

COUTCHECHING AGENCY,
 RAINY LAKE, KEEWATIN,
 1st September, 1880.

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

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit the following report on Indians, Treaty No. 3, under my charge, and also tabular statement.

LAC SEUL, TROUT AND STURGEON LAKES.

This band of Indians have cleared several patches of land, on the proposed reserve, and expressed a desire that the Department should send a Surveyor to survey their reserves.

As this band is numerous, and extend over a large extent of country, from Sturgeon Lake to Trout, they have requested that they be divided into two bands:—The Trout and part of Lac Seul West to form one band, and Lac Seul East and Sturgeon Lake the other; and that the Department consent to appoint another chief. They say that by the number (400) they are entitled to another chief. They have consented to build a school-house. They sowed the wheat and barley sent to them last season. They have been unfortunate with their cattle; out of the five head supplied only one ox remains.

I vaccinated 150 after the payments.

There have been 19 deaths in this band since last payments, partly owing to relapses from exposure when recovering from measles.

MATTAWAN, ENGLISH RIVER.

These Indians have not made much improvement; part of them reside on English River, and are more industrious than the part who are with the chief at Mattawan.

They are anxious that their reserves should be surveyed.

No. 14 AND 15.—HUNGRY HALL, RAINY RIVER.

There are two bands at this place.

Mr. Morriseau ploughed some land for these Indians last spring; they intend to sow wheat and barley next season.

No. 13.—LONG SAULT, RAINY RIVER.

These Indians are improving. A man was sent down to plough, and sow five bushels of wheat, and as they lost part of their seed by frost, ten bushels of potatoes were given to them for seed. Their crops have a good appearance, although part of their fields were flooded by the high water in June and July.

No. 12.—LONG SAULT, RAINY RIVER.

The Indians of this band are also improving. One of the farmers on the river exchanged work by permission, and ploughed and sowed three bushels of wheat for them. They also got ten bushels potatoes, as some of them lost their seed by frost.

No. 11.—MENITO RAPIDS, RAINY RIVER.

There are two bands at this place. One of the farmers on the river exchanged work and ploughed and sowed three bushels of wheat for one of them; the other only planted corn and potatoes, as they were not prepared for wheat. The seed is in store for next season. One of the oxen of this band died during the summer, which is a great loss, as some of the band had learned to plough.