

The band owning the reserve at Fort Alexander had a very bountiful harvest, and consequently plenty of food during the winter, notwithstanding the failure of their fall fishery, on which they greatly depend. They also had an abundance of game, and their capture of fur-bearing animals was exceptionally large. There are two schools in operation on the reserve. The Rev. Mr. Madore, the teacher of the Roman Catholic school, has succeeded remarkably well in advancing his pupils in the various branches of education.

The population of the three bands last referred to is two thousand one hundred and forty-seven souls. The area of land brought under cultivation by them was six hundred and ninety-two acres, of which fifty acres were newly broken this year. They raised nine thousand eight hundred and sixty bushels of produce, and cut one thousand eight hundred and seventy five tons of hay. The value of the fish captured by them was \$29,000, and of furs \$6,000. Their other industries are estimated to have been worth to them \$2,500.

The band whose reserve is situated on Rosseau River broke up twenty acres of new land this year. They also planted a considerable quantity of potatoes, wheat, barley, turnip seed and other vegetables.

The band owning the reserve at Long Plain broke up about the same quantity of new land, and planted the same kinds of seeds as the band last described. During last winter considerable fencing was made by these Indians, with rails and pickets cut and prepared by themselves. Fifty acres will be brought under crop on this reserve next season.

The band whose reserve is situated at Swan Lake still persists in remaining off it. It is hoped, however, that the majority of them will soon be induced to remove there. At present the greater number of these Indians are settled on a location for many years occupied by them at "The Gardens," near Hamilton's Crossing, on the Assiniboine River. There are thirty-two acres under cultivation on the reserve. The councillors of this band were deposed from their positions last spring, by Order of Your Excellency in Council, for having stopped the freighters *en route* to the Swan Lake reserve with supplies, and forcibly taken possession of the latter. These men, it is believed, have been largely instrumental in preventing the other members of the band from settling upon the reserve at Swan Lake. Their removal from the important positions held by them in the band will diminish their influence; and it is hoped that the band will soon listen to the wiser counsels of those who have their interests at heart, and remove to the fertile tract of land provided for them at the above point, where they will enjoy the additional advantage of a good fishery.

The population of the above three bands, which are embraced in the Portage la Prairie agency, is eight hundred and eighty-three. The Indians of this agency