

Department of Indian Affairs.

COUNTY OF SHELburnE, NOVA SCOTIA, 30th June, 1892.

The Honourable  
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to your department my annual report and tabular statement in connection with Indian affairs in this agency for the year ended 30th June, 1892.

The circumstances of the Indians in this agency have undergone no material change since my last report. There have been two deaths among them, and a few are moving about. It seems the natural propensity of an Indian to roam, but they are a very intelligent and law-abiding lot of people. They are with few exceptions quite industrious and moral. I never knew of any of them being drunk. A few of their children attend the public schools, but the most of them are adverse to doing so, yet some of those who do attend are making marked progress in school. They are very grateful to the "Big Man at Ottawa" (the Government) for the seeds supplied to them, as but very few of them are able to provide themselves with seeds to plant in the spring. Some of them suffered severely last winter with "la grippe," and there were some cases of scarlet fever, but now they are almost entirely free from sickness.

I endeavour to impress them with the necessity of observing the sanitary rules of the department, and I am pleased with the result.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. T. FERGUSON,

*Indian Agent.*

EGMONT BAY, P. E. I., 22nd August, 1892.

The Honourable  
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June last.

As regards the cultivation of the land, the Indians of Lennox Island are doing as well as can be expected. There appears to be a certain emulation among them in improving their condition and in imitating their well-to-do white neighbours. They have made considerable progress during the last fifteen years. Formerly they had only a few houses on the Island, whereas now they all possess a home. Some of their houses are quite comfortable and well furnished. They also had only a few animals, but now have eighteen horses, ten cows, eight oxen, ten sheep and sixteen young animals. They formerly cultivated very little, but last year they sowed thirty-seven bushels of wheat, one hundred and two bushels of oats and planted two hundred and thirty bushels of potatoes.

I am happy to be able to report that the school on the Island is well conducted, the Indians appear to be much interested in its success, and it is well attended.

*Morell Reserve.*

There are only four families at present on this reserve. Two of them are in easy circumstances and live on the produce of their land. They all reside in houses and their land is good and tolerably well cultivated. One of these Indians, Ben Nicholas, is the proprietor of a fine orchard which yields him over twenty bushels of apples every year. He also owns a horse, harness and carriage, a cow and pigs, and is as well-to-do as any of his neighbours. At present he is sick and under the treatment of Dr. Toombs, of Mount Sherwood.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JEAN O. ARSENAULT,

*Indian Agent.*