

We succeeded in cutting 28,000 rails, half of which were hauled to the farm and put into fence. We built a large and comfortable house for the men, and one for the officer in charge; the front part of the men's building is 20 by 40 feet, with a kitchen and basement, 16 by 24 feet; these buildings are constructed of hewn logs, with shingled roof, and are comfortably finished inside.

We commenced ploughing in the middle of April, and succeeded in putting in one hundred acres of oats; as we had not sufficient harness to follow the ploughs with harrows, we were obliged to wait until the ploughing was finished to put in the seed, consequently it was the 7th June before the crop was put in.

Notwithstanding the ploughing was badly done, as we had no proper breaking ploughs, and the seed put in late, we succeeded in raising 2,300 bushels of oats, of excellent quality; we also put up 325 tons of hay.

Since harvest we have been building a corral, and stables, and have nearly completed a corral of 150 feet wide, 210 feet long, and 12 feet high, with stables running the entire length on one side, and sheds on the other side for farm implements; all of these buildings and fencing are of pine timber.

The work this winter will be hauling hay to the Fort, and rails from the bush, putting up the new saw-mill and-mill dam, and hauling timbers for the same.

I expect to be able, next spring, to put in three hundred acres of oats, and grow all the vegetables that will be required for the year. I expect also to have the mill in readiness for the machinery, as soon as it arrives from Benton in the spring.

A first-class reaper will be required for next harvest. We had this year to cut our oats with scythes and make our own rakes.

There are twelve or fifteen colts in our herd that will be fit for saddle horses next spring.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. SHURTLIFF.

Inspector.

Forwarded,

JAMES F. MACLEOD,
Commissioner.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT WALSH.

WOOD MOUNTAIN, 16th December, 1879.

5TH JANUARY.—HALF-BREED CENSUS.

Half-breed census duly taken in the immediate vicinity of this post on the 13th inst., in accordance with instructions from the Assistant Commissioner.

On the 5th inst. I proceeded eastward along this mountain, and found as follows:—

	Families.	Persons.
20 miles from post, at Grant's Village.....	25	numbering 169
40 " Grant's, at Portras' " on Big Muddy River.....	8	" 63
15 " Portras' at Bonneau " also on Big Muddy River	4	" 32
4 " Bonneau at Bellegarde.....	5	" 40

In this last the inhabitants claimed to be American Half-breeds, and stated that, with the exception of one house, the remainder of the village was on the American side of boundary line. As on examination (although I could not exactly decide) I believed it to be so, I did not include it in census returns.