in his private room, as often

as he could get them there, talking to them, telling them that they should not pay Mr. Thompson, and threatening them with the loss of their annuities if they did so. He told the young men that they must not permit the chiefs to pay him, and induced them to threaten to take the lives of the chiefs if they did. He abused Mr. Thompson to them; said that he was not entitled to anything, and that he was trying to cheat them out of money that did not belong to the chiefs but the young men and the children. He did everything in his power, by secret and unfair means, to get them to reject Mr. Thompson's claim, and used his official position to enable him to practice this injustice. I felt degraded, while I was compelled, from my position, to take part in this business, and determined at once that, upon my return home, I would resign my office. I have known the Menomonee Indians a great many years, and know that the business of the nation has always been done by the chiefs and headmen, of whom there are now only about twenty-three or twenty-four. But the superintendent, Dr. Huebschmann, persuaded them, last May, to agree that in all matters concerning their annuities, after that, the young men should have an equal voice with the chiefs. I believe that this was done for no other purpose than to induce the rejection of Mr. Thompson's claim, by getting the young men to believe that he was to be paid out of their money, and that the chiefs had no power to pay their money. It had this effect; because, after he had made the young men believe this, they threatened to take the lives of the chiefs if they paid Mr. Thompson. The superintendent has not consulted the young men about other claims, but has consulted the chiefs alone, and he and they have acted together. It is satisfactory to my mind, therefore, that this was designed for no other purpose than to be used as an instrument of oppression against Mr. Thompson. Such conduct can never receive any sanction from honorable minds. On the morning after the council held by Mr. Clarke, I understood that the chiefs, with not more than four exceptions, had decided to pay Mr. Thompson what Congress had allowed him, and I have no doubt would have reported this decision to Mr. Clarke but for the interference of the superintendent. He got the most of the chiefs together, with some of the young men around them, and required that I should interpret what he said, in direct violation of the order of the day before. And this he did without any notice to Mr. Clarke or Mr. Thompson. He told them that they must take his advice, as he was their friend, he was ready to advise them about Mr. Thompson's claim; that they ought not to pay him; that if they did not he had his remedy against the government; that the President and Commissioner of Indian Affairs were good lawyers, and, if they did not pay him, he had his remedy to apply to them; that he was allowed too much, and it should be left to good lawyers to decide how much he should be paid; that if they paid him he would laugh at them; and that he was a doctor and received certain fees and knew how much men should be paid. Just as he was saying these things Mr. Thompson came up, when he immediately changed the subject to something about a hay contract, and thus furnished proof that he knew he was engaged in a dishonorable act. His countenance and agitation at detection be-

trayed this to everybody who saw him. From this time he made no further attempt to talk to the Indians where he could be detected, but continued to do it in secret, both night and day, up to the council on Monday, the 10th instant, when the claim was rejected. He even went so far as to procure a meeting of the Catholic chiefs at the house of the priest, after service on Sunday, so as to bring his influence to bear upon them against Mr. Thompson. And again, Sunday night, had the priest and some of the Catholic chiefs at his room. This is such an outrage as few have the hardihood to undertake to practice to use the great influence of the priest over the minds of Catholic Indians to influence them to do wrong, instead of teaching them to do right. There is much more of the conduct of the superintendent that is impossible to put down; but this is enough to show why it is that I cannot hold my place any longer, for I cannot degrade myself by helping to do such things.

Very respectfully, your servant,

CHARLES A. GRIGNON,
United States Interpreter.

HON. GEO. W. MANYPENNY,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington City, District Columbia.*

No. 111.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office of Indian Affairs, October 8, 1855.

Sir: I have received your communication of the 27th of last month, notifying me, for reasons therein stated, of your resignation of the office of United States interpreter for the Menomonee Indians.

I have transmitted a copy of it to Superintendent Huebschmann, for his information, and for such reply as he may feel authorized, by the facts of the case, to make.

Without intending to form any opinion as to the truth of the allegations contained in your letter against the superintendent, I have to say to you, that, in my opinion, your communication furnishes abundant evidence that you are not a suitable person for the office of interpreter for those Indians, and therefore your resignation is very acceptable to this office.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

CHARLES A. GRIGNON, Esq.,
Kau Kauna, Ontagamie, Wisconsin.

No. 112.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office of Indian Affairs, October 8, 1855.

SIR: I enclose herewith a copy of a letter, this day received from Charles A. Grignon, esq., resigning his office as interpreter for the Menomonee Indians, for such reply in relation to the charges therein contained as you may feel authorized, by the facts in the case, to make.

In selecting a successor, I have to admonish you to be assured that he is a man of integrity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

F. HUEBSCHMANN, Esq.,
*Superintendent of Indian Affairs,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.*

No. 113.

NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY,
Milwaukee, October 13, 1855.

SIR: Your communication of the 8th instant and a copy of a letter of Charles A. Grignon, resigning his office as interpreter, has been received. Mr. Grignon has not stated the true reason why he resigned. Since a house has been built for the interpreter he has been aware that he would be required to reside there. He holds the office of county treasurer of Ontagamie county, and though a deputy does the business of the office for him, on his removing to the Indian country the office would have been declared vacant. He had repeatedly declared that he could not live with his family on the interpreter's salary, and at first wanted to be recommended for agent, and afterwards foolishly applied to Mr. Hunkins to be appointed farmer, in addition to the office he held. He is unfit for either of the offices to which he asked to be promoted. I am not at all disappointed that he lent himself during the last days of his office to the corrupt schemes of the claimants against the Menomonees, and suggested at the Menomonee payment to Agent Hunkins that it was proper to suspend him from his duty. But from the fact that his resignation was soon expected, and that it is somewhat difficult to select a proper person to fill the place, I did not feel prompted to direct his suspension. His father, Augustin Grignon, has a claim of some 15,000 dollars against the Menomonees, but was heretofore opposed to Thompson's claim as unjust and exorbitant; and Charles A. Grignon himself has heretofore been bitterly opposed to that claim. It is apparent that they have been made to believe that the interest of all the claimants are the same with Mr. Thompson's, and

they consequently have changed their views. It was to be expected that the adoption of the rule by the Menomonees, to allow the young men a voice in all matters appertaining to the granting of any part of their annuities to any claimants, is very objectionable to Mr. Grignon and the rest of the claimants, for the reason that they have no hope of prevailing upon the young men to consent to the payment of the claims. Nevertheless, the Menomonees have a perfect right to adopt such a rule. On the 8th of April a number of the chiefs had signed at Murray's house a memorial in favor of paying Thompson's claim; when the young men heard of it, they became excited and threatened the chiefs, and on the 17th they held a council and the chiefs signed unanimously another memorial revoking the former. This was all done in my absence. When I visited the Menomonees in May the excitement amongst them had not yet subsided, and it was reported that the life of Chief Lamotte was in danger, because the young men believed that he had been bribed by Thompson with a promise of \$,1000. To allay this excitement I suggested to them to sign a paper expressly acknowledging that the young men have a voice, which, in fact, the chiefs had acknowledged already, when they acted under the influence of the young men and revoked the memorial of the 8th of April. It had never entered the head of Mr. Grignon that on the Menomonees becoming more civilized and intelligent, changes in their form of government, which would bring it nearer to the democratic form, would suggest themselves.

The statement that I threatened the Indians with the loss of their annuities, if they paid Mr. Thompson, is as false as it is absurd, if the idea is meant to be conveyed that I threatened to take his annuity from any individual Indian. If Mr. Grignon did know an Indian whom I threatened so, he would have named him. As it was my duty, I explained to the Indians how much of their annuities it would take to pay Mr. Thompson.

The statement that I induced the young men to threaten to take the lives of the chiefs, if they did pay Thompson, is equally false. Some of the young men who came to me were very much excited; but I quieted them by referring to the fact that, under the rule adopted, the consent of the young men would have to be obtained, as well as of the chiefs, before the claim would be paid. It is equally untrue that I used unfair means to prevail upon the Indians to reject Thompson's claim. If Mr. Grignon, from his position, was compelled "to take part in this business," he would have stated how and when I did use unfair means.

I did not violate any rule made at my request. On the first day of the council, after Mr. Thompson and myself had addressed the Indians, I requested that nobody should speak to them in relation to Thompson's claim, so that the council, which they were about to hold among themselves, would be undisturbed. If there was any such rule, Mr. Grignon violated it himself, when he, as he says, on the next morning "understood that the chiefs, with not more than four exceptions, had decided to pay Mr. Thompson what Congress had allowed him." The report which reached me as to the views of the

Indians, expressed in council, was, that a few were in favor of paying a part of the amount, and the others against paying anything.

In relation to the conversation which I had with some chiefs on the forenoon of the 8th, I stated the facts in a communication to Hon. S. Clark, of which I enclosed a copy to you. I did not see Mr. Thompson come up when I was speaking to the Indians, and consequently could not have changed the subject on his account. That I made Mr. Grignon act as interpreter on that occasion, proves, sufficiently, that there was nothing intended to be secret about it; for I knew very well that Grignon would report it to Thompson as soon as he met him at Cown's house, where they all boarded. If Mr. Grignon believes that I ought to have obtained permission from Mr. Thompson or anybody else before I did speak to any of the Indians in relation to Thompson's claim, or received the visits of the priest or of any of the Indians, he is mistaken. Only a short time previous he had entertained in relation to Thompson's claim views similar to those expressed by myself to the Indians, but since he found that my arguments might be applied with equal force against all or most of the other claims, he began to look upon the matter in a different light, while I had no reason to change my views.

If I had been perfectly inactive while Mr. Thompson's emissaries were traversing the Menomonee settlements in all directions, and using persuasion, threats, and bribes to prevail upon the Indians to consent to the payment of Thompson's claim, and had done nothing to remove the impressions made by their falsehoods, my conduct would no doubt have been approved of by Mr. Grignon and Mr. Thompson.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

FRANCIS HUEBSCHMANN,

Superintendent.

Hon. GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 114.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,

St. Louis, June 22, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit a letter from Agent Clarke, dated the 14th inst., in relation to Pottawatomie affairs, and enclosing a memorial by the chiefs and headmen of said people, addressed to you, on the subject of certain powers of attorney alleged to have been improperly obtained; also, certified copies of two letters from G. W. Ewing, esq., to a certain Andrew Jackson, in relation to Pottawatomie claims.

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

JOHN HAVERTY,

Clerk in charge of office.

Hon. GEO. W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 114—A.

POTTAWATOMIE AGENCY, K. T., June 14, 1855.

SIR: During the several past months the Indians in this agency have been much excited by the agitation of matters growing out of claims which they allege to have against the United States, and the power of attorney granted to George W. Ewing, esq., to prosecute the same. Other papers have recently been sent out from Washington for the signatures of the chiefs and headmen. Whether they are a new power of attorney and additional obligation to pay certain fees, as rumored, I have not been able to ascertain. I have endeavored to obtain a sight of them, but have failed. A great cause of excitement among the Indians, in connexion with this matter, is the opinion prevailing among them that a certain chief (Jos. Lefrombois) and some of the educated men in the nation have been bribed by Mr. Ewing to aid him in carrying out his views. I have not been able to learn whether the Indians are correct in this opinion, but so strong do the evidences appear before them, that, at a large council of the chiefs and headmen held on the 4th, 5th and 6th instants at St. Mary's Mission, where nearly every leading man was present, (nearly all of the absentees being the accused parties,) they denounced the proceeding, revoked the power of attorney granted to Mr. Ewing, and repudiated all powers of attorney which they have given heretofore, or which may purport to have been given by them to all persons whatsoever. They deny the right of any person to prosecute claims or collect money for them, and demand that all sums due the nation, or to individuals of the nation, be sent to the United States Indian agent. They further declare their determination to make all their wants and demands known through the government agent, and him alone.

The system of Indian attorneys entering into combinations with individuals of an Indian tribe, and of dividing the fees among those hired or bribed persons to procure the assent or the signatures to powers of attorney, and to contracts to pay over to said attorneys portions of the moneys due the tribes, is corrupting, demoralizing, and productive of the most disastrous effects upon the Indians, and do more to counteract the benevolent intentions and wise policy of the government than any other cause that now exists; and I deem it to be my duty to co-operate with the Indian Department in its endeavor to put down such an abuse.

Accompanying, I send you the communication of the council to Mr. Manypenny, revoking all powers of attorney; also, the copies of two letters addressed to Andrew Jackson, a Pottawatomie Indian, which were delivered to me by the chiefs in council, with the request that they be laid before the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Upon consultation with the United States attorney for this district, I have concluded to send certified copies instead of the originals; it being the opinion of that officer that the writer has laid himself liable to a prosecution under the 12th section of the act of June 30, 1834, "to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes," and in which case the originals will be required in court.

Another remark in connexion with this subject. The interference of these attorneys is destructive of the influence of the Indian Department. The Indians who are brought into combination with the attorneys soon begin to entertain strong prejudices against the federal government, the Indian Department, and its agents; are ever ready to listen and give currency to the most absurd and injurious charges against the officers of the department. Upon my return from Arkansas, I learned that various allegations against me were in circulation among those Indians who have been brought under Mr. Ewing's influence, or at least, those who were retained in his conspiracy; such, for instances, that the \$5,000 which was loaned by the traders last fall had been sent out to me by the department, but that I was withholding it; and that I was suspended from office for interfering with Governor Reeder's land purchases with the half-breed Kansas Indians; that my standing with the department was not good, and that the traders and other white men had stronger influences to back them than I could bring to bear; that Mr. Ewing could counteract me at the crook of his finger, &c., and such like absurd and contradictory reports, intended to destroy my influence and usefulness among the Indians, and to disarm me of the power to defeat the schemes of designing men.

These efforts, however, have happily failed. The Pottawatomies have shown their unlimited confidence in me, as you will see by the several communications of their council.

All of these matters I submit for the consideration of the department.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CLARKE,
Indian Agent.

Colonel A. CUMMING,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 114—B.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., *March* 13, 1855.

DEAR SIR: Your esteemed favor of the 5th of last month has just reached me.

There has been great delay of mails, caused by the dreadful snow storms, in Illinois and other parts of the western country.

I have noticed carefully what you say in relation to the business I have in my hands for the nation, and I agree with you precisely. I never had any other thought, for when I agree to do a thing I am a man of my word, and will always respect and live up to my agreement, so I will with you. I did not purpose to leave you out by any means, when I talked with that other friend, but told him that my agreement with you must stand and be *good*. He so understood me, and it is as you say, no one man can do everything, but when many

good active men work altogether they can accomplish much good. I have lost my excellent brother, he died of cholera last July. This throws a great deal of business on my hands, more, I am afraid, than I can attend to.

This demand, which I have been working at for the nation, since April, 1852, is a large and important and *just one*, and I have hunted it up pretty well. I think with good management, the United States could be made to pay the nation over *half a million* of dollars, but there should be good feeling and union among your people.

The attorney for the Menomonees, and myself, after working four years, found and established the fact, that the United States owed that tribe \$613,540, and this they would have received, but a *rascally* and *dishonest* government officer, sent out *secretly* to the tribe last spring, and there *fooled* them out of it, and got them to sign a sort of treaty by which they agreed to give up all that the United States owed them for \$150,000.

They were scared and almost *forced* to sign away their rights, just because they were simple people. Now when the *rascally* secret treaty came here before the Senate, their attorney and I opposed it and got the Senate to add on \$92,000 more, so the tribe gets \$242,000. They were fully entitled to \$613,540, so they were *wronged* by a government officer out of \$371,540. So much for these wolves in sheep's cloths, these *loving, pious, honest* "*guardians*," who are so very afraid that some "*heartless trader or attorney will cheat and wrong the poor Indians.*"

Yet these same d—d *hypocritical* scamps will skin a tribe out of a quarter or *half a million* of dollars at a lick, when they get a chance.

Now, I am satisfied that there is a large amount justly due the nation, and the United States ought to be made to pay it.

Congress has just passed a law and created a "*Court on Claims.*" It will sit in this city always. This is a good thing, and I believe that before that court the nation can recover their pay.

I will be out in April, and will want to see you and some of our other friends on this business. If your people would only act wise, and all go together, something could be done.

I will explain and give you my views in full when I see you. Let there be no jealousy nor opposition among you, Madone, and the others, but all should work together for the general good. There is plenty of work for all, and if we can recover there will be enough to pay all well for their services.

All of this I will explain more fully when I see you.

Please, on receipt of this, write to me at Westport; I will be there in April.

Remember me to our friends.

Yours, sincerely,

GEORGE W. EWING.

ANDREW JACKSON.

I certify, on honor, that the foregoing is a true copy of a letter placed in my hands on the 6th June, 1855, by the Pottawatomie chiefs in council assembled, and which is on file in my office.

GEORGE W. CLARKE,
Indian Agent.

POTTAWATOMIE AGENCY, K. T.,
June 12, 1855.

No. 114—C.

WASHINGTON, March 30, 1854.

SIR: You may inform the chiefs and headmen that I think I can recover and find for the nation six or seven hundred thousand dollars.

I have got their old friend, Colonel A. C. Pepper, to come here and help me. He is a *true* friend, and says he wants to see ALL that he ever promised the nation fulfilled.

But you may rely upon it that the officers of the Indian department, the Commissioner and all, will do nothing. They *pretend* to be your *great friends*; you may believe it if you see proper.

They are *great friends* when they want to buy your lands for *ten* cents per acre—worth a dollar—or when they want to have your people act like *rascals*, and get such a *dog* as Jude to deny his agreements and swear *false*.

They know if they can get the nation to act the *rascal*, deny their agreements, and quarrel with the men that are helping them, that then those men will quit them, and they will have no more help.

I hope the Pottawatomies will not be such *fools*.

These officers will never pay you a dollar of these old arrears unless they are *made* to do it.

They have always said there was nothing due. Now, I don't believe this, and I believe I can find a large sum.

I intend to go to Congress, as we did in the Shawnee case.

The department always denied, and said there was *nothing due*, to the Shawnees—kept it *covered* up for 15 years. But we got good men in Congress to help us, and we found \$66,244. Congress ordered the President to pay this money to the Shawnees, and it was paid last July. But the officers of the Indian Department were there and *cheated* Colonel Thompson and me out of our part of it. Now, they do this to break up all attorneys, and so the Indians can have no person to help them. This is *mean* and *dishonest*.

The commissioner says there is no need of attorneys—that they, the officers and the government, will do what is right. Is it right to keep back money, and fail to comply with treaties, for 20 years?

Perhaps he means that it is *right* for the department to cheat the Indians, and to *violate* treaty stipulations.

The Indians can see and judge for themselves. They should stand up firm, like men, and be true to the white men who help them get

their rights from the government, which has failed to carry out its treaties with them.

I want you to inform the chiefs that I intend to hang on and do all I can—will take the matter to Congress as we did in the Shawnee case.

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. EWING.

ANDREW JACKSON.

I certify, on honor, that the foregoing is a true copy of a letter handed to me June 6, 1855, by the Pottawatomie chiefs in general council, and which is on file in this office.

GEORGE W. CLARKE,
Indian Agent.

POTTAWATOMIE AGENCY, *June 12, 1855.*

No. 114—D.

ST. MARY'S MISSION, POTTAWATOMIE NATION,
June 6, 1855.

The chiefs, braves and other individuals of the Pottawatomie tribe of Indians, in council assembled, after many weeks' mature deliberation and investigation of the subject, have arrived at the following conclusion in regard to certain white men who have been engaged in, and are still endeavoring to rob our people of their moneys by means of powers of attorney, to settle with the government of the United States claims which we have growing out of treaty stipulations.

In most cases these powers of attorney have been obtained by means of fraud, corruption, and deception. By using corrupting influences, some of our people have been induced to exercise their influence over, and to use deception with others, to procure their signatures to these instruments. In many cases these papers have been signed by some of us under a mistaken view of their object; and many of us who now sign this communication acknowledge and proclaim that our signatures to some of these powers of attorney have been obtained from us by misrepresentation of their objects and powers.

In regard to a power of attorney granted to the Messrs. Ewing, four or five years since, to settle with the government claims which we have against the United States, growing out of the 4th article of the treaty of 1832 and other treaties, we declare that it was obtained through a misapprehension of its terms, and we hereby annul and revoke all powers granted to said Ewings in said document, and all other papers which they may hold purporting to be signed by our people; and we utterly repudiate all powers of attorney held by white persons or half-breeds or Indians, having for their object the settlement of claims against the United States, and protest against the government of the United States paying over to agents or attorneys, professing to represent our interests at Washington city, any monies due our nation, and request that all monies due our people be paid us

through our agent, Geo. W. Clarke, in whom we have entire confidence, and through whom we will make all our wants known to the President and Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Being determined to resist the importunities of strange agents and attorneys to prosecute our claims against the United States, we shall rely more upon the efforts of our agent and commissioner to procure the settlement of such amounts as are due us, and we throw ourselves upon the justice and magnanimity of the government of the United States. We are determined to approach the government through no other channel than that designated to us, and upon such means we depend for our rights.

We remain your red children,

Wahb-zose,	his x mark.	Kah-kak-she,	his x mark.
We-wee-say,	his x mark.	Mo-zo-ba-net,	his x mark.
Wab-sah,	his x mark.	Wahb-shah,	his x mark.
Pael-e-go-shuk,	his x mark.	Mash-kunn-me,	his x mark.
Zhah-quee,	his x mark.	Nalh-wah-gay,	his x mark.
Pe-quen,	his x mark.	Shah-wee,	his x mark.
Muis-no-o-gib-ma,	his x mark.	O-gib-mas,	his x mark.
Ka-psh-kuh-wid,	his x mark.	Shop-kuk,	his x mark.
Eat-all,	his x mark.	Ma-zhe,	his x mark.
Zhomin,	his x mark.	Wah-wa-suk,	his x mark.
Chah-duk,	his x mark.	Pame-je-zah,	his x mark.
Black Wolf,	his x mark.	Little Crane,	his x mark.
Ze-buish-sum,	his x mark.	Cow Set,	his x mark.
Wa-sah-ko-na,	his x mark.		

Read, interpreted, and signed in my presence—

GEO. W. CLARKE, *Indian Agent.*

Done in the presence of—

JOS. N. BOURASSA, *U. S. Interpreter.*

JOHN TIPTON.

Hon. G. W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 115.

Regulations and forms for applications, and the authentication of the same, to be observed by Indians applying for the benefit of the bounty-land laws.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, *April 2, 1855.*

The seventh section of the act of third March, eighteen hundred and fifty-five, granting bounty-land to persons who have been engaged in the military service of the United States, provides that "all the bounty-land laws heretofore passed by Congress shall be extended to Indians in the same manner and to the same extent as if the said Indians had been white men."

The directions contained in the regulations prescribed by the Com-

missioner of Pensions, stating the services on account of which land may be granted, and the character of persons and their descendants who may be entitled thereto, as applicable to whites, also apply to, and must govern, Indian claimants.

The declarations of Indian claimants must be made under oath substantially in accordance with the forms annexed hereto. And where they belong to tribes or bands for which there is a United States agent, the same must be sworn to before such agent, whose duty it shall be to make known to the applicants the provisions of the law by which they are entitled; and to carefully explain to them, and all witnesses who may be sworn before him as corroborative testimony in such cases, the nature and obligations of the oaths they are required to make in support of the applications. Said agents will use every precaution in their power to guard against fraud or deception of any kind either upon or by the applicants or witnesses; and they will not administer the oaths to either, nor certify the declarations and affidavits, or either of them, until after due inquiry and investigation they shall be well assured that the same are substantially correct.

The applications of Indians residing in States or Territories, and not within the bounds of any agency, or those residing within the States at distances from their agency so great as to prevent their attending thereat, or those who have abandoned their tribal organization and are living within any State or Territory as citizens, must be prepared according to the forms hereto annexed, except where they or their witnesses do not understand and speak the English language, and the declarations and affidavits have to be interpreted to them, when the affidavit of the interpreter that the interpretation was correctly made will be taken, and the certificate of the magistrate before whom the declarations and affidavits are made that said interpreter is a credible person, must be attached thereto. But the authentication of the same should be made according to the forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Pensions in cases of applications for white persons.

The personal identity of the applicants, wherever located, must be established, and their declarations supported by the affidavits of at least two credible witnesses.

All applications made by Indians within the limits of the agencies for tribes in the States or Territories of the United States, and all such made by those within the *States* but without the limits of an Indian agency, where the parties reside less than fifty miles therefrom, must be certified and transmitted, by the respective agents where the applications are made, to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to be referred to the Commissioner of Pensions for examination and decision.

Where applications are made by Indians not within any agency, or those who have abandoned their tribal organization, or those residing permanently more than fifty miles from any such agency and within the jurisdiction of the United States, they may be sent by the claimants or their representatives, or be transmitted to the nearest Indian agent, and be by him sent to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for reference to the Commissioner of Pensions.

GEO. W. MANYPENNY, *Commissioner*.

FORM OF A DECLARATION

To be made by a person who has never before had a land warrant, or made a declaration therefor.

TERRITORY OF (or State, as the case may be,) } ss.
 AGENCY FOR (or county,)

On this — day of —, A. D. eighteen hundred and —, personally appeared before me, a United States Indian agent (or justice of the peace, or other officer duly authorized to administer oaths, as the case may be,) within and for the agency and Territory (or county and State, as the case may be,) aforesaid, — —, aged — years, a resident of —, in the Territory (or State) of —, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical — —, who was a (warrior, captain, or chief, as the case may be) in the company (band, or otherwise) commanded by — —, a chief (or captain, or in detail, as the facts may be) in the war with Great Britain, declared by the United States on the 18th day of June, 1812, (or other war embraced in the act under which application is made, describing what war,) that he enlisted (or volunteered, or was drafted) at a place called —, in the Territory (or State) of —, on or about the — day of —, A. D. —, for the term of —, and continued in actual service in said war for the term of fourteen days, (or during such time as required in the battle at —, on the — day of —, A. D. —,) (*SEE NOTE,) and was honorably discharged at —, on the — day of —, A. D. —. (If the claimant was a principal officer, or was discharged by reason of disability incurred in the service, or if in captivity with the enemy, or in any other particular the case be not applicable to this form, the specific facts should be set forth.)

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which he may be entitled under the act approved March 3, 1855. He also declares that he has not received a warrant for bounty land under this or any other act of Congress, nor made any other application therefor.

[Signature of claimant.]

We, — — and — —, members of the — — tribe of Indians, and residing within the — — agency in the Territory (or place and State, as the case may be) of —, upon our oaths declare that the foregoing declaration was signed and acknowledged by — —, in our presence, and that we know the applicant to be the identical person he represents himself to be.

[Signatures of witnesses.]

[Witnesses to signatures if made by mark and not written.]

NOTE.—For form of declaration where the party has had a warrant and desires another : The details of the regular discharge may be omitted, and in lieu thereof the following form should be observed, viz : "That he has heretofore made application for bounty land under the act of September 28, 1850, (or other act, as the case may be,) and received a land warrant, which he has since legally disposed of, and cannot now return."

The foregoing declaration and affidavit, after being duly interpreted through an interpreter, under oath to correctly interpret the same to the applicant and witnesses, were sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and year above written; I certify that the affiants are credible persons, and that I am satisfied the applicant is the person he represents himself to be.

[*Signature of United States Indian Agent.*]

FORM OF A DECLARATION

To be made by the widow of a deceased person who has not had a land warrant.

TERRITORY OF _____, }
 Agency for _____. } ss.

On this _____ day of _____, A. D. eighteen hundred and _____, personally appeared before me, a United States Indian agent (*or other officer, as the case may be*) within and for the agency and Territory (*or as the case may be*) aforesaid, _____, aged _____ years, a resident of _____, in the Territory of _____, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow of _____, deceased, who was a warrior (*captain, chief, or otherwise*) in the company (*or band*) commanded by _____, a chief (*or as the fact may be*) in the war with Great Britain, declared by the United States on the 18th day of June, 1812, (*or otherwise, as the case may be,*) that her said husband enlisted (*or volunteered or was drafted*) at a place called _____, in the Territory (*or State*) of _____, on or about the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, for the term of _____, and continued in actual service in said war for the term of _____, and was honorably discharged at _____, on the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____. She further states that she was married to the said _____, in (*what place*) on the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, according to the laws, usages, and customs of the _____ tribe of Indians, to which she at that time belonged, and that her name was _____; that her said husband died at _____, on the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, and that she is now a widow. (* SEE NOTE.) (*If the precise day cannot be stated, then details sufficient to fully identify the parties and show the facts as to marriage, husband's death, and present widowhood, should be embodied in the declaration, and evidence of those who knew the facts should accompany the same.*)

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she may be entitled under the act approved March 3, 1855.

[*Signature of claimant.*]

* NOTE.—For form of declaration where a widow has had a warrant and desires another: The same form as that aforesaid should be used, except that at the point in the declaration where she states "she is now a widow," the following should be added, viz: "She further declares that she has heretofore made application for bounty land under the act approved September 28, 1850, (*or other act, as the case may be,*) and obtained a land warrant, which she has legally disposed of, and it cannot now be returned."

We, _____ and _____, members of the _____ tribe of Indians, and residing within the _____ agency in the Territory (or *place and State, as the case may be*) of _____, upon our oaths, declare that the foregoing declaration was signed and acknowledged by _____ in our presence, and that we know the applicant to be the identical person she represents herself to be.

[*Signature of witnesses.*]

[*Witness to signatures made by mark.*]

The foregoing declaration and affidavit, after being duly interpreted and explained through an interpreter, under oath correctly to interpret the same to the applicant and witnesses, were sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and year above written; I certify that the affiants are credible persons, and that I am satisfied the applicant is the person she represents herself to be.

[*Signature of United States Indian Agent.*]

FORM OF AFFIDAVIT

To be made as proof of the marriage of widowed applicant, decease of her husband, and present widowhood.

TERRITORY OF _____, }
 AGENCY FOR _____ } ss.

On this _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, personally appeared before me, a United States Indian agent (or *other officer, as the case may be*) within and for the agency and Territory (or *as the case may be*) aforesaid, _____, aged _____ years, and _____, aged _____ years, residents of said agency, (as the case may be,) who, being duly sworn according to law, depose and say that they are well acquainted with _____, who is an applicant for bounty land under the provisions of the act of March 3, 1855, (or *other act, as the case may be;*) that she was married to _____ on or about the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, at a place called _____, according to the custom of the _____ tribe of Indians to which she belonged, and that they know the fact of such marriage by reason of being present thereat, (or, *if absent, then it should be stated particularly how known;*) that her said husband died at _____, on or about the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____, and that they know the fact of his death by reason of having been present with him when he died, (or *at his burial, or such other particulars as will fully identify the fact of the decease of said husband,*) and that the said applicant is now a widow. (If married after the decease of the husband, on account of whose services she applies for bounty land, then the facts must be stated; also the further facts in detail, showing when such other husband died and how known. In applications for minors, the form of proof may be similar to that for widows, but extended to the decease of the mother, and stating the authority and character of guardianship; and among tribes where there is a probate court, or other similar jurisdiction, a duly authenticated copy of the records of such court should be attached to the application.)

[*Signatures of witnesses.*]

The foregoing affidavit being made by _____ and _____, respectively, after being duly interpreted and explained through an interpreter, under oath correctly to interpret the same, was sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and year above written; I certify that said affiants are persons of good moral character whose statements under oath are worthy of credence.

[*Signature of United States Indian Agent.*]

The preceding forms should be observed in applications for minors, and in which cases the declarations must be made by guardians, duly appointed and authorized according to the laws, usages, and customs of the tribe to which such minor belongs; and it shall be the duty of agents, whenever such application is made, to carefully examine the authority of guardianship, and permit no one to represent a minor as such guardian unless he is well satisfied that said guardian is duly and properly authorized so to act.

No. 116.

REGULATION.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office of Indian Affairs, June 14, 1855.

Superintendents, in conjunction with the agents under their supervision, are required to furnish, so that they will reach this office by the 15th day of September in each year, schedules of the articles (goods, implements, provisions, &c., &c.) to be delivered to the several Indian tribes or bands in their charge, in fulfilment of treaty stipulations, during the ensuing calendar year; with suggestions respecting the quality of articles, place of purchase, method of transportation, and time for delivery, so as best to subserve the wants of the several tribes or bands.

This order to be observed immediately.

GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

No. 117.

REGULATION.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, April 21, 1855.

The superintendents and agents of the Indian Department are required to transmit, regularly hereafter, to this office, immediately on the expiration of every quarter, a statement showing the amount of public money remaining unexpended in their hands, the object or

objects to which it is applicable, where it is kept or deposited, and of what description of funds it consists; to which statement they will annex their affidavit, that it is correct, in every particular, and the said money is subject to their immediate control, and ready at all times, to be used and applied for the object or objects for which it may be required.

They are also required to furnish to this office, before the commencement of each quarter, an estimate of the remittances necessary to place moneys in their hands to meet the demands of the public service during the quarter.

GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

No. 118.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, November 20, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to state, that from the various appropriations for educational purposes among Indians tribes, there has been drawn from appropriations for "fulfilling treaties," during ten years ending January 1, 1855, to be expended for education among the tribes, the sum of \$626,302 20.

During the same period there has been remitted and paid, from the interest on the various trust funds, the sum of \$197,868 41.

And there has been drawn from the treasury, for expenditure during the same period, from the \$10,000 per annum set apart by the United States, in pursuance of the act of Congress of March 3, 1819, the further sum of \$102,107 14.

In addition to these amounts, there has been applied by the Choctaw and Cherokee nations, through their own officers, for school purposes—the erection and support of district schools, academies, &c.—from annuity and interest funds received by those tribes from the United States, an amount of money not less than \$20,000 per year for each of those tribes during the ten years, say \$400,000.

Large appropriations from tribal funds have also been made by the Creek nation for education in their country. The amount cannot be easily arrived at or correctly estimated.

The several societies which are in the receipt of funds through this office, to be expended for Indian civilization, education, &c., have been requested by a circular to inform this office of the amounts that have been applied by their societies, as contributions from private sources, and the amounts received through the United States Treasury, from the United States or the Indians, and expended for these objects by them severally during the same period of time.

The substance of the replies received may be stated as follows:

Amounts expended by benevolent societies in ten years last past for education and missions among the Indian tribes—

By the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions, Boston, Massachusetts:

Total amount expended for Indian missions, for ten years, ending August 1, 1855	-	-	-	-	\$234,567 00
Amount expended by said society for Indian education, ten years, ending January 1, 1855	-	-	-	-	52,707 00
Amount received by the society from the United States "civilization fund," in said period of ten years	-	-	-	-	15,700 00
Total	-	-	-	-	<u>402,974 00</u>

By the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in New York:

Mission funds expended in ten years	-	-	-	-	\$143,501 87
Indian treaty funds	-	-	-	-	161,741 66
United States civilization fund	-	-	-	-	21,950 00
Total disbursed	-	-	-	-	<u>327,193 53</u>

Of this aggregate \$143,501 87 has been contributed by private benevolence, \$161,741 66 by the tribes themselves, with the supervision and approbation of the department, and \$21,950, by the United States.

By the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, New York, there has been expended in ten years, ending December 31, 1854, for Indian missions and education, \$107,230; of this amount there has been furnished for the United States civilization fund the sum of \$14,000.

By the "American Indian Mission Association," Louisville, Kentucky, now transferred to the domestic mission board of the southern Baptist convention, there has been expended for Indian education in ten years last past:

Mission funds of the society	-	-	-	-	\$59,189 00
Treaty funds of Indian tribes received from the treasury of the United States, and from the Choctaw nation	-	-	-	-	44,924 15
From the United States "civilization fund"	-	-	-	-	300 00
Total amount disbursed for schools	-	-	-	-	<u>104,413 15</u>

The secretary of the domestic mission board remarks that the "current expenditures for missionary operations," by that society among the Indians, has been "three or four times as great" as the amount expended (viz., \$59,189) from the mission fund for education.

By the superintendent of Catholic missions, St. Louis, expended in ten years, ending June 30, 1855, for education among Indian tribes:

Among the Pottawatomies—					
Treaty funds of the tribe	-	-	-	-	\$39,520 50
Private contributions	-	-	-	-	6,127 58
Among the Osages—					
Treaty funds of the tribe	-	-	-	-	33,054 79
Private contributions	-	-	-	-	5,843 38
Among the Miamies—					
Treaty funds of the tribe	-	-	-	-	2,772 80
					87,319 05
					87,319 05
Aggregate of expenditures for ten years—					
Private contributions	-	-	-	-	\$11,970 96
Indian funds	-	-	-	-	75,348 09
					87,319 05
					87,319 05

To the "Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church South" there has been remitted from Indian treaty funds and the "civilization fund" in ten years the sum of \$114,012 71, and the reply of the secretary of that society, after stating that it is not practicable for him to give an accurate statement, remarks that "the amount contributed from year to year by the church" (for schools and missions among the Indians) "has far exceeded the amount received from the government for the same purpose."

It would thus appear that not less than \$228,000 has been disbursed by this society for Indian education and missions in the past ten years.

The only society believed to be engaged in Indian missions, to any considerable extent, not above included, is the American Baptist Missionary Union, Boston, and from its officers there has not been a statement received.

From the above reports it would appear that, in addition to the \$102,107 14 furnished by the United States, and to the aggregate of \$824,160 61 drawn from the Indian funds, and over \$400,000 paid out by Indian nations among themselves, that private benevolence in ten years has expended for the christianization and civilization of the Indian tribes more than \$830,000, showing a total outlay for these objects in ten years exceeding two millions one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, (\$2,150,000.)

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,

Commissioner.

Hon. R. McCLELLAND,
Secretary of the Interior.

No. 119.

Statement exhibiting the stocks held in trust, by the Secretary of the Interior, for Indian tribes, under sundry treaties and laws, (exclusive of the Chickasaw funds.)

	Rate per cent.	Creek orphans, 2d article treaty 1832.		Rate per cent.	Menomonee, treaty 1836.
United States loan, 1842..	6	\$49,900 84	United States loan, 1842..	6	\$26,114 88
State of Virginia.....	6	73,800 00	United States loan, 1847..	6	21,321 10
State of Kentucky	5	1,000 00	State of Kentucky	5	77,000 00
State of Missouri	5	28,000 00	State of Tennessee.....	5	19,000 00
Do.....	6	28,041 76	State of Missouri	6	9,967 60
State of Tennessee	5	20,000 00			
Total		200,742 60	Total		153,403 58

	Rate per cent.	Ottawas & Chip- pewas, 4th arti- cle treaty 1836.		Rate per cent.	Chippewas of Swan creek, treaty 1836.
United States loan, 1842..	6	\$4,588 97	State of Missouri.....	6	\$5,587 42
United States loan, 1847..	6	2,274 47			
State of Virginia.....	6	3,000 00			
State of Tennessee	5	1,000 00			
State of Missouri	6	10,062 30			
Total		20,925 74			5,587 42

	Rate per cent.	Ottawas of Roche de Beauf, treaty 1831.		Rate per cent.	Ottawas of Blan- chard's Fork, treaty 1831.
State of Missouri	6	\$1,571 13	State of Missouri.....	6	\$8,473 22

No. 119—Continued.

	Rate per cent.	Chippewas, Ottawas, and Potawatomes, mills and education, 3d article treaty 1833.		Rate per cent.	Senecas & Shawnees, acts June 14, 1836, and Jan. 9, 1837.
United States loan, 1842..	6	\$7,478 64	State of Missouri.....	6	\$3,466 10
United States loan, 1847..	6	8,317 37	Do.....	5 ¹ / ₂	7,000 00
State of Missouri	6	150 00	State of Kentucky.....	5	6,000 00
State of Maryland	6	130,850 43			
State of Indiana	5	68,000 00			
Total		214,796 44	Total		16,466 10

	Rate per cent.	Kansas schools, treaty 1825.		Rate per cent.	Choctaws under convent'n with Chickasaws, Febr'y 17, 1837.
United States loan, 1842..	6	\$4,444 66	United States loan, 1842.	6	\$1,734 71
United States loan, 1847..	6	1,540 06	State of Virginia.....	6	450,000 00
State of Missouri	6	2,570 28	State of Missouri	6	2,000 00
Do.....	5 ¹ / ₂	18,000 00			
Total		26,555 00	Total		453,734 71

	Rate per cent.	Delawares, education, treaty 1829.		Rate per cent.	Osages, education, treaty 1825.
United States loan, 1842..	6	\$7,806 28	United States loan, 1842.	6	\$24,679 59
		7,806 28	State of Missouri.....	6	7,044 46
			Total		31,724 09

No. 119—Continued.

	Rate per cent.	Stockbridges and Munsees, treaty 1840.		Rate per cent.	Choctaws, education, treaty 1830.
United States loan, 1842..	6	\$5,204 16	United States loan, 1842.	6	\$60,893 62
			United States loan, 1847.	6	18,026 97
			State of Missouri.....	6	19,471 20
		5,204 16	Total		98,391 79

	Rate per cent.	Wyandots, Senate amendment to treaty, April 1, 1850.		Rate per cent.	Cherokee schools, 1819.
State of Tennessee.....	5	\$105,000 00	State of Missouri	6	\$10,000 00
State of Missouri	6	1,594 53	State of Maryland	5	41,138 00
			United States loan, 1847.	6	5,800 00
Total		106,594 53	Total		56,938 00

	Rate per cent.	Cherokee, treaty of 1835 and supplement of 1836.		Rate per cent.	Senecas, acts June 14, 1836, and January 9, 1837.
State of Virginia.....	6	\$270,000 00	State of Kentucky	5	\$5,000 00
State of Tennessee	5	250,000 00			
State of Kentucky	5	94,000 00			
State of Maryland	6	761 39			
State of Michigan.....	6	64,000 00			
Total		678,761 39			5,000 00

No. 119—Continued.

RECAPITULATION.

Creek orphans	\$200, 742
Menomonees	153, 203
Ottawas and Chippewas	20,925
Chippewas of Swan creek	5, 747
Ottawas of Roche de Boeuf	1,571 13
Ottawas of Blanchard's Fork	8,473 22
Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottawatomies, mills and education	214,796 44
Senecas and Shawnees	16,466 10
Kansas schools	26,555 00
Choctaws, under convention with Chickasaws	453,734 71
Delawares, education	7,806 28
Osages, education	31,724 02
Stockbridges and Munsees	5,204 16
Choctaws, education	98,391 79
Wyandots	106,594 53
Cherokee schools, 1819	56,938 00
Cherokee treaty, 1835-'36	678,761 39
Senecas	5,000 00
Total	<u>2,092,676 11</u>

States to Indian tribes under stipulations of treaties, &c.

Number of instalments yet unappropriated, explanations, remarks, &c.	Annual amount necessary to meet stipulations indefinite as to time, now allowed, but liable to be discontinued.	Aggregate of future appropriations that will be required, during a limited number of years, to pay limited annuities till they expire, and amounts incidentally necessary to effect the payments.	Amount of annual liabilities of a permanent character.	Amounts held by the United States on which 5 per cent is annually paid, and amounts which, invested at 5 per cent., would produce the permanent annuities.
Ten instalments of \$18,000 provided; eight instalments of \$1,800 each yet unappropriated.		\$144,000 00		
Transportation of goods and provisions, eight years, \$7,000 per year.		56,000 00		
20 instalments, two-thirds of the last of 20 instalments only unappropriated, two-thirds is.		20,666 66		
25 instalments; 11 yet unappropriated; two-thirds is \$18,000, and is payable to these Indians.		198,000 00		
20 instalments of \$19,000 each; 19 unappropriated.		381,000 00		
20 instalments, estimated at \$6,360 each; 19 unappropriated.		120,840 00		
Five instalments of \$2,000 each; four unappropriated.		8,000 00		
See 11th article treaty September 30, 1854; transportation, &c., \$5,000 per year, 19 years.		95,000 00		
20 instalments; one-third of the last of twenty		10,333 34		
25 instalments; 11 yet unappropriated.		99,000 00		
20 instalments, \$3,000 each, last unappropriated; 8th article treaty September 30, 1854; one-third due.		1,000 00		
25 instalments, 11 unappropriated; one-third payable to these Indians, viz: \$1,000 per year for 11 years.		11,000 00		
3d article treaty February 22, 1855; 19 not yet appropriated.		380,000 00		
30 instalments, \$22,666 67; 29 unappropriated.		657,333 34		
20 instalments of \$3,000 each; 19 unappropriated.		57,000 00		
15 instalments, estimated at \$2,120 each; 14 unappropriated.		29,680 00		
5 instalments, \$600 each; 4 unappropriated.		2,400 00		
Expenses necessary to deliver annuities, say \$5,000 per year for 10 years; \$3,000 per year next 10 years; and \$1,000 per year next 9 years.		89,000 00		
Act February 28, 1799, \$3,000 per year			\$3,000 00	\$60,000 00
5th article of the treaty August 11, 1827	\$1,500 00			
4th article treaty August 3, 1795	\$1,000			
2d article treaty November 17, 1807	800			
4th article treaty September 24, 1819	1,000		2,800 00	56,000 00
8th article of the treaty of 1819, and 7th article of the treaty of January 14, 1837, \$2,000			2,000 00	40,000 00
6th article treaty August 5, 1826, \$1,000	1,000 00			
2d article treaty November 16, 1805	\$3,000			
18th article treaty October 18, 1820	600			
2d article treaty January 20, 1825	3,000		6,600 00	182,000 00
6th article treaty October 18, 1820, and 9th article treaty January 20, 1825, say, \$920			920 00	18,400 00
Acts May 6, 1824, and May 20, 1826, \$400			400 00	8,000 00
4th article treaty August, 1790	\$1,500			
2d article treaty June 16, 1802	8,000			
4th article treaty January 24, 1826	20,000			
			24,500 00	493,000 00
8th article treaty January 24, 1826, say, \$1,110			1,110 00	22,200 00
Last of 20 instalments, to be appropriated		2,220 00		
8th article treaty January, 1826, \$600			600 00	12,000 00
83 instalments, \$3,000 each, eight yet unappropriated.		24,000 00		

No. 120.—*Statement exhibiting the present liabilities*

Names of tribes.	Description of annuities, stipulations, &c.	References to laws.
Creeks.....	20 instalments for education, 4th article treaty January, 1845.	Vol. 7, p. 368; vol. 9, p. 822.
Do.....	Allowances during the pleasure of the President.....	Vol. 7, pp. 287 and 419..
Delawares.....	Life annuities to two chiefs.....	Vol. 7, p. 399.....
Do.....	Interest on \$46,080, at 5 per cent.....	Vol. 7, p. 327.....
Do.....	Eight instalments of \$1,250 each.....	1st sess. 38d Cong., p. 142.
Florida Indians or Seminoles.	15 instalments in goods of \$2,000, and 15 in money of \$3,000.	Vol. 7, p. 369; vol. 9, p. 822.
Iowa.....	Interest on \$57,500, being the balance of \$157,000....	Vol. 7, p. 563, and 1st sess. 38d Cong., p. 147.
Kansas.....	Interest on \$200,000.....	Vol. 9, p. 942.....
Kaskaskias and others.....	6 instalments; 3 of \$18,000, and 3 of \$9,000 each....	1st sess. 38d Cong., p. 160.
Do.....	5 instalments for smiths, &c.....	.....do.....
Kickapoos.....	Interest on \$100,000.....	1st sess. 38d Cong., p. 155.
Do.....	Graduated payments on \$200,000.....	.....do.....
Menomonees.....	Pay of a miller 15 years.....	Vol. 9, p. 953, and 2d sess. 38d Cong., p. 195.
Do.....	Support of a smithshop 12 years.....	.....do.....
Do.....	10 instalments of \$20,000 each.....	Vol. 9, p. 953.....
Do.....	15 equal instalments, to pay \$342,686, to commence in 1867.	2d sess. 38d Cong., p. 195.
Miamies.....	Permanent provisions for smith shop, &c., and miller.	Vol. 7, pp. 191 and 464, and 2d sess. 38d Cong. p. 205.
Do.....	20 instalments in money. (2d article treaty of 1840, and 6th article treaty 1854.)	2d sess. 38d Cong., pp. 205 and 206, and vol. 7, p. 638.
Do.....	6 instalments of \$31,739 11 each, to Miamies residing west.	2d sess. 38d Cong., p. 205.
Do.....	Interest on \$50,000, at 5 per cent.....	2d sess. 38d Cong., p. 204.
Do.....	Interest on \$221,257 86.....	2d sess. 38d Cong., pp. 205 and 209.
Eel River Miamies.....	Permanent annuities.....	Vol. 7, pp. 51, 91, 114, and 116.
Navajoes.....	Presents to the tribe.....	Vol. 9, p. 975.....
Nisqually and other bands of Puget's Sound.	Graduated payments, extending 20 years, for payment of \$32,500.	Pamphlet treaty, p. 4..
Do.....	Pay of instructor, smith, physician, carpenter, &c., 20 years.	Pamphlet treaty, p. 5..
Osages.....	20 instalments, 2d article treaty of January 11, 1839..	Vol. 7, p. 576.....
Do.....	Smith establishment for 20 years, same article.....	.....do.....
Do.....	Interest on \$69,120, at 5 per cent.....	.....do.....
Omahas.....	40 instalments, graduated, (\$40,000,) extending over 40 years.	1st sess. 38d Cong., supplemental, p. 133.
Do.....	Support of smith shops, miller, and farmer, 10 years..	.....do.....
Ottoes and Missouriias.....	40 instalments, graduated, (\$385,000,) extending through 40 years.	1st sess. 38d Cong., supplemental, p. 131.
Do.....	Support of smith shops, miller, and farmer, 10 years..	1st sess. 38d Cong., supplemental, p. 133.
Ottawas.....	Permanent annuities.....	Vol. 7, pp. 54, 106, 179, and 220.
Ottawas and Chippewas of Michigan.	Interest on \$200,000, at 6 per cent.....	Vol. 7, p. 497.....

of the United States to Indian tribes—Continued.

Number of instalments yet unappropriated, explanations, remarks, &c.	Annual amount necessary to meet stipulations indefinite as to time, now allowed, but liable to be discontinued.	Aggregate of future appropriations that will be required, during a limited number of years, to pay limited annuities till they expire, and amounts incidentally necessary to effect the payments.	Amount of annual liabilities of a permanent character.	Amounts held by the United States on which 5 per cent. is annually paid, and amounts which, invested at 5 per cent., would produce the permanent annuities.
20 of \$3,000 each, eight yet unappropriated		\$24,000 00		
5th article treaty February 14, 1838, and 8th article treaty January 24, 1826	\$4,710 00			
Treaties 1829, 1818, and 1882	200 00			
Resolution of the Senate January 19, 1882			\$2,804 00	\$46,080 00
6th article treaty May 6, 1854; eight of \$1,250 each; six yet to be appropriated.		7,500 00		
4th article treaty May 9, 1832, and 6th article treaty January 4, 1846; three yet to be appropriated.		15,000 00		
2d article treaty October 19, 1838, and 9th article treaty May 17, 1854			2,875 00	57,500 00
2d article treaty January 14, 1846			10,000 00	200,000 00
6th article treaty May 30, 1854; one of \$18,000, and three of \$9,000, to be appropriated.		40,000 00		
Three yet to be appropriated, say \$940 each		2,820 00		
2d article treaty May 18, 1854			5,000 00	100,000 00
2d article treaty May 18, 1854, \$45,000 heretofore appropriated.		155,000 00		
8d article treaty May 12, 1854, \$9,000; heretofore appropriated, \$2,400		6,600 00		
12 instalments of \$916 62½ each		11,000 00		
4th article of the treaty of 1848		200,000 00		
The payment of the \$200,000 begins in 1837 and ends in 1866; then payment of \$242,686 is to commence; the two sums to be paid in twenty-five years ensuing.		242,686 00		
5th article treaty October 6, 1818; 5th article treaty October 23, 1834, and 4th article treaty June 5, 1854—say \$940 for shop, and \$600 for miller.			1,540 00	80,800 00
\$12,500 per year, five yet to be appropriated—total \$62,500. This amount is subject to a reduction of \$6,218 52. (See act August 30, 1852, and treaty June 5, 1854, article 6.)		56,281 48		
4th article treaty June 5, 1854. Four yet to be appropriated.		126,956 44		
8d article treaty June 5, 1854			2,500 00	50,000 00
Senate's amendment to 4th article treaty of 1854			11,062 89	221,257 86
4th article treaty 1795; 8d article treaty 1805; and 8d article treaty of September, 1809—aggregate.			1,100 00	22,000 00
10th article treaty of September 9, 1849	5,000 00			
4th article treaty December 26, 1854; the sum of \$3,250 having been appropriated, hereafter required.		29,250 00		
10th article treaty December 26, 1854; estimated at \$4,500 per year; 19 instalments yet to be appropriated.		85,500 00		
20 instalments of \$20,000 each; one to be yet appropriated.		20,000 00		
20 instalments of \$2,000 each; one to be appropriated.		2,000 00		
Senate's resolution of January 19, 1838, in payment of 54 sections of land set apart by treaty of January, 1825.			3,456 00	69,120 00
First instalment paid. (See 4th article treaty March 16, 1854.) To be appropriated.		800,000 00		
8th article treaty; estimated at \$2,140 per year; 9 years to be provided for.		19,260 00		
4th article treaty March 15, 1854; one instalment paid; to be appropriated hereafter.		365,000 00		
7th article treaty March 15, 1854; estimated at \$2,140 per year; one paid; to be appropriated.		19,260 00		
4th article treaty August 3, 1795; 2d article treaty November 17, 1807; 4th article treaty September 17, 1818; 4th article treaty August 29, 1821.			4,800 00	86,000 00
Resolution of Senate of May 19, 1836, \$12,000 per year.			12,000 00	240,000 00

No. 120.—*Statement exhibiting the present liabilities*

Names of tribes.	Description of annuities, stipulations, &c.	References to laws.
Ottawas and Chippewas of Michigan—continued.	Education, \$5,000, missions, \$3,000, medicines, \$300, during pleasure of Congress; 8 blacksmiths, &c., 1 gunsmith, &c., 2 farmers and assistants, and 2 mechanics and assistants, during the pleasure of Congress and the President.	Vol. 7, pp. 492..... Vol. 7, p. 498.....
Pawnees	Agricultural implements during the pleasure of the President.	Vol. 7, p. 488.....
Pottawatomies.....	Permanent annuities in money.....	Vol. 7, pp. 51, 114, 185, 317 and 320; vol. 9, p. 855.
Do.....	Life annuities to surviving chiefs.....	Vol. 7, pp. 379 and 438..
Do.....	Education during the pleasure of Congress.....	Vol. 7, pp. 296, 313 and 401.
Do.....	Permanent provision for 8 smiths and assistants, shops, &c.	Vol. 7, pp. 313, 296 and 321.
Do.....	Permanent provision for furnishing salt.....	Vol. 7, pp. 75, 296 and 320.
Do.....	Interest on \$643,000, at 5 per cent.....	Vol. 9, p. 854.....
Pottawatomies of Huron.....	Permanent annuity.....	Vol. 7, p. 106.....
Quapaws.....	Provision for education, \$1,000 per year, and for smith and shop, and farmer, during the pleasure of the President.	Vol. 7, p. 423.....
Rogue River.....	16 instalments of \$2,500 each.....	2d sess., 33d Cong., p. 171
Shasta, Scotow and Umpqua Indians.	\$2,000 annually for 15 years.....	Pamphlet treaty, p. 4 ..
Do.....	Support of schools and farmer 15 years.....	Pamphlet treaty, p. 2 ..
Do.....	Two smiths, &c., for 5 years.....	.....do.....
Do.....	Physicians, medicines, &c., 10 years.....	.....do.....
Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi.	Permanent annuity.....	Vol. 7, p. 85.....
Do.....	Interest on \$200,000 at 5 per cent.....	Vol. 7, p. 541.....
Do.....	Interest on \$300,000 at 5 per cent.....	Vol. 7, p. 596.....
Do.....	30 instalments of \$20,000 each.....	Vol. 7, p. 375.....
Do.....	Provisions for smith and shop, gunsmith and shop, and for tobacco and salt.....	.....do.....
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri.	Interest on \$157,400.....	Vol. 7, p. 544.....
Do.....	Balance of \$43,000.....	1st sess., 33d Cong., p. 151.
Senecas.....	Permanent annuities.....	Vol. 7, pp. 361 and 179..
Do.....	Provision for smith and smith shop, and miller during the pleasure of the President.	Vol. 7, p. 349.....
Senecas of New York.....	Permanent annuity.....	Vol. 4, p. 442.....
Do.....	Interest on \$15,000.....	Vol. 9, p. 85.....
Do.....	Interest on \$43,050, transferred to the treasury from the Ontario bank.	.....do.....
Senecas and Shawnees.....	Permanent annuity.....	Vol. 7, p. 179.....
Do.....	Provision for support of smiths and shops during the pleasure of the President.	Vol. 7, p. 352.....
Shawnees.....	Permanent annuities for education.....	Vol. 7, pp. 51 and 161, and 2d sess. 33d Cong., p. 186.
Do.....	Interest on \$40,000.....	.....do.....
Do.....	Payments for lands; 8 instalments.....	.....do.....
Six Nations of New York....	Permanent annuity in clothing, &c.....	Vol. 7, p. 46.....

of the United States to Indian tribes—Continued.

Number of instalments yet unappropriated, explanations, remarks, &c.	Annual amount necessary to meet stipulations indefinite as to time, now allowed, but liable to be discontinued.	Aggregate of future appropriations that will be required, during a limited number of years, to pay limited annuities till they expire, and amounts incidentally necessary to effect the payments.	Amount of annual liabilities of a permanent character.	Amounts held by the United States on which 5 per cent. is annually paid, and amounts which, invested at 5 per cent., would produce the permanent annuities.
See 4th article of treaty of March 23, 1836. See 7th article of treaty of March 28, 1836, annually allowed since the expiration of the number of years named in the treaty. Aggregate, \$6,440.	\$8,300 00			
	6,440 00			
See 4th article of treaty of October 9, 1833	1,000 00			
4th article of treaty of 1795, \$1,000; 3d article of treaty of 1809, \$500; 3d article of treaty of 1818, \$2,500; 2d article of treaty of 1823, \$2,000; 2d article of treaty of July, 1829, \$16,000; 10th article of treaty of June, 1846, \$300.			\$22,300 00	\$446,000 00
3d article of treaty of October 20, 1832, \$200, and 3d article of treaty of September 26, 1833, \$700.	900 00			
3d article of treaty of October 16, 1826; 2d article of treaty of September 20, 1828, and 4th article of treaty of October 27, 1832, \$5,000.	5,000 00			
2d article of treaty of September 20, 1828; 3d article of treaty of October 16, 1826, and 2d article of treaty of July 29, 1829. 3 shops, at \$940 each per year, \$2,820.			2,820 00	56,400 00
3d article of treaty of 1803; 3d article of treaty of October, 1826, and 2d article of treaty of July 29, 1829, estimated, \$500.			500 00	10,000 00
7th article of treaty of June, 1846; annual interest, \$32,150.			32,150 00	643,000 00
2d article of treaty of November 17, 1807, \$400			400 00	8,000 00
3d article of treaty of May 13, 1833: \$1,000 per year for education, and \$1,660 for smith, farmer, &c.—\$2,660.	2,660 00			
3d article treaty September 10, 1853; 14 instalments yet to be appropriated.		\$35,000 00		
3d article treaty November 18, 1854; 14 instalments to be provided for.		28,000 00		
5th article same treaty; estimate for schools \$1,200 per year, and farmer \$600 per year—\$1,800 per year—14 years.		25,200 00		
Same article, four years at \$2,120 per year		8,480 00		
Same article, nine years at \$1,060 per year		9,540 00		
3d article treaty November, 1804, \$1,000			1,000 00	20,000 00
2d article treaty October, 1837, \$10,000			10,000 00	200,000 00
2d article treaty October 11, 1842, \$40,000			40,000 00	800,000 00
3d article treaty September 21, 1832; six yet to be provided for.		120,000 00		
4th article treaty September 21, 1832; six yet to be provided for, annually estimated at \$2,380.		17,280 00		
2d article treaty October 21, 1837			7,870 00	157,400 00
2d article treaty May 13, 1854; to be appropriated		18,000 00		
4th article treaty September 29, 1817, \$500; 4th article treaty September 17, 1818 \$500.			1,000 00	20,000 00
4th article treaty February 23, 1831, say \$1,660	\$1,660 00			
Act February 19, 1831, \$6,000				
Act June 27, 1846, \$3,750				
Act June 27, 1846, \$2,152 50			11,902 50	238,050 00
4th article treaty September 17, 1818			1,000 00	20,000 00
4th article treaty July 20, 1831	1,060 00			
4th article treaty August 3, 1795; 4th article treaty September 29, 1817; and 3d article treaty May 10, 1854.			5,000 00	100,000 00
3d article treaty May 10, 1854			2,000 00	40,000 00
3d article treaty May 10, 1854; \$200,000 appropriated heretofore, 6 remaining.		589,000 00		
6th article treaty November 11, 1794; \$4,500 per year.			4,500 00	90,000 00

No. 120.—*Statement exhibiting the present liabilities*

Names of tribes.	Description of annuities, stipulations, &c.	References to laws.
Stoux of the Mississippi	Interest on \$300,000	Vol. 7, p. 539
Do	50 instalments of interest on \$1,360,000, at 5 per cent.	Supplement to Laws 33d Cong., p. 52.
Do	50 instalments of interest on \$112,000, being 10 cents per acre for reservation.	Supplement to Laws 2d sess. 33d Cong., p. 53.
Do	50 instalments of interest on \$1,160,000	Supplement to Laws 2d sess. 33d Cong., p. 57.
Do	50 instalments of interest on \$69,000, being 10 cents per acre for reservation.	Supplement to Laws 2d sess. 33d Cong., p. 59.
Do	20 instalments in goods	Vol. 7, p. 539
Do	20 instalments in agricultural implements, &c.	do
Do	20 instalments for provisions	do
Stockbridges	Interest on \$16,500	Vol. 9, p. 957
Treaty at Fort Laramie	10 instalments in goods, provisions, &c.	Not published
Do	Expenses of transportation, &c.	do
Umpquas, Cow Creek band	20 instalments of \$550 each	Laws 33d Cong., supplemental, p. 180.
Umpquas, Calapooias, &c., Oregon.	20 instalments; payments graduated	Pamphlet treaty, p. 5
Do	Support of teacher, &c., 20 years	do
Do	Physician, 15 years	do
Do	Smith and shop, and farmer, 10 years	do
Utahs	Presents	Vol. 9, p. 985
Willamette Valley bands	20 instalments; graduated payments	Pamphlet treaty, p. 4
Do	Physician, smith, &c., five years	do
Winnebagoes	Interest on \$1,100,000	Vol. 7, p. 546
Do	30 instalments of interest on \$65,000	Vol. 9, p. 379
Do	Annuity of \$18,000; 30 instalments	Vol. 7, p. 323
Do	Annuity of \$10,000; 27 instalments	Vol. 7, p. 371
Do	Salt and tobacco	Vol. 7, pp. 323 and 372
Do	Three smiths and assistants, laborers, &c.	Vol. 7, p. 324
Do	Education, agriculturist, &c., and physician	Vol. 7, p. 372
Wyandots	Three instalments to pay \$380,000	Pamphlet treaty, p. 6

*The Indians having accepted and removed to the reservations which the Senate had determined they must such confirmation is formally made and accepted, the question may arise whether the United States is longer

No. 121.

Statement designating the Indian tribes to whom per capita payments in money were made during the year 1854; the number of recipients; the amount per capita, respectively, and the total amount paid to each tribe or band.

Names of tribes.	Total number of Indians.	Payment per capita.	Total amount paid.
Menomonees	1,930	\$9 75	\$18,817 00
Sioux of Mississippi, viz:			
Sesecotoan and Wahpaytoan band	4,004	9 00	36,043 51
Medawakantoon and Wahpakootah	2,379	23 50	55,916 17
Winnebagoes	2,561	15 00	38,415 00
Chippewas of Lake Superior—			
3 bands	606	3 89	2,362 94
20 bands	2,479	2 14	5,323 21
Chippewas of Mississippi	2,206	4 25	9,375 50
Pottawatomes	3,440	18 50	63,862 50
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi	1,626	24 50	40,000 00
Chippewas and Ottawas, viz:			
16 bands	1,590	6 38	10,147 78
6 bands	755	6 75	5,101 22
10 bands	1,061	9 85	10,457 44
12 bands	1,746	8 75	15,293 56
Ottawas, 14 bands	1,212	1 40	1,700 00
Chippewas, Ottawas, and Pottawatomes	236	6 72	1,587 50
Pottawatomes of Huron	45	8 88	400 00
Chippewas of Swan Creek and Black River	138	2 17	300 00
Chippewas of Saginaw	1,340	1 64	2,200 00
Delawares	902	42 50	38,335 00
Wyandots	554	36 00	19,944 00
Shawnees	851	67 50	54,067 50
Stockbridges in the Territory of Kansas	13	4 60	59 80
Christian Indians	44	9 00	402 80
Kaskaskias, Peorias, Weas, and Piankeshaws	220	38 00	8,360 00
Miamies west	207	206 00	42,642 00
Miamies in Indiana	276	154 92	42,758 98
Miamies of Eel river	12	183 00	2,196 00
Senecas	180	6 50	1,250 00
Senecas and Shawnees	271	4 00	1,940 37
Osages	4,098	2 50	10,245 00
Chickasaws	4,787	10 00	47,870 00
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	180	83 00	15,000 00
Iowas	433	57 00	24,681 00
Kickapoos	344	72 50	25,000 00
Omahas	800	25 00	20,000 00
Senecas of New York	{ 683	2 14	1,461 62
	{ 2,146	3 48	7,468 08

NOTE.—This statement exhibits, with the exceptions hereinafter stated, the payment of the entire amounts of annuity and other money due to the tribes designated, by treaty stipulation, for the year 1854. The exceptions are the Delawares, Shawnees, Iowas, Omahas, and Ottos and Missourias. In the case of these tribes it was deemed advisable, with a view to promoting their interests, to withhold a portion of their money for a payment in the spring of 1855. The remittance of the portions withheld was made accordingly, and with the payment this autumn will make their per capita receipts in the year 1855 larger than those of 1854.

No. 122.

Statement showing the tribes of Indians within the limits of the United States territory, number of souls, and place of residence of each tribe, made up from the best data in the possession of the Indian office.

Name of tribe.	No. of souls.	Place of residence.	Source of information.
Apaches	7,000	New Mexico Terr'y.	Report of governor of New Mexico, 1855.
Apaches		Texas	See "Mesqueros."
Apaches	820	Arkansas river ..	Estimated by Agent Whitfield, 1854.
Assinaboines	8,860	Upper Missouri riv'r	Report of Agent Vaughan, 1855.
Arickarees	800	do	Do. do.
Arrapahoes	8,000	Arkansas & Platte rivers	Estimated by Agent Whitfield, 1854.
Anadahkoes, Caddoes, & Ionies.	500	Texas	Report of Agent Hill, 1854.
Blackfeet	7,500	Upper Missouri riv'r	Report of Agent Vaughan, 1855.
Cherokees	17,580	West of Arkansas..	Report of Agent Butler, 1852.
Cherokees	2,200	N. Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama	
Choctaws	16,000	West of Arkansas..	Report of special agents, 1851, 1855.
Choctaws	1,000	Mississippi	Statement made by the office, 1853.
Chickasaws	4,787	West of Arkansas..	Do. do.
Creeks	25,000	do	Annuity pay roll, 1854.
Creeks	100	Alabama	Statement made by the office, 1853.
Chippewas of Lake Superior. }		Michigan	Do. do.
Chippewas of Lake Superior. }	4,940	Wisconsin	Annual report of Agent Gilbert, 1855.
Chippewas of Lake Superior. }		Minnesota Terr'y }	
Chippewas of the Mississippi. }	2,206	do	Annuity pay roll, 1854.
Chippewas and Ottawas	5,152	Michigan	Report of Agent Gilbert, 1855.
Chippewas of Saginaw	1,840	do	Do. do.
Chippewas of Swan creek, &c. }	138	Kansas Territory..	Do. do.
Chippewas of Swan creek, &c. }	83	New York	Report of Agent Chenault, 1851.
Cayugas	143	North and South Carolina	Report of Agent Johnson, 1855.
Catawbas	200	Kansas Territory..	Statement made by the office, 1853.
Christians or Munsees	44	Upper Missouri riv'r	Annuity pay roll, 1854.
Crows	3,860	do	Report of Agent Vaughan, 1855.
Crees	800	Texas	Report of Superintendent Mitchell, 1842.
Caddoes		do	See "Anadahkoes" &c.
Comanches and Kioways	20,000	New Mexico Terr'y.	Report of Agent Howard, 1852.
Comanches		Arkansas river ..	Number not reported. See "Wandering Indians."
Comanches	8,600	Arkansas & Platte rivers	Report of Agent Whitfield, 1854.
Cheyennes	2,900	California	Estimated by Agent Whitfield, 1854.
California tribes	*88,589	California	Census report of secretary of state of California, 1853.
Delawares	902	Kansas Territory..	Annuity pay-roll, 1854.
Gros Ventres	750	Upper Missouri river	Report of Agent Vaughan, 1855.
Ionies		Texas	See "Anadahkoes," &c.
Iowas	493	Kansas Territory..	Annuity pay-roll, 1854.
Kickapoos	844	do	Do. do.
Kickapoos		Texas border	Number not reported; supposed to be but few.
Kioways		Texas	See "Comanches and Kioways."
Kioways	2,800	Arkansas river ..	Report of Agent Whitfield, 1854.
Kansas	1,375	Kansas Territory..	Statement made by the office, 1853.
Keechies, Wacoos, and Towacaras.	800	Texas	Report of Agent Hill, 1853.
Kaskaskias		Kansas Territory..	See "Peorias" &c.
Kyans	560	Texas	Report of Agent Howard, 1853.
Miamies	207	Kansas Territory..	Annuity pay-roll, 1854.
Miamies	353	Indiana	Statement made by office, 1853.
Mandans	250	Upper Missouri river	Report of Agent Vaughan, 1855.
Minatares	2,500	do	History of Indian tribes, 1830.
Menomones	1,980	Wisconsin	Annuity pay-roll, 1854.
Misourians		Nebraska Territory.	See "Ottoes and Misourians."
Munsees		Kansas Territory..	See "Christians, or Munsees."
Mescaleros, or Apaches	400	Texas	Report of Agent Howard, 1853.
Navajoes	7,500	New Mexico Terr'y.	
Oneidas	249	New York	Report of Governor of New Mexico, 1855.
Oneidas	378	Wisconsin	Report of Agent Johnson, 1855.
Oneidas		Wisconsin	Report of Agent Hunkins, 1855.

* Obtained from a report of the secretary of state of California, on the Census of 1852, in which they are designated as "domesticated Indians." Superintendent Beale, in November, 1852, estimated the Indian population of California at from 75,000 to 100,000. Commissioners Barbour and Wozencraft, in March, 1851, 200,000 to 300,000, though their colleague, Redick McKee, esq., at the same time stated that he had information which would greatly reduce that number. And the Spanish missionary authorities reported it to be, in 1802, 32,231. The census of the State of California is believed to be the most reliable.

No. 122—Continued.

Name of tribe.	No. of souls.	Place of residence.	Source of information.
Onondagas	470	New York	Report of Agent Johnson, 1855.
Ottawas		Michigan	See "Chippewas and Ottawas."
Ottawas	249	Kansas Territory..	Statement made by the office, 1853.
Omahas	800	Nebraska Territory.	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Ottos and Missourias	600	.. do	Report of Agent Hepner, 1855.
Osages	4,098	West of Arkansas..	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Oregon Territory tribes	18,000	Oregon Territory..	Report of Governor Lane, 1851.
Poncas	700	Nebraska Territory.	History of Indian tribes, 1850.
Pottawatomies	286	Michigan	Report of Agent Gilbert, 1855.
Pottawatomies of Huron	45	.. do	Do.
Pottawatomies	3,440	Kansas Territory..	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Pawnees	4,000	Nebraska Territory.	Report of Agent Hepner, 1855.
Piankeshaws, Weas, Peorias, and Kaskaskias	220	Kansas Territory..	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Pueblo Indians	10,000	New Mexico Terr'y.	Report of Governor of New Mexico, 1855.
Quapaws	814	West of Arkansas..	Statement made by the office, 1853.
Stockbridges	18	Kansas Territory..	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Stockbridges	240	Wisconsin	Estimated by the office, 1855.
Sioux of the Mississippi	6,888	Minnesota Territory	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Sioux of the Missouri	15,440	Upper Missouri riv'r	Report of Agent Vaughan, 1855.
Sioux of the Plains	5,600	Platte & Arkansas rivers	Report of Agent Whitfield, 1854.
St. Regis Indians	450	New York	Report of Sub-agent Mead, 1849.
Senecas	2,557	.. do	Report of Agent Johnson, 1855.
Senecas, (Sandusky)	180	West of Arkansas..	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Senecas and Shawnees, (Lewis- town)	271	.. do	Do.
Shawnees	851	Kansas Territory..	Do.
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi	1,626	.. do	Do.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	180	.. do	Do.
Seminoles	2,500	West of Arkansas..	Statement made by the office, 1853.
Seminoles	500	Florida	Do.
Tuscaroras	280	New York	Report of Agent Johnson, 1855.
Towaccaros		Texas	See "Keechie's," &c.
Tonkawas	400	.. do	Report of Agent Howard, 1853.
Utah Territory tribes	12,000	Utah Territory	History of Indian tribes, part 4, 1855.
Utahs	2,500	New Mexico Terr'y.	Report of Governor of New Mexico, 1855.
Wacos		Texas	See "Keechie's," &c.
Wichitas	950	.. do	Report of Agent Hill, 1854.
Weas		Kansas Territory..	See "Piankeshaws" &c.
Winnebagoes	2,546	Minnesota Territory	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Winnebagoes	208	Kansas Territory..	Report of Agent Vanderslice, 1853.
Wyandots	554	.. do	Annuitiy pay roll, 1854.
Washington Territory tribes	14,000	Washington Terr'y.	Report of Governor Stevens, 1854.
Wandering Indians of Coman- ches, Cheyenne, and other tribes	17,000	New Mexico Terr'y.	Report of Governor of New Mexico, 1855.
*Total number	814,622		

* Possibly some of the tribes embraced in this statement, especially those inhabiting the mountainous regions and the plains, are not correctly reported; their numbers may exceed or fall short of the estimate here made of them. The Indian population within the limits of the United States Territory, exclusive of a few in several of the States, who have lost their tribal character or amalgamated with whites or blacks, may be estimated at from 820,000 to 850,000.

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, *November, 1855.*