

## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

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## A.

*Jasper T. Gilkison, Esq., Visiting Superintendent of the Six Nation Indians for the past twelve years, states:—*

That he has observed a decided improvement in their moral character and habits of industry during that time. They have established a well-organized Agricultural Society, holding annual shows of produce, horses, cattle, &c., very creditable. They have also occasional ploughing matches. About three-fourths are professing Christians, the other fourth being Pagans, who worship the Great Spirit with the forms and ceremonies of their forefathers. They are on the whole a well-behaved people, living amicably together. The Reserve has been divided into concessions and lots of about one hundred acres each, and lies in the Townships of Tuscarora, Oneida and Onondaga, in all about 52,000 acres. From 8,000 to 10,000 acres of this land is in various stages of improvement. The merchantable timber of good quality has long since been removed; what remains is necessary for the Indians themselves for farming and household purposes. There is a great deal of fallen timber, which, under recent regulations, will be made use of. A great amount of trouble, expense, risk of injury and life itself has attended the carrying into effect, during the past year, the law under the Order in Council of 12th February, 1873, and arrests, trials, convictions and imprisonment have followed.

Large quantities of cordwood throughout the Reserve has been seized by the Forest Bailiffs, a small portion of which has been secured; some has been sold, the money arising therefrom has been applied towards the purposes of hauling, &c. Should any balance remain, it is remitted to the Department for the benefit of the Indian Fund.

The following is a statement of the amount of wood seized, and the expenses connected therewith:—

155 cords has been seized, of which	
73 cords has been sold, at \$2 50 .....	\$182 50
80 " " " 2 62½ .....	210 00
3 loads, for. ....	6 75
<b>Making a total of .....</b>	<b>399 25</b>
<b>Expenses connected with seizure and sale .....</b>	<b>366 11</b>
<b>Leaving a balance on hand of.....</b>	<b>\$33 14</b>