

Indians under my supervision, I reported, on the 6th instant, the condition of the Agency of Mr. Dounnelly, so far as his office at Prince Arthur's Landing, and the band of Indians at Fort William are concerned; and shall now submit the result of my inspection of the Agency of Mr. McIntyre, the only other one visited up to the 30th ultimo.

Owing to a severe attack of illness, I was compelled to lie over at Prince Arthur's Landing from the 10th to the 20th ultimo, when I went to Fort William and inspected the books and other official documents at the Agency, and found everything attended to correctly and systematically. On the 21st I went by train to Savanne, accompanied by the Indian Agent, Mr. McIntyre, who went there to distribute the seed potatoes intended for the other bands, to the Lac des Mille Lacs Band, owing to the others having refused or neglected to come for them. The storehouse is divided into two compartments, wherein the following tools and implements were safely stored, viz.: twenty-two axes, nine hay rakes, nineteen scythes, fourteen snaiths, two scythe stones, one buck-saw, sixteen spades and five pitch-forks.

On the following day, I started, accompanied by four voyageurs who had been waiting for me at Savanne during my illness, and upon my arrival at the Lac des Mille Lacs Reserve, I had an interview with the Chief Kitche Pierre, and his councillors, from whom I elicited that they planted thirty-five bushels of potatoes this year, being considerably in excess of what they had planted last season. This band of Indians have made greater progress in farming within the past year than in any two years previously. They have about ten acres at Poplar Point clear, and but little labor is required to enlarge their clearings to the extent of twenty-five acres, as trees ran over this portion of the reserve and nearly burnt all the timber on it, except a scattering of standing and fallen timber which is partially decayed, and if gathered in heaps could easily be burnt. From the appearance of their well cultivated gardens, more potatoes will be produced this season than they will require, and they complain of the regulations forbidding them to dispose of any of the products of their farms, as most discouraging in its tendency, and they desire these restrictions to be removed, as their young men refuse to cultivate the soil unless they are allowed to sell the surplus raised. The Agent visited the reserve last spring and remained there for a couple of days giving instructions in agriculture.

The Sturgeon Lake Band of Indians have scarcely planted anything this year, owing to their obtaining constant employment at the Jack Fish Gold Mine. Last winter the squaws alone chopped 250 cords of wood for the Gold Mining Company, so that at present their minds are diverted from raising any crops on the reserves; although word was sent them by the Agent to come to Savanne after their seed potatoes, they failed to do so. Chief Kahaquin has been an invalid for upwards of a year from an attack of rheumatism.

Upon my arrival at Lac la Croix, the Indians were busily engaged in building a stable. They planted about two acres of corn which the Agent gave them when visiting their reserve last spring, but no potatoes, owing to their negligence in not going after their supply to Savanne, they claiming that everything promised by Treaty should be delivered on their reserve. They have only two houses finished, and a stable in course of erection. The chief put up the walls of a house for himself two years ago, but did nothing further towards its completion. He was very glad that the payments of annuities were to be received on the reserve. He complained that a party of Americans engaged in lumbering across the boundary killed and ate the only ox he had for working, and he is anxious to receive another in its stead immediately. He wants one of the cows due to him to be exchanged for another ox, and that the others, a bull and a cow, to which he would still be entitled be given him also, as he was making preparations for them by building a stable and securing hay. I have written the Indian Agent, Mr. McIntyre, to purchase an ox for him, if a suitable one can be procured in the vicinity, as directed in your letter of the 19th May last, No. 6813, but I am doubtful if a suitable animal can be obtained even at Fort Francis from enquiries made during my visit to that district. Mr. Indian Agent Pither informed me that the party referred to, who killed the ox, were