

## Department of Indian Affairs.

The Sucker Lake Band numbers twenty-one, the same as last year. They occupy a small reserve near Manitowaning and are farmers.

The Obidgewong Band numbers twenty-two, a decrease of two. They are all Pagans. They farm successfully and are yearly increasing their clearings.

Sixteen schools have been in operation during the year, the progress of the pupils on the whole may be considered satisfactory; if a more regular attendance could be obtained better results would be secured. It is to be hoped that this will be reached in the near future.

The health of the Indians generally has been fair. There was an outbreak of diphtheria at the Wikwemikong Girls' School in February last: prompt measures were taken to isolate the building, the spread of the disease was stopped; those attacked received medical treatment and all speedily recovered.

The crops last year have been fair, except hay which was almost a failure. The season commenced with a protracted period of drought during which the seed sown did not germinate; in July abundant rains fell, too late, however, to save the hay-crop. The yield of potatoes was much in excess of the average, and that of the grain fair. At the time of writing this report the prospects of an abundant harvest are good.

The distribution of annuity and interest money to the Indians of this superintendency during the year amounted to eleven thousand two hundred and sixty-two dollars and twenty-one cents.

The past year has been one of considerable material prosperity.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAS. C. PHIPPS,  
*Superintendent.*

PARRY SOUND, ONT., 27th August, 1892.

The Honourable

The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report and the inclosed tabular statement showing the condition and progress of the various Indian bands in my superintendency during the year ended 30th June last.

### *Parry Island Band.*

This band may be represented as being in such a fairly satisfactory condition that it is rather difficult to find anything sufficiently noteworthy to report. If the deaths of several infants and one adult are excepted, nothing of a nature much to be regretted has occurred. In two cases only was there any need to render relief from the funds of the band to any sick.

The crops were satisfactory last year and promise to be even more abundant this season. These circumstances combined with a large demand for labour at neighbouring lumber mills, place this band in a very comfortable position. The road improvements on the island are yearly receiving more attention and fair roads now exist where formerly only trails were trodden.

The two schools in operation are doing average work. The great drawback to educational success is the irregularity in the attendance of the pupils. Regulations however have been passed and approved inflicting fines for irregularity or non-attendance of children of school age. The time for collecting these fines has not yet arrived. It is hoped and expected that after the first imposition of these penalties the school attendance will improve.

### *Shawanaga Band.*

As usual this band shows probably less progress than any other tribe in this superintendency. Nevertheless, they seem happy and contented. During the year