

My first action was to inspect the books of the Agency. During the latter part of 1882 they had not been kept in such regular form as was desirable, but on January 1st Mr. Koith, the lately appointed clerk for this district, opened a new set of books, and since that date they have been regularly kept and posted daily. I found the stores on hand were being taken care of in a creditable manner. The shortage showed on the books, of both flour and bacon, was accounted for by the Agent as the result of receiving in large and issuing in smaller quantities, the bacon having also wasted from the heat of last summer.

Indian Head Storehouse.

I took an inventory of the goods stored here. Most of them were sent in last year, especially for Pie-a-pot's band and the Assiniboines, but as they did not remain upon their reserves the supplies were not then issued. The building is a new one lately erected by the Department as a storehouse for the district, it is of good dimensions and well adapted for the purpose intended.

On May the 2nd I left Qu'Appelle, in company with the Indian Agent, for farm No. 3, at the Crooked Lakes *vid* Troy and Broadview. At the former place we found a railway train switched off containing Indians from Cypress *en route* for their reserves. Three lodges left the train here, as they belonged to bands in the vicinity of Fort Qu'Appelle, the remainder we accompanied to Broadview, arriving there the following day. Teams from the farm met them here, which together with the outfits belonging to the Indians moved the whole camp to the reserves. On May 5th we visited Ka-kawis-ta-how's Reserve, distant from the farm about eight miles. They are farming in a magnificent valley between "Round" and Crooked lakes. The Indians were not at work on account of the arrival of their friends, and a snow storm which prevailed all the forenoon. In an interview with the chief and his headman they asked for a schoolmaster, a resident farming instructor, and that a doctor should visit them oftener, they also asked for more work oxen. The band only came from the plains last year, and already have sixteen dwellings erected, and twelve acres of wheat sown, all the work having been performed by the Indians and being well done.

We next proceeded to "Loud Voices" reserve. There was a half-breed there named Belanger, engaged by the Agent to show them how to put in their crops. The chief, who is about seventy years of age, has been blind for three or four years, which is a great drawback to the work; at the same time he does all he can to encourage his young men to labor. He is quite an orator, and said, "All the promises that were made me, I see them coming in gradually; but I would like to see them coming in quicker." He asked for more oxen and harrows, and that the doctor should visit them oftener. This band first started farming in 1882, and have broken a quantity of new land this year.

We next visited the farms of the Indians of Cowess' band. Nepapaness has thirty acres broken, and already had ten acres of wheat sown. He intended sowing another ten bushels of wheat, ten of barley, two of peas and twenty of potatoes, all of which seed he saved for himself from last year's crop. Oosoup had been away at the Cypress Hills and only just returned. He had but two acres of wheat sown, but promised to apply himself to his work and put in a large crop. Jacob Bear has commenced work in Yellow Calf's old place, and has broken up more land. All the land under cultivation in this valley is fenced in an unusually excellent manner. Garde has built a superior house and stables, and a stack of hay remaining in his corral was evidence that he had plenty and to spare of this. He was ploughing with his own horses three abreast, and setting the other Indians an excellent example of self reliance.

Mosquito's Band.

This band has neither chief nor headmen, and have always lived near here, having originally settled on the north side of the lake. They were put into Way-way-see Capps' band by Mr. Christie at the treaty at Fort Ellice (so I