

Rev. George Bruce Church of England missionary here, unwilling to see the school closed for want of a teacher, generously undertook to teach personally, and I am proud to state that he has made this school the most important of my district, as regards the progress of the pupils, their regular attendance, and the praiseworthy manner in which they are taught.

As will be seen by the tabular statement, the potato crop was comparatively small last season. This was due to high water.

However, I expect a more favorable return for next season, as this year's crop has a better appearance.

Lake St. Martin.

The Indians of this band seem well satisfied; their last year's crop was favorable in view of the land under cultivation; they also broke more land as they are beginning to realize the advantage of agriculture.

Their fishing and hunting were also more satisfactory than they were the previous year.

They have not as yet erected a new school house as they are desirous of buying the house of one David Marsden, situated in the centre of the reserve.

I inspected this house, and although it might be made useful with many repairs, I must say the location is a poor one, being partly surrounded by a low marsh containing putrid water, occasioned by the late overflow of the Lake.

The school has, however, been kept open under the care of Francis Storr, and is progressing very satisfactorily.

The cow which was killed in 1881, and to which reference is made in last year's Report, was paid for this year by David Marsden, as he was proved guilty of having instigated some members of the band to kill it under false pretences.

Having collected the payment for this cow, and the chief proposing with the assent of the band, that another cow might be bought at once for the reserve, as they had been deprived of the benefit of one too long already, I thought it wise to assent, and settle the matter at once. I therefore purchased another cow, with the approval of the chief and councillors, who promised that in future proper care should be taken of Government property.

Little Saskatchewan.

The crop of potatoes here, although very nearly as large as last year, was considered poor by the Indians, as they had more land under cultivation, and naturally expected a larger yield.

One cow had to be killed last winter as she was found suffering from a bad wound in the leg; some malicious party having struck her with an axe. I could not discover the guilty party, but I was glad to hear that the chief had already collected from the band funds sufficient to buy another cow.

One ox died of old age this year.

You will no doubt be surprised to find in the tabular statement the value of fish to be the very large sum of \$3,000.

This, however, is explained naturally enough, as I myself, in my capacity of Inspector of Fisheries, seized fish to the value of nearly \$1,000, which had been unlawfully caught in a prohibited stream. The remainder was caught by this band during the fishing season.

The chief was anxious that I should inspect the new school house which they are putting up, and I found it nearly completed.

School was kept during the year in the same house which they had used for that purpose last year, but although the band seemed satisfied with the progress made by their children, they complained of its being closed too often from various causes. I reprimanded Benjamin Thorn, the teacher, and he promised to do better this year.