

During the past year, a surrender of the lands occupied by white people on the Big Cove Reserve, Richibucto River, was given to the Government, and the settlers are now required to pay two dollars (\$2) per acre; the interest on the money so received, to go towards the assistance of the band on that reserve. The band at Buctouche are about doing the same; this will settle what has been a troublesome matter for some time, and the settlers will receive a complete title of the land.

On the whole, I think there is an improvement among them.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. SARGEANT,

Visiting Supt. and Agent.

WESTERN SUPERINTENDENCY,
FREDERICTON, N.B., 22nd November, 1880.

The Honorable

The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with your circular of the 20th July last, I herewith enclose a report upon Indian Affairs connected with my Superintendency, for the year ending the 30th June, 1880.

The tabular statement, forwarded by me some time since to your Department, contains the fullest information I could possibly obtain under all the circumstances, and has been made up with great care.

You will notice, upon reference to that statement, that there has been a small increase in the population during the past year; but the Indian character being so migratory, it is next to impossible to make up a very exact statement of the number of their people, more particularly when you consider that, in many cases, their population is scattered over so much country. And although the pure-blooded Indians are gradually passing away, yet, from a variety of causes, I think that there is a tendency to steady increase.

Having called your attention repeatedly to the small amount of pecuniary aid furnished me for the poor, and more particularly as the amounts forwarded me for that purpose within two or three years past have been so small, and out of all proportion to their occasional and general necessities, I am most respectfully requested, by the Indian people generally, to call upon your Department to take the matter into your serious consideration, and contrast their allowances from time to time; and more particularly of late, with the enormous amounts paid to the Indians, and for Indian purposes, in the North-West; and moreover, to consider that the Indians of New Brunswick have always been noted for their loyalty to the Crown, and that their ancestors helped to fight the battles of our common country. You will pardon me for speaking so strongly in their behalf, as I have used great efforts to prevent deputations from visiting Ottawa, which you are aware (however advantageous it might be for the Indians in a pecuniary point of view) would be attended with, it might be serious inconvenience in taking up the time, and interfering with the duties of the Superintendent-General and staff; but I am well satisfied that if the Department feel that more cannot be done, and come to the sad conclusion to do no more than in the past, in the form of pecuniary aid, and the establishing on one or more of the localities within my superintendency of a school, I dare not undertake to state that I can restrain their most ardent desire, and full determination to form a deputation of one or more, and visit Ottawa with the intention of accomplishing what I have vainly endeavored to do for them in the past.