year they have cultivated considerable more land than ever before, made fifty tons of maple-sugar, cut 550 tons of hay on their marshes, and done a large part of the work of cutting and putting into the river 2,500,000 feet of pine timber, besides working some in other lumber-camps.

The productions of the farm have been 200 bushels of potatoes, 12 tons of hay, and 450 bushels of oats. At the mill 7,280 bushels of grain have been ground, and 217,200 feet of lumber sawed. The blacksmith reports that he has shod 169 horses and 39 oxen; repaired 65 wagons, 93 guns, 27 traps, 5 stoves, 9 axes, 11 bells, 79 sleds, 84 grub-hoes, 17 pitchforks, and 13 plows; mended 59 chains; made 53 stove-rods, 140 spears, 31 clevises, 27 hinges, 31 knives, 78 needles, 73 chain-hooks, 15 wedges, 15 clasps and staples, 14 pan-handles, 10 cant-hooks, 8 swamp-hooks, 107 cold sheets, 18 sap-gauges, 39 rakes, 106 trammel-chains, 9 shovels, 3 trowels, 8 sled-raves, 11 drag-teeth, and 75 heel-wedges; ironed 26 whiffletrees, 11 neck-yokes, 19 sleds, 12 cutters, 13 wagon-tongues, 7 wagon-boxes, and 5 ox-yokes; and baled 10 kettles.

The school of Alex. Grignon has been continued without much encouragement for its teacher or the friends of the Indian. The school at Keshena having but few pupils, a school-building and a dwelling-house for teachers were built in the hard-wood timber-land where many of the tribe had settled. Since January last Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stryker have been teaching the few pupils they could induce to attend, sometimes forty and sometimes two. The boys prefer playing ball outside of the school-house to studying inside, and Mr. Stryker's unusual enthusiasm has failed to excite in them any great desire for learning. Scarcely any in this tribe, except some of the young men, talk English, which makes the labor of study, as well as of instruction, tedious. They can learn, however, if they try. One lad in five months learned to read intelligibly in the second reader. A system of compulsory education seems to be needed. I hope the way will soon be clear for the establishment of a boarding-school. I have talked with the chiefs about it, and they appear to be in favor of using some of their pine money for this purpose.

The only purely religious work among them has been done by the Romanists, who now have a priest at Keshena.

My predecessor cut about 2,500,000 feet of pine logs last winter, and although he labored under disadvantages, because of his employing Indians, of his limited experience in lumbering, and of opposition from unfriendly outsiders, and although the price of logs is unusually low this season, yet he cleared for the tribe much more than the same class of timber has sold at on the stump.

The pine of the Menomonees would yield about a million dollars if it could be disposed of at its real value. If the interest of such a sum could be used for educational and agricultural purposes, the work of their civilization could be pushed rapidly forward.

I must add a word upon the threadbare subject of intemperance among the Indians. Every Saturday gallons of the vilest stuff are swallowed by these people. Some sellers have been punished, but the business is still brisk. I have been here long enough to see the evil, but hardly dare venture suggestions as to its remedy. I do hope, however, that the Department will give agents full opportunity to try expedients, and will be liberal in the use of funds that are available for this object.

Very respectfully,

THOS. N. CHASE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. P. SMITH,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

4.

WHITE EARTH, *December* 1, 1873.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report.

My commission bears date May 17, 1873. From my monthly report, and from letters official relating to the Otter Tails, Gull Lake, and Pembina bands of Indians, may be obtained a more minute description of their condition and of my labors than would be allowed in this document, and to such papers I would respectfully refer you.

During this year that portion of the agency known as Red Lake has been constituted a separate department, and the funds belonging thereto have, in accordance with your order, been placed to the credit of the special agent in charge at that point.

With this exception no changes of importance have been made in the general features of this charge. In the absence of a regularly appointed agent the general management of affairs became necessarily somewhat deranged; and this fact, together with the revival of the spirit of industry and self-improvement, have made my labors exceedingly onerous, and prevented me from beginning the annual distribution of

goods and money before October 1. The enrollment, but just completed, gives the following result:

ENROLLMENT.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
White Earth	161	188	252	601
Otter Tail Pillagers	113	150	222	485
Gull Lake bands	20	30	22	72
White Oak Point	172	242	349	763
Mille Lac	134	169	207	510
Snake River	62	76	125	263
Leech Lake Pillagers	468	574	505	1547
Pembina	87	113	196	396
	1,217	1,542	1,878	4,637

SUMMARY.

Mississippians	2 209 against 2,139 in 1872.
Pillager and Lake Winnebagoshish	2,042 against 2,088 in 1872.
Pembina	396 against 547 in 1872.

The excess of 137 of last year is owing to my dropping 150 half-breed Pembinas from the annuity roll.

The Pillager, Otter Tails, the Gull Lakes, and 147 of the Pembina band were paid with the White Earth Indians at the agency; the Mille Lacs at Soul's Camp, on Rum River; 249 Pembinas at Pembina on the 26th ultimo. The Pillagers and White Oak Point Indians received their annuities upon their respective reservations. From a perusal of the annual report of 1871-'72, I am unable to discover any remarkable change in the condition of any of these 4,627 Indians, with the exception of such as reside upon White Earth reservation.

OTTER TAILS.

The Pillager Otter Tails, 500 in number, a powerful and most promising people, stand pleading for admission to this reservation, and for assistance from Government enabling them to adopt the habits and enjoy the blessings of civilized life. They have indicated their preference for a township 20 miles southeast of this agency, where there is abundance of water, pine and oak timber, and excellent prairie soilfor cultivation.

The paper which I had the honor of sending the Department upon this subject expresses the desirableness of removing this ill used people, who, from a clerical error in the original summons, were, it is said, not represented in the grand council in Washington, and as a consequence are to-day without any reservation or civil protection. I have listened to their earnest pleading for houses and lands, for school and church privileges, and under all the circumstances of the case I cannot but believe that an appropriation of at least $25,000 will be secured in their behalf at the present session of Congress.

GULL LAKES

This band probably numbers 300 members. One hundred of them were located by my predecessor in comfortable homes upon this reservation. The rest of them repeatedly disappointed his reasonable expectations for their removal. The houses built for them have in part stood unoccupied, exposed to destruction by fire, the responsibility resting back upon such as failed to fulfill their promise to remove hither.

Recently I have removed 75 more of them, and shall be obliged to subsist them until next spring.

PEMBINA

In accordance with a regulation made by the Department and the White Earth Indians, a township has been assigned to the Pembina band of Mississippi Indians upon the Wild Rice River on this reservation, 17 miles northwest of this agency. The entire band was duly notified that the annual payment would be made this year at this township. Their extreme poverty and destitution, the great distance which they would be obliged to travel, from 150 to 300 miles, and the evil influence of men who hope to be benefited by their being paid at Pembina, prevented them from coming, with the exceptions of such as lived at Grand Forks and at other points not distant from the proposed place of payment. The balance were paid at Pembina the 26th ultimo. The Turtle Mountain band have virtually abandoned that distant field to the Sioux, and live, as do the others, upon forbidden soil, without hope. There is neither hunting nor fishing in the vicinity of Pembina, and I would earnestly entreat the Department to secure their early removal to White Earth. By prompt action they may be saved to themselves and to the world. If neglected, their ruin is inevitable.

LEECH LAKE.

By far the larger class upon any reservation is that of the Pillager and Lake Winnebagoshish bands located about Leech Lake. They are the most restless, turbulent, and desperate of any Indians in the State. During the entire summer they have been kept in a state of excitement by representations made to them by outside parties to the effect that they were being defrauded in the sale of their timber. Disappointed politicians and envious speculators have been active in stirring up strife among them.

Whiskey-drinking frequently leads to homicide, and creates the necessity of sending troops among them several times each year, always at payment time. The reservation, except in insignificant measure, is entirely unadapted to grazing or tillage. The only natural mode of life among them is that which they have followed for generations. It is expensive caring for the few who are most given to habits of industry. The three thousand dollars ($3,000) appropriation is inadequate to meet the demands for a boarding-school. Not more than twenty pupils can be educated for that sum in a school in which everything is furnished by the Government. It is exceedingly difficult, with so small a sum, to secure the services of competent instructors for such a position. The former incumbent has recently resigned, and his place has been filled by another, both of whom are gentlemen of worth, but destined to be discouraged by the smallness of the school, which is owing almost solely to the meagerness of the appropriation.

The Government has done a most wise and beneficent deed in converting their useless timber into available funds for the improvement of the people. Already has the needed saw-mill and corn-mill been erected, and several yoke of oxen, with wagons, have been purchased by funds from this sale, to be given to the most deserving. But it is idle, even with the aid of this large annual fund, to hope for any great and permanent improvement among them, without first providing them with lands suitable for tillage and pasturage, allowing them to retain intact their present reservation for the purposes of hunting, fishing, and sugar-making. There should also be secured for them six townships located upon the eastern boundary of White Earth reservation, running eighteen (18) miles from southeastern corner of said reservation due east, and twelve (12) miles due north from the same southeast corner, and bounded in part by Meneken River, a tributary to Crow Wing River. This would furnish them with excellent water, abundance of timber and wood, and one of the finest agricultural districts in the world. Abandon Leech Lake as a center of operations and transfer the agency buildings to the agricultural home; open a communication direct with the North Pacific Railroad at Hobart or Detroit, a distance of twenty-five miles, and thus save to the Government its large transportation bills. Build for every family who will come a good house and break up and fence two acres for every householder. Thus their tribal relations would be broken up, the better part removed from the contaminating influences of the more vicious ones, an opportunity for self-improvement actually and for the first time secured for them, while they would all be brought within thirty (30) miles of the agent's home, and twenty-five miles from the mills at White Earth, and the example of the best Indians in the State.

MILLE LACS.

Nothing whatever is being done to improve the condition of that portion of Mille Lac Indians still residing in the vicinity of the lake bearing that name. No class of Indians under my charge appear more manly and noble than these. I am profoundly impressed with the moral obligations of the Government to adopt immediate measures for their education and civilization. They hold their present territory by the most feeble tenure. Their brethren upon this reservation would most cordially welcome them and they would soon take their places among the foremost in every good work. The degree of their present exposure to the evil influences of white men is yearly becoming more alarming.

The Snake River band have no reservation.

WHITE-OAK POINT.

These Mississippi bands can scarcely be said to live anywhere. More than seven hundred souls are left wholly without encouragement or aid, except the annuity goods and money. They live in winter in proximity to lumber camps, and in summer hunt and fish, and waste their lives away. No school, no missionary, not even a blacksmith to repair their guns and traps, is furnished them. Their great removal from the agency renders it impracticable to do much for them.

With proper effort they could be in large part induced to remove to White Earth, or upon a portion of the land proposed for the agricultural district of the Pillagers.

WHITE EARTH.

This is the center of operations. Here, if anywhere, is being solved the problem of Indian civilization. Seven hundred reside upon this one million of acres, exclusive of the Pembinas and Gull Lakes, who have but recently arrived.

The employés are Congregationalists, but the religious supervision is that of the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches. The former have a church of more than one hundred members, fifty of whom have been confirmed during the present year, with a native pastor and an English-speaking rector. The Romanists represent fifty families, the larger part of whom are of mixed blood, and will erect a house of worship next summer.

HOSPITAL.

By the munificence of a Christian woman, a friend of the Episcopal Church, a beautiful hospital is nearly ready for occupancy; an incalculable blessing to this people. The resident physician will be in attendance daily; and the Indians have already indicated their appreciation of the institution by generously contributing for its support of the products of their farms. From the report of the Government physician, which is herewith transmitted, we learn that the prevailing diseases are caused principally by ignorance of domestic industry, uncleanliness, and social vices. The year past has been one of unusual healthfulness.

SCHOOLS.

During the major part of the year there have been two schools for young children and the boarding-school, averaging forty pupils. The boys are taught agriculture by cultivating the school-farm, and the girls domestic industry by being required daily to assist in household affairs. The time has fully come for an increase of the appropriations for school purposes. The accommodations are now fully occupied, and many will be obliged to seek elsewhere for such privileges. Nothing can be more encouraging to the friends of humanity than to witness this revival of interest among the Indians of this reservation. Already have I thrown open another school-room for those most advanced in speaking English, and I look to the Government for a small appropriation of $1,000 additional to enable me to meet the growing interest in learning. An evening school has been in operation during the greater part of the year, and another will be commenced soon for the winter months.

But for the timely aid of the American Missionary Association, our boarding-school could not have been supported by the governmental appropriation. The employés are supporting a small school of their own, as they cannot properly patronize the Indian school, and the citizens of the reservation are petitioning for the organization of a school-district.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.

There has been erected an industrial hall 40 by 25 feet, for the purpose of teaching the art of weaving rushes and other material, of basket-making and other kinds of handiwork, to the women. An appropriation of $1,000 has been wisely made for our use in this department.

MILLS.

The steam saw-mill, with its planer and its shingle and lath machines, has been in full blast during the entire season, requiring twenty-four men, nearly all of whom are Indians. Six hundred and eighty-five thousand feet of lumber have been manufactured, nearly the whole of which has been used for building purposes. Thirteen hundred dollars were paid to Indians for drawing logs and lumber. Seventy-five dollars' worth of lumber has been given, upon an average, to every chief. The progress of the people in agriculture has created the necessity for a grist-mill, and one has been erected, and is now in successful operation, propelled by the engine which drives the saw-mill.

FARMING

The principal occupation upon this reserve is that of cultivating the soil. The Indians are rapidly becoming farmers. From the report of the farmer, it appears that there have been raised not less than 2,000 bushels of wheat, 6,000 bushels of oats, 500 bushels of corn, 10,000 bushels of potatoes, 13,000 bushels of turnips, and quantities of onions, beets, and other garden vegetables. One hundred gardens have been under cultivation. Eight hundred tons of hay were stacked. There are 500 head of cattle, 40 horses, 40 yoke working cattle, and as many wagons. Thirteen yoke of oxen have been issued this year, 10 ponies, 12 cows, several double wagons, yokes and chains, 12 new harrows, 11 sleds, and a large amount of farming tools, as hoes, forks, scythes, and spades.

This most absorbing of all material interests upon the reservation engages all parties and affects all relations. It greatly increases the work of the

BLACKSMITH

An estimable half-breed, married to an Indian woman, has been at work learning the trade, all the year, in the expectation of soon commencing business here upon his own responsibility. To keep 40 wagons, as many plows and harrows, a mowing-machine, a reaper, a thresher, yokes and chains for forty yoke of cattle, in a word, to make and repair for so many who are unskilled in labor, has increased the labor and the expense of this department five-fold in a single year.

CARPENTER.

Similar has been the effect upon the work of the carpenter. So urgent have been claims of the people for houses and household furniture, for farming tools, wagons, and the many necessary things made of wood, that it has been absolutely necessary to employ skilled workmen to a considerable extent.

From the report of the carpenter we learn that the number of coffins made since January, 1872, have been 36; tables, 48; bedsteads, 28; cupboards, 42; chests, 30; lounges, 7, and 40 houses.

CONCLUSION.

It is evident that the true policy of the Government should be one of concentration, to bring all the Indians under my charge, with the exception of the Leech Lake Pillagers, upon White Earth reservation, locating the Pembinas on Wild Rice River, a township 17 miles northwest of the agency; the Otter Tails upon the southeast corner township, 20 miles from the agency; the Gull Lake and Mille Lac bands into the immediate vicinity of the agency, where the first installment of those Mississippians are already located; placing the Leech Lake Indians, so manyof them as are disposed favorably, upon an agricultural district adjoining White Earth reservation on the east, (6 townships,) allowing them to retain their present reserve for fishing, hunting, and sugar-making purposes, changing the location of the agency buildings of Leech Lake to this new territory, thus bringing the people within 25 miles of the Northern Pacific railroad and within 30 miles of the central office; allowing the White Oak Point Indians to take a separate township upon the reservation or to merge their forces with those of the Pillagers and White Earth people.

Thus the expense of doing the business will be vastly diminished, the one agent can easily give his personal attention to every separate interest, and the light received by each will but reflect and intensify the light of all the rest.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. DOUGLASS,
United States Indian Agent, White Earth, Minnesota.

Hon. E. P. SMITH,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

5.

AGENCY OF THE SAC AND FOX INDIANS IN IOWA,
Toledo, Iowa, September 1, 1873.

SIR: In compliance with the requirements of the Indian Department, I have the honor herewith to submit the subjoined report of the condition of the agency of the Sac and Fox Indians in Iowa, under my care, for the year ending August 31, 1873.

I took charge of this agency, relieving Hon. L. Clark, September 19, 1872. These Indians residing in Iowa comprise nearly one-half of the remaining Sac and Fox Indians of the Mississippi. In 1846 this united tribe of Indians numbered over 2,000 souls. They then resided on large tracts of land in Wisconsin and Iowa. These lands were ceded to the United States, and they received in lieu thereof a reservation in what are now the limits of Kansas, and by treaty stipulations they were removed to Kansas, but owing to the great mortality that followed their removal, and other causes, about two hundred and seventy-five of them returned to Iowa. By the sale of some of their ponies they were enabled to purchase and pay for a tract of land located in Tama County, Iowa, containing 419 acres, and by an act of the Iowa State legislature they are permitted to remain in Iowa as long as they are peaceably disposed. It is a fact worthy of note here that while that part of the tribe remaining in Kansas and the Indian Territory have, from a variety of causes, rapidly dwindled in numbers, that part of the tribe residing in Iowa have increased in numbers at an equally rapid ratio. The Sac and Fox Indians in Iowa, according to the census just taken, number, men, 86; women, 104; boys, 75, and girls 70; total 335; an increase of 18 during last year. It may be proper, however, to state that 5 of these Indians who have had their homes in Kansas or Indian Territory, but who now persist in remaining here, by the advice of the Indian Department are put on the rolls here. The health of these Indians has been good, very few deaths having occurred during the past year.

As regards farming operations among them during the past year, I am safe in reporting some advancement. After many efforts during last spring, I succeeded in getting about fifteen familes to locate on lots of land embracing from 3 to 10 acres each, the familes agreeing to cultivate that amount of land for their own benefit. I furnished them the implements with which to till their lands, and some of the seeds to plant. In this way about 100 acres were put under cultivation, mostly in corn and beans. All seemed to be progressing satisfactorily until one warm day in the latter part of July they announced to me in the most solemn manner that they just received a reve-