

This band has a number of carts and harness, and do considerable freighting; they will require very little assistance in future. At Moose Mountain the Assiniboines are making fair progress, but the Sauteaux and Crees are lazy, and I fear will never do much. The Riding Mountain Indians are self-supporting; they are good hunters and good workers and raise fine crops every year.

The eastern section of Treaty 4, under Col. Macdonald, has made great strides during the past season, although the new arrivals from the south somewhat demoralized them for a time. The Crooked Lakes Reserve, upon which "O'Soup," "Little Child," "Mosquito" and "Kah kee-wis-ta-how" are settled, has raised very fine crops of wheat, barley, Indian corn and vegetables. Most of the Indians have abandoned their blankets, and many earn money working along the line of railway, which passes close to the reserve. A few more cattle and implements given these Indians will, our Agent thinks, render them self-sustaining. "Pasquah," "Musco-weepingung" and "Standing Buffalo," near Fort Qu'Appelle, have raised fair crops and have broken a good deal of land this fall.

The File Hills Indians under Little Black Bear, Star Blanket, Okaness and Pee-pee-ke-sis are doing fairly well.

The Touchwood Indians, under Kah-wah-kah-toos, Gordon, Day Star and Muscow-e-quan, are also improving, but not as much as they should considering the assistance they have received and the fine reserve they occupy. The Indians of both the File and Touchwood Hills have opportunities to hunt; a few take advantage of it but the majority are too lazy. Our Agents place no obstacles in the way of their hunting, and are only too glad to see them making a little money by the hunt, with which to purchase clothing.

The Indian Head Reserves are again settled upon under "The man that took the coat," and "Long Lodge," and the Crees under Pi-a-pot. The former have come to the conclusion that no living is to be made on the plains, and have gone to work with a will. Pi-a-pot has only just settled, and it is difficult to say how his band will prosper; they are a miserable lot, largely composed of old women and children, with very few able bodied men. Had it not been for the arrival of these Indians from the south, bringing with them Indians belonging to almost every chief in the territory, and who have been compelled to join them, I should have been able to report most favorably of Indian matters in this District, and that the Indians were almost self-sustaining, but the number of destitute Indians will now be largely increased. Those who have joined their old chiefs will require assistance to make a start for themselves, and the Indians on the Indian Head Reserve, must be fed more or less for another year or two. In accordance with my recommendation, the Agency of this Treaty has been moved from Fort Qu'Appelle to Indian Head, at which point a neat office and warehouse has been erected. The Agent informs me that he finds it a most convenient point from which to work his Agency.

Treaty No. 6.

As to Treaty No. 6, I have received on the whole gratifying reports. Owing to the marked and totally unlooked for progress made by the Indians of the eastern portion of this Treaty last year, I confidentially ventured to hope that it might be my pleasing duty to report even greater efforts on the part of all the Indians; but from various causes, I have been in a measure disappointed as to the degree of advancement made as compared with that of last year, still it must not be understood that improvement has not been made, for it has, and in one or two instances nothing more could have been expected.

Although little was expected from the present generation in the way of fully providing for themselves by agricultural pursuits, in order to show how much is being done to make the Indian self-supporting, I might state that in the Eastern district two bands (and these up to two years ago, were classed among the most worthless) have, under the careful management and hard work of the Agent and Instructor, been able to dispense with any aid in the way of flour from a time shortly after harvest of last year to the end of June of the current year, and although