

The Indians ask for a school teacher. They have not put up the school house as they had promised to do, on account of scarcity of provisions.

GRAND RAPIDS RESERVE.

I arrived here at noon on the 10th August. I found only two men on the reserve. At the urgent request of the Indians who were at work on the Portage, I crossed the river and paid them there; it being a great convenience to them, as they were not obliged to leave their work for any length of time.

This band has made very little or no improvement on their reserve during the last year. Their potato gardens were looking very poor when I visited the reserve on the 14th September. Their implements are not cared for, but left lying about in their little gardens.

They have only one calf living out of the stock of cattle supplied them by the Department. The rest they allowed to perish for want of proper care.

The Mission School at this place has been closed for about one year. It was however reopened, in the Mission Meeting House, about the 1st September, by Miss Badger, who informed me that she had been engaged as teacher by Mr. Indian Superintendent Graham, while in Winnipeg. She complained of the very small attendance of scholars, owing to the want of interest taken by the parents of the children in sending them to school. I was detained here for two days getting my boat and supplies over the portage, as I could not make use of the tramway, for the Hudson's Bay Company no longer owned it, they having disposed of it to the Winnipeg and Western Transportation Company, and on application being made to the tramway manager for the use of two cars, that gentleman did not feel disposed to render the assistance asked for. The Hudson's Bay Company, in previous years, very kindly let me have the use of two cars for that purpose, by which means I generally managed to get my boat and baggage over the portage in less than three hours.

CHE-MA-WHA-WIN RESERVE.

I arrived here on the night of Saturday, the 12th August, and made the payments on Monday, the 14th. No improvements have been made at this place during the past year. It is a poor reserve for planting purposes, and the Indians take very little interest in doing anything in that line. In going over the reserve on the 11th September I noticed that no attempt was made to care for the implements which had been supplied to them. The harrows and ploughs were lying partly buried in mud and weeds in different places. Some of them have never been used or put together yet, and are spoiling for want of care.

PAS RESERVE.

I arrived here on the morning of the 17th August, after travelling night and day from Che-ma-wha-win. I commenced the payments on that day. I was informed by the Indians that they received very little assistance in grain or potatoes from the Department last spring. They were destitute of seed themselves, on account of the partial failure of their potato crops last year. On account of the scarcity of provisions last winter and spring, they were obliged to eat what potatoes they were intending to keep for seed. Consequently they were not able to plant as much last spring as in former years. There was, however, a very good appearance of a potato crop from what had been planted. The little wheat and barley that had been put in the ground had ripened very nicely and had been already harvested when I visited the reserve on the 7th September.

Their cattle are looking very well. They seem to take very good care of them and the implements supplied by the Department. The school at this place is very well and ably conducted by Miss Budd, but the school had been closed for some time last spring on account of sickness among the children and while getting the mission