

besides making payments to the Rosseau River bands of Indians. The posting of the journal in the ledger is four months behind. No entries have been made within the last year in the register for letters referred to in my last Report, but Mr. Leveque keeps a small diary as a substitute. With these exceptions the office work is up to date.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be,
Right Honorable Sir,
Your obedient servant,

E. McCOLL,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

INDIAN OFFICE,
WINNIPEG, 22nd November, 1882.

The Right Honorable
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit herewith a Report of the condition of Indian affairs within the Manitoba Superintendency during the past year.

I am pleased to state that from the Reports received from time to time from the Agents, a great improvement is noticed with regard to Indians cultivating the soil, and less destitution prevailed among the Indians within this Superintendency during the past year, than in previous years, there being only 7,319 lbs. of flour, 2,257 lbs. pork, 180½ lbs. tea, 124 lbs. tobacco, distributed to sick and destitute Indians, within this Superintendency from the 1st July, 1881, to the 30th June, 1882.

There has been a great deal of sickness among the Indians of Treaty No. 5, on the shores of Lake Winnipeg and its tributaries; the death rate at Beren's River and the Pas last winter was unusually large and as I am informed greatly enhanced from the want of proper nourishment, yet they will not, though the opportunity is offered to them, lay in during the summer, food for the winter season.

I have forwarded two cases of medicines, one to the Pas, and the other for the Cumberland District, for the benefit of these Indians.

I am informed by Mr. A. W. Reynolds, who assisted Mr. Agent MacKay in paying these Indians their annuities this year, that a better example of the dilatory disposition exhibited by these Indians could not be found, than the case of the Grand Rapids Indians, who he states are among the poorest and most depraved perhaps of the Indian bands in Treaty No. 5, although they have an immense source of support in the fish fields of the Grand Rapids, granted to them exclusively by the Government, and yet who are undoubtedly too indolent to catch and dry fish for winter use, they rely too much upon the Government for support, neglecting the hunt.

He further informed me that on his way back, at Grand Rapids, he saw some sixty fine white fish scooped from the rapids within an hour and a half by a single Indian.

Arrangements will be made with the Hudson's Bay Company here, to instruct their Agents at the several posts within Treaty No. 5, to grant such assistance as may be necessary to sick or destitute Indians who may be at the post during the present winter.

I am pleased to remark that a great improvement in agricultural pursuits, and other industries has taken place among the Indians of No. 2 on Lake Manitoba and its tributaries. These Indians deserve credit for the perseverance shewn by them during the past few years under the disheartening circumstances with which they have had to contend.

Their reserves were flooded by the rising of the lake, and the Indians suffered great loss in consequence.