

that if a good rent could be got at once, they would consent; but I do not think they would do so on any other terms. However, if it is thought proper, I will call a meeting of the Indians, in order to ascertain their views in regard to any plan that might be proposed for the improvement of their Reserve.

In regard to the whole matter of the Civilization of the Indians, and the improvement of their Reserves, I confess I am much discouraged. Even if the land were cleared and put in good order, to all appearance, the Indians would not cultivate it. On the River front there is some fine land, clear of stumps and every obstruction; yet I do not think one half of it is cultivated by the Indians themselves. Last year several fine fields were left untilled, and grew nothing but weeds. In regard to other portions, the Indians arranged with white men, and let them have their fields for the season. In what way habits of industry and self reliance could ^{best} be fostered among them, seems a problem rather difficult to solve.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Yours O^b servant

Cheney Watson
Ind. Supt.

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