

it is due to these ditches that the Indian land is so free of rain water.

The ditches with box-drains have cost Mr. McKee \$380.00 and he considers that he should be repaid one half before the Indians run lateral drains into them.

Mr. McKee has also subdrained his land on the northern boundary which is a great advantage to the Indians.

The ditch on the eastern boundary should be extended southward, through a ridge, to the dyke, this would take the remainder of the surface water off the reserve.

I consider the intrinsic value of the reserve as a whole for farming purposes about \$90.00 an acre. The fictitious value varies from day to day. Land in the neighborhood, partly improved, has been selling for \$225.00 to \$300.00 but that was in small quantities, and it would not realize that now.

As the cost of the dyke is but \$40.00 an acre, and the land prior to its construction was, from a farming point of view, worthless, it must be conceded that the assessment charged to the Government is a very reasonable one, especially as I consider the work has been done as economically as possible.

I may add that, with the exception of two, all the settlers have paid the whole of their share of the work.

After I had finished my examination of the ground I was met by three of the principal Katzie Indians. From these I gathered that one old man was the recognized owner of the land and that he occasionally visited it. As regards the 30 acres that are ready for the plough they said that it wanted underdraining, and they could not use it. I admitted that draining into Mr. McKee's ditch would allow them to get on the land

Indians be allowed to continue to have unused, better to rent to a white man for his benefit or part of it

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