

Samaritans, and no reconciliation can ever be effected between them with regard to the location of a common reserve, although either place would be suitable for that purpose. I am of opinion that an amicable settlement of their grievances might be effected by granting homesteads to the half-breeds at Swan River, and allowing them to leave the treaty, extend the reserve at Dog Creek further north, so as to include the good farming land there, and deduct an equivalent in lieu thereof from its southern extremity. The following is a copy of a letter received from Inspector, formerly Surveyor, Pierce, relative to the respective merits of Dog Creek and Swan Creek for the purposes of an Indian reserve :

“ DOMINION LANDS OFFICE,

“ WINNIPEG, 26th July, 1882.

“ E. McCOLL, Esq.,

“ Inspector of Indian Agencies,

“ Winnipeg.

“ SIR,—As to the respective merits of Dog Creek and Swan Creek, on Lake Manitoba, for Indian reserves, I think the former far the preferable situation. The Indians at Dog Creek, so far as I have seen, seem to be comfortable and as contented as the average red man. Swan Creek is well adapted for a stock farm, but at Dog Creek there is more hay than the Indians will require for many years.

“ I have the honor to be, Sir,

“ Your obedient servant,

“ WILLIAM PIERCE.”

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THE AGENCY OF MR. OGLETREE.

The business of the Agency is very carefully and satisfactorily attended to. The receipt-book, letter-book and file of correspondence, are kept systematically. The improvement in agriculture, made by the different bands comprised within this Agency, is not very encouraging.

*Sandy Bay Band.*

These Indians scarcely cultivated anything this year, owing to the flooded condition of their former gardens. A small quantity of potatoes was planted on a dry ridge, west of the reserve, but nothing elsewhere. Formerly this reserve was admirably suited for stock-raising, in consequence of the abundance of hay available, which enabled the Indians to raise a large number of cattle, but latterly, owing to the rising of the waters in the lake, and flooding the reserve, their meadows were destroyed, and a number of their cattle perished. The lake is, however, now at a lower level than it has been for years, and unless it rises in future, this reserve will be very productive.

*Long Plain Band.*

These Indians planted, this year, 36 bushels of potatos, a small quantity of corn and some vegetables, but their advancement in the cultivation of the soil is almost imperceptible, although they have such beautiful prairie and excellent timbered lands. They wish to be supplied with the white instead of the brown gilling twine, on account of its being better adapted for catching gold-eyes, the principal fish obtained in the Assiniboine River. As their oxen are useless (one being blind and the other very old) they want the Agent to be allowed to exchange them for others, or to sell them for beef and purchase others with the money. This request is reasonable, and I consider the Agent should be instructed to dispose of those animals in the manner indicated. The following members of the Swan Lake Band ask to be