

Department of Indian Affairs.

The grounds have been tastefully planted with ornamental trees, and the out-buildings and sidewalks are in keeping with the main building.

The teacher, Miss Meehan, and the children have not neglected the inside of the school, it is plentifully supplied with flowers and pictures.

The school-house is built in the centre of the reserve and is finely situated from a sanitary point of view. What has been the result? A year ago the number upon the roll was thirty-nine, now it is fifty-two. A year ago the average daily attendance was 13.5, now it is thirty-six. The school by-law is being carried out, and the children receive their prizes for attendance, proficiency, good conduct, &c., and the parents are fined if they do not send their children to school the required number of days. There is now a high school in the village of Hagersville, and there is no reason why the young Indians of this band should not acquire good education as rapidly as their white neighbours.

The appurtenances of this school are all excellent, and experienced teachers have assured me that it is better equipped than nine-tenths of the public schools are, even in the cities.

Agriculture.

The crop of wheat was about the same as that of previous years, but the weight of the grain was greater and it was of a superior quality. There was an increase in the yield of oats, barley and potatoes, and an average crop of peas, rye and hay.

This year there is every appearance of an abundant harvest, and a careful account of it will be taken.

I inclose the tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1892.

Morals.

The church is still presided over by the Rev. T. S. Howard; the congregations are large, and there is a well attended Sunday school and an active temperance society. The only member of the band who might have been called an habitual drunkard, died this year.

Public Works.

The bridge over Spring Creek has been built with massive stone piers. A large amount of grading has been done upon the roads which has been covered with gravel, and nearly all the culverts upon the reserve are now built of stone.

The Methodist Missionary Society decided to brick in the large parsonage, raise it, and put a new foundation under it; this has all been done. The council were only asked to give \$100 towards the new foundation, which they did; the Missionary Society spending over \$300. The council, however, thought that the front should have a veranda, and they have built one forty feet long, at an expense of over \$100.

There is very little in the line of public works to be done upon this reserve now. The buildings, council-house, school-house, church and mission-house, are all brick, neat and substantial. The bridges will last for many years; the cemeteries have been newly fenced, and the culverts built of stone. In fact there is nothing now of importance to do, except it may be to gravel the roads, and there is a feeling amongst the council that hereafter they will macadamise one mile each year until all the main thoroughfares are covered with stone.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. E. JONES,

Indian Agent.