

tools, axes, grub and garden hoes, wheat, barley, potatoes and garden seeds. He wants the white ball gilling twine to be supplied them in future, instead of the skein twine. They built the walls of a school house, 16 x 22 feet in size, and ask for assistance to complete it. Their crops looked well, but owing to a scarcity of seed they did not plant as much as usual. There was no intoxicating liquors brought to the reserve during payments of annuities, or at any other time. They have nine acres under cultivation, fourteen houses, three stables, two ploughs, two harrows, four head of cattle, 450 bushels of potatoes and eighteen tons of hay. The number paid in 1877, was fifty-five, and this year, fifty—a decrease of five.

Island Bands.

I started in the afternoon of the 14th for Hollow Water River Reserve, but owing to the roughness of the lake, my canoe got swamped in crossing a bay immediately north of Black River, and with much difficulty I finally reached the shore in safety, where I was compelled to remain until the following morning, when I started onward and arrived at the reserve in the evening. The Indians have built fourteen houses at Hollow Water River, opposite Big Island, where they want a reserve to be surveyed for them. They formerly lived on the island, but they say at the time the treaty was made with them, that they were persuaded to remove to the mainland, where they have been living ever since. The location selected, however, is not a very desirable one, as there are only a few small scattered patches along the margin of the river suitable for cultivation. They had about four acres this year under crop, double of what they had the previous year. They received five axes, five hoes, one hay-fork and one sickle last summer from the Agent. They ask for a yoke of oxen to be given them, as they have not any of their own. It will be remembered that seven head of cattle were supplied to the Island Band of Indians several years ago, and distributed among the four different fragments of the band, but through neglect, all of them have died. They also want a supply of corn, potatoes, barley and other seeds for sowing and planting their gardens next year, as well as a few additional agricultural implements which they require for farming. This band begs that payments in future be made on the different reserves belonging to them, so that henceforth they will not require to go long distances, by canoes, across dangerous water-stretches for their annuities. These Indians are employed at lumbering with Dick & Bonning, and earn enough money to feed and clothe themselves and families.

Loon Straits.

Left Hollow-Water River on the morning of the 16th of August, and arrived at this reserve in the afternoon. Found the Indian gardens better and larger than formerly, but suffering somewhat from drouth. The schoolhouse was neither plastered nor thatched, nor had it any desks, seats, or stove in it. The Indians promised me to finish the building and have it properly furnished with seats and desks, and bring the stove there without delay, which I presume they have done, as a teacher was subsequently engaged at their request, to take charge of the school.

Fisher River.

I started for this reserve on the evening of the 16th of August, and arrived on the 18th. The agent delivered 6 sickles, 6 hay forks, 2 sets harness, 1 wrench, 2 grooving picks, and 72 axes to these Indians during payments. They have 46 dwelling houses, 15 stables, 33 head of cattle, 6 ploughs, 6 harrows and 30 acres under cultivation, on which they raised 200 bushels of wheat, and 1,500 bushels of potatoes. They secured 72 tons of hay. The crops were somewhat injured by summer frosts, but having planted more than usual they will realize about the same yield as last year. From fifty to seventy-five Indians are employed at the three saw-mills in the vicinity of the reserve, and receive from \$25 to \$30 a month. The school was closed on the last of June and has not been re-opened since, as the teacher, Miss Lyness has