

It is greatly to be regretted, that in localities where interior Indians have proved their great aptitude for agriculture, there is really no land left for them, owing either to the scarcity of water for irrigation purposes, or to the fact, that all the cultivable lands in the vicinity have been already taken up by white settlers. In such instances, it appears to me that the Commissioner should be instructed to appropriate sufficient lands elsewhere, by the sale of which, suitable farms might be purchased to provide for the necessities of these Indians, who can no longer resort to the chase, or obtain their living in any other manner, than by adopting civilized industries.

The William's Lake agency contains many melancholy instances of Indians being left without land, and who must become a burden upon the Government should their present precarious mode of obtaining food from time to time fail.

#### *Surveys.*

Two survey parties have been in the field during the past season.

Capt. Jemmett has been working in the neighborhood of Lillooet and Bridge River, and Mr. Gastineau at Ashcroft and on the Shushwap Lake.

Reports from these officers, showing the work performed, have not yet been furnished. It is possible, however, that they may come to hand in time to be incorporated with the present report.

#### *Presents.*

With the exception of the usual amount of garden seeds, but few presents have been given to the Indians, and those, confined to some agricultural tools for the use of the natives near Clinton.

Supplies of provisions for aged, sick and destitute have been, as usual, furnished, but only in cases of absolute necessity.

#### *Medicines, &c.*

A considerable quantity of medicine has been furnished to the various agents, missionaries and others, who have expressed a desire to dispense them.

The system is not altogether satisfactory, but under the circumstances it is the best that can be done.

The population is so large, that economy has to be practiced in this as well as in other expenditures under my direction.

As stated in some of the reports of the agents, much sickness has prevailed, with correspondent fatality.

#### *Schools.*

During the past year, the following Indian Mission Schools have received the grant of \$12 per capita on the daily average attendance, not exceeding in any case \$300:—

Lakalsap, Nass River, W.

Port Simpson, W.

Kincolith, A.

Alert Bay, A.

Kitwangahk, A.

Cowichan, R. C.

Hesquiaht, R. C.

Kyukaht, R. C.

St. Mary's, special grant of \$500, R. C.

Applications have also been made for grants for schools at

Massett,

Skidegate,

Kitamaht,

Bellabella,

Uchatlitz,

Ehetezet.