

INDIAN OFFICE,

CARLTON, 6th May, 1882.

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

SIR,—I have just got back from a trip through the following reserves and beg to report as follows:—

1. The Beardy Band are again ahead this spring, owing to having fall ploughed most of their land; they have put down eighty bushels of wheat and are rolling their land after seeding; they are working fairly well and seem to take a greater interest in it than ever before; they have also put up new fences around the new land broken last fall; they are sowing wheat on new land only, and will probably put in some thirty or forty bushels more. One yoke of oxen of the three on the reserve are pretty poor; the band will have nearly double the acreage they had last year.

2. Okenasis Band are doing capitally, they have already got down sixty bushels wheat and will put down thirty or forty more; this grain is being sown on land that has never been cropped and ought to yield well; the fencing is well done and altogether their reserve is a great credit to them, as there are but a few in this band; they will probably be the best off next fall as they are all good workers; they have the use of three yoke of oxen, one yoke is pretty poor. Okenasis sows his own grain and uses both hands, a thing he seems very proud of. He says, and Mr. Tomkins corroborates his statement, that Inspector Wadsworth promised him a large lumber waggon last fall and he is very anxious to know when he is going to receive it.

3. Farm No. 8. Tomkins has been unlucky enough to lame one of his horses, and as the oxen are very poor his work is behind. He has sown twenty bushels of wheat; he will have hard work to get his crop in as the mare that got hurt will not be able to work.

4. The Arrows Band has sown twenty bushels of wheat and have put up a lot of fencing round their new land; they will do nothing unless starved to it, and I have daily rations issued to those who work. I have young Tomkins looking after them. One yoke of their cattle is very poor, the others are in fair order on these reserves; the work is ahead of last year.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. M. RAE.

FORT MACLEOD, 5th May, 1882.

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

SIR,—I have the honor to report that the work is well under way on the reserves in this Agency. The Indians are all at work, and, as far as they have tools, are doing well.

I have contracted for ploughing on the Blood, Piegan and Blackfoot Reserves, and on all the reserves, grain and potatoes have already been planted. I hope to make a good thing of roots, &c., this fall on all the reserves.

Mr. McCord is doing very well with the Bloods, and I think the change is most beneficial; Norrish is also doing well.

I have now about half the Blackfeet from two to twelve miles above the Crossing, and as I have already reported, I have established a post about twelve miles from the Crossing, with Ellis in charge. They have about 600 Indians up there, and have a good house and store-house built. I am sending up teams to plough there, and shall furnish them with what seed they require. I have also instructed Norrish to send up supplies to Ellis, so that he can issue rations up there, and thereby save