

from him and handed over to some other Indians. I informed him it was not in my power to accede to his demands, and there was no cause for fear on that point so long as he worked the place properly, but that if he did not work it as it should be I would hand it over to some person who would look after it properly. The next morning he again asked me for a deed of the place, I replied as on the night previous, he then went away apparently satisfied.

When I had my horses harnessed and ready to start, he again called on me and stated he wanted to hand over his flag and medal, that he had made his living before we came in the country and could do so again. I told him he could give them to Mr. English and I would see about appointing a new chief, and one who would make his men work. I then drove off, thinking it better to let him return to his senses and see the error he had made. He is a proud man and one who would feel his position acutely.

This morning his brother-in-law arrived from the farm, and informed me that Little Child was around the camp at daylight, warning his men to go to work. He also stated that some one must be influencing Little Child, as he had never seen him act thus before. Dr. Kennedy accompanied me, and vaccinated ninety-four people on the reserve.

FORT WALSH, 8th June, 1881.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that I visited Maple Creek Farm on the — ultimo. Everything was looking well and in good order. The crop was all planted except the turnips, which I am informed were planted the day after I left. One of the farm hands who came to town last evening informed me that all the cereals and roots were up and doing well. Corn was up and doing well; corn was about four inches high, and everything in proportion.

We should have a large quantity of wheat this year, there being twenty-two acres sown with same. I would therefore most strongly recommend that this Agency be supplied with a portable grist mill to grind the wheat raised on the farm. I understand one can be purchased for a comparatively small amount, and the encouragement it would give the Indians would be very valuable. Some of the Indians have planted wheat for themselves, which, if they could grind and make their own flour, would no doubt induce large numbers to break up land next year on which to raise their own wheat.

The Indians appear to have displayed considerable pride in making gardens for themselves. In many instances I was pleased to see that they were annoyed at not being able to break up more land than we could spare seed for. I will, however, keep sufficient seed from this year's crop to sow a large farm in the ensuing spring, and will be able to give the Indians as much seed to plant as they may have land broken.

I do not wish to be too sanguine, but if progression goes on next year at the same rate as it has since last spring, I have every confidence that the Indians settled on reserves in this district will be self-sustaining in another year.

After Mr. Wadsworth arrives, should any of the Indians who are here desire and make up their minds to settle on reserves this fall, I will, with your permission, get large farms broken up this year so that next spring the land will be in proper condition to work and to raise whatever is planted.

FORT ELLICE, N.W.T., 26th January, 1881.

MY DEAR SIR,—I reached this place the night before last, having come by the Crooked Lake Reserves, where I met the chiefs. We had a few hours' talk on matters connected with spring work. They are all determined to do what they can. Osonp,