

Unfortunately, this partly led them to neglect their gardens, which are full of weeds. I feel sorry these Indians have not a reserve better adapted to agriculture, as they are really hard workers, and if their crops were not annually cut down with the frosts, they would soon become self-sustaining. I hope that they will earn considerable sums as packers and guides in the mountains. I am leaving here in a few days for their reserve, as I hear the graders are at work there, and shall endeavor to get some weeding done.

Fish Creek Farm, so far as the Department is concerned, is a thing of the past, for which I am thankful. It was a source of great expense to the Government with very little return, and of much annoyance to the Agent. It is now abandoned to a care taker, and I shall be pleased when the purchaser takes it over, as it will relieve the Departmental man in charge.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. POCKLINGTON,

Indian Sub-Agent.

COUTCHEECHING, KEEWATIN (TREATY No. 3),

6th July, 1883.

The Right Honorable

The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter of the 19th. May last, No. 28,614, requesting me to inspect and report separately, so far as the Fort William Band is concerned, on the Agency of Mr. J. P. Donnelly, I have the honor to inform you that I inspected the office at the agency, situated on Water street, Prince Arthur's Landing, in an apartment of his dwelling house. It is 9 x 12 feet in size and contains the following articles of furniture, viz.: 1 black walnut desk, having five sections in it for filing letters away; six large sections for office books, and six large drawers for stationery, and it is worth about \$40; and three arm-chairs worth 75 cents each. In the post office the Agent showed me a large safe worth \$200 belonging to him, in which he intends to keep any valuable documents or money belonging to the Department in his possession.

On the 15th ultimo I drove, accompanied by the Agent, to the Indian reserve at Fort William, and was very much pleased with the marked progress made by the band in building, farming and learning, as will be noticed on reference to the "Tabular Statement." One of the councillors had returned by steamboat from some point a couple of hundred miles eastward, with a span of horses for which he paid \$175. About ten acres of land was cleared and put under cultivation this year. All able-bodied Indians of this band readily obtain employment as *voyageurs*, lumbermen or laborers on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and therefore the majority of them avail themselves of the opportunity of earning considerable money after putting down their crops, leaving the cultivation of their gardens to their families.

The ex-chief, John Penaisse, complains that three years ago the principal Indians of the band agreed that he should receive payment from the funds of the band for hay and other feed supplied by him for the yoke of oxen received from the Department, and also for services rendered by him in drawing wood, &c., with these oxen for the use of members of the band, and that now the parties referred to are opposed to his receiving any compensation for the feed of cattle or for his own labor. I told him that in my opinion that was a matter with which the Department had nothing whatever to do, and that he must look to those parties for payment who promised to pay him. I herewith enclose his letter to the Superintendent-General, relative to the matter in question. John Penaisse also complained that the late Agent, Mr.