

Quite a number of house logs and rails have been got out by the Indians of Pasquatis' band, and the chief himself has prepared for the erection of a large house. Six new families will commence work there this spring. These Indians now have six yoke of oxen, and there are many of them able to plough. They are on the whole good working Indians, and during last winter many did good work for settlers. Some of the Ashams took a contract and duly filled it to get out timber for the police. The remarks on the well-being of Pasquatis' band apply equally to that of Muscowpetung. These latter, though but recently settled on their present reserve are doing well. A portion of the band wintered at Crooked Lake to look after what seed they have had down there which they intend sowing, and then come up here and settle for good in the fall. The houses those who are up here have built are only temporary ones. They are to be replaced by good substantial huts, for which logs have been got out by them during the winter. They have also got out plenty of rails for fencing. Owing to certain representations from Muscowpetung, I have, after consulting Mr. Surveyor Nelson, extended his reserve 4 miles west along the Qu' Appelle which will give more building wood, and have taken off $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles along the south end of the reserve. This will make but a slight difference in the area of the reserve, and has given satisfaction to the chief and band. These Indians promise to do well this coming year, and no doubt will be as little expense to the Government next winter as Pasquatis' were the last, for all that the latter received, in the way of direct relief, were 2,529 lbs. flour and 1,399 lbs. bacon. The balance was for labor and grain and seed purchased. From this reserve I went to the Sioux of Standing Buffalo. They are all living in small houses, but have got out timber for better ones. They also had some boards sawn and rails cut and hauled ready for fencing. They were contented on the whole, their only difficulty was in the matter of interpreting. I have supplied them with a large quantity of seed for this year; potatoes 150 bushels, and I have no hesitation in saying that next year they will have sufficient for their own seed after living through the winter. I have arranged with Mr. Smith of this place to put on two yoke of oxen there to plough. As Smith speaks Sioux and is friendly with the chief and his band, he will be able to do good work. These Indians, like the rest of the tribe this side of the line, are fine muscular men, good workers, and have, it would appear, a natural bent for agriculture. Mr. Setter, in charge of the Crooked Lake Reserves, was found to have everything in a satisfactory condition. Through stress of weather I slept at Loud Voice's house one night. The old chief told me he was quite contented and intended to remain on his reserve till he died, and then be buried there. All that he asked for was a new flag, as his old one was worn out. This I beg to recommend and trust you will see fit to supply me with one for him. There was some difficulty with Musquito's band; a portion didn't wish to receive assistance from the Government, and prevented those who so desired from taking same. After some talking I came to the following settlement. Those who did not wish to take assistance from the Government were to stay at one end of the reserve and those who did were to remain at the other, but the reserve was not to be divided. The wood was to be common to both. I promised them at their request a mile square on the opposite side of the lake. This is where they have their huts and have been living for a long time. I trust that my action in this matter will have approval. In a year's time all differences will have blown over and they will become one united band again. I am pleased to report that I have been able to adjust the matter of O'Soup's band and reserve. For some time past I have feared difficulties through jealousies. When I was down there O'Soup was away at Ellice, but I gave Mr. Setter such instructions regarding O'Soup filling his land with strangers from other bands and spoke so strongly to Ne-pa-pi-ness and Ne-quan-e-que-nape that brought the matter to a climax. Shortly after my return here Mr. Setter came up with O'Soup, Ne-pa-pi-ness and Ne-quan-e-que-nape, and after a long interview the following solution was come to: O'Soup tendered his resignation and promised to receive Little Child with friendship. Little Child was to be sent to invite him to come and occupy the reserve as chief, Ne-pa-pi-ness and Ne-quan-e-que-nape remaining as his head men. O'Soup intends starting a shop on the reserve, and promised