

There are other families who are justly described as living in poor and straightened circumstances, and while <sup>their</sup> habits are as at present, this will necessarily continue to be the case.

The cause of the poverty of the Indians, may be said to be three-fold - viz. Drunkenness, Idleness, Improvidence. Notwithstanding the severity of the law in regard to furnishing liquor to Indians (and I have had it enforced as much as possible) - they still continue to get liquor even in Sarnia; and being so near the American side, they can always get it there, and many of them do so. Then a number of them are thoroughly lazy. Others work well by spells; but, with very few exceptions, they do not work steadily. When they have no forethought when they get a few dollars, they must stop work till all is spent. Many of them will then come to me to borrow 50¢ to pay their fare to the place where they had been previously working. They have no sort of idea of providing for the future. Hence when they become aged and infirm they are totally dependent. The strong and healthy Indians are by no means attentive to their aged parents; and are perfectly willing to cast them on the Charity of the Band.

But it is generally much easier to point out an evil than to discover a remedy. Various plans have been proposed. To lease <sup>or sell</sup> a portion of the Reserve - say the three eastern Ranges, has been proposed. Unless these lands could be leased for oil purposes the rental for many years, would amount to  
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