

the other hand, derive very great advantages by the establishment of industries of this class, from the fact that they are being educated in the art of curing fish, and at the same time obtain employment at remunerative rates of wages.

The Naas is one of the largest of our provincial rivers emptying into the Pacific Ocean, and is affected by the tide for a distance of about 22 miles. It is navigable by ocean steamers for about 17 miles.

On the part of the river visited by me (a distance of 50 miles) there are four principal villages, viz: Kitladamax, Kitwillucshilt, Lachkaltap, and Kincolith, having a total population of 847, presided over by four principal chiefs, while a number of heads of families in different encampments are designated sub-chiefs, though all constitute one tribe. These sub-chiefs were very anxious that reserves should be made for their individual use. This I declined to do, and explained to them that the lands are assigned for the use of the tribe collectively and not for the particular use of any family or member of a family.

No. 1.

Kitladamax (with Scothen as chief) is the uppermost of the four principal villages referred to. It has a population of 236, viz: 80 men, 88 women, and 98 children. Immediately around this village, which stands on the right bank of the river about 45 miles from its mouth, the land is very worthless, but half a mile lower down the valley opens, and here a block of about 2,700 acres of the best land is situated and offers greater advantages for an Indian settlement than any other on the Naas River. It is level, the soil rich, capable of producing crops of all kinds without irrigation, while at the same time there is a sufficient quantity of excellent timber. Nearly the whole of this flat may be brought under cultivation. On this land, distant from the main village about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, at a place called Iyennis, a few families have built for themselves a neat hamlet with church and school-house; here an agent of the Church Missionary Society resides. This community having embraced Christianity and being gradually increased by converts, it is not unlikely that ere long the larger portion of the tribe will abandon its old home and join the Mission, as in every respect it is a more desirable location than the old village.

Unfortunately between these villages and upon the land now under consideration, a man named John Mathieson holds a pre-emption claim of 320 acres, recorded 8th April, 1879. He has, however, not obtained a certificate of improvement though he has lived upon the land for eight years, and has in that time cleared and cultivated over eight acres, besides having fenced six more. He has built three houses, one of which is a new log building 14 by 16 with a lean-to of 8 by 23. His crops, which he was getting in at the time of my visit, consisted of potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbages, turnips and oats, all of which were excellent. A small patch of wheat that had not ripened was still standing, this was explained by the fact that it was not sown until the middle of May, but it is clearly demonstrated by Mathieson that crops equal to any in the Province can be grown here.

It will be seen by reference to the map how very desirable it is that this land should be held intact for the Indians, and inasmuch as Mathieson had not obtained a certificate of improvement I consider it incumbent upon me to include it in the reservation. In doing so, however, I am clearly of opinion that it would be extremely unjust to take this land from Mathieson, who has occupied it so many years and has improved it so much without compensating him to some extent. I told him the decision I had arrived at to which he replied, that he would abide by my judgment, but that he hoped he would not be turned upon the world without something to remunerate him for his years of labor, and stated that he would not of his own free will sell his pre-emption right for less than \$1,200. I informed him that it was my duty to assign the land to the Indians, that it is not incumbent on the Government to allow him anything, but that I would recommend his case for favorable consideration. I have now no hesitation in recommending that the Department should pay Mathieson the sum of \$600 by way of compensation for his improvements