

was three weeks or more after it was sown. From the present appearance, I would judge it will yield at least twenty bushels to the acre.

They planted this year about seventy-five bushels of potatoes, two-thirds of a bushel of corn, a little peas, and some garden seeds. In general, the crops on this reserve look well; the Indians have taken very good care of them and kept them quite clean.

I hired one of the Indians to break and backset all he could this season, agreeing to give him \$1.50 per acre for each ploughing. At the time of the payments he had 16 acres broken, and for appearance and quality I would put it against any ploughing I have seen.

I have made arrangements with the Indians themselves to pay them \$1 per acre for cutting, binding and setting up the eight acres of wheat. I prefer this way of getting the Indians to work, even if they have to be paid, as it will give them a knowledge of how farming is done and will be the means of inducing them to remain more on their reserves.

This band is pretty well satisfied, and I trust that in a very few years many of them will become self-supporting. There is quite a number of them who work out for the farmers at all kinds of work, and it will only require a few of those who understand the work to set the example on the reserve, and others, will follow the example set before them.

One of this band, by name Kitchipanes, purchased for himself an ox, and I am desirous to purchase a mate for it in place of the ox I sold some time ago, as there will be then two yoke on the reserve. There will be about 30 acres to plough this fall, and I am very anxious to have it all ploughed so that we may be able to get the crops in earlier next spring.

The Swan Lake Band

As usual, are determined not to go to their reserve to be paid. They want to be paid on, and have everything that is given to or done for them to be given and done on the section the Government gave them two years ago. They claim this place to be the reserve that was originally given them by the Treaty at the Stone Fort, and will never consent to give it up. They deny having consented to a division of the band by Governor Morris, in 1876, or to agreeing to take their reserve at Swan Lake. They claim that it was only the chief and one or two others who agreed to the change.

I trust that something will be done at once to make this band understand that it is impossible to allow them to hold the original reserve, as the whole country which comprised it is patented to actual settlers and others.

I got the ten acres on the reserve cropped this spring, eight acres of it in wheat and the remainder in potatoes, corn and peas, but owing to the lateness of the season and the dryness of the ground when it was sowed, the wheat crop looked but very middling, not having come up until the June rains fell. However I think it will ripen before the frost comes, but will not yield more than twelve or fifteen bushels to the acre. The potatoes, corn and peas looked pretty well.

With the permission of the Department, I let a job of breaking and backsetting twenty acres more on this reserve, at a cost of \$6 per acre, and when the man got fifteen acres ploughed one of his horses took sick, and he was in consequence unable to complete the contract in full. I believe it is just as well it happened so, for if the Indians are determined not to go there, I see no use whatever in making any more improvements.

I made arrangements, when I was there, on the 12th inst., to have the wheat cut and stacked. Last year six or seven families moved to the reserve and remained there all winter, and made a very good living by fishing, as they got ready sale for their fish to the farmers in the neighborhood; but early in the spring they went away to hunt, and have not since returned, all through fear of two or three of the leading men of the band.