

with a Clearing of from 3 to 6 or 8 acres of half Cultivated land; and instead of adding to their cleared land from year to year, as they ought to do, actually allow the second growth timber to encroach upon them, so that their fields are continually getting smaller.

In some places they have actually removed portions of their fences and used the rails for firewood. Except when working for others, the majority of them seem to give themselves up to almost hopeless idleness.

As to the rental that could be obtained per acre, I may say that for many years it would amount to very little. Though the land has been almost entirely stripped of timber of any value, it was not cleared. It is full of old logs, and gnarled useless trees; and in most places, is a perfect thicket of young timber, interspersed, in many places, with brambles and weeds. - Then it will be very difficult to obtain sufficient timber to fence it. Besides this no ditches have been cut, and a great deal of the land is low and swampy.

For these reasons I do not think that any reliable person would undertake to clear and fence the land, unless he could get it free from rent for from 6 to 8 or 10 years, according to the quality of the land, its state & position.

After the land is fairly cleared and leading ditches made, a rental of from \$2.00 to \$3.00 per acre, I think could be obtained.

As to the Consent of the Indians, I have little doubt that

(2)