

NEBRASKA SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 50.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Omaha, Nebraska, Ninthmonth 26, 1871.

RESPECTED FRIEND: In submitting this my third annual report, together with agents' reports for the northern superintendency, I have the satisfaction of being able to say, that the Indians under our care are advancing in civilization, and that five of the tribes have, during the year, increased in population.

THE SANTEE SIOUX.

By the accompanying report of Agent Asa M. Janney, who resigned his office the 21st of Seventhmonth last, it will be observed that the Santee Sioux have this year raised more grain and have a better prospect for garden vegetables than for several years past. The tract of land they inhabit, bordering on the river Missouri below the mouth of the Niobrara, is extremely rough and broken, much of it consisting of high bluffs and steep hills, unfit for tillage. The allotments of land in severalty assigned them are mostly on the river-bottom and in narrow valleys watered by small streams. On these allotments about eighty houses had been built when Agent Janney made his report. Most of these houses were built of logs, and constructed by the Indians themselves, with some assistance from the carpenter and his Indian apprentices. The doors and windows and boards for the floors were furnished by the agent. Cooking-stoves have also been supplied to all the Santees who have built on their allotments, and, for many of them, a few acres of ground have been broken, in order that next year they may cultivate their own fields.

It has been the policy of the agent to encourage the Indians to help themselves as far as practicable, believing that a comfortable cabin of their own building would tend more to render them independent and self-sustaining than a more showy and commodious dwelling built for them without an effort of their own. They have, during the last two years, manifested an increasing disposition to promote their home comforts by the use of bedsteads, cupboards, chairs, and other household furniture. The women have made a large number of bed-quilts, that do credit to their skill and industry.

I refer to Agent Janney's report for other interesting particulars showing the progress of this tribe in civilization, and I concur with him in thinking that an industrial boarding-school would greatly benefit the tribe by encouraging among them the use of the English language, and instructing both sexes in the arts that minister to the subsistence and comfort of civilized communities.

Since the retirement of Agent A. M. Janney, Joseph Webster has occupied the post of agent for the Santee Sioux, and his report, herewith submitted, shows that the Indians are still industriously engaged in settling on their allotments, ten houses having been built during the last month. He reports that the mission schools are in a prosperous condition. A small school for instructing the Indian women and girls in industrial pursuits has been opened by a Friend with encouraging results.

The report of A. L. Riggs, missionary of the American Board and

superintendent of the Santee Normal Training-School, contains some suggestions worthy of attention.

No report has been received from the Episcopal mission.

THE WINNEBAGOES.

The accompanying report of Agent Howard White gives a very encouraging account of the Winnebago tribe of Indians, showing a manifest advance in civilization and an increase of population, which attest an improvement in their moral and sanitary condition.

Among the material improvements made during the year are the following, viz: The erection, by Indian labor, of seven frame and five log houses; thoroughly repairing three school-houses, and furnishing them with new desks; constructing eight miles of wire-fence, principally around lots cultivated by Indians; breaking four acres of prairie on each of eighty allotments; making over 100 Indian farms on which some breaking has been done. There have been purchased and distributed to the Indians about 45 cooking-stoves, 25 wagons and sets of harness, and 50 plows. Owing to extreme drought in the early spring the wheat-crop was injured, but the oats, corn, and potatoes have yielded well.

In my last annual report I stated the reasons which had induced the agent, with my approbation, to displace all the old chiefs and to appoint others who were working-men and advocates of civilization. The measure was sanctioned by a vote of the tribe, and at the end of a year a popular election was held for chiefs, twelve in number, who each receive a small salary. The election was conducted in an orderly manner, and resulted in the selection of men who were mostly suitable for the position. I consider this a salutary and important measure. It has a tendency to weaken the old tribal relation, with all its superstitious ideas and customs, and to prepare the people for self-government. It will pave the way for the Indians to become citizens. Some of the tribe are looking forward to this result, but the large majority are fully conscious that they are not yet prepared for citizenship, and they prefer to remain as wards of the Government until further advanced in civilization. The remarks of Agent White on this subject are worthy of attention.

I also concur with him most heartily in his views relating to an industrial school for this tribe. They have ample means for its erection and support; they are desirous for its establishment, and they ask that a portion of their funds, invested in Government securities, may, by act of Congress, be appropriated to this purpose and to other beneficial objects.

The day-schools have been supported and well attended, as appears by a teacher's report, herewith submitted. Sabbath-schools have also been kept, and meetings for divine worship occasionally held; all Christian denominations being at liberty to hold religious meetings with the Indians.

THE OMAHAS.

The certificates sent to the Omahas in the Thirdmonth last, securing to them and their heirs their allotments of land, were received with general satisfaction, and have proved to be an incentive to increased industry in the improvement of their farms. With the aid of the carpenter and his Indian apprentices, a number of comfortable cottages have been built for the Indians; a large amount of lumber has been sawed and much of it hauled by them to their allotments. The agent is desirous to push forward the building of houses and fencing of lots, but a deficiency of funds has cramped his endeavors. An excellent school-house has

been built, chiefly by Indian labor, and a block-house, formerly used for a fort, has been converted into a school-house. There are now three schools in operation on the reservation, with the most satisfactory results. I refer to the accompanying report of the agent, Dr. E. Painter, for interesting details of the condition and progress of the Omahas, showing that they are improving in their moral and social condition, that they fully appreciate the importance of education for their children, and that by a system of uniform kindness and justice, coupled with firmness, they are easily governed.

THE PAWNEES.

In my report of last year, I mentioned the overtures I had made on behalf of the Pawnees, to negotiate a treaty of peace and amity with the Sioux, their hereditary enemies, whose depredations were a source of continual annoyance and anxiety. My endeavors were encouraged by the Department, and at one time there seemed to be a prospect of success. The overture made to Spotted Tail was favorably received by him and some others of his band, but subsequently he sent a message through Agent J. M. Washburne, of the Whetstone agency, Dakota Territory, stating that his people declined to enter into the proposed treaty, for the reason that their action would be without the consent of the whole Sioux nation, and would be regarded as a declaration of war against those Sioux who might not be parties to the treaty. The Sioux nation consists of so many bands, mostly in a nomadic state, and scattered over a wide region, that I see no prospect of obtaining their general concurrence in such a treaty. During the year five of the Pawnees, three of them women and two young men, have been killed on the reservation by the Sioux. The young men had been educated at the manual-labor school, and were much esteemed for their moral worth. Information which I deem reliable leads to the conclusion that the murderers belonged to Spotted Tail's band, and that horses and mules stolen from the reservation were taken by the same people.

The Pawnees wish to open farms and build houses some miles distant from the villages where they now live, but the incursions of the Sioux are a serious obstacle in their way. A large number of white people have recently settled on lands north and west of the reservation and adjacent to it, whose presence, I trust, will prove to be a protection from the marauding Sioux.

The wagons, plows, mowing-machines, and other agricultural implements furnished the Pawnees within two years past, are highly prized and successfully employed. Many of the men and some of the chiefs have manifested a willingness to labor that is truly encouraging.

The sanitary condition of the tribe is by no means satisfactory, and while the uncivilized portion of them, comprising more than three-fourths of the whole, continue to live in their earthen lodges, grouped together in villages, and subjected to the effluvia of decaying garbage, they cannot be healthy. When they move out on the prairie and have comfortable cabins to live in, with suitable medical attendance, they will doubtless increase in numbers and advance more rapidly in civilization.

The manual-labor boarding-schools continue in successful operation, and are regarded by the tribe with increasing favor. I refer to the report of the principal, E. G. Platt, for full particulars relating to them. A commodious house for a day-school has been built, and the school opened very recently with encouraging prospects. The clothing of the children in attendance was furnished chiefly by the Friends connected with Baltimore yearly meeting.

I respectfully call thy attention to the fact that the Government has not fulfilled its obligations to this tribe, as stipulated in article 3 of the treaty with the Pawnees concluded September 24, 1857. By that article, the Pawnees are required to keep every one of their children between the ages of seven and eighteen years constantly at school, for at least nine months in each year, and parents or guardians failing to do so are liable to have a part of their annuities withheld. This certainly implies a correlative duty on the part of the Government to furnish schools sufficient for all the children, but the manual-labor boarding-schools and the day-school now in operation are not sufficient to accommodate half the children of the tribe, nor has there been, within the last three years, an appropriation made by Congress sufficient for the purpose.

OTOES AND MISSOURIAS.

There has been a very decided improvement in this tribe since my first report, in the year 1869. Then they were rapidly declining in numbers, now they are increasing; then they had no school and apparently no desire to improve their condition, now they have a flourishing school, and many of them are opening and cultivating farms. They have cut, for building purposes, about 1,000 saw-logs this year, and, with some assistance from the carpenter, many are constructing for themselves comfortable cabins. The annuity of this tribe is very small, and the agent is cramped in his efforts to make the needed improvements for want of sufficient funds. For further particulars, I refer to the report of Agent A. L. Green.

THE IOWAS.

The report of Agent T. Lightfoot, of the Great Nemaha agency, gives an encouraging account of the Iowa Indians under his care. A growing interest in agriculture has induced many of them to enlarge their farms, and their crops of corn, potatoes, and beans have been successfully cultivated. They generally take good care of their live stock, and have secured an abundance of excellent hay for use in winter. They manifest a desire for the comforts of civilized life, and have turned their attention to the improvement and furnishing of their houses.

An industrial home for orphans has been established, which now accommodates fourteen children, and would be capable of receiving a greater number if a larger fund were appropriated for its support. The school kept by Mary B. Lightfoot, with the assistance of Mary Childs, an Indian woman, consists of 32 boys and 36 girls, who are reported as making good progress. A sewing department has been added to it, in which Indian women and girls receive instruction. The tribe numbers 215, being an increase of one since last year.

THE SACS AND FOXES OF MISSOURI.

This remnant of a tribe now consists of eighty souls, being the same number reported last year. They are included in the Great Nemaha agency, and Agent T. Lightfoot reports that they have, within the past year, shown some disposition to labor on their lands. They receive a larger annuity *per capita* than any other tribe in this superintendency, and, owing to indolence and intemperance, have fewer of the comforts of life than any other. They are situated six miles from the agency, and have no teacher or other employé of the Government residing among them.

In the treaty with the Sacs and Foxes and Iowas, dated March 6, 1861, promulgated March 26, 1863, article 5, there is a provision that the United States shall expend the sum of \$1,000 for the erection of a school-house and dwelling-house for the school-teacher, for the benefit of the Sacs and Foxes, and also the additional sum of \$200 per annum for school purposes, so long as the President of the United States may deem it advisable. This stipulation has never been complied with by the Government, and I respectfully suggest that Congress be asked, at its next session, to make the requisite appropriation. Inasmuch as the omission, for many years, to comply with this stipulation has resulted greatly to the injury of the Indians, I further suggest that the sum of \$200 per annum, being too small to support a teacher, be increased to \$800 per annum. At one time the Sacs and Foxes expressed a wish to sell their reservation of 16,000 acres, and to purchase of their neighbors, the Iowas, a sufficiency of land for their use. It appears from the report of Agent Lightfoot that the chiefs are not now disposed to make any change, unless they are allowed to go to Washington and negotiate a treaty.

WAYS AND MEANS.

In order to settle the Indians on their allotments of land, to break the prairie-sod, to fence their fields, to assist them in building comfortable cabins or cottages, to provide them with implements, live-stock, and seeds, and to establish day-schools and an industrial school on each reservation, will require a large amount of funds. In my two previous reports I have recommended that some portions of certain reservations, which contain more land than the Indians need, should, with their consent, be sold at their fair market value, and the proceeds applied to the proposed improvements. With this view the Omahas, whose reservation contains 205,000 acres, have, by petition, expressed a wish to sell from the most western portion of their reservation 50,000 acres, as near as can be separated from the remaining portion of their lands by a line running along the section-lines from north to south.

The Otoes and Missourias, whose reservation contains 160,000 acres, have expressed a desire to sell about 80,000 acres, being the western half of their reservation, and lying wholly west of the Big Blue River, part in Nebraska and part in Kansas.

The Pawnees, whose reservation contains 288,000 acres, would sell about 50,000 acres, but the location of the part to be disposed of has not yet been determined.

During the last session of Congress, the President of the United States, at the request of a committee of Friends, sent a message to the Senate and House of Representatives submitting the draught of a bill intended to effect the object desired. It did not pass, owing, as was believed, to its being of too wide a scope, and applicable to Indian lands in general. I respectfully recommend that a special act, describing the lands proposed to be offered for sale in this superintendency, be submitted to Congress at its next session, authorizing the President to appoint commissioners to effect the sales.

CLOTHING AND SANITARY SUPPLIES.

It will be observed, on reference to the agents' reports, that very liberal contributions have been sent to all the agencies by the Friends connected with the yearly meetings of New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Ohio, Indiana, and Genesee. Nearly all the school-children, except

those at the Santee agency, have been clothed in this way, many garments for the aged and infirm have been furnished, and suitable food for the sick has been supplied.

The pupils of the mission schools at the Santee agency have been provided for by contributions from their respective churches. Much good has resulted from these donations.

POPULATION.

It is a very encouraging feature in the reports from the several agencies this year that five of the tribes have increased in population, namely, the Santees, the Winnebagoes, the Pawnees, the Otoes, and the Iowas, making an aggregate gain of 143. Of this number, about 30 have been adopted into one of the tribes, and the remainder is the natural increase. The Omahas and the Sacs and Foxes number the same as last year.

The several tribes are reported as follows, viz:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Santee Sioux.....	424	563	987
Winnebagoes.....	685	715	1,400
Omahas.....	479	505	984
Pawnees*.....	1,024	1,310	2,364
Otoes and Missourias.....	230	220	450
Iowas.....	109	106	215
Sacs and Foxes.....	42	38	80
Total.....	<u>2,993</u>	<u>3,487</u>	<u>6,480</u>

INDIAN CIVILIZATION.

Being about to retire from the position of superintendent of Indian affairs, I deem it not inappropriate to express the result of my observations and reflections on the subject of Indian civilization. It is well known that in nearly all cases of advancement from savage to civilized life the progress has been slow; that the transition has usually occupied several generations. It may, however, be accelerated by bringing the subjects to be acted upon into familiar intercourse with good and enlightened people, who, by a course of uniform justice and kindness, may gain their confidence, and, by examples of moral purity, inspire them with respect and love.

In the endeavors that have been made to civilize and christianize the Indians, too little attention has usually been given to the influence of woman and her peculiar adaptation to this work. In my judgment, the most efficient means we can use is to employ in the Indian service families composed of intelligent and virtuous men and women, accompanied by their children. Those should be selected who feel a real interest in the work, and who would engage in visiting the Indians in their dwellings, attending them in sickness, teaching their children, instructing the men in agricultural pursuits and the women in household duties, thus leading them, by example and precept, to appreciate the beauty and excellency of Christian principles. We have found by experience that very many of the Indian men may be induced, by liberal wages promptly paid, to perform the agricultural labors that were formerly imposed on their women, and that the Indian women very readily learn to attend to household duties; but our chief reliance is in the education of the young.

* In the statistics printed with the Commissioner's Report for 1870, page 334, there is an error in the population of the Pawnees; it should be 2,325.

The children show an aptitude for learning and are very amiable, scarcely ever quarreling among themselves. There should be on every reservation a sufficient number of day-schools to accommodate all the children between the ages of six and twelve years. They should be carefully taught to speak, read, and write the English language, and should then be transferred to an industrial boarding-school, of which there should be one or more on each reservation. In these schools the boys should be taught farming, gardening, and the mechanic arts, and the girls instructed in housekeeping and sewing. By this means a tribe may be civilized and taught to speak the English language in a single generation. While this system of education is going forward, allotments of land should be assigned to every family, implements of agriculture, seeds, and live-stock furnished them, and assistance given them in building cottages. Religious instruction should be given adapted to their condition, and the practical part of Christianity illustrated by example. By these means I believe the enlightened and humane policy of the President may be successfully established, and the aborigines of our country saved from extinction.

Very respectfully, thy friend,

SAM'L M. JANNEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. H. R. CLUM,
Acting Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 51.

SANTEE AGENCY, NEBRASKA,
Seventhmonth 18, 1871.

DEAR BROTHER: Having resigned my office as agent for the Santee Sioux, in consequence of my health not being such as to enable me to perform the duties thereof, I forward my annual report earlier than usual.

When I took charge of this agency in 1869, I found the Indians had adopted the citizens' dress and had made much progress in civilization; most of them had given up their lodges and were living in log-houses, rudely constructed, without floors. One of my first efforts was to have a saw-mill erected. I also, about the same time, made arrangements for building a flouring-mill. The building of the mill was attended with many difficulties, its progress being retarded by the death of the mill-wright and other untoward circumstances; but the difficulties having been overcome, the building completed, and the machinery working to my entire satisfaction, I feel repaid for the labor and anxiety of the undertaking. The Santees are now enjoying good flour, manufactured at their own mill, which they appreciate.

My next object was to have their land allotted to them in severalty. The saw-mill has been of great service to them, stimulating them to industry, and enabling them to build much better houses than they could have done without it. There are now about eighty houses built on their claims, with good windows and doors, which I furnished them ready made, and many of them have been furnished with plank for their floors. Cooking-stoves have been given to those who have built on claims allotted to them. I think the prospect of a stove has stimulated some of them to build sooner than they would otherwise have done. Notwithstanding the failure of last year's crop, in consequence of the

drought, which we feared would be so discouraging to the Indians, when the time came for beginning operations on the farm this year they were anxiously inquiring how they were to obtain seed. When told that provision had been made for seed they were entirely satisfied, and went to work in earnest to prepare the ground to receive it. So far their labors have been crowned with success; we could not have desired more seasonable weather than we have been favored with. The Santees have planted large patches of corn, and potatoes; and other vegetables have been, generally, well tended, and are looking very well.

It has been a source of much gratification to me and my family to observe the increased interest which the women manifest in their housekeeping. When we first went among them it was very unusual to find a table in a house; now the houses without tables are the exceptions, and these tables are often covered with oil-cloth. It was then no uncommon thing to see the dishes piled up on the floor in one corner of the room, but one of the first wants supplied by the saw-mill was cupboards. Instead of having to take seats on a blanket spread on the floor, or on their beds, as was the custom two years ago, a bench or seat of some kind is now offered when we go to their houses. Bedsteads made of cotton-wood boards now take the place of those small poles which, on our arrival at the agency, supported their robes and blankets. In a great many houses coverlids and neatly made bed-quilts now take the place of soiled blankets, more than one hundred and fifty bed-quilts having been completed during the last eighteen months. The women are becoming much interested in poultry. One remarked, when leaving the village for her own farm, that she would now be able to raise chickens with some satisfaction, and have no one to interfere with her. A few are turning their attention to butter-making, and succeed very well. Nearly one-half of the families on this reservation are supplied with cows; those having them seem to appreciate them and take care of them. I hope it will not be long before all will have cows furnished them.

The want of an industrial school continues to be felt as much as when I first took charge of this tribe. The day-schools cannot supply its place. In the last two years the Santees have made but little progress in the English language, and, under the present system of instruction, I see no chance for them to become sufficiently familiar with the language to enable them to conduct business for themselves satisfactorily, or to become as useful citizens as they are capable of becoming. Great pains have been taken to teach them their own language, which enables them to send missionaries to other tribes of Sioux. While this may be entirely right for mission schools, I think it would be to the interest of Government, and I know it would be for these Indians, to establish a school here, the main object of which shall be to prepare them to take their places in enlightened and refined society. As long as they are confined to their own language they will be Indians, but when made familiar with the English, I have no doubt many of them will become valuable citizens.

Judging from the advancement these Indians have made in the last two years, I am of the opinion that, if they are furnished with cows, oxen, and plows, and it is found that their land will produce good crops of wheat and corn, the day is not far distant when they will no longer be dependent on Government for supplies.

Thy brother,

ASA M. JANNEY,
United States Indian Agent.

SAMUEL M. JANNEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 52.

SANTÉE AGENCY, *Ninthmonth* 11, 1871.

RESPECTED FRIEND: The time having arrived to send in my annual report, I respectfully submit the following:

I took charge of the agency on the 22d of Seventhmonth, 1871. I found things generally in a prosperous condition. The brief time that I have been here previous to making this report must necessarily preclude me from saying much about my own share of the duties of the past year, for the principal part of which I refer thee to the report of the former agent, A. M. Janney. The season has been a very favorable one, there having been plenty of rain for the maturing of their crops, which has very much encouraged the Indians in making extra exertions in preparing more ground for planting another season. For the statistical account of their crops, I refer thee to the farmer's report.

The Indians are moving out on their claims as fast as their houses can be built. The past month there have been built one frame and nine log houses, a large proportion of the work being done by the Indians.

The mission schools are in a prosperous condition. I send the report of A. L. Riggs, missionary of the American Board of Foreign Missions. S. D. Hinman, of the Episcopal mission, not being at home, accounts for the absence of his report. The statistics are filled up by his teachers. Although these mission schools are doing a good service in educating the youth, yet in my opinion there is a branch of education they cannot reach, and which only can be filled by an industrial school, where a practical education can be given, including all the domestic industries belonging to civilized life. We have had for the last two months a small school of the kind conducted by private enterprise, the funds being furnished by the Society of Friends, which has proved an entire success. It is to me a matter of surprise to see how readily the girls learn to sew, and some of them to cut out garments.

Respectfully, thy friend,

JOSEPH WEBSTER,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 53.

MISSION OF AMERICAN BOARD,
Santee Agency, September 1, 1871.

DEAR SIR: During the year now past we have finished our permanent mission buildings, which were in process of erection a year ago. These are a school-house, which we also use for a chapel, and a dwelling-house. Our school-house is 26 by 50 in its main part, and is now well provided with recitation-rooms, wardrobes, blackboards, maps, books, &c. It has desk accommodation for 86, and can seat 100 in school. By the use of chairs, we can accommodate 200 at meeting.

Being so occupied with building, we did not have any fall term of school. During the winter term of thirteen weeks there were enrolled 111, with an average attendance of 69. In the spring term of eight weeks, 67 attended, with an average of 34. The whole number attending during the year was 115; of these 31 were boys, 29 girls, 37 young men, and 18 young women. The young men and women attended chiefly in the winter. Thirteen of these young men came from other parts; most of them were from the Sioux River colony. Two were Brulé

Titons and one a Blackfoot. As those from the Sioux River colony had none of the benefits of the United States annuities, they were obliged to provide their own outfit by hunting and trapping during the autumn.

It became necessary to furnish these young men from a distance with some sort of home, and I opened a boarding-hall for them, remodeling some of our old mission buildings for the purpose. Your predecessor allowed them to draw rations, which I supplemented by such supplies as their health or necessities required. I would here ask the continuance of the same favor to those attending the coming winter.

Year by year, as our work progresses, we are enabled to make the grade of our studies higher. This last year I have begun to introduce the studies of geometry and grammar. The great difficulty in taking up new branches is the lack of text-books, and, what is worse, the lack of terms with the proper and definite scientific meanings. These have to be worked out. As the great end of our work is to train up teachers from the people and for the people, we try to train our scholars in the principles of things and in the power of thought. We, therefore, use the native language as our medium of instruction, and, in our teaching of English, allow them to go no faster than they understand. Our past success is seen in the number of men now at work as teachers and preachers; not only those in connection with our mission, but almost all those in the employ of the Episcopal mission as well.

Having a small printing-press at this station, last winter Mr. Pond, with the assistance of Mr. Eli Abraham, an Indian, printed an English-Dakota vocabulary of 150 pages, and containing some 14,300 words. It is for use in our schools. Mr. Abraham afterward did the whole work on a primer in the Yankton dialect.

In regard to the church and congregation connected with this mission, I have one thing worthy of mention. Though small in itself, circumstances give it importance. Any one who stops to consider a moment will perceive that the great danger before a people like this, fed and clothed by the Government, and the recipient of unnumbered private charities, is beggary. By continued dependence they lose independence, and even the desire for self-help. The result of help is helplessness, unless there are strong counteracting influences. Feeling thus, we proposed the taking up of a weekly collection in the church for the relief of the poor and sick, to be dispensed by men chosen by themselves. There was much opposition to it on the ground of the poverty of all—all needing too much to give. But, believing it to be in accord with scripture and with the principles of a true political economy, the plan was pressed to adoption, and the results are most gratifying. The sum of \$44 47 has been collected by them in penny contributions since last January. The congregation are now heartily in favor of it. They feel that they can help themselves. And I believe also that they will appreciate better the charities from abroad.

In regard to the general social condition of this people, I cannot forbear calling your attention to the evident increase of licentiousness among them. Not that they are given to this vice as much as many other tribes, but there is a falling back from the point they had attained. This may be accounted for in several ways. It is doubtless the natural tendency of material prosperity to promote physical indulgence. Though you find them poorly enough off, they are rich in comparison to what they were when they first came on to the Missouri. They were then, and for some time afterward, also under the control of a powerful religious sentiment, which pervaded the whole community. The circumstances of the time, incident to their long imprisonment and many pri-

vations, favored this. But when these circumstances changed, all those who had not the root of the matter in them naturally fell back to their old thoughts and ways. Allow me therefore to ask your special consideration of the proper relation of the civil authority to the repression of this vice. While it is true that virtue must be a principle implanted in the heart, and therefore we should use every moral means in our power to foster it, using religious and physical instruction, consistent example, and loving Christian rebuke if need be, still it is true also that government is ordained of God for a terror to the transgressor and a protector of the virtuous and innocent. And those who sin often pass the point where neither entreaty nor rebuke can reach them. Both their own salvation and the safety of those they may yet lead astray call for the exercise of some wholesome force to arrest them in their course. Be assured we are doing all that we can to stem this tide of evil, but, for the lack of civil law, with its penalties and protection, our religious efforts are sadly crippled.

Yours, respectfully,

ALFRED A. RIGGS,

*Missionary of the American Board and Superintendent
of Santee Normal Training-School.*

JOSEPH WEBSTER,

United States Indian Agent.

No. 54.

OMAHA AGENCY, NEBRASKA,
Eighthmonth 21, 1871.

RESPECTED FRIEND: The following annual report of the affairs of this agency is herewith submitted:

During the past year the hopes heretofore cherished in relation to the capacity and inclination of these Indians to engage in agricultural pursuits, and to adopt the habits of civilized life, have been more than realized. A steady advance in the direction indicated has been observable throughout the year. Especially has the disposition to labor in the field been manifested in striking contrast with their former slothfulness. This fact has been observed and commented upon by most of those who have visited the agency. Their tendency to nomadic habits seems to have been totally abandoned, and few of them are now inclined to leave their reservation, unless when called away by special business; in such cases they request a pass from their agent.

A lively interest is manifested among them upon the subject of education. Three schools, two of which have been established within the past year, have been well attended. These are all day-schools. The progress of the children in study has been highly encouraging and satisfactory. Through the liberality of Friends of Indiana yearly meeting, who exercise a special supervision over the affairs of this agency, nearly all the school-children, and many aged and infirm persons, have been comfortably clothed and furnished with other needed supplies. Reference is invited to the accompanying reports of the school-teachers upon this deeply interesting engagement, the successful prosecution of which is so essential to the future prosperity of these people.

The subject of finances seems to be the principal, if not the only, source of embarrassment or discouragement. The earnest appeal made to Congress at its recent session, by the chiefs on behalf of the tribe,

and unanimously sanctioned by the Indians, to provide for the enactment of a law authorizing the sale of 50,000 acres of the most western portion of their reservation for their benefit, was rejected, for the reason, it is alleged, that the bill submitted to Congress embraced other subjects not sufficiently matured for its favorable action. The Indians are thus left almost wholly destitute of available resources for purposes of general improvement—such as building houses on the farms recently allotted to them in severalty, and providing teams, agricultural implements, seeds, &c., to enable them to engage in farming pursuits with profit and success. On this account the building of houses by the Indian carpenters, engaged in during the past year with so much interest and success, as well as many other improvements on the reservation, are now necessarily suspended for want of funds; and fears are entertained that the Indians may relapse into their former habits of indolence and improvidence, and thus become a burden to the Government and a discredit to the humane policy it has so wisely inaugurated. For this cause I most earnestly desire and request that Congress, at its approaching session, will, at an early day, favorably consider the reasonable and earnest prayer of these people to provide for the sale of so much of their surplus lands as will enable those placed in charge of them to proceed vigorously with the work of civilization and improvement so long urged upon them by the Government.

FARMING OPERATIONS.

The growing interest of the Indians in the products of the soil has been exemplified, during the present season, in the marked improvement in the cultivation of their crops compared with former years. Notwithstanding a protracted drought throughout the summer, and still prevailing here, it is conceded that the crops this year are the best and most abundant ever raised upon this reservation. The Indians will have a large surplus of corn for sale, and wheat enough to supply their wants during a large proportion of the coming year; potatoes, beans, squashes, and other garden vegetables are also quite plentiful. Nearly all of the Indians have built substantial granaries for storing their corn, instead of burying it in the ground, as was their former custom, where a large proportion of it was generally damaged and unfit for use. Many of them have been engaged during the summer in plowing and opening farms on their individual allotments of land, and all seem anxious to be settled in their respective homes. Farm labor is now performed almost exclusively by Indian men, the females being thus relieved from the oppressive drudgery hitherto required of them.

BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

From five to ten Indian carpenters have been engaged since last report in building and various other improvements on the reservation, until these operations were necessarily suspended for want of funds. Six comfortable and substantial frame cottages for the Indians, each with five rooms and a neat piazza in front, have been built on their several allotments; also a large double house, with ten rooms, for the accommodation of teachers, and a commodious school-house, besides building several bridges, a large ferry-boat, and more than twenty sleds for hauling logs, &c. These are among the results of the labor of these Indian apprentices. The rapid advances made by them in knowledge of the mechanic arts are very encouraging and gratifying.

STOCK AND FARMING IMPLEMENTS.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of young cattle owned by the Indians since last report. They are ever on the alert for breaking a pair of young oxen whenever they arrive at a suitable age, and are becoming quite skillful in the management of their ox-teams. Occasionally they exchange their ponies for young cattle, which is a step in the right direction. One grain-reaper and one new mower have been added to the stock of farming implements since last year; but the want of a full supply of plows, wagons, harness, and other appliances for conducting farming operations successfully is still felt to be a source of discouragement.

EDUCATIONAL.

The efforts directed toward the improvement of the mental and moral condition of the Omaha Indian children during the past year have been crowned with eminent success. The desire for acquiring knowledge seems to be the most prominent inducement for the very regular attendance of the children, added to the encouragement they continually receive from their parents. As an evidence of the interest felt by the Indians in the subject of the education of their children, I may notice the fact that many of the parents moved their tents to a position near the school-houses, so as to afford greater facilities for their regular attendance, a concession rarely to be met with among Indians. The institution of Firstday (or Sunday) schools has also been found quite beneficial; and recently sewing-schools for the instruction of girls, and arrangements for teaching Indian women to cut out and make up garments, have been added to their advantages. Still there is a great need felt for the establishment of an industrial school for the benefit of both sexes, though the want of funds is painfully felt to preclude all hope in this direction at present.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

A residence of more than two years among these people, and my opportunities for free intercourse with Indians of various other tribes, fully confirm me in the belief that the Indians, as a class, are tractable, and easily governed by a system of uniform kindness and justice, coupled with resolute firmness in the right on the part of those appointed to manage their affairs. The reverse is certainly exceptional. When once the full confidence of an Indian is gained, the victory is won.

The question as to the capacity of these people to become elevated to the plane of civilization and enlightenment, as well as self-supporting, at no distant day, and not only to receive intellectual culture with facility, but to become imbued with the divine influences of Christianity, now remains no longer a problem. To promote these humane and charitable objects needs only the fostering hand of the Government, and the honest and earnest labors of those delegated to watch over their interests; and surely a people to whom this great and flourishing Republic is so largely indebted for the prosperity and happiness of its teeming millions can justly lay claim not only to the kindness and sympathy of the Government, but to the adoption of a liberal and extended policy on their behalf.

Very respectfully, thy friend,

E. PAINTER,

United States Indian Agent for the Omahas.

SAMUEL M. JANNEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, Omaha, Nebraska.

No. 55.

OMAHA AGENCY,
Eighthmonth 21, 1871.

RESPECTED FRIEND: We take pleasure in reporting of the favorable condition of our schools during the past year. Most of the scholars had never attended school, and but few could understand or speak our language. Whole number of pupils enrolled 74; of this number 51 were males and 23 females, with an average daily attendance of 50. The branches taught were orthography, reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography. We think they are apt to learn, and that their ability to acquire knowledge will lose nothing by comparison with white children. Most of them are deeply interested, and great pleasure is manifested by the parents in their progress. They will spend hours with us in the school-room, and by their animated countenances show what interest they take in the readiness with which the children answer questions.

Our first endeavors were to make the school-room attractive, and we labored earnestly to have them feel how greatly it was to their advantage to attend regularly. Before the admission of the scholars we exacted promises from the parents to send them all the time, if possible. Generally they complied with our wishes, but in a few cases they grew careless, and we sent the children away, considering them a disadvantage to the schools. Soon the parents would come and inquire the cause of dismissal, thus giving us an opportunity to explain to them how we felt upon the subject.

They have been well clothed during the time, mainly by the Friends of Indiana yearly meeting, and there is great improvement in their cleanliness and general appearance. The greatest obstacle in the way of educating these people is their great reluctance to practice speaking our language even after they understand it. They are timid and sensitive, afraid of using it incorrectly. One thing particularly noted by us is their uniform kindness to each other; we never taught among any class of people where unpleasant differences so seldom occurred.

We feel deeply interested in the advancement of the children, realizing as we do that the ultimate success of the Indians, as a people, depends largely upon the true elevation and education of the young.

Very respectfully, thy friends,

THEODORE T. GILLINGHAM.
 ELIZABETH H. GILLINGHAM.

E. PAINTER,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 56.

OMAHA AGENCY, NEBRASKA,
August 24, 1871.

RESPECTED AND KIND SIR: I herewith submit my annual report respecting the school under my charge. Since the establishment of the day-school at this place considerable interest continues to be manifested by the Indians in the education of their children, though the average attendance has fallen somewhat short of what I would desire, owing, in part, to inclement weather and the distance the children have to come to school.

A vacation of two months has been allowed, commencing July 1. This embraces the time when the Indians are away on the hunt. The progress of the Indian children in their studies has been quite creditable to them as well as encouraging to their teacher. The whole number of pupils enrolled was 70, though quite a number of these were in attendance only a few days—boys 33, girls 37; average attendance, 19. The majority of these children read and speak the English language very readily, and some are well advanced in writing, drawing, and arithmetic, while a few have made good progress in geography and grammar. Nearly all acquire the art of writing with great facility. Altogether the progress in learning during the past year has been encouraging and commendable.

Very respectfully,

JOEL WARNER, *Teacher.*

EDWARD PAINTER,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 57.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY, NEBRASKA,
Ninthmonth 23, 1872.

RESPECTED FRIEND: In making this, my third annual report of affairs at this agency, it gives me pleasure to be able to say that the Indians are in a much better condition than they were one year ago; they are more orderly and contented, and exhibit more of a disposition to work for themselves. Their crops are comparatively good, and the general health of the tribe has been excellent. As will be seen by the report of Dr. William Savery, accompanying this, there has been no epidemic or contagious disease of a serious nature, and comparatively few deaths from consumption and scrofula, the prevailing diseases of the tribe. The appropriate remarks of the doctor as to the importance of having a hospital or infirmary erected where the sick can be properly cared for, &c., are heartily indorsed by me, and I doubt whether a more humane and charitable appropriation of a few thousands of dollars could be made than for the endowment of such an institution.

Owing to a combination of favorable circumstances there has been an increase in this tribe of sixty persons during the past year, about half of which was natural, and the balance, who came principally from Wisconsin, and were probably attracted here by the favorable reports of their relatives, after avowing their intention to remain, were adopted into the tribe.

Among the improvements made on the reservation since my last annual report might be enumerated the following, namely: The erection of seven frame houses, four of which are not yet completed; five log-houses; thoroughly repairing three school-houses, and furnishing them with the most approved style of desks, &c.; establishing a new saw-mill in the timber, where it will be of great service in getting out fencing material and lumber for houses; constructing eight miles of wire-fence, principally around small pieces of breaking on individual claims; breaking four acres of prairie on each of eighty allotments; making over one hundred claims that now have breaking on. All of the carpenter-work has been performed by Indian labor. I have also pur-

chased and distributed to the Indians about 45 cook-stoves, 25 wagons and sets of harness, 50 plows, &c.

The principal crops grown the present season consisted of wheat, oats, corn, and potatoes; of the former 3,500 bushels were raised on about 400 acres; the small yield was owing to the extreme drought of the early spring. About 800 bushels of oats were harvested from 30 acres. The corn on about 500 acres promises a yield of 15,000 bushels; and of the potatoes planted by Indians, in many small patches, it is difficult to form an estimate, but I believe it safe to say that they will have 1,000 bushels in all.

The number of cows owned by the tribe has slightly diminished during the year, from the fact that many to whom they were issued were unable to appreciate their value, and it was impossible for me to prevent such from slaughtering and selling them, although they had all promised to keep and provide for their stock in case it was issued to them. There are a great many hogs and chickens raised by the Indians, nearly every family having a few of each.

At the end of the first quarter, 1871, the first annual election was held for twelve chiefs, in compliance with an agreement of the tribe at a general council held a few months before, when it was decided to pay the chiefs a fixed salary out of the tribal funds. Without giving the details of the election, I will merely say that it was conducted in an orderly manner and resulted in the selection of men who were mostly suitable for the position.

Some excitement was raised a few weeks since by a few half-breed Winnebagoes from Minnesota, who had recently received their proportion of the funds of the tribe, amounting to something over \$800 each, at least one-third of which I learn was given to politicians, who claimed to have secured the passage by Congress of the law naturalizing and allowing them their dues. When some of the half-breeds here ascertained from them with what ease they came in possession of such large sums of money, they, too, were anxious to draw their share of the tribal funds. Most of the tribe, however, believe that they are not yet prepared to get along without Government assistance; and they do not wish any of their number naturalized until a majority are ready; then they would like all to be made citizens. The reason they assign for this is that, in case a part are paid off, some of them will soon squander their money, and then fall back on the tribe for support, as a few who were naturalized in Minnesota seem already to have done.

Before being made citizens, the chiefs would prefer that the tribe should become self-supporting. To effect this, they desire to draw about \$100,000 from the funds returned to them for the expense of their removal from Minnesota, which, in their petition, they asked should be applied for immediate improvements. This they wish used for building houses, purchasing teams, improving their allotments, and some are anxious for an industrial school, than for which, in my judgment, no better disposition of a portion of their money could be made.

The schools, three in number, have been well supported during most of the year, about 250 scholars having been in attendance. The progress of these in learning has been rapid, as will be seen by the accompanying report of John S. White, in addition to whom four native and one white teacher have been employed. We have been greatly assisted in keeping up an interest in the schools, and in giving to the scholars a comfortable and presentable appearance, by the liberal contributions of clothing, &c., from the members of the New York yearly meeting of

Friends, amounting in all to about 3,000 garments, valued at \$4,000. Besides these, they have donated \$100 in cash for the purchase of food, &c., for the sick.

Very respectfully, thy friend,

HOWARD WHITE,
United States Indian Agent.

SAMUEL M. JANNEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 58.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY, NEBRASKA,
Eighthmonth 1, 1871.

DEAR COUSIN: It gives me great pleasure to be able to make the following report of the Winnebago Indian school that has been under my charge:

Much has been done to elevate our school system during the past year. Our school-houses, three in number, have all been recently cleaned, painted, and furnished with excellent furniture; so that now they present an appearance that will compare favorably with any public school in the country. This has the desired effect in making their hours spent in school the pleasantest part of the day. Regular attendance is hereby secured, and cleanliness, that essential appendage to civilization, is now an unquestionable virtue among them. Only with material in this condition may we expect success. Their swarthy countenances are the only reminder to us now that we are in an Indian school. Their native dress has long since been discarded, and is superseded by an excellent fabric of plain construction, that is bountifully supplied to them by the New York Friends, who have charge of this reservation. Shoes and stockings take the place of moccasins, and, on the whole, a neater dressed and better disposed assembly is hard to be found, either in their games around the school-house or at the desk, where every manifestation for knowledge is exhibited. Their principal studies comprise reading, writing, orthography, geography, and arithmetic, together with object lessons in most everything. The latter system we deem the most effectual. I would suggest that a manual-labor school be instituted on this reservation, as it is greatly needed. It would form an excellent terminus in the educational department here, and would do more toward crowning our efforts with success than any one thing. I recommend it strongly, and hope it will soon be accomplished. In the education of these Winnebago children, to which my whole attention of late has been directed, I can say that I feel encouraged.

Very respectfully, thy cousin,

JOHN S. WHITE,
Teacher.

HOWARD WHITE,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 59.

PAWNEE AGENCY, GENOA, NEBRASKA,
Ninthmonth 8, 1871.

ESTEEMED FRIEND: In compliance with the regulations of the

Indian Department, I take pleasure in submitting this, my third annual report.

During the past year the grist-mill has been altered so as to run by water-power instead of steam as before, and in other respects it is very much improved, so I consider it as good as new. The funds used for making these improvements, and also for digging race and building dam, were furnished by the Indians; most of the labor in digging race and building the dam, and also a large proportion in altering the mill, was done by the Indians. The work has so far progressed that we contemplate starting the mill at an early day.

Our new school-house has been erected, 20 by 50 feet, with three rooms in the rear for a small Indian family to have charge of the house, and provide food for the scholars at noon if deemed necessary, leaving a school room 19 by 30 feet, which will accommodate about 60 scholars comfortably; a teacher is engaged and will open school in a few days. Clothing sufficient to clothe the children attending this school has been supplied, principally by Friends of Baltimore yearly meeting, and by some who are not members of our religious society. Other clothing, medicine, and money, and other things, amounting in the aggregate to over \$2,000, have been furnished during the past year by the above-named parties.

Two double-framed dwelling-houses have been erected for the accommodation of the Indians who have been educated at the school; and two families are now occupying one of them, and the other will be occupied by two other families in the course of this month.

A farm-house is in course of construction, 32 by 40 feet, two stories and an attic, with a back building for a kitchen, one and one-half story, which will afford additional facilities for educating our boys and qualifying them for farmers.

Improvements have been continued both inside and around Pawnee manual-labor school building as the funds could be spared for that purpose, and the scholars have aided materially in the work.

On the 7th of the Fourthmonth last, during a very high wind, two of the dwelling-houses at this agency, occupied by Barclay Jones, miller, and J. D. Brewer, millwright, were destroyed by a prairie fire; although we thought ample provision had been made to guard against it.

For an account of the Pawnee manual-labor school I refer to the report of the principal, E. G. Platt, and will state that most of the vacancies referred to in her report occurred a short time before the close of the last term, and as the Indians have been out on the summer hunt I have had no opportunity to supply their places as yet, but intend to soon. The deportment of the children and the rapid progress they make in their studies has afforded me great satisfaction; and the industry and devotion to duty and the best interest of the children by the teachers and all other employes at the school, is worthy of my highest commendation.

I regret the necessity of again reporting a deficiency in our crops; owing to drought and other causes, the wheat was very poor, and the oats the farmer did not consider worth gathering, yet the school has been abundantly supplied with potatoes and a variety of other vegetables during the summer, and we have enough on hand to supply them until another crop can be raised, all the product of their own labor under the direction of the teacher of out-door work.

The Indians have returned from their summer hunt, which they report as very successful and not having met with the Sioux or in any way got in difficulty with any one, and say they have a large crop of

corn and vegetables, and acknowledge the blessings of God in these respects.

They appropriated from their last year's annuity \$7,000 for applying water-power to the mill and the purchase of wagons, harness, agricultural implements and machinery, and to aid them in agricultural pursuits, all of which has been expended for those purposes. They put up quite a large amount of hay last season, the first they had done in that way; and many of them cut up their corn-fodder and stored it away for winter use.

Most of them seem to be impressed with the necessity of providing their food by other means than by the hunt, and are aware that they cannot depend upon it much longer for any part of their supplies, and are anxious to be located on small farms with houses to live in.

Six hundred 10-acre lots have already been surveyed by their request, but owing to the continued raids by the Sioux they do not consider it safe for them to be scattered on farms; five of their number, three women and two boys from eighteen to nineteen years old, have been killed by the Sioux near the Pawnee Village, as they were going to the timber for wood; the boys were two of our elder and most promising young men educated at the Pawnee Manual-Labor School, but we have the satisfaction of believing they were prepared for the sad change.

Two of the mules they had with them were shot, and one stolen and carried off by the Sioux of the Whetstone agency, as I am informed by their agent, J. M. Washburn, and some of the guilty parties are known to him. I earnestly desire the co-operation of the proper authorities to secure indemnity of them for losses sustained by the Pawnees, and some security for their lives in the future.

The practice of sending out war parties for plunder and scalps has been abandoned by the Pawnees, and I require them to return all property found in their possession belonging to other parties.

I deem it my duty again to call thy attention to the third article of the treaty of the 24th of September, 1857, in relation to the schools, which provides that all Pawnee children between the ages of seven and eighteen years shall be provided with facilities for attending school at least three months in each year. This part of the treaty has never been fulfilled on the part of the Government, and I earnestly desire and recommend that the funds necessary be furnished the agent in charge here to enable him to fulfill treaty stipulations with them. The fact that it is due them is a reason sufficient that it should be provided; but there are other reasons, some of which I will briefly state, viz: It will provide them just the aid they most need, to promote their education, civilization, and Christianization; they have never been hostile to the Government, but have always, when they have been called upon, responded by furnishing all the volunteers for the Army the Government has desired them to with great promptness. With the earnest hope that my superior officers will bring this matter to the notice of the next Congress, I leave it in their hands.

No report has been received from the farmer except the statistics of farming I have sent thee.

Very respectfully, thy friend,

JACOB M. TROTH,
United States Indian Agent.

To SAMUEL M. JANNEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Omaha.

No. 60.

PAWNEE RESERVATION,
September 6, 1871.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I would respectfully submit the following report:

While as a school we have had varied experiences during the past year, yet, through the blessing of our common Father, we are to-day in a prosperous condition. There is connected with the school a corps of instructors, consisting of one gentleman and eight ladies. The gentleman, Mr. Tracy Matlock, has charge of the larger boys when out of the school-room, and directs their labor. He also acts as steward for the institution. Misses Sallie E. Loyd and Ella Walton have charge of the school-rooms, Miss Geraldine Dickson acts as matron, Miss Mary L. Barnes as housekeeper, Misses Ann Gover and E. C. Redfield have charge of its sewing-room, and Miss Nattie Washburn of girls' sitting-room, also acting as nurse, while your reporter, as principal, oversees the establishment generally.

Of the 80 scholars connected with us at the time of our last report, one was a day-scholar, and attendance has been discontinued; five have been married and are now living in their own homes, two were killed by the Sioux, two died of chronic diseases, and one of an epidemic. Of the 69 remaining, one is apprenticed as blacksmith, one as tinsmith, and four are farm-laborers, leaving 63 in daily attendance on school exercises.

We are trusting it will be your pleasure to call for a fresh recruit from the village, that we may have under our charge all that our house will accommodate.

The progress of the children in their studies the past year, as in years before, has been encouraging to us, though it is a work which requires an unlimited amount of patience and perseverance. Every child, as formerly, is required to perform a certain amount of labor each day. The boys, under the skillful direction of Mr. Matlock, have cultivated several acres of land, thus supplying us with an abundance of vegetables for the table, a luxury we have never before, as a school, enjoyed, though our lands are so fertile. The girls are becoming skillful cooks, laundresses, housekeepers, and seamstresses under the kindly and watchful direction of those who instruct them; and as we visit those who have gone out from us, and witness their effective efforts at housewifery when undirected, we go forward rejoicingly in our work.

Various improvements in and around our building have been designed during the year, and are completed or are in a process of completion; but as our motto is "onward," these are only incentives to further progress. Our partially constructed fence around the house begets a strong desire to see it completed, and the yard prepared for walks, turf, shade-trees, and flowers.

Our newly-mounted eave-troughs suggest the necessity of two capacious cisterns, that we may have an abundant supply of soft water for the cleansing of the outer man. The erection of hay-ricks near us speaks of cows and draught animals unhoused, and without even an inclosure to prevent their straying in a pasture fenced by the stooping sky; and also renews the oft-expressed wish to hear again the familiar voice of the barn-yard fowl, the joy of which has always been forbidden us here because they cannot be safe without proper buildings for their accommodation.

Believing, could these improvements be added to those it has already

been your pleasure to perfect for us, it would tend to the higher culture of those we have in charge, they are suggested for your consideration.

Trusting this report may be approved by you, I am, sir, respectfully yours,

ELVIRA G. PLATT,
Principal Pawnee Manual-Labor School.

Major J. M. TROTH,
United States Army, Agent.

No. 61.

OTOE AGENCY, NERRASKA,
Ninthmonth 18, 1871.

RESPECTED FRIEND: Herewith is submitted my annual report of affairs within this agency for the year just closed.

The sanitary condition of the Otoes and Missourias has undergone a decided improvement since last report, but it is still far from what is desirable. A female physician, whom the Society of Friends have employed, devotes her attention to their ailments; and a sanitary fund, furnished by the same society, supplies the sick with needful food and medicines.

An increased interest in farming is evidenced in the care which they have bestowed on their crops, as well as in their extent and variety. Corn, wheat, potatoes, beans, pumpkins, and melons have been grown; and all, with the exception of wheat, have rewarded their efforts. The latter crop, of which they had sown nearly one hundred and forty acres, was ruined by an insect, and its almost total loss has proved as discouraging as it is disappointing.

From an area of about 400 acres, they will probably gather not far from 12,000 bushels of corn, and I would estimate the yield of their potato crop at 1,000 bushels. New land has been broken, but not to a great extent, owing to a scarcity of teams.

Our school is in a condition which bespeaks efficiency in its teachers, as well as satisfactory material in its pupils. It is conducted by a principal and assistant, the former being employed by the Government, and paid from the tribe's annuity, while the latter is supported by Mary D. Brown, a member of the Society of Friends. For particulars concerning the management and progress of the school I refer to the accompanying report of its principal.

In civilizing the Indians within this agency the abolition of their village system will be a most important step. Already more than a score of village families have settled on claims of land, and many others contemplate doing so. Ten frame houses have been erected, nearly a thousand saw-logs have been cut, and a spirit of progress has been awakened which must point the way to civilization.

The want of ox-teams has proved a serious hinderance, and has prevented a majority of our leading Indians from drawing their logs to the saw-mill.

The services of a carpenter, whom the Society of Friends have employed, are of great benefit to the tribe. The dwellings that have been completed are occupied and their comforts appreciated. Chairs, bedsteads, and tables have been distributed among them through the liberality of a member of the Society of Friends; and many families have commenced raising swine and poultry.

During the past year the agency saw-mill has been run without special employés, and chiefly by Indian labor, at little expense.

In a previous report I have recommended the sale of a portion of this reservation, and the lapse of time has only increased the urgency of such a measure. From the sale of 80,000 acres, at their marketable value, the means wherewith to civilize may be derived, and I again recommend such a sale.

The Otoes continue opposed to the survey and allotment in severalty of their land; and the cause for their opposition is to be found in the frauds which followed an allotment on the half-breed reservation, through which many of them were victimized; but a progression of ideas is already leading them toward acquiescence in such a measure.

Although unprincipled white men have rendered it no difficult task for these Indians to procure liquor, their general conduct during the year has been orderly, and very few cases of intoxication have occurred. The scarcity of game has weakened their dependence on the chase. A buffalo-hunt, which was had during the summer by a portion of the tribe, procured a supply of meat and skins. But the rapid settlement of the country, and the consequent disappearance of large game, is enabling them to realize the necessity of reliance on agriculture. Indian aid associations within the Society of Friends have labored faithfully and effectually in providing clothing and other comforts for the Indians of this tribe. Men, women, and children have received garments; the school has been furnished with books, charts, and pictures; garden seeds have been abundantly distributed; food has been supplied for the sick; and, in short, the tribe is indebted to their Christian benevolence for much that materially influences their happiness as well as their gradual elevation.

The evil influences which Indian traders have exerted in supplying these people with superfluities at exorbitant prices are counteracted by the establishment of a trading-house on a new basis. Indian goods, such as beads, paints, and stroudings are nearly all excluded, while necessary and useful commodities are obtained by the Indians on credit at cash prices. The profits of the concern, after deducting all necessary expenses and six per cent. on the capital invested, are designed for beneficiary purposes among the Indians.

Very respectfully, thy friend,

ALBERT L. GREEN,
United States Indian Agent.

S. M. JANNEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Omaha, Nebraska.

No. 62.

GREAT NEMAHA AGENCY,
Nohart, Nebraska, Eighthmonth 21, 1871.

RESPECTED FRIEND: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I herewith submit my third annual report relative to affairs within this agency.

During the year that has elapsed since the date of my last report the condition of the Indians under my care has been gradually improving, their sanitary condition and general health has been more satisfactory than heretofore, and they have been exempt from epidemics and contagious diseases.

Intemperance, which was once a ruling vice, has been less prevalent, and their general conduct has consequently been more satisfactory than during previous years.

THE IOWAS

are evincing an interest in agriculture and building houses, which is truly gratifying. Individuals who have spent their lives in wretched lodges are now anxious to have houses erected, and contribute thereto by drawing logs and other material. Four new houses have been built and many dilapidated ones thoroughly repaired. Heretofore it has been customary with these people to live in tents during the winter season, but having furnished many of them with stoves they will have no excuse for doing so hereafter.

A growing interest in agriculture is attested by a general enlargement of their farms. Crops of corn, potatoes, and beans, have been successfully and profitably raised. Wheat, which some of them attempted to raise for the first time, was a failure, being ruined by the chinch-bug.

The stock belonging to this tribe is generally well cared for, and in good condition; an abundance of excellent hay has been cured and shelter provided for winter. The number of ponies and horses owned by them is about 75, they have also 60 head of horned cattle, half of which are work-oxen.

Milk cows have been furnished to many through the liberality of a member of the Society of Friends, he advancing money for their purchase, and waiting two years for reimbursement from the Indians of their first cost. Swine and poultry have been raised by a majority of families, and many have shown an interest in growing garden vegetables.

By reference to the accompanying teacher's report, it will be seen that the educational facilities of the tribe have been greatly advanced by the establishment of an industrial or orphan home. The number of children thus provided for is limited to 14, by a scarcity of funds applicable for the support of the institution; of these the majority are orphans, and all are bright, promising children.

SACS AND FOXES OF MISSOURI.

This tribe is located on a reservation of 16,000 acres, and their principal settlement is six miles distant from the agency buildings; owing to their having no government employes among them, their progress toward civilization has been less rapid than that of the Iowas, but it affords me pleasure to notice that they are showing a disposition to improve.

Within the past year they have broken nearly 200 acres of prairie sod. Crops of corn, beans, and potatoes have been grown. They have no schools for their children, are living in miserable tents and bark-houses, with very few of the comforts or conveniences of life, and are feeling unsettled; they have two plans in view, one of which is to sell part of their land and to use the money to open a school, build houses, and improve the remaining part; the other is to sell the whole reservation and join their brethren, the Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi, in the Indian Territory. The latter, I think, would probably be the best, as they are connected both by blood and marriage, and speak the same language. But, one thing is certain, they will never agree to make arrangements or sign papers, in either case, elsewhere than at Washington. And I would earnestly recommend that, this winter, the sale of a part or the

whole of their land, as they may hereafter determine, and that they be allowed to come to Washington to do their business, as they will not be satisfied or feel that it is done right any other way. And in case their land is sold, in order to secure the highest market value, I would recommend that it be sold here, in whole, half, or quarter sections, for cash, to the highest bidder.

From what has preceded it will be seen that the Iowas, and Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, have progressed as satisfactorily during the past year as circumstances could admit. The former having had opportunities and advantages which the latter had not, their improvement has consequently been more obvious and rapid.

By the liberality of the Society of Friends, the Indians within this agency have been supplied with comfortable clothing, and the wants of the sick and aged have been met with proper food and care, and from the same source the Indians last spring were supplied with seeds, fruit-trees, vines, &c., &c.

The trading-house established at this agency has been conducted during the past year in a manner resulting greatly to the advantage of the Indians. All goods of the character denominated "Indian goods" have been excluded, and, while only necessary and useful articles are placed within reach of the Indians, the prices correspond with the neighboring stores.

Experience has proved that an Indian trader can wield an influence for either good or evil to the Indians around him, and hence, in issuing licenses, care has been taken that a conscientious moral man should be the recipient of it.

Very respectfully, submitting the foregoing, I remain thy friend,
 THOMAS LIGHTFOOT,
United States Indian Agent.

S. M. JANNEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 63.

GREAT NEMAHA AGENCY, NEBRASKA,
 Nohart, Ninthmonth 18, 1871.

ESTEEMED FRIEND: According to instructions I submit the following report of the Iowa Indian school under my care.

The number of pupils on list is 68—32 boys and 36 girls; the highest number present at any one time, 52. Our greatest trouble from the first has been the want of punctuality in observing the hour for opening school. Many of them living two or three miles distant, and keeping no note of time, the children come straggling in from 9 to 12 o'clock, making it impossible to class them to advantage, having to give lessons as they come in order to get round. But since the establishment of the "Industrial Home" there has been a decided improvement, and considerable emulation exists between the children of the "Home" and others as to who shall be at school first; also in the matter of dress and cleanliness, &c.; and we see that the influence of the "Home" will be for good on the school in general, as well as a great advantage to the children there cared for.

The progress made the past year has been satisfactory and encouraging. What they have learned they learned understandingly. Our

plan has been to not let them pass from a spelling, reading, or writing lesson until they understood the meaning of all words that could be interpreted or illustrated, the pictures discussed and explained. They are now rapidly acquiring the English language, understand nearly all we say, and many of them talk some, and could talk well if they would, but the peculiar trait of Indian character, of being averse to speaking English to strangers, obtains largely among the children as with the older portion, and retards their progress.

In spelling, writing, map and slate-work these children show much aptness and do well. In reading few of them do as well as they really might. Diffidence and want of confidence in their ability to pronounce the words properly induce a slow, hesitating manner, even when they know the lesson well. This is especially the case in the presence of strangers, and is as mortifying to them as it is embarrassing to the teacher.

These children are tractable, pleasant, and affectionate after we once get hold of them; and the possibility of their civilization, education, and culture I consider only a question of time and proper opportunity. I have several in my school who manifest a real fondness for books and study, and give evidence of generous, noble natures. For these especially I hope much, and trust ways will open by which they may be developed and their future cared for.

Our school closes at 3 o'clock, after which the girls sew for an hour or two. The patch-work is an unfailing object of interest; and it is a real pleasure to see their brown faces brighten as they sit chatting over their work. When new garments are to be made the women come and help, and show much quickness and skill in learning to put them together.

These children have been neatly and comfortably clad the entire year by the Friends of Philadelphia. Not a vestige of Indian costume—as blankets, leggings, strouds, paint, &c.—comes into our school room. From the above-named source they are also supplied at noon with a lunch of crackers or fruit, as well as proper food and delicacies when sick.

Respectfully,

THOMAS LIGHTFOOT,
United States Indian Agent.

MARY B. LIGHTFOOT.

CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 64.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Lawrence, Kansas, Tenthmonth 5, 1871.

Hon. H. R. CLUM,
Acting Commissioner Indian Affairs:

The period having arrived for the presentation of my third annual report, I feel grateful that our efforts for the preservation of peace among all tribes of this superintendency during the year past have been blessed with a very large degree of success. I deeply regret that an exception to this has occurred in the case of the Kiowas, who have repeated their raids into Texas; but since the arrest and confinement of