

policemen and have not been seen since; but it had a good effect, as very little "fire water" can be obtained by them since that time.

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

D. H. MUIR, M.D.,  
*Indian Agent, District No. 6 "B."*

PARSBORO', N. S., Oct. 1st, 1884.

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

SIR,—I have the honor to submit the following Report, together with tabular statement for the year ended the 30th June last.

I am pleased to be able to report a marked improvement in the condition of the Indians living at Halfway Lake. This band devote considerable attention to the cultivation of their lands, and are generally more industrious in their habits than those living in other parts of the County. They take considerable interest in the education of their children, and, so far as they can, send them to the district school.

Their crops were good, but many suffered the loss of a large portion of their potatoes during the winter on account of their cellars not being frost-proof. They feel the need of a suitable team to do their ploughing; as it is, they are compelled to work out with the nearest farmer in order to secure the service of his team in breaking up their land.

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

A. T. CLARKE,  
*Indian Agent, District No. 7.*

PICTOU, N.S., 30th August, 1884.

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

SIR,—Changes in the habits of the Micmac tribe of Indians are so slow of accomplishment that one finds scarcely anything to note from one year to another. If, however, a comparison be made with a period ten or fifteen years past, the difference between then and now is obvious enough to make a decided impression on the most careless observer. A change has certainly been effected in the mean time; but like everything else in which the tribe acts a part, it has been produced so gradually and noiselessly that we become aware of its existence only by comparing the state of facts before us with what our memory calls to recollection.

A very few years ago, the Micmac tribe was entirely engaged in basket making and coopering. A desultory essay by way of fishing with hook and line in the deep sea, was the only variation in their monotonous life. Hunting, of course, they followed, as they still to some extent do, at special seasons; but their staple avocation was as described. Wood was plenty and within available distance of the towns, in which they found their principal market. With the disappearance of the forest, the Micmac found his ancient occupation gone, and necessity constrained him to exert his energies in a new direction. He began to appear in other fields of labor, so that to-day, there is no employment in which he does not compete, occasionally at least with his white brethren. He enters the mine, he works on a farm, he is a wharf builder, he makes boats, he is a self-taught, but skilful house and ship carpenter.