

sent the Department at future meetings, also at the approaching round up—he was then appointed, by the meeting, captain of the round up, and with two associates to form a board of reference in case of disputes of ownership of any animal. The work of the round up was done efficiently and well, and to the satisfaction of all concerned. I have already had the honor of transmitting to you Mr. McHugh's report upon the same, which also contained the numbering of the herd.

*Treaty No. 6.*

Left Calgary on 18th August and arrived at the Red Deer River on the 20th found here three lodges of Stoneys from Morleyville. Chief Jacob came to my tent. He told me they had pitched off for a hunt. I judged they were very successful, as one man took seven beavers the morning I left.

These Indians are Christians, and it was very pleasant to hear, during the long summer evening, the squaws and children singing "Shall we gather at the River" instead of the monotonous drumming of the tom-tom so common to Indian camps.

The 21st, 22nd and 23rd I spent with the Cree Indian Bands, Sampson, Bobtail and Ermine Skin, near Battle River. Considering that these Indians have only been two years settled, they have made good progress. Bobtail's Band is at present very small. His reserve lies along the north side of Battle River; the land is good, and with sufficient timber for all purposes. The chief has built a very good house. There are two other houses and one stable. He asked that he might have more white help next spring, and he also asked for more work oxen. His root crops were excellent, but his barley had been injured by a hail storm. Sampson was not at home, having taken a pique about something or another that did not please him a few weeks before, and he had "pitched off" to hunt. His grain was harvested; a head man of his, called "Buffalo Chips," was directing the farm work. They have four houses and a stable. At Ermine Skin's I found the chief taking the greatest interest in farming operations. They have 26 acres in crop and double the quantity of land fenced, which they propose to have in crop next year. Harvest was in progress, and an Indian was swinging the cradle with as much neatness as any white man, evidently very proud of his achievement. They have built four houses and a stable. Their potatoes and turnips were excellent. If you will consider, Sir, that only two years ago these Indians had not a furrow turned, nor even a rail cut, it shows most plainly that their Instructor, Mr. Lucas, and his assistant, Mr. Leo, have not been idle. From the spirit manifested by Chief Ermine Skin and the way he set his Indians the good example of pitching into work, it will not be long before they take a foremost place amongst our farming bands. As years go on it may be possible, and it would be most desirable, to merge these Indians into one band and under one chief.

On the 23rd I arrived at Supply Farm No. 18. Mr. Instructor Lucas was away visiting the Stony Indians at Pigeon Lake, but I found his assistant, Mr. Aylwin, conducting farming operations with energy. It was a busy scene. Mr. Lucas commenced early upon this farm in giving employment to all Indians presenting themselves for assistance, paying them for their work in provisions, ammunition, and occasionally a little clothing. This has grown to such an extent that it gives one the impression of an industrial school, with the theoretical part left out. They were finished haying and commenced at harvest. There were fifteen or twenty Indian men and women employed each morning that I was there (and I was told it was the rule), the hands turned out promptly to work at 6 30, upon the horn being blown. They came in at noon, going out again to the fields at 1.30, and came home at sundown. To insure regularity the Instructor found it necessary to establish an Indian mess instead of giving to each their own rations. Their meals are cooked by a squaw at regular hours. Any who will not work are not allowed to remain at the farm. In consequence of this the amount of work performed has been very great.

There is erected one large dwelling-house (not quite finished), one comfortable house in which the instructor is at present living, two stables, four houses for work-