

act of a single individual who wished to avenge himself; or is it the consequence of a plot formed formerly against the half-breeds? The question is difficult to solve.

It is certain that the germs of hatred which have been sown in the village by certain individuals, and which have been stirred up involuntarily by others without leading to harm, indirectly excite the minds of the Indians against the half-breeds, and they do not stop talking of the necessity of the latter being expelled. These are some of the causes which lead to these sad results.

These periodical disasters show the necessity for introducing changes in the tenure of the Seigniory. The system of community which was well enough formerly is out of date. A great number of the Indians being jealous and lazy, always look with an evil eye on those who are prospering, even amongst those of their nation, and will be led to regard the goods and earnings of others as their own.

This winter there were a good many deaths, especially among the children, but for the last three months there have been very few.

With regard to the statistics there is little or no difference from last year, as is shown by the accompanying statement.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

G. E. CHERRIER,
Indian Agent.

OKA, P.Q.

No report from John McGirr.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
ST. REGIS AGENCY,
DUNDEE, 3rd October, 1881.

The Right Honorable
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit the tabular statement for the year ended the 30th of June last, and the following Report.

As will be seen by the statement, there has been an increase of 20 since my last. The general state of the reserve has not undergone any material change within the year passed.

I observed a paragraph in some newspapers last winter, that an Indian at Ottawa, from this reserve, stated that the Indians of St. Regis were in a very destitute and starving condition; this, to the best of my knowledge, was not the case any more than in former winters. I have no doubt that more or less privation is endured by some of those who remain during the winter, more especially for wood and properly fixed houses, than for food. With the exception of a widow woman, who was sick, and asked for aid, which was sent her by the Department, no other complaints were made that I heard of.

There is no reason why those who are in good health, and not too old, should be without the common necessaries of life; but a great many of them are too indolent to labor very much, and when they earn a few dollars they are very often spent, in that which is a curse to them, viz., in liquor. One of the Indians said to me a few days ago: "Some white folks might do their best to stop us Indians from getting liquor, but we will get it, and the only way for the white folks to stop us, is for them to stop making it;" which is certainly the cause. If it is not sold to them direct, they will always find some white man to get it for them.

A meeting or council was held for the purpose of getting the Indians consent to give over some islands, in Lake St. Francis, as required by the Indian Act, to the