

The Indians here and elsewhere are beginning to realize the necessity of abandoning the precarious mode of subsistence by fishing and hunting, and are devoting themselves with commendable earnestness, and perseverance to agriculture.

I visited and inspected the Upper School, ably conducted by the Revd. Mr. Bruce, who admirably sustains his former reputation, as a most efficient and successful teacher.

Of the forty-nine pupils attending this school, thirty-nine were present. I carefully examined all the classes in reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, and other branches taught, and was extremely gratified with the thoroughness of the school. The exercises closed by the children singing enthusiastically "God save the Queen."

In the afternoon I examined Mr. Anderson's school at the lower end of the reserve. He has thirty pupils on the register, twenty-seven of whom were present during my visit and manifested by their excellent recitations, a thorough familiarity with the different subjects which they were studying.

I was present during the payments, and the Indians were greatly pleased with the manner in which the agent attended to everything entrusted to him. Eighty-four persons belonging to this reserve were vaccinated.

The Lake St. Martin's Reserv.

I arrived here at seven o'clock on the 16th of July and visited the school under the charge of Mr. Francis Storr. No school-house has yet been erected on this reserve, but the interest taken in education is so extraordinary, that the chief although a heathen, willingly gave up his dwelling house for the purpose, and resides in a wretched wigwam himself.

Sixteen pupils according to the register were in attendance during the previous quarter; but only ten were present at the examination. No material advancement was perceptible since my former visit a year ago, owing to the teacher's lack of energy and inferior qualification for his profession, his education being of the most elementary character.

The chief informed me that in consequence of their being destitute of carpenter's tools, they were unable to build any houses within the year; and earnestly requested a limited supply of those articles to be furnished them. Very little attention until recently has been given to agriculture here, as mostly all the band were engaged in fishing and hunting for their living. Their crops looked backward, owing to late sowing and the dryness of the season. The payments were made correctly, and thirty persons were vaccinated.

The Sandy Bay of Lake St. Martin's Reserve.

I arrived at this reserve on the morning of the 16th July, and visited and examined the school during the forenoon. There were only five children present, out of an attendance of thirteen pupils, according to the register. This miserable apology for an Indian school was in a sickly, languishing condition, and almost destitute of any intellectual vitality. I consider M. Thom, the teacher, the most illiterate and incompetent educator employed in this superintendency, and consequently I would respectfully recommend that his services be dispensed with at the earliest possible date, and a qualified person be engaged to conduct the school properly. There is but little progress in building and farming going on here, the majority of the band contenting themselves with providing the mere necessaries of life, without aspiring to a more civilized state of existence than that occupied by their ancestors.

The crops were backward here, as elsewhere, on account of the prevailing drought, but the summer showers which came later in the season probably revived them. No complaints of any description were made with regard to their annuities or to the supplies received. The agent vaccinated thirty-two Indians here.