

NORTH-WEST TERRITORY, DISTRICT No. 2,  
MANITOBA HOUSE, INDIAN AGENCY,  
9th September, 1880.

The Honorable  
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ont.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Department, with the tabular statement, the following report on Indian affairs within this Agency, for the year ended 30th June last.

I am sorry to say that I have not succeeded in getting data wherewith to correctly fill up the statement; but I give all the information as far as I could learn from the chiefs and councillors of the quantities of land they have under cultivation; the dates fixed for my visit to the reserves did not admit of time for a thorough inspection by myself; however, I did examine several farms on each reserve, which promised a pretty fair yield, but owing to the unusual rainy seasons, I fear that the harvests will not be as large as they promised in the earlier part of the season.

Lake Manitoba has risen over four feet, causing great damage to farms on the reserves immediately situated on the lake, as well as to the surrounding country. Potatoes are not affected very much, though the crops would have been better in a drier season.

#### LAKE MANITOBA.

A great deal of dissatisfaction prevails on the reserve, owing to so many members of the band being scattered on points along the lake and not residing on the reserve; the chief and his councillors are making every effort to bring them together, but they are not as yet successful. The remaining members of the band are anxious to have a school, but are unable to have a sufficient number of children owing to the absence of so many members with their children.

#### EBB AND FLOW LAKE.

This reserve has been partly flooded over, great harm has in consequence been done, and I fear only those members of this band having potato patches on high ground will have anything to show for the seed issued to them last spring.

About ten families belonging to this reserve, representing forty-three souls, are living in Manitoba Village, a distance of ten miles from the reserve; they have horses, cattle and improvements in that locality, and as most of them were established there before the transfer of the country to Canada, they allege they will require an allowance to enable them to move to the reserve. About seven families, representing thirty-one souls, are wandering round Riding Mountain and Lake Dauphin, subsisting chiefly by hunting. The majority, however, of the band are on the reserve where they are making a small settlement, by adding yearly to their improvements a house or a stable, as the case may be. I did not issue to them the usual quantity of seed grain as the season promised to be very wet, and I fear that even from what they received they will have but very poor return. The school is progressing favorably. During the past winter several of their cattle died, and it was reported to me that some cattle disease was the immediate cause, but as it did not extend any further I imagine it could scarcely be correct.

#### CRANE RIVER.

Though numbering few this little band deserve great credit, they thoroughly understand the art of potato raising, and their fields, as seen during my last visit in July, were looking so well, and were so tastily done that they would be a credit to a white man. They are heathens, but are quiet and industrious and live very peaceably, and are in fact an example to the Indians of the other reserves.