

## Department of Indian Affairs.

NORTHERN DIVISION, FREDERICTON, 29th August, 1892.

The Honourable

The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and tabular statement for the counties of Madawaska and Victoria for the year ended 30th June, 1892.

### *Tobique Reserve.*

This reserve, situated at the mouth of the Tobique River, comprises forty-one families, a total population of one hundred and ninety-three, being an increase of births over deaths of four for the fiscal year.

Their chief industries for the past year were the same as for years past, such as lumbering, stream driving, rafting, farming, manufacture of Indian wares, and often acting as guides for tourists and sportsmen. Employment, as stated, is always available in this section of New Brunswick, therefore, as most of the band are active young men, their services are always in demand, consequently with but very few exceptions, they are a self-supporting body of Indians.

A few of the band devote considerable attention to farming. Most of them, however, plant only potatoes, raising therefrom sufficient to answer their wants. The total produce raised for the year was twenty bushels of wheat, three hundred and fifty bushels of oats, two hundred and fifty bushels of buckwheat, twelve hundred bushels of potatoes, and thirty tons of hay.

Sanitary measures in and around their dwellings each year receive marked attention by the removal, before the approach of warm weather, of all winter accumulations. The health of the band for the past year has been remarkably good, for, with the exception of two cases of typhoid fever, there has not been a case of sickness of a contagious nature amongst them, consequently very little medical aid or medicine was required for the period mentioned.

For the last ten months the school has been under the efficient teaching of Mrs. Killeen. The number enrolled are thirty-one; the subjects taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, dictation, drawing, &c., in which the children are making fair progress. The daily sessions are three hours in the forenoon and the same in the afternoon. The average attendance was seventeen. This school for the term—excepting holidays that are allowed—has been regularly taught. The school building and outside premises are properly cleaned, making the place both pleasant and healthy for the children.

### *Edmundston Reserve.*

This reserve, situated near the Madawaska River, contains about four hundred acres of excellent land, is divided into lots and occupied by six families. Their number is thirty-nine, an increase of one for the year. Practically they are not progressive farmers, as too much time is spent in hunting and the manufacture of Indian wares. Last year they farmed the seeds supplied on shares. The hay is usually sold whilst standing or after it is cut by some of the Indians, the proceeds of which are devoted to defray living expenses. Both the hay and other crops raised are a very fair average. The health of the band for the year has been good, as no bills for medical attendance have been received.

In closing I am pleased to report that the habits and customs of each band are exceptionally good. A few occasionally indulge in the use of intoxicants, but, as a rule, seven-eighths of all the Indians are an industrious and thrifty class of people.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES FARRELL,

*Indian Agent.*