

## Department of Indian Affairs.

SOUTH-WESTERN DISTRICT, 1ST DIVISION,  
FREDERICTON, 31st August, 1892.

The Honourable  
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my annual report and tabular statement relating to the Indian affairs of this agency for the year ended 30th June, 1892.

### *St. Mary's Reserve.*

This reserve, situated directly opposite Fredericton, comprises a population of one hundred and eleven, a decrease of ten compared with last year's report. This decrease is due to the removal of a few Indians to other parts of the agency. The births and deaths for the year were four each. Their mode of living and condition generally are much the same as referred to last season. In May last, as usual, they received in proportion to their land, some potatoes and garden seeds. These were mostly planted in gardens in and about their dwellings, and this crop, although small, usually supplies their wants until about Christmas of each year. The habits of the band, considering their situation and surroundings, have been very fair. Of course there are always a few Indians who at times will indulge in the use of liquor. These cases are only of short duration and are always promptly dealt with. Recently a party was discovered supplying liquor to a family on this reserve, for which he was obliged to pay a fine of \$100, with costs of prosecution. This has proved beneficial, as it is most difficult for Indians to purchase intoxicants and they can only procure liquor by the most indirect means.

Your instructions relative to sanitary measures were enforced in May last by the removal of all nuisances from the reserve. The place, however, being so small (two acres and a quarter) for the number living thereon, it is often difficult to keep the premises as clean as might be desired. During the year the health of the adults was good, but in June and July the children of St. Mary's, Woodstock, Kingsclear, and even Oromocto Reserves, were mostly all visited with measles. Some had the disease very badly, but I am pleased to report all recovered.

The school on this reserve for the past term was under the supervision of Miss M. H. Martin. The number of children on the register was twenty-five. The branches taught were reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, &c. Some of the children, owing to the migratory habits of their parents, were very irregular in attendance, whilst those who live permanently on the reserve were regular attendants and are making rapid progress in their respective studies. The average attendance for the year was 12.50. The furniture and apparatus are in good condition, and at all times due regard is paid to the health and comfort of the children.

### *Kingsclear Reserve.*

The Indians on this reserve number one hundred and eight. The births for the year were six and the deaths four. Their entire living is derived from farming and agriculture. A few of the young men engage in river employment. Wages for this work generally range from \$1.50 to \$2 per day. Farming is carried on more extensively at this place than in any other part of the agency. They of course received the greater part of the seed allowance last May, after an inspection of their lands, they received from the appropriation seeds, superphosphate and ploughing to the amount of \$200. The ploughing was very requisite as the few horses owned by the Indians are of an inferior class and I considered it useless to supply seeds without rendering some assistance to put them in the ground. The crops for last year, including the hay, were a good average and added largely to supply their wants for the past winter. This year all of the crops look very promising; the Indians are through haying and have commenced harvesting, and should the weather prove favourable during next month, I am satisfied that the yield will be even better than last year.