

expert. Many of them were starting for the new mines on the head waters of Bridge River, and, to secure their claims, were having them recorded, and were taking out miners' licenses, costing each man \$7.50. The agricultural land of this reserve is miserably small, not exceeding one-quarter of an acre to each adult, and this has been cropped every year, for so long, that it is almost labor lost to cultivate it. They complained bitterly of their condition in this respect, and begged that I would represent their wants to the Queen.

They also expressed a strong desire to have a school established for their children and those of the neighboring tribes. This is the first request of the kind that has been made to me. I found some cases of total blindness, and some quite destitute, old people, who were depending on the charity of the tribe for their support. There were also several cases of the usual complaints—lung disease and chronic rheumatism. A whiskey-giver was brought before me for trial, and, on conviction, was fined the usual \$50 imposed for the first offence.

#### *Bridge River Reserve.*

This tribe is located about six miles from Lillooet, and numbers eighty, a diminution of twelve since last census, in 1881. The chief (David) is a very young man, but seems to command the respect and obedience of his tribe. The land allotted to this reserve extends on both sides of Bridge River, from its mouth, for a distance of about thirteen miles; but the agricultural portion is small in extent, and rocky and poor in quality, consisting of small patches, stony along the whole distance. I had not time to inspect all the reserve, but from what cultivated patches I saw, I have no doubt that the above description of the remainder, given to me by the chief, is correct. The village is situated on anything but a good site, being on a bleak hill and far from water.

I spent a day up the river in looking for a better location. None such could, however, be found. The houses here show better workmanship, and are neater inside than even those of the Fountain Tribe; and it is to be regretted that a better site had not been selected, on which to expend so much labor.

These Indians are expert gold miners, and in former years used to make good wages as such. The diggings, however, in this vicinity, are now worked out, and with all their industry, they find it impossible to make more than enough for their daily wants, leaving no surplus with which to buy the necessary means of subsistence during the months of winter, when gold mining cannot be followed. They earnestly begged that some whiteman's farm might be bought for them, as they are aware that no farming land can be had by other means. Fully one-half of the women here are in various stages of consumption. There were also some very old and destitute Indians, and two cases of total blindness.

#### *Cayoosh Reserve*

is situated three miles south of Lillooet, and numbers eighty souls, under their chief, Charley Lush. The farming land here is lamentably small—about ten acres. This is cultivated by seven families, the rest of the tribe, thirty-six in number, having no land. By digging a ditch from Cayoosh Creek, about twenty acres more of very poor soil could be irrigated; but I do not feel certain that the undertaking would not be an expensive one—too much so for the benefit to be derived from it. The tribe is by no means as clean and neat, in its houses, as its neighbors of Lillooet. Like the latter, they follow gold mining in the summer. I found some sick people, and also some old and destitute. From here I intended to proceed, by way of Seton and Anderson Lakes, to visit the tribes living on the "portages," but was informed by the Indians that Seton Lake was not navigable on account of ice. I, therefore, had to postpone my visit to that part of my agency.