

The Indians of the County of Pictou number 178 souls, being a decrease of 14 since the year 1886.

The Department recently purchased 30 acres of land adjoining their small reserve at Fisher's Grant opposite the town of Pictou. They had not sufficient land on the reserve for agricultural purposes, nor was there wood for fuel, fencing or building purposes on the reserve. The Indians consequently often trespassed on their neighbors' properties. For these reasons it was deemed advisable to secure for them the parcel of land referred to.

The Indians of the Counties of Antigonish and Guysboro' have suffered a slight decrease in their number, there having been 5 deaths and 3 births. The present population is 175, being 2 less than it was in 1887.

These Indians are industrious, temperate and well conducted. The Agent's report shows that gratifying progress has been made in agriculture; almost double of the quantity of seed usually sown by them having been planted last year. New and better fences have also been constructed around their fields.

The Indians of the County of Richmond have increased from 148 in 1887, to 152.

The Agent's report is destitute of any information respecting the condition, moral, social or material, of these Indians; but they have always been industrious and well behaved, and it may therefore be assumed, in the absence of any information to the contrary, that they continue to be so.

The school has been kept in operation on the reserve during the past year, and it is favorably reported of.

The Indians settled upon the reserves at Whycomagh and Malagawatch, in the County of Inverness, number 130 souls, being 7 less than was the population in 1887. They are a sober, honest, and, for the most part, an industrious class.

The progress being made by these Indians in agriculture is quite satisfactory.

Additions were made by them to the number of their buildings, and there are two or three instances of individual enterprise shewn in the style and in the purpose for which the buildings were erected.

There is a school in operation on the reserve at Whycomagh.

The want of reports from the Agents for the Indians of the reserve at Middle River, in the County of Victoria, and for those on the reserve at Ekasoni, in the County of Cape Breton, prevents me from describing the condition of the Indians settled on the same. It may be stated, however, that the Department has no cause for believing that the favorable condition of the band occupying the former reserve, as described in the Report for 1887, has changed; and with regard to the Indians located on the latter reserve, it is hoped that their crops were more successful in the year 1887 than they were stated in the Report for that year to have been in 1886, and that they were consequently in a better position in last winter as respects food supplies, than they found themselves to be during that of 1886-87.