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## PAPERS RELATING TO THE INDIANS OF CANADA.

### I. INDIAN SCHOOLS OF UPPER AND LOWER CANADA.

In 1856 the Governor General issued a commission to Richard T. Pennefather, Froome Talfourd, and Thomas Worthington, Esquires, directing them to enquire into the condition of the various Indian Tribes of Canada. The Commissioners prepared an elaborate report in 1858, which contained a great deal of most valuable and interesting information, relating to the past and present history of these tribes, and also various practical suggestions for the continued amelioration of their condition.

Up to 1860, the Chief Superintendent of Indian affairs in Canada, was appointed by the Home Government, and the office was held by the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor General. In that year, however, a change was made, and the Department was transferred to the Canadian Government. The Commissioner of Crown Lands is now, *ex officio*, head of the Indian Department; but its management chiefly devolves upon the Deputy Superintendent of Indian affairs, whose whole time is devoted to the business of the Department. Not only is the management of the Indian Lands, payment of annuities to the tribes and other matters connected with their civil interests confided to this Department, but also the control of the schools established among them. As the Indians are relieved from all school taxation, no part of the school fund is paid in support of their schools, nor does the school law of either Province apply to them. The Indian schools are not, therefore, under the supervision of either of the Departments of Education for Upper or Lower Canada. We have selected the following

items of information relating to the various Indian schools in the Province, from the "Report on Indian Affairs," "for the half year, ending June, 1864." In that report, Mr. William Spragge, Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs, says:—"Another subject of very considerable interest is the education of the Indian people. To this subject the Department is continually giving its attention. One of the new schools brought into existence during the past year is that established for the benefit of the Micmacs, settled in the Township of Maria, to the southward of the Restigouche. The new school is under the supervision of Ralph Dimock, Esq., the superintendent of Public Schools in the adjacent settlements, Upon the Restigouche, at Mission Point, is another school attended by the children of Micmac Indians, and likewise assisted from funds managed by this Department. It is believed to be very efficiently conducted, under the supervision of the Rev. Mr. Saucier. In Western Canada, among the Indian schools lately established, is a second school among the Mississaguas of the New Credit Settlement, and another at Little Current on the Great Manitoulin Island conducted by Mr. Burkitt, and supported by one of the Church Societies, unaided by Indian funds. Upon the Grand River, the New England Society which has done so much in the cause of education among the Six Nation Indians, has extended its Institution, established in the vicinity of Brantford."

The following contains some detailed information in regard to the principal Indian schools in Canada:—

### EXTRACT FROM CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO SCHOOLS AMONG THE INDIANS: THEIR CONDITION AND PROSPECTS, ETC.

Statement received from Mr. Superintendent Bartlett, with letter of 11th January, 1865.

SAUGEEN.—There are two Indian Schools here. One in the village kept by Henry S. Jones, an educated Indian, since the 1st of October last. His salary of \$200 a year is paid by the Wesleyan Society.

The average daily attendance has been 10 out of 27, 11 of these children have been away with their parents hunting.

13 boys, of whom 4 read 1st, 2nd, and 3rd books. 9 spell.

15 girls, of whom 4 read 1st, 2nd, and 3rd books. 10 spell.

4 boys and 4 girls write and study arithmetic. 1 geography and maps.

The second school is taught at French Bay, 5 miles from the Indian village school, where there is a large settlement of Indians living on their respective farm lots.