

I observed this summer that animals, both oxen and cows, which were fat in the month of May were quite poor in August, which was caused entirely by flies. This accounts for so many young cattle dying at the reservations along the shores of the lake, they not having strength to withstand their enemies, bull-dogs, mosquitoes, black flies, etc.

The hay along the lake is good, and they have put up three times as much as they require. Last winter they sold about twenty-five tons to lumbermen and received a good price for it, which has had the effect of causing them to make more this summer.

The old chief Nasekepenais is still trying to farm, and works well for so old a man, but his influence over the band, with the exception of the few who live on the reserve with him, amounts to nothing.

The band of heathen Indians, with the exception of the number on the tabular statement, are never on the reserve, and I never see them except at the payments. I think they could be found, however, at Rousseau River, Fort Francis, and a large number of them at the Red Lake in Minnesota.

Just at present they are all off to either Turtle Mountain or Devil's Lake, Dakota, where I understand there is a treaty being made with the Ojibways by the American Government, in which they no doubt will participate.

There has been no school for more than a year at this Agency, but Mr. Dennet hopes to be able to get sufficient scholars this winter to re-open school. There are plenty of children, but the parents are away so much hunting, and when home are so indifferent, that Mr. Dennet, though very anxious to instruct them, feels discouraged.

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

A. M. MUCKLE,
Indian Agent and Farm Instructor.

FORT ALEXANDER, 30th June, 1882.

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

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

The general state of the reserves under my Agency, has not undergone any material change, only there has been some more land cleared for the reception of seed.

A very good quantity of potatoes has been committed to the soil this spring, and some more grain. The reserves are not very prosperous as yet, but the Indians seem to take more interest in working for their families at home instead of roaming abroad for their livelihood.

They the Indians, work a good deal about the mills, thereby earning a few dollars.

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

JOSEPH KENT,
Indian Agent.