

From this document it appears that an Army post was established at Sitka, Alaska, as early as 1867, and soon afterwards four other military posts were established, viz., Kodiak, Tongas, Kenay, and Wrangel.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) C. N. BLISS, *Secretary.*

The Secretary of State.

*Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education,
Washington, D.C., September 15, 1898.*

Sir,

Referring to your verbal instructions of the 13th instant, I have the honour to present herewith in brief form the particulars relative to the establishment of schools by this Bureau under the direction of the Honourable the Secretary of the Interior, the same being stationed along the south coast of Alaska.

In 1884 Congress, in the organic Act creating the district of Alaska, enacted that the Secretary of the Interior should make needful and adequate provisions for the education of the children of that section without distinction of race. In accordance with which Act, on the 2nd March, 1885, the Secretary of the Interior assigned this work to the United States' Bureau of Education, and Dr. Sheldon Jackson was appointed General Agent of the Bureau to the work. Public schools were at once established at Sitka, Juneau, Fort Wrangel, Jackson, and Haines, in South-East Alaska, and in Unalaska in the Aleutian Islands.

The school at Haines is on Portage Bay, at the head of Lynn Canal; approximate latitude $57^{\circ} 15'$ north, longitude $135^{\circ} 28'$ west. The public school was opened in 1885, and has continued in operation to the present time.

In the fall of 1886 a public school was established at Loring, Naha Bay, Behm Canal, with latitude approximately $55^{\circ} 40'$ north, and longitude $130^{\circ} 45'$ west, with Samuel A. Saxman, of Pennsylvania, as teacher. In November 1886 Professor Saxman was removed to Tongas.

In 1885 a school was opened at Fort Tongas, on Tlekhonsiti Harbour, in about latitude $54^{\circ} 45'$ north, and longitude $130^{\circ} 45'$ west. The school was opened in the United States' Military Barracks, which had been erected in 1867, with Louis Paul, teacher. In November, 1886, Professor A. Saxman was placed in charge. During the winter Mr. Saxman and Mr. Paul were drowned at sea, and the school was discontinued in the spring of 1887.

In July, 1888, a public school was opened at Metlakahla, Annette Island, in latitude $55^{\circ} 10'$ north, and longitude $131^{\circ} 25'$ west, set apart for the purpose by Act of Congress approved the 3rd March, 1891 (an Act to repeal timber-culture laws, &c., sec. 15). The school was taught by Mr. William Duncan, assisted by one or two native teachers. That school has been in operation to the present time, some years under the charge of the Bureau of Education, and other years sustained by the Colony itself.

In 1895 a public school was opened at Saxman, on Tongas Narrows, approximate latitude $55^{\circ} 25'$ north, and longitude $131^{\circ} 20'$ west, with two teachers. The school is still in operation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) W. T. HARRIS, *Commissioner.*

The Secretary of the Interior.

*Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education, Alaska Division,
Washington, D.C., September 15, 1898.*

Sir,

In response to your inquiry of the 13th instant with regard to my connection and the work of Missions in South-East Alaska, I have the honour to state that I went to Alaska as Superintendent of Presbyterian Missions in 1877. I have spent, between that date and the present, three winters and nearly every summer; have visited repeatedly parts of the territory south of Mount St. Elias, as well as large portions to the north and to the west.

In the spring of 1885 I was appointed General Agent of the Department of the Interior of the United States' Government for the purpose of establishing schools.

In establishing Presbyterian Missions in South-East Alaska, it was always understood that it was a part of the United States, as the Home Department with which I was connected had no authority for the establishment of Missions outside of the jurisdiction of the United States.

In 1881 I established a Presbyterian Mission Station on Portage Bay, at the head of Lynn Canal, which was named Haines. The Reverend Eugene Willard and family were placed in charge, and their work has grown at that point into a flourishing church of native members. The missionary now in charge is the Reverend W. W. Warne.

In 1885 I sent Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Paul as missionaries of the American Presbyterian Church to Fort Tongas, on Tlekhonsiti Harbour, at the extreme south-eastern point of Alaska, where they remained for several years. In 1895 this Mission was transferred to Saxman, on Tongas Narrows, where Mr. James W. Young and the Reverend Edward Marsden are in charge.

In 1887 Mr. William Duncan, at the head of a prosperous Mission at Metlakahla, in British Columbia, moved his colony north to Annette Island, in order to get within the jurisdiction of the United States.

In 1897 the Mission Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States established a Mission at Ketchikan, on Tongas Narrows, South-East Alaska.