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*Water Hen.*

I left for this reserve on the 25th of September and arrived on the 28th. These Indians have sixteen dwelling houses, seven stables, five acres under excellent cultivation, thirteen head of cattle, one schoolhouse, 770 bushels potatoes and twenty-five tons of hay. Their resources from the chase and fisheries were unusually abundant this year, and their crops were very superior. The chief ask for a chest of tools to be supplied to enable them to build houses, as well as medicine for the sick. They have one of the best school houses in the agency. It is twenty to thirty feet in size, well thatched and plastered, with a door and windows in it. It is floored and matched with lumber sawn with pit saws. It is supplied with seats having backs to them, a stand, and a home-made armchair for the teacher. They made an elevated road of hewn and sawn lumber upwards of 250 feet long, and seven feet wide, across a meadow marsh lying between the school-house and the lake for the convenience of the children attending school. Mr. Jules Tabouret, late teacher of the Fort Alexander school was engaged last fall to take charge of this school, and from his former record, as a successful teacher, I have great expectations from his labors here.

*Crane River.*

I started for this reserve on the 29th of September, and arrived on the 30th, having experienced a most dangerous voyage. These Indians are very industrious and enterprising, having ten houses, five stables, seven acres under excellent cultivation, twenty-five horses, eighteen head of cattle, 800 bushels of potatoes and twenty-five tons of hay. They have erected the walls of a school-house 16 x 21 feet, and have sixty dry spruce boards sawn by pit saws ready for completing it. The Agent made arrangement with the councillor to finish for \$100, and meantime engaged Wm. Sabiston to teach in a private dwelling house. He only commenced to teach here last March, and his pupils—numbering twenty-four on the register, are making rapid progress in reading, writing and in arithmetic. Even married women are attending his school, and have learned to read their bibles already. I am informed by Mr. Sabiston that the oxen complained of last year as not having been properly trained to ploughing, had never been accustomed to work at ploughing, but are otherwise tractable. He says that he attempted to plough the Indian gardens with them last spring, but that he had to abandon it in despair as the oxen were unmanageable when hitched to the plough. Their garden seeds were not planted owing to the lateness of the season when they were received from the Agent. Their corn was an absolute failure owing to its having been destroyed by early frosts.

*Fairford.*

I started for this reserve on the 1st of October, and arrived on the 2nd of October. William Anderson is conducting the school at Lower Fairford, in the chief's house, which the Indian Agent purchased, for sixty-six dollars, for that purpose. The number of pupils in attendance was twenty-four, according to the register, but the average did not exceed more than one-half that number. The progress of the children in reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar and singing is reasonably satisfactory considering the disadvantages of their irregular attendance. Revd. Mr. Geo. Bruce has conducted the Upper Fairford school most successfully for upwards of a year. It was extremely gratifying to observe the thoroughness of his pupils in their different recitations. I consider that Mr. Bruce is unquestionably the most efficient teacher in this Superintendency, and should be awarded, by the Department, the premium to which he is justly entitled. These Indians have thirty eight dwelling houses, twenty four stables, twenty acres under cultivation, ten horses, six pigs, 115 head of cattle, twenty bushels of wheat, 110 of barley, 400 of potatoes, 215 tons of hay and two schoolhouses. The seed grain and potatoes supplied for sowing and planting their fields were duly received by them, but their garden seeds did not arrive until the 17th of July. The chief asked for medicine to be supplied them as