

joining fields. It would be to the interests of the owners of those fields to have the highways mown; but they fail to do this because the roads are public property, and they feel that every item of their care should be part of the public expense. Usually nearly all of the work could be done with a two-horse mower, the sythe being necessary only where there are projecting posts, sharp off-sets in the fence, etc. Thus done, the work would cost very little compared with the damage it would avoid. If the road overseers do not feel disposed to have this work done, fearing that it is outside their duties, it should be brought up before the annual town meeting and voted upon. If properly presented before the vote is taken, very few, if any, will vote against it. It may be well to suggest that not only those who have fields by the highways will be benefitted, but every man who passes along the road.—*American Agriculturist for June.*

THE INDIAN'S GRAVE.

BY G. FROST.

There stands the vine-clad wigwam, low  
Amid the tangled brushwood pent.  
Uncared, the flowers that round it grow  
Send forth their scent.

The poles with time decaying fast,  
Apart and downward soon will fall,  
Needing but one more wintry blast  
To finish all.

Where is the owner? where is he,  
Whose hand upraised that tottering roof?  
His grave beside the wall you see—  
His bones a proof.

How different once those limbs! when grace  
Of freedom charmed their various ways,  
Thrill'd by the war-whoop, or the chase  
Of bygone days.

How oft he nimbly leaped the stream!  
The forest roamed, so wild and free,  
Which seem'd but a transient dream  
Of ecstasy.

But now behold him where he lies!  
Behold the chaos of his state!  
Nature has failed while art supplies;  
The change—how great.

Yet Nature, balm, yields for his wounds—  
A solitary mourner's trust;—  
His soul is in the Hunting-Grounds,  
His body—dust.

INVADING INDIANS.

A MOUNTED POLICE OUTPOST AT CYPRESS HILLS  
FIRED ON BY AMERICAN INDIANS.

MEDICINE HAT, N. W. T., May 30.—On Thursday an outpost in the Cypress Hills in charge of Corporal Ritchie discovered a band of American Indians camped a few miles from the outpost. The corporal and a squad went to the Indians asked their business. Being answered by a shower of bullets, which fell wide of the mark, the squad returned the fire dropping one Indian. The Indians escaped.—*Mail.*

A Sioux Indian is about to take holy orders in Virginia.

HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATES.

May 29, 1886.

Indians—Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces.....\$34,838 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Are these amounts distributed where needed for the relief of distress or handed over to the several bands.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. A certain amount is for the purchase of blankets and there is \$4,200 for the relief of distress among the Indians of the Province of Quebec. This amount is expended each year, and no decrease is possible.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I notice there is a slight decrease for Indian schools.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. A small amount has been saved I think, in the salary of one of the schoolmasters.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I should like to know, generally how many schools there are, and how many scholars in fair annual attendance.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. I have not that information. I will make a note of it and give it on the Supplementary Estimates. This amount is for boys' and girls' schools, industrial schools, salaries of teachers, and so on.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What is the exact position of this Robinson Treaty dispute. I had hoped that a final settlement might be arrived at in these disputed amounts between the Dominion and the Provinces.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The note I have is to this effect: To provide for the payment under the Robinson Treaty of an annuity of 4,897 Indians, at \$4 each, \$19,988; expenses of payment, \$400; total \$14,988; less interest accrued on funds invested for these Indians, \$4,400, leaving a balance of \$15,588, which is asked for.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. If I remember rightly we have always claimed that Ontario should pay this, and I wanted to know if that claim was admitted.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. That is not settled yet.

Mr. O'BRIEN. I always understood that the amount claimed from the Ontario Government is in addition to the amount now paid to the Indians.

MR. MULOCK.

Mr. DAWSON. There is a very large sum due to the Indians under the Robinson Treaty, extending back for years, and the payments now made to them annually have nothing to do with that. They were promised a certain amount if the resources of the territory should ever be sufficient to yield it, and that amount has been paid to them since 1875. Previous to that year, for a very long period, arrears were constantly accumulating, which I understood amounted to \$200,000; but I understood that, after a careful enquiry by the Department, the sum has been found to be more like \$300,000. This is a large sum to be due to those poor Indians, and it is very desirable that some means should be taken to have these claims settled. The Indians under the Robinson Treaty, extended from the Georgian bay to the height of land. The Robinson

Treaty made the payment to the Indians a lien on the land, and the land having fallen to Ontario by the Act of Confederation, it is claimed that the Province should pay those arrears. What I contend is that the Indians should be paid in the meantime, the question of which Government should pay the claims being left to be decided afterwards. I do not say that this large amount should be paid to the Indians at once, but that it should be funded and the proceeds used for providing them with schools and farming implements, and for aiding them when they are in distress. I draw the attention of the Government to the matter, so that it may not be forgotten.

Mr. MULOCK. I would also call the attention of the Minister to what I consider the unnecessary expenditures in connection with the Chippewa band of Indians on Snake Island and Georgian Island. If you refer to the Indian report of last year you will find that the band consists of only 134 souls, and the gross amount distributed amongst them last year was \$1,261.94, while the Indian agent receives a salary of \$500 a year, nearly half as much as is given to the whole band, although his services are comparatively light. I speak from pretty reliable information when I say that his personal attendance on the Indians amounts to practically nothing. He was only appointed in the fall of 1882, when there was a change in the management. There can be no justification for such a misapplication of public money. There are reeves all through this Province who devote fifty times as much time to the interest of their particular municipality as this man devotes to the affairs of these Indians. I would call attention to another matter in connection with this band. There was an inquiry in the month of February and March last into certain affairs of this band by an officer who was sent from Ottawa to the nearest village. He went on two separate occasions, and the cost of his two trips was \$198.25. Looking over his two accounts I find these items: Board, Lodging, &c., from 16th February to 28th February, both days inclusive, thirteen days, \$45.50; and board and lodging, from March 1st to 29th March, both days inclusive; twenty-nine days, \$101.50. He charges to this Indian fund for forty-two days at the rate of \$3.50 a day. The enquiry took place in a small village, and it is absurd to suppose that under any circumstances he was justified in charging that rate during that time. It cannot be said that the \$3.50 a day covers any other items, because if you examine his bills, you will find that he has apparently forgotten nothing. I am aware that \$3.50 a day is the recognized departmental allowance; but there can be no justification, in my opinion, for the continuance of that allowance when officers are not put to expenses that justify it. This officer has charged fully \$2.50 a day more than he should have done, so that he has made a clear profit at the expense of the Indians, on the particular transaction, of \$105. If he has been making similar profits among the different bands in the country throughout the whole year, he has added a considerable sum to his salary. I presume that, in view of the status of the Indians now under the Franchise Act, they will receive a little measure of consideration which