

*Extracts from Mr. Rae's Letter.*

CARLTON, 25th September, 1880.

SIR,—On visiting Star Blanket's Reserve this week, I was much pleased with the way they have worked. Their barley, which is very good, is all cut and stacked; their wheat, which is of very good quality, has been damaged by the frost, and has also been cut and stacked; their potatoes are very good, but they have only a very small patch each; they are quite willing to give in seed grain and potatoes to the farmer for safe keeping, and are evidently trying to do their best. This chief wins the yoke of cattle given for the best general crop on the three reserves, and his councillor wins the cow, or second prize. Their houses are of good size, and very fairly kept; their stables are also of fair size and well put up, and their fences are strong and well built.

They have not as much new land broken up for next year as I should like, but owing to the scarcity of work cattle and the labor they have put on their places this summer, they say they could not do better, but promise that next summer they will stick to it and break up a large quantity of land.

Most of the Indians on this reserve have already got cellars dug for their potatoes, which they will begin to take up next week.

I should say that if they have a good harvest next year, they will be able, in eighteen months from date, to support themselves.

At the request of Star Blanket, I spoke to the councillors and men present, and told them plainly that the provisions we were giving out were for the men who worked only, and that I would visit the reserve frequently and see what work was being done for the provisions I gave them; that as long as I saw that they were really trying to get on, I would help them with tools and provisions when necessary.

*Extracts from Mr. Rae's Letter.*

CARLTON, 25th September, 1880.

SIR,—On visiting Mistowasis' Reserve I was much pleased to find everything in good order, and that a large amount of work had been done for the provisions given them. Their grain is all cut and stacked, and they begin taking up their potatoes next week. I am sorry to say that they got so little seed that they have very few of them. Their houses, stables and fences are a great credit to them, and I should like to take over their places some of those sceptics who say an Indian could not be made a fair farmer; their cattle are looking well, and I was charmed to find that they had kept one of the oxen given them to eat at treaty time, and have worked him all summer.

They have a large quantity of land broken for next spring, and should they have fair crops next year, will, in eighteen months, be self-supporting. They think it a very wise plan to give in seed to the farmer for safe keeping. Mistowasis wins the gun, or third prize, for best general crop. Their turnips and carrots are doing well.

CARLTON, 25th September, 1880.

SIR,—On visiting Kitaways' Reserve, at Muskey Lake, last week, I was much disappointed at the state of affairs there. There are very few houses, and those of poor quality, no stables, very poor fences, and very little crop in; although I had given them provisions, I found that the wheat had not all been cut down. I ordered a Council and talked to them before the chief, four councillors, and about twenty of their men. I told them I was very much displeased with the state in which I found things, and that if they persisted in being idle, they need expect no help from the Government as long as I was here. After about six hours' talking they said they would try and do better, and would go to work at once if I would