

should afford plenty of work to the Indians. Their ignorance of English is, however, against their obtaining regular work.

The Salteaux at Rolling River are very quiet, and are ready to go to work next spring. If the Government decide to give Cameron the money he asks for his improvements at Rolling River, the Indians can make enough next year to keep them. I have purchased 100 bushels of seed potatoes for this band, and shall draw barley from Farm No. 1.

Of the Sioux I have little further to write; they are all getting on fairly well, have good crops, and have plenty of hay. They can all get work, and they have considerable produce to sell, one Charlie Okipa, who lives just off the Oak River reserve, having quite 500 bushels of oats and wheat. A good many disputes have arisen between the Sioux squatters along the Assiniboine, and the settlers. All are now settled, in some instances by the Indians selling their improvements, and in other cases moving off without recompense. Any further disputes that may arise will be settled without trouble, as the Sioux are very easily managed.

My requisition for the Indians in my district has been reduced very largely this season, and with good crops in '83, I hope that all the provisions applied for will not be required.

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

L. W. HERCHMER,
Indian Agent.

INDIAN VILLAGE,
PIERREVILLE, 28th November, 1882.

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

SIR,—I beg to make my following Report for the present year, concerning the tribe of Abenakis Indians residing here.

I regret to state that, owing chiefly to two causes, some of these Indians happen to be in a precarious condition for their livelihood during the coming winter. Their crops, consisting mainly of Indian corn and potatoes, have failed, and their trade and industry in making baskets, hats, and other ashwork, small bark canoes and Indian wares generally, has not been, last summer, so profitable as usual. They manufacture the goods here; those among themselves who are better off buying from the others to go and sell in lots in the United States. Heretofore the Custom's officers of the United States have allowed them to cross the lines free of duty, with very few exceptions. This year, however, a contrary rule has prevailed, so that the duty, extra costs attending the delays at the ports of entry, and, in some instances, the partial confiscation of the goods, have considerably diminished if not entirely absorbed the profits, prices falling through consequently.

There has been no epidemic among the tribes during the year, and the population has not decreased by deaths as compared with births, but they have always retained, more or less, their nomadic habits, and I notice that they tend more than usual to emigrate to the United States.

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

H. VASSAL,
Agent.