

cattle. He intends sending those from Farm 15 to winter there. The land of this reserve is clay loam, with sufficient prairie land for cultivation near Long and Moose Lakes. From these lakes twelve thousand fish were taken in 1883, of an average of five pounds each.

*Band No. 124 (Chippewayans).*

In 1833 this band numbered one hundred and thirteen souls. Fitzpatrick was sent to take charge last spring, from Farm 14, and although a good deal of work was done during the summer, the returns are *nil*, as all the crops were frozen before they ripened. In 1883 they had nineteen acres broken, ten of which were on the north side of Beaver River (outside of treaty limits). This they abandoned last spring, and, coming to the south side, broke eighty-seven acres. They sowed forty-six acres with barley, nine and a-half acres of potatoes, two and a-half acres of turnips, and some carrots. This band have always been successful hunters, and were in fair circumstances. They took good care of their cattle, which, consequently, increased rapidly. They have forty dwellings, thirty-five stables, forty-seven milch cows; total cattle herd, one hundred and twenty-nine head.

The agent informed me that he intended placing Fitzpatrick at Long Lake this winter. I audited the books of Farm 15, and took an inventory of supplies, implements and stock, and examined into the quality and condition of the same. Of these I will report fully later. The instructor's wife has given a great deal of attention to teaching the Indian women housewifely duties, and reports that three can bake, milk, churn and make butter. She has taught one to knit, and she cuts out the women's dresses, and instructs and assists in making them.

*School.*

I visited the school. It was under the instruction of the Rev. Père Marechand. There were twenty children present—ten girls and ten boys—nicely dressed, and making fair progress in reading and writing.

*Farm 14, Band No. 119, "See-kas-kootch," Chief, J. Mann, Farming Instructor.*

This band numbers one hundred and eighty souls. The total quantity of land broken on the reserve is three hundred and six acres, of which two hundred and forty-four were in crop this year, viz., six acres of wheat, eight acres of oats, two hundred acres of barley, eighteen acres of potatoes, ten acres of turnips, two acres in gardens. The wheat was frozen, some pig feed may be threshed out of it. The oats were a poor crop, and will perhaps yield one hundred bushels. The barley was not frozen, but was affected by the drought. It is a fair sample. The farm instructor estimates that it will yield three thousand bushels. The potatoes were injured both by the frost and affected by the drought; the yield was about six hundred bushels, all small. The seed that was planted consisted of every variety known here, but the "Early Rose" did the best. There was a yield of one thousand bushels of turnips. The grain is all well stacked and fenced. Their potatoes were pitted, excepting their seed for next year, which they were depositing in the farm root house. I went over the reserve with the instructor, and I observed a good many improvements since last year. The land is nearly all fall ploughed. Their houses were freshly mudded, many newly thatched, banked and made comfortable for the winter. Several new houses have been built since my last visit. Some Indians have built stables and byres near their houses; these, with their stacks of hay and grain, gave the appearance of a farm yard. Almost every head of a family has some crop, and probably there is no band in the territory where the work done and the improvements made are so evenly divided among so many families. Heads of families have not hesitated to go to distant parts of the reserve, break land and farm; consequently they are fast learning individual rights to this kind of property. By each family thus keeping to itself it derives the full benefit of its labor, the most careful and industrious being the most successful.