

Notwithstanding the difficulties in the way of prevailing upon the Indians to preserve a sufficiency of seed for future wants, I am happy to have it to relate, that those of this district, besides having more than they required for their own seeding were enabled to aid some white settlers, by my permission, in obtaining seed-grain for their farms, during the past season.

The clothing received during the past year was an incalculable boon, and I have to express the hope that a further quantity will be forwarded together with a supply of beef skin moccasins, as numbers during the winter are necessarily allowed to remain idle from the want of covering to their feet.

Although the tribal system must of a necessity be followed out in first placing Indians on a reservation, unless a more extensive staff of instructors should be employed, still, whenever any cases present themselves of a desire to get on, those in authority are only too eager to place individual Indians on locations of their own and grant cattle and implements solely for their own use, where practicable, but where one has charge of a lazy working band, they must be kept working sufficiently near each other, in order that they may be under the constant supervision of the instructor, the fields being divided by land marks, or the produce divided according to merit. In cases where Indians have been kept working together in large fields each has been encouraged in cultivating gardens and potato patches, as a preliminary step to separation from the rest.

In conclusion, I have to express the hope, that the balance of the Indians belonging to this district, who are still in the south, will arrive here before the snow falls in order that during the winter they may be in a measure disciplined and prepared for the succeeding spring's work, and thereby prove less demoralizing to those already settled on reservations—for the difficulties attendant upon the arrival of large bodies of Indians, who have not as yet left off their nomadic habits, among others who have given up, in a great measure, their fondness for roaming the prairie, can only be fully appreciated by those immediately in charge of them.

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

HAYTER REED,
Indian Agent.

INDIAN OFFICE,
CARLTON, N.W.T., 4th August, 1882.

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

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that the various bands of Indians throughout my district have been doing fairly well; but, in order to show what they actually have done, I may say that, in 1880, tenders were called for 290 bushels of wheat, 200 of barley, and 750 of potatoes, and this was presumably the amount of seed sown; and the provisions expended from 1st January, 1880 to 1st July, 1880, were 78,064 lbs. flour, 8,959 lbs. beef, and 17,263 lbs. bacon.

I took charge in the fall of 1880, and reported at the time that the crops were almost a failure. In 1881, 645 bushels wheat, 555 barley, 750 potatoes and 90 oats, were sown, being an increase of 355 bushels wheat, and 365 barley, or in all 720 bushels more than the previous year; and the amount of provisions expended from January to July, 1881, was 74,559 lbs. flour, 12,771 lbs. bacon, being a decrease in provisions of 3,505 lbs. flour, 8,959 lbs. beef, and 4,492 lbs. bacon. Again, in 1882 the amount of seed sown was 1,125½ bushels wheat, 50½ bushels barley, 668 bushels potatoes, showing an increase of 388 bushels of seed sown more than last year, although farm No. 9, containing 30 acres of land, was not worked. The wheat has