

Department of Indian Affairs.

the water. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death by being put into the water whilst alive, but the evidence given was not sufficient to show by whom the murder was committed. The case was a very remarkable one and created quite a sensation among the Indians. I have urged upon the Provincial Government the necessity of taking some steps to discover and punish the parties who caused the death of Stephens.

One hundred dollars was expended on the Gatineau front road last fall. This summer the road has been completed at a cost of fifty dollars. As usual the foreman and labourers were members of the band.

The crops on the reserve last summer were above the average, and the prospects of an abundant harvest this season are very good. •

The usual grant of blankets to those requiring them has been made, and about eighty dollars was distributed in relief last winter amongst the indigent members of the band.

The school continues in operation, but the attendance is not as satisfactory as could be desired. Some of the parents cannot be induced to send their children to the school, alleging that they have not suitable clothes.

The following statistics of this band may be of interest :—

Population represented by pay-list to 30th June, 1892.	353
Composed of men.....	89
Women.....	104
Boys.....	69
Girls.....	91

It will be perceived that there is a considerable disproportion between the sexes, the females being largely in the majority.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

JAMES MARTIN,
Indian Agent.

JEUNE LORETTE, P.Q., 24th August, 1892.

The Honourable

The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June last.

The Huron Band of Lorette Indians numbers three hundred and one, being an increase of two over last year.

With the exception of a few cases of diphtheria, some of which proved fatal, the tribe has enjoyed fairly good health.

The departmental instructions, concerning the adoption of certain sanitary measures, have been fully carried out, with the best results.

The regulations, framed by the chiefs, in regard to cleanliness, and sanctioned by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 21st September, 1891, have also been well observed.

Temperance is improving and the many disorders which existed formerly have been considerably repressed.

Trade in moccasins and snow-shoes is falling off owing to the competition in the price of these articles. Several families were compelled to leave for the watering places in order to dispose of their Indian curiosities, but they were not very successful.

Ninety Indians on this reserve were successfully vaccinated in November last.

Very little improvement is noticeable in agriculture, but the potato crop was good.

The pupils' attendance at school was fairly good, the average being fifty-five.