

must be partly the fault of the teacher that the attendance is not better. The reserve being so far away from the settlement, and the salary so small, it is difficult to secure the services of a good teacher.

The frost in July was particularly severe at this point.

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

DAVID YOUNG.

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PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AGENCY,

25th September, 1880.

To the Honorable

The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—In accordance with instructions contained in circular, dated 20th July last, I herewith enclose tabular statement showing the census of the several bands of Indians, under my charge, for the year ending 30th June, 1880. The Long Plain Band, Short Bear or Keeshkeonaquah chief, put down the same amount of seed that they did last year and, where the crops are taken care of, they look well. Many of the Indians, after they put in the crops, go away to hunt and do not return till the payments are made in July, and by that means they neglect them; it is impossible for me to say the amount they raise, as they are using them from the time they are fit for use, consequently they have but few things to lay up for the winter.

Swan Lake Band, Yellow Quill chief. This band has no inclination to settle on their reserve, they put down the same amount of seed they did last year, but as they are not on their reserve, I cannot say how their crops look; very few of them care about farming, and those of them who remain out from the settlement seems to do better than those who remain near the town, as they have not the same opportunities of getting liquor. This band positively refuse to settle on their reserve; they now want to have the several bands united again, under one chief, and their reserve adjacent to the reserve of Short Bear, or the Long Plain.

Sandy Bay Band, Nahwahchewarkahpone chief. This band show more inclination to farm than either of the others and in a few years would become self-supporting, if it were not that their reserve is too wet for farming purposes; it is only here and there that there is a very small spot fit for cultivation, still they are anxious to remain on their reserve, as it is well adapted for fishing and stock raising. They have now about one hundred head of cattle and about sixty head of horses. They complain of last autumn being very poor for fishing, as they did not catch enough for their own use. They caught a great many muskrats and the price of the skins, this year, was high, but owing to many of the Indians not being able to inform me of the number they caught, I cannot accurately fill up the column headed furs. I have been urging on the members of the several bands to break more land, but invariably the reply is, the Government will not supply us with oxen.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS OGLETREE,

*Indian Agent.*

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PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,

ROSSEAU RIVER AGENCY.

No report from Mr. George Newcomb, Indian Agent.