

The only other Indians in the province who, as I before mentioned, are unable from poverty to contribute towards their own support, are those now resident on the Manitoulin Islands. The Indian settlements on these islands having originally been established by Sir Francis B. Head as an experiment, must still continue a burden upon the Imperial Government. These islands, however, in a mercantile point of view, derive an increasing importance as being situated upon the great route along which the extensive traffic must pass, which is springing into rapid existence, as the mineral resources of Lake Superior become each year more developed. An opportunity will thus be afforded to the more enterprising of the inhabitants to augment their means, by putting into practice those habits of industry, which it has been the object of the institution to inculcate and promote.

The following is the present annual expenditure :

Superintendent (250 l. currency) -	-	-	-	-	-	Sterling.
Clergymen -	-	-	-	-	-	£. 205 9 8
Surgeon -	-	-	-	-	-	200 - -
Schoolmaster at Manitowawny -	-	-	-	-	-	150 - -
Schoolmaster at the Roman-catholic settlement -	-	-	-	-	-	75 - -
Medicine and stationery -	-	-	-	-	-	50 - -
						50 - -
Sterling -	-	-	-	-	-	£. 730 9 8
Currency -	-	-	-	-	-	£. 888 15 1

This expense, however, would be much diminished, if the New England Society could be induced to transfer their operations from the Six Nations, who, as will hereafter appear, are fully able to support their own schools, to Manitoulin.

Besides the Indians resident on the Manitoulin, the Ojibeways of Lakes Huron and Superior are also under the superintendence of the department. They receive at present 1,100 l. perpetual annuity from the Provincial Government, which is guaranteed to them without reduction. Their quota, however, to the general sustenance fund of the Upper Canada tribes would be so very small, that it would not be advisable to trench upon it. Some of their lands may turn out to be valuable from their mineral resources, and a percentage might be taken off them as they were sold. I have not, however, included these tribes among those whom I conceive liable to contribute towards the support of the department. I have the honour to append a Schedule, containing the names of these tribes, their population, annuities, commutation money, investments, annual interest, the amount at present expended by them, and the sums proportionably to be contributed by each tribe, should the proposed scheme come into operation.

In addition to the total amount of funded property which appears to the credit of these Indians, they have numerous, extensive, and valuable tracts of wild land still unsurrendered, of which it is difficult to obtain any definite estimate. Some of the tribes have also considerable amounts due upon instalments, which have not yet been paid up, for land; among these may be more particularly mentioned the Six Nation Indians and the Chippewas of St. Clair, who have to receive about 7,000 l. on this account.

Besides the funded and landed property thus appertaining to the particular tribes, there is another source of revenue, which, though not very large, is common to them all, and which may therefore, with the greatest propriety, be taken as the basis upon which to build the permanent establishment; it is called the "General Fund," and is composed of the following sums :

£. 6,700	-	-	invested at 6 per cent.
700	-	-	" 5 per cent.
943 14 1			in hand.

The general fund arises out of the interest on the floating capital in the hands of the Receiver-general, uninvested, on account of land sold for the benefit of the sundry tribes of Upper Canada, not including Manitoulin. As long as the Indians of Upper Canada are possessed of lands, and continue to sell them, this sum must exist, and increase in proportion to the annual land sales. It has hitherto been applied in part payment of the salary of the accountant, and to contingencies affecting the department generally; and upon an increase being recently made to the salaries of the accountant, the chief clerk, and the accountant for Indian affairs in the Receiver-general's office, the necessary addition was drawn from this source. The fluctuating incomes of the various tribes surely render this fund most appropriate for the purpose to which I have designed it; since, while it is permanent in its character, it is the common property of all.

The following is a statement of the expenditure, not including the charge for presents on account of the Indian tribes of Upper Canada, for the year ending 31st March 1854.

						£.	s.	d.
Contingencies -	-	-	-	-	-	347	4	9
Salaries -	-	-	-	-	-	1,612	4	11
Pensions -	-	-	-	-	-	138	1	-
Pensions to wounded Indians -	-	-	-	-	-	15	3	4
Sterling -	-	-	-	-	-	£. 2,112	14	-
Currency -	-	-	-	-	-	£. 2,570	9	1

By