

eight bushels of barley and fifteen bushels of potatoes. They were supplied without our purchasing from the home farm and Touchwood Hills. The chief asked for more ploughs, harrows and oxen.

*Pasquah Band.*

These Indians should, I think, be in a much more advanced state than they are. Two years ago they grew larger quantities of wheat (2,000 bushels); and not being able to thrash it without labor (with the flail), nor to get it ground when it was thrashed, they became, in a measure, disheartened. The muskrats coming in plentifully has caused some of them to go back to this primitive mode of gaining a livelihood. There are thirty-six families upon this reserve, every one of which will have some crop, say from two to ten acres to each family. They have about 160 acres fenced, and twenty-six dwellings, eleven stables and 105 acres of old land. They will probably break forty-five acres more this spring in time to sow with turnips.

*Sioux.*

The Sioux, under Standing Buffalo, outnumbered any of the other bands in this section, running up to 295 souls last August and September. I was informed that the chief had been inviting additions to his band, both from White Cap's band and Birtle, while upon the other hand it is denied that any but his own Indians have joined him. Being unable to get a Sioux interpreter, I was prevented from talking to the Chief as I would like to have done. These Indians being well supplied with oxen and implements, should soon become self-supporting. I took an inventory of the Departmental property in charge of Mr. Hockley, and went carefully through his books. I found them correct.

Before passing from the Qu'Appelle district, I beg leave to draw the attention of the Department to the necessity for the establishment of a flour mill in the neighborhood of Fort Qu'Appelle. It is impossible that our Indians can fully realize the value of farming until this is done.

*Touchwood Hills.—Farm No. 6.*

Farming Instructor McConnell is in charge. Accompanied by the Agent and Instructor, I first visited Muscowaquahnos' Reserve. These Indians only settled here two years ago, and are rather a difficult lot to get along with, as they do not care to receive instruction; however, they had a fair crop in and it looked very well. It was indifferently fenced, but they promised to improve in that respect.

*Gordon Indians.*

This band has been farming in Indian fashion a great many years and have had the example set by the Church of England missionary—the mission having been established many years ago—but they have profited little. Their greatest drawback now is the fact of their having commenced in the hills and their fields are limited to knolls and small openings in the timber. The Agent was endeavoring to have them remove to the prairie to the south-east and will probably induce some of the younger men to do so, but the old hands will go on as they have done.

*Poor Man Reserve.*

New life appears to have been infused into this band, there being quite a boom among them in farming this year, and the instructor had taken advantage of it to have a large crop put in. Unfortunately some of their wheat was sown too early and was cut off by a frost about May 1st, but their root crops looked well and were well fenced. They have ploughed sixty acres this spring and sown fifty acres.

*Day Star Band.*

I observed great improvement here also. There were 45 acres in crop and it was well fenced, the chief's own garden being a model of neatness and everything