

boundaries are not already determined, may be surveyed at the earliest possible date, in order to prevent non-treaty parties from encroaching upon their rights; and they further ask that, in places where their reserves are nearly covered with water, lands fit for farming may be given them elsewhere.

Not many instances of intemperance among Indians came to my notice during the year, but I am informed, from reliable sources, that intoxicating liquors are frequently dealt out to them, at Rat Portage, Selkirk, Portage la Prairie and in Winnipeg, by unscrupulous whiskey-mongers, who generally manage to elude detection, and thus evade the clutches of the law.

The condition of Indian affairs in this Superintendency is becoming every year more satisfactory; complicated pay-sheets are being critically examined; abuses and irregularities corrected; promises and stipulations of treaties faithfully carried out; provisions, implements, cattle, etc., of the best quality supplied; encouragement to education by assisting in finishing school-houses, purchasing books and stationery, and offering liberal prizes to successful teachers and meritorious pupils; and an uniform system of book-keeping and correspondence established at the different agencies, so that any discrepancy with regard to distribution of supplies or payment of annuities, existing between them and the Indian office in Winnipeg, may be easily detected.

An inspection of the head office here shows that Mr. Acting Superintendent Graham, and his assistants, Messrs. Levèque and Wright, are discharging efficiently the various duties devolving upon them in connection with the agencies. Pay-sheets are critically checked, school returns closely examined, letter-books properly indexed, correspondence and other official documents methodically arranged and filed, accounts of supplies distributed correctly kept, and estimates for the next ensuing fiscal year's expenditure carefully prepared.

[THE AGENCY OF DR. YOUNG.]

The state of affairs in this agency is manifestly improving. This year no serious complaint of negligence in the performance of his official duties was made against the agent, who apparently is devoting more time and attention than formerly, to the interests of the several bands under his charge. The accounts of supplies received and issued are correctly kept, and agree with the records in this office; the provisions and implements on hand are safely stored, and the pay-sheets are more thoroughly scrutinized, during the payment of annuities, than they previously had been before the analysis made at this office was sent the agent for his guidance. In 1879, 204, and in 1880, 78 names, representing in all 278 families, were dropped from these pay-sheets, owing to marriages, deaths, parties leaving or withdrawing from the bands, fictitious names of parties who never existed having been found inserted thereon, and names assumed by parties who were systematically defrauding the Government by drawing their annuities in several places the same year. I discovered a number of the latter at Broken Head River who were drawing money there and at St. Peters also, and called the attention of the agent to these irregularities and requested him to look closely into the matter, which, it will be observed on reference to the pay-sheets, was attended to by his striking off a number of names. The St. Peters Indians, always troublesome and difficult to manage, appear to be generally satisfied, since the Department, through the recommendations of Mr. Commissioner Dewdney, has generously given them six additional oxen, and built them an elegant and commodious school-house. The only grievance of any importance now existing among them is the long disposed and complicated question with regard to the legal tenure of lands purchased within the reserve by white settlers from the Indians. The union school at North St. Peters was closed last February in consequence of the non-treaty parties refusing to grant, according to agreement, any assistance towards its maintenance. The other school, ably conducted