

Indians has been satisfactory; the medical officer reports at present but little sickness and the general health of the Indians as very favorable.

The bands within this superintendency are the Ojibbewaos of Lake Huron, the Ojibewas and Ottawas of Manitoulin Island and the Manitoulin Island Indians, unceded, occupying the following reserves.

Thessalon River, Maganettawan, Spanish River, White Fish Lake, Mississagua, Point Grondine, Serpent River, French River, and White Fish River, on the north shore of Lake Huron, and Sheshegwaning, West Bay, Sucker Creek, Sheguiandah Sucker Lake and Obidgewong on Manitoulin Island, also Cockburn Island, and on the unceded part of Manitoulin Island at South Bay.

The Thessalon Band numbers one hundred and seventy nine, a decrease of seven, principally by emigration.—Under the treaty made with this band in 1859 the Indians surrendered their land, to be sold for their benefit; it was agreed that they were to remove to and settle upon the Garden River Reserve; this they did not do; the band then became scattered, some living at Thessalon, others at Bruce Mines and St. Joseph Island. A portion of their old reserve was set apart for them in 1878, and over twenty families have returned and settled, and more are coming. They are proud of their reserve, and having been for so many years detached and scattered they appreciate the advantages and opportunities of good fellowship and of good neighborhood afforded by being brought together in their village.

Aided by the Departement the band have almost completed a fine new frame school house which it is hoped will soon be in operation, as there are a number of bright, intelligent children ready to avail themselves of its advantages. The agricultural operations of the band are small as yet, fishing being the avocation followed by most, but they display a desire to increase their clearings and I fully expect ere long their crops will make a more favorable exhibit. The band are in a fairly prosperous condition.

The Maganettawan Band numbers one hundred and seventy-one, a decrease of three by emigration and death. This band is much scattered; they settled at West Bay upon this Island under the treaty of 1836, where one hundred and thirteen of the band live; twelve live on the unceded part of Manitoulin Island, seventeen at Obidgewong and twenty-nine upon the reserve at Maganettawan. They form part of the West Bay Band of Ojibewas and Ottawas of Manitoulin Island, having been parties to the MacDougall-Spragge Treaty of 1862. They cultivate some of the excellent land on the West Bay Indian Reserve, raise good crops and are prosperous and contented.

The Spanish River Band numbers five hundred and forty-one, an increase of five over last year. This band is divided into three portions, number one occupying the Village of Sagamook, on the reserve; number two are settled on the left bank of Spanish River and some at Pogumasing and Biscotasing; number three live upon Manitoulin Island, at West Bay, Sheshegwaning and the unceded part of Manitoulin Island. Last season the first and second divisions suffered rather severely by failure of their crops owing to drouth, and some being in need of winter supplies were tempted to fish in the close season, which resulted in their boats, nets and fish being seized. The boats and nets were subsequently restored to them, but their misfortune rendered some assistance from the department necessary and an advance on account of their annuity under the Robinson Treaty was made to them, with which assistance they got satisfactorily through the winter. Their prospects of good crops this season are very favorable.

There is one school in operation at Sagamook and another building on the reserve some few miles up the river.

The White Fish Lake Band numbers one hundred and forty-one, a decrease of seven by deaths. The death rate of this band has been high. They raised last year seven hundred and sixty bushels of potatoes. The most intelligent and energetic man of the band (Joseph Faille) died this spring, of consumption, which is much to be regretted, as he set a good example and will be missed. The Department presented