

1878

REPORT

THE

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL

OF

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT
OF THE
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL
OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
INDIAN BRANCH,
OTTAWA, 31st December, 1878.

To the Right Honourable
Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD, K.C.B.,
Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs.

SIR, - I have the honor, in accordance with the regulations of the Department, to submit the following Report on Indian Affairs for the year, as regards the financial data contained therein, ended the 30th June, 1878, and in respect to matters of more general interest for the year ended this day.

The condition of the Indians settled on Reserves within the older Provinces is encouraging.

More inclination for, and greater progress in agriculture is observable among them.

Intemperance has become of more rare occurrence; and the physical health of the several Bands during the present year has been for the most part good.

In the newer Provinces and more remote Territories of the Dominion, Indians have not yet learned the value of agriculture. As, however, the game and fish on which they now rely for subsistence (notably the buffalo in the North-West and the salmon in British Columbia) become scarce, they must turn their attention to tilling the soil or raising stock to enable them to live.

And as there is every indication of these Indians at an early date being deprived of the staples of life above referred to, it becomes incumbent upon the Government to adopt early and energetic measures to prepare them for the change in their mode of living and sustaining themselves and families, which must inevitably take place, when they can no longer kill sufficient buffalo and fish wherewith to feed themselves and families.

Instructions in farming, or herding and raising cattle (as the character of the country inhabited by the different Tribes may indicate to be best) should be furnished to the Indians, and in such manner as will effectually accomplish, within the shortest period, the object sought for, namely, to make them self-supporting.

The Indians should be encouraged by precept, and, when necessary, by pecuniary aid to erect houses and barns.

The use of the tent and wigwam should be discouraged as much as possible, and every effort should be made to induce them to abandon their old habits of life and to adopt those of the White man.

to farming; one of these bands, that of Chief Cotè at Fort Pelly, raised during the past year 280 bushels of barley, and over, 3,000 bushels of potatoes, and a large quantity of other vegetables, all of excellent quality.

The increase from four cows which were given to this Chief two years ago has been large, namely, eleven head.

Several of the other Bands interested in Treaty No. 4 are reported to have also made considerable advancement in their farming operations.

His Honor Lieutenant Governor and Indian Superintendent Laird reports that of the number of Indians paid in Treaty No. 6 this year, 1,636 received payment for the first time, and being entitled to their gratuity of \$12 each, besides one year's annuity of \$5 or \$17 in all per head, a much larger sum was expended in the payment of annuities to the Indians within the territory covered by this treaty than was anticipated.

The Indians interested in this treaty received this year farming implements for the first time. A distribution thereof having been made to the different Bands at the dates they were paid their annuities.

Out of the Bands within this treaty, to whom seed grain was given, Mr. Laird reports that he has reason to believe seven made good use of the seed. Most of the Band, however, he fears did not devote all the seed to the purpose for which it was intended.

The Lieutenant Governor also expresses his belief, that were it possible to employ men to instruct and assist the Indians at seed time, most of the Bands of the Saskatchewan would soon be able to raise sufficient crops to meet their most pressing wants.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

By Order in Council of the 8th March, 1878 the Board of Indian Reserve Commissioners, which was constituted in the year 1876, for the settlement of the Indian Land difficulty in this Province, was reconstructed in compliance with a strongly expressed desire on the part of the Government of British Columbia, that the commission should be organized upon a more economical basis.

The Dominion Government, while acknowledging the great judgment, tact firmness, and patience, displayed by the late Board in the many complicated questions upon which it was obliged to adjudicate, and which may be stated to have given satisfaction to all parties interested, felt constrained, in the interests of economy, to accede to the representations of the Local Government. This was done in what appears to have been the most judicious manner possible under the circumstances.

The Board of Commissioners, which before had consisted of three, namely: Mr. A.C. Anderson, Commissioner on behalf of the Dominion Government, Mr. A. McKinlay, Commissioner on behalf of the Province, and Mr. G.M. Sproat, Joint Commissioner, was dissolved, and it being considered judicious, in view of the discontent it would probably occasion among the Indians, were an entire change in the *personnel* of the Commission to be made, the last named gentlemen was appointed sole Commissioner, his decision to be subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Lands and Works in British Columbia. And in the event of differences between Mr. Sproat and the Commissioner of Lands and Works on any question it is to be referred to one of the judges of the Supreme Court.

In this way the continuity of the Commission, as formerly constituted, is in a measure preserved, and the Indians have a guarantee that the same policy which had previously guided the Commission in dealing with the Reserve question will still prevail.

The expenses of the Commission as now constituted are paid by the Dominion Government; but in case of its being necessary for a referee to visit any place, for the purpose of deciding any point of difference between the Indian Reserve Commissioner and the Commissioner of Lands and Works, each Government is to pay one half of the Referee's expenses.

Mr. Sproat, in his report of the work of the Commission during the past year, states that up to the date of that report (26th October), in all the districts visited by him, the Indians appeared to appreciate the just policy and kind intentions of the two Governments, and did not ask any questions respecting the reduction in the number of Commissioners.

Mr. Sproat further states, that dealing with one white chief is more in accordance with the ideas of the Indians, than dealing with three white chiefs, whose respective duties and positions on the Commission the Indians did not quite understand.

While doing justice to the Indians in the matter of the lands assigned to them, Mr. Sproat seems to have a proper sense of what is due to the White settlers in the adjustment of reserve lands for the former; and he reports that he cannot see that he has been otherwise than well received by the White settlers in the different districts visited; and he thinks that he may venture to say, that the large majority of settlers with whom he has had to deal, recognize that he has done his best to avoid any needless interference with existing interests.

The work of the Commission, during the past year was along the Fraser River, from Yale to above Lytton, along the Thompson up to Hat Creek, and in the long valleys of the Rivers Nicola and Similkameen.

The work was commenced at the point where it was discontinued last year, being near Osoyoos, on the United States Frontier.

The Indian land question has thus been adjusted (with the exception of a few open questions) throughout the whole southern interior of the mainland of the Province, for about 200 miles back from the frontier.

The average quantity of land assigned last year to the Shuswaps and Okanagan Indians, was 18 1/2 acres of arable land to each adult, and 22 acres of grazing land for each horse or head of cattle.

Mr. Sproat, in an earlier report, strongly advocates the non-interference by Government with any of the fishing rights or habits of the Indians. He says that the Indian Reserve question and the buffalo question are trifles compared with the fishery question to the Indians in British Columbia.

The whole Indian population of between 30,000 and 40,000 are fish eaters. It is their staple article of food. The Indians, especially in the interior, subsist on the salmon.

In the instructions given by both Governments to the Commissioners, great stress was laid upon the necessity of not disturbing the Indians in their possessions inter alia of fishing stations, and on the impolicy of attempting to make any violent or sudden change in the habits of the Indians engaged, among other pursuits, in fishing.

The attention of the Department charged with the management of Fisheries has been called to this subject, and several communications have been exchanged between this Department and the Department of Marine and Fisheries relative thereto.

In the early part of the season two surveying parties were employed to survey, under the instructions of Mr. E. Mohun, C.E., the boundaries of the Reserves allotted by the Commissioners in 1877. The work on the mainland was entrusted to Captain Jemmett, P.L.S., of New Westminster, and that on the coast to Mr. A. Green, P.L.S., of Victoria.

The field work was still in progress when the latest advices were received ; but it has probably by this time terminated for the winter season.

Mr. Sproat having reported that the services of Mr. Mohun, as attending Surveyor on the Reserve commission, might, in his opinion, be dispensed with and made available during the winter season, in plotting the field notes of the two Surveyors engaged in running the boundary lines of the Reserves, and next season in assuming personal charge of the field work of one of the surveying parties, as well as superintending the work of the other party, this arrangement was concurred in and instructions were sent to Mr. Mohun.

Mr. Sproat's dispensing with the services of the attending surveyor, and employing a non-professional, and consequently a cheaper man, to examine the lands to be

set apart as Reserves (and which arrangement Mr. Sproat states will work satisfactorily, in view of the fact that his experience will enable him to give sufficiently accurate instructions to the person employed for all practical purposes) effects a saving of about \$6 per diem or \$180 per month in the expenses of the Commission. On the other hand, Mr. Mohun's knowledge of the locations already assigned by the Commission for Reserve purposes, eminently fit him both for conducting the field work, which it is proposed to entrust to him in the spring, and for directing the work of the other surveying party.

So soon as the work of allotting Reserves and surveying the boundaries of the same is completed, and the Reserves are regularly transferred to the Dominion by the Provincial Government, an entire change in the administration of Indian Affairs in British Columbia should be inaugurated, as the present system is defective, and will be quite unsuited to the new and varied responsibilities which the transfer of the Reserves will entail upon the Department. This change of management need not involve much (if any) more expense than the present system does, and should, if the organization is judicious, be much more effective and give better value for the money expended.

I am of opinion that the principal administrative officer in the Indian Service of this Province should be a Visiting Superintendent or Inspector, and that he should be constantly on the move. Under this officer there should be sub-agents, each of whom should be stationed at the most central point to the Reserves and Bands for which he acts, and should be subject to the direction of the Visiting Superintendent or Inspector.

The headquarters of the Inspecting Officer should be at such central point as will be most convenient for the Indians and sub-agents, and where he can be readily communicated with by post and telegraph from this office.

In view of the dissatisfaction which exists among many of the coast tribes, on account of alleged encroachments by White people on their fishing rights, and of the illicit manufacturing and immoderate use of spirituous liquors by some of the Indians of Queen Charlotte's Islands, where it is stated liquor is both manufactured and smuggled in large quantities from Washington Territory in the United States, and in view of the consequent insecurity of life and property in that locality, it would appear highly desirable that a steamer having Government officers on it connected with this Department and the Departments of Marine and Fisheries, Inland Revenue and the Customs, should visit that locality, and the other places on the coast where it is suspected liquor is manufactured or smuggled, and where there is dissatisfaction among the Indians relative to encroachments on their fisheries. Enquiry should be made by the officers into the several causes of complaint in which their Department are respectively interested, and effective measures should be adopted to remove the same.

The system of giving presents to the Indians of British Columbia was this year, very greatly curtailed. The expenditure in the Fraser Superintendency in the purchase of implements, tools, harness, seed, & c., for the Indians had been previously very heavy: and the policy of thus teaching Indians who had before been able to subsist by their own efforts, and who were entirely self supporting, to become dependent upon the Government for the supply of articles which they evidently either did without in former times, or purchased for themselves, was, to say the least, very questionable. No such presents are now given, unless the sanction of the Superintendent-General has been previously obtained, and the expenditure in both the Victoria and the Fraser Tuperintendencies is now limited to what is absolutely unavoidable.

Cases of distress meet with prompt aid, and medicines and medical attendances are supplied to the sick when required.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

The following is a statement of the work done at this office; not including, however, the numerous reports and memoranda prepared (whereof no record has been

AGRICULTURAL Implements and Carpenter’s Tools, supplied to the

Name of Chief or Tribe.	Ploughs.	Harrow Pins.	Harness.	Spades.	Shovels.	Hoes.	Rakes.	Seythes and Snaths.	Cradles and Snaths.	1 - inch Auger.	2 - inch Auger.	Jack Plane.	Smoothing Plane.	Cross-cut Saw.	Whip Saw.	Hand Saw.	Hay Fork.	Grindstone.	Fixtures.	Hammers.	Drawing Knife.	Frows.
Shuswap Indians.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kamloops, Louis (Little)	1	...	2	6	3	4	2	6	3	2	6	2	2	3	1	3	2	3	1	4	2	2
North Thompson, Andre	1	...	1	...	6	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	1	1	...	...
Dead Man's Creek, Cisasket	1	1	1	6	6	6	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	1	1	1	...
South Thompson, Nas-canilth	2	2	2	12	6	12	4	6	...	...	...	2	2	2	1	2	4	2	...	2	2	2
South Andrian, formerly Adams Lake	2	2	2	...	...	12	...	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	4	2	1	1	3	1
Little Shuswap, Louis	1	1	1	6	4	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	1
Okanagan Indians.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spellumcheen	1	1	1	6	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	1
Okanagan Lake, Head	1	1	1	6	6	6	3	2	...	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	1
Okanagan Lake, Penticlon	1	1	1	6	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	1
Osooyoos	1	1	1	6	6	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	1
Similikameen	1	1	1	6	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	1
Similkameen, Upper	...	...	1	6	2	...	2	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Nicola Valley.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Head of Lake	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Foot of Lake	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bonaparte	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Leon's Creek	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	2	...	1	1	1	1	1	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
Clinton	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
William's Lake	1	1	1	6	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Soda Creek	1	1	1	6	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Pavilion	1	1	1	...	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fountain	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lillooet	2	1	2	9	6	3	5	2	1	4	1	3	3	2	2	3	...	3	2	2	2	3
Alkali Lake	1	1	1	6	3	3	2	2	...	1	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	1	1
Kayuse Creek	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Bridge River	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	1	...
Canoe Creek	1	1	1	...	2	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Chilcotin	1	1	1	6	3	6	2	2	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Seton Lake	...	...	...	3	3	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	...
Anderson Lake	1	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	...	1	...	...
Little Portage	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Douglas Lake	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yale	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1
Spence's Bridge	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Isowasson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Musqueam	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coquitlan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Langley	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Whonock	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Somas, No. 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
Sumas, No. 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Squah	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Squihala	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coquopilt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...

Maul Rings.	Picks.	Axes.	Socket Chisels.	Brace and Bits.	Squares.	Match Planes.	Moulding Planes.	Spirit Level.	Whet Stones.	Sash Brush.	Saw Files.	Screw Driver.	Carpenter's Rule.	Gimlets.	Logging Chains.	Mattocks Heads.	Broad Axe.	Ox Yoke.	Ox Chain.	Hand Axe.	Brush Hook.	Nails, lbs.	Chain, lbs.	Whittie-trees, pairs.	Trying square.	Wrench.	Windows, pairs.	Sundry Tools.	Remarks.
2	..	9	11	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	..
3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	6	4	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	3	..	4	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	1	3	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..
..	..	3	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	3	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..
..
..
..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	1	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	1	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..
..
..	..	22	..	2	2	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	..	..
..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	1	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	2	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	..	..	..	..	1	4	..
..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	1	6	..
..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	29	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

[A.]—BRITISH COLUMBIA.—
AGRICULTURAL Implements and Carpenter's Tools,

Name of Chief or Tribe.	Ploughs.	Harrow Pins.	Harness.	Spades.	Shovels.	Hoes.	Rakes.	Scythes and Snaths.	Cradles and Snaths.	1 - inch Auger.	2 - inch Auger.	Jack Plane.	Soothing Plane.	Cross-cut Saw.	Whip Saw.	Hand Saw.	Hay Fork.	Grindstone.	Fixtures.	Hammers.	Drawing Knife.	Frows.
Nicola Valley. - Concluded.
Schuye	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
Cultus' Lake	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
Squeam	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nicoamin	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Harrison River	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cheam	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Pop-Kum
False Creek
Stewart's Lake	24	..	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	29	21	37	134	78	103	50	51	20	25	28	28	24	26	12	35	48	27	10	30	27	23

