

PART I

OF THE

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

ONTARIO,  
GRAND RIVER SUPERINTENDENCY,  
BRANTFORD, 6th October, 1882.

The Right Honorable  
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—This Report, together with accompanying tabular statement, for the year ending 30th June last, will convey gratifying proof of progress by Indians of the Six Nations and the Mississaguas of the Credit.

The crops were, on the whole, favorable, though there was in some cases failure and consequent distress, the sufferers receiving relief from time to time.

Improvements continue in various parts of the reserve, in buildings, fencing and clearings.

|                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| The Six Nations number ..... | 3,195            |
| Deaths .....                 | 95               |
| Births .....                 | 75               |
|                              | Decrease..... 20 |
| The Mississaguas number..... | 217              |
| Births .....                 | 7                |
| Deaths.....                  | 6                |
|                              | Increase..... 1  |
| Total population.....        | 3,412            |

An unusual feature is the decrease in the Six Nations, arising from a moral rule adopted last year by the Indian Council to exclude illegitimates; thus following the long established example of Mississagua or Chippawa Bands.

It is worthy of remark that in such rule the Pagan Chiefs concurred, and, it is believed, this will have a good effect among the younger portion of the community.

The Six Nation agricultural show took place in October, and was creditable, though shown to some disadvantage in an incomplete building, which has been erected for the purpose, within an enclosure of twelve acres. The attendance of visitors, both white and Indian, was numerous.

In November the annual ploughing matches took place upon a beautifully situated farm overlooking the Grand River, nearly opposite Onondaga. Thirty-two teams with ploughmen competed in the several classes, for ten farming implements, including the Governor General's prize plough.

Several hundred spectators, who witnessed the scene, evinced much interest, the ploughing in general being excellent.

The Mississaguas new Council House has been completed, built of brick and neatly furnished; situated in the centre of a ten acre park, with its gates, walks and roadway, present a pleasing object.